

Preface to The Third Edition

It is a living miracle of the Truth of Islam that, though it has neither a backing of huge missionary corporations, nor does it have any authentic literature in foreign languages, yet people after people, attracted to it by its inherent magnetic force, keep on embracing this religion of love and universal brotherhood. For, whenever either by dint of personal research and study or by a chance contact with, and the consequent guidance of a real Muslim theologian, they learn the true facts about Islam, the invariable conclusion they arrive at is that Islam is a very simple religion and all its teachings are perfectly rational and in complete consonance with the laws of nature.

It is not a new religion, but a divinely executed combination of all the old inspired ones and provides the *via media*, the golden means. On the one hand, its comprehensively high code of ethics, which is unique for many reasons, equips its votary for his journey towards the ultimate goal of a sincere seeker after Truth, Allah, and on the other directs its followers to foster and maintain fraternal relations with all the human beings and achieve the utmost progress in all the spheres of art and science and the material walks of life.

This is the only religion, the Sacred Book of which, the Holy Qur'an, is preserved intact in its pristine purity and an authentic record of the minutest details of the eventful life of its promulgator. Prophet Muhammad (May peace and blessings of Allah be on him), is extant to this day after a lapse of more than thirteen centuries.

The necessity of the presentation of the elementary teachings of Islam, explaining its Cardinal Articles of Faith and the Fundamental Principles in the simplest possible English language is therefore, obvious; for such a publication would not only serve to acquaint the English-knowing new Muslims with the essentials of Faith and the directions for engaging in devotion to Allah, but also supply the long-felt need of a handy book for imparting the rudiments of Islam to the Muslim children of those countries where the English Language rules supreme? and children are sent away to school using English as medium, of instruction, without having any knowledge, whatsoever, of their religion.

Realising the urgency of publishing such a volume, I, during my itinerary of Ceylon, Singapore, Penang, Java, etc., drafted out a skeleton according to the Shafi'i School in spite of numerous pre-occupations. My learned friend, Mr. M.I.M. Haniffa, B.A. (London), Advocate of Colombo, very kindly undertook to revise and touch it up, and it was due to his invaluable assistance that "A Short Catechism of the First Teachings of Islam" was published a few years ago, and has proved very beneficial.

About the same time an incomplete and imperfect draft, according to the Hanafi School, was re-leased for publication in "The Real Islam" of Singapore on account of pressing demands. The present volume is a thoroughly revised and enlarged edition of that draft. While sending it to the press I feel, I must acknowledge the co-operation, in this humble work, of Mr. K. S. Anwari, my Secretary, during the South and East African tour, and of my son-in-law Hafiz Muhammad Fazlur Rahman Ansari, B.A. (Alig.).

While expressing the hope that this little volume will serve the purpose in view and will meet the approval of all those concerned, I desire to record my sincere thanks to Al-Haj Mohammad Ibrahim of Trinidad for liberally undertaking the cost of printing and thus rendering a signal service to Islam and to the public.

If it pleases Allah, a second volume, in which commonsense arguments in support of the Cardinal articles of Faith and a much more detailed treatment of the Principles of Islam and the laws governing society will be incorporated, will soon follow this modest attempt.

May it please Allah to accept this humble service. Amen!

MOHAMMED ABDUL ALEEM SIDDIQUI.

Preface to the 1954 Edition

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful. A brief reference to the compilation of the present book has been made in the Preface to the third edition, herein included. The first edition was published as soon as the original draft was serialised in the "Real Islam" of Singapore. The second edition was brought out in South Africa by Mr. Makki, who actually made it the inaugural step in his great and glorious campaign of service in the field of Islamic publications. Soon after that, it was thoroughly revised and enlarged and was published in the form in which it is being presented, now. Thereafter its popularity grew by leaps and bounds and the demand for it became world-wide. (Consequently it was printed so many times and in such number; that it is difficult for me to give the exact figures.

I have never sought any commercial gains either from my speeches or from my writings. Many of my speeches were recorded in different countries of the world, but I never got their records registered in my name. Similarly, as regards my writings, I have always refrained from reserving their copy-right either in my own favour or in the favour of any other individual or organisation. This means that everyone is at liberty to publish any of my books, provided he does so for missionary purposes i.e., either to sell at moderate price or to distribute free among seekers of Islamic knowledge -- and not for making money.

The present book could be no exception to the rule. Consequently, whenever anyone considered necessary to print it, he did so, sometimes even without intimating me. Hence fresh editions continued to come out, though in some cases certain changes and deletions were also made without my permission or knowledge. Thus, for instance, its name was changed to "Genuine Islam" in the Australian edition, while in the Egyptian edition, of which 5,000 copies were printed and distributed gratis in different parts of the world, all the questions were deleted and only their answers were retained and published. Side by side with the English editions, Mr. Eshack Abdullatif, the indefatigable Secretary-General of the 'Halqa-i-Qaderiyyah Isha'at-i-Islam', Mauritius, brought out his ably-executed French version, which was widely circulated among the French speaking people by the Egyptian friends.

The demand for the book has, however, continued to increase with its circulation, and recently it was stressed by many friends from different parts of the world that a substantially-large edition of the complete English version, including Arabic passages, should be published. The appeals from Haji Muhammad Ibrahim of Trinidad (who had borne the expenses of the third edition) and the Anjuman Ikhwan-us-Safa of Durban were specially pressing. Hence I searched for a suitable publisher, and I am glad that my choice fell on the "Islamic Literature Publishing House" of Bangalore, Bharat, whose proprietor, Mr. A. J. Khaleel, BA., BL. accepted the job with the profoundest religious enthusiasm. In fact, he plans to publish not only the present English edition but also its translations in several languages. He has already distinguished himself in his great and noble scheme of publishing the translations of the Holy Qur'an in different languages of the world and of selling their copies at a very low price, and I have no doubt that in his hands the present job shall also be accomplished with glory and good name.

It has been decided that while the "Islamic Literature Publishing House" shall act as the publisher of the present edition, it shall supply the required number of copies at cost price to Haji Muhammad Ibrahim and the Ikhwan-us-Safa, who shall act as sole distributors in their respective spheres, i.e., the former in North, (central and South America, and the latter in the continent of Africa and the adjoining islands, while the "Publishing House" itself shall work as sole distributor for the rest of the world.

This being so, there is a moral obligation, that no one should print this book now so long as its copies are available with the above-mentioned parties, who have undertaken their present job solely for the sake of God and to whom any such step shall prove to be a source of under served financial difficulties.

The second volume of the present book was promised in the Preface to the third edition. Its initial draft has been lying ready with me for sometime. But, formerly my missionary travels did not spare me the opportunity to give it final touches and make it ready for publication, while now that I am staying at Medina my health has not permitted me to take up the task. Anyway, I hope to deliver it to the Islamic Literature Publishing House for publication as soon as it is possible for me. May Allah grant me the requisite health and strength. Amen! Mohammed Abdul Aleem Siddiqui.

Bab-u-Salam,
MEDINA:
14th Rajab, 1373 AS.

The Principles of Islam

I

*Know, child, that God is only one,
And has no Partner or Son;
He has made us and everything,
All beasts, all fowls, all birds that sing,
The Sun, the Moon, the Starry Sky,
The land, the sea, the mountains high.
He knows whate'er we think or act,
By Him is seen the real fact.
And only He does what He wills,
He makes, He keeps. He saves, He kills.
Fore'er the same, no age, no youth,
He is Perfection, He is Truth.
Almighty, All-seeing, Wise,
He hath not form or shape or size.
But Self-existing is our Lord,
And is always to be adored.*

II

*Our God is Just, and loves the right,
The wrong is hateful to His sight.
To all His creatures He is Kind,
He gave us reason that we might
Know good from bad wrong from right.
This is the first to light our path,
To gain His grace and shun His wrath.
But gift of reason varies far,
Some wise and others foolish are.*

*The eyes of mind our passion dims,
And reason oft is quenched by whims.*

*For second guide we have the men
Of larger mind and wider ken,
Who could from God a message get,
His Law before the people set.
We call them Prophets, know you well,
Coming events they could foretell.
No nation was without such guide,
To warn them and from sins to chide.
Each Prophet taught in his own sphere,
To worship God and Him to fear.
But thousands of such Prophets came,
Of whom we know not the name,
Of some well-known I mention make,
The Lord God bless us for their sake!
Job, Jacob, Joseph, Abraham,
Elias, David, Solomon,
Lot, Moses, Aaron, Ishmael,
Hud, Noah, Jesus, Daniel;
With Adam first and Muhammad last,
Between the two all others pass.
Their minds were brighter than our own,
But otherwise all flesh and bone;
God did not in them incorporate.
They were but men and separate.*

IV

*The Books of God, a third guide form,
And us of His Commands inform,
God sent them through His Prophets Great,
Repealing Older by the Late;
The Qur'an now the Law in force,
The other Books have run their course.*

V

*In all these Books 'tis plainly said,
The graves will once give up their dead;
A new life God will give to men.*

*Who made us once will quicken again.
That day we shall, to judgement brought,
Be called to answer what we wrought,
And shall be judged by Faith we had,
And work we did good or bad.*

*The good shall get a festive treat -
Everlasting bliss and heavenly seat,
Where such the pleasure, such the mirth,
We've never dreamt of on this earth.
The bad shall go to hell and fire,
And suffer pains and torture dire.
But sense of guilt to conscious mind
Is more than all the pains combined
While sense of having pleased our Lord
Is greatest bliss and highest reward.*

VI

*The Qur'an teaches us to pray
Our Lord God five times a day;
To fast the days of Ramadan lent,
To give alms to the indigent;
To visit Mecca once in life,
And to make for God every strife.
Find here the Muslim Laws in brief,
May God guide all to this belief.*

- Sayyed Mohammed.

The Prophet of Islam

*The crown of creation set with richest gems,
Diamonds and rubies in value beyond ken,
Unequaled in brilliance, unique of kind,
Art thou, O Great Prophet! to all mankind.
Truthful by nature and of most saintly mien,
All called thee the Trusty, the Al-Ameen.
Most loving to children, courteous to all,
To animals, tender, alike to great and small;*

*Never on earth a nobler soul has trod,
Never had another shewed a true way to God.*

*O sweetest flower that ever on earth did bloom,
Matchless alike in divine beauty and perfume,
O whitest lily that human eyes have seen,
O loveliest rose that in the world has been,
All nature join, in homage, all men adore
Thee who brought light to a darksome world;
Thee whose teachings are as a necklace of pearls,
Which when worn does radiant beauty impart,
Adding lustre to body, to soul and to heart.
Ya Rasool-Allah! our dearest friend and guide,
May God's eternal blessings with thee abide.*

*From the Arabian deserts thou sounded thy call
To the worship of God, the Lord of all,
From the Arabian deserts thou taught mankind,
How the truest knowledge of God to find.
Thy words flew as lightning the whole world around,
Of Truth and Light they did fully abound,
And nations, acknowledging the pow'r of their sway,
Did find and follow the most truthful way.
In the wake of thy words true piety did spring,
And great knowledge and virtue did truly bring.
Never on earth a better soul was born,
Never the world did a purer soul adorn.*

*Man was fast sinking in idolatry and sin
When thou the great mission did first begin.
Then in place of darkness thou Light did give,
And taught mankind the noblest way to live;
And reformed the world as never before,
And unique blessings on it did bestow.
Praise be to Allah for this favour divine
In sending thee the wicked world to refine.
Search the world though we may from pole to pole
While the great ocean of time doth onward roll,
A more perfect Prophet never can we find,
Than thee who, thank God, gave Islam to mankind.
Ya Rasool-Allah! my homage I make to thee,
Ya Nabi-Allah! my love I tender thee,*

*My life, my all, for thee I gladly give,
Thy divine messages shall with me for ever live.
My love for thee no bounds doth know,
In my heart thy mem'ry shall for ever glow.
May Allah shower His choicest blessings on thee,
May Allah grant thee peace for all eternity.*

- M. J. Majid,
Joint Secretary,
The Ceylon Muslim Missionary Society,
Colombo.

CONTENTS

[Part I - Iman](#)

[Part II - Islam](#)

Chapter 1

[The Declaration of Faith \(about the Prophet Muhammad p.b.u..h.\)](#)

Chapter 2

1. [Wudu \(Ablution\)](#)
2. [Ghusl \(Bath\)](#)
3. [Tayammum](#)
- 3 (a) [Miscellaneous Notes](#)
4. [Azan](#)
4. (a) [Iqamat](#)
5. [The Obligatory and Essential Factors of Prayer](#)
6. [Performance of Prayer](#)
7. [Classification of Prayers](#)
8. [Fard Prayers](#)
9. [Wajib-ul-witr](#)
10. [Funeral prayers \(Salat-ul-janazah\)](#)
11. [The Curtailment of Obligatory Prayers](#)
12. [Forbidden Times for Prayers](#)
13. [Friday Prayers \(Salatul-jummat'a\)](#)
14. [Wajibul 'Id \(The 'Id Prayers\).](#)
15. [Nafil Prayers](#)
16. [Miscellaneous](#)

Chapter 3

[Zakat \(Islamic Alms-Fee\)](#)

[Sadaqat-ul-fitr](#)

Chapter 4

[The Observation of Fasts in the Month of Ramadan](#)

Chapter 5

[Pilgrimage to Mecca](#)

[Sa-ee](#)

[How is the *Tawaf* performed?](#)

[The Performance of Hajj](#)

[How does one perform 'Umra?](#)

Introductory Chapter

1.

Q. Who created you and all the worlds?

A. Allah created me and all the worlds.

2.

Q. Who created Allah?

A. Allah created us all. He is not created by anyone.

3.

Q. What are your duties to Allah (the Creator)?

A. My duties to Allah are to have complete Faith (Iman) in Him and to submit myself entirely to His commands.

4.

Q. How can you have knowledge about Him and His commands?

A. I can have knowledge about Him. and His commands through His Apostles and Prophets.

5.

