

Exemplar

Muslim Stories, Quotes and Information

for Year 2



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A Story told by the Prophet Mohammad to his Followers

Once upon a time, a man set off on a journey. Allah sent an angel to wait for him on his way.

When the man met up with the angel, the angel asked him, "Where are you going?"

The man replied, "I am going to see my brother who lives in another town".

"Why are you going to visit your brother? Does he owe you anything?"

The man replied, "No. He does not owe me anything. I am going to visit him to please Allah and I love him for Allah."

Thereupon the angel said, "I am a messenger to you from Allah to inform you that Allah loves you as you love your brother for Allah's sake."

(Hadith (Muslim) Kitabul Birr 45 chapter 12 pg 174)

The rules of the seven movements in the prayer in each unit

- 1) Standing straight touching the ear lobes with the thumbs with the palms of the hand fully stretched open facing the same direction as ones face.
- 2) Standing straight with the right hand resting on top of the left hand on the chest.
- 3) Place hands on knees and bend at 90 degrees angle to the ground keeping the back straight.
- 4) Stand up straight with hands on either side of the body.
- 5) Sit with the legs folded underneath and touch the nose and the forehead on the ground with the thumbs of the hands touching the earlobes and the palms of the hands fully stretched with spaces between each finger resting on the ground.
- 6) Sit up with legs still folded underneath and place both hands on the knees.
- 7) Repeat movement 5. (Then stand up for the second unit of the prayer to start).

These movements must take place in the correct sequence.

HOW SALĀH IS PERFORMED

<p>اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ</p> 	<p>Surah Fatihah and Ayaats from the Qur'an</p> 
<p>سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ</p> 	<p>سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ</p> 

<p>سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى</p> 	<p>رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَرَحْمَتِي</p> 
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<p>سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ</p>  <p>9</p>	<p>سَمِعَ اللهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ</p>  <p>10</p>
<p>سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى</p>  <p>11</p>	<p>رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَرَحْمَتِي</p>  <p>12</p>

<p>سُبْحَانَ رَبِّي الْأَعْلَى</p>  <p>13</p>	<p>Read Tahliyaat</p>  <p>14</p>
<p>الْسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللهِ</p>  <p>15</p>	<p>الْسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللهِ</p>  <p>16</p>

Reading from Qur'an 5:110-115:

" Remember when Allah will say (on the day of resurrection): 'O Jesus son of Mary! Remember my favour to you and to your mother when I supported you with angel Gabriel so that you spoke to the people in the cradle and in maturity, and when I taught you writing and the power of reasoning, the Torah and the Gospel, and you made out of the clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, by My permission, and you breathed into it, and with my permission it became alive bird, and you healed those born blind, and the lepers by my permission.'"

The Story of the Creation of Adam and Eve

"Remember when your Allah said to the angels: 'Verily, I am going to place (humans) generations after generations on Earth'. They said: 'Will You place therein those who will make mischief therein and shed blood, while we glorify You with praises and thanks and sanctify you'.

Allah said: 'I know that which you know not'.

And Allah taught Adam all the names of everything.

Then He showed the things to the angels and said: "Tell me the names of these things". The angels said: 'Glory be to You, we have no knowledge except what You have taught us. Verily, it is You, the All-Knower, the All-Wise'."

Allah then said: "O Adam! Inform them of their names," and when Adam informed the angels of their names, He said: "Did I not tell you that I know the unseen in the heavens and the Earth, and I know what you reveal and what you have been concealing?"

Qur'an 2:30-34

Prophet Mohammad said:

"Muslims have six rights over their brothers and sisters in Islam:

- 1) To greet each other by saying Assalamu Alaikum (peace be on you)/(response) Walaikum Salam (peace be on you too) to each other.
- 2) To say Yarhamuk Allah (may Allah forgive you) if anyone sneezes and says Alhumdulillah (praise be to Allah).
- 3) To visit anyone who is sick.
- 4) To accept any invitation to a meal.
- 5) Offer advice if he/she asks.
- 6) To take part in the burial when he/she dies."

