Acceptance and Elevation of Salat

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In the Name of Allah^{azwj} the Beneficent, the Merciful. The Praise is for Allah^{azwj} Lord^{azwj} of the Worlds, and Blessing be upon our Chief Muhammad^{saww} and his^{saww} Purified Progeny^{asws}, and greetings with abundant greetings.

What Elevates the Status of Salat and What Ensures it's Acceptance:

مُحَمَّدُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ بْنِ شَهْرَآشُوبَ فِي الْمَنَاقِبِ، عَنْ أَبِي حَازِمِ قَالَ قَالَ رَجُلِّ لِزَيْنِ الْعَابِدِينَ ع تَعْرِفُ الصَّلَاةَ فَحَمَلْتُ عَلَيْهِ فَقَالَ ع مَهْلًا يَا أَبَا حَازِمٍ فَإِنَّ الْعُلَمَاءَ هُمُ الْحُلَمَاءُ الرُّحَمَاءُ ثُمُّ وَاجَةَ السَّائِلَ فَقَالَ نَعَمْ أَعْرِفُهَا فَسَأَلَهُ عَنْ أَفْعَالِهَا و تُرُوكِهَا وَ فَرَائِضِهَا وَ نَوَافِلِهَا حَتَّى بَلَغَ قَوْلَهُ مَا افْتِتَاحُهَا قَالَ التَّكْبِيرُ قَالَ مَا بُرْهَاتُهَا قَالَ الْقِرَاءَةُ قَالَ مَا خُشُوعُهَا قَالَ النَّظُرُ إِلَى مَوْضِعِ السُّجُودِ قَالَ مَا يَوْلِهَا عَالَ التَّمْرِيمُ قَالَ مَا جَوْهَرُهَا قَالَ التَّمْبِيحُ قَالَ مَا جَوْهَرُهَا قَالَ التَّمْبِيحُ قَالَ مَا شِعَارُهَا قَالَ التَّعْقِيبُ

قَالَ مَا تَمَامُهَا قَالَ الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى مُحُمَّدٍ وَ آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

قَالَ مَا سَبَبُ قَبُولِمِنَا قَالَ وَلاَيَتُنَا وَ الْبَرَاءَةُ مِنْ أَعْدَائِنَا فَقَالَ مَا تَرَكْتَ لِأَحَدٍ حُجَّةً ثُمُّ نَهَضَ يَقُولُ اللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ حَيْثُ يَجْعَلُ رِسَالَتَهُ وَ تَوَارَى

Mohammed bin Ali bin Shahir Ashob reports in Manaqib, I heard it from the father of Hazam that once a person came to Imam Zain ul-Abideen asws and asked:

Do you know something about the Salat?' I (the narrator) became furious and leapt forward to attack him but Imam^{asws} intervened and said: O Abu Hazim! Stay where you are, people with knowledge show courage and are very kind. Imam^{asws} looked toward the man and replied: 'Yes, I know about the Salat'. That person asked several questions on Salat from the Imam^{asws}. Imam^{asws} replied to his questions and in the end he asked:

He asked: 'What elevates the status of Salat?

Imam Zain ul-Abideen^{asws} **replied:** By sending the 'Salawat'¹ on Muhammad^{saww} and his pious progeny^{asws}.

He asked: What ensures the acceptance of Salat?

Imam^{asws} **replied:** Adherence to our^{asws} Wilayat and denouncing and rejecting our^{asws} enemies, ensure acceptance of Salat.

After listening to the Divine reply he got up and said, you^{asws} have removed all doubts and did not leave behind any excuses unturned. Indeed Allah^{azwj} Knows who to entrust with His^{azwj} Divine Message.²

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¹ Blessings

وأما قوله عزوجل: (أقيموا الصلوة) فهو أقيموا الصلاة بتمام ركوعها وسجودها و . حفظ . مواقيتها، وأداء حقوقها التي إذا لم تؤد لم يتقبلها رب الخلائق أتدرون ما تلك الحقوق؟ فهي إتباعها بالصلاة على محمد وعلي وآلهما (عليهم السلام) منطويا على الاعتقاد بأنهم أفضل خيرة الله، والقوام بحقوق الله، والنصار لدين الله.

