**Ever wondered why we offer Salah in Arabic only?**

Muslims all over the world speak different languages but offer Salah only in Arabic

*Knowledge*

Each and every Muslim across the globe stands in front of Allah (SWT), [prostrates to Him five times a day](https://www.islamicfinder.org/world/pakistan/1172451/lahore-prayer-times/?language=en), and recites the same Arabic words as the rest of his Muslim brothers. Have you ever wondered why? Why is it that all Muslims offer their prayers in one language, despite belonging to different cultures and nationalities with varied mother tongues? It is because Allah (SWT) decreed it to be so. Here is why.

**Arabic is the most expressive language known to mankind**

Linguistically, Arabic is the richest, most developed, most expressive, and the most comprehensive language there is. Its perfection lies in its utter eloquence, sophistication, and beauty of expression- it is the only language that can do justice to the realm of spirituality and higher thought. The beauty of the Holy Quran lies in its Arabic eloquence and intense depth of expression. Hence, it becomes clearer as to why Allah (SWT) chose Arabic to be the language of His prayers.

**Offering Salah in one language unites the Ummah**

Worship of God in Arabic becomes a common point amongst the believers and instills a sense of Muslim brotherhood. Muslims throughout the world, Arabs and non-Arabs alike, praise Allah (SWT) and glorify Him daily in words uttered in Arabic and Arabic alone. Worship in Arabic also displays the universality of Islam; how it is the religion for all of the mankind, no matter who or what they are. Even though every Muslim nation and communities have their own local languages, when it comes to serving their ultimate purpose of turning towards Allah (SWT) and prostrating in front of Him, they all become one. The Arabic language unites the believers in their faith and expression of faith and carves out a common channel of reaching Allah (SWT). When you stand for prayer, in a mosque anywhere in the world, and you belong to a foreign land and do not speak the same language as the locals found outside the mosque, you can rest assured that once the prayer begins, the words uttered from every believer’s mouth will match yours with a common aim of exalting the Almighty and praying to Him- this is what true unity in the eyes of God is.

**Racism and discrimination is a big NO in Islam**

Islam heavily [condemns discrimination and racism](https://www.islamicfinder.org/iqra/race-discrimination-and-bigotry-in-islam/) and labels it as a disease that has plagued our society today. There is no room for hatred and violence based on your color, ethnicity, race or nationality in Islam. Every single human being is the same in the eyes of Allah (SWT)- the only thing that distinguishes one from the other is their level of faith. And having a shared common language of worship aims to demolish all barriers of prejudice, inequality, and intolerance and further invites every single individual to come together as equals and brothers.

**Arabic is the language of Quran**

Arabic holds a higher rank amongst the realm of dialects, as Allah (SWT) chose Arabic to be the language of the [Holy Book of Quran](https://www.islamicfinder.org/quran/) and His revelations. It is the medium that our Almighty chose to send down His message to His creation. The Quran is essentially the word of Allah (SWT) and it only seems appropriate that one recites it in the same dialect as it was originally revealed in back in Prophet Muhammad’s (PBUH) time. As a believer, the more he masters the Arabic language, the more he will be able to delve into the deeper meaning of God’s words and therefore attains a higher sense of spirituality.

It is a widely known fact that meaning is often lost in the process of translation. It holds true in this case as well. An attempt to translate any part of the Holy Quran into any other language would be a human act and that itself invites errors and leaves room for imperfection- and the word of Allah (SWT) is perfect. Moreover, Arabic being one of the most comprehensive and rich languages that exist today, it will be no easy feat to translate the words into simpler and less expressive languages, and all the while keeping the meaning intact. It is a fact that no other dialect can do justice to the deep meanings and complexities of the Holy Quran.

**However, Dua can be in any language**

The one thing that the believer is not restricted to do in Arabic is the Dua. [Dua is the most personal form of communication a believer has with Allah (SWT)](https://www.islamicfinder.org/duas/" \t "_blank)- it is dearly precious. When you make dua and converse with Allah (SWT), do it in your own mother tongue. Allah (SWT) is the knower of all dialects and languages known to mankind- He hears all and He understands all. Dua is something that comes right from the core of one’s heart and a believer is naturally inclined to speak his/her heart in the dialect most known to him/her. Every individual is able to express themselves best in the language they know best- so call out to Him and talk to Him in words that come most naturally to you. So do not fret, Allah (SWT) wants you to call out to Him with a sincere heart and pure intentions- the dialect is not relevant to Him, the act is.

**6 easy ways to start following the Sunnah right now**

Ever wondered how you can incorporate the Sunnah of Prophet(PBUH) in your life? Here are six easy ways to start the process.

