



مفتى محمد يوسف دنگا  
Mufti Muhammad Yusuf Danka

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله حمد الشاكرين ، والصلاة والسلام على المبعوث رحمة للعالمين، وهدايا للناس أجمعين.  
صلاةً وسلاماً دانمين إلى يوم الدين، وآله وصحبه ومن تبعهم بإحسان، وسلم تسليماً كثيراً، أما بعد:.

## The Groups that Follow the Fixed Calendars and Calculations to Determine the Start of Islamic Months

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: الشهر تسع وعشرون ليلة فلا تصوموا حتى تروه، فإن غم عليكم فأكملوا العدة ثلاثين (صحيح بخارى ص306 صحيح مسلم ص347)

Sayyidina Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه relates from Nabi صلى الله عليه وسلم that there are twenty-nine nights in a month, do not fast until you all see it (the Hilal), if it is hidden from you then complete thirty days. (Sahih Bukhari p,306/ Sahih Muslim p,347)

From the time of Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, the Ulama Haq have always openly invited people to the straight path. In the same way, in regard to the sighting of the moon, they have rejected false calculated systems such as calendars based on 'birth of the new moon' and kept steadfast on the Sunnah. In the UK there have always been a group who follow the Sunnah of sighting the moon and other groups who blindly follow and accept the Umm-ul-Qura calendar for the basis of their Ramadhan and Eids.

About 10 years ago, the Ulama of Deoband issued a Fatwa for the Muslim Ummah to either follow their local moon sighting or the closest country where the correct Sunnah method of the sighting of the Moon is established.

“To look for ease and to decide upon the Saudi sighting decision for Ramadhan and Eid is not correct. Even if a Fatwa permitting this was obtained, it would be against the principles of the Shari’ah, never should one blindly follow the sighting of Saudi Arabia.” (Fatawa Darul Uloom Deoband, Mazahir ul Uloom Saharanpur, Jamia Islamia Dabhel, (18/Safar/1424 AH) 20/4/2003)

Nonetheless, after the presence of such a clear Fatwa, there are those who seek to obtain Fatwas to verify that their stance is permissible, due to their stubbornness. Some Masajid in the UK celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr in the month of Ramadhan (Na’uzobillah).

Sayidina Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه relates: The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stated: ‘The person who leaves a fast of Ramadhan without a valid Shariah excuse (being ill or on a journey), if he was to fast for his entire life, he cannot fulfil the loss of that single fast of Ramadhan he missed.’ (Jami Tirmidhi/ Abu Dawood/ Masnad Ahmad/ Ibn Majah/ Darimi/ Sahih Bukhari)

The people who celebrated Eid on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011 (30<sup>th</sup> Ramadhan 1432) blindly followed news they heard without verifying it. They did not properly check the conditions stipulated by the Shari’ah and hastily celebrated Eid in Ramadhan instead of on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Shawwal.

Hadhrat Mufti Sayed Abdur Raheem Lajpuri رحمه الله writes: “If the skies are clear, the testimony of the two or four people will not be enough. A testimony of such a large group is essential to the extent that the Qadhi, Aalim or Mufti is fully confident and satisfied that the Hilal has been sighted, and no doubts remain”. (Fataawa Rahimiyah vol 10, p 169/ Awjazul Masalik by Shaykh ul Hadith Maulana Zakariya vol 5, p21 / Ahsanul Fatawa vol 4, p417 – 418)

Alhamdulillah, in this regard, Wifaqul Ulama, correctly educate, advise and guide the Muslim Ummah on the Siraat al-Mustaqeem. In Today’s day and age, many great Sunnats of our Nabi صلى الله عليه وسلم have been forgotten. Wifaqul Ulama propagate and bring back these great Sunnahs into practice such as the important Sunnah of Moon Sighting.

In 1986, the people within the Hizbul Ulama group argued within themselves and out of anger and pure stubbornness decided to follow the 'birth of the moon' system (i.e the Umm-ul-Qura) deviating from the Sunnah. They follow purely astronomical calculations and take a conflicting view to the people following the Sunnah method of Moon Sighting. Due to this incorrect position of Hizbul Ulama, there are homes in the UK where 2 Eids are celebrated in 1 household and people are forsaking a Fard fast in Ramadhan, how absurd!

