

Ilm Essentials

Salāh Lesson 7

Makrūh Acts in the Prayer

مَكْرُوهَاتُ الصَّلَاةِ

Two Types of Wājib

3

- General principle is that “any prayer offered with a makrūh element attached to it, it is necessary to repeat it”
- ▣ But this is when a makrūh tahrīm element comes into the prayer by leaving out a wājib that is of the prayer itself
 - Not a wājib that is external to the prayer
 - Praying with a strong urge to relieve oneself
 - Praying facing a picture
 - Deliberately reciting sūrahs in reversed order

Posture Related

4

- ❑ Deliberately leaving out any wājib or sunnah act of the prayer
 - ❑ This is the general basis for the disliked acts
- ❑ Turning away your fingers or toes from the Qiblah
- ❑ Placing your hands on the hips
 - ❑ Or contrary to the sunnah in any posture
- ❑ Entangling the fingers
- ❑ Resting the forearms on the ground for men

Posture Related

5

- Sitting with the hips on the ground and the knees raised up
 - ▣ This is like the sitting of a dog
- Sitting cross-legged without an excuse
- Stretching the arms**
 - ▣ Even if due to tiredness
 - Because it is a sign of laziness
 - Also contrary to the sunnah position
 - ▣ If done with excessive action
 - Could break prayer

Quran Related

6

- Deliberately reciting sūrahs out of order
- Deliberately leaving out a short sūrah between two sūrahs
 - ▣ Definition of short
- Deliberately repeating a sūrah in any rakāh
 - ▣ Or reciting it in the first and second rakāh**
 - Assuming you are able to read another sūrah from memory
- All of the above is permissible in a sunnah or nafl prayer

Quran Related

7

- Fixing a sūrah such that no other sūrah is read in the prayer
 - ▣ Permissible if that sūrah is easy to read for you
 - Or was read by the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam)
- Reciting Quran in a state other than qiyām
 - ▣ Does not apply to duās from the Quran recited in sajdah or before the closing salāms
- Lengthening the second rakāh of any prayer**
 - ▣ Regardless of whether a fard, wājib, sunnah or nafl

Quran Related

8

- Putting anything in your mouth which detracts from the recitation of the Quran
- Covering your nose and mouth
 - ▣ Except when yawning

Congregation Related

9

- Standing behind a row in which a gap exists
- Standing alone in a row
 - ▣ Normally would pull someone back
 - Nowadays better to stand alone in the row
 - ▣ Can also wait until rukū before starting the prayer
 - In hopes that someone else will come

Congregation Related

10

- The imām's standing entirely inside the mihrab
 - ▣ His standing outside the mihrāb but prostrating inside it is not makrūh
 - If space is tight, his standing entirely inside the mihrāb is also not makrūh
- The imām's standing alone on something one arm's length high or on a raised piece of land
 - ▣ If he stands alone with at least one follower
 - It is not makrūh

Non-Prayer Actions

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- Fidgeting with your clothes or body
 - ▣ Refers to any movement which is not of the prayer
 - And is of no benefit or purpose
 - ▣ Because it opposes humility
 - Which is the spirit of the prayer
 - “Indeed the believers are successful, those who are humble (toward Allah) in their prayers” (Quran 23:1-2)
- Rolling up your sleeves
 - ▣ Refers to entering the prayer with rolled sleeves
 - Also to rolling them during the prayer
- Yawning
 - ▣ Unless it is natural and not deliberate
 - Should be repressed as far as possible

Non-Prayer Actions

12

- Closing the eyes**
 - ▣ Because it entails leaving the recommended places of gaze
 - Also against the general sunnah of keeping the eyes open
 - However, if the eyes are closed in order to aid concentration
 - Will not be disliked
- Looking about during the prayer by turning or moving the head
 - ▣ If you turned your chest, it could break the prayer
 - If only moving the eyes, still best to avoid
- Responding to the salām of someone by indication
 - ▣ Unless there is some reason to do so
 - If by the tongue, it breaks the prayer

Non-Prayer Actions

13

- ❑ Removing of pebbles or similar things from the ground
 - ❑ Permissible to do this once, if needed, from the place of sajdah
- ❑ Cracking the fingers or knuckles
 - ❑ Makrūh even outside the prayer**
- ❑ Wiping the forehead to remove dirt, dust or sweat which does not disturb your
 - ❑ If it disturbs you, it is not makrūh
- ❑ To smell any fragrant thing deliberately

Non-Prayer Actions

14

- ❑ Fanning yourself with a cloth or fan
 - ▣ If done excessively it can break the prayer
- ❑ To kill a harmless insect
 - ▣ Permissible to kill a harmful insect
- ❑ Counting Quranic verses or tasbīhāt with the fingers or a tasbīh
 - ▣ Permissible to merely press down with the fingertips
- ❑ Small degree of that action which opposes prayer

