

Closing the eyes in salaah

Q: Salaah-570: What is the ruling when the Imaam closes his eyes while leading the salaah or if the follower closes his eyes so that he may attain concentration?

Answer: It is Makrooh to close the eyes for no good reason when performing salaah. However, if there is a distraction in front and closing the eyes would aid in concentration it would not be Makrooh to do so.

Ghaayatul Awtaar states that closing the eyes is Makrooh Tanzeehi, but not so if done for concentration. The reason cited is a Hadith of Ibn Adi that forbids this. The Hadith however has a weak chain of narrators. Bahrur Raa'iq however stated that the reason for it being Makrooh is the fact that looking at the place of Sajdah is Sunnah and closing the eyes entails forsaking this Sunnah.

Ilmul Fiqh states that closing the eyes is Makrooh Tanzeehi, but not so if done for concentration, in which case it will be better to do so. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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