Qur’aan: “Oh my Lord! make me one who establishes regular Prayer (Salaah) and also (raise such) among my offspring. Oh our Lord! and accept Thou my Prayer (Dua).”
Surah Ibrahim 14:40
The word Ibadah comes from the Arabic “Abd”, which means slave or servant of Allah. 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 (Salaah), fasting (Saum), charity (Zakah), Pilgrimage (Hajj) and struggling in the ways of Allah (Jihad). These along with Iman (faith) 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 allow “faith” (Iman) to play a practical and effective role in human life. Ibadah is therefore something positive. It is a means by which the faithful can serve Allah as well as their fellow men.

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

CHAPTER 2
TAHARAH

Before a person can perform prayer, s/he must be clean and pure. The Quran 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 state of purity that a Muslim may perform Salaah.

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

Al-Wudu

The process of performing Wudu is as follows:
Mention the name of Allah by saying: “Bismillah-Hir-Rahma-Nir-Rahim” (In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful.)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Figure 1(a)

Figure 1(b)
Take a handful of water into the mouth & rinse the mouth three times as shown in 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.

Wash the face, ear to ear, forehead to chin three times as shown in figures 5,6 and 7.
Wash the right arm thoroughly from the wrist to the elbow three times. Repeat the same with the left arm as shown in figures 8 and 9.

Run moistened hands over the head from the forehead to the back and back to the forehead (once) as in figures 10, 11 and 12.
Run moistened fingers through the ears, the first finger of each hand going across the inside of the corresponding ear, while the thumb runs across the outside (once). As shown in figure 13.

Wash both feet up to the ankles starting from the right and ensuring that all parts particularly between the toes are wet - as shown in figure 14.

This may be done for a period of one day (and three days on a journey). On the condition that the socks or stockings are never removed.

If they are removed, it is necessary to re-wash the feet for Wudu. This process ends with the recitation of the Kalimatus-Shahadah (words of proclaiming faith).

ASH-HADU ALLAH ILAHA ILLALLAHU WA-AS-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAN ABDUHU-WA-RASULUH.

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship besides ALLAH and that Muhammed (S.A.W) is the servant and messenger of ALLAH.
The basic factors that break Wudu are passing wind, urine or stool; sleeping or fainting; becoming drunk or mad. A fresh wudu must be made.

**Ghusl (The washing or bath)**

The greater purification, Ghusl, is obligatory when one is defiled by nocturnal emission (a wet dream), sexual intercourse, childbirth, or when entering into the fold of Islam. These are obligatory occasions but in general one should make ghusl as part of routine cleanliness.

The procedure is as follows:
Begin with the name of Allah as with Wudu. Wash the hands and the affected parts of the body with water to remove any impurity. Perform Wudu as described above. Then wash the whole body three times (head to foot), using clean water for each wash. Every part of the body must be washed.

**Tayammum (Dry Ablution)**

On certain occasions, it may become either impossible (e.g. where water cannot be found or where just enough for drinking is available), or 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 Kalimatus-Shahadah as with Wudu.
In this section, some guidelines for the correct performance of Salaah are given. The most important prerequisite, Wudu (ablution), is explained in the last chapter. Other important conditions are:

**1. Time**
Each of the Salaah must be offered at or during its proper time. No Salaah can be performed before its time. There are five obligatory prayers in a day. They are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fajr</th>
<th>Thuhr</th>
<th>Asr</th>
<th>Maghrib</th>
<th>Esha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The morning</td>
<td>The early afternoon</td>
<td>The late afternoon</td>
<td>The sunset</td>
<td>The night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prayer.</td>
<td>prayer.</td>
<td>prayer.</td>
<td>prayer.</td>
<td>prayer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Diagram showing times of daily prayers](image)
2. Dress
Before offering your Salaah 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 Salaah must be clean and free from all filth. During the monthly period women are free from obligation of Salaah.

3. Place
Wherever a person might be s/he can turn towards Allah in Salaah 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 Salaah is to be offered in jamaat (congregation). Whenever possible, one should pray facing the Kabah, Makkah.

