

L13

Topic: The Invalidators of Salah & Salah of Traveller

The Invalidators of Salah

Twelve cases invalidate the salah:

1. If **one of the criteria** of the salah **ceases to exist**, for example if one learns during the salah that the place (one is performing the salah in) is usurped
2. **Something that spoils the wudu' or ghusl** to occur for the individual during the salah
3. To hold *takfeer* , which is to place the hands over one another across the body
4. 4. To say '**amen**' after reciting al-Hamd
5. 5. To **turn one's back to the Qiblah**, deliberately or inadvertently
6. 6. **Uttering a word** of two letters or more, even if it is meaningless. However, if one does that even inadvertently, his salah is not void.
7. To **laugh** audibly. The same applies to the one who is made to laugh.
8. To **cry** for worldly matters.
9. Doing **something that compromises the state or posture of salah** such as clapping a lot, and making a big jump, and suchlike.
10. **Eating and drinking**. If one eats or drinks during salah such that it cannot be said he is performing salah, his salah is rendered void.
11. Any doubt that one might develop about the number of raka'at performed in a two-rak'ah and a three-rak'ah salah, or during the first two rak'ah of a four-rak'ah salah.

12. To add or deduct a rukn or a fundamental part (**Rukn: 1. Niyyah, 2. Qiyam, 3. Takbirat al-Ehram, 4. Rukoo', 5. Two Sujoods.**) of the *salah* – be it deliberately or inadvertently.

Salah of Traveller

It is mandatory for the travelling person to shorten his four-rak'ah *salah* – which are the *Duhr*, *Asr*, and *Esha* – by performing them in two *rak'ah*.

Criteria of the traveller salah

1. That the designated distance is travelled

The distance should not be less than a total of eight *farshakhs* including the return journey – and each *farshakh* is approximately 5.5 kilometers.

2. That one's intention is to travel the designated distance

One should have the intention of covering the distance of eight *farshakhs* [or more] at the outset of his journey.

3. That one does not retract from the intention

If one changes his mind, or become hesitant [about continuing the journey] before covering a distance of four *farshakhs*, he would be required to complete his *salah*.

4. That one does not cross the district of one's residence

5. That the journey is not for a prohibited purpose

6. That one is not a nomad who constantly roams the land in search of things.

7. That one's job does not involve frequent travelling

8. To reach city limits

That one leaves his hometown [or the place where he intended to stay for ten or more days] and reaches *hadd al-tarakhus* (where he cannot see the city).