Q. What do you understand by an Apostle or a Prophet?

A. An Apostle or a Prophet is a very true and pious man. He is chosen by Allah as His Messenger. Allah inspires him with His commands, and he conveys them to humanity. In this way, we may know the right path to lead a good life in this world and, thus pleasing Allah, may attain peace after death.

6.

Q. Were Prophets sent by Allah to all nations?

A. Yes, Prophets were sent by Allah to all nations whenever and wherever there was a need for them. When all the nations were in need of one, Allah sent Prophet Muhammad for the whole world.

7.

Q. What did Prophet Muhammad teach you?

A. Prophet Muhammad has taught me to render complete submission to the commands of Allah, which is called Islam.

8.

Q. What are the cardinal Articles of Faith in Islam ?

A. The cardinal Articles of Faith in Islam are seven in number, viz:

- (1) To believe in the oneness of Allah.
- (2) To believe in all His Angels.
- (3) To believe in all His Books.
- (4) To believe in all His Prophets
- (5) To believe in the Day of Resurrection.
- (6) To believe in the Day of Judgement.
- (7) To believe that the power of doing all actions (whether good or bad) proceeds from Allah, but that we are responsible for our actions.

9.

Q. What are the Fundamental Principles of Islam?

A. The Fundamental Principles of Islam are five in number, viz:

- (1) The declaration of ***La ilaha illallah Muhammad-ur-rasoolullah***, meaning: There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is His Prophet.
- (2) The observance of the obligatory prayers five times a day.
- (3) distribution of Zakat (Islamic alms-fee) among the deserving amounting to one fortieth in one's possession for a complete year.
- (4) The observation of fasts during the daytime in the month of Ramadan.
- (5) The performance of ***Hajj*** (Pilgrimage) to Mecca, at least once in a lifetime, if circumstances permit.

PART I

Iman إيمان

The Cardinal Articles of Faith in Islam

أَمِنْتُ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ
وَأَقْدَرُ بِخَيْرِهِ وَأَشْرُؤُ مِنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَالْبَعْثِ
بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ

CHAPTER I

Oneness of Allah

1.

Q. What do you mean by belief in the Oneness of Allah?

A. By belief in the Oneness of Allah, I mean that Allah is one and that there is none like Him; He has no partner; He neither begets nor is He begotten; He is indivisible in person; He is eternal; He is infinite; He has neither beginning nor end; He is All-Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Just, the Cherisher of all worlds, the Patron, the Guide, the Helper, the Merciful, the Compassionate, etc.

2.

Q. Where is Allah?

A. Allah is everywhere.

3.

Q. Does Allah know all the actions you do on earth?

A. Certainly, Allah knows all the actions I do on earth, both good and bad. He even knows my secret thoughts.

4.

Q. What has Allah done for you?

A. Allah has created me and all the worlds. He loves and cherishes me. He will reward me in Heaven for all my good actions and punish me in Hell for all my evil deeds.

5.

Q. How can you win the love of Allah?

A. I can win the love of Allah by complete submission to His Will and obedience to His Commands.

6. Q. How can you know the Will and Commands of Allah?

A. I can know the Will and Commands of Allah from the Holy Qur'an and from the Traditions of our Prophet Muhammad (May peace and blessing of Allah be upon him).

7. Q. What is *Iman* (Faith)?

A. *Iman* means "to believe in", [i.e., to have] a firm and sincere belief in the cardinal Articles of Faith.

8. Q. What is Islam?

A. Islam means "complete submission", i.e., submitting to the orders of Allah and acting in accordance with His Commands.

Note: One who professes *Iman* is called a *Mu'min* (The Faithful), and one who observes all the principles of Islam is called a Muslim.

CHAPTER II

The Angels of Allah

1.

Q. What kind of creatures are the Angels?

A. Angels are spiritual creatures of Allah, ever obedient to His Will and Commands. They are neither male nor female; they have neither parents, nor wives, nor husbands, nor sons, nor daughters. They have no material bodies, but can assume any form they like.

2.

Q. Do Angels eat and drink like human beings?

A. Angels do not eat and drink like human beings, nor do they enjoy sleep.

3.

Q. Can you name some of the most important Angels of Allah?

A. Yes, the most important Angels of Allah are four in number, viz.,

(1) Jibreel (جبرئيل)

(2) Mika'il (ميكائيل)

(3) Israfeel (اسرافيل)

(4) 'Izra'eel (عزرائيل)

4.

Q. Are there any other Angels besides those enumerated?

A. Yes, there are many other Angels, some of whom mentioned in the Qur'an are known to us, but we have no knowledge about the number, names and duties of others, which are known only to Allah.

5.

Q. What do you know about Angel Jibreel

A. Angel Jibreel was employed by Allah to convey His Messages to His Chosen Ones on earth and the Prophets, who appeared in all ages and all climes. It was the Angel Jibreel who communicated the revelations of Allah to our Prophet Muhammad (May peace and blessings of be upon him).

6.

Q. Can you name some of the main qualities of Angels?

A. Yes, the main qualities of Angels are purity, righteousness, truthfulness and obedience to the Will and Commands of Allah.

7.

Q. Can Angels do anything on earth without the express permission of Allah?

A. No, the Angels only act in obedience to the Commands of Allah; hence they cannot do anything on earth without His order.

8.

Q. Do you worship Angels?

A. No, I do not worship the Angels at all. I adore and pray Allah alone. Angels are the servants of Allah and they too worship Him. The Holy Qur'an explicitly says that we should not worship anyone but Allah nor should we associate any partner with Him.

CHAPTER III

The Books of Allah

1.

Q. What do you mean by belief in all the Books of Allah?

A. By belief in all the Books of Allah I mean that Allah revealed Commandments and Codes of Religion to various Prophets at different stages of history for the guidance of mankind.

2.

Q. Do you know the names of Codes of Religion or the Books of Allah?

A. Yes, the Codes of Religion or the Books of Allah are four in number, viz.,

- (1) Taurat (Old Testament)
- (2) Zaboor (Psalms)
- (3) Injeel (New Testament)
- (4) The Holy Qur'an.

3.

Q. What are the names of the respective Prophets to whom these books were revealed?

A. Taurat was revealed to Prophet Moosa (Moses), Zaboor to Prophet Dawood (David), Injeel to Prophet Isa (Jesus), and the Holy Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad (May peace and blessings of Allah be upon them all!).

4.

Q. Do the Taurat, Zaboor and Injeel exist in their original forms?

A. No, they do not exist in their original forms. The present-day editions are only interpretations by their respective followers of later ages.

5.

Q. Which Code of Religion do you follow?

A. I follow the last Code of Religion, the Holy Qur'an.

6.

Q. What is the Holy Qur'an?

A. The Holy Qur'an is the Gospel of the Religion of Islam. The previous Commandments and the Codes of Religion are also incorporated in it. Its verses were inspired and revealed by Allah to Prophet Muhammad through Angel Jibreel, and they are still preserved intact in their original form in the Arabic language.

7.

Q. Were the verses of the Holy Qur'an revealed to Prophet Muhammad at one and the same time?

A. No, the verses of the Holy Qur'an were not revealed to Prophet Muhammad at one and the same time. They were revealed to him either singly or in batches during the last twenty-three years of his life, and were written down at his dictation and arranged under his direction during his lifetime.

8.

Q What does the Holy Qur'an teach you?

A. The Holy Qur'an teaches me to worship Almighty Allah, Him and Him alone, to obey His orders contained therein, to follow the teachings and examples set by Prophet Muhammad, to do good to others, especially to my parents and relations, and to be honest and truthful in all my actions and dealings; in short, it gives me a complete Code for the rightful guidance of my life.

CHAPTER IV

The Prophets of Allah

1.

Q. What do you mean by belief in all the Prophets of Allah?

A. By belief in all the Prophets of Allah, I mean that at different stages of the History of Mankind, Allah sent Prophets as His Messengers for the guidance of mankind. I believe in all of them in general, and in those whose names are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an in particular. I cannot personify anyone as a Prophet if his name is not so mentioned in the Divine Book, nor can I deny the prophethood of any one whose name is so mentioned in the Divine Book.

2.

Q. Do you know the names of all the Prophets who delivered the Message of Allah to mankind?

A. No, I do not know the names of all the Prophets who delivered the Message of Allah to mankind, but the names of some of the great Prophets are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an.

3.

Q. Can you give a list of the Prophets whose names are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

A. Yes. Among the Prophets whose names are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an are: Adam, Idrees, Noah, Hood, Saleh, Ibrahim (Abraham), Isma'il (Ishmael), Ishaq (Issac), Ya'qoob (Jacob). Yusuf (Joseph), Ayyoob, Shuaib, Moosa (Moses), Haroon (Aaron), Loot (Lot), Yoonus (Jones), Al-Yas'a, Zulkifl, Dawood (David), Sulaiman (Solomon), Ilya (Elias), Zakaria (Zacharias), Yahya, 'Isa (Jesus) and Muhammad.

4.

Q. Who are the most important from among these Prophets?

A. They are: Adam, Noah, Ibrahim, Moosa, 'Isa and the last and the greatest of all prophets, Muhammad (May peace and blessings of Allah be upon them all!)

5.

Q. Who is a Prophet and what is his duty?

A. A Prophet is a Servant and Messenger of Allah who receives the Divine revelations. He is a model for human beings and teaches and practises the Commands of Allah.

6.

Q. Do you worship any of the Prophet?

A. No, I do not worship any of the Prophets, but only love and revere them and consider them as models of conduct for myself as well as humanity at large. The Prophets themselves worshipped Allah and taught us to do the same.

7.

Q. Can any of the Prophets be called God?

A. None of the Prophets can be called God, for they were all created by Allah Who is Self-Existing and has no partner.

8.

Q. Did any of the Prophets claim Divinity?

A. None of the Prophets claimed Divinity, for, besides being Messengers and Servants of Allah, they themselves were human beings.

9.

Q. To what land and to what nation did Prophet Muhammad proclaim the Message of Allah?

A. As all the nations of the world had either lost or forgotten the Messages delivered by the Prophets sent to them, Prophet Muhammad proclaimed the Message of Allah to all lands and to all nations. His prophethood is, therefore, not confined to any one land or one nation, but is universal, i.e., for the whole world and for all the nations.

10.

Q. Is there any need of a Prophet after Prophet Muhammad?

A. No, there is no need of a Prophet after Prophet Muhammad, for the Message, i.e., the Holy Qur'an (that he has brought for the whole world) is the final and most complete Code of Religion, and is and will be preserved for all time absolutely intact in its original form; besides the authentic record of the Prophet's eventful life covering all human activities is also extant, and will always remain as a Model for mankind. Hence no Prophet either with or without code and commandments, is required after him, and therefore the Holy Qur'an says that Prophet Muhammad is the last and the Seal of all Prophets.

CHAPTER V

The Day of Resurrection and Judgment

1.

Q. What do you know about the Day of Resurrection and Judgment?

A. It is the Day on which Allah will resurrect the dead, i.e., make the dead live again. He will then judge each person according to his good or bad actions on earth. He will reward those who led righteous lives and pleased Him, by sending them to Heaven, and punish those who have disobeyed His Commands and incurred His displeasure by committing sins and bad actions, by consigning them to Hell.

2.

Q. What are Heaven and Hell?

A. Heaven is an abode of peace and happiness where every wish is fulfilled. Hell is a place of torture, pain and agony.

3.

Q. How long will a person remain in Heaven or Hell?

A. A person who dies with complete Faith in the Oneness of Allah and in the Prophet of Allah will remain in Heaven forever, while a person who dies without having any belief in the Oneness of Allah and in the Prophets of Allah or having belief in others as partners of Allah will remain in Hell forever.

4.

Q. What will be the fate of those who die with complete Faith in the Oneness of Allah and in the Prophets of Allah, but have committed sins?

A. Those who have firm belief in the Oneness of Allah and in the Prophets of Allah, but die without atoning for and repenting sins they have committed in this world, will be sent to Hell for a time, from where, after receiving due punishment, they will be liberated by the Mercy of Allah and sent to Heaven, where they will live forever.

CHAPTER VI

The Power of Doing Good or Evil

1.

Q. What do you understand by your belief in the power of doing good or evil proceeding from Allah and Allah alone?

A. I mean that Allah has given me the power of action (good or bad), but He has also given me reason and a code of life to choose between good and evil, and therefore, I am responsible for my actions. For example, Allah has given me the power of speech. It is for me to use the tongue for speaking the truth, or abuse its power by speaking lies.

2.

Q. How does Allah help you to do good acts?

A. Allah helps us to do good acts by sending Messengers to guide us all along the right path, and Codes of Religion.

3.

Q. What is a sin?

A. Any action against the Commands of Allah is a sin.

4.

Q. Who can forgive sins?

A. Allah and Allah alone can forgive sins.

5.

Q. What should you do so that Allah may forgive your sins?

A. In order that my sins be forgiven, I must pray to Allah with all my heart and, while atoning for all my evil deeds, resolve never to commit any such or other misdeeds again.

6.

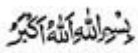
Q. Which articles of food and drink have been decreed unlawful for a Muslim?

A. The articles of food and drink that have been decreed unlawful for a Muslim are:

- (1) All kinds of intoxicating wines, liquors and spirits.
- (2) Flesh of swine and all wild animals that employ claws or teeth for killing their victims, e.g., tigers, leopards, elephants, wolves, etc., and all birds of prey as hawks, eagles, vultures, crows, etc.
- (3) Rodents, reptiles, worms, etc.,
- (4) Flesh of dead animals that are otherwise sanctioned as legitimate.
- (5) Flesh of animals and birds (sanctioned) that are not slaughtered or slain in the prescribed manner.
- (6) Flesh of animals that are offered as sacrifice to Idols.

7.

Q. How should an animal or a bird whose flesh is sanctioned to be lawful for food be slaughtered or slain?

A. One should say "*Bismillahi Allahu-Akbar*"  at the time of slaughtering or slaying an animal or a bird whose flesh is sanctioned to be lawful for food, and pass the knife over its throat in such a manner that the main arteries are cut asunder, but the spinal chord is left alone for a while till all the blood oozes out.

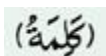
8.

