

Let our prayer (Salat) be in the path of prophet Muhammad (ﷺ).

▪ Islam is complete in its principles and regulations without any contradictions .It is a way of life. Following this way of life in a full and complete manner alone can lead to success in this world and the Hereafter thereby achieving the pleasure of Allah.

However in this pure Islam, many opinions and practices diverge among today 's Islamic community and people in various groups hold different views, rejoicing in the diversity of their beliefs. If we take any single aspect of good deed of Islam, it is practised in various ways.

People forget the best example that was shown by Allah's messenger (ﷺ) and perform the good deed in a wrong way. For example, even to perform Salat which is the fundamental good deed of Islam, we can see many ways and methods are followed by today 's Islamic community. The fundamental reason for this is that they do not follow the rules framed by Allah and His messenger ﷺ (Al-Quran and Sunnah) and they follow the rules of humans.

Therefore, according to the Prophet's ﷺ instructions, " ...offer your prayers in the way you see me offering my prayers..."

Sahih al-Bukhari: 6008.

Based on this, how a person should conduct himself in Salat, from initiating prayer to concluding it. This hadith provides clear guidance.

حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو الْوَلِيدِ، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا شُعْبَةُ، عَنْ قَتَادَةَ، عَنْ أَنَسٍ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " سَوُّوا صُفُوفَكُمْ فَإِنَّ تَسْوِيَةَ الصُّفُوفِ مِنْ إِقَامَةِ الصَّلَاةِ " .

Narrated Anas bin Malik رضي الله عنه:

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Straighten your rows as the straightening of rows is essential for a perfect and correct prayer. "

Sahih al-Bukhari : 723.

حَدَّثَنَا عَمْرُو بْنُ خَالِدٍ، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا زُهَيْرٌ، عَنْ حُمَيْدٍ، عَنْ أَنَسٍ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " أَقِيمُوا صُفُوفَكُمْ فَإِنِّي أَرَاكُمْ مِنْ وَرَاءَ ظَهْرِي ". وَكَانَ أَحَدُنَا يُلْزِقُ مَتَكِبَهُ بِمَتَكِبِ صَاحِبِهِ وَقَدَمَهُ بِقَدَمِهِ.

Narrated Anas bin Malik رضي الله عنه:

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Straighten your rows for I see you from behind my back." Anas رضي الله عنه added, "Everyone of us used to put his shoulder with the shoulder of his companion and his foot with the foot of his companion."

Sahih al-Bukhari : 725

Based on the above Hadith, we learn that while performing the Salat in congregation as a Jamaa_ath, one's feet and shoulders should touch with that of the next one without any gap.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in his prayer he raised his hands upto the level of his ears .Then he placed his right hand over his posterior left hand by joining wrists and elbows.

Musnath Ahmed : 18870

From the above Hadith, it is very clear to us that while saying Takbir our hands must be on our chest.

But the sectarians put their hands in different positions. Some on their stomach, some on their abdomen and some place their right wrist over their left wrist .

Allah the exalted says:

"when the Quran is recited listen carefully to it and keep silent so that you may be shown mercy "

(Al-Qur'an : 7:204)

Allah says when the Quran is recited, we must listen to it carefully. But this instruction is misunderstood and followed in all occasions except during prayer (Salat). When the Imam (leader of the prayer) recites AlQuranic verses, the followers too do it. Such wrong explanation is given for the above AlQuranic verse.

So, if we see the occasion when surah fatiha is to be recited during prayer is,

Nabi ﷺ was silent in prayer on two occasions.

1. At the time of initiating prayer
2. After completing second surah, before bowing for Rukoo.

Musnath Ahmad : 20166.

Therefore, what Allah and his messenger ﷺ showed us to follow is that when the Imam recites AlQuranic verses the followers should be silent by listening carefully to the same. And this is not the time to recite. When the Imam completes second surah and before bowing for Rukoo, he is silent. It is the time to recite sura fatiha. We should not do against it.

Next to it, during Salat when he reaches the time for prayer Nabi ﷺ moves his index finger. That is, at the time of the short sitting between two sajda (prostration) and in the last long sitting he does so.

"I saw Nabi ﷺ raised his index finger and then moved it. With this he made dua (did his prayer)"

Musnath Ahmad : 18770.

Most of the people misinterpret this action of Nabi ﷺ and saying that Nabi ﷺ was in his prayer for a long time. His companions commented that he was dead. On hearing that Nabi ﷺ showed his index finger moving. Such wrong explanation which is not in Dheen (path of Nabi ﷺ) is preached. This attitude of them is wrong.

Therefore let us make a study of Salat through the two Books, Allah's Grace AlQuran and Al_Hadith and perform our Salat in the way Nabi ﷺ showed us to do and achieve the full benefits of Salat, Insha Allah.

#Formation : Propaganda wing of Jama'athul Muslimeen – Eattalai