*Lifestyle*

Islam not only serves as a religion but also as a complete way of life. Allah (SWT) sent man, the most favorite amongst all His creations, to this world with the sole purpose of worshipping Him and leading a certain way of life, which was prescribed by the Quran and the Sunnah.

In essence, the word “Sunnah” entails the actions, practices and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). For Muslims and non-Muslims alike, the Prophet’s (PBUH) life poses as a source of endless inspiration and teaches us what it means to be humble, simple, and modest and yet, at the same time, be the most exalted of all mankind. His was the perfect way of life.

The Prophet’s (PBUH) Sunnah was the perfect practical execution of the Quran. The most ideal way of understanding Allah’s book and its teachings is to follow the footsteps of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and mold ourselves according to the example he left behind.

Allah has stated in Quran:

*Say, [O Muhammad], "If you should love Allah , then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful." (3:31)*

As Muslims, we must make it a point to imprint the Sunnah in our hearts and souls in order for its teachings to be translated in our everyday actions. Our Islamic identity is further preserved and strengthened through the application of Sunnah in our daily practices, behaviors, morals, manners, principles and habits. The importance of Sunnah is highlighted several times in the Quran, for example:

*“Verily in the Messenger of Allah you have a good example for him whose hope is in Allah and the last Day, and remembers Allah much.” (33:21)*

Practicing the Prophet's (PBUH) way of life not only leads to spiritual gains but proves to be beneficial on a physical and psychological level as well. We’ve hand picked a few simple Sunnah that you can easily implement in your everyday lives and reap their great rewards:

**Begin Every Task with the name of Allah (SWT)**

Before the commencement of any task, the very first word to be uttered by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was “Bismillah”. By beginning a task or any form of action with the pronunciation of Allah’s (SWT) name with deep humility and utter sincerity, the person enjoys God’s complete support in that designated task or undertaking. So make it a habit to say “Bismillah” before doing absolutely anything- make a mental note every time!

**Smile!**

Yes, that’s right! Smiling is Sunnah. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) used to smile very often and with pure and utter joy. A smile, in itself, seems as very simple expression but it holds great meaning and blessing. The Prophet (PBUH) mentioned:

*“When you smile to your brother’s face, it’s a charity.” (Tirmidhi 1879)*

One does ponder over how exquisitely simple Islam is that even smiling leads to spiritual and worldly rewards.

**Offering Salah 5 times a day**

The Prophet (PBUH) never missed any of his prayers. He was extremely vigilant in offering salah. What people generally do not know is that [Salah not only nurtures our soul but our bodies as well](https://www.islamicfinder.org/iqra/how-to-improve-the-quality-of-your-salah).

The different movements throughout the course of the prayer are greatly beneficial for the person offering the prayer. It’s been found that during Salah, there is an increase in the body’s strength and flexibility. Moreover, standing with your back straight helps with posture, rukoo helps stretch a number of important muscles and going into sujood enhances the activity in the parietal and occipital parts of the brain, which leads to greater relaxation and calm.

The Prophet(PBUH) said:

*"Pray as you have seen me praying” (Sahih Bukhari 631, Book 10, Hadith 28)*

And these are just a few of the added benefits of prayer, think about all the spiritual rewards God has in store for us for praying salah!

**Prophet’s (PBUH) prescribed way of drinking water**

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) taught six Sunnah regarding the drinking of water:

* Start drinking water by saying “Bismillah”
* Drink water with your right hand
* [Sit down while drinking water](https://www.islamicfinder.org/iqra/reviving-the-sunnah)
* Look at the water before drinking it
* Drink the water in 3 steps (3 breaths)
* After finishing, say “Alhamdullilah”

According to scientific studies, drinking water in three steps (three breaths) helps the heart rate and improves the body’s blood flow. This just goes to show how the Prophet’s (PBUH) is beneficial to us in more ways than one.

**Never criticize food**

Food, whatever it may be, is Allah’s ‘rizq’ and blessing for us and one should never complain or criticize it. Even if it’s not up to certain standards, one must never speak ill of the food presented to them, for the Holy Prophet (PBUH) never complained about any food put forward to him. According to Sahih Bukhari:

*“The Prophet (PBUH) never criticized any food (he was invited to) but he used to eat it if he liked the food, and leave it if he disliked it.” (Sahih Bukhari, 5909)*

**Sunnah of sleeping**

Our Holy Prophet (PBUH) was an early sleeper and an early riser. Upon waking up, he used to tidy his own bed and perform “wuzu” every morning and before going to sleep. He once explained that if someone performs wuzu before going to sleep and if he should pass away in his sleep, he will die as a ‘faithful’ Muslim. He is reported to have also said:

*“When you go to bed, you should perform the ablution for the prayer, and then lay down on your right side” [Bukhari]*

Every Muslims should identify the integral position that our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) inhabits in our daily lives as the perfect example we must look up to. The greatest trial for any Muslim is to do justice to his/her role as an ambassador of the Prophet (PBUH) and all that he stood for. Through our actions and speech and living a life of integrity and humbleness, we should help the world understand who Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was and what he set out to achieve.