Fard and Sunnah

Salaah is composed of the Fard (obligatory) and the Additional (Sunnah and Nafl) prayers. The Fard Salaah are the five daily salaah. Failure to perform them is a blameable sin. The Sunnah Salaah is additional salaah the Prophet (SA.W.) performed before or after the Fard Salaah.

Prayers in Special Circumstances

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

When traveling one may offer two rakaats in place of four rakaats in Thuhr, Asr and Esha, but there is no change in the
two rakaats of Fajr and three rakaats of Maghrib Salaah. Besides this concession in Fard Salaah, one may leave all the additional Sunnah except two Sunnat rakaats of Fajr and the Witr of Esha prayer. But some scholars do teach the making of sunnah salaah even when on a journey (this is also correct).

In case the stay at any one place during the journey exceeds a fortnight, complete Salaah with all the Fard and Sunnat rakaats must be offered.

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

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

The Call to Prayer - Adhaan

To assemble the Muslims for congregational prayer, “Adhaan” , or the call to prayer is given. The caller (Mu’adh-dhin) stands facing the Ka’bah (Qiblah), and raising his hands to his ears calls in a loud voice:

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.
ASH-HADU AL-LA ILAHA ILLALLAH
I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah

ASH-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAR RASULULAH
I bear witness that Muhammed (S.A.W) is the messenger of Allah.

ASH-HADU AN-NA MUHAMMADAR RASULULAH
I bear witness that Muhammed (S.A.W) is the messenger of Allah.

HAYYAH ‘ALAS SALA AH
Come to prayer.

HAYYAH ‘ALAL FALAA AH
Come to your good.

ALLAHU AKBAR
Allah is the greatest.

LA ILAHA ILLALLAH
There is no deity but Allah.
In Adhaan for Fajr Salaah, the following sentence is added after HAYYA ‘ALAL FALAAH:

ASSALAT KHAYRUM MINAN NAUM

سَلَاهُ مِثْلُ النَّومِ

Salaah is better than sleep.

ASSALAT KHAYRUM MINAN NAUM

سَلَاهُ مِثْلُ النَّومِ

Salaah is better than sleep.

Then LA ILAHA ILLALLAH is recited to complete the Adhaan.

**Dua After Adhaan**

On completion of the Adhaan, Muslims are encouraged to recite:

ALLAHUMMA RABBA HAADHI-HID DA'WA-TIT-TAAM MATI

وَالْسَّلَى هِيَ الدُّعَاءُ التَّيْنَ

O Allah! Lord of this complete call and prayer of ours, by the blessing of it.

WAS-SALAATIL QA’E-MATI AATI MUHAMMADANIL WASILATA

وَالْسَّلَاةُ الْقَآيَمَةُ مَعَ مُحْمَّدَ ﷺ الوَسْيَةِ

give to Muhammed (S.A.W) his eternal rights of intercession.

WAL FADI LATA WAD-DARAJATAR-RAFI ‘ATA

وَالْفَضْيَةُ وَالدَّرَجَةُ الرَّفِيعَةُ

distinction and highest class (in paradise).
and raise him to the promised rank You have promised him.

and bestow his intercession on us on the day of judgement.

Surely You never go back on Your word

After Adhaan, when the Muslims are assembled at the place of worship, a second call (Iqaamah) is recited by one of the group. This signals the start of the congregational Salaah. It is similar to Adhaan except that it is recited faster, but in a lower tone and these sentences are recited after HAYYA ‘ALAL FALAAH:

The prayer has begun.

Then LA ILAHA ILLALLAH is recited to complete the Iqaamah.
CHAPTER 4
THE CONTENTS OF SALAALAH

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

When you are sure that you have fulfilled all the necessary conditions for Salaah, you are ready to offer Salaah. A detailed account of how to perform Salaah is given below.

Say to yourself that you intend to offer this Salaah (Fajr, Thuhr, ‘Asr, Maghrib or Esha) Fard, Sunnah or Nafl. Then raise your hands to your ears (as in figure 1) saying:

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.