(Hadith: Muslim book 39, chapter3, Hadith 2162R4)

The Five Pillars of Islam

These are:

the declaration of the faith when a person is ready to live their life as a Muslim.

Praying five times a day.

Fasting for the full month of Ramadan.

Giving compulsory charity as fixed by Allah on savings only called Zakah once every year (optional charity could be given at any time, any amount, any reason).

Going to Makkah once in the life time to do Hajj in the month of Dhul Hajj, if financially affordable.

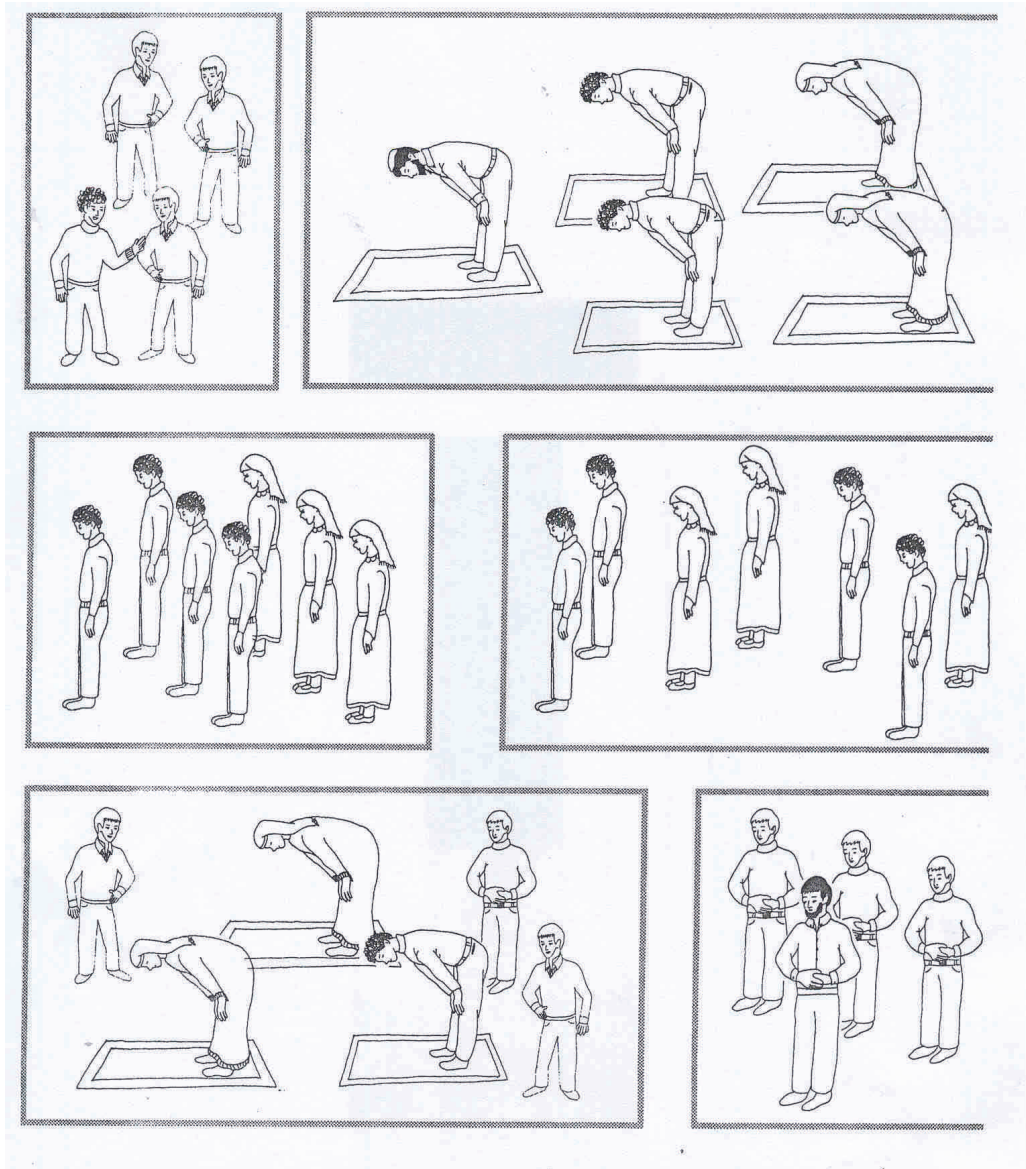
How to choose the Leader of the Salah

The one who knows the most Qur'an (and acts upon it) amongst those present should lead the Salah.

