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Ninth question of Fatwa no. (8946) :

Q9: Does Du'a' (supplication) prevent divine decree?

A9: Allah the Exalted has decreed that He is to be invoked. He stated, ﴿ And your Lord said: "Invoke Me, [i.e. believe in My Oneness (Islamic Monotheism) and ask Me for anything] I will respond to your (invocation). ﴾ (Surah Ghafir, 40: 60). He also stated, ﴿ And when My slaves ask you (O Muhammad peace be upon him) concerning Me, then (answer them), I am indeed near (to them by My Knowledge). I respond to the invocations of the supplicant when he calls on Me (without any mediator or intercessor). ﴾ (Surah Al-Baqarah, 2: 186). If a person does what is Islamically prescribed and supplicates to Allah, this is considered part of the divine decree. So, it is a divine decree which prevents a divine decree if Allah wills. It is authentically established in the Sahih (authentic) Hadith narrated from the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) that he stated, ﴿ A man is deprived of provision for a sin he commits. Only supplication averts the decree and only kindness prolongs life. ﴾

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

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