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PREFACE

All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of the Worlds, I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allāh and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger. This translation stems from two sources. The first source comes from a sermon delivered by Shaikh 'Ubayd ibn 'Abdillāh al-Jābirī on 15th Shawwāl 1425. The sermon is an introduction to the hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (🌤).

Due to the immense benefit in the explanation from the Shaikh, may Allāh protect him, I saw it upon myself to ask the Shaikh whether he would agree to its translation. The Shaikh gave me his approval and I began to embark on its translation. After translating the sermon, I returned to the Shaikh and he advised that the text of the whole hadīth also be translated along with his explanation. I found an explanation of the hadīth in one of the lessons delivered by the Shaikh and added it to the book. Throughout this translation, the Shaikh, may Allāh protect him, has given me some valuable guidance in putting it together.

The explanation of the main text of the *hadīth* is taken from Shaikh 'Ubayd's lesson on the explanation of *Sunan Ibn Mājah* on the 6th *Muharram* 1426AH, Madīnah, Saudi Arabia.

I have added a biography of Shaikh 'Ubayd ibn 'Abdillāh al-Jābirī which was read to him in the month of *Rabī' ath-Thāni* 1426 AH, with his corrections and approval.

Also, all the verses, hadīths and statements of the Pious Predecessors have been referenced. Indeed actions are but by intentions and every man will have what he intends. I seek refuge from associating partners with Allāh knowingly and I ask for His forgiveness from associating partners with Him unknowingly.

Abdulilāh ibn Rabah Lahmāmi 25th Rabī' ath-Thāni 1426 AH 2nd June 2006

THE BIOGRAPHY OF SHAIKH 'UBAYD AL-JABIRI'

He is 'Ubayd ibn 'Abdillāh ibn Sulaimān al-Hamdāni al-Jābirī. The tribe of Jābir is from the Harb tribe of the Hijāz. He was born in the village of Faqīr near the Far' valley in the city of Madīnah in the year 1357AH. In the year 1365AH, he moved with his father to Ma'ad ad-Dahb. There he began his learning and studying. In the year 1374AH, he moved to Madīnah and due to family reasons he stopped studying for a period of time. In 1381AH, he studied at Dār al-Hadīth in Madīnah, then he continued at the Ma'hadul-'Ilmee (Center of Knowledge). He entered the Sharī'ah college at the University of Madīnah. He graduated from there in the year 1392AH with excellent grades. He came first in his group.

HIS TEACHERS



As for his teachers then all of them have grace after Allāh in educating, cultivating and having the correct understanding of the religion of Allāh. From amongst his teachers at *Dārul-Hadīth* (in Madīnah, Saudi Arabia) are:

Shaikh Sayfur-Rahmān ibn Ahmad Shaikh 'Ammār ibn 'Abdillāh

¹ This biography originally appeared on the website Sahab.net but had mistakes. I read it to Shaikh 'Ubayd and this is the corrected version with the approval of the Shaikh himself, may Allāh protect him.

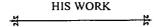
HIS TEACHERS AT THE CENTER OF KNOWLEDGE IN MADEENAH, SAUDI ARABIA

1 1

Shaikh 'Abdullāh ibn 'Abdul-'Azeez al-Khudairī Shaikh 'Awdah ibn Talq al-Ahmadī Shaikh Dakheelullāh ibn Khalīfah al-Kulaitī Shaikh 'Abdur-Rahmān ibn 'Abdillāh ibn 'Ajlān² Shaikh Muhammad ibn 'Abdillāh al-'Ailān

HIS TEACHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MADEENAH

The 'Allāmah Muhaddith Hammād ibn Muhammad al-Ansāree The 'Allāmah Muhaddith 'Abdul-Muhsin al-'Abbād Shaikh Abū Bakr al-Jazā'irī



He used to be the *Imām* in *Masjid Sabq* in Madīnah from 1387AH till 1392AH.

He was a teacher at an intermediate school in Jeddah called 'Umar ibn 'Abdul-'Azīz School from 1392H till 1396H.

He was a caller at the *Da'wah* Center in Madīnah and would take charge when the head was away from 1396AH till 1404AH.

He was a teacher at the University of Madīnah from 1404AH to 1st Rajab 1417AH. Then he retired according to the retirement age in the law. During his stay there, he studied for and obtained a Masters degree in Tafsīr.

² He is presently teaching in the *Haram* in Makkah.

HIS CHARACTER AND LOVE OF AHLUS SUNNAH

The Shaikh is very kind to his students, accepts people from all over the world to his house to ask questions and to benefit. He spends most of his time teaching either at his local mosque, his house, over the phone to the students in the Prophet's Mosque, and over the internet. Last year, the Shaikh mentioned that he has about fifteen lessons a week. His care and concern for spreading knowledge and teaching the books of the scholars of Ahlus-Sunnah is very apparent. The Shaikh travels inside and outside the kingdom for da'wah even though he cannot see. I have never heard him complain once about his loss of sight. Rather, he has excelled in what Allāh has given him in terms of his knowledge, memory and understanding of this religion.

The Shaikh also has a good sense of humour. He takes a lot of interest and care with his family, always providing for them and taking time and effort to please them. The Shaikh has a lot of love for children and plays with them and also teaches them, maashaa'Allāh.

He loves Ahlus-Sunnah and particularly always asking about his brothers from the scholars around the Kingdom and elsewhere. Last year (1425AH), he met Shaikh Muhammad 'Abdul-Wahhāb al-Banna in the Haram in Makkah and they both hugged each other. Shaikh Muhammad al-Banna cried when he saw Shaikh 'Ubayd for the love he had for him and invited the Shaikh to his house for dinner.

