

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الصلاة والسلام على محمد وعلى آله وصحبه اجمعين

In the Name of Allah the Most Merciful the Most Gracious.

Consensus of the Ummah (Muslim nation) on Moon Sighting

Assalaamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu.

Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters,

I have read many emails about the issue of Moon sighting. The controversy and debate is still going on. It is the duty of all Muslims to say the truth when they have access to it. Therefore I am writing to this group and I am targeting all the Ummah (Muslim Nation). What I mean by this is that after you read this email it will become your duty to spread the word. It is our message and our responsibility.

The sources of Tashree' (Islamic Law) are four listed below in order:

1. The Holy Quran.
2. The Sunnah of the Messenger peace be upon him.
3. The Ijmaa' of Ummah (Consensus of the legal Scholars of the Muslim Nation)
4. Ijtihad (Exerting effort to extract an opinion based on Islamic Law by one individual or more) under the condition where there is no access to the above three sources. Once access to the above three sources becomes possible and if the Ijtihad was wrong, it becomes void, and the correct Islamic Law replaces it.

Therefore, if we have textual evidence, from the Quran or Sunnah, then no Ijmaa' or Ijtihad is valid or needed.

In the Moon sighting issue, WE HAVE TEXTUAL EVIDENCE. This means ISNA's position is invalid and rejected and it is BID'AH. Very dangerous bid'ah indeed. It will open the door for many implications on Muslims. They are opening the door to ignore the Textual Evidence and Ijmaa' of the Legal Scholars of the Muslim Nation.

(Remember: We are one Nation) "Verily, this brotherhood of yours is a single brotherhood, and I am your Lord therefore serve Me (and no other)" 21:92

The Messenger (PBUH) said: My Nation will not reach an Ijmaa' (consensus) on something that is wrong.

(Meaning that the legal Muslim scholars will reach the correct Islamic opinion inshallah if they discuss and search it together)

The Messenger (PBUH) said: Begin fasting when you see it (the Crescent of Ramadan) and break your fasting when you see it (the Crescent of Shawwaal).

Alhamdulillah there is already a body of International Legal Muslim Scholars in place. It is called: The Islamic Fiqh Academy (IFA) (Fiqh means Islamic knowledge) which is a subsidiary organ of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), created by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah al-Mukarramah (Saudi Arabia) in Rabiul Awwal 1401 H (January 1981). It is based in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). Its members and experts are selected from among the best scholars and thinkers available in the Islamic world and Muslim minorities in non Muslim countries, in every field of knowledge (Islamic Fiqh, science, medicine, economy and culture, etc).

Website: <http://www.fiqhacademy.org/>

The Islamic Fiqh Academy (IFA) has already discussed the issue of moon sighting and issued a consensual decision on this issue. It is in Arabic. I translated it and attached to this document.

It is obligatory by Qur'anic and Prophetic textual evidence for all Muslims in the world (including North America) to abide by the Ijmaa' (consensus) of the Muslim Nation (Ummah).

It is obligatory for all Muslims in the world (including North America) to abide by the Ijmaa' of the Islamic Fiqh Academy (IFA) since it is legal, international and consensual.

This Ijmaa' sends a message to ISNA to correct their blunder, go back to the straight path and re-join the Ummah. Also tells us that we must reject their position. They are disqualified.

The Messenger (PBUH) said: No obedience to any creature in disobeying Allah (SWT)

ISNA wants you to disobey Allah and his messenger. They though they are too smart to follow the illiterate messenger of Allah (PBUH). Thinking that he sighted the moon because he was backward and illiterate. Failing to realize that it is not about science and technology. It is about obeying Allah and his messenger. It is a test from Allah to us to see who will obey and who will go astray. Just like the forbidden Apple tree to Adam (PBUH).

Tell them we will Obey Allah and his messenger not ISNA.

Tell them: ALLAHU AKBAR. LABBAIK ALLAHUMMA LABBAIK.

(Allah is The Greatest. Surely here I am at Your service Allah...Surely here I am at Your service)

Based on the Islamic textual evidence and the IFA Ijmaa', inshallah I will begin fasting whenever any first Muslim Sunni Community anywhere in the world declares that they have Islamically eye sighted the crescent of Ramadan.

(Please read the attached IFA Ijmaa' in PDF format).

May Allah Guide all of us. Aameen.

Assalaamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu.

The Islamic Fiqh Academy (IFA)



The Islamic Fiqh Academy (IFA) is a subsidiary organ of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), created by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah al-Mukarramah (Saudi Arabia) in Rabiul Awwal 1401 H (January 1981).

It is based in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia).

Its members and experts are selected from among the best scholars and thinkers available in the Islamic world and Muslim minorities in non Muslim countries, in every field of knowledge (Islamic Fiqh, science, medicine, economy and culture, etc.).

