

Shaykh 'Ali Hasan al-Halabī al-Atharī
(hafidhahullāh)

**ON THE EVACUATION OF THE
SALAFIS FROM DAMMĀJ¹**

Bismillāh

...It is the issue of Dammāj. I am certain that a number of the people sitting here, many or few, had not heard of Dammāj before this instance. Dammāj is a small village in the Sa'dah Province which itself is a Zaydī Province and many of the people in Yemen are from the Zaydiyyah, even though the majority are not. Among the Zaydiyyah is a sect known as the Hūthīs who are the worst of the Zaydiyyah and the most extreme of the Zaydīs, and in our lessons I always mention the error, which is common among most of the students of knowledge, which states that “the Zaydīs are the closest to Ahl us-Sunnah”. If there is any fluctuation among the Shi'a then it is only in regards to which of them are the worst and the most vile and most misguided, as for “being the closest to Ahl us-Sunnah” then no, as all of them are far from the sunnah.

This province contains tribes and most of them are Zaydīs, such as the tribe al-Wādi'ah. Thirty years ago was a student of knowledge who graduated from the Islamic University of Madeenah, from the college of hadeeth, he studied his Masters in the sciences of the hadeeth sunnah, and he was a young man at the time, Muqbil bin Hādī al-Wādi'ī as he was famously known. He wanted to continue his doctorate in Madeenah, but masha'Allāh, amazing is the affair of a believer in that all of the affairs of the believer are good, he had to leave Saudi regardless. There is a story in regards to this, but there is no benefit in mentioning this now, he left Saudi in 1400 AH, 35 years ago exactly.

He went back to Yemen and called the people to Allāh, he called his family. He had become Sunni, but not just Sunni he became from the Ahl ul-Hadeeth and from the 'Ulama of the sunnah, and the seniors and of its righteous children, may Allāh have mercy on him. He died just over ten years ago, may Allāh have mercy on him. This Shaykh started to give da'wah and

¹ Translation by 'AbdulHaq al-Ashanti. Dated: 16th January 2014 CE. From 27:30-45:45 here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rw3oqDewkuY>

there was no one with him, then some students of knowledge began to gather with him from his people, from the people of the village and from the people of other nearby provinces. Then some of the students of knowledge from outside of Yemen began to hear of him and travel to him, especially the Egyptians, some Egyptian students of knowledge went to study with him. Many of you do not know that Shaykh Mustafā ibn al-'Adawī was one of the first students of Shaykh Muqbil ibn Hādī in Yemen, in Sa'dah, in Dammāj.

Then as the years went on, the number of students reached the thousands, with the 'aqeedah of Ahl us-Sunnah. The Yemeni people are humble and they have soft hearts as the Prophet said *"imān is Yemeni and wisdom is Yemeni"*. The Shaykh died and his Markaz of knowledge is home of thousands of students who live simply. They eat vegetables and if they ever eat meat, then it is once a week or once every ten days, and even then it is a small amount, and they are a people happy and content with this. People from Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Sudan, even from Africa, and even from America and Europe. They do not want anything except to seek knowledge and to be cut from the fitan of the dunya, and some of them go with their families to live in this Islamic society. Shaykh Muqbil died and then Shaykh Yahyā ibn 'Alī al-Hajūrī assumed leadership of the Markaz. He was of the students of Shaykh Muqbil and was the Imām of the Masjid as per the wasīya of Shaykh Muqbil himself, that Shaykh Yahyā al-Hajūrī assume the leadership, may Allāh ease the affairs for him and his brothers.

About two years ago or so, this did not please those Hūthīs, those Shi'a-Zaydiyyah, as they began to cause harm to the Wādī'ah, who did not harm anyone. It is known in Yemen that the "Arab Spring", rather it should be called the "Arab Autumn", passed through Yemen and what happened happened, until its leader was uprooted and what afflicted him occurred. All what happened in Yemen over those months, did not at all change the view of those students in Dammāj. They did not rebel, they did not exploit the opportunity, as others did. They did not participate in protests, they did not form partisan political groups, they did not raise the banner of supporting one or being against another, because they knew that this was fitan and they are preoccupied with the Sunan,

"...so which of the two parties deserve more right to safety?"

