

Men's Salaah

The lofty position which salaah holds in the life of a Muslim does not require any explanation. The fact that it will be the first aspect regarding which a person will be questioned on the Day of Qiyaamah is sufficient proof of its importance.

Hazrat Rasulallah ﷺ said: Indeed the first action for which people will be called to account for on the Day of Qiyaamah will be their salaah. Our Rabb تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى will say to the mala'ikah (angels), while Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى has complete knowledge over everything, "Look at the (fardh) salaah of my servant; has he performed it in a complete and perfect manner or has he performed it in a deficient manner?" If his salaah was performed in a complete and perfect manner, the complete reward will be recorded for him. If there was some deficiency in his salaah, Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى will say to the mala'ikah (angels), "Compensate for the deficiency in his fardh salaah through his nafl salaah. Thereafter, other ibadaat will follow the same pattern." (Abu Dawood #864)

Correct Time and Manner

Just as the performance of salaah is important, carrying it out in the preferred time and in the correct manner is equally important.

Hazrat Rasulallah ﷺ said, "When a person offers his salaah on its prescribed time with proper wudhu, fulfilling its qiyaam (standing posture), ruku and sajdah in the correct manner with the desired level of concentration and devotion, then the salaah rises up in a bright and beautiful form saying to him, 'May Allah safeguard you as you have safeguarded me.' (On the contrary,) if a person does not perform his salaah on its prescribed time, nor does he perform a proper wudhu or fulfil his ruku and sajdah in the correct manner and with the desired level of concentration, then the salaah rises up in an ugly and dark form and curses him saying, 'May Allah destroy you as you have destroyed me.' The salaah then rises to the point where Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى wishes, and thereafter it is folded like a dirty rag and flung on his face." (Majma'uz Zawaa'id #1677)

Admonition for those who Neglect Salaah with Jamaat in the Masjid

It was the burning desire of Rasulallah ﷺ that the men of the Ummah perform their Salaah with jamaat in the masjid. Rasulallah ﷺ used to be greatly hurt when he learnt of people performing their salaah at their homes that he said: "Had it not been for the women and children, I would have commanded a group of youth to gather firewood and set fire to the dwellings of those people who perform their salaah at their homes without any excuse" (Saheeh Muslim #651 & Musnad Ahmed #8782)

It is reported that on one occasion, the Sahaabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ had seen Rasulallah ﷺ weeping. On enquiring from him as to what caused him to weep, he said: "I was shown by Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى that among the signs of Qiyaamah are that the people from my Ummah will discard their Salaah and follow their (evil) desires" (Ishaa'ah pg. 171)

The Practice of the Sahaabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ Regarding Congregational Salaah


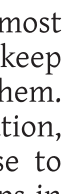

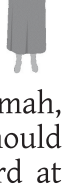

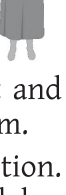
Hazrat Abdullah bin Mas'ood رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is reported to have said: "Guard your five daily salaah through performing it at a place where the azaan is called out (i.e. the masjid). Verily performing these (fardh) salaah in the masjid is from the sunan-e-huda (the prescribed acts of worship in Deen). Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى has prescribed for His Nabi ﷺ sunan-e-huda (such acts of worship which are complete guidance for you). During the mubaarak lifetime of Nabi ﷺ none would omit the jamaat salaah in the masjid except an open munaafiq (an open hypocrite), to such an extent that even a sick person would not remain absent from the congregational salaah in the masjid. Rather, he would be taken to the masjid while being supported on the shoulders of two men. Each one of you (the Sahaabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ) has a specified place in his home reserved for performing nafl salaah, etc. However, if you begin performing your fardh salaah at home and leave attending the congregational prayer in the masjid, then you will be abandoning the emphasized sunnah of Nabi ﷺ. As soon as you will abandon his mubaarak sunnah, you will certainly go astray." (Abu Dawood #550)

