



**(Part No. 12; Page No. 240)**

**The first question of Fatwa no. 5981**

**Q 1:** Today many youth believe that we should abandon some acts of Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet) in order to avoid disagreement among the people. For example, placing the right hand on the left hand in Salah, positions of raising the hands (in Salah), and Jalsat-ul-Istirahah (a brief sitting after prostration and before standing during the Prayer). They argue that Islam has many priorities and these matters come in later stages and not in the first stages in the life of a Da`iy (caller to Islam); especially Jalsat-ul-Istirahah. They believe that if you apply an act of Sunnah and people start to look at you with discontent, it will be a Fitnah (sedition). They began to use the following Ayah as a proof: "Fitnah is worse than killing." And the saying of the Prophet (peace be upon him): "Fitnah is in a sleep, Allah has cursed those who awaken it." These are legal proofs to be followed. The Prophet (peace be upon him) commanded us to follow his Sunnah, especially at times of disagreements. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said in the Hadith of Al-`Irbad ibn Sariyah after he mentioned some matters: **(Whoever lives after me, will see a lot of disagreements, so keep to my Sunnah and the practices of the Rightly-Guided Caliphs who will come after me. . .)** and so on. Please advise.

**A: First,** Du`ah (callers) to the Way of Allah (Exalted be He) should start with the most important issues, then the less important and so on as the Prophet (peace be upon him) said when he sent Mu`adh to Yemen: **(You are going to people of a (Divine) Book. So when you come to them call them to testify that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. If they obey you in that, inform them that Allah has enjoined on them five Salahs (to be offered) in every day and night. If they obey you in that, inform them that Allah has enjoined on them Sadaqah (obligatory charity) to be taken from the rich among them and given to the poor among them. If they obey you in that, beware (not to take as obligatory charity) their precious property! And fear the supplication of a wronged person, for there is no barrier between him and Allah.)** (Agreed upon by Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

**(Part No. 12; Page No. 241)**

They should not distract themselves from these important issues by engaging in disagreement over subsidiary matters or supererogatory acts of worship like those mentioned in the question. Variance in these matters is legally acceptable, as they are controversial and subject to debate and Ijtihad (juristic effort to infer expert legal rulings).

Du`ah should explain the basic Shar`y (Islamic legal) rulings, meaning: the Wajib (obligatory), Mustahab (desirable), Haram (prohibited), Makruh (reprehensible), and Mubah (permissible). There is no harm that some people may disagree with them as long as they provide the proofs from the Qur'an and the Sunnah to their sayings and actions.

**Second,** individually, they have to adhere to the Sunnah and apply it themselves as much as they can and be an example to follow in their actions, behavior, worship, and transactions so as to show people the image of a practicing caller to the Way of Allah (Exalted be He) by word and deed in the

fundamentals and branches of religion.

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

### **Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'**

Member	Member	Deputy Chairman	Chairman
`Abdullah ibn Qa`ud	`Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan	`Abdul-Razzaq `Afify	`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz

**Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee**