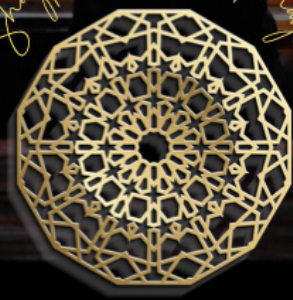


~CORONAVIRUS~ AL-ITIKĀF

Shaykh Sulayman Ar-Ruhayli



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Coronavirus - Al-I'tikāf (1)

Shaykh Sulaymān Ar-Ruhaylī (Allāh preserve him)

All praise is for Allāh. And the most perfect and complete Salāh and Salām be upon the one sent as a mercy for the 'Ālamīn (mankind, jinns and all that exists), upon his family and upon all his Companions.

To proceed:

O brothers and sisters, As-Salāmu 'Alaykum wa Rahmatullāhi wa Barakātuh.

And I ask Allāh, the Most High, to bless you in the days of this month and to aid us in its remaining days.

In this part (of the series) we will talk about a noble act of worship from amongst the righteous actions performed in the month of Ramaḍān. Indeed this act of worship is Al-I'tikāf.

Al-I'tikāf means to remain in a mosque, in a specific manner, with an intention, for a certain period of time for the purpose of worshipping Allāh the Most High.

According to the stronger opinion from the statements of the people of knowledge is that the least time I'tikāf can be performed for is a (complete) night or a (complete) day. So if one enters the mosque at Fajr and intends to perform I'tikāf until Maghrib, then this is considered to be I'tikāf. And if a person enters the mosque at Maghrib and intends to perform

I'tikāf until Fajr, then this is also regarded as I'tikāf.

The Prophet (ﷺ) used to perform I'tikāf in Ramaḍān seeking Laylatul Qadr (The Night of Decree). The Prophet (ﷺ) performed I'tikāf in the first ten days of Ramaḍān. Jibrīl (‘Alayhi As-Salām) came to him and said to him, “The night you are looking for is ahead of you”. So the Prophet (ﷺ) performed I'tikāf in the middle ten days (of Ramaḍān). Again Jibrīl (‘Alayhi As-Salām) came to him and said, “The night you are looking for is ahead of you”. So the Prophet (ﷺ) performed I'tikāf in the last ten days (of Ramaḍān). The Prophet (ﷺ) continued performing I'tikāf in the last ten days until he (ﷺ) passed away. The Companions performed

I'tikāf after he (ﷺ) passed away and so did his wives.

Question

This year we are unable to go to the mosque, so do we perform I'tikāf in our homes?

Answer

No, we should not because I'tikāf is to be performed (only) in the mosques.

So what should we do?

O Muslim, I would like to say to you that whoever was accustomed to performing I'tikāf (during previous years), then this year – by the permission of Allāh – it will be written for him that which he used to do in the previous years. As for the one who was not accustomed to

performing I'tikāf in the previous years, and this year he had a firm and truthful intention to do so, but was prevented due to an excuse, then according to the stronger opinion from the statements of the people of knowledge, the reward of that which he intended will be written to his credit. So let him receive the glad tidings of (the reward of) I'tikāf while he remains in his house. The most important thing is the truthful and firm intention.

I ask Allāh, the Mighty and Majestic, to remove this affliction, to have mercy upon the Ummah, to remove this calamity and to bring delight to the hearts of the believers by allowing them to gather (once again) in the mosques of Allāh, the Mighty and Majestic, sooner rather than later.

And Allāh is the Most High and the All Knowing.
The Salāh and Salām of Allāh be upon our
Prophet.

Source: Part 10 of the series “Waqafāt Ramaḍāniyyah

Translator: Yasar A. Rahmān

20 Ramaḍān 1441 / 13 May 2020

AL-I'TIKĀF AT HOME

حفظه الله Shaykh Sulaymān Ar-Ruhaylī

Al-I'tikāf for men is to be performed in the mosques by the agreement of the scholars and likewise for women according to the majority of the jurists, and this is the strongest opinion. So there is no I'tikāf for men nor women except in the mosques because Al-I'tikāf in the texts of the Qur'ān and the Sunnah has been confined to the mosques. Furthermore, an act of worship can only be performed if there is evidence from the Qur'ān or the Sunnah to sanction it. Therefore, this year it is not legislated to perform I'tikāf in one's home due to the closure of the mosques. Rather, a good intention will suffice.

Translator: Yasar A. Rahman حفظه الله

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