




157-Ruling on relying on the calendar for Sawm on the Day of 'Ashura'

Q: I am a young man whom Allah (Exalted be He) guided to the right path. I like to observe Sawm (Fast) on the Day of 'Ashura' (10th of Muharram) and on all other virtuous days beside Ramadan.

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My question is whether it is permissible to depend on the calendar to determine the start of Muharram, or is it better to observe Sawm on the two days preceding and succeeding 'Ashura' to be on the safe side? May Allah reward you with the best! 

A: You have to depend on sighting the new moon, but if the efforts to sight the new moon failed, stay on the safer side by completing Dhul-Hijjah thirty days. May Allah grant us all success!

Source: Fatwas of Ibn Baz