



Should a person offering Salah individually leave his Salah to join the congregation

The second question of Fatwa no. 1787:

Q 2: A person enters the Masjid (mosque) in Ramadan, and thinks that people are offering Tarawih (special supererogatory night Prayer in Ramadan), while he has not offered the `Isha' (Night) Prayer yet, so he starts to offer Salah (Prayer) alone. During Salah, he discovers that they are offering the `Isha' Prayer. What should he do? Should he continue his Salah alone, or join the congregation?

A: He should discontinue his Salah and join the congregation, as offering Salah congregationally is a Wajib (obligatory) unless one has an excuse. In this case, he does not have an excuse, because he is able to join them. There is no harm in discontinuing an obligatory Salah for a legitimate reason, and there is no doubt that joining the congregational Salah is a valid excuse.

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May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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