



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



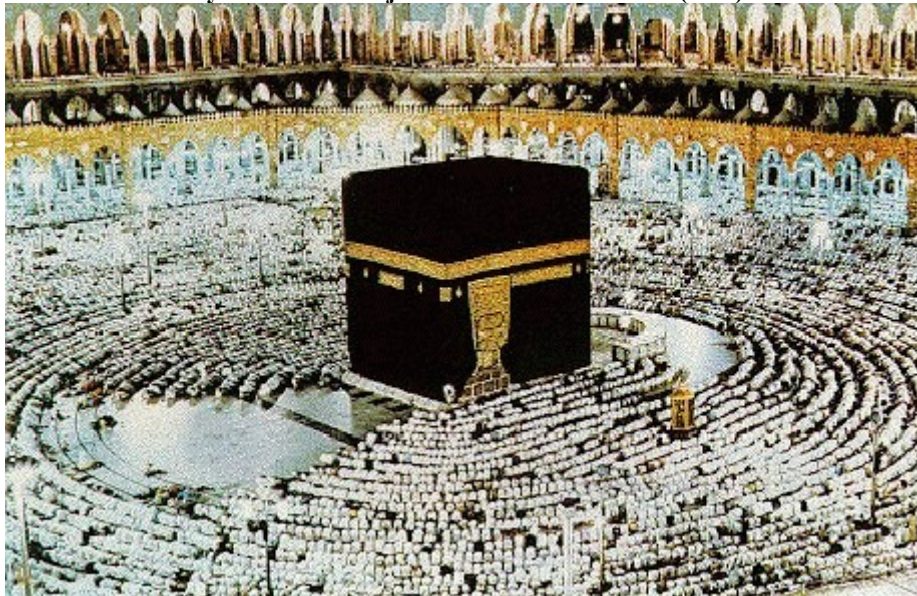
*In The Name Of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful*

# *A Muslim's Guide to Prayer - Salah*

The Prophet Muhammad's (s.a.w.) Mosque In Medina, Saudi Arabia



The Holy Kaaba & Masjid Al-Haram in Makkah (S.A.)



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# DEDICATION

(1) *This book is dedicated to all those **Pious Scholars** and **Awliyaa of Islam** who committed their lives for the propagation of Islam*

(2) *My Father, for the great inspiration he has given me to learn the Deen, Al-Islam & to work for its Da'wa:*

**Hadhrat Allama Maulana Abu Al-Mahmood  
Nishter  
Sahib Chishti**

~ Former Imam & Khateeb of Jamia Masjid Hanafia, Bradford (UK) ~  
~ Presently Chief Imam & Khateeb at Jamia Masjid Madina, Cardiff, Wales (UK) ~

(3) *My Third Dedication Goes to My Spiritual Teacher:*

**Hadhrat Maulana Sheikh Muhammad  
Nazim Adil Al-Haqqani  
Al-Naqshbandi Al-Qubrusi**

~ The Present Master of the Naqshbandi Sufi Order ~

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# ***PREFACE***

***Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Universe, peace and blessings of Allah be upon His Beloved, the Final Prophet, Our Master Sayyiduna Muhammad, upon whom be eternal and exalted blessings, and on his Family and on his Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all.***

I pay my infinite praise and thanks to Allah S.W.T. Who has blessed me with the great opportunity to write this book on Salah (Prayer). Although there are some innumerable good books available on Salah, most of them lack detailed information on certain aspects of Taharah, Fiqh (Rules) relating to Salah, etc. Some books are very short and some have many mistakes in them and there are those that have been translated from Urdu/Arabic and written in complicated or confusing English. Therefore, after reading and analysing many books on Salah in the market, I feel it most necessary in writing this book, because I reached the conclusion that a book should be written on this subject in a clear and concise manner, covering detailed aspects of Ibadah, Taharah, Salah and Sunnah Method of Salah, Fiqh of Salah, Aaadab of the Masjid, and Articles of Faith, so that both children and adults can easily read and understand what is written. Moreover, beginners who wish to learn about Salah, reverts to Islam and non-Muslims will also find this book useful, as it has been written with them in mind. I have successfully used the material contained in this book on my students, who have found everything most useful and informative in their learning. The majority of the material in the book is based upon the little knowledge that I have derived from my father and classic Hanafi Darse-e-Nizami books such as 'Munyatul-Musalli', 'Noorul-Idhah', and 'Qudoori'. Where appropriate, I have indicated sources of other information. I wrote this book originally in 2001 and due to lack of funds it was not published earlier.

May Allah SWT accept this humble effort in the service of His Deen, Al-Islam. May Allah shower us with His Mercy and Blessings and inculcate a profound love and respect for the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh), his Family and his Companions, may Allah SWT be pleased with them all. Ameen!

**CHAPTER ONE: IBADAH (WORSHIP) AND THE REVELATION**  
**OF SALAH TO PROPHET MUHAMMAD**  **P.B.U.H.**

**1. IBADAH**

First of all it is important to clarify what is meant by the words ‘**SALAH**’ (prayer) and ‘**IBADAH**’ (worship). In the Arabic language, both words *Salah* and *Dua* mean to *supplicate* (to ask for mercy from Allah (God Almighty)), *to ask or pray for help from Allah*, or *to make a humble petition/request from Allah*. One must remember that *Salah* is a part of *Ibadah* in Islam. In Arabic, the word ‘*Ibadah*’ has two meanings, a general meaning and an exact or specific meaning.

- (i) **General meaning** – in this, *Ibadah* is whatever Allah has revealed to us in the Holy Qur’an as His laws, command, and rules (e.g. what is Halaal and what is Haraam).
- (ii) **Specific meaning** – in this, *Ibadah* is meant for example, *Salah* (prayer), *Zakaat* (poor due), *Saum* (fasting), and *Hajj* (pilgrimage to the House of Allah in Makkah, Saudi Arabia), and also other worships.

**2. THE REVELATION OF SALAH (PRAYER) TO PROPHET MUHAMMAD (P.B.U.H.)**

*Salah (Prayer)* in Islam is one of the **Five Pillars of Islam**. The Five Pillars of Islam are: (1) **Shahadah** – the Declaration of Faith: “There is no god but Allah, Muhammad (Peace be upon him) is the Messenger of Allah”; (2) **Salah (prayer)**; (3) **Zakaah** (giving money to the poor); (4) **Saum** (fasting in the Muslim holy Month of Ramadhan); and (5) the **Hajj** (pilgrimage to the House of Allah in Makkah, once a lifetime).

Originally when Islam began, Muslims prayed only twice a day – the Morning Prayer before sunrise and the evening prayer after sunset. Muslims continued praying like this until the event of the **Holy Prophet Muhammad’s (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him – p.b.u.h.) Night of the Ascension to the Heavens (Lailatul-Isra)** occurred, when he and his followers were ordered by Allah to observe the daily five prayers.

According to the **Hadith – Tradition** of the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.), the Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) describes the story of the Lailatul-Isra as follows in **Bukhari**, Volume 1, at pages 51-52:

*“The divine orders for prayer were originally fifty times a day, and as I passed Moses (in heaven during the night journey), he said to me: ‘What hast thou been ordered?’ I replied: ‘Fifty times!’ Then he said: ‘Verily thy people will never be able to bear it.’ I then returned to my Lord and asked for some reduction, and ten prayers were taken off then I pleaded again, and ten more were taken off and so on until at last they were reduced to five times. Then I went to Moses, and he said: ‘How many prayers hast thou been ordered?’ and I replied: ‘Five’ and Moses said: ‘Return to thy Lord and ask for more reduction,’ but I said: ‘I have asked until I am ashamed. I cannot ask Him again.’”*

Praise is to Allah! Today we Muslims are blessed with only five daily prayers instead of having to pray fifty prayers. This is truly a Blessing and a Mercy from Allah and His Messenger, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.). Allah and His Messengers Prophet Moses and Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon them, knew that praying fifty times a day would indeed be a great burden for the Muslims and it would be impossible for them to observe prayer so many times during the day, despite work, study and many other responsibilities in our worldly life. May Allah the Almighty help us and give us the ability to perform our daily prayers, just as our Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) and his Companions and Family prayed. Ameen!

### 3. SOME VERSES FROM THE HOLY QUR’AN AND THE HADITH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (P.B.U.H.) ABOUT SALAH & PURITY

#### VERSES OF THE HOLY QUR’AN

There are many verses of the Holy Qur’an and the Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) that deal with Salah. A few of them are cited here.



وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ إِنَّ الصَّلَاةَ تَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ  
وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ

*“ And establish the Salah (prayer). Surely Salah keeps one away from all dirty and forbidden acts. And that is the greatest Zikr (remembrance) of Allah.”*  
(Surah Al-Ankaboot 29: Verse 45)



وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا لَا تَسْتَكْبِرْ  
رِزْقًا نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكَ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلتَّقْوَى



“Command your family to observe Salah and observe the same yourself. We do not ask you for sustenance (for you or your family); it is We Who supplies you with provisions. And salvation is only for those who are righteous.” (Surah Taha 20:132)



وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَى صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ \* أُولَٰئِكَ  
فِي جَنَّاتٍ مُّكْرَمُونَ

“And those who are attentive in their Salah, they will dwell in Gardens, honoured.” (Surah Al-Ma’aarij 70:34)

### **AHADITH (TRADITIONS) ABOUT SALAH**

- ❖ “Pray as you have seen me praying.” (Hadith in Bukhari)
- ❖ The key to Heaven is the prayer. And the key to prayer is cleanliness.” (Hadith in Ahmad)
- ❖ “Cleanliness is half of faith.” (Hadith in Muslim)

### **The Order for Performing Obligatory Prayers From A Young Age**

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) has taught us that children should begin to pray at a young age as highlighted in this Hadith: “Amr Bin Shuaib reports: The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.) said: ‘Command your children to pray as soon as they are seven years old; beat them when they are ten, if they do not pray, then separate their beds.’”

[Hadith Books: Abu Dawood, Mishkaat-ul-Masabih]

This Hadith of the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) has instructed us clearly that children should be taught to pray when they are seven years old and when they are ten years old, if they disobey parents in performing the obligatory prayers, then they should be beaten slightly and their beds separated. The Hadith further informs us of the seriousness of prayer in Islam and that we should not neglect prayers at all from childhood to adulthood.

### **4. PROPHET MUHAMMAD (p.b.u.h.) - THE BEST OF WORSHIPPERS**

Let us now see how Allah’s Final Messenger, the Mercy to the Worlds, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him – p.b.u.h.), was the best of worshippers in Ibadah and how he set a beautiful example and way for all mankind to follow in their lives. About the Prophet Muhammad’s (p.b.u.h.) unique conduct Allah the Almighty says in SURAH AL-AHZAB (Chapter 33), Verse 21:

***“You have indeed in the Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.) A beautiful pattern of conduct for anyone who looks towards Allah and the Final Day and who engages much in the praise of Allah.”***



**The Holy Name of Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) in Arabic meaning “the praised one” with a globe at the centre, indicating that the whole world and creation is constantly remembering and praising him**

**What the above verse means** is that if we wish to gain the Happiness, Pleasure and Mercy of Allah, then the best way is to follow the ‘**Sunnah**’, that is, the **way, method, actions and sayings of Rasoolullah**, the Messenger of Allah, Hazrat Muhammad (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam, s.a.w. – may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

The above verse (*Ayah*) was revealed when the **Battle of Ahzab** occurred, when the Kafirs (Unbelievers) surrounded the City of Medina and threatened to attack it. The Jews of the Bani Quraibah tribe had betrayed the trust, which they had given to Rasoolullah (s.a.w.), and there were other enemy forces inside Medina ready to attack the Muslims.

Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) showed the greatest patience, courage, steadfastness, and refused to surrender to the enemy – this is the way that we should follow and adopt in our lives. Because **Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) said: “He who does not follow my Sunnah (practice) is not from my Ummah (community).”** So if any Muslim does not follow the Sunnah, then he/she can no longer be part of the Muslim Community. Therefore, we should adopt the Sunnah of our Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) in to our lives and also do the ‘**Zikr**’ (remembrance) of Allah at all times through Ibadah.

#### **HADITH IN BUKHARI & MUSLIM – HOW RASOOLULLAH (SAW) PRAYED, REPORTED BY HIS WIFE, HAZRAT AISHA (RA):**

There are many ‘**Ahadith**’ (sayings, plural; singular ‘Hadith’) of the Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) relating to how he and his **Companions/Friends (Sahabah)** performed the Salah (prayer), especially in the Hadith Books of Bukhari and Muslim.

The Messenger of Allah, Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) used to pray the **Salat-ul-Tahajjud** (Night Vigil Prayer/Qiyam-ul-Layl) between the Isha and Fajr prayers. One man asked Rasoolullah’s (s.a.w.) wife **Hazrat Aisha (Radi Allahu anha, r.a. – may Allah be pleased with her): “Tell me something special about the Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.)”**. She answered: **“There was nothing ordinary about him. Everything he did was special. One night he came and lay down beside me. After a while, he said: “Now let me pray to my Sustainer.” Then he stood up in prayer, humbling himself before his Creator with**

*such sincerity that tears rolled down his cheeks to his beard and onto his breast. He then bowed for Ruku and Sajdah and his tears flowed down quickly before and after raising his head from his Sajdah. He continued weeping in this way until Hazrat Bilal (Radi Allahu anhu, r.a. – may Allah be pleased with him) announced the approach of the Fajr Prayer.”*

I pleaded with him: “O Prophet of Allah! There is no sin against you, as Allah has in His bounty forgiven you.” He replied: “Why should I not be a thankful servant of Allah?” Then he said: “Why should I not be praying like this when Allah has revealed to me these verses: ‘Lo! In the creation of the heavens and the earth and in the changing of night and day, are signs for the men of understanding, such as those who remember Allah standing, sitting, reclining...’ ” (Surah Ale Imran: Verses 190-200)

## **5. RASOOLULLAH’S (S.A.W.) PATIENCE IN PRAYER**

**Rasoolullah (s.a.w) prayed at all times**, whether it was the **Fardh** (obligatory) prayer or the **Nafl** (extra/superogatory) prayer, doing **Istighfar** (asking Allah’s pardon), praising and thanking Allah.

**In Bukhari Shareef**, it is reported by **Hazrat Aisha** (r.a.) that Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) used to pray eleven **Rak’ah** (units of prayer) at night. In one prostration of each of these Rak’ah, he used to spend in it the time taken to read fifty verses. He used to make the **Sujood** (prostrations) long begging Allah for His forgiveness and mercy. In **Bukhari** and **Muslim Shareef**, it is reported on the authority of Ibn Masood (r.a.) who said: “I prayed with the Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.) one night and as he continued standing reciting from the **Qur’an**, I was about to do something evil”. They (Sahabah/Companions) asked him “What was it you wanted to do?” He said: “I was about to leave him standing and sitting down.”

Therefore, **Hazrat Ibn Masood (r.a.)** was not able to perform the Salah in a unique way, as did the Prophet (p.b.u.h.). But out of love, respect and courtesy for his Master, Hazrat Ibn Masood (r.a.) continued with his prayer until it ended.

## **Exterior views of the Masjid-e-Nabawi (s.a.w.)**





## **Interior view of the Prophet's (p.b.u.h.) Mosque**



### **The Companions of Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) Emulated their Master in Ibadah**

The Sahaba Kiraam (r.a.) performed their prayer with great love, humbleness and devotion. They did their utmost to emulate the Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.) in prayer and remained standing in prayer as long as he did. In **Muslim Shareef**, it is reported by **Hazrat Huzaifah (r.a.)**: *“I prayed one night with Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) who began reading Surah Al-Baqarah in the first Rak’ah. Then he started to read Surah An-Nisa. Then followed by Surah Ale-Imran. Then he performed the Ruku, and spent in it the time which took him the time standing, and then the Sujood, the time spent performing the Ruku.”*

**Hazrat Umar (r.a.)** – the Second Caliph, Successor to Rasoolullah (s.a.w.), was stabbed at the end of his rule, which caused his death, was bleeding excessively and would become unconscious. When it was the time for prayer, he would not be neglectful of his duty and performed the prayer even in his poor condition. He said: **“There is no part in Islam for the person who omits Salah”**. This great example of Hazrat Umar (r.a.) gives us inspiration and strengthens our faith to perform Salah in all

conditions of our lives, whether we are in good or poor health, at work or study, and so on.

