

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 أُتِلْ مَا أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ إِنَّ الصَّلَاةَ تَنْهَى عَنِ
 الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ
 أَنَّهُ مَرَّ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ بِوَاحِدٍ مِنَ الْمُصَلِّينَ فَرَأَهُ لَا يُتِمُّ أَحْكَامَ الصَّلَاةِ وَأَرْكَانَهَا
 وَالْقَوْمَةَ وَالْجُلْسَةَ فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ص: لَوْ مِتَّ عَلَى ذَلِكَ لَا يُقَالَ لَكَ مِنْ أُمَّتِي يَوْمَ
 الْقِيَامَةِ

Respected Believers!

The topic of today's khutbah is **Ta'dīl al-Arkān**, a vital aspect of the prayer that many people unknowingly neglect, even though it is essential for the validity and perfection of Ṣalāh.

As our beloved Prophet **Muḥammad** ﷺ informed us, after the testimony of faith, Ṣalāh is the greatest act of worship in Islam. It brings the believer closer to his Lord, purifies the heart from sins, and gives direction and discipline to one's life. Allah the Exalted says in the Noble Qur'an: **"Recite what has been revealed to you of the Book and establish the prayer properly. Indeed, prayer restrains from immorality and wrongdoing. And the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows what you do."** (Sūrah al-ʿAnkabūt, 29:45)

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Ta'dīl al-Arkān means observing calmness and composure in every essential posture of the prayer: during the bowing (Rukū'), the prostration (Sujūd), while standing upright after Rukū' (Qawmah), and while sitting between the two prostrations (Jalsah). The scholars of Islamic jurisprudence explain that one should remain still for at least the time it takes to say **"Subḥānallāh"** once.

According to the Mālikī, Shāfi'ī, and Ḥanbalī schools of law, Ta'dīl al-Arkān is one of the pillars of the prayer. In the Ḥanafī school, it is considered **Wājib**, an obligatory act whose deliberate neglect seriously affects the prayer.

Unfortunately, today some people perform their prayers in great haste. They recite the Qur'an quickly, rush into Rukū', go into Sujūd before standing fully upright, and move to the second prostration without sitting properly between the two prostrations.

Our beloved Prophet ﷺ strictly warned against such a hurried prayer and said: **"Do not prostrate like a crow pecking."** (Abū Dāwūd)

In another narration, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ sent back a man who had prayed hastily three times, saying each time: **"Go back and pray again, for you have not prayed."**

He then personally taught him to perform the bowing and prostration with complete calmness and tranquillity. (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

The Prophet ﷺ made it clear that neglecting Ta'dīl al-Arkān is not merely a minor shortcoming but a serious deficiency. He warned us by saying: **"There are people who perform the prayer, yet in reality they have no prayer. They bow and prostrate as quickly as a rooster pecks at the ground. Their prayer will be folded up like an old garment and thrown back into their faces. It will be said to them: 'Just as you did not safeguard your prayer, may Allah not safeguard you.' Whoever performs the prayer without giving every limb its due right will be cursed by his own limbs until the prayer is finished."** (Ṭabarānī)

Dear Believers!

Every person who prays is accompanied by two angels, one on the right and one on the left. If the prayer is performed with Ta'dīl al-Arkān, the angels present it before Allah the Exalted. Otherwise, the prayer is rejected and returned to the person.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ also said: **"A time will come upon the people when they will perform the prayer, yet they will not truly have prayed."** (Al-Ghunyah)

Honoured Congregation!

The greatest fear for every believer should be to leave this world without faith. One of the causes of a bad ending is neglecting Ta'dīl al-Arkān in the prayer.

It is certainly not worth risking such a great loss merely to finish the prayer a few minutes earlier.

Imām Rabbānī Raḥimahullāh said: **"In these times, Ta'dīl al-Arkān has almost been forgotten. Whoever revives it today will receive a reward greater than that of one hundred martyrs."** (Maktūbāt, Vol. 2, Letter 87)

I conclude my khutbah with a noble hadith: The Prophet ﷺ said: **"The worst thief among people is the one who steals from his prayer."**

The Companions asked: **"O Messenger of Allah, how does a person steal from his prayer?"**

He replied: **"By not completing his bowing and prostration properly."**

Then he added: **"A person may pray for sixty years, yet Allah will not accept any of his prayers because he did not perform his bowing or his prostration correctly."** (Musnad Aḥmad)