In Tafseer Imam Hassan^{asws} al-Askari^{asws}, Imam^{asws} says: 'As for the Words of the Almighty "*and keep up Salat*"- is the establishment of Salat with all the bowings and prostrations and keeping to its timings, and the fulfilment of **its rights** without which, the Lord^{azwj} of creation does not Accept Prayers. (Imam^{asws} asked): Do you know what those rights are? These are the salutations on Muhammad^{saww} and Ali^{asws} and their Progeny^{asws} and to have belief that they^{asws} are the best of the creation of Allah^{azwj} and the establishers of the Rights of Allah^{azwj} and the helpers of the religion of Allah^{azwj}. ³

قال رسول الله (صلى الله عليه وآله): من صلى الخمس كفر الله عنه من الذنوب ما بين كل صلاتين، وكان كمن على بابه نهرجار يغتسل فيه كل يوم خمس مرات . و . لا يبقي عليه من الدرن شيئا إلا الموبقات التي هي جحد النبوة و الامامة أو ظلم إخوانه المؤمنين أو ترك التقية حتى يضر بنفسه وباخوانه المؤمنين.

The Messenger of Allah^{saww} said: 'One who Prays five times (Salat) a day, Allah^{azwj} expiates his sins between the two Salat, as if there was a flowing river by his door and he bathes in it five times a day and there does not remain any filth on him except if he rejects the Prophethood and the Imamate or is unjust to his believing brother or if he avoids Taqqiya (dissimulation) so that it affects him adversely and his believing brothers.⁴

ثم قال الله عزوجل لسائر اليهود والكافرين المظهرين: (واستعينوا بالصبر والصلوة). أي بالصبر. عن الحرام. و. على تأدية الامانات، وبالصبر على الرئاسات الباطلة، وعلى الاعتراف لمحمد بنبوته ولعلى بوصيته.

(واستعينوا بالصبر) على خدمتهما، وخدمة من يأمرانكم بخدمته على استحقاق الرضوان والغفران ودائم نعيم الجنان في جوار الرحمن، ومرافقة خيار المؤمنين، والتمتع بالنظر إلى عزة محمد سيد الاولين والآخرين، وعلي سيد الوصيين والسادة الاخيار المنتجبين، فان ذلك أقر لعيونكم، وأتم لسروركم، وأكمل لهدايتكم من سائر نعيم الجنان.

Then Allah^{azwj} the Almighty Said to the other disbelievers who were present there: "*And seek assistance through patience and Salat*" Meaning, be patient by staying away from the prohibited and the fulfilment of trusts and by observing patience from the false governments and recognition of the Prophet-hood of Muhammad^{saww} and the Master-ship of Ali^{asws}.

"And seek assistance through patience" on serving them^{asws} and serving those^{asws} that they^{asws} order you to do so as is their^{asws} right, and you will be rewarded with Forgiveness and a life of eternal bliss in the Gardens in the vicinity of the Beneficent, and in the

مستدرك الوسائل 4 112 5- باب نو ادر ما يتعلق بأبو اب أفعال²

³ Ibid, H. 253

⁴ Ibid, H. 111

⁵ Tafseer Imam Hassan Askari asws H. 115

friendship of the true believers, and enjoy looking at the honour of Muhammad^{saww} the Master of the former ones and the later ones, and at the Master of the Trustees and the Chief of the good chosen ones for that will be a coolness to your eyes and you will be in joy and complete bounty from all the other bounties of the Gardens.

واستعينوا أيضا بالصلوات الخمس، وبالصلاة على محمد وآله الطيبين (على قرب الوصول إلى جنات النعيم). (وإنحا) أي هذه الفعلة من الصلوات الخمس، و . من . الصلاة على محمد وآله الطيبين مع الانقياد لاوامرهم والايمان بسرهم وعلانيتهم وترك معارضتهم بلم؟ وكيف؟ (لكبيرة). ل. عظيمة. (إلا على الخاشعين) الخائفين من عقاب الله في مخالفته في أعظم فرائضه.

