



**Forbidding the Various Bid'ah
during the month of Rajah**

Forbidding the Various *Bid'ah* during the month of Rajab

All praises and thanks are due to Allâh, Who commanded that His Messenger ﷺ be followed and obeyed and forbade us from innovating (adding to or deleting from) his religion, when He said:

“Follow what has been sent down unto you from your Lord (the Qur’ân and Prophet Muhammad’s *Sunnah*), and follow not any *Auliyâ’* (protectors and helpers who order you to associate partners in worship with Allâh), besides Him (Allâh).” (7:3)

I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allâh Alone, Who only accepts the good deeds that conform to what He has legislated and that were performed in sincerity for His Face. I bear witness that Muhammad ﷺ is Allâh’s slave and Messenger who warned against all *Bid'ah*, when he said,

“Beware of matters of innovation, for every *Bid'ah* is a heresy.”

May Allâh’s peace and blessings be on Muhammad, his progeny, companions and all those who adhere to his *Sunnah* and do not invent in the religion what is not a part of it.

O Muslims, fear Allâh and know that innovating in the religion is the source of all kinds of trials and *Fitnah*. The devil strives hard to hinder people from embracing the correct Faith. When he finds some of them who are disinterested in the religion, he encourages this attitude and lures them to satisfy their lusts and desires. As for those who are interested in the religion, Satan lures them to commit various types of *Bid'ah*, so that he spoils their religion.

Therefore, dear Muslims, beware of this danger and know that the religion is complete and does not need or accept any addition or deletion. Allâh said:

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ﴾

“This day, I have perfected your religion for you.” (5:3)

Therefore, there is no place in the religion for *Bid'ah*, just as Imam Malik asserted when he said, “Whoever invents a *Bid'ah* in Islam, thinking that it is a ‘good *Bid'ah*’, will have accused Muhammad ﷺ of not delivering the Message faithfully, because Allâh said:

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ﴾

“This day, I have perfected your religion for you.” (5:3)

Surely, what was not a part of the religion then (in Muhammad’s) time, when this *Āyah* was revealed), is not a part of the religion today!”

The *Mubtadi'*, who invents in the religion, contradicts Allâh since He Alone decides the ways and means to acquire goodness. The *Mubtadi'* seeks to deduct from or add to Allâh’s religion, thus elevating himself to the rank of partner with Allâh in legislating in the religion, and sufficient is this as an evil and misguidance. Allâh ordained that what He legislated be obeyed and implemented, but the *Mubtadi'* refuses and follows his lusts without guidance from Allâh!

O Allâh’s slaves! In this part of the world, Arabia, we were immune from many types of *Bid'ah* by Allâh’s help. However, through the availability of mass media, some *Bid'ah* was able to enter our land by those who were raised to love and invent *Bid'ah* and who practice it while living among us. This might lure many common Muslims to follow suit, compelling us to warn Muslims in this area and the rest of the world against *Bid'ah*, especially during the times and occasions that these *Bid'ah* are practiced. We must do this so that Muslim are able to protect their religion. For instance, there are several *Bid'ah* that are practiced during the lunar month of Rajab by those who claim that this month has special not found in than other months.

First, we should assert that Rajab is one of the sacred months. The Prophet ﷺ was reported to have recited this supplication with regards to Rajab:

«اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِي شَهْرِي رَجَبٍ وَشَعْبَانَ وَبَلِّغْنَا رَمَضَانَ» .

“O Allâh! Bless for us the months of Rajab and Sha‘ban, and allow us to live until Ramadhân.”

Other than this *Hadith* that was reported from the Prophet ﷺ, there is not a *Hadith* about Rajab in specific. Rather, the various *Ahadith* that people mention about the special qualities of Rajab are lies and fake, just as Shaikh Al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah asserted. People have invented many types of *Bid'ah* for this month that neither Allâh, nor His Messenger ﷺ legislated. For instance, people honor the first Thursday in Rajab and the night that proceeds the first Friday. This practice was invented after the year four hundred of *Hijrah* calendar. The *Hadith*, mentioned by people about this special quality, is fabricated, according to the consensus of the scholars. Therefore, Muslims are not allowed to honor this particular day or night in Rajab, because they are just like any other day or night of the year. Al-Hafiz bin Rajab said, “Pertaining to praying, there is no special type of prayer legislated in the month of Rajab. Further, the *Ahadith* that were reported about the benefit of the type of prayer called, *Ar-Raghaib*, during the night that precedes the first Friday in the month of Rajab are all lies and invalid. This particular type of prayer is a *Bid'ah* according to the majority of scholars. As for fasting, there are no authentic statements from the Prophet ﷺ or his Companions about the special quality of fasting during Rajab.”

It was reported that ‘Umar رضي الله عنه used to force the hands of some men who fasted during Rajab to be placed on food and to eat, saying, “What is it about Rajab? Rajab was revered by the people of *Jahiliyyah*, but when Islam came this practice was annulled.” In another narration, ‘Umar رضي الله عنه disliked that one takes the habit of fasting in Rajab, so that it would not become a *Sunnah*. As for performing *Umrah* during Rajab, it was not reported that the Prophet ﷺ ever performed *Umrah* during this month. Therefore, *Umrah* in Rajab is not particularly better than *Umrah* in other months of the year.