The scholars continue to praise Shaikh 'Ubayd al-Jaabiree and recognize his knowledge and understanding mashaa' Allāh. Shaikh Sālih ibn Fawzān was asked about Shaikh 'Ubayd al-Jābirī and he said take benefit from him as he is known to be from the scholars. Other elder scholars such as Shaikh Dr. Sālih as-Suhaimī, teacher in the Islamic University of Madīnah and likewise teacher in the Prophetic Mosque has much love for the Shaikh and praises his knowledge and understanding. Likewise, Shaikh Rabī' ibn Hādī advises the students to benefit from his knowledge and his

understanding. He said recently, "Benefit as much as you can, my son, for I am now 72 years old and I do not know when my time will come..."

As to those who have spoken ill of him from the hate mongers, he said, "You do not expect innovators to put out flowers in front of you, don't worry about what they say, tread this path, the path of knowledge for the Prophet was not free from being insulted."

And he said, "Knowledge without wisdom is destruction. It is upon the callers to have knowledge and wisdom and this comes from sitting with the scholars."

Recently he sent a letter to Shaikh Saalih bin Fawzaan thanking him for his efforts after reading an article of the shaikh on being upright.

HIS BOOKS

- 1. Taysīrul-Ilāh bisharh adilatish-shuroot lā ilāha illallāh (Printed).
- 2. Tanbīh Dawil 'Uqool as-Salīma ilā Fawā id Mustanbata mina Sitatil-Usool al-Athīma (Printed by Dār al-Bukhārī).
- 3. Imdād al-Qāree bi Sharh Kitāb at-Tafsīr min Sahīh al-Bukhārī (Printed in four volumes).
- 4. Sharh Muntaga ibn Jārood (not completed).
- 5. Fath al-'Aliyil-A'laa bi sharh al-Qawā·id al-Muthlaa (Printed).
- 6. Itihāful-'Uqool bisharh Thalāthatil-Usool.
- 7. Qawā id al-Fiqhiyah of Abdur-Rahmān as-Sa'dee.

BOOKS UNDER PUBLICATION

- 1. Haiyatul-Mubtadi bi sharh Mandoomat al-Qawā'id al-Fiqhiyah.
- 2. Rasā'il al-Jābirī fid-Da'wah ilal-Jama'āt as-Salafiyyah fi Tahdeer ath-Thowra Fikriyyah.
- 3. At-Tuhfatul Jaabiriyyah fi Mulakhas al-'Aqeedatis-Salafiyyah.
- 4. Radd 'Ala 'Alī Jiffrey (the Sūfī who is currently spreading shirk amongst Muslims). Printed.

HIS RECENT LESSONS IN MASJID NAFA' IBN 'ĀMIR IN MADĪNAH. SAUDI ARABIA

1 1

Sha'bān 1425

Sahīh Sunan Abī Dawood - Kitābus-Sunnah. Meemiyyah of al-Hāfidh al-Hakamee.

Ramadān 1425

Bulūgh al-Marām – Book of Fasting.

Majālis Ramadān from Shaykh Ibn 'Uthaimeen.

Shawwaal 1425

Bahjat Quloob al-Abrār by Shaykh 'Abdur-Rahmaan as-Sa'dee Bulūgh al-Marām – Book of Hajj

Muharam 1426

Bulūgh al-Marām - Book of Tahārah (completed in Rabī' al-Awwal 1426AH).

Sahīh Sunan Ibn Mājah – Introduction (completed in Rabī' al-Awwal 1426).

Qawā'idul-Fiqhiyyah of 'Abdur-Rahmān Sa'dī (completed in Rabī' al-Awwal 1426AH).

Safar 1426

The Four Principles - Qawā'id al-Arba'a (completed).

Rabī' al-Awwal 1426

The Three Fundamentals - Usool ath-Thalātha.

He has also completed thereafter:

Kitābut-Tawheed by Imām Muhammad ibn Abdul-Wahhāb twice in four years.

Muqadimatul-Qirwaniyyah of lbn Abī Zaid al-Qirwanee

Usoolus-Sunnah of Imam Ahmad

Sharh Lum'atul-'Itiqaad of Ibn Qudāmah by Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Sālih al-Uthaimeen

Lu-Lu wal Marjān: Kitāb al-īman, Tahārah, Salāt Al-Adab al Mufrad – 22 sittings. Riyādhus-Salihīn - first fisteen chapters.

Minhājus-Salikīn of Shaikh Abdul-Rahmān as-Sa'di - All of the chapters on worship.

Shurootul-Salāt by Imām Muhammad ibn Abdul-Wahhāb. (The conditions of the prayer).

As-Sunnah of Imām al-Marwazi

Currently, the Shaikh is teaching Al-Aqeedatul-Wāsitiyyah and Minhājus-Sālikīn Kitāb al-Buyu' (Book of Buying and Selling)

FIRST PART OF THE SERMON

I begin in the name of Allāh, the Most Merciful the Most Kind. All praise is due to Allāh, we praise Him and seek His aid and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allāh from the evil of our actions and from the evil within ourselves. Whomsoever Allāh guides none can misguide and whomsoever Allāh misguides none can guide. I testify that no one has the right to be worshipped except Allāh and that Muhammad (ﷺ) is His slave and Messenger.

Oh you who believe fear Allah as He should be feared and die not except in a state of Islam.3

﴿ يَنَأَيُّنَا ٱلنَّاسُ ٱتَّقُواْ رَبَّكُمُ ٱلَّذِى خَلَقَكُر مِن نَفْسِ وَحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَيَثُ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالاً كَثِيرًا وَنِسَآءٌ ۚ وَٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ ٱلَّذِى تَسَآمَلُونَ بِهِۦ وَٱلْأَرْحَامُ ۚ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا إِنِّيْ ﴾

Oh Mankind, fear your guardian Lord who created you from a single soul, and from it He created its mate and from them he created many men and women, so fear Alläh from whom you demand your mutual rights and respect the wombs that bore you for Alläh ever watches over you.

³ Soorah āli-'Imraan: 102.

⁴ Soorah an-Nisaa ': 1.

