

Is Leading the Taraaweesh salaah part of the the Imaam's Duties?

Q: Salaah-446: The Imaam leads the five daily salaahs with regularity but is unable to complete the Qur'aan in the Taraaweesh salaah because he has not done it for many years. The committee members are however compelling him to do so, saying that it is amongst the duties of an Imaam. Can the Imaam be compelled to lead the Taraaweesh salaah?

Answer: If the Imaam is unable to complete the Qur'aan in the Taraaweesh salaah, he is obliged only to lead the Taraaweesh salaah reciting from Surah Feel to the end of the Qur'aan. If the followers wish to listen to the entire Qur'aan in the Taraaweesh salaah, they should make the necessary arrangements themselves. If they are unable to get someone to lead the salaah for the pleasure of Allaah (without a salary), they may hire him as deputy Imaam for the duration of Ramadhaan and appoint him to lead some other salaah apart from the Taraaweesh salaah. Only in this case can they pay him a salary as an exception. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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