

The ninth question of Fatwa no. (8864)

Q 9: What is the description of the prayer of Thankfulness to Allah (May He be Exalted) in any event? What are its essential parts and conditions?

A: Sujud-ul-Shukr (Prostration of Thankfulness to Allah) is valid to thank Allah for any harm that He kept away from you or any benefit that He brought to you. Many Hadiths and Athars (narrations from the Companions) have indicated this, among which is the Hadith narrated by Abu Bakrah (may Allah be pleased with him): (Whenever the Prophet (peace be upon him) had a glad tiding or any good news, he used to offer Prostration of Thankfulness to Allah (May He be Exalted).)

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It was narrated by the Five (Compilers of the Hadith) except Al-Nasa'iy, Al-Tirmidhy said: It is Hassan Gharib (a good Hadith that is strange to come from this chain of narration), and it was narrated by Ahmad's wordings as follows: (He (Abu Bakrah) testified that when the Prophet (peace be upon him) received glad tidings of the victory of his army while his head was on `Aishah's lap, he (peace be upon him) stood up and prostrated to Allah.)

Also, there is the Hadith narrated by `Abdul-Rahman Ibn `Awf, who said: (The Prophet (peace be upon him) went out heading toward a place where charity was kept, and upon entering he prostrated for a long time then raised his head and said, "Jibril gave me the good news that Allah (May He be Exalted and Glorified) says to you: 'If anyone conveys peace upon you once, I will convey my peace upon them, and if anyone conveys greetings to you I convey my greetings to them'. Therefore, I prostrated to thank Allah.")Narrated by Ahmad. Al-Mundhiry said: the Hadith regarding Sujud-ul-Shukr is mentioned in the narration of Al-Bara' with an authentic Sanad (chain of narrators) and from the Hadith narrated by Ka`b Ibn Malik and others. End quote

As for the Athars, we have: Abu-Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him) offered Sujud-ul-Shukr when he received the news of the assassination of Musaylimah. Narrated by Sa`id Ibn Mansur in his Sunan. Also `Aly

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(may Allah be pleased with him) prostrated when he found Dha Al-Thudayyah in Al-Khawarij (separatist group that believes committing a major sin amounts to disbelief). Related by Ahmad in his Musnad. Moreover, Ka'b Ibn Malik prostrated in the lifetime of the Prophet (peace be upon him) when he was given glad tidings that Allah forgave him, and his story is agreed upon (by Al-Bukhari and Muslim).

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

and Companions!

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