

Ruling on Invalidating Salah to Turn Off a Ringing Phone

Darulifta Ahlesunnat

(Dawateislami)

Question

What do the noble scholars and jurists of Islamic law say about the following: If one's phone starts ringing during Jama'ah (congregation) and it causes disturbance in the Salah of the Muqtadis and Imam, but it isn't possible to turn off the phone without doing an Amal Kaseer (major act), what would be the ruling in this case?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْجَوَابُ بِعَوْنِ الْمَلِكِ الْوَهَّابِ اللَّهُمَّ هِدَايَةَ الْحَقِّ وَالصَّوَابِ

If a ringing phone causes disturbance to the Salah of people during Jama'ah due to creating noise and it isn't possible to turn it off without Amal Kaseer, it is permitted to nullify the Salah because of the need to protect one's own and others' Salah from disturbance. In this case, one should nullify his Salah, turn off the phone, and then restart his Salah anew.

It is stated in *Radd Al-Muhtar*:

أن القطع يكون حراما ومباحا ومستحبا وواجبا، فالحرام لغیر عذر والمباح إذا خاف فوت مال، والمستحب القطع للإكمال، والواجب لإحياء نفس

(Radd Al-Muhtar 'Ala Al-Durr Al-Mukhtar, Vol. 2, p. 610, Publ. Dar Al-Ma'rifah, Beirut)

It is stated in *Al-Fatawa Al-'Alamgiri*:

ان قطع الصلاة لا يجوز الا لضرورة

(Al-Fatawa Al-'Alamgiri, Vol. 1, Chapter: Acts that nullifies salah and are Makruh in it, p. 121, Publ. Dar Al-Kutub Al-'Ilmiyah, Beirut)

وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ knows best.)

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