

What Population is Required for the Jumu'ah salaah to be Valid?

Q: Salaah-279: What do the Ulema of Deen and the Muftis have to say in the light of the following:

1. The population of our village is three thousand, three hundred being? Musiims
2. There are two graveyards, the one measuring 840 square feet and the? other 120 square feet
3. There are five to seven shops where necessities are found, but other? things need to be acquired from Surat and Badoli
4. There is no police station, no railway station, no electricity, no river? and no'inaikeplace
5. There is a dam measuring approximately 840 square feet
6. Badoli lies five miles to the east, Surat is on the west and Baleshwar? is twelve miles away
7. There is a Madrasah and a Masjid and the Jumu'ah and Eid salaahs? are performed in congregation What is the status of the validity of the Jumu'ah salaah in the light of the above. Will people be sinful for performing the Zuhr salaah instead of the Jumu'ah salaah? If so, what is the Kafaarah for the sin?

Answer: For the Jumu'ah and Eid salaahs to be valid, they need to take place in a town or city. They will therefore be valid if your place is regarded as a town or at least a large village. It seems however evident from what you have stated that the place is not a town (because of the absence of a post office, railway station and other factors). The Jumu'ah and Eid salaahs will therefore not be valid and if performed, will be regarded as Nafil. Performing a Nafil salaah in Jamaa'ah is Makrooh and will make the people guilty of neglecting the Zuhr salaah in Jamaa'ah. While the Jumu'ah salaah is not Waajib (compulsory) for the people of this village, Zuhr salaah in Jamaa'ah is. If the people have the fervour to perform the Jumu'ah and Eid salaahs, they may go to a nearby town and perform it there. It is however not Waajib (compulsory) for them to do so. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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