

**ANSWERS TO COMMON
QUESTIONS ON ISLAM**



SALAH

THE MUSLIM PRAYER



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“O you who believe! When you prepare for prayer, wash your faces, and your hands (and arms) to the elbows; rub your heads (with water); and (wash) your feet to the ankles.” (Al-Qur’an 5:6)

“The key to Paradise is the (stipulated) prayer. And key to prayer is cleanliness.” (Ahmed)

“Purification is half of faith.” (Muslim)

“Taking a bath on Friday is a must for every adult.” (Bukhari)

“And establish regular prayer: for prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds; and remembrance of Allah is the greatest (thing in life) without doubt.” (Al-Qur’an 29:45) 5:6

“See you not that it is Allah Whose praises all beings in the heavens and on earth do celebrate, and the birds (of the air) with wings outspread? Each one knows its own (mode of) prayer and praise” (Al-Qur’an 24:41)

“Pray as you have seen me praying.” (Bukhari)
 (Our intention must always be to perform salah, to the best of our ability as exemplified by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).)

“One of the best deeds is to offer salah (prayer) in its early time.” (Tirmidhi)

“The key to Paradise is the (stipulated) prayer. And key to prayer is cleanliness.” (Ahmed)

DIRECTION OF KA'BAH FROM VARIOUS CITIES



CHAPTER 1 'IBADAH (WORSHIP)

The word 'Ibadah comes from the Arabic "Abd", which means slave or servant. Man is a born subject and servant of Allah. When he turns to Allah with humility and devotion, he performs an act of 'Ibadah. 'Ibadah is a means for purifying man's physical and spiritual life. In Islam, every good deed performed to seek the pleasure of Allah is an act of worship.

The obligatory rituals of 'Ibadah are prayers (Salah), fasting (Saum), (Zakah) charity, pilgrimage (Hajj), and struggling in the way of Allah (Jihad). These along with Iman are often called the pillars of Islam. Islam is an integral whole. It covers all aspects of man's life. The pillars unite all human activities, spiritual and material, individual and collective.

The obligatory rituals of 'Ibadah make "faith" (Iman) to play a practical and effective role in the human life. 'Ibadah is therefore something positive. It is the means by which the faithfuls can serve Allah as well as their fellow men.

The Salah, which is the subject of this booklet, is an essential part of 'Ibadah. The Prophet (S.A.W) is reported to have said: **"Salah is the pillar of Islam and whosoever abandons it, demolishes the very pillar of religion"**.

CHAPTER 2

TAHARAH (PURIFICATION)

Before a person can say his prayer, he must be clean and pure. The Qur'an says: **"Truly Allah loves those who turn to Him and those who care for cleanliness"**. Cleanliness of mind, of body, and of clothes is called Taharah or purification. It is only in such a condition of purification that a Muslim may perform the Salah.

Purification of the body is attained by partial or total washing with clean water. The partial wash is known as Al-Wudu or the ablution, and the total wash is called Al-Ghusl or the washing (bath of the whole body).

AL-WUDU (ABLUTION)

The process of performing Wudu is as follows:-
Mention the name of Allah by saying

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

"BISMILLA HIR RAHMA NIR RAHEEM"

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

Wash both hands up to the wrists together three times, ensuring that every part including between the fingers is wetted by water as shown in figures 1, (a) and (b).



Figure 1(a)



Figure 1(b)

Taking a handful of water into the mouth, rinse the mouth three times as shown in figure 2.



Figure 2

Snuff water contained in the right palm into the nose and then eject the water with the left hand (thrice) - as shown in figures 3 and 4.



Figure 3



Figure 4

Wash the face, ear to ear, forehead to chin, three times as shown in figures 5, 6 and 7.



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8

Wash the right arm thoroughly from the wrist to the elbow three times. Repeat the same with the left hand - as shown in figures 8 and 9.

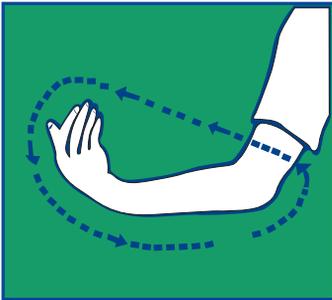


Figure 9



Figure 10

Run moistened fingers through the ears, the first finger of each hand going across the outside (once) - as shown in figure 11.



Figure 11

Wash both feet up to the ankles starting from the right and ensuring that all parts particularly between the toes are wetted - as shown in figure 12. If you had performed complete “Wudu” before putting on your socks, it is not necessary to remove them when you want to repeat the performance of “Wudu”. It is enough to wipe over the stockinged feet with wet hands. This may be done for a period of one day, (and three days on journey) on the condition that the socks are not removed.



Figure 12

If they are removed, it is necessary to re-wash the feet for Wudu. The process ends with the recitation of the **Kalimatush-Shahadah**:

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ

وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

**ASH-HADU AL-LA ILAHA ILLALLAHU WAH DAHU
LA SHAREEKA LAHU WA-ASH-HADU AN-NA
MUHAMMADAN ‘ABDUHU-WA-RASULUH**

A fresh performance of Wudu is necessary if one breaks wind, touches genitals, or becomes sexually excited, or pays a visit to the lavatory, or falls asleep lying down, or vomits violently, or incurs a flow of blood from an injury, or a flow of impure fluid.

AL-GHUSL (THE WASHING OR BATH)

The greater purification, Ghusl, is obligatory when one is defiled as a result of nocturnal emission (or a wet dream), marital intercourse, child birth, or when entering into the fold of Islam.

The procedure is as follows:-

Begin with the name of Allah as for Wudu. Wash the hands and the affected parts of the body with water to remove any impurity. Perform Wudu as above. Then wash the whole body three times, using clean water for each wash.