﴿ يَنَأَيُّنَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا آتَقُوا آلَةً وَقُولُوا فَوْلاً سَدِيدًا ﴿ إِنَّ يُصْلَحُ لَكُمْ أَعْمَىٰلُكُرْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۖ وَمَن يُطِعِ آللَّهَ وَرَسُولُهُ، فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا ﴿ آَنِيَ ﴾

'Oh you who believe fear Allah and speak a word directed to the truth that He may improve your actions and forgive you your sins for whosoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has indeed attained a great success.'5

To proceed:

Imām Ahmed and the scholars of the *hadeeth* books⁶ have reported the *hadeeth* of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (may Allāh be pleased with him):

حدثنا أحمد بن حنبل ثنا الوليد بن مسلم ثنا ثور بن يزيد قال حدثني خالد بن معدان قال حدثني عبد الرحمن بن عمرو السلمي وحجر بن حجر قالا

'Abdur-Rahmaan ibn 'Amr as-Sulami and Hujr ibn Hujr both said:

أتينا العرباض بن سارية وهو ممن نزل فيه «ولا على الذين إذا ما أتوك لتحملهم قلت لا أجد ما أحملكم عليه» فسلمنا وقلنا أتيناك زائرين وعائدين ومقتبسين فقال العرباض صلى بنا رسول الله صلى الله علينا فوعظنا موعظة بليغة ذرفت منها العيون ووجلت منها القلوب فقال قائل يا رسول الله كأن هذه موعظة مودع فماذا تعهد إلينا فقال أوصيكم بتقوى الله والسمع

⁵ Sūrah al-Ahzāb: 70-71.

⁶ Here, the sheikh refers to those books that have reported this hadīth such as Sunan Abī Dawood, Sunan Ibn Mājah and Sunan at-Tirmidhee.

والطاعة وإن عبدا حبشيا فإنه من يعش منكم بعدي فسيرى اختلافا كثيرا فعليكم بسنتي وسنة الخلفاء المهديين الراشدين تمسكوا بما وعضوا عليها بالنواجذ وإياكم ومحدثات الأمور فإن كل محدثة بدعة وكل بدعة ضلالة

We came to al-'Irbād ibn Saariyah (*) about whom the following verse was revealed:

"Nor (is there blame) on those who came to you to be provided with mounts, when you said: "I can find no mounts for you," they turned back, while their eyes overflowing with tears of grief that they could not find anything to spend (for Jihād – striving in the path of Allāh)."

[Soorah at-Tawbah: 92]

...So we greeted him and said, "We came to you as visitors, visitors to the sick, and to benefit (from your knowledge)." al-'Irbād (*) said: The Prophet (*) lead us in prayer one day and then he faced us and gave us an eloquent sermon due to which the eyes flowed with tears and the hearts were moved, so one of us said,

"Oh Messenger of Allāh, it is as if this is a farewell sermon, so what do you advise us with?" He (远) said, "I advise you with the fear of Allāh and to hear and obey (your leaders) even if an Abyssinian slave were to rule over you. For whomsoever lives amongst you after me, will see many differences so upon you is to follow my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the rightly guided caliphs after me. Stick to it and bite onto it with the molar teeth and be warned of the newly invented matters for verily

every newly invented matter is an innovation and every innovation is misguidance."

Oh Muslims, this hadīth is great! It is from the concise speech which the Messenger (塞) was given. Ahlus-Sunnah⁸ met this hadīth with acceptance and acted upon what it necessitates from advice. It contains principles and foundations from the principles and foundations of this religion. By this religion I mean, the religion of Islām

This great, authentic hadīth necessitates the following understanding and the foundations of this religion:

Firstly, ponder over the statement of the two righteous successors to the Companion of the Messenger (%), "We came to you, as visitors, as visitors to the sick and to benefit." So what is the meaning of these words?

Their statement, "as visitors" necessitates having respect and honour for the one being visited. It strengthens the relationship and ties between the two parties. And what a great visit this is in the sight of Allāh if it is for the sake of Allāh.

In the authentic hadīth Qudsī9, Allāh said,

"My love is obligatory for those who visit each other, sit with each other and love each other for my sake." 10

And in another authentic hadīth, Allāh will say on the Day of Judgement,

⁷ Sahīh Sunan Abī Dawood no. 4607.

⁸ They are the people who stick to the *Sunnah* and they unite upon it. See *Shaikh* Muhammad ibn Sālih ibn 'Uthaymeen's explanation of *al-'Aqīdatul-Wāsitiyyah* p.52, published by *Dār Ibn Jawzee*.

⁹ A hadīth Qudsī is a hadīth which the Prophet (***) narrated as a statement from Allāh.

¹⁰ Sahīh al-Jāmi' no.1915, reported by Abu Hurayrah (♣). Authenticated by al-Albānī (♦) (♦)

أين المتحابون لجلالي اليوم أظلهم في ظلى يوم لا ظل إلا ظلى "Where are those who love each other for My sake? Today I will shade them under My shade on a day where there is no shade but My shade."¹¹

Reflecting on the next part of the hadīth, one can see that they visited al-'Irbād while he was sick. This is proof that the companions and the successors considered visiting the sick to be one of the exemplary obligatory actions of the Messenger (選). Thus, to visit and accompany the sick helps reduce feelings of uneasiness in their soul and heart.

In an authentic hadīth, the Messenger (鐵) said one day, "Who amongst you woke up today fasting?" Abū Bakr (拳) said, "I have". So he (鐵) said, "Who has visited a sick person today?" Abū Bakr (拳) said, "I have." He (選) said, "Who fed a poor person today?" Abū Bakr (拳) said, "I have." He (織) said, "Who witnessed a funeral today?" Abū Bakr (拳) said, "I have." So the Messenger (逶) said, "By the One in whose hands is my soul, whoever gathers all of these traits, Allāh gives him Paradise."

Glad tidings, Oh Muslims, to the Imām of this Islamic nation, the Messenger (ﷺ) and the truthful one after him, Abū Bakr as-Sidīq...

