

## The Pillars of Islam:

➤ Candidates should study:

□ The Five Pillars of Islam:

- ✓ The **declaration of faith (*Shahadah*)**, including the significance of what it contains.
- ✓ **Prayer (Salat)**, including preparations, its performance and importance, congregational prayers on Fridays and festivals, times of prayer, the place of prayer, private prayer, delayed prayer.
- ✓ **Alms-giving (Zakat)**, how it is performed and its significance in the community
- ✓ **Fasting (Saum)**, including the way it is observed, its significance and those exempted
- ✓ **Pilgrimage (Hajj)**, including the main observances involved and their significance.



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# Shahadah

- ❑ Shahadah is foundation of Islamic structure. (Declaration of Faith).
- ❑ Shahadah is the first pillar of Islam and a person becomes a Muslim upon proclaiming it sincerely.
- ❑ Prophet (PBUH) elaborates this in a Hadith:
  - 📖 “Islam is built upon five: to worship Allah and to disbelieve in what is worshiped besides him, to establish prayer, to give charity, to perform Hajj pilgrimage to the house, and to fast the month of Ramadan.” [Bukhari]
- ❑ The second part signifies status of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as the Messenger of Allah (SWT).
- ❑ There are 3 aspects of Oneness that Muslims are supposed to believe in.
  1. Oneness of the Lordship of God (Tawheed-e-Rububiyah) is belief in Allah as the only Originator, Sustainer, Cherisher, Almighty and The Provider. This negates the possibility of any partner in Allah’s lordship:
    - 📖 Ref: “praise is to Allah, Lord of the worlds” [01:02]
    - Allah is the only one who provides us with sustainable environment and other bounties:
      - 📖 Ref: And the earth - We have spread it and cast therein firmly set mountains and caused to grow therein [something] of every well-balanced thing” [15:19]
    - Even Pagans of Makkah used to believe in this aspect of Oneness:
      - 📖 Ref: “If you asked them, “Who created the heavens and earth and subjected the sun and the moon?” they would surely say, ‘Allah’ Then how are they deluded?” [29:61]
  2. Oneness in worship of God (Tawheed-e-Uloohiyat) is belief in Allah as only one liable to be worshiped.
    - 📖 Ref: “It is You we worship and You we ask for help” [01:05]
  3. Oneness of the names and attributes of God (Tawheed-e-Asmaa Wa-Sifaat) is believing that Allah is simply exclusive in his qualities and attributes. Allah is only ‘Al-Muh’Yi’ (Giver of Life) ‘Al-Mumeet’ (Giver of Death) ‘Al-Khaliq’ (the Creator) ‘Al-Baseer’ (All-Seeing) etc.
    - 📖 Ref: “He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Bestower of Faith, the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior...” [59:23]
    - Allah does not resemble with any of his creation in person, power, dominion or attributes:
      - 📖 Ref: ““There Is Nothing Like unto Him.” [42:11]
- ❑ Evidences of Oneness of Allah.
  - 📖 Ref: “...how can He have a son when He has no consort...” [06:101]
  - 📖 Ref: “Had there been within the heavens and earth gods besides Allah, they both would have been ruined...” [21:22]
- ❑ Shirk (Polytheism) means considering partners with Allah in his person, powers, dominion, qualities or attributes.
  1. Polytheism of Lordship of God (Shirk-e-Rubibiyah)
  2. Polytheism of Worship (Shirk-e-Uloohiyah)
  3. Polytheism of Names and Attributes (Shirk-e-Asmaa wa Sifaat)
- ❑ Though, Allah (SWT) loves his creation equal to seventy mothers but Shirk is a sin that ignites Allah’s wrath.  
Ref: “Verily! Allah will not pardon those who associate a partner with Him...” [04:116]
- ❑ The 2<sup>nd</sup> declaration “Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah” highlights the importance of believing in Prophet hood of Muhammad (PBUH).
  - ❑ 1<sup>st</sup> requirement: faith in Prophet hood of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).
  - ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> requirement: believing that long line of Prophets that started from Adam, was terminated and stopped on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Therefore, he was given the title of ‘Seal of Prophets’. Allah says:
    - 📖 “Muhammad is not the father of [any] one of your men, but [he is] the Messenger of Allah and last of the prophets...” [33:40]
  - ❑ 3<sup>rd</sup> requirement: his message was complete and universal.. Allah says:
    - 📖 “And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds.” [21:107]
  - ❑ 4<sup>th</sup> and most important requirement: obedience of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) because faith with no following and obedience is useless.
    - 📖 “There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern...” [33:21]



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Prophet (PBUH) never does or instructs anything except with the permission of Allah, which is why his obedience is considered obedience of Allah.

📖 “He who obeys the Messenger has obeyed Allah...” [04:80]

**Q (b) Explain how the declaration of faith (Shahadah) is acted upon through the remaining four pillars of Islam. [04] [N/2012]**

### CAIE Marking Scheme

The pillars of Islam outline the basics of Muslim worship, ibada. The Qur’an states: ‘I (Allah) created...humankind only that they might worship Me.’ (Al-Dharyyat 51.56). The Shahadah is the first pillar of Islam and a declaration of faith. For Muslims, it is necessary to act upon these words rather than just speak them. The other four pillars namely; salat, saum, zakat and hajj are the means by which the shahada is put into action through ibada. Candidates could briefly write about how the other four pillars show obedience to Allah and his teachings.

### Structure of Answer

- The Pillars of Islam outline the foundation of Islamic worships and it is given to much significance as Allah says:  
📖 And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me.” [51:56]
- Worships can be divided into three types and all of them have essence of Shahadah in them.
- First type only requires Physical efforts and believer act upon what he testified earlier through physical hardships he goes through and efforts he put in while offering Prayer and observing fast.
- Zakat only requires financial efforts/spending wealth as believers declare through their action that they do not value worldly riches and are ready to sacrifice anything for the sake of Allah and Messenger.
- Hajj involves both physical and financial aspects as believers prove his loyalty by putting physical effort, bearing difficulties as well as spending wealth in order to fulfill the promise he made in Shahadah.
- Through these 4 pillars of Islam, a believer shows obedience to God by putting Allah and His messenger before his life and belongings.



