# Chapter on the description of the joking of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam.

It has been proven that Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam joked. It has also been prohibited to joke. In Tirmidhi a narration of Sayyidina Ibn Abbaas Radiyallahu 'Anhu is reported wherein it has been prohibited to joke. Imaam Nawawi has compared the two in this manner and said that excessive joking which will result in the heart becoming hard, or it will keep one away from the remembrance of Allah, or it may become a means of troubling a Muslim, or it may lessen the dignity and degrade one. All these are included in the prohibition. If it (joking) is void of this and is done solely to appease or make someone happy, then it will be mustahab. Sayyidina 'Abdullah bin Haarith Radiyallahu 'Anhu says: 'I have not seen anyone who makes a person more cheerful than Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam'. The reason being that the cheerful nature of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam was more of a source of happiness than sadness.

There was also a special necessity for Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam to joke. That is due to the personal dignity and

greatness of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam which was of such a high calibre, that even at a distance of a months journey his awe was felt. For this reason, if Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam did not smile and joke, it would have been impossible due to the awe, for people to come near him and the doors of reaping benefit would have been closed. It would have become a habit of those who strive to follow and emulate every deed and habit of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam purposely not to smile and joke. It would also have become difficult for those close to a shaykh (spiritual teacher), to come close and benefit from him. May Allah shower countless durud and blessings on the pure soul who opened the doors of easiness for the ummah. Someone told Sayyidina Sufyaan bin 'Uyaynah Radiyallahu 'Anhu, who was a great muhaddith. 'Joking is also a calamity'. He replied: 'It is a sunnah, and only for those who know its bounds and also know how to joke properly'.

### (225) Hadith Number 1.

Anas bin Maalik Radiyallahu 'Anhu relates: ''Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam once told him jokingly, Ya dhal udhu-nayn (O two eared one)''.

# Commentary

Every person has two ears. It must have been for a special reason that he was called 'Abul Udhunayn'. For example he might have had large ears or a sharp hearing, that he could hear from a distance. The latter explanation seems more correct.

# (226) Hadith Number 2.

Anas Radiyallahu 'Anhu says: "Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam used to associate with us and joke. I had a younger brother. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said to him: 'O ba 'Umayr what did the nughayr do?'"

# Commentary

Nughayr is a type of bird. The 'ulama have translated it as La'l. The author of Hayatul Haywaan says that it is a bulbul. Imaam Tirmidhi says that the gist of this hadith is that Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam addressed this child by his kuniyyah (patronymic name). He had adopted an animal (bird) as a pet. The animal had died, as a result the child became grieved. In order to cheer him Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam asked him, 'What did the

nughayr do?' or 'What happened to the nughayr?', whereas Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam knew that the animal had died. This hadith supports the madh-hab of the Hanafis in a mas-alah. According to the Shaafi'ees the same rule of hunting applies to the Haram of Madinah as that of Makkah. According to the Hanafis there is a difference between the two. It is prohibited to hunt in the Haram of Makkah, whereas it is jaa-iz (permissible) in the Haram of Madinah. Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam not prohibiting this, is a proof from among many proofs. The details of which are mentioned in the books of figh and hadith. There is a dispute in whether Sayyidina Abu 'Umayr Radiyallahu 'Anhu was known by this kuniyyah (patronymic name) previously or did Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam address him first by this kuniyyah? Some 'ulama have extracted more than a hundred masaa-il and benefits from this hadith. May that soul be sacrificed that from a sentence of joke, hundreds of masaa-il are solved. And may the Almighty Allah fill the graves of the great 'ulama with nur who have given such great service to each and every hadith of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam and extracted so many masaa-il, kept it safe and spread it. A question arises here that it is also mentioned that the animal was kept in a cage and the child played with it. This is cruelty to an animal, which is prohibited in the hadith. An answer to that is, to cage an animal and to play with it to keep oneself happy is not cruelty. To harm and be cruel to an animal is a different thing. For this reason the 'ulama have written that it is only permissible for that person to keep an animal who will not mis-handle or be cruel to an animal, but care for it properly. It is not permissible for a hard-hearted child or one who does not understand animals to keep them.

## (227) Hadith Number 3.

Abu Hurayrah Radiyallahu Ta'aala 'Anhu reports: "The Sahaabah asked: 'O Messenger of Allah, you joke with us?' Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam replied: 'Yes, I do not say but the truth'".