And in the other authentic hadīth,

حق المسلم على المسلم ست إذا لقيته فسلم عليه وإذا دعاك فأجبه وإذا استنصحك فانصح له وإذا عطس فحمد الله فشمته وإذا مرض فعده وإذا مات فاتبعه

"The rights of the Muslim upon another Muslim are six, if you meet him then give him salutations and if he calls you then answer him. If he asks for your advice, advise him and if he sneezes and praises Allāh (by saying al-hamdulillāh) then reply (by saying yarhamuka

¹¹ Saheeh Muslim no.2566 and Sharh Saheeh Muslim no.6494.

¹² Saheeh Muslim no.2371/6132 with a slight change in the order of the wording.

Allāh: may Allāh have mercy on you). If he is sick then visit him and if he dies then follow his funeral."13

Their statement that, "We came to you to benefit", meaning they came to al-'Irbād to also benefit from his knowledge. It was known to them, Oh Muslims, that the companions of the Messenger (鑑) were the most knowledgeable people of the Sunnah (the sayings, actions and agreement) of the Messenger (鑑) since they were (and still are) the most knowledgeable of the guidance of the Messenger (鑑). They, alone, had witnessed the revelation from the Messenger's tongue and they took the religion from his mouth and they passed it on to the rest of the people without adding to it or taking anything from it.

This gives us overwhelming evidence that one of the principles of this religion is to respect the people of knowledge and to seek knowledge from them. What do we mean by the people of knowledge? They are those who are scholars of the Islamic legislation. They enlighten the people with the religion of Allāh from the $Qur'\bar{a}n$ and the Sunnah upon the understanding of the Pious Predecessors. Not everyone who appears on television or radio is a scholar from whom the religion is acquired from. Not everyone who speaks about the religion is from the scholars. The balance of judgment is the $Qur'\bar{a}n$ and the Sunnah of the Messenger (\approx) upon the understanding of the Pious Predecessors. The scholar is one who cultivates the people (a $Rabb\bar{a}n\bar{r}^{14}$), this is the one the Muslims

"Be you Rabbāniyīn (learned men of religion who practice what they know and also teach others), because you are teaching the Book, and you are studying it." [Soorah āli-'Imrān 3:79]

¹³ See Sharh Sahīh Muslim no.5616.

¹⁴ As Allāh, the Exalted said:

should seek to benefit and learn from. The scholar is the one whom the general and specific ones know because he doesn't enlighten the people regarding the religion of Allāh from his own opinion or from hearsay. Rather, he narrates from the Qur'ān and the Sunnah upon the understanding of the Pious Predecessors¹⁵, successors and those who came after them from the blessed generations. Anyone who follows their way is upon the pure Sunnah. The scholar who is Rabbānī is the one who is known for steadfastness upon knowledge, known for being honourable, upright upon the Sunnah and known to be upon the correct belief and methodology. He will quote what Allāh and the Messenger (ﷺ) said and what the predecessors have said. This is the scholar or Rabbānī.

The scholar is not anyone who raises his head philosophising and beautifying his speech. This is not a scholar, indeed no, a thousand no's

A scholar is the one who becomes known for knowledge, his feet become firmly established. He is the one whom the Muslims should study under and not leave for someone who is less than him except if there is a need to.

Ibn Mas'ūd (46) said,

One who educates the people by teaching them in stages beginning with the most important things such as *Tawhīd* (maintaining Allāh's Oneness in His worship). This is how Shaikh 'Ubayd al-Jābiree explained it. Also see the chapter heading: 'The Book of Knowledge' (Kitāb al-'Ilm) from Sahīh al-Bukhārī with the explanation of Shaikh 'Abdul-Muhsin al-'Abbād available in the Prophet's Mosque in Madīnah.

"The people will continue to be upon goodness so long as they take the knowledge from the companions of the Messenger (23) and from their elders but if they take the knowledge from the young ones they will be destroyed." 16

Do you know who the young ones are¹⁷? They are the people of whims and desires¹⁸. They are the ones who leave the Prophetic texts and hold onto their opinions, philosophy and dazzling speech until they deceive the people. They control and overcome them with the outcome being ignorance.

The scholars used to test the people of each place with their scholars. So in the past they used to say: test the people of Madīnah with Mālik ibn Anas and test the people of Shām¹⁹ with al-Awzā'ī and test the people of Egypt with Laith ibn Sa'd and test the people of Koofah with Sufyaan and test the people of Mosul²⁰ with Mu'āfah ibn Imrān.

What they mean by this is that the people in these areas are asked about their scholars. If they spoke well of them and respected them they would be brought closer and respected. If they spoke ill of these

17 Abu 'Umayyah al-Jumāhee said that the Messenger of Allāh (3458) said,

"From the Sign of the Hour is that people will seek knowledge from the youngsters."

See related in Sharh Usoolul-I'tiqaad no. 102 of Imaam al-Laalikaa'ee. ¹⁸ Ibnul-Mubārak (ダヴ) said,

"They are the people of desires (ahwaa) and innovation."

Related by Ibnul-Mubārak in az-Zuhd no. 61 and by Al-Khatīb Al-Baghdādee in Al-Jāmi' li-Ahkām 1/137.

²⁰ Mosul is a city in Iraq.

¹⁶ Saheeh reported by 'Abdullah ibn Mubārak in az-Zuhd and Ibn 'Abdul-Вагт in Jāmi' Bayānul-'Ilm 1/616,617. Quoted from Silsilatul-Athaarus-Saheehah by Abu 'Abdillaah ad-Dāni ibn Muneer Az-Zahwee p.27.

¹⁹ Today this includes: Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

scholars and insulted them then the scholars kept them away from themselves by splitting off from them. This shows that the scholars are a blessing for this Islamic nation, they educate the people and teach them from the *Qur'ān* and the *Sunnah*, the religion of Allāh upon the understanding of the Pious Predecessors. By them the people are strengthened, the scales are measured in full and people's possessions are protected from innovations and newly invented matters.

