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Locking Masjids

The second question of Fatwa no. (2014):

Q: Were the Masjids (mosques) in the time of the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) locked at night? Did the Muslims who came to visit the sacred places leave the masjid and sleep outside the walls of the Masjid?

A: As far as we know, Masjids were not locked in the time of the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him). They were not furnished, and people were too pious to do commit any offenses in them. Later, the Masjids were furnished and there were items in them which might be stolen. Now, as the people have become corrupt, it is permissible for the ruler to lock them if he thinks this will be for the good of the public; in order to protect the Masjids and valuable items in them from the corrupt people.

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

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