

# PRAYERS OF A TRAVELLER – SALAT UL MUSAFAR

## In the light of 20 Authentic Hadith

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ. الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ خَاتَمِ  
النَّبِيِّينَ وَعَلَى جَمِيعِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

### Salat Al Musafar according to Quran and in the light of Authentic Hadith.

*And, [moreover], this is My path, which is straight, so follow it; and do not follow [other] ways, for you will be separated from His way. This has He instructed you that you may become righteous. [Al-Anaam 6:153].*

Using only Quranic ayahs and sahih hadiths, this document is designed to enable readers to learn and expel any false narratives and teaching surrounding a Traveller's salah. May Allah reward you, oh reader, may He elevate your place in heaven and keep you on the straight path.

Remember, our dear Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w) (ﷺ) said in his farewell speech,

**I have left you with two matters which will never lead you astray, as long as you hold to them:  
The Book of Allah and the Sunnah of his Prophet (s.a.w) (ﷺ).**

**[Al Mutta Imam Malik: 899/2]**

One must always keep this blessed hadith in mind when practising their religion. Such a hadith should have us separate our cultural values from religious values.

## SALAT UL MUSAFAR

### Travellers Prayer Surah An- Nisa ayat 101.

وَإِذَا ضَرَبْتُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَلَيْسَ عَلَيْكُمْ جُنَاحٌ أَنْ تَقْصُرُوا مِنَ الصَّلَاةِ <sup>ط</sup> إِنْ خِفْتُمْ أَنْ يَفْتِنَكُمُ الَّذِينَ  
كَفَرُوا إِنَّ الْكَافِرِينَ كَانُوا أَعْدَاؤَ اللَّهِ وَأَصْحَابِ الْمَشْأَلِ <sup>ط</sup> أَعْدَاءُ اللَّهِ

**Translation:** 4-101- And when you travel throughout the land, there is no blame upon you for shortening the prayer, [especially] if you fear that those who disbelieve may disrupt [or attack] you. Indeed, the disbelievers are ever to you a clear enemy.

**HADITH NO. 1**

**“It is an act of charity which Allah has done to you, so accept His charity”**

Yahya b. Umayya said: I told 'Umar b. al-Khattab that Allah had said: You may shorten the prayer only if you fear that those who are unbelievers may afflict you (Qur'an, iv. 101), whereas the people are now safe. He replied: I wondered about it in the same way as you wonder about it, so I asked the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) about it and he said: **“It is an act of charity which Allah has done to you, so accept His charity”**. Sahih Muslim#686a.

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:686a>

### **Who will be classed as a Traveller?**

A person who leaves his original abode will be classed as a traveller.

**وَخَرَجَ عَلَيَّ - عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ - فَقَصَرَ وَهُوَ يَرَى الْبُيُوتَ فَلَمَّا رَجَعَ قِيلَ لَهُ هَذِهِ الْكُوفَةُ. قَالَ لَا حَتَّى نَدْخُلَهَا.**

**Hadith No. 2**

**(5) CHAPTER. When a traveller leaves his original place, he can shorten his *Ṣalāt* (prayers).**

Once 'Alī (bin Abī Ṭālib) رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ left (Kūfa) and started shortening the *Ṣalāt* (prayers) although the houses (of Kūfa) were in sight. On his return he was told, “This is Kūfa.” (So that he would no longer shorten the *Ṣalāt*). He said, “No, [I will go on shortening the *Ṣalāt* (prayers)] till we enter Kūfa.”

**(٥) بَابٌ : يَقْصُرُ إِذَا خَرَجَ مِنْ مَوْضِعِهِ،**

وَخَرَجَ عَلَيَّ رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ فَقَصَرَ وَهُوَ يَرَى الْبُيُوتَ. فَلَمَّا رَجَعَ قِيلَ لَهُ: هَذِهِ الْكُوفَةُ؟ قَالَ: لَا، حَتَّى نَدْخُلَهَا.

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1089>

**Hadith No. 3**

Obligatory Prayer were 2 Rak'at in the start then they were kept for Travel.

