

'Eed, the first day of Shawwal – 'Eidul-Fitr following Ramadan, and the tenth day of the month of Thul-Hijjah – 'Eidul-Adha. The Day of 'Arafah might be called an 'Eid for those who are at 'Arafah on that day, and the days of Tashreeq, following 'Eidul-Adha.

As for birthday celebrations for a person or his children, or wedding anniversaries or the like, none of them are legislated and they are closer to being innovations than to being allowed.

Q. 92. A man lived in a house and he suffered from illnesses and many calamities. This caused him and his family to feel that this house was full of bad omens; is it permissible for them to leave this house due to this reason?

A. It is possible that there be a bad omen in some houses, some means of transport and some wives; Allâh may make keeping them either harmful or a cause of losing something beneficial, or some such thing due to some Wisdom known to Him. In view of this, there is no objection to selling this house and moving to another house, that perhaps Allâh the Most High will place goodness in the house to which he moves.

It has been reported from the Prophet ﷺ that he said:

«الشُّؤْمُ فِي ثَلَاثٍ: الدَّارِ، وَالْمَرْأَةِ، وَالْفَرَسِ»

“The evil omen is in three things: The house, the woman and the horse.”¹¹¹

So, there is an evil omen in some means of transport, and in some wives there is an evil omen and in some houses there is an evil omen. So, if a person considers that, he should know that it is by Allâh, the Almighty, the All-Powerful's Qadar and that

¹¹¹ Reported by Al-Bukhari in the Book of Jihad, in the Chapter: What is Mentioned Regarding the Evil Omen of the Horse (2858).

Allâh, the Most Glorified, the Most High by His Wisdom has ordained that, so that the person may move to another place. And Allâh knows better.

Q. 93. What is the ruling on *Tawassul*?

A. This is a very important question, so we would like to reply to it in detail; therefore I say:

Tawassul: It is the infinitive of the verb *Tawassala* (past tense) *Yatawassalu* (present tense): That is, he undertook the means to achieve his aim. So the basic meaning of it is: Seeking to achieve an intended goal. *Tawassul* is divided into two categories:

1. The correct category – which is *Tawassul* by the correct means which leads to what is required. This includes a number of categories:

The First Type: *Tawassul* through the Names of Allâh, the Most High and that is in two forms:

The First Form: That it is in a general manner, and an example of that is what was reported in the *Hadith* of 'Abdullah bin Mas'ud, may Allâh be pleased with him, regarding the supplication of one who is afflicted by anxiety and distress, in which he said:

«اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي عَبْدُكَ، ابْنُ عَبْدِكَ، ابْنُ أَمَتِكَ، نَاصِيَتِي بِيَدِكَ، مَاضٍ فِي حُكْمِكَ، عَدْلٌ فِي قَضَائِكَ، أَسْأَلُكَ اللَّهُمَّ بِكُلِّ اسْمٍ هُوَ لَكَ سَمِيَتْ بِهِ نَفْسِكَ، أَوْ أَنْزَلْتَهُ فِي كِتَابِكَ، أَوْ عَلَّمْتَهُ أَحَدًا مِنْ خَلْقِكَ، أَوْ اسْتَأْثَرْتُ بِهِ فِي عِلْمِ الْغَيْبِ عِنْدَكَ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ الْقُرْآنَ رَبِيعَ قَلْبِي . . .»

“Oh, Allâh! I am Your slave and the son of Your male slave and the son of Your female slave. My destiny is in Your Hand, Your Judgement concerning me will be carried out and Your Decision regarding me is just. I ask You by every Name which is Yours, by