Whoever introduces into this affair of ours (religion) that which is not from it, then it is rejected."

"Whoever introduces into this affair of ours (religion) that which is not from it, then it is rejected."

[Reported by Bukhaari & Muslim]

التلفظ بالنية

سؤال: نحن في بلادنا نعرف أن كل عبادة لابد لها من نية فلذلك لابد قبل الشروع في الصلاة من التلفظ بالنية، فإذا كان هذا غير جائز أو بدعة فما معنى الحديث "إنما الأعمال بالنيات"؟

جواب: نعم كل عمل يحتاج إلى نية، للحديث الذي ذكرته أن الرسول على قال: "إنما الأعمال بالنيات وإنما لكل امرئ ما نوى (أخرجه الإمام البخاري ومسلم)، ولكن ليس معنى هذا أن تتلفظ بالنية، معنى هذا: أن تعتقد بقلبك، وتنوي بقلبك أداء العمل لله على ويكفي هذا، فالنية محلها القلب، وليس محلها اللسان، والتلفظ بها بدعة، لأنه لم يثبت عن النبي و لا عن خلفائه الراشدين وأصحابه والقرون المفضلة ألهم كانوا يتلفظون بالنية، وإنما النية محلها القلب، والله تعالى يقول: (قُلْ أَتُعَلِّمُونَ اللّه بِدِينِكُمْ وَاللّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الأَرْضِ وَاللّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيْمٌ ﴾ [الحجرات: ١٦] فإذا نويت بقلبك وقصدت بقلبك، فالله يعلم ذلك، ولا يحتاج إلى أن تتلفظ بلسانك.

(مجموع فتاوي فضيلة الشيخ صالح بن فوزان الفوزان، ص٥٧٥)

Pronunciation of the Intention

Question: We, in our country, know that with every act of worship it is necessary to have an intention. Therefore it is necessary before beginning the prayer to utter the intention. So if this is impermissible or an innovation, then what is the meaning of the hadeeth: "Indeed, the actions are by intentions."?

Answer: Yes, every action requires an intention due to the narration which you mentioned that the Messenger said: "Indeed, the actions are only by intentions and indeed and every person will have that which he intended." (Extracted by Imam Al-Bukhaari and Muslim). However, the meaning of this is not that you pronounce the intention, the meaning of it is: that you believe in your heart and intend with

your heart the performance of the action for the sake of Allaah , and this is sufficient. Since the place of the intention is the heart, its place is not the tongue. Hence uttering it is an innovation because it has not been established from the Prophet , nor from his Rightly-guided successors, nor his Companions, nor the favored generations that they used to pronounce the intention. Rather its place is only the heart. And Allaah, the Most-High says:

Say, "Will you inform Allaah of your religion while Allaah knows all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth, and Allaah is All-Knowing of everything?"

[Al-Hujaraat 49:16]

So if you intend with your heart and you resolve with your heart, then Allaah knows that. And there is no need for you to utter with your tongue.

(Majmoo' Fataawa Fadeelatu-Shaikh Saalih bin Fawzaan al-Fawzaan, pg. 675) Translated by Abu Humaid.