

12366 - The bid'ah of Eid al-Abraar (the "festival of the righteous")

the question

What is the ruling on Eid al-Abraar which is celebrated in Shawwaal every year?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

One of the innovated things that happen in Shawwaal is the bid'ah (innovation) of "Eid al-Abraar" (the "festival of the righteous"), which is on the eighth day of Shawwaal.

After the people have completed the fast of Ramadaan, and they broke their fast on the first day of Shawwaal - the day of Eid al-Fitr - they start to fast the first six days of Shawwaal, and on the eighth day they celebrate an "eid" which they call Eid al-Abraar.

Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: "With regard to celebrating occasions which are not prescribed in sharee'ah - such as some nights in Rabee' al-Awwal which are called 'Mawlid', or some nights in Rajab, or the eighteenth of Dhu'l-Hijjah, or the first Friday in Rajab, or the eighth of Shawwaal which the ignorant call Eid al-Abraar - these are innovations which were not approved of by the salaf and they did not do these things. And Allaah knows best." (Majmoo' Fataawa Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah, 25/298)

He also said: "With regard to the eighth of Shawwaal, it is not an Eid, neither for the righteous nor for the evil. It is not permissible for anyone to take it as an Eid or to do any of the things connected with celebrations on that day." (al-Ikhtiyaaraat al-Fiqhiyyah, p. 199)

The celebrations of this "eid" take place in one of the famous mosques, where men and women

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General Supervisor:

Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

mix freely, shake hands with one another and utter words of Jaahiliyyah when they shake hands. Then after that they go and make some foods especially for this occasion.” (al-Sunan wa’l-Mubtada’aat by al-Shuqayri, p. 166)