

Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

72249 - The hadeeth “The best names are those which describe one as a slave of Allaah or which are derived from the name Muhammad” is not saheeh

the question

How sound is the hadeeth, “The best names are those which describe one as a slave of Allaah or which are derived from the name Muhammad”?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allaah.

This hadeeth is not saheeh and it has no basis.

It says in *Kashf al-Khafa* (1/468): “The best names are those which describe one as a slave of Allaah or which are derived from the name Muhammad”. *Al-Najm* said: This is not known. It was also narrated with the wording, “The most beloved of names to Allaah are those which describe one as a slave of Allaah or which are derived from the name Muhammad”, *al-Suyooti* said: I could not find any source for this hadeeth. End quote.

It says in *al-Maqaasid al-Hasanah* (p. 87): As for what is frequently said, “The best names are those which are derived from the name Muhammad or which describe one as a slave of Allaah”, I do not know it. End quote.

Al-Albaani (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: “The best names are those which describe one as a slave of Allaah or which are derived from the name Muhammad” – there is no basis for this, as has clearly been stated by *al-Suyooti* and others. End quote from *al-Silsilah al-Da’eefah*, 1/595, no.

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There is a saheeh hadeeth about the virtue of being a slave of Allaah and giving the names 'Abd-Allaah and 'Abd al-Rahmaan. Muslim (2132) narrated that Ibn 'Umar said: The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "The most beloved of your names to Allaah are 'Abd-Allaah and 'Abd al-Rahmaan."

And Allaah knows best.