Similarly, if we study the lives of the *Pious Personalities in Islam*, the *Awliyaa Allah* (the Friends/beloved of Allah, i.e., the Saints/savants), and *Ulema* (scholars), we see that they acted completely according to the way of the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of Rasoolullah (s.a.w.). One of our great Sunni Scholars, **Mujaddid-e-Deen wa Millah, A'la Hazrat, Maulana Hafiz Qari Sayyed Ahmad Raza Khan Bareilvi Qadri** (Rahmatullahi alaihi (r.a.), may Allah have mercy on his soul - born in 1856, died 1921), attended the Mosque for Salah even when he was extremely ill and asked somebody to carry him to the Mosque.

**Hence, it can be seen that Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) showed the greatest, the best, and the supreme way of Ibadah for all times, to be emulated by all his followers and for all of mankind to follow.**

## **6. THE BENEFITS OF SALAH**

It is narrated in the **Hadith Books of Ahmad and Abu Dawood** that: "*Whenever Allah's Messenger (s.a.w.) faced a serious matter, he hurried to Salah.*" This Hadith is quite clear and it sets an example for us that we should turn to prayer whenever we face any difficulty to obtain peace, tranquillity and the guidance of Allah the Almighty.

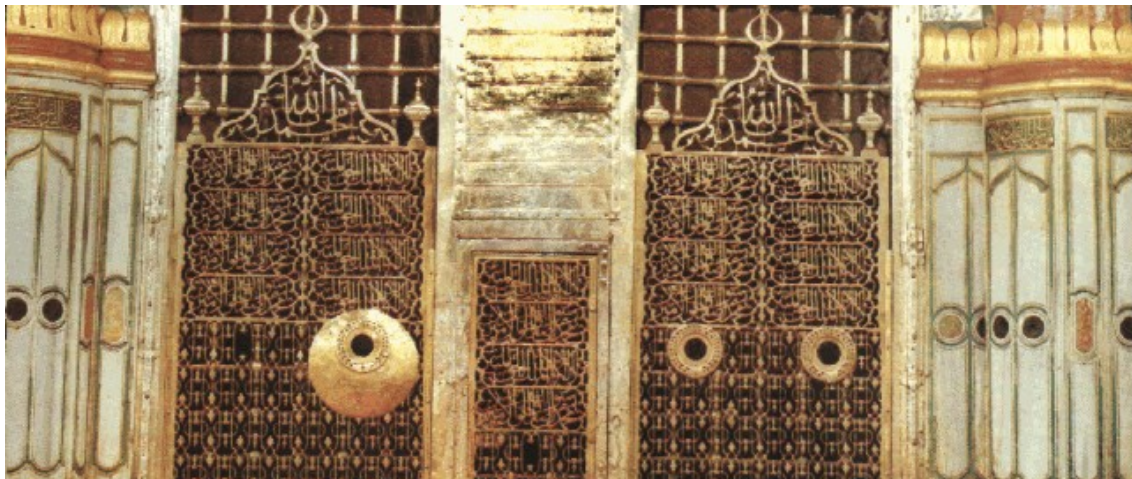
**Allama Ibn Qayyim (r.a.)** the great scholar of Islam, wrote in his book '*Zaad Al-Ma'ad*' (quoted by Anas Al-Gawz in his book 'Before You Pray') the many benefits of Salah as follows:

- Attracts good livelihood
- Improves health
- Prevents harm
- Keeps away diseases
- Strengthens the heart
- Brightens the face
- Delights the soul
- Takes away laziness
- Strengthens and refreshes the organs
- Replenishes energies
- Refreshes the heart
- Nurtures the spirit
- Enlightens the mind
- Preserves youthfulness
- Prevents adversity – punishment
- Brings the blessings of Allah

- Drives away Shaitan – the Devil
- Brings one closer to Allah the Almighty

**Below: The Rawzah of Rasoolullah s.a.w.**

**Inside the Masjid-e-Nabawi (s.a.w.), the grave of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) lies behind the wall indicated by the large circle with a hole. To the right of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) indicated by the small circles, is the grave of the First Caliph of Islam, Sayyiduna Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (r.a.) and next to him is the grave of the Second Caliph, Sayyiduna Hazrat Umar Farooq (r.a.)**



**Another Exterior View of Masjid-e-Nabawi (s.a.w.)**



## **CHAPTER TWO: TAHARAH – PURITY IN ISLAM**

Before performing the Salah (prayer), Muslims must be completely clean and pure from all impurities (dirtiness). This chapter discusses purity and cleanliness in Islam and how we should keep ourselves clean at all times, especially for Salah.

**Regarding cleanliness, Allah the Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an:**

*“Surely Allah loves those who turn to Him and those who care for cleanliness.”*  
(Surah Al-Baqarah: Verse 222)

**About Taharah, Our Holy Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H.) said:**

- *“Purity is half of faith”* (Muslim)
- *“Cleanliness is half of faith.”*  
(Muslim)
- *“The key to Heaven is the prayer.  
And the key to prayer is cleanliness.”* (Ahmad)

### **1. WHAT IS TAHARAH?**

The word **“Taharah”** means cleanliness or purification. In Shariah, it refers specifically to one's body and clothes (and the place where one performs the Salah - prayer). **Personal hygiene** is very important in Islam: a Muslim should always keep him/herself and the clothes clean from impurities such as urine, blood, pus, emetic,

prostatic fluid, stool/excrement, etc. When you have reached the age of adolescence you should shave the private parts of the body (i.e. armpits and genital region) to remove impurities and to prevent carrying germs, dirt, etc.

## 2. TYPES OF IMPURITIES/DIRTINESS (“NAJASAAT”)

There are basically two types of impurities:

**(i) Najaasat-e-Hukmiyyah** – this is impurity that is not visible to the human naked eye and it consists of two kinds:

- ***Hadath*** – ***this is lesser impurity and you have to do the Wudu (Ablution).*** Examples are: urine, stool, blood, wind, vomiting (mouthful) fainting, intoxication, pus, laughing during Salaat, sleeping with support and lying down, unconsciousness.
- ***Akbar*** – ***this is greater impurity and you have to do the Ghusal (ritual bath).*** Examples are: discharge of semen (whether during sleep or not), menstruation, after birth of a baby, and after relations between husband and wife.

**(ii) Najaasat-e-Haqiqi** – this is impurity that is visible and apparent to the human eye and it consists of two kinds:

- ***Ghalizah*** – ***this is heavy impurity that covers the body being half an inch and you have to wash the body and clothes three times each.*** Examples are: human blood, semen and pus, human urine and excrement, menstrual blood, vomiting, spillage of alcohol on the body or clothes, urine, excrement and blood of animals, ducks and hens droppings, and the saliva of some animals (e.g. dogs).
- ***Khafifah*** – this is light impurity that covers the body or clothes 1/4<sup>th</sup> and for this too, you must wash the body and clothes three times. Examples are: urine of Halaal (permitted) animals, the droppings of Haraam (prohibited, e.g. birds of prey) animals and the droppings of Halaal birds (i.e. it has a bad smell).

## 3. THE WATER – “AL-MAA’U”

- ***Water is of two types:*** unused (“Ghair Musta’mal”) and used water (“Musta’mal”).
- ***Water that is permissible for Wudu and Ghusal are as follows:*** ocean/sea, river, well, spring, fountain, lake, snow/ice, and rain water.



- Water must be flowing and running (“Al-Maa’ul-jaari”).
- If any impurity falls into flowing water then it is still clean except when its condition changes, that is, the colour, taste or smell changes.
- A water tank measuring 5 by 5 metres length is permissible for use in Wudu and Ghusal as it is regarded as flowing water.
- If impurity falls into still water in a tank measuring 5 by 5 length, it becomes unclean.
- Used or “Musta’mal” water cannot be reused for Wudu and Ghusal.
- When bathing or doing the Wudu, do not splash the water into the water vessel (“Lota”, jug), or the bath/bath tub, as the droplets of water are used water. If used water should fall into the water vessel/bath tub, then you have to refill it and not use that water.

#### **4. ISTINJA (CLEANING OF PRIVATE PARTS AFTER GOING TO THE TOILET)**

##### **Rules for the toilet/bathroom and Istinja:**

- Before entering the toilet/bathroom enter with your left foot.
- It is Mustahab (preferred/desirable) to say this Dua (prayer) before entering the bathroom/toilet: “*Bismillahi Allahumma innee aoozubika minal khubusi wal khabaa’is*” (In the Name of Allah, O Allah I seek protection in You from the male and female devils).
- Do not take Ta’weez (amulets) into the bathroom/toilet unless it is covered up properly, but try to avoid taking it in.
- Do not do any Zikr (remembrance) of Allah in the bathroom/toilet.
- Do not stand while urinating.
- Do not splash urine drops on your body/clothes when urinating and cleaning yourself (if this happens, then you must wash the body three times, and the clothes you must wash and rinse three times).

- Use tissue and then clean yourself with water (if in a remote place and not in a city, use pebbles, stones or clean soil; you can clean yourself with stones/pebbles alone but using water afterwards is better).
- Use your left hand to clean yourself (if your left hand is injured then you may use the right hand).
- Do not face Qibla (direction of Makkah) or to have the back towards it when in the toilet; also not to have your face or back towards the sun or moon.
- Do not look at your private part and stool or expose/show your private parts in front of people.
- Do not talk in the toilet unless it is necessary.
- It is *Makrooh Tahrimi* (near forbidden) to clean your self with the bones and food of humans and animals.
- When leaving the toilet/bathroom, step out with the right foot and say this Dua: “*Allahumma ghufraanak, alhamdulillah illazee azhaba annil-azaa wa aafanee.*” (O Allah! I ask Your forgiveness, praise be to Allah Who removed from me what was injurious and restored me to soundness).

## 5. WUDU – ABLUTION (الوضوء)

### FARAAIDH OF WUDU (OBLIGATORY DUTIES)

In Wudu it is *Fardh (obligatory)* to wash four parts of the body once, as stated by Allah the Almighty in the **Holy Qur’an, Surah Al-Maidah 5, Verse 6:**

***“O you who believe! When you prepare for prayer, wash your faces, and your hands (arms) to the elbows; rub your heads (with water); and (wash) feet to the ankles.”***

Therefore, it is clear that washing these four parts of the body before Salah is compulsory, especially when there is shortage of water, and then one must wash especially these parts:

- (a) The face;
- (b) Both arms from the wrists to the elbows;
- (c) Masah – wiping the head (one fourth);
- (d) Both feet up to the ankles.

### SUNNAH METHOD OF WUDU

**Sunnah** means the *way* or *method* of our **Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.)**. Also, whatever he did and said throughout his lifetime is the best way for us to follow. The Sunnah method of performing the Wudhu is as follows:

- Make **Niyah** (intention) – say: **Ta’awwuz**: “*Aoozu billahi minash Shaitaanir-rajeem*” (*I seek protection in Allah from the cursed Shaitan*) and **Bismillah/Tasmiyyah**:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

“*Bismillahir-rahmanir-raheem*”

(*In the Name of Allah, Most Kind, Most Merciful*).

- Wash both **hands** three times up to the wrists (right hand and then left hand).



- Wash your **mouth** and gargle three times – use a **Miswaak** (wooden stick of the Arak tree), or your right index finger and thumb, or a toothbrush. When fasting do not allow water to reach the throat.



- Wash your **nose** three times by taking water with the right hand and sucking the water into the nostrils, and then clean the nostrils with the left hand thumb, index finger and small finger. N.B. When fasting, ensure that water does not reach above the nasal bone; otherwise the fast will become void.



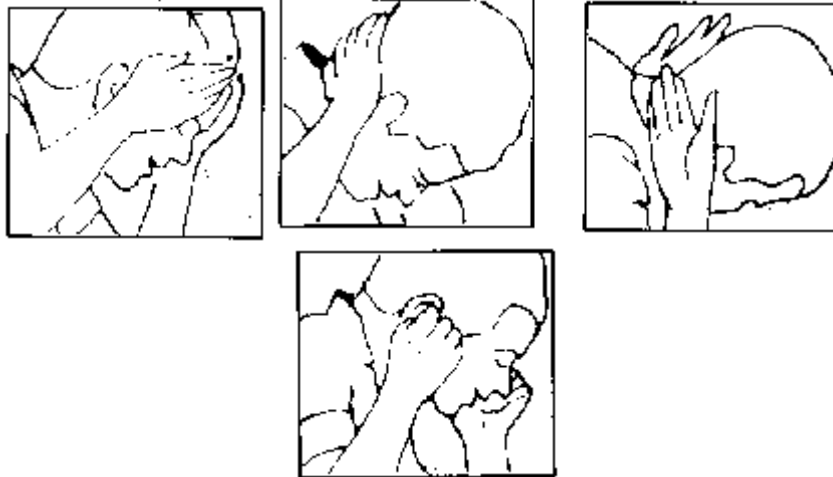
- Wash your ***face*** three times, from the forehead to the chin, and from one earlobe to the other earlobe. If you have a beard, you must comb through the beard with your hands to pass water through it. Do not splash the water on the face but spread it over the face. Make sure the face is not dry.



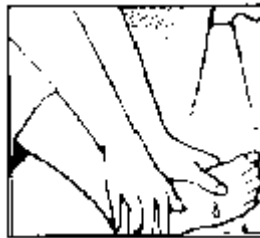
- Wash both ***arms*** up to the elbows three times (right arm and then left arm).



- Wet your hands, shake off any extra water and then do the ***Masah (wiping the head)*** once. This is done by wetting the hands and putting the fingertips together, leaving the index fingers and thumbs separate (do not let your index fingers, thumbs and palms of your hand touch the head). Then you rub the joined three fingers through your hair, starting from the forehead to the back of the head. Then, with your fingers joined together, you rub the sides of the head by bringing the hands forward. Then you clean the inside of the ears with the index fingers and the back of the ears with the thumbs. Lastly, you wipe the nape (back of the neck) with the back of your hands, making sure that you do not wipe the sides of the throat as this is not allowed (its is Makrooh, disliked).



- Lastly, wash both ***feet*** three times up to the ankles, and make sure you clean between the toes with your left hand (right foot first and then left foot).



**Source of Wudhu Pictures:** The above pictures have been obtained with permission from Ghulam Sarwar's book '*Islam – Beliefs and Teachings*' (1987).

## 6. **MASAH OF KHUFF (WIPING OVER LEATHER SOCKS)**

A '***Khuff***' (pl. Khuffain; also 'Moza') is a special leather sock that extends up to the ankles. ***Kuffain*** must be put on after Wudhu. If one is wearing a Khuff, it is permitted to wipe over them with wet fingers instead of washing the feet. If one is in need of Ghusl (bath), then you cannot wipe over the Khuff. You cannot wipe over socks that are made of nylon/wool/cotton, but you have to remove them and wash the feet. A Muqem (non-traveller) can do Masah of Khuffain and wear them up to 24 hours. A Musaafir (traveller) can wear the Khuffain from the time of doing Wudhu up to 72 hours. If Wudhu breaks then the time has to be counted from that moment onwards. After the periods of 24/72 hours are over, the Khuffain should be taken off and the feet must be washed.

## 7. **DUAS TO SAY WHEN WASHING PARTS OF YOUR BODY DURING WUDHU**

**Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (s.a.w.)** taught us to say the following Duas when doing Wudhu (contained in the books of Hadith) – this is optional and not compulsory. These Duas have been quoted from Ahmed Hamoud Al-Maamiry's book '*Easy Way to Learn Islam*' (Oman).

- Before starting Wudhu and washing the hands:

## عوذ بالله من الشيطان الرجيم — بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

“Aoozu billahi minash Shaitaanir-rajeem” (I seek protection in Allah from the cursed Shaitan) and “Bismillahir rahmanir-raheem” (In the Name of Allah, Most Kind, Most Merciful).

