رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

Oh Allah! Increase me in knowledge

4

LEVEL

Islamic Studies For Children





Welcome to Islamic Studies Level 4. By the end of this level you will have learnt:

- · New du'as and ahadiths
- Details of elements of our religion Islam, Imaan and Ihsan
- Detail knowledge of non-obligatory prayers, Jummah prayer, Witr Prayer
 - More information about Zakat, Fasting, Hajj and Umrah
 - Islamic characters

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AQIDAH

Hadith of Jibreel Alayhis Sallam

It is reported on the authority of 'Umar bin al-Khattab Radiyallahu Anhu that he said:

"One day, while we were sitting with The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam, a man appeared before us. His garments were immaculately white; his hair the darkest black. No sign of travel appeared on him. None of us recognised him. He went to the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam and sat in front of him, placing his knees before the Messenger's knees. He also placed his hands upon the Messenger's thighs, saying: "O Muhammad, What is Islam?"

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam replied, saying: "Islam is to testify that there is no deity except Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah (the Shahadah); to establish the regular prayers (Salah); to give regular alms (Zakat); to fast during the month of Ramadhan (Sawm); and to visit Allah's House as a pilgrim (for the Hajj) if you are able."

The stranger said, "You speak the truth."

Umar said: "We were amazed that he would ask Him a question, then tell him he was truthful!" (Normally if someone asks a question they don't verify the answer to be correct)

The stranger then said: "O Muhammad, what is Imaan?"

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam, replied, saying: "Imaan is to believe in Allah, His Angels, His Books, His Messengers, The last Day, and to believe in the Divine Decree, the good and the bad of it."

The stranger said: "You speak the truth." Then, he said: "What is Ihsan?"

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam replied, saying; "Ihsan is that you should worship Allah as though you see Him, and though you cannot see Him, He sees you."

The stranger said: "You speak the truth." Then he said: "Can you inform me about The Hour (the Day of Judgment)?"

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam replied saying; "The questioned one knows no more about it than the questioner."

The stranger said: "Then tell me of its signs."

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "Among its signs are that the slave woman shall give birth to her mistress, and that the poor, naked and barefoot, the herders of sheep, shall compete in raising tall buildings."

The stranger remained but for a moment before departing. The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said to me: "Umar, do you know who was the questioner?" I replied that Allah and His Messenger know best.

The Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "This was the angel Jibreel. He came to teach you your religion."

This hadith is considered to be one of the most important hadith because it gives a comprehensive description of Islam. For that reason, the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said at the end of the hadith, "This was Angel Jibreel. He came to teach you your religion." The hadith explains that this religion is made up of three elements.

These three elements are Islam, Imaan and Ihsan and are the foundation of our religion. By following these three elements fully and by Allah's mercy we can be successful in attaining Jannah. May Allah grant it to us all.

Umar bin al-Khattab Radiyallahu Anhu said "Allah granted us honour with Islam. Now, whenever we seek honor in other than that which Allah honoured us with, Allah shall disgrace us".

- 1. What was the Purpose of Jibreel Alayhis Sallam visiting the Prophet?
- 2. What are the signs of the Day of Judgment?
- 3. What is Ihsaan?
- 4. What is the Du'a for the betterment of the Religion, the World, and the Hereafter?

of the Religion, the World, and the Hereafter

The Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam used to make the following Du'a:

اللَّهُمَّ أَصُلِحُ لِي دِينِي الَّذِي هُوَعِصُمَةُ أَمُرِي، وَ أَصُلِحُ لِي دُنْياَيَ الَّتِي فِيها مَعَاشِي، وَ أَصُلِحُ لِي آخِرَتِي الَّتِي فِيها مَعَادِي، وَ أَصُلِحُ لِي آخِرَتِي الَّتِي فِيها مَعَادِي، وَاجْعَلِ الْحَيَاةَ زِيَادَةً لِي فِي كُلِّ خَيْرٍ، وَاجْعَلِ الْمَوْتَ رَاحَةً لِي مِنْ كُلِّ شَرِّ

"O Allah! Set right my religion which is the basis of my affairs, set right my world which is my subsistence, set right my Hereafter to which I shall return,

and make my life the source of abundance in every good thing, and make death a comfort for me from every evil".

First Element:



The first element of our religion is Islam; the meaning of it is that you submit yourself to the will of Allah, believing in His Oneness, giving yourself to Allah in obedience, and abstaining from associating partners with Him.

