

# Ilm Essentials

## Salāh Lesson 1

# The Book of Prayer

كِتَابُ الصَّلَاةِ

# Introduction to Salāh

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- Linguistically, the word salāh means duā
- Salāh was the first act of worship to be made obligatory
- Consensus that the 5 daily prayers became obligatory during the isrā' and mi'rāj
  - ▣ Occurred about 1 year before hijrah
    - Before this 2 prayers were mandated
      - One evening/night prayer and one early morning prayer

# Who Is Obligated to Pray

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- There are 3 stipulations for the prayer to become fard upon an individual
  - ▣ Islām
  - ▣ Sanity
  - ▣ Maturity
    - Children should be commanded to pray at age 7
      - Should teach children about the prayer even before 7
    - Discipline them if they neglect the prayer at age 10

# Neglecting the Salāh

5

- “Between a person and unbelief is discarding salāh” (Muslim)
  - ▣ “The covenant between us and them is salāh. Whoever abandons it is an unbeliever” (Nasā’ī)
- Some sahābah and ulamā considered the intentional abandoning of a single salāh as representing unbelief
  - ▣ Umar ibn al-Khattāb, Abdullāh ibn Masūd, Ahmad ibn Hanbal, Abdullāh ibn al-Mubārak and others

# Fard Salāh

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- By consensus there are 5 fard salāh
  - ▣ Fajr (2 rakāh)
  - ▣ Dhuhr/Jumuah (4 rakāh)
  - ▣ Asr (4 rakāh)
  - ▣ Maghrib (3 rakāh)
  - ▣ Ishā (4 rakāh)
- While all 5 prayers are established through both Quran and hadīth
  - ▣ Number of rakāh for each prayer is established through hadīth alone

# Wājib Salāh

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- Witr after the Ishā prayer
- Both Eid prayers
- 2 rakāh after performing tawāf
- Fard prayers which were missed
  - ▣ The prayer remains fard
    - But it is now wājib to make them up
- Prayers which a person vowed to Allah
- A nafl prayer that one nullified

# Sunnah Muakkadah Salāh

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- 2 (quick) rakāh before Fajr
- 4 rakāh before Dhuhr/Jumuah
- 2 rakāh after Dhuhr
  - ▣ 4 rakāh after jumuah
- 2 (quick) rakāh after Maghrib
- 2 rakāh after Ishā



# The Times of the Prayer

أَوْقَاتُ الصَّلَاةِ

# Establishing the Prayer Times

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- “Verily salāh is enjoined on the believers at fixed hours” (Quran 4:103)
- Jibrīl visited the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) after his return from the isrā’ and mi’rāj
  - ▣ Led him in prayer at the beginning of Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, Ishā and Fajr
    - Returned the next day at the end of each prayer time
      - For Maghrib, Jibrīl came at the same time

# The Time of Fajr

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- Fajr begins at true dawn and lasts until just before the sun begins to rise on the horizon
  - ▣ During true dawn whiteness marks the horizon
    - False dawn appears as a column of light
      - Which subsequently disappears
  - ▣ 15 vs. 18 degrees
    - Avoid the disagreed times as much as possible
- Mustahabb for men to pray Fajr when the morning light becomes clear
  - ▣ “Pray Fajr when it is bright, for it is greater in reward” (Tirmidhī)
    - Mustahabb for women to pray earlier, when it is dark

# The Time of Dhuhr

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- Dhuhr (zawāl) begins once the sun has passed its zenith and lasts until the shadow of an object grows by twice its own length
  - ▣ Object is 6 feet tall
    - Shadow at zenith is 1 foot long
  - ▣ When the shadow becomes 13 feet long
    - Dhuhr ends
- Mustahabb to pray Dhuhr in its early time
  - ▣ Except during the heat of the summer

# The Time of Asr

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- Asr begins once Dhuhr has ended and lasts until the sun has set fully
  - ▣ Mustahabb to delay Asr until a little before the sun loses its brightness
    - Delay beyond this is makrūh

# The Time of Maghrib

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- Maghrib begins once the sun has set and lasts until the evening twilight (shafaq) disappears
  - ▣ No difference about when Maghrib ends
    - But difference on what “twilight” means
      - Refers to the redness on the horizon (Abū Yūsuf and Muhammad) (15 degrees)
      - Refers to the whiteness which comes after the redness (Abū Hanīfah) (18 degrees)
- Mustahabb to hasten Maghrib
  - ▣ Provided one is sure the time has entered
    - Maghrib becomes makrūh once the stars come out

# The Time of Ishā

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- Ishā begins once Maghrib has ended and continues until Fajr begins
  - ▣ Witr prayer cannot precede Ishā
    - 15 vs. 18 degrees
- Mustahabb to delay Ishā until just before 1/3 of the night has passed, in the winter
  - ▣ Night starts at Maghrib and ends at dawn
    - Disliked to delay Ishā past 1/2 the night
      - Witr can be prayed anytime before Fajr
- All of the prayer times may be adjusted out of their preferred times in order to increase the congregation in the masjid

# Prohibited Prayer Times

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- Not valid to offer any obligatory prayer, or perform a prostration, during three times
  - ▣ While the sun is rising, until it has brightened sufficiently
    - Length of 1-2 spears
      - 15-20 minutes after sunrise
  - ▣ While the sun is at its zenith
    - This is a fairly short time
      - 5-7 minutes before Dhuhr
  - ▣ When the brightness of the sun diminishes, until it has fully set
    - 15-20 minutes before Maghrib
      - Exception is that day's Asr
        - Although it would be makrūh



# Disliked Prayer Times

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- Makrūh to pray any voluntary (sunnah or nafl) prayer
  - During the 3 prohibited times
  - Between dawn and the fard of Fajr
    - Except the 2 sunnah of Fajr
  - After the fard of Fajr, until the sun has risen fully
  - After the Asr prayer has been offered, until after sunset
  - Before the Maghrib prayer
    - This is slightly disliked
  - Once the khatīb has come out on Jumuah (for the khutbah)
    - Until the prayer is complete
  - At the time of the iqāmah
    - Except for the sunnah of Fajr
  - Before the Eid prayers, even if at home
  - After the Eid prayers at the place of the prayer

# Qadā or Missed Prayers

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- Necessary to make up any missed fard or wājib prayers
  - ▣ Includes Witr
    - Whether intentional or unintentional, knowingly or unknowingly
      - Includes prayers performed, but with the omission of an obligatory part of the prayer (i.e. a condition or integral)
- Sunnah muakkadah prayers cannot be made up once the prayer time has passed
  - ▣ So the 4 sunnah of Dhuhr should be made up if missed
    - As long as Asr has not started
      - Ghayr muakkadah prayers will never be made up
  - ▣ Exception for the sunnah of Fajr
    - Which can be made up until a little before Dhuhr
      - Some said these should only be made up if missed together with Fajr

# Qadā or Missed Prayers

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- Intention is necessary
  - ▣ “I am making up the first Dhuhr I missed”
  - ▣ “I am making up the last Dhuhr I missed”
- Maintaining the order of missed prayers is wājib if 5 or less
  - ▣ If someone does not owe any prayers, but misses Dhuhr, and then remembers while praying Asr of that day
    - He should break the prayer and perform Dhuhr first
      - Unless the time for Asr is about to end

# Qadā or Missed Prayers

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- One can make up qadā prayers during the makrūh times
  - ▣ Avoid doing this if it lets others know you have missed prayers
- Prayers missed due to menses do not have to be made up

# Questions and Discussion

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