

# Notes of Lectures on Fiqh

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### Lecture #1 (Thursday 20 April 2006)

#### DOUBTS DURING WAJIB SALAT

☀ Doubts occurring during wajib salat can be about the number of salat or can be about an action or recitation within a salat. Such doubts can be divided into three categories:

- (a) Doubts, which will cause salat to become batil (void) (7 or 8 types)
- (b) Doubts, which can be ignored and will not affect salat at all (6 types)
- (c) Doubts, which require action to be taken, as specified by sharia (9 types)

#### DOUBTS WHICH WILL CAUSE SALAT TO BECOME VOID

☀ If any of the following types of doubts occur during a wajib daily salat, **the salat will become batil (void or invalid)** immediately, and you must offer the whole salat again.

(1) Doubt occurring about the number of rakat at any stage in a 2-rakat wajib salat (e.g. Fajr Salat, or 2-rakat Qasr Salat during journey). But such doubts in 2-rakat or 1-rakat Salatul Ihtiyat or in a Mustahab salat can be ignored.

(2) Doubts occurring about the number of rakat in a 3-rakat wajib salat (i.e. Maghrib Salat).

(3) Doubt occurs between the 1st rakat and more than the 1st rakat in a 4-rakat salat. (For example, doubt occurs if it is the 1st or 2nd rakat, or doubt occurs if it is the 1st or the 3rd rakat, then the Salat will become void ).

(4) Doubt occurs between the 2<sup>nd</sup> rakat and more than the 2nd rakat, but before the completion of second sajda, in a 4-rakat salat. (For example, doubt occurs before the completion of second sajda, if it is 2<sup>nd</sup> rakat or 3<sup>rd</sup> rakat, or doubt occurs if it is 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> rakat, or doubt occurs if it is 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> rakat, then the Salat will become void).

*(The following types (5), (6) and (7) are rare to happen but will make salat void if happen)*

(5) Doubt occurs between 2<sup>nd</sup> rakat and 5<sup>th</sup> rakat or higher than 5<sup>th</sup> rakat in a 4-rakat salat.

(6) Doubt occurs between 3<sup>rd</sup> rakat and 6<sup>th</sup> rakat or higher than 6<sup>th</sup> rakat in a 4-rakat salat.

(7) Doubt occurs between 4<sup>th</sup> rakat and 6<sup>th</sup> rakat or higher than 6<sup>th</sup> rakat in a 4-rakat salat.

(8) If during the Salat, one does not know how many rak'at one has read, then also the Salat will become void.

☀ If one of the above doubts, which makes the Salat void, happens, first you must think (on that doubt) a little bit, and in the event that nothing comes to mind and the doubt remains, then you can break the Salat; but it is better that you should think to such an extent so as not

to break the form of Salat, or (you should think to such an extent) so that you do not lose hope over establishing certainty or a probable conclusion.

### **DOUBTS WHICH CAN BE IGNORED ALTOGETHER**

✽ Following six types of doubts during salat, if they happen, must be ignored and one must continue with the salat assuming it to be correct:

(1) Doubt about an act within a salat, occurring after the time of that act has already passed. For example, during ruku of the first rakat, you doubt whether you recited 2<sup>nd</sup> Surah during qayam (standing position) or not.

(2) Doubt about any aspect of salat happening after the completion of the salat.

(3) Doubt about a salat after the time of salat has passed. For example, after sunset, you doubt whether you offered your Zohr salat or not.

(4) Doubt by a person who doubts too much (katheerul shak). According to sharia, such a person can be one who encounters doubts three times or more in his one single salat, or encounters one doubt in each of his three consecutive salats.

(5) Doubt encountered by the Imam-e-Jamaat of a Salat, but corrected by the Mamooms (followers in the jamaat).

(6) Doubts of any type occurring during a Mustahab Salat (e.g. daily nafila salat, or salatul shab etc) and also during Salatul Ihtiyat.