

بابُ صلاةِ الاستسقاءِ

Chapter: The Rain Prayer

إذا أَجْدَبَتِ الأرضُ وَقَحَطَ الْمَطَرُ صَلَّوْهَا جَمَاعَةً وَفَرَادَى، وَصِفْتُهَا فِي مَوْضِعِهَا وَأَحْكَامُهَا كَعِيدٍ. وإذا أَرَادَ الْإِمَامُ الْخُرُوجَ لَهَا وَعَظَّ النَّاسَ وَأَمَرَهُمْ بِالتَّوْبَةِ مِنَ الْمَعَاصِي وَالْخُرُوجِ مِنَ الْمَظَالِمِ وَتَرْكِ التَّشَاخُنِ وَالصِّيَامِ وَالصَّدَقَةِ وَيَعِدُّهُمْ يَوْمًا يَخْرُجُونَ فِيهِ وَيَتَنَطَّفُونَ وَلَا يَتَطَيَّبُونَ وَيَخْرُجُونَ مُتَوَاضِعًا مُتَخَشِّعًا مُتَذَلِّلًا مُتَضَرِّعًا وَمَعَهُ أَهْلُ الدِّينِ وَالصَّلَاحِ وَالشُّيُوخُ وَالصَّبِيانُ الْمُمَيِّزُونَ، وَإِنْ خَرَجَ أَهْلُ الذِّمَّةِ مُنْفَرِدِينَ عَنِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ لَا يَوْمٌ لَمْ يُنْعَوُوا.

فَيُصَلِّي بِهِمْ ثُمَّ يَخْطُبُ وَاحِدَةً يَفْتَتِحُهَا بِالتَّكْبِيرِ كَخُطْبَةِ الْعِيدِ وَيُكثِّرُ فِيهَا الْاسْتِغْفَارَ وَقِرَاءَةَ الْآيَاتِ الَّتِي فِيهَا الْأَمْرُ بِهِ، وَيَرْفَعُ يَدَيْهِ فَيَدْعُو بِدَعَاءِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَمِنْهُ "اللَّهُمَّ اسْقِنَا غَيْثًا مُغِيثًا إِلَى آخِرِهِ وَإِنْ سَقُوا قَبْلَ خُرُوجِهِمْ شَكَرُوا اللَّهَ وَسَأَلُوهُ الْمَزِيدَ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ.

وَيُنَادِي الصَّلَاةَ جَامِعَةً، وَلَيْسَ مِنْ شَرْطِهَا إِذْنُ الْإِمَامِ، وَيُسْنُ أَنْ يَقِفَ فِي أَوَّلِ الْمَطَرِ وَإِخْرَاجُ رَحْلِهِ وَثِيَابِهِ لِيُصِيبَهُمَا الْمَطَرُ. وَإِذَا زَادَتِ الْمَيَاءُ وَخِيفَ مِنْهَا سُنٌّ أَنْ يَقُولَ "اللَّهُمَّ حَوَالَيْنَا وَلَا عَلَيْنَا، اللَّهُمَّ عَلَى الظُّرَابِ وَالْأَكَامِ وَبُطُونِ الْأَوْدِيَةِ وَمَنَابِتِ الشَّجَرِ، رَبَّنَا لَا تُحَمِّلْنَا مَا لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا بِهِ" الْآيَةَ.

When the land becomes parched and the rain is withheld, it is to be prayed whether in congregation or individually.

In terms of where and how it is prayed, it is like the 'Eid Prayer.

Once the Imām decides the prayer will be established, he admonishes the people ordering them to seek repentance for their sins, avoid oppression and enmity to others, to fast and to give charity. He sets a date for the Prayer and they attend having cleansed themselves but unperfumed. They should attend in a humble, hushful, lowly, supplicatory manner. They should be accompanied by the people of religion and righteousness, the

elderly and those children at the age of discernment. If the *Ahl'l-Dhimmah* request to also go out (and pray) separate to the Muslims, they should not be prevented as long as it occurs on the same day.

He (the Imām) leads them in prayer and then gives a single sermon, opening it with the *takbīr* just like the sermon of 'Eid. He seeks forgiveness in it multiple times and recites those verses which command to it. He then raises his hands and supplicates with the prayers of the Prophet (ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam), from them, "*Allāhummasqinā ghaythan mughīthan...*" ("O Allah give us a rain which will replenish us...") until the end.

If they are blessed with rain before they leave, they thank Allah and they ask for more of His Bounty.

The prayer is announced simply with "*al-Salātu Jāmi'ah*" ("the congregational prayer!") – the permission of the leader is not a pre-condition for it.

It is a Sunnah to stand in the rain once it starts and expose his clothes and belongings to those initial raindrops. If it rains a lot and one fears from it, it is a Sunnah to say, "*Allāhumma ḥawālaynā wa lā 'alaynā, Allāhumma 'alā al-Ẓirāb wa'l-Ākām wa Butūn'l-Awdiyati wa Manābit'l-Shajr.*" ("O Allah, around us and not on top of us! O Allah send it on the mounds, the hills, in the valleys and where the trees are!")

And then once recites from the verse, "*Rabbanā lā tuḥammilnā mā lā tāqata lanā bih...*" ("Our Lord, do not burden us with that which we cannot cope with...")