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Supplicating for an unbeliever

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

'Uqbah b. 'Aamir Al-Juhanee (رضي الله عنه)¹, once passed by a man who looked like a Muslim, so he greeted him with Salaam, and he replied, "And upon you [be peace] and the mercy of Allaah and His blessings." A boy informed him, "He is a Christian!" So 'Uqbah got up and followed the man, caught up with him and said, "The mercy of Allaah and His blessings are upon the believers; however, may Allaah give you a long life, and make plentiful your wealth and offspring."²

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) grades its chain of narration hasan⁴ in Saheeh Al-Adab Al-Mufrad p444, and notes:

"In this narration this illustrious Companion indicates that it is permissible to supplicate for someone to have a long life, even if he is an unbeliever, and so [this can be done for] a Muslim a fortiori...However, the supplicant should make sure that the unbeliever is not an enemy of the Muslims. It is also taken from this [narration] that such an unbeliever can be commiserated with what has been mentioned therein [i.e. the believers are the ones who will receive the mercy of Allaah and His blessings]."

⁴ al-hasan – الْحَسَن Ibn Hajar explains it to be that which fulfils the conditions of the Saheeh except that the precision of one or more of its narrators is of lesser standard.



^{1 (}رضى الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

² Al-Bukhaaree, Al-Adab al-Mufrad

³ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

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