Q. Can you name some of the acts that are major sins and are liable for severe punishment ?

A. Yes. Some of the acts that are major sins and are liable for severe punishment are:

- (1) To believe in anyone as partner of Allah.
- (2) To disbelieve in Allah or His Prophets or His Books, or to deny any of the Fundamental Principles of Islam.
- (3) To lie.
- (4) To commit adultery or sodomy.
- (5) To rob or steal.
- (6) To cheat or deceive anyone.
- (7) To bear false witness.
- (8) To bring false charge against anyone.
- (9) To backbite.
- (10) To abuse anybody or injure anyone's feelings.

CHAPTER I



The Declaration of Faith

1.

Q. What is the first principle of Islam?

A. The first principle of Islam is to declare: *La ilaha ill-Allah, Muhammad-ur-rasool-ullah.*

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

"There is no deity but Allah and Muhammad is the Apostle of Allah."

2.

Q. Are there any other forms of the Declaration of Faith?

A. Yes, there are four other forms, viz.:

(1) *kalimatush-shahadat* (كَلِمَةُ الشَّهَادَةِ)

Declaration or submission of evidence, viz.,

ashhadu a la ilaha ill-Allahu wahdahu la sharika lahu wa ashadu anna Muham- madan 'abduhu wa rasooluh

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah, Who is without partner, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His Servant and Apostle.'

(2) *kalimatut-tamjeed* (كَلِمَةُ التَّمَجِيدِ)

Declaration of the Glory of Allah, viz.,

Subhana-Allahi walhamdu lillahi wa la ilaha ill-Allahu wallahu Akbar, wa la haula wa la quwwata ilia billahil 'aliyyil-'Azeem.

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَلَا
إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ
وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ
الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

'Glory be to Allah and praise; there is no deity but Allah; Allah is Most Great; there is no power, no might but from Allah, the Most High, the Great.'

(3) *kalimut-tauhid* (كَلِمَةُ التَّوْحِيدِ)

Declaration of the Oneness of Allah: viz.,

La ilaha ill-Allahu wahdahu la sharika lahu, la hul mulku wa la hul hamdu, Yuhyi wa Yumeetu, biyadihil- khairu, wa huwa 'ala kulli shai-in Qadeer.

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ

لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ يُحْيِي

وَيُمِيتُ سَيِّدُ الْخَيْرِ وَهُوَ عَلَى

كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

"There is none worthy of worship but Allah; He is One and has no partner; His is the Kingdom (of the whole universe) and unto Him is due all Praise; He gives life and He causes death; In His hand is all good, and He has power over all things.

(4) *kalimatu raddil-kufr* (كَلِمَةُ رَدِّ الْكُفْرِ)

Declaration of the Refutation of Disbelief, viz.,

Allahumma inni a'oozu bika min an ushrika bika shai'an wa ana a'lamu wa astaghfiruka lima la a'lamu innaka anta 'Allam ul-ghuyoobi tubtu 'anhu wa tabar- r'atu 'an kulli deenin siwa deen il-Islami wa aslamtu wa aqoolu la ilaha ill-Allahu Muhammad-ur-rasool-ullah.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ أَنْ

أُشْرِكَ بِكَ شَيْئًا وَأَنَا أَعْلَمُ

وَأَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا أَعْلَمُ إِلَّاكَ

أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ تُبَيِّنُ عَنِّي

تَبَيَّنْتُ عَنْ كُلِّ دِينٍ يَسُوءِي دِينِي

إِلَّا سَلَّمَ وَأَسْلَمْتُ وَأَقُولُ لَا إِلَهَ

إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

'O Allah! verily do I seek refuge in Thee from associating any partner with Thee knowingly; I beseech Thy forgiveness for the sins which I am not aware of; verily, Thou art the Best Knower of all secrets. I repent for all the sins and make myself proof against all teachings except the teachings of Islam. I have entered the fold of Islam, and I hereby declare: There is no deity but Allah and Muhammad is the Apostle of Allah.

3.

Q. Who was Muhammad?

A. Muhammad was the *Rasool*, i.e., the Messenger and Prophet of Allah who received the Message from Allah through Divine revelation and conveyed the same to humanity.

4.

Q. Where was the Prophet Muhammad born?

A. Muhammad, the Messenger and Prophet of Allah, was born at Mecca in Arabia.

6.

Q. Do you know the genealogy (lineage or pedigree) of the Prophet Muhammad?

A. Yes. I can name up to his father's great-grandfather, and know that he is descended from Prophet Abraham. He was the son of 'Abdullah, who was the son of 'Abdul Muttalib, who was the son of Hashim, who was the son of 'Abd Manaf.

6.

Q. How was the Prophet brought up?

A. 'Abdullah, the Prophet's father died before his birth, and he lost his mother, Amina, during his infancy.

He was then for a short time under the care of his grandfather, 'Abdul Muttalib, who also expired a few years later. His uncle, Abu Talib then became his guardian.

7.

Q. How was the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) educated?

A. He did not receive any instruction through human agency, and as such, he did not know how to read or write. His education was solely due to Divine Sources.

8.

Q. When and where was the Message of Allah first revealed to our Prophet;

A. The Message of Allah was first revealed to our Prophet through angel Jibreel (Gabriel), at the age of forty, in the cave at the foot of Mt. Hira in Mecca.

9.

Q. What regard had the people of Mecca for our Prophet before he announced his Prophethood?

A. The people of Mecca had a very great regard for him. They honoured and respected him for his integrity and honesty, and were so much impressed by them and the nobility and gentleness of his character that they conferred upon him the title of **أَمِينٌ** i.e., the Trustworthy, before he proclaimed his Prophethood.

10.

Q. Did the people of Mecca in general accept Muhammad as a Prophet when he first delivered to them the Message from Allah?

A. No. The people of Mecca in general did not accept Muhammad as a Prophet, when he first delivered to them the Message of Allah against idols and idolatry. Only a few embraced Islam. Others persecuted him and his followers so much that he, along with his followers, was compelled to seek refuge in Medina.

11.

Q. What is the migration of our Prophet from Mecca to Medina called?

A. The migration of our Prophet from Mecca to Medina is called AL HIJRA. The Muslim Calendar commences from the day of the migration.

12.

Q. How did the people of Medina receive our Prophet?

A. Most of the people of Medina received our Prophet with kindness, believed in his teaching and mission and embraced Islam.

13.

Q. When did our Prophet die and where was he buried?

A. Our Prophet died at the age of sixty-three and was buried in Medina, where his tomb now stands.

14.

Q. Should we visit the tomb of our Prophet?

A. Yes, we should visit the tomb of our Prophet at Medina, preferably after the performance

of *Hajj* (Pilgrimage) to Mecca, for our Prophet has said: **مَنْ زَارَ قَبْرِي وَجَبَّتْ لَهُ مَكِّيٌّ** | "whoever (of my followers) visits my tomb it is binding on me to plead for (Mercy and Forgiveness) on his (or her) behalf (on the Day of Judgment)."

15.

Q. Should you love your Prophet?

A. Yes, I should love my Prophet and pay greater respect to him than to any other human being including my parents.

CHAPTER II

Prayer (الصَّلَاةُ)

1.

Q. What is the second Principle of Islam ?

A. The second Principle of Islam, is to offer the obligatory prayers five times a day.

2.

Q. What do you understand by Prayer?

A. Prayer is the act of worshipping Allah according to the teaching of the Holy Prophet.

3.

Q. What are the essential requisites for offering Prayer?

A. The essential requisites for offering Prayer are:

(1) The worshipper must be a Muslim.

(2) The worshipper's clothes and body must be free from all impurities.

(3) The place where the Prayer is to be offered should be pure and clean.

(4) The part of the body between the navel and the knees of a male worshipper must be fully covered, and the whole body excepting the hands and face of a female worshipper.

(5) The worshipper must face the Ka'ba in the Great Mosque at Mecca and the direction of Ka'ba outside Mecca.

(6) The worshipper must form the *Niyat* (i.e., intention) in his or her mind of the particular Prayer, *Fard* (obligatory) or *Sunnat* or *Nafil* (optional), he or she is about to offer.

(7) The worshipper must observe the times and rules prescribed for the respective Prayers.

(8) The worshipper must have performed the *Wudu* (i.e., ablution).

(9) The worshipper must have performed *Ghusl* (i.e., the washing of the whole body), if he or she was in a state of grave impurity.

Note: In order to keep the body clean from dirt and all minor impurities and to be ever ready for prayer, a Muslim must wash the private parts of his or her body with water whenever any impure matter issues from the body.

1. Wudu (Ablution) (الْوُضُوءُ)

1.

Q. What is Wudu?

A. *Wudu* is the act of washing those parts of the body which are generally exposed.

2.

Q. How do you perform the *Wudu*?

A. I perform the *Wudu* in the following manner:

- (1) I make myself sure that the water with which I am going to perform *Wudu* is pure, clean and fresh (not used before) and its colour, taste and smell are unchanged.
- (2) I form and have the full intention of performing the *Wudu* for offering prayer.
- (3) I recite: "*Bismillahir-Ralimanir-Rahim*", i.e., in the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.
- (4) I then wash my hands upto the wrists three times, passing the fingers in between each other.
- (5) I cleanse my mouuth with brush or finger, and gargle with water three times.
- (6) Then I rinse the nostrils thrice with water.
- (7) I wash the face from the forehead to the chin bone and from ear to ear three times.
- (8) I then wash the right arm followed by the left up to the elbows three times.
- (9) I then brush up the whole head with wet hands, pass the wet tips of the index finger inside and the wet tips of the thumb outside the ears, and pass over the other surface of the hands over the nape and the sides of the neck.
- (10) I then wash the feet up to the ankles, the right foot first and then the left, taking care to wash in between the toes, each three times.

3.

Q. What are the obligatory acts in the performance of *Wudu*?

A. The obligatory acts in the performance of *Wudu* are four, viz.:

- (1) Washing the face.
- (2) Washing both the arms upto the elbows.
- (3) Brushing over a quarter of the head with wet hands.
- (4) Washing both feet up to the ankles.

Notes:

(1) If the water to be used for *Wudu* be stagnant, one should make sure that the cistern measures ten yards by ten yards by one foot and is full of water.

(2) If a person wears impermeable foot-gear after the performance of the *Wudu*, it is not necessary to remove it for a fresh *Wudu*. One may just pass over it wet fingers as if one were tracing lines on it. Travellers can take advantage of this concession for three days and three nights, others for one day and one night.

2. *Ghusl* (Bath)

1.

Q. When does *ghusl* become obligatory ?

A. *Ghusl* becomes obligatory after:

- (1) Sexual intercourse.
- (2) Discharge or effusion of semen.
- (3) Completion of menses and confinement.

2.

Q. Can you name the obligatory conditions that most be fulfilled for a valid performance of an

obligatory *ghusl*?

A. The obligatory condition that must be fulfilled for a valid performance of an obligatory *ghusl* are:

- (1) To rinse the mouth thoroughly, so that all the parts are cleaned properly.
- (2) To rinse the nose right up to the nasal bone.
- (3) To wash all the parts of the body thoroughly, including the hair.

3.

Q. What is the best way of performing an obligatory *ghusl*?

A. The best way of performing an obligatory *ghusl* is:

- (1) The person should have the intention (*niyyat*) to cleanse the body from grave impurity at the time of performing the bath.
- (2) He or she should wash the hands up to the wrists thrice.
- (3) Then the private parts must be washed thoroughly thrice.
- (4) Filth must be removed, if there be any, from any of the parts of the body.
- (5) One should then perform an ablution.
- (6) One should lastly wash thrice all the parts of the body, including the hair thoroughly.

3. **Tayammum**

1.

Q. What should a person do in place of *wudu* or *ghusl* if one is sick or access cannot be had to water?

A. When a person is sick or access cannot be had to water, one may perform what is called *tayammum* in place of *wudu* or *ghusl*.

2.

Q. What are the essential requisites for the performance of a *tayammum* ?

A. The essential requisites for the performance of a *tayammum* are:

- (1) To have the intention in mind to perform the *tayammum* for the removal of impurities.
- (2) To strike pure earth lightly with the palms of both the hands.
- (3) To pass the palms of the hands over the face once.
- (4) To again strike lightly pure earth with the palms of both the hands and rub alternately from the tips of the fingers to the elbows, the forearms and the hands.

3a **Miscellaneous Notes**

1.

Q. Do you know the acts or circumstances which make *wudu* void?

A. Yes; the acts or circumstances which make the *wudu* void are:

- (1) Answering the call of nature; discharge of semen or issue of worm or sandy stone [bowel movement] or any impure matter from the front or the hind private parts.
- (2) The passage of wind from the hind private part.
- (3) The act of vomiting a mouthful of matter.
- (4) Emission of blood, puss or yellow matter from a wound, boil, pimple., etc., to such an extent that it passes the limits of the mouth of the wound, etc.

- (5) Loss of consciousness through sleep, drowsiness, etc.
- (6) Temporary insanity, fainting fit, hysteria or intoxication.
- (7) Audible laughter during prayer.

2.

Q. Do the same occurrences nullify *tayammum* also?

A. Yes; the same occurrences nullify *tayammum* also, but in addition *tayammum* is nullified as soon as the cause for performing it is removed, i.e., if the sick person recovers, or, if recourse has been taken to it for lack of water, and access to water becomes possible.

3.

Q. What acts are forbidden without the performance of *wudu* or the *tayammum* as the case may be?

A. The following three acts are forbidden without the performance of *wudu* or *tayammum* as the case may be:

- (1) Prayer.
- (2) Walking round the Holy Ka'ba in Mecca.
- (3) Carrying or touching the Holy Qur'an.

Note: Children who have not attained the age of discretion, i.e., about seven years, can carry the Holy Qur'an for the purpose of studying.

4.

Q. Does *wudu* convey any inner meaning besides the cleanliness of the body?

A. Yes, the primary object is cleanliness or purity, but spiritual cleanliness and purity, i.e. freedom from sins which is the main object of religion. It is preferable, therefore, to recite the following after the *wudu*:

Allahumma j'alni minattawwabeena waj'aini minal mutatahahhireen.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْنِي مِنَ التَّوَّابِينَ
وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنَ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

O Allah! make me from among those who repent for their sins and from among those who keep themselves pure.

