



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Lesson 34

Importance of Salat (Prayer)

- Linguistically, the word “Salah” in Arabic means “Duaa” (to supplicate).

إِنَّ صَلَوَاتَكَ سَكَنٌ لَهُمْ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

Indeed your blessing is a comfort to them, and Allah is all-hearing, all-knowing.

- Islam has been built on five pillars: Tauheed, establishing prayer, giving charity, fasting in the month of Ramadan, Hajj.

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): مَا بَيْنَ الْكُفْرِ وَالْإِيمَانِ إِلَّا تَرْكُ الصَّلَاةِ.

Holy Prophet (s): The line that separates faith and belief is abandoning Salat.

(Wasa'il al-Shia, v. 4, pg. 43)

Obligatory prayers

1. Daily prayers (17 units)
2. The prayers of signs (salat al-ayat)
3. Salat al-Tawaf al-Wajib (prayer for obligatory Tawaf)
4. The lapsed prayers of one's father obligatory on the eldest son.
5. Prayers that become obligatory due to vow (nadhr), oath (qasam), or covenant (ahd).

Mustahab prayers

- Daily Nawafil (34 units): 8 units before Zuhr; 8 units before Asr; 4 units after Maghrib, 1 unit after Isha (2 units sitting), 11 units of Salat al-Layl, 2 units before Fajr prayer = 34 units.



Times of Salat

وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ طَرَفَيْ النَّهَارِ وَزُلْفًا مِنَ اللَّيْلِ

Maintain the prayer at the two ends of the day, and during the early hours of the night.

(Hud, 114)

أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِدُلُوكِ الشَّمْسِ إِلَى غَسَقِ اللَّيْلِ وَقُرْآنَ الْفَجْرِ

Maintain the prayer [during the period] from the sun's decline till the darkness of the night, and [observe particularly] the dawn recital.

(Isra, 78)

قَالَ: مَنْ صَلَّى فِي غَيْرِ الْوَقْتِ فَلَا صَلَاةَ لَهُ.

Imam Sadiq (as): One who prays outside the time of Salat, his prayer is invalid.

قَالَ الصَّادِقُ (ع): اِمْتَحِنُوا شِيعَتَنَا عِنْدَ مَوَاقِيتِ الصَّلَاةِ كَيْفَ مُحَافِظَتُهُمْ عَلَيْهَا.

Imam Sadiq (as): Test our Shias at the times of Salat, how mindful are they of it.

(Bihar al-Anwar, v. 80, pg. 23)