
Adding to the Salaam

source: *silsilat ul-hudaa wa noor* – the series of guidance and light - tape no. 253

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question no.2: “What is the authenticity of adding *wa maghfiratuḥ*¹ in offering the salaam and responding to it?”

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)² answers:

“There is no addition (of *wa maghfiratuḥ*) in the hadeeth with respect to offering the salaam; i.e., if a person starts with offering the salaam, he ends at ***wa barakaatuh: asalaamu ‘alaykum wa rahmatullaahi wa barakaatuh***. And the hadeeth that has come – or in more precise words, (the hadeeth) that was narrated – (stating) that at the fourth time, the fourth of them said, ***asalaamu ‘alaykum wa rahmatullaahi wa barakaatuh wa maghfiratuḥ***, then this is a weak narration. As for the addition (of *wa maghfiratuḥ*) in the response to ***wa barakaatuh***, then it is established; i.e., a man says, ***asalaamu ‘alaykum wa rahmatullaahi wa barakaatuh***, then we add ***wa maghfiratuḥ*** in the response...

It is in agreement with the noble Qur’aan (with) the saying ‘**When you are greeted with a greeting, greet in return with what is better than it, or (at least) return it equally.**’³ So if the greeter gives the salaam, saying ***asalaamu ‘alaykum wa rahmatullaahi wa barakaatuh***, the aayah that stated ‘**greet in return with what is better than it**’ is not invalidated; this command still exists, which is (followed by saying) ***wa maghfiratuḥ***. This addition (with respect to responding) has also been mentioned in...narrations established from some of the Companions (رضي الله عنهم)⁴.

So we have brought out a conclusion whose summary is that **adding *wa maghfiratuḥ* in the response is allowed and starting (the salaam with it) is not allowed.**”

¹ saying ‘and His Forgiveness’ after the greeting ‘may Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Allaah be upon you’

² (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him

³ Surat un-Nisaa, 4:86

⁴ (رضي الله عنهم) (rad iyallahu ‘anhum) May Allaah be pleased with them