Narrated `Aisha: "When the prayers were first enjoined, they were of two rak`at each. Later the prayer in a journey was kept as it was but the prayers for non-travellers were completed." Az-Zuhri said, "I asked `Urwa what made Aisha pray the full prayers (in journey)." He replied, "She did the same as `Uthman did." Sahih al-Bukhari 1090.

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1090>

## Hadith No. 4

**Salat Ul Maghreb Rak'at when travelling.**

( ٢٦٨٦٩ ) حَدَّثَنَا يَعْقُوبُ قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا أَبِي عَنِ ابْنِ إِسْحَاقَ قَالَ حَدَّثَنِي صَالِحُ بْنُ كَيْسَانَ عَنْ عُرْوَةَ بْنِ الزُّبَيْرِ عَنْ عَائِشَةَ زَوْجِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ قَالَتْ كَانَ أَوَّلَ مَا افْتَرَضَ عَلَيَّ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الصَّلَاةُ رَكْعَتَانِ رَكْعَتَانِ إِلَّا الْمَغْرِبَ فَإِنَّهَا كَانَتْ ثَلَاثًا ثُمَّ آتَمَ اللَّهُ الظُّهْرَ وَالْعَصْرَ وَالْعِشَاءَ الْآخِرَةَ أَرْبَعًا فِي الْحَضَرِ وَأَقْرَبَ الصَّلَاةَ عَلَى فَرْضِهَا الْأَوَّلِ فِي السَّفَرِ [صححه البخارى (٣٥٠)، ومسلم (٦٨٥)]، وابن حبان (٢٧٣٦).

(٢٦٨٦٩) حضرت عائشہ رضی اللہ عنہا سے مروی ہے کہ مکہ مکرمہ میں نماز کی ابتدائی فرضیت دو رکعتوں کی صورت میں ہوئی تھی، سوائے مغرب کے کہ اس کی تین رکعتیں ہی تھیں، پھر اللہ نے حضر میں ظہر، عصر اور عشاء کو مکمل کر دیا اور سفر میں ابتدائی فرضیت کو برقرار رکھا۔

**Translation:** Narrated `Aisha: the mother of believers: Allah enjoined the prayer when He enjoined it, it was two rak`at only (in every prayer) both when in residence or on journey. Then the prayers offered on journey remained the same, but (the rak`at of) the prayers for non-travelers were increased. Except Maghreb Prayer as it is only 3 rak`at. **Masnad Ahmed 22869 and in Saheeh Bukhari 350.**

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:350>

## Hadith No. 5

**4 Rak'at for Residents, 2 for Traveller and 1 for the one in Danger.**

Ibn 'Abbas reported: Allah has prescribed the prayer by the tongue of your Apostle (ﷺ) as two rak'ahs for the traveller, four for the resident, and one in danger. Sahih Muslim 687b.

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:687b>

## Hadith No. 6

**Prohibition of offering the Nawafil during a journey**

It is prohibited to offer the Nawafil before and after the (compulsory) Salat during a journey.

Hafs b. 'Asim said: I accompanied Ibn 'Umar on the road to Mecca and he led us in two rak'ahs at the noon prayer, then he went forward and we too went along with him to a place where he alighted, and he sat and we sat along with him, and he cast a glance to the side where he said prayer and he saw people standing and asked: What are they doing? I said: They are engaged in glorifying Allah, offering Sunnah prayer. He said: If I had done so I would have perfected my prayer; O my nephew! I accompanied the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) on a journey, and he made no addition to two rak'ahs, till Allah called him. I accompanied Abu Bakr and he made no addition to two rak'ahs till Allah caused him to die. I accompanied 'Umar and he made no addition to two rak'ahs till Allah caused him to die. I accompanied 'Uthman and he made no addition to two rak'ahs, till Allah caused him to die, and Allah has said: " There is a model pattern for you in the Messenger of Allah" (al-Qur'an, xxxiii. 21). Sahih Muslim 689a.