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# Prayer (Salah)







## Conditions/Preparation of Prayer

- Before starting the prayer, there are some conditions that have to be fulfilled before.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and most important thing is **purification**. Purification is given utmost importance in Islam as Prophet (PBUH) said:
  - 📖 “Cleanliness is a part of Faith”
- Person who wants to offer Prayer has to make **ablution** (Wudu) in case of encountering with minor impurities or sleeping etc.
- Method of ablution:
  - 📖 Ref: “O you, who have believed, when you rise to [perform] prayer, wash your faces and your forearms to the elbows and wipe over your heads and wash your feet to the ankles...” [05:06]
- In case of encountering with major impurities like marital relationship etc. person has to take bath (Ghusl)
- There are 3 obligations in **Ghusl**, cleaning mouth, nose and spilling water over complete body in a sense that whole body gets wet and cleaned.
- Alternate of these two is Tayammum that is performed when water is not available.
- Another important condition is wearing clean and tidy **clothes** before offering Prayer. Prophet (PBUH) would also wear best available dress before offering Prayer.
- Declaration of **intention** (Niyah) is also condition of Prayer because Prophet (PBUH) said:
  - 📖 “Actions are by Intentions”
- Time** of Prayer is also an important condition for offering prayer as there are certain times when offering Prayer is prohibited. Therefore, time of Prayer has to be followed religiously. Timings of 5 Prayers are as followed:
  - ✓ **Fajar**: Starts at break of dawn and ends before sunrise.
  - ✓ **Zohr**: Starts after decline of sun (Zawaal) and it can be offered till the shadow of everything gets doubled.
  - ✓ **Asr**: Right after end of Zohr time and ends before sunset.
  - ✓ **Maghrib**: Starts after sunset and Till the Redness (Shafaq) in horizon disappears. (Approximate duration is 30 mins)
  - ✓ **Isha**: Starts after Disappearance of Redness (Shafaq) in horizon and can be offered before the break of dawn.
- 3 Times are considered Makrooh (disliked) when offering prayer is not allowed. Sunrise, Zawaal (When sun is right above the heads) and sunset.
- Satar** is an important condition of Prayer, which means covering the specified area of the body.
  - to be covered) for men it starts from belly button till knees and for women its full body except face, hands and feet.
- Facing the Qiblah** is really important condition for offering prayer as it reflects the discipline and highlights the message of Islamic universal brotherhood.
- Muslims would face Masjid-E-Aqsa as it was our first Kaabah. But in 2<sup>nd</sup> AH according the will of Holy Prophet (PBUH) Kaabah was changed from Masjid-e-Aqsa towards Masjid-e-Haram.
  - 📖 Ref: “...So turn your face toward al-Masjid al-Haram. And wherever you [believers] are, turn your faces toward it...” [2:144]
- Above mentioned are the conditions that need to be fulfilled before offering Prayer in order to attain the true meaning of Prayer and connect with the Creator.



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## Methods of Purification

- Purification and cleanliness is given utmost importance of in Islam.
    -  "Cleanliness is half of Faith"
    -  Allah says: "...He loves those who purify themselves." [2:222]
  - No Prayer is accepted without purification as Prophet (PBUH) said:
    -  Hadith: "Salah will not be accepted without purification"
  - In case of encountering with Major Impurity, Ghusl (Bath) will become necessary while in case of Minor impurity, Wudhu (Ablution) would be enough. In special circumstances of not having/being able to use water, Tayammum (Dry Ablution) will be the option.
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- In case of minor impurities for instance natural discharges like urine, excrement, passing gas, falling asleep, or unconsciousness of any kind, Wudu will be made.
    -  Hadith: "Allah does not accept prayer of anyone of you if he does *Hadath* (having encountered with minor impurity) till he performs the ablution" [Al-Bukhari]
  - There are 4 obligatory things to be done in ablution.
    - ✓ Washing face.
    - ✓ Washing arms till elbows.
    - ✓ Masah (rubbing wet palms) of ¼ of head.
    - ✓ Washing feet till ankles.
    -  Ref: "O you who have believed, when you rise to [perform] prayer, wash your faces and your forearms to the elbows and wipe over your heads and wash your feet to the ankles..." [05:06]
  - The **Sunnah method of ablution** is making intention, reciting Tasmiah, washing hands to the wrist, cleaning mouth and nostrils. Washing face, washing arms till elbows, rubbing head with wet palms, rubbing ears and back of neck with wet hands and finally washing feet including ankles.
  - Every part should be washed three times and any area even equal to a hair must not be left dry.
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- Ghusl (Bath) becomes necessary after having encountered with Major impurities like marital relations, menstruation or pregnancy/child birth related issues.
  - Ghusl has 3 obligations:
    - ✓ Gargling, cleaning mouth.
    - ✓ Pouring water into nostrils and cleaning it.
    - ✓ Pouring water over whole body and cleaning it.
  - In case of unavailability/not being able to use water, it is allowed to make Tayammum (Dry Ablution) Allah says:
    -  "...then seek clean earth and wipe over your faces and your hands..." [04:43]
  - Tayammum requires Tasmiah, Intention and rubbing your face and arms after hitting your palms on pure earth.
  - Tayammum gets void same as Ghusl and Wudhu do. Additionally it becomes void after availability/being able to use water.



## Importance of Prayer







- Arabic Word 'Salah' has 5 meanings depending upon its usage.
    - ✓ It means 'Mercy' if it refers to Allah.
    - ✓ It means 'Duood' if it refers to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).
    - ✓ It means 'Istighfar' if it refers to Angels.
    - ✓ It means 'Tasbeeh' if it refers to Birds.
    - ✓ And it means 'Prayer' if it refers to People.
  - It is second and most important Pillar of Islam.
    - 📖 Ref: "...Indeed, prayer has been decreed upon the believers a decree of specified times" [4:103]
  - It was given as a gift to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) upon his meeting with Allah at the time of Ascension (Mairaj).
  - Initially, 50 Prayers were given to him, later reduced to 5 but reward will be of 50.
  - Regularity for Prayer.
    - 📖 Ref: "Maintain with care the [obligatory] prayers and [in particular] the middle prayer and stand before Allah, devoutly obedient." [02:238]
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- Prayer is not only obedience of Allah, but it purifies and nurtures our soul and affects our character.
    - 📖 Ref: "...Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing..." [29:45]
  - When humans are taken over by their evil desires, they get disconnected from God. This situation has been described as hearts getting rusted. Prayer is the cure.
    - 📖 Ref: "...Unquestionably, by the remembrance of Allah hearts are assured." [13:28]
  - People seek success but they don't know that success is calling them five times a day.
    - 📖 Ref: "O you, who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer..." [2:153]
  - Reward for offering it regularly.
    - 📖 Ref: "Indeed, those who believe and do righteous deeds and establish prayer and give zakat will have their reward with their Lord, and there will be no fear concerning them, nor will they grieve." [2:277]
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- Emphasis on Prayer in Hadith:
    - 📖 "Prayer is coolness of my eyes."
  - First thing to be assessed on Judgment day:
    - 📖 Hadith: "The first of his deeds for which a man will be called to account on the Day of Resurrection will be the prayers. If it is found to be perfect, he will be safe and successful. But if it is defective, he will be unfortunate and a loser." [Al-Tabrani]
  - Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) declared it most virtuous deed.
    - 📖 Hadith: Once a man asked the Prophet about the most virtuous deed. The Prophet stated that the most virtuous deed is the prayer. The man asked again and again and for the first three times, the Prophet answered, "The Prayer" then on the fourth occasion he stated, "Jihad in the way of God" [Musnad Ahmed]



