

Ramadan Fatwa

Fatwa of fasting Ramadan in Oulu-Finland during the very long days in summer
May-June-July-August.

Many muslim scholars have discussed the case of muslims living in such countries like Finland, Norway, Sweden and other northern countries, when Ramadan month comes in the summer months, the days are very long the muslims are not able to fast from the dawn to the sunset, and if they fast it will be very difficult for them, they might become sick, or they might fall down in the end of the day, what will be the correct fatwa for them?
There are 2 options for this case.

1. Muslims should fast from the dawn to the sunset even if the day is very long, if they are able to fast, if they try but they couldn't, or if the muslim doctor advice due to health care that fasting might damage, in that case they don't fast in such long days, but they break their fasting and they have to fast later in other days of the year. This is the opinion of the majority of muslim scholars.
2. Muslims living in such areas with very long days in the summer they have to fast the month of ramadan in it's time, but if they are not able to fast according to local time from th dawn to the sun set, then they can follow the time of Mecca or Medina or the time of the nearest Islamic country where the days are not so long. This is the opinion this is the opinion of many muslim scholars in the past and in the last century, as well in this century.
 - 1.) Al Kasani i Badari al Sana-i. 9th century.
 - 2.) Mahmud Shaltut: Mufti of Egypt 20th century
 - 3.) Sayid Sabina: Mufti of Egypt 20th century
 - 4.) Tasem Al Muhalil: 21th century Kuwait
 - 5.) Ali Jumah: Recent Mufti of Egypt.
 - 6.) Many other scholars mentioned this opinion in their books even if they do not support it such as Khaled Abdul Qadir in his book: The Fiqh of "The Muslim minorities in Europe". 2000.

There are many things to take into consideration.

1. This fatwa is not compulsory for all muslim but it is available for those brothers and sisters who **feel** that they are not able to fast according to local time in Finland
2. This fatwa can be common for a group of muslims living in one city like Oulu if the mosque leaders or the islamic organisation decide to follow this fatwa, and also it can be individual choice for one muslim even if other muslim do not follow.
3. Muslims are not to argue about this matter but to respect and understand the fatwa of those scholars and the choice of their muslims brothers and sisters.

We ask Allaah (swt) to guide all of us to the straight path and the correct deed, and to accept our worships and forgive our sins. He is the only one to be asked, and all peace upon our prophet Mohammad (saaw)