

## Mistake of turning shoulders and chest when giving adhaan or during salaam

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)<sup>1</sup>: I say that many of the callers to prayer turn their chests away from the Qiblah, they turn away from the Qiblah with their chests when they give the call to prayer and announce the Iqaamah—and this is in opposition to the Sunnah.

Turning away during the adhaan and iqaamah is only done with the mouth, the face naturally, and not with the chest and shoulders, just as it should be when one leaves the prayer, i.e., when he gives salaam.

Yet despite this we see many of the people who pray fall into this mistake, when they pray they say, “As-Salaamu alaikum ...” [here the Shaykh is physically demonstrating to those in front of him the incorrect way people give salaam at the end of the prayer by turning their chests and shoulders away from the Qiblah], this is incorrect.

The salaam is completed as he was, facing the Qiblah, the Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)<sup>2</sup> used to only turn towards the right with his head such that the whiteness of his cheek could be seen by those behind him, and likewise to the left—so when giving salaam these two shoulders don’t move, the same goes for the adhaan.

So when he turns then it is like this and this, as occurs in Saheeh al-Bukhaaree from the hadeeth of Aboo Juhaifah as-Sawaa’i (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ)<sup>3</sup>, that he saw Bilaal (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ) giving the call to prayer and he saw him turning to the right and left with his mouth [i.e., his face]—thus we don’t move at all ... [in the call to prayer you say], ‘Allaahu Akbar, Allaahu Akbar ...’ we get to, ‘Come to prayer! Come to prayer!’—stay exactly as you are, don’t turn away from the Qiblah with your chest, because facing the Qiblah during the adhaan is part of the perfection of the Sunnah of the adhaan.

And this is a reminder, and reminders benefit the believers.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

<sup>2</sup> (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

<sup>3</sup> (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

<sup>4</sup> Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, 532.