



Types of Ihram

Fatwa no. 5229

Q: I have read many books on the rituals of Hajj and I nearly have enough information about them now, but despite this, there are still some subjects that I cannot understand correctly due to the conflicting opinions and juristic views. One of these subjects is making intention for Ifrad Hajj (performing Hajj only); one opinion says that it is not required to offer a sacrificial animal and another says that it is required; which of these two opinions should I follow? I have not read one book that satisfied me about Hajj or Hajj as performed by the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his Sahabah (Companions, may Allah be pleased with all of them). I would like you to clarify these matters in a simple and clear way. May Allah reward you with the best!

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Could you do that in the light of the Qur'an and the authentic Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet). As-salamu `alaykum warahmatullah wabarakatuh (May Allah's Peace, Mercy, and Blessings be upon you!)

A: There are three types of Ihram (ritual state for Hajj and `Umrah): **The first:** assuming Ihram just for performing Hajj. It is not obligatory on the pilgrim performing Ifrad Hajj (performing Hajj only) to offer Hady (sacrificial animal offered by pilgrims). **The second:** assuming Ihram for Hajj and `Umrah together. This type of Hajj is called Qiran Hajj (combining Hajj and `Umrah without a break in between) and also Tamattu' Hajj (`Umrah during the months of Hajj followed by Hajj in the same year with a break in between). It is obligatory to offer a Hady in Qiran Hajj. **The third:** assuming Ihram to perform `Umrah during the months of Hajj. In this case, Ihram is assumed for `Umrah and then ended, and Hajj is performed in the same year. This type of Hajj is called Tamattu' Hajj and it is obligatory to offer a Hady in this type of Hajj. Anyone who cannot afford a Hady should observe Sawm (Fast) for three days during Hajj and then seven days when they return home. **The best of the three types is:** Tamattu' Hajj, performing `Umrah (during the months of Hajj) followed by Hajj (in the same year).

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

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