



Q 2: Should Du `a'-ul-Istiftah (opening supplication when starting the Prayer) be recited after Takbirat-ul-Ihram (saying: "Allahu Akbar [Allah is the Greatest]" upon starting Prayer) and before the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah?

A: It is an act of Sunnah (a commendable act) to recite Du `a'-ul-Istiftah after Takbirat-ul-Ihram and before starting to recite Surah Al-Fatihah. It is authentically reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: (Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) used to observe silence for a short while between the takbir (at the time of opening the Prayer) and the recitation of the Qur'an. I asked him: Messenger of Allah, for whom I would give my father and mother in ransom, what do you recite during your period of silence between the takbir and the recitation? He said: I say (these words): "O Allah, remove my sins from me as You have removed the east from the west. O Allah! purify me from sins as a white garment is purified from filth. O Allah! wash away my sins with water, snow

(Part No : 6, Page No: 375)

and hail.") Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim. You may refer to other formulas of Du `a'-ul-Istiftah that have been reported from the Prophet in the registers of Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet) like the book entitled Al-Kalim Al-Tayyib (The Godly Word) by Ibn Taymiyyah and the book of Al-Adhkar (Devotions) by Al-Nawawi.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'

Member	Member	Committee Deputy Chairman	The Chairman
‘Abdullah ibn Qa‘ud	‘Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan	‘Abdul-Razzaq ‘Afify	‘Abdul-‘Aziz ibn ‘Abdullah ibn Baz