4. *Azan*

1.

Q. What is *azan*?

A. *Azan* is the first call to Prayer.

2.

Q. When and why is the *azan* uttered?

A. The *azan* is uttered in a loud voice to announce to the faithful that it is time for their obligatory prayer and to invite them to offer the same.

3.

Q. How is *azan* recited?

A. *Azan* is recited in a loud voice by the *muezzin* (the crier) facing the direction of the Ka'ba in the following words which are said in the order mentioned:

(1) *Allahu Akbar* (الله أكبر)
"Allah is most Great" (four times).

(2) *Ash-hada al la illaha ill-Allah.* (أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله)
"I bear witness that there is none worthy of being worshipped except Allah." (twice).

(3) *Ash-hadu anna Mahammad-ar-rasoolallah* (أشهد أن محمداً رسول الله)
"I bear witness that Muhammad is the Apostle of Allah" (twice).

(4) *Hayya 'alas-Salah* (هَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ)
"Come to Prayer" (turning the face alone to the right and saying it twice).

(5) *Hayya 'alal-falah* (هَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ)
"Come to Success" (turning the face alone to the left and saying it twice).

(6) *Allahu Akbar* (الله أكبر)
"Allah Is Most Great" (twice).

(7) *La ilaha ill-Allah* (لا إله إلا الله)
"There is no deity but Allah (once).

Note: The following phrase is added after Item (5) in the *azan* of the early morning prayer, viz.,

(5a) "*As-salatu khairum minannaum*" (الصَّلَاةُ خَيْرٌ مِنَ النَّوْمِ)
"Prayer is better than sleep" (to be said twice).

4. (a) *Iqamat* (إِقَامَةٌ)

1.

Q. What is *Iqamat* and when is it uttered?

A. *Iqamat* is the second call to prayer and is uttered immediately before the beginning of the obligatory prayer (*fard*). It is similar to *Azan* but with the addition of the sentence, "*Qad qamatis-*

salah" (قَدْ قَامَتِ الصَّلَاةُ)

i.e., "prayer has indeed begun", to be uttered twice after item (5) above.

5. The Obligatory and Essential Factors of Prayer

1.

Q. What are the obligatory (*fard*) factors in prayer?

A. The obligatory factors in a prayer are seven in number:

- (1) To say *takbir-i-tahrimah*.
- (2) *Qiyam*, i.e., standing erect and placing the right hand upon the left below the navel.
- (3) To recite some verses from the Holy Qur'an.
- (4) *Ruku*, i.e., bowing down in such a way as to grasp the knees with the hands keeping the back in a straight line so as to form a right angle with the legs.
- (5) *Sajdah*, i.e., prostrating in such a way that both the palms of the hands, the forehead, the nasal bone, the knees and the toes of both feet touch the ground; there must be sufficient space between the arms and the chest and the legs and the belly so that they do not touch each other but remain separate.
- (6) *Qa'dah*, i.e., sitting down in a reverential posture, keeping the right foot erect on the toes and the left one in a reclining position under the rumps.
- (7) To signify the completion of prayer by word or action.

2.

Q. Can you name some of the essentials (*wajib*) of prayer?

A. The observance of the following points are very essential in any prayer.

- (1) To say *takbir-i-tahrima*, viz., "*Allahu Akbar*."
- (2) To recite the opening chapter of the Holy Qur'an (the *Fatihah*).
- (3) To recite any of the other chapters or at least three consecutive verses of the Holy Qur'an.
- (4) The recitation of the opening chapter must precede the recitation of any other chapter or three consecutive verses of the Holy Qur'an.
- (5) To avoid a pause between the recitation of the opening chapter and any other chapter or three consecutive verses of the Holy Qur'an.
- (6) To assume all the postures correctly, i.e., undignified haste must not be practised in changing the postures and reasonable pauses must be observed at each stage.

6. Performance of Prayer

Click these links for illustrative photos of postures for both [males](#) and [females](#)

Postures for the Islamic Prayer

ILLUSTRATION No. 1



IQAMAT

NOTE: Legs must be 4 to 6 inches apart only and not more.

ILLUSTRATION No. 2



TAKBIR TAHRIMAH

NOTE: The eyes of the worshipper are pinned to the spot where the forehead would rest in Sajdah.

ILLUSTRATION No.3



QIYAM

ILLUSTRATION No.4



RUKU

NOTE: The eyes of the worshipper are pinned on to his toes. He is not to bend down too much or keep raised shoulders up.

ILLUSTRATION No.5



QUAMAH

ILLUSTRATION No. 6



SAJDAH

NOTE: The thumbs of the worshipper are almost in a straight line with the eyes and the fingers are all closed together and almost below the ears. The elbows must not touch the floor.

ILLUSTRATION No. 7



JALSA

NOTE: The eyes are on the lap and the hands rest on the thighs the fingers not falling on the knees. It is important the one must sit straight fully before resuming the second Sajdah.

ILLUSTRATION No.8



BACK VIEW OF
JALSA AND Q'ADAH

ILLUSTRATION No.9



SECON SAJDAH

NOTE: The second rak'at is performed in the same manner described and illustrated for the first rak'at.
(See illustration Nos. 1 to 9).

ILLUSTRATION No. 10



QADAH

ILLUSTRATION No. 11



NOTE: The eyes of the worshipper are focussed on to the right shoulder.

ILLUSTRATION No. 12



LEFT SALAM

NOTE: That the eyes of the worshipper are focussed on to his left shoulder.

ILLUSTRATION No. 13



DUA

NOTE: The hands of the worshipper are not higher than his chest and not more than six inches away from the chest. Also the eyes must be pinned on to the palms of the hands. Both hands must be together as illustrated.

ILLUSTRATION No. 14



TAKBIR-TAHRIMA

NOTE: The eyes of the worshipper are pinned to the spot where the forehead would rest in Sajdah.

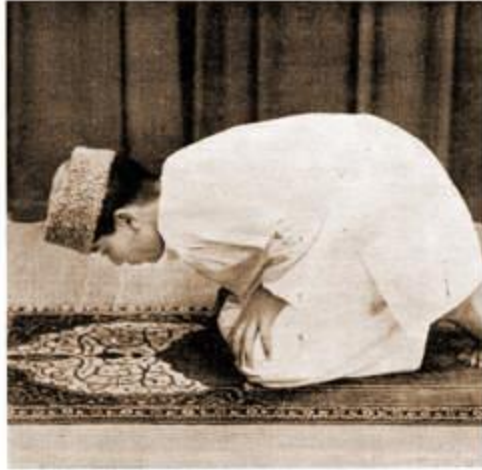
ILLUSTRATION No. 15



QIYAM

NOTE: How the palm of the right hand is placed on the left. The three fingers are kept together whilst the thumb and the little finger are used to hold the other hand.

ILLUSTRATION No. 16



RUKU

NOTE: The eyes of the worshipper are pinned to the spot where the forehead would rest in Sajdah.

The succeeding postures are to be performed as illustrated and explained in illustrations # 6 to 13

Sisters Salaat Posture

Our beloved Prophet had said: "God accepts not the prayers of a woman arrived at puberty unless she covers her head as well as the whole body." The correct mode of covering the body as well as the different postures adopted by a woman in namaaz is illustrated in the following figures



FIG. 1 The Niyyat Posture



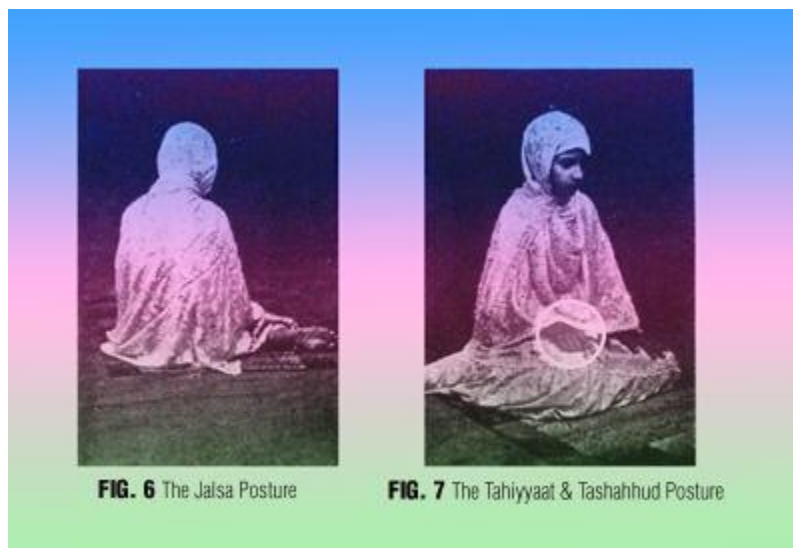
FIG. 2 The Takbir-e-Tahreemah Posture



FIG. 3 The Qiyam Posture



FIG. 4 The Ruku Posture



1.

Q. Can you give a complete description of the performance of prayer?

A. Yes. A Prayer consists of either two, three or four *Rak'ats*, and a *Rak'at* is performed thus:

- (1) I stand erect, facing the direction of Ka'ba in Mecca, and after having the *niyyat*, (the intention) in my mind of what prayer I am about to offer and preferably uttering it to myself;
- (2) I raise both of my hands up to the ears and, saying "*Allahu Akbar*," and then bring them down and place the right hand upon the left below the navel.
- (3) I then recite:

(a) *Subhanak-Allahumma wa bihamdika wa tabarakasmuka wa ta'ala jadduka wa la ilaha ghairuka.*

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ
وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ
وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ ۝

'All Glory be to Thee, O Allah! and Praise be to Thee; blessed is Thy Name and exalted Thy Majesty; and there is none worthy of worship besides Thee.'

(b) *A'oozu billahi minash-shaitanir-rajeem*

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ
الرَّجِيمِ ۝

'I betake myself to Allah for refuge from the accursed Satan.'

(c) *Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Raheem.* بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

'(I begin) In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.'

(d) I then recite the Opening Chapter of the Holy Qnr'an (the *Fatiha*), viz.,
Alhamdu lillahi Rabbil- 'aalameen ar-Rahman-ir-Rahim, Maliki yaum-id-deen, iyyaka na'budu wa iyyaka nasta'een; ihdinas-sirat-al-mustaqeem sirat-alla-dheenaaa'amta 'alaihim ghairil maghdoobi 'alaihi wal-lad-daalleen. Ameen!

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ۝
مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ۝
إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ
نَسْتَعِينُ ۝
إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ
الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ۝
صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ
عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ
وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ۝
أَمِينَ

All Praise is due to Allah, Lord of the worlds, the Beneficent, the Merciful, Owner of the Day of Judgment. Thee alone we worship and Thee alone we ask for help. Show us the straight path, the path of those whom Thou hast favoured, not (the path of) those who earn Thine anger nor (of) those who go astray. Amen!'

(e) I immediately follow up this by reciting some passage from the Holy Qur'an, which should not consist of less than three consecutive verses. For this purpose any one of the small chapters may be selected, as for instance, the chapter termed "The Unity" viz.:

Qul huw-Allahu Ahad, Allahus-Samad, lam yalid wa lam yoolad, wa lam yaku lahoo kufuwanahad

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝
لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ۝
لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ۝

'Say: He is Allah, the One, - Allah, the eternally besought of all! He begets not, nor is He begotten. And there is none comparable unto Him.'

Note: If a small chapter be recited, it is preferable to precede it by: **Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Raheem.**

(f) Then, saying "Allahu Akbar," I bow down in *Ruku* and say thrice: *Subhana Rabbiyal-'Azeem*

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

'How glorious is my Lord the Great!'

(g) I again assume the standing position letting the hands remain on the sides and say:

Sami' Allahu liman hamidah. Rabbana lakal-hamd.

سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ
رَبَّنَا لَكَ الْحَمْدُ

'Allah has listened to him who has praised him. Our Lord praise be to Thee.'

(h) Then, saying "Allahu Akbar," I prostrate myself and perform the *Sajdah*, saying thrice:

Subhana Rabbiyal-a-la.

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

'All glory be to my Lord, the Most High.' Lord, the Great!'

(i) I then raise myself and, sitting for a while in a reverential posture, termed *Jalsah*, say once:

Allahummaghfirli war-hamni.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَارْحَمْنِي

O Allah! forgive me and have mercy upon me.'

[Note: (i) is optional]

(j) I then perform the second *Sajdah* exactly in the same way as the first one. This finishes one *Rak'at*. I then say "Allahu Akbar", and standing erect once again, repeat all that I had done in the performance of the first *Rak'at* with the exception of items (a) and (b), which are meant to be recited in the first *Rak'at* only.

(k) After the second *Rak'at's* second *Sajdah* is over, I, saying "Allahu Akbar," sit down in the reverential posture called, *Qa'da-tul-Oola* (first sitting) or *Qa'da-tul-Akhira* (last sitting) as the case may be, and recite *Tashahud* alone in the former case, viz.:

At-tahiyatu lillahi was- salawata wat-taiyyabatu assalamu 'alaika ayyu-hannabiyyu wa rahma-ullahi wa barakatuhu assalamu 'alaina wa 'ala 'ibadillah-is-salliheen, ash-hadu an la ilaha ill-Allahu wa ashhadn anna Muhammadan 'abduhoo wa rasooluh.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةُ
 وَالطَّيِّبَاتُ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ
 أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ
 السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَىٰ عِبَادِ اللَّهِ
 الصَّالِحِينَ ۝ شَهِدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ
 إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا
 عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ ۝

'All reverence, all worship, all sanctity are due to Allah. Peace be on you O Prophet! and the Mercy of Allah and His Blessings. Peace be on us and all the righteous servants of Allah. I bear witness to the fact that none is deserving of worship except Allah and I bear witness to the fact that Muhammad is His servant and Apostle.'

