

Shaykh Al-Albaanee's opinion on the Jammaat-ut-Tableegh - ¹

Shaykh Al-Albaanee

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Shaykh Al-Albaanee was asked:

'What is your opinion on the Jammaat-ut-Tableegh? And is it permissible for the student of knowledge or other than him to go out with them on the pretext of calling to Allah?'

So he replied:

'The Jammaat-ut-Tableegh is not based upon the methodology of the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger (*Sallallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam*) and upon what our pious predecessors were upon.

And if the affair is like that, then it is not permissible to go out with them, because it negates our methodology in our adoption of the methodology of the pious predecessors.

So, in the path of calling to Allah, the scholar is the one who goes out (to do this). As for those who go out with them, then it is obligatory upon these ones to stay in their countries and to learn together the knowledge in their mosques, until there graduates from them scholars who carry out their role in calling to Allah.

And as long as the affair is like this ², it is upon the student of knowledge therefore, to invite these (Tableeghees) in the midst of their (own) house to learn the Book and the Sunnah and to call the people to them ³. And they - i.e. Jammaat-ut-Tableegh - are not concerned about the call to the Book and the Sunnah as a general fundamental. Rather, they regard this call as one which causes division, and due to this, they more than anything else resemble Jamaat-ul-Ikhwaan-ul-Muslimoon.

And they (the *Ikhwaan-ul-Muslimoon*) say: Indeed, their call is based upon the Book and the Sunnah. However, this is mere talk, for there is no '*aqeedah*' which unites them, for this is one is a Maatureedee, this one is an 'Ash'aree, this one is a Soofee and this one has no school of thought. This is because their call is built upon the basis of unite together, gather and then educate. And in reality, there is

¹ Translator's note: Taken from the book *Fataawa Ash-Shaykh Al-'Alaamah Muhammad Naasir-ud-Deen Al-Albaanee Fil-Madeenah Wal-Imaaraat*, collected by 'Amr 'Abdul-Mun'im Saleem, Pp.32-34, (Fataawa-ul-Madeenah No.8), Daar-ul-Diyaa, Tanta, 1427/2006.

² Translator's note: i.e. with no scholars amongst them.

³ Translator's note: i.e. to the Book and the Sunnah

no education with them, for more than half a century of time has passed them by without a scholar emerging from amongst them. As for us, then we say: Educate and then gather, until the gathering together is on the basis of a united fundamental which has no differing over it.

And the call of the Jammaat-ut-Tableegh is modern day Sufism. It calls to (having) good manners, (but) as for correcting the beliefs of the society, then they do not move at all because this - as they claim - causes division. And there occurred between brother Sa'd Al-Hussain and the leader of the Jammaat-ut-Tableegh in India or Pakistan written correspondences. It is made clear from them that they affirm (the innovated means of) *tawassul*⁴ and *istigaathah*⁵ and many things like this. And they request from their individuals (who are with them) to give them the oath of allegiance on four (Sufi) orders, from them the Naqshbandee order. So, it is imperative that every Tableeghee gives an oath of allegiance upon this basis.

And perhaps a questioner may ask: Indeed this group, many of the people have returned to Allah because of the efforts of its individuals. In fact, perhaps people who are non-Muslims have become Muslims at their hands. Is this not sufficient for the permissibility of going out with them and sharing in that which they call to?!!!

So, we say: Indeed, we know these words and we hear them a lot, (and) we know them from Sufism. So, for example, there exists a (Sufi) Shaykh out there whose '*aqeedah* is corrupt and he doesn't know anything from the Sunnah, (but) rather he eats the wealth of the people falsely, and despite this, many of the open sinners repent at his hands!!

So, every group that calls towards good will definitely have a following. However, we look at the essence, to what are they calling? Do they call to the following of the Book of Allah (*'Azza Wa Jalil*) and the hadeeth of the Messenger (*Sallallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam*) and the '*aqeedah* of the pious predecessors and not being bigoted towards a school of thought from amongst the schools of thought, and (do they call towards) the following of the Sunnah wherever it may be and whomsoever it may be with?!!!

The Jammaat-ut-Tableegh do not have a methodology of knowledge. Rather, their methodology is in accordance to the place in which they are present and they change colour with every colour.'

⁴ Translator's note: *tawassul* is a means of seeking nearness to Allah.

⁵ Translator's note: *istigaathah* means to seek help. In this case, it is in reference to seeking help from those who do not have the ability to give help.