



Mudhakkirah al-Hadeeth an-Nabawee

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Clinging to the Book and the Sunnah and the Way of the Rightly Guided Successors

From Abu Najeeth al-Irbaad bin Saariyah (radiallaahu anhu) who said:

The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) admonished us with an intense sermon which caused the hearts to fear and the eyes to shed tears, so we said: “O Messenger of Allaah, this is as if it were a farewell sermon, so advise us.”

He said: “I order you to fear Allaah, and to hear and obey, even if you have a slave as a ruler over you. For verily he who lives long amongst you will see many differences. So I order you to stick to my Sunnah and the way of the rightly guided successors after me. Bite on to that with your molar teeth and beware of the newly invented matters, for verily every innovation is misguidance”.

Reported by Abu Dawood¹, at-Tirmidhi² who declared the hadeeth is hasan saheeh, and Ahmad³, Ibn Maajah⁴ and ad-Daarimi⁵.

The Reporter of the Hadeeth

Al-Irbaad bin Saariyah As-Salamee, Abu Najeeth. He lived in Hims (a city in central Syria) and died aged 70.

The Meaning of the Hadeeth

¹ Kitaab us-sunnah hadeeth no. 4607 (5/13)

² Kitaab ul-ilm Chapter 16. Hadeeth no. 2676 (5/44)

³ (4/126,127)

⁴ Hadeeth no. 42, 43

⁵ Hadeeth no. 96 (1/43)

This Hadeeth is a great foundation and it contains great comprehensive guidelines.

In it the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) conferred this great advice and profound command to his Islaamic ummah by which he guided them to great matters. There is no firmness in their deen and their dunya except by adhering to them and following them, and there is no solution to their problems except by implementing them exactly.

- 1) So there is no deen except by having taqwaa of Allaah, which means having obedience to Allaah, compliance to His commands and avoidance of His prohibitions.
- 2) There is no firmness in their deen or their dunya except by a righteous and just leader guiding them by the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam). He enforces the Shariah of Allaah amongst them, organizes and unifies their ranks and raises the flag of Jihaad for them to make the Word of Allaah (Laa ilaaha illallaah) uppermost. So it is obligatory upon the ummah to submit to him with obedience, in that which they like and dislike, as long as it is in accordance with the command of Allaah and carried out in accordance to His rulings. Also, for the benefit of Islaam, the Muslims and as a protection of their unity and in order to spare their blood, Islaam obligates obedience upon the ummah to the ruler even if he is sinful, as long as he is not committing those acts which throw him into kufr.
- 3) The command of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) encompasses the position of the ummah towards differences and those who oppose the truth. So he directed us to hold fast to the truth and return to the correct way, the methodology of the Messenger of Allaah and his rightly guided successors (radiallaahu anhum). So what was their way and methodology except the Book of Allaah, which: **“Cannot be approached by falsehood from the front nor from the rear.”[41:42]** and the pure Sunnah of the Messenger of Allaah. So they contain security and happiness as well as the definitive authentic solution for the differences occurring between the Islaamic sects, and the ending of the differences in a manner which pleases Allaah and unites the Muslims upon the truth. So any solution which is given precedence over and above this methodology is erroneous and its outcome is failure.

- 4) The advice of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) encompasses a warning from innovations and newly invented matters. So the Messenger of Allaah always warned his ummah from the dangers and corruption of innovations, along with a luminous explanation and clarification that they are misguidance and are in the Fire. So what is it that calls many of the Muslims to fall into them and to adhere to them? Verily Allaah has honoured the Muslims with the Book, falsehood will not enter it from the front or rear and the deen is perfect to the utmost degree of perfection without any deficiency in it:

“This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islaam as your deen.” [5:3]

Verily it is truly regrettable that you see many from the Islaamic ummah not depending upon the Qur’aan and the Sunnah in their beliefs such that innovations have flooded their worship and they have taken to blind following. The Messenger (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) spoke truthfully about them when he said:

“You will surely follow the ways of those who came before, hand span by hand span, and arm length by arm length, such that if they entered a lizard’s hole, you would also enter it”.

The Benefits of the Hadeeth

- 1) The legislation of advice and admonition for the Muslims and that can be done by a representative as occurs in the hadeeth of Ibn Mas’ood.
- 2) The command to fear Allaah in the admonition.
- 3) The Hadeeth contains one of the signs of Prophethood since the differences in the ummah occurred just as is mentioned.
- 4) It contains a reprimand from differences in the fundamentals and the branches of the deen.
- 5) It shows the necessity to return to the methodology of the Messenger and his rightly guided successors.
- 6) It contains a reprimand from the innovations and a warning against them.

- 7) It contains the fact that all innovations are misguidance and there is no goodness in them whatsoever.