If all are equal in this aspect, then the one who has the most knowledge and practice of the Sunnah (i.e. teachings of the prophet Mohammad) must act as the leader.

If all are equal in this regard, then the earliest resident of the area must lead the prayer.

If all are equal, then the one who was the first amongst those present who made the declaration of faith and began the practice.



The Story of Mohammad and The Bedouin

When charity was brought to prophet Mohammad, people who were in need of financial support in Madina would gather round him. Prophet Mohammad used to ask them to form an orderly line so that the needs of each person could be met appropriately.

On one occasion, a Bedouin, who was travelling through Madina, came to join the queue for some financial help. Not understanding the rules, the Bedouin got worried that the monies might finish before it was his turn, so he decided to push his way to the front of the queue and in doing so he hit his face on a walking stick which belonged to prophet Mohammad and the Bedouin's face got scratched.

When prophet Mohammad realised what had happened, he apologised to the Bedouin and said "the walking stick that left a mark on your face belonged to me so you may take revenge".

Prophet Mohammad gave him the walking stick and said "You can scratch my face with it". The Bedouin was very moved by prophet Mohammad's justice.

He replied "O Mohammad, Allah teaches either to take revenge or to forgive. And that Allah is pleased with those who forgive. I forgive you". Prophet Mohammad was pleased to hear this.

(Hadith: Abu Dawud).

The Story of the Bear

Once upon a time two friends, Simon and Paul went fishing. Simon was telling Paul how well he was doing at work. When he had no response, he turned to Simon and caught him watching a Polar Bear with intensity. Paul assumed that Simon was scared. Paul assured Simon that they are safe and that the keepers of the Polar Bears have put a strong fence around the area which forms a habitat for the Polar Bears.

"Oh no I am not scared," said Simon. "I was just watching that Polar Bear."

"Watching what?" asked Paul.

"Look," said Simon, "He rolls on the ground, gets himself dirty, then he goes for a swim and when he comes out he is totally clean and pure white again. He has been repeating this action for the past fifteen minutes".

"So big deal," said Paul.

Simon replied, "I was just thinking that when we Muslims pray, Allah promises that he will forgive all our mistakes. I was thinking how lucky we are that Allah has asked us to pray five times a day. I know I make loads of mistakes so I was just imagining myself becoming dirty like the Polar Bear when he rolls on the ground and gets himself dirty. Then I do my Wudu and pray and all my mistakes are forgiven by Allah and I become clean like the Polar Bear when he comes out of the water after a swim. I have an opportunity to this five times everyday".

"True" said Simon, "that is an interesting way of looking at things".

The Story of How Muhammad Influenced the Behaviour of Others

Prophet Mohammad showed equal love, care and respect to both intelligent, educated members of the community as well as the members of the community who were illiterate or had some form of disability.

One day prophet Mohammad was sitting with his companions (called Sahaba) and discussing a very important matter, when a young girl with severe learning difficulties came and she told the prophet that she needed him to come with her because she has something important to tell him.

Prophet Mohammad left the meeting and went with her. Prophet Mohammad followed her through the streets of Madina patiently. She then stopped and sat down. She asked prophet Mohammad to sit down as well. He did exactly that. After a while she got up and left her eyes following a bird that was flying past just above their heads.

The people watching this whole episode were surprised that prophet Mohammad would leave an important meeting just to please a girl with severe learning difficulties.

People realised through this action of the prophet Mohammad that those who have physical and/or mental disabilities need special love, care and concern from all other members of the community. This changed the way the community perceived disabilities.

