

Q. Define the meaning of prayer and its different categories. Also describe the spiritual, moral and social importance of prayers. (CSS 2016)

Introduction:

Salah/Prayer is second pillar of faith. It has great significance and stress from Allah Almighty to "His" believers. Prayer inculcates sense of social, spiritual and moral responsibility and godness. It teaches us the importance of time and made us more humble in dealings with others.

Meaning of Salah/Prayer:

The word salah (salat) came from Arabic language which means "Bowing, homage" and "Worship".

According to Shariah it means
"worship and obedience of
Allah Almighty".

Categories of Prayer / Salah

Basically we divide prayer
in four categories, which are:

(i) Fardh (obligatory prayer)

Fardh is complementary and
obligatory prayer. Its negligence
can cause distress of Allah.
It is further divided into two
types. Fardh Ayn (obligation
on self) and Fardh Aklifiya
(obligation on society). Fardh
Ayn is obligatory on individual
self and he will be
answerable if he neglect it.

Fardh Aklifiya is obligatory
to all but if some members
of society performing it there will
be no sin but if nobody
perform it then it will consider a sin.

Fardh prayers are as follows

- (i) Five prayers a day: Fajr, Zahir, Asr, Magrib and Isha
- (ii) Jumma / Friday Prayer
- (iii) Jinazah / Funeral prayer

(ii) Wajib (Semi-Obligatory)

Wajib prayer is not obligatory but semi-obligatory prayer, which are

Salah witr: Some school of thought consider salah witr as optional and others semi wajib. Salah witr is performed after Salah Isha. Its rakat varies according to various school of thoughts.

(iii) Sunnah Prayers:

Sunnah prayers are voluntary and additional prayer performed by Holy Prophets (PBUH). These

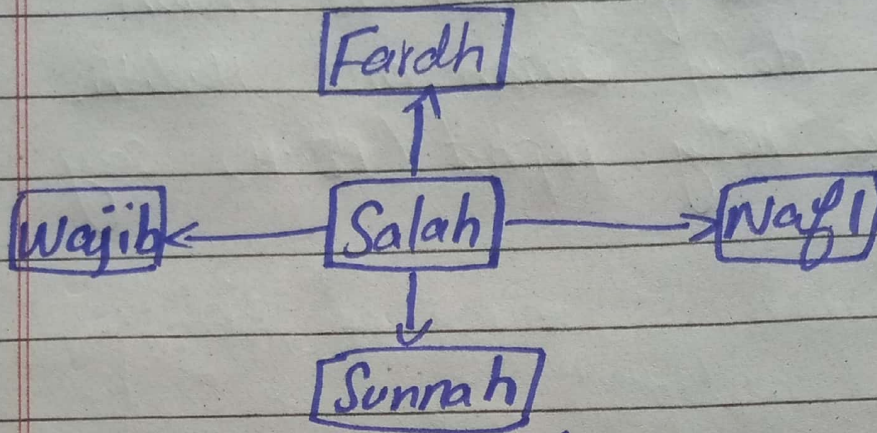
are also divide into two types "Sunnah mukkaddan" and "Sunnah Coair mukkaddan".

Sunnah mukkaddan are routine prayers and its negligence will be counted as sinful according to Hanafi school.

Sunnah Coair mukkaddan are offered not on daily routine and its negligence not considered as sinful. Salah Trawi is considered as sunnah prayers.

(iv) Nafil Prayers (Superobligatory)

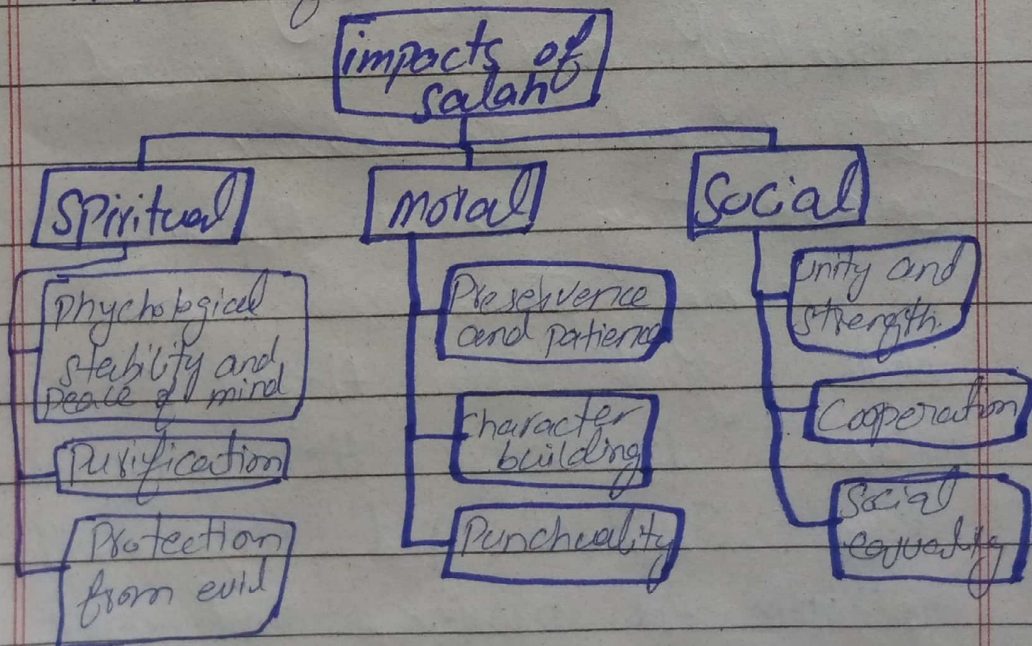
Nafil prayer are additional and voluntary prayers that can be offered any time. They consist on, Tahajud, khushuf, Safr, Ishakarrah etc.



