

Offering Tarawih Prayers at home

The fourth question of Fatwa no. 7617

Q 4: During Ramadan, at the time of Tarawih (special supererogatory night Prayer in Ramadan),

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is it better to go to the Masjid (Mosque) or offer them at home? I am not an Imam, but a Ma'mum (persons being led by an Imam in Prayer). Indeed, I love to recite the Qur'an and prefer reciting to listening. Is there any sin, if I pray Tarawih at home?

A: There is no sin if you offer Tarawih at home, because it is a Nafilah (supererogatory). However, it is better to pray with the Imam in the Masjid following the example of the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his Sahabah (Companions of the Prophet- may Allah be pleased with them). When the Prophet (peace be upon him) led his Companions in Tarawih on some nights until the end of the first third of the night, one of them said to him, "We wish that you would lead us in Nafilah Prayer for the rest of the night. He replied, (Whoever prays Qiyam (optional Prayer at night) with the Imam until he finishes, it is as if he spent the whole night in prayer.)Related by Ahmad and the authors of Al-Sunan with a Hasan chain of narration from the Hadith of Abu Dhar (may Allah be pleased with him).

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

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