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:689a>

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1102>

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1101>

**Hadith No. 7****Shortening Prayer behind Imam.**

Ibn 'Umar reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said two rak'ahs at Mina, and Abu Bakr after him, and 'Umar after Abu Bakr, and 'Uthman at the beginning of his caliphate; then 'Uthman observed four rak'ahs, and when Ibn 'Umar prayed with the Imam, he said four rak'ahs, but when he observed prayer alone, he said two rak'ahs. Sahih Muslim 694c. <https://sunnah.com/muslim:694c>

**Note:** If Imam is Traveller, he will do the 2 Rak'at and Muqtadi will complete 4 Rak'at.

**Reading full Prayer while travelling.**

This was only permitted by Rasool Allah (ﷺ) for Hazrat Ayesha RA and Hazrat Usman RA.

**Hadith No. 8**

Narrated `Aisha: "When the prayers were first enjoined they were of two rak'at each. Later the prayer in a journey was kept as it was but the prayers for non-travelers were completed." Az-Zuhri said, "I asked `Urwa what made Aisha pray the full prayers (in journey)." He replied, "She did the same as `Uthman did." Sahih al-Bukhari 1090. <https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1090>.

**Hadith No. 9****Offering Obligatory Prayers on the Moving Camel, Car/Train/Ship.**

Narrated Abdullah ibn Umar, we asked Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) about offering obligatory prayer on a ship. The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said if there is no fear of drowning then stand up and pray. [Dar Ul Qutni & Baz'ar in Sahih al Jamai al Sagheer Hadith No. 3671.](https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3671)

**Hadith No. 9-A****Praying Nawafil on a Camel.**

Narrated Ibn `Umar: The Prophet (ﷺ) used to offer (Nawafil) prayers on his Rahila (mount) facing its direction by signals, but not the compulsory prayer. He also used to pray witr on his (mount) Rahila. Sahih al-Bukhari 1000.

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1000>

**Note:** Hadith No 9. is **evidence for offering obligatory prayer on the car or any other mean of transport.** Also, Muslims Living in non-Muslim Countries are consider in the criteria of danger/fear, where they can pray on the move as compulsory prayer should be offered as soon as possible.

**Hadith No. 10****Prostration and bowing while praying on Car etc.**

Narrated Jabir ibn Abdullah: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) sent me on some business, and when I came to him, he was praying on (the back of) his riding beast (moving) towards the east and making the prostration lower than the bowing. Sunan Abi Dawud 1227.

<https://sunnah.com/abudawud:1227>

**Hadith No. 11****Join 2 Prayers together without being in state of Fear, Rain or in journey.**

**The Holy Prophet wanted that no one among his Ummah should be put to [unnecessary] hardship.**

1. Pray together Awal Zuhr with Asr. (Jama Takheer praying Zuhr with Asr)
2. Pray together at the time of Asr. and Zuhr (Jama Taqdeem praying Asr with Zuhr)
3. Pray together Maghreb and Isha.

Narrated Ibn `Abbas: Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) used to offer the Zuhr and `Asr prayers together on journeys, and also used to offer the Maghrib and `Isha' prayers together. Narrated Anas bin Malik: The Prophet (ﷺ) used to offer the Maghrib and the `Isha' prayers together on journeys. Sahih al-Bukhari 1107

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1107>

**Hadith No. 12**

Ibn 'Abbas reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) observed the noon and afternoon prayers together, and the sunset and Isha' prayers together without being in a state of fear or in a state of journey. Sahih Muslim 705a.

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:705a>

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:705b>

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:703c>

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:703d>

**Hadith No 13**

Mu'adh bin Jabal narrated: "While the Prophet as at the Battle of Tabuk, if he wanted to depart before the sun's decline he would delay Zuhr so that he could pray it together with Asr. If he wanted to depart after the sun's decline, he would hasten Asr to Zuhr, and pray Zuhr and Asr together, and then move it. If he wanted to depart before Maghrib he would delay Maghrib until he prayed it with Isha, and if he wanted to depart after Maghrib he would hasten Isha so that he would pray it along with Maghrib." Jami` at-Tirmidhi 553.

<https://sunnah.com/tirmidhi:553>.

