

Offering the five obligatory prayers after a prayer on last Friday of Ramadhaan

[Majmoo' Fataawa ash-Shaykh al-'Uthaymeen (12/227, 228)]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: There is a group of people who have a custom in Ramadhaan, which is to offer the five obligatory prayers after a prayer on the last Friday of Ramadhaan, and they say that this is to make up for any obligatory prayers that a person did not offer or that he forgot in Ramadhaan. What is the ruling on this prayer?

Shaykh al-Uthaymeen (*May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him*) replied: The ruling concerning this prayer is that it is an innovation (bid'ah) and it has no basis in Islaamic teachings; it will only take a person further away from his Lord, because the Messenger of Allaah (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him*) said:

“Every innovation is misguidance, and every misguidance will be in the Fire.”

No matter how much the followers of an innovation like it and regard it as good in their own minds, it is something bad before Allaah, may He be glorified and exalted, because His Prophet (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him*) said:

“Every innovation is misguidance, and every misguidance will be in the Fire.”

These five daily prayers that a person makes up on the last Friday of Ramadhaan have no basis in Islaamic teaching. Moreover, we say: has this person missed only five prayers? Perhaps he missed a number of days, not a number of prayers?

What matters is that so long as a person is aware that he has missed prayers, he must make them up when he realises that, because the Prophet (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him*) said:

“Whoever sleeps and misses a prayer or forgets it, let him off it when he remembers it”¹

But if a person does these five prayers to be on the safe side – as they claim – that is something reprehensible and is not permitted.

¹ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree and Saheeh Muslim