MUSLIM PRAYER

ACCORDING TO SUNNAH

ISTIKHARAH

WITH PHONETIC TRANSLITERATION

& ENGLISH INTERPRETATION

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Istikharah, prayer for guidance

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ used to teach his Companions to make *istikharah* in all things, just as he used to teach them surahs from the Quran. It is a Sunnah which the Prophet ﷺ prescribed for anyone who wants to do an action but is hesitant about it. *Istikharah* means seeking guidance as to what Allah knows is the best and most appropriate choice. *Istikharah* implies submission to the command of Allah and a practical demonstration that one has no power and no strength of one's own.[1]

[1] From: *Islam Question & Answer*, islamqa.info

How to pray

When concerned about a decision you're about to make, pray two rak'ahs of voluntary prayer, and just before the *tasleem* (concluding your prayer with *"Salaam aleykum"*), say:

English Interpretation

O Allah, I seek Your guidance [in making a choice] by virtue of Your knowledge, and I seek ability by virtue of Your power, and I ask You of Your great bounty. You have power, I have none. And You know, I know not. You are the Knower of hidden things. O Allah, if in Your knowledge, this matter (**here you mention it by name*) is good for me both in this world and in the Hereafter (or: in my religion, my livelihood and my affairs), then ordain it for me, make it easy for me, and bless it for me. And if in Your knowledge it is bad for me and for my religion, my livelihood and my affairs, then turn me away from it, and turn it away from me, and ordain for me the good wherever it may be and make me pleased with it.

Transliteration from Arabic

Allahumma inni astakheeruka bi ‘ilmika wa astaqdiruka bi qudratika wa asaluka min fadlika, fa innaka taqdiru wa la aqdir, wa ta’lamu wa la a’lam, wa anta ‘allam al-ghuyoob. Allahumma fa in kunta ta’lamu hadhal-amra (**here you should mention the matter by name*) khayran li fi ‘ajil amri wa ajilihi faqdurhu li wa yassirhu li thumma barik li fihi. Allahumma wa in kunta ta’lamu annahu sharrun li fi deeni wa ma’ashi wa ‘aqibati amri fasrifni ‘anhu, wasrifhu ‘anni waqdur li al-khayr haythu kana thumma raddini bihi.

Original Text

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَأَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ وَأَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ، فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُ وَلا أَقْدِرُ وَتَعْلَمُ وَلا أَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتَ عَلامُ الْغُيُوبِ اللَّهُمَّ فَإِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ هَذَا الأَمْرَ ثُمَّ تُسَمِّيهِ بِعَيْنِهِ خَيْرًا لِي فِي عَاجِلِ أَمْرِي وَآجِلِهِ قَالَ أَوْ فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي فَاقْدُرْهُ لِي وَيَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ اللَّهُمَّ وَإِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ شَرٌّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي أَوْ قَالَ فِي عَاجِلِ أَمْرِي وَآجِلِهِ فَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ [واصرفه عني] وَاقْدُرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ رَضِّنِي بِهِ.

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