

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-51723

Date: 21-05-2025

Title: The distance of shortening prayer in the past and present

Recommendation:

Accept as it is.....YES.....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		√		
Techn. Quality			√	
Clarity			√	
Significance			√	

Reviewer's Name: Mir Jaffar

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: **Recommended for Publication.**

Comments (*Use additional pages, if required*)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

General Overview:

This research paper addresses an important jurisprudential question regarding the Islamic ruling on the permissible distance for shortening four-unit prayers (Salat al-Qasr) during travel, comparing historical perspectives with modern realities. It thoroughly explores whether the traditional distance thresholds established for travel by older means (camel, on foot, mule, etc.) remain applicable in the context of faster modern transportation methods (planes, trains, cars, ships).

Abstract:

The abstract clearly summarizes the scope and objectives of the paper. It highlights the core inquiry into whether the ruling on shortening prayers should be based purely on distance traveled or if it should consider the hardship and difficulty of travel, which differ significantly between past and present

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contexts. The use of original Islamic sources and various juristic opinions is outlined, as well as the methodological approach involving descriptive, inductive, and comparative analysis.

Introduction:

The introduction situates the issue within the framework of Islamic legal theory, referencing foundational sources such as the Qur'an, Sunnah, consensus, and analogy. It emphasizes the significance of revisiting classical rulings in light of modern developments, specifically modern transportation methods, and poses critical questions about the adaptability of traditional distance measures for shortening prayer.

Research Problem:

The research problem is clearly defined, focusing on whether contemporary travelers using advanced means of transportation can apply the same distance criteria for shortening prayers as travelers in the past, or whether adjustments are required. This articulation effectively sets the stage for comparative jurisprudential analysis.

Methodology:

The research employs a scholarly and scientific method, including the collection, critique, and comparison of classical and contemporary legal opinions. The use of primary sources, such as Quranic verses in Ottoman script and hadiths from established Sunnah collections, underlines the paper's rigorous approach. The combination of descriptive, inductive, and comparative methodologies supports a nuanced analysis.

Content and Analysis:

The paper addresses the contrast between the physical and temporal hardship experienced by past travelers versus the relative ease and speed of modern travel. It questions whether the legal basis for shortening prayer should be tied strictly to distance or to the degree of hardship endured. The comparative approach between juristic opinions allows for an in-depth exploration of the diversity within Islamic legal thought.

Clarity and Presentation:

The paper is well-written with clear articulation of the problem and aims. Terminology is precise and appropriate for a scholarly audience. The abstract and introduction provide a coherent overview, and the scope of the study is well framed. The balanced presentation of both traditional and contemporary perspectives enhances the academic rigor.

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Overall Assessment:

This study contributes meaningfully to the ongoing discourse in Islamic jurisprudence concerning the adaptation of religious rulings to contemporary circumstances. It addresses a relevant and practical issue for Muslim travelers today and does so with thoroughness and scholarly integrity. The use of primary sources and comparative analysis strengthens the validity of the conclusions drawn. The paper is well-structured and offers valuable insights into the intersection of tradition and modernity in Islamic law.