(l) If more than two *Rak'ats* are to be performed, I stand up again, saying "*Allahu Akbar*," and completing one or two *Rak'ats*, as the case may be, sit down in the reverential posture called "*Qa'datul-Akhira*, which is also obviously adopted if the prayer consists of two *Rak'ats* only. In the reverential posture, I recite in addition to *Tashahud*, the *salawat*, viz.,

Allahumma salli 'ala sayyidina Muharomadin wa 'ala ali sayyidina Muhammadin kama sallaita 'ala sayyidina Ibrahim wa 'ala ali sayyidina Ibrahim innaka Hamidun Majeed.

Allahumma barik 'ala sayyidina Muhammadin wa 'ala ali sayyidina Muhammadin kama barakta 'ala sayyidina Ibrahim wa 'ala ali sayyidina Ibrahim innaka Hamidun Majeed

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
 وَعَلَىٰ آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا
 صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ
 وَعَلَىٰ آلِ سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ
 إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ ۝
 اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا
 مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
 كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ
 وَعَلَىٰ آلِ سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ
 إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ ۝

'O Allah! Shower Thy blessings on our leader Muhammad and his descendants as Thou showerest Thy blessings on our leader Abraham and his descendants; verily, Thou art the Praiseworthy, the Glorious.'

'O Allah! bless our leader Muhammad and his descendants as Thou blessest our leader Abraham and his descendants; verily, Thou art the Praiseworthy, the Glorious.'

(m) I then recite the following du'a: *Allahumma inni zalamtu nafsi zulman kaseeran wa la yaghfiruz-zunooba illa anta faghfirli maghfiratan min'indika war-hamni, innaka antal-Ghafoor-ur-Raheem.*

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي ظُلْمًا
 كَثِيرًا وَلَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا
 أَنْتَ فَارْحَمْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ
 وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

'O Allah! I have been extremely unjust to myself and none grants forgiveness against sins but Thou; therefore forgive me with the forgiveness that comes from Thee and have mercy upon me. Verily, Thou art the Forgiver, the Merciful.'

(n) I then turn my face to the right and say the *salaam*:
Assalamu 'alaikum wa rahmatullah

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

'Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah.' Then I turn my face to the left and repeat the same. Here the prayer is completed.

2.

Q. What should a worshipper do if he or she unconsciously omits any of the essentials of prayer or suspects that he or she has performed more than the prescribed number of *rukus*, *sajdahs*, *rak'ats*, etc.?

A. If a worshipper omits any of the essentials of a prayer or suspects that he or she has performed more than the required number of *rukus*, *sajdahs*, *rak'ats*, etc., he or she should perform one *salaam* after reciting *Tashahud* and, making two *sajdahs*, should again recite *Tashahud*, *Salawat* and *Du'a* and complete the prayer with the usual two *Salaams*. (This is called *Sajdatus-Sahw*).

3.

Q. What acts nullify a prayer?

A. The acts that nullify one's prayer are:

- (1) Talking.
- (2) Doing any three acts in succession.
- (3) Emission of impure matter from the body or the annulment of *wudu* in any way.
- (4) Drinking or eating during prayer.
- (5) Turning the chest away from the direction of Ka'ba.
- (6) Committing breach of any of the obligatory factors of a prayer.
- (7) If the body between the navel and the knees becomes uncovered in the case of males, or any part of the body excepting the hands and the face in the case of females.

4.

Q. What does the term *Qa'datul-Oola* mean?

A. The reverential sitting posture that one adopts after the completion of the two *rak'ats* of a prayer, consisting of three or four, for reciting *Tashahud* is called *Qa'datul-Oola*.

5.

Q. What is *Qa'datul-Akhira*?

A. The final reverential sitting posture which a worshipper assumes after the completion of the prescribed number of rak'ats of any particular prayer, for the recitation of *Tashahud*, *salawat* and *du'a* is called *Qa'datul Akhira*.

7. Classification of Prayers

1.

Q. How many kinds of prayers are there?

A. There are five kinds of prayers, viz.,

(1) *Fard al-'ain*, i.e. the compulsory prayer that must not be missed on any account whatsoever. This obligatory prayer must be offered at any cost for if one fails to do so he or she will be liable to severe punishment. The nature of its importance is evident from the fact that if one denies its obligatory nature, he or she is classed as an unbeliever.

(2) *Fard al-kifayah* is the kind of prayer which should preferably be offered by all those present at the time, but one at least out of the group must offer it to free the others from responsibility; for example, if any one individual from amongst the inhabitants of a locality where the death of a Muslim has taken place or from those who join the funeral procession to the cemetery offer the 'Funeral Prayer', the obligation of all concerned is fulfilled.

(3) *Wajib* is a prayer which comes next in rank of *Fard al-'ain* in accordance with the importance attached to it by the Holy Prophet.

(4) *Sunnat-ul-mu'akkadah* is the class of prayer which the Holy Prophet used to offer daily without fail and has ordered his followers to do so. One is liable to be questioned for neglecting to offer the same without some very cogent reasons.

(5) *Sunnatu ghairil-mu'akkadah* is the kind of prayer which the Prophet offered occasionally and desired his followers to do so.

(6) *Nafil* is a voluntary prayer and it is commended for the uplift of one's soul, and for the acquirement of spiritual benefits.

8. Fard Prayers

1.

Q. How many kinds of *Fard* prayers are there?

A. There are only two kinds of *Fard* prayers viz.

(1) The daily obligatory prayers.

(2) The special congregational Friday prayers.

2.

Q. Can you name the daily obligatory prayers?

A. Yes, the daily obligatory prayers are five in number:

(1) ***Salatul-Fajr***, i.e., the early morning prayer which must be offered after dawn and before sunrise.

(2) ***Salatus-Zuhr***, i.e., the early afternoon prayer, the time for which commences immediately after the sun begins to decline, and lasts till it is about midway on its course to setting.

(3) ***Salatul-'Asr***, i.e., the late afternoon prayer which must be offered sometime after the sun is about

midway on its course to setting, until a little before it actually begins to set.

(4) **Salatul-Maghrib**, i.e., the evening prayer which must be offered between the sunset and the disappearance of the light similar to the light at dawn, which follows when the red glow from the horizon in the West has vanished.

(5) **Salatul-'Isha'**, i.e., the night prayer which must be offered any time after the time for *Salatul-Maghrib* comes to an end, and before the break of dawn, but it should preferably be offered before midnight.

3.

Q. How many rak'ats are compulsory in each of the five daily obligatory prayers?

A. The number of *rak'ats* compulsory in the five daily obligatory prayers are:

(1) Two in *Salatul-Fajr* (the early morning prayer).

(2) Four in *Salatus-Zuhr* (the afternoon prayer).

(3) Four in *Salatul-'Asr* (the late afternoon prayer).

(4) Three in *Salatul-Maghrib* (the sunset prayer).

(5) Four in *Salatul-'Isha'* (the night prayer).

4.

Q. How many rak'ats of Sunnat-ul-mu'akkadah should be offered along with each of the five daily obligatory prayers?

A. The number of *rak'ats* is as follows:

(1) Two before the *Fard* of *Salatul-Fajr*.

(2) Four before and two after the *Fard* of *Salatus-Zuhr*.

(3) None before or after the *Fard* of *Salatul 'Asr*.

(4) Two after the *Fard* of *Salatul-Maghrib*.

(5) Two after the *Fard* of *Salatul-'Isha*.

[However, it should be noted that in addition to the above the following *rak'ats* of *sunnat-ul-ghair-mu'akkadah* may also be observed:-- re: #(3): Four *rak'ats* before the *Fard* of *Salatul 'Asr*; re: #(5) Four *rak'ats* before the *Fard* of *Salatul-'Isha*.

Sunnat ul-mu'akaadah is usually translated as the 'compulsory *sunnat*'. The *mu'akkadah* should not be intentionally omitted without a legal excuse. Its omission would be very sinful.

Sunnat-ul-ghair-mu'akkadah - is translated as the 'voluntary' or 'optional' *sunnat*. This kind of *sunnat salat* prayer is not compulsory, but to do so would entail great recompense. If one has the time, the opportunity and the proper inclination of the heart, it should be definitely offered. However, if one omits it, it will not entail any sin. -- Editor]

9. *Wajib-ul-witr*

1.

Q. When is *Wajib-al-witr* prayer to be offered?

A. It should be offered after the *Sunnatul-mu'akkadah* of *Salatul-Isha*.

2.

Q. Of how many *rak'ats* does it consist?

A. It consists of three *rak'ats*.

3.

Q. How does it differ from other prayers?

A. It differs from other prayers in this respect, viz., that, in the third *rak'at*, before one bows down for the performance of *ruku'*, one should say: "*Allahu Akbar*", raising the hands up to the ears and after placing them in the former position below the navel, one should recite the following *du'a* called *Dn'aal Qunut*:

Allahumma inna nas-ta'eenuha wa nastagh-firuka wa nu'minu bika wa natawakkalu 'alaika wa nusni 'alaikal khaira wa nashkuruka wa la nakfuruka wa nakhia'u wa natruku manyyafjuruka; Allahumma iyyaka na'budu wa laka nusalli wa nasj'udu wa ilaika nas'aa wa nah-fidu wa narjoo rahmaataka, wa nakhsha azataka inna 'aza baka bil kuffari mulhiq.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنَّا اَسْتَعِيْنُكَ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُكَ
وَنُؤْمِنُ بِكَ وَنَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْكَ
وَنُثْنِيْ عَلَيْكَ الْخَيْرَ وَ
نَشْكُرُكَ وَلَا نَكْفُرُكَ وَنَخْلَعُ
وَنَتْرَكَ مِنْ يَدْفِرُكَ اَللّٰهُمَّ
اِنَّكَ تَعْبُدُ وَاَنْتَ نَصْرِيْ وَ
نَسْتَعِيْنُكَ وَنَسْتَعِيْنُكَ وَنَحْفِيْ
وَنَرْجُوْا رَحْمَتَكَ وَنَخْشِيْ
عَذَابَكَ اِنَّ عَذَابَكَ يَالْكُفَّارِ
مُلْحِقٌ ۝

O Allah! we beseech Thy help and ask Thy pardon and believe in Thee and trust in Thee, and we praise Thee in the best manner and we thank Thee and we are not ungrateful to Thee, and we cast off and forsake one who disobeys Thee. O Allah! Thee alone do we serve and to Thee do we pray and make obeisance and to Thee do we flee and we are quick (in doing so), and we hope for Thy mercy and fear Thy chastisement; surely Thy chastisement overtakes the unbelievers'.

10. *Salat-ul-janazah* (funeral prayers).

1.

Q. How is *Salat-ul-janazah* offered?

A. *Salat-ul-janazah* is offered in the congregation as follows:

(1) The body of the deceased is placed in a coffin with its face turned towards the Ka'ba and the *Imam* standing by its side with the intention (*niyyat*) of offering *Salat-ul-janazah* for that particular dead person raises both hands upto the ears and says "*Allahu Akbar*", the congregation following his lead. The usual *niyyat* for the *Salat-ul-janazah* is:

Navaitu an uwaddiya lillahi ta'ala araba'a takbiraati salatiljanazati, ath-thanaau lillahi ta'ala was-salatu lirrasooli wad-du'au lihazal mayyiti (lihazihil mayyiti, in case the deceased is a female), iqtadaitu bihaz al-Imami mutawajjihan ila jihatil Ka'ba-tish-Sharifah.

نَوَيْتُ أَنْ أُؤَدِّيَ لِلَّهِ تَعَالَى
أَرْبَعَ تَكْبِيرَاتٍ صَلَوةَ الْجَنَازَةِ
الَّتِي نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَالصَّلَاةُ
بِلِزْزَلٍ وَالرُّعَاةُ لِهَذَا النَّبِيِّ
رَأُوهُنَّ فِي الْمَجْتَمَعِ إِقْتَدَانِي
بِهَذَا الْإِمَامِ مُتَوَجِّهًا إِلَى جِهَةِ
الْكَعْبَةِ الْقُدْسِيَّةِ ۝

'I intend to offer for Allah, the Sublime, four *takbirs* of funeral prayer, Praise for Allah, the Sublime, and Blessings (of Allah) for the Apostle and prayer for this deceased person; I adopt the lead of this *Imam*, with my face turned in the direction of the honoured Ka'ba.'

(2) The *Imam* and the congregation then join their hands below the navel and recite:

Subhanak - Allahumma wa bihamdika wa tabarakasmuka wa ta'ala jadduka wa jalla thana'uka wa la ilaha ghairuka.

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ
وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ
وَجَلَّ ثَنَاؤُكَ وَكَرَّمَ عَرْسُكَ

(3) The *Imam* and the congregation then say "*Allahu Akbar*", (this time without raising their hands), and recite the *salawat* as given in (1) item of 3rd part of question (1) in the section on "[Performance of Prayer](#)".

(4) The *Imam* and the congregation then say "*Allahu Akbar*," as in (2) and recite:

(a) If the deceased had attained the age of puberty, then the following Du'a:
Allahummaghfir li hayyina wa mayyatina wa shahidina wa gha'ibina wa saghirina wa kabirina wa zakarina wa unthana; Allahumma man ahyaitahu minna fa-ahyihee 'alal Islam, wa man tawaffaitahu minna fatawaffahu 'alal Iman.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِمَيِّتِنَا وَمَيِّتِنَا
 وَتَاهِدِنَا وَتَاهِدِنَا وَصَغِيرِنَا
 وَكَبِيرِنَا وَذَكَرِنَا وَأُنثُنَا
 اللَّهُمَّ مَنْ أَحْيَيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَأَحْيِهِ
 عَلَى الْإِسْلَامِ وَمَنْ تَرَفَّقْتَهُ
 مِنَّا فَتَوَقَّهِ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ

'O Allah ! Pardon our living and our dead, the present and the absent, the young and the old, the males and the females. O Allah! he (or she) to whom Thou accorded life, cause him to live in the observation of Islam, and he to whom Thou givest death, cause him to die in the state of *Iman*.'

