

Can a verse (Aya) or some verses can be recited in Salah instead of whole Surah.

Is it possible to recite a verse or some verses, instead of an entire surah, the answer is yes (and Allah SWT knows best). There is a nearly unanimous agreement among the scholars that recitation of the Quran after the fatiha is actually a strong sunna and not a *fard* (i.e. not an absolute requirement of the prayer and does not invalidate the prayer if it does not happen). Therefore, there is wide latitude in what to recite. Scholars have given various opinions on the matter, but these are all entirely human opinions. For example, it is generally agreed-upon that you can recite only one verse after the fatiha, but scholars like Imam Ahmad suggested that if you do that, that it should be a long verse (with some saying equivalent in length to the shortest surah of the Quran, Al Kawthar). Once again, however, since it is not obligatory to recite anything at all, we do not feel that one has to hold strongly to this opinion. Other scholars have said that it is disliked to recite less than three verses, but once again this is a human opinion. Other scholars have mentioned that it is best not to mix up the order of verses in recitation between the rak'as. For example, do not recite the second half of a surah in the first rak'a and then the first half in the second rak'a. This seems reasonable in the sense that they are trying to be careful to preserve the order of the verses in the surahs and not have people get mixed up about that, but once again human opinion.

Finally, as to whether the Prophet (SAW) ever recited just a single verse in prayer, we believe that the answer is yes (and God knows best), but the only instances we know of were in supererogatory prayers (i.e. extra prayers, like sunna prayers), and not in the required *fard* prayers.

For example, it is reported that in the sunnah for the Fajr prayer, the Prophet sometimes recited only verse 136 of sura Al Baqaraa (Quran 2:136).

Also, sometimes he would recite verse 52 or verse 64 of Surat Ali 'Imran (Quran 3:52, 3:64).

There's also a narration that in a late night tahajjud prayer, the Prophet (SAW) recited only verse 118 of sura Al Maidah (Quran 5:118)

إِنْ تُعَذِّبُهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ عَبْدُكَ وَإِنْ تَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ فَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

If thou cause them to suffer - verily, they are Thy servants; and if Thou forgive them - verily, Thou alone art almighty, truly wise!

He kept reciting this verse numerous times during the prayer, but prayed only with that verse. When asked about it later, he noted that he did that on this particular occasion to ask God for forgiveness for his umma.

In the required prayers, he sometimes recited very short suras, such Al Falaq and Al Nas. However, at other times, he had a lengthier recitation. There is even a narration where in one rak'a, he recited Al Baqaraa, then Al Nisa' and then Ali 'Imran.