Note: The thumb is in line with the ear lobe.
Now placing your right hand on the left, just below, above or on the navel, (as shown in figure 4 - and ladies placing their hands on their chest as shown in figure 3) recite the following:

SUBHAANA-KALLAH-HUM-MA WA BIHAMDIKA

Glorified are Thee oh Allah and praise-worthy are Thee.
WATABAARAKAS-MUKA WATA’AAALAA JADDUKA

and blessed is Thy Name and exalted Thy Majesty

WA-LAA ILAHA GHAIRUK

and there is no deity worthy of worship except Thee.

A’U-DHU-BIL-LAA-HI MINASHAITAANIR RAJIM

I seek refuge in Allah from Satan the rejected.

BISAMILLAHIR RAHMAANIR RAHIM

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

After this recite the opening Surah, Al Faatihah:

ALHAMDU LIL-LAAHI RAB-BIL AALAMIN

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds.

AR-RAHMAANIR RAHIM

the Beneficent, the Merciful

MAALIKI YAU-MID-DIN

Master of the Day of Judgement.

IYYAA-KA N’ABUDU WA-IYYAAKA NASTA’IN

Thee alone we worship and to Thee alone we turn for help.
IHDI-NAS-SIRAA-TAL MUSTAQIM

Guide us in the straight path

SIRAA TAL-LADHINA AN-'AMTA ‘ALAIHIM

The path of those whom You favoured

GHAIR-IL MAGHDUBI ‘ALAIHIM

and who did not deserve Thy anger

WALAD-DAAL-LIN (AMIN)

or went astray.

Now recite the following or any other passage from the Holy Qur’an: BISMILAAHIR RAHMAA-NIR RAHIM

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

QUL HU-WAL-LAAHO AHAD

Say: Allah is one and the only God.

ALLAH-HUS-SA-MAD

Allah upon Whom all depend.

LAM YALID WALAM YULAD

He begets not, nor is He begotten
WALAM YAKUL-LAHU KUFU-WAN AHAD

وَلَا يُنْبِئَنَّ لَهُ صَفُّوَا أَحَدًا

and there is nothing which can be compared to Him.

Now bow down saying:

ALLAHU AKBAR

أَلْلَهُ أَكْبَرُ
Allah is the greatest.

Place your hands on your knees and in this inclined position (Ruku as shown in figures 5a & 5b) recite these words thrice:

SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL ‘ATHIM

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْعَظِيمِ
Glory to my Lord the Great.

SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL ‘ATHIM

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْعَظِيمِ
Glory to my Lord the Great.

SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL ‘ATHIM

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْعَظِيمِ
Glory to my Lord the Great.

Note: Posture for ladies in Ruku is slightly different to that of a man.
Then come to the standing position (figure 6 & 7) saying:

```
SAMI ALLAHU LIMAN
HAMIDAH

سَمِيعَ اللَّهُ لِيَسْتَنْ حَمِيدًا
```

Allah has heard all who praise Him.

Followed by:

```
RAB-BANAA LAKAL HAMD

رَبَّنَا لَا كَلَّكَ الْحَمْدُ
```

Our Lord: Praise be to Thee.

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:

```
SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL-A’LAA

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْأَعْلَى
```

Glory to my Lord most high

```
SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL-A’LAA

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْأَعْلَى
```

Glory to my Lord most high

```
SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL-A’LAA

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْأَعْلَى
```

Glory to my Lord most high
Note: Your nose and forehead in line with the ground.

Sit upright with the knees still on the ground. After a moment's rest perform the second Sajdah saying:

ALLAHU AKBAR

Allah is the greatest.
In the second Sajdah as before now recite the following words thrice:

**SUBHAANA RAB-BI-YAL-A’LAA**

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْأَكْمَلَ

Glory to my Lord most high

This completes one raka’at of Salaah. The second raka’at is performed in the same way except that after reciting the opening Surah (Al-Faatihah) a different passage of the Qur’an is recited. Then after the second Sajdah you sit back on the left foot with the left foot bent towards the right, and the right foot upright with toes pointing forward. The palms should be lifted from the mat and placed on the knees.

