

## Praying behind an Imaam whose garments are below his ankles and who wears gold

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Questioner:** What is the ruling about praying behind an Imaam whose garments are below his ankles and who wears gold even though he knows the rulings concerning that?

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)<sup>1</sup>: The prayer is valid because the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)<sup>2</sup> used to say about the rulers, **“If they conduct it properly, you and they will be rewarded, but if they make mistakes you will earn the reward and they will be held responsible (for the mistakes).”** But a Muslim must chose to pray behind a righteous, scholarly, Imaam who is a reciter, so that his prayer will be as close as possible to ...

**Questioner:** [The Imaam is] a reciter but he wears gold and his clothes are below his ankles...

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): You’ve got the answer [already], may Allaah bless you, but after that answer I say that he should chose a righteous, scholarly, pious Imaam. If he prays behind a man like the one who adorns himself with things that Allaah has forbidden then he [i.e., the one wearing such things] is sinful and the sin is on him due to the statement of our Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, in His Book, **“... and no bearer of burdens shall bear the burden of another ...”**<sup>3</sup>, as for the prayer, it has no connection to such acts of disobedience done by this Imaam [in question]. So the Imaam who shaves his beard, for example, or prays in trousers etc., then the sin on him, and nothing is on those who pray behind him.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

<sup>2</sup> (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

<sup>3</sup> سورة الأنعام – Soorah al-An’aam [6:164]

<sup>4</sup> Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, 81.