

Points of Benefit Regarding *Greeting a Person in Salaah (Prayers).*

Saleh As-Saleh

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from live duroos in Paltalk's "[Understanding Islam 1](#)" room

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Point of Benefit on Salaat – Rulings on Greeting a Person in Salaah

All Praise is due to Allah, and may the *salaah* and *salaam* be on Prophet Muhammad, his household, the noble companions and those who follow them until the Day of Resurrection.

Question:

What is the ruling on giving the *salaam* to someone who is in prayer?

Answer:

The ‘*ulama* (*rahimahumullah*: may Allaah have mercy on them) differed concerning this issue. The first opinion is that it is recommended to give *salaam* to a praying person, due to the general narrations about the merits of sending the *salaam*.

The second opinion is that it is allowable to say the *salaam* to someone in prayer, but the *Sunnah* is not to do so. This is because there is that which makes the person busy in *salaah*, as in the hadeeth:

"In the prayer one is occupied (with a more serious matter)." [Agreed upon hadeeth].

The third opinion is that sending the *salaam* is disliked in this situation, because the person in *salaah* is busy and giving him *salaam* might drive him to speak. His speech may end up nullifying his *salaah*, in accordance with the saying of some of the scholars who do not consider ignorance in this case an excuse.

The fourth opinion is that it is preferable not to give a person in prayer *salaam*, unless he is from the people of knowledge who know the ruling concerning this matter.

If the *salaam* is made while someone is in *salaah*, he may respond by *al-isharah* (pointing); this takes precedence to delaying the response until after the *tasleem*, as some of the scholars recommended. This is because waiting until after the *tasleem* may have a defect, since the person who gave the greeting may be gone by the time the *salaah* is completed. Therefore, it is preferable to respond with pointing.

With respect to the manner on how to point, the *Sunnah* is to point or raise the finger. One can also raise the hand, waving it back and forth; in addition, one can nod the head.

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