- When washing the mouth and gargling:

اللهم اسقني من الرحيق المختوم .. يا الله

“Allahumma asqini minar raheeqil makhtoomi ya Allah” (O my Lord! Give me the drink from the sealed beautiful wine – O Allah).

- When washing the nose:

اللهم انشقني من روائح رحمتك في جنتك يا الله

“Allahumma anshiqni min rawaih rahmatika fi jannatika ya Allah” (O my Lord! Let me smell from the perfumes of Your Blessing in Your Heaven – O Allah!).

- When washing the face:

اللهم بيض وجهي بنورك يوم تبيض وجوه عبادك الصالحين .. يا الله

“Allahumma bayyidh wajhi binurika yawmah tabyadhuh wajoohu ibadikas saaliheen ya Allah” O my Lord! Make my face white with Your Light when the faces of your righteous servants will be whitened – O Allah).

- When washing the right arm:

اللهم اعطني كتابي بيمينى وحاسبني حسابا يسيرا يا الله

“Allahumma a’atini kitabee biyameeni wa haasibnee hisaaban yaseeran ya Allah” (O my Lord! Give me my account with my right hand, and make my account light – O Allah).

- When washing the left arm:

اللهم اتي اعوذ بك أن تعطيني كتابي بشمالي أو من وراء ظهري يا  
الله

“Allahumma innee aoozubika an tu’thiyanee kitabiya bishimalee aw min warai zahree ya Allah” (O my Lord! I seek protection in You that You will not give me my account with my left hand or on the rear of my back – O Allah).

- When doing the Masah of the head:

اللهم اظلني بظل عرشك يوم لا ظل الا ظلك

“Allahumma azillanee bizhilli arshika yawma laa zhilla illa zhilluka” (O Allah! Shelter me with the shelter of Your authority on the Day when there will be no shelter except Yours).

- When washing the ears:

## اللهم اجعلنى من الذين يستمعون القول فيتبعون احسنه

“Allahummaj alnee minal-lazeena yastamioonal-qawla fa yattabioona ahsanahu” (O Allah! Include me amongst those who hear words and follow the best thereof).

- When rubbing the back (nape) of the neck:

## اللهم اعتق رقبتى من النار والعار واعوذ بك من السلاسل والاغلال

“Allahumma a’atiq raqabatee minan-naari wal-aari wa aoozubika minas-salaasili wal-aghlaali” (O Allah! Save my neck from the fire and disgrace and I seek protection from the iron chains and shackles).

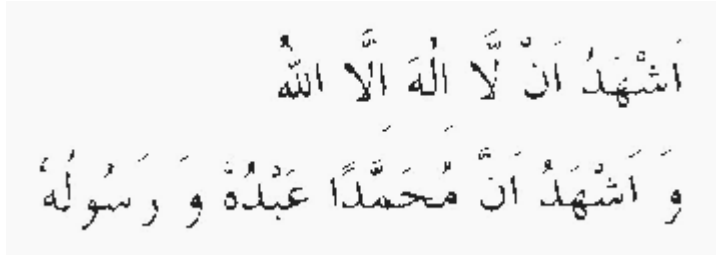
- When washing both feet:

## اللهم ثبت قدمى على الحق والدين برحمتك يا ارحم الراحمين

“Allahumma sabbit qadamayya alal haqqi wad-deeni birahmatika ya arhamar-rahimeen” (O Allah! Make my feet firm on righteousness and religion – O the Most merciful).

### ON FINISHING WUDHU, SAY THESE PRAYERS:

- SHAHADAH:



“Ash-hadu Allah ilaha illalahu wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan abduhu wa Rasooluhu” (I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad (pbuh) is the Servant and Messenger of Allah).

- ALSO:

## اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْنِي مِنَ التَّوَّابِينَ وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنَ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

“Allahummaj-alnee minat-tawwabeena wajaalnee minal-mutatahhireen” (O Allah! Make me from those people who repent (ask for forgiveness) and from those who are pure (clean)).

## 8. WHAT BREAKS THE WUDHU

The following actions break the Wudhu for which you will have to make fresh Wudhu.

- Urine and excrement.
- Passing of wind.
- Blood, yellow liquid, pus emanating from the body (not phlegm i.e. slimy liquid in the throat).

- Laughing during one's Salaat (prayer).
- Mouthful vomiting (blood or food).
- Menstruation, discharge of semen, and on childbirth – these would require one to take the Ghusl (bath).
- Bleeding of a woman's uterus.
- Sleeping with support and lying down.
- Unconsciousness and intoxication.

## 9. WHAT DOES NOT BREAK THE WUDU

These actions do not break the Wudhu:

- A mother breastfeeding a child.
- When one is resting in a sitting position with eyes closed, not asleep and without any support (wall, cushion, etc.).
- Having an injection for medical treatment.

## 10. ACTIONS FORBIDDEN WITHOUT WUDU OR TAYAMMUM (DRY ABLUTION)

You are not permitted to do any of the following actions without Wudhu and Ghusl (and where appropriate, Tayammum):

- Salaat (Wudu/Ghusl/Tayammum required).
- Doing the Sajdah of Tilawat (prostration of Qur'an recitation – Wudu/Ghusl/Tayammum required).
- Walking around the Holy Kaaba in Makkah (Wudu/Ghusl is necessary for this).
- Carrying or touching the Holy Qur'an (Wudu/Ghusl).

## 11. GHUSL (BATH)

When one intends to take a bath or shower, the purpose of it should be to cleanse oneself properly from impurities. You should not fill the bath just like some people do and wash yourself in the dirty water. This is not allowed, as you have to use flowing or running water as explained before. If you do need to fill the bath with water for medical treatment or a similar purpose, then it is permitted. But at the end, you must use clean water to cleanse yourself. You should ensure that when taking a bath or shower, you wet your body completely including all the hairs. Women with plaited hair are excused from opening them and should wet the base of the hair. If it is difficult to wet the base, then the plait should be opened and the hair washed thoroughly.

There are two types of Ghusl: (i) *ordinary bath/shower*; and (ii) *ritual bath*.  
**FARDH (OBLIGATORY) GHUSL/RITUAL BATH**

*Fardh Ghusl* is obligatory after:

- A person becomes a Muslim.
- Husband and wife relations.
- Discharge of semen.



- Ending of menstruation.
- Death of a person.

### **METHOD OF GHUSL:**

#### **Obligatory acts for a proper Ghusl:**

- *Rinse the mouth properly and gargle once* (when fasting do not swallow the water).
- *Rinse the nose up to the nasal bone once* (when fasting do not let the water reach past the nasal bone).
- *Wash the whole body properly once including the hair.*

### **SUNNAH METHOD OF GHUSL**

- *Say the Niyyah.*
- *Wash your hands up to the wrists three times.*
- *Wash your private parts three times - impurities must be removed from the body.*
- *Do the ablution.*
- *Wash the body completely three times including the hair.*

## **12. TAYAMMUM – DRY ABLUTION**

تَيَمُّمٌ

**Tayammum** is the method of purification where you use clean, dry soil, earth, or sand in place of the Wudu and Ghusl, for the reasons below:

- *When water is not available for Wudu/Ghusl*
- *Time is short for Salaat (e.g. especially when it is Fajr and Maghrib prayer and you need to have a ritual bath).*
- *One is injured or has medical treatment for a particular part of the body.*

### **THE METHOD FOR TAYAMMUM**

- Say the Niyyah for performing the Tayammum (i.e. Bismillah).
- Strike both hands on the earth gently with the palms of the hands.
- Shake off any excess earth by tapping both hands together (with the palms of the hands facing down).
- Pass the hands over the face only once as in normal Wudu.
- Strike both hands on the earth again and rub the arms from the fingertips to the elbows, once, by passing the fingers of the left hand through the fingers of the right hand up to the elbow and then doing the same action for the left arm. Do not leave any spot uncovered with soil.

**NOTE:** THE SAME ACTIONS THAT BREAK WUDU ALSO BREAK TAYAMMUM. WHEN WATER IS AVAILABLE, AND WHEN ONE BECOMES BETTER AFTER AN INJURY OR ILLNESS, THEN TAYAMMUM CANNOT BE DONE ANY LONGER, YOU HAVE TO USE WATER.

## **CHAPTER 3: SALAH – PRAYER**

(الصَّلَاةُ)

After performing the Wudhu and/or purification with Ghusl/Tayammum, you may start the Salah. There are some important ‘*Sharaait*’ (sing. Shart) *conditions* (things needed before prayer) that must be met before you pray. **The 7 conditions for Salah are as below:**

- Wudhu
- Your clothes are clean
- The place of Salah is clean
- Correct time for Salah
- You are facing the Qibla (direction of Makkah)
- Niyyah (intention) for prayer
- Takbir-e-Tahreema (saying “Allahu Akbar”).

It is important to ***dress properly*** before starting the Salah. The ‘*Satr*’/‘*Awrah*’ (***covering of the body***) for males is from the navel (belly button) to just below the knees. Males should cover the head with a skull-cap (“topi”) or any other headgear and t-shirts should not be worn during Salah (except one that is up to the elbow). The Awrah for females is from the head to the ankles without covering the face and hands. Females should cover their heads properly with a long scarf. Both males & females ought to wear clean and appropriate clothes and also clean socks. **Note:** when women have their menstrual period, they are not permitted to perform the Salah as ordered by Allah in the Holy Qur’an, or to teach it except by way of indicating the letters of words.

## 1. **THE NAMES, TIMINGS AND RAKAATS OF THE DAILY SALAH**

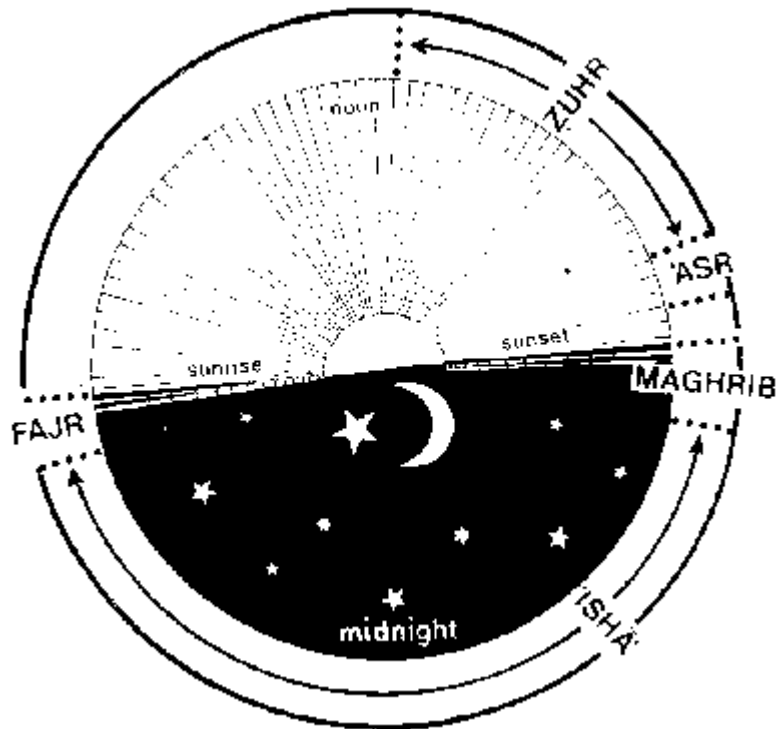
- **Fajr** – early dawn prayer before sunrise
- **Zohr** – after midday prayer
- **Asr** – late afternoon prayer
- **Maghrib** – before sunset prayer
- **Isha** – late evening prayer.

**TABLE SHOWING THE RAKAATS (UNITS/PARTS) FOR EACH DAILY PRAYER**

<b><u>Name of Daily Salah</u></b>	<b><u>Sunnah Ghair-Muakkadah Rakaats (not emphasised) Before Fardh Prayer</u></b>	<b><u>Sunnah Muakkadah Rakaats (Emphasised) Before Fardh</u></b>	<b><u>Fardh Rakaats (Obligatory)</u></b>	<b><u>Sunnah Muakkadah Rakaats After Fardh Prayer</u></b>	<b><u>Nafl Rakaats (Optional/ Voluntary))</u></b>	<b><u>Total Number of Rakaats in Each Daily Salah</u></b>
Fajr	---	2	2	---	---	4
Zohr	---	4	4	2	2	12
Asr	4	---	4	---	---	8
Maghrib	---	---	3	2	2	7
Isha	4	---	4	2	2 Nafl +3 Witr +2 Nafl	17

### **Chart Showing the Timings of Daily Salah**

(Source: Ghulam Sarwar’s book ‘Islam – Beliefs and Teachings’)



### **Important Note:**

The *Zohr* and *Asr Salah* are performed silently, that is, in these prayers during *Jamaat*, the Imam does not read out loudly any chapters or verses from the Qur'an. He recites chapters/verses silently and the people behind him should remain silent. When you perform any *Salah* by yourself, you should read Qur'anic verses in a whispering voice so that you can hear what you are reading.

## **2. EXPLANATION OF WORDS**

- (a) ***Rakaats*** – these are units or parts of a prayer;
- (b) ***Fardh*** – means obligatory/compulsory (actions that must be performed, failure to do so will result in committing a sin);
- (c) ***Sunnah Muakkadah*** – means emphasised/stressed actions (those actions which were performed regularly by Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (s.a.w.);
- (d) ***Sunnah Ghair-Muakkadah*** – means not emphasised or stressed, but you must not make a habit of leaving out these actions, especially such Rakaats in *Salah* (those actions which were sometimes performed by Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (s.a.w.), but occasionally he left them out);
- (e) ***Qunoot*** – means obedience and devotion to Allah. This is actually a prayer, *Dua-e-Qunoot*, that is recited during the *Witr Salah*;
- (f) ***Witr*** – means odd number and this prayer has 3 Rakaats and is a part of the *Isha Salah*.

## **3. WITR SALAH**

This is an important prayer being ‘*Wajib*’ (essential or necessary – *Wajib* is a duty less than *Fardh*). It is performed just like the *Maghrib* prayer, after the second *Rakat* you stand up saying “*Allahu Akbar*” after the reading the *Tashahhud* up to “*Ash-hadu Allah ilaha illallahu wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan abduhu wa rasooluh*”. Then you read *Surah Al-Fatihah* and some verses. After this, you raise your hands up to your ears with *Takbir* “*Allahu Akbar*” and then fold your hands below the navel, if a male, or on your chest if a female. Then you read the ‘*Dua-e-Qunoot*’ (prayer of obeisance – bowing/respect), which is given below.

After reading the *Dua-e-Qunoot*, you say “*Allahu Akbar*” and then do the *Ruku*, *Qiyam*, *Sajdah*, *Jalsah*, read the *Tashahhud*, *Durood*, *Dua*, and *Salaam* (see the notes in the section ‘*The Sunnah Method of Performing the Prayer*’).

### **DUA-E-QUNOOT**

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْتَعِينُكَ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَنُؤْمِنُ بِكَ وَنَتَوَكَّلُ  
عَلَيْكَ وَنُثْنِي عَلَيْكَ الْحَمْدَ وَنُشْكُرُكَ وَلَا نَكْفُرُكَ وَنَمْلِكُ  
وَنَتْرُكُ مَنْ يَفْجُرُكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَعْبُدُكَ وَنُصَلِّي  
وَنَسْجُدُ وَإِلَيْكَ نَسْعَى وَنَحْفِيدُ وَنَرْجُو رَحْمَتَكَ وَنَخْشَى  
عَذَابَكَ إِنَّ عَذَابَكَ بِالْكَفَّارِ مُلْحِقٌ ۝

The *Dua-e-Qunoot* is: “*Allahumma innaa nastaeenuka wa nastagh-firuka wa nu’minu-bika wa natawakkalu alaika wa nusnee alaikal-khair, wa nashkuruka wa laa nakfuruka wa nakhlau wa natruku manj-yaffjuruk, Allahumma iyyaaka na’budu wa laka nusallee wa nasjudu wa ilaika nas’aa wa nahfidu wa narjoo wa rahmataka wa nakhshaa azaabaka inna azaabaka bil-kuffaari mulhiq*”

**Translation:** “O Allah! We ask You for Your help and ask You for Your forgiveness, and believe in You and put our trust in You, and we praise you in the best way and we thank you and we are not ungrateful to You, and we throw away and leave the person who disobeys You. O Allah! You alone do we worship and to You we pray and do the *Sajdah* (prostration) and to You we turn to quickly, and we surrender, and hope for Your Mercy and we fear Your punishment. Surely, Your punishment overtakes the unbelievers.”

