

Ilm Essentials

Salāh Lesson 9

Invalidators of the Prayer

Speaking

3

- Any utterance which has meaning
 - ▣ Even if forgetfully, by mistake or if you have fallen asleep in the prayer
 - Includes saying “uff” or “ugh” or crying
 - Even if done due to physical pain or some misfortune
 - Sounds due to unbearable pain are excused
 - ▣ If done from remembrance of Heaven or Hell
 - Will not break the prayer
 - ▣ Sounds from a naturally occurring cough, sneeze, yawn or burp will not break the prayer

Speaking

4

- Any duā which resembles our ordinary speech (i.e. possible to ask of others)
 - ▣ “Allah, help me to repay my debt”
 - ▣ “Allah, assist me to marry so-and-so”
 - ▣ “Allah, give me new clothes”
 - If it is a duā found in the Quran or hadīth
 - Or a duā which is impossible to request from man
 - Will not invalidate the prayer
- Giving or replying to the salām verbally
- Shaking hands with someone

Speaking

5

- Verbally responding to someone else
 - ▣ Even if using the Quran or dhikr
- Likewise replying to another's sneeze
 - ▣ Saying “alhamdu lillāh” to your own sneeze will not break the prayer
- Any speech which is interaction with another, even if using Quranic words, will break the prayer
 - ▣ If someone asks “who is Allah” and you say “Huwa ‘Llāhu aḥad”

Speaking

6

- Correcting the recitation of anyone other than your own imām
 - ▣ Regardless of whether that person is in the same prayer or not
- Making a serious and inexcusable mistake in recitation
 - ▣ Defined as an extreme change in meaning
 - For example replacing jannah with jahannum in a verse speaking about the eternal abode of the believers

Non-Prayer Actions

7

- Excessive action (amal kathīr)
 - ▣ Performing any non-prayer action
 - Such that an observer, who did not know from the outset that you were in the prayer, would think that you are not engaged in prayer
- Minor action (amal qalīl) performed 3 times consecutively
 - ▣ Within the duration of 3 subhāna ‘Llāh
 - This will be considered excessive action

Non-Prayer Actions

8

- Reading from the Quran any verse which was not already memorized
 - ▣ In general, reading anything will invalidate the prayer
 - Also not permissible to hold and recite from a Quran in the prayer, whether in an obligatory or optional prayer
- Eating anything from the outside of the mouth
 - ▣ Even though it is very small or not normally consumable

Non-Prayer Actions

9

- Swallowing something which was in the mouth prior to starting the prayer
 - ▣ Provided it is the measure of a chick-pea or more
- Drinking anything
- Clearing the throat or coughing without an excuse
 - ▣ If done to ease the recitation or correct the imām
 - Does not nullify the prayer
- Coughing, sneezing or burping intentionally

Non-Prayer Actions

10

- Laughing aloud such that you could hear yourself (dhik)
 - ▣ In any prayer consisting of rukū and sajdah
 - Breaks the prayer only
- Laughing aloud such that the person next to you could hear (qahqahah)
 - ▣ In any prayer consisting of rukū and sajdah
 - Breaks both the prayer and wudū

Removal of an Excuse

11

- The removal of the excuse from the ma'dhūr
- Availability or access to water if you performed tayammum
- End of the time of wiping, or removal of a sock, if you performed mashah
- Learning a Quranic verse by an unlettered person

Removal of an Excuse

12

- Obtaining the ability to bow or prostrate for the person performing the prayer by indicating
- The healing of an injury upon which you wiped
- Remembering those prayers which are passed due and must be performed in order
- The imām's appointing as his deputy one who is not fit for leading prayer (i.e. an unlettered man or a child who is not bāligh)
 - ▣ Here the prayer of everyone breaks

Loss of a Pre-Condition

13

- Rising of the sun in the case of the Fajr prayer
- Dhuhr time starting in the case of the Eid prayers
- Asr time starting in the case of the jumuah prayer
- Deliberately exposing any part of the awrah
 - ▣ Even for a moment
- Accidental exposure of the awrah which is not excused
 - ▣ For the duration of 3 subhāna 'Llāh
 - Even if caused by external factors
- If you began the prayer with $\frac{1}{4}$ or more of a limb of the awrah exposed
 - ▣ The prayer is invalid from the start

Loss of a Pre-Condition

14

- Having more than the excused amount of impurity on your body or clothes
 - ▣ For the duration of 3 subhāna ‘Llāh
- To carry an unexcused amount of filth
- Turning your chest away from the direction of the Qiblah, even for a moment, without a valid excuse
 - ▣ Provided it is more than 45 degrees
- If you are caused to turn away by someone else
 - ▣ You must turn back within the duration of 3 subhāna ‘Llāh
 - Otherwise the prayer breaks

Loss of a Pre-Condition

15

- Turning away from the Qiblah because you thought you lost your wudū (even though you didn't)
 - ▣ You thought your nose started to bleed
 - You turn away to re-make your wudū
 - ▣ Then you realize your nose did not bleed
 - Your prayer is void and must be started again

Loss of Purity

16

- ❑ Incurring the state of major ritual impurity
- ❑ Incurring the state of minor ritual impurity
- ❑ Fainting, insanity or intoxication

Additional Reasons

17

- Missing any pillar of the prayer
 - ▣ Whether intentionally or unintentionally
 - For example missing a rukū or sajdah
 - ▣ And completing the prayer in that state
- If you miss a sajdah and perform it after the final tashahhud and then say salām, the prayer is invalid
 - ▣ Because the final sitting has to be the final fard of the prayer
 - If you did the sajdah and then repeated the tashahhud, the prayer would be valid
 - Here you would also perform sahw

Additional Reasons

18

- Taking instruction from someone outside the prayer
 - ▣ However if you hear the instruction, and then on your own decide to act, it does not break the prayer
 - Changing Qiblah would not break the prayer
- For a man to stand in the same line as a woman, without a barrier or space between them
 - ▣ Provided they are praying the same prayer
 - And behind the same imām
 - ▣ The man's prayer will break, but not the woman's

Additional Reasons

19

- For the follower to surpass the imām and exit from a pillar before the imām reaches it
 - ▣ Meaning that you complete any posture before the imām reaches that posture
 - If the two of you meet, even for an instance, the prayer is valid
 - But it will be makrūh
 - ▣ Likewise if you go ahead of the imām, and do not meet, but you make it up later
 - The prayer is valid
- For the follower to lose track of the movements of the imām

Additional Reasons

20

- Elongation of the hamzah when pronouncing the takbīr
- All of these invalidate the prayer provided they are done before you have sat in the final sitting
 - ▣ For the measure of the tashahhud
 - If done after, the prayer is technically valid
 - But should be repeated

Actions Which Do Not Invalidate the Prayer

Non-Invalidators of the Prayer

22

- Acts of the heart or mind will not invalidate the prayer
- Looking at something written and understanding it
 - ▣ Without moving the tongue at all
- Eating something small between your teeth
 - ▣ Provided the eating does not reach the level of excessive action
- Smiling (tabassum) during any prayer

Non-Invalidators of the Prayer

23

- Someone passing through your place of sajdah
- Taking 1-2 steps to fill a gap
 - ▣ If 3 or more steps are needed
 - They should be spaced
- Swallowing saliva which has the taste or flavor of food which you ate before the prayer

Questions and Discussion

24