

## ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Mubārakfūrī on the Shape of the Earth

The author of *Tuḥfah al-Ahwazī bi Sharḥ Jāmi‘ al-Tirmidhī* explains that the claimed consensus regarding the sphericity of the earth is among the philosophers and astronomers, not the scholars of religion from the Salaf and Khalaf.

He said:

“Another notification: The author of *al-‘Urf al-Shadhī* said with the wording: ‘Know that the earth is spherical by agreement, and so sunset and sunrise occur at all times...’ End of the quote. I say: If he means by his saying that ‘the earth is spherical by agreement’ that all of the scholars of the religion from the Salaf and Khalaf are united upon the sphericity of the earth, and speak with it, then it is falsehood without doubt. And if he means the agreement of the philosophers and astronomers, then this is not (a consensus) that is considered. Further, the conclusions he derived from the earths sphericity are open to scrutiny and objections, so reflect upon it.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Tuḥfah al-Ahwazī bi Sharḥ Jāmi‘ al-Tirmidhī* (Dār al-Fikr) 1/498.