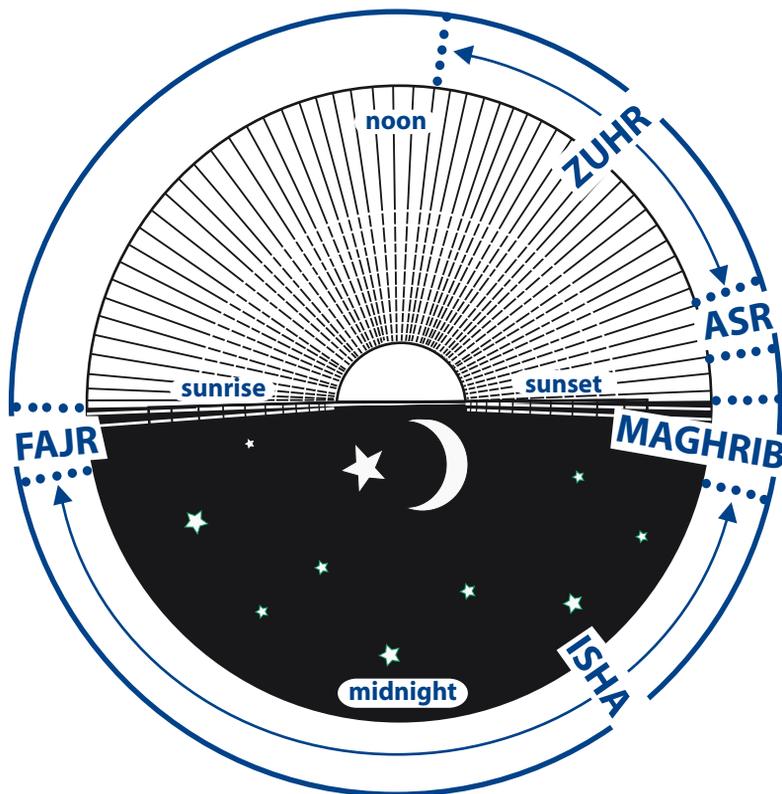
AT-TAYAMMUM(DRY ABLUTION)

On certain occasions, it may become either impossible (e.g. when water cannot be found or just enough for drinking is available), or it is dangerous because of illness, to use water for Wudu or Ghusl. In such situations, Tayammum (dry ablution) is performed.

The procedure:-

Begin with the name of Allah. Strike both palms on sand, or anything containing sand or dust, like a wall or a stone etc. Pass the palms of the hands over the face once. Strike the sand etc., again with the palms. Rub the right hand with the left palm from the wrist to the elbow and similarly for the left hand with the right palm. Finish with the **Kalimatush-Shahadah** as for Wudu.

DIAGRAM SHOWING TIMINGS OF DAILY PRAYERS



CHAPTER 3

THE CONDUCT OF SALAH

In this section, some guidelines for the correct performance of Salah are given.

The most important pre-requisite, Wudu (ablution), is explained in the last chapter. Other important conditions are:-

1. TIME

Each of the Salah must be offered at or during its proper time. No Salah can be said before its time. There are five obligatory prayers in a day.

Fajr	-	the morning prayer.
Zuhr	-	the early afternoon prayer.
'Asr	-	the late afternoon prayer.
Maghrib	-	the sun-set prayer.
'Isha	-	the night prayer.

2. DRESS

Before offering your Salah make sure that you are properly dressed. For men and boys, the dress should be such that it covers their bodies from the navel to the knees at least.

Women are required to cover themselves from head to foot, leaving only the face and hands uncovered. The dress for Salah must be clean and free from all impurities. During the monthly period women are free from obligation of Salah.

3. PLACE

Wherever a man might be, he can turn towards Allah in Salah and in devotion. The Prophet (S.A.W) has said, *"The (whole of the) earth has been rendered for me a mosque: pure and clean."* Preferably Salah is to be offered in Jama'at - congregation. Salah is to be offered facing the Qiblah, the Ka'bah in Makkah. (See illustration on page 2)

FARD OR NAFILAH

Salah is composed of the Fard (obligatory) and the Nafilah (superogatory) prayers.

The Fard Salah are five in a day. Failure to perform any one of them is a blameable sin. The Nafilah includes the Sunnah, which the Prophet (S.A.W.) used to perform regularly before or after each Fard Salah.

PRAYERS IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

When in circumstances where it is not possible to pray, or when on a journey, you are permitted to shorten Salah. Such a shortened prayer is known as *Salatul-Qasr*.

When travelling one may offer two raka'ats in place of four raka'ats in Zuhr, Asr and 'Isha, but there is no change in the two raka'ats of Fajr and three raka'ats of Maghrib Salah. Besides this concession in Fard Salah, one may leave all the additional Sunnah except the two Sunnah raka'ats of Fajr and the Witr of 'Isha prayer. In case the stay at any one place during the journey exceeds a fortnight, complete Salah, with all the Fard and Sunnah raka'ats must be offered.

If you are sick, you may offer your Salah in a sitting position or lying in bed, by making signs in place of the physical movements.

In journey, in sickness and in other emergencies, one is allowed to offer two separate Salah jointly. Thus Zuhr and 'Asr can be said together in the last part of the period of Zuhr. Maghrib and 'Isha may also be offered similarly towards the end of Maghrib time (when it is almost dark).

