Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Ibraahim Ala Shaikh (1389 H.) rahimahullah said: "The first to innovate this innovation of celebrating the birthday of the Prophet salla allaahu alayhi wa salam was Abu Sa'eed al-Kukburiy in the sixth century Hijri". [Fatawaa wa Rasaail Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Ibraahim (3/59) as cited in al-Bida'tul-Hawliyyah pg. 149]

The Ruling on Mawlid

Imam as-Sakhaawi (901 H.) rahimahullah said in his Fatawa: "Establishing the Mawlid ash-Shareef was not reported from any of the Salaf-us-Salih in the three virtuous generations. It was only innovated after". [As-Saarim ul-Munki 'ala man Ajaaz Ihtifaal bi-Mawlid an-Nabawi pg 8]

Shaikh ul-Islaam Ibn Taymiyyah (728 H.) rahimahullah said in Iqtidaa as-Siraatul-Mustaqeem: "Verily the issue of festivals and innovated celebrations are from the most severe and dangerous affairs which the Muslims have become lenient regarding after the virtuous generations. Many Muslims are quick to imitate the other nations in their festivals and celebrations. So some of them innovated the innovation of the birthday of the Prophet, the celebration of the night of Israa wal-Mi'raaj, these national

festivals which increase day after day among the Muslims, and other than them. Verily these are a heavy burden and fetter which the Muslims have been afflicted with and for which Allah did not send down an authority". [as-Saarim ul-Munki 'ala man Ajaaz Ihtifaal bi-Mawlid an-Nabawi pg.9]

And he also said: "If this was pure good or mostly good the Salaf (may Allah be pleased with them) would be more deserving than us of [establishing it]. For verily they had more intense love for the Messenger of Allah salla allaahu alayhi wa salam and veneration for him than us. They were more eager for good than us". [As-Saarim ul-Munki 'ala man Ajaaz Ihtifaal bi-Mawlid an-Nabawi pg.9]

Thus, we learn that celebrating the Prophet's birthday has no origin in Islam. It is an innovation that originated after the death of the Prophet salla allaahu alayhi wa salam, his Companions, and the Pious Predecessors, rahimahummullah.



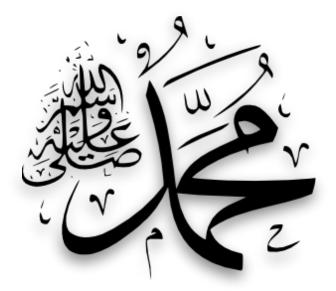
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THE RULING ON CELEBRATING THE PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY



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Bismillah ar-Rahman ar-Raheem

All Praise is due to Allah and may Peace and Blessings be upon the Prophet, his Companions, and his followers until the Last Day.

As for what proceeds:

The Prophet's birthday (Mawlid un-Nabawi) is a highly controversial topic among Muslims. Every year on the twelfth of Rabi' al-Awwal, Muslims all across the world celebrate the 'supposed' birthday of the Prophet salla allaahu alayhi wa salam. However, the question we must ask is: does this celebration have an origin in Islam? This pamphlet will clarify that Mawlid un-Nabawi is in fact an innovation in the religion of Islam that should not be celebrated. May Allah grant us all guidance and protect us from innovation.

When was the Prophet salla allaahu alayhi wa salam born?

Shaikh al-Albani (1420 H.) rahimahullah wrote: "I say: As for the date of the birth of the Prophet salla allaahu alayhi wa salam, statements have been mentioned about it and its month. Ibn Kathir mentioned it in the original work [i.e. Sirah] and all of the narrations are suspended narrations without chains of transmission which can be examined and weighed in the scales of the Science of Hadith. Except for the statement of the one who says: it occurred on the eighth of Rabi' al-Awwal. It was reported by Malik with an authentic chain from Muhammad ibn Jubair ibn Mut'im and he was a noble Tabi'ee. So perhaps due to that, the Scholars of history authenticated this statement and relied upon it. The great Hafidh Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khawaarizmi cut of this opinion and Abu Khattab Ibn Dihya took this opinion to be more correct. The majority took the opinion that it was on the twelfth of Rabi' al-Awwal. And Allah knows Best" [Saheeh Siratul-Nabawiyyah pq. 13]

History of Mawlid

Abu Shaamah (665 H.) said rahimahullah: "...The first to celebrate the birthday of the Prophet in Mawsul was

Shaikh Umar ibn Muhammad al-Malaa, one of the well-known pious people. The companion of Irbil followed him in that". [al-Baa'th fi Inkaar al-Bid'a wal-Hawaadith pg. 23-24]

Imam Suyuti (911 H.) rahimahullah said:
"the first to innovate that action
[celebrating the Prophet's birthday] was
the companion of Irbil the King
al-Mudhaffar Abu Sa'eed Kukburiy ibn
Zain ud-Deen Ali Baktakeen...Ibn Kathir
said in his History: Kukburiy used to do
the mawlid shareef in Rabi' al-Awwal. He
used to celebrate it with a formidable
celebration..." [al-Haawi lil-Fataawi
(1/271)]

Al-Magrizi (845 H.) rahimahullah said: "It was mentioned in the days of the Caliphate of the Fatimiyoon that they made celebrations and seasons that accommodated the situations of the citizens and increased their blessing. In the Caliphate of the Fatimiyoon, the festivals of the year included: the new year, the first day of the year, the day of Ashoora, the birthday of the Prophet, the birthday of Ali ibn Abi Talib, the birthday of al-Hassan, the birthday of al-Hussain, the birthday of Fatima az-Zahraa..." [al-Khitat wal-Athaar pg. 490 as cited in Bida'tul-Hawliyyah pg. 146]