

## Avoiding recitations for healing or protection that violate Sharee'ah

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

From `Abdul-`Azeez ibn `Abdullah ibn Baaz to all Muslims in the district of Al-Far` and other districts of Al-Madeenah al-Munawwarah, may Allaah guide you to have insight into the religion of Islaam, Ameen.

May Allaah's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you. To proceed:

I have been informed that in your district there is an incantation against scorpions and other poisonous creatures, and that this incantation contains statements of Shirk (associating others with Allaah in His Divinity or worship). That is why I see I have to warn you against such Ruqyahs (recitations for healing or protection).

The following is the text of some of such Ruqyahs referred to above:

(In the Name of Allaah! O Allaah's Words! By the seven heavens and the revealed Ayahs that rule but not ruled! O Sulayman al-Rifa`y! O fighter of scorpions' poison! Call scorpions in the name of al-Rifa`y, both female scorpions and male ones, both long scorpions and short ones, both red scorpions and white ones, and both big scorpions and small ones against the evil of scorpions creeping both in the evening and in the morning. I seek help against them from Allaah, His Ayahs, ninety nine prophets, Fatimah, the Prophet's daughter and her offspring).

These words are only some of the incantations I have been informed of. They have many formulas, which all involve Shirk. There could be no doubt that such incantations include statements of Shirk, such as, "By the seven heavens," and, "O Sulayman al-Rifa`y! O fighter of scorpions' poison! Call scorpions in the name of Al-Rifa`y," and, "I seek help against them from Allaah, His Ayahs, ninety-nine prophets, and Faatimah, the Prophet's daughter and her offspring." It is worth mentioning that the Glorious Qur'aan and the Prophetic Sunnah stress that Allaah Alone is the only One worthy of worship and no one should be invoked or asked for help except Allaah (Exalted be He). Allaah (Glorified be He) says: **[You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything).]**<sup>1</sup> Allaah (Glorified be He) also says: **[And the mosques are for Allaah (Alone): so invoke not anyone along with Allaah.]**<sup>2</sup> The Prophet

<sup>1</sup> Soorah al-Fatihah [1:5]

<sup>2</sup> Soorah al-Jinn [72:18]

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(peace be upon him) said: **[Du'aa` (supplication) is (the essence of) worship.]**<sup>3</sup> He (peace be upon him) also said: **[If you beg, beg of Allaah Alone; and if you need assistance, supplicate to Allaah Alone for help.]**<sup>4</sup> There are many Ayahs (Qur'aanic verses) and Prophetic Hadeeths that stress this meaning. Moreover, Muslim scholars unanimously agree that appealing to the heavens, stars, idols, trees, and so on, for help is as an act of Shirk. Similarly, they unanimously agree that it is not permissible to invoke the dead or seek their help whether they were prophets, righteous people or others. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **[When a man dies, his deeds come to an end, except for three: Sadaqah Jariyah (ongoing charity), knowledge by which people benefit, or a pious son who prays for him (the deceased).]**<sup>5</sup> The Ruqyah referred to above includes some statements like asking the heavens, the dead, including prophets, Al-Rifa'y, and others for help. All this is regarded as an act of Shirk. Thus, all Muslims should be cautious about such Ruqyahs and similar incantations that contain statements of Shirk. Moreover, Muslims should advise and warn one another against such Ruqyahs. They should resort to legal Ruqyahs (i.e. reciting Qur'aan and saying supplications over the sick seeking healing), such as Ayaat-ul-Kursee (the Qur'aanic Verse of Allaah's Chair, Soorah al-Baqarah, 2:255), Soorah al-Ikhlās, Soorah al-Falaq, Soorah al-Naas and other Ayahs. This is in addition to supplications for refuge and protection prescribed by Sharee'ah (Islaamic law), such as seeking refuge with Allaah's Perfect Words from the evil of His creation. Also, a Muslim can say three times in the morning and in the evening:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَا يَضُرُّ مَعَ اسْمِهِ شَيْءٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَا فِي السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

**[In the Name of Allaah, with Whose Name nothing can be harmful on the earth or in the heaven, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower.]**<sup>6</sup>

Also, there is the Islaamic Ruqyah for the sick and for people who are stung in which a Muslim can say three times:

أَذْهِبِ الْبَاسَ رَبَّ النَّاسِ اشْفِ أَنْتَ الشَّافِي لَا شِفَاءَ إِلَّا شِفَاؤُكَ شِفَاءً لَا يُعَادِرُ سَقَمًا

**[Remove the affliction, O Lord of mankind, and bring about healing, as You are the Healer. There is no healing but Your Healing; a healing that leaves behind no ailment.]**<sup>7</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Sunan al-Tirmidhee

<sup>4</sup> Ibn Abbaas (May Allaah be pleased with them) said: One day, I was riding behind the Prophet (ﷺ) when he said, "O boy! I will instruct you in some matters. Be watchful of Allaah (Commandments of Allaah), He will preserve you. Safeguard His Rights, He will be ever with you. If you beg, beg of Him Alone; and if you need assistance, supplicate to Allaah Alone for help. And remember that if all the people gather to benefit you, they will not be able to benefit you except that which Allaah had foreordained (for you); and if all of them gather to do harm to you, they will not be able to afflict you with anything other than that which Allaah had pre-destined against you. The pens had been lifted and the ink had dried up". [At- Tirmidhee, who categorised it as Hadeeth Hassan Saheeh].

<sup>5</sup> Saheeh Muslim

<sup>6</sup> "Whoever recites it three times in the morning will not be afflicted by any calamity before evening, and whoever recites it three times in the evening will not be overtaken by any calamity before morning." Aboo Dawood 4/323, At-Tirmidhee 5/465, Ibn Majaah 2/332, Ahmad. Ibn Majaah's chain of transmission is good (Hassan), Ibn Baaz, p. 39. [Hissn al-Muslim 86].

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ أَرْقِيكَ، مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ يُؤْذِيكَ، مِنْ شَرِّ كُلِّ نَفْسٍ أَوْ عَيْنٍ حَاسِدٍ، اللَّهُ يَشْفِيكَ، بِسْمِ اللَّهِ  
أَرْقِيكَ

**In the Name of Allaah I perform Ruqyah for you, from everything that may harm you; from the evil of any soul or envious eye. May Allaah heal you. In the Name of Allaah I perform Ruqyah for you.]<sup>8</sup>**

Similarly, reciting Soorah al-Faatihah over the sick and the people who are stung is one of the greatest causes of cure, especially when recitation is performed sincerely and truthfully asking Allaah (Exalted be He) to grant healing with full faith that Allaah (Exalted be He) is the Only One who Cures and that no one can cure people from a diseases except Him (Glorified be He).

I ask Allaah to guide us and all Muslims to have insight into His Religion and to steadfastly adhere to it. I ask Him to protect us from all that violates His Laws. Indeed, He is the Most Generous and the Most Beneficent. May Allaah's Peace, Mercy and Blessings be upon you.

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<sup>7</sup> [Sunan Abee Dawood 3883] Saheeh (Al-Albaanee)

<sup>8</sup> [Saheeh Muslim]