In this position (Q’adah- as shown in figures 10 and 11 silently say these words (Tashahhud):
AT-TAH-YAATU LIL-LAAHI WAS-SALAWAATU WAT-TAY-YIBAATTU

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

AS-SALAAMU ‘ALAIKAAY-YUHAN-NABIY-YU

Peace be upon you, oh prophet.

WARAHMATUL-LAAHI WABARAKAATUH

And mercy of Allah and His blessings.

AS-SALAAMU ‘ALAINAA WA’ALAA ‘IBAADIL-LAAHIS-SAALIHIN

Peace be on us and on those who are righteous servants of Allah.
I bear witness to the fact that there is no deity but Allah.

I bear witness that Muhammed is His servant and messenger.

In a three Raka’at (i.e. Maghrib) or four Raka’at (like Thuhr, ‘Asr and Esha) Salaah you stand up for the remaining Raka’at after Tashahhud. On the other hand if it is a two Raka’at (Fajr) Salaah, keep sitting and after this recite Salawaat (blessings for the Prophet) in these words:

Oh Allah, exalt Muhammed and the followers of Muhammed.

As Thou did exalt Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim.

Thou art the Praised, the Glorious.
ALLAH-HUMMA BAARIK ‘ALAA MUHAMMAD-IW 
WA ‘ALAA AALI MUHAMMADIN

Oh Allah, bless Muhammed and the followers of Muhammed

KAMAA BARAKTA ‘ALAA IBRAHIMA WA ‘ALAA
AALI IBRAHIMA

As Thou has blest Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim.

IN-NAKA HAMIDUM-MAJEED

Thou art the Praised, the Glorious.

Then say dua:

RAB-BIJ ‘ALNI MUQIMAS-SALAATI WAMIN
DHUR-RIY-YAATI

Oh Lord! Make me and my children steadfast in prayer,

RAB-BANAA WATAQAB-BAL DU’A RAB-BIGH FIRLI

Our Lord! Accept the prayer, Our Lord! Forgive me,

WA LIWAALIDAY-YA WALIL MU’MININA YAUMA
YAQUM-UL HISAAB

and my parents and believers on the Day of Judgement.

Now turn your face to the right (as in figure 13) saying aloud:

AS-SALAAMU ‘ALAIKUM WA-RAHMATUL-LAAH

Peace be on you and Allah’s blessings.
Then turn your face to the left (as in figure 14) and repeat the above words.

This completes your two Raka’at Salaah. The four Raka’at of Thuhr, ‘Asr and Esha are said in the identical manner with the only difference that in the first two Raka’at of Thuhr, and ‘Asr, Al-Faatihah and a passage from the Qur’an are said silently while in Esha prayer they are recited aloud.

If you are performing a three Raka’at (like Maghrib) or four Raka’at (like Thuhr, ‘Asr and Esha) Salaah, stand up after Tashahhud saying ALLAHU AKBAR and recite Al Faatihah only (in Fard Salaah). You must remember that Al Faatihah is always recited silently in the third and fourth Raka’at of every Salaah. When you are offering Fard Salaah do not recite any additional passage from the Holy Qur’an after Al-Faatihah in the last two Raka’at. After the second Sajda in the fourth Raka’at say the Tashahhud, Salawaat, Dua and end with saying “AS-SALAAMU ‘ALAIKUM WA-RAHMATUL-LAH” turning the head to each side (first right and then left as shown in the above pictures). This marks the end of Salaah.
CHAPTER 5
SUNNAH SALAHAH
OR ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

As you can see in the chart below, each salaah is composed of (a) Fard, the prescribed prayers, (b) Sunnah, additional prayers. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) said these additional prayers before or after the prescribed (Fard) prayers. These are therefore recommended and have much reward. The sequence of these additional prayers in each Salaah is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Salaah</th>
<th>Number of Sunnah before Fard</th>
<th>Number of Fard</th>
<th>Number of Sunnah after Fard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fajr</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thuhr</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Asr</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maghrib</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esha</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 + Witr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Witr Salaah**

The three Raka’at prayers said after the Fard and Sunnah of the Esha is called Salaat-ul-Witr. It is strongly recommended in the practice of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and it is Wajib (necessary) according to some Scholars while others regard it as Sunnah Salaah.

