



Imaam Muqbil Replies: On Praying Behind A Saint-Worshipper

Transcribed by Umm Ismaa'eel as-Salafiyah for Salafi Publications (Jumaada al-Ulaa 1422H, August 2001)

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The first question that we put to the noble Shaykh, Shaykh Muqbil, *hafidhahullaahu Ta'aala*, is the question:

Noble Shaykh, what is the ruling regarding Prayer behind the Brailwees? - Knowing that I am in Britain, and I have no other Mosque near to where I live in my city. So what should I do? Is it allowed for me to pray in the house in this condition or not?

The reply of the Shaykh, *hafidhahullaah*. He said:

"All praise is due to Allaah, much good and blessed praise, as our Lord loves and is pleased with. I testify that there is nothing which has the right to be worshipped except Allaah alone, having no partner, and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger, *sallallaahu alayhi wasallam*. To proceed:

"Then the Prayer behind a Soofee grave-worshipper, is not correct.¹ Why? Because he believes in Lordship for other than Allaah. And the grave-worshippers. It is well known about them that they invoke, and they call upon other than Allaah. And Allaah the Mighty and Majestic says in His Noble Book, the translation of which:

Those whom they invoke besides Him, do not possess power, even over the covering of a date stone. And if you call them, they could not hear your calling them. And if they could hear, they could not respond. And on the Day of Resurrection, they will reject their shirk with them. And none will tell you like the One Who is fully Aware.

And He the Most Perfect and the Most High - Allaah, says in His Noble Book al-Qur'aan:

O people! An example has been given to you so listen to it: Those whom they invoke besides Allaah cannot even create a fly, even they all came together to do so. And even if a fly were to take something from one of their idols, then their idols could not take it back. Weak is the caller and the one that is called.

¹ The Shaykh is saying the Brailwee, is in reality, a Soofee grave-worshipper.

And that's the end of the aayah. So the Shaykh continues:

“Then if the person is just an innovator whose innovation does not reach the level of *kufr*, then the Prayer behind him is correct. Since Shaykhul-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah, *rahimahullaahu Ta'aala*, said in the start of his book *Minhaaj as-Sunnah*: ‘The salaf differed about the Prayer behind the innovator. So some of them said: Praying behind him would strengthen him upon his innovation, and the people would be misled by him. And others said: It is all right to pray behind him as long as the one who prays behind him, criticises him.’

“Yes. This last saying is the one that is to be relied upon. Since the Prophet *sallallaahu alayhi wasallam*, said ‘*Pray if they lead you correctly. Then it will be for you and be for them. And if they err, then their erring it will be for you and against them*’ Reported by Bukhaaree from the hadeeth of Aboo Hurayrah, *radi allaahu anhu*.

“And as-San'aanee, *rahimahullaah*, said in his book *Subul as-Salaam*, after explaining the weakness of this hadeeth - the hadeeth which is to be quoted is a weak hadeeth where it is said: ‘*Pray behind whoever says laa ilaaha illa Allaah and pray over whoever says laa ilaaha illa Allaah*’ he said after explaining it to be weak: ‘and whoever is such that his Prayer is correct, then his leading the Prayer will be correct’.

“And the explainer of at-Tahaawiyah said: ‘The one who abandons the Prayer behind an innovator, is a *mub'tadi* - an innovator himself’.

“This refers to the innovator whose innovation does not reach the level of *kufr*. Yes. But if it reaches the level of *kufr* however, like that of the grave-worshippers, then Prayer is not correct behind them, since their Prayer itself is not correct.

“What remains - i.e. the one who is just an innovator - so if you were to pray behind him, then perhaps the people would be therefore misled by you, and think that the person - i.e. the person who's leading the Prayer - is a person who is upon guidance. But what we advise: if you can replace him without causing *fitnah*, then do so. And replace him with a person who is upon the Sunnah. But if you are not able to replace him, then I advise you to go to a Masjid upon the Sunnah where you can pray.

“Or, that you build a Masjid, even if it be from the trunks of date-palm trees. And pray in that Masjid. But if you are not able to do this, then there is no harm that you pray behind him - i.e. the innovator who has not reached the level of *kufr* - that innovator. Do not pray alone in the corner of the Masjid, or in your house. And Allaah is the One to Aid.”²

(End of Question 1)

² May Allaah the Most High reward the noble Shaykh with the greatest of rewards, the Imaam, Shaykh of Islaam, Allaamah, Muhaddith, *rahimahullaahu Ta'aala*, Aameen.