

## **Waiting for the prayer has a great reward:**

Abu Hurairah  $\tau$  said that the Prophet  $\rho$  said, "Each of you is in the prayer as long as he is waiting for it and there is nothing but the prayer preventing him from going to his family." <sup>2</sup> Thus, Muslims are rewarded for waiting for prayer, the same as the prayer itself. Abu Hurairah  $\tau$  said that the Prophet  $\rho$  said: "The angels pray for every one of you as long as you remain in the place in which you prayed and do not break your wudu, saying, 'O Allah, forgive him! O Allah, show mercy to him!'"<sup>3</sup> In another narration by Imam Muslim it is mentioned, "as long as he neither broke his ablution nor hurt anybody."<sup>4</sup> Yet, this reward is conditional, which is not to do anything that warrants needing to perform a new wudu. Anas Ibn Malik  $\tau$  reported: "We waited for the Messenger of Allah  $\rho$  one night until it was about midnight. He (the Prophet  $\rho$ ) came and observed prayer and then turned his face towards us, as he was turning I saw the luster of the silver ring on his finger and he said, "People prayed and slept and you are in prayer as long as you are waiting for it." <sup>1</sup> Sheikh Ibn 'Uthaimin said: "All of these ahadith show the bounty of waiting for the prayer, even after a former prayer, or if you are going there for the coming prayer."<sup>2</sup> Also Abu Hurairah  $\tau$  narrated that the Prophet  $\rho$  said, "Should I tell you about actions with which Allah forgives sins and raises the grade? Performing perfect ablution in unfavorable conditions, the many steps one takes to the mosques, and waiting for the following prayer after the prayer has finished, for this is the ribat (i.e. strong robe that connects us to Allah)." <sup>3</sup>