

Reciting Soorah Al-Ikhlaas, Al-Mu`awwidhatayn, and Al-Faatihah for healing

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question: Is it lawful to recite Soorahs Al-Ikhlaas, Al-Mu`awwidhatayn (Soorahs Al-Falaq and Al-Nas) and Al-Faatihah for the purpose of seeking healing? Did the Messenger (عليه السلام)¹ or the Salaf (righteous predecessors) do so? Please enlighten us.

Answer: Reciting Soorah Al-Ikhlaas, Mu`awwidhatayn, Al-Faatihah and other Soorahs is regarded as a permissible Ruqyah (recitation for healing or protection) which the Messenger of Allaah (عليه السلام) legislated by performing it himself and approving it for his Sahaabah (Companions). Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim related in their two Saheeh (authentic) Books of Hadeeth on the authority of Ma`mar from Al-Zuhry from `Urwah that `Aaishah (رضى الله عنها)² said: **In his last illness, the Prophet (عليه السلام) used to blow breath (into his cupped hands) and recite Al-Mu`awwidhatayn and then wipe over his body. But when his illness aggravated, I used to recite them over him and pass his own hand over his body for its blessing.**

Ma`mar asked Al-Zuhry "How did he use to blow breath?" He said, "He used to blow into his hands and then pass them over his face." Al-Bukhaaree related on the authority of Abu Sa`id Al-Khudree (رضى الله عنه)³: **Some of the Sahaabah of the Prophet (عليه السلام) came across one of the Arab tribes, but they refused to extend to them hospitality. In the meantime, the chief of that tribe was bitten by a snake (or stung by a scorpion), so they asked (the Sahaabah), "Have you got any medicine with you or anybody who can treat with Ruqyah?" The Sahaabah said, "You refused to entertain us, so we will not treat (your chief) unless you pay us for it." They agreed on a flock of sheep, so one of them (the Sahaabah) started reciting Umm Al-Qur`an (Soorah Al-Faatihah), gathering his saliva and spitting it (on the snakebite). The stung man got cured and his people presented the sheep to them, but they said, "We will not take it unless we ask the Prophet (عليه السلام) [whether it is lawful to take the sheep or not]." When they asked him, he (عليه السلام) smiled and said, "How did you know that Soorah Al-Faatihah is a Ruqyah? Take it (the flock of sheep) and assign a share for me." The first Hadeeth indicates that the Prophet (عليه السلام) did recite Al-Mu`awwidhatayn over himself during his illness, while the second shows his approval of his Sahaabah's recitation of Al-Faatihah as Ruqyah.**

¹ (عليه السلام) ('alaihi-salaam) Peace be upon him

² (رضى الله عنها) (rad iyallaahu `anhaa) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with her; Umm-al-Mumineen `Aaishah, the Mother of The Believers.

³ (رضى الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

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May Allaah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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