مجمع الفقه الإسلامي (IFA) هو عضو فرعي لمنظمة المؤتمر الإسلامي (OIC) التي أنشأها مؤتمر القمة الإسلامي الثالث والذي عقد بمكة المكرمة (السعودية) في ربيع الأول لسنة 1401 هـ (يناير 1981).

مقر المجمع هو جدة (السعودية)، ويتم اختيار أعضائه وخبرائه من بين أفضل العلماء والمفكرين في العالم الإسلامي والأقليات المسلمة في الدول غير الإسلامية في جميع فروع المعرفة (الفقه الإسلامي، العلوم، الطب، الاقتصاد، الثقافة، ... إلخ).

وقد انعقد المؤتمر التأسيسي لمجمع الفقه الإسلامي في مكة المكرمة فيما بين 26-28 من شعبان 1403 هـ (7-9 من يونيو 1983 م)، وبتنفيذ المؤتمر التأسيسي أصبح المجمع حقيقة واقعة باعتباره إحدى الهيئات المنبثقة عن منظمة المؤتمر الإسلامي.

ويبلغ عدد الدول المشاركة بالمجمع دولة ممثلة بواحد أو أكثر من خيرة علماء الفقه الإسلامي من أبنائها، ولم يفت أن يستعين المجمع بالعديد من الخبراء المميزين في مجالات المعرفة الإسلامية وشتى المعارف والعلوم الأخرى، وذلك من أجل تحقيق إرادة الأمة الإسلامية في الوحدة نظرياً وعملياً وفقاً لأحكام الشريعة السمحة، ولتستعيد الأمة بالتالي دورها الحضاري الذي اضطلعت به على مدى قرون عدة حملت فيها نبراس التقدم وقادة فيها حركة التاريخ الإنساني على كافة المستويات

In the Name of Allah the Most Merciful the Most Gracious

May peace and blessing be upon our messenger Mohammad and his family and his companions.

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

صلى الله على سيدنا ونبينا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه

وسلم

الأجوبة التي صادق عليها المجمع

Questions that have been answered and certified by Islamic Fiqh Academy:

Question 23:

It is difficult or not possible in many states in the USA and also many European countries, to see the crescent of the month of Ramadan or Shawwaal. Scientific advancement in many of these countries makes it possible to specify the birth of the crescent accurately using calculations. Is it permissible to rely on calculations in these countries?

Is it permissible to rely on observatories and accept testimonies regarding the crescent from non-Muslims who are supervising the process, given that it is more likely that they are trustworthy in such matters?

Please notice that the fact Muslims of the USA and Europe are following the sightings of some eastern Muslim countries in their fasting and breaking fast has caused a great amount of debate, resulting in wasting the valuable benefits of Eids creating semi permanent dilemmas. Using calculations could end all of this in the view of some.

السؤال الثالث والعشرون :

في كثير من الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية وكذلك الأقطار الأوروبية تصعب أو تتعذر رؤية هلال رمضان أو شوال، والتقدم العلمي الموجود في كثير من هذه البلدان يمكن من معرفة ولادة الهلال بشكل دقيق بطريق الحساب، فهل يجوز اعتماد الحساب في هذه البلدان؟؟

وهل تجوز الاستعانة بالمراسد وقبول قول الكفار

المشرفين عليها علماً أن الغالب على الظن صدق قولهم في هذه الأمور؟؟

ومما يجدر بالملاحظة أن اتباع المسلمين في أمريكا وأوروبا

لبعض البلدان الإسلامية المشرقية في صيامها أو إفطارها قد أثار بينهم اختلافات كثيرة، غالباً ما تذهب بأهم

فوائد الأعياد، وتثير مشكلات شبه دائمة، وفي الأخذ

بالحساب ما قد يقضي على هذا في نظر البعض أو يكاد .

ANSWER:

It is obligatory (a must or Wajib) to depend on human eye visibility of the crescent. It is permissible turn for help (to aid human eye visibility) from astrological calculations and observatories taking into consideration the prophetic hadiths and scientific facts.

If the visibility of the crescent was confirmed in one country it is mandatory for all Muslims to abide by it regardless of the variations in moon visibility between countries because of the universality of the order to start the fast and break the fast.

الجواب :

يجب الاعتماد على الرؤية، ويستعان بالحساب الفلكي

والمراسد مراعاة للأحاديث النبوية والحقائق العلمية .

وإذا ثبتت الرؤية في بلد وجب على المسلمين الالتزام بما

ولا عبرة لاختلاف المطالع لعموم الخطاب بالأمر بالصوم

والإفطار.

Source: <http://www.fiqhacademy.org/015.html>