

My Husband does not pray in the Masjid...Can I request a divorce?

Question: One of the sisters asks: "If my husband does not pray congregational prayer in the Masjid with the Muslims, can I request a divorce and separate from him?"

Shaykh Fawzan: Yes. If he is persistent upon not praying in congregation, then after having advised him and urging him to do so; then it is your right to request a divorce from him. This is because praying in congregation is obligatory; praying in congregation is obligatory. The Masjids are built for this very purpose, and the Adhan has been legislated for this purpose, and resident Imams and callers to prayer are put in place for this purpose. Congregational prayer is a tremendous affair. It appears in the Hadith:

مَنْ سَمِعَ النِّدَاءَ فَلَمْ يَأْتِهِ فَلَا صَلَاةَ لَهُ إِلَّا مِنْ عُذْرٍ

"Whoever hears the call to prayer and does not come; then he has no prayer, except for those who have an excuse." (Sunan Ibn Majah 793)

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee