

**The Time of the Duḥaa Prayer Is Between Sunrise and Midday**  
**Imaam Muhammad Ibn Saalih al-Uthaimeen**  
**(May Allaah Have Mercy upon him)**

**The Time for Duḥaa Salaah**

Its time is from the end of the time of prohibition [after sunrise] up to just a little before the sun is directly overhead at mid-day. This means that the time of the Duḥaa Salaah is from the end of the time of **Nah-y** (prohibited time for prayer) – and the time of **Nah-y** is from the rising of the sun above the horizon up until it rises the distance of a spear; meaning, as it appears to the naked eye. Otherwise, this amount of rising (of the sun), the distance of a spear, in actuality is more than the distance of the surface of the earth hundreds of times. However, we see it over the horizon as being the distance of a spear, i.e. approximately a meter.

Measured by minutes, as they are known to us (today), it is approximately twelve minutes [after sunrise], and we can make it a quarter of an hour or fifteen minutes, since this is safer. So, if fifteen minutes passed, from the rising of the sun (above the horizon), the time of **Nah-y** (prohibition) has ended, and the time for the Duḥaa Salaah has begun; and this lasts up until just a little before the sun is directly overhead (at midday), by approximately ten minutes. This is because the time just before the sun reaches the position of being directly overhead at midday is a time of **Nah-y** (prohibition), in which it is prohibited to perform Salaah since this is the time when the Hell-Fire is heated up.

The Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) has prohibited that Salaah be performed during this time. Uqbah ibn ‘Aamir (May Allaah be pleased with him) said: There are three times in which the Messenger of Allaah (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) prohibited us to perform Salaah or to bury our dead: (1) when the sun comes forth clearly (above the horizon), until it rises (completely); (2) at the time of **Qaa’im adh-Dhaheerah** (i.e. when the sun is directly overhead at midday until it begins to decline); and (3) and when the sun is close to setting, until it actually sets (i.e. falls completely below the horizon). [Reported by Ahmad, Muslim, Abu Daawood, at-Tirmidhee, an-Nasaa’ee and Ibn Maajah]

**Qaa’im adh-Dhaheerah** is just about ten minutes before the time of the Dhuhr (noon) Salaah. So, when it is about ten minutes before the sun reaches the position of being directly overhead, the time of **Nah-y** (prohibition) has begun.

**Hence, the time for the Duḥaa Salaah is from the *ending* of the prohibited time at the beginning of the day [i.e. approximately 12 – 15 minutes after sunrise], until the *beginning* of the prohibited time of the middle of the day [i.e. approximately 10 minutes before the Dhuhr (noon) Salaah].**

Performing (this salaah) at the end of its time [i.e. before Dhuhr prayer] is preferable, because the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) said: “Salaatul-Awwaabeen is when the young camels stand up due to the severity of the heat of the sand at midday.” This is in Saheeh Muslim. And this standing up of the young camels due to the severity of the heat of the sand takes place just about ten minutes before the time of the Dhuhr (noon) Salaah.

[‘al-Jaami’ Li-Ahkaam Fiqh as-Sunnah’, vol. I, pgs. 440-441, Imaam Muhammad ibn Saalih al-Uthaimeen (Rahimahullaah). Translation: Abu Muhammad, 26<sup>th</sup> Safar 1435 AH (12/29/2013 CE)]