

Shorter Method of Performing Tahajjud Prayer

If someone has only about fifteen minutes left before *Fajr* time begins, he can still perform all eleven rak'at of Tahajjud Ṣalāt by following the shorter method prescribed below.

1). Say four prayers of two rak'at each as **Nafilah of Night** like the normal morning prayers. Any sūras can be recited after al-Ḥamd in these eight (2 x 4) rak'at. If you fear that you may not be able to complete the remaining three rak'at then only recite al-Ḥamd in these eight rak'at.

2). Say ten times يَا الله, O Allah.

3). Now say two rak'at of **Shaf'a Prayer**. After al-Ḥamd recite al-Nas in the first rak'ah and al-Falaq in the second rak'ah.

Surat al-Nas with translation

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of God, the All-beneficent, the All-merciful.

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ ① مَلِكِ النَّاسِ ② إِلَهِ النَّاسِ ③

① Say, 'I seek the protection of the Lord of humans, ② Sovereign of humans, ③ God of humans,

مِنَ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ ④ الَّذِي يُوَسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ ⑤ مِنَ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ ⑥

④ From the evil of the sneaky tempter ⑤ who puts temptations into the breasts of humans, ⑥ From among the jinn and humans.'

Surat al-Falaq with translation

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of God, the All-beneficent, the All-merciful.

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ ① مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ ② وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ ③

① Say, 'I seek the protection of the Lord of the daybreak ② from the evil of what He has created, ③ and from the evil of the dark night when it settles

وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ ④ وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ ⑤

④ and from the evil of the witches who blow on knots, ⑤ and from the evil of the envious one when he envies.'

4). Now say one rak'ah **Witr Prayer** as follows: after niyyah, takbīr, sūra al-Ḥamd, recite sūra al-Tawhīd three times.

5). Now raise your hands in Qunut and recite any supplication you know by heart. You can simply recite *ṣalawāt* on the Prophet and his family (اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ) once, or say (سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ) three times followed by:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

O Allah! Forgive me, and all believers, male and female, and forgive all Muslims, male and female.

Then go to rukū‘ and complete the prayers normally.

The following are recommended in the Qunūt of Witr based on how much time you have on you before *Fajr* prayer:

5a). The passage that is most recommended is the recitation of *Kalimat al-Faraj* as follow:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ، سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ السَّمَاوَاتِ السَّبْعِ،

There is no god but Allah, the Forbearing the Noble. There is no god but Allah, the High, the Mighty. Glory be to the Lord of the seven heavens,

وَرَبِّ الْأَرْضِينَ السَّبْعِ، وَمَا فِيهِنَّ وَمَا بَيْنَهُنَّ، رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

And the Lord of the seven earths, and what is in them, and what is between them, Lord of the Mighty throne, and praise be to Allah, the Lord of the universe.

5b). Then recite the supplication known as *Du‘a al-Gharīq*.

يَا اللَّهُ يَا رَحْمَنُ يَا رَحِيمُ يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ، ثَبِّتْ قَلْبِي عَلَى دِينِكَ

O Allah, O All-beneficent, O All-merciful, O Who changes the hearts, make my my heart firm on Your religion.

5c). Then ask for the forgiveness for all Muslims by saying three times:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

O Allah! Forgive all believers, male and female, and forgive all Muslims, male and female.

5d). Now seek forgiveness for yourself by saying seventy times:

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ

I seek forgiveness of Allah my Lord and I turn to Him

5e). Then recite seven times:

هَذَا مَقَامُ الْعَاذِ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ

This is the state of one who seeks refuge in You from the fire.

5f). Say at least ten times and if possible three hundred times **العَفْو**, i.e. ‘O the Pardoner’ and then say:

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي، وَارْحَمْنِي، وَتُبْ عَلَيَّ، إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ

My Lord: forgive me and have mercy on me, and turn to me clemently. *Surely, You are the All-clement, the All-merciful.*

5g). Now complete the prayer normally by performing rukū‘, qiyām, two sajdahs with respective recitations, then tashhahud and salām.

5h). It is recommended to end the prayer with *tasbīḥ al-zahrā’*.

May the Almighty Allah accept your devotion and reward you amply for your prayers.

Tahajjud in less than 5 minutes

If you have less than five minutes on you before *Fajr* prayers then simply say:

Two rakā‘at Shaf‘a Prayers reciting sūra al-Nās after al-Ḥamd in the first rak‘ah and al-Falaq after al-Ḥamd in the second rak‘ah. Do not recite Qunūt in this prayer.

Then say one Rak‘ah Witr Prayer reciting sūra al-Tawḥīd once after al-Ḥamd and then simply say ṣalawāt (اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ) once in Qunūt followed by:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

O Allah! Forgive me, and all believers, male and female, and forgive all Muslims, male and female.

Now complete your prayers normally.