

## EXPLANATIONS ON THE CORRECT UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAMIC RITES IN EVERYDAY LIFE

For every man's action or behavior, the Grandiose Allah has assigned special rules aiming that man will fulfill the purpose of one's creation by observing them.

Even for cases of both joy and grief that man experiences during one's life, Islam has assigned such rules. Here there are some of an ordinary day's norms according to Islam that accompany man from one's birth to death.

**1- Child's birth and the Islamic rites:** This event is accompanied by a range of rules, norms and ceremonial rites: singing of azans; *tahniku*; *akika* and head shaving; putting of name and circumcising.

**2- Marriage's Islamic ceremonies and rites:** marriage in Islam is a contract that has for its object the formation of a Muslim family. In order that the marriage act be legally correct, it should fulfill these conditions: the permission of the care-taker who may be the bride's father or some other one who has taken her under one's custody; the presence of two honest witnesses; legal drafting of the act and the endowment (*mehr*), which is the gift that the groom give to his wife while married. Other elements of Islamic marriage are the marriage preaching and banquet.

**3- Death's Islamic ceremonies and rules:** The mortal ceremony in Islam has many rites and rules, among the most important of which are: the dying person's *talqin*, which means to advise to the dying person say the expression of acknowledging the Islamic monotheism "la ilaha illa-Allah" – "There is no other god except Allah, worth of warship"; lay the dying person so that the Kiblah is on his-her right side; recite Surah Ya Sin; close the eyes of the deceased and cover him, inform the deceased's family and friends; it is prohibited to wail aloud and it is permitted to weep; settle the deceased's debts;

and prepare the body of the deceased person for burial by washing and shrouding it, a funeral prayer must be offered for him and than be buried in *Lahd* etc. Often these mortal ceremonies are accompanied by *bidats* invented by the people's ignorance and that are prohibited in Islam. Among them we can mention: assembling of people at the deceased's house to offer their condolences and eat food there; graves raised more than the length of a hand or so above the ground and buildings' erection over the grave; placing graves at the mosques' yards, etc.

**4- Celebrating Islamic ceremonies:** there are two Bajrams: Eid-il Ad'ha and Eid-ul Fitr. They are annual feasts of Muslims which start with collective prayer half an hour after the sunrise. Than it is followed with other activities.

**5- Ceremonies and Superstitions that are mistakenly considered as part of Islam:** such as *mawluds*, *kandils*, scarification of animals to enter in new house, talismans and mascots, bad luck etc. All these ceremonies and superstitions are not part of Islam; they have been introduced later as a result of influence of other cultures.