To know that Allah sent many Messengers to guide the people and to show them to worship Allah alone. The Prophet and Messenger Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasalam is the final Messenger sent by Allah, who came to perfect this religion for the whole of mankind and creation.

This category consists of 5 pillars, well known to us as The Five Pillars of Islam, which are the Shahadah, Salah, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj.

Task - Q&A

1. What is the first element of our religion and what does it mean?

Second Element: Imaan



The second element of our religion is Imaan. The meaning of Imaan cannot be expressed completely by the word faith as it is encompasses more than that. It is not sufficient only to have faith in your heart, it requires that you testify to it with your tongue and physically act upon your faith.

This category consists of 6 pillars, well known to us as the Six Articles of Imaan which are to believe in Allah, in His Angels, in His Books, in His Messengers, in The Last Day and in the Divine Decree (Qadr)

It is essential to have faith in all of the six articles of Imaan. Denying any of them will take you out from the fold of Islam, May Allah save us all.

Task - Q&A

1. What is the second element of our religion and what does it mean?

Third Element: Ihsan

Ihsan is the third element of our religion. The meaning of Ihsan is 'to do beautiful things' or to strive towards excellence in terms of your behaviour towards both, Allah and also towards His creation.

Ihsan towards the Almighty Creator: It is the responsibility of a Muslim to strive for excellence in the worship of Allah so much so that it is as if they see Allah, and although they cannot see Him, they undoubtedly know that Allah is all-aware of what they do.

Ihsan towards the Creation of Almighty Allah: It is also the responsibility of Muslims to make efforts of all kinds and to strive for excellence in the behaviour towards the creation of Almighty Allah. This is having compassion and awareness towards the people, the animals and other creations as well as the environment. By following the teachings of the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam and his model of excellence demonstrated throughout his life, we can strive to achieve the highest level of Ihsan. Allah the Almighty gives many glad tidings in the Noble Quran to those who have achieved and maintained a level of Ihsan. What is also mentioned many times in the Noble Quran is that Allah makes the path easy for those who strive to achieve Ihsan sincerely. Because of this, the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam taught us the following Du'a.

Memorise this Du'a and read it all the time:

يَامُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ ثَبِّتُ قَلْبِي عَلَى دِينِكَ

"Oh Turner of the Hearts (Allah, the Most High), keep our hearts firm on Your religion".

Task - Q&A

1. What is the third element of our religion and what does it mean?

2. What is the Du'a for safeguarding our religion?



Travelling



Du'a at the start of a Journey:

الله أكبر شبُحان الّذِي سَخَّر لَنَا هَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لَهُ مُقُرِنِينِ وَإِنَّا إِلَى رَبِنَّا لَمُنْقَلِبُونَ شَبُحَانَ الَّذِي سَخَّر لَنَا هَذَا الْبِرَّ وَالتَّقُوى وَ مِنَ الْعَمَلِ مَا تَرُضَى اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسُأَلُكَ فِي سَفَرِنَا هَذَا الْبِرَّ وَالتَّقُوى وَ مِنَ الْعَمَلِ مَا تَرُضَى اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسُأَلُكَ فِي سَفَرِنَا هَذَا وَ اطُو عَنَّا بُعُدَهُ اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ الصَّاحِبُ فِي السَّفَرِ وَ الْخَلِيفَةُ فِي اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ الصَّاحِبُ فِي السَّفَرِ وَ الْخَلِيفَةُ فِي اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ الصَّاحِبُ فِي السَّفَرِ وَ الْخَلِيفَةُ فِي اللَّهُمَّ النِي أَعُوذُبِكَ مِنُ وَعُثَاءِ السَّفَرِ وَ اللَّهُمَّ وَكَابَةِ السَّفَرِ وَ كَآبَةِ الْمُنْظَرِوسُوءِ الْمُنْقَلَبِ فِي الْأَهُلِ وَالْمَالِ وَكَآبَةِ الْمَنْظُرِوسُوءِ الْمُنْقَلَبِ فِي الْآهُلِ وَالْمَالِ

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, How perfect is Allah, The One who has placed this (transport) at our service, and

we ourselves would not have been capable of that, and to our Lord is our final destination. O Allah, we ask You for piety and Taqwa (God Consciousness) in this journey of ours, and we ask You the deeds to act upon which please You.

O Allah, facilitate our journey and let us cover its distance quickly.

