

Duha — the forenoon prayer

Between sunrise and the sun's peak there is a long gap with no obligation in it. Two rak'ah there were one of three standing advices.



★ The hour has its own oath

وَالضُّحَىٰ

"By the morning brightness." Allah swears by the duha — the part of the day this prayer is named after.

Qur'an 93:1

★ One of three advices

Abu Hurayrah: my friend the Prophet ﷺ advised me to fast three days a month, to pray Duha, and to pray Witr before sleeping.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1178 · 1981

★ When it opens and closes

After the sun has risen clear of the horizon — no prayer before that — and until shortly before it reaches its peak and Zuhr begins.

Sahih al-Bukhari 581 · Sunan Abi Dawud 393 · hasan sahih

★ How many rak'ah

Two is the advice. Umm Hani' saw the Prophet ﷺ pray eight rak'ah in her house on the day Makkah was conquered.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1176 · Sahih Muslim, Kitab Salat al-Musafirin

★ He left it unfixed

'A'ishah never saw him pray it, yet she prayed it herself — he ﷺ would drop a good deed he loved lest it be made obligatory on people.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1128 · 1177

★ The morning's dues, settled

Every joint of the body owes charity each morning, he ﷺ said — and two rak'ah of Duha are enough to cover all of it.

Sahih Muslim, Kitab Salat al-Musafirin