# Method of Prayer

**Q (a) Explain the method of performing a single Rak'at. [10]**

## Points to be covered

- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) taught companions the accurate method of offering Prayer. As he said:  
 "Pray as you have seen me offering Prayer."
- Once Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was sitting along with his companions in mosque. A man came and offered prayer in hurry and came to meet Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). He instructed him to repeat his prayer by saying:  
 "Stand up, go and repeat your prayer, because (it's like) you did not offer Prayer"  
 On other occasion Prophet (PBUH) said about improper prayer: "The worst type of thief is the one who steals from his prayer." The people asked, "O Messenger of Allah, how can a person steal from his prayer?" He said: "By not doing *rukoo'* and *sujood* properly." [Musnad Ahmed]
- After completing all requirements of Prayer and fulfilling all conditions, worshipper faces Qiblah and raises his both hands; facing Qiblah with his palms and says 'Takbeer-e-Tehreema'. This is an Obligatory act.
- Then he folds his right hand on his left hand and stands straight. This condition is called 'Qiyam'. This is also an Obligatory act.
- Then he recites Sana, Ta'awwuz, Tasmiah, Surah Fatiha and any Surah of Holy Quran, at least 3 verses minimum. This recitation is also considered as obligatory act.
- Then he bows while calling Takbir, Ruku is also an obligatory act. He recites Tasbeeh in odd numbers minimum 3 times:  
 "Glory to my Lord, The Great"
- Then he withdraws from Ruku while saying:  
 "Allah listens to him who praises him"
- Then he stands still for a second or two, this position is called 'Qaumah'.
- Then he prostrates while calling Takbir. He recites Tasbeeh in odd numbers minimum 3:  
 "Glory to my Lord, The Highest"
- Then he withdraws from Prostration (Sajdah) and sits still for a second or two. This position is called 'Jalsah'.
- Then he prostrates again and goes back to Qiyam repeat everything except he doesn't repeat Sana.
- After second Sujood of second Rak'at he sits still. This position is called Qa'dah.
- He recites Tahiyah, Durood and Supplication.
- Then comes the last act which is saying Salam twice.



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## Times of Prayer & Number of Rak'ats









Name	Time	Sunnah	Fardh	Sunnah	Nafil	Witr	Nafil	Total
<b>Fajr</b>	From <u>Dawn</u> To <u>Sunrise.</u>	02	02	-	-	-	-	04
<b>Zohr</b>	From <u>Decline of Sun</u> To <u>When Shadow of things becomes double.</u>	04	04	02	02	-	-	12
<b>Asar</b>	From <u>When Shadow of things becomes double</u> Before <u>Sunset.</u>	04	04	-	-	-	-	08
<b>Maghrib</b>	After <u>Sunset</u> Till <u>The disappearance of redness (Shafaq) from the horizon.</u>	-	03	02	02	-	-	07
<b>Isha</b>	From <u>Disappearance of the redness (Shafaq) from Horizon</u> Before <u>Dawn.</u>	04	04	02	02	03	02	17
<b>Jum'ah</b>	Same as Zuhar.	04	02	4+2	02	-	-	14



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## Congregational Prayer


- Allah orders Muslims to offer prayer in congregation.  
 Ref: "And establish prayer and give zakat and bow with those who bow [in worship and obedience]" [2:43]
  - Only Fardh** are supposed to be offered in congregation while it's recommended to offer Nafil at home.
  - It has great **rewards** and **significance** in Islam. Prophet (PBUH) said about significance of Prayer in congregation:  
 "It better to join another person and pray than to pray alone and it is more superior in the company of two men and the bigger the congregation the more liked it is by Allah." [Abu Dawood]
  - Azaan** is very important feature of congregation. Method of Azan was prescribed in 2<sup>nd</sup> A.H right after the construction of Prophet's (PBUH) mosque in Madinah.
  - Straight lines (discipline)  
 Hadith: "Straighten your rows, for straightening the rows is part of establishing prayer." [Bukhari]
  - If Imam is leading only a single follower, he/she would stand on right side of Imam. In case another follower comes, Imam will move forward or 1<sup>st</sup> follower will be dragged backwards to make proper line behind Imam.
  - Qualification of Imam**: Understanding of Quran and Hadith and character is also criteria of being worthy to lead prayer.
  - Imam is instructed to make Prayer easy.  
 Hadith: Anas bin Malik (RA) says that: "I have not prayed behind anyone who prayed a lighter Salah or a more complete prayer than that of the Prophet (PBUH)" [Agreed]
  - '**Iqamah**' is called as a caution to worshiper to form straight lines. After making intention Imam starts prayer with **Takbeer-e-Tehreema** and followers follow him throughout the prayer as it's already been discussed in method of prayer.
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- Friday is regarded as special day for Muslims.  
 Hadith: ""The best day during which the sun has risen is Friday. It is the Day Adam was created. It is the day when Adam entered paradise and also when he was taken out from it. It is also the day on which the Day of Judgment takes place." [Muslim]
  - Importance Friday congregational Prayer.  
 Ref: "O you who have believed, when [the adhan] is called for the prayer on the day of Jum'ah [Friday], then proceed to the remembrance of Allah and leave trade. That is better for you, if you only knew." [62:09]
  - Order to abandon financial and social activities.
  - Optional for women.
  - Prophet's (PBUH) special preparations for Friday.
  - 2 Azaans for Friday Prayer.
  - Imam delivers a speech in native language.
  - After second Azan Imam delivers two sermons in Arabic having special significance:  
 Hadith: When the Friday comes, at every door of the Masjid there stands Angels who write down (the names of) those who come First, and then who comes next. When the Imam sits down, the records are closed and they come to listen to the reminder, i.e. the sermon...." [Muslim]
  - 2 Rak'ats Fardh are offered in congregation and there is no Qadha of Friday Prayer.
  - People who are exempted from Jum'ah are:  
 Hadith: "The Friday prayer in congregation is an obligatory duty on every Muslim except four: a slave, a woman, a child, and a sick person." [Abu Dawood]




## Q (b) Explain the significance of Friday congregation Prayer for Muslim community.

[04] [J/2005] [N/2015]

### Points to be covered

- Friday Prayer has great significance for Muslim community.
- It gives an opportunity to Muslims in vicinity to get together and socialize.
- The worshippers can see the strength of their numbers and display their unity.
- They have a chance to learn about their faith from the sermon as it contains great teachings of Islam regarding righteousness, Rights of Allah and fellow beings and other social guidelines.
- They can exchange thoughts and news.
- They are reminded that all Muslims should be united under God.
-  A reference can be added from part (a). (Optional)

