

## AT-TURATH ACADEMY OF QUR'AN

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# Islamic Fiqh — Salah (Prayer)

## 100 Basic Fiqh & Masā'il Questions & Answers



*“The first thing a servant will be brought to account for on the Day of Judgment is Salah.”*

— Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

Part 1: Getting Ready for Salah • Part 2: Cleanliness & Focus Part 3: Praying Together & On the Go • Part 4: Everyday Questions Part 5:  
Growing Closer to Allah

## Part 1: Getting Ready for Salah

### Questions 1–20

#### 1 What is Salah?

**Answer:** Salah (prayer) is the second pillar of Islam. It is the most important act of worship after believing in Allah.

#### 2 How many daily prayers are there?

**Answer:** There are five daily prayers: Fajr, Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha.

#### 3 Who must pray?

**Answer:** Every Muslim who has reached puberty and is mentally sound must perform the five daily prayers.

#### 4 At what age should children start learning Salah?

**Answer:** Children should be taught to pray from the age of seven.

#### 5 Is Wudu required before Salah?

**Answer:** Yes. A valid Wudu is required before performing Salah unless a person has a valid excuse.

#### 6 Can we pray without Wudu?

**Answer:** No. Salah is not valid without Wudu unless Tayammum is allowed.

#### 7 What direction do Muslims face in Salah?

**Answer:** Muslims face the Ka'bah in Makkah (the Qiblah).

#### 8 How can we find the Qiblah while living abroad?

**Answer:** We can use a Qiblah app, a compass, or ask the local mosque.

#### 9 Why should we pray on time?

**Answer:** Allah loves those who perform Salah at its prescribed time.

#### 10 What should we wear for Salah?

**Answer:** We should wear clean, modest clothing that covers the 'Awrah.

#### 11 What is the 'Awrah for boys?

**Answer:** For boys and men, the area from the navel to below the knees must be covered.

#### 12 What is the 'Awrah for girls?

**Answer:** Girls should wear modest clothing that covers the body according to Islamic guidelines.

**13 What should we do when we hear the Adhan?**

**Answer:** Listen carefully, repeat the words of the Adhan, and make the Sunnah du'a afterward.

**14 What is Niyyah (intention)?**

**Answer:** Niyyah is the intention in the heart to perform a specific prayer for the sake of Allah.

**15 Do we have to say the Niyyah aloud?**

**Answer:** No. The intention is in the heart.

**16 What are the first words of Salah?**

**Answer:** "Allahu Akbar."

**17 What is Ruku'?**

**Answer:** Ruku' is bowing before Allah while saying "Subhana Rabbiyal-'Azim."

**18 What is Sujud?**

**Answer:** Sujud is placing the forehead and nose on the ground to worship Allah. It is the closest position to Allah in Salah.

**19 How many Sujud are there in each Rak'ah?**

**Answer:** There are two Sujud in every Rak'ah.

**20 Can we talk during Salah?**

**Answer:** No. Speaking intentionally during Salah invalidates the prayer.

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## Part 2: Cleanliness & Focus in Prayer

### Questions 21–40

**21 What should we do if we forget a prayer?**

**Answer:** We should pray it as soon as we remember. We should not delay it further.

**22 Can we pray while wearing shoes?**

**Answer:** Yes, if the shoes are clean and free from impurities. However, many mosques require shoes to be removed.

**23 What should we do if our clothes become impure?**

**Answer:** We should clean or change them before performing Salah.

**24 Can we pray on carpet or grass?**

**Answer:** Yes. Any clean place is suitable for Salah.

**25 Can we pray outside?**

**Answer:** Yes. We may pray anywhere that is clean.

**26 Can we pray at school?**

**Answer:** Yes. If it is prayer time, find a clean and quiet place to perform Salah.

**27 Can we combine prayers without a valid reason?**

**Answer:** No. Each prayer should normally be offered at its proper time.

**28 What should we do if we do not know the Qiblah?**

**Answer:** Try your best to find the correct direction. If you make a sincere effort, your prayer is valid.

**29 What breaks Wudu?**

**Answer:** Using the toilet, passing wind, deep sleep, or anything else that invalidates Wudu.

**30 If Wudu breaks during Salah, what should we do?**

**Answer:** Stop the prayer, perform Wudu again, and then repeat the Salah.

**31 Is it allowed to laugh during Salah?**

**Answer:** No. Laughing invalidates the prayer.

**32 Can we eat or drink during Salah?**

**Answer:** No. Eating or drinking invalidates the prayer.

**33 Can we look around while praying?**

**Answer:** It is disliked. We should keep our focus on the prayer.

**34 Why should we pray with concentration?**

**Answer:** Because we are standing before Allah and worshipping Him.

**35 What should we say after finishing Salah?**

**Answer:** We should make Dhikr, recite the recommended supplications, and ask Allah for forgiveness.

**36 Is praying in the mosque better for boys and men?**

**Answer:** Yes. Praying in congregation at the mosque brings greater reward whenever possible.

**37 What is a congregation (Jamā'ah)?**

**Answer:** It is when Muslims pray together behind an Imam.

**38 Who leads the prayer?**

**Answer:** The Imam leads the congregation in Salah.

**39 What should we do if the Imam says "Allahu Akbar"?**

**Answer:** Follow the Imam and do not move before him.

**40 Why should we not rush in Salah?**

**Answer:** Salah should be performed calmly, respectfully, and with humility before Allah.

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## Part 3: Praying Together & On the Go

