Waking People up for Salaah

Q: Salaah-321: Because the people in our locality sleep very late, they are unable to join the Jamaa'ah for Fajr. For this reason, some people go around after the Fajr salaah to wake people up. As a result, we have approximately 100 people joining the Jamaa'ah whereas there would be only 25 to 30 joining had it not been for this exercise. Now some people claim that this is a sinful act. What is the ruling in the Shari'ah? Those woken up have no objection to this.

Answer: In essence, Tathweeb (announcing the salaah after the Adhaan) really is Makrooh because it undermines the status of the Adhaan. However, because of the sad situation of people having no regard for Allaah's call to come to success, some Ulema permit reminding neglectful people.

Since the time of Fajr is one of heedlessness, there is no need to stop people who have the courage to wake people up for salaah and to make them get into the habit of performing salaah with Jamaa'ah. While this may continue as long as the need is there, it should be handled skilfully without making a commotion and disturbing people. Women, ill and excused people performing salaah and Dhikr at home must be taken into consideration.

People should however never include themselves amongst the neglectful ones and give others the burden of waking them up. Sheikh Saadi RAH. laments in a poem (translated as) "It is a far cry from honour when the birds and animals of the forests are engaged in remembering Allaah while I (as a human and respondent to the call of Muhammad SAW.) am lying in negligence Engage in acts of virtue and make the most of this this life before the announcement is made that you have died" (Gulistaan)

And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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