

Facing the Imaam during the Khutbah is the confirmed Sunnah

Article taken and slightly adapted from: salafyink.com Source: www.Sahab.net Translator: Abu 'Abdis Salaam Siddig Al Juyaanee

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

All praise and thanks belong to Allaah, the Lord of all that exists. May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon the Noble Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم). To proceed:

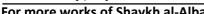
"On the authority of Mutee' Bin Al Hakm (رضى الله عليه وسلم) that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) used to ascend the Minbar and we faced him (while he delivered the khutbah)."3

Imaam Al Bukhaaree narrated this Hadeeth under the chapter heading: "The people facing the رضي الله Imaam, the people facing the Imaam while he delivered the Khutbah, and Ibn 'Umar and Anas (رضي الله) (رضى الله عنه) used to face the Imaam," then he narrated the Hadeeth of Abee Sa'eed (عنهم

Al Haafidh Ibn Hajar⁵ (رَحِمَهُ الله) said, "The Author (i.e. Imaam Bukhaaree) extracted from the Hadeeth that which was intended by the chapter heading. The reference point of proof صلى الله عليه) (extracted from this text) is that they (the Sahaabah) used to sit in front of the Prophet in order to hear his speech which necessitates that for the most part they were looking at (وسلم him; this however, does not obscure that which has preceded from the fact he stood during the Khutbah. This is based on the fact that he would deliver lessons while sitting on an elevated place with them sitting beneath him (and facing him). If this was the case outside of the Khutbah, (that they would sit facing him), during the Khutbah would then take precedence due to the evidences which obligate (the congregant) to listen to the Khutbah while remaining silent."7

The wisdom in facing the Imaam is because this posture is most suitable for listening to the speech and exhibiting good behaviour toward the Imaam. Facing the Imaam with your body, heart, and mind is more conducive for understanding the sermon and in compliance with the establishment of fulfilling and attaining the purpose for which facing (the Imaam during the Khutbah) was legislated.

Fath ul-Baaree [2/402]





^{1 (}callallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him (صلى الله عليه وسلم)

^{2 (}رضي الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah be pleased with him (One male companion)

Saheeh, As-Saheehah: 2080

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

⁵ Haafidh Ibn Hajr al-Asqalanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) wrote the famous explanation of Saheeh al Bukhaaree called Fath ul-Baaree.

⁽رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him