



PO Box 3393,  
Port Elizabeth, 6056  
South Africa

Email: [muftis@themajlis.co.za](mailto:muftis@themajlis.co.za)  
[www.themajlis.co.za](http://www.themajlis.co.za)

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## MAKING A MOCKERY OF SALAATUL ISTISQA

Nowadays the Deen is utilized and mis-manipulated for nafsani motives. The latest victim to suffer the fate of mockery is Salaatul Istisqa – The Dua/Salaat for rain. While this act of Ibaadat is Masnoon, it should be executed in the Masnoon method.

The Masnoon method of performing this Salaat is as follows:

"Salaatul Istisqaa" is the Salaat enjoined by the Shariah in the event of a drought. Istisqaa' means to petition for water. Salaatul Istisqaa' consists of two raka'ts and the method of performing it is as follows:

The entire Muslim community should gather on the out-skirts of the town in the veld. Everyone should put on simple garments and set out for the gathering-place on foot. Little children and old people should also go along. Not a single kaafir should be taken along. It is not permissible to permit the kuffaar to participate in this momentous occasion. Two raka'ts will be performed in jamaa't. Salaatul Istisqaa' has neither Azaan nor Iqaamat. The Imaam will recite the Qiraa'at audibly (jahr). The Imaam will thereafter recite two Khutabhsas on the Day of Eid. After the Khutabhs the Imaam will stand and face the Qiblah. He will raise his hands and petition Allah Ta'ala for rain. All those present should also make dua for rain.

This procedure of Salaat should be repeated for three consecutive days. Salaatul Istisqaa' should not be performed for more than three days.

- 'If after having performed Salaatul Istisqaa' on the first day, it rains, then too, complete the three days.
- It is best (mustahab) to fast on these three days.
- Drought is the effect of sin committed in abundance. It is a form of Allah's Punishment. Hence, during a drought everyone should resort to

istighfaar and taubah in abundance and discharge whatever rights are unfulfilled or usurped, be such rights in regard to Allah Ta'ala, e.g. Salaat not performed, Zakaat not paid, or be these rights in respect to people, e.g. debt deliberately not paid, wealth of others usurped or taken in a haraam way, etc.

- It is Sunnat for the Imaam to invert his chaadar (the outer sheet which he wears), i.e. he should turn the inside out. This is to be done while making the dua for the rain after the two Khutbahs have been recited.

اللَّهُمَّ اسْقِنَا عَيْشًا مُغِيثًا مَرِيئًا مَرِيئًا نَافِعًا غَيْرَ ضَارٍّ عَاجِلًا غَيْرَ آجِلٍ

(ALLAHUMMASQINAA GHAYTHAM MUGHITHAM MUREE-AM MUREE-AN-NAAFI-AN GHAIIRA DHAAR-RIN AAJILAN GHAYRA AAJILIN).

*O Allah! Give us rain, abundant, wide-spread, producing herbage, benefiting without doing injury, in haste without delay.*

A Musjid or the Musjid ground is not a valid venue for Istisqa. The mock eidgahs within the built-up areas are not valid Istisqa venues. Worse is a school ground and a sportsfield of fisq, fujoor and zina.

A couple of months ago, we had commented on a mock 'Istisqa' in Durban. We reproduce our article for the benefit of Muslims:

## A MOCK 'SALAATUL ISTISQA'

### QUESTIONS:

1) The KZN Jamiat is inviting the Muslim community of Durban to participate in Salaat ul Istisqaa which will be performed at the Orient School (either on the school sports ground or in the school hall - there is no Musjid at the school). A poster issued by the KZN Jamiat explaining the method of performing this Salaat states: "The method of performing this Salaah is for the Imaam to lead the people to the outskirts of the town for this Salaah. In places where this is not possible, the Masjid will suffice."

(I have attached the posters which were issued by the KZN Jamiat). The KZN Jamiat appears to be contradicting itself by inviting the Muslim community of Durban to participate in the performance of Salaat ul Istisqaa at the Orient School thereby bypassing the Musjid.

2) Should the Muslim community of Durban participate in the Salaat ul Istisqaa which will be performed at the Orient School?

3) Another poster issued by the Jamiat KZN states the following: "At times when there is a severe shortage of water and people do not have enough water to

sustain their basic needs of life, there is a special Salaah to be performed which is called Salaatul Istisqaa." Currently there is municipal water available in Durban - normal supply which is above the basic needs of life (other areas in KZN are affected by municipal water restrictions). Should Salaat ul Istisqaa be performed now in apprehension of the fear that a drought will occur in the near future or should each city/ town only perform Salaat ul Istisqaa after the onset of the drought in each respective city/ town - i.e. after all the dams and rivers supplying the city/ town have dried up?

(4) Is it permissible for a city/ town to perform Salaat ul Istisqaa on behalf of other cities/ towns? It appears that the Salaat ul Istisqaa which will be performed at the Orient School will be performed on behalf of all the areas in KZN which are facing water shortages.

**ANSWERS**

(1) The 'salaatul istisqa' being organized at the Orient Kaafir school, is one of the worst mockeries being enacted. It is not permissible to participate in this mockery of the Deen.

It is a despicable publicity stunt which the Jamiat is enacting in the name of Islam. Among the signs of Qiyaamah according to the Hadith is that the '*amal of the Aakhirah will be used for the acquisition of the dunya*'.

(2) The Muslim community of Durban should not participate in this mockery perpetrated in the name of the Deen. This is NEVER the occasion for Salaatul Istisqa nor is the Orient Kaafir School a halaal venue for Salaat. It is not permissible to perform even Jumuah Salaat in that venue.

(3) It is sad that the Jamiat has miserably failed to understand the meanings of water shortage and suffering. It is sadder that they display such a conspectus lack of the basic requisites for the permissibility of Salaatul Istisqa. If ever there is a dire need for Salaatul istisqa, it will be HARAAM to perform it in the Orient Kaafir School grounds.

(4) Currently there is no need for this Salaat in any area of Natal. It is stupid and bid'ah for Durban to perform Salaatul Istisqa if there is a drought in Kalahari Desert or in Stanger.