

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Allāh - beginning with the name of - the
Most Gracious, the Most Merciful



العقيدة الطحاوية

Al-‘Aqīdah al-Ṭaḥāwīyyah

للإمام أبو جعفر الطحاوي رحمه الله

of Imam Ja‘far al-Ṭaḥāwī

(may Allāh have mercy on him)

Course Tutor: Mufti Muhammad ‘Abdus Samee’



طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ

Ibn Mājah has narrated from the hadīth of ‘Anas ibn Mālik, who said:

“The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

“Seeking knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim.”

[Sunan Ibn Mājah]



Who is Imām al-Ṭaḥāwī

He is the Imām, the Muhaddith, the Faqeeh, the Hāfidh, the noble scholar Imām abū Jaʿfar Ahmad bin Salamah al-Ṭaḥāwī, may Allāh have mercy on him, who was born in Taha in Egypt in 239 AH and lived till 321 AH.

Amongst Imām al-Ṭaḥāwī's teachers, was the student of the shaykhayn, the two primary students of Imām Abū Hanifa al-Nu`mān ibn Thābit al-Kufī : Abū Yūsuf Ya`qūb ibn Ibrāhim al-Ansārī and Abū `Abdullāh Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Shaybāni, may Allāh be pleased with them all.



إِنَّ أُمَّتِي لَنْ تَجْتَمِعَ عَلَى ضَلَالَةٍ فَإِذَا رَأَيْتُمْ اخْتِلَافًا فَعَلَيْكُمْ بِالسَّوَادِ الْأَعْظَمِ

Sayyidunā ‘Anas Ibn Mālik said:

‘I heard the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ say:

“My nation will not unite on misguidance, so if you see them differing, follow the great majority.”

[Sunan Ibn Mājah]



The belief that the Muslim Community will divide into 73 sects is taken from authentic Prophetic Traditions (Aḥādīth), such as the following narration related on the authority of Sayyidunā Abū Hurayra that the Beloved of Allāh ﷺ said:

“The Jews separated into 71 sects, the Christians into 72, and my nation will divide into 73 sects.”

[Abū Dāwūd, al-Tirmidhī, Ibn Mājah]

أُمَّتِي عَلَى ثَلَاثٍ وَسَبْعِينَ فِرْقَةً فَوَاحِدَةٌ فِي الْجَنَّةِ وَثِنْتَانِ وَسَبْعُونَ فِي النَّارِ . قِيلَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ مَنْ هُمُ قَالَ " الْجُمَاعَةُ

The Prophet ﷺ has further said: “Seventy-two (of the 73 sects of the Muslim nation) will be in the Fire, and only one will be in Paradise; it is the Jamā‘ah.”

[Abū Dāwūd, al-Dārimī, Musnad Imām Aḥmad]



Imām Abu Ja'far al-Ṭaḥāwī sets out clear demarcation lines as to the creed of the Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jamā'ah.

The treatise was written at a time when the risk of deviant sects misleading unsuspecting Muslims reached a critical level and highlights the necessity for the scholars to refute heretical beliefs lest their mischief spreads unchecked.

This has been the way of the pious predecessors of the Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jamā'ah – teaching the unblemished creed of the Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jamā'ah and refuting any false claimants with mighty proofs from the Holy Qur'ān and Sunnah.



قَالَ الْعَلَّامَةُ حُجَّةُ الْإِسْلَامِ أَبُو جَعْفَرٍ الْوَرَّاقُ الطَّحَاوِيُّ الْمِصْرِيُّ رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ:

The 'Allāmah, the Proof of Islām, Abū Ja'far al-Warrāq al-Ṭaḥāwī al-Misrī said:



هَذَا ذِكْرُ بَيَانِ عَقِيدَةِ أَهْلِ السُّنَّةِ وَالْجَمَاعَةِ عَلَى مَذْهَبِ فُقَهَاءِ الْمِلَّةِ: أَبِي حَنِيفَةَ
النُّعْمَانِ بْنِ ثَابِتٍ الْكُوفِيِّ، وَأَبِي يُوسُفَ يَعْقُوبَ بْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ الْأَنْصَارِيِّ، وَأَبِي عَبْدِ
اللَّهِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ الْحَسَنِ الشَّيْبَانِيِّ، رِضْوَانُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ أَجْمَعِينَ وَمَا يَعْتَقِدُونَ مِنْ
أُصُولِ الدِّينِ، وَيَدِينُونَ بِهِ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ.

This is an elucidation of the beliefs of Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jamā`ah, according to the school of the jurists of this nation, Abū Hanifa al-Nu`mān ibn Thābit al-Kufī, Abū Yūsuf Ya`qūb ibn Ibrāhim al-Ansārī and Abū `Abdullāh Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Shaybāni, may Allāh be pleased with them all, and what they believed regarding the fundamental articles of the religion, and what they submit to the Lord of the Worlds.



نَقُولُ فِي تَوْحِيدِ اللَّهِ مُعْتَقِدِينَ بِتَوْفِيقِ اللَّهِ:

Guided and aided by Allāh, we say (as did Imām Abū Hanifa and the two aforementioned Imām's [Abū Yūsuf and Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Shaybāni, may Allāh be pleased with them all) regarding the Oneness (Tawhīd) of Allāh:



إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَاحِدٌ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ.

Indeed, Allāh is one. He has no partners.

وَلَا شَيْءٌ مِثْلُهُ،

And nothing resembles Him.



وَلَا شَيْءٌ يُعْجِزُهُ،

And nothing can overwhelm Him.

وَلَا إِلَهٌ غَيْرُهُ.

And there is no God other than Him.



قَدِيمٌ بِلاَ اِبْتِدَاءٍ، دَائِمٌ بِلاَ اَنْتِهَاءٍ،

He is Eternal without a beginning, Everlasting without an end.

لاَ يَفْنَى وَلَا يَبِيدُ،

He will never perish and He will never come to an end.



وَلَا يَكُونُ إِلَّا مَا يُرِيدُ

And nothing comes into existence or happens except
what He has willed.

لَا تَبْلُغُهُ الْأَوْهَامُ . وَلَا تُدْرِكُهُ الْأَفْهَامُ

No imagination can conceive of Him and no
understanding can fathom Him.



وَلَا يُشَبِّهُ الْأَنَامَ

He does not resemble humankind.

حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ. قَيُّومٌ لَا يَنَامُ

He is Living; He will never die. He is Sustaining; He never sleeps.