If you cannot read *Dua-e-Qunoot* in full, then you may read this *Dua*:

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً  
وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

“*Rabbanaa aatinaa fiddunyaa hasanatan wa fil-aakhirati hasanatan wa-qinaa azaaban-naar.*”

Translation:

(O our Lord! We seek goodness from You in this world and the Hereafter and safety from the punishment of Hell).

Or this Dua:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي ظُلْمًا كَثِيرًا وَلَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ  
إِلَّا أَنْتَ فَاعْفِرْ لِي مَغْفِرَةً مِنْ عِنْدِكَ وَارْحَمْنِي إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ  
الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ○

“*Allahumma innee zalamtun nafsee zulman katheeran wala yaghfiruz-zanooba illaa anta faghfirli maghfiratan min ‘indika warhamnee, innaka anat-ghafur-ur-raheem.*”

Translation:

O Allah! I did a grave wrong to myself. And none except You forgive the sins. So grant me forgiveness from Yourself. And take pity on me; You are the most Forgiving, the most Merciful.

#### 4. SAJDAH SAHW – PROSTRATION FOR FORGETFULNESS/MISTAKE

Sometimes when we pray, we may commit some mistakes unintentionally by leaving out any *Wajib (essential)* actions. To rectify any forgetfulness or mistake during Salah it is necessary to do the *Sajdah Sahw*.

Examples of unintentional forgetfulness or mistake in Salah are: forgetting to recite any Surahs or verses, not doing Qiyaam (standing), not completing any Rakaat(s), not doing the Ruku (bowing), not doing the Sajdah, not doing the Qa’dah (sitting after two Rakaats), or repeating actions twice such as Ruku or Sajdah, or reciting the Surah Al-Fatiha in Tashahhud position, and the Durood Sharif in any Rakaat when you are supposed to be reciting the Al-Fatiha, and so on.

When an *Imam makes any of these mistakes during Salah*, or in the *recitation of the Holy Qur'an*, it is the duty of the *Muqtadis* (people following the Imam in prayer) to correct his error by bringing it to his attention by saying “Subhaan-Allah” (Praise be to Allah) or by saying “Allahu Akbar” (Allah is Most Great). This prompting from the Muqtadis will help the Imam to correct the mistake and if an important action has been left out in Salah, then he will do the Sajdah Sahw with his followers. It does not matter if the Muqtadis have committed any mistakes in Salah as they are following the Imam. The Sajdah Sahw is done at the end of the Salah in the last Qa'dah (sitting). After reciting the Tashahhud and the Durood Sharif, the Imam says Salaam to the right side only and then does the Sajdah twice. Then the Imam and his followers complete the prayer by reciting the Tashahhud, Durood Sharif, and Dua and finishing off with saying Salaam to the right and left sides.

## **5. MUFSIDAAT-E-SALAH - ACTIONS THAT BREAK THE PRAYER**

The following actions are *Mufsideat-e-Salah* and can break or vitiate the Salah. If any of the actions below were committed, then you would have to restart the prayer again:

- Laughing/smiling.
- Talking to someone.
- Eating and drinking (children - do not have chewing gum in your mouth during prayer!).
- Saying: “Salaam” or “May Allah have mercy on you”, to someone sneezing during Salah.
- To turn your body away from the direction of Qiblah.

## **6. MAKROOHAAT-E-SALAH – ACTIONS DISLIKED DURING PRAYER**

The following actions are disliked during the Salah and you must try to avoid these actions as they will make the Salah defective, but you will not have to repeat the prayer:

- Playing with one's clothes or scratching the body more than twice.
- Straightening the clothes before doing the Sajdah and after it.
- A mother breastfeeding her baby.
- Cracking fingers in prayer.
- Males praying without a hat and females without a long scarf.
- Praying with a t-shirt on or having rolled up sleeves above the elbows (rolling the sleeves below the elbow is permitted).
- Praying with any clothes on that have pictures of animals or humans.
- Praying when needing to go to the toilet.
- To look around during prayer.
- To go ahead of the Imam in prayer.
- To recite Surahs/verses from the Holy Qur'an in a wrong order.
- To pray in a room/hall which has pictures of animals and humans.

## 7. TIMES WHEN SALAH IS NOT TO BE PERFORMED

The times when it is **Makrooh** (disliked by the Shariah – Islamic Law) to perform the Salah are as follows. You should not pray during these times at all:

- At the time of sunrise.
- At sunset.
- When the sun is at its *Zawal* (zenith – highest point in the horizon).
- Between dawn and sunrise (only allowed to pray 15-20 minutes after sunrise).
- Do not pray any Nafl after Asr Salah and until sunset (except Qaza and Janazah).
- When the time is short for any Fardh Salah.
- Do not pray any Nafl when the Imam (leader of congregational prayer) is delivering the Friday Jum'ah Khutba (Sermon) and during the Jum'ah Fardh Salah, and also during the Khutba of Eid Salah.
- Do not pray any Nafl during the Hajj at Arafaat when Zuhr and Asr Salah are performed together. Also, during the Hajj, do not pray any Nafl between the Maghrib and Isha Salah at Muzdalifah.

## 8. NON-DAILY PRAYERS

Apart from the daily prayers mentioned above, Muslims also perform other prayers as follows:

1. **JUMU'AH or JUM'AH SALAH** – this is performed on the Muslim holy day of Friday with Jamaat (group/congregation);
2. **TARAWIH SALAH** – this is performed during the Month of Ramadhan when Muslims fast for 29 or 30 days.
3. **EID SALAH** – this is performed on the occasions of Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha with Jamaat.
4. **JANAZAH SALAH** (funeral prayer) – this is performed when a Muslim dies, and then we do the Janazah Salah with Jamaat.
5. **NAFILAH or NAFL SALAH** (including Sunnah Salah) – this is superogatory/extra Salah that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) used to perform.

These prayers are explained in more detail in Chapter 4.

## 9. AZAAAN – THE MUSLIM CALL TO PRAYER (أَذَانٌ)

The *Azaan* is the *Muslim Call to Prayer*. Muslims do not use a bell just as the Christians do, nor do they use a horn like the Jews for announcing the time of congregational prayer. The Azaan is read out aloud by a person called a *Muezzin* (one who calls the people to Salah) facing the Qibla and raising his hands to his ears. Before the start of congregational Salah, the Azaan is read out and then the *Iqamah* (the second Azaan, meaning standing up for prayer) is read.

Here is the Azaan with its Arabic text, transliteration, and translation. It must be read in the order given below and should not be mixed up. When reading the Azaan, the Muezzin should be facing the Qiblah, have his index fingers in his ears, with his the palms of his hands opposite both ears.

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝  
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ ۝  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ ۝ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ مُحَمَّدًا  
رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ۝ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ۝  
حَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ ۝ حَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ ۝  
حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ ۝ حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ ۝  
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ۝ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ ۝

### TRANSLITERATION and TRANSLATION

1. **ALLAHU AKBAR** – “Allah is the Most Great” → 4 times.
2. **ASH-HADU ALLA ILAHA ILL-ALLAH** – “I bear witness that there is no one worthy of worship except Allah” → 2 times.
3. **ASH-HADU ANNA MUHAMMAD-AR-RASOOLULLAH**  
- “I bear witness that Muhammad (s.a.w.) is the Messenger of Allah” → 2 times.
4. **HAYYA ALAS-SALAH** – “Come to Prayer” → 2 times.
5. **HAYYA ALAL-FALAH** – “Come to Success” → 2 times.
6. **ALLAHU AKBAR** – “Allah is the Most Great” → 2 times.



7. LAA ILAHA ILL-ALLAH – “There is no god but Allah” → once.

**Important Note:**

-

When reading the Azaan at the time of *Fajr Prayer*, also add these words

الصَّلَاةُ خَيْرٌ مِنَ النَّوْمِ “AS-SALAATU KHAIRUN-MINAN-NAWM” (Salah is better than sleep) *after saying* حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ “HAYYA ALAL-FALAH” – to be read twice.

### **THE IQAMAH/TAKBIR**

After the Muezzin has read the Azaan, he should say the *Iqamah/Takbir* by reading

all the words of the Azaan, but adding the words قَدْ قَامَتِ الصَّلَاةُ “QAD QAAMATIS-SALAH” (“Prayer has certainly begun”) twice after the words حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ “HAYYA ALAL-FALAH”.

### **THE IJABAH**

When the Muezzin is calling the Azaan and when the Iqamah is being read, the people in the Jamaat should repeat the words of both the Azaan and Iqamah quietly. Repetition of such words and answering the words of Azan and Takbir is called ‘**Ijabah**’.

In the *Azaan*, after hearing the words “Ash-hadu anna Muhammadar-Rasoolullah” twice, one should kiss his/her thumbs and then put the nails of the thumbs on his/her eyes in love and respect of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.). After doing this, first of all, one should say “*Sallal-laahu alaika yaa Rasoolullah* (May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you O Rasoolullah). Then one should say “*Qurratu ainee bika ya Rasoolullah*” and “*Allahumma matti’nee bis-sam’i wal-basr*”. If you say these words, Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) will come to your help/intercession and you will never lose your eyesight with the Grace of Allah.

In the *Iqamah/Takbir*, on hearing the words “*Hayya alal-falah*” twice, one should say: “*La hawla wala quwwata illah billahil-aliyyil-azeem*” (There is no power and might except from Allah. The Most High, The Great).

In the *Fajr Azaan*, after hearing the words “*Assalaatu khairun-minan-nawm*” twice, one should say “*Sadaqta wa bararta*” (You have spoken the truth and done good).

In the *Iqamah/Takbir*, after hearing the words “*Qad qaamatis-salah*” twice, one should say “*Aqaamah-allahu wa adaamaha*” (May Allah establish it and keep it forever).

## DUA AFTER AZAAN

اللَّهُمَّ رَبِّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةِ التَّامَّةِ وَالصَّلَاةِ الْقَائِمَةِ آتِ  
مُحَمَّدًا الْوَسِيلَةَ وَالْفَضِيلَةَ وَالذَّرَجَةَ الرَّفِيعَةَ  
وَابْعَثْهُ مَقَامًا مَحْمُودًا الَّذِي وَعَدْتَنِي وَأَسْرُقْنَا  
شَفَاعَتَهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّكَ لَا تُخْلِفُ الْوَعْدَ  
بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ ۝

*“Allahumma rabba haazihid-da’wati-taammati wasalatil-qaaimati aati Muhammadanil-waseelata wal-fadhilata wad-darajatar-rafeeata wabath’hu maqamam-Mahmooda nillazee wa atthahu warzuqnaa shafa’atahu yawmal-qiyaamati innaka la tukhliful-mee’aad. Birahmatika yaa arhamar-raahimeen”.*

“O Allah! Lord of this perfect call and of this standing prayer, grant our leader Hazrat Muhammad (s.a.w.) his Waseelah (a special place in Paradise) and Fadheelah (excellence) and the highest rank, and make him stand at the Maqaam-e-Mahmood (the praiseworthy place) which You have promised him, and make him our intercessor on the Day of Judgement. Surely You do not go back on Your promise. Have Mercy on us, for You are the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful!”

## 10. THE FARAIDH OF SALAH - COMPULSORY PARTS

In order to perform the Salah properly, it is compulsory to do the following seven actions in Salah:

1. To say the **FIRST TAKBIR** – **TAKBIR-E-TAHREEMA**: “**Allahu Akbar**” (Allah is the Most Great). When saying this Takbir, males should raise their hands with palms facing the Qibla up to the ears; females should raise their hands up to their shoulders. Once you say the Takbir, you cannot eat, drink, sleep, talk, etc. during the Salah (i.e. daily/routine actions).
2. To do the **QIYAAM** – standing up straight for Salah, facing the Qiblah, males having the hands below the navel, and females having their hands on their chest (see photos of prayer positions).
3. To do the **QIRAAT** (recitation/reading) of some verses (Ayaat) or a chapter (Surah) from the Holy Qur’an. The recitation should be at least three verses or one long verse equivalent to three verses.
4. To do the **RUKU** (bowing in the knee position). When doing the Ruku, you should have your back straight, hold your knees with your hands spread out on them, keeping your legs straight, and looking down at your feet.
5. To do the **SAJDAH** (prostration on the floor). When doing the Sajdah, keep your hands, nose, forehead, the knees, and the toes of the feet touching the floor and not to raise any of these five parts of the body from the floor, otherwise your prayer will be broken and nullified. Females do the Sajdah by laying their arms flat on the floor facing the Qiblah and keeping them close to the chest. They should not raise their backs like males and should keep their feet facing the right side (see pictures 15 and 16).
6. To do the **QA’DAH AKHIRA** (last sitting position in Tashahhud after completion of all Rakaats). Males should sit by keeping the right foot upright (with all the toes touching the floor) and sit by keeping the buttocks on the left foot. Females to sit with the buttocks placed on the feet facing the right side.
7. To complete the Salah by saying **SALAAM** (“Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah”) to the right and left side of body.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS OF POSITIONS IN PRAYER FOR MALES & FEMALES**

Below are some of the different positions in prayer that should be done properly by males and females. The Author's children Salma Mahmood (age 11 years) and Amjad Mahmood (age 13 years) show the various positions in prayer for males and females as follows.

### **MALE SALAH POSITIONS**

**Photo 1: Takbir-e-Tahrima (“Allahu Akbar”)**



Amjad is facing the Qibla and raises his hands up to his ears and says the Takbir. He is looking down at the place where he will put his forehead when doing the Sajdah. Also there should be a gap of four fingers between the feet.

**Photo 2: Qiyaam (Standing):**

Here Amjad has put his hands below the navel. The right hand is placed on the left hand's wrist clasped, with three fingers on the top (index finger and middle finger, and third finger), and the right hand's thumb and small finger below the left hand's wrist.



**Photo 3: Ruku (Amjad is holding his knees, with head and back straight, he is looking down at his feet)**



**Photo 4: Ruku - hands are placed on the knees**



**Photo 5: Qawmah (standing after Ruku)**



Here Amjad keeps his hands by his sides and is looking down at the place of Sajdah.

**Photo 6: Sajdah**



In this position the hands are kept flat on the floor opposite the ears with the fingers closed. The arms are spread out and do not touch the floor.

**Photo 7: Sajdah (rear view)**



See how the feet are kept standing up during the Sajdah.

**Photo 8: Jalsah (sitting after Sajdah)**



In this position, Amjad has placed his hands just above the knees, with the right foot kept standing and he sits on the left foot, which faces the right side.

**Photo 9: Jalsah (view from behind)**



**Photo 10: Salam**





Amjad saying Salam, “Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah” to the right and left sides, finally completes the prayer.

## **FEMALE SALAH POSITIONS**

**Photo 11: Takbir-e-Tahrima (“Allahu Akbar”)**



Here Salma is raising her hands up to her shoulders and says the Takbir (normally this is done by keeping the hands under the Hijab/veil/cloak). She is also looking down at the place where she will put her forehead when doing the Sajdah.

**Photo 12: Qiyaam (Standing)**



In this picture Salma has put her right hand over the left hand and she has placed both hands on her chest. Only females do this and not males.

**Photo 13: Ruku (Salma is holding her knees, with head and back slightly bent, she is looking down at her feet)**



**Photo 14: Qawmah (Standing after Ruku)**



Salma is standing straight with her hands by her sides and looking at the point where she will put her forehead.

