

How to deal with Fitna between the Salafis

Advice from Shaykh Fawzan and Shaykh Rabee

The following is a summary translation

Shaykh Sulayman Ar Ruhaylee: We visited Shaykh Salih Fawzan once—may Allah preserve him—and the topic came up about what is occurring between the Salafis; not between the Salafis and the people of innovation. That which is between the Salafis and the people of innovation has been going on for years. But rather that which sometimes occurs between the Salafis. According he gave good remarkable advice.

He said: That which is between the Salafis, if it is from that which has been buried then it is necessary to bury it. And if it is from that which has not been buried then **it is necessary to rectify it by that which will not delight the innovators.**

Meaning the personal issues are buried. (For example) By Allah so and so said this about me, by Allah so and so said something etc.; this is able to be buried, so bury it.

As for the religious matters and the likes, then rectify them with advice; taking into account that we are few in the midst of many from the people of evil. Perhaps they are delighted when harm reaches us, more than they are delighted when harm reaches the pagans.

And we visited Shaykh Rabee—may Allah grant him happiness and extend his life in obedience and assist the Sunnah by way of him. We mentioned something surrounding this affair. So he said: My advice is patience, patience, until there is no more room for patience. And he mentioned—may Allah preserve him—that he had been patient with some people for ten years; some less some more. And no doubt this is from the remedies and from the affairs which must be given attention and from the affairs which must be observed.

And the Prophet ﷺ said while straightening the rows:

لِيُنْوَ فِي أَيْدِي إِخْوَانِكُمْ

Do not resist (be easy with) your brothers' hands.

(Collected by Ahmad and Abu Dawud)

Abu Dawud said: What is meant by “Do not resist your brothers' hands” is that if a man comes to the row and enters it, then every man should be easy-going with his shoulders so the person can enter the row. Thus how about the one who guides to good and warns against evil!!

It is upon us to not resist our brothers and not become arrogant. And we should have a good thought and a sound heart. And there is no happiness except with a sound heart. A heart is sound when it is free from distractions and obstacles and his main concern and ambition is for Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

This in reality are only words for reminder, otherwise surely I know that I am not increasing you in anything. But it is a reminder, and the reminder benefits the believer. And I know—and the praise and favor belongs to Allah—that there are brother with more knowledge and with more good in their hearts.

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Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee