

### An Imaam who Stutters

Q: Salaah-381: I am an Imaam of a Masjid and it is after some time that I have developed a stutter. The stutter however occurs only when I recite the words "Al Hamdu Lillaah" (to start Surah Faatiha). I then struggle with the words and have to repeat "A, A, A" a few times before being able to recite "Al Hamdu Lillaah". The rest of the Surah and Qiraa'ah then flows smoothly without problems. Will the salaah be rendered Makrooh?

When I recite the Tasmiya before starting Surah Faatiha, the stutter does not occur. Will it then be alright if I recite Tasmiya aloud before starting the Surah Faatiha? Will the salaah become Makrooh because of this? Furthermore, since paying someone to perform the Taraaweesh salaah is forbidden, will it be alright for me to perform the entire Taraaweesh salaah by myself and recite the Tasmiya aloud throughout? My followers and I are all Hanafis.

Answer: The preferred opinion in your case is that salaah will not be valid if You lead it. In fact, the salaah will have to be repeated. Furthermore, repeating the (HAMZA, ALIF) is a serious error in Qiraa'ah. You should rather not venture to lead the salaah. As far as the Taraaweesh salaah is concerned, you may even make arrangements for someone to recite from Surah Feel to the end. Reciting the Tasmiya aloud is an act of Bid'ah because when Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Mughaffal RADI. heard his son reciting the Tasmiya aloud in salaah, he said, "Dear son! You are committing an act of Bid'ah. Beware of acts of Bid'ah. You may therefore not do this as well. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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