

Repeating the prayer of Al-Istikhaarah

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: Is it permissible to repeat the prayer of Al-Istikhaarah (guidance prayer)? Is this considered among insisting on Du'aa' (invocating Allaah)?

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee (*May Allaah preserve him*): All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

The prayer of Al-Istikhaarah is legitimate without any divergence among scholars. Moreover, I do not know any proof that Al-Istikhaarah prayer may be repeated for the same matter for which the person had an intention to perform the prayer, and wanting good in its accomplishment or in its non-accomplishment. Nevertheless, it is permissible to repeat Al-Istikhaarah prayer for a related part to the same matter, as the related parts to the matter are different. If the person asks Allaah's guidance, he should, after it, do the matter he feels at ease with, without relying on a previous feeling of ease in which there is a desire as regards the matter.

It is permissible to repeat the invocation in the same Istikhaarah prayer, as it is reported in Saheeh Muslim that "When the Prophet (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him*) made Du'aa' (invocation) he would repeat it three times"¹.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah (*Mighty and Majestic is He*). Our last prayer is all praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon our Prophet (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him*), his Family, his Companions and Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

¹ Reported by Muslim, chapter of "Jihaad and expeditions", (hadeeth 4750), from the hadeeth of Ibn Mas'ood رضي الله عنه.