



Offering Salah alone behind the congregational rows

The second question of Fatwa no. 6365:

Q 2: A man entered the Masjid (mosque) and found that the rows were complete. There was a young boy in the end of the last row. Is it permissible for him to pull the boy back to offer Salah (Prayer) with him in a new row? If he comes while the people are performing Ruku` (bowing), can he pull one of them

(Part No : 8, Page No: 7)

while they are bowing? If he finds no one to offer Salah with except young boys, some of whom are old enough while others are not, can he join them in the same row?

A: If a person who wants to offer Salah finds a complete row, he should wait until another one comes to form a new row with him. He should not pull anyone from the existing row. If he can join the row or stand to the right of the Imam, he should do so. As for standing with the young boys, it can be done if they are old enough. It was reported in the Two Sahih (authentic) Books of Hadith (i.e. Al-Bukhari and Muslim) and others from Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) that he said, (The orphan and I aligned behind him and the old lady stood behind us.) He was referring to the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) when he visited them one day. If the boys are not old enough, it is considered as if he is offering Salah individually, which is invalid. The Prophet (peace be upon him) stated, (The Salah of a person standing alone behind a row is invalid.)

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

Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'

Member	Member	Committee Deputy Chairman	The Chairman
‘Abdullah ibn Qa‘ud	‘Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan	‘Abdul-Razzaq ‘Afify	‘Abdul-‘Aziz ibn ‘Abdullah ibn Baz