

IBAADAT OF I'TIKAAF

Written by Administrator
Monday, 20 June 2016 10:42 -

THE MASNOON IBAADAT OF I'TIKAAF

DON'T DESTROY IT WITH MERRYMAKING AND AMUSEMENT

Within the next couple of days, the period for the Sunnah I'tikaaf of the last ten days of Ramadhaan will commence. This Ibaadat is a *Sunnah alal Kifaayah* Act. If a few individuals observe it, the whole community is absolved of the obligation. This is not an Ibaadat of mass proportions, hence the Sahaabah and the Salafus Saaliheen did not accord it the emphasis which present-day 'sufis' are attaching to it for their own ulterior motives. In the process of attaining fulfilment for their

nafsaaniyat,

the 'shaikhs' of today are ruining the little natural Imaani

Roohaaniyat (spirituality)

of their unsuspecting ignorant mureedeen who are caught up in the whirlpool of merrymaking and nafsaani amusement which characterize these errant, anti-Sunnah mass mock 'i'tikaaf' programmes.

Remember that the I'tikaaf is for cultivating solitude and proximity to Allah Ta'ala. This cannot be achieved with the racket, merrymaking, gluttony, *fuzool*, *lahw* and *la'b* which characterize the mass so-called 'i'tikaaf' programmes.

Only a handful of persons should be allowed to fulfil the I'tikaaf obligation in a Masjid. Those sitting in I'tikaaf must understand that this Ibaadat cordons them off from the dunya. They should therefore, spend

all

the time in Ibaadat – Nafil Salaat, Tilaawat, Thikrullaah, Istighfaar, Durood, etc. If tired, go to sleep, but do not seek diversion with conversation in the Masjid. It is

HARAAM

to indulge in conversation inside the Masjid. Rasulullah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said:

“Conversation in the Masjid consumes good deeds just as cattle consume grass.”

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Seek relief for tiredness in sleep, not in conversation. Don't go about greeting people in the Masjid, especially during I'tikaaf regardless of their status and seniority. Fall asleep with Allah's Name on your tongue so that your every breath is recorded as a Tasbeeh.

Don't ruin your wonderful I'tikaaf ibaadat with *haraam* and *mushtabah* food. Exercise some restraint and control over the nafs. Totally abstain from carrion chicken products, soft drinks and other processed food laced with chemically named poison, mushtabah and haraam ingredients. Keep your mind and body clean and pure to gain maximum benefit of the I'tikaaf. The *Mu'takaf (the I'tikaaf cubicle)* resembles the Qabr, and the I'tikaaf is the monasticism of this Ummah. Do not make the 'Qabr' into a merrymaking playground.

Do not sit in I'tikaaf in a Masjid where a mass gathering takes place in the name of 'I'tikaaf'. Search for a small quiet Masjid if you are intent on I'tikaaf. Those sitting in a genuine I'tikaaf and conducting themselves correctly, are sure to obtain the auspicious Night of Qadr. Do not miss this opportunity with merrymaking and nonsense which are the characteristics of the anti-Sunnah mass gatherings organized in the name of I'tikaaf. Everything of the mass 'I'tikaaf' is in violation with the letter and spirit of I'tikaaf.

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