

# THE GREEN CULTURE OF ISLAM

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# ISLAMIC PURIFICATION AND WATER MANAGEMENT

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## ABSTRACT

Water is highly related in Moslem daily routine. It can be associated with its essential role in Islamic religion especially for wudu<sup>9</sup> and ghusl<sup>10</sup>. Purification through wudu<sup>9</sup> and ghusl is an obligatory component of the Islamic prayers and some ritual practices to portray the cleanliness. This chapter will give an explanation on man relationship to nature, man and its creator. Therefore, responsibilities towards nature, mankind and Allah are the basic foundation in Islamic principles. Awareness and knowledge are very important to ensure that each individual understand their responsibilities in monitoring the water issues.

*Keywords:* drainage, management, Islamic perspectives, sustainable

## INTRODUCTION

Increasing urban population causes a massive impact on human activities, especially in a developing country like Malaysia. In daily activities, the public pollutes the drainage runoff unconsciously. Natural filtration devices have been introduced to be incorporated in Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) in order to imitate the hydrological processes. SUDS are found to be more effective compared to the conventional drainage system, which takes a longer time for the filtration process during the flow of the water surface. SUDS not only improve the technical approaches of a drainage system, but it also assists in the 'Best Management Practices' (BMPs). This includes management and maintenance together with better daily water usage. Water is an important element in human daily life. Although the earth is covered with 861 million cubic miles of water (Fisher, 2004), only 3% of it fresh water and is suitable for living things (i.e. animals and human). Naturally, water goes through several processes before it evaporates into the air. These processes are known as hydrological cycles'. However, pollution has been a major issue with regards to fresh water systems. From 'Water: No longer taken for granted' (Fishers, 2004; 7):

*"As population continually modify the environment to suit their needs and desires, the natural processes, including the hydrologic cycle, are significantly disrupted..."*

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<sup>9</sup> It is also known as ablution which it is an act of washing part of bodies before practicing some of an Islamic ritual activities such as praying.

<sup>10</sup> This is bathing practice. It is opposite of wudu<sup>9</sup> which it only involved certain parts of bodies. Ghusl is a full body washing before or after any ritual practices.