(Part No. 3; Page No. 76)

The first question of Fatwa no. 7929

Q 1: My question is about the 15th night of Sha`ban. Does the following Ayah (Qur'anic verse) in Surah Al-Dukhan, saying: (Therein (that night) is decreed every matter of ordainments.) refer to the 15th night of Sha`ban or Laylat-ul-Qadr (the Night of Decree), the 27th night of Ramadan? Is it Mustahab (desirable) during this night to offer `Ibadah (worship), engage in Dhikr (remembrance of Allah), Qiyam-ul-Layl (optional Prayer at night), recite Qur'an and fast the 14th of Sha`ban?

A: First, the authentic explanation reported about the night mentioned in the Ayah is that it is Laylatul-Qadr, not the 15th night of Sha`ban. **Second**, it is not Mustahab to offer special `Ibadah on the 15th night of Sha`ban. Rather, it is as ordinary as any other night, and offering special `Ibadah on it is a Bid`ah (innovation in religion).

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee

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