Molvi Miftahi claims that Saudi do not follow the Umm-ul-Qura calendar for the Holy Months. However,

Hadhrat Shaykh Ul Hadith Moulana Muhammad Zakariya رحمه الله, writes: "On the 1st Dhul Hijjah 1396H, 23 November 1976 in the Umm ul Qura (Saudi governments Birth of the New Moon) Calendar, it is written that Monday will be the 1st Day of Dhul Hijjah and Hajj (day of Arafat) will be on the Tuesday. In Saudi, the Umm ul Qura calendar is followed. Upon reaching Madinah (a few days later) it was first announced that Hajj will be on Wednesday. Then on Friday, it was announced again that Hajj (day of Arafat) would be on Tuesday." (Aap Beeti, vol 7, p211)

This account is not written by any old scholar, it is written by renowned scholar Hadhrat Shaykh Moulana Muhammad Zakariya Kandhlawi رحمه الله, the well-known author of **Fadhail-e-Amaal**, which is read daily by the Tablighi Jamaat morning and evening to the Muslims in their local Masajid all over the world. We request our Tablighi Brothers to carefully ponder over the words that have been said by their respected Ulama and the words of Hadhrat Moulana Zakariya رحمه الله in regard to moon sighting.

Hadhrat Shaykh Moulana Muhammad Zakariya رحمه الله, in clear words is saying that Saudi, without doubt, are using the Umm-ul-Qura calendar to announce the start of their Holy Months.

We ask Hizbul Ulama if they have any objections to this statement? Until now, they have kept the truth hidden and because of their stubbornness they are spoiling the Fard fast for many Muslims in the UK. Don't they have a slight worry or concern of what they will answer in the court of Allah ﷻ? When the senior Ulama of Haq present the truth to them on this issue, they seek to disrespect and undermine them. For example, a few months ago, Hizbul Ulama on their website had written against the correct advice by Shaykh-ul-Hadith of Darul Uloom Deoband Mufti Sa'eed Ahmad Palanpuri حفظه الله. They do not display the qualities of the Ulama of Haq nor the sublime characteristics of the Salfus Saliheen.

Hizbul Ulama have a special trait and habit of using the names of Darul Uloom Deoband scholars to misguide people to the claims they make. On their website, they have used the names of Ulama from Deoband to prove that astronomical calculations should not be used when they are the ones following the Umm-ul-Qura calendar based on astronomical calculations! Hizbul Ulama also staunchly go against the research and statements of renowned Muslim Astronomers due to it not collaborating with the Umm-ul-Qura calendar. The statements of the Saudi government of the birth of the new moon are not found to be practical or possible when assessed with a visibility graph. As the Shari'ah stipulates that the new crescent moon should be viewed with the naked eye among other conditions. There is NO Fataawa from Deoband saying that we should blindly follow Saudi announcements for the commencement of Islamic months.

The Umm-ul-Qura calendar is based upon a monthly cycle of 28 days, it has no regard for viewing the crescent moon on the horizon with the naked eye. On the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> day, the Saudi Government is requesting witnesses to present themselves. Soon after, the Saudi makes an announcement for the start of the Islamic month based on their Umm-ul-Qura calendar causing chaos all around the world. In the light of Qur'an and Sunnah, is there a proof that the moon should be witnessed on the 28<sup>th</sup> day? We ask the scholars of Ghair Muqalideen (so called Salafis), is this method of beginning the Islamic Months, a method from the Sunnah or a Bid'ah?

From the time the Umm-ul-Qura calendar was established as the basis of calculating the Islamic months in Saudi 30 years ago, there has never been Jamme-Ghafaer (a majority testimony) of the new crescent moon being sighted. It is always the case that 2-3 people provide a testimony to viewing the new crescent moon. Further, a great issue that is present in Saudi is that the scholars of the Ghair Muqalideen claim that it is Bid'ah (an innovation) to sight the new crescent moon in months other than Shabaan, Ramadhan and Dhul Hijjah. When there is no true system for viewing the crescent moon to establish the start of each new month adopted throughout the year, how can they then establish which day of Rajab they are claiming to have sighted the moon for Shabaan on?

Mufti Habibur Rahman, Mufti Darul Uloom Deoband, (18th Safar 1424AH) in his Fatwa writes: "I have studied your queries very attentively. It has been written from here in the past, that announcements should be made for the sighting of the moon, based upon information of sightings from your closest country, Morocco. **It is incorrect to make announcements for Eid and Ramadan by following Saudi for the sake of ease. Even if a Fatwa has been obtained for this purpose, it is against the principles of Shari'ah.** There is a far greater distance between Britain and Saudi, whereas Morocco is a lot closer to Britain. To abandon a close country's sightings and to accept Saudi's sighting, is in contradiction with the

principles of Fiqh. Thereafter, considering the state of the Saudi observations and the difficulties that are arising from them which you have written and drawn attention towards. After reading them, no decision should ever be made blindly in accordance with Saudi observations. You should enforce with full strength the practice of following Morocco's sightings. This is most correct manner to establish a system. And Allah knows best."

