2995 - Brief summary of different kinds of vows and the rulings on them

the question

If a person makes niyyat of maanat that if his or her maanat is fulfilled,they will recit the story of Bebe Sayadia(RTA) or disterbute sweets in the name of "Allah" or pray 2 raakats of shukrana nafals or go to the shirn of a saint is this permited and what is the permited way of islam to do?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

This question includes a variety of issues, some of which are very strange indeed. For your benefit and that of other readers, in sha Allaah, we have discussed the issue of vows, their various types and the basic rulings on vows in Question # 2587.

Another point related to your question is that a vow is only binding if it is expressed verbally or by one's actions. If a person only has the intention in his heart, this does not make it obligatory for him to fulfil the vow. One must also beware of making vows that are bidah (innovations) or vows to visit places that it is haraam to visit. We ask Allaah to give us the strength to do that which He loves and that pleases Him. May Allaah bless our Prophet Muhammad.