**Hajj Rites 2015 / hajj ifrād’ and ‘umrah mufradah**

**Issue 15:** Hajj ifrād and hajj tamattu’ are similar in terms of rituals and acts of worship except for one major difference of animal slaughtering. It is mandatory in hajj tamattu’ whereas it is a recommended act in hajj ifrād.

**Issue 16:** ‘Umrah mufradah is similar to ‘umrah tamattu’ except for the following differences:

1. The rituals of ‘umrah tamattu’ comprise taqsīr as obligatory act; whereas in ‘umrah mufradah, it is optional for the men, i.e. either he can have his head shaved or perform taqsīr. The rulings for the women are that they should perform taqsīr in both ‘umrah mufradah and ‘umrah tamattu’.

2. In ‘umrah tamattu’, ṭawāf of nisā’ and its prayer are not obligatory. However on the basis of caution, one should perform both of them before taqsīr with the intention of rajā’ (hope of being desired in shar’). In ‘umrah mufradah, ṭawāf of nisā’ and its prayer are obligatory.

3. ‘Umrah tamattu’ should be performed during the months of hajj: Shawwāl, Zilqā’ or Dhul-Ḥijjah; whereas ‘umrah mufradah can be performed any time during the year.

4. There are five mīqāts (the place where the dress for hajj or ‘umrah is worn) for ‘umrah tamattu’. Mīqāt for ‘umrah mufradah varies with distance from Mecca. People residing in Mecca have adanā al-ḥill as mīqāt whereas people living out of Mecca are obliged to wear iḥrām from one of the five mīqāts nearest to them.