Types of Salah / Prayers

Importance of Prayer:

Prayer is an essential element of faith. It impacts our individual, cultural, political and social dealings with other fellows.



Importance of Prayer is shown
in Holy Quran and Hadith.
Once Holy Prophet (PBUH) say

"Salah is mi'raj of believers
/ Muslims"

Spiritual Impacts:

Prayer spiritually
impacts believer by

(i) Phys Psychological Stability and Peace of mind

Prayer gives Psychological
stability and peace of mind
it relaxed the believers
because they know Allah
is listening them and "He"
will guide them. Hazrat Ali (R.A)
said "I hear Holy Prophet
say: O Bilal get up, call
people for prayer and give
us peace."

(ii) Purification (Tahirat)

Prayer purifies us from physically as well as spiritually. It keeps us away from dirty things and thoughts due to the fear of Allah. The Holy Quran said

"Allah loves ^{much} those who turn much to Him and love those who purify them"

(Al-Bakara 222)

(iii) Protection from evil and lewdness:

Prayer protects us from evil and lewdness. It restrains us from committing sin because we have to face Allah in prayer. It makes us afraid of Allah. In the Holy Quran Allah says "Salah protects

from evil and indecency"
(Al Ankaboot 45)

Moral Impacts:

moral impacts
of prayers are as follows

(i) Preservation and Patience:

Prayer
teaches us to be patient
and persevere in hard or
challenging time. Performing of
five times prayer a day
makes us consistent and
perseverant. Allah says in
Holy Quran

"Nay! seek guidance from
preservation, patience and
prayer" (Al-Bakara)

on another place it is
also say / ordered that

"Seek help from prayer and patience and surely Allah is with them who are patient"
(Al-Baqara)

(ii) Character Building:

Prayers help us to build character by making us humble, consistent, persistent and punctual. Prayer is such worship that is performed five times a day, which makes us persistent. And Allah loves those people who are persistent in their works. Holy Quran say "Allah likes those who are persistent, even in small works"
(Quran)

(vii) Punctuality :

One of many significant element of all culture and religion is time. Prayer teaches us value of time because it is related to time. It adjust the biological timing of believers.

Social Impacts

Prayer not only impact individual or personal lives of people but also socially.

(viii) Unity and strength :

Prayer develop sense of unity and strength in believers or muslims. They make them unite and ultimately powerful than others. As they meet five times a day and share their problems, opinions and console them each other.

(ii) Cooperation:

Prayer promote cooperation between believers and society members. They become more willing to help each other. Their cooperation is important to grow / development of society.

(iii) Social Equality:

Prayer teaches social equality as all humans of different color, race, culture are standing with one another shoulder by shoulder. It eradicates the difference between rich and poor. All peoples become equal in eyes of Allah. It create sense of social responsibility.

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Conclusion:

Prayer have great significance in eyes of Allah and "His" believers. Because it make closer "His" believers to "Him". Prayer instill sense of social responsibility, patience, humbleness, kind, peaceful, punctual, consistent and many more.

Q Define Tawheed. what is its impact on individual life and Society. Elaborate. (2019)

Introduction

The doctrine of tawheed is comprised one ~~ness~~ oneness, Omnipotent and Eternal of God. Tawheed have great significance in Islam. It is a gateway of Islam. The reality of universe divide into two concepts: one is God and other is anything except God. Muslims use word Allah for God. They believe in oneness of Allah. Tawheed impact all humans (believers) at all level, individual, social, political and economical etc.

