

695 - Can one celebrate completing the Qur'aan?

the question

A young girl has finished reading the Qur'aan for the first time, and wants to invite her friends for a celebration on this occasion. What should she write on the invitation cards?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

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This is a wonderful thing for such a young person (11 years old) living in a non-Muslim country and deviant society to accomplish. The fact that she has not given her name is a sign of sincerity, in sha Allaah. I think that this should only be announced for the purposes of encouraging others to do the same. The affair should be limited to a small gathering where some relatives or friends invite a few of the girl's friends, tell them of her achievement in completing the Qur'aan in order to encourage them - not to show off or boast - and some of the mothers say a few words about the greatness of the Qur'aan, the importance of reading it and how the Muslim should treat the Qur'aan. Or this girl could invite her friends to a meal to mark the occasion and give thanks for this blessing. There is nothing wrong with such activities, as long as one is careful not to let it turn into a celebration.

It is clear from the above that celebrating a person's completion of reciting or memorizing the Qur'aan, inviting people and offering food, is an action in which there is a risk of two fitnahs (temptations):

(1) that it might be an occasion for showing off and boasting, and

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(2) that it may constitute bid'ah, if people believe that such celebrations are part of the religion and must be held every time a person completes the reading of the Qur'aan. The first danger may be avoided by striving within oneself to be sincere towards Allaah, and the second by restricting the invitees to a small number of family and friends.

We should not hold such gatherings regularly, lest people think it is a part of the Sunnah I ask Allaah to increase His blessings upon you and to give you the strength to memorize Qur'aan and Sincerity in speech and deeds.