

Proceeding To And Returning From The Musallaa (Place Of Prayer)

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Source: Ruling Concerning the Two 'Eeds From the Purified Sunnah

Proceeding To The Musallaa (Place Of Prayer)

Aboo Sa'eed al-Khudree (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) said: "The Messenger of Allaah (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) on the day's of 'Eedul-Fitr and Adhaa, used to go out to the musallaa and the first thing that he would begin with was the prayer..."¹

The renowned scholar, Ibn Haajee al-Maalikee said: "The past Sunnah with regards to the 'Eed Prayer is that it should be performed at the musallaa. This is because the Prophet (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said: "Prayer in my Mosque is a thousand times better than prayer anywhere else except the Masjidul-Haram."^{2 3}

Despite this great excellence, he (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) went out (to the musallaa) and left his Mosque."⁴

Imaam Ibn Qudaamah al-Maqdisee⁵ said: "The Sunnah is to pray the 'Eed Prayer at a musallaa. 'Alee (radiyallaahu 'anhu) ordered this, and al-Awzaa'ee and the people of ra'ye preferred this opinion. It is also the opinion of Ibnul-Mundhir."⁶

Thus he who is unable to proceed out to the musallaa, due to an illness or old age can pray in the mosque and there is no problem - by the will of Allaah in him doing so.⁷

Here it is appropriate to note that the aim of the prayer in the musallaa is to gather the great majority of the Muslims in one place. Where as we see in this day and age in many countries the existence of several musallaas, even if there is no need. This matter, as the scholar's have informed us, is disliked.⁸

Indeed some musallaas have even become a platform for partisanship so as to divide the Muslims. And indeed all power and movement belong to Allaah.

Going To, And Returning From The Musallaa

Jaabir Ibn 'Abdullaah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) said: "When it was the day of 'Eed the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) used to alter his route (of returning)."⁹

¹ Related al-Bukhaaree (no. 957), Muslim (no.. 889) and an-Nisaa'ee (3/187)

² Publisher's Note: The mosque in Makkah in which the Ka'bah is contained

³ Related by al-Bukhaaree (no. 1190) and Muslim (no. 1394)

⁴ al-Madkhal (2/283)

⁵ al-Mughnee (2/229-230)

⁶ For a detailed explanation of the evidences for this issue with a reply to the doubts of the ones who oppose it, refer to what the renowned scholar, Shaykh Ahmad Shaakir, may Allaah have mercy upon him, wrote in Sharh Sunanut-Tirmidhee (2/421-423) and by our teacher, al-Albaanee, in a treatise called Salaatul-'Eedayn fil-Musallaa hiyas-Sunnah, printed in Damascus. Refer to it for it is of utmost beauty

⁷ Refer to al-Mughnee (2/230)

⁸ Refer to Nihaayatul-Muhtaaj (2/375) by ar-Ramlee

⁹ Related by al-Bukhaaree (no. 986)

Imaam Ibnul-Qayyim al-Jawziyyah said: "The Prophet (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) used to change his route on the days of 'Eed, such that he went by one route and returned by another. It is said (he did this) to give salaam (greetings) upon the people of both routes. Or so that both groups get some of his blessings. Or so that anybody who has a need can take care of it. Or to make manifest the rituals of Islaam - and this is the most correct opinion - for all of these reasons and for other reasons of wisdom which his (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) actions contain."¹⁰

Imaam an-Nawaawee (Rahimahu `Llah) after quoting the previous sayings said: "Even if the reason is not known, it is still definitely preferred to make it a ruling guideline to be followed and Allaah knows best."¹¹

NOTE:

First: Imaam al-Baghawee said in Sharhus-Sunnah (4/302-303): "It is preferred that the people leave for the, musallaa after praying the dawn prayer (Fajr) so that they can take their places and make takbeer. While the Imaam proceeds when it is time for the prayer."

Second: at-Tirmidhee (no. 530), and Ibn Maajah (no. 161) transmit from 'Alee Ibn Abee Taalib that he said: "From the Sunnah is to proceed to the 'Eed by foot."¹²

¹⁰ Zaadul-Ma'aad (1/449)

¹¹ Rawdatut-Taalibeen (2/77)

¹² Declared hasan (good) by our Shaykh, al-Albaanee, in Saheeh Sunanut-Tirmidhee (1/164).