It is reported that somebody asked Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbaas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا, "What is the condition of the person who observes nafl fasts during the day and offers nafl salaah the entire night, but neither goes to the masjid to perform salaah with jamaat nor attends the jumuah?" Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbaas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا replied, "He is doomed to Hell." (Sunan Tirmizi #218)

Before Salaah

1. Prepare for salaah well in advance, before the salaah time enters, and ensure that you are not only physically prepared but you are also mentally conscious that you are going to present yourself in the court of Almighty Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى.
2. Ensure that you perform every salaah on its prescribed time with jamaat in the masjid.
3. Try your level best to perform every salaah with takbeer-e-ula (join the salaah from the very first takbeer).
4. Ensure that your body, clothing and the place in which you are performing salaah are clean.
5. Before commencing salaah, ensure that your clothing is decent and loose-fitting. Refrain from wearing clothing which is not in keeping with the respect and sanctity of salaah, and clothing which has pictures or inscriptions upon it.
6. Ensure that you perform salaah with a topi as it was the sunnah practice of Hazrat Rasulullah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and the Sahaabah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ to perform salaah while wearing a topi.

Qiyaam

1. When intending to perform salaah, stand and face the qiblah. 
2. Thereafter, make the intention of the salaah that you are performing and raise your hands until your thumbs are in line with the earlobes. 
3. When standing for salaah, stand with utmost respect. Face both feet towards the qiblah and keep a gap of approximately four fingers between them. When performing salaah in congregation, straighten the saffs (rows) and stand as close to each other as possible, without leaving any gaps in between. The feet should not be spread apart in such a manner that the toes of one person touch the toes of the next person. 
4. When raising the hands to the earlobes, ensure that the palms are facing the qiblah and the fingers are kept in their natural position (neither spread apart nor tightly closed). 
5. At the time of reciting the takbeer-e-tahreemah, ensure that your head is kept straight. You should neither bend your head forward nor backward at the time of reciting the takbeer-e-tahreemah.
6. After raising your hands parallel to your earlobes, recite the takbeer (Allahu Akbar).
7. Lower the hands while saying the takbeer and fold them below the navel. 
8. Place the right hand over the left hand.
9. Form a ring with the thumb and small finger of the right hand around the left wrist and place the remaining three fingers on the forearm. 
10. Your gaze should not wander in any direction. Instead, it should be focused on the place of sajdah.

11. Once you have commenced your salaah, recite the thanaa silently:

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ

Glory be to You O Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى! Praise be to You, blessed is Your name, very lofty is Your majesty, and there is no deity besides You.

Note: The thanaa will be recited by the munfarid (the one performing salaah individually) as well as the imaam and muqtadi (the one following the imaam).

12. Recite ta'awwuz and tasmiyah silently. Ta'awwuz is to recite:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

I seek protection in Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى from the accursed Shaitaan.

Tasmiyah is to recite:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى, the most kind, the most merciful.

13. After reciting thanaa, ta'awwuz and tasmiyah silently, commence the qiraat of Surah Faatihah followed by a surah or any portion of the Quraan Majeed.

14. Upon the completion of Surah Faatihah, you should say "aameen" silently, regardless of whether you are performing salaah individually or performing salaah behind the imaam.

15. If you are commencing a surah after reciting Surah Faatihah, then you should recite tasmiyah silently before commencing the surah.

Note: The ta'awwuz and tasmiyah will only be recited by the munfarid and the imaam.

The muqtadi will not recite the ta'awwuz and tasmiyah. Instead, after reciting thanaa, the muqtadi will remain silent behind the imaam for the entire duration of qiyaam. It is makrooh-e-tahreemi for the muqtadi to recite any qiraat (whether Surah Faatihah or anything else) behind the imaam.

16. If you are performing a three or four rakaat fardh salaah, then in the third and fourth rakaat you will only recite Surah Faatihah. You should not recite any surah after reciting Surah Faatihah.

In the third and fourth rakaat of the fardh salaah, Surah Faatihah will be recited by the imaam and munfarid (the one performing salaah alone).

The muqtadi (one who is performing salaah behind the imam) will remain silent and not recite anything in all the rakaats.