(b) If the deceased is a minor and a boy, then the following Du'a:
Allahummaj' alhu lana artan waj' alhu lana jran wa zukhran waj' alhu lana shafi'an wa mushaffa'an.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا قَرِيبًا وَ
 اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا أَجْرًا وَ دُخْرًا
 وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا تَائِبًا وَمُسْتَقِيمًا

O Allah! make him our forerunner, and make him, for us, a reward and a treasure, and make him, for us, a pleader, and accept his pleading.

(c) If the deceased is a minor girl, then the following Du'a:
Allahummaj'alha lana fartan waj'alha lana ajran wa zukhran waj'alha lana shafi'atan wa mushaffa'atan.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهَا لَنَا قَرِيبًا وَ
 اجْعَلْهَا لَنَا أَجْرًا وَ دُخْرًا
 اجْعَلْهَا لَنَا تَائِبَةً وَمُسْتَقِيمَةً

'O Allah " make her our fore-runner, an make her, for us, a reward and a treasure, and make her, for us, a pleader and accept her pleading.

(5) "Then the *Iman* and the congregation say, "*Allahu Akbar*" as in (3) [link to ddd]. Then turning their faces alone to the right they say: "*Assalamu 'alaikum wa rahmatallah*". Then they turn their faces (alone) to the left and say: "*Assalaamu 'alaikum wa rahmatallah*".

11. The Curtailment of Obligatory Prayers.

1.

Q. When should one curtail the obligatory prayer ?

A. When one is travelling with the intention of proceeding forty-eight miles or more from the home, one should offer two *rak'ats* of *fard* prayers for those which comprise four, and continue to do the same after one's arrival at a destination. If one does not intend to prolong his or her stay there for fifteen days or more.

12. Forbidden Times for Prayers

1.

Q. At what time is one prohibited to offer *Fard*, *Sunnat* or *Nafil* prayers ?

A. One is forbidden to offer either *Fard*, *Sunnat* or *Nafil* prayers at:

- (1) The time when the Sun is rising.
- (2) The time when the Sun is at its zenith.
- (3) The time when the Sun is setting.

2.

Q. Are there any other times when one should not offer the *Nafil* prayers?

A. Yes. One should not offer *Nafil* prayers during:

- (1) The interval between the offering of the *Fard* of *Salatul-Fajr* and the rising of the sun.
- (2) After the *Iqamat* is called for any congregational prayer at a mosque.
- (3) The time between the offering of the *Fard* of *Salatul-Asr* and the setting of the sun.
- (4) The time between the setting of the sun and the offering of the *Fard* of *Maghrib* prayers.
- (5) The time between the *Imam's* getting up from his place for delivering the *Khutba*, i.e., the sermon, and the completion of Friday congregational prayers.
- (6) At the time of any *Khutba*, e.g., Friday, 'Id, etc.
- (7) The time between the *Fajr* prayer and the *Id* prayers.
- (8) After the 'Id prayers at the premises where the same have been offered.
- (9) At the time of *Hajj* in 'Arafat after the *Zuhr* and 'Asr prayers are offered together.
- (10) The time between the *Maghrib* and 'Isha prayers at Muzdalifa.
- (11) When there is very little time left for offering the *Fards* of any of the daily prayers.
- (12) When one feels the need to answer a call of nature.

13. *Salatul-jummat'a* (Friday Prayers).

1.

Q. What is *Salat-al-Jamm'a*?

A. It is a congregational prayer only and cannot be offered alone. Consequently, an *Imam* (i.e., leader) is necessary to lead the prayers. The *Imam* first of all delivers a *Khutba* in two parts consisting of praise to Allah and prayers of blessing for the Holy Prophet, and some admonition to the congregation. He then prays to Allah for the welfare of all Muslims. After that he leads two *rak'ats* of the *Fard* of *Jumm'a* and all other follow him, as usual in congregational prayers.

2.

Q. Who should be chosen to lead the prayers?

A. The one most conversant with Islamic theology among those present should be requested to lead the prayers.

3.

Q. How is the congregational prayer offered?

A. The *Imam* stands in front of the congregation facing the direction of the Ka'ba, and all the other

worshippers stand in lines behind him and follow his lead, i.e., they stand when he stands, perform *ruku* when he does it, and so on.

4.

Q. Should a person offering his prayers with a congregation repeat all the requisite recitations?

A. Yes. One should recite everything excepting the Opening Chapter of the Holy Qur'an followed by some other passage from it which the Imam recites on behalf of the congregation.

Notes:

1.

Q. What Prayers are offered in congregation in the daily Prayers?

A. Only the *Fard* of each Prayer is offered in a congregation, and not *Sunnat* or *Nafil*.

2.

Q. What should one do if one misses the congregation for any Prayer (Fard)?

A. If one misses congregation for any prayer, one should offer it alone or, if possible, join or arrange to have another congregation; but if one misses the congregation of *Salat-ul-Jumu'a* one should offer by oneself the usual *Fard* of *Salat-uz-Zuhr*.

14. *Wajibul 'Id* (The 'Id Prayers).

1.

Q. Of how many rak'ats do the 'Id-ul-Fitr and 'Id-ul-Adha prayers consist?

A. Each one of them consists of two rak'ats.

2.

Q. How are those two rak'ats offered?

A. They are offered in the congregation thus:

(1) The Imam as usual stands in front of the congregation, and facing the direction of the Ka'ba and having the intention of offering the particular prayers says aloud: "*Allahu Akbar*," and the congregation follows his lead.

(2) Then the Imam and the congregation place their hands below the navel as usual, and at short intervals perform three "*takbeers*", i.e., say "*Allahu Akbar*," raising the hands to the ears and letting them remain at the sides at the end of each "*takbeer*." After the end of third "*takbeer*," the hands are placed below the navel, and the Imam recites *Subhanak Allahumma*, etc., inaudibly, followed by the audible recitation of *Suratul-Fatiha* (the Opening Chapter) and some other chapter or passage from the Holy Qur'an and finishes the rak'at in the prescribed manner.

(3) In the second rak'at, the order is reversed, for the recitation of Quranic passages are made first and then the Imam and the congregation perform the three "*takbeers*" as in the first one, and then saying "*Allahu Akbar*" for the fourth time, bow down in the *ruku'* and complete the prayer as usual.

(4) After the prayer is over, the Imam mounts the pulpit and delivers two *Khutbas* or sermons. At the time of *'Id-ul-Fitr*, the Imam explains the commandments regarding the payment or distribution of *Sadaqat-ul-fitr* and on the occasion of *'Id-ul-Adha*, the commandments about the sacrifice of animals.

Note:

Q.

What are the daily *Sunnatu-ghair-il-mu'akkadah* prayers?

A. They are:

- (1) Four *rak'ats* before the *fard* of *Salatul-'Asr*
- (2) Four *rak'ats* before the *fard* of *Salatul-Isha'*.

15. *Nafil* Prayers

1.

Q. What are the various special optional (*Nafil*) prayers?

A. They are:

- (1) ***Salat-ul-Ishraq***, which consists of two or four *rak'ats* and may be offered after sunrise.
- (2) ***Salat-ud-Doha***, which consists of two to eight *rak'ats* and may be offered any time after the *Salat-ul-Ishraq* till the Sun's declination.
- (3) ***Salat-ul-Tahiyya-tul-Masjid***, which consists of two *rak'ats* and may be offered on entering a mosque.
- (4) ***Salat-ul-Tahajjud***, which consists of four to twelve *rak'ats* and may be offered after midnight preferably after having slept for some time. This prayer has been specially recommended in the Holy Qur'an for attaining spiritual progress.
- (5) ***Salatul-Kusufain***, which consists of two *rak'ats* and may be offered during the eclipse of the sun or the moon.
- (6) ***Salat-ul-Taravih***, which consists of twenty *rak'ats* and is offered in ten *salams* of two *rak'ats* each, each night in the month of Ramadan only after the obligatory *'Isha* prayers. It is very commendable to complete the whole Qur'an by reciting consecutive portions of it in each of its *rak'ats* after the recitation of the *Surat- ul-Fatiha*, and thus finish the whole Qur'an by the end of the month of Ramadan.

16. Miscellaneous

Q. In which *rak'ats* of the prayers is the recitation of the Holy Qur'an made audible?

A. The recitation of *Surat-ul-Fatiha* and some other chapter or passage of the Holy Qur'an is made audible in:

- (1) The two *rak'ats* of the *Fard* of ***Salatud-Fajr***.
- (2) The first two *rak'ats* of the *Fard* of ***Salatul-Maghrib***.
- (3) The first two *rak'ats* of the *Fard* of ***Salatul-'Isha'***.
- (4) The two *rak'ats* of ***Salatul-Jumu'a***.

- (5) The two *rak'ats* of both **'Id** prayers.
- (6) In all the twenty *rak'ats* of the optional **Taraveeh** prayers in the month of Ramadan.
- (7) In the three *rak'ats* of the **Wajib-ul-Witr** prayers in the month of Ramadan only.

Q. In what *rak'ats* and what prayers is the recitation of the Holy Qur'an made inaudible?

A. In all the *rak'ats* of the Fard of *Salatul-Zuhr* and *Salat-ul-Asr* and the last one and two *rak'ats* respectively of the *Salatul-Maghrib* and the *Salatul-'Isha'*. The *Fatiha* alone is recited in these *rak'ats* and also in the last two *rak'ats* of *Salatul-Zuhr* and *Salatul-'Asr*.

Q. What Prayers should be offered in congregation?

A. The Prayers that should be offered in congregation are:

- (1) All *Fards* of the five obligatory prayers.
- (2) The *Fard* of *Salatul-Jumu'a*.
- (3) Both the *'Id* Prayers.
- (4) *Salatul-Taraveeh*
- (5) *Wajib-ul-Witr* in the month of Ramadan only.
- (6) Funeral Prayer.
- (7) *Salatul-Kausuf*.

CHAPTER III



Zakat (Islamic Alms-Fee)

1.

Q. Can you give the definition of *Zakat*?

A. Yes. *Zakat* is the amount in kind or coin which a Muslim of means must distribute among the deserving every year.

2.

Q. On whom is *Zakat* obligatory?

A. *Zakat* is obligatory on all Muslims who have in their possession for one complete year gold of the minimum weight of seven and a half tolas or silver of the minimum weight of fifty-two and a half tolas (a tola is equivalent in weight to an Pakistani rupee).

3.

Q. What is the annual rate of *Zakat* on gold or silver?

A. The annual rate is 2-1/2%.

4.

Q. Is *Zakat* obligatory on gold and silver only?

A. No. It is obligatory not only on gold or silver but also on camels, cattle, goats and all articles of trade.

5.

Q. Is *Zakat* obligatory on pearls and precious stones?

A. They are exempted when used as ornaments for personal use, but are liable to *Zakat* as articles of trade.

6.

Q. How should *Zakat* be calculated on articles of trade?

A. It should be calculated on the net balance of the value of the articles of trade at the end of the year.

7.

Q. Among what classes of Muslims and for what purposes is the *Zakat* to be distributed and utilised?

A. It is distributed among the following classes of Muslims for relieving respective wants:

(1) The poor Muslims, to relieve distress.

(2) The needy Muslims to supply the implements for earning their livelihood, and those whose hearts are inclined to embrace Islam, i.e., the converts to Islam, the new Muslims to enable them to settle down and meet their sudden needs.

(3) The Muslims in debt, to free them from their liabilities incurred under pressing necessities.

(4) The Muslim wayfarers. If any one of them be found to be stranded in a land foreign or strange to him and stands in need of help.

(5) Muslim prisoners of war, for liberating them by payment of ransom money.

(6) Muslim employees appointed by a Muslim ' Amir for the collection of *Zakat*, for the payment of their wages.

(7) Those engaged in the way of Allah, to defray the expenses for the defence and propagation of Islam.

8.

Q. What conditions must be complied with for the fulfilment of the obligation of *Zakat*?

A. *Zakat* must be distributed among the classes of Muslims for the purposes enumerated with the *Niyyat* of fulfilling the obligation of *Zakat* and to see to it that the recipient is made the absolute owner in his or her sole right of what is given to him or her.

9.

Q. What moral does *Zakat* convey to you?

A. The moral that this institution conveys to me is that I must not be selfish and get too fond of worldly possessions, but must always be ready and willing to help my brethren by all means at my disposal.

Sadaqat-ul-fitr

Q.

1. What is *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr*?

A. It is a charity, the annual distribution of which is essential (*Wajib*) for every Muslim who possesses on the last day of the month of Ramadan or the day of '*Id-ul-Fitr* goods of the value which makes them liable for *Zakat*. A Muslim has to pay the *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr* for himself or herself and for his or her minor children.

2.

Q. What is the amount of *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr*?

A. One hundred and seventy-five and a half tolas of wheat or its equivalent value per head is the minimum amount that a Muslim is enjoined to pay.

3.

Q. To whom should *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr* be given?

A. Those who merit *Zakat* also deserve it.

4.

Q. When should *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr* be distributed?

A. It should preferably be distributed before offering the *'Id-ul-Fitr* Prayers, otherwise at any other time.

5.

Q. Who are not entitled to receive *Zakat* or *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr*?

A. They are:

(1) Those on whom payment of *Zakat* is obligatory.

(2) The descendants of the Holy Prophet, however poor they may be.

Note: The descendants of the Holy Prophet may accept or be given presents or simple charity, but not *Zakat* or *Sadaqat-ul-Fitr*.

CHAPTER IV

صَوْمُ رَمَضَانَ

The Observation of Fasts in the Month of Ramadan

1.

Q. What do you mean by observation of fasts?

A. By observation of fasts I mean the act of abstaining from eating, drinking, smoking, allowing anything whatsoever to enter into what is understood to be the interior of the body, as also voluntary vomiting, self-pollution, sexual intercourse, etc., from the break of dawn till sunset.

2.

Q. On whom is the observation of fasts obligatory?

A. The observation of fasts is obligatory on all Muslims excepting the infants, the insane, the invalids.

3.

Q. Who is exempted from observing fasts?

A. Men and women too old and feeble to bear the hardships of a fast are exempted, but they should feed a poor and needy Muslim to satiation twice a day, or pay the amount of one *Sadaqa-tu-Fitr* for every day.

4.