### Importance of Eid

- Important festivals.
- After fasting for the complete month of Ramadan, Allah blesses Muslims with auspicious event of Eid-ul-Fitr which is celebrated on first shawwal 10<sup>th</sup> month of Islamic calendar.
- While Eid-ul-Adh'ha is celebrated on 10<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj which is the last month of Islamic calendar, to commemorate Ibrahim's (AS) obedience of Allah.
- The people of Madinah used to have two festivals. On those two days they had carnivals and festivity. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told them:  
  "Instead of those two days, Allah has appointed two other days which are better, the days of Eid-al-Fitr and Eid-al-Adha."
- Eid-ul-Fitr is very important and significant event in Islam as this day marks the completion of Ramadan.
- The night before Eid day is called 'The Night of Gift'
- Eid-ul-Fitr is basically a day of gratitude that in which Muslims pay gratitude to Allah for the endurance and strength to fulfil the requirements of the month of Ramadan.
- The day of Eid begins with offering of Fajr Prayer followed by preparations for Eid congregational Prayer.
- It is Sunnah of Holy Prophet (PBUH) to eat something sweet before Eid Prayer.
- Sunnah of Eid: Bath, brush their teeth, apply perfume and wear the new dress if possible or select the best available.
- Brotherhood, love and socialization.
- Eid Prayer:
  - ✓ Status is Sunnah
  - ✓ The time for Eid prayers falls between Fajr and Zohr prayers.
  - ✓ The Eid prayer consists of two Rak'ats.
  - ✓ Six extra Takbir, three in the first and three in the second Rak'ats.
  - ✓ However, some schools of thought stipulate the number of Takbir at 12.
  - ✓ The first three Takbir are said after Sana (Sub'hanakallahumma) before starting Surah Fatiha and the three Takbir in the second Rak'ats before Ruku.
  - ✓ One is to raise hands during each pronouncement of the Takbir and bring them down and again raise them for next Takbir.
  - ✓ There is no Qadha for Eid Prayer it can only be offered with congregation.
  - ✓ 2 sermons after Prayer.
- Muslims greet each other after invocation which ties them in strong bond of universal Islamic brotherhood.
- Fitrah** is also a very important aspect of Eid-ul-Fitr.
- Believers are instructed to pay one saa' of any of the four commodities that are wheat, dates, raisins, millet etc. while one saa' is equal to 2.5-3 kg.



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- ❑ Eid-ul-Adh'ha is celebrated in the remembrance of great obedience and sacrifice of Prophet Ibrahim (AS) when he got ready to sacrifice his son Ismail (AS).
- ❑ Just to relate and connect with pilgrims, Muslims are instructed not cut their nails and hair from the first of Zul-Hajj till the 10<sup>th</sup> when they sacrifice their animals.
- ❑ Muslims are instructed to recite Takbeer-e-Tashreeq loudly after every Fardh Prayer from Fajr of 9<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj till Asr of 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - 📖 "Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, there is no god but Allah. And Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest and to Allah belongs all praise."
- ❑ First meal of the day should be from sacrificial animal. (Sunnah)
- ❑ Prayer is offered in same manner as Eid-ul-Fitr just sermons are more centered on sacrifice of Ibrahim (AS) and relevant stuff.
- ❑ After coming back from Prayer Muslims sacrifice their animals in the way of Allah and donate the animals' skins to poor and needy. Allah describes the essence of sacrifice in Quran:
  - 📖 "Their meat will not reach Allah, nor will their blood, but what reaches Him is piety from you..." [22:37]

### Q (b) How do the two Eids bring the Muslim community together? [04][J/2013]

#### Points to be covered

- ❑ Festivals of Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adh'ha have great impact on Muslim community such as:
  - ✓ Muslims get together, celebrate happiness and rejoice, meet and greet each other, communicate and learn about others' circumstances. All this tie them in an unbreakable bond of Islamic brotherhood.
  - ✓ Sadqa-tul-Fitr paid on Eid-ul-Fitr is a token of love and appreciation from rich Muslims to poor ones and a step to allow them enjoy equal happiness of Eid.
  - ✓ Meat of sacrificial animals is distributed among poor and needy who cannot afford to have this luxury through the year which gives them a sense of recognition and ownership by rich Muslims. Skin of animals is also donated to poor, needy, orphanages and NGO's that are taking care of downtrodden people which is a great contribution towards social service.

## Personal Prayer (Invocation)

### Q (b) Explain why Muslims believe that personal prayer (dua) is important? [4] [N/2012]

#### Points to be covered

- ❑ Allah (SWT) has written our destinies in two forms. Taqdeer-e-Mubram can never be changed but Taqdee-e-Muallaq can be changed through private prayer (invocation)
- ❑ Allah instructs His creation to seek His help and assistance when they are in distress or difficulty as He says:
  - 📖 Ref: "O you, who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer..." [2:153]
- ❑ Allah sent us in this world as a test and to see that who remains connected with Him. Personal Prayer is the best method of building strong connection with God. Remembrance of Allah is considered essence of Islamic teachings as Prophet (PBUH) said:
  - 📖 Hadith: "Invocation (Dua) is the essence of worship" [Tirmidhi]
- ❑ In another Hadith, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) declared it the weapon of believer.
- ❑ Allah never rejects anyone's Prayer but there 3 possible responses to Dua:
  - ✓ Acceptance of what is asked.
  - ✓ Acceptance according to Allah's plan, that is better than original demand.
  - ✓ All Prayers that are not accepted in this world will be given to believer in form of good deeds that will affect his accountability.



## Delayed Prayer (Qadha)



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## Q (b) What are the teachings of Islam about the delayed Prayer? [04]


### Points to be covered

- Time of Prayer is the basic condition of offering Prayer.
  -  "Indeed, the Salah is a prescribed duty that should be performed by the believers at (their) appointed times." [04:103]
- If Prayer gets delayed because of any reason, there are instructions about compensation (Qadha) Prayer.
  -  Hadith: "Whoever forgets a prayer should pray it when he remembers it, and there is no expiation for it save that." [Agreed]
- This clarifies that Missed Prayers have to be offered at any cost and there is no other way out.
- It can be offered according to routine/ease of a person and a schedule can be made to accommodate regular and Qadha Prayer side by side.

## Shortened Prayer (Qasr)

### Q (b) Briefly describe Qasr (Shortened) Prayer. [04]


### Points to be covered

- Islam does not only claim to be the religion of nature, it actually takes care of humans' needs and emotions. Therefore, Allah has given relaxation to worshippers in different circumstances.
- A traveler can offer shortened (Qasr) Prayer.
- According to Shariah 'Traveler' is the one who leaves his home town with intention of travelling more than 48 miles (77.24 KM). As soon as he leaves his home town, he becomes eligible to offer shortened Prayer.
- All 4 Rak'ats will be converted into 2.
  -  Hadith: Abdullah ibn Umar says: "I have travelled in company with the holy Prophet, Abu Bakr, Umar and Uthman, and have never seen them offering more than two Rak'ats of Fardh during a journey" [Agreed]
- Traveler can keep offering shortened Prayer until he comes back to his home town or intends to stay somewhere for 15 days, this will convert him into a 'resident' and he will have to offer complete Prayer as long as he stays there or starts further journey.