**Traveller muqtadi praying behind (Muqa'im) local Imam.**

**Answer:** Then traveller muqtadi will offer full 4 Ra'kat behind imam. Please see below hadith.

**Hadith No. 14**

Ibn 'Umar reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said two rak'ahs at Mina, and Abu Bakr after him, and 'Umar after Abu Bakr, and 'Uthman at the beginning of his caliphate; then 'Uthman observed four rak'ahs, and when Ibn 'Umar prayed with the Imam, he said four rak'ahs, but when he observed prayer alone, he said two rak'ahs. Sahih Muslim 694c

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:694c>

**If Traveller is Imam and Muqa'im Muqtadi is praying behind.**

**Answer:** In this case Traveller Imam will offer short 2 Rak'at and Muqaim Muqtadi will complete their Prayer as 4 Rak'at.

**Friday Prayer for Traveller**

**Note.** Friday Prayer is not Obligatory on Traveller. Sahih al-Bukhari 45, Also Friday prayer is already 2 Rak'at like Qasr. <https://sunnah.com/bukhari:45>

**Hadith No. 15****If 2 people are travelling they must do the Adhan and Jama't.**

Narrated Malik bin Huwairith: Two men came to the Prophet (ﷺ) with the intention of a journey. The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "When (both of) you set out, pronounce Adhan and then Iqama and the oldest of you should lead the prayer." Sahih al-Bukhari 630

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:630>

**Qasr for how many Days?**

There is no Minimum and Maximum until you decide whether you are Mauqim or Traveller.

**Hadith No. 16**

Narrated Ibn 'Abbas: The Prophet (ﷺ) once stayed for nineteen days and prayed shortened prayers. So when we travelled (and stayed) for nineteen days, we used to shorten the prayer but if we travelled (and stayed) for a longer period we used to offer the full prayer. Sahih al-Bukhari 1080

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1080>.

**Below is my Opinion for Taxi Drivers which can be rejected or accepted.**

**Note:** Taxi Drivers and other every day travellers will follow the same rule of shortened the prayer every day or join prayers together every day. Just stick to the rules set by Prophet saw and avoid too many unnecessary questions. The Messenger of Allah have made the thing very easy for us.

**Hadith No. 17**

Narrated by Ibne Umar RA, that we stuck in really freezing and snowing condition in Azerbijan as we were in Jihad **for 6 Months and was praying Qasr for 6 Months.**

Sunan al Kubra al Behiqi # 5476.



## Distance for Qasr Prayer (Travel Mileage)

**Ans:** 9 MILES IS MINIMUM TRAVEL DISTANCE IN WHICH PRAYER CAN BE SHORTENED Which is proven from Authentic hadith and actions of Sahaba RA.

### Hadith No. 18

Yahya b. Yazid al-Huna'i reported: I asked Anas b. Malik about shortening of prayer. He said: When the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) had covered a distance of **three miles or three farsakh** (Shu'ba, one of the narrators, had some doubt about it) he observed two rak'ahs. Sahih Muslim 691.

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:691>

### Hadith No. 19

Anas b. Malik is reported to have said: I observed four rak'ahs in the noon prayer with the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) at Medina and said two rak'ahs in the afternoon prayer at Dhu'l-Hulaifa. Sahih Muslim 690b. <https://sunnah.com/muslim:690b>

### Hadith No. 20

Jubair b. Nufair reported: I went along with Shurahbil b. al-Simt to a village which was situated at a distance of seventeen or eighteen miles, and he said only two rak'ahs of prayer. I said to him (about it) and he said: I saw 'Umar observing two rak'ahs at **Dhu'l-Hulaifa** and I (too) said to him (about it) and **he said: I am doing the same as I saw the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) doing. Sahih Muslim 692a.**