Q. Under what circumstances can one defer the observation of fasts?

A. One can defer the observation of fasts if:

(1) One is so sick that the observation of fast is likely to increase his or her sickness.

(2) A woman who is suckling a child, and there is a danger of reduction in the supply of milk if she observes fasts.

(3) A traveller who has reason to fear that observing of fasts will make him. or her unable to proceed on the journey.

Note: As soon as one is relieved of the respective disability, one must observe the fasts immediately.

5.

Q. Under what circumstances should a woman postpone the observation of fasts?

A. A woman should postpone the observation of fasts during the period of menses and when she is in the family way.

6.

Q. Why is the observation of fasts obligatory during the month of Ramadan?

A. The observation of fasts is obligatory in the month of Ramadan because it is the blessed month of the year during which Holy Qur'an was revealed.

7.

Q. Can we spread out the period of fasting and complete the observation of fasts for the required number of days -- 29 or 30, as the case may be -- at any time during the year?

A. No. The Holy Qur'an enjoins upon Muslims to observe the fasts consecutively for 29 or 30 days, as the case may be, during the month of Ramadan alone. Besides, the main purpose for which the observation of fasts has been made obligatory will not be served if the period were spread out, for the training that one receives for bearing with thirst and hunger, and incidentally realising the distress of the starving poor and sympathizing with and helping them would not be acquired.

8.

Q. What is the real significance of fasting?

A. The real significance of fasting consists in the habit of self-control that it fosters and develops and thus enables one to save oneself from being an easy victim to temptation, and consequently minimising the chances of committing sins. This in its turn will make the practice of virtue easier and lead one nearer to the Kingdom of Allah.

9.

Q. What should be done if one does not observe a fast without any cogent reason on any day during the month of Ramadan?

A. If one does not fast on any day during month of Ramadan without any cogent reason, one will be committing a sin, but all the same he or she must fast on some other day to make amends for the omission.

10.

Q. What are the main obligatory factors for the proper observation of fasts?

A. The main obligatory factors for the proper observation of fasts are:

- (1) Conception or utterance of *Niyyat*, i.e., intention to fast.
- (2) Abstinance from all things that would nullify the fast from the break of dawn to sunset.

11.

Q. What is the usual form of *Niyyat* for fasting during the month of Ramadan?

A. The usual form of *Niyyat* for fasting during the month of Ramadan is:

Nawaitu sauma ghadin 'an ada'i fardi Ramadana hazihis-sanati lillahl ta'ala.

كُونْتُ صَوْمًا عَنِ ادَاؤِ
فَرَضِ رَمَضَانَ هَذِهِ السَّنَةِ
I intend to fast for this day in order to perform my duty towards Allah in the month of
Ramadan of the present year.

فَرَضِ رَمَضَانَ هَذِهِ السَّنَةِ

يَلُو تَعَالَى 12.

Q. When should one conceive the *Niyyat* or give utterance to it?

A. The *Niyyat*, (i.e., the intention) should be conceived or given utterance to for each day preferably before the break of dawn, if not, at any time before midday, if in the meanwhile one has maintained the state of fasting from the time of dawn.

13.

Q. What are the main optionals (سُنَنٌ) for the observation of fast?

A. The main optionals for the observation of fasts are:

- (1) Partaking of meals before the break of dawn.
- (2) Eating of three dates and drinking water after sunset, for signifying the end of the fast.
- (3) And reciting, prior breaking the fast, the du'a:

Allahumma laka sumtu wa'ala rizqika aftartu.

اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ صُمْتُ وَ

عَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ

'Oh Allah! for Thy sake have I fasted, and (now) I break the fast with the food that comes from Thee'.

14.

Q. What is the penalty for doing anything without any cogent reason that makes a fast void?

A. The penalty for doing anything that makes a fast void without any cogent reason is to observe sixty consecutive fasts or feed sixty persons, besides observing the fast in place of one which he or she has deliberately made void.

15.

Q. Is the fast made void if by mistake if one does something that makes it so under the impression that one is not observing a fast?

A. No, if anyone by mistake does something that makes a fast void under the impression that one is not observing a fast, the fast is not nullified, provided one stops doing it the moment one recollects the same.

CHAPTER V



Pilgrimage to Mecca

1.

Q. On Whom is the performance of Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca) incumbent?

A. The performance of Hajj is incumbent on all Muslims, at least once in a lifetime, if circumstances permit, i.e., if they are in a position both physically and materially to undertake the journey to Mecca, and make sufficient provision for their dependents during the period of their absence.

2.

Q. How do you define Hajj?

A. The Pilgrimage to Mecca in the state of *Ihram* to be adopted at the *Miqat* strictly carrying out all that it imposes, observing *wuqoof* at 'Arafat, performing the *tawaf* at Ka'ba, etc., in accordance with the prescribed laws is called Hajj.

3.

Q. What is 'Umra?

A. The visit to Mecca at any time of the year in the state of *Ihram* to be adopted at *Miqat*, performing the *tawaf* round Ka'ba in Mecca and accomplishing *sa'ee* in accordance with the prescribed laws is called 'Umra.

4.

Q. What do you mean by Ihram?

A. The removal of sewn clothes from the body and wrapping it up in a couple of seamless sheets at the *Miqat* with the intention of performing *Hajj* or 'Umra, and abstaining from all things that are unlawful for those intending to perform *Hajj* or 'Umra signifies *Ihram*.

5.

Q. What do you understand by Tawaf?

A. The performance of seven circuits round the Ka'ba (In Mecca) commencing from the Black Stone and having the Ka'ba on one's left is called *Tawaf*.

6.

Q. What does the term Sa'ee signify?

A. *Sa'ee* signifies the act of marching to and from between the two hills of Safa and Marwa (near Ka'ba) in accordance with the prescribed laws.

7.

Q. What is Wuqoof?

A. The stay at 'Arafat, at least for a few minutes, during the time between the declining of the sun from the

meridian on the 9th of *Zilhijja* (the 12th lunar month) and before the dawn of the 10th *Zilhijja* is called *Wuqoof*.

8.

Q. What territory does *Haram* constitute?

A. The City of Mecca, in which the Ka'ba is situated along with a certain defined outlying territory on all its sides, is called *Haram*.

9.

Q. What are *Miqats*?

A. The boundary lines which the pilgrims or those who want to perform '*Umra* should not cross without adopting the *Ihram* are called *Miqats*.

10.

Q. How many *Miqats* are there? What are their names and for whom do they indicate the boundary line of *Haram*?

A. There are five *Miqats* in all -

(1) **Zul-Hulaifa** or Bi'r 'Ali, which indicates the borderline of *Haram* for those coming from the side of Medina.

(2) **Zat-al-Iraq** serves as *Miqat* for those coming from the side of Iraq or Mesopotamia.

(3) **Jahfa** or **Rabigh** is the *Miqat* for those from Syria.

(4) **Quarn** for those from the side of Nedjd.

(5) **Yalamlam** for those from the direction of Yemen, Pakistan, India, etc.

11.

Q. How should a male pilgrim adopt the *Ihram*?

A. When a male pilgrim is about to cross a *Miqat*, he should perform *Ghusl*, divest himself of sewn clothes, and wrap up the lower portion of his body in a seamless sheet and cover up the upper part with another one, keeping the head and face bare. The footgear must be such as to keep the central bones of the outer parts of his feet open. He must then offer two *Rak'ats* of *Nafil*, and lastly, he must form in his mind the *Niyyat* and give utterance to his intention as to the purpose of his adopting the *Ihram*.

12.

Q. What is the form of *Niyyat* for *Hajj*?

A. The form of *Niyyat* for the *Hajj* is:

Allahumma inni uri-dulhajja fayyassirhu li wa taqabbalhu minni, aawaltul-hajja wa ah-ramtu bihi mukhlisan lillah! ta'ala.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أُرِيدُ الْحَجَّ قَبْرَةً
لِي وَتَقَبَّلْهُ مِنِّي تَوْفِيقَ الْعَزِيزِ
الْحَكِيمِ بِرَبِّهِ تَخْلِيسًا لِلَّهِ
تَعَالَى

O Allah! I intend to perform the *Hajj*. Make Thou the same easy for me and accept it from me. I have conceived the *Niyyat* for *Hajj* and I have adopted the *Ihram* sincerely for Allah, the Sublime.

13.

Q. What is the form of *Niyyat* for '*Umra*?

A. If one wants to perform only '*Umra* he or she should say:

Allahumma inni uridul 'Umrata fayassirha li wa taqabbalha minni, nawaitul-'Umrata wa ahramtu biha muhhlisan lillahi ta'ala

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أُرِيدُ الْعُمْرَةَ
كَيْتَبُهَا لِي وَتَقَبَّلَهَا مِنِّي

نَوَيْتُ الْعُمْرَةَ وَأَهْرَمْتُ
بِهَا تَخْلِصًا لِلَّهِ تَعَالَى

O Allah! I intend to perform 'Umra. Make Thou the same easy for me and accept it from me. I have conceived the 'intention' for 'Umra and have adopted the *Ihram* for it, sincerely for the sake of Allah, the Sublime.'

14.

Q. What is the form of *Niyyat* for performing Hajj and 'Umra together?

A. It is:

Allahumma inni uridulhajja wal 'Umrata fayassirhuma li wa taqabbalhuma minni, nawaitul Hajja wal 'Umrata- wa ahramtu bihima mukhlisan lillahi ta'ala.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ
عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

O Allah! I intend to perform both *Hajj* and 'Umra. Make Thou the same easy for me and accept them from me. I have conceived the intention for both *Hajj* and 'Umra and have adopted the *Ihram* to perform both *Hajj* and 'Umra only for the sake of Allah, the Sublime.'

15.

Q. What should one do after one has given utterance to one of the appropriate *Niyyats*?

A. After one has given utterance to one of the *Niyyats*, one should say aloud (these words and should have perfectly committed to memory as one will have to recite them again and again, sitting, standing, mounting and dismounting):

Labbaik Allahumma labbaik; labbaika la sharika. laka labbaik; innal-hamda wan ni'mata laka wal mulka la sharika lak.

لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ كَيْتَابُكَ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَكَ كَيْتَابُكَ إِنَّكَ

Here I am at Thy service. O Allah! Here I am at Thy service; Here I am at Thy service; There is no partner unto Thee; Here I am at Thy service; To Thee the glory, the riches and the sovereignty of the world. There is no partner to Thee.

الْحَمْدُ وَالنِّعْمَةُ لَكَ وَالْمُلْكُ

16.

لَا شَرِيكَ لَكَ

Q. What things become unlawful for those adopting the *Ihram*?

A. The things that become unlawful for those adopting the *Ihram* and remain as such till the object for which the *Ihram* has been adopted is accomplished are:

- (1) Hunting or aiding and abetting it.
- (2) Sexual intercourse or its preliminaries.
- (3) Cropping or shaving of hair or paring of nails.
- (4) Covering of head or face in any way whatsoever.
- (5) Use of gloves or socks.
- (6) Wearing of any kinds of sewn clothes or underwear.
- (7) Using any perfume or perfumed preparation.
- (8) Deliberate smelling of perfume or applying it to any part of the body or the sheets covering it, or even keeping it in any manner on one's person. (If any aroma of perfumes applied before the conception of *Niyyat* remains, it does not matter, for it is permissible).

(9) Killing or even dislodging and throwing away lice if they happen to find their way on one's person or the sheets covering it.

17.

Q. What is the difference between the adoption of *Ihram* by men and women?

A. The points of difference between the adoption of *Ihram* by men and women are:

- (1) That a woman can wear sewn clothes.
- (2) She can cover her head (as a matter of fact she should cover her head in the presence of all men excepting her husband, as also whilst offering prayers).
- (3) She should not put on a veil in such a manner that the fabric may touch her face.
- (4) She can put on socks or gloves.
- (5) All the other things which are unlawful for a man are also unlawful for her.

Note: A woman should not utter "*labbaik*", etc., aloud but should say the same in a subdued voice.

18.

Q. How is the *Tawaf* performed?

A. The points to be observed in the performance of *Tawaf* are:

- (1) The performer of *Tawaf* should stand towards that corner of the *Ka'ba* where the black stone is embedded in its wall in such a manner as to have it on one's right and then give utterance to the *Niyat* :

Allahumma inni uridu tawafa baitikal-muharrami fayassirhu li wa taqabbalhu minni.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أُرِيدُ طَوَافَ
بَيْتِكَ الْحَرَامِ ذِكْرًا لِي

O Allah! I intend to perform the *tawaf* of Thy consecrated premises. Make Thou the same easy for me and accept it from me.

وَتَقَبَّلَهُ مِنِّي

(2) Then facing the Black Stone and raising the hands with palms outwards, one should say:

Bismillahi walhamdu lillahi wallahu Akbar wassalatu was-salamu 'ala Rasoolilillah.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ

عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

I begin in the name of Allah, and all Praise is due to Allah and Allah is Most Great, and peace and blessings be on Allah's Apostle.

- (3) If possible one should approach the Black Stone and give it a kiss, but if it be not feasible, then one should give it a flying kiss, and recite the *Du'a*:

(a) *Allahummaghfirli zunoobi wa tahhir li qalbi wa ashrah li sadri wa yassir li amri wa 'afni fi man 'afait.*

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي ذُنُوبِي وَ

طَهِّرْ لِي قَلْبِي وَأَسْرِحْ لِي

صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي وَ

عَافِنِي فِي مَن عَافَيْتَ

O Allah! forgive me my sins and purify my heart and expand my chest (i.e., give me spiritual illumination) and make my task easy and preserve me among those Thou has preserved.

(b) Then one should proceed towards the Gate of Ka'ba saying:

Allahumma imanam bika wa tasdiqan bikitabika wa wafa'an bi 'ahdika wattiba'an li sunnati nabiyyika Muhammadun, sallallahu ta'ala 'alaihi wa sallama, wa ashhadu an la ilaha ill-Allahu wahda hu la sharika lahu wa ashhadu anna Muhammada 'abduhu wa rasooluhu, amantu billahi wa kafartu bil-jibti wattaghoot.