And seek help by five Salat and by salutations of Muhammad^{saww} and his^{saww} blissful Progeny^{asws}, to be near to the Gardens of Bliss. "and most surely it" Meaning these deeds from the five Salat and from the salutation on Muhammad^{saww} and his^{saww} blissful Progeny^{asws} with obedience to their^{asws} orders and belief in their^{asws} secrets and what they proclaim and avoid objections like Why? How? "is a hard thing" a great thing "except for the humble ones" those who fear the retribution of Allah for those who oppose the great obligations of His^{azwj}.6

What is the Essence of Salat:

قَالَ قُلْتُ لِأَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَ أَنْتُمُ الصَّلَاةُ فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ وَ أَنْتُمُ الزَّكَاةُ وَ أَنْتُمُ الْحَبُّ فَقَالَ يَا دَاوُدَ نَحْنُ الصَّلَاةُ فِي كِتَاب اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ وَ نَحْنُ الزَّكَاةُ وَ نَحْنُ الصِّيَامُ وَ نَحْنُ الحْجُّ وَ نَحْنُ الشَّهْرُ الحْرَامُ وَ نَحْنُ الْبَلَدُ الْحَرَامُ وَ نَحْنُ الزَّكَاهُ وَ نَحْنُ اللَّهِ وَ خَوْنُ وَجْهُ اللَّهِ قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى فَأَيْنَما تُوَلُّوا فَثَمَّ وَجْهُ اللَّهِ وَ نَحْنُ الْآيَاتُ وَ نَحْنُ الْبَيِّنَاتُ وَ عَدُوُّنَا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ

Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq^{asws} said: 'We^{asws} are the Salat which is mentioned in the Holy Quran, we^{asws} are the Zakaat and we^{asws} are the Soam, we^{asws} are the Hajj, we^{asws} are the sacred City, we^{asws} are al-Kabah, we^{asws} are the 'Face' of Allah^{azwj}, we^{asws} are Allah^{azwj}'s Verses and we^{asws} are His^{azwj} Proofs (Aiat and Biyan)...⁷.

عَلِيُّ بْنُ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ بْنِ إِسْحَاقَ عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ حَمَّادٍ عَنِ ابْنِ مُسْكَانَ عَنْ أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ ع قَالَ نَحْنُ أَصْلُ كُلِّ خَيْرٍ وَ مِنْ فُرُوعِنَا كُلُّ بِرِّ فَمِنَ الْبِرِّ التَّوْحِيدُ وَ الصَّلَاةُ وَ الصِّيَامُ

Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq^{asws} says: 'We^{asws} are the root of all virtues and we^{asws} are the branches of all righteousness and through us^{asws} is the (way) to 'Tawheed' and 'Salat' and 'Soam....⁸

(Amir-ul-Momineen says^{asws}) Blessed is the Prophet^{saww} and his pure progeny^{asws}, Allah^{azwj} will Accept your Salat when you mention Prophet and his family with due respect.9

24 303 باب 66- أنهم الصلاة و الزكاة و الحج ⁷ الكافي 8 242 حديث القباب ص : 231 ⁸

⁶ Ibid. H. 115.

The Meanings of Establishing the Salat

Shaheed^{ra} has reported a tradition of Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq^{asws}, as narrated by Abu Walid, that Imam^{asws} said: 'Qad qamatil Salat' (Salat has been established) refers to the establishment of the Imamat of al-Qaim^{ajfj}. ¹⁰

"The Imam^{asws} said, 'Such people will be those who did not believe in 'A'immah^{asws} (Leaders with Divine Authority) about whom Allah^{azwj}, has Said, "The foremost ones will be the nearest ones to Allah." (56:11) Have you not noticed that people call the one second to the lead in horseracing 'Al-Musalli' (also means the praying)? This, what is meant therein. "We did not pray" (74:43), means 'We did not follow the 'Al-Sabaqeen' the (Divine) leader^{asws}.'¹¹

Ali bin Ibrahim narrates from his father, who heard it from Mohammed ibn al-Riyyan bin al-Sallat Rafa, who heard it from Abi Abd Allah asws:

Amir-ul-Momineen, Ali^{asws} ibn Abu Talib^{asws}, would very often say in sermons about sins, 'O people, pay attention to your religion, pay attention to your religion. An evil deed in it (under our^{asws} Wilayat) is better than a good deed under other than it (Wilayat). An evil deed in true religion can be forgiven (by means of repenting) but a good deed performed under other than Just (our Wilayat) will not be accepted.'¹²

Those who will be in the paradise ask from the sinner what has brought you to the hell, they will reply: We were not among those who prayed.