Those who are preoccupied with the Sunan or those who are preoccupied with fitan and trials? Then the affairs began up until just a few months ago. However, this time it was more intense and much worse. Many people think that the issue is political, to the extent that some of the senior Sūfīs said, may Allāh fight those who say this, "the issue is just political between some

warring partisan factions, it is neither religious nor based on Madhāhib”. This is a lie and the one who said this knows in himself that this is a lie, the reality now also verifies this. The fitnah intensified, people were killed to the extent that the son of Shaykh Yahyā al-Hajūrī was also killed, may Allāh have mercy on him. Also some of the prominent students of knowledge were also killed, may Allāh have mercy on them all. From the sad, unfortunate and disgraceful stories is that the students of knowledge in Dammāj were told “either you be wiped out or you leave Dammāj”. Thus, it was concluded the leaving was the lesser of the evils and the lighter harm. The reports reach us, yesterday, and today, it reached us that the students of knowledge of Dammāj have begun to leave and migrate. They took apart the library, transported the books, took what they were able so as to leave Dammāj, not that they wanted to, they were not pleased to do this, it was so as to protect themselves, their families and their da’wah, even though they lost the place.

However, I believe that the matter will not end here, and that the issue is greater than that. Dammāj my brothers, for those who know can affirm more and those who do not know should reflect, is situated, as is the Sa’dah Province, very close to the Southern Saudi Arabia. It is a new dagger by which to destroy the Land of the Two Sanctuaries and in which they [Hūthī-Rāfidīs] can apply pressure whenever they wish. This is all the more the case in light of American-Iranian cooperation. This is the reality unfortunately. The matter is greater than it merely being a political issue, it is related to strengthening the Rawāfid against Ahl us-Sunnah. The Islamic Peninsula includes Makkah, Masjid ul-Harām, Madeenah and Masjid an-Nabawī, if those [Rawāfid], as some of them have already said, [had they chance they would] “purify the Haramayn Shareefayn from the transgressive group” and so on and so on. They have been foolish and lost, they have misguided themselves and transgressed, we ask Allāh to destroy them and to aid Ahl us-Sunnah against them everywhere.

After all of this we still hear about “Sunnī-Shi’ī cooperation” (?!), just a few days ago we heard this and some of them ask “who benefits from such sectarian disputes?” They say all of this as if they are living on another planet. They say all of this so as to lighten their evil in the hearts of Ahl us-Sunnah and also so as to promote their falsehood among naïve and simple people from Ahl us-Sunnah. The true word which we say, for the people of truth to take grasp of, in this good and blessed land, the security, trust and īmān of which we ask Allāh to perfect, and which we are happy and proud of, is that the people in authority should be attentive to the danger of those vile Shi’a. To the extent that the king of the country warned against the Shi’a crescent and the good people in authority rejected offers of petrol, mineral resources and so forth from Iran and other places in exchange for them having a place [from which to access] Ahl

us-Sunnah in this land which has never known 'Tashayyu' and never will inshāllāh ta'ala. For these people to come to our land in the name of "religious tourism" merely so as to spread their misguidance, Mut'ah marriages, their doubts in the Qur'ān, their cursing and takfeer of the Sahābah, defame the honour of the mothers of the believers, may Allāh be pleased with them. I think that this will be the last session which will distinguish Ahl us-Sunnah, as for them to place themselves and integrate among Ahl us-Sunnah then this cannot happen as is the case in Lebanon which is not distant from us and everyone knows that unfortunately the Shi'a have the main grip in Lebanon. As for the other sects, and everyone knows that it is land dominated by sects, yet all of those other sects combined are weaker than the Shi'a in Lebanon.

We ask Allāh to grant us beneficial knowledge and righteous actions and to guide us to His most guided path and greatest good, indeed He is All-Hearing, Ever-Respondent. And that He be compassionate with the Muslim lands and aid Ahl us-Sunnah, humiliate their enemies and bless with unity and harmony and gather them on the Book of Allāh and the Sunnah of His Messenger (sallallāhu 'alayhi wassallam)