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The second question of Fatwa no. 11663

Q 2: Observing Sawm (Fast) for six days of Shawwal is a voluntary act of worship; so is it sufficient for a woman to observe the Sawm of six days of Shawwal in place of the missed days of Ramadan or should she fast twelve days; six for making up the days that she missed and another voluntary six? May Allah reward you!

A: Observing the voluntary Sawm of six days of Shawwal is not sufficient to compensate for the missed days of Ramadan. The Muslim should first make up for the missed days then observe the Sawm of six days of Shawwal, if one wishes, before the end of the month.

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