

MAJLIS ATFAL UL AHMADIYYA UK
Plan of Learning

Learn the following prayer & translation:

رَبَّنَا أَفْرِغْ عَلَيْنَا صَبْرًا وَثَبِّتْ أَدْمَانَا وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٢٥١﴾

O our Lord, pour forth steadfastness upon us, and make our steps firm, and help us against the disbelieving people.

(Surah Al Baqarah verse 251)

Hadith

Read this short hadith and try to learn it:

Narrated Abu Hurairah رضي الله تعالى عنه :

The Prophet ﷺ said, "There are two expressions which are very dear to Allah the Beneficent. They are light on the tongue but are immensely weighty in substance, and they are 'Exalted is Allah with all His Glory, Exalted is Allah with all his Majesty.'

(Subhan Allah wa bi Hamdihi, Subhan Allhil- Azim)

Sahih Bukhari

Writings Of The Promised Messiah عليه السلام

Read this short text and try to learn it

"Abide by the truth and hold fast to it. He sees what is in your hearts. Can man ever deceive Him?"

'Roohani Khazain Vol 3: Izala-e-Auham, Pt. 2, p 549'

Khilafat Section

Learn the basic facts about the Khulafa

The first four Caliphs after The Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ are known as the "Guided Khilafat".



Hadrat 'Uthman Ghani' رضي الله تعالى عنه

Period of Khilafat: 644-656 AD

During the first six years of his Khilafat, the Islamic Empire not only expanded, but also its people enjoyed peace and property. Standard copies of the Holy Quran were

prepared from the one compiled by Hadhrat Abu Bakr رضي الله تعالى عنه and sent it to all the provinces of the state. This was certainly the most important deed.

History And Teachings Of Islam

Read this story and answer the questions:

How a Muslim prays to God (taken from Golden Deeds of Muslims by late Rashid Ahmad Chaudhry Sahib)

Islam lays great stress upon Divine worship. Indeed it is regarded as the purpose of man's creation. The object of worship is to strengthen man's relationship with God. In the Holy Quran God says:

"Call on Me, I will respond to you." (40:61)

In Islamic form of worship, an intermediary is not needed. A man prays to God and seeks to establish communion with Him. He prays with a firm belief that no sincere prayer is in vain. In Islam, it is a great sin to worship any other besides God. Allah alone has the power to answer prayers, so we should ask each and every thing from Him.

Islamic worship may be divided into two categories:

1. Formal worship such as Prayer Services, Pilgrimage to the House of Allah (Hajj), Fasting and Zakat. Prayer service means worship in congregation.
2. Informal worship such as remembrance of God, called 'Zikr'.

Islam prescribes five daily Prayer Services, called 'Salat' at appointed times. They are as follows:

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Fajr Prayer | At Dawn |
| Zuhr Prayer | At Noon |
| Asr Prayer | In the Afternoon |
| Maghrib Prayer | After Sunset |
| Isha Prayer | In the Evening |

The Islamic Prayer is quite different from those prescribed in other religions. It has both an individual and a collective part. All Prayer services are led by an Imam. There is no Priesthood in Islam. Any person who has some religious knowledge can lead the Prayer service. Generally, he is chosen for his piety and learning. If there are only two Muslims, one of them leads the Prayer. A man can lead the Prayer in his house with members of his family following him, but if a person is alone and can find no one with whom he can join in Prayer, he can perform it by himself.

On Fridays there is a special service called 'Salat-ul-Juma', which is performed in place of the Zuhr Prayer. In this service the Imam delivers a sermon before the Prayer. Although a Muslim may say his Prayers anywhere, in homes, in the open, or even on

board a ship or train, he should say them as a member of the congregation in a mosque.

Before each Prayer, Azan (Call to Prayer) is called. The one who calls out the Azan is called a 'Muezzin'. He stands on a raised platform or on a minaret, with his face towards the Ka'aba and makes the announcement, the translation of which is as follows:

'Allah is the Greatest; Allah is the Greatest
Allah is the Greatest; Allah is the Greatest

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship save Allah
I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship save Allah

I bear witness that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah
I bear witness that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah

Come to Prayer; Come to Prayer
Come to Success; Come to Success

Allah is the Greatest; Allah is the Greatest
There is none worthy of worship save Allah.'

Hearing this call a Muslim leaves his work and comes to the mosque. He performs ablution i.e. washes his face, hands and feet in the prescribed manner.

In the mosque there are no seats nor are there any places reserved for anybody, except that the Imam stands in front of the congregation with his face turned towards the Ka'aba. Behind him people stand in rows facing the same direction. All are equal in the house of Allah regardless of rank, office, colour or race. These gatherings are not mixed. Women stand separately from men. Everyone has to follow the Imam as he goes through various postures. The different postures are standing, bowing, prostration and sitting.

The Muslims gather for Divine worship in the simplest possible manner. No music, choir, or congregational singing is permitted in the Prayers. Conversation of any kind is also prohibited. There are no images, pictures or paintings in a mosque. All these are prohibited because they distract attention from Prayer.

In addition to the prescribed Services, Muslims offer prayers and devote themselves silently to the remembrance of God during the course of the day even when their hands may be otherwise occupied, or when walking or riding.

Fasting is another form of worship. A Fast means abstention from food and drink from dawn to sunset for the pleasure of God. The Islamic Fast is different from the Fasts prescribed in other religions. For example, Hindus and Christians are permitted to eat certain kinds of food during the period of their Fasts, while a Muslim does not eat or drink anything from dawn to sunset. So it goes on for thirty days, throughout Ramadan, the month in which the Quran was first revealed to the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

Another form of worship is known as Zakat. It is a compulsory levy imposed on certain types of possessions and wealth. Muslims who possess for one complete year, cash or goods, beyond a minimum, pay Zakat according to a specified rate, which on the average, works out at 2.5% of the capital value of the form of wealth on which it

is assessed. The proceeds of Zakat are distributed among the poorer sections of the community.

Hajj or the Pilgrimage to Mecca is another form of Islamic worship. It is obligatory upon all Muslims who can afford the journey to perform Hajj at least once in their life-time. Hundreds of thousands of Muslims from all parts of the world gather at Mecca to perform this worship every year, during the prescribed days.

There are two Muslim festivals. One is called 'Eid-ul-Fitr', a festival at the end of the month of Fasting. A congregational service is held at convenient places where large numbers gather for the Service, and the Imam delivers a sermon.

The second festival is called 'Eid-ul-Adha', the festival of sacrifice. It is celebrated in memory of the readiness of Hazrat Ibrahim عليه السلام to sacrifice his only son Hazrat Ismail عليه السلام, as he conceived God had commanded him. An extra Service is held in the forenoon in which a sermon is delivered. On this day those Muslims who can afford to slaughter an animal, do so after the Prayer, as a sacrifice.

Questions:

1. What is meant by Salat (Prayer Service)?
2. How many Prayer Services are prescribed for a Muslim daily? Give their names and timings.
3. What is meant by the following: Zakat, Muezzin, Azan, Imam.
4. Where may a Muslim offer his Prayers?
5. What according to Islam is the purpose of man's creation?
6. Towards which direction do Muslims face during a Prayer Service?
7. Where do Muslims go to perform Hajj?
8. On what occasion does the Imam deliver sermon?
9. Name the two Muslim festivals and give their background.