

Reciting the Takbeer Loudly and in Chorus before the Eid salaah

Q: Salaah-540: It has become customary for the people here to have two persons standing by the Mimbar to recite the Takbeer loudly, after which all the audience join in to recite loudly. They say: (vol. 2 pg. 379) The purpose of this is so that no one misses the salaah. Is there any harm in this?

Answer: Allaah says on the Qur'aan: "In Rasulullaah (SAW.) there is an excellent example for you (to follow)." It is also necessary for Muslims to follow the directive of Rasulullaah SAW. when he said, "Hold fast to my Sunnah and the Sunnah of my Khulafaa Raashideen. Bite onto them with your hind teeth and (apart from their practices), stay away from all newly introduced practices because every new practice (in Deen) is a Bid'ah and all forms of Bid'ah lead people astray.

The practice in your Masjid has not been carried out by the Khulafaa Raashideen, the Sahabah RADI. the Taabi'een, those after them or all the Mujtahideen, Mashaa'ikh or Fuqahaa. Any act introduced into the Deen without being substantiated ought to be rejected. The Deen does not follow people, but they need to follow the Deen as it has been reported. For example, while a first Adhaan is called out from the Minaarah for the Jumu'ah salaah. it is not done for the Eid salaah. Similarly, while there is an Adhaan in front of the Imaam for the Jumu'ah salaah, it is not done for the Eid salaah because it has never been done. The same applies to the Iqaamah, which is called out for the Jumu'ah but not the Eid salaah.

A person once arrived at the place of performing the Eid salaah on the day of Eid and was about to start performing salaah when Hadhrat Ali RADI. stopped him. "O Ameerul Mu'mineen!" the man said, "I know well that Allaah will not punish me for performing salaah (why are you then stopping me?)." Hadhrat Ali RADI. replied. "I know well that Allaah will not reward you for something unless Rasulullaah SAW. did it or encouraged it. (Since Rasulullaah SAW. did not perform any salaah before the Eid salaah) I fear that your act will be futile and (when it comes to worship) futile acts are Haraam. I therefore fear that Allaah may even punish you for it.

Sheikh Abdul Qaadir Jaylaani RAH. said, "Follow and do not introduce your own things, obey and do not disobey." He also said, "Shirk is not only the worship of idols but following the carnal desires as well." Hadhrat Ayoob Sakhtiyaani RAH. said, "The more a person of Bid'ah applies himself, the further he drifts away (from Deen).

The custom practised in your Masjid conflicts with the Sunnah and must be forsaken. Concerning the recitation of the Takbeer, Majaalisul Abraar states that when people are going to the Eid Gah on the day of Eidul Fitr, they should recite it softly and should they recite aloud due to lack of knowledge, no harm will be done. However, reciting it aloud in chorus is Haraam. It must be recited individually and stopped as soon as one reaches the Eid Gah.

People should engage in individual Dhikr while waiting for the salaah to commence, or otherwise listen to a lecture delivered by an Aalim. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

Fatawa Rahimiyyah vol.2