

A BRIEF WORD OF BROTHERLY ADVICE

(TO THOSE WHO RESPECT ME AS A TEACHER AND VALUE MY DIRECTION)

REGARDING THE VISIT OF:

ABU KHADEEJAH ABDUL-WAAHID

ABU HAKEEM BILAL DAVIS

ABU IYAAD AMJAD RAFIQ

TO MASJID AL-FURQAAN AND THE TROID COMMUNITY

IN TORONTO, ONTARIO IN RAJAB, 1434 (JUNE 2013)

By Moosaa Richardson

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Ever Merciful...

Praise belongs to Allaah, the Lord and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and all beings abiding therein. We praise Him and thank Him for his innumerable blessings, especially the blessing of guidance and stability through times of religious confusion and turmoil.

He, the Most High, sent His noble and trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad, to convey His Divine Revelation to humanity. He embodied the best of character and the highest standards of morals, both before and during his mission. He spoke the truth devoutly, clarified the path to Paradise and led the way as the true and rightful imam of guidance on earth. He clarified the landmarks of deviation and misguidance and warned his followers of them, out of love for Allaah's sake and diligent concern. May Allaah raise his rank and the ranks of his Companions and true followers, and may He grant them all an abundance of peace and security.

Regarding the upcoming visit of Abu Khadeejah Abdul-Waahid, Abu Hakeem Bilal Davis, and Abu Iyaad Amjad Rafiq, I wish to offer my students and anyone who values my advice in and outside of Toronto the following important words of direction:

These brothers are known to some of our scholars, and their efforts are appreciated by them and regarded as being good efforts that help the Muslims understand their Religion and distinguish between the pure path of guidance, Salafiyah, the way of the early guided Muslims, and the many evil paths of deviation.

Some of Islaam's best and senior most scholars know them and their efforts personally, and rightfully recommend the people in the West to benefit from them. Specifically, I know of at least two highly regarded scholars who recommend them to those who wish to learn about Islaam in the West: Shaykh Rabe' ibn Haadee al-Madkhalee and Shaykh 'Ubayd ibn 'Abdillaah al-Jaabiree. May Allaah preserve them both.

These brothers, Abdul-Waahid, Bilal, and Amjad (may Allaah bless them), speak against evil when others are silent. They advise the Muslims and warn them openly against specific individuals and organizations who harm the image of the da'wah, misrepresent it, distort it, or oppose some of its fundamentals. These needed warnings are based on the words of the scholars and spread after consultation with them.

Needless to say, these kinds of efforts meet opposition, as they always do. It would be great if the people who oppose aspects of our Religion would all recognize their opposition, repent, and clarify the truth earnestly. Our existence on earth would not be much of a test in such a case, while Allaah has created us to test us!

Those who oppose the fundamentals of Islaam or misrepresent them often remain confused by their status and reputation, with their sworn enemy, Iblees, inspiring them with arrogance and vanity. Sins darken and overtake the heart, and personal reputations take a priority over clarity in the Religion. Clouded minds and polluted hearts face storms of confusion, doubts, and desires!

By Allaah's Grace and Permission, our brothers at Salafi Publications have remained firm upon the path of Ahlus-Sunnah through many trials and in the face of many evil calls. They have been blessed by Allaah to openly oppose many forms of deviation that the English-speaking Muslims are commonly confronted with:

- The Khawaarij and those who resemble them in their call to political turmoil, unrest, rebellion, and takfeer (casting people out of Islaam).
- The Jahmis and Ash'aris of today who corrupt the pure beliefs about Allaah and His divine and perfect Attributes, calling away from the clarity of the pure Salafee belief system to the confusion of philosophy, whilst claiming deceptively all the while that they represent true, orthodox Islaam.
- The Shiites, the Murji'ah, the Maturidis, the Mu'tazilah, the Sufis...
- Those who claim to follow Ahlus-Sunnah, but their ignorance of its reality leads them to desire cooperation with the above mentioned deviants and others, tolerance of their falsehood, silence about them, and hatred or at least discomfort for their evils to be exposed and warned against.

Those who hide in the ranks of Ahlus-Sunnah and pave the way for the people of innovation are more dangerous to the Muslims in reality, as they facilitate falsehood from within, and thus the need to be warned of them is greater than the more open and obvious forms of falsehood.

Our brothers at Salafi Publications actively warn their brothers and sisters in Islaam from all of these dangers, and to Allaah is the praise. They name names and try to keep the Muslims out of harm's way. May Allaah reward them for their efforts, and bless them and increase them in goodness. These are virtues that callers are praised for, not blameworthy traits to be blamed for.

I say this for an important reason. Our brothers are not in need of a recommendation from someone like me, nor have they requested anything of the sort from me – ever. However, some of the brothers and sisters who study from me and think well of my advice may not fully realize the benefit of attending their classes or reading their articles. This may be due to the excessive claims being made against them on the internet, rumors, and lies being propagated most commonly by those whose harms and falsehood have been exposed by them. For this reason alone – seeking the Pleasure of Allaah with what I say – I advise those who have respect for my opinion:

Be diligent in benefitting from our brothers, 'Abdul-Waahid, Bilal, and Amjad, as you will find – by Allaah's Permission – knowledge of Allaah's Religion in their lectures and writings, and stability and steadfastness in the face of many trials. You will likely benefit from them with regards to many things you did not learn from me or others.

I have noticed many of those who are affected by doubts and false speech against them going away from the clarity of Salafiyyah, becoming lenient and even cozy with the people of innovation. This has led some of them into a different world of misplaced loyalty for the treacherous who do not deserve it, combined with undeserved suspicion of those who clarify important religious matters for the people. This is a very dangerous condition that we ask Allaah to save us from.

I have also noticed that our brothers and sisters who continue to keep close to them throughout severe trials and tribulations typically enjoy stability and safety where others stumble, by Allaah's

Permission and to Him is the praise. Recent developments in the city of Toronto that you have likely witnessed are a testimony to this reality.

And I say what our Messenger (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) instructed us to say when there is a need to praise someone, as found in the two Saheehs from the report of Aboo Bakrah (may Allaah be pleased with him):

أَحْسِبُ كَذًا وَكَذًا، وَحَسِيبُهُ اللَّهُ، وَلَا أُزَكِّي عَلَى اللَّهِ أَحَدًا

This is how I view them (based on what is apparent). Their true Reckoner is Allaah.

And I praise no one absolutely, believing it to be binding upon Allaah.

Needless to say, our brothers are not infallible. They are required, like all Muslims are, to retract errors and clarify the correct understanding as it relates to their mistakes. May Allaah aid me, them, and all the Muslims to uphold this religious duty.

And Allaah knows best. May He raise the rank of our Prophet Muhammad and grant him peace.

Moosaa Richardson

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Thursday, the 20th of Rajab, 1434

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