If the *Islamic nation* does not have a need for its scholars and it puts the scholars behind itself then those people are considered to be evil. Salute them for indeed the devils from the *jinns*²¹ and mankind will overcome them.

Oh Muslims, do not be like those who have no need of the scholars. Those scholars who are known to the general and specific ones like the Imām Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azīz Bin Bāz (>>>>), and like the Imām Shaikh Muhammad ibn Sālih al-'Uthaimīn (>>>>) and like the Imām Shaikh al-Albāni (>>>>) and their brothers who are upon the truth after them in our judgment and Allāh is their Reckoner. At the head of them, the Muftee of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azīz ibn 'Abdillāh ālush-Shaikh and the honourable Shaikh Sālih al-Luhaydān and the honourable Shaikh Sālih al-Fawzān and the honourable Shaikh 'Abdullāh ibn al-Ghudayān and their brothers who are with them upon the Sunnah. We do not praise them above Allāh's praise and Allāh is their Reckoner.

Oh Muslims, be careful that opinions overcome you and you are confused by dazzling speech for this is the beginning of misguidance and destruction. May Allāh protect us and you in our religion in this life and the Hereafter.

²¹ Jinn are created by Allāh from smokeless fire and amongst them are Muslims and non-Muslims.

SECOND PART OF THE SERMON

All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of everything He created. And the end result being for the pious ones. I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allāh who has not partners, the King of the Revealed Truth. And I testify that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger (ﷺ) may the peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, his family and his companions, the righteous and pure.

After which follows:

Oh Muslims, know that this life is not a place for settling but a place of passing. The content person is the one who prepares for the life that is for settling and that is the hereafter. Know that the people in the hereafter are of two types.

Allah, the Most High, said,

"A group of people in Paradise and a group in Hellfire." 22

Be careful, Oh worshippers of Allāh that the world does not overcome you with its beauty, glitter and desires.

What is better in speech than what the fourth Ameerul-Mu'mineen²³ (&) said,

"The world is going backwards and the hereafter is coming forwards, and each of the two has its own children. So be of the children of the hereafter and do not be of the children of this world, for today there is action (good or bad deeds) but no accountability, but

²² Soorah ash-Shoorah: 7.

²³ Literally refers to the leader of the Muslims. Here it refers to 'Alī ibn Abī Tālib (🌤). He was the fourth caliph.

tomorrow there will be accountability and no actions."24

In accordance with this is the *hadīth* of the Prophet (鶏) recorded in *Bukhārī* where lbn 'Umar (歩) said that the Prophet (鶏) took hold of my shoulder and said,

"Be in this world as though you are a stranger or a traveler."

And Ibn 'Umar (46) used to say,

"If you wake up, do not expect to live till the evening and if you reach the evening do not expect to reach the morning and take heed of your life before you die and your health before you are sick."²⁵

The Messenger (33) said,

"The two feet of a slave will not move on the Day of Judgment until he is asked about his life and how he spent it, about his knowledge and what he did with it, about his wealth and how he acquired it and how he spent it, and his body and what he did with it."²⁶

O Allah give this Islamic nation guidance.

O Allāh make our souls pious and purify it for you are the best of those who purify, for you are its friend and protector.

O Allāh send upon us rain and do not make us from those who lose hope.

O Allāh do not punish us due to actions of the foolish ones.

O Allah forgive us and bless us with peace and security.

²⁴ Sahīh al-Bukhāree: Book of Softening the Hearts.

²⁵ Sahīh al-Bukhāree no. 6416.

²⁶ Sahīh Sunan at-Tirmidhee no.2417.

O Allāh don't hold us to account if we forget or err. And forgive us and have mercy on us. Give us victory over the disbelieving people.

High is Allāh, the Honourable from what they attribute to Him (negatively), peace be upon the Messengers and all praise is due to Allāh.

Other Wordings Of The Hadīth Of al-'Irbād Ibn Sāriyah (46)
With The Explanation From Shaikh 'Ubayd Al-Jābirī

The Hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah & from Sahīh Sunan Abī Dawood no. 4607²⁷

حدثنا أحمد بن حنبل ثنا الوليد بن مسلم ثنا ثور بن يزيد قال حدثني خالد بن معدان قال حدثني عبد الرحمن بن عمرو السلمي وحجر بن حجر قالا

'Abdur-Rahmān ibn 'Amr as-Sulami and Hujr ibn Hujr both said:

أثينا العرباض بن سارية وهو ممن نزل فيه ولا على الذين إذا ما أتوك لتحملهم قلت لا أحد ما أحملكم عليه فسلمنا وقلنا أتيناك زائرين وعائدين ومقتبسين فقال العرباض صلى بنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ذات يوم ثم أقبل علينا فوعظنا موعظة بليغة ذرفت منها العيون ووجلت منها القلوب فقال قائل يا رسول الله كأن هذه موعظة مودع فماذا تعهد إلينا فقال أوصيكم بتقوى الله والسمع والطاعة وإن عبدا حبشيا فإنه من يعش منكم بعدي فسيرى اختلافا كثيرا فعليكم بسني وسنة الخلفاء المهديين الراشدين تمسكوا بما وعضوا عليها بالنواحذ وإياكم ومحدثات الأمور فإن كل عدثة بدعة وكل بدعة ضلالة

We came to al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (🌤) and he was amongst those whom the following verse was revealed:

²⁷ This is the hadīth wording Shaikh 'Ubayd al-Jābirī used in his explanation of this hadīth.