### Questions 41–60

#### 41 What is the Adhan?

**Answer:** The Adhan is the call to prayer that announces the beginning of the prayer time.

#### 42 What is the Iqamah?

**Answer:** The Iqamah is the second call made just before the congregational prayer begins.

#### 43 Is praying in congregation better than praying alone?

**Answer:** Yes. Praying in congregation has much greater reward than praying alone.

#### 44 What should we do if we arrive late for the prayer?

**Answer:** Join the Imam immediately and complete the missed Rak'ahs after the Imam finishes.

#### 45 Can we walk in front of someone who is praying?

**Answer:** No. We should avoid passing in front of a person who is praying.

#### 46 What is a Sutrah?

**Answer:** A Sutrah is an object placed in front of a person praying to prevent others from walking in front of them.

#### 47 Should we turn off or silence our phone before Salah?

**Answer:** Yes. We should silence our phone so it does not disturb the prayer.

#### 48 What if my phone rings during Salah?

**Answer:** If necessary, you may stop the sound with a small movement without disturbing the prayer.

#### 49 Can we smile during Salah?

**Answer:** A slight smile does not invalidate the prayer, but we should remain serious and focused.

#### 50 Can we scratch an itch during Salah?

**Answer:** Yes, if necessary, but unnecessary movements should be avoided.

#### 51 Can we pray if we have a small cut or bandage?

**Answer:** Yes. If washing the wound is harmful, follow the Islamic rulings for such situations.

#### 52 What should we do if we cannot stand?

**Answer:** Pray sitting. If you cannot sit, pray lying down according to your ability.

#### 53 Can we pray while traveling?

**Answer:** Yes. Islam makes prayer easier for travelers through the rules of Qasr and, in some cases, combining prayers.

**54 What is Qasr Salah?**

**Answer:** Qasr means shortening the four-Rak'ah prayers to two Rak'ahs while traveling.

**55 Which prayers are shortened during travel?**

**Answer:** Dhuhr, Asr, and Isha are shortened from four Rak'ahs to two.

**56 Is Fajr shortened during travel?**

**Answer:** No. Fajr always remains two Rak'ahs.

**57 Is Maghrib shortened during travel?**

**Answer:** No. Maghrib always remains three Rak'ahs.

**58 What should we do if we forget how many Rak'ahs we have prayed?**

**Answer:** Follow the Islamic ruling for doubt in Salah. If needed, complete the prayer with Sajdatus Sahw (the Prostration of Forgetfulness).

**59 What is Sajdatus Sahw?**

**Answer:** It is two extra prostrations performed to make up for certain mistakes or forgetfulness during Salah.

**60 Should we pray every day even when we are busy?**

**Answer:** Yes. A Muslim should never neglect the five daily prayers because of school, work, sports, or other activities.

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## Part 4: Everyday Questions About Salah