## Importance of Mosque

### Q (b) Explain the importance of Masjid in Muslim communities. [04] [J/2010] [J/2012]






### Points to be covered

- Mosque plays a vital role in shaping an ideal Muslim community.
- The first thing done by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) upon reaching Quba was construction of Taqwa/Quba Mosque and later on upon reaching Madinah he built Mosque of Prophet.
- The concept of Mosque is not just a worship place, but it works as a community center for Muslims where they can gather talk about/find solutions for their religious, social, economic, legal and political problems.
- In the era of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Mosques were used Military Head Quarter, Court, School, Parliament and community center.
  -  Hadith: "The most beloved of places to Allah are the mosques..." [Muslim]





# Fasting

## Observances of Fasting

- Fasting is a fundamental practice that has been part of almost every religion on this planet. It was declared obligatory for Muslims in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Hijrah when Allah revealed these verses:  
 "The month of Ramadhan in which was revealed the Qur'an, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion. So whoever sights the month, let him fast it..." [02:185]
- Purpose: self-control.
- They start their day with breakfast (Suhoor). Prophet (PBUH) said:  
 "Eat Suhoor as there is blessing in it."
- Intention:  
 "I intend to keep the fast for tomorrow in the month of Ramadan"
- Fajar Prayer followed by recitation of Quran and Tasbeehat etc.
- Then they abstain from Food, Drink, medicine, or any other type of nourishment for body like injections of drips.
- Believers harness their negative energy and learn to control inner evil.
- Regularity of Prayer throughout the day and continuation of daily routine.
- Time before sunset is considered time of acceptance of dua.
- Then they break their fast upon sunset reciting this dua:  
 "O Allah! I fasted for You and I believe in You and I put my trust in You and I break my fast with Your sustenance"  
Following Sunnah method of breaking fast is recommended as Prophet (PBUH) would break his fast with water, date or salt sometimes.
- It is recommended to invite and accept others' invitations over Ramadan meals in order to promote brotherhood and love.
- After performance of Maghreb and Isha Prayers Muslims offer Tarawih Prayer.
- There are organizations/individuals that establish the system of Tarawih with translation and Tafsir.
- 3 Rak'ats of Witar are offered in congregation after performance of Tarawih.
- Mostly Muslims spend nights of Ramadan worshipping Allah (SWT) and reciting Holy Quran.
- Especially odd nights of last 10 days of Ramadan are of special importance in Muslims as they stay in Mosque/home for Aitkaf and worship Allah whole night in order to attain the virtues of Laila-tul-Qadar. (The Night of Power)  
 "The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months" [97:03]
- Some Muslims calculate their Zakat payment annum in a way that they pay their yearly Charity in Ramadan to get multiplied rewards. At the end of Ramadan Muslims celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr and pay Sadaqa-tul-Fitr.

## Benefits of Fasting

- Fasting (Sawm) is one of the Pillars of Islam. It became obligatory in 2<sup>nd</sup> A.H. The literal meaning of **Sawm** is 'to abstain' or 'to abandon'. Islamic Shariah defines it to restrain from food, drink and all evils.  
 "Oh you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you may learn piety and righteousness" [2:183]
- Like other practices Fasting also has uncountable Moral, Spiritual, Physical, Economic and Social benefits for Individual Muslims and Collectively as Ummah.
- The most important thing Muslims learn from Fasting is Self-control. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) motivated his companions to have self-control and He himself demonstrated it through his actions.  
 Hadith: "The strong person is not the good wrestler. Rather, the strong person is the one who controls himself when he is angry" [Bukhari]
- Fasting requires the body and brain to forgo all enjoyable resources of pleasure like eating, drinking, gossips etc. This practice makes us prepared for real life challenges and make us productive member of the society. And that's the



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sole purpose of Fasting as described in above mentioned Quranic verse.

📖 In another Hadith Prophet (PBUH) Said: “The month of Ramadan is the month of endurance and the reward for endurance is paradise. It is a month whose beginning is mercy; whose middle is forgiveness and whose end is freedom from hell”

- ❑ Fasting develops empathy and compassion which make us realize the pain and sufferings of poor and downtrodden people of our society.
- ❑ Spiritually it brings us closer to Allah. Fasting has been declared as Shield against sins in a Hadith Qudsi:  
📖 “Fasting is a shield (Protection from sins).”
- ❑ When a Muslim doesn’t eat and drink for several hours, he suddenly realizes the worth of Allah’s uncountable bounties. He realizes that he is far better than a lot of people in the society. This turns him into more obedient and true believer.

- ❑ Starvation and its related diseases cause one person per minute to die on this planet, 75% of them being infants and children under the age of 5. A big number of people are malnourished on this planet and that because people don’t care about their society, especially the poor and downtrodden ones. In Ramadan people of different classes get together at mosques and other social places and become aware of each other’s life styles. This promotes love and friendship among people from different background and strengthens the bond between people who didn’t even know each other earlier.
- ❑ Ramadan brings a Season of Good Deeds as people are motivated to do more good deeds as compared to their normal day lives. People spend handsome amount in charity which ensures Circulation of Wealth. This has positive impact on individual community members as well as collective economic growth of the country.
- ❑ It is quoted from the Prophet of Islam to have said:  
📖 “Fast, you’ll be healthy”
- ❑ An Egyptian pyramid inscription in 3800B.C also reads:  
📖 “Humans live on one-quarter of what they eat; on the three-quarters live their doctor!”
- ❑ The three fathers of Western Medicine; (Hippocrates, Galen & Paracelsus) prescribed fasting as the greatest remedy and the physician within. Life Magazine in its September 1996 issue considered fasting: the healing revolution. There are more than 500 medical journal articles available on therapeutic fasting on the internet.
- ❑ However, fasting is not only being hungry and thirsty for hours. It’s a complete Philosophy which has long term effects in shaping a successful individual life as well as forming a healthy and productive society. Allah SWT says in a Hadith Qudsi: “Fasting is for me and I will give its reward”



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**Q (b) Explain how fasting strengthens or keep the Islamic community together. [04]  
With minor change of words: [N/2004][N/2010][N/2011][J/2012]**

**Points to be covered**

- Fasting makes Rich Muslims realize the pain and suffering of poor members of the society and motivate them to support and help them.
- It teaches Muslims community to control and harness their negative energy and control over their anger and other emotions.
- Zakat is usually given in this month that ensures circulation of wealth and affects national economy.
- The social gatherings promote brotherhood, love and happiness in the society.

