

## Istikhaarah Salah (Prayer for guidance from Allah ﷻ)

Istikhaarah means seeking or asking good/guidance from Allah ﷻ. If you want to make an important decision but you are not sure about it, then you turn to Allah ﷻ for guidance, as only He knows what is best for you. This is a 2 Raka'at Prayer and it is performed just before going to sleep.

### How to perform Istikhaarah:

- 1- In the 1<sup>st</sup> Raka'at recite the Thana (Sanaa), Ta'awwuz (A'oozu-billah), Tasmiyyah (Bismillah), Surah Al-Fatiha and Surah Al-Kafirun.
- 2- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Raka'at recite after Surah Al-Fatiha, Surah Al-Ikhlâas and then complete the Prayer as normal.
- 3- After the Prayer facing the Qiblah ask Allah ﷻ the Almighty for forgiveness by reciting Istighfaar (Astaghfir-ullah – O Allah ﷻ forgive me) as many times possible and then send Du'ood on the Holy Prophet ﷺ.
- 4- Then recite this Istikhaarah Du'a:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَأَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ وَ أَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ الْعَظِيمِ ۚ فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُونَ لَا أَقْدِرُ وَ تَعْلَمُونَ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ ۚ اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ خَيْرٌ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي فَأَقْدِرْهُ لِي وَيَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ وَ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ شَرٌّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَ مَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِّي وَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ وَاقْدِرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ أَرْضِنِي بِهِ ط

"O Allah ﷻ I ask You for good through Your knowledge and I ask You for ability through Your power and I beg (Your favour) out of Your infinite bounty. Surely, You have power and I have none. You know everything and I know not. You are the Great Knower of all things. O Allah ﷻ if, in Your sublime knowledge, this matter is good for Faith (Deen), for my livelihood and make it easy for me and bless me therein. But if, in Your knowledge, this matter is bad for Faith (Deen), for my livelihood and for the consequences of my affairs, then turn it away from me and turn me away there from and ordain for me the good wherever it be and cause me to be pleased therewith."

Narrated by Hazrat Jabar ibn Abdullah ؓ. (Tirmidhi)

**Note:** While reciting this Du'a, on reaching the highlighted words, one should think of and mention one's problem in any language. Thereafter, do whatever one feels suitable. It is not necessary that one should see an evident change or vision. (Istikhaarah should be made for all important matter.)

- Alternatively, one may recite the following Du'a 11 times.

اللَّهُمَّ خِرْ لِي وَاخْتِرْ لِي

O Allah ﷻ, choose for me and select for me.

Narrated by Sayyidina Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq ؓ. (Tirmidhi)