O Allah, You are The Companion on the journey and The Successor over the family,

O Allah, I take refuge with You from the difficulties of travel, from seeing a sorrowful sight any ill-consequences towards our wealth and family.

Du'a for the Traveller

أَسْتَوُدِعُ اللَّهَ دِينَكَ وَأَمَانَتَكَ وَخَوَاتِيمَ عَمَلِكَ

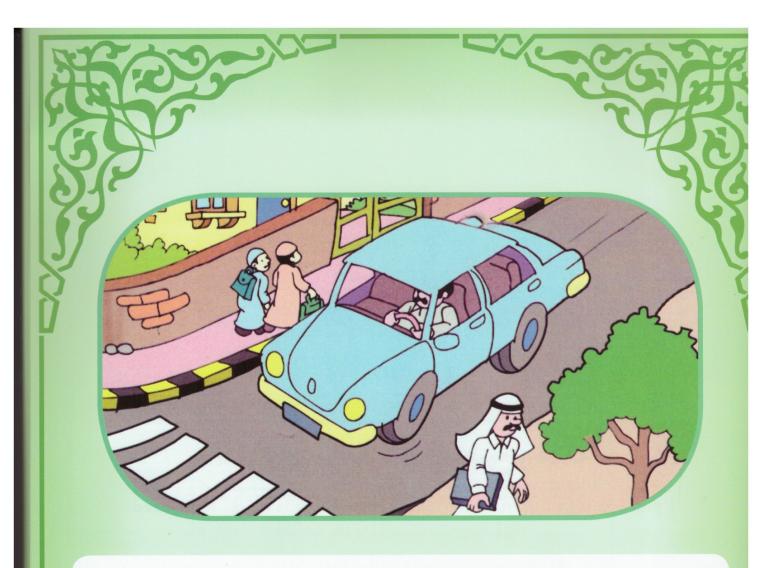
I place in the trust of Allah, your religion, your faithfulness and the ends of your actions.

Du'a of the traveller for those who are sending him off

أَسْتَودِعُكُمُ اللَّهَ الَّذِي لَا تَضِيعُ وَ دَائِعُهُ

I place you in the trust of Allah, whose trust is never misplaced.

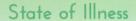




Du'a for when we return from a journey:

اَللهُ أَكْبَرُ اَللهُ أَكْبَرُ اللهُ أَكْبَرُ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ أَكْبَرِ اللهُ وَحُدَهُ لاَ شَرِيُكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلُكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمُدُ وَ هُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ لَا إِلَّهَ إِلاَّاللهُ وَحُدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلُكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمُدُ وَ هُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ لَا إِلَّهُ اللهُ وَحُدَهُ لاَ إِللهَ إِلاَّا اللهُ وَحُدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكُونَ عَابِدُونَ سَاجِدُونَ لِرَبِّنَا حَامِدُونَ

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest. There is no god but Allah, alone; there is no partner unto Him. The Kingdom belongs to Him and all praise belongs to Him. And He is powerful over all things. We are returning (from our journey) seeking repentence, worshipping, prostrating and praising our Lord.



Du'a for when You are Ill:

أَعُوذُ بِعِزَّةِ اللَّهِ وَقُدُرَتِهِ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا أَجِدُ وَأُحَاذِرُ

I seek refuge in the honour and the power of Allah from the evil of what I feel and from the evil of what I am wary of.

Du'a for Unwell Person Upon Visit

أَذُهِبِ الْبَاسَ رَبَّ النَّاسِ اشُفِ أَنْتَ الشَّافِي لَا شِفَاءَ إِلَّا شِفَاؤُكَ شِفَاءً لَايُغَادِرُ سَقَمًا

Remove the discomfort, O Lord of the people, grant cure, You are the curer, there is no cure except Your cure, the cure which leaves no illness.

Du'a for when you see Someone in a State of Discomfort

الُحَمُدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي عَافَانِي مِمَّا ابُتَلاَكَ بِهِ وَ فَضَّلَنِي عَلَى كَثِيرٍ مِّمَّنُ خَلَقَ تَفُضِيلاً

All praise be to Allah, who saved me from the discomfort which He tested you with, and who gave me preference over many others of His creation.



HADITH

1) Charity, Forgiveness and Humbleness

قَالَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مَا نَقَصَتْ صَدَقَةٌ مِنْ مَالٍ وَمَا زَادَ رَجُلًا بِعَفْوٍ إِلَّا عِزًّا وَمَا تَوَاضَعَ أَحَدٌ لِلَّهِ إِلَّا رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"Charity does not decrease wealth, no one forgives except that Allah
increases his honour, and no one humbles himself for the sake of Allah
except that Allah raises his status."

