I bear witness that there is no god apart from Allah, Who is unique and without partners.
I also bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and His Prophet.
O God, bless Muhammad and the progeny of Muhammad.

Glory be to God, and praise be to God; there is no god but Allah, and Allah is Greater

How to Perform the Daily Prayers

It is obligatory to perform the following five prayers every day during the prescribed times:

- **Salat al-Fajr** (Dawn prayer), which consist of two units (each unit of prayer is called a rak`ah)
- **Salat al-Zuhr** (Midday prayer) consisting of four units
- **Salat al-`Asr** (Afternoon) prayer consisting of four units
- **Salat al-Maghrib** (Dusk) prayer which consist of three units
- **Salat al-`Isha** (Night prayer) consisting of four units.

Performing the Daily Prayers according to the Shi’ah Ja’fari school of law involves taking prescribed steps in order (tartib) and in regular succession without undue delay between them (muwalat). The person must first perform preliminary purification (ghusl, if necessary, or wudhu) and fulfill all other prerequisites.

To find out further details about the ritual and spiritual aspects of the Daily Prayers, visit:

http://al-islam.org/faq/

-v1.0
Preparation
Stand upright facing the Qiblah (direction of Mecca) and recite the adhan and iqama. Please note that all the recitations during the prayer must be in Arabic. Although approximate transliteration has been given below for each recitation, it is best to try and learn the Arabic script and pronunciations.

Niyah: Form the following solemn intention in your mind: “I offer this ____ (name of a particular prayer) prayer, of ____ (number of units) rak`ah’s seeking closeness to God”.

The First Rak`ah
Takbiratul Ihram: Lift both hands up to the ears and say:

Allahu akbar
God is Greater

This sentence, the Takbir, will be repeated several times during the prayer.

Qiyam: Remain in the standing position while performing the recitations in the next step, Qira`ah.

Qira`ah: Initially, recite the first Chapter of the Holy Qur’an, Surat al-Fatiha

Bismillaahi’r-Rahmaani’r-Raheem
In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate
Praise belongs to God, Lord of the World, the Merciful, the Compassionate, Master of the Day of Judgement;
We worship only You, and from You alone do we seek help.
Lead us on the straight path, the path of those whom You have blessed, not of those on whom is [Your] Wrath, nor of those who have gone astray.

Second, recite another complete Chapter of the Holy Qur'an (we choose the short chapter number 112, Surat al-Ikhlas).

Bismillaahi’r-Rahmaani’r-Raheem
In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate
Say: ‘He is God, the One, God the Eternal and Besought of all, Neither begetting nor begot, Nor is there anything comparable or equal to Him.

Qunut: Keep your hands in front of your face, turning the palms facing upwards, and keeping both the hands and the fingers close together. Recite the following

Rabbanaa aataanu fi’d-dunyaa hasanatan wa fi’l-aakhirati hasanatan wa qinna `adhaab an-naar
O our Lord! Bestow upon us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and protect us from the torment of the fire
[Qur’an, chapter 2, verse 201]

[Note: Qunut is an optional step]

Resume the standing position and recite:

Sami`allaahu liman hamidah
God hears the one who praises Him

Say Takbir, then go into Prostration (sujud)

Sujud means that one should place one's forehead on earth in a special manner, with the intention of humility before God.

While performing the sujud, it is obligatory that both the palms and the knees, and both the big toes be placed on the ground. The following dhikr should be recited in the sujud once:

Subhaana rabbiy al-a`laa wa bihamdih
Glory be to my Exalted Lord, and praise belongs to Him

After first sujud, raise the forehead and sit up in a kneeling position with the ankle of the right foot in the sole of the left foot, with hands resting on the thighs and say Takbir, optionally followed by:

Astaghfirullaaha rabbeee wa atoobu ilayh
I ask forgiveness of God, my Lord, and turn towards him

followed by Takbir again. Repeat the sujud again and then sit up in a kneeling position and say Takbir.

Sit up for a moment and then rise while (optionally) saying:

Bihawillaahi wa quwwatihi aqoomu wa aq`ud
With God’s help and through His power I stand and sit

Second Rak`ah
After regaining the upright posture, recite Surat al-Fatiha and another Surah of the Holy Qur'an as in the first rak`ah. Then say Takbir, and then do Qunut.

Qunut: Keep your hands in front of your face, turning the palms facing upwards, and keeping both the hands and the fingers close together. Recite the following

Rabbanaa aatinaa fi’d-dunyaa hasanatan wa fi’l-aakhiraatii hasanatan wa qinnaa ‘adhaab an-naar
O our Lord! Bestow upon us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and protect us from the torment of the fire
[Qur’an, chapter 2, verse 201]

[Note: Qunut is an optional step]

Say Takbir, followed by the ruku`, then the two sujud, both as described for the first rak`ah.