

Juma'a

Monthly Taleem Focus Slides
February 2016

The importance of Juma'a

Hadith:

- The Juma'a prayer is one form of congregational worship in Islam. It takes place every Friday. Regular attendance at the Juma'a prayer is enjoined on the believer. In Bukhari it is mentioned this congregational prayer is 25 times more blessed than worship performed alone.
- (He who) offers the Prayers and listens to quietly when the Imam stands up for sermon, will have his sins forgiven between that Friday and the next" (Bukhari)

Continued. . .

Quran

- “O ye who believe! When the call is made for Prayer on Friday, hasten to the remembrance of Allah, and leave off all business. That is best for you, if you only knew.” (Surah Al-Juma’a:10)

When is Juma'a prayer offered?

Juma'a is offered on Friday instead of Zuhr prayers

- Except if the Imam has a dire need to travel or if there is danger of war and preparations are being made. In either of these cases Juma'a prayers can be offered between "chasht" and the "zawaal" of the sun
 - Chasht – middle hour between sunrise and noon
 - Zawaal – decline of the sun

Who must perform Juma'a prayers?

- Juma'a is incumbent upon all healthy males who are of age
- Women, the disabled, the blind, the sick, the travelling are not required to perform Juma'a prayers and instead should perform Zuhr prayers
 - However, if they do partake in Zuhr prayers then their Juma'a prayers will be accepted
 - Juma'a prayers must be performed in congregation

The method of Performing Juma'a prayers

- The first adhaan should be called as soon as the sun starts descending from its zenith (its highest point) and the second adhaan should be called right after the imam arrives. Although, according to the 4th Caliph (rh) it is also permissible to hold Juma'a before or at the zenith*.
- There are 2 “Khutbaat” or sermons
 - The first sermon should be delivered in a language that the majority of the people can understand
 - The second sermon must be delivered in Arabic the text of which is common for all khutbaat. This sermon is known as “al-khutba al-thaniyya” or the “second sermon”
 - Both of the sermons should be listened to attentively and talking is forbidden. However, if the Imam asks a question then it is allowed to answer him

* See Khutba – March 17, 2000

Continued ...

- After al-khutba al-thaniyya the Iqaama is called and then 2 raka'a of salaah are offered in congregation. The imam should recite the words out loud during the prayer
- The person who delivered the sermon should also lead the prayer
- There is no way of making up Juma'a prayer if it is missed. One should instead perform Zuhr prayers
- 4 raka'a of sunnah should be offered before and after the Juma'a prayer.
 - Although it is also acceptable to offer two raka'a after Juma'a prayers rather than four
 - If you join during the Khutba then you can offer two raka'a before and four after

Juma'a and travelling

- It is permissible to pray Juma'a while travelling or to not pray Juma'a – The Promised Messiah^{sa} has done both of these
- The second caliph Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud^{ra} is of the opinion that even during travel the sunnah before the Juma'a prayer should be offered even though sunnah is normally not offered while one is traveling. This is because the sunnah offered before juma'a prayers are offered in the “honor” of Juma'a

Is it allowed to offer Juma'a if there are only 2 people?

- The Promised Messiah^{as} was asked the above question and he responded by saying that yes it is permissible. Although some “fuqaaha” or religious scholars have written that there should be 3 men, if a man is alone he can have his wife stand behind him and then lead the juma'ah prayers
- The Promised Messiah^{as} also mentioned that since 2 people are sufficient for other prayers to be considered congregation so is the case for Juma'a

What if Juma'a and Eid fall on the same day?

- If they are both on the same day then it is permissible to do Zuhr instead of Juma'a prayers on the day of Eid as the Holy Prophet^{sa} has allowed. However, the Holy Prophet^{sa} said that even though it is allowed to do either Zuhr or Juma'a prayers he will offer Juma'a prayers
- The Promised Messiah^{sa} held the same opinion and gave the example that if someone was offered two deliciously prepared pieces of "chapatiyan" or bread he would eat both of them rather than just one unless there was a special circumstance. Similar is the case with Juma'a and Eid falling on the same day. It is permissible to offer both or one can do Zuhr prayers instead of Juma'a