

Ruling on religious songs

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Silsilat-ul-Hudaa wan-Noor (15)

Reference: Darulhadith, Sweden

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Questioner: What is the ruling on singing religious songs (Qasaa'id Deeniyah) aloud in the mosques during religious holidays?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله)¹: First and foremost, there is nothing in Islaam called as "religious songs".

Secondly, it is not allowed to disturb the worshipers in the mosque even if it be with Qur'aan-verses. What should then be said about songs that are allegedly religious? They have even more right to be disallowed. The prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)² said:

"O people! Each one of you is having a conversation in seclusion with their Lord. No one from among you should trouble the other and no one from among you should raise his voice when he reads over the voice of the other."³

It is said in another narration:

"...when he reads the Qur'aan."

Questioner: They compare this with the poetry of Hassaan bin Thaabit.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): The poetry of Hassaan bin Thaabit? Is that a religious song? I say to you that there is nothing that is called as 'religious songs'. As for the poetry in which the messenger (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is defended, then say as you wish, but you should not sing and let it constitute a religious aspect. It should be read in the same way as you mention Allaah and ask for blessings and peace over the messenger (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

Questioner: How can there not exist Islaamic and religious songs when one sings about Islaam and Islaamic characters?

¹ (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

³ Ahmad 3/94

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Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): Did this, what you are speaking of, exist with our righteous Salaf? We will treat you with leniency – may Allaah forgive you and me. Did this type exist with the Salaf?

Questioner: What type?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): The type you are referring to... Why are you not speaking? [Everybody laughs]

Questioner: The purpose of poetry and Arabic songs...

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): Excuse me. I do not want you to repeat your earlier speech. I understand what you are saying. I want you to concisely answer my question: Was this known with the righteous Salaf?

Questioner: In the past? No.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): There it is! You are now beginning to talk, after having been silent.

Questioner: No, I wasn't silent.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رحمه الله): No worries, no worries [Shaykh laughs]. That which was enough for them is thusly also enough for us.