17. If you are performing sunnah or nafl salaah, you will recite qiraat in all the rakaats, regardless of whether you are performing two rakaats or four rakaats.

Ruku and Qawmah

1. When you have completed the recitation of Surah Faatihah and the qiraat, repeat the takbeer, and without raising your hands, go into ruku.

Note: The takbeeraat-e-intiqaaliyyah (takbeer which is recited when moving from one posture to another) should be commenced as soon as one begins moving to the next posture and should only be completed when one reaches that posture.

2. Ensure that your back is kept in a straight line (completely level). Similarly, the shins (i.e. from the knee downwards) will be kept erect and the elbows will be kept straight.



3. Keep your head straight and in line with your back. You should neither raise your head nor lower it.

4. Grasp the knees firmly with the fingers spread apart.

5. Fix the gaze on the feet in the posture of ruku.

6. Ensure that the arms are kept away from the body.

7. Recite the following tasbeeh thrice or any odd number of times:

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

Glorified is my Rabb, the most great.

8. Stand up from ruku while saying the tasmee:

سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ

Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى hears the one who praises Him.

followed by the tahmeed:

اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ

O Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى, our Rabb, for You alone is all praise

9. Stand up erect. After standing up from ruku, do not tie your hands. Instead, leave them at your sides. This posture is called qawmah. In qawmah, stand up erect with ta'deel-e-arkaan (the body should be completely at ease) before going into sajdah.

Sajdah

1. Say the takbeer, and without raising your hands, proceed into sajdah.

2. Ensure that your back is straight when going down into sajdah.

3. Keep the hands on the knees while proceeding into sajdah.

4. First place the knees on the ground, then the palms, then the nose and lastly the forehead.

5. Place the palms parallel to the ears.

6. Keep the fingers closed and facing towards the qiblah.



7. Keep the elbows raised off the ground.

8. Keep the hands away from the sides.

9. Fix the gaze on the nose in sajdah.

10. Keep a gap between the stomach and thighs.

11. Keep the knees close to each other in sajdah so that they face towards the qiblah.

12. Keep both the feet on the ground with the toes facing the qiblah. One



may join the heels of both the feet in sajdah or keep them apart. Both have been established in the Hadith.

13. Recite the following tasbeeh thrice or any odd number of times:

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

Glorified is my Rabb, the most high

14. Say the takbeer and sit up. This position is called jalsah.

Jalsah

1. In jalsah, place your palms on your thighs with your fingertips at the edge of your knees.



2. Keep your fingers in their natural position (neither joined together nor far apart).

3. Fix the gaze on the area between the lower chest and lap whilst in jalsah.

4. Keep the right foot erect with its toes pressing against the ground and facing towards the qiblah.



5. Place the left foot flat whilst sitting on it. Try to press its toes against the right foot thereby facing them towards the qiblah.



6. Remain in the position of jalsah with the body being completely at ease and calm before going into the second sajdah.

7. Say the takbeer and proceed to the second sajdah as normal.

Second Rakaat

1. After the second sajdah say the takbeer and stand up for the second rakaat.

2. When rising from sajdah, first raise the forehead, then the nose, then the hands and lastly the knees.

3. When getting up, do not take support from the ground (unless there is a need to do so).

4. Perform the second rakaat as normal (with the exception of thanaa and ta'awwuz).

Qa'dah and Salaam

1. After the second sajdah of the second rakaat, sit in the position of qa'dah in the same manner as explained for jalsah.



2. Recite the tashahhud:

التَّحِيَّاتِ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةِ وَالطَّيِّبَاتِ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَى عِبَادِ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحِينَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

All verbal ibadaat, physical ibadaat and monetary ibadaat be only for Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى. May the special peace of Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى descend upon you, O Nabi صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ, and Allah's تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى choicest mercies and blessings. May peace descend upon us and upon all the pious servants of Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى. I bear witness that there is no deity except Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى and I bear witness that Hazrat Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ is His servant and messenger.

