WHAT IS TAQLID?

Taqlid is to choose a Mujtahid who meets certain qualifications and to follow his views in Islamic laws. This Mujtahid is called Marjaa al-Taqlid, or simply the Marjaa.

DON'T WANT TO DO TAQLID?

Deduce the Ahkam from original resources by yourself. But this requires a high academic qualification called Ijtihad or independent reasoning.

Obtaining this degree requires a long journey of thoroughly studying Islamic jurisprudence, Hadith, Arabic language and several other Islamic sciences at Hawza or Islamic Seminary.

HOW TO FIND YOUR MARJAA?

First method is that we ourselves become certain that a said person meets all the requirements.

This needs to have enough knowledge in Islamic sciences that allows us to identify these qualifications.

OR

The testimony of two just, reliable, and honest experts is enough.

Some Jurists consider even one testimony permissible.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF A MARJAA

He must be a **MUJTAHID**, in other words qualified to exercise Ijtihad.

He must be the **MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE** amongst all Mujtahids.

He must be **JUST**. This means he performs all obligatory acts, and refrains from all forbidden acts.

He must be **MALE**. Men and women have to follow the male Mujtahid.

He must be **ALIVE**. Following a dead Marjaa, only accepted in one specific condition.

If the Marjaa loses any of the qualifications, one is no longer allowed to follow him. For example, if another qualified Marjaa becomes the most knowledgeable, one must switch to him.

He must be at the age of **PUBERTY** (Bulugh)

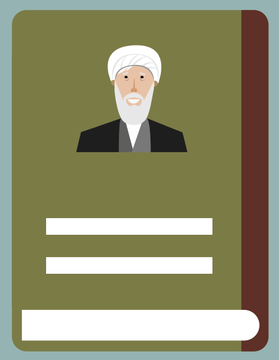
He must be **SANE** (Aql)

He must be **SHI'AH ITHNA ASH'ARI** (Iman)

He must be of **LEGITIMATE BIRTH**

He must have a retentive **MEMORY**

THE BOOK OF ISLAMIC LAWS



A Marjaa typically publishes his legal views in a book usually known as Al-risalah Al-amaliyah or the practical guide.

A believer must learn the rules he frequently needs, for example trade and commerce rules for a merchant, marriage rules for spouses, etc.

What is Ahwat Wujubi?

A Marjaa may not reach a conclusion in a certain issue, thus he may not give his view on it, or may take a precautionary approach which in Fiqh is called obligatory precaution or 'Ahwat Wujubi'.

For the relevant issue only, you are allowed to refer to the second most knowledgeable Mujtahid after your Marjaa.

At what age shall we start Taqlid?

At the age of puberty