**How to save yourself from BLACK MAGIC**

Black magic is real, harmful and destructive.

*Knowledge*

Black magic exists and is one of the oldest, most ancient practices of the world. It is heavily condemned and shunned in the realm of Islam. Islam has no place for anyone who consciously associates himself with dark magic, or any kind of sorcery, for that matter. If one is to ask about the origin of black magic, this verse from Surah Baqarah testifies to its existence and origin during Hazrat Solomon’s time:

*“And they followed [instead] what the devils had recited during the reign of Solomon. It was not Solomon who disbelieved, but the devils disbelieved, teaching people magic and that which was revealed to the two angels at Babylon, Harut and Marut. But the two angels do not teach anyone unless they say, "We are a trial, so do not disbelieve [by practicing magic]."(Quran 2:102)*

Ever since the beginning of time, there have been those who, upon the whispers of satan, faltered from the path of righteousness, leading to Allah (SWT). They lost their faith in Allah’s (SWT) powers and instead, decided to take things into their own hands through the venomous practice of black magic. But why is it so heavily condemned in Islam? Here’s why:

**1. Satanic practice**

In the Quran, Allah (SWT) deems black magic to be one of the practices preached by satan himself. Satan misleads man into consorting with dark magic as a means to fulfill their needs and desires in this world and giving them a false sense of control, which in reality, they do not. What they do not know is the harm it will bring to them in the Hereafter, for they are too blind to see it.

*“And the people learn what harms them and does not benefit them. But the Children of Israel certainly knew that whoever purchased the magic would not have in the Hereafter any share. And wretched is that for which they sold themselves if they only knew” (Quran 2:102)*

**2. Only Allah (SWT) has the knowledge of the unseen**

People use black magic as a means to know about the future and things that have not yet come to pass. But in reality, the knowledge of the unseen lies with Allah (SWT) and Allah (SWT) alone. To believe otherwise is to stray from the path of Islam. To rely on anything, or anyone, except Allah (SWT) is prohibited for only He knows what is best because His knowledge is complete. Only Allah (SWT) can foresee the future and see the unseen, His creation cannot.

*"No one in the heavens or earth knows the unseen (ya'lam al-ghayb) except Allah" (Quran 27:65)*

**The Cure?**

**1. Dua; seek protection from Allah (SWT)**

[Make constant dua and ask Allah (SWT) for His protection](https://www.islamicfinder.org/duas/), for only He has the power to save you from the harm brought about by black magic. Our Prophet (PBUH) used to constantly seek Allah’s refuge and shelter from evil and make the following dua:

*“O Allah, I seek refuge in You from all evil things, both male and female.” (Sahih Bukhari, vol 8, Book 75:326)*

Never stop calling out to Allah (SWT), for only He has the cure for all things evil.

**3. Surah Baqarah**

Another source of protection against black magic is the recitation of [Surah Baqarah from the Holy Quran](https://www.islamicfinder.org/quran/2:1). Abu Huraira reported:

*The Messenger of Allah, peace, and blessings be upon him, said, “Verily, Satan flees from the house in which is recited Surat Al-Baqarah” (Sahih Muslim, 780)*

Every Muslim should make it a habit of reciting Surah Baqarah in the house as it expels all evil and jinns and protects one from the effects of black magic and satanic practices.

**4. Recite the 3 Quls**

These three Quls in Islam also help in warding off the harmful effects of black magic: [Surah An-Nas](https://www.islamicfinder.org/quran/114:1), [Surah Al-Falaq](https://www.islamicfinder.org/quran/113:1), and [Surah Ikhlaas](https://www.islamicfinder.org/quran/112:1). Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri (May Allah be pleased with him) reported:

*The Messenger of Allah used to seek protection against the evil of jinn and the evil eyes till Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas were revealed. After they were revealed, he took to them for seeking Allah's protection and left everything besides them” (At-timidhi, Book 9, Hadith 25)*

Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri narrated that our Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

*"Surah Al-Ikhlas [Say: He is Allah (the) One] is equivalent to one-third of the Qur'an" (Sahih Bukhari, Book 9, Hadith 20)*

Turn to Allah (SWT) and make it a habit of reciting these surahs from the Quran every single day, and inshaAllah you and your household will be protected from black magic.

In conclusion, Islam greatly condemns black magic for it is impure and it digresses heavily from the teachings of Allah (SWT) and the path of truth and purity. It only leads to more damage and destruction and strays the believer away from all that is good and blessed.