THE CALL TO PRAYER - ADHAN

To assemble the Muslims for congregational prayer, "Adhan", or the call to prayer is given. The caller (Mu'adhin) stands facing Ka'bah (Qiblah), and raising his hands to his ears calls in a loud voice :-

اللهُ أَكْبَرُ
ALLAHU AKBAR
Allah is the Greatest



أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

**ASH-HADU AL-LA
ILAHA ILLALLAH**

I bear witness that there is
no deity but Allah

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

**ASH-HADU AL-LA
ILAHA ILLALLAH**

I bear witness that there is
no deity but Allah

أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

ASH-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAR RASULULLAH

I bear witness that Muhammad (S.A.W) is the messenger of Allah

أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

ASH-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAR RASULULLAH

I bear witness that Muhammad (S.A.W) is the messenger of Allah

حَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ

HAYYA 'ALAS SALAH

Come to prayer

حَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ

HAYYA 'ALAS SALAH

Come to prayer

حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ

HAYYA 'ALAL FALAH

Come to success

حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ

HAYYA 'ALAL FALAH

Come to success

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the Greatest

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the Greatest

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

LA ILAHA ILLALLAH

There is no deity but Allah

In Adhan for Fajr Salah, the following sentence is added after HAYYA ‘ALAL FALAH:-

الصَّلَاةُ خَيْرٌ مِّنَ النَّوْمِ

ASSALATU KHAYRUM MINAN NAUM

Salah is better than sleep.

الصَّلَاةُ خَيْرٌ مِّنَ النَّوْمِ

ASSALATU KHAYRUM MINAN NAUM

Salah is better than sleep.

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) has commanded that we should repeat the same words as mu’azzin (but not aloud) and when he says: HAYYA ‘ALAS-SALAH, HAYYA ‘ALAL-FALAH we should say:

لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

LA HAULA WA LA QUWWATA ILLA BILLAH

There is no might no power but from Allah

DU”A AFTER ADHAN

On completion of the Adhan, Muslims are recommended to recite:-

اللَّهُمَّ رَبِّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةُ التَّامَّةُ

ALLAHUMMA RABBA HADHI-HID DA’WA-TIT-TAMMATI

O Allah! Lord of this complete call

وَالصَّلَاةِ الْقَائِمَةِ آتِ مُحَمَّدًا

WASSALATIL QA’E-MATI A’TI MUHAMMADAN

and prayer of ours, by the blessing of it give to Muhammad

الْوَسِيْلَةَ وَ الْفَضِيْلَةَ

AL-WASILATA WAL FADI LATA
his eternal rights of intercession, distinction

وَابْعَثْهُ مَقَاماً مَّحْمُوداً الَّذِي وَعَدْتَهُ

WAB 'ATH-HU MAQAMAM-MAHMUDAN
AL LADHI WA 'AT-TAHU
and raise him to the highest rank You have promised him.

IQAMAH

After Adhan when the Muslims are assembled at the place of worship, a second call (Iqamah) is recited by one of the group. This signals the start of the congregational Salah. It is similar to Adhan except that it is recited faster but in a lower tone and the following sentences are recited after **HAYYA 'ALLAL FALAH:**

قَدْ قَامَتِ الصَّلَاةُ

QAD QAMATIS SALAH
The prayer has begun

قَدْ قَامَتِ الصَّلَاةُ

QAD QAMATIS SALAH
The prayer has begun

Narrated Anas bin Malik (RAA): Allah's Messenger (PBUH) said, "**SUPPLICATION MADE BETWEEN THE ADHAN AND IQAMA IS NOT REJECTED**" (An-Nasa'i)

CHAPTER 4

THE CONTENTS OF SALAH

Salah in Islam is a unique institution. It brings man closer to Allah by harmonising his mental attitude with physical posture. In Salah, a Muslim submits himself completely to his Creator.

When you are sure that you have fulfilled all necessary conditions for Salah, you are ready to offer Salah. A detailed account of how to say Salah is given below:-

Say to yourself that you intend to offer this Salah (Fajr, Zuhr, 'Asr, Maghrib or 'Isha) Fard or Sunnah. Then raise your hands to your ears (as in figure 1) saying:-

الله أكبر
ALLAHU AKBAR
 Allah is the Greatest

NOTE:-
 The hand is in line
 with ear lobe



Figure 1

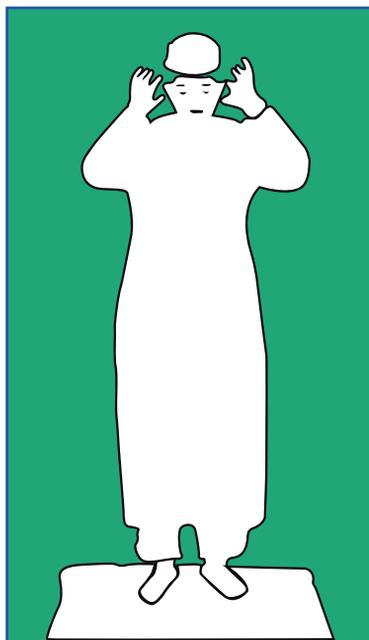


Figure 2





Figure 3

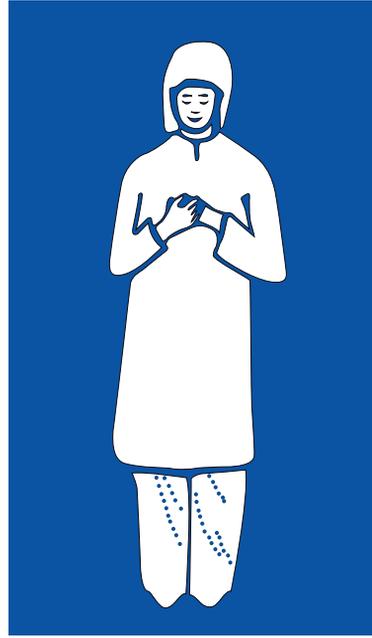


Figure 4

Now placing your right hand on the left, just below, above or on the navel (as shown in figure 3 & 4) recite the following:-

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ

SUBHANA-KALLA HUMMA WA BI-HAMDIKA

O Allah, Glorified, Praiseworthy.

وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ

WA TABARAKAS-MUKA WA TA'ALA JADDUKA

and Blessed is Your Name and Exalted Your Majesty

وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرَكَ

WA-LA ILAHA GHAIRUKA

and there is no deity worthy of worship except You.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

A'U-DHU BIL-LA-HI MINASH SHAITANIR RAJEEM

I seek refuge in Allah from the rejected Satan

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

BISMILLA HIR RAHMA NIR RAHEEM

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

After this recite the opening Surah Al-Fatihah:-

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

ALHAMDU LIL-LAHI RAB-BIL 'ALAMEEN

Praise be to Allah the Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds;

الرَّحْمَنَ الرَّحِيمَ

AR-RAHMA-NIR RAHEEM

Most Gracious, Most Merciful;

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

MALIKI YAU-MID-DEEN

Master of the Day of Judgement.

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

IYYA-KA N'ABUDU WA-IYYKA NASTA'EEN

You do we worship, and Your aid we seek,

إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

IHDI-NAS-SIRA-TAL MUSTAQEEM

Show us the straight way,

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ

SIRA TAL-LADHINA AN-'AMTA 'ALAIHIM

The way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace,

غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ

GHAIRIL MAGHDUBI 'ALAIHIM

those whose (portion) is not wrath,

وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ { آمين }

WALAD-DAL-LIN (AMEEN)

and who go not astray. (O' Allah accept our prayer)

Now recite the following or any other passage from the Holy Qur'an:-

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

BISMILLA HIR RAHMANIR RAHEEM

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

QUL HU-WAL-LAHU AHAD

Say: He is Allah the One and Only;

اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

ALLA-HUS-SAMAD

Allah, the Eternal, Absolute;

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

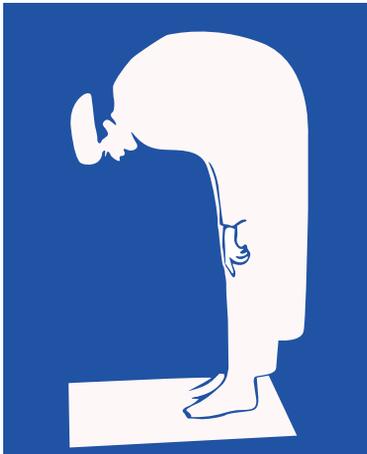
LAM YALID WA LAM YULAD

He begets not, nor is He begotten

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

WA LAM YAKUL-LAHU KUFU-WAN AHAD

and there is none like unto Him.



Now bow down saying: Figure 5

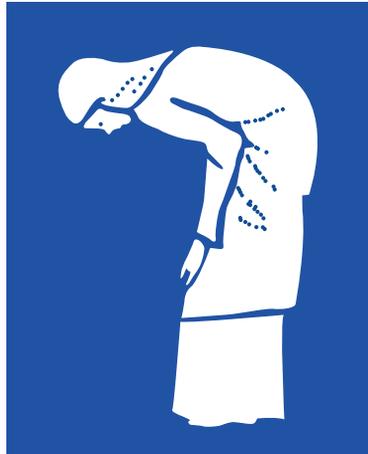


Figure 5A

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the Greatest

Place your hands on your knees and in this inclined position (Ruku' as shown in figure 5 & 5A) recite these words three times:-

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

SUBHANA RAB-BIYAL AZEEM

Glory be to my Lord the Great

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

SUBHANA RAB-BIYAL AZEEM

Glory be to my Lord the Great

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

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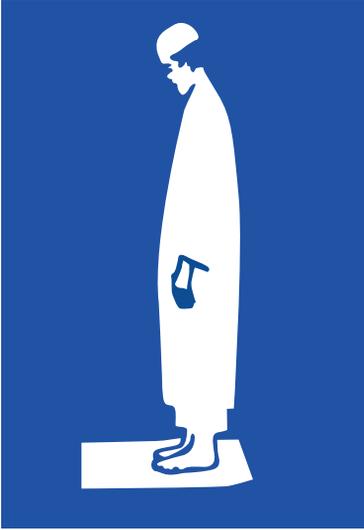


Figure 6

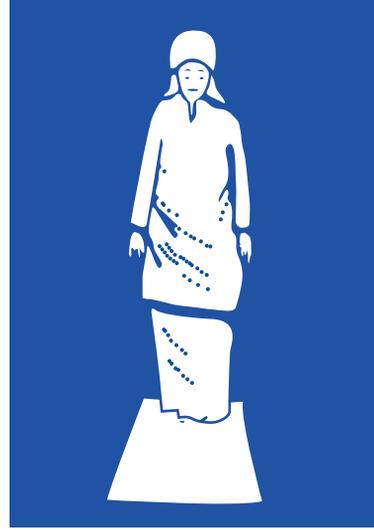


Figure 7

Then come to the standing position (figure 6 & 7) saying :-

سَمِعَ اللهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ

SAMI 'ALLAHU LI MAN HAMIDAH

Allah has heard all who praise Him.

رَبَّنَا لَكَ الْحَمْدُ

RAB-BANA IAKAL HAMD

Our Lord: Praise be to you

Now saying “Allahu Akbar” prostrate on the ground with your forehead, the knees, the nose and palms of both hands touching the ground. In this position (Sajdah - as in figure 8 & 9) repeat these words three times at least:-

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

SUBHANA RAB-BI-YAL A'ALA
Glory to my Lord, the Most High.

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

SUBHANA RAB-BI-YAL A'ALA
Glory to my Lord, the Most High.

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

SUBHANA RAB-BI-YAL A'ALA
Glory to my Lord, the Most High.



NOTE:- Your nose & forehead must be in line with the carpet.

Sit upright with knees still on the ground after a moments rest perform the second Sajdah saying:-

اللهُ أَكْبَرُ

ALLAHU AKBAR
Allah is the Greatest

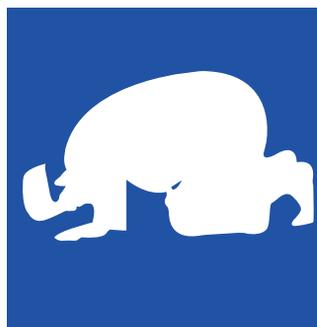


Figure 8



Figure 9

In the second Sajdah as before recite the following words three times:-

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

SUBHANA RAB-BIYAL A'ALA
Glory to my Lord, the Most High.

