

# Advice Regarding the Followers of the Innovators and Striving to Guide Them With Wisdom and Patience

by Shaykh Rabīʿ bin Hādī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)<sup>1</sup>

## Question:

“Are the followers of the innovator to be included in boycotting?”

**Shaykh Rabīʿ bin Hādī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ):**

“The one who is deceived among them is taught O brothers, do not be hasty. Teach them and explain (the matter) to them, for verily, many of them desire goodness, until even the Ṣūfīs. By Allāh if there had been a (good) Salafī effort (in giving daʿwah) you would see them entering Salafīyyah, both in groups and in singles.

Thus, do not let the principle with you be just ‘Boycott, boycott, boycott, boycott!’ The foundation being boycotting. The foundation is to guide the people, to enter people into goodness. The issue of boycotting can sometimes be understood wrongly, if you boycott all of the people, then who will enter the Sunnah? This type of boycotting was in the days of Imām Aḥmad, the world was full of Salafīs, and when Imām Aḥmad would say: ‘So-and-so is an Innovator’, he would fall. But as for now, Salafīyyah is like a white hair in a black ox.

The foundation (of the daʿwah) with you is to guide people and save them from falsehood and misguidance. So invite them, draw them near, and give them beneficial books and works of knowledge, and cassettes, and use the legislated means of daʿwah. From them, are sermons and

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<sup>1</sup> This is valuable advice given by the Shaykh (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) in a lecture on the ḥadīth: ( إن الله يرضى لكم ثلاثاً، ويسخط لكم ثلاثاً ) “*Verily Allāh is pleased with you in three things and angered with you in three things*”, during Ramaḍān 1423 (November 2002). This question and answer was translated some time afterwards, but remained unpublished.

lectures. Much benefit will be acquired through it if Allaah wills, and the number of Salafis will increase, and you will not lose many people.

(As for when you hold that) everyone is misguided, and you do not advise or anything or make any clarification? This is an error. The meaning of this is closing the doors of goodness in the faces of people. Don't just have with you (the approach of) boycott, boycott!

Boycotting is when it is necessary, when an innovator will return, he is compelled to return, he sees that the whole world in front of him are Salafis, so he is compelled to return. As for now, he does not see any Salafis... so be aware of these things.

The principle that should be with you, as the foundation, should be the guidance of the people, entering them into the Sunnah and saving them from misguidance, this is the principle that you should have, have patience, bear (harms) and so on. Then, (whoever is stubborn after the truth is clear), then the final treatment is cauterisation. As for cauterisation the first instance, this is a mistake may Allāh bless you.

O brothers, the principle you should have is to rescue people. By Allāh, many people have goodness in them, they desire goodness. When they go to the mosque, what do they desire, they desire Paradise O brothers, they desire goodness. So let your ways (in calling them) be wise, by Allāh, the merciful and wise ways so that he does not perceive that you are exalting yourself over him, and that you are trying to demean him. Be humble with him, be gentle and kind with him, and convey with wisdom.

Many, many people, the grave-worshippers, Allāh guided them at the hands of a small number from Ahl al-Ḥadīth, when they brought knowledge, wisdom and good admonition.

(The people of) India used to be deviants, grave-worshippers, and then Ahl al-Ḥadīth came with knowledge and wisdom, they won over millions of people with their wisdom and knowledge. (Just) three or four from the senior students of Shaykh Nadhīr Ḥusayn turned India upside down with their wisdom and knowledge. There was one of them (called) Thanā<sup>2</sup>ullāh, an innovator came and struck him with a pickaxe,

until he (thought he) was finished, and died according to what he saw. They came and took this criminal and threw him in prison. When he (the shaykh) got up from his unconsciousness, he said, “The one who struck me, where has he gone?” They said: “They have thrown him in the prison”, so he said, “Never! He should not be imprisoned, I have pardoned him.” So they said, “(No), just leave him imprisoned” and they refused to release him. So this man (the shaykh) used to spend upon the offspring of that criminal (to look after them). When that man came out of the prison, he entered Salafiyyah, yet he was from the great criminals.

There used to be a person whose name was Abū al-Maḥjūb in Sudan, he was the first one who spread Salafiyyah in Sudan, they used to strike him and used to restrain him by (tying) his feet, and they would throw him outside the mosque. As soon as he got up he would laugh, would not show envy to anyone, and would not seek revenge or anything, he would just smile and laugh. Then many people from the mashāyikh entered into the Salafī da‘wah.

And another time, they were riding on a train when the time for Maghrib, or ‘Ishā came. He led the people with very sweet recitation, they were amazed by it. They (the misguided ones) said: ‘Who led you in prayer?’ They said: ‘So-and-so, did.’ So they pounced on him and beat him severely until he became unconscious.

The point is that I do not expect that you reach this level, however I desire that O brothers, that you have something of wisdom and knowledge, and patience and good intent with you, and that the intent is to guide the people, may Allāh bless you, by Allāh, with wise mannerisms, and with gentleness, forbearance, the people will accept your da‘wah... and when you have nothing with you but harshness and severity, (وَلَوْ كُنْتَ فَظًّا غَلِيظَ الْقَلْبِ لَأَقْبَضُوا مِنْ حَوْلِكَ) **“And had you been severe and harsh-hearted, they would have turned away from around you...”** (3:159) this is the Messenger of Allāh (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ), Allāh said this to him.

My brothers, may Allāh bless you, some of our brothers have this additional harshness, which only expels from Salafiyyah but which does not enter into Salafiyyah, (this severity) that expels and pushes away from Salafiyyah, but does not enter anyone into it... this is present now. So those who repel (people), they must repent to Allāh (عَزَّوَجَلَّ), and that they improve their manners, and that they be guides unto Allāh (عَزَّوَجَلَّ), may Allaah bless you, you must adopt these ways.

Let not the principle with you be just boycotting, boycotting, boycotting, and that's it. Boycotting is legislated, however, only when it brings about benefit. If you are in the time of Imaam Aḥmad, then boycott, but in whose time are you? May Allāh bless you, so forbearance and patience is vital, may Allāh bless you, and bringing people closer to goodness and entering them into it.”

Abu 'Iyaad Amjad Rafiq  
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