

1514 - Reading Quran for a Deceased Person

the question

Is setting a date to meet and read the entire Quran for a deceased person and to pray for him, and doing this every year a bid'ah.?

Detailed answer

There is no indication in either the Quran or the Sunnah that would prescribe the actions described in the question. Based on this fact, these actions are bid'ah (a reprehensible innovation) which is not permitted; we should avoid it and warn others not to do it. The Messenger of Allah (Peace & Blessings of Allah be upon Him) used to say in his khutbahs (sermons): "The truest of speech is the Book of Allah, the best guidance is that of Muhammad and the worst of things are those which are newly invented. Every newly-invented thing is a bid'ah, every bid'ah is a going astray, and every going astray will end in the Fire of Hell." (Reported by An-Nasa'i, may Allah have mercy on him, in al-Sunan, Kitaab salaah al-'eidayn, no. 1560).

It is permissible to pray for the deceased, without arranging a formal gathering, and without setting a specific date for doing so. We ask Allah to help us and you to do that which He loves and which will please Him.

Allah knows best.