
Fast of 'Aashoora and responding to an invite

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(Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, 25/2.)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Questioner: Ustaadh, supposing that it's 'Aashoora, the fast of [the Day of] 'Aashoora, and a person close to you has called you over for lunch, if you don't go, he'll get upset, so should you take up his invite or complete your fast?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹: If you don't go he'll get upset?

Questioner: He'll get upset.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): Go, but if there's no harm [in not going] and he won't get upset then he supplicates for him and completes his fast.

Questioner: So 'Aashoora is like other optional acts of worship.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): Optional, but it has special merit.

Questioner: Responding to an invite is regarded as being obligatory?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): Yes.

Questioner: When a Muslim invites you then you must respond to his invitation, so the thing which is obligatory is given precedence over that which is optional.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): That's it, but if he accepts the excuse then he supplicates for him and asks Allaah to forgive him, if he doesn't accept [his refusal] then he goes.

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him