### Questions 61–80

**61 Is it allowed to delay Salah without a valid reason?**

**Answer:** No. Every prayer should be performed within its prescribed time unless there is a valid Islamic excuse.

**62 Can I pray in my school uniform?**

**Answer:** Yes, as long as your uniform is clean and covers the required parts of the body ('Awrah).

**63 What should I do if I accidentally miss Fajr because I overslept?**

**Answer:** Pray Fajr as soon as you wake up. Ask Allah for forgiveness and try to prevent it from happening again.

**64 Can I pray in a park or at the airport?**

**Answer:** Yes. Any clean place is suitable for Salah.

**65 Is it okay to pray while wearing a hat or cap?**

**Answer:** Yes. Wearing a cap is permissible, but it is not a requirement for Salah.

**66 Do I have to pray with my eyes closed?**

**Answer:** No. It is Sunnah to keep your eyes open and look toward the place of Sujud.

**67 Can I pray in front of a mirror?**

**Answer:** Yes, if it does not distract you from your prayer.

**68 What should I do if someone greets me with "Salam" while I am praying?**

**Answer:** Do not reply during Salah. You may return the greeting after you finish your prayer.

**69 Can I yawn during Salah?**

**Answer:** If you yawn, try your best to suppress it. If necessary, cover your mouth.

**70 Is it okay to stretch or play with my clothes during Salah?**

**Answer:** No. Unnecessary movements should be avoided because they reduce concentration.

**71 What should I do if I forget to recite a Sunnah part of the prayer?**

**Answer:** Your Salah is still valid. Continue your prayer.

**72 What happens if I leave out a Fard (obligatory) part of Salah?**

**Answer:** The Salah is not valid and must be repeated.

**73 What happens if I forget a Wajib act in Salah?**

**Answer:** In the Hanafi school, you should perform Sajdatus Sahw if applicable.

**74 Can children stand in the prayer row with adults?**

**Answer:** Yes. Children who know how to pray properly may stand in the congregation.

**75 Can I read from the Qur'an on my phone during Salah?**

**Answer:** According to the Hanafi school, reading from a phone or Mushaf during Fard Salah is not permissible.

**76 What should I do if my nose starts bleeding during Salah?**

**Answer:** If the bleeding breaks your Wudu, stop the prayer, make Wudu again, and restart the Salah.

**77 Is cleanliness important in Islam?**

**Answer:** Yes. Allah loves those who keep themselves clean and pure.

**78 Should I make Du'a after Salah?**

**Answer:** Yes. Making Du'a after the obligatory prayers is a blessed time to ask Allah for goodness.

**79 Why do Muslims pray every day?**

**Answer:** Because Allah has commanded us to pray, and Salah strengthens our faith and keeps us close to Him.

**80 What is the reward for praying on time?**

**Answer:** Allah loves those who guard their prayers and promises them great rewards in this life and the Hereafter.

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## Part 5: Growing Closer to Allah

### Questions 81–100

#### 81 Can I pray if I only know a few short Surahs?

**Answer:** Yes. You may recite the short Surahs you have memorized while continuing to learn more of the Qur'an.

#### 82 What if I make a small mistake while reciting?

**Answer:** If the mistake does not significantly change the meaning, your Salah is generally valid. Keep learning and improving your recitation.

#### 83 Can I pray in a room where there are pictures or statues?

**Answer:** It is better to pray in a place free from pictures of living beings and statues whenever possible.

#### 84 Is it permissible to pray while wearing socks?

**Answer:** Yes. Wearing clean socks does not affect the validity of Salah.

#### 85 Can I perform Salah on a chair?

**Answer:** Yes, if you are unable to stand because of illness, injury, or another valid excuse.

#### 86 What should I do if I hear the Adhan while I am studying?

**Answer:** Prepare for Salah and pray on time. Your studies can continue after the prayer.

#### 87 Can I pray in my workplace or office?

**Answer:** Yes. Find a clean and suitable place and perform your Salah on time.

#### 88 Can I pray if I am sick?

**Answer:** Yes. Islam makes prayer easy. Pray according to your ability—standing, sitting, or lying down if necessary.

#### 89 What is the best prayer after the five obligatory prayers?

**Answer:** The Witr prayer and the Sunnah prayers are among the most important voluntary prayers.

#### 90 What is Witr Salah?

**Answer:** Witr is a Wājib prayer in the Hanafi school. It consists of three Rak'ahs and is prayed after Isha before Fajr.

#### 91 Should I make Du'a Qunūt in Witr?

**Answer:** Yes. In the Hanafi school, reciting Du'a Qunūt in the third Rak'ah of Witr is Wājib.

#### 92 Can I pray Tahajjud?

**Answer:** Yes. Tahajjud is a highly recommended voluntary prayer performed during the last part of the night.

**93 Why should I pray Sunnah prayers?**

**Answer:** Sunnah prayers increase your reward and help make up for shortcomings in your obligatory prayers.

**94 What is Khushū' in Salah?**

**Answer:** Khushū' means praying with humility, concentration, and sincerity, remembering that you are standing before Allah.

**95 What should I say after finishing Salah?**

**Answer:** Recite the recommended Dhikr, make Du'a, and thank Allah for allowing you to complete your prayer.

**96 What is the most important lesson of Salah?**

**Answer:** Salah teaches us to worship Allah alone, obey Him, and remain disciplined throughout our lives.

**97 What if I accidentally miss a Salah?**

**Answer:** Perform the missed prayer (Qadā') as soon as you remember, and sincerely repent to Allah.

**98 Can I make Du'a in my own language after Salah?**

**Answer:** Yes. After completing Salah, you may ask Allah in any language you understand.

**99 Why is Salah called the pillar of Islam?**

**Answer:** Because it is the greatest act of worship after the declaration of faith and supports a Muslim's relationship with Allah every day.

**100 What is the best advice for every Muslim child about Salah?**

**Answer:** Never miss your five daily prayers. Pray on time, pray with sincerity, and remember that Salah is your daily meeting with Allah. The Prophet ﷺ said that Salah is the first deed a person will be questioned about on the Day of Judgment.

## **Alhamdulillah!**

You have completed all 100 questions about Salah. May Allah make you among those who guard their prayers.

**At-Turath Academy of Qur'an**