

Itikaf (Seclusion)

Issue No. 1- Itikaf means a type of worship whereby a person resides in a Jamee mosque for three days or more, not setting foot out of the mosque, and fasting each day, with Niyyat of Qurbat

Issue No. 2- Itikaf is Mustahab, but it becomes wajib by Vow, Covenant or Oath.

Issue No. 3- The conditions of Itikaf are the following things:

1. Sane.
2. Niyyat of Qurbat and seeking rewards and blessing of Allah.
3. Fasting for 3 days.
4. Not to be less than 3 days.
5. To be in a Jamee mosque.
6. Staying in the mosque and not going out, except for necessary and emergency reasons.

For example, if he becomes Muhtalim, then he should go out immediately from the mosque to perform Ghusl for Jinabat and return to the mosque again.

Issue No. 4- whenever Fasting is in order, Itikaf also is in order. But the best time for that is the month of Ramadhan. And the time of Niyyat for commencing Itikat is just before Fajr prayer.

Issue No. 5- The following things invalidate the Itikaf:

1. Sexual Intercourse.
2. Istimna (Masturbation).
3. Smelling all perfumes for the purpose of enjoying.
4. Mujadilah (altercation, dispute, contention) for showing off.
5. Buying and selling for business. However, to buy the necessary food staff to serve during the time of Itikaf is permissible.
6. All things which invalidate the Fast invalidate the Itikaf too.