"Nor (is there blame) on those who came to you to be provided with mounts, when you said: 'I can find no mounts for you,' they turned back, while their eyes overflowing with tears of grief that they could not find anything to spend (for striving in the path of Allāh)."²⁸

...So we greeted him and said, "We came to you as visitors, visitors to the sick, and to benefit (from his knowledge)." al-'Irbād (傷) said: The Prophet (趣) lead us in prayer one day and then he faced us and gave us an eloquent sermon due to which the eyes flowed with tears and the hearts were moved, so one of us said, "Oh Messenger of Allah, it is as if this is a farewell sermon. so what do you advise us with?" He (站) said, "I advise you with the fear of Allah and to hear and obey (your leaders) even if an Abyssinian slave were to rule over you for whomsoever lives amongst you after me then they will see many differences so upon you is to follow my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the Rightly Guided Caliphs after me. Stick to it and bite onto it with the molar teeth and be warned of the newly invented matters for verily every newly invented matter is an innovation and every innovation is misguidance."

²⁸ Soorah at-Tawbah: 92

The hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah & from Sahīh Sunan at-Tirmidhee no. 2676

حدثنا على بن حجر حدثنا بقية بن الوليد عن بجير بن سعد عن خالد بن معدان عن عبد الرحمن بن عمرو السلمي عن العرباض بن سارية قال

On the authority of Abdul-Rahmaan ibn 'Amr as-Sulami that al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (46) said:

وعظنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يوما بعد صلاة الغداة موعظة بليغة ذرفت منها العيون ووجلت منها القلوب فقال رجل إن هذه موعظة مودع فماذا تعهد إلينا يا رسول الله قال أوصيكم بتقوى الله والسمع والطاعة وإن عبد حبشي فإنه من يعش منكم يرى اختلافا كثيرا وإياكم ومحدثات الأمور فإنحا ضلالة فمن أدرك ذلك منكم فعليكم بسنتي وسنة الخلفاء الراشدين المهديين عضوا عليها بالنواجذ

The Prophet (ﷺ) gave us an eloquent sermon one day after the early morning prayer due to which the eyes flowed with tears and the hearts were moved so one of us said, "Oh Messenger of Allah, it is as if this is a farewell sermon, so what do you advise us with?" He (ﷺ) said, "I advise you with the fear of Allah and to hear and obey (your leaders) even if an Abyssinian slave were to rule over you for whomsoever lives amongst you after me then they will see many differences so beware of the newly invented matters for it is misguidance. So whoever reaches that amongst you then upon you is to follow my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the Rightly Guided Caliphs. Stick to it and bite onto it with the molar teeth."

The Hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah & From Sahīh Sunan Ibn Mājah no. 43

حدثنا إسماعيل بن بشر بن منصور وإسحاق بن إبراهيم السواق قالا ثنا عبد الرحمن بن مهدي عن معاوية بن صالح عن ضمرة بن حبيب عن عبد الرحمن بن عمرو السلمي أنه سمع العرباض بن سارية يقول:

On the authority of 'Abdur-Rahmān ibn 'Amr as-Sulami that he heard al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (46) say:

وعظنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم موعظة ذرفت منها العيون ووجلت منها القلوب فقلنا يا رسول الله إن هذه لموعظة مودع فماذا تعهد إلينا قال قد تركتكم على البيضاء ليلها كنهارها لا يزيغ عنها بعدي إلا هالك من يعش منكم فسيرى اختلافا كثيرا فعليكم بما عرفتم من سنتي وسنة الخلفاء الراشدين المهديين عضوا عليها بالنواجذ وعليكم بالطاعة وإن عبدا حبشيا فإنما المؤمن كالجمل الأنف حيثما قد انقاد

The Prophet (基) gave us an eloquent sermon due to which the eyes flowed with tears and the hearts were moved so one of us said,

"O Messenger of Allāh, it is as if this is a farewell sermon, so what do you advise us with?" He (英) said, "I have left you upon a clear way. Its night is like its day, none strays from it after me except that they are destroyed. Whomsoever lives amongst you after me then they will see many differences, so upon you is to follow what you know from my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the rightly guided caliphs. Stick to it and bite onto it with the molar teeth and upon you is obedience (to the leaders of the Muslims) for the believer is like the camel

(with a ring on its nose²⁹), where he is directed, he follows."

²⁹ Shaikh 'Ubayd al-Jābirī was asked about the meaning of this and he said that it refers to the camel that is led by its nose. The believer should be like that with their leader with regards righteousness.

The Benefits of this *Hadīth* from Shaikh 'Ubayd ibn 'Abdillaah al-Jābirī³⁰

The hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (\$\Displays \) comes under the chapter heading: 'Following the Sunnah of the Rightly Guided Caliphs', from the hadīth collection Sahīh Sunan ibn Mājah.

When the term Rightly Guided Caliphs is used generally, it refers to the Four Caliphs who are the best of this Islamic nation after the Messenger (ﷺ). They are Abu Bakr, 'Umar ibn Khattāb, Uthmān ibn 'Affān and 'Alī ibn Abī Tālib (♣). There are other rightly guided Caliphs such as Hasan ibn 'Alī (♣). From Hasan's guidance is that Allāh brought two groups together when he (Hasan) gave up his right to become the leader to Mu'āwiyah ibn Abī Sufyān (♣). Mu'āwiyah (♣) is also considered to be a rightly guided Caliph and also 'Umar ibn 'Abdul-'Azīz (♣). The latter is not a companion but a successor.

They are called guided due to many reasons. First, they are the best of this Islamic nation without dispute due to their superiority. Secondly, they are considered to be from the early Muslims or they are the best of those who came early to Islam. Thirdly, their Striving in Allāh's cause for they have special characteristics and qualities over others. This is why they are called 'rightly guided'.

They did not have their own way in which they acted separately from the way of the Messenger (鑑). So what they united upon was based upon either a clear text (proof from the Qur'ān and the Sunnah) from the Messenger (送) or an understanding they took from a text. What is meant in the hadīth is that if these four united upon a matter it is considered to be Sunnah. Therefore, it is obligatory to follow it.

