



Ways of Denouncing Innovational Acts

Eighth question from Fatwa No. (4250):

Q 8: Some people prefer to avoid discussing subjects related to innovational acts or acts of Sunnah. According to them, discussing these matters may lead parties to fall into troubles that may further develop into clashes with the audience who are ignorant of the Prophet's Sunnah. Consequently, Fitnah (hostile divisions) arises due to people's rejection of the acts of Sunnah which contradict their desires. Is it true that a person who purifies `Aqidah (Islamic creed) from Bid'ahs is a troublemaker? Or is this nickname applied to a person who violates the norms of Shari'ah?

A: The Islamic Da`iyah (caller) should be both knowledgeable and wise enough when enjoining right or forbidding wrong. He should also balance between the public interests of people, giving precedence to the preponderant interest over the preponderated one. Likewise, the least harm is endured to prevent what is worst. Similarly, whenever conflicts arise between interests and harms and the interest is proven to be given precedence,

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it prevails. But if averting harm is proven more important than bringing about an interest, the interest is forsaken. In light of these rules, the proper behavior of inviting people to enjoin good and forbid evil should be fairly and wisely decided. Allah (may He be Exalted) says: [﴿ Invite \(mankind, O Muhammad peace be upon him\) to the Way of your Lord \(i.e. Islām\) with wisdom \(i.e. with the Divine Revelation and the Qur'ān\) and fair preaching, and argue with them in a way that is better. ﴾](#) If one adopts such behavior, no trouble will follow.

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

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