
Du'aa directly after the prayer is not legislated

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

Article taken and slightly adapted from: mtws.posthaven.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

Question: You mentioned as it relates to the issue or Du'aa or raising the hands during the Du'aa; that the Salaf, the Companions, and the people of knowledge would supplicate before the Salaam. Thus as it relates to the issue of raising the hands after the prayer, is this for the obligatory prayers and the supererogatory prayers likewise, is it better for the person to raise his hands or not?

Shaykh Ibn Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹: May Allaah bless you. Firstly; do not ask about raising the hands after the prayer. Ask about Du'aa after the prayer. Is it legislated or not? We say: It is not legislated; because Allaah said:

فَإِذَا قَضَيْتُمُ الصَّلَاةَ فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ

[And when you have completed the prayer, remember Allaah]²

He did not say: 'Supplicate.' Therefore the place for Du'aa is not after the prayer. The place for Du'aa is before the Salaam (before the Salaam to exit the prayer).

The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)³ used to teach his companions the tashahhud, and he said: **'Then after it (the tashahhud), supplicate as you like'**. Thus he made the place for Du'aa before the Salaam.

And he advised Mu'aadh رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ to say after the final tashahhud before the Salaam:

اللَّهُمَّ اَعْنِي عَلَى ذِكْرِكَ وَشُكْرِكَ وَحُسْنِ عِبَادَتِكَ

"O Allaah, help me in remembering You, in giving You thanks, and worshipping You well."⁴

And this is a Du'aa. And this is necessitated by the intent, because as long as the person is praying he is conversing with Allaah, and when he leaves the prayer the conversation ends. So is it more befitting to supplicate while you are conversing with Allaah or after you have left the conversation? The first is more befitting (to supplicate while you are conversing with Allaah). And there is no difference whether it is the obligatory prayers or the supererogatory prayers.

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² سورة النساء - Soorah an-Nisaa [4:103]

³ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁴ Collected by Aboo Daawood 1522