

Assignment : 317

CSS-2016

Define the meaning of prayer and its different categories also describe the spiritual, moral and social importance of prayers.

Introduction:-

The word salat is an Arabic word which means to "bow", "worship" and "prayer". It is second pillar of Islamic faith, which is the most frequently mentioned in the Holy Quran. There are 150 ayats where in it is mentioned and 750 times repeated in the Holy Quran. Salat became obligatory on 10th Nabvi (Mairaj). Furthermore, in Persian language the word "Namaz" is used for Salat and it is a common word that we all know. In Islam prayer (Salat) is only source to come closer towards Allah. The Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet (PBUH) strictly orders

us to perform salat. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said.

الصلاة معراج المؤمنين
"Prayer is the miraj for the Believers".

When a believer bows down his head in front of Allah (swt), so, Allah expunge his all sins and salvage him from the worries. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

الصلاة مفتاح الجنة
"Prayer is key to paradise".

There are different categories of prayer.

(1) Faraz prayer:

Faraz prayers ~~is~~ are compulsory and obligatory. There is no privilege for the negligence of the Faraz. The Faraz prayer is further divided into two types.

1.1 Faraz al-ayn: When an individual neglects it so, he only will be held to account.

1:2

Faraz al-kifayah :: The actions which are obligatory on muslim community and if some of them neglect it so, they only will be answerable but if all neglect it they all will be answerable collectively.

* Faraz prayers include.

(i) Five time prayers: which are the most compulsory and obligatory on each and every muslim, and these are:- Fajr, Zuhr, Asar, Magrib and Isha.

* Fajr:- Two rakats faraz after two rakats of sunnah.

* Zuhr:- Four rakats faraz after four rakats of sunnah.

* Asar:- Four rakats faraz after four rakats of sunnah.

* Magrib:- Three rakats faraz at first.

* Isha:- Four rakats faraz after four rakats of sunnah.

(ii) Wajib Prayers:-

* Salat al-witr:- Salat al-witr ^{is} ~~are~~ wajib ~~is~~ prayer which is performed after Isha and it has three rakats.

* **Salat al-Eid** :- It includes Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Udha which are wajib prayers. Eid-ul-Fitr is performed at the end of Ramzan and Eid-ul-Udha is performed on 10th of Zulhaj.

(iii) **Sunnah prayers** :-

Sunnah prayers are optional which were performed by the Holy Prophet (PBUH). There are two kinds of Sunnah Salats.

* **Sunnah Muakkadah** :- If someone abandon these Sunnah, he will be regarded as sinful.

* **Sunnah Ghair Muakkadah** :- No one will be regarded as sinful if ~~he~~ one abandon these Sunnah prayers.

* **Sunnah Al-Tarawih** :- Tarawih can be performed only during the month of Ramzan.

(iv) **Nafil Prayers** :- Nafil prayers are performed for the sake of getting forgiveness, for seeking place

place in paradise, for seeking pleasure of God, and for travel safety.

Impacts of Prayer

1. Spiritual impacts:-

Ameer-ul-Momineen

Hazrat Imam Ali (kw) said: "I heard from the messenger of Allah that:

Get up Billal, and call the people for prayer and make us feel relaxed.

A. Peace of mind:- Prayer is the only source to get peace of mind and keeps us away from the bad thoughts.

B. Purification:- The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said

The example of five (daily) prayers is like that of a clear water river is flowing in front of your house in which a person washes himself five times a day cleaning him from the

all dirt.

c Save from evil and indecency:

Prayer saves us from evil and bad deeds that Allah says in the Holy Quran.

ان الصلاة تنهى عن الفحشاء والمنكر
ونذكر الله اكبر والله اعلم بالصواب

"salah prevents man from evil and lewdness". (Al-Ankaboot 45).

2 Moral Impacts

A The value of time:- The five time prayers make us punctual of time. Allah says in the Holy Quran

"worship at fixed hours hath been enjoined on the believers" (Al-Tima (03)).

B Patience:-

Allah says in Quran.

"Seek help from the God with patience, perseverance, and prayer". Al-Baqarah (15)

c character building:-

Prayer makes us good in ~~the~~ the eyes of Allah by expunging the sinful acts. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

✓ The dearest act in the eyes of Allah is that which is done constantly, even though it be small."

3 Social Impacts:-

Prayer is only the source to ameliorate the relations and to teach us to stand at one platform unitedly. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said

"Salat is a pillar of the religion (Islam). He who established it, established religion; and he who destroys it, destroys the religion."

Conclusion:-

Prayer (Salat) became obligatory on 10th Rabi at night of miraj. The word Salat come from Arabic word (Salat) which has been 750 time repeated in the Holy Quran and It is divided into different categories i.e (Faraz, wajib, Sunnah and Nafl)

The Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet (PBUH) strictly emphasize on prayer. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said "The first duty that Allah the supreme, has ordained upon my nation is that of offering prayer is the first thing that will be taken account of on the day of judgement."

Balat keeps us away from all sinful acts and build up our character in the eyes of Allah (SWT).