
Woman driving alone in taxi with male-driver

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question: If a woman rides in a taxi with a driver who is a male stranger to her (i.e. he is not her mahram), is this considered the privacy (*khulwah*) that is forbidden in the Religion? And what if two women ride together (with this taxi driver)?

Answer: Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹:

A woman riding alone with a taxi driver that is not a mahram to her may encounter herself in privacy (*khulwah*) in the sense that some of the forbidden matters that occur normally in *khulwah* (privacy), are likely to occur in such a situation. Furthermore, there is no third person that is with them. But from here, I do not hold that it is *khulwah* (privacy), but instead it is a motive and an incentive for *fitnah* (temptation). And this *fitnah* is not found in the other example in which there is another woman present or another man. Indeed the occurrence of *fitnah* in this situation is less likely than in the first situation.

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him