The Story of the Man in Madina

The prophet Mohammad spoke to everyone in a very kind and gentle manner because the Qur'an teaches the Muslims to invite others towards creating a just society with wisdom and by talking to them in the most reasonable manner. (Qur'an 9:128).

In the life of prophet Mohammad, there lived a man in Madina who fiercely opposed the teachings of prophet Mohammad and constantly plotted how he could make the Muslims look bad even if he had to falsify the evidence.

One day he sent a messenger to prophet Mohammad to say that he wanted to come and see him. Prophet Mohammad told the messenger that he would be happy to see him. When the man arrived, the prophet asked him to sit by his side and then conversed with him softly and with kindness.

When the man left, prophet Mohammad's wife Aisha asked the prophet why he had been so kind and gentle towards someone who is so full of hate towards the Muslims. Prophet Mohammad replied that the worst person in the sight of Allah is he who has such a harsh tongue that people are driven away by his speech.

Story of Bilal and the Call for Prayer

Seven months after the migration to Madina, the Mosque, which still exists today and is called the Mosque of the prophet Mohammad, was completed. At that time, the Mosque was made of bricks with mud walls that had been smoothed down and whitened and the roof that was made up of rafters and palm branches.

Late one afternoon when the followers of Islam were gathered in the Mosque, prophet Mohammad asked the people, "How shall we call Muslims to Prayer?" The room fell silent. Finally, an old man in the corner cleared his voice, "If prophet Mohammad will permit", he said, "I would like to tell of a dream". Prophet Mohammad nodded and leaned forward to hear.

"I had a dream one night of a man dressed in green. He held in his hand a bell. When I saw the bell, I thought to myself that I should buy this bell to call the Muslims to Prayer. So I offered to purchase it from him. But he refused to sell it to me and said that I will show you a far better way—the human voice, a voice that can be heard from afar. A voice calling: " ALLAH IS GREAT! THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH AND THAT MOHAMMAD IS THE PROPHET OF ALLAH COME TO PRAYER! COME TO PRAYER!"

Prophet Mohammad closed his eyes for a moment, and then nodded, "It is a sign from Allah. A human voice, then, shall call Muslims to prayer".

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Story of Bilal and the Call for Prayer

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Abu Bakr, prophet Mohammad's friend and companion, had been sitting with his head bowed, listening and remembering. He had heard a voice once - never in all his life would he forget that voice.

He had been strolling on the outskirts of Makka, when it reached him from across the sands and the heat of the desert. "Ahad!" it cried, "Ahad!" (meaning one Allah). Such a cry of anguish and faith it was, that his heart melted upon hearing it. When he went to investigate, he saw Bilal the black slave with a enormous stone resting on his chest being whipped by his master because he had declared shahada and had become a Muslim. The sun had baked his bleeding lips. With a great effort he summoned up his strength and cried out his faith in defiance to the pain, "Ahad!"

Abu Bakr paid Bilal's price to his master and freed him.

Seated beside the prophet Mohammad, Abu Bakr looked over to the tall Black man whose life he had saved, and who had shown such proof of faith. As he did so the prophet spoke.

"Bilal shall be the one to call the prayer. Bilal shall be our Mua'dhin".

"Yes! Bilal!" agreed everyone.

Bilal, slightly reluctant, and a bit embarrassed, let himself be hoisted to the top of a tall building. There, facing again the vast sky and the open desert, he forgot his shyness.

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Story of Bilal and the Call for Prayer

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His beautiful voice rang out, resonant and compelling:

"Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest

I bear witness that there is no God but Allah

I bear witness that there is no God but Allah

I bear witness that Mohammad is Allah's messenger

I bear witness that Mohammad is Allah's messenger

Come to prayer, come to prayer

Come to success, come to success

Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest."

And the call for prayer was settled. This is called the adhan and in Arabic it sounds beautiful.

It would be nice to play the Adhan at this point if the teacher could access a pre-recorded version and appreciate the beauty of the rhyme and rhythm with which it is said.

Since that day the call for prayer is made in every mosque of the world five times a day.