**People that are exempted from Fasting**

**Q (b) Outline the kinds of Muslims who are excused from fasting during this month. [04] [J/2007]**

**Points to be Covered**

<b><u>People Who are exempted</u></b>	<b><u>Reason</u></b>
Suffering from life sickness	Fasting will worsen their condition
Above age or Below Age	It's beyond their Physical Capacity
Abnormal or Unconscious	They don't have that sense.
Women who are pregnant or with new born babies.	They can't bear/they have to feed the child.
Travelers	They can't bear the hardship
<input type="checkbox"/> Ref: [Fasting for] a limited number of days. So, whoever among you is ill or on a journey [during them] - then an equal number of days [are to be made up]. And upon those who are able [to fast, but with hardship] - a ransom [as substitute] of feeding a poor person [each day] ..." [02:184]	



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# Zakat (Almsgiving)



## Importance of Zakat

- ❑ Zakat is 4<sup>th</sup> pillar of Islam that is considered a fundamental part of Islamic economic system. Word 'Zakat' is derived from Arabic word "Zakaah" and "Tazkiah" mean "to purify".
- ❑ Zakat is to be paid by rich Muslims to the poor ones. This doesn't only purify their wealth, but also maintains the economic balance in the society.
- ❑ Accurate description of Zakat would be: "It is the amount of money that every adult, mentally stable, free, and financially able Muslim, male and female, has to pay to support specific categories people."
- ❑ It became obligatory in 2<sup>nd</sup> A.H.
  - 📖 Ref: "...and give the obligatory charity (Zakat)..." [02:43]
- ❑ Its importance can be judged from the fact that it is mentioned 32 times in the Qur'an.
- ❑ Zakat is the base of Islamic Economic System.
- ❑ Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) paid special attention towards collection of Zakat.
- ❑ He designated collectors of Zakat and gave them special instructions about guiding people and other processes.
- ❑ After the sad demise of Holy Prophet (PBUH) some tribes refused to Pay Zakat. Abu Bakr (RA) uttered this historical sentence that highlights the importance of Zakat:
  - 📖 "By Allah! Were they to withhold even a piece of rope that they used to give (as zakat to) the Prophet of Allah (PBUH), I will fight them over their withholding it" [Agreed]
- ❑ Umar bin Khattab (RA) gave utmost importance to Zakat as he established Islamic economic system. The main source of income for Bait-ul-Mal used to be Zakat.
- ❑ Allah (SWT) has announced punishments for those who do not pay Zakat:
  - 📖 Ref: "...And those who hoard gold and silver and spend it not in the way of Allah - give them tidings of a painful punishment." [09:34]





## Observances of Zakat

- Zakat is 4<sup>th</sup> pillar of Islam that is considered a fundamental part of Islamic economic system. Word 'Zakat' is derived from Arabic word "Zakaah" and "Tazkiah" mean "to purify".
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 Ref: "...and give the obligatory charity (Zakat)..." [02:43]
- Its importance can be judged from the fact that it is mentioned 32 times in the Qur'an.
- Zakat had been the part of basic teachings of every religion. Being a complete code of conduct Islam introduced Zakat as a complete system.
- Islam distributed belongings into Gold, silver, Crops, Cash and mines and set different "Nisab" for every Category.
- Person who crosses that particular limit is called 'Sahib-e-Nisab' i.e. owner of minimum amount for obligation of Zakat.
- Nisab of Gold: 7.5 Tola (87.48 Grams) or more than that.
- Nisab of Silver: 52.5 Tola (612.36 Grams) or more than that.
- Cash: Equal to value of above mentioned gold or silver.
- Business Items: Goods that are stocked for sale and their value reaches equal to any of the above mentioned will be considered Nisab.
- For all these above-mentioned categories rate of Zakat would be 2.5 % that will be given after the passage of one lunar year. Although it's not necessary but people usually pay Zakat in the holy month of Ramadan in order to attain more good deeds.
- Nisab for different animals is:
  - Camel: 1-4 Camels= Nothing, 5-9 Camels= 1 Goat. 10-14 Camels= 2 Goats. 15-19 Camels= 3 Goats, 20-24 Camels= 4 Goats.
  - Goats: 1-39 Goats= Nothing, 40-120 Goats= 1 Goat, 121-200 Goats= 2 Goats, 200-300 Goats= 3 Goats, Then after every 100 there will be 1 Goat.
  - Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls:
    - 1-29 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls= Nothing. 30-39 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls= 1-Year-old Calf.
    - 40-59 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls= 2-Year-old Calf. 60 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls= 1-Year-old 2 Calves.
    - When it exceeds 60:
      - There will be 1-year-old calf for every 30 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls,
      - And there will be 2-year-old calf for every 40 Cow/Buffaloes/Bulls.
- Nisab in case of land irrigated by natural resources like rain or river would be 1/10<sup>th</sup>.
- Nisab in case of land irrigated by artificial resources like canals, tube wells etc. would be 1/20<sup>th</sup>.
- Nisab in case of mines would be 1/5<sup>th</sup>. That's also called 'Khums' (Fifth).
- Allah describes recipients of Zakat:  
 " Alms are for the poor and the needy, and those employed to administer (the funds); for those whose hearts, have been (recently) reconciled (to truth); for those in bondage and in debt; and for the wayfarer: (Thus is it) ordained by Allah, and Allah is full of Knowledge and Wisdom." [09:60]  
This verse elaborates recipients of Zakat. They are as follow:
  1. **FUQARA**: people who are poor and who possess more than their basic needs but do not possess wealth equal to Nisab.
  2. **MASAKEEN**: people who are destitute and extremely needy to the extent they are forced to beg for their daily food rations.
  3. **AL-AMILEEN**: people appointed by an Islamic Government to collect Zakat.
  4. **MU-ALLAFATU-QULUB**: persons who have recently accepted Islam and are in need of basic necessities or Non-



Muslim poor who would get a soft image of Islam through the financial assistance they will get from Zakat. (Some scholars claim that this has been cancelled)

5. **AR-RIQAAB**: slaves who are permitted to work for remuneration and have an agreement from their masters to purchase their freedom on payment of fixed amounts.

6. **AL-GHAARIMEEN**: persons who have a debt and do not possess any other wealth or goods with which they could repay that which they owe. It is conditional that this debt was not created for any un-Islamic purpose.

7. **FI-SABILILLAH**: in the service of Allah. This recipient is so vast.

8. **IBN-US-SABEEL**: persons who are travelers and during the course of their journey do not possess basic necessities, though they are well to do at home. They could be given Zakat in order to fulfill travel needs to return home.

- Zakat cannot be given to parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, and wife, and husband, descendants of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and to those individuals and organizations that cannot be trusted.

## Benefits of Zakat

**Q (a) How does Zakat help to keep Islamic community together? [04]**

[N/2004] [J/2005] [N/2007] [N/2011]

### Points to be Covered

- It is recommended in Islam to make effort and find out a deserving recipient of Zakat. This would give rich Muslims a clear idea of Poor Muslims' sufferings and eventually will motivate them to keep helping them.
- Zakat minimizes the difference between rich and poor classes of society.
- The range of recipients Islam offers for payment of Zakat is also very important. One can help travelers, one can pay debt of Muslim brother, one can buy freedom for slaves etc. All these steps lead to a connected, compassionate and healthy society.

