

For Women to Perform Salaah in Jamaa'ah in the Haram

Q: Salaah-585: When women go for Hajj and Umrah, is it best for them to perform their salaahs in Jamaa'ah in the Haram or in their quarters?

Answer: A detailed reply has been given in a previous Fatwa to the question of whether women should attend the Masaajid. That Fatwa cites the incident of Hadhrat Ummu Humayd RADI. the wife of Hadhrat Abu Humayd Saa'idi RADI. who once came to Rasulullaah SAW. and said, "O Rasulullaah SAW. I love to perform salaah behind you." Rasulullaah SAW. then told her, "I know that you love to perform behind me, but your salaah in the innermost recess of your house is better than your salaah in your room, your salaah in your room is better than your salaah anywhere else on your house and your salaah anywhere else in your house is better than your salaah in your local Masjid. Likewise, your salaah in your local Masjid is better than your salaah in this Masjid of mine." She then had a place made for her in the innermost and darkest recess of her house and performed her salaah there until the day she passed away.

This Hadith proves that it is best for women to perform salaah in their private quarters even though the Masjid is their local Masjid or the Masjidul Haraam. They should therefore not go to the Masjidul Haraam and the Masjidun Nabawi with the intention of performing salaah, but with the intention of making Tawaaf or visiting the blessed tomb of Rasulullaah SAW. If it happens to be at the time of salaah, they must then ensure that they perform salaah with the women and not with the men. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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