
Giving the salaam to the one praying

Translated by asaheeha translations

Article taken and slightly adapted from: <http://alalbaany.com>

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Source: *silsilat ul-ahaadeeth is-saheeha* – the series of authentic narrations – hadeeth no. 2917

On the authority of Aboo Sa’eed al-Khudree (رضي الله عنه)¹ that a man gave the *salaam* to the Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم)² while he was in prayer, so the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) replied by a gesture. And when the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) made the *tasleem* (and ended the prayer), he said to him: **‘Indeed we used to return the *salaam* (verbally) during our prayer, then we were prohibited from doing that.’**

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)³ comments:

“And in the hadeeth, there is clear evidence that the returning of the *salaam* verbally from the one who is praying used to be legislated at the beginning of Islaam in Makkah. Then, it was abrogated (and instead it was legislated) to return it by gesturing in Madeenah. And if that is so, then **there is the recommendation of giving the *salaam* to the one who is praying**, due to his (صلى الله عليه وسلم) *iqraar* (silent approval) of Ibn Mas’ood (رضي الله عنه) giving it, just as he silently approved of that from others who used to give him the *salaam* while he would be praying.

And there are many well-known narrations about that from different paths (of narration), and they are reported in more than one place. Thus, it is upon the followers of the *Sunnah* to adhere to them, and to be gentle in conveying and applying them, for indeed the people are enemies toward what they are ignorant about, specially the people of desires and innovations among them.”

asaheeha translations

¹ (رضي الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah be pleased with him

² (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

³ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him