

Significance of Surat al-Fatiha

‘Ubadah bin As-Swamit reported that the Messenger of Allah said: There is no prayer for one who has not read the Opening of the Book.

(Mishkat Al-Masabih with reference to Bukhari and Muslim).

Hadith No. 221 in Al-Hadith, Vol. 3 translated and rearranged by Fazlul Karim.

Abu Hurayrah reported that the Messenger of Allah said thrice: Whoso prays without reading therein the Mother of the Qur’an, it is defective (three times he repeated) and incomplete. It was said to Abu Hurayrah: We remain behind the Imam. He said: Read it within yourself, because I heard the Messenger of Allah.... (Hadith is long and goes into the merits of the Surah).

Mishkat Tr. Fazlul Karim, Vol. 3, Hadith No. 222. with reference to Bukhari.

‘Ubadah bin As-Swamit narrated: We were behind the Messenger of Allah in the Salat Al-Fajr, he recited that became heavy for us. After finishing the prayer he said: Perhaps you recite behind your Imam; we said: Yes O Messenger of Allah. He said: Do not do it except Al-Fatiha.

Salat Ar-Rasool (Urdu) by Muhammad Sadiq Sialkoti, p. 200 with reference to Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi and Nasai. Pub. Maktaba Nu’maniah, Urdu Bazaar, Gojranwala, Pakistan.

Many Hanafi scholars have also advised to recite Al-Fatiha behind the Imam and these include Shah Waliullah and the author of Hidayah.