**Photo 15: Sajdah (Prostration)**

Now Salma is doing the Sajdah and she has the feet facing to the right with her elbows flat on the floor. She does not have the feet standing up like males.



**Photo 16: Jalsah (Sitting after Sajdah)**



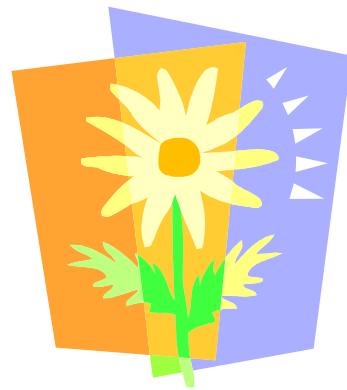
In the Jalsah position, Salma is looking down in front of her (place of putting the forehead), she has put her hands on top of the knees and has kept both feet facing to the right.

**Photo 17: Dua**



In this picture Salma is showing how to do the Dua (Supplication). She has joined her hands together to make a cup shape with the hands opposite the shoulders, with the hands covered. If you pray at home you can uncover your hands when doing the Dua.

**Photo 18: Anisa (8 years) and As'ad (5 years) show how to pray together**


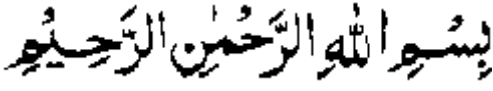


## 11. THE SUNNAH METHOD OF PERFORMING THE PRAYER AND ZIKR DURING SALAH (WHAT TO READ DURING THE PRAYERS)

The meaning of ‘Zikr’ is the *remembrance of Allah* by saying the *Sifaat-e-Allah* – the Ninety-nine Holy Names and Attributes of Allah, *Hamd* - praising Allah, *recitation of the Holy Qur’an*, and through other Ibadah (worships) such as *Salah, Zakaat, Saum, Hajj*, and so on. Here, Zikr refers to what you read in Arabic text during the Salah.

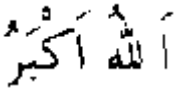
### HOW TO PERFORM THE PRAYERS ACCORDING TO THE HANAFI SCHOOL OF ISLAMIC LAW

There are some important rules to be observed when the *Jamaat/congregational prayer* is being performed. The Imam and the *Muqtadis* (people in Jamaat) read the

*Ta’awwuz*,  “Aoozu billahi minash Shaitaanir-  
*rajeem*” and *Bismillah*,  “Bismillahir  
*rahmanir-raheem*” silently.

Then the Imam recites *Surah Al-Fatiha* (Opening Chapter) from the Holy Qur’an, and then any other Surah. The people behind the Imam do not have to read anything and must listen quietly to the Imam’s recitation, as the Imam’s reading is considered to be the peoples’ reading as well.

1. **After doing the Wudhu, face the Qibla** (direction of Makkah). Also make sure when you pray alone, that you place an object called a ‘*Sutra*’ (e.g. a chair) in front of you, where you will do the Sajdah before starting the prayer, so that anyone who passes by will go outside the Sutra. When you pray with an Imam, he and other Muqtadis will be your Sutra, but the Imam should have a Sutra in front of him.
2. **Say the Niyyah (intention – “what you want to do” in the mind, you can also say it quietly) of the Salah you are performing:** You can make the Niyyah of any Salah in any language that you speak. You can do the Niyyah like this, for example: “*I intend to perform the Fajr prayer (say the name of the Salah), with 2 Rakaat Fardh (say the number of Rakaats of any prayer – Sunnah or Fardh), for the sake of Allah, I am facing the Holy Kaaba, Allahu Akbar*”. If you are praying any Fardh prayer in *Jamaat*, you should say that you are praying behind the Imam and to include in the Niyyah “*...for the sake of Allah, behind this Imam, I am facing the Holy Kaaba, Allahu Akbar*”. If the Imam is leading the prayer of males and females, then he should make the Niyyah for both genders in all Jamaat prayers.

3. **Say Takbeer-e-Tahrima:**  “*Allahu Akbar*” (Allah is Most Great) - males should raise their hands with the palms facing the Qibla up to the ears; females should raise their hands up to their shoulders.

8. **Then, males put your hands below the navel. Females put your hands on the chest** (right hand on top of left hand). Males should put their right hand on the left hand and clasp (hold) your left hand's wrist, with three fingers on the top (index finger, middle and fourth finger), and the right hand's thumb and small finger below the left hand's wrist (see photos 2 & 12).
9. **Read the Sanaa:**

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى  
جَدُّكَ وَجَلَّ تَنَاءُكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ ۝

*“Subhanak-Allah humma wabi hamdika watabaraka kasmuka wata aala jadduka wa jalla thanauka walaa ilaha ghairuk”*

(All Glory be to You O Allah! Praise is to You; Blessed is Your Name and Exalted is Your Majesty; there is none worthy of worship except You).

10. **Read the Ta'awwuz:**

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

*“Aoozu billahi minash Shaitaanir-rajeem”*  
(I seek protection with Allah from the cursed Shaitan)

And the **Bismillah/Tasmiyyah:**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*“Bismillahir rahmanir-raheem”*  
(In the Name of Allah, Most Kind, Most Merciful).

11. **Then read Surah Al-Fatiha from the Holy Qur'an:**

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ۝  
مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ۝ إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ۝  
هُدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ۝ صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ  
عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ۝

*“Al-hamdu lillahi rabbil-aalameen, ar-rahma nir-raheem, maaliki yawmiddeen, iyyaaka na'budu wa iyyaaka nastaeen, ihdinas-siraatal mustaqeem, siraatal-lazeena anamta alaihim, ghairil maghdoobi alahim wa ladhaaleen. Ameen.”*

### Translation of Al-Fatihah:

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Universe, the Most Kind, Most Merciful, Master of the Day of Judgement. You alone we worship and from You alone we ask for help. Guide us on the straight path, the path of those who You have favoured, not the path of those who earned Your anger, nor the path of those who went astray. Ameen (So let it be O Allah)].

12. Next read any Surah or verses from the Holy Qur'an: Example, Surah Ikhlaas (Purity):

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ۝ لَمْ يَلِدْ ۝ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ۝  
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ۝

“*Qul huwallahu ahad, Allahus-samad, lam yalid, wa lam yoolad, wa lam yakul-lahu kufuwan ahad*” (Say, He is Allah, The One. Allah is above and all things depend on Allah. He does not beget, nor is He begotten. And there is none like Him).

13. Then say Takbir “Allahu Akbar” and go into Ruku, saying Tasbeeh (praise):

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

“*Subhaana rabbiyal-azeem*” (Glory be to my Lord the Greatest), 3,5, or 7 times.

14. Then stand up in Qiyaam position and saying Tasmeeh (listening):

سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ

“*Sami Allahu liman hamidah*” (Allah listens to him who has praised Him). When you pray in congregation/Jamaat, only the Imam should say Tasmeeh loudly. If you pray by yourself you can say Tasmeeh. In Qiyaam position, stand straight and keep your hands by the sides of your body.

15. After Tasmeeh, say Tahmeed (praise):

اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ

“*Allahumma Rabbana walakal hamd*” (Our Lord! All praise is due to You Alone). In Jamaat prayer, the Imam and the congregation read the Tahmeed silently.

16. To say Allahu Akbar and go into Sajdah (prostration), saying Tasbeeh (praise):



## سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

“*Subhaana rabbiyal aala*” (Glory to my Lord, the Most High), 3,5, or 7 times. Before going into Sajdah, your hands should be placed on your knees whilst bending down, keeping your feet standing up with the toes firmly flat on the ground, with the knees first touching the floor, then the hands, then the nose, and lastly, the forehead touching the floor. The arms should be raised up and not touching the sides of your body, nor should you put your arms flat on the floor.

17. **Then go into Jalsa (sitting position) saying “Allahu Akbar”.** Males should sit by keeping the right foot upright (with all the toes touching the floor) and sit by keeping the buttocks on the left foot. Females to sit with the buttocks placed on the feet facing the right side. Both males and females should keep the hands just above the knees facing the Qibla, with the finger separated and with the fingertips slightly bent over the knees.
18. **Do Sajdah again** as in number (12) above, with Takbir “Allahu Akbar”.
19. **Then get up in the Qiyaam position and read Bismillah, Surah Fatihah, and any other Surahs or verses,** as in numbers (6), (7), and (8) above.
20. **Then say Takbir “Allahu Akbar” and go into Ruku, saying Tasbeeh (praise): “Subhaana rabbiyal-azeem”** (Glory be to my Lord the Greatest), 3,5, or 7 times.
21. **Then stand up in Qiyaam position and saying Tasmeeh (listening): “Sami Allahu liman hamidah”** (Allah listens to him who has praised Him).
22. **After Tasmeeh, say Tahmeed (praise): “Rabbana lakal hamd”** (Our Lord! All praise is due to You Alone).
23. **Then say “Allahu Akbar” and go into Sajdah (prostration), saying Tasbeeh (praise): “Subhaana rabbiyal aala”** (Glory to my Lord, the Most High), 3,5, or 7 times.
24. **Then go into Jalsa (sitting position) saying “Allahu Akbar”.**
25. **Again say “Allahu Akbar” and go into Sajdah (prostration), saying Tasbeeh (praise): “Subhaana rabbiyal aala”** (Glory to my Lord, the Most High), 3,5, or 7 times.
26. **Now, read Tashahhud (testifying):**

التَّحِيَّاتُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَوَاتُ وَ  
 الطَّيِّبَاتُ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا  
 النَّبِيُّ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ  
 السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَى عِبَادِ اللَّهِ  
 الصَّالِحِينَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ  
 إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا  
 عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

*“Attahiyyaatu lillahi wass-salawaatu wath-thayyibaatu, assalamu alaika ayyuhan-nabiyyu wa rahamtullahi wa barakaatuhu, as-salaamu alainaa wa alaa ibaadilla hiss-saaliheen, ash-hadu allaa ilaha illallahu wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan abduhu wa rasooluh.”*

(All respect, worship and all glory is due to Allah alone. Peace be upon you, O Prophet, and the Mercy and Blessings of Allah be upon you. Peace be on us and on those who are the righteous servants of Allah. I testify that there is no one worthy of worship except Allah, and I testify that Muhammad (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) is His Servant and Messenger).

**Note:** when you read the words “ash-hadu al-laa ilaha illallahu”, and come up to the word “laa” in the Tashahhud, whilst keeping the right hand on the knee, you should make a circle with the thumb and middle finger, and also making a circle with the finger next to it, and the small finger of the right hand. Then raise the index finger up as you say “laa” and drop the finger when you reach the word “illallah”. Why you do this is because you are stressing that “there is none worthy of worship except Allah”.

27. **After Tashahhud, if you have to complete 3 or 4 Rakaats, then you must get up after saying the words in Tashahhud “ash-hadu allaa ilaha illallahu wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan abduhu wa rasooluh”.** If you are performing a 2 Rakat prayer, then you must complete the prayer as below – steps 23 to 26.

28. **Now read Durood Shareef (Salaam/greetings to the Holy Prophet s.a.w.):**

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى  
عَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ  
عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ  
إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَّجِيدٌ

***“Allahumma salli alaa Muhammadin wa alaa aali Muhammadin kamaa sallaita alaa Ibraheema wa alaa aali Ibraheema innaka hameedun majeed”*** (O Allah! Shower Your Blessings on Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) and the family of Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) just as You showered Your Blessings on Ibraheem (alaihis-salaam) and the family of Ibraheem (alaihis-salaam). Certainly, You alone are worthy of praise and are Glorious).

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى  
عَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا  
بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى  
آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ  
مَّجِيدٌ

***“Allahumma baarik alaa Muhammadin wa alaa aali Muhammadin, kamaa baarakta alaa Ibraheema wa alaa aali Ibraheema innaka hameedun majeed”***

(O Allah! Bless Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) and the family of Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) just as You Blessed Ibraheem (alaihis-salaam) and the family of Ibraheem (alaihis-salaam). Certainly, You alone are worthy of praise and are Glorious).

29. **Then say the Dua**

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَ مِنْ  
ذُرِّيَّتِي رَبَّنَا وَ تَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ ۝ رَبَّنَا  
اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ  
تَقُومُ الْحِسَابِ ۝

*“Rabbij-alnee muqeemas-salaati wa min zurriyyatee, rabbanaa wata qabbal duaa, rabbanagh-fir-lee wali waali dayya wa lil mu’mineena yawma yaqoomul hisaab”* (O my Lord! Make my children and myself regular in Salah. O our Lord! Accept my prayer. O our Lord! Forgive me. Forgive my parents and all other Muslims on the Day of Judgement”).

**Or this Dua:**

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي ظُلْمًا كَثِيرًا وَلَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ  
إِلَّا أَنْتَ فَاعْفُرْ لِي مَغْفِرَةً مِنْ عِنْدِكَ وَارْحَمْنِي إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ  
الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ۝

30. **Tasleem (Salaam): Finally, complete the Salah by saying Salaam to your right and left:**

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

*“Assalaamu alaikum wa rahmatullah”*  
(May the Peace and Mercy of Allah be upon you)

This is the correct way to perform Salah. When you are performing the Friday Jum’ah Prayer, the Fardh of Eid Prayer, the Tarawih Prayer, any Nafl Prayer, except the Janazah Prayer, you perform all these prayers in the manner described above (steps 1-26). The way of praying the Jum’ah, Tarawih, Eid, Janazah is explained in Chapter 4 and Nafl Salah is described in Chapter 5.

## 12. **DUA AND ZIKR AFTER PRAYER**

It is ‘*Masnoon*’ (acts shown by the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) – according to his Sunnah/practice) to say any Dua and to do any Zikr after completing one’s Salah. Allah has declared and commanded us in the Holy Qur’an in 4/103:

فَإِذَا قَضَيْتُمُ الصَّلَاةَ فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ

“When you have finished the prayer, remember Allah”.

You can read any Duas from the Holy Qur’an and the Ahadith of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (s.a.w.). It is also the Sunnah of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (s.a.w.) to do the

‘*Istighfar*’, اسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ (asking Allah’s forgiveness) three times after each Salah, then

to read the *Kalima/Article of Faith* لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ “*La ilaaha illallah*” three times,

and also to read the ‘*Tasbeehat-e-Fatima*’ - the Tasbeeh Zikr of *Hazrat Fatima Al-Zahra, may Allah be pleased with her*, by counting on a prayer bead (Tasbih) or on

one’s fingers saying: سبحان الله “*Subhaan-Allah*” (Glory be to Allah) 33 times,

الحمد لله “*Alhamdu-lillah*” (Praise be to Allah) 33 times, and الله اكبر “*Allahu Akbar*” (Allah is Most Great) 34 times.

Here are a two Duas that can be learnt easily (one should try to learn as many Duas as possible):

(1)

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ السَّلَامُ وَمِنْكَ السَّلَامُ وَإِلَيْكَ يَرْجِعُ السَّلَامُ  
حَيْتَ نَارَ بَيْتِنَا بِالسَّلَامِ وَأَدْخِلْنَا دَارَ السَّلَامِ تَبَارَكْتَ رَبَّنَا وَتَعَالَى  
كُتُّبُكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

“*Allahumma antas-salaamu wa minkas-salaamu wa ilaika yarjius-salaam, hayyinaa rabbanaa bis-salaami wa adkhilnaa daaras-salaam, tabaarakta rabbanaa wataaalaita yaa zal-jalaali wal-ikraam*”.

(O Allah! You are the Giver of Peace, and peace is from You and Peace returns to You. O our Lord! Keep us alive in Peace and enter us in to the House of Peace. You are the Most Blessed and the Most Powerful and the Most Great.)

(2)

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً  
وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

“*Rabbanaa aatinaa fiddunyaa hasanatan wa fil-akhirati hasanatan waqinaa azaaban-naar*”.

(O our Lord! We seek goodness from You in this world and the Hereafter and safety from the punishment of Hell).

