255091 - Is it permissible for the security guard to interrupt his prayer in order to open the door?

the question

There is a man who works as a security guard in one of the hotels in Marrakesh, Morocco. His job requires him to lock the door and open it if one of the hotel guests come that way. His problem is that when he wants to offer the obligatory prayer and starts to pray, one of the guests may come and knock on the door. Is it permissible for him to interrupt his prayer in order to open the door, or should he carry on praying?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

We put this question to our shaykh, ‘Abd ar-Rahman al-Barrak (may Allah, may He be exalted, preserve him), and he replied:

If he has nearly finished his prayer and a slight delay will not matter, he should complete his prayer quickly and open the door. But if he has just started to pray, and any delay in opening the door could affect his job, then it is permissible for him to interrupt his prayer and open the door, as it is a case of necessity.

And Allah knows best.