In 1987, on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, the Mufti of Jamiat Ulama Britain, Mufti Abdul Baqi Sahib رحمه الله wrote to the embassies of the Islamic countries of the World (from Morocco to Indonesia) based in London. All the embassies of Islamic countries responded that they had witnessed the new crescent moon on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Whereas the Saudi government has already announced their own sighting, 2 days prior on the 18<sup>th</sup> June. Even Pakistan, which is the closest Islamic country to Saudi Arabia had a difference of 2 days in their moon sighting announcements. He had made efforts to research and investigate the situation and brought this to the attention to the world but on the contrary, groups such as Hizb and Jamiat Britain deviated away from the Haq. There are many statements of these types of occurrences in Aap Beti of Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Zakariya رحمه الله.

Hadhrat Shaykh Moulana Zakariya نور الله مرقدہ writes in another place: 'On the 27th Ramadhan 1398H (1978), Qadhi Sahib (Abdul Qadir) left Madinah to celebrate Eid in Chawariya Pakistan. After performing Eid in Makkah, he got on a plane the same day to Karachi Pakistan. Upon reaching Pakistan, it was the 28th Ramadhan there. (Aap Beeti, vol 7, p249)

Hizbul Ulama UK are blindly following the new moon announcements based of astronomical calculations. They do not prove their standpoint in light of the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah. However, they point the masses in the direction of newspaper articles and statements from Iran and Qatar. Remember, that Iran is busy in spreading the teachings of the Rawafid and the Saudi government are busy in propagating the teachings of the Ghair Muqalideen to abandon the ways of the Pious Predecessors, Shari'ah and Sunnah.

The majority of Muslims in the UK are associated to the Fiqh of the 4 great Imams of which the followers of the Hanafi fiqh are greatest in number. They should make themselves aware of the rulings of the Shari'ah and Sunnah and the statements of the 4 Imams to establish a method of sighting the new crescent moon as well as accepting the announcements of another country which is following the correct Shari'ah methodology.

Hadhrat Mufti Rashid Ahmed Ludyanwi رحمه الله stated: "The news of the moon sighting in Saudi Arabia reaching the status of 'Istifaadha' (beneficial) is questionable and further, due to the sighting in Saudi Arabia being against the principles of the Hanafi Fiqh and true logic; it is unacceptable to be accepted for Pakistan. According to the Hanafi Fiqh, when the skies are clear a large group (Jamme Ghafeer) of witnesses is a condition. The government of Saudi Arabia in all conditions decide upon one or two witnesses in Ramadhan, Shawwal and Dhul Hijjah." (Ahsan ul Fatawaa Volume 4 Page 426)

After thorough investigation, we come to know with proof, that Jamiatul Ulama Britain and Hizbul Ulama UK do not act upon the rulings laid down by the Shari'ah, nor do they adopt the teachings of the Hanafi Fiqh in regard to sighting the Hilaal for the commencement of our Holy Months.

**O Muslims!** The manner of viewing the new crescent moon with the naked eye is being eradicated from the Islamic World. There are approximately 9 countries left which follow the true manner according to the Shari'ah and Sunnah. The Muslim masses are forsaking the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ and losing a Fard fast of Ramadhan as a result of following the Umm-ul-Qura calendar (Saudi announcements).

May Allah protect us and the Muslims of the UK from such groups and their deviations آمين Ameen!

For more information on this issue in the light of the Qur'an, Sunnah and Fiqh Islami, please see these links below:

**The Reality behind Saudi's Umm ul Qura Calendar:**

[http://www.croydonmosque.com/pdf/The\\_Reality\\_behind\\_Saudi\\_Government\\_Umm\\_ul\\_Qura\\_Calendar.pdf](http://www.croydonmosque.com/pdf/The_Reality_behind_Saudi_Government_Umm_ul_Qura_Calendar.pdf)

**The History of the UK following Saudi Arabia:**

[http://www.croydonmosque.com/pdf/The\\_History\\_of\\_the\\_UK\\_following\\_the\\_Saudi\\_Arabia.pdf](http://www.croydonmosque.com/pdf/The_History_of_the_UK_following_the_Saudi_Arabia.pdf)

**An Important Announcement from Wifaqul Ulama for Eid ul Fitr 1432:**

<http://www.wifaqululama.co.uk/home/189-an-important-announcement-from-wifaq-ulama-regarding-eid-ul-fitr-14322011.html>



