

The Creed of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah concerning the Companions

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

About the Book:

This is a translation of a small treatise entitled "Aqeedatu Ahlis-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah fis-Sahaabat-il-Kiraam" (The Creed of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah concerning the Companions) written by Shaykh 'Abdul-Muhsin Al-'Abbaad (حفظه الله)¹. The source for this treatise was an article the Shaykh wrote for the Islaamic University of Madeenah Newsletter (Issue 2 of their fourth year) Shawaal 1391H. This article was distributed together with a transcribed lecture from the Shaykh entitled "Sending Salaat on the Prophet" in a booklet published by the Islaamic University of Madeenah.

In this brief presentation, Shaykh Al-'Abbaad, one of the senior scholars and a Muhaddith in Saudi Arabia, may Allaah preserve him, outlines the proper belief a Muslim should have with regard to the Companions, and that is of moderateness.

So the Muslim should not go to either extreme of being fanatical towards individuals amongst the Companions or being lenient and heedless about the rights they deserve. Rather, it is upon the believer, the adherent of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, to have love and respect for all of them, as well as to acknowledge their virtues and refrain from mentioning their errors and mishaps. The Shaykh presents the material in a concise but educational manner, quoting numerous ayaat, ahaadeeth and statements of the Salaf.

Quotes from the Book:

"The madh-hab of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah concerning the Companions is that of moderateness between the two ends of extremism and heedlessness. It is moderateness amidst the extremist fanatics who elevate the esteemed ones amongst them to a level that is only befitting for Allaah or for His messengers and moderateness amidst the heedless and harsh ones who belittle and revile them. So they are in the middle between those who are excessive and those who fall short - they love all of them and put each one of them in the

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him

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due place that they deserve, with fairness and justice. So they do not elevate them to a level they don't deserve, nor do they belittle them, taking away what they are worthy of. Their tongues are moist with mentioning them only in good, according to what is befitting for them. And their hearts are filled with love for them."

"And whatever disputes and differences that occurred between (some of) them, that can be authentically confirmed, we hold that they were Mujtahideen in that regard – either they were correct and will receive one reward for their Ijtihad and one reward for being correct, or they were wrong and will receive just one reward for their Ijtihad while their error will be forgiven. They were not infallible since they were human beings. At times they were correct and at times they erred. But how much more were they correct as compared to others being correct, and how fewer were their errors as compared to the errors of others? And on top of this, they will receive Allaah's forgiveness and contentment."

"These are five examples from the sayings of the Salaf As-Saalih (righteous predecessors), which demonstrate what we are obligated to believe in with respect to the best of creation after the Prophets and Messengers. One thing we must understand is that defaming these chosen and unique individuals is equal to defaming the Religion itself, since it was none other than them who passed the Religion down to those who came after them. And we already mentioned the words of Aboo Zur'ah, in which he said: 'The only ones who brought this Qur'aan and Sunan (plural of Sunnah) to us are the Companions of Allaah's Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)². (So) they only wish to disparage and demolish our witnesses so that they can nullify the Book and the Sunnah, whereas they are more deserving of being disparaged for they are the heretics (zanaadiqah).'"

²(صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him
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