

There are many rules that apply to mosques, all of which are based on these verses.



﴿وَلِلَّهِ الْمَشْرِقُ وَالْمَغْرِبُ فَأَيْنَمَا تُولُوا فَثَمَّ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ﴾

(سورة البقرة: ١١٥)

2:115. To Allah belong the east and the west, so wherever you turn, there is the Countenance of Allah. For Allah is All-Encompassing, All-Knowing.

The east and the west are singled out for mention here because they are the focal point of great signs, at which lights rise and set. So if Allah is in control of them, then He is in control of all directions.

﴿so wherever you turn﴾ that is, whatever direction you face, if your taking of that particular direction is based on His command, then one of the following scenarios must apply:

Either He instructed you to face towards the Kaaba after you had been enjoined to face towards Bayt al-Maqdis;

or you are enjoined to pray whilst travelling on your mounts and the like, in which case the qibla is whatever direction a person is facing; or an individual was confused about the qibla, and tried his best to work it out and pray in that direction, then he found out that he had got it wrong;

or he is excused because he is being subjected to corporal punishment or he is sick and the like.

In all of these cases, the individual is either excused or is given particular instructions.

Whatever the case, whatever direction he takes cannot be beyond the dominion of his Lord.