صحيح مسلم كِتَاب الْبِرِّ وَالصِّلَةِ وَالْآدَابِ بَابِ اسْتِحْبَابِ الْعَفْوِ وَالتَّوَاضُعِ

2) Spreading Rumours

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّم كَفَى بِالْمَرُءِ كَذِبًا أَنْ يُحِدِّثَ بِكُلِّ مَا سَمِعَ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "It is enough for a man to prove himself a liar when he goes on narrating whatever he hears."

صحيح مسلم. مُقَدِّمةٌ. كفي بالمرء كذباأن يحدث بكل ما سمع

3) Hospitality towards Neighbours and Guests

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ مَنُ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوُمِ الْآخِرِ فَلْيَقُلُ خَيْرًا أَوُ لَيَصُمُتُ وَمَنُ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَلْيُكُرِمُ جَارَهُ وَ مَنُ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَلْيُكُرِمُ جَارَهُ وَ مَنْ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَلْيُكُرِمُ ضَيْفَهُ وَ مَنْ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَلْيُكُرِمُ ضَيْفَهُ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should speak a good word or remain silent. And whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should show hospitality to his neighbour. And whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should show hospitality to his guest."

صحيح مسلم. كِتَاب الإيمَانِ . باب الْحَبِّ عَلَى إِكْرَامِ الْجَارِ وَالطَّيْفِ وَلُزُومِ الصَّمُتِ إِلَّا عَنُ الْخَيُرِ

4) Islamic Brotherhood

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللّهِ صَلّى اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ الْمُسُلِمِ لاَ يَظُلِمُهُ وَلاَ يَخُذُلُهُ وَلاَ يَحُقِرُهُ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"The Muslim is the brother of another Muslim, he does not wrong him
or let him down or be looked down upon.

صحيح مسلم كتاب البر والصلة والآداب، باب تحريم ظلم المسلم وخذله و احتقاره

5) Fellow Muslim's Life, Wealth and Honour

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ بِحَسُبِ امْرِئٍ مِّنَ الشَّرِّ أَنْ يَحْقِرَ أَخَاهُ الْمُسُلِمَ ؟ كُلُّ الْمُسلِمِ عَلَى الْمُسُلِمِ حَرَامٌ دَمُهُ وَ مَالُهُ وَعِرُضُهُ كُلُّ الْمُسلِمِ عَلَى الْمُسلِمِ حَرَامٌ دَمُهُ وَ مَالُهُ وَعِرُضُهُ

The Messenger of Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"It is a sufficient evil for a man to look down upon his Muslim brother.
Every Muslim is sacred to another Muslim, his blood, his property and his honour."

صحيح مسلم كتاب البر والصلة والآداب باب تحريم ظلم المسلم وخذله و احتقاره ودمه و عرضه و ماله

6) Assumptions and Muslim Brotherhood

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ إِيّاكُمُ وَالظَّنَّ فَإِنَّ الظَّنّ أَكُذَبُ الْحَدِيثِ وَلاَ تَجَسَّسُوا وَلاَ تَحَسَّسُوا وَلاَ تَنَا فَسُوا وَلاَ تَحَاسَدُوا وَلاَ تَبَاغَضُوا وَلاَ تَدَابَرُوا وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللهِ إِخُوانًا وَلاَ تَبَاغَضُوا وَلاَ تَدَابَرُوا وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللهِ إِخُوانًا

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "Beware of assumptions, for assumption is the most false of speech. Do not spy upon each other, do not be curious, do not compete against each other, do not envy each other, do not hate each other, do not turn away from each other and O Allah's worshippers, be brothers."

موطأ مالك. كَتَاب الْجَامِعِ. باب حُسُنِ الْخُلُقِ إِياكم والظن فإن الظن أكذب الحديث



قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ لاَ يَجِلُّ لِمُسُلِمٍ أَنُ يَهُجُرَ أَخَاهُ فَوُقَ ثَلاَثٍ يَلْتَقِيَانِ فَيَصُدُّ هَذَا وَ يَصُدُّ هَذَا وَ خَيْرُهُمَا الَّذِي يَبُدَأُ بِالسَّلاَمِ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"It is not permissible for a Muslim to boycott (stop talking to) his brother for more than three days, both of them turning away from one another when they meet. The better of them is the one who greets the other first."

