



INVALIDATORS OF PRAYER

مبطلات الصلاة

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Review the invalidators of prayer learnt in previous years
- Discuss the most common invalidators of prayer
- Understand some of the disliked (makrūh) acts in prayer

Invalidators of Prayer

In previous years, we have learnt some of the things that cause our prayer to become invalid (no longer correct). If these things occur, we need to stop our prayer, get ourselves ready to pray again and repeat our prayer. We learnt about some of these things last year. Let's have a short quiz to review them.

Class Activity: Revision Quiz

Answer true or false:

- 1- Laughing during prayer breaks the prayer
- 2- Smiling during prayer breaks the prayer

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 3

- 3- Speaking normal words during prayer breaks the prayer
- 4- Turning the face completely away from the Qiblah breaks the prayer
- 5- Turning the face slightly away from the Qiblah breaks the prayer
- 6- Crying out of fear or love for Allah (SWT) breaks the prayer
- 7- Crying because of a problem a person is having in this world breaks the prayer (for example, mum and dad are fighting and you are very upset about this)
- 8- Eating during prayer breaks the prayer
- 9- Swallowing some food left in the mouth during prayer breaks the prayer

WHAT DO I DO IN THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS?

- 1- While a person is praying, they pass wind. What should they do?
 - a. They need to stop their prayer, renew their Wuḍū', and repeat the prayer from the beginning

- 2- After praying, a person realises they have prayed two rak'āt instead of three for Maghreb prayer. What should they do?
 - a. They need to repeat their prayer
- 3- I am praying at a picnic in the park, when a wet dog comes close to me and touches my pants. My pants are now wet because of the dog. What should I do?
 - a. I need to make my clothes Ṭāhir then repeat my prayer.

INVALIDATORS OF PRAYER

Besides the things we have learnt about in previous years, there are others that break the prayer. You might have seen students your age doing some of the following things during prayer:

- Laughing
- Turning away to look at someone or looking to the side
- Whispering to each other
- Disturbing others by nudging them
- Checking their phones during prayer



All of these things make our prayer invalid, and if we do these things, we need to repeat our prayer. Therefore, while we are praying, we need to make sure that we avoid these things. We need to stand respectfully and stand still with absolute humility in front of Allah, the Almighty. We need to face the Qiblah and not turn away from it. We need to avoid looking away, speaking to others or laughing.

It is also important not to pray very quickly. Praying so quickly that a person looks like they are just

jumping up and down or pecking the ground like a bird means that we are not really showing any interest in our prayer and so we may not get any reward for our prayer.

One day, the Prophet (saw) was sitting at the mosque when a man walked in and began to pray. This man was praying very quickly. His rukū' and sujūd were very fast and he was not performing them properly. The Prophet (saw) said:

“It is as if he is a crow pecking the ground. If he dies while his prayer is like this, he will die on a religion other than mine” (*Wasa'ilul Shia, chapter 3 from the chapters on ruku'*).

The Prophet (saw) was so upset by this man's quick prayer that he said that if this man were to keep praying like this till he died; he would die as a non-Muslim.

Review Questions

- 1- If a person passes wind while they are praying:**
 - a. They can continue to prayer
 - b. They need to repeat their prayer after renewing Wuḍū'
 - c. Neither of the above
- 2- When praying:**
 - a. It is okay to turn away from the Qiblah and look to the side
 - b. It is not okay to turn away from the Qiblah and look to the side
 - c. It is okay to turn away, but only very quickly
- 3- During prayer:**
 - a. It is okay to check the SMS we just received
 - b. It is okay to play a game on our phone
 - c. It is not okay to use our phone, we need to concentrate on prayer