
The virtue of Aboo Ubaidah and using khabarul aahaad as a proof

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

“This is the trustworthy one of this Ummah. Meaning Aboo Ubaidah (رضي الله عنه).”^{1,2}

Narrated by Muslim (1297) and Hakim (3/267) and Ahmad (3/125) and Aboo Yaa’la (2/831) from the different routes on the authority of Hamad bin Salama on the authority of ‘Anas (رضي الله عنه): “The people of Yemen came to the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم)³ and said: Send a man with us who will teach us the Sunnah and al-Islam.

Then the Messenger took the hand of Aboo Ubaidah (رضي الله عنه) and said: **“This is the trustworthy one of this Ummah.”** Then the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) mentioned him. This wording is from Muslim, and from the wording of Haakim, ‘teach us the Qur’aan.’

And Haakim said: ‘Authentic according to the conditions of Muslim, but Muslim & Bukhaaree did not narrate this hadeeth with mentioning the word: ‘Qur’aan.’

I say: and in this hadeeth there is an important benefit, the khabarul aahaad⁴ is used as a proof in ‘Aqeedah, like it is used as a proof in Fiqh rulings, since we know – out of necessity that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not send Aboo Ubaidah (رضي الله عنه) to the people of Yemen just to teach them fiqh rulings, but also to teach the ‘Aqeedah. So if the khabarul aahaad did not necessitate knowledge of the Sharee’ah’ in ‘Aqeedah, then sending Aboo Ubaidah (رضي الله عنه) to teach them by himself would be similar to mockery. And this is what the One who established the Sharee’ah’ is free from. So it is established with certainty that the khabarul aahaad necessitates knowledge, and that is my intent. I have two well-known booklets, which have been printed many times regarding this important issue, so anyone who wants a further explanation can refer back to them.

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

² Silsilah al-Ahadeeth as-Saheehah no. 1964

³ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

⁴ A hadeeth if its chains of narration are limited to a particular number - then it is referred to as al-aahaad – الآحاد