سنن الترمذي . كِتَاب البِرِّ وَ الصِلِّةِ عَنُ رَسُولِ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ . بَاب مَا جَاء فِي كَرَاهِيَةِ الْهَجْرِ لَلْمُسُلِمِ

8) Muslim Brotherhood

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللّهِ صَلَّى اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ إِنَّ الْمُؤُمِنَ لِلْمُؤُمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ يَشُدُّ بَعُضُهُ بَعُضًا وَشَبَّكَ أَصَابَعَهُ

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"A faithful believer to another faithful believer is like the bricks of a wall, strengthening each other." While saying that the Prophet clasped His hands and interlacked His fingers.

صحيح البخاري . كَتَابِ الصَّلاةِ . أَبُوَابُ اسْتِقُبَالِ الْقِبُلَهِ . شبك النبي صلى الله عليه و سلم أصابعه

FIQH

Detailed knowledge of understanding as well as how to act upon Islamic practices

Completing our obligatory acts of worship brings us closer to Allah and non-obligatory acts of worship make us from among those whom Allah loves.

Non-obligatory Prayers (صلاة التطوع)

Non-obligatory prayers are those which are performed other than the five obligatory (Fard) prayers.

The benefits of performing the non-obligatory prayers are many, such as:

- It is the best form of worship to get closer to Allah.
- It will raise our position in Jannah.
- It will make up for the shortcomings which occurred in our Fard prayer.

Non-obligatory prayers can be divided into two major categories.

- 1) Sunnah: The prayer which has been done or recommended by the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam.
- a. Sunnanar-Rawatib: (سنن رواتب) The non-obligatory prayer which is performed before or after the Fard prayer. The sunnanar-Rawatib are of two kind:
- i. Mu'akkadah: (مؤكدة) That which the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam always prayed and never missed therefore it is highly recommended by the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. They are 10 or 12 rakats performed with the 5 daily prayers. Whoever prays them, Allah with his mercy will bless him with a palace in Jannah. It is also permissible to pray them afterwards if one forgets them or missed them. They are as follows:
 - A. Two rakah before Fajr prayer
 - B. Two or four rakah before Dhur and two rakah after
 - C. Two rakah after Magrib
 - D. Two rakah after Ishaa
- ii. Ghair Mu'akkadah: (غير مؤكدة) that which the Messenger Sallallahu alayhi wa salam used to pray most of the time and only occasionally did not, these are the prayers which has it's own virtue.

Such as:

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- A. Two rakah after the Dhur Mu'akkadah
- B. Two or four rakah before Asr
- C. Two rakah before Magrib

b. Sunnan Ghair Rawatib: (سنن غير رواتب)

These are the prayers which are not connected to any Fard such as:

- i. Salat Al-Witr: The last prayer of the night prayed with odd units.
- ii. Qiyamul-Lail: The night prayer performed specifically in the last third of the night, sometimes called Tahajjud.
- iii. Salat Ad-Duha: 10-15 minutes after the sun has risen.
- iv. Salat Tahiyatul-Masjid: Two rakah read when entering the Majrid
- v. Salat At-Tawbah: The prayer for repentance.
- 2) Nafl: The prayer which is performed without any reason other than to worship Allah and there is no limit to its number either. It is better to perform this prayer in units of two. It is voluntary and can be performed at any time except for the prohibited times.

Prohibited time for Salah

There are certain times in the day when it is not permissible to pray any Nafl prayer. General prohibited times are as follows:

- Immediately after the Fajr prayer until approximately 15 minutes after sunrise.
- At midday (when the sun is at it's zenith).
- After the Asr prayer, until the start of the Magrib Adhan.

However, there are a few specific salah which are permissible to be performed even at prohibited times:

- Praying the left over salah either because of forgetfulness or sleep.
- Prayers which have a specific purpose, such as:
 - o The funeral prayer
 - o The prayer of Tawaf of the Ka'aba
 - o The prayer during a solar eclipse.
- The two sunnah rakah of Fajr after the Fajr Salah.

