



Second question from Fatwa No. 2444

Q2: What is the ruling on pronouncing a person's intention such as saying: "I intend to perform Fajr (dawn) Prayer as two Rak`ah (unit of Prayer) for the sake of Allah,"?

A: Salah (Prayer) is an act of worship. Worships are Tawqifiy (bound by a religious text and not amenable to personal opinion). It should be performed according to the Qur'an and the authentic Sunnah. It was not authentically reported that the Prophet (peace be upon him) pronounced his intention during obligatory or supererogatory Salah. Had it been done by the Prophet (peace be upon him), the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) would have conveyed it to us. But this was not done, and therefore pronouncing intention is a Bid`ah (rejected innovation in religion). It was authentically reported that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: [\("He who innovates things in our affairs for which there is no valid \(reason\) \(commits sin\) and these are to be rejected."\)](#) He also said: [\("Avoid novelties \(in religion\), for every novelty is an innovation, and every innovation leads to misguidance."\)](#)

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

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