## Further evidence that Saudi is following a Fixed Calendar to start and end the Holy Months

This Ramadhan 2011 timetable distributed by Saudi Arabia is clear proof that they are following the Umm-ul-Qura calendar. It mentions at the bottom, 'Eid-ul-Fitr will be on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011 based on the Umm-ul-Qura calendar'

الأيام	رمضان	أغسطس	الفجر	الإشراق	الظهر	العصر	المغرب	العشاء
الاثنين	١	١	٤,٣١	٥,٥٣	١٢,٢٨	٣,٤٦	٧,٠١	٩,٠١
الثلاثاء	٢	٢	٤,٣٢	٥,٥٤	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٦	٧,٠٠	٩,٠٠
الأربعاء	٣	٣	٤,٣٣	٥,٥٤	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٧,٠٠	٩,٠٠
الخميس	٤	٤	٤,٣٣	٥,٥٤	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٩	٨,٥٩
الجمعة	٥	٥	٤,٣٤	٥,٥٥	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٨	٨,٥٨
السبت	٦	٦	٤,٣٤	٥,٥٥	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٨	٨,٥٧
الأحد	٧	٧	٤,٣٥	٥,٥٦	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٧	٨,٥٧
الاثنين	٨	٨	٤,٣٥	٥,٥٦	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٧	٨,٥٧
الثلاثاء	٩	٩	٤,٣٦	٥,٥٦	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٧	٦,٥٦	٨,٥٦
الأربعاء	١٠	١٠	٤,٣٧	٥,٥٧	١٢,٢٧	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٥	٨,٥٥
الخميس	١١	١١	٤,٣٧	٥,٥٧	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٥	٨,٥٥
الجمعة	١٢	١٢	٤,٣٨	٥,٥٧	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٤	٨,٥٤
السبت	١٣	١٣	٤,٣٨	٥,٥٨	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٣	٨,٥٣
الأحد	١٤	١٤	٤,٣٩	٥,٥٨	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٣	٨,٥٣
الاثنين	١٥	١٥	٤,٣٩	٥,٥٨	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٢	٨,٥٢
الثلاثاء	١٦	١٦	٤,٤٠	٥,٥٩	١٢,٢٦	٣,٤٨	٦,٥١	٨,٥١
الأربعاء	١٧	١٧	٤,٤٠	٥,٥٩	١٢,٢٥	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٠	٨,٥٠
الخميس	١٨	١٨	٤,٤١	٥,٥٩	١٢,٢٥	٣,٤٨	٦,٥٠	٨,٥٠
الجمعة	١٩	١٩	٤,٤١	٦,٠٠	١٢,٢٥	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٩	٨,٤٩
السبت	٢٠	٢٠	٤,٤٢	٦,٠٠	١٢,٢٥	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٨	٨,٤٨
الأحد	٢١	٢١	٤,٤٢	٦,٠٠	١٢,٢٤	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٧	٨,٤٧
الاثنين	٢٢	٢٢	٤,٤٣	٦,٠١	١٢,٢٤	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٧	٨,٤٧
الثلاثاء	٢٣	٢٣	٤,٤٣	٦,٠١	١٢,٢٤	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٦	٨,٤٦
الأربعاء	٢٤	٢٤	٤,٤٣	٦,٠١	١٢,٢٤	٣,٤٨	٦,٤٥	٨,٤٥
الخميس	٢٥	٢٥	٤,٤٤	٦,٠١	١٢,٢٣	٣,٤٧	٦,٤٤	٨,٤٤
الجمعة	٢٦	٢٦	٤,٤٤	٦,٠٢	١٢,٢٣	٣,٤٧	٦,٤٣	٨,٤٣
السبت	٢٧	٢٧	٤,٤٥	٦,٠٢	١٢,٢٣	٣,٤٧	٦,٤٢	٨,٤٢
الأحد	٢٨	٢٨	٤,٤٥	٦,٠٢	١٢,٢٣	٣,٤٧	٦,٤١	٨,٤١
الاثنين	٢٩	٢٩	٤,٤٦	٦,٠٣	١٢,٢٢	٣,٤٧	٦,٤١	٨,٤١

عيد الفطر يوم الثلاثاء غرة شوال ١٤٣٢ هـ الموافق ٣٠ أغسطس ٢٠١١ حسب تقويم أم القرى

Saudi Arabia had 29 days of Ramadhan and have commenced the Month of Shawwal from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011 based on the pre calculated Umm ul Qura Calendar.

Mufti Muhammad Yusuf Danka

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 (4<sup>th</sup> Shawwal 1432)

والله وحده هو المسؤول والمستعان وهو الهادي إلى سبل الخير والسلام.  
مفتى محمد يوسف دُنْكَا (عفا الله عنه)