³⁰ Taken from Shaikh 'Ubayd's lesson on the explanation of Saheeh Sunan ibn Mājah 6th Muharam 1426AH, Madīnah, Saudi Arabia.

³¹ See the beneficial book on this companion by Shaikh 'Abdul-Muhsin ibn Hammād al-'Abbād, translated into English called *Mu'āwiyah ibn Abee Sufyaan*, printed by *Dārus-Sahāba* Publications.

This hadīth of al-'Irbād ibn Sāriyah (♣) is a great hadīth, it refers to some important fundamental principles in this religion. It includes knowledge agreed upon by the Islamic nation. The one who opposes this agreement is not to be considered.

From these principles is the order to hear and obey those who lead the Muslims even if they are considered to be lowly in their lineage. This is why in some narrations there is an additional wording, "Even if he be an Abyssinian slave" present. This obedience is restricted by two things:

- 1. Obedience in righteous matters.
- 2. Obedience in matters that are not sinful.

Thus, Muslims need to take into account the following three matters in relation to the leader:

- 1. If he orders that which is in obedience to Allāh then it is an obligation to obey him as it is considered obedience to Allāh and his His Messenger (‡5).
- 2. If he orders that which is from the permissible matters or matters of *ijtihād* (striving to reach a correct Islamic ruling). Then, it is obligatory to hear and obey him to bring about unity. If the Muslim leader unites with those around him from the scholars, ministers, advisors and those who give oath in the country then it is obligatory upon us to follow them even if we have proof that opposes them (in matters where *ijtihād* is allowed).
- 3. If he orders us with sin. In this case there is no obedience to him as there is no obedience to the creation in the disobedience to Allāh.

The second principle is from the signs of his (25) Prophethood. It is to know that the *Islamic nation* will have differences. These differences have been explained in other *ahadīth*.

The Prophet (屬) said,

"My Islamic nation will split into seventy three sects, all will be in the fire except one." They said, "Which one is it, O Messenger of Allah?" He (海) said, "The Jamā'ah."³²

Ibn Mas'ood () explained this hadīth by saying,

"The Jama'āh is whoever agrees with the obedience to Allāh even if you be on your own."33

So the explanation of the Prophet (\approx) that the saved sect is the $Jam\bar{a}'ah$ is the authentically reported narration. There is another narration which is weak in its chain of narration but correct in meaning. This is why some of the scholars authenticate it $(sah\bar{\imath}h)$ or adjudicate it $hasan^{34}$ due to the many narrations supporting it. That wording is:

The Prophet (編) said,

"My Nation (Ummah) will split into seventy three sects, all will be in the fire except one." They said, "Which one is it. O Messenger of Allāh?" He (經) said, "That which I and my companions are upon." 15

The third principle is concerned with warning against newly invented matters. This refers to the differences (that will occur) for he (屬) said,

"...for every newly invented matter is an innovation and every innovation is misguidance."

This is what is meant by newly invented matters. Therefore, it is not sufficient for a Muslim to be upon the *Sunnah* only but he must also be cautious of innovations and the innovators.

³² Sahīh, See Sahīh Sunan ibn Mājah no.3992.

³³ See Sharh Usool 'Itiqād Ahlus-Sunnah wal Jamā'ah 1/122.

³⁴ A hadith that is hasan means that it is accepted as being from the Prophet (%).

³⁵ Hasan due to supporting witnesses. See Sunan at-Tirmidhee no.2631.

The fourth principle clarifies the way to salvation from these differences that lead to newly invented matters and innovations. What is the way? He (is) said,

"Upon you is to follow my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the rightly guided caliphs after me."

He (said,

"I have left you upon a clear way, its night is like its day. None strays from it except that he is destroyed." 36

This is clear proof that those who tread the path of other than the Sunnah of the Messenger (23) are not upon salvation and security. Even if most of the people oppose it. So salvation in this life and the hereafter and that which keeps one secure from trials and tribulations is in following the path of the Messenger (23). It is clear, its night is like its day. None strays from it except that he is destroyed. Even if the people see him as one upon goodness, righteousness and they see him as a noble imam in their opinion. In reality, he is destroyed. Whoever follows him is also destroyed. So destruction is a reality upon him either in this life or the hereafter. If he is saved from destruction in this life he will not be saved from the destruction of the hereafter except those whom Allāh has mercy upon.

"Allāh does not forgive those who associate partners with Him. But He forgives other than that to whomsoever He wishes."

What is meant is that the danger of innovations is great and it leads to destruction. The innovator is the one who spreads his innovation, calls to it and he acknowledges it as a matter of religion which he lives by. This person will have sin due to it and the sin of all those who follow him in it until the Day of Judgment without their sin diminishing.

37 Soorah an-Nisaa: 48.

³⁶ See Sahīh Sunan ibn Mājah no.43 and Silsilah ahādīth as-Sahīhah no. 937 of Shaikh al-Albānee (ידי מלי).

APPENDIX

Who are the Pious Predecessors, the Salafus-Sālih?

Allāh the Exalted says:

﴿ وَالسَّنبِقُونَ ۖ الْأَوْلُونَ مِنَ الْمُهَنجِرِينَ وَالْأَنصَارِ وَالَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُمُ بِإِحْسَنِ رَّضِى ۖ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُواْ عَنْهُ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّسَتٍ تَجْرِى تَحْتَهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَلِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا ۚ ذَٰلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْفَطِيمُ ﴿ ۖ ﴾

"The first to embrace Islaam from the Emigrants (Muhājiroon) and the Helpers (Ansār) and those that follow them upon righteousness, Allāh is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him." 38

This verse shows that the Salaf are the Companions of the Messenger (lpha).

The first to embrace Islām does not refer to a group amongst the Companions. It refers to all of them. So the *Salaf* are the companions and those that followed them upon righteousness as the verse mentions.