Clothing Related

15

- Lifting up (gathering) your clothes when making sajdah
 - ▣ Generally considered a sign of arrogance
 - Should be focused on our Lord during the prayer
- Praying with the head uncovered for men
- Putting a cloth on the head or shoulders
 - ▣ And letting its ends hang down
 - Sign of arrogance and will distract
 - ▣ Includes a scarf around the neck which is hanging down
 - Or any garment not worn in its usual manner
 - Wearing a jacket without putting your arms in the sleeves

Clothing Related

16

- To wrap yourself with a cloth in such a way that there is no hole through which the hands can be brought out
- Praying wearing work clothes**
 - ▣ Clothes which are usually dirty or worn out
 - Or “inside clothing”
 - Anything you would not deem suitable when meeting guests
 - ▣ General rule is not to pray in anything which you would be embarrassed to be seen in, in public

Picture Related

17

- Performing sajdah on a picture of an animate object
- Praying wearing something which has an animate object on it
- Praying in the presence of a picture of an animate object
 - ▣ If it is above, below, in front, or to the right or left
 - Makrūh tahrīm
 - ▣ If behind, makrūh tanzīh
- In all the above cases, not makrūh if the photo is very small
 - ▣ Such that a standing person cannot make out its detail
 - Or if it is large and covered, its head or face is cut off, it is missing a limb required for its life or is of an animate object

Eliminating Distractions

18

- Praying when you have a pressing need to relieve yourself or pass gas
 - ▣ Defined as an urge that you have to actively suppress and it weighs on your mind
 - If the need is not pressing, permissible to pray
- If this need arises during the prayer
 - ▣ Wājib to break the prayer and relieve yourself
 - Unless you fear missing the prayer time
- Praying when food is served
 - ▣ Provided it will distract you
 - When you are very hungry or strongly inclined toward it
- Praying around anything which would distract

Eliminating Distractions

19

- ❑ Not to place a barrier (sutrah) when performing prayer in a place where someone is likely to pass**
- ❑ Praying along a path or on a road
 - ▣ Because it disturbs others and the one praying
- ❑ Prayer in a bathroom
 - ▣ Because it is a place of filth and where the devils gather
- ❑ Prayer in a graveyard
- ❑ Praying with excusable filth when one can easily remove it or change their clothes**
- ❑ Praying near filth

Eliminating Distractions

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- Praying on another man's land without his consent
 - ▣ Or on stolen property or in stolen clothing
 - What about praying in a shopping mall
- Praying in front of burning coals
 - ▣ But not a candle or lamp
- Praying in front of sleeping people
 - ▣ Makrūh to pray toward another's face

Setting Up a Barrier (Sutrah)

21

- “If the person passing in front of the one praying knew what he was incurring, he would prefer to wait 40, rather than pass in front of him”
 - ▣ Abu an-Nadr added, “I do not know whether he said forty days, months or years” (Bukhāri)
- If praying where someone might pass in front
 - ▣ Mustahabb to place a sutrah
 - Will then be permissible to cross in front of him
- Minimum height should be one cubit
 - ▣ Length of the forearm
- Minimum thickness is that of a finger
 - ▣ Should be something which can stand up-right

Setting Up a Barrier (Sutrah)

22

- Sutrah should be placed slightly off-center
 - ▣ Even with the right or left eyebrow
- If you do not have a sutrah
 - ▣ Can draw a line visible to others

Setting Up a Barrier (Sutrah)

23

- ❑ Mustahabb not to stop one who is trying to pass in front of you
 - ❑ Regardless of whether you set a sutrah
 - Because this removes calmness from the prayer
- ❑ Can utter a tasbīh aloud or gesture
 - ❑ Even if a silent prayer
 - A woman will gesture or clap her hands together
 - Slapping the right palm/fingers on the left
- ❑ Avoid physically restraining someone
 - ❑ Even though a hadīth permits doing so

Crossing In Front of a Musallī

24

- Small masjid or room (40 cubits or less)
 - ▣ Must wait until space opens up
- Large masjid
 - ▣ Permissible to cross in front of someone if you are outside their line of vision
 - Defined as 3 rows total

Crossing In Front of a Musallī

25

- If you pray such that you might block others
 - ▣ If the passer had an alternative, but still crossed
 - Sin is upon both
 - ▣ If he had no alternative and crossed
 - Sin is upon you
- If you are not blocking others
 - ▣ If the passer had an alternative, sin is upon him
 - If the passer did not have an alternative, no sin upon either
- This is all for a large masjid

Crossing In Front of a Musallī

26

- Permissible to cross in front of others to fill gaps in the rows
 - ▣ If you are sitting directly in front of a person praying
 - Can walk away and this is not considered crossing in front of someone

Questions and Discussion

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