



WHAT IS THE RULING REGARDING USING THE NAME “ISRAEL” FOR THE JEWISH STATE?

By Shaykh Rabee' bin Haadee al-Madkhalee
Trans. Abu Naasir Abid Zargar

All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the worlds, may the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, all his Companions and all those who follow his guidance.

To proceed:

There is a strange phenomenon which is widespread and well known amongst the Muslims and it is using the name 'Israel' for the Jewish state which has incurred the wrath the Allaah. And I have not seen anyone refuting this dangerous phenomenon that violates the honour of the noble messenger, from the chiefs of the messengers, Ya'qoob (alaihis salaam) who was praised by Allaah in His Mighty Book along with his two noble forefathers, Ibraaheem and Ishaaq. The Blessed and Most High said,

“And remember Our slaves, Ibraaheem, Ishaaq, and Ya'qoob, (all) owners of strength (in worshipping Us) and (also) of religious understanding. Verily, We chose them by granting them the remembrance of the home [in the Hereafter]. And they are with Us, verily, of the chosen and the best!” [Saad 45-47]

So when this is the status of this noble messenger in Islaam, how can he be attached to them and how can they be attached to him? And many Muslims utter his name in the context of dispraising this Jewish state, by saying, 'Israeel did such and such...' and 'Israel will do such and such...'

And in my opinion this is an evil matter. It is not even permissible for this to exist amongst the Muslims and the situation is more severe since it has become a phenomenon which is widespread amongst them without any rejection. So at this juncture we pose the following question and present the answer to it:

Is it permissible to call the disbelieving evil Jewish state by the name 'Israel' or 'the state of Israel' and then to direct dispraise and defamation towards it in the name of Israeel?

That which is correct is that this is **not** permissible. The Jews have plotted a great conspiracy whereby they made it their legislated right to establish their state in the heart of the lands of the Muslims, in the name of the legacy of Ibraaheem and Israel.

And they plotted a great conspiracy in naming their Zionistic state: “The state of Israel.” This deception has extended to the Muslims and I do not say the general masses alone, rather to most of the educated ones. They use the name ‘Israeli’ state and even ‘Israel’ in their reports, papers, magazines and their speech, whether it is in the context of merely reporting news or in the context of defaming and dispraising and even cursing.

All of that occurs amongst the Muslims and unfortunately we do not hear any rejection of this speech. Allaah has dispraised and cursed the Jews in the Qur'aan in many places and informed us of His wrath upon them, but with the name ‘al-Yahood’ and with the name of those who disbelieved from Bani Israeel and not in the name of Israeel, the noble prophet Ya’qoob, son of Ishaah, the noble prophet of Allaah, son of the noble Ibraaheem, the khaleel of Allaah, may Allaah’s peace and blessings be upon them all.

These Jews do not have any religious connection with the prophet of Allaah, Ya’qoob (alaihissalaam), nor with Ibraaheem, the khaleel of Allaah (alaihissalaam) and they have no right to inherit the deen from these two prophets. Rather this is specific for the believers as He, the Most High, said:

“Verily, among mankind who have the best claim to Ibaaheem are those who followed him, and this Prophet and those who have believed. And Allaah is the Walī (Protector and Helper) of the believers.” [Aali Imraan:68]

And He, the Most High, said, while freeing His khaleel Ibraaheem from the Jews, Christians and Mushriks:

“Ibraaheem was neither a Jew nor a Christian, but he was a true Muslim Hanifa and he was not of the Mushrikeen.” [Aali Imraan:67]

The Muslims do not reject the fact that the Jews are from the descendants of Ibraaheem and Israeel. However they hold the firm belief that the Jews are from the enemies of Allaah and the enemies of His messengers, such as Muhammad, Ibraaheem and Israeel.

The Muslims affirm that there is no inheritance between the prophets and between their enemies from the disbelievers, whether they are Jews, Christians, Arab mushriks or other than them. So those who have the best claim to

Ibraaheem and all the other prophets are the Muslims, who believe in them, love and respect them and believe in that which was revealed to them from the Books and the Scriptures and they regard that as being from the foundations of their deen.

