

Dividing the Taraaweeh Prayer in the last ten nights of Ramadhan

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Shaykh Muhammad Naasir-ud-Deen al-Albaanee (d.1420A.H) (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹ was asked:

Questioner: 'In the last ten nights of Ramadan, they divide up the prayer, the night prayer at the first part of the night, and the last part of the night, and this has become a continuous practice.'

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): 'Bida'.

Questioner: 'How would it be then if we wanted to establish the Sunnah and make it easy for the people?'

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): 'They presume the like of what Umar had said, that and the prayer that they delay is better. Meaning that Umar ordered Ubayy bin Ka'ab to establish the night prayer with the people after the Isha prayer, so he did so, and when Umar went out he said: 'This is a blessed Bida' and the prayer they sleep over (i.e. praying later in the night) is better.'

The questioner: 'So you mean that the situation of the night prayer is the same as it was before the last ten nights?'

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): 'Yes.'

[From: 'Silsilah al-Huda wa Noor' Tape no. 719]

'Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) commented on this statement of Umar, quoting al-Haafidh² saying:

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² Haafidh Ibn Hajr al-Asqalane (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) wrote the famous explanation of Saheeh al Bukhaaree called Fath ul-Baaree.

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‘This is a clarification from Umar that the prayer at the last part of the night is better than the first part of the night, however, there is not in his statement that the prayer in Qayyam al-Layl, prayed individually is better than in congregation.’

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ) added:

‘I say: rather, congregating in the first part of the time is better than individually praying it in the last part of the night.’

[From: ‘Salatul Taraaweeh’ by Shaykh Albaanee p.42]