43 - Imam’s ‘awrah (part of body) uncovered during prayer

the question

What should one do if one is praying behind the Imam and sees part of his body uncovered?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

If someone if in a congregational prayer behind the Imam and sees the ‘awrah (those parts of the body that a man or a woman must cover.) uncovered due to an opening in his clothes or due to his clothes being thin and transparent, then if it is possible he should go ahead and cover it with something, otherwise he should move and come out of prayer and inform the Imam by saying “cover your ‘awrah” (in Arabic “ghatti il-‘awrah”), or “protect what has been uncovered”. He must not stay quiet and continue to pray because it is known that the Imam’s prayer (in the said condition) is incorrect and following him is incorrect as well.[1]