34762 - The hadeeth, “Whoever observes i'tikaaf for one day…” and when a one-day i'tikaaf should begin

the question

Who narrated the hadeeth, “Whoever observes i'tikaaf for one day, seeking the pleasure of Allaah, Allaah will place three ditches between him and the Fire, each ditch as wide as the distance between the east and the west”? What is the status of this hadeeth? If a person wants to observe i'tikaaf for one day, when should his i’tikaaf begin and when should it end? Similarly if he wants to observe i'tikaaf for two days, when should his i’tikaaf begin and when should it end?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

The hadeeth is da’eef (weak). A one-day i'tikaaf begins after Fajr prayer and ends at sunset; a two-day i'tikaaf begins and ends in a similar manner.

And Allaah is the Source of strength. May Allaah send blessings and peace upon our Prophet Muhammad and upon his family and companions.