

Witr & Du'a al-Qunut

The three rak'ahs of Witr after Isha, with the Qunut, step by step

THE BASICS · HANAFI

- Witr is **wajib**: lower than fard, but it must not be left. If missed, it is made up as a qaza.
- **Three rak'ahs** with one salam, sitting after the second rak'ah as in Maghrib.
- Its time is after Isha until Fajr begins.

EARLY OR LATE?

Pray it at the end of the night if you will wake

مَنْ خَافَ أَنْ لَا يَقُومَ مِنْ آخِرِ اللَّيْلِ فَلْيُوتِرْ أَوَّلَهُ
وَمَنْ طَمَعَ أَنْ يَقُومَ آخِرَهُ فَلْيُوتِرْ آخِرَ اللَّيْلِ فَإِنَّ
صَلَاةَ آخِرِ اللَّيْلِ مَشْهُودَةٌ وَذَلِكَ أَفْضَلُ

Man khafa an la yaquma min akhirl-layli fal-yutir awwalah...

Whoever fears he will not wake at the end of the night, let him pray Witr at its start; whoever hopes to wake, let him pray it at the end of the night, for prayer at the end of the night is witnessed, and that is better.

SAHIH MUSLIM 755

THE THREE RAK'AHs AT A GLANCE

1
Al-Fatihah and a surah,
ruku', sajdah

2
Al-Fatihah and a surah,
then sit for at-Tahiyyat
only

3
Al-Fatihah and a surah,
then raise hands: Allahu
akbar

Q
Fold hands and read the
Qunut quietly

✓
Ruku', sajdah, sit, salam

1

Intention

In your heart: "I am praying three rak'ahs of wajib Witr for Allah."

2

First two rak'ahs

Pray them as normal. After the second sajdah of the second rak'ah, sit and read at-Tahiyyat only, then stand up.

HANAFI

3

Third rak'ah

Recite al-Fatihah and a surah. Then, before ruku', raise your hands to your ears saying "Allahu akbar" and fold them again.

HANAFI

4

Read the Qunut

Read Du'a al-Qunut quietly (page 2), then go into ruku' and finish the prayer as normal with at-Tahiyyat, Durood, du'a and salam.

HANAFI

DON'T KNOW THE QUNUT YET?

Read "Rabbana atina fid-dunya hasanah..." (page 2), or say "Allahummaghfir li" three times, until you have learnt it.

FORGOT THE QUNUT?

If you remember after going into ruku', do not go back. Carry on, and do Sajdah Sahw at the end.

IN RAMADAN

Witr is prayed in congregation after Taraweeh. Follow the imam; he reads the Qunut and you read it quietly too.

SUNNAH SURAHs: AL-A'LA IN THE FIRST RAK'AH, AL-KAFIRUN IN THE SECOND, AL-IKHLAS IN THE THIRD (JAMI' AT-TIRMIDHI 462). ANY SURAHs ARE FINE.



Du'a *al-Qunut*

Read quietly in the third rak'ah of Witr, before ruku'

THE QUNUT PREFERRED IN THE HANAFI SCHOOL

Learn it by heart

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْتَعِينُكَ، وَنَسْتَغْفِرُكَ، وَنُؤْمِنُ بِكَ، وَنَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْكَ وَنُثْنِي عَلَيْكَ الْخَيْرَ
وَنَشْكُرُكَ وَلَا نَكْفُرُكَ وَنُخْلَعُ وَنَتْرُكُ مَنْ يَفْجُرُكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ، وَلَكَ نُصَلِّي
وَنَسْجُدُ، وَإِلَيْكَ نَسْعَى وَنَحْفِدُ، وَنَرْجُو رَحْمَتَكَ، وَنَخْشَى عَذَابَكَ، إِنَّ عَذَابَكَ
بِالْكَفَارِ مُلْحِقٌ

Allahumma inna nasta'inuka wa nastaghfiruka wa nu'minu bika wa natawakkalu 'alayka wa nuthni 'alaykal-khayr, wa nashkuruka wa la nakfuruk, wa nakhla'u wa natruku may-yafjuruk. Allahumma iyyaka na'budu wa laka nusalli wa nasjud, wa ilayka nas'a wa nahfid, wa narju rahmataka wa nakhsha 'adhabak, inna 'adhabaka bil-kuffari mulhiq.

O Allah, we seek Your help and ask Your forgiveness. We believe in You and rely on You, and we praise You with all good. We thank You and are not ungrateful to You, and we cast off and leave whoever disobeys You. O Allah, You alone we worship, to You we pray and prostrate, to You we hasten and strive. We hope for Your mercy and fear Your punishment. Indeed, Your punishment will reach the disbelievers.

MUSANNAF IBN ABI SHAYBAH · SHARH MA'ANI AL-ATHAR

IF YOU HAVE NOT LEARNT IT YET

Read this instead

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا
عَذَابَ النَّارِ

Rabbana atina fid-dunya hasanatan wa fil-akhirati hasanatan
wa qina 'adhaban-nar

Our Lord, give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and protect us from the punishment of the Fire.

SURAH AL-BAQARAH 2:201

LEARNING TIPS

- Learn one short phrase a day. In about a week you will know it.
- Listen to it recited and read along with the Arabic, not only the transliteration.
- Until then, the du'a on the left, or "Allahummaghfir li" three times, is enough.

Learn to recite your Salah correctly with a teacher.

jamiahafs.com/courses