<https://sunnah.com/muslim:692a>

## FUNDAMENTAL POINTS

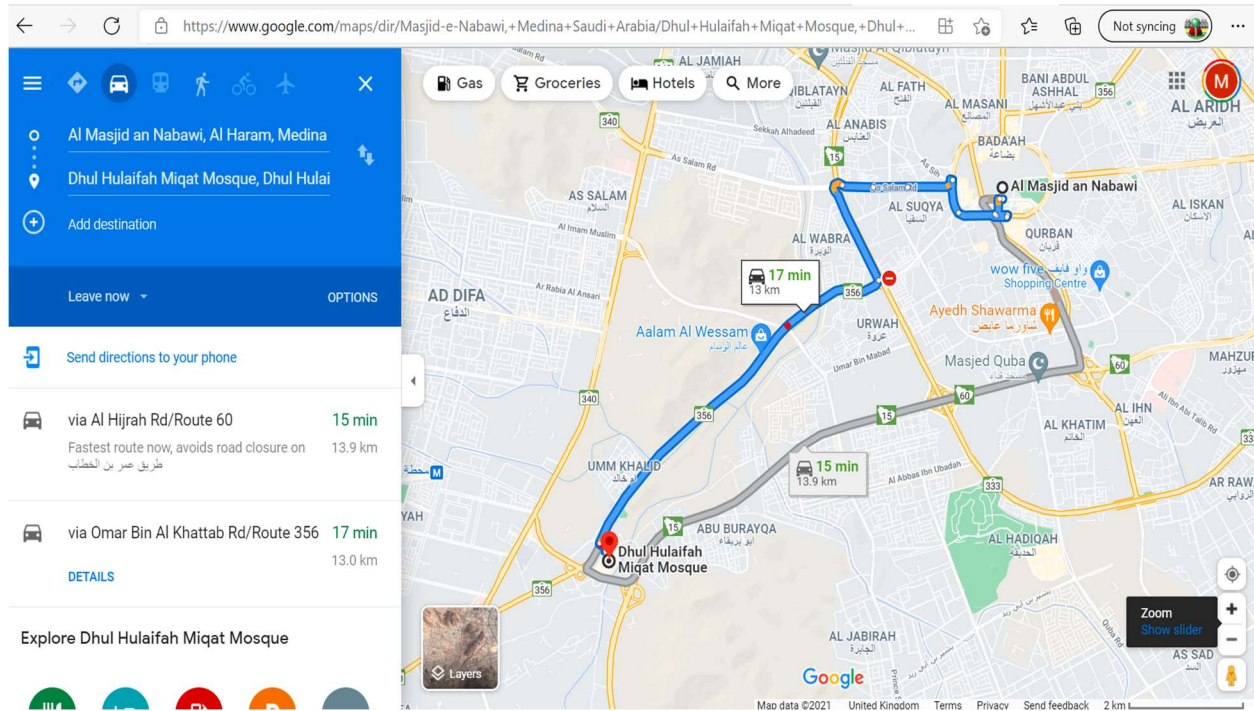
**NOTE: FUNDAMENTAL POINTS TO BE NOTED FROM THE ABOVE-MENTIONED AUTHENTIC HADITH.**

- I. **Hadith no 18**, 3 Miles or 3 Fursakh. Take max calculation as 9 miles approx. 14 km. So, see below example of Google Map distance between Madina & Dhu'l-Hulaifa. There is no confusion hadith is clear with the action of exactly **9 miles/ 14 km**.
- II. **Hadith no 19**. Rasool Allah Saw travelled to Dhu'l-Hulaifa and Prayed 2 Rak'at, **which is 9 Miles/14 km** away from Hujra Rasool Allah SAW.
- III. **Hadith no 20**. Action of Hazarat Umar Praying at Dhu'l-Hulaifa **When he was questioned, he said, "I am doing the same as I saw the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) doing."**
- IV. According to **Hadith No 2**. Travelling start straight away as soon as you take your foot out from your home with intention of a journey more than 9 Miles. So, there is no proof that calculation should start from border of your city. Totally illogical and baseless opinion and not proven from any hadith rather it is against **Hadith No 2**.
- V. **QADHA of Qasr Prayer**: Traveller prayer (Qasr) Qadha is also 2 Raka'at when you reach home.



## Google MAP for Distance Calculation.

Please see below google directions example Al Hijra route from Masjed Nabwi to Dhu'l-Hulaifa. 3 Farsakh – 9 Miles – 14.50 Km.



### [Masjid-e-Nabawi, Medina Saudi Arabia to Dhul Hulaifah Miqat Mosque - Google Maps](#)

**Allah Knows Best.**

For any questions, please contact on [info@irlammosque.org](mailto:info@irlammosque.org)

**BY: IMAM MAHBOOB RASOOL**