قال حدثني جعفر بن محمد الفزاري معنعنا عن أبي عبد الله ع في قوله تعالى في جَنَّاتٍ يَتَساءَلُونَ عَنِ الْمُحْرِمِينَ ما سَلَكَكُمْ في سَقَرَ قالُوا لَمْ نَكُ مِنَ الْمُصَلِّينَ يعني لم نك [يكونوا] من شيعة علي بن أبي طالب ع وَ لَمْ نَكُ نُطْعِمُ الْمِسْكِينَ وَ كُنَّا نَخُوضُ مَعَ الْخَائِضِينَ وَ كُنَّا نُكُوضُ مَعَ الْخَائِضِينَ وَ كُنَّا الْيَقِينُ أيام القائم [ع] فما تَنْفَعُهُمْ الْخَائِضِينَ وَ كُنَّا الْيَقِينُ أيام القائم [ع] فما تَنْفَعُهُمْ شَفاعَةُ الشَّافِعِينَ فما تنفعهم شفاعة لمخلوق و لن يشفع فيهم رسول الله صيوم القيامة

It is narrated from Imam Hassan al-Askari^{asws} in the explanation of the above Verses: The people of paradise will ask from the inhabitants of hell, what has brought you to the raging

⁹ http://hubeali.com/images/newimg/Mola-Ali-asws-400-Ahadith.pdf 611 : ص 2 : 2 ص الخصال ج : 2 ص

بحار الأنوار ج : 51 ص : 149 Bihar ul Anwar, vol. 51 pg. 149, Iqbal ul Amaal. 149

¹¹ Al-Kafi, vol. 1, H 1115, Ch. 108, h 38

¹² Al-Kafi, vol. 2, pg. 349, (الكافي ج : 2 الكافي ع : 464)

fire? They will reply: We were not among those who offered Salat, meaning that we were not among the Shias of Ali^{asws}. 13

Salat is Unacceptable Without Paying Zakaat and Without Wilayat asws:

حدثنا محمد بن الحسن قال حدثنا محمد بن الحسن الصفار عن العباس بن معروف عن علي بن مهزيار عن الحسن بن سعيد عن ماد بن عيسى عن عمر بن أذينة عن زرارة و بكير و فضيل و محمد بن مسلم و بريد بن معاوية عن أبي جعفر ع و أبي عبد الله ع أنهما قالا في الرجل يكون في بعض هذه الأهواء الحرورية و المرجئة و العثمانية و القدرية ثم يتوب و يعرف هذا الأمر و يحسن رأيه أ يعيد كل صلاة صلاها أو صوم أو زكاة أو حج قال ليس عليه إعادة شيء من ذلك غير الزكاة فإنه لا بد أن يؤديها لأنه وضع الزكاة في غير موضعها و إنما موضعها أهل الولاية

Mohammed bin Hassan reports from Mohammed bin Hassan al-Safar, who heard it from al-Abbas bin Mahroof, who from Ali bin Mahzyar, who from Al-Hassan bin Saeed, who from Hammad bin Isa, who from Ummer bin Azyana, who heard it from Zarrah and Bakeer and Fazeel and Mohammed bin Muslim and Bareed bin Muawiya who said that he has heard from:

Mohammed Baqir^{asws} and Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq^{asws} had said about a person who belonged to one of the Muslim sects, Harrawiya or Marhaba and/or Usmania or Qadari. But then he repented and recognised the 'Just' (Haq) Path and corrected his belief. The question was asked what would happen to his Salat, Soam, Zakaat and Hajj, which he had performed as per his previous beliefs. Does he need to repeat all those acts of worship? They^{asws} replied: He will have to repay his Zakaat but there is no need to repeat the other acts of worship. This is due to the fact that he has paid his Zakaat to non-deserving ones whereas the real and legitimate recipients of the Zakaat will be those who adhere to our^{asws} Wilayat.¹⁴

قوله عزوجل: " وأقيموا الصلاة وآتوا الزكاة وما تقدموا لانفسكم من خير تجدوه عند الله ان الله بما تعملون بصير "

The Words of the Almighty "And keep up Salat and pay the poor-rate and whatever good you send before for yourselves, you shall find it with Allah; surely Allah sees what you do" – VERSE 110

