

Ṣalāt al-Istikhārah

A special **prayer** to seek blessings and guidance from **Allah** ﷻ for a decision. Istikhārah is from the **established** practices of the **Prophet** ﷺ. It is only to be made on a **single** decision which is uncertain (50-50).

Method of Prayer:

1 Make **intention** for Istikhārah

2 Make fresh wuḍū and **pray** 2 Rak'ahs of voluntary prayer (reciting any surahs) as the last thing you do before sleep

3 **Recite** the du'a of Istikhārah below and mention your need

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَأَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ،

Allāhumma innī astakhīruka bi-‘ilmika wa-astaqdiruka bi-qudratika

O Allah, I'm asking You for goodness through Your [Infinite] Knowledge, & I'm asking You for strength through Your Divine Ability

وَأَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ الْعَظِيمِ، فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُ وَلَا أَقْدِرُ وَتَعْلَمُ

wa-as'aluka min faḍlikal-‘azīm fa innaka taqdiru wa-lā aqdiru wa-ta‘lamu

and I'm asking You from Your Infinite Grace. Because You're completely able to do, while I simply cannot. You know

وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ، اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا

wa-lā a‘lamu wa-anta ‘allāmul-ghuyūb. Allāhumma in kunta ta‘lamu anna hādhal-

everything, and I do not, and You know everything that's unseen. O Allah, if You know that this

الْأَمْرُ [mention your need here in any language] خَيْرٌ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي

amra [mention your need here] khayrun lī fī dīnī wa-ma‘āshī wa-‘āqibati amrī

decision [mention your need here] is good for me in terms of my religiosity, my worldly life, and afterlife,

فَأَقْدِرْهُ لِي وَيَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ، وَإِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ

faqdurhu lī wa-yassirhu lī thumma bārik lī fīhi. Wa-in kunta ta‘lamu anna

then decree it, facilitate it for me with ease, and bless me through it. But if You know that

هَذَا الْأَمْرُ شَرٌّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةِ أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ

hādhal-amra sharrun lī fī dīnī wa-ma‘āshī wa-‘āqibati amrī faṣrifhu

this has bad consequences on my religiosity, my worldly life, and afterlife, then get it away from me

عَنِّي وَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ، وَأَقْدِرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ أَرْضِنِي بِهِ

‘annī waṣrifnī ‘anhu wa-qdur liyal-khayra haythu kāna thumma arḍinī bihi

and get me away from it, and [instead of that] decree what's better for me, whatever it may be, and make me content with it.

Outcome: You may see a dream or vision but generally Allāh ﷻ will cause your heart to incline towards one decision more strongly than the other.