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784 - Replying Salaam to the Imam after he takes his place on the Mimbar

the question

When the Imam gets on the minbar for the Khutbah as gives the salaam, do the people reply of keep silent for fear of losing the reward of the Jumu'ah khutbah?

Jazakumullahu Khayran

As salaamu 'alaykum

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

al-hamdu lillaah.

If the Imam ascends the mimbar and greets the audience with the salaam then the audience should respond. This would not be considered frivolous discourse and would not violate the silence required for listening because the actual khutbah has not yet begun. Therefore, until then, the audience can recite praises of Allaah and duaa, and also repeat after the muathin who calls for prayer, which is timed after the Imam has actually greeted the audience and has taken his place on the mimbar.