
Retraction of Shaykh al-Albaanee regarding the hadeeth of worldly affairs

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Taken from: 'Silsilah Ahadeeth ad-Da'eefah' no. 2304

“Indeed Allaah hates every person who is arrogant, rude, rough, and is greedy, thinks he knows it all and shouts loudly in the market places, who is like a corpse during the night and a donkey during the day, knowledgeable about worldly affairs, ignorant about the matters of the hereafter.”¹

Initially the Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)² had authenticated this hadeeth in ‘Silsilah Ahadeeth as-Saheehah’ no.195. However, the Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) retracted and declared it to be weak. He removed it from ‘Silsilah as-Saheehah’ and placed it in ‘Silsilah Ahadeeth ad-Da'eefah’ no.2304. The Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) also declared it da'eef in his book ‘Da'eef Targheeb wa Tarheeb’ no.378.

Although this hadeeth can be found authenticated in his book ‘Saheeh al-Jami as-Sagheer’, the Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) didn't rely upon this book since it had been in the hands of untrustworthy publishers. The Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) never amended the book. However the Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) in latter part of his life began a journey to divide the Ahadeeth of ‘Saheeh al-Jami as-Sagheer’ into a more precise division of hadeeth terminology of ‘*Saheeh li dhaatihi*’ (authentic by itself) and ‘*Saheeh li ghayreehi*’ (authentic due to other hadeeth) and ‘*hasan li dhaatihi*’ (hasan by itself) and ‘*hasan li ghayreehi*’ (hasan due to other hadeeth). This is a colossal task in itself. The Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) was sadly unable to complete this work.

The Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) commented on the hadeeth after declaring it weak by saying: “how applicable is this hadeeth – even though it is weak – to those kuffaar who do not pay any importance to their hereafter, despite them having knowledge of many worldly affairs, Allaah (تعالى)³ says about them:

They know only the outside appearance of the life of the world, and they are heedless of the Hereafter⁴

Many Muslims have a large percentage of this characteristic in them. Those who spend their days roaming around in the market places, shouting and yelling in those places, and they neglect the obligatory actions and prayers.

So woe unto those performers of prayers (hypocrites), who delay their Salaat from their stated fixed times, those who do good deeds only to be seen (of men), and refuse *al-Ma'un* (small kindnesses)⁵

¹ This hadeeth which has been narrated by Ibn Hibban and al-Baihaqee, it has been declared weak by Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ).

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

³ (تعالى) Ta'aala (He, The Most High)

⁴ Soorah ar-Rum : [30:7]

⁵ Soorah Maa'oon : [107:4-7]