

How should the Imaam Appoint a Deputy when his wudhu breaks?

Q: Salaah-405: If an Imaam's wudhu breaks during salaah, how should he indicate to another to fill his place?

Answer: It is best for the Imaam to appoint in his place someone who has joined the salaah from the beginning. However, it is also permissible to appoint a Masbooq to the place. To do it, the Imaam should lower his head and hold his nose so that people may think that his nose is bleeding. He should then step back and indicate to another person to take his place or he may pull the person's clothing and lead him forward. He must however not utter a word because doing so will render everyone's salaah invalid.

Since the rulings pertaining to appointing a deputy are so complex that, let alone common people, even Imaams are unaware of them. Therefore, to prevent people from corrupting their salaah, it is best for the Imaam to terminate his salaah immediately when his wudhu breaks and for the people to wait for him to return after making wudhu" And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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