

وفاق العلماء WIFAQULULAMA

VITESSE HOUSE, ESTATE WAY, LONDON, E10 7JW

**Answer received from Darul Uloom Deoband for the under mentioned
Question on the 9th Shawaal 1428 Hijri/ 21st October 2007**

Question

Responsible Ulama of 'Wifaq ul Ulama' working under the leadership of Hadhrat Movlana Hasan Sahib has prescribed the following formula for moonsighting, what is your honoured opinion in light of the Holy Shariah, to its correctness?

The formula:

1. Practicing upon the Hadith 'Do not fast until you see it, and if it is cloudy then complete thirty days' (Sahih Al Bukhari), we will make all effort to sight the moon locally.
2. To achieve this (local sighting), help and guidance could be taken from the experts in the field of Astronomy, but **NEVER** will the declaration of sighting be dependent on the Astronomers, rather, the decision will always be based on actual sighting by the eye.
3. If the moon was not sighted locally, then we will contact the countries to the east of U.K., where there is a criteria in place for correct sighting, and there is a possibility of sighting there (*Imkan e Ruyat*), and further, there is no doubt or suspicion on the news of their moonsighting declaration, rather one is totally satisfied with the declaration, then we will accept the moonsighting declaration of that country.

We await your Answer,

From the servants of: Wifaq UI Ulama, Walthamstow, London .U.K.

Answer

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful.

The Answer and the Towfeeq is in the hands of Allah:

1. The proposal is correct
2. This proposal is also correct
3. This third proposal is also correct, except at the end include '*ba tariq e mujib*' which means after all these precautions and contact, the testification that has come, is 'reliable'.

And Allah knows best: Habib Ur Rahman (Mufti Darul uloom Deoband)

The Answer is correct: Mahmood Hasan BalandShahri (Mufti)

The Answer is correct: Zainul Islam Qasmi (Naa'ib Mufti Darul Uloom Deoband)

This is the nearest translation of the original Urdu Fatwa, which can be found on the website, or is available upon request. Translated by Movlana Muhammad Shoyaib.

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Question:

What is the opinion of the honoured Ulama as regards to the under mentioned Mas'alah?

The criteria of moonsighting in South Africa is in accordance to correct Shar'ee principles, the committee of local Hanafi Scholars undertake the task of sighting with great care and responsibility, only after much investigation and verification needed by our Shariah, do they decide and declare the sighting of the moon.

This country falls to the east of U.K. and the difference as far as timing is concerned, is only one hour. Is the decision of sighting of South Africa acceptable for the people of U.K.?

I would like to inform you that the teacher of Hadith of Darul Uloom Deoband, Hadhrat Movlana Mufti Saeed Ahmad Palanpuri Sahib has endorsed the correctness of our following South Africa by saying "that the reliable sighting of South Africa is more acceptable for the people of U.K. than Morocco, as there are Ulama of our Maslak residing there who are deciding in accordance with our Holy Shariah".

What is your opinion as regards to this?

Al Mustafteen: Members of Wifaq Ul Ulama, Walthamstow, London.

Answer:

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful.

The Answer and the Towfeeq is in the hands of Allah:

The difference of one hour is no real difference. The moonsighting decision of South Africa is acceptable for the people of U.K., and it will be more reliable and correct. The opinion of Mufti Saeed Ahmad Sahib is correct, I also endorse his view.

And Allah knows best: Habib Ur Rahman (Mufti Darul uloom Deoband)

The Answer is correct: Mahmood Hasan BalandShahri (Mufti)

The Answer is correct: Zainul Islam Qasmi (Naa'ib Mufti Darul Uloom Deoband)

9th Shawaal 1428 Hijri. (21st October 2007)

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