So the Muslims are their inheritors and those of mankind who have the best claim to them. And Allaah's earth is only for His slaves, who believe in Him and these honoured messengers. He, the Most High, said:

“And indeed We have written in The Zaboor after (We have already written in) Al-Lauh Al-Mahfudh, that My righteous slaves shall inherit the land. Verily, in this (the Qur'aan) there is a plain Message for people who worship Allaah alone. And We have sent you not except as a mercy for the aalameen.” [Anbiyaa:105-107]

So there is no inheritance on the earth, in this dunyaa, for the enemies of the prophets especially the Jews, and in the Hereafter they will have an everlasting punishment in the Fire.

So it is amazing to witness the condition of many Muslims who have submitted themselves to the false allegation of the Jews, that they are the inheritors of the land of Palestine. And they enter into debate about the temple of Sulaiman, who the Jews actually disbelieve in and accuse of shameful deeds and are his fierce enemies, and of other prophets from Bani Israeel. The Most High said,

“Is it that whenever there came to you a Messenger with what you yourselves desired not, you grew arrogant? Some, you disbelieved and some, you killed.” [al-Baqarah:87]

How can some of the Muslims submit to them, the least degree of which is their submission as a silent consent, in this false allegation of theirs. And on top of that they call them 'Israel' or 'the Israeli state'?

And, by Allaah, there will be a day for their defeat by the Muslims who truly believe in Muhammad (salallaahu alaihi wassalam) and in the messengers and their message, the awliyaa of Allaah, and the allies of His prophets and messengers.

So it is obligatory upon the Muslims to return to taking their aqeedah and manhaj from the Book of their Lord and the Sunnah of their Prophet and that which the Messenger was upon, as well as his Companions, and those who followed him in goodness from the best of the taabieen, and the Imams of guidance and the deen. For verily it is the greatest way for them to achieve

victory over their enemies and for their might, mastery and their honour in the dunyaa and the aakhirah.

And they should dissociate and free themselves from desires, innovations, false partisanship and it's people. Then they should strive seriously in making material preparations, such as weapons, in all their different forms and that which this necessitates from alertness and organising troops, as Allaah and His Messenger have ordered:

“And make ready against them all you can of power, including steeds of war (tanks, planes, missiles, artillery, etc.) to threaten the enemy of Allaah and your enemy...” [Anfaal:60]

So the power mentioned in this ayah includes every type of strength from all the different forms of weapons which cause the enemy to fear.

The Messenger of Allaah said, *“Is the power not warfare.”* And warfare includes every type of weapon used in war. And it is obligatory to obtain all those things either by manufacturing, purchasing or other than that.

And I was amazed on another occasion to see the name of this noble prophet being applied to this filthy state and this slandering nation which has incurred the wrath of Allaah. So in mentioning it and dispraising it, people say: ‘Israel’ and ‘the state of Israel’ as if Arabic, the broad language of Islaam, has become narrow and restricted such that they cannot find any name except this.

Then did they think to themselves whether or not this matter would please Allaah and His Messenger, and whether the prophet of Allaah, Israel (Ya’qoob), would be pleased by it or offended, if he were alive. Do they not know that the dispraise and curses which they utter about the Jews, in his name, are directed towards him in a way that they cannot perceive?

From Abu Huriarah who said *“The Messenger of Allaah said: ‘Does it not astonish you how Allaah protects me from the Quriash’s abuses and curses? They abuse and curse mudhammam while I am Muhammad’ .”* [Reported by Ahmed, al-Bukhaaree in his Saheeh, Hadeeth no. 3533, and an-Nasaee.]

So how can you direct your dispraise, curses and slanders for the enemies of Allaah, towards the name of a noble prophet from the prophets, messengers and close friends of Allaah?

So if someone says, *“The like of this usage is found in the Torah.”*

We reply: “It is more than likely that this is from the distortion of the People of the Book, as Allaah has testified against them and stated that they distort the Book with their own hands and then say, ‘This is from Allaah’.

Rather, the distorted Torah contains filthy statements and accusations of disbelief against the prophets, so how can that which is in their Books be used as a proof while this is the condition of these Books.

We ask Allaah to grant all the Muslims success with that which He loves and is pleased with from speech and actions. Verily our Lord hears the supplication.

Written by
Rabee bin Umair al-Madkhalee