

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

ISTIKHAARA and SALATUL HAJAAT

It is narrated from Hazrat Jaabir (Radhiyallahu anho) that Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallam) used to teach us the dua of istikharah for important matters in the same manner as he used to teach us the Surahs of the Qur'aan. He (Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallam) used to say, "When you intend doing any important work, then read two rakaats nafl salaah and thereafter read this dua." (which is mentioned below) (Bukhari pg. 944)

Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallam) once remarked to Anas (Radhiyallahu anho) "O Anas! When you are undecided with regards to any matter, then seek counsel from your Rabb and do this seven times. Thereafter, whatever decision prevails in your heart regard it to be beneficial." (Shaami Vol.1,pg. 507)

Note: It is not necessary that one sees a dream or hears a voice. Asking another person to make Istikhaarah on one's behalf is not substantiated from any hadith. To make Mashwarah (consultation) with someone else is Sunnah.

It has been mentioned in the hadith that whomsoever makes Mashwarah will never regret and whomsoever makes Istikhaarah will never be unsuccessful.

THE DUA OF ISTIKHAARAH

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَأَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ
وَأَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ الْعَظِيمِ فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُ وَلَا أَقْدِرُ
وَتَعْلَمُ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ. اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنْتَ
تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ خَيْرٌ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ
أَمْرِي فَاقْدِرْهُ لِي وَيَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ وَإِنْ
كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ شَرٌّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي
وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِّي وَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ وَاقْدِرْ لِي
الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ أَرْضِنِي بِهِ

أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ

At this point you will bring to mind the matter for which you are making istikharah.

Trans:

O Allah, I ask You of good through Your knowledge, and ability through Your power, and beg (Your favor) out of your infinite bounty. For surely You have power, I have none. You know all, I know not. You are the great knower of all the things. O Allah, if in Your knowledge this matter is good for my faith, for my livelihood, and for the consequences of my affairs then ordain it for me and make it easy for me and bless me there in. But, if in Your knowledge this matter is bad for my faith, for my livelihood, and for the consequences of my affairs, then turn it away from me, and turn me away from it and ordain for me the good wherever it be, and cause me to be pleased therewith.

After having recited this dua, adopt that aspect towards which the heart is inclined.

SALAATUL HAAJAAT

It is reported from Abdullah bin Abi Aufa (Radhiyallahu anho) that Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihe Wasallam) is reported to have said that whomsoever has any need from Allah Ta'ala or any person then he should make wudhu thoroughly. Thereafter he should perform two rakaats of salaah, recite praises on Allah Ta'ala and recite a durood sharief. Then he should recite this dua:
(Tirmidhi-Vol.1,pg.108 Shaami-Vol.1)

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ
الْعَظِيمِ. الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ
مُوجِبَاتِ رَحْمَتِكَ وَعِزَائِمِ مَغْفِرَتِكَ وَالْغَنِيمَةَ مِنْ
كُلِّ بَرٍّ وَسَلَامَةٍ مِنْ كُلِّ آثِمٍ لَا تَدْعُ لِي ذَنْبًا إِلَّا غَفَرْتَهُ
وَلَا هَمًّا إِلَّا فَرَّجْتَهُ وَلَا حَاجَةً هِيَ لَكَ رِضًا إِلَّا قَضَيْتَهَا
يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

(Tirmidhi-Vol.1,pg.108 Shaami-Vol.1)

Trans: There is no Deity but Allah, the Most Tolerant, Most Generous.

الْحَلِيمُ الَّذِي لَا يُعَجِّلُ بِالْعُقُوبَةِ - الْكَرِيمُ الَّذِي
يُعْطِي بِدُونِ اسْتِحْقَاقٍ وَمِنَّةٍ

“The Tolerant” means one who does not hasten in punishing. “The Generous means one who grants favors despite the recipient not being deserving and worthy of it.”

TRANSLATION :

Glory be to Allah the Rabb of the Great throne. All praise is exclusively for Allah, the Rabb of the universe. O Allah, I beg You of that which will guarantee Your Mercy, actions which will make certain Your Forgiveness, a supply of every virtue and freedom from every sin. O Allah, do not leave any sin of mine unpardoned, remove all my worries and fulfill every need of mine which conforms to your pleasure.

Reciting Darood Sharief before and after any dua is a powerful means for the acceptance of that dua. It is reported from Allaamah Shaami that Allaama Abu Ishaq Ash-Shaatibi has mentioned:

الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مُجَابَةٌ عَلَى الْقَطْعِ

Trans: Durood Sharief is definitely accepted by Allah Ta’ala. It is unlikely that Allah, The Most Generous will accept one part of dua and reject the other.

فَإِنَّ الْكَرِيمَ لَا يَسْتَجِيبُ بَعْضَ الدُّعَا وَيَرُدُّ بَعْضَهُ

Allaamah Abu Sulaymaan Duraani says that dua wherein Darood Sharief is recited before and after it is unlikely that Allah Ta’ala will accept the first and last part of the dua and reject the middle portion.

فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يَقْبَلُ الصَّلَاتَيْنِ وَهُوَ أَكْرَمُ مِنْ أَنْ يَدَعَ مَا بَيْنَهُمَا

(Shaami-Vol.1)

Whenever one is faced with any problem related to this world or the hereafter, be it a bodily affliction or a spiritual one i.e. desire to sin, one should perform two rakaats salaatul haajaat with the relevant duas. Thereafter make dua sincerely and repeatedly every day. Allah Ta’ala will create means of overcoming the problems from the unseen. Whomsoever wishes, should take the favors of assistance and generosity from his Lord.

[Source: The above description is taken from the book [Beautiful Sunnats of the Beloved Nabi Sallallahu `alaihi wasallam](#) by Shaykh Muhammad Hakeem Akhtar]

Darood Sharief = “Sending blessings on our Prophet Sallallahu `alaihi wasallam”