أَلْهُمَّ إِنِّي بِكَ وَتَصَدِيقًا
بِكِتَابِكَ وَوَفَاءً بِعَهْدِكَ وَ
إِيمَانًا بِسُنَّةِ نَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ

O Allah! (I am performing this) with complete faith in Thee and belief in the Truth of Thy book and in the fulfilment of my pledge to Thee, and in the wake of the *sunnat* of Thy Prophet Muhammad, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. I bear witness to the fact that there is no God but Allah and that Muhammad is His Prophet. I have faith in Allah and do not believe in evil spirits and ghosts.

صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْكَ وَسَلَّم
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Note: The act of kissing the Black Stone and reciting the *du'a* is called *Istilam*.

وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ
أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

(4) Then, having the Ka'ba on one's left, one should take a complete round of It remembering Allah all the while or reciting *du'a* (a and b of 3) in the same way as before. This completes one circuit.

أَمَّنْتُ بِاللَّهِ وَكَفَرْتُ
بِالْجِبْتِ وَالطَّاغُوتِ

Note: One may kiss, if possible the South-West corner of Ka'ba which is called *Rukn-i Yamani*.

(5) One should perform seven rounds in the manner described.

(6) After the completion of seven rounds one should stand near the gate of Ka'ba and pray for Allah's blessings.

(7) Lastly, one should offer two *Rak'ats* Of *Sunnatut-tawaf*, preferably near *Maqam-i- Ibrahim*, a spot just near the Ka'ba.

19.

Q. What acts are culpable during the performance of *tawaf*?

A. The acts that are culpable during the performance of *tawaf* are:

- (1) Being without ablution.
- (2) Uncovering of more than a quarter part of any limb of the body which must be kept covered.
- (3) Performing the *tawaf* either by supporting oneself on someone's shoulder or mounted, without any cogent reason.
- (4) Performing the *tawaf* in a sitting posture without any cogent reason.
- (5) Performing the *tawaf* with the Ka'ba on one's right.
- (6) Performing the *tawaf* round The Ka'ba exclusive of *Hatim* (*Hatim* is the name for the portion of land in the North of Ka'ba which was left out when the Ka'ba was rebuilt).
- (7) Performing a lesser number of circuits than seven.

20.

Q. What acts are not permissible during the performance of *Tawaf*?

A. Such acts are:

- (1) Discussion of mundane matters.
- (2) The performance of *Tawaf* in an Impure garb.
- (3) The disregard of *Ramal* which signifies marching briskly, moving the shoulders with chest out, like the gait of a soldier, in the first three circuits of the *Tawaf* of 'Umra.

- (4) The disregard of *Iztiba'a*, which denotes the act of removing the sheet from the right shoulder and passing it under the right armpit to place it on the left shoulder, thus keeping bare the right arm in the *Tawaf* of 'Umra. (5) Omission of *Istilam*. (6) Pauses between the circuits of *Tawaf* (Of course, if the *Wudu* is made void or a congregation of an obligatory prayer is ready, one may discontinue the circuits to perform the *Wudu* or to join the congregation and complete them later on). (7) The failure to offer two *Rak'ats* of *Nafil* after the completion of each *Tawaf*. i.e., seven circuits of the Ka'ba (however if the time be one that it is not permissible to offer the prayers, one is allowed to defer the same till the completion of the second *Tawaf*).

Sa'ee

21.

Q. How should the Sa'ee be performed?

A. In order to perform the Sa'ee one should betake himself to Safa and after arriving there recite:

(1) *Abda'u bima bada' Allahu bihi, innas-Safa wal Marwata min sha'a-'irillih, faman hajj-al-baita awi'tamara fala J'unaha 'alaihi anyyat-tawwafa bihima wa man tatawwa'a khalran fa inn-Allah Shakirun 'Aleem.*

أَبْدَأُ بِمَا بَدَأَ اللَّهُ بِهِ إِرَاقَ الصَّفَا وَالْمَرْوَةَ مِنْ شَعَائِرِ الْبَيْتِ الْحَرَامِ وَأَنَا عَائِمٌ فَلَا جُنَامَ عَلَيَّ وَأَنْ يَطُوفَ

I commence with that with which Allah commenced. Surely Safa and Marwa are prominent symbols of Allah. Hence there is no blame on one who performs the Hajj of the House (of God) or 'Umra if he (or she) marches to and from between them (Safa and Marwa), and one who does good of one's own accord, verily Allah is Responsive, Aware.

بِهِمَا وَمَنْ تَطَوَّعَ حَرَامًا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ سَائِرٌ عَلَيْهِمْ

(2) Then, raising the hands to the shoulders, one must say: (a) *Allahu Akbar* (thrice), and (b) *La ilaha illallahu wallaha Akbar wa lillahilhamd.*

(3) Then one should give utterance to his or her *Niyat* in the words: *Allahumma inni uridus-Sa'ya bainas-Safa wal Marwati fayassirhu li wa taqabbalhu minni.*

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أُرِيدُ السَّعْيَ بَيْنَ الصَّفَا وَالْمَرْوَةِ فَيَسِّرْهُ لِي وَتَقَبَّلْهُ مِنِّي

O Allah! I intend to perform the Sa'ee between Safa and Marwa; make Thou the same easy for me and accept it from me'.

(4) Then one should march towards Marwa, reciting *Du'as* all the way.

(5) When one reaches a green spot, one should march quickly till one reaches another green spot, and in between those spots one should recite the following *Du'a*:

Rabbighfir warham wa tajawaz 'amma ta'lam wa ta'lamu ma la na'lam innaka antal-A'azzul-Akram; Allahum- maj'alhu hajjammabrooran, wa sa'yam-mashkoooran, wa zam bammaghfoora.

رَبِّ الْغُفُورِ وَأَرْحَمَ الرَّحِيمِينَ
عَنْ مَا تَعْلَمُونَ وَتَعْلَمُونَ مَا لَا
تَعْلَمُونَ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الرَّحِيمُ

O Allah! Forgive me and have mercy upon me and pass off (my sins) of which Thou art aware, and Thou knowest that of which we have no knowledge; verily Thou art the Most Honourable, the Most Exalted. O Allah! make it (for me) a Hajj that is acceptable (to Thee) and an effort that is granted and (a means of) forgiveness of sin!

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهُ حَجًّا مَبْرُورًا
وَسَعْيًا مَسْكُورًا وَذَنْبًا مَغْفُورًا

(6) Arriving at Marwa one should face the Ka'ba and pray for blessings (this completes one turn).

(7) Then one must go back to Safa in the same manner, marching quickly between the two green spots, reciting Du'as, etc., and when Safa is reached one must again face the Ka'ba and pray for blessing (this will complete the second turn).

(8) One must make seven such turns, and at the accomplishment of the seventh, when one arrives at Marwa and offers up the prayer one is said to have accomplished the Sa'ee.

The Performance of Hajj

1.

Q. Can you describe the performance of Hajj?

A. Yes, in order to perform Hajj:

(1) As soon as a pilgrim approaches the boundary line of the Holy Land, Le., the Miqat, he or she enters the state of *Ihram* with all its accompaniments.

(2) On reaching Mecca the pilgrim goes to the Grand Mosque round the Ka'ba and then performs an optional *tawaf*, called *Tawaf-ul-Qadoom*.

(3) On the 8th day of *Zilhijja* the pilgrim goes to Mina, before the time of *Salatuz-Zuhr*, a town three miles from Mecca, and spends there the rest of the day and the whole night of the 9th *Zilhijja*.

(4) After the early morning prayer of the 9th *Zilhijja*, the pilgrim proceeds to 'Arafat, a place about seven miles from Mecca, and stops anywhere in the Manqafs (staying places) in the area surrounding the Jabal-i-Rahmat, (i.e., the Hill of Mercy) in the remembrance of Allah.

(5) Just after the sunset of the 9th *Zilhijja* the pilgrim leaves the *Mauqaf* without offering *Salatul-Maghrib*, and proceeds to Muzdalifa, a place between Mina and 'Arafat, where he or she offers *Maghrib* and '*Isha* prayers.

(6) The pilgrim then proceeds from Muzdalifa after the early morning prayers of the 10th of *Zilhijja* (picking at least 49 pebbles from there) and comes to Mina.

(7) The pilgrim then takes up seven pebbles, and holding each between the index finger and the thumb of the right hand, throws them one by one at the pillar called *Jamratul-'Uqubah* on the same day, i.e., the 10th *Zilhijja*.

(8) The pilgrim then, if he or she can afford, makes a sacrifice of a goat or a sheep or joins six others in the sacrifice of a camel or a bull, and shaves off preferably the whole head or at least a quarter head, or crop the hair equally all over the head, if the pilgrim be male, and in the case of a female pilgrim, she should cut off at least an inch of her hair.

(9) The pilgrim then leaves off the state of *Ihram* and proceeds to Mecca on the same day and performs the *Tawaf*, called *Tawaf-ul-I'fada*, after which the pilgrim offers two *Rak'ats* of *Sunnat* prayers.

(10) The pilgrim then accomplishes the Sa'ee.

(11) The pilgrim, then returns to Mina and spends there the night of the 11th of *Zilhijja*.

(12) After the midday of the 11th and the 12th of *Zilhijja* the pilgrim approaches in the order mentioned, the pillars called *Jamra-tul-Oola*, *Jamratul-Wusta* and *Jamratul-Uqubah*, and throws seven pebbles against each of them, reciting at each throw: "*Bismillahi Allahu Akbar*." If a pilgrim stays on the 13th of *Zilhijja* as well, he or she throws seven pebbles at the pillars as on the two previous days.

(13) The pilgrim then returns to Mecca after the *Salatuz-Zuhr* on the 12th of *Zilhijja*. Before leaving Mecca for one's own country, the pilgrim performs a departing *tawaf*, called *Tawaf-ul-Wida*.

Notes:

(1) During one's stay at Mecca one may perform ,as many *tawafs* as one can, for the performance of *tawafs* is the best form of worship during that period.

(2) One can also perform '*Umra* as many times as one likes by going out of Mecca to Tan'eem (a place about three miles from Mecca) and adopting the *Ihram* there, return to Mecca and perform the *tawaf* and sa'ee as is usual for '*Umra*.

2.

Q. How does one perform '*Umra* ?

A. In order to perform the '*Umra* one should In the first instance:

(1) Adopt the *Ihram* at the *Miqat* in accordance with the prescribed laws.

(2) After proceeding to Mecca one should betake himself or herself to Ka'ba and affecting the *Iztiba'a*, one should form and give utterance to the *Niyyat* for *Tawaf* and commence the performance of the same.

(3) One should take care to perform the first three circuits in the style of *Ramal*.

Note: A woman is, however, exempt both from *Iztiba'a* and *Ramal*.

(4) After the completion of the three circuits, the remaining four are performed in the normal manner and one should then offer two *Rak'ats* of *Sunna-tut-Tawaf*.

(5) One should then preferably proceed to the well of Zamzam and drink a little water.

(6) From thence, betaking oneself to Safa, one should accomplish the Sa'ee according to the prescribed laws.

Note: The performance of '*Umra* is completed after the accomplishment of the Sa'ee. Now if one wants to perform the *Hajj* in the very *Ihram*, one may maintain the same; but if one does not want to do so, one should shave off at least a quarter or preferably the whole head or crop the hair all over the head. The pilgrim is then free from all the impositions and restrictions that the state of *Ihram* imposes.

3.

Q. Can *Hajj* and '*Umra* be performed in the same state of *Ihram*?

A. Yes, *Hajj* and '*Umra* can be performed in the same state of *Ihram*, in which case the pilgrim should not leave off the state of *Ihram* after the performance of '*Umra* till the completion of *Hajj*.

4.

Q. What is Qiran?

A. When the *Hajj* and *'Umra* is performed in the same state of *Ihram*, it is called *Qiran*.

5.

Q. What is Tamattu'?

A. When the *'Umra* is performed in the month of *Hajj* and then *Ihram* is removed and re-donn'd on the 7th of *Zilhijja* at Mecca for the second time for *Hajj* it is called *Tamattu'*.

Note: One who performs *Qiran* or *Tamattu'* is bound to sacrifice a goat or sheep or join six others in the sacrifice of a camel or a bull, or observe ten fasts, three before *Hajj* and seven after its performance.

6.

Q. What is Ifrad?

A. If one performs *Hajj* alone and not *'Umra*, it is called *Ifrad*.

Note:

(1) The sacrifice of an animal is not obligatory on one performing the *Hajj* alone, i.e., *Ifrad*.

(2) If anyone of the essential observances in connection with *Ihram*, *Tawaf* or *Sa'ee* are transgressed, one is liable for penalties in the shape of either sacrificing a goat or a sheep, or distributing alms.

7.

Q. What should a pilgrim do after performing Hajj?

A. It is very commendable for a pilgrim to pay a visit to the Mausoleum, of the Holy Prophet at Medina, and standing there in a reverential posture facing the tomb of the Great Prophet, to say:

*Assalamu 'alaika ayyu- han-Nabiyyu wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu, Assalamu 'alaika ya Rasoolallah!
Assalamu 'alaika ya Nabi-Allah! Assalamu 'alaika ya Habib Allah Assalamu 'alaika ya khaira-khalqillah!
Assalamu 'alaika ya Shafi'-al-muznibeen! Assa- lamu 'alaika wa 'ala alika wa as-habika wa ummatika
ajma'een*

وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا سَيِّدِي اللَّهُ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا خَيْرَ خَلْقِي اللَّهُ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا شَفِيعِي
الْمُذْنِبِينَ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ وَ
عَلَىٰ أَوْلِيَائِكَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ وَأُمَّتِكَ
أَجْمَعِينَ

Peace be on you, O Prophet (of Allah)! and His mercy and His blessings. Peace be on you, O Apostle of Allah! Peace be on you O Prophet of Allah! Peace be on you, O Beloved of Allah! Peace be on you, O Best in the (whole) Creation of Allah! Peace be on you, O Pleader for the sinners (before Allah)! Peace be on you and your descendants and your companions and all your followers.

The End