

---

## What a Muslim does with his close relative who is a Mushrik, and Aboo Taalib died upon Shirk

Translated by Abbas Abu Yahya

Article taken and slightly adapted from: [followingthesunnah.wordpress.com](http://followingthesunnah.wordpress.com)

---

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

### The ahadeeth of Tawheed from 'Silsilah Ahadeeth As-Saheehah'

#### Chapters of Tawheed and the Shahadtayn<sup>1</sup>

161- The Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم)<sup>2</sup> said to 'Alee bin Aboo Taalib (rad iyallaahu `anhu)<sup>3</sup>: **'Go and bury your father.'**

He said; 'No, I won't bury him, because he died as a Mushrik<sup>4</sup>.'

The Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said to him: **'Go and bury him, and don't speak to anyone until you come to me.'**

I came to him and I had signs of dirt and dust upon me. He ordered me to wash, so I washed and he supplicated for me with supplications which would not please me to exchange anything for them on the face of this earth.

#### From the benefits of the hadeeth

1- That it is permissible for a Muslim to take the responsibilities of burying his close Mushrik relative. This does not negate his hate for his relative's Shirk.

Do you not see that 'Alee refused to bury his father the first time. Whereby, he said: 'he died as a Mushrik' thinking that if he buried him then this would enter into being in alliance with his father which is prohibited. Like the saying of Allaah Ta'ala<sup>5</sup>:

**[Take not as friends the people who incurred the Wrath of Allaah]<sup>6</sup>**

When the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) ordered him again to bury his father he hastened to fulfil the Messenger's (صلى الله عليه وسلم) order. And he left that which seemed to be correct to him the first time. It is also from obedience, that a person leaves his own opinion for the command of his Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).

It appears to me that the son burying his Mushrik father or his mother is the last of what the son possesses of good companionship with his Mushrik father in this world. As for after the burial then it

---

<sup>1</sup>The word Shahadah means to testify. There are two parts to the Shahadah which when taken together is called the Shahadtayn. The first part means that there is no deity truly worthy of being worshiped except Allaah, while the second part is to affirm that the Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is a slave of Allaah and His Messenger.

<sup>2</sup> (صلى الله عليه وسلم) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

<sup>3</sup> (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah be pleased with him

<sup>4</sup> Unbeliever

<sup>5</sup> He, The Most High

<sup>6</sup> Soorah al-Mumtahanah [60:13]

## What a Muslim does with his close relative who is a Mushrik

is not allowed for him to pray for him, nor seek forgiveness for him, this is due to the clear statement of Allaah Ta'ala:

**[It is not proper for the Prophet and those who believe to ask Allaah's Forgiveness for the Mushrikeen<sup>7</sup> even though they be of kin]<sup>8</sup>**

So, if this is the case, what is the situation of the one who supplicates for mercy and forgiveness on the pages of newspapers and magazines for some of the Kuffaar<sup>9</sup>, announcing their deaths, for a small amount of Dirhams!

The one who is concerned for his hereafter should fear Allaah.

2- It is not legislated for him to wash the unbeliever, nor should he shroud him. And nor should he pray upon him even if he is a close relative, since, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not order 'Alee (rad iyallaahu `anhu) to do so. If this had been permissible, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) would have mentioned it, since delaying the explanation of an order when there is a need for it, is not permissible. This is the Madhab of the Hanbalees and other than them.

3- It is not legislated for the relatives of that Mushrik to follow the funeral procession. Because the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not do this for his uncle. His uncle was the kindest and the most compassionate of the people to him. Even to the extent that the Prophet supplicated to Allaah for him, whereby his uncle's punishment will be the least in the Hellfire, as has been previously explained.

And in all of this there is a lesson for those people who have been deceived by their ancestry, but they do not do anything for their hereafter with their Lord, and Allaah the Great spoke the truth when He said:

**[There will be no kinship among them that Day, nor will they ask of one another]<sup>10</sup>**

---

<sup>7</sup> Unbelievers

<sup>8</sup> Soorah at-Taubah [9:113]

<sup>9</sup> Unbelievers

<sup>10</sup> Soorah al-Mu'minoon [23:101]