Sit upright saying Allahu Akbar. This completes one raka'at of Salah. The second rak'at is said in the same way except that after the second Sajdah you sit back, with the left foot bent towards the right, which should be placed vertical to the mat with the toes touching the mat. The palms should be lifted from the mat and placed on the knees.



Figure 10

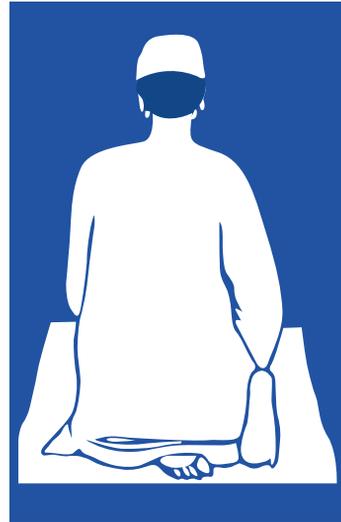


Figure 11

In this position (Q'adah - as shown in figures 10 and 11 silently say these words (Tashahhud):-



التَّحِيَّاتُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَوَاتُ وَالطَّيِّبَاتُ

**AT-TAHIYATU LIL-LAHI WAS-SALAWATU
WAT-TAY-YIBATU**

All prayers and worship through words,
action and sanctity are for Allah only.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ

AS-SALAMU 'ALAIKA AYYUHAN-NABIY-YU

Peace be on you, O Prophet.

وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

WA RAHMATUL-LAHI WA BARAKATUH

and Mercy of Allah and His blessings.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَىٰ عِبَادِ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحِينَ

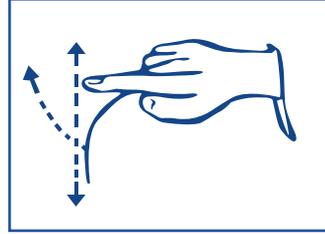
AS-SALAMU 'ALAINA WA 'ALA 'IBADIL-LAHIS-SALIHEEN

Peace be on us and those who are righteous servants of Allah.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

ASH-SHADU AL-LA ILAHA
IL-LAL-LAHU

I bear witness to the fact that
there is no diety but Allah.



وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

WA ASH-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAN ‘ABDUHU WA
RASULUH

I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and messenger.

In a three raka’at (i.e. Maghrib) or four raka’at (like Zuhr, ‘Asr and ‘Isha) Salah you stand up for the remaining raka’at after Tashahhud. On the other hand if it is a two rak’at (Fajr) Salah, keep sitting and after this recite Darud (blessing for the Prophet) in these words:-

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

AL-LAHUM-MA SAL-LI ‘ALA MUHAMMADIN
WA ‘ALA ALI MUHAMMADIN

O Allah, exalt Muhammad and the followers of Muhammad.

كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

KAMA SAL-LAITA ‘ALA IBRAHIMA WA ‘ALA ALI IBRAHIMA

As You did exalt Ibrahim and his followers

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

IN-NAKA HAMIDUM-MAJEED

You are the Praised, the Glorious

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

AL-LAHUM-MA BARIK ‘ALA MUHAMMADIN

O Allah, bless Muhammad

وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

WA 'ALA ALI MUHUAMMADIN
and his followers

كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَىٰ آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

KAMA BARAKTA 'ALA IBRAHIMA WA 'ALA ALI IBRAHIMA
as You have blest Ibrahim and his followers.

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَّجِيدٌ

IN-NAKA HAMIDUM-MAJEED
You are the Praised, the Glorious

And continue silently:-

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُتَمِّمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِن ذُرِّيَّتِي

RAB-BIJ-'ALNI MUQEIMAS-SALATI WA MIN DHUR-RIY-YATI
O Lord! Make me and my children steadfast in Prayer;

رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَا رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي

RAB-BANA WA TAQAB-BAL DU'A. RABBA-NAGH-FIRLI
Our Lord! Accept my prayer. Our Lord! forgive me.

وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ

WA-LI WALIDAY-YA WA LIL-MU'MININA YAUMA
YAQUM-UL HISAB

and my parents and believers on the Day of Judgement.

Now turn your face to the right (as in figure 13 on next page) saying:-

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

AS-SALAMU 'ALAIKUM WA-RAHMATUL-LAH
Peace be on you and Allah's blessings.





Figure 13

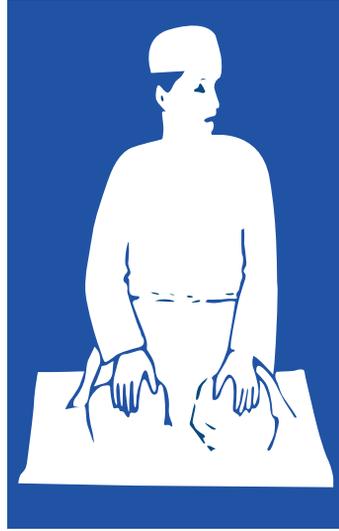


Figure 14

Then turn your face to the left (as in figure ۱۳) and repeat the above words (aloud).

This completes your two raka'at Salah. The four raka'at of Zuhr, 'Asr and 'Isha and the three raka'at of Maghrib are said in an identical manner.

If you are performing a three raka'at (like Maghrib) or four raka'at (like Zuhr, 'Asr and 'Isha) Salah stand up after Tashahhud in the second Rak'ah saying ALLAHU AKBAR and recite Al-Fatihah. When you are offering Fard Salah do not recite any additional passage from the Holy Qur'an after Al-Fatihah in the last two raka'at. After the second Sajdah in the fourth raka'at say the Tashahhud, Darud and end with "AS-SALAMU 'ALAIKUM WA-RAHMATUL-LAH" to each side (first right, then left as shown in the above pictures). This marks the end of Salah.

