

Adhān – The Call to Salāh

The Adhān is the call for salāh and a symbol of Islām. The oneness of Allāh and the prophethood of Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam is proclaimed. Through the Adhān everyone is called towards salāh. The one who gives the Adhān is known as the "mu'addhin". In the ahādith, there are many virtues for giving the Adhān as well as great rewards for listening and replying to the Adhān.

History of Adhān

During the early days in Madinah Munawwarah, there was no call for salāh. This proved difficult for the sahābah radhiyallāhu anhum as when the salāh time would begin, some would arrive in the Masjid very early whilst others would come later and miss their salāh with jamā'ah.

Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam and the sahābah radhiyallāhu anhum had a meeting to discuss ideas of how to call everyone to salāh. One suggestion was to light a fire at the time of salāh, however, this would become similar to the fire-worshippers. Another suggestion was to hit 2 sticks together repeatedly, however, this was the practise of the Christians at the time. A third suggestion was to blow through a horn making a specific sound, however, this was the practise of the Jews at the time. Finally, Hadhrat Umar radhiyallāhu anhu gave the idea that one person be given the responsibility of calling everyone for salāh by going around saying "Salāh is about to begin". Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam gave this responsibility to Bilāl radhiyallāhu anhu. But, after a while, this became difficult for him.

Abdullāh bin Zayd bin Abdi Rabbihee radhiyallāhu anhu had much concern regarding this matter. When he went to sleep at night, he saw a dream in which an angel was giving the Adhān. In the morning, he mentioned this dream to Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam. Other sahābah had also seen a similar dream. Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam instructed Bilāl radhiyallāhu anhu to learn the words of the Adhān and give the Adhān from a high place at the time of salāh. From that day, the Adhān became the call to salāh.

What to do at the Time of Adhān?

Whenever we hear the Adhān, we should stop whatever we are doing and listen to the words of the Adhān very carefully and attentively. Whilst listening, we should also reply to the Adhān. Once the Adhān is completed, we should then read durood once and pray the du'ā after Adhān.

We learn from a hadith that when the Adhān is called out, whoever listens and replies to the Adhān, then reads durood and the du'ā after Adhān, it will become necessary for our beloved Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam to intercede for them. This means Nabi sallallāhu alayhi wasallam will have to help and rescue them on the day of Qiyāmah!

May Allāh grant us the ability to attain all the virtues and rewards related to the Adhān. Āmeen.

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Words of the Adhān	Replying to the Adhān
اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ	اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ
اَشْهَدُ اَنْ لَا اِلَهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ	اَشْهَدُ اَنْ لَا اِلَهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ
اَشْهَدُ اَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَّسُوْلُ اللّٰهِ	اَشْهَدُ اَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَّسُوْلُ اللّٰهِ
حَيَّ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ	لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ اِلَّا بِاللّٰهِ
حَيَّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ	لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ اِلَّا بِاللّٰهِ
In Fajr Adhān the following will be added:	
الصَّلٰوةُ خَيْرٌ مِّنَ النَّوْمِ	صَدَقْتَ وَ بَرَرْتَ
اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ	اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ اَللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ
لَا اِلَهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ	لَا اِلَهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ

Du'ā After Adhān

اَللّٰهُمَّ رَبَّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةِ التَّامَّةِ وَالصَّلَاةِ الْقَائِمَةِ،
 اَتِ مُحَمَّدًا الْوَسِيْلَةَ وَالْفَضِيْلَةَ،
 وَابْعَثْهُ مَقَامًا مَّحْمُوْدًا الَّذِي وَعَدْتَهُ،
 اِنَّكَ لَا تُخْلِفُ الْمِيْعَادَ.