**(b) Who do you think benefits more from the payment of zakat and why, the giver or the receiver?**

[4][N/2013]

### Points to be Covered

- Both get benefited from Zakat.
- Giver saves himself from Allah's preannounced punishment for those who do not pay Zakat and becomes eligible for Allah's bounties. The sense of satisfaction he achieves after playing his role for the betterment of society is another benefit he gets.
- Receiver definitely gets benefit as he gets support in his economic crisis, in paying debt or winning his freedom if he was a slave etc.



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# Hajj (Pilgrimage)

## Observances of Hajj

- The literal meaning of Hajj is will or desire to visit. In Islamic theology Hajj is 5<sup>th</sup> pillar of Islam in which Muslims visit the holy city of Makkah in 12<sup>th</sup> month of Islamic calendar Zil-Hajj.
- Hajj was declared mandatory in 9<sup>th</sup> A.H.
  - ﴿...And [due] to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House - for whoever is able to find thereto a way...﴾ [03:97]
- Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) performed first Hajj of Islam along with 300 companions and then in next year Prophet (PBUH) performed his first and final pilgrimage in which he delivered his famous farewell sermon.
- Hajj is mandatory only for those that are capable of doing it physically, mentally and financially.
- Hajj has number of observances that are supposed to be performed by pilgrim in order to complete hajj perfectly.
- Pilgrims have to be in state of Ihram (Hajj uniform) while entering Haram. Haram is a sacred boundary that has several entry points called Miqat. As soon as pilgrims wear ihram, they face some prohibitions like they cannot take bath, use fragrance, trim hair and nails and harm any creation of Allah. Then pilgrims make intention verbally and start reciting Talbiyah.
  - ﴿Here I am at your service O Lord, here I am. Here I am at your service and You have no partners. You alone is All Praise and All Bounty, and You alone is The Sovereignty. You have no partners.﴾
- Then pilgrims perform Tawaf-e-Qudoom (welcome Tawaf) which is Sunnah. its seven circumambulations around Kaabah starting from Istilam kissing/touching or just signaling towards black stone and ending at Multazam the area between black stone and door of Kaabah.
- Then its Sunnah to perform Nafil Prayer at Maqam-e-Ibrahim (AS).
  - ﴿...And take, from the standing place of Abraham a place of prayer...﴾ [02:125]
- Then pilgrims perform Sa'i between Safa and Marwah hills in memory of Hajrah (RA) the wife of Ibrahim (AS) when she ran between these 2 hills to find water for her infant son Ismail (AS). Pilgrims drink Zamzam and complete seven rounds between 2 hills.
  - ﴿Indeed, as-Safa and al-Marwah are among the symbols of Allah...﴾ [02:158]
- On 8<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj Pilgrims move to Mina where they spend day and night reciting Talbiyah, Quran and offering prayers.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj morning they move to Arafat which is an enormous ground and they stay there till sunset. The Hajj sermon is delivered there and pilgrims offer Zohr and Asr prayers together. Staying at Arafat is obligatory in Hajj. Prophet (PBUH) said:
  - ﴿Hajj is staying at Arafat﴾
- Then pilgrims move to Muzdalifah, offer Maghrib and Isha together and stay there whole night performing prayers and reciting Talbiyah and Quran.
  - ﴿...But when you depart from 'Arafat, remember Allah at al- Mash'ar al-Haram...﴾ [02:198]
- They then collect pebbles to stone the devil and move to Mina on 10<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj. They stone devils which are erected pillars at Mina sending a subliminal message to devil that we reject your ideas and manipulation the way Ibrahim (AS) rejected him.
- Pilgrims then sacrifice their animals and shave their head or trim their hair.
  - ﴿...You will surely enter al-Masjid al-Haram, if Allah wills, in safety, with your heads shaved and [hair] shortened...﴾ [48:27]
- With this they take off ihram and wear normal clothes and come out of ihram restrictions.
- They then perform another circumambulation of Kaabah called Tawaf-e-Ziarat on 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj.
- They keep stoning devil for two more days on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj.
- Then before leaving they perform the farewell circumambulation called Tawaf-e-Wida.



## Importance of Ibrahim's (AS) Family in context of Hajj

Q (b) In what ways is the prophet Ibrahim and his family important to the annual pilgrimage?





[04][J/2008][N/2009]

### Points to be Covered

- Hazrat Ibrahim (AS) built holy Kaabah which is considered the house of Allah and pilgrims circumambulate around it.
- When Ibrahim (AS) was taking Ismail (AS) to sacrifice him according to his vision, Satan tried to manipulate him. Ibrahim (AS) rejected his ideas and manipulation by stoning him, Pilgrims mimic this act to send the same message to devil.
- An animal was provided for sacrifice instead of Ismail (AS), Muslims perform Sunnah of sacrifice acknowledging the spirit of Ibrahim (AS)
- Hajrah (RA) ran between Safa and Marwah hills to find water for her son Ismail (AS), pilgrims mimic this act upon instructions of Allah.
- The well of Zamzam was uncovered by scraping of Ismail's heels on the earth, which is still full miraculously.

## Umrah (Minor Pilgrimage)

### Answer

- Allah (SWT) has designated believers to perform two types of pilgrimages. One is major pilgrimage that is also called Hajj and other one is minor pilgrimage i.e. Umrah. Allah says:  
 "And complete the hajj or Umrah in the service of God" [02:196]
- Many steps of Umrah are same as Hajj but there a lot of differences that makes Umrah precise and different from Hajj. In Umrah, pilgrim puts on ihram at Miqat and starts reciting Talbiyah. Then circumambulation (Tawaf) of Kaabah is performed in which pilgrim circles around Holy Kaabah 7 times starting from are facing black stone and ending at multazam the area between black stone and door of Holy Kaabah. Then pilgrim performs 2 Rak'ats prayers at station of Ibrahim (AS) followed by Sa'i (walk) between hills of Safa and Marwah. Finally, male pilgrims shave their head or cut their hair short and women cut a lock of their just to fulfil the ritual.
- Umrah is different from Hajj in many ways. Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam and is mandatory upon every believer once in their lifetimes. While Umrah is not included in pillars of Islam and its status is also optional not mandatory.
- Umrah can be performed throughout the year except 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj but Hajj is only performed in these mentioned days.
- When performing Umrah Talbiyah is stopped upon arriving at the Haram, whilst on hajj Talbiyah is said till the rami on 10th Zul-Hajj.
- Unlike Hajj there is no Stay at Arafat, Muzdalifa and Mina, no sacrifice and stoning devil.
- Because of the above mentioned reason, Umrah is short and precise and can be easily performed within hours while Hajj is a lengthy and comparatively complex practice.
- The rules of Hajj are strict and making mistakes leads to paying penalties called Dam (Blood) in which pilgrims have to sacrifice extra animal that can be a camel, cow or goat depending upon the mistake. While Umrah is comparatively easy and lenient, Dam is applied rarely.
- Hajj has great significance being major pilgrimage, a pillar of Islam and mandatory worship.  
 Prophet (PBUH) Says: "Nothing compares with the accepted Hajj and it has no reward other than heaven!"  
 He also said: "A Person who performs Hajj purifies himself from sins like the day that he was born"  
Though, Umrah is not equal to Hajj but has its own great significance. Umrah performed in the month of Ramadan is equal to Hajj in reward.  
 Prophet (PBUH) says: "Umrah performed in the month of Ramadan is equal to Hajj in reward"



