

Islamic School of Stanford

7th Grade Quranic Studies

Student Name: _____

Date: 2/15/2009

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Prayer Chapter

1. The prescribed prayers are five, which are obligatory for every Muslim who has reached the age of puberty and is sane:
 - a. Noon prayer (dhuhr) – begins after the sun has reached its peak in the sky and ends when an object's shadow equals the object's height.
 - b. Mid-afternoon prayer ('asr) – begins at the end of the noon prayer's time and ends when an object's shadow is twice as long as the object's height. It is offensive to wait until the sun's light fades to perform the 'asr prayer.
 - c. Sunset prayer (maghrib) – begins when the sun has completely set and ends when the red disappears from the sky.
 - d. Nightfall prayer ('isha) – begins at the end of the sunset prayer's time. The preferred time for its performance ends when a third of the night has passed.
 - e. Dawn prayer (fajr) – begins at true dawn when the sky around the horizon begins to grow light. The preferred time for its performance ends when the day grows light outside.

2. Making up prayers:
 - a. Whenever a prayer is missed for a valid reason, it is recommended to make it up immediately.
 - b. Whenever a prayer is missed without a valid reason, it is obligatory to make it up immediately.

3. Times when the prayer is forbidden except when it is for the two sunna rak'as before entering the state of pilgrim sanctity performed after the prescribed prayers:
 - a. From after the dawn prayer until the sun is well up (half of the sun appears in the horizon).
 - b. From after 'asr until sunset.

4. It is sunna to perform:
 - a. Two rak'as before the fajr
 - b. Two before and after dhuhr
 - c. Two after 'isha
 - d. And witr (one rak'a)

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5. Before the prayer:
 - a. One should perform wudu if in a state of minor ritual impurity
 - b. One should remove all filth (najasa) from the body (including blood from the mouth and nose), clothes, and place of prayer.
 - c. One should conceal all nakedness; men must cover from knees up to the navel. Women should cover the entire body except the face (from forehead up to the chin only) and hands. If anything else shows during the prayer, the prayer must be repeated unless the exposed part was covered immediately.
 - d. One should be aware of the correct prayer time.
 - e. One should face in the direction of the Kaaba in Mecca. If unable to face the direction of the prayer, should make up the prayer.

6. The “works of the heart” are the soul of the prayer:
 - a. One’s sole aim for praying should be Allah Himself, offering the worship that is due to Him out of love and thanks.
 - b. The prayer should be performed with the humility and presence of mind befitting our relation to the nature of the Divine, as Allah has commanded us to perform it upon the tongue of his Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace), who said, “Pray as you have seen me pray”.

7. The integrals of the prayer are:
 - a. The intention
 - b. Standing
 - c. The opening of Allahu Akbar, which must be pronounced correctly and without lengthy pause in between
 - d. Reciting the Fatiha, of which Bismi Llahi r-Rahmani r-Rahim is a verse pronounced correctly and without lengthy pause in between
 - e. Bowing
 - f. Straightening back up
 - g. Prostrating twice, sitting back between them
 - h. The final Testification of Faith, sitting, and the Blessings on the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) after it.
 - i. Salams which end the prayer pronounced correctly and without lengthy pause in between.
 - j. And the correct order of the integrals of the prayer (from a. to i.)

8. If any of the integrals of the prayer is omitted or forgotten, the prayer is invalidated and must be repeated.