# Commentary

The reason that the Sahaabah Radiyallahu 'Anhum asked, is because it had been prohibited to joke. Likewise it is also against the dignity of great people to do so. Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam informed that it has nothing to do with my cheerfulness. This has been discussed at the beginning of the chapter.

# (228) Hadith Number 4.

Anas bin Maalik Radiyallahu 'Anhu relates that a person requested from Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam that he be given a conveyance. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam replied: "A child of a camel shall be given to you". The person said: 'What shall I do with a child of a camel O Messenger of Allah?' (I want one for a conveyance). Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam replied: "Every camel is a child of a camel".

## Commentary

The person thought that he would be given a small camel which is unfit for riding. In this <u>hadith</u> besides joking it also points to the fact that a person should carefully listen and understand what the other person is saying.

# (229) Hadith Number 5.

Anas bin Maalik Radiyallahu 'Anhu reports: "A resident of the wilderness whose name was Zaahir (bin Hiraam Al-Ashja'ee), whenever he visited Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam he brought with him presents of the wilderness, vegetables etc. and presented it to Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam. When he intended to leave Madinah, Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam presented him with provisions of the city. Once Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said: 'Zaahir is our wilderness, and we are his city'. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam was attached to him. Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu was not very handsome. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam came to him once while he was standing in a place and selling his merchandise. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam caught him in between the arms from the back in such a manner that he (Sayyidina Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu) could not see him. Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu said: 'Who is this?, leave me'. But when he saw with the corner of his eye that it was Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam, he straightened his back and began pressing it to the chest of Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam. (For as long as he gained this opportunity it was better than a thousand gifts). Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam then said: 'Who will purchase this slave?' Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu replied: 'O Rasul of Allah, if you shall sell me, you will sell a defective thing, and earn a very little sum'. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said: 'No, you are not defective in the sight of Allah, but much more valuable".

# Commentary

Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam coming and embracing him from the back and covering the eyes of Sayyidina Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu was being humorous to him. This saying that who shall purchase him was also in joking. Because Sayyidina Zaahir Radiyallahu 'Anhu was not a slave but a free man. Some of the commentators have written that this hadith is about joking, but in reality it is full of virtues and hidden benefits. When Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam found him engrossed in selling his merchandise. Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam feared that because he was so busy selling, it will keep him away from the remembrance of Allah. Therefore Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam caught him from the back, and the embrace would be a means of returning him to the remembrance of Allah. And as a reminder he said: 'Is there anyone who will purchase this slave?', is because the person who is so engrossed in things other than the remembrance of Allah, is like a slave of his own desires. The embrace of Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam totally awakened his faculties for the remembrance of Allah. That is why Sayyidina Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam gave him the good news that his status in the eyes of Allah is not low but that of an elevated one.

# (230) Hadith Number 6.

Hasan Basri Radiyallahu 'Anhu says that an old woman came to Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam and made a request: "O Messenger of Allah, make du'aa to Allah that He may grant me entrance into Jannah." Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam replied: "O Mother, an old woman cannot enter Jannah." That woman began crying and began to leave. Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said: "Say to the woman that one will not enter in a state of old age, but Allah will make all the woman of Jannah young virgins. Allah Ta'aala says: "Lo! We have created them a (new) creation and made them virgins, lovers, friends". -Surah Waaqi'ah, 35-36-37.

باب ما جاء فى صفة كلام رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم فى الشعر

١٣١ - (١) حدثنا على بن حُجر ، حدثنا شريك عن المقداد بن شريح عن أبيه عن عائشة قالت: قيل لها هل كان النّبى صلى الله عليه وسلم يتمثل بشيء من الشعر قالت: كان يتمثل بشعر ابن رواحة ويتمثل ويقول « ويأتيك بالأخبار من لم تُزَوِّدِ » ،

(7) حدثنا محمد بن بشار ، حدثنا عبد الرحمٰن بن مهدی قال: حدثنا سفیان الثوری عن عبد الملك بن عمیر ، حدثنا أبو سلمة عن أبی هریرة قال: قال رسول الله صلی الله علیه وسلم إنَّ أصدق كلمة قالها الشاعر كلمة لبید:

«ألا كُلُّ شِيىء ما خلا الله باطِلُ» وكاد امية بن أبى الصلت أن يُسلِمَ ،

۲۳۳ – (٣) حدثنا محمد بن المثنى قال: حدثنا محمد بن جعفر ، حدثنا شعبة عن الأسود بن قيس عن جُندُب ابن سفيان البَجَلى قال: أصاب حَجَرٌ إصبَع رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم فدمِيَت ، فقال:

هل أنْتِ إلّا إصْبُعٌ دَمِيْتِ وفي سبيل الله ما لَقِيْتِ ، ٣٣٤ – (٤) حدثنا محمد بن بشار ، حدثنا يحيى بن سعيد ، حدثنا سفيان الثورى ، حدثنا أبو إسحق عن البراء بن عازب قال: قال له رجل: أفررتم عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يا أبا محمارة؟ فقال لا والله ما ولى رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ، ولكن ولى سرعان الناس تلقتهم هَوازِنُ بِالنَّبُلِ ، ورسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم على بغلته ، وأبو سفيان بن الحارث بن عبد المطلب آخذ بلِجَامها ، ورسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول:

«أنا النبي لا كذب أنا ابْنُ عبد المطلب»

حدثنا إسحق بن منصور ، حدثنا عبد الرزاق ، حدثنا جعفر بن سليمان ، حدثنا ثابت بن أنس: أنَّ النَّبَى عَيِّلِكِمْ دخل مكَّة في عمرة القضاء وابن رواحة يمشى بين يديه وهو يقول: خلُوا بنى الكفَّار عن سبيله اليوم نضربكم على تنزيله ضربًا يُزيل الهام عن مَقِيله ويُذهل الخليل عن خليله فقال له عمر: يا ابن رواحة بين يدى رسول الله عَيِّلِهُ وفي حرم الله تعلى تقول شعرًا ، فقال النَّبى صلى الله عليه وسلم خلِّ عنه يا عُمر فلَهِي أسرع فيهم من نضح النَّبلِ

۲۳۲ – (٦) حدثنا على بن خُجر ، حدثنا شريك عن سِماك بن حرب عن جابر بن سمرة قال: جالست رسول الله عَلَيْكُم أكثر من مائة مرَّة ، وكان أصحابه يتناشدون الشَّعر ويتذاكرون أشياء من أمر الجاهلية وهو ساكت وربما تبسَّم معهم ،

۲۳۷ – (۷) حدثنا على بن حُجر ، حدثنا شريك عن عبد الملك بن عُمير عن أبى سلمة عن أبى هريرة عن النَّبى صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: أشعَرُ كلمة تكلَّمت بها العرب كلمة لبيد:
«ألا كل شيء ما خلا الله باطل»

٣٣٨ – (٨) حدثنا أحمد بن مَنيع ، حدثنا مروان بن معاوية عن عبد الله بن عبد الرحمٰن الطائفي عن عمرو ابن الشهد عن أبيه قال: كنت ردف رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم فأنشدته مائة قافية من قول أمية بن أبي الصلت الثقفي: كلَّما أنشدته بيتًا قال لى النَّبي صلى الله عليه وسلم: هِيْهِ حتٰى أنشدته مائة يعنى بيتا ، فقال النَّبي صلى الله عليه وسلم: هِيْهِ حتٰى أنشدته مائة يعنى بيتا ، فقال النَّبي صلى الله عليه وسلم إن كاد لَيُسلِمُ ،

والمعنى واحد قالا: حدثنا عبد الرحمٰن بن أبى الزناد عن هشام بن عروة عن أبيه عن عائشة رضى الله عنها قالت: كان رسول الله عنها يضع لحَسَّان بن ثابت منبرًا فى المسجد يقوم عليه قائمًا يفاخر عن رسول الله عليه وسلم أو قال ينافِحُ عن رسول الله عليه وسلم أو قال ينافِحُ عن رسول الله عليه وسلم ويقول رسول الله عليه وسلم: إنَّ الله يؤيد حسَّان بروح القدس ، ما ينافح أو يفاخر عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم حدثنا إسماعيل بن موسى وعلى بن حُجر قالا: حدثنا ابن أبى الزناد عن أبيه عن عروة عن عائشة رضى الله عنها عن النَّبى عَلَيْتُهُ مثله ،