



(Part No : 6, Page No: 398)

Reciting Qudsi Hadith instead of the Qur'an in Salah

Fatwa no. 9391:

Q: Why is it not permissible to recite Qudsi Hadith (Revelation from Allah in the Prophet's words) in Salah, as they are Allah's words like the Qur'an? As for the difference between both, it is known.

A: Salah is an Ibadah (worship) that is Tawqifiy (bound by a religious text and not amenable to personal opinion). The Qudsi Hadith, though being a Wahy (revelation) from Allah, are not the same as Qur'an. Allah (may He be Exalted) commands His Slaves through His Prophet's words and actions (peace be upon him) to recite the Qur'an, not the Qudsi or prophetic Hadith in Salah. Allah did not make it incumbent upon His Slaves to recite them instead of Al-Fatihah or the Surah that follows it. Also, there is no evidence in the Qur'an or the Sunnah indicating that whatever was revealed from Allah should be recited in Salah, otherwise the prophetic Hadith would have been recited in it. All these matters are Tawqifiy and not subject to Ijtihad (juristic effort to infer expert legal rulings), Ta`lil (logical and methodical reasoning), or personal opinions.

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

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