



# ANJUMAN-E-ISHA'AT-E-ISLĀM

## Masjid-Al-Farouq

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## Covid-19: Eid Salah during lockdown

The Government has decided to continue the lockdown with some restrictions partially relaxed. It is imperative that people continue to comply with the lockdown measures. In light of this, the guidance for Eid Ṣalāh for Muslims in the Walsall is as follows:

### *Eid Ṣalāh in the Masjid*

- As the Government has confirmed that religious places are to remain closed, Eid Ṣalāh will not be organised in the Masjids for the general public.
- Key workers who are currently accessing the Masjid legally should perform Eid Ṣalāh in the Masjid, if possible, whilst complying with all the necessary precautions.
- The [minimum number of participants](#) for the validity of Eid Ṣalāh in the ḥanafī school is four mature (bāligh) males including the Imam, similar to Jumu'ah Ṣalāh. Therefore, if four key workers are not present, Eid Ṣalāh will not take place.

### *Eid Ṣalāh at home and other settings*

- If four adult males are lawfully present in a home or workplace or elsewhere, they can perform Eid Ṣalāh whilst taking all the necessary precautions. In the home setting, the females and children from the same household can also participate. The Ṣalāh can also be performed in the garden. It is, however, imperative to continue to comply with the lockdown measures.

### *What if Eid Ṣalāh is not performed?*

- Although Eid Ṣalāh is wājib (necessary) under normal circumstances, individuals at home who are unable to perform Eid Ṣalāh or decide not to are excused due to the lockdown. They will, Inshā' Allah, be rewarded based on their intention and actions of previous years.
- Individuals who do not perform Eid Ṣalāh can perform two or four rak'at nafl Ṣalāh, as mentioned by Imam Muḥammad ibn al-Ḥasan al-Shaybānī (d. 189/805) in al-Aṣl (1:320). The companion 'Abdullāh ibn Mas'ūd (d. 32/653, may Allah be pleased with him) said, "Whoever misses the Eid prayer should perform four rak'at" (Muṣannaf 'Abd al-Razzāq, 5713; Muṣannaf Ibn Abī Shaybah, 5800; the narration is ṣaḥīḥ, Faḥ al-Bārī, 2:475).
- Performing two or four rak'at is optional and a nafl Ṣalāh. Thus, it will be performed individually without any extra takbīrs, as it is not Eid Ṣalāh nor its Qaḍā'. Accordingly, there will be no Khuṭbah (sermon) thereafter.
- The aforementioned ruling takes into account the challenges posed by the lockdown and restrictions on gatherings, the unique nature of Eid Ṣalāh, its significance, the absence of a replacement such as Zuhur for Jumu'ah Ṣalāh, along with some narrations from the pious

predecessors (Muṣannaf ‘Abd al-Razzāq, 5855, 5716; al-Sunan al-Kubrā, 6237; Ma‘ānī al-Āthār, 7289; Muṣannaf Ibn Abī Shaybah, 2:4).

- Everyone is requested to maintain respect for the various positions of scholars in this regard, and supplicate to Allah Almighty to protect us all and remove this calamity, so we can perform Ṣalāh in the Masjids as soon as possible.

### **General advice**

- Ṣadaqat al-Fiṭr should be donated in advance so that it reaches the poor by Eid day. The Prophet ﷺ prescribed it as purification of the fasting from idle talk and obscenities and also as food for the poor (Sunan Abī Dāwūd, 1609).
- Eid is a great blessing of Allah Almighty. It is therefore important to adopt the Sunnah practices of Eid even if one does not perform Eid Ṣalāh, expressing his gratitude to Allah Almighty and marking the occasion of happiness and joy. Some of the etiquettes of Eid that should be adopted during the lockdown include:
  1. Performing Fajr Ṣalāh in congregation at home.
  2. Undertaking Ghusl (bath) before Eid Ṣalāh (or the Nafl Ṣalāh) and using the Miswak.
  3. Applying perfume.
  4. Wearing the best clothes available, it is not necessary to go shopping to purchase new clothes.
  5. Eating dates or something sweet before Eid Ṣalāh (or the Nafl Ṣalāh).
  6. Reciting Takbīr in abundance.
  7. Congratulating others in person and over the phone by saying **تَقَبَّلَ اللهُ مِنَّا وَمِنْكَ** (may Allah accept [the worship] from us and you) (al-Tārīkh al-Kabīr, 1:116; al-Thiqāt, 9:90; al-Du‘ā’, p.288; al-Sunan al-Kubrā, 3:446).
  8. Donating charity and keeping the poor and vulnerable in mind.