قال الامام (عليه السلام): (أقيموا الصلاة) باتمام وضوئها وتكبيراتما وقيامها وقراءتما وركوعها وسجوها وحدودها. (وآتوا الزكاة) مستحقيها، لا تؤتوها كافرا ولا مناصبا. قال رسول الله (صلى الله عليه وآله): " المتصدق على أعدائنا كالسارق في حرم الله ". (وما تقدموا لانفسكم من خير) من مال تنفقونه في طاعة الله، فان لم يكن لكم مال، فمن جاهكم تبذلونه لاخوانكم المؤمنين، تجرون به إليهم المنافع، وتدفعون به عنهم المضار. (تجدوه عند الله) ينفعكم الله تعالى بجاه محمد وعلى وآلهما يوم القيامة فيحط به سيئاتكم، ويضاعف به حسناتكم، ويرفع به درجاتكم فقال: " تجدوه عند الله " (إن الله بما تعلمون بصير) عالم ليس يخفى عليه شئ: ظاهر فعل، ولا باطن ضمير، فهو يجازيكم على حسب اعتقاداتكم ونياتكم، وليس هو كملوك الدنيا الذي يلتبس

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تفسير فر ات الكوفي ص: Tafseer-e-Furat, pg. 362. (Urdu), 516

عللالشرائع ج: 2 ص: 374 14

على بعضهم، فينسب فعل بعضهم إلى غير فاعله، وجناية بعضهم إلى غير جانيه فيقع ثوابه وعقابه . بجهله بما لبس عليه . بغير مستحقه.

وقال رسول الله (صلى الله عليه وآله): مفتاح الصلاة الطهور، وتحريمها التكبير، وتحليلها التسليم، ولا يقبل الله صلاة بغير طهور، ولا صدقة من غلول. وإن أعظم طهور الصلاة. التي لا يقبل الصلاة إلا به، ولا شئ من الطاعات مع فقده. موالاة محمد، وأنه سيد المرسلين، وموالاة على، وأنه سيد الوصيين وموالاة أوليائهما، ومعاداة أعدائهما.

Imam Hassan Al-Askari^{asws} said: "And keep up Salat" by completing its ablutions, and its Takbeers, and its standings, and its readings, and its bowings, and its prostrations and its limits. "And pay the poor-rate" to the deserving ones, not giving it to the infidels and the Nasibis.

The Messenger of Allah^{saww} said: 'The giver of charity to our enemies is like a thief stealing in the Kaaba' (extract). 15

And the one who is miserly in the payment of Zakaat but Prays regularly, his Salat remains captive in the sky until such time as he gives Zakaat. (extract).¹⁶

Sayings of Amir-ul-Momineen on Salat 17:

If the performers of Salat were aware of Allah^{azwj},'s Mercy that covers them, they would never come to the end of the prayers and would never raise their heads after going into prostration.

One should not puff in prostration of the ritual prayers, nor in the food, drink or on amulet (Taweez).

One should not offer Salat in a state of laziness and tiredness.

¹⁵ Tafseer Imam Hassan Askari^{asws}, H. 318

¹⁶ Tafseer Imam Hassan Askari^{asws}, H. 39

الخصال ج : 2 ص 2 : 17 Imam Ali^{asws} Teaches 400 Golden Rules for the World and the Hereafter, الخصال

Do not turn away your attention in Salat. Allah azwi will Say to the servant who turns his attention away in Salat: 'Be with Me, My servant, I am certainly better for you than that which you are turning to'.

Blessed is the Prophet^{saww} and his pure progeny^{asws}, Allah^{azwj} will accept your prayers when you mention Prophet^{saww} and his family^{asws} with due respect.

Depend upon Allah^{azwj} after performing the two rakaat of the Fajr salat. The demands are settled during that Salat.

Do not go to the Holy 'Al-Harm' with your swords. Do not offer Salat while a sword/weapon is put before you, for the Kiblah is sanctuary/security.

Prostrate for extended duration in Allah azwi, s obedience in order to achieve salvation.

Salat is the most favourable deed to Allah^{azwj}. The worldly pleasures should never distract you from offering the Salat on their proper times. Allah^{azwj} has rebuked those who disregarded the times of their prayers. Allah^{azwj} Says: *Woe to the prayers ones, who are ignorant of their prayers* (107:4-5).

The <u>believers should not put</u> one hand on the other while standing straight in prayers like the disbelievers (do).

If you notice a stinging worm after establishing Salat, you should bury, spit, or hold it in the dress until you finish the Salat.

Notable turning (around in salat) invalidates the Salat. If you turn your face notably in prayers, you should restart with the Azan, Iqama and Takbir.

To tuck up the clothes is purity for offering the prayers. Allah^{azwj} Says: *Cleanse your clothes* (74:4). This means tuck up your clothes.

You should not stand before your Lord the Majestic in Salat while you are wearing seethrough clothes.

