

68992 - Travelling in order to avoid fasting?

the question

What is the ruling on travelling in Ramadaan in order to avoid fasting?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allaah.

Shaykh Ibn 'Uthaymeen (may Allaah have mercy on him) was asked: What is the ruling on travelling in Ramadaan in order to avoid fasting?

He replied:

Fasting is in principle obligatory, and it is one of the pillars of Islam, as is well known. If something is obligatory according to sharee'ah, it is not permissible to use tricks in order to avoid it. If a person travels in order to avoid fasting, then travelling is haraam for him, and breaking the fast is also haraam for him. He has to repent to Allaah, may He be exalted, and change his travel plans and fast. If he persists with his travel plans then he must fast even if he is travelling. To sum up, it is not permissible to use tricks in order to avoid fasting in Ramadaan, because the use of a trick to avoid a duty does not mean that the duty is waived, just as using tricks to do something haraam does not make it permissible.