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Reserved and Joint times

Lesson 26: Times of Prayers

1. *Subh*: Beginning from *subh al-sadiq*, ending at sunrise;
2. *Zuhr*: Beginning from exact noon, ending when only four *rak'ats* time remains to sunset;
3. *Asr*: Beginning after lapsing of four *rak'ats* time from noon, ending at sunset;
4. *Maghrib*: Beginning after sunset when the reddish color at east vanishes, ending when only four *rak'ats* time remains to exact mid-night.
5. *Isha*: Beginning after lapsing of 3 *rak'ats* time from sunset, ending at midnight,

Note 1 If any person did not pray Maghrib and Isha in time owing to some appreciable difficulty, he should pray both prayers before Subh without *niyyah* of '*ada*' or '*qadha*'

Note 2. Midnight is 12 hours after exact noon. .

Some Details About Time

1. Time of fadhilah (the most excellent time for prayer)

It is better to pray in the time of *fadhilah* when the prayers are more greatly rewarded:

- (a) *Subh*: From the *subh al-sadiq* up to the time when red color appears on the horizon;
- (b) *Zuhr*: From the noon up to the time when the shadow of a given thing becomes equal to its length.
- (c) *Asr*: After the time of *fadhilah* of *Zuhr* up to the time when the shadow of a given thing becomes double of its length;
- (d) *Maghrib*: After sunset up to the time when the red color on the western horizon vanishes;
- (e) *Isha*: After the time of *fadhilah* of *Maghrib*.

2. Reserved and Joint times

- (a) *Zuhr*: four *rak'ats* time after noon is the reserved time of *Zuhr*. If anyone prays *Asr* in that time, it will be *batil* (invalid);
- (b) *Asr*: four *rak'ats* time before the sunset is the reserved time of *Asr*; if anyone prays *Zuhr* in that time, it will be *batil*, The time between these two reserved times is the joint time of *Zuhr* and *Asr*.

(c) *Maghrib*: three *rak'ats* time after sunset is reserved for *Maghrib*. If anyone prays *Isha* in that time, it will be *batil*;

(d) *Isha*: four *rak'ats* time before midnight is reserved for *Isha*; if anyone prays *Maghrib* in that time, it will be *batil*. The time between the two reserved times is joint time of *Maghrib* and *Isha*.

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