Teach your children how to pray. When they are eight years old, you should discipline them if they are negligent of their Salat.

'Saho' doubts is forbidden at five places, in the Witr of Salat, the first two Rakaat of every obligatory Salat, in Fajr and Maghrib Salats, and every obligatory two-rakaat prayer as offered in travel.

It is acceptable for men to offer the Salat wearing one dress by knotting the two martins on the neck. It is also acceptable to offer the Salat wearing a thick shirt by buttoning it up.

It is unacceptable for men to prostrate themselves on pictures or pictured rug. It is, however, allowed when the picture is under his feet and covered up by something.

It is not permitted for men to put pictured 'Dirhams' (coins) in their pocket while offering Salat. It is, however, allowed to put the dirham in a bag or a thick cloth, i.e., money belt.

It is unacceptable for men to prostrate themselves on a bag of wheat or barley, an eatable thing, or bread.

Allah^{azwj} will Forgive those who offer the Salat with full recognition of its worth.

Avoid offering a recommendable Salat in the time of an obligatory one. You should not leave offering the 'Nafilas' unless there is an accepted excuse. You may settle the missed 'Nafilas' afterwards. Allah^{azwj} Says: *The persistent in their Salat are those who settle their Salat that they missed at night in day and settle the Salat that they missed in the day at night.* (70:23)

ثم قوموا فإن ذلك من فعلنا إذا قام أحدكم بين يدي الله جل جلاله فليرفع يده حذاء صدره و إذا كان أحدكم بين يدي الله جل جلاله فليرفع يده عنديه إلى السماء و لينصب في الدعاء فقال عبد الله بن سبأ يا أمير المؤمنين أليس الله في كل مكان قال بلى قال فلم يرفع العبد يديه إلى السماء قال أ ما تقرأ وَ في السَّماء ورزُقُكُمْ وَ ما تُوعَدُونَ فمن أين يطلب الرزق إلا من موضعه و موضع الرزق و ما وعد الله عز و جل السماء

When someone among you finishes his Salat then he should raise his hands toward skies and ask for prayers, at this point abd Allah bin Sabah asked: Ya Amir-ul-Momineen^{asws}: Is it true that Allah^{azwj} is everywhere? Then why one is required to raise his hands toward skies? Amir-ul-Momineen^{asws} replied: Did you read in the Holy Quran (51:22)¹⁸ when Allah^{azwj} has promised to give sustenance from its prescribed place and Allah^{azwj} has Promised sustenance to descend from the skies.

Do not settle the 'Nafilas' in the time of the obligatory prayers. You should offer the obligatory prayers first and then offer any other prayer.

A single prayer in the two places 'Al-Harameen' is equal to one thousand prayers in other places.

You should show reverence/respect during offering the Salat. To show reverence in one rakaat means to have the whole prayer flawless.

And in heaven is your Sustenance, as (also) that which ye are promised.

^{()51:22}وَفِي السَّمَاءِ رِزْقُكُمْ وَمَا تُوعَدُونَ (18

Qunut should be practiced before the kneeling of the second rakaat of every two-rakaat prayer except the Friday Prayer, which has two Qunuts-one in the first rakaat and the other in the second. In the first rakaat of the Friday Prayer, you should recite Verses of Fatihah and Jumma. In the second, you should recite Verses of Fatihah and Munafiqoon.

After the two sajdas of the Salat, you should sit until your organs repose, then you may stand up. This is ourasws practice.

With the commencement of the prayers, raise your hands to the chest (level for falyada fah yadeen).

When you want to stand before your Lord in the Salat, you should face the kiblah and stand straight without bending.

When you finish your prayers, you should raise your hands upward for supplication and sit straight.

Ibn Saba asked, "O Amir-ul-Momineen^{asws}, it is true that Allah^{azwj} is everywhere, is it not?" "Yes, it is true," answered Imam Ali^{asws}. "Why do we then raise our hands to the heavens?" Wondered Ibn Saba. The Imam^{asws} answered him by reciting Allah^{azwj}'s saying: In the heavens there is your sustenance and (it is) that which you were promised. We should seek the sustenance from its source. It is that of which Allah^{azwj} promises in the heavens.

A person should not stand after finishing Salat until asking from Allah azwj to place him in Paradise, protect him against Hell, and give him the women of Paradise in marriage.

You should regard every Salat as the last one.

