The first question of Fatwa No. 2709

Q1: What is the ruling on saying ameen after the Imam's saying: ( nor of those who went astray. ) ?

A: Saying ameen after the Imam's saying: ( nor of those who went astray. ) is a Sunnah for the Imam, Ma'mum (a person being led by an Imam in Prayer) and the one who is performing Salah alone. This was reported from Ibn `Umar and Ibn Al-Zubayr. This opinion was also held by Al-Thawry, `Ata', Al-Shafi`y, Yahya ibn Yahya, Is-haq,

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Abu Khaythamah, Ibn Abu Shaybah, Sulayman ibn Dawud and As-hab-ul-Ra'y (scholars, especially the Hanafis, who exercised personal reasoning to make judgments in the absence of clear texts). The evidence for this saying is what was reported by Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ( "Say: Ameen, when the Imam says: Ameen, for if anyone's utterance of Ameen coincides with that of the angels, his past sins will be forgiven." ) This Hadith is reported by Al-Bukhari and Muslim.

Wa`il Ibn Hujr reported that ( If the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ( nor of those who went astray ) he used to say ameen in a loud voice. ) This Hadith was reported by Abu Dawud and Al-Tirmidhy. Al-Tirmidhy reported it as: ( "He said it in a loud voice." ) He also said that this Hadith is Hasan (a Hadith whose chain of narration contains a narrator with weak exactitude, but is free from eccentricity or blemish.)

Imam Ahmad reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ( "Say `Ameen` when the Imam says "Wala-ddallin" (nor of those who go astray); all the past sins of the person whose saying (of Ameen) coincides with that of the angels, will be forgiven." )

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May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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