

Ruling concerning the `Umrah of At-Tan`eem

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: ferkous.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: Is assuming the state of Ihraam¹ from At-Tan'eem² specific to `Aaishah رضي الله عنها and anyone who is in the same case, or is this general?

Answer: All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

The `Umrah of At-Tan'eem is specific to the menstruating woman who is not able to perform the `Umrah of Hajj because of her menstruation, so the woman who is pure does not undergo the same ruling since the two cases are different and a fortiori, the men. In fact, no one of those who were with the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ performed `Umrah from At-Tan'eem save `Aaishah³ رضي الله عنها, because she menstruated, so she could not make Tawaaf (circumambulation around the Ka'bah). For this reason, the Salaf (Predecessors) refrained from the `Umrah of Tan'eem, and some of them declared it detestable. Furthermore, the scholars have stipulated that it is among the innovated things (in religion). There is no authentically established text even concerning Aaishah رضي الله عنها herself that she did it afterwards. Indeed, when she performs Hajj she waits till the beginning of the month Al-Muharram, then she goes to Al-Juhfa⁴ in order to assume the state of Ihraam for a `Umrah⁵. Shaykh Al-Islaam Ibn Taymeeyah said: "It is detestable to go out from Mecca in order to perform a supererogatory `Umrah, it is in fact, an innovation which neither the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ nor his Companions did during his generation and neither in Ramadhaan nor in other days. Moreover, the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ did not order Aaishah to perform it, but he allowed her to perform it after her discussion with him, in order to soften her heart. Besides, there is a consensus among scholars that circumambulating around the House (Ka'bah) is better than going out (in order to perform a supererogatory `Umrah)"⁶.

¹ Ihraam: The state in which one is prohibited from doing certain things which are lawful at other times. `Umrah and Hajj are performed in such a state.

² At-Tan'eem : a place towards the north of Makkah outside the sanctuary from where Makkans may assume the state of Ihraam to perform `Umrah.

³ Reported by Al-Bukhaaree , chapter of "Hajj" (hadeeth 1481), Muslim, chapter of "Hajj" (hadeeth 2910), Aboo Daawood, chapter of "Rites" (hadeeth 1781), An-Nasaa'ee, chapter of "Purification" (hadeeth 242), Maalik in "Al-Muwatta' " (hadeeth 924), Ibn Hibbaan (hadeeth 3917), Ibn Khuzaymah (hadeeth 2788) and Ahmad (24913) on the authority of `Aaishah رضي الله عنها.

⁴ Al-Juhfa: The Miqaat (The place where Muslims declare their intention to make Hajj or `Umrah and begin the state of Ihraam)of the people of Shaam.

⁵ See: "Majmoo` Al-Fataawa" by Ibn Taymeeyah (92/26).

⁶ See: "Ikhtiyaaraat Ibn Taymeeyah" (119).

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The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah عَزَّ وَجَلَّ. Our last prayer is all praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon our Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ, his Family, his Companions and Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers, Safar 23rd, 1428H. Corresponding to: March 12th, 2007.