



# DARUL IFTAA

ISLAMIC Q&A | MEDIATION & ARBITRATION | ISLAMIC FINANCE | IFTAA TRAINING



## I'TIKAF DURING THIS PANDEMIC / LOCKDOWN

Prepared By: Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah, South Africa

Askimam.org | Daruliftaa.net | Idealwoman.org | Darulmahmood.net

### VIRTUES OF I'TIKAAF:

I'tikaf (secluding oneself in the Masjid to worship Allah) invokes the special mercies and bounties of Allah. It was the noble habit of Rasulullah ﷺ and the Sahaba to sit in I'tikaf. Our pious predecessors would take great pride and joy in making I'tikaf. The Prophet ﷺ used to perform I'tikaf every year in the month of Ramadhan for ten days, and when it was the year of his death, he stayed in I'tikaf for twenty days. [Bukhari]

The author of Nurul-Idhah, Shaikh Hasan Ibn Al Shurumbulali Rahimahullah states, "I'tikaf is proven from the Qur'an and Sunnah. It is amongst the most virtuous of acts when done with Ikhlas (sincerity). From amongst its benefits is that the heart becomes free from the matters of the world, the soul is handed to its Maula (Allah Ta'ala), one is continuously in worship in His house and one is protected in His fort".

The act of I'tikaf exhibits humbleness and humility as one secludes himself in the house of Allah to ensure the forgiveness of Allah as a Mu'takif is like a beggar who refuses to leave the doors of the palace unless his need is fulfilled.

### THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES SHOULD BE APPLIED ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

- A small group of individuals may perform I'tikaf in the Masjid provided it does not contravene any laws.
- It will suffice for one adult male to perform I'tikaf in the Masjid especially in this pandemic.
- It is recommended that I'tikaf is performed in every Masjid. If this is however not possible due to the current circumstances and it is performed by one Masjid of the town/city, this will suffice.
- Sunnah I'tikaf is only performed in the Masjid. Where this is not possible, it is encouraged for individuals to isolate and seclude themselves in their homes exerting in all forms of Ibadah and in seeking Laylatul Qadr especially on the 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th and 29th night.

'A'isha Radhiyallahu Anha reported that Allah's Messenger ﷺ used to exert himself in devotion during the last ten nights to a greater extent than at any other time. [Sahih Muslim]

### WOMEN'S I'TIKAF

- A woman's I'tikaf in her home will suffice in absolving the community of Sunnah Kifaya.  
Refer to our brief guidelines for women's I'tikaf - [www.idealwoman.org](http://www.idealwoman.org)

And Allah Ta'ala Knows Best,  
Mufti Ebrahim Desai



## DARUL IFTAA MAHMUDIYYAH

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC JURISPRUDENCE

[WWW.DARULIFTAA.NET](http://WWW.DARULIFTAA.NET)

+27 0 31 207 5772