

Salat (Prayer)

Obligatory prayers

Issue No.1- The following six prayers are obligatory:

1. Daily prayer.
2. Ayaat prayer.
3. Mayyit prayer.
4. Prayer for the obligatory Tawaf of the holy Ka'bah.
5. Qadha prayer of father which is obligatory upon his eldest son.
6. Prayers which become obligatory on account of vow or oath.

Obligatory daily prayers

Issue No.2- It is obligatory to perform the following five prayers during day and night:

- Dawn prayers (Fajr) - 2 Rak'ats.
- Midday (Zuhr) and Afternoon ('Asr) prayers - each one consisting of 4 Rak'ats.
- Dusk prayers (Maghrib) - 3 Rak'ats, and Night prayers ('Isha) - 4 Rak'ats.

Issue No.3- While travelling, a traveller should reduce the prayers of 4 Rak'ats to 2 Rak'ats. The conditions under which the Rak'ats are reduced will be mentioned later.

Mustahab daily prayers

Issue No.4- There are many Mustahab prayers which are generally called Nafilah, but more stress has been laid on the daily Mustahab prayers:

- 8 Rak'ats (4 x 2 Rak'ats) Nafilah for Zuhr, which is before Zuhr prayer.
- 8 Rak'ats (4 x 2 Rak'ats) Nafilah for Asr, which is before Asr prayer.
- 4 Rak'ats (2 x 2 Rak'ats) Nafilah for Maghrib, which is after Maghrib prayer.
- 2 Rak'ats Nafilah for Isha which is after Isha prayer and should be offered while sitting.

- 11 Rak'ats (5 x 2 Rak'ats + 1 Rak'at) Nafilah for Tahajjud which is after midnight.
- 2 Rak'ats Nafilah for Fajr which is before Fajr Prayer.

Issue No.5- Out of the 11 Rak'ats of the night Nafilah, 8 Rak'ats should be offered with the niyyat of the Nafilah, 2 Rak'ats with the niyyat of Shaf'a, and 1 Rak'at with the Niyyat of Witr.