3. When saying اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّىْ لَا اِلٰهَ اِلاَّ اللهُ form a ring with the thumb and middle finger of the right hand, raise the index finger towards the qiblah and close the remaining two fingers (the small finger and finger next to it). When saying اَللّٰهُمَّ lower the index finger. The thumb and middle finger will remain joined like a ring until the end of the qa'dah. As for the left hand, leave the fingers spread out on the edge of the thigh. The fingers will be left in the natural position and will not be joined together.



4. If you are performing a three or four rakaat salaah then you should not recite anything besides the above tashahhud. After reciting the tashahhud, stand up for the third rakaat.

5. If it is the last qa'dah then recite Durood-e-Ebrahim after the tashahhud followed by a dua from the Quraan Majeed or Hadith.

The Durood-e-Ebrahim is as follows:

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلٰى اِبْرٰهِيْمَ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ اِبْرٰهِيْمَ اِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ مَّجِيْدٌ

اَللّٰهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلٰى اِبْرٰهِيْمَ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ اِبْرٰهِيْمَ اِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ مَّجِيْدٌ

O Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى! Shower Your mercy on Hazrat Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and his family as You showered Your mercy on Hazrat Ebrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and his family. Surely You are praiseworthy and most high.

O Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى! Bless Hazrat Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and his family as You have blessed Hazrat Ebrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and his family. Surely You are praiseworthy and most high.

One may recite the following dua which is reported in the Hadith:

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّيْ ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِيْ ظُلْمًا كَثِيْرًا وَلَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوْبَ اِلَّا اَنْتَ فَاغْفِرْ لِيْ مَغْفِرَةً مِّنْ عِنْدِكَ وَارْحَمْنِيْ اِنَّكَ اَنْتَ الْعَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ

O Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى! I have oppressed myself excessively (through committing sins), and no one can forgive sins besides You, so forgive me with special forgiveness from Your side and show mercy to me, for indeed You alone are all-forgiving and all-merciful.

6. After completing your dua, make salaam by saying

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

while turning your head to the right side, and then again while turning your head to the left side.

7. Do not lower or jerk your head while making salaam.

8. When making salaam on either side, fix your gaze on your shoulders.

9. Turn your face on both sides to the extent that the person behind will be able to see your cheek.

10. After the salaam, recite اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ thrice.

11. Engage in dua as this is a time for the acceptance of duas.

12. Recite Tasbeeh-e-Faatimi after every salaah. Tasbeeh-e-Faatimi is for one to recite 33 times Subhaanallah, 33 times Alhamdulillah, 33 times Allahu Akbar, and complete the hundred by reciting:

لَا اِلٰهَ اِلاَّ اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيْرٌ

There is no deity besides Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى alone, who has no partner. To Him belongs the kingdom (of the entire universe), and only for Him belongs all praise and He alone has complete power over everything.

The Sunnah Qiraat for the Various Salaah

Q: What are the sunnah qiraat for the different salaahs?

A: The sunnah qiraat for the five daily salaah is for one to recite from the mufassal surahs.

In Fajr and Zuhr, one should recite from the tiwaal-e-mufassal surahs i.e. from Surah Hujuraat till the end of Surah Inshiqaaq.

In Asr and Esha, one should recite from the awsaat-e-mufassal surahs i.e. from Surah Burooj till the end of Surah Qadr.

In Maghrib salaah, one should recite from the qisaar-e-mufassal surahs i.e. from Surah Bayyinah to Surah Naas.

This is the sunnah qiraat to be recited for the

various salaah, and hence one should endeavour to recite from these surahs in the various salaah.

However, if one occasionally recites from other parts of the Quraan Majeed, it will not go against the sunnah, as it is reported in certain Ahaadith that at times, Hazrat Rasulullah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and the Sahaabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ also recited from other parts of the Quraan Majeed.

As far as the length of the qiraat is concerned, the imaam should take into consideration the condition of the congregation that he is leading in salaah.

Hyaaud Deen is run by a panel of Ulama under the auspices of Madrasah Taleemuddeen.