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Concept of Tawheed :

Tawheed means oneness^{and} uniqueness of God. All Christians, Jewish and Muslims believe in oneness of Allah Almighty.

Tawheed is gateway of Islam as first Kalma represents "La illah illal Allah"

"There is no God except Allah."

Only Allah is able of worship and worth it.

'He' is unique in oneness, attributes and actions.

Impacts of Tawheed:

Tawheed not only show the oneness of Allah, but also the value of existence of human beings on earth. Allah has made

humans 'His' vicegerent on earth and ordered ^{them} him to worship 'Him'. The lofty purpose of humans existence on earth is to follow the command of Allah and worship 'Him'. Through the concept of Tawheed, humans can setup new world order with justice and peace on earth. Tawheed impact individual as well as social dealings of believers.

Impacts of Tawheed

Individual

Sense of accountability

Inculcates humble and modesty

Instill self respect

Induce peace of mind

Social

Equality of humans

Instill peace and co-operation

Social justice

Inculcates Brotherhood

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Impacts on Individual life:

Tahweed has great impacts on individual life which are as follows:

(i) Induce Sense of Accountability:

Tahweed induce sense of accountability or responsibility in believers. They know that Allah is watching their all actions and 'He' also know what is in your mind. He believe in day of judgment and ~~he~~ he has to answerable for his actions. This concept of believe makes him more worshiped to Allah and done his responsibility towards other human beings.

Qurans says:

"who have done atom's weight good will see it and who have done

atom's like weight like
evil will see it."

(Al-Hujraat -10)

(iii) Inculcates humble and
modesty

Tawheed make all believers
humble and modest because
they know all powers in
earth and heaven belongs
to 'Him'. Anger, hatred
and proud are not qualities
of believers. They are humble
in nature with all other
humans. They are afraid of
Allah and want His Pleasure.

"Humble is my cloak and
greatness my robe. who
ever want to seek with
desire to either 'I' will
send him in Hell."

(Ibn Majah)

(iii) Instill self respect:

Allah has made human 'His' vicegerant on earth and made them in perfect form/shape. Believers proud theirself that they are servant of Al mighty. They only worship 'Him' which induce self respect in them.

They know all powers belong to ~~them~~ 'Him' and only He is one to be worshiped. So believers do not bow in front of others. Allah says in Suran

"I am only God, there is no other God, worship me and pray for remembrance me"

(iv) Induce peace of mind:

Believers find peace in remembrance of one Allah. They offered prayer and recite Holy Quran to talk directly to Allah without help of any other person. They become relaxed after worshipping Him. In Holy Quran, Allah says "Surely, peace is only in remembrance of Allah." (Quran)

Social Impacts

Tahweed not only impacts individuals (believers) but also social in following ways:

(i) Equality of All Humans:

In sight of Allah, all humans are equal without any discrimination of race, color, creed, religion

culture. All human beings have same duties and rights which must be full fill. All humans are made of clay cloth. In Quran Allah says,

"Allah has created all humans from one soul"
(Al Nisa)

Holy Prophet (PBUH) also said that all humans are equal and also proved that practically. He said no Black is superior to white & no white is superior to Black. All are equal.

(ii) Instill Peace and Co-operation:

Tahweed Shows the peace in the universe because if there is another God, the universe system will be

disrupted. There will be confrontation between things.

Holy Quran Say "

" The Earth and Heaven and which lies in them is sovereignty of Allah, if there is another God, it will ruin the universe "

(Quran)

Peace between humans on earth is also pre exist between because they know they have to answer Allah for their actions. It promote cooperation and strengthen unity among believers.

(iii) Social Justice :

Tawheed promotes social justice because Allah love justices.

'His' believers know if they tried to do injustice with

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others, Allah will send them in Hell. Social justice is a significant element of development of society. Allah done justice to everyone. As tawheed induce sense of responsibility towards others. human beings but also other creatures of Allah means animals, birds etc.

(iv) Inculcate Brotherhood:

All believers are believed that all humans are brother because they believe in tawheed. They think they belong from one family of Adam (A.S). They are equal on the basis of race, creed and color.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) said
that

"All Muslims are
Brothers."

And on another place
it ~~he~~ also said that
all believers are like
a body

"When one part of body
feels ill, all parts of
body feel illness."

Tawheed makes them more
unite. As Allah said in
Quran

"Allah has created from
one soul"
(Al Nisa)

Conclusion:

Without the
acceptance of doctrine ^{the} tawheed
no one can enter in Islam.

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Tawheed is first element of faith. It implies that only Allah can be worshipped and can run this universe smoothly and peacefully. Tawheed has great impacts on our (believers) all aspects of life such as, individuals, social, political etc.