



Fatwa no. 2501

Q: After performing the obligatory Hajj, many women travel to Madinah to visit Al-Masjid Al-Nabawy (the Prophet's mosque) and the grave of the Messenger (peace be upon him). Is it obligatory on women to visit both Al-Masjid Al-Nabawy and the grave of the Messenger (peace be upon him), to visit one of them, or it is not obligatory on them to visit either of them? Please advise us on this matter.

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A: It is not obligatory on men or women to visit Al-Masjid Al-Nabawy. It is only Sunnah (a commendable act) to perform Salah there and it is permissible to travel there to do so. Visiting the grave of the Messenger (peace be upon him) is not obligatory either; it is Sunnah for those who have not traveled especially to visit the grave, as it is for any grave of any other Muslim. The visit should only be performed to take lessons, warnings, and reminders of the Hereafter from the visit. The Prophet (peace be upon him) visited graves and encouraged people to do so for these reasons, but not to seek blessings from them or to ask the dead to meet needs or relieve distress, as is done by many of the male and female adherents to Bid'ah (rejected innovation in religion). However, if someone has to travel to visit the grave of the Prophet (peace be upon him), or that of any other person, this is not be permitted. It is confirmed that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, [« Do not set out on a journey except to three Masjids \(mosques\): This Masjid of mine \(Al-Masjid Al-Nabawy in Madinah\), Al-Masjid Al-Haram \(the Sacred Mosque in Makkah\), and Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa \(Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem\). »](#) However, it should be borne in mind that women are not permitted to visit graves, as it is confirmed that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, [« Allah curses women who visit graves. »](#)

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

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