Allāh the Glorified and Exalted says:

"Whoever goes against the Messenger after the proof has been given and follows a path other than the way of the believers We shall land him in the fire, what an evil abode."³⁹

Abu Moosaa al-Ash'aree (46) said that the Messenger of Allāh

³⁸ Soorah at-Tawbah 9:100.

³⁹ Soorah an-Nisaa '4:115.

(塞) said,

"The stars are a guidance on the sky so if the stars go then what will befall it will happen. And I am a guide to my companions so if I go then what will befall my companions will happen and the companions are a guide for my *Ummalı* and if they go then what will befall it will happen." ¹⁰

The Prophet (#3) said,

"My Islamic nation will split into seventy three sects, all will be in the fire except one." They said, "Which one is it Oh Messenger of Allāh?" He (語) said, "That which I and my companions are upon."

The Messenger () said, after being asked who the saved sect is,

"It is the Jama'ah."42

The Messenger (霉) said:

"There will not cease to be a group from amongst my Ummah being upright with the command of Allāh, not being harmed by those that oppose them nor from those that differ from them until the Command of Allāh is brought forward and they are upon that."

Imam Awzā'ī (المنظمة) said,

"Be patient upon the *Sunnah* and stop where the people (Companions) stopped and say with what they said and keep silent with what they kept silent over. Take the path

⁴⁰ Related by Muslim no. 2531.

⁴¹ Hasan due to supporting witnesses - See Sahih Sunan at-Tirmidhee no.2641. See Silsilah ahādeeth as-Sahīhah no.134.8

⁴² Hasan, related by Ibn Mājah no.3992. See Silsilah Ahādeeth as-Sahīhah no.1492.

⁴³ Related by al-Bukhāree no. 3641.

of the Pious Predecessors for what is sufficient for them is sufficient for you.**4

Abu Wāqid al-Laythī (46) said:

We were sitting in the company of the Messenger of Allāh (廷). So he said: "Indeed it will become a fitnah." The Companions did not pay attention so Mu'ādh lbn Jabal (哈) said: "Do you not listen to the Messenger of Allāh?" They said: "What did he say?" Mu'ādh then repeated to them what he (廷) said. So they in turn said: "What is the way out of it, O Messenger of Allāh?' He (廷) said: "You should return to your original state of affairs."

Shaikhul-Islām Ibn Taymiyyah (died 728AH) (>>>>) said,

"There is no blame upon the one who outwardly professes the methodology of the Salaf and ascribes and relates to it, rather it is obligatory to accept that from him by agreement for the methodology of the Salaf will not be except truth."

Shaikh Muhammad ibn Sālih al-'Uthaimeen (said,

"Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamā'ah, they are the Salaf in their belief, even the ones who come later until the Day of Judgement. If one is upon the way of the Messenger (323) and his Companions then he is Salafi."

Imam Ahmed (>>=>) said,

"The foundation of the Sunnah according to us: To hold fast to what the companions of the Messenger (ﷺ) were upon and to take them as examples and to leave off innovations..."

⁴⁴ Al-Aajuree in Sharee ah page 58.

⁴⁵ Sahīh: Related by at-Tabarānee in al-Awsat no. 8679.

⁴⁶ Majmoo' al-Fataawa 4/149.

⁴⁷ Sharh 'Ageedatul-Wäsitiyyah p.54.

⁴⁸ Sharh Usool 'Itiqād Ahlis-Sunnah of Imām al-Lālikā'ī (1/157)

Ibn Katheer (グジッ) said in the explanation of Soorah al-A'raaf, āyah 54:

"Then He ascended over the Throne ('Arsh)."

"The people have lots of different sayings in this affair and this is not the place to elaborate, but what is important is to tread the path of the methodology of the Salafius-Sālih (the Pious Predecessors): Mālik, Al-Awzā'ī, ath-Thawrī, Laith bin Sa'd, ash-Shafi'ī, Ahmad ibn Hanbal and Ishāq..."

Imām Ibn Abil-'Izz al-Hanafī (>>=>), the explainer of Tahawiyyah said,

"I wished to explain it following the path of the salaf in their terminology..."50

Imam Dhahabī (>> :--) said,

"If you want to be justly balanced then restrict yourself to the Qur'anic and Prophetic texts then look to what the companions and their successors conveyed, the scholars of Tafsīr with regards these Verses and what they narrated from the methodology of the salaf. Either you speak with knowledge or you stay quiet upon patience." ¹⁵¹

⁴⁹ Tafsīr ibn Kathīr (2/422), Soorah al-A'raaf: 54.

⁵⁰ Sharh 'Ageedatit-Tahawiyyah p.74.

⁵¹ Introduction to his book Al-'Uluww lil 'Aliyyil-Ghaffar of Imam ad-Dhahabī.

Before you is an explanation of a statement of the noble Prophet Muhammad, may the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him, in which the Prophet mentions some mighty principles of the Islamic religion. The hadeeth (prophetic statement) begins with a sermon that caused the Companions of the Prophet to weep and their hearts to tremble. They thought that Allaah's Messenger was about to leave them, so they sought his advice and councel. He informed them that he has left them upon clear proof, that is so apparent that it's night is like it's day! That no one strays from this clarity except that he will be destroyed!

The Messenger of Allaah, may the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him, further explains that over time differing and controversy will occur between the Muslims. He mentions to them the cure to this differing and separation, that is: "Stick to my Sunnah and the Sunnah of the Rightly Guided Caliphs after me." He continued: "Hold on to that with your molar teeth." The Messenger, may the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him, warned the Muslims from innovating in matters of worship in this hadeeth: "Be warned of the newly invented matters for verily every newly invented matter is an innovation and every innovation is misguidance", and to obey the Muslims rulers: "I advise you with the fear of Allaah and to hear and obey (your leaders) even if an Abyssinian slave were to rule over you." The hadeeth is beautifully explained by the Scholar and former teacher at the Islamic University of Madinah, Shaikh 'Ubayd Al-Jaabiree and it has compiled and presented to you in this book.

SHAYKH THATO AL MABIREE

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