Chart for the Prayer Units

	Before Fard Ghair Mu'akkadah	Before Fard Mu'akkadah	Fard	After Fard Mu'akkadah
Fajr		2	2	
Dhur		2/4	4	2
Asr	2/4		4	
Magrib	2		3	2
Isha			4	2 & Witr

- 1. What are the benefits of performing non-obligatory prayer?
- 2. What is the Sunnah prayer?
- 3. What is the Nafl prayer?
- 4. What is the reward of performing the Sunnah Mu'akkadah?
- 5. How many Sunnah Mu'akkadah should be performed with the five daily prayers?
- 6. What is Sunnah Ghair Mu'akkadah?
- 7. How many Sunnah Ghair Mu'akkadah did the Prophet pray?
- 8. What are the prohibited times for Salah?
- 9. Which Salah are the exception during the prohibited times?

Jummah

The best day of the week in Islam is the day of Jummah, it is an Eid for the believers, a time to come together and pray the Jummah prayer.

The Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "On the day of Jummah, angels stand at the entrance of that Masjid in which Jummah salah is to be offered. There they write down the name of the first of the people who enters the Masjid in a register, and thereafter the names of the people who follow, and so on. The people who entered first will receive the reward of sacrificing a camel in the way of Allah, the ones who followed them will get the reward of sacrificing a cow, thereafter a chicken, thereafter the reward of giving an egg as charity in the path of Allah. Once the khutbah starts, the angels close the register and begin listening to the khutbah. To gain the full blessings and virtues of Jummah it is important to arrive early.

The Jummah prayer is obligatory on every Mature Muslim Male.

 On the day of Jummah instead of Duhr prayer you will pray the Jummah prayer.

• The Jummah prayer has to be performed in congregation, and

cannot be performed alone.

 Before the Jummah prayer there will be a Khutbah (speech/sermon), then two rakahs will be performed behind the Imam with loud recitation. After completing the Jummah prayer you can complete the other Sunnah prayers.

- 1. What are the different rewards for those people that arrive early on the day of Jummah?
- 2. What do the angels do when the Khutbah starts?

Recommended Actions on the Day of Jummah:

- Performing Ghusl, applying perfume and wearing nice clothes.
- · Going to the Masjid early and sitting in the first few rows.
- Making plenty of Du'a hoping that you will find the time of acceptance.
- Recitation of Surah Al-Kahf (Surah 18 of the Noble Quran)
- An Increasing in sending Darood and Salaam upon the Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam.
- Performing as many Nafl prayers as we can before the Khutbah starts, there is no particular number for this.
- You should also pray 2 raka Tahiyatul-Masjid even if the Imam has started the Khutbah.

Prohibitions on the day of Jummah while the Imam is giving Khutbah:

- Talking is not permitted during the Khutbah, not even to return a greeting, or to tell others to be quiet while the Imam is giving the Khutbah.
- When inside the Masjid, walking over or pushing people to find a space towards the front.

If you miss the Jummah prayer then you will need to pray the Dhur prayer instead.

لَينْتَهِينَ أَقْوَامٌ عَنْ وَدْعِهِمِ الْجُمُعَاتِ أَوْ لَيَخْتِمَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ وَلَيَكُونُنَّ مِنَ الْغَافِلِينَ

People should stop neglecting Jummah prayers or else Allaah will place a seal over their hearts, then they will be among the negligent

- 1. How should you prepare yourself for the day of Jummah?
- 2. What are the 7 recommended actions on the day of Jummah?
- 3. What are the prohibitions during the Khutbah?
- 4. What is the harmful effect of missing the Jummah prayer?

Witr Prayer

Witr is the Arabic word for an odd number and so the Witr prayer is performed with an odd number of rakah. It can be performed in units of one, three, five, seven or nine. A person may choose as they like, however it is more favorable to pray the Witr as three Rakah, as the Messenger of Allah Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam used to. It should be performed after the Sunnah of the Ishaa prayer and it is best to make the Witr prayer the last one of the night.