CHAPTER 5

SUNNAH AND NAFILAH OR ADDITIONAL PRAYER

As you can see in the chart below, each Salah is composed of (a) Fard, the prescribed prayers, (b) Sunnah and (c) Nafilah or additional prayers.

Sunnah prayers are recommended by the Prophet. They are of two types; Sunnah Mu'akkadah & Sunnah Ghair Mu'akkadah. Sunnah Mu'akkadah are highly recommended and should not be missed without a good reason Sunnah Ghair Mu'akkadah, are recommended, however they can be prayed occasionally or missed.

Nafilah prayers are optional. It is very rewarding to offer them if one has the time. The sequence of these additional prayers in each Salah is given below:-

Name of Salah	Period	Number of Fard Raka'at	Before Fard	After Fard
			Sunnah or Nafilah	
Fajr	Between Dawn until Sunrise	2	2	None
Zuhr	Between just past noon and mid-afternoon	4	4	2 + 2
Asr	Between mid afternoon until before sunset	4	4*	None
Maghrib	Between just after sunset until dark	3	None	2 + 2
'Isha	Between dark and shortly before dawn	4	4*	2 + 2 +3 + 2

* These Sunnah are Ghair Mu'akkadah



SALAT-UL-WITR

The three raka'at prayers said after the Fard and Sunnah of the 'Isha is called Salat-ul-Witr. It is strongly recommended in the practice of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and is Wajib (necessary) according to one section of Muslims. Others regard it a mere Sunnah Salah.

The first two raka'at of this Salat-ul-Witr are said like the first two raka'at of the Maghrib prayers. In the third raka'at after al-Fatihah, recite some additional Surah or verses of the Qur'an.

Then, saying ALLAHU AKBAR raise your hands above your shoulders, fold your hands, and recite the following or any other similar Du'a silently. This is called Du'a-al-Qunut or the prayer of submission:-

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْتَعِينُكَ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُكَ

**ALLAHUM-MA IN-NA NASTA'EENUKA
WA NAS TAGH FIRU KA**

O Allah, we seek Your help, and ask Your forgiveness

وَنُؤْمِنُ بِكَ وَنَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْكَ

WA NU'MINU BIKI WA NATAWAK-KALU 'ALAIKA
and believe in You and trust in You,

وَنُثْنِي عَلَيْكَ الْحَمْدَ وَنَشْكُرُكَ

WA NUTHNI 'ALAIKAL-KHAIRA WA NASHKURUKA
and we praise You in the best manner and we thank You,

وَلَا نَكْفُرُكَ وَنَخْلَعُ وَنَتْرُكُ

WALA NAKFURUKA WA NAKHLA'U WA NATRUKU
and we are not ungrateful and we cast off and forsake him

مَنْ يَفْجُرْكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِلَيْكَ نَعْبُدُ

MAYN-YAF JURUKA 'ALLAHUM-MA IY-YAKA N'ABUDU

who disobeys You. O Allah, You alone do we worship,

وَلَكَ نُصَلِّي وَنَسْجُدُ وَإِلَيْكَ نَسْعَى

WA LAKA NUSALLI WA NASJUDU WA ILAIKA NAS'A

and to You we pray, and before You do we prostrate,
to You do we turn to in haste

وَنَحْفِدُ وَنَرْجُو رَحْمَتَكَ وَنَخْشَى عَذَابَكَ

**WA NAHFIDU WA NARJU RAHMATAKA WA
NAKSHHA ADHABAKA**

and we submit, and hope for Your mercy,
and we fear Your punishment

إِنَّ عَذَابَكَ بِالْكَفَّارِ مُلْحِقٌ

IN-NA 'ADHABAKA BIL-KUF-FARI MULHIQ

Your punishment surely overtakes the unbelievers

After this saying ALLAHU AKBAR bow down in Ruk'u and then complete the rest of the prayers like the Maghrib prayers.

PERSONAL PRAYER (DU'A) AFTER SALAH

When you have completed your Fard or Sunnah prayers, you may pray to Allah in your own words offering him praise, thanksgiving or asking him for forgiveness for yourself, other Muslims, your own dear and near ones. For this Du'a keep sitting after the obligatory or Sunnah prayers, hold up your hands near each other with the palms up and fingers slightly bent (as shown in figure 15). In this position you may offer anyone of these or other personal prayers:-



Figure 20

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ السَّلَامُ وَمِنْكَ السَّلَامُ

ALLAHUM-MA ANTAS-SALAMU WA MINKAS-SALAM
O Allah, You are the Author of Peace and from You comes Peace.

تَبَارَكْتَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

TABARAKTA YA-DHALJALALI WAL-IKRAM
Blessed are You, O Lord of Majesty and Honour.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِأَسَاتِدَتِي

**ALLAHUM-MAGHFIRLI WA LIWALIDAYYA
WA LI-ASATI-DHATI**
O Allah, forgive me and my parents and teachers,

وَلِجَمِيعِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

**WA LIJAMEE'IL MU'MINEENA WAL-MU'MINATI WAL
MUSLIMEENA WAL MUSLIMAT**
and all the believing men and women and obedient men
and women with Your mercy.

بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

BIRAHMATIKA YA ARHAMAR-RAHIMEEN
O Most Merciful of (all) those who show mercy.

CHAPTER 6

SALAH ON SPECIFIC OCCASIONS

JUMU'AH PRAYER (Friday)

Beside the daily Salah, the Friday prayer is also obligatory upon Muslim men. For Muslim women it is not obligatory, but is desirable if they are able to do so without upsetting their household work.

The Friday Salah is offered in congregation on Friday at Zuhr time. First the Imam delivers a sermon (Khutbah). Then he leads the congregation in a two rak'at Salah. After this two or more raka'at of Sunnah or Nafilah prayers are offered individually.

