THE SICKNESS OF A SCHOLAR FROM AHLUS-SUNNAH IS A MEANS OF EXPOSING THE PEOPLE OF INNOVATION

Shaykh Sulaymān Ar-Ruhaylī

Thus, are the scholars of Ahlus-Sunnah. When the news of the illness of a scholar from Ahlus-Sunnah reaches them, this causes them pain. Because they know that the scholars of Ahlus-Sunnah are the lanterns of the earth. Due to this, from the signs by which the people of innovation are distinguished and exposed and in which Ahlus-Sunnah are made clear is the times of the illness of the scholars of Ahlus-Sunnah. For you will find Ahlus-Sunnah—even if there may be some minor difference between them and the scholar who has fallen ill—they feel pain when news of him being ill reaches them. They supplicate for him and they display love for him.

As for the people of innovation, if a scholar from Ahlus-Sunnah falls ill they display malicious joy. Perhaps the coward thinks that this scholar, due to his illness, will not be able to refute him. So he scowls, displaying his incisors, and he writes about him falsely and slanderously. Or he criticizes him with what is actually praise of him in reality. These actions expose the people of innovation for us. It is not a condition that you agree with a scholar from Ahlus-Sunnah in everything he says. Because what is obligatory, as shall come, is clinging to the truth with its evidences whenever it is apparent. However, love of Ahlus-Sunnah for the scholars of Ahlus-Sunnah, is not something that can be differed about. And it is only the people who have sick hearts that rejoice at the illness of a scholar from Ahlus-Sunnah.

Translated by Raha Batts

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