FW-1003 22 July 2026

Rules Regarding Sneezing During Salah (Prayer)

THE QUESTION

Is it Sunnah for a person who sneezes during Salah to say "Alhamdulillah," and for those who hear a sneeze to respond with "Yarhamukallah"?

THE SCHOLARLY RESPONSE

Saying "Alhamdulillah" During Salah

It is Sunnah for a person who sneezes during Salah to say "Alhamdulillah," as this is a form of remembrance (dhikr) of Allah and does not invalidate the prayer. However, if the sneeze occurs while one is reciting Surah Al-Fatihah, the continuity of the recitation is broken. In that case, the worshipper must restart Surah Al-Fatihah from the beginning. (Fathul Mu'een, p. 56)

Responding with "Yarhamukallah"

A person engaged in Salah, however, is prohibited from saying "Yarhamukallah" in response to another's sneeze. This phrase, meaning "May Allah have mercy on you," directly addresses a fellow human being. Under Islamic jurisprudence, directly addressing any created being other than the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ during prayer invalidates the Salah. (Fathul Mu'een, p. 93)

> *Under Islamic jurisprudence, directly addressing any created being other than the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ during prayer invalidates the Salah. (Fathul Mu'een, p. 93)*

+91 **790 26 000 77** | mail@drmahazhari.com | drmahazhari.com | drmahazhari