The first two Raka’at of this Salaat-ul-Witr are said like the first two Raka’at of the Maghrib prayers. In the third Raka’at after Al-Faatihah, recite some additional Surah or verses of the Quran.

Then, saying ALLAHU AKBAR raise your hands above your...
shoulders, then fold your hands as usual, and recite the following or any other similar Dua silently. This is called Dua-al-Qunoot or the prayer of submission:

**ALLAHUM-MA IN-NA NAŞTA‘INUKA**

اللّٰهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْتَنْتَبِيْكَ

Oh Allah, we seek Thy help

**WANASTAGHFIRUKA**

وَنَسْتَغْفِرْكَ

and ask Thy forgiveness

**WANAU’MINU BIKA WANATAWAK-KALU ‘ALAIKA**

وَنُؤْمِنُ بِكَ وَنَتَّوَكَلُّ عَلَيْكَ

and believe in Thee and trust in Thee

**WANUTHNI ‘ALAIKAL-KHAIRA WA-NASHKURUKA**

وَنُضِّيِّقُ عَلَيْكَ الحَيَّةَ وَ نُشْكُرُكَ

and we praise Thee in the best manner and we thank Thee

**WALAANAKFURUKA WANAKHLA’U WANATRUKU**

وَلَا نَغْفِرْكَ وَنَتَّخِذُكَ نَزْرًا

and we are not ungrateful and we cast off and forsake him

**MAY-YAF JURUK ALLAHUM-MA IY-YAAKA N’ABUDU**

مَنِ الْهُمَّارَىْ أَكْنَعَيْكَ نَعْبَدُ

who disobeys Thee, Oh Allah, Thee alone do we worship,

**WALAKA NUSAL-LI WA-NASJUDU WA-ILAIKA NAS’AA**

وَلَا لَكَ نُصْبِيْ وَ نَتَّشَبَّهُ وَ لَكَ نَسْعُ

and to Thee we pray, and before Thee do we prostrate, to Thee do we turn to
Surely Thy punishment overtakes the unbelievers.

After this, saying ALLAHU AKBAR bow down in Ruku and then complete the rest of the prayers like the Maghrib prayers. This is one example of how the Prophet (S.A.W.) made Witr salaah - prominent Scholars teach the other forms and they are correct as well.

The table below gives details of Raka’at in each Salaah:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Salaah</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Number of Fard Raka’at</th>
<th>First two Raka’at aloud or silent</th>
<th>Before Fard Sunnah</th>
<th>After Fard Sunnah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fajr</td>
<td>Between dawn &amp; sunrise</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aloud</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thuhr</td>
<td>Between just past noon &amp; mid-afternoon</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Silent</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Asr</td>
<td>Between mid-afternoon until before sunset</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Silent</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maghrib</td>
<td>Between just after sunset until dark</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Aloud</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esha</td>
<td>Between dark &amp; shortly before dawn</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aloud</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
<td>2 + Witr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jumu‘ah (or Friday) Prayer

Beside the daily Salaah, the Friday prayer is also obligatory but upon Muslim men. For Muslim women it is not obligatory, but they may also attend if they so wish. The Friday Salaah is offered in congregation on Friday at Thuhr time (replacing the Thuhr salaah). First the Imaam delivers a sermon (Khutbah). Then he leads the congregation in a two Raka’at Salaah. After this two or more Raka’at of Sunnah prayers are offered individually.

Taraawih (or Ramadaan) Prayer

Taraawih are additional Sunnah prayers. These prayers are offered during the month of Ramadaan after Esha Salaah. These consist of twenty Raka’at, and are offered two by two with a short rest between every four Raka’at. They may be said alone but congregational prayers are recommended.