TARAWEEH PRAYER ((Ramadan))

These prayers are offered during the month of Ramadan after 'Isha Salah. These consist of eight, twelve or twenty raka'at, and are offered two by two with a short rest between every four raka'at. They may be said alone but collective prayers are recommended. These are additional Sunnah prayers.

THE EID PRAYER (Salatul-'Idayan)

There are two Eid or occasions of great festivity for Muslims. The first is called Eidul-Fitr or the festival of fast breaking. It is celebrated on the first day of the tenth Islamic month (Shawwal) following Ramadan, the month of fasting. It marks great thanksgiving for the Muslims all over the world.

The second Eid is the Eidul-Adha or the festival of great sacrifice, which is observed on the tenth of Dhul-Hijjah, the last Islamic month. The animals are sacrificed to celebrate the great sacrifice of the Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him).

On both these Eids, Eid prayers are offered in congregation any time after sunrise and before noon. There is no Adhan (call for prayer) or Iqamah

(second call before congregation). The Eid prayer consists of two raka'at (offered just as the two raka'at of Jumu'ah prayer are said) with six to sixteen additional Takbirs' (ALLAHU AKBAR). You say three or more Takbirs in the first raka'at after 'Thana and three or more Takbirs' in the second raka'at before you bow down for Ruku'.

A sermon (Khutbah) is delivered by the Imam (leader of the prayer) after the two raka'at Eid prayer unlike the Jumu'ah prayer when it precedes the prayer.

The presence of all Muslims, women and children included is strongly recommended.

FUNERAL PRAYERS (JANAZAH)

It is a prayer to Allah for a deceased Muslim, and is a common obligation on Muslims of the locality. The funeral Salah is offered in congregation but unlike other formal prayers, it has neither any Ruku' (bowing) nor any Sajdah (prostration). Following is the complete sequence of the funeral prayer.

Saying Takbir (Allahu Akbar) with the rest of the congregation raise your hands to your ears, then bring them down on, above or below the navel as in formal prayers with the right hand on the left. Then recite the following praise or Thana silently:-

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ

SUBHANA-KALLA HUMMA WA BI-HAMDIKA

O Allah, Glorified, Praiseworthy.

وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ

WA TABARAKAS-MUKA WA TA'ALA JADDUKA

and Blessed is Your Name and Exalted Your Majesty

وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ

WA-LA ILAHA GHAIROK

and there is no deity worthy of worship except You.

After Thana (SUBHANAKA....) again raise hands to your ears saying Allahu Akbar. Now silently recite the Darud:-

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

AL-LAHUM-MA SAL-LI 'ALA MUHAMMADIN

O Allah, exalt Muhammad

وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

WA 'ALA ALI MUHAMMADIN

and the followers of Muhammad.

كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ

KAMA SAL-LAITA 'ALA IBRAHEEMA

As You did exalt Ibrahim

وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

WA 'ALA ALI IBRAHEEMA

and the followers of Ibrahim

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَّجِيدٌ

IN-NAKA HAMEEDUM-MAJEED

You are the Praised, the Glorious

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

AL-LAHUM-MA BARIK 'ALA MUHAMMADIN

O Allah, bless Muhammad

وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

WA 'ALA A'ALI MUHUAMMADIN
and his followers

كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

KAMA BARAKTA 'ALA IBRAHEEMA
as You have blest Ibrahim

وَعَلَىٰ آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

WA 'ALA A'ALI IBRAHEEMA
and the followers of Ibrahim

إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَّجِيدٌ

IN-NAKA HAMEEDUM-MAJEED
You are the Praised, the Glorious

Now saying ALLAHU AKBAR recite the following:-

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِحَيَاتِنَا وَمَيِّتِنَا

ALLAHUM-MAGHFIR LI-HAYYINA WA MAYYITINA
O Allah forgive our living and our dead

وَشَاهِدِنَا وَعَائِلِنَا

WA SHAHIDINA WA GHA'IBINA
the present and the absent.

وَصَغِيرِنَا وَكَبِيرِنَا

WA SAGHIRINA WA KABIRINA
our young and the old,

وَذَكَرْنَا وَأُنْثَانَا

WA DHAKARINA WA UNTHANA

and the males and females.

اللَّهُمَّ مَنْ أَحْيَيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَأَحْيِهِ عَلَى الْإِسْلَامِ

ALLAHUM-MA MAN AHYAYTAHU MIN-NA

FA-AHYIHI 'ALAL ISLAM

O Allah, be to whom You accord life among us cause him to live in the observance of Islam

وَمَنْ تَوَفَّيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَتَوَفَّهُ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ

WAMAN TAWAF-FAITAHU MIN-NA

FATAWAF-FAHU 'ALAL IMAN

and be to whom You give death, cause him to die in the state of Iman (faith).

اللَّهُمَّ لَا تَحْرِمْنَا أَجْرَهُ

ALLAHUMMA LA TAHRIMNA AJRAHU

O Allah! do not deprive us of reward for (supplicating for) him or her,

وَلَا تَفْتِنَّا بَعْدَهُ

WA LA TAFTINNA BA'DAHU

nor put us to trial after him (or her)

If the deceased is a minor a boy or a girl then recite this Du'a:-

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا قَرِطًا

ALLAHUM-MA J'ALHU LANA FARATAN

O Allah, Make him our fore-runner,



وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا أَجْرًا وَ ذُخْرًا

WA J'ALHU LANA AJRAWN WA DHUKHRAWN
and make him for us a reward and a treasure,

وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا شَافِعًا وَمُسْتَفْعًا

WAJ'ALHULANA SHAFI'AWN WA MUSHAF-FI'AN
and make him for us a pleader, and accept his pleading.

اللهُ أَكْبَرُ

ALLAHU AKBAR
Allah is the Greatest

After this the Imam again says aloud “Allahu Akbar”. The congregation repeats these words silently. Then the Imam and the congregation turn their faces first to the right and then to the left side saying As-salamu-Alaikum Wa-Rahmatullah on either side.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللهِ

AS-SALAMU 'ALAIKUM WA RAHMATUL-LAH
Peace be on you and Allah’s blessings.

