

A brief overview of the Asha'aree sect

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[Taken from 'Takeed al-Musalamaat as-Salafeeyah' p.7]

Article taken and slightly adapted from: abdurrahman.org

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Shaykh Abdul-Muhsin al-Abbad (حفظه الله)¹ – 'All praise belongs to Allaah the Lord of all the Worlds, and the praise, peace and blessings of Allaah be upon His Messenger and upon his Family and his Companions.

To proceed:

In response to the question about the Asha'irah: Are they from the Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah or not?

I say: 'The Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah are the Noble Companions – Radi allaaahu anhum, and those who followed their path, just as the Prophet -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam- said in explaining the 'Firqat an-Najeeyah' (the Saved Sect): '**They are those who are upon what I am upon and my Companions.**'

Their belief in the Names of Allaah – the All-Mighty and the Magnificent – and His Characteristics (Sifaat) is that they affirm for Allaah -Azza wa Jal- what is affirmed in the Book and the Sunnah from the Names and Characteristics in the way which they befit Allaah - Subhanahu Ta'ala - :

- without explaining how they are, or resembling them with anything else,
- or with Tamtheel (to liken Allaah or His Characteristics to that of the creation),
- or Tahreef (alteration and distortion of wording or meaning),
- or Ta'weel (metaphorical interpretation) of them or cancelling them.

Just as Allaah -Azza wa Jal- said:

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

[There is nothing like unto Him and He is the All-Hearing the All-Seeing]²

In this Ayaah there is the affirmation that Allaah Ta'ala has the two Sifaat (Characteristics) of Hearing and Seeing, which is in His statement: [**and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.**], and

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah preserve him

² [Soorah ash-Shoora 42:11]

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not likening Allaah to resembling anyone with Him as is in His statement: [**There is nothing like unto Him**].

The Asha'irah are those who ascribe to the Madhhab (School of Thought) of Abul-Hasan al-Asha'aree -Rahimullaah- who was born in the year 270 A.H. and died in the year 330 A.H. That Madhhab on which he was before he came back to the Madhhab of Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah. That Madhhab which was on Ta'weel (metaphorical interpretation) of most of the Sifaat (Characteristics of Allaah), which is opposite to the Madhhab of Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah.

Therefore, the Asha'irah are from the deviated Islaamic sects, they are deviated from what Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah are upon. It is not perceivable to the intellect that the truth was hidden from the Companions, and the Successors but then after that the truth had occurred in following a belief which was born after their time.

Al-Haafidh Ibn Hajr in his book 'Fath al-Baree' (13/407) quoted many statements from the Salaf about the authentic Aqeedah which is established upon the Book and the Sunnah and the understanding of the Salaf of the Ummah, he summed it up by saying:

'Many quotes have preceded from the people of the third period of time and they are the Fuqaha (scholars) of the different lands, like Thawree, al-Awzaiee, Maalik, al-Layth and those who lived at their time, and likewise those who took from them, from the other Imaams. So how can a person not trust what the people of the first three generations agreed upon, and they are the best generations, with the testification of the owner of the Sharee'ah?'

Ibn Hajr also quotes from al-Hasan al-Basree that he said:

'If what al-Ja'ad is saying is true, then the Prophet -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam- would have conveyed it.'

Al-Ja'ad is Ibn Dirham the founder of the Madhhab al-Jahmeeyah.³

I will say the like of what al-Hasan al-Basree -Rahimullaah- said:

'If what the al-Asha'irah and other than them from the philosophers say is true, then the Messenger -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam- would have conveyed it.'

³ A sect, which rejects the Characteristics of Allaah.