The ‘Id Prayers (Salaatul-’Idayn)

There are two ‘Id or occasions of great festivity for the Muslims. The first is called ‘Id-ul-Fitr or the festival of fast-breaking. It is celebrated on the first day of the tenth Islamic month (Shawwaal) following Ramadaan, the month of fasting. It marks great thanks-giving for the Muslims all over the world. The second ‘Id is the ‘Id-ul-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 ‘Ids, ‘Id prayers are offered in congregation any time after sunrise and before noon. There is no Adhaan
(call for prayer) or Iqamah (second call before congregation). The ‘Id prayer consists of two Raka’at (offered just as the two Raka’at of Jumu’ah prayer are offered) with six to sixteen additional “Takbirs” (ALLAHU AKBAR). Three or more Takbirs are said in the first Raka’at after “Thanaa” and three or more Takbirs are said in the second Raka’at before bowing down in Ruku.

A sermon (Khutbah) is delivered by the Imam (leader of the prayer) after the two Raka’at ‘Id 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 / Janaazah Salaah**

It is a prayer to Allah for a deceased Muslim, and is a communal obligation on all Muslims in the locality. The funeral Salaah is offered in congregation but unlike other formal prayers, it has neither any Ruku (bowing) nor any Sajdah (prostration). Here 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 Thanaa silently - to recite Surah Fatihah first (and no Thanaa is also correct by certain scholars):

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WATABAARA-KASMUKA WATA’ALAA JADDUKA
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Glory to Allah, and praise be to You

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SUBHAANAKAL-LAA HUM-MA WABIHAMDIKA
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and blessed is Your name and Exalted is Your Majesty
WAJAL-LA THANAA’OKA WALAA ILAAHA GHAIRUK

and Glorious is Your praise and there is none worthy of worship besides You.

After Thanaa or Surah Fatihah make Takbir saying ALLAHU AKBAR. Now silently recite the salawaat:

ALLAH-HUMMA SAL-LI ‘ALAA MUHAMMAD-IW WA ‘ALAA AALI MUHAMMADIN

Oh Allah, exalt Muhammed and the followers of Muhammed

KAMAA SAL-LAITA ‘ALAA IBRAHIMA WA ‘ALAA AALI IBRAHIMA

As Thou did exalt Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim.

IN-NAKA HAMIDUM-MAJEED

Thou art the Praised, the Glorious.

ALLAH-HUMMA BAARIK ‘ALAA MUHAMMAD-IW WA ‘ALAA AALI MUHAMMADIN

Oh Allah, bless Muhammed and the followers of Muhammed

KAMAA BARAKTA ‘ALAA IBRAHIMA WA ‘ALAA AALI IBRAHIMA

As Thou has blest Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim.
IN-NAKA HAMIDUM-MAJEED

اتَّکَ حَمِیدْ مَاجِیِّدَ

Thou art the Praised, the Glorious.

**Make a third Takbir and silently read a dua.**

(a) For the deceased Muslim adult, recite this Dua:

ALLAHUM-MAGHFIRLI-HAYYINAA WAMAYYITINAA

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَنَا وَمِنْ لَيْثَ مِنْ نَاسٍ

Oh Allah pardon our living and our dead

WASHAAHIDINAA WAGHA’IBINAA

وَشَاهِدِنَا وَعَرَافِنَا

the present and the absent

WASAGHIRINAA WAKABIRINAA

وَصَغَیرِنَا وَکَبَیرِنَا

our young and our old,

WADHAKARINAA WAUNTHAANAA

وَذَکَرْنَا وَأَنْتَنَا

and the males and the females

ALLAHUM-MA MAN-AHYAYTAHU MIN-NAA FA-AHYIHI ‘ALAL ISLAAM

اللَّهُمَّ اسْتَحْيَأْنَا مَنْ أَحْيَا مِنْ نَاسٍ عَلَىِّ الإِسْلَامِ

Oh Allah, he to whom You accord life among us cause him to live in the observance of Islam
(b) If the deceased is an adult woman, substitute the last two lines with the following:

ALLAHUM-MA MAN-AHYAYTAHAA MIN-NAA FA-AHYIHA ‘ALAL ISLAAM

Oh Allah, she to whom You accord life among us cause her to live in the observance of Islam

WAMAN TAWAF-FAITAHAA MIN-NA FATAWAF-FA HAA ‘ALAL IMAAN

and she to whom You give death, cause her to die in the state of Imaan (faith).

