



On [Thursday 10th June 2021](#) a partial solar eclipse is going to occur. In the UK, the eclipse will begin at approximately 10:07am and last until around 12:25pm. To understand the Islamic viewpoint of an eclipse and what to do when it occurs, please read the following article written by Shaykhul-Ḥadīth, Ḥaḍrat Mawlānā Muhammad Saleem Dhorat ḥafīzahullāh.

Sayyidunā Abū Bakrah رضي الله عنه relates: “We were with Rasūlullāh ﷺ when the sun eclipsed. The Prophet ﷺ stood up dragging his cloak¹ till he entered the masjid. We also entered. He ﷺ led us in a two raka’āt ṣalāh till the eclipse cleared. Then the Prophet ﷺ said, ‘The sun and the moon do not eclipse because of anyone’s death.’² So whenever you see these (eclipses), perform ṣalāh and make du’ā until the eclipse is cleared.” (Al-Bukhārī)

Sayyidah Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها relates: “The sun eclipsed during the time of Rasūlullāh ﷺ... The Prophet ﷺ said, ‘The sun and the moon are signs from the signs of Allāh; they do not eclipse because of anyone’s death or life.’” (Al-Bukhārī)

¹ This indicated urgency.

² Prior to the advent of Islām, it was a widely held belief in Arab society that an eclipse would occur upon the death of a great personality. The Prophet ﷺ had a son named Ibrāhīm رضي الله عنه who passed away in infancy, on the same day as a solar eclipse. The Prophet ﷺ dispelled this false notion.

WHAT TO DO AT THE TIME OF A SOLAR ECLIPSE

...So whenever you see these (eclipses), offer ṣalāh and make du’ā till the eclipse has cleared. (Al-Bukhārī)

...So when you see the eclipse, make du’ā to Allāh and say takbīr, perform ṣalāh and give ṣadaqah... (Al-Bukhārī)

...He (the Prophet ﷺ) went to the Masjid (on the occasion of solar eclipse) and offered the ṣalāh with the longest qiyām, rukū’ and sujūd that I had ever seen him doing. He ﷺ then said, ‘These signs which Allāh sends do not occur because of the death or life of someone, but Allāh makes His servants afraid through them. So when you see anything from this then hasten towards remembering Him, making du’ā to Him and seeking His Forgiveness.’ (Al-Bukhārī)

From the aḥādīth above we learn that we should engage in:

- 1) ṣalāh; 2) remembrance of Allāh ﷻ; 3) du’ā; 4) istighfār; and
- 5) giving charity in causes that bring the Pleasure of Allāh ﷻ.

Mas’alah: It is Sunnah to perform two raka’āt ṣalāh with congregation which is to be lead by the imām of Jumu’ah ṣalāh or any imām of the masjid. It is Sunnah to perform this ṣalāh with qiyām, rukū’ and sujūd that are long.

After the ṣalāh, the congregation should engage in du’ā which should last until the eclipse clears.

Mas’alah: Adhān or iqāmah will not be called for this ṣalāh. Announcements can be made to gather the people.

Mas’alah: If whilst engaged in ṣalāh or du’ā the time for a farḍ ṣalāh commences, then one should perform the farḍ ṣalāh.

Note: During such occasions we must not remain neglectful. Many people are more keen to witness the eclipse, rather than following the teachings of our beloved Nabī ﷺ.

May Allāh ﷻ grant us the tawfīq to turn to Him during such moments according to the teachings of our beloved Nabī ﷺ.