An Imaam who Eats in the House of a Person whose Income is Haraam

Q: Salaah-718: There is a person whose income is derived from selling liquor and who has no Halaal income. Is it permissible for a person who eats and drinks at his house to lead people in salaah? Will salaah behind such a person be valid?

Answer: It is not permissible to eat or drink at the home of a person whose income is derived from selling liquor and who has no Halaal income. it is also not permissible for a person to be the Imaam when he eats and drinks at such a person's home, knowing that the income is Haraam. It is therefore Makrooh to follow such a person in salaah. However, if there is no better Imaam or if removing him from being Imaam will cause discord. it will not be Makrooh to follow him. Because of the emphasis placed on salaah with Jamaa'ah, following him will be better than performing salaah individually and the burden of the sin will fall on the shoulders of those who support him. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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