(c) If the deceased is a minor and a boy, then recite this Dua:

ALLAHUM-MA-J’ALHU LANAA FARATAW

Oh Allah, make him our fore-runner,

WAJ’ALHULANAA ARJAW-WADHUKHRAW

and make him for us a reward and a treasure,

WAJ’ALHULANAA SHAAFI’AW MUSHAF-FA’AH

and make him for us a pleader, and accept his pleading.
(d) If the deceased is a minor and a girl, then recite this Dua:

**ALLAHUM-MA-J’ALHAA LANAA FARATAW**

أَلْهَا مُجِّعُلَهَا لِنا قَرْطَاً

Oh Allah, make her our fore-runner,

**WAJ’ALHAALANAA ARJAW-WADHUHKRAW**

وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا أُجْرًا وَذُخْرًا

and make her for us a reward and a treasure,

**WAJ’ALHAALANAA SHAAFI’TAW WA-MUSHAF-FA’AH**

وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا شَافِعًا وَمُشْفَعًا

and make her for us a pleader, and accept her pleading.

After this the Imam makes the last and fourth Takbir.

آَلَهَةُ أَكْبَرَ

The congregation repeats these words silently. Then the Imam and the Muslims turn their faces to the right and then to the left side saying As-salaamu-Alaikum Wa-Rahmatullah on each side.

### Personal Prayer (Dua) After Salaah

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 or other Muslims or your own dear and near ones. For this Dua 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 any one of these prayers:
On completing your Fard Salaah it is Sunnah to ask Allah for forgiveness, that is making Istighfaar and to make Dua.

Istighfaar: ASTAGHFIRULLAHIL ATHEEM

“I seek the Forgiveness of Allah, The Mighty.”

Thereafter follows this dua of peace:

ALLAHUM-MA ANTAS-SALAAM WA-MINKAS-SALAAM

Oh Allah, You are the Author of peace and from You comes peace

TABAARAKTA YAA-DHALJALAALI WAL-IKRAAM

Blessed are You, Oh Lord of Majesty and Honour.
**Additional Dua**

ALLAHUM-MA-GHFIRLI WALIWAALIDAYYA WALI USTAADHI

اللهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَلَوْلَا إِدَّاءً وَلاَ إِسْتَنَاذٍ

Oh Allah, forgive me and my parents and my teachers,

WALIJAMI’IL MU’MININA WAL MU’MINAATI WAL MUSLIMINA WAL MUSLIMAAT

وَلَجِبَّ يْهُمَّـٰ التُّوْمَيْنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

and all the believing men and women and obedient men and women with Your mercy.

BIRAHMATIKA YAA-ARHAMAR-RAHIMIN

بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَامُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

Oh Most Merciful of (all) those who show mercy.

This Dua may also be read in the last sitting of salaah, after salawaat and just before making salaam or on any other occasion.
Dua to be read after Salaah, or on Umrah and Hajj.

I seek refuge in Allah from Satan the rejected one.
I begin in the name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Gracious, Most Forgiving. Peace and blessings be on the best of creation, Prophet Muhammed (S.A.W).

Begin with Salawaat (salutations) on the Prophet (peace be upon him).

“Oh Allah, I beseech Thee for Thy mercy to guide my heart, to settle my affairs, to order my disorder, to repel temptation, to reform my conduct, to preserve my secret thought, to raise up my visible act, to purify my works, to put light on my face, to direct me aright, to satisfy all my needs, and to keep me from all evil.”

“Oh Allah, I beseech Thee for pure faith (Imaan) to fill my heart, and I beseech Thee for true certainty so that I may know that nothing will befall me except what Thou has written for me, and for glad acceptance for what Thou has allotted to me.”

