

Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

12212 - Did children climb upon the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) during prayer?

the question

Is there a sunnah of the holy prophet regarding him allowing children to climb upon him during prayer and where can I find it?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It was proven in al-Saheehayn and elsewhere, in the hadeeth of Abu Qutaadah that the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) used to pray whilst carrying Umaamah, the daughter of Zaynab, the daughter of the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him). When he prostrated, he would put her down, and when he stood up he would pick her up again.

According to one report: "I saw the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) leading the people in prayer, with Umaamah bint Abi'l-'Aas on his shoulders. When he bowed he would put her down and when he stood up from prostrating he would pick her up again."

Shaykh 'Abd al-Kareem al-Khudayr

Al-Nasaa'i (1141) narrated from 'Abd-Allaah ibn Shaddaad that his father said: "The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) came out to us for one of the evening prayers (Maghrib or 'Isha'), carrying Hasan or Husayn. The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) came forward, put the child down and said Takbeer ("Allaahu akbar") to start the prayer. Then he prostrated during the prayer and his prostration lasted for a long time. My

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father said: I raised my head and saw the child on the back of the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), so I went back to my prostration. When the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) finished praying, the people said to him: ‘O Messenger of Allaah, during your prayer you prostrated and it took a long time, until we thought that something had happened, or that you were receiving Revelation.’ He said, ‘Nothing happened, but my son was riding on my back and I did not want to hurry him up until he had had enough.’” (Saheeh al-Nasaa’i, 1093).