

Things which invalidate prayers

Issue No. 1- Twelve things make prayers void, and they are called mubtilat.

First: If any of the pre-requisites of prayers ceases to exist while one is in prayer, like, if he comes to know that the dress with which he has covered himself is a usurped one.

Second: If a person intentionally or by mistake, or uncontrollably, commits an act which makes his Wudhu or Ghusl void.

Third: If a person folds his hands, his prayers will be void if it is done intentionally, believing that it is a part of Prayers.

Fourth: If a person says 'Aamin' after Surah al-Hamd, his prayers will be void if it is done intentionally, believing that it is a part of Prayers

Fifth: If a person turns away from Qibla, his prayers will be void.

Sixth: The sixth thing which invalidates prayers is to talk intentionally.

Seventh: The seventh thing which makes namaz void is an intentional loud laugh.

Eighth: If one intentionally weeps loudly, over some worldly matters, his Prayer will be void. But, if he weeps silently or loudly due to fear of Allah, or for the Hereafter, there is no harm in it.

Ninth: Any act which changes the form of prayers like, clapping or jumping, invalidates the prayers, regardless of whether that act is done intentionally or forgetfully. However, there is no harm in actions which do not change the form of prayers, like, making a brief sign with finger.

Tenth: If a person offering prayers eats or drinks, his prayers would be void.

But if a person in prayer swallows the little particles of food which has remained around his teeth, his prayers are not invalidated. Similarly, if things like grains of sugar remain in the mouth and they melt slowly and go down the throat, there is no harm in it.

Eleventh: Any doubt concerning the number of Rak'ats in those prayers which consist of two or three Rak'ats, will render the prayer void. Also, if one doubts about the number of the first two Rak'ats, of prayers having four Rak'ats, (like, Zuhr, Asr and Isha), his prayers will be void.

Twelfth: If a person omits or adds the Rukn (elemental parts) of the prayers, either intentionally or forgetfully, his prayer is void.

And if one omits purposely a wajib act which is not Rukn, or makes an addition, the prayer will be void.

Issue No. 2- If a person doubts after the prayer, whether or not he performed any such act which invalidated the prayers, his prayer will be in order.

Issue No. 3- There is no harm in reciting Duas during the prayers.

Issue No. 4- If a person intentionally repeats parts of Surah al-Hamd and other Surah, and the Zikr of prayers, as a matter of some precaution, there is no harm in it.

Issue No. 5- A person offering prayers should not greet anyone with Salam, and if another person says Salam to him, he should use the same words in reply without adding anything to it.

Issue No. 6- If a person in prayer does not respond to Salam, his prayers are in order, though he will have committed a sin.

Issue No. 7- If a person says Salam to a group of people, it is obligatory for all of them to give a reply. However, if one of them replies, it is sufficient.