“Oh Allah, I beseech Thee for true and certain faith after which no unbelief follows, and I beseech Thee for mercy whereby I may receive Thy regard in this world and the next. Oh Allah I beseech Thee for patience with destiny, for salvation on the Day of Judgement, and for the mansions of the martyrs and the companionship of the prophets. Oh Allah help me against my enemies and help me to guard my tongue from speaking all evil and to avoid suspicion.”

“Oh Allah, I come to Thee in my need, my thought is weak, I fall short in my actions, and I am in dire need of Thy mercy. I therefore beseech Thee, Oh Judge of all things, Oh Healer of
men’s breasts, that as Thou dost rescue from the midst of the oceans, Thou would rescue me from the punishment of the fire of Jahannum, the torment of the grave and the imprecation of destruction.”

“Oh Allah, I beg of Thee that whenever my thought has been too weak, my actions too imperfect, and my intention and desire too ineffective to achieve some good, I beseech Thee for Thy All-Embracing Mercy, Oh Lord of all the worlds. Oh Allah, make me a guide and guide me aright, not to err and to lead astray, at war with Thy enemies and at peace with Thy friends, loving Thy creation with Thy love and hostile with Thy hostility to those of Thy creatures who have opposed Thee.”

“Oh Allah, of the faithful Covenant and the wise command, I beseech Thee to grant me death with Imaan, and to make my grave a garden of Jannah, and I beseech Thee to protect me on the Day of Doom, to put me under the shade of Thy Throne and to grant me Thy Jannah on the Day of Eternity, along with the saints and martyrs who bow and prostrate themselves before Thee, and those who fulfil their Covenant with Thee. Verily Thou art the Merciful and Loving and doest as Thou wilt.”

“All praise is to Allah the Almighty Who is characterised by might and holds it. All praise is to Him Who is clothed in Glory. Praise be to Him Who alone is to be worshiped and praised. I praise Allah for His power and goodness. Praise be to Allah Whose knowledge encompasses all things.”

“Oh Allah, grant me light in my heart and light in my tomb, light in my hearing and light in my seeing, light in my hair, and light in my flesh, light in my blood and light my bones, light before me and light behind me, light to the right of me and light to the left of me, light above me and light beneath me.”
“Oh Allah, increase my light and grant me the greatest light of all, of Thy Mercy grant me light, Oh Thou Most Merciful of those who show mercy! We are all Allah’s and we are returning. There is no power or might save with Allah, the Creator and Cherisher of the universe and everything that exists.”

“Oh Allah, remove all pride, hate, jealousy, envy, anger, ill-feeling, and love of this temporary world from my heart, and fill my heart with the remembrance of Thee, and the love of Thy Messenger (S.A.W) andthe love of Thy Book, Al-Qur’an. Oh Allah, help me to focus my heart and mind towards the aakhira (hereafter) so that the love of this temporary world is removed from my heart and mind.”

“Oh the Ever-living and Steadfast One, Lord of Majesty and Honour! There is no God save Thee, of Thy Mercy succour me, from Thy Punishment protect me and leave me not to my own care one moment, make my life upright as Thou didst for the righteous ones.”

“Oh Allah, there is no needy person who is in greater need than I am of Thee. Oh Allah! Let not my enemies rejoice over me, and let not my friends think evil of me. May I not come into misfortune in my religion, Al-Islam, and may this world not be the greatest of my cares, nor the sum of my knowledge. Let not him who has no mercy prevail over me by my sin.”

“Oh Allah, this is my prayer, but it is for Thee to answer, this is my utmost endeavor, but in Thee is my trust, Oh Lord of Honour and Majesty.”
“All praise is for Allah alone Who has no partner. I am of those who have surrendered to His will and believe in His Unity, His Angels, His Books, His Prophets, the Hereafter, the Day of Resurrection, and in Paradise and Hell. Ameen.”

Oh Allah accept this Dua through Thy infinite all enveloping Mercy, Insha-Allah.

Complete with Dua’s for the Ummah and Salawaat on our master, Muhammed (S.A.W).

“Successful indeed are the Believers, those who humble themselves in their salaah.”

Surah Al-Mu’min 23:1-2