## **CHAPTER 4: PRAYERS BESIDES THE DAILY SALAH & AND HOW TO PERFORM THEM**

صَلَاةُ الْجُمُعَةِ

### **1. THE JUMUAH/JUM'AH (FRIDAY) PRAYER**

The *Friday Jumuah/Jum'ah Salah* is *Fardh* (obligatory) on all adult Muslims, who are free, of good health, of good mind, and is not a traveller. Although it is not obligatory on Muslim Women, they are permitted to attend this prayer at the *Masjid* (Mosque). The condition is that they wear proper '*Hijab*' (covering of the head and body), a separate room with Wudhu facility is available, and that there is a separate entrance and exit door for them, so that men cannot look at women.

***There are some conditions for offering the Friday Prayer as follows:***

- The Jumuah Salah is lead by an Imam in Jamaat (congregation), you cannot perform it by yourself.
- In order to perform the Jumuah Salah, it is necessary to have at least four people to form the Jamaat including the Imam.
- To give a Khutba (sermon) first and then to offer the Fardh prayer with Jamaat.
- The Jumuah Salah must be offered in a city or a town.
- The Jumuah Salah cannot be offered in a village. If a village is regarded as having a central status with the facilities of a town, then you can perform the Jumuah Salah in it.
- Not to pray the Jumuah Salah a small Masjid – it must be in a Markazi (central) Masjid.
- To perform the Jumuah Salah at the time of Zohr.
- To perform the Jumuah Salah in public, with permission and where everyone can attend the prayer easily.

## **HOW TO PERFORM THE JUMUAH PRAYER**

The Imam first of all sits on the *Minbar (Pulpit)* and the Muezzin calls the Azaan. Then the Imam delivers his speech or Khutba (sermon) in the community language (understandable to everybody in the Jamaat). Then the congregation offers four Rakaats of Sunnah Muakkadah individually. Then the Azaan is read before the Imam gives his 'Khutba-e-Masnoonah' in Arabic (everybody should listen to the Khutba quietly and not offer any Nafl prayer). Then the 2 Fardh of Jumuah Salah is performed in congregation after Iqamah/Takbir. Once the 2 Fardh are completed, the Imam recites Duas. Then the Muqtadis (people following the Imam) can complete their Sunnah prayers by themselves and after that, they are free to go about their business.

### **Note:**

The Jumuah Salah is offered in Jamaat at the time of Zuhr Salah. During the Jumuah Salah you do not perform the 4 Fardh Rakaats of Zuhr prayer; instead, the 2 Fardh Rakaat are prayed in place of the 4 Fardh of Zuhr. The other Rakaats of Zuhr are offered as normal in Zuhr prayer. If you miss the Friday Prayer, then you cannot repeat by doing 'Qaza' (atonement), instead you will have to pray Zuhr Salah.

### **Summary of Jumuah Salah:**

- Azaan is read to announce the time of Jumuah and Khutba whilst the Imam is present.
- Imam does a speech in the community language.
- Offer the 4 Rakaat of Sunnah Muakkadah by yourself.
- Azaan is read before Khutba.
- Imam then reads the Khutba in Arabic in two parts.
- 2 Fardh of Jumuah Salah offered with the Imam.
- 4 Sunnah Muakkadah (by yourself).
- 2 Sunnah Muakkadah (by yourself)
- 2 Nafl (by yourself)
- Salah ends with Dua.

## 31. **THE SALATUL-EIDAIN – EID PRAYER**

صَلَاةُ الْعِيدَيْنِ

The *Eid Salah* is performed in Jamaat on the *Eidain* (two Eids): *Eid-ul-Fitr* (after the Islamic month of Ramadan, on completing their one month of fasting), and on the *Eid-ul-Azha* (after the Hajj in the Month of Zul-Hajj). These are moments of great celebration and remembrance for Muslims, when they praise and thank Allah the Almighty by offering Eid Salah with Jamaat. On the occasions of Eid, Muslims attend to their personal hygiene according to the Sunnah, which they do regularly, by having the hair cut (males), cutting the nails, taking a bath/shower, doing Miswaak (brushing the teeth with a toothbrush or the twig of the Arak tree), apply perfume, wear their best clothes, and have some sweet food.

## How to Pray the Salat-ul-Eidain

**Salat-ul-Eidain** is performed in a manner similar to the Jumuaah Salah with a Khutba and 2 Rakaats of prayer. There is no Azaan or Iqaamah for the Eid Salah. In the Eid Salah you perform with Jamaat the 2 Rakaats of either Eid-ul-Fitr or Eid-ul-Azhaa first. Then the Imam reads the Khutba in Arabic and after that, the prayer ends with Dua. In 2 Rakaats of Eid Prayer, you have six extra Takbir (Allahu Akbar) to say, three in the first Rakat and three in the second Rakaat. The method of praying Eid Salah is thus:

1. The Imam says the Takbeer-e-Tahrima (first Takbir) loudly and the people in the Jamaat also say this silently by raising the hands to the ears.
2. Then you fold the hands and read the Sanaa (“Subhaanak-Allahumma wabi hamdika...”)
3. Next, the Imam says out three Takbir loudly with short pauses, and the Muqtadis (followers) should also say it, but silently. After each Takbir, the Imam and Muqtadis both raise their hands to the ears and drop them by their sides. After the third Takbir, the Imam and Muqtadis fold their hands.
4. Then the Imam recites Surah Al-Fatihah and any verses and the Muqtadis should listen to the Imam’s recitation. After this, the Imam and followers do the Ruku and Sujood as in the daily prayers, and then get up to complete the second Rakat.
5. In the second Rakat, the Imam again recites Surah Al-Fatihah and any verses.
6. After the recitation of Al-Fatiha and verses, the Imam says three Takbir loudly, raising the hands to the ears, and dropping them to the sides. The Muqtadis should do the same. After the third Takbir, the Imam will say the fourth Takbir for the Ruku and instead of folding the hands, you should go straight into the Ruku position, then do the Sajdah, and complete the prayer as normal with Tashahhud, Durood, and Dua.
7. Finally, the Imam will finish off the Eid Salah by reading the Khutba in Arabic and ending with Duas.

## **Takbir of Eid**

When setting off to the Masjid for Eid Salah, it is Sunnah to go by foot and to return home by another way, and also to repeat the words of **Eid Takbeer**: “*Allaahu akbar Allaahu akbar, laa ilaah illallahu wallaahu akbar, allaahu akbar wa lillaahil-hamd*” - Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, there is no god but Allah, and Allah is the Greatest, and all praise is for Allah alone. Remember that in the Month of Zul-Hajj, this Takbir called ‘**Takbir-e-Tashreek**’ should be read out loudly three times, but once is essential, after the Fajr Salah on the 9<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj and up to the Asr Salah on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Zul-Hajj (the days of Ayyam-e-Tashreek).



### 3. THE TARAWIH PRAYER صَلَاةُ التَّرَاوِيحِ

*Tarawih Salah*, being *Sunnah Muakkadah*, is performed in Jamaat during the Month of Ramadhan. It is offered at the time of the Isha Salah, after the completing the prayers of 4 Fardh, 2 Sunnah and 2 Nafl, but before the Witr. During the Tarawih Salah, it is the intention of the Imam/Hafiz/Qari to complete the recitation of the Holy Qur'an over 29 or 30 days of Ramadhan.

#### HOW TO PERFORM THE TARAWIH SALAH

The Tarawih Salah consists of 20 Rakaats and it is offered in 2 Rakaats and prayed just like the 2 Rakaat of Sunnah or Nafl prayer. After every four Rakaats, the Imam and Muqtadis take a short rest in between the Tarawih prayer and recite the *Tasbeeh of Tarawih* (see overleaf). Remember that if you miss the 4 Fardh of Isha you cannot start the Tarawih prayer. You would have to pray the 4 Fardh alone or pray in Jamaat with some other person at a place separate from where the Tarawih Jamaat is being performed. Also, note that in Ramadhan, the Witr Salah is offered in Jamaat, so if you miss the Fardh of Isha, then you have to pray both the Fardh and Witr alone (or pray in Jamaat with another person and away from the actual Tarawih Jamaat).

#### TASBEEH TARAWIH

The *Tasbeeh Tarawih* should be learnt and memorised. Usually, in many Mosques, a chart containing the Tasbeeh Tarawih is displayed on the wall for the benefit of those who do not know the Tasbeeh and this is helpful to such people.

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ الْمَلِكِ الْقُدُّوسِ سُبْحَانَ ذِي الْمَلِكِ وَالْمَلَكُوتِ سُبْحَانَ ذِي الْعِزَّةِ وَالْعَظَمَةِ وَالْقُدْرَةِ وَالْهِيبَةِ وَالْكِبْرِيَاءِ وَالْجَبَرُوتِ سُبْحَانَ الْمَلِكِ الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَنَامُ وَلَا يَمُوتُ سُبُّوحٌ قُدُّوسٌ رَبُّ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ اللَّهُمَّ اجِرْنَا مِنَ النَّارِ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا مُجِيبُ يَا مُجِيبُ  
يَا مُجِيبُ - صَلَاةُ بَرْمَحَدُّهُ

“Subhaana zil-mulki wal-malakoot, subhaanazil-izzi wal-azmati wal-heibati wal-qudrati wal-kibriyaai wal-jabaroot, subhaanal malikil hayyillazee laa yanaamu wa laa yamootu, subboohun quddoosun rabbunaa wa rabbul malaaiikati warrooh, Allahumma ajirnaa minannari, yaa mujeeru, yaa mujeeru. Ass-salaatu wassalaamu alaa Sayyidana Rasoolullah.”

### Translation of Tasbeeh Tarawih:

(Glory be to Him, to Whom belongs the Kingdom and the Sovereignty. Glory be to Him to Whom belongs all honour and all the bounty and all awe and all greatness and all power, and all dignity and all authority. Glory be to Him Who is the King, Ever-living, Who does not sleep and death does not overtakes Him. He is the Absolutely Pure, the All-Holy. He is our Lord as well as the Lord of the Angels, and the Lord of the Spirits. O Allah! Protect us from the Fire of Hell. O Protector! O Protector! Peace and Salaam be upon our Master Rasoolullah, Hazrat Muhammad, Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam).

## 4. THE JANAZA (FUNERAL) PRAYER

صَلَاةُ الْجَنَازَةِ

When a Muslim dies a *Janazah Salah (Funeral Prayer)* is performed before burying him/her. The Imam and a few people offer the Janazah Salah (but even one person apart from the Imam would be sufficient for fulfilling this duty). Holding a Jamaat is not required for Janazah Salah. Janazah Salah is called '*Fardh-e-Kifaayah*', which means that some Muslims from the community should offer this prayer. If some people cannot attend the prayer, then they will be excused or free from this responsibility – '*Bari-uz-Zimmah*'. Whereas, if nobody offers the prayer, then the Muslims living in the town will be sinful in neglecting their obligatory duty. The prayer should not be offered in a Masjid unless under extreme difficulties.

Janazah Salah cannot be performed for a group of people such as:

- A highway robber that dies when robbing somebody.
- A murderer.
- A person who has committed suicide.
- A person who has murdered his parents.
- A person who dies whilst fighting with an Imam or Scholar of Islam.
- A child born dead.

For these people, you cannot wash their bodies or do the Janazah for them but to throw their bodies in a grave. If a '*Shaheed (Martyr)*' has died fighting in Jihad his body will not be washed. He will be given the greatest respect by offering a proper Janazah Salah and a burial. When there a number of Martyrs (Shuhadaa), then one Janazah Salah will be sufficient for them, although separate prayers can be offered for them.

### How to Pray Janazah Salah

There is no Azaan, Iqaamah, or any Rakaats, Ruku or Sujood in the Janazah Salah. First of all, the Imam and the people in the congregation should ensure that the washed body of the dead person (deceased) is present, as you cannot do the Janazah Salah without the body. The Imam should ensure that an odd number of '*Saff*' (rows/lines) are made by the Muqtadis (people praying behind the Imam) – 3, 5, 7, etc. number of rows. The body of the deceased should be placed at the front where the Imam usually stands to lead the prayer. The Imam should stand near the deceased's chest. The body should be placed in such a way that the head is at the right side and the feet facing to

one's left side. It is *Mustahab* (preferred) that the deceased's head is turned towards the Qibla.

When the body is present, and the Imam and his Muqtadis have made the Saff in odd numbers, then the Janazah Salaat can begin.

1. The Niyyah (intention) for the prayer is: “I intend to pray Janazah Salah with four Takbirs, Sanaa (Praise) is for Allah, Durood for Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.), and Dua for the deceased, behind this Imam, I am facing the Qibla, Allahu Akbar.”
2. Then the Imam says “Allahu Akbar” aloud and folds his hands below the navel - the Muqtadis should do also say the Takbir silently and fold their hands in the proper manner.
3. Then you recite the Sanaa silently with the Imam: “*Subhanak-Allah humma wabi hamdika watabaraka kasmuka wata aala jadduka wa jalla thanauka walaa ilaha ghairuk*” (All Glory be to You O Allah! Praise be to You; Blessed is Your Name and Exalted is Your Majesty; there is none worthy of worship except You).
4. Next, the Imam will say the first extra Takbir “Allahu Akbar” – keeping your hands folded, you also say the Takbir.
5. Then, after the Imam's second Takbir, you recite Durood on the Prophet (p.b.u.h.): “*Allahumma salli alaa Muhammadin wa alaa aali Muhammadin kamaa sallaita alaa Ibraheema wa alaa aali Ibraheema innaka hameedun majeed*”  
  
“*Allahumma baarik alaa Muhammadin wa alaa aali Muhammadin, kamaa baarakta alaa Ibraheema wa alaa aali Ibraheema innaka hameedun majeed*”
6. Then after the Imam's third Takbir, you recite the Dua for the deceased – see below for the Duas for adults and children.
7. Finally, the Imam says the fourth Takbir and Salaam: “Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullai wa baraktaatuh.” (May the peace and mercy of Allah be upon you).

After the Janazah Salah, the Saff (rows) are broken up, the Jamaat (congregation) do the **Zikr of Shahadah** – “Laa ilaaha illallah”, and the Imam prays with the people for the deceased. The **Fatiha** is recited with **Surah Al-Ikhlās**, for the ‘**Isaal-e-Sawaab**’ (i.e. sending of rewards) of the deceased. This benefits the dead person very much. We also convey our **Ta'ziyah** (condolences, sorrow and support of comfort) to the relatives of the deceased, as it is the Sunnah of Rasoolullah (s.a.w.). However, the relatives of the deceased must not moan, wail, scream, or tear their clothes, because it is Haraam/forbidden and contrary to the Shariah.

### DUA FOR AN ADULT MALE/FEMALE MUSLIM

This is the Dua for an adult Muslim whether a male or a female:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِحَيَاتِنَا وَمَيِّتِنَا وَشَاهِدِنَا وَعَائِبِنَا وَصَغِيرِنَا  
وَكَبِيرِنَا وَذَكَرِنَا وَأُنثَانَا اللَّهُمَّ مَنْ أَحْيَيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَأَحْيِهِ عَلَى  
الْإِسْلَامِ وَمَنْ تَوَفَّيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَتَوَفَّهُ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ اللَّهُمَّ  
لَا تُحْرِمْنَا أَجْرَهُ وَلَا تُفْتِنَّا بَعْدَهُ -

*“Allahummagh-firli hayyinaa wa mayyitinaa wa shaahidinaa wa ghaaibinaa wa sagheerina wa kabeerinaa wa zakarinaa wa unsaanaa, Allahumma man ahyaitahu minnaa, fa-ahyih alal-islam, wa man tawaffaitahu fatawaffahu alal-emaan. Allahumma la tahrinnaa ajrahu wala taftina ba’dahu.”*

O Allah! Forgive our living and our dead, our present and our absent, our young and our old, and our males and our females. O Allah! Give to those of us who are living the ability to live in the practice of Islam, and bless those from us who meet with death in a condition of Iman (faith). O Allah! Do not deprive us of his reward and do not make us fall into trial after him.

