



The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) used to recite Al-Fātihah followed by another Sūrah in the first two Rak'āhs of the Zhuhr prayer and used to recite only Al-Fātihah in the last two Rak'āhs of it. Sometimes a verse or so was audible

Abu Qatādah (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) used to recite Al-Fātihah followed by another Sūrah in the first two Rak'āhs of the Zhuhr prayer and used to recite only Al-Fātihah in the last two Rak'āhs of it. Sometimes a verse or so was audible. He used to prolong the first Rak'ah more than the second and used to do the same in the 'Asr and Fajr prayers.

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

This noble Hadīth indicates that during the prayers with inaudible recitation such as Zhuhr and 'Asr, one should recite Sūrat al-Fātihah with another Sūrah in the first two Rak'āhs, and recite Sūrat al-Fātihah only in the last two Rak'āhs exactly as done in the audible prayers. There is no harm if one raises his voice a little for the purpose of teaching others.

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