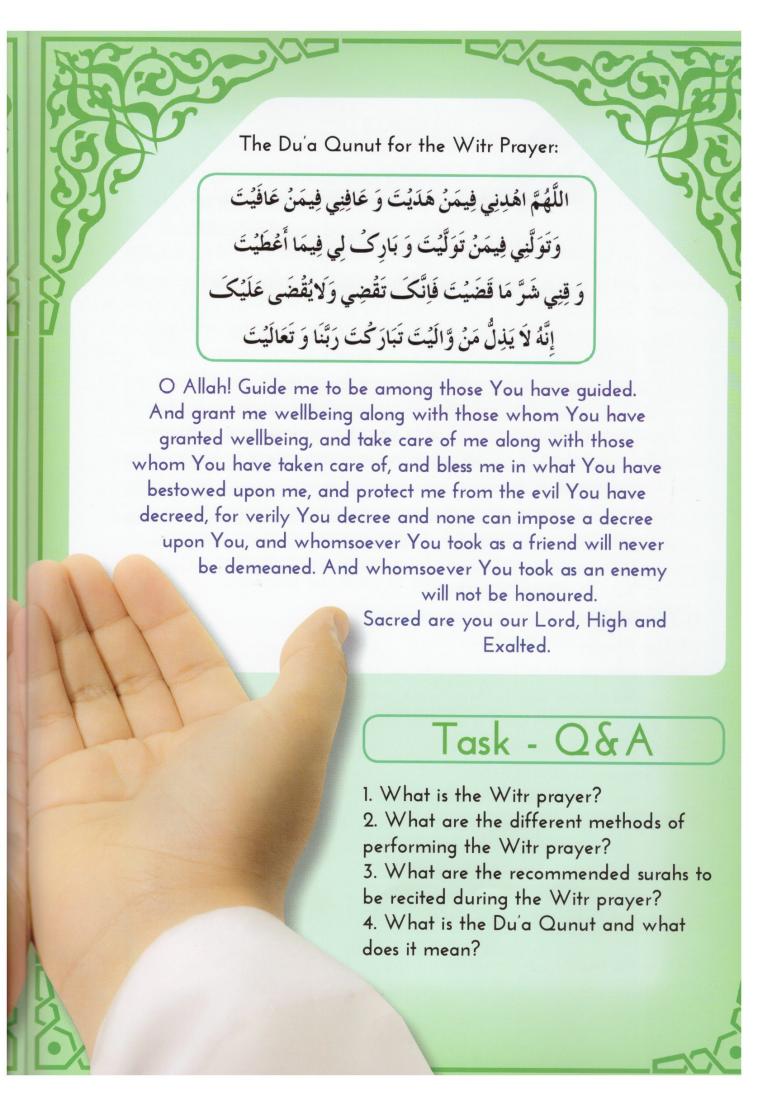
Ways of performing Witr:

The way of performing Witr prayer is slightly different to the other prayers. A person can perform it in two different ways.

 Method One: All the Rakah should be performed together without the sitting in Tashahud (during the second rakah) until the last and third Rakah.

 Method Two: To pray and complete two Rakah with Tashahud and Salaam, and then perform the last Rakah on its own with Tashahud and Salaam.

It is recommended to recite Surah 87 Al-A'la, Surah 109 Al-Kafiroon and Surah 112 Ikhlas during the Witr prayer. To recite the Du'a Qunut either before or after going into the final ruku, both of these methods are permissible. You may also raise your hands while making Du'a.



Zakat

Zakat is paid annually for the sake of Allah on our wealth, such as: gold, silver, savings, agricultural products,

cattle, and mines etc. If a person reaches the specific limit of his wealth then Zakat is obligatory upon him. The specific limit of Zakat is known as "Nisab". The Nisab varies from product to product such as:

- The Nisab of gold is 85 grams,
- The Nisab of silver is 595 grams,
- The Nisab of cash equals to the amount of gold Nisab.

If the above mentioned Nisab is in your possession for one Islamic calendar year then the 2.5% of its value is obligatory to be given as Zakat at the end of the year.

The Nisab of other products such as agricultural products, cattle, and mines etc is different. These may be taught later on in detail.

The Zakat money should be used to assist the following:

- 1) The Poor.
- 2) The Needy.
- 3) To invite people to Islam and to support the newly converted Muslims.
- 4) To free slaves and to help those who are afflicted.
- 5) To help a person who is over-burdened with debt and he is unable to discharge his debts.
- 6) In the cause of Allah.
- 7) To help a traveller who is in need.
- 8) To pay the wages of those who collect and distribute Zakat.

- 1. What is the Nisab on different products?
- 2. Who can receive assistance from zakat money?

Fasting

Fasting is one of the greatest acts of worship. Allah Almighty loves those who fast. So much so that Allah creates between the fasting person and Hell a distance of seventy years for their fast of a single day. The fasting person should be aware of forbidden acts during fasting to make his fast acceptable in the sight of Almighty Allah. The forbidden acts are:

- · Idle and foolish talk
- Abusing, swearing or crude language
- · Name Calling
- Dishonesty and lying
- Backbiting
- Unnecessary arguing and fighting

If people abuse, mock, argue or fight with you, then rather than responding to them in the same aggressive manner, the fasting person should say "I am fasting".