### DUA FOR A BOY

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا قَرِطًا وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا أَجْرًا وَذُخْرًا وَ  
اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا شَافِعًا وَمُشَفَّعًا ۝

*“Allahummaj-alhu lanaa faratan waj-alhu lanaa ajran wa zukhran waj-alhu lanaa shaafian wa mushaffa’a.”*

(O Allah! Make him our forerunner, and make him for us a reward and a treasure, and make him for us a pleader and an intercessor, and accept his pleading.”)

### DUA FOR A GIRL

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهَا لَنَا قَرِطًا وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا أَجْرًا وَ  
ذُخْرًا وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا شَافِعَةً وَمُشَفَّعَةً ۝

*“Allahummaj-alha lanaa faratan waj-alha lanaa ajran wa zukhran waj-alha lanaa shaafian wa mushaffa’ah.”*

(O Allah! Make her our forerunner, and make her for us a reward and a treasure, and make her for us a pleader and an intercessor, and accept her pleading.)

## **5. THE MUSAAFIR'S (TRAVELLER'S) PRAYER**

A *Musaafir (Traveller)* is a person who has left his normal place of residence and has set off on a journey of at least 48 *miles* from his home and has the intention of being away from home for up to 3 days and less than 15 days. If some Muslim goes travels on a journey of 48 miles or more, then he has to *reduce the number of the Fardh Rakaats of the Zohr, Asr and Isha prayers to 2 Rakaats*, this is called "**Qasr**". For example, in the Zohr, Asr, and Isha prayers, where you would perform any four Sunnah or Fardh prayer, you would have to reduce them to 2 Rakaats. The Fajr, Maghrib, Witr and the Sunnah and Nafl prayers will remain the same. You are a traveller as long as you stay away from home and do not stay anywhere for longer than 15 days; otherwise you have to offer complete prayers.

### **Some Rules (Musaafir's Prayer):**

#### **Niyah of Salah**

Where you do the intention of any Salah and wish to do Qasr, then you must say in the Niyah the word Qasr after the name of the prayer and the number of Rakaats. If by mistake you say 4 Rakaats instead of 2, and when you sit in *Qa'dah* (after 2<sup>nd</sup> Sajdah), then you should get up and complete another 2 Rakaats and then do the *Sajdah-e-Sahw* (prostration of forgetfulness). In this case you will have performed the first two Rakaats properly for the Salah and your other two Rakaats will become Nafl or extra.

If you intentionally make the Niyah of 4 Rakaats rather than two, then it will be a sin and you must repent to Allah for forgiveness by doing *Istighfaar*, and then repeat the Niyah again.

#### **Praying Behind A Resident Imam (Muqem)**

If a traveller prays behind a *resident Imam* (i.e. the town where the Imam lives is not your home), then you would have to complete four Rakaats behind him and you do not do Qasr.

#### **Traveller Leading The Prayer**

Where a traveller becomes the Imam and leads the Salah of his fellow travellers, then he would do Qasr of Rakaats. If a traveller becomes the Imam of those who are resident in a town, then he would only have to perform two Rakaats and the congregation would have to complete four Rakaats. The traveller will sit for *Tashahhud* and finish the prayer after two Rakaats, whereas the congregation would get up and complete another two Rakaats (and not to recite *Surah Al-Fatihah* and any other *Surah* in the remaining two Rakaats, but to keep silent for as long as *Fatihah* is usually read and then complete the prayer as normal). But the traveller must inform the people that he is a *Musaafir* and that he has to do Qasr of prayer.

## **Travelling From One City to Another**

If a traveller intends to travel from one city to another and has the intention of staying there less than 15 days then he should do Qasr of Fardh Salah. If he stays for more than 15 days then he will have to perform the prayers fully and not do Qasr. If you miss your prayer during a journey then you have to repeat them as Qasr and Qaza at your destination and conversely, if you miss prayers at home, you must offer them during the journey.

When travelling by car, or coach, etc., and it is the time of Salah, it is better to stop the car or the coach at a service, and then to perform the prayer. If you fear that the time of Salah will finish by the time you reach a service or your destination, then you can pray in the car, coach or train, by sitting on the seats and only doing the movements of Rukuh and Sujood with your head. This is permitted in Islam because it is a natural way of life that makes everything possible and easy for humans.

## **6. QAZA (MISSED) PRAYER**

When any Salah is performed after the appointed times it is called ***Qaza Salah*** (Qaza means to compensate or make good, or repeat in the case of Salah). Missing the prayers without any good reasons according to the Islamic Law is a major sin. A person who misses a prayer, either whilst travelling or due to some other valid reason, has to perform the Qaza prayer of the missed prayer(s) and repent to Allah.

The Qaza prayer can be offered at any time but not during the Makrooh (odious) times (e.g. sunrise, sunset or declining of the sun). Before one offers the Qaza prayer(s), he/she must offer the Adaa prayer (prayer on time) and then the Qaza. But if there is a short time left for the Adaa Salah, then it is necessary to offer the Adaa Salah first and then to offer the Qaza. You must remember that Qaza prayer should be performed in order, for instance, Fajr, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib, and finally Isha. If the Fajr prayer is missed, then you have to do the Qaza of the Fajr Sunnah and Fardh after sunrise before midday, and only Qaza of the Fajr Fardh after midday. If you have missed the Jumuah/Friday Salah, then you cannot do it as Qaza; instead you have to offer the Zohr Salaat as Qaza.

## **7. MAREEZ'S PRAYER – THOSE WHO ARE ILL/DISABLED**

Islam is the '*Deen*' (way of life) and the religion of '*Fitrah*' (nature). If a person is severely ill, injured or is disabled, then Islam has permitted him/her to pray to Allah the Almighty in whatever manner possible whether standing, sitting, or lying down. The correct form of Salah has been described in Chapter 4.

*If a person cannot perform a prayer by doing the Ruku, Sujood and other movements, then one can do it by standing alone.* You would have to do the movements of the Salah such as the Ruku and Sujood by moving your head by '*Ishara*' (gestures) just like the actual Ruku and Sujood actions. When you have reached the position of Tashahhud, you would keep your hands by your sides and complete the prayer as normal up to the Salaam.

### **Mareez's Prayer - Further Points**

*Similarly, if a person cannot do any movements due to an injury to his/her head,* then you would do the movements of Ruku and Sujood by *Ishara* with your eyes if possible, by indicating the actions of Ruku and Sujood by lowering and raising the eyes, and sitting down or standing, whichever is convenient.

*Where a person cannot even perform the Salah in a standing position,* then it is permitted to do it by sitting on a chair or on the floor.

*If somebody cannot perform the Salah either by standing or sitting,* because he/she is severely ill, paralysed or has injuries, then it is permitted to do the prayer by lying down on the floor or on a bed with the face and legs in the direction of the Qiblah.

Praise is to Allah, Who has made it easy for us to perform the Salah in these ways!

## **CHAPTER 5: NAFILAH SALAH**

In this chapter, we have given a short description of the different types of *Nafilah Salah*.

Besides the 5-times Daily Prayers, the Jumuah, Janazah, and Eidain prayers, Muslims also perform other prayers that are *superogatory/optional/extra*, called '*Nafl*' or '*Nafilah Salah*'. *These are prayers that were performed by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) and his Companions regularly but were not made obligatory for his followers.* If we perform these Nafilah Salah, then we shall gain the blessings and mercy of Allah in addition to the obligatory prayers. If you wish to perform any of these prayers then do not forget to say the Niyyah (intention) for them. It is also important to perform these prayers regularly, particularly where the prayers of Istikharah, Haajat and Taubah are concerned.

### **Tahiyatul-Wudhu**

This is a 2 Rakaat prayer performed after completing the Wudu (ablution). The reward for this prayer is that you will be granted entry to Jannah (Heaven) and all your previous sins will be forgiven.

### **Tahiyatul-Masjid**

This is a 2 or 4 Rakaats prayer performed after entering a Masjid and before sitting down.

### **Ishraq**

This is a 2 Rakaats prayer. After the Fajr prayer you should do the Zikr (remembrance of Allah), and about twenty minutes after sunrise, you can perform this prayer until the sun has reached a considerable height. This prayer has many rewards and you will gain the reward of performing one Hajj and Umrah.

### **Duha/Chaasht**

This prayer is very special and it consists of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 12 Rakaats. This prayer can be performed when the sun has brightened up and until Zawaal. The person who performs this prayer constantly will have all his/her sins forgiven by Allah and a palace of gold will be built for him/her in Jannah.

### **Awwabeen**

This is a prayer that consists of 6 to 20 Rakaats and is prayed after the Maghrib Salah, the reward for it being equal to 12 years of Nafl prayer.



## **Tahajjud – Night Vigil Prayer**

This prayer has a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 12 Rakaats and is performed sometime after the Isha Salah, when one gets up from sleep to pray the Tahajjud. There are many rewards for this prayer including bringing the person nearer to Allah, protects him/her from sins and diseases, you will enter Jannah with giving *Muhasabah* (account, answering to Allah's questions), and if prayed regularly, you will be given robes of Heaven to wear and a winged horse that will take you wherever you wish.

## **Tasbeeh – Prayer of Praising Allah**

This prayer has 4 Rakaats and may be performed at any time and including the Makrooh (disliked) times. There are great rewards for this prayer, especially that all your past, present and future sins will be forgiven, whether small or big, intentional or unintentional.

### **How to Perform the Tasbeeh Salah**

- (1)** Say *Takbir* and then recite the *Thana*.
- (2)** Then say this *Tasbeeh* 15 times: “*Subhaan-Allahi wal-hamdu lillahi wa laa ilaaha illallahu wallahu Akbar*” (Glory be to Allah and all Praise be to Allah. There is no god but Allah. Allah is the Greatest).
- (3)** Then recite the *Ta'awwuz* (Aoozu-billahi minash-shaitan-nirrajeem) and *Tasmiyyah* (Bismillahir-rahman-irraheem).
- (4)** Recite *Surah Fatiha* (Alhamdu lillahi rabbil-aalameen...) and *another Surah*, and then say the *Tasbeeh* again 10 times.
- (5)** Next go into *Ruku* and after saying the *Tasbeeh* of *Ruku*, say the *Tasbeeh* 10 times.
- (6)** Then stand up in *Qiyam* from *Ruku* and say the *Tasbeeh* 10 times.
- (7)** Next do *first Sajdah* and after saying the *Tasbeeh*, say the *Tasbeeh* 10 times.
- (8)** Now say *Takbir* and in *Jalsah* (sitting position) say *Tasbeeh* 10 times.
- (9)** Go into *second Sajdah*, and after *Tasbeeh*, say *Tasbeeh* 10 times.
- (10) Now after saying *Takbir* stand up for *second Rakat* and say *Tasbeeh* 15 times before reciting the *Fatiha*.
- (11) Now continue as step (4) above to step (9) and until you complete four**

## Rakaats and then finish with Tashahhud, Durood, and Dua.

**Note:** You will have read Kalimah 75 times in each Rakaat and 300 times in all four Rakaats. It is desirable to recite these Surahs in each Rakaat in this order: Al-Thakathur, Al-Asr, Al-Kafiroon, and Al-Ikhlaas. A Hafiz-e-Qur'an ought to recite Surahs Al-Hadeed, Al-Hashr, As-Saff, and At-Taghaabun.

### Istikhaarah – Prayer for Guidance from Allah

*Istikhaarah* means seeking or asking good/guidance from Allah. If you want to make an important decision but you are not sure about it, then you turn to Allah for guidance, as only He knows what is best for you. This is a 2 Rakaats prayer and it is performed just before going to sleep.

#### How to perform Istikhaarah

- (1) In the first Rakat, recite the Thana, Ta'awwuz, Tasmiiyyah, Surah Al-Fatiha, and Surah Al-Kafiroon (Qul Yaa Ayyuhal-kafiroon...).
- (2) In the second Rakat, recite after Surah Al-Fatiha, Surah Al-Ikhlaas (Qul Huwal laahu ahad...), and then complete the prayer as normal.
- (3) After the prayer, facing the Qiblah, ask Allah the Almighty for forgiveness by reciting *Istighfaar* ("Astaghfir-ullah" – O Allah forgive me) as many times possible and then *send Durood on the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.)*.

- (4) Then recite this *Istikhaarah Dua*:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَ  
أَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ وَأَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ  
فَضْلِكَ الْعَظِيمِ ، فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُ وَلَا  
أَقْدِرُ وَتَعْلَمُ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَ أَنْتَ  
عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنْتَ  
تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ خَيْرٌ لِي فِي  
دِينِي وَ مَعَايِشِي وَ عَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي وَ  
عَاجِلِ أَمْرِي وَ آجِلِهِ فَأَقْدِرْهُ لِي وَ  
يَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ ، اللَّهُمَّ  
إِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ  
شَرٌّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَ مَعَايِشِي وَ عَاقِبَةِ  
أَمْرِي وَ عَاجِلِ أَمْرِي وَ آجِلِهِ  
فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِّي وَ اصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ  
وَ اقْدِرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ  
ارْضِنِي بِهِ

### **Transliteration:**

“Allahumma innee astakheeruka bi-ilmika wa astaqdiruka bi-qudratika wa as’aluka min fadlikal azeem. Fa innaka taqdiru wa laa aqdiru wa ta’lamu wa laa a’alamu wa anta allaamul-ghuyoob. Allahumma in kunta ta’alamu anna haazal-amra khairullee fi deeni wa ma’aa shee wa aaqibatee amree wa aajilee amree wa aajilihee faqdurhu lee wa yassirhu lee summa baariklee feehi. Allahumma in kunta ta’lamu anna haazal-amra sharrul-lee fi deenee wa ma’aashee wa a’aqibatee amree wa aajilee amree wa aajilihee fasrifhu annee wasrifnee anhu waqdur-liyal-khaira haiesu kaana summa ardinee bihi.”

### **Translation:**

“O Allah! I ask you for the good with Your Knowledge, and I request to have power through Your Power, and I ask You for Your Bounty, because You have Power and I do not have it and You are All-Knowing while I do not have any, and You know best the invisible. O Allah! If You know this thing (which I intend doing) is good for my faith, for my livelihood and for the ultimate consequences, here and in the hereafter, of my affairs, then appoint it for me and make it easy for me and make it a blessing for me. O Allah! If You know that this thing is bad for my faith, for my livelihood, and for the final consequences, here and in the Hereafter, of my affairs, then turn me away from it, and appoint for me the good wherever it may be and, then make me pleased with it.”

**(5)** When you reach the words “Haazal-amr”, you should make Niyyah or say the matter for which you are making the Istikhaarah.

(6) Lastly, recite the Durood and go to bed in the condition of Wudhu, if possible facing Qiblah.

**Results:** *If you see a dream in which you see something white or green then it means that what you intend to do is good for you. Conversely, if you see something red or black then you should keep away from your decision or action. Also, if you are inclined towards doing your intention, this is sign that the action is good for you. It is best to offer this prayer several times until you get a clear guidance.*

## **Taubah – Prayer of Repentance/Forgiveness**

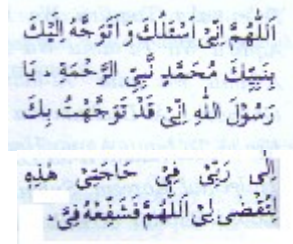
This prayer has 2 Rakaats and it is performed when you commit a sin. If you perform this prayer sincerely Allah will forgive your sins, Insha-Allah.

## **Haajat – Prayer of Need**

This prayer consists of 2 Rakaats and it is performed when you are in a difficulty or in need of something Halaal (permitted). Insha-Allah, after performing this prayer, your needs will be fulfilled.

## How to Perform Salat-ul-Haajat

First of all, you perform Salat-ul-Haajat as a normal 2 Rakaat prayer, and then do Zikr and recite Durood. There are two or three Duas that you can read but here is a short and comprehensive one for recitation. The *Dua for Salat-ul-Haajat* is as follows:



“Allahumma innee asaluka wa ata-wajjahu ilaika bi-nabiyyika Muhammadin-nabiyyir-rahmah (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam). Yaa Rasoolallahi (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam). Innee qad tawaj-jahtu bika ilaa rabbee fee haajatee haazihi lituqdaa lee. Allahumma fashaf-fi’hu fiyya.”