Narrated Abu Huraira (RAA)

The Prophet (PBUH) said:-

**“WHEN YOU PRAY ON THE DEAD,
MAKE A SINCERE SUPPLICATION
FOR HIM.”**

(Abu Dau'd)

THE LAST TWO SURAHS FROM THE QUR'AN

Surah Falaq: 113

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ *
 قُلْ اَعُوْذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ * مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ * وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ اِذَا وَقَبَ *
 وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ * وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ اِذَا حَسَدَ *

**“QUL A’UZUBI RAB-BIL FALAQ. MIN SHAR-RIMA KHALAQ.
 WA MIN SHAR-RI GHASIQIN IZA WAQAB. WA MIN SHAR-RIN
 NAFFATHATI FIL ‘UQAD. WA MIN SHAR-RI HASIDIN I ZA HASAD.”**

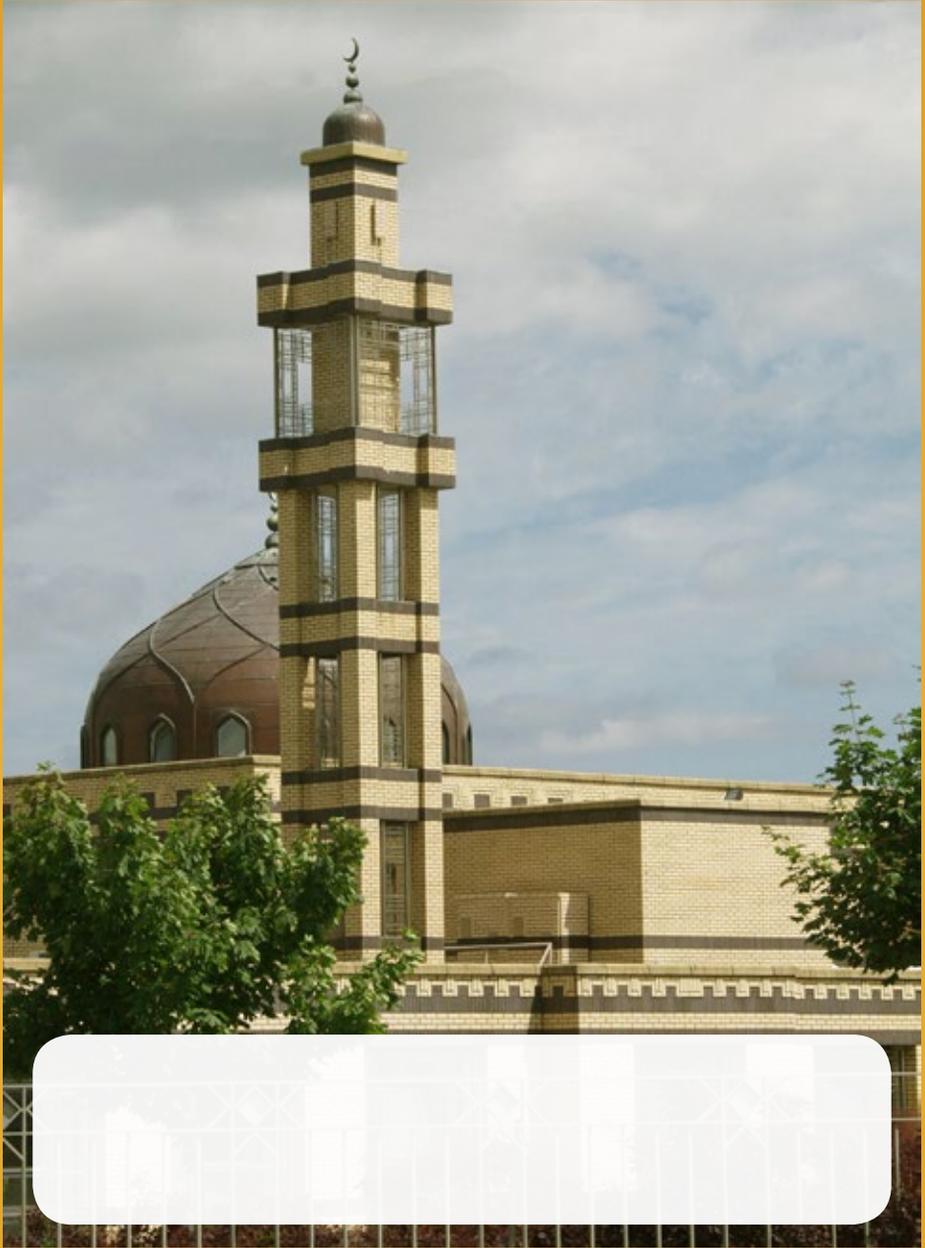
“Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of the dawn, from the evil of all that He has created, and from the evil of the darkness of night when it falls. And from the evil of those (charmers) who blow into knots. And from the evil of the envier when he envies.”

Surah Nas: 114

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ *
 قُلْ اَعُوْذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ * مَلِكِ النَّاسِ * اِلٰهِ النَّاسِ * مِنْ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ *
 الَّذِي يُّوسُوْسُ فِي صُدُوْرِ النَّاسِ * مِنْ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ *

**“QUL A’UZUBI RAB-BIN NAS MALIKIN NAS. ILA HIN-NAS. MIN
 SHAR-RIL WASWA SIL KHAN-NAS. ALLAZI YUWASWISU FEE
 SUDU RIN-NAS. MINAL JIN-NATI WAN-NAS.”**

“Say: I seek refuge in the Sustainer of Mankind, the Owner of Mankind, Lord of Mankind. From the evil of the sneaking whisperer. Who whispers in the hearts of mankind. (Whether he be) from among jinns or mankind.”



For any further queries, information and tours, please feel free to contact

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THE MUSLIM PRAYER

