

Salatul-Jumu'ah [Friday Salat]

Allah, the Exalted, says:

"O you who believe! when it is called to Salat on Friday hasten to remembrance of Allah and leave off trading; that is better for you if you know." (Suratul-Jumuu'ah/9).

Friday *Salat* is one of the most important *Wajib* worshipping acts in Islam, and it is one of its greatest rites. This *Salat* was ordained on the first week after the arrival of the Messenger of Allah (s) in the Luminous Al-Madinah.

After four days of his stay, he ordered the Muslims to congregate in the valley of Quba, where he delivered the two sermons of the *Jumu'ah*, then he performed *Salatul-Jumu'ah* followed by the Muslims. That was the first *Salatul-Jumu'ah* in Islam.

Salatul-Jumu'ah enhances worshipping, social, political, and educational objectives. It is a weekly meeting attended by the Muslims to listen to the *Khutbahs* [sermons] of the *Jumu'ah* and to their contents of directives, precepts and news. In these congregations people meet together, know and help one another.

That is why the Qur'an encourages and orders us to go to the *Salat*, leaving everything related to trade, work, and business, so as to remember Allah, feel fear of Him and love for Him and grow accustomed to meeting Muslims and to act collectively.

Salatul-Jumu'ah is a discipline and order. It is a defined act aiming at educating, teaching and instructing the Muslims, through directives and guidance, as well as giving them social and political information. About the importance of this *Salat* the Messenger of Allah (s) says: "No foot has walked to the *Jumu'ah* unless Allah forbade its body to be burned in the Fire".^{[1](#)}

[To be memorized]

The Messenger of Allah (s) ordered us in one of his sayings to listen to the two sermons of the *Jumu'ah*. He is quoted to have said: "Whoever drivels in the *Jumu'ah* will have no *Jumu'ah* reward"^{[2](#)}

[To be memorized]

Consequently, one of the precepts of the *Jumu'ah* is that it is *Wajib* to listen to the two *Khutbahs*, to realize their benefits, so that they may be to the *mu\$alfls'* advantage.

How to Peform Salat-ul-Jumu'ah

Salatul-Jumu'ah consists of two *Rak'ahs*, like the morning *Salat*, preceded by two *Khutbahs* (sermons); the first longer than the second, with a short interval between them *Salatul-Jumu'ah* is performed instead of the usual *Salatuz-Zuhr*.

Some Rules of Salat-ul-Jumu'ah

1. *Salatul-Jumu'ah* is to be performed in congregation, in a gathering of no less than five persons³, i.e. four persons besides (an equitable)⁴ *Imam*, that is, he must be known for being pious and God fearing. *Salatul-Jumu'ah* would not be *Wajib*, if this number of persons did not gather, then the usual *Salatuz-Zuhr* should be performed.
2. Another condition is that the *Imam* must make the *Niyyah* of leading *Salatul-Jumu'ah*.
3. All the conditions prescribed for the daily *Salats* are required in this respect, too, such as the *Taharah*, facing the *Qiblah*, etc.
4. *Salatul-Jumu'ah* is not *Wajib* for the traveller, women and the sick.
5. If *Salatul-Jumu'ah* was held in a mosque, it would be *Wajib* (obligatory) on those who live within two *Farsakhs* from that mosque.⁵ And hose who live farther than that distance may not attend it.
6. No more than one *Salatul-Jumu'ah* is to be held within a distance less than three religious miles (some 5.5 km) Therefore, if two or more *Salatul-Jumu'ah* were held within this distance. All would be *Batil*, except the one which was started earlier than the others. This is in order that the Muslims may not disperse, but to be united.

Discussion

Q1. What is *Salatul-Jumu'ah*? What are its effects on the individual and the society?

Q2. Is the *Khutabah* (sermon) in *Salatul-Jumu'ah* *Wajib*? Is it *Wajib* on the *Musallis* to listen to it?

Q3. How is *Salatul-Jumu'ah* held?

^{1.} "Wasa'ilush-Shi'ah", by Al-Hurrul-Amili, vol. 5, p. 70.

^{2.} "Tuhaful-Uqul An Alir-Rasul" by Al-Harrani.

3. The Malikis say that the least number of people should be 12 in addition to the Imam. The Shafi'is and the Hanbalis say: "40 persons including the Imam" The Hanafis say: "There should be at least 5 persons."
4. The Hanafis accept the attendance of the ruler, even if not equitable.
5. Some 11 km.

Source URL:

<https://www.al-islam.org/course-islamic-jurisprudence-manhajul-fiqhil-islami-sayyid-hashim-al-musa-wi/salatul-jumuah-friday>