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## Eating or drinking with brother who doesn't pray

Article taken and slightly adapted from: [shaikhalbaani.wordpress.com](http://shaikhalbaani.wordpress.com)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Questioner:** I have a brother who doesn't pray, is it allowed for me to eat and drink with him?

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)<sup>1</sup>:** Is he older than you or younger?

**Questioner:** Older.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** Has he reached the age where he is held responsible for his actions?

**Questioner:** Yes.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** If you don't eat and drink with him, where will you eat and drink from?

**Questioner:** From the food which he eats from ...

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** If I were to say to you, 'Don't eat or drink with him,' where will you then eat and drink from since he is older than you?

**Questioner:** I will eat, ya'nee, alone.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** Alone, outside or inside the house?

**Questioner:** Inside.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** Is your father alive? [Lit: do you have a father?]

**Questioner:** Yes.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** Is your mother alive? [Lit: do you have a mother?]

**Questioner:** Yes.

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

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**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): They pray, inshaa Allaah?

**Questioner:** Yes.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): Do you eat with them?

**Questioner:** Yes.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): And your brother who doesn't pray, doesn't he eat with them [too]?

**Questioner:** He eats with us.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): If you leave your brother that means that you will leave your father and mother, thus in this situation it is not allowed for you to say that you will leave your brother, because if you do you will leave your father and mother.

If you have some knowledge and can give some advice and direct your brother in a good way, especially since he is older than you, then do that in a manner that is best—not with harshness or coarseness.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, 93.