

Benefits of Prayers (Salaat)

When a Muslim goes to the mosque to perform his prayers, he should temporarily abandon his worldly affairs. He is recommended to utter the zikr or the remembrance of Allah SWT all the way to the mosque.

He should set out calmly and somberly with his heart full of longing and desire for the pleasure of Allah SWT, as well as fear and apprehension of His anger, and with humility and meekness towards Allah SWT.

In prayer, the Muslim actually establishes a direct link with his Creator, and bows and prostrates to Him in awe. For his obedience and devotion, he will surely be rewarded by Allah SWT. In Islam, the mosque is viewed as the 'House of Allah SWT', as affirmed in the following Qur'anic verse:

"In houses, which Allah (SWT) has permitted to be raised to honor, for the celebration in them of His name. In them is He glorified in the mornings and in the evenings (again and again). By men whom neither traffic nor merchandise can divert from the remembrance of Allah (SWT), nor from regular Prayer, nor from the practice of regular Charity: their only fear is for the Day when hearts and eyes will be transformed (in a world wholly new)." [An-Noor: 36-37]

Prayers which are accepted by Allah SWT would make a person more humble, more submissive to Him, more virtuous and righteous, and he will become nearer to the Almighty. Prayers fill the heart with great blessings which He bestows upon his servant along with abundant favors. Take heed against showing off, for no deed will be accepted if it is accompanied by arrogance, pride and half-heartedness.

Prayer is the heart of religion and faith. It conveys the yearnings of our miserable ignorant hearts to the Knower of all. In prayer, we invoke the Creator, glorify Him, praise Him, and supplicate to him wholly and fully. The words that we utter originate from Him, revealing His Divine Names and absolute attributes; and expressing His relationship to us and the rest of His creation.

In prayer, He sums up our faith, our hopes and our aspirations. We call to mind the Realities, seen and unseen. We offer Him worship and ask for His guidance to attain the light of His grace that illumines the righteous and helps us distinguish between the straight and the crooked paths in this world, that we might be victorious in the Hereafter.

Source: <http://www.islamvision.org/ImportanceOfPrayer.asp>