



One should not do Mashwara with people who gossip, as one's secrets will spread everywhere. Mashwara should be done with trustworthy people.



Mashwara should not only be left to men. Rather, Mashwara should also be done with women, as ladies understand certain situations better.



If a person doesn't know what Mashwara to give when he is asked for advice then he should simply say, 'I don't know', or he might say, 'Please ask someone else'. Then he should give Dua. Giving the wrong advice, due to lack of knowledge or arrogance, can be harmful.



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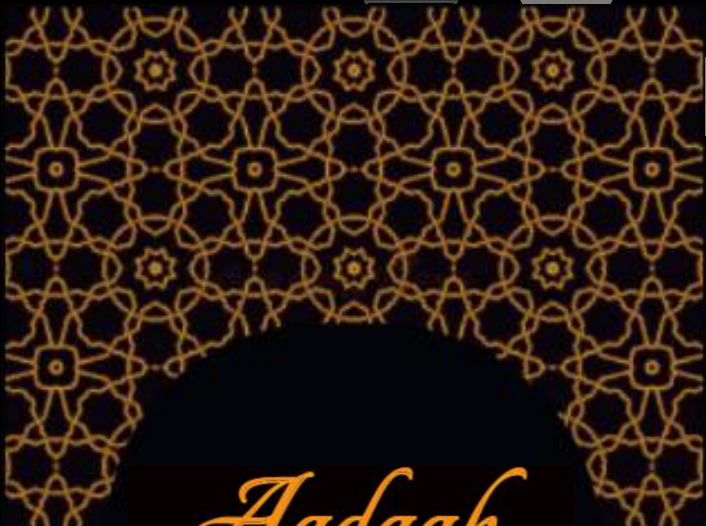
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Aadaab of Mashwara

**Etiquettes of
Seeking Advice**

By Mawlana Umar Farooq Qaasim





When one wishes to do Mashwara with someone, it should be with someone who sympathises with one, as then a person will be guided accordingly and correctly. However, doing Mashwara with people who don't sympathise with one is incorrect as their lack of sympathy for one will mean that the right advice will not be provided or one will not be satisfied with the answers given.



Mashwara should be done with experienced people, as their moments of experiences will benefit one. However, doing Mashwara with inexperienced people will mean one won't get the right guidance due to the person having a lack of experience.



Mashwara should be done with clever and intelligent people, for they will benefit one. Doing Mashwara with foolish people or those who are not learned, will not benefit one.



One should not do Mashwara with small children and teenagers on important matters, as they have little knowledge on general subjects. Rather, one should do Mashwara with responsible older people as their maturity will help a person. Nevertheless, if a child or a teenager has knowledge on a certain subject related to them, then Mashwara can be done with them.



A person should always make a habit of doing Mashwara. Generally, a person who is self-centred and arrogant does not do Mashwara, as he is too proud to ask others for advice.



After Mashwara is given, it is one's own choice as to whether the Mashwara is followed or not. A person who gives his Mashwara to someone should not force his advice to be followed.



At the same time as asking someone for Mashwara, a person should also make Dua to Allah for guidance.



Abu Bakr radhiyallahu anhu had the likes of Umar radhiyallahu anhu to give him advice, and so he was better guided. Firawn had the likes of Haaman giving him advice and so was further misguided. Therefore, the success of a person depends largely on whom he does Mashwara with. If it is a good person, then he will be successful. If it is a bad person, then he will be unsuccessful.



A person should feel satisfied after he is given Mashwara and should have no further questions to ask. Otherwise, he will be left with unanswered questions after that particular conversation has ended.