Smiling does not invalidate the Salat, while guffaw/laughter would terminate it.

If sleep overcomes you during the Salat, you should terminate it and go to sleep, because you may, inattentively, supplicate to Allahazwj against yourself.

When you recited Allah's Saying: "(Muslims), say: We believe in Allah then say "We believe in Allah^{azwj} as when you come to the 'Muslimoon'.

And Said, in the last tashud of the obligatory prayer, one can still continue his Salat even if one's ablutions terminates, if he had already recited the followings. "I declare there is no god but Allah^{azwj} exclusively without any associate, Muhammad^{saww} is Hisazwj servant and apostle, the Hour of the Resurrection is undoubtedly to come, and Allahazwj will resurrect them who are in the graves."

Walking to the Salat is the best form of the worship of Allah azwj.

In prostration of the prayers, keep your backs raised.

If you offer a prayer alone, you should raise your voices with the Qira'a, Takbir, and Tasbih, so that you can hear it (what you recite).

Look (by only turning eyes) the right side when you finish from offering the Salat.

In supplication, raise the voice in four matters; blessing the Prophet^{saww} and his family^{asws}, asking Allah^{azwj} for Paradise, seeking His^{azwj} protection against Hell, and asking for marrying you with 'Al-hoor' (the women of Paradise).

و ليسأل الله الجنة و يستجير به من النار و يسأله أن يزوجه الحور العين فإنه من لم يصل على النبي رجعت دعوته و من سأل الله الجنة سمعت الجنة فقالت يا رب أحر عبدك مما استجار منه و من سأل الحور العين سمعت الحور العين فقالت أعط عبدك ما سأل

Paradise will hear the servant who asks it from Allah^{azwj}, and will plead Allah^{azwj} to respond to him. Hell will also hear the servant who supplicates to Allahazwj to save him from it, and will plead Allah^{azwj} to protect that servant from it. Likewise, women of Paradise will hear the servant who asks Allah^{azwj} to give them to him in marriage, and will plead Allah^{azwj} to give him what he asks.

The prayers of those who consume intoxicants will not be accepted for forty nights.

When you prepare yourselves to offer a prayer, the Iblis comes to look at you enviously for he notices how Allah^{azwj}'s mercy is covering you.

Anyone who waits for the prayer time after the Asr Prayer, it is like visiting Allah^{azwj}. It is appropriate for Allah^{azwj} to honour His visitors and respond to their needs.

One should not engage his mind elsewhere while standing in front of his Lord^{azwj} (in salat), since the accepted parts of one's Salat are only those which are offered attentively.

Sitting in mosques from start of Fajr until sunrise is better for the acquisition of sustenance rather than running around in the world (to earn wages).

One should not play with his beard or anything else during Salat so that his attention is not preoccupied (offer undivided attention).

In Salat, justify the sanctity of every Sura as well as kneeling and prostration.

Men should not offer the Salat wearing a sash (brief), because this was one of the people of Sodom's habits.

It is acceptable for men to offer the Salat wearing one dress by knotting the two martins on the neck. It is also acceptable to offer the Salat wearing a thick shirt by buttoning it up.

Benefits of Night Prayers (Namaz-E-Shab)

Standing at night (for Prayer) is healthy for the body and pleases the Lord^{azwj} and brings about the Mercy and is adherence to the ethics of the Prophets^{as}.

من كانت له إلى الله حاجة فليطلبها في ثلاث ساعات ساعة من يوم الجمعة ساعة الزوال حين تحب الريح و تفتح أبواب السماء و تنزل الرحمة و تصوت الطير و ساعة في آخر الليل عند طلوع الفجر فإن ملكين يناديان هل من تائب فأتوب عليه هل من سائل فيعطى هل من مستغفر فيغفر له هل من طالب حاجة

Anyone who has a need to ask from Allah^{azwj}, should choose one of three hours; an hour on Fridays, an instance on midday when the wind blows, the portals of the heavens are open, the Mercy is descended, and the birds are singing, and an instance in the later part of night when Fajr time emerges. At this time, two angels are calling (on Allah^{azwj}, s Command): Is there a repentant to be accepted? Are there needy to be awarded? Is there a seeker of forgiveness to be pardoned? Is there a deprived making a wish?¹⁹

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¹⁹ Imam Ali^{asws} Teaches 400 Golden Rules for the World and the Hereafter, 611 : ص 2 : 2 ص