

The author of Al-Bahr Al Muheet: "Ibn Atiya said: none of the scholars of Tafseer disagreed that the one who is forbidding (prayer) is Abu Jahl, and the the slave in prayer is Muhammad the Messenger of Allah (saw)" [Al-Bahr Al Muheet (369/8)]

This Surah is the first Surah revealed that mentioned the prayer of the Prophet (saw) and the aggression of Abu Jahl, this was in the secret stage, therefore there was prayer before Isra' and Mi'raj.

Second: In the book "*Al-Rowd Al-Anif Fi Sharh As-Sira An-Nabawiyah for Ibn Hisham*" by Abu Al-Qasim Abdul Rahman As-Suhaili (deceased: 581 AH), in the chapter of the obligation of Salah, it mentions the following:

"Al-Muzni said that salah before Isra' was before sunset and before sunrise, and the evidence for this is the saying of Allah (swt): ﴿وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ بِالْعِشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ﴾ **"...and exalt [Allah] with praise of your Lord in the evening and the morning"** [Ghafir: 55] Yahya Ibn Salam said the same."

- Abu Muhammad Al-Ghitabi Al-Hanafi Badr Ad-Deen Al-Aini (deceased 855 AH) said in his book "*Sharh Sunnan Abi Daoud*": "Salah (prayer) before Isra' was one prayer before sunset and one prayer before sunrise, and the evidence is the saying of Allah (swt): ﴿وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ بِالْعِشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ﴾ **"...and exalt [Allah] with praise of your Lord in the evening and the morning"** [Ghafir: 55]"

- The same was mentioned in the book, "*Al-Bahr Al-Ra'iq Sharh Kanz Ad-Daqa'iq Wa Minhat Al-Khaliq Wa Takmilat At-Tour*" by Zain Ad-Deen Ibn Ibrahim known as Ibn Najeem Al-Misri (deceased: 970 AH):

"Salah before Isra' was two: one before sunrise and one before sunset, Allah (swt) said: ﴿وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ بِالْعِشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ﴾ **"...and exalt [Allah] with praise of your Lord in the evening and the morning"** [Ghafir: 55]"

This proves that the Prophet (saw) and the Muslims prayed one prayer before sunrise and one before sunset.

Third: As for how many rak'as in each of the mentioned prayers, there is difference of opinion among scholars in this issue as we mentioned previously, but some narrations mention that they were two rak'as before sunrise and two rak'as before sunset, one of these narrations is:

1- Al-Mawardi Abu Al-Hassani Ibn Muhammad Al-Baghdady famously known as Al-Mawardi (deceased: 450 AH), mentioned in his tafseer "*An-Nukat Wal Iyoon*": ﴿وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ﴾ **"...and exalt [Allah] with praise of your Lord..."** [Ghafir: 55]

Mujahid said: And pray by the order of your Lord ﴿بِالْعِشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ﴾ **"...In the evening and the morning"** [Ghafir: 55]

There are three explanations: ... and the third: is the prayer in Makka before the five prayers were prescribed, two rak'as in the morning and two rak'as in the evening, Al Hassan mentioned this."

2- Shams Ad-Deen Abu Abdullah At-Tarabulsi Al-Maghribi, known as Al-Hattab Ar-Ru'aini Al-Maliki (deceased: 954 AH) wrote in his book "*Mawahib AL-Jaleel Fi Sharh Mukhtasar Khaleel*" in the chapter: "The Legitimacy and Ruling of Prayer":

"Ibn Hajar said, and there was a disagreement before this, some group said that there was no obligatory prayer before Isra' except the ordered ones like night prayer but were unspecified, Al-Harbi said that prayer was obligatory, two rak'as in the morning and two rak'as in the evening..." **End of quote.**

3- Abu Alwaleed Muhammad Ibn Ahmad Ibn Rushd Al-Qutubi (deceased: 520 AH) wrote in his book “*Al-Muqadimat Al-Mumahida*”:

“At the beginning, before the obligation of the five prayers, salah was two rak’as in the morning and two rak’as in the evening. It was narrated from Al-Hassan regarding the saying of Allah (swt): ﴿وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ بِالْعَشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ﴾ “...and exalt [Allah] with praise of your Lord in the evening and the morning” [Ghafir: 55]

This is His (saw) prayer in Makkah when the salah was two rak’as in the morning and two rak’as in the evening, the obligation of salah remained so for nine years when the Prophet and Muslims were in Makkah.” **End of quote.**

These narrations indicate that the rak’as of the morning and evening prayer were two rak’as in the morning and two rak’as in the evening.

Fourth: The above is an explanation to what we wrote in the book “Islamic State” pages 12-13 (Arabic version) and this is the text:

“He (saw) was calling people to Islam in Makkah openly following the orders of Allah (swt), Allah (swt) says: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الْمُدَّثِّرُ * قُمْ فَأَنْذِرْ﴾ “O you who covers himself [with a garment]. Arise and warn” [Al-Muddathir: 1-2]

He contacted people and presented the Deen to them and He (saw) structured them around him secretly on the basis of this Deen, and when the companions of the Messenger (saw) wanted to pray, they would go to the wooded area and hide (when praying) from their people...”

I hope that this issue is clarified, by the permission of Allah.

Your brother,

Ata Bin Khalil Abu Al-Rashtah

15 Rabi’ II 1438 AH

13/1/2017 CE

The link to the answer from the Ameer’s Facebook page:

<https://web.facebook.com/AmeerhtAtabinKhalil/photos/a.122855544578192.1073741828.122848424578904/574658446064564/?type=3&theater>

The link to the answer from the Ameer’s page on Google Plus:

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/100431756357007517653/100431756357007517653/posts/YCLMwqfYw5c>

The link to the answer from the Ameer’s page on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/ataabualrashtah/status/821100583348211717>