

THE NUMBER OF RAK'AT IN JUM'AH PRAYER FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Q: 11- "How many Rak'at are sunnah mu'akkadah in jum'ah prayer? Is there any difference between men and women in this respect?" (Ibid)

A: It is obligatory for men to perform the jum'ah prayer with jama'ah. The number of obligatory (Fard) salah of jum'ah is only two Rak'at, and six are to be performed after the congregational prayer is over.

As for women, the Jum'ah prayer is not obligatory on them. They should offer their salah in their homes individually and should offer the normal zuhr prayer instead of jum'ah. The number of Rak'at for them is the same as they perform at the time of zuhr, every day, that is, the four obligatory rak'at, and the six rak'at as sunnah mu'akkadah, four of which are to be performed before the Fard salah and two of them after it.

The same number of rak'at will be applicable to a man who has missed the jum'ah prayer in congregation and has no hope of getting the jama'ah anywhere in the city. In this case he, too, has to offer the zuhr prayer instead of jum'ah.

Contemporary fatawaa