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## Impacts of Hajj

**Q 2 (b) Explain how the outward actions performed during Umrah improve a pilgrim's inner spirituality. [04][J/2016]**

### Points to be Covered

- Observances of Umrah help a pilgrim to develop their inner spirituality in a number of ways:
  - Wearing same ihram is a great reminder of equality and reinforces the fact that Humans are equal to creator despite their physical appearance and attire.
  - The recitation of the Talbiyah focusses the mind of the pilgrims on the fact that they have come in response to the call of their Creator, that they are obedient to him and acknowledge that no one is worthy of worship besides God.
  - With the Tawaf, each pilgrim is glorifying God, praising him, seeking forgiveness and acknowledging his greatness and superiority.
  - Just to look upon the Ka'ba is a spiritual experience of immense magnitude for every Muslim.
  - Sa'i between Safa and Marwah reminds pilgrim thirst of Ismail (AS) and love of Hajrah when she ran between hills to find water for her baby. This makes pilgrim grateful for what they have.
  - Shaving head/cutting hair short ignites the sense of sacrifice in pilgrims and trains them to change their attire and appearance according to the will of Allah.

## Differences between Hajj and Umrah

**Q (b) Explain the main differences between Hajj and Umrah. [04][J/2011]**

<u>Hajj</u>	<u>Umrah</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Pilgrimage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Pilgrimage.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory.	<input type="checkbox"/> Optional.
<input type="checkbox"/> Can only be performed in Zul-Hajj.	<input type="checkbox"/> Umrah can be performed throughout the year except 9 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> Zul-Hajj.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hajj is strict. Penalties are applied on mistakes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Umrah is lenient. Penalties are rarely applied.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Stoning, Stay at Mina and Arafat are not the part of Umrah.



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# Jihad

## Meaning and Types of Jihad

- ❑ The root word of Jihad is 'Johd' which refers to struggle. Conventional Islamic definition for Jihad is to put maximum efforts in the way of Allah to achieve and establish personal and communal righteousness in order to shun evil.
- ❑ These efforts may include battling evil within soul, using communication skills to shun evil in the society or taking up arms for self-defense.
- ❑ Right after his banishment, Satan asked Allah to give him chance to misguide humans through manipulating them and igniting evil desire in order to make them go astray. Therefore, evil desires lead to evil actions, evil actions lead to evil character which distances believer from Allah which is the ultimate desire and mission of Satan.
- ❑ Allah created Angels programmed to do good and shayateen programmed to do evil but Allah gave humans free will to choose their path and write their own destiny. Allah describes the secret of success in hereafter which is not giving up in front of evil desires:
  - 📖 "As for him who feared to stand before his Lord and he restrained himself from his desires, then Paradise will be his refuge." [79:40]
- ❑ The good and evil both desires remain active in human soul but there are people and circumstances that ignite any one of them and shape up the personality. When anyone gives up in front of evil desires, his actions impact his heart and soul the way it is described by Prophet (PBUH):
  - 📖 "Allah's Messenger (PBUH) said, "When a believer sins there is a black spot on his heart, and if he repents and asks pardon his heart is polished; but if he does more it increases till it gains the ascendancy over his heart." [Tirmidhi]
- ❑ But when a believer opts for **spiritual Jihad** and keeps fighting the evil within and refuses to give up, he attains a great distinction of 'Nafs-e-Mutma'innah' (The Reassured Soul) as described by Allah in Holy Quran:
  - 📖 "O reassured soul, Return to your Lord, well-pleased and pleasing, and enter among My servants And enter My Paradise." [89:27-30]
- ❑ Above mentioned details proved that Spiritual Jihad is the key to personal and communal excellence. Muslims should not mold the teachings of Allah according to their desires and practice the true meaning of submission which refers to sacrificing their own desires in order to please Allah.
- ❑ Contributing to the cause of Allah or for the welfare of Allah's creation is considered financial Jihad which has great significance in Islam as Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) replied when asked that who is the best among men:
  - 📖 "The believer who strives hard in the way of Allah with his person and property."Muslims are supposed to spend their wealth to support the cause of Islam and welfare of Allah's creation whenever the need arises.
- ❑ **Verbal Jihad** (Jihad bil-Lisan) is a wide term that includes attaining the skills (knowledge) to defend Islam and later guarding it with speech and writing.
- ❑ Firstly, a believer should have required qualification and skills to defend Islam which indicates that seeking knowledge is also considered as Jihad.
  - 📖 "The one who sets out of his house to seek knowledge is in the way of Allah until he returns."This form of Jihad is very important as believer protects the ideological boundaries of Islam and answers the questions and confusions created by non-believers, atheists and other negative powers trying to weaken the ideological foundation of Islam.
- ❑ Secondly, a believer should have excellent communication skills that can be used to answer enemies of Islam and fight back against their propaganda against Islam. In today's digital world, media and social media warfare is very important for any religion, ideology or country if they want to survive. Therefore, believers should be well equipped with these modern tools of warfare.
- ❑ This will also include raising voice against evil in the society and playing to shun evil utilizing communication skills as Prophet (PBUH) said:



📖 “Whosoever of you sees an evil action let him change it with his hand, and if he is not able to do so then with his tongue, and if he is not able to do so then with his heart, and that is the weakest of faith.”

In another Hadith, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) describes the best form of Jihad:

📖 “The best Jihad is to speak the word of truth confronting the oppressor.”

- ❑ A very important form of Jihad is **Armed Jihad** (Jihad bil-Saif) which is given too much importance in Islam. This concept is highly misunderstood by people and most of them are unable to differentiate between Jihad and terrorism. The major condition that distinguishes Jihad from terrorism is that it is fought in self-defense when Muslims’ religion, lives, properties or freedom is in danger.
  - ❑ This form of Jihad was permitted in 2<sup>nd</sup> A.H and referred as ‘Qital’
    - 📖 “Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought, because they were wronged. And indeed, Allah is competent to give them victory.” [22:39]
  - ❑ Islam is a religion of peace as it values human life more than anything. Therefore, when Muslims are instructed to defend oppressed people and save them from persecution, torture and genocide.
  - ❑ But there are certain conditions that will permit/allow this form of Jihad to take place. Therefore, any individual or group that takes up arms and claim to wage Jihad should be exposed and terminated as soon as possible. Example of Al-Qaida, Taliban, ISIS and other extremist organization can be given as they claim to fight holy war and misinterpret verses of Holy Quran just to support their evil agenda.
  - ❑ The real implementation of armed Jihad can be seen through struggle of Palestinians, Kashmiris and other oppressed people who are fighting to protect their religion and motherland.
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