### Translation:

O Allah! I beg of You and turn to You through Your Prophet, Hazrat Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) who is a merciful Prophet. O Prophet of Allah! I have turned my attention to my Rabb (*Lord*) through you for this need so that it may be fulfilled. O Allah! Accept this intercession on my behalf.

## Safar – Prayer for Travelling

This prayer has 2 Rakaats and it is said before setting off on a journey and 2 Rakaats in a Masjid before returning home. With the Grace of Allah your journey will be completed safely and easily.

## Khauf – Prayer of Fear

This is also a 2 Rakaat prayer. When you fear something, such as an earthquake, famine, drought, etc, perform this prayer because Allah will bless you with peace and tranquillity.

## Istisqaa – Prayer for Rain

Whenever drought occurs where you live or anywhere on the earth, then perform 2 Rakaats of Salat-ul-Istisqaa with Jamaat. Insha-Allah there will be plenty rainfall.

## Kusoof – Prayer on Seeing Eclipse of Sun

When the eclipse of the sun occurs then you ought to perform 2 Rakaats of Kusoof prayer.

### **Khusoof – Prayer on Seeing Eclipse of Moon**

When the eclipse of the moon occurs then you ought to perform 2 Rakaats of Khusoof prayer.

## **CHAPTER 6: AADAB (ETIQUETTES/MANNERS) OF THE MOSQUE**

When you enter the Masjid, you must respect its sanctity and sacredness by observing certain rules as follows. These rules for the respect of the Masjid are for both males and females, and are especially aimed at children. Please abide by these rules.

1. **DRESS PROPERLY FOR THE MASJID (MOSQUE):**
  - Males: cover your heads, no t-shirts to be worn as a habit in the Masjid (if shirt etc is not available, then the arms can be bare up to the elbows)
  - Females: cover your heads with a long scarf
  - Males & females: wear clean and appropriate clothes; also wear clean socks & shoes.
  
2. **BEFORE ENTERING THE MASJID:**
  - Say the Dua: *“Bismillaahi Allahumma salli ala Muhammad, Allahummaftahli abwaaba rahmatika.”*

(In the Name of Allah, O Allah! Bestow blessings on Sayyiduna Muhammad (s.a.w.), O Allah! Open for me the doors of Your Mercy.)

  - Enter with the right foot in the door.
  
3. **WHEN INSIDE THE MASJID:**
  - Walk quietly and in humility
  - No running
  - No shouting or making any noise (e.g. laughing loudly)
  - Sit down quietly for the Salah (prayer) or for your class
  - Do not talk about useless things, worldly matters and gossip (talk about Islam/religious affairs and your lessons only).
  
4. **DURING THE SALAH:**
  - Do not look around, do not talk, whisper, laugh, push/nudge anyone (because your Salah will be broken and you will have to start again).
  
5. **DURING YOUR CLASS LESSONS:**

- At the beginning of the class, say Salaam (“*Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu*”) to your Ustaz (teacher), any elders, and your class mates
- Respect your Ustaz and elders in the Masjid and obey what they say
- Do not cause disturbance or talk to each other when your Ustaz is teaching
- Respect each other: do not swear, abuse, insult or joke at each other.

6. **AFTER YOUR LESSONS HAVE ENDED:**

- Tidy up the class room, prayer area, and pick up any litter and put in the bin
- Straighten up the tables and chairs and put away any books in the book shelves
- Say Salaam to your Ustaz and class mates
- Learn your daily lessons at home.

7. **THE MASJID TOILET AND WUDHU PLACE:**

- Wear slippers in the toilets – do not go bare-footed
- Do not cause any mess in the toilet/Wudhu area - clean up after use
- Do Istinja properly in the toilet & keep your clothes clean
- Do Wudhu properly in the Wudhu area
- Do not waste water in the toilet or Wudhu area
- Switch off lights in the toilet/Wudhu area after use – make sure that there is nobody in the toilet or Wudhu areas.

8. **WHEN LEAVING THE MASJID:**

- Say Salaam to your Ustaz, friends, and elders in the Masjid
- Tidy up the class rooms, pick up any rubbish and put in the bin
- Switch off any lights that are on before going out of the Masjid
- Before going out of the Masjid, put your left foot out of the door, and then say the Dua:  
*“Allahumma innee asaluka min fadhlika wa rahmatika”*.

(O Allah! I seek from You, Your Grace and Your Mercy)



## **CHAPTER 7: ARTICLES (KALIMAAT) OF FAITH**

As Muslims we constantly do the *Zikr (remembrance) of Allah* and make our Iman (faith/belief) stronger by reciting the Holy Names of Allah. The following *Articles of Faith* are learnt and recited by Muslims from an early age and read throughout one's life as an important part of their Iman.



Islamic Calligraphy (writing) of the Article of Faith/Shahadah forming the shape of a man in Salah position: *“La ilaaha illallahu Muhammadur-Rasoolullahi”* - There is no god but Allah, Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) is the Messenger of Allah



Article of Faith/Shahadah

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**Imaan Mufassal (Belief in Detail)**



## صفت ايمان مفصل

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْقَدْرِ  
خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ مِنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَالْبَعْثِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ ۝

*Aamantu billahi wa malaaihati wa kutubih wa rusulih walyawmil aakhiri wal qadri  
khairihi wa sharrihi minal-laahi ta'aala wal ba'thi ba'dal mawt.*

“I believe in Allah and in His Angels and in His Books and in His Messengers and in the Last day and in the fact that everything, good or bad is decided by Allah the Almighty, and in the Life after Death.”

### Imaan Mujmal (Belief in Brief)

## صفت ايمان مجمل

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ بِأَسْمَائِهِ وَصِفَاتِهِ وَقَبِلْتُ جَمِيعَ أَحْكَامِهِ إِقْرَارًا  
بِاللِّسَانِ وَتَصْدِيقًا بِالْقَلْبِ ۝

*Aamanti billahi kama huwa bi asmaaihi wa sifaatihi wa qabiltu jameea ahkaamihi  
iqraarun billisaani wa tasdeequn bil-qalb.*

“I believe in Allah (as He is) with all His Names and Attributes and I accept all His Commands, by pledging to do them with my tongue and confirm them with all my heart.”

## THE ARTICLES OF FAITH

There are six *Articles of Faith (Kalmimaat)* and these should be learnt by heart and recited regularly.

**1. First Kalimah Tayyab (Sanctity/Holiness)**

أَوَّلُ كَلِمَةٍ طَيِّبَةٍ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ۝

*Laa ilaaha illallahu Muhammadur Rasoolullah*

“There is no god but Allah and Muhammad (peace be upon him) is the Messenger of Allah.”

**2. Second Kalimah Shahaadat (Witnessing/Evidence)**

دُومُ كَلِمَةٍ شَهَادَاتٍ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

*Ashhadu allaa ilaaha illallahu wahdahu laa shareeka lahu wa ashhadu anna Muhammadan abduhu wa rasooluhu*

“I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, He is alone, He has no partner, and I bear witness that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His servant and Messenger.”

**3. Third Kalimah Tamjeed (Glory of Allah)**

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ بِحَمْدِهِ  
أَكْبَرُ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

*Subhaan allahi walhamdu lillaahi wa laa ilaaha illallahu wallahu akbar wala hawla wala quwwata illa billaahil aliiyyil azeem.*

“Glory be to Allah, All Praise be to Allah, there is none worthy of worship besides Allah and Allah is the Greatest. There is no power and might except from Allah, the Most High, the Great.”

#### 4. Fourth Kalimah Tawheed (Praise of Unity/Oneness)

حَمْدُ اللَّهِ تَعْبُدُ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ  
وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ وَهُوَ حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ أَبَدًا أَبَدًا  
ذُو الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ بِيَدِهِ الْخَيْرُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

*Laa ilaaha illallahu wahdahu laa shareeka lahu lahul mulku wa lahul hamdu yuhyee wa yumeetu wa huwa hayyullaa yamootu abadan abada, zul-jalali wal-ikraam, biyadihil-khairbi yadihil-khair, wa huwa alaa kulli shai'in qadeer*

“There is none worthy of worship besides Allah Who is alone. He has no partner. For Him is the Kingdom, and for Him is all praise. He gives life and causes death and He is ever-living and never dies. In His hand is all good and He has power over everything.”

#### 5. Fifth Kalimah Istighfaar (Repenting)

بِتَحِيْمِ كُلِّ اسْتِغْفَارٍ اسْتَغْفِرُ اللهُ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ اذْنَبْتُهُ  
 عَمْدًا اَوْ خَطَا سِرًّا اَوْ عَلَانِيَةً وَاَتُوْبُ اِلَيْهِ مِنَ الذَّنْبِ الَّذِي  
 اَعْلَمُ وَمِنَ الذَّنْبِ الَّذِي لَا اَعْلَمُ اِنَّكَ اَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوْبِ وَ  
 سَتَّارُ الْحُيُوْبِ وَعَفَّارُ الذُّنُوْبِ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ اِلَّا  
 بِاللّٰهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيْمِ ۝

*Astaghfirulaallaha rabbee min kulli zanmbin aznabtuhu amadan aw khata'an sirran  
 aw alaa niyyatan wa atoobu ilaihi minaz zanmbillazee a'lamu wa minaz zambillazee  
 laa a'lamu innaka anta allamul ghuyoobi wa sattaarral uyoobi wa ghaffaaruz zunoobi  
 wa laa hawla wa laa quwwata illa billahil aliyyl azeem.*

“I seek forgiveness of Allah, my Lord, of all sins and mistakes, done intentionally or un-intentionally, secretly or openly. And I repent to Him for sins I know of and also sins that I am ignorant of, indeed You are the Knower of all of the unseen, the Coverer of human weaknesses and the Forgiver of sins, and I have no power to save myself from sinning and no power to do good but with the help of Allah, the Most High, the Most Elevated.”

## 6. Sixth Kalimah Radd-I-Kufr (Rejection of Disbelief)

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ أَنْ أُشْرِكَ بِكَ شَيْئًا  
وَأَنَا أَعْلَمُ بِهِ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا أَعْلَمُ بِهِ تُبْتُ عَنْهُ وَ  
كَذَبْتُ مِنَ الْكُفْرِ وَالشِّرْكِ وَالْكَذِبِ وَالْغَيْبَةِ  
وَالْبِدْعَةِ وَالنَّمِيَةِ وَأَسْلَمْتُ وَأَقُولُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ  
مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ۝

*Allahumma innee aoozubika min an ushrika bika shai'an wa ana a'lamu bihi wa  
astaghfiruka limaa laa a'lamu bihi tubtu anhu wa tabarra'tu minal kufri wash-shirki  
wal kizbi wal gheebati wal bida'ti wan nameemati wal fawaahishi wal buhtaani wal  
ma'aasee kullihaa wa aslamtu wa aqoolu laa ilaaha illallaahu Muhammadur  
Rasoolullahi (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam).*

“O Allah! I seek protection with You from intentionally associating any partner with You, I beg Your forgiveness for the sins I am not aware of. I repent for it and make myself free of disbelief and polytheism [making any partner for Allah], telling lies and backbiting and all the sins. I accept Islam and believe and declare that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad (sallalaahu alaihi wa sallam) is the Messenger of Allah.”

**السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته**

**Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu**

**“May the Peace, Blessings and Mercy of Allah be upon you”**

~ ~ ~

*I pay my infinite Hamd (praise) and thanks to Allahu Ta'ala, Who has blessed me with this task of writing this book. May Allah accept this humble effort in the propagation of the Deen of Islam and guide all Muslims and non-Muslims to unity in Islam. Ameen!*

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE IMAM AHMAD RAZA INSTITUTE INTERNATIONL

The Author established the **IMAM AHMAD RAZA INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL (IARI)** in Bradford in May 1995, under the guidance of *Hadhrat Allama Abu Al-Mahmood Nishter*; the former Imam and Khatib of Jamia Masjid Hanafia, Bradford (UK). This new organisation were established as a response to the religious problems created by some local and national religious organisations in the field of their so-called propagation (tabligh) of Islam amongst Muslims and non-Muslims. *Moreover, it was felt necessary to set up IARI as a counter to those people/organisations who distort and spread false beliefs contrary to the teachings of Islam and the doctrines and practices of the AHL AL-SUNNAH WAL JAMA'AT (the Majority Group) in Islam to Muslims and others, such as Qadianis, Bahais, and other groups.* The **Imam Ahmad Raza Institute International** was formed in memory of the **GREAT MUJADDID (Islamic Revivalist) OF THIS ERA, A'LA HAZRAT IMAM SHAH AHMAD RAZA KHAN BREILVI AL-QADRI (R.A. – born 1856, died 1921), and is a minaret of light which guides the Muslim Ummah and is vanishing the darkness of western ideologies, apostasy and atheism.**

Some brief objectives of the *Imam Ahmad Raza Institute International* and its Youth Section are:

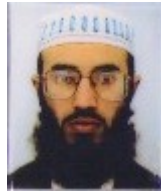
1. **Belief in and propagation of ISLAM**, by following the **HOLY QUR'AN** and the **SUNNAH** of the **HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD (pbuh)**.
2. **LOVE, ASSOCIATION and VENERATION** of the *Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), his Family and his Companions (may Allah be pleased with them)*.
3. **VENERATION** of the **PROPHETS OF ALLAH**, the **SCHOLARS OF ISLAM** and the **AWLIYAA (saints)**.
4. To protect and propagate the **True Beliefs of Islam (Sunni Aqida)** amongst the Muslims and to carry out *missionary work* amongst the non-Muslim community.
5. To spread the teachings of Islam as propagated by **Imam Ahmad Raza Breilvi Al-Qadri (r.a.)**.
6. To *conduct research* in the different areas of the *Islamic sciences* and *to prepare and publish literature* on the *great personalities of Islam* for the Muslim youth, adults and non-Muslims including *newsletter/magazine, research material, books, etc.*
7. The organisation of *Islamic Education* including: study circles, lectures, debates, conferences, camps, Zikr meetings (remembrance of Allah) and other activities.
8. *To Unite Muslims* according to the *Principles of the Holy Qur'an* and the *Sunnah* on the platform of the **AHL AL-SUNNAH WAL JAMA'AH (Sunnis)**.
9. Organising those who are willing to strive for the establishment of an *Islamic Society*.
10. The formation of an *Inter-faith Dialogue* to facilitate better understanding of comparative religion and to foster unity and co-operation between members of different religions.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in our work by affiliating himself or herself to the Imam Ahmad Raza Institute International. Contact this address for any correspondence:

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**Tariq Mahmood Nishter**, the son of **Allama Abul-Mahmood Nishter Sahib** (a renown Alim – scholar), was born in Pakistan in 1967 and settled in the UK with his parents in 1974. He graduated from the University of Hull with honours in Business Management and received an MBA in Business Administration and also the PGCE (FE), a post-graduate teaching qualification, both from the University of Wales. The Author has studied Darse-Nizami (Alim Course) books from his father and is still continuing his higher religious studies abroad. After completing his MBA, the Author pursued his ambition to establish himself in business or employment in companies and spent some time in various work environments. He felt that this was not really meant for him and that his real talents and purpose lay in devoting himself to the propagation of Islam, the original path of his forefathers. Over the years since 1984, the Author has been very active in Islam work, studying Islam and comparative religion, doing Da’wah - talking to non-Muslims about Islam, holding exhibitions at the libraries and Islamic programmes at Mosques, writing Islamic literature, working as an Imam/Teacher in some Islamic organisations and also at HMP Parc (Wales).

The Author’s literary works include the following (most of them are yet to be published):

- Milad-un-Nabi (s.a.w.) – Birth Celebration of the Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.)
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- The Status of An Imam
- A Muslim’s Guide to Prayer – Salah
- Fasting In Islam
- Aids - An Islamic Perspective (first published by the Author in 1988)

The Author has written numerous articles and pamphlets on numerous topics for children and adults, all may be obtained by post from the contact address.