

## Salatul-Eid [Prayers of the Feast Day]

### Salatul-Eid<sup>1</sup>

Allah, the Exalted, prescribed two *Eids* [feasts or Bairams]: One of them is *Eidul-Fitr* [lesser Bairam] which comes at the end of the blessed month of *Ramadan*, the month of *Siyam*. Muslims celebrate this *Eid*, decorate their places, festively visit and congratulate one another for having performed the duty of the *Siyam*. This *Eid* is on the first day of the month of *Shawwal* [the tenth month of the Islamic calendar].

The second *Eid* is *Eidul-Adha* [the greater Bairam], on the 10th day of the month of *Dhul-Hijjah* [the 12th month of the Islamic calendar], which is also celebrated by the Muslims, as they celebrate *Eidul-Fitr*, as a token of their respect and honour for that great day on which they have finished the rituals of the *Hajj*, one of the holy duties of Islam.

On these two occasions Allah enjoined that a particular *Salat* should be performed, called *Salatul-Eid*.

### How to Perform Salatul-Eid

*Salatul-Eid* consists of two *Rak'ahs* like *Salatus-Subh*, with five additional *Takbirs* after the recitation of *Al-Fatihah* and a *Surah*, with a *Qunut* after each *Takbir* in the first *Rak'ah* and four *Takbirs* and four *Qunuts* in the second *Rak'ah*. It may suffice to do only three *Takbirs* in each *Rak'ah*, with a *Qunut* after each *Takbir*. In the *Qunut* we may recite any invocation (*Dua*) we wish. The details of this *Salat* is as follows:

1. We make the *Niyyah* to perform *Salatul-Eid*, then we recite *Takbiratul-Ihram*.
2. We recite *Suratul-Fatihah*, and a *Surah*, preferred to be *Suratush-Shams* or *Suratul-Ala*, then we recite another *Takbir*, then we raise our hands for invocation, reciting any praying text, though the following *Du'a* is the most recommended: "*Allahumma Ahlal-Kibriya'i Wal-Azamah, Wa Ahlal-Judi Wal-Jabarut, Wa Ahlal-Afwi War-Rahmah, Wa Ahlat-Taqwa Wal Maghfirah, As'aluka Bihaqqi Hadhal-Yaumil-Ladhi Ja'altahu Lil-Muslimina Idan, Wa Li Muhammadin, Salla-Llahu Alayhi We Alihi, Dhukhran*

*Wa Sharafan Wa Karamatan Wa Mazidan, An Tusalliya Ala Muhammadin Wa Alee Muhammad, Ka'afdali Ma Sallayta Ala Abdin Min Ibadika, Wa Salli Ala Mala'ikatika Wa Rusulika Waghfir Lil-Mu'minina Wal-Mu'minat Wal-Muslimina Wal-Muslimat, Al-Ahya'i Minhum Wal-Amwat. Allahumma Inni As'aluka Khayra Masa'alaka Minhu Ibadukas-Salihun, Wa'audhu Bika Min Sharri Masta'adha Minhu'ibadukal-Muskhlisun."*

3. Having finished the *Qunut*, we lower our hands and repeat the *Takbir* for the second time, then we raise our hands once again and repeat the same *Du'a*. Finishing it, we lower our hands with a *Takbir*, then raise them for the third time and repeat the same *Du'a*, lower our hands with a *Takbir*, and once again raise them for the fourth time, repeat the same *Du'a*, lower our hands with with a *Takbir*, and raise them for the fifth time and repeat the same *Du'a*.

4. After that we make the *Ruku* and the two *Sajdahs*, as in the daily *Salats*.

5. Then we stand up for the second *Rak'ah*, repeat the same recitation, *Takbir* and *Du'a*, i.e. we recite *Al-Fatihah*, a *Surah*, preferably *Suratul-Ghashiyah* or *Suratush-Shams*, then the 4 *Takbirs*, with the *Du'a* after each *Takbir*, as we did in the first *Rak'ah*.

6. Having finished the *Du'a* after the fourth *Takbir*, we make the *Ruku*, the two *Sajdahs*, the *Tashahhud* and the *Taslim*, as in the daily *Salats*.

## Rules Concerning Salatul-Eid

1. The conditions required in the daily *Salats*, such as *Taharah*, facing the *Qiblah*, etc., are required in this *Salat*, too.

2. No *Adhan* is required for this *Salat*, nor *Iqamah*. It is *Mustahabb* however, for the *Mu'adhdhin* to shout: "*As Salat!*" three times.

3. The assigned time<sup>2</sup> for performing this *Salat* begins from sunrise till noon.

4. It is *Mustahabb* to recite it audibly.

5. It must be attended for performance, if an equitable *Imam* lead the *Jama'ah*.

## Discussion

Q1. There are certain advantages in the Islamic *Eids*. Please, count some of these advantages.

Q2. How many *Rak'ahs* are there in *Salatul-Eid*?

Q3. An *Imam* performed this *Salat*, with three *Takbirs* and three *Qunuts* in each *Rak'ah*. Is his *Salat* valid or *Batil*?

Q4. If an *Imam* performed *Salatul-Eid* with five *Takbirs* and five *Qunuts* in the first *Rak'ah* but in the second *Rak'ah* he performed four *Takbirs* and four *Qunuts*, would his *Salat* be valid or *Batil*?

Q5. Tell your brother students about the time of *Salatul-Eid*.

Q6. Fill in the blanks with suitable words: There is neither *Adhan* nor *Iqamah* in *Salatul-Eid*, but it is *Mustahabb* to say: ..... three .....

1. The brother teachers are requested to train the students to practically perform this *Salat*.

2. According to the Hanbalis, the time for *Salatul-Eid* begins after the sun has risen to a spear's height, and continues till noon.

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