A person can fast even before fasting becomes obligatory for them. It is appreciated for children to try to fast from the age of seven, just to get the amazing feelings a fasting person experiences. However if fasting will harm the health or wellbeing of a child, or anyone else then they should break their fast.

- 1. What is the reward of fasting?
- 2. What are the forbidden acts during fasting?

Hajj

Hajj is the kind of worship which is performed at a specific time of the year.

In order to perform the Hajj, the pilgrim enters a state known as "Ihram". While in this state, the men wear two pieces of unstitched cloth to cover the lower and the upper part of the body, while the women where normal modest dress. While in Ihram, the Muslim must take the utmost care in avoiding sinful actions and foul talk, at the same time increasing oneself in good actions and speech.

The main rituals of Hajj include:

- Tawaf (moving) around the Ka'bah.
- · Sai between Safa and Marwah.
- Staying at Mina which is a valley about three miles away from Makkah.
- Staying in Arafat, which is about 8 to 9 miles away from Makkah.
- Spending a night in Muzdalifah in the open.
- Throwing pebbles at the "Jamarat".
- Offering a sacrifice.
- Shaving or trimming the hair from the head.
- Ritual walking (also called Sai) between Safa and Marwah.

- 1. What is Ihram?
- 2. What are the main rituals of Hajj?
- 3. When can Umrah be performed?
- 4. What are the rituals of Ummrah?

Umrah

Umrah is to go to Makkah to visit the Ka'bah. This visit can be done at any time in the year. The pilgrim must enter the state of Ihram as is done for the Hajj. However, Umrah has fewer rituals compared to that of Hajj.

The main rituals of Umrah include:

- · Tawaf around the Kabah.
- · Sai between Safa and Marwah.
- Shaving or trimming the hair from the head.



ISLAMIC CHARACTER

Honesty

Islam orders the Muslim to be honest to themselves as well as to others. This order is repeated in the Noble Qur'an and in the sayings of Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. Islam orders the Muslims to speak the truth, even if it is against to ourself. We are ordered not to cheat or to deceive other people. A Muslim is ordered by Allah to be honest in both words and deeds, in private and in public alike.

This means telling the truth always, being sincere in the work you do, carrying out duties that you have committed to, fulfilling one's word, objective judgments, and objective decisions. Honesty is the opposite of lying, the opposite of bluffing, the opposite of hypocrisy, the opposite of favoritism, and the opposite of deceit.

Allah promises the honest person generous rewards in the worldly life and in the hereafter whereas He the Almighty warns the dishonest person of the severe punishment for their dishonest behavior.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُو اكُونُوا قَوَّامِينَ لِلَّهِ شُهَدَاءَ بَالُقِسُطِ وَلاَ يَجُرِمَنَّكُمُ شَنَآنُ قَوُمٍ عَلَىٰ أَلَّا تَعُدِلُوا إِعُدِلُوا هُوَ أَقُرَبُ لِلتَّقُوىٰ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَاتَعُمَلُونَ

O you who believe! Stand out firmly for Allah and be just witnesses and let not the enmity and hatred of others make you avoid justice. Be just, that is nearer to Taqwa, and fear Allah. Verily, Allah is well-acquainted with what you do. (Surah 5 Al-Ma'ida, Verse 8)

Unity and Brotherhood:

Unity is strength. When the sand grains unite they become a vast desert. When the water drops unite they become an ocean. The collection of stars in the sky soothes our eyes. The seven colours emerge in the shape of a rainbow. The unity of people makes a strong and invincible nation. This is the reason Islam lays great stress on the importance of unity. Allah says in the Quran that the differences in people, in their heritage and lineage are so that they may get to know one another.

The Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam:

"There is no superiority of an Arab over a non-Arab, nor of a non-Arab over an Arab. Neither is a white superior over a black, nor is a black superior over a white. The best of you is the most pious among you."

Islam is for all of mankind regardless of colour, race or language. It is a religion that tolerates others beliefs and orders its followers to respect and protect human dignity and life.

Allah Almighty says:

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخُوَةٌ

The believers are nothing but brothers (in Tawhid)
(Surah 49 Al-Hujraat, Verse 10)

- 1. What is the Aiyah of the Noble Quran regarding honesty?
- 2. What is the saying of the Propeht Muhammad on equality?
- 3. What is the Aiyah of the Noble Quran on the unity of Muslims?



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