

Rebutting a dissenter and how he is to be treated

Article taken and slightly adapted from: giftsofknowledge.net

(Sharh Sunan Abee Daawood, tape 338, at 12:24.)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: “What is your advice, may Allaah protect you, to the one who says that responding to someone who opposes the Sunnah [a dissenter, mukhaalif] causes disunity, and that what is obligatory is to remain silent about the mistake so that the word of the Muslims becomes united?”

Shaykh ‘Abdul-Muhsin al-‘Abbaad (حفظه الله)¹: “This is not correct. This is invalid. Rather the mistake is to be explained and clarified and not left. As for the issue of leaving [off clarifying the mistake] because it causes disunity ... then the disunity came about because of the contraventions [against the Sunnah in the first place] and due to leaving the correct path. So it is obligatory to clarify the truth and rebut the one who makes invalid claims.

And if the mistake occurred from someone who is not from the people of innovation, but rather he is someone from Ahlus-Sunnah and he made a mistake, then he is to be advised and treated gently—because the purpose is [to achieve] reformation.”

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