



A Beginner's Guide to the 'Īd Prayer

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The aim is to keep this as simple as possible, so that it is suitable for all levels – inshā Allāh.

- **How Many *Rak'ah* Is the 'Īd Prayer?**

The 'Īd Prayer is two *Rak'ah* as established in the *Ḥadīth* of 'Umar:

“The Prayer of *al-Adḥá* is two *Rak'ah*, and the Prayer of *al-Fiṭr* is two *Rak'ah*...They are complete and not shortened, [as stated] on the tongue of your Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) ...”¹

- **The *Takbīrāt***

In the first *Rak'ah* there are seven *Takbīrāt* [including the opening *Takbīr*], and in the second there are five not including the *Takbīr* for standing.²

'Ā'ishah narrated that the Messenger of Allāh (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said:

“The *Takbīr* in *al-Fiṭr* and *al-Adḥá* is seven in the first [*Rak'ah*] and five in the second, apart from the *Takbīr* for bowing.”³

¹ Collected by Ahmad (no. 257) and others. It has been declared authentic by Albānī.

² For those being led in the Prayer, then they say the *Takbīrāt* silently to themselves, as for saying them loudly like the Imām then this has no basis whatsoever.

³ Collected by Abū Dāwūd (no. 1151). It has been declared sound by Albānī.

- **Its Description**

The person says the opening *Takbīr* [*Allāhu Akbar*].

Then they say the opening supplication.

Then they say six *Takbīrāt* [*Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar*], and they raise their hands with each *Takbīr*⁴.

Then they seek refuge with Allāh from the accursed Devil.⁵

Then they recite aloud in both *Rak'ah*.

In the first, they recite *Sūrah al-Fātiḥah* followed by *al-A'lá*.

So, they say the *Takbīr* [*Allāhu Akbar*] to stand for the second *Rak'ah*, and then they say five *Takbīrāt* [*Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar. Allāhu Akbar.*]

Then in the second *Rak'ah*, they recite *Sūrah al-Fātiḥah* followed by *Sūrah al-Ghāshiyah*.⁶

If they have not memorized *al-A'lá* and *Surah al-Ghāshiyah*⁷, then they can recite with what they are able from the *Qur'ān*.

⁴ This is the position of the Permanent Committee (7/48). However, there is a difference of opinion regarding this.

⁵ There is another opinion with regards to the exact place, but we will suffice with this, which is the position found in *al-Mulakhkhaṣ al-Fiqhī* (1/272).

⁶ As established in the *Ḥadīth* collected by Ibn Mājah (no. 1283), which has been declared authentic by Albānī.

⁷ It is also the Sunnah to recite along with *al-Fātiḥah* *Sūrah Qāf* in the first *Rak'ah* and in the second *Sūrah al-Qamr*, as in *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim* (no. 891).