

Shade of the `Arsh

The Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: What is meant by the shade mentioned in the Hadeeth: **Seven (types of people) whom Allaah will shade with His Shade on the Day when there is no shade but His.**¹

Answer: It is the shade of the `Arsh (Throne) of Allaah, the Most Merciful (Blessed and Exalted be He). This explanation is based on the Hadeeth narrated by Salman (may Allaah be pleased with him) in the Sunan (Hadeeth compilations classified by jurisprudential themes) of Sa`id ibn Mansoor that states: **Seven (types of people) whom Allaah will shade with the Shade of His `Arsh...**²

Moreover, Al-Haafidh ibn Rajab (may Allaah be merciful to him) said while concluding his explanation for the concerned Hadeeth mentioned in Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree vol. 6, p. 51): Imaam Ahmad and Al-Tirmidhee related this Hadeeth which Al-Tirmidhee ranked as Saheeh (authentic) on the authority of Aboo Hurayrah (may Allaah be pleased with him) who narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **Anyone who gives respite to their debtor, or forgives the debt, will be in the shade of the `Arsh (of Allaah) on the Day of Resurrection.**³ This Hadeeth is another proof that the Shade of Allaah refers to the Shade of His `Arsh.

Finally, Ibn Al-Qayyim (may Allaah be merciful to him) mentioned the same explanation in his book Al-Wabil al-Sayyib and at the end of his book Rawdat Al-Muhibbin.

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

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¹ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree and Saheeh Muslim

² Al-Haafidh ibn Hajar (may Allaah be merciful to him) ranked its Isnaad (chain of narration) as Hassan (contains a narrator with weak exactitude, but is free from eccentricity or blemish); Al-Fath vol. 2, p.144.

³ Musnad of Ahmad, ad-Daarimee and Baihaqee amongst others.