



6- Should a person say: 'al-hamdu lillah' (Praise be to Allah) upon sneezing in Salah?

The fourteenth question of Fatwa no. 2677

Q 14: Should a person say 'al-hamdu lillah' (Praise be to Allah) upon sneezing in Salah (Prayer) or recite Isti`adhah (seeking refuge with Allah from Satan) upon yawning?

A: If during Salah a person sneezes, they should say 'al-hamdu lillah' (Praise be to Allah), but they do not have to say Isti`adhah (seeking refuge with Allah from Satan) upon yawning in Salah. No report has been narrated regarding saying Isti`adhah when yawning in Salah. Moreover, they should not answer a person who says "May Allah be merciful to you" nor reply to a person who greets them. They may only point with their hands. This is based on the general ruling implied in the Hadith in which the Prophet (peace be upon him) says, (The Salah should occupy one's full attention.) This is also based on the Hadith of Mu`awiyah ibn Al-Hakam Al-Sulamy

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who said to a person who sneezed during Salah, "May Allah be merciful to you." The Prophet said, (Talking to people is not fitting during Salah, for it (Salah) consists only of glorifying Allah, declaring His Greatness, and recitation of the Qur'an.) Narrated by Muslim in his Sahih (authentic book of Hadith).

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

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