

When an Imaam carries out acts of Bid'ah and Holds wrong Beliefs, can people with correct Beliefs Perform salaah in Jamaa'sh at their Homes?

Q: Salaah-392: The people of our town belonging to the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah have now stopped performing salaah behind the Imaam for the past eight months. They perform salaah at a home in Jamaa'ah and perform the Jumu'ah salaah in another home. They do not perform salaah behind the Imaam because he holds beliefs of Kufr and we have received Fataawaa from Deoband and Randher not to perform salaah behind him.

Now that Ramadhaan is approaching, the Muslims with correct beliefs wish to perform their Taraaweeth salaah and the five daily salaahs in the Masjid in Jamaa'ah? Will it be permissible to make another Jamaa'ah in the courtyard of the Masjid, at the pond or on the roof of the Masjid? What is the ruling with regard to the Jumu'ah salaah? Can the second Khutbah and salaah be performed separately? Please explain.

Answer: When the Imaam has beliefs of Kufr, he cannot be followed and salaah behind him will not be permissible. The Jamaa'ah performed behind him will have no standing and is as if it never took place at all. Therefore, for people of correct beliefs to perform salaah in the Masjid after such an Imaam has led the salaah will not be regarded as a second Jamaa'ah. In the event of necessity, they can even perform salaah on the roof. However, in the interests of not causing a rift and aggravating the conflict, it is best for the people of correct beliefs to continue performing salaah where they have been performing salaah all along. When they are not motivated by their desires for performing salaah out of the Masjid, they will Inshaa Allaah receive the full rewards.

Rasulullaah SAW. used to lead the Sahabah RADI. in salaah at home at the beginning. It was only after Hadhrat Umar RADI. accepted Islaam and the Muslims became strong that they started performing salaah openly in the Masjidul Haraam. Inshaa Allaah, Allaah will also open up a way for you people. Never lose hope, be patient and continue making du'aa to Allaah. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

Fatawa Rahimiyyah vol.2