

Topic: Salah and its Preliminaries

The Daily Obligatory Salah

1. **The Sobh (morning) salah**; two rak‘ah.
2. **The Duhr (noon) salah**; which is four rak‘ah,
3. **The ‘Asr (afternoon) salah**; four rak‘ah,
4. **The Maghrib (after sunset) salah**; three rak‘ah,
5. **The ‘Esha’ (evening) salah**; four rak‘ah,

The holy prophet (PBUH&HP):

“If there was a river close to your house and you washed in it five times a day... The example of salah is like that of the river, whenever one prays one’s sins are expiated.”

Preliminaries of the Daily Salah

1. The Times of Salah

- **Time of the Sobh (morning) Salah**

When the **brightness at dawn begins to spread horizontally** across the horizon, this is referred to as the Second Fajr or the True Fajr, and this is the onset of the time of the Sobh salah.

- **The Times of Duhr and ‘Asr Salah**

The time of the Duhr salah is from the **onset of noontime** until such time that is required to perform the Asr salah before sunset.

- **The Times of the Maghrib and ‘Esha’ Salah**

The Maghrib time is defined as the time **when the redness of the eastern sky** – that persists in the east for some time after sunset – **disappears** from the eastern half and mid-sky.

As for the time of the ‘Esha’ salah, it is **after the three rak‘ah of the ‘Maqrib salah through to midnight**.

- If one delays the ‘Esha’ salah beyond midnight, one must perform it by the Fajr adhan without specifying *ada’* or *qada’ niyyah*, as per obligatory precaution.

✚ If the time is too short to perform salah in its prescribed time, one must not perform the recommended (mustahab) acts of salah.

✚ « قَوْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ، الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ »

“So woe to those who pray, who are heedless of their prayer.”

✚ "لا ينالُ شفاعتي مَنْ استخَفَّ بالصلاة":

“Whoever treats his salah without due consideration will not attain my intercession.”

✚ One is obliged to do his/her undone (in the prescribed time) prayers as qada', **the sooner the better**, but if one knows the sequence of the undone prayers one must observe that sequence.

2. Qibla

Facing the direction of the Qiblah (Ka'bah) is mandatory for one who is performing salah.