

## Sixth Example

### Understanding the Ahadith on Standing up [to Welcome someone]

Mu‘awiyah said that "I heard the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) say: Let him who likes people to stand up before him prepare his place in Hell."<sup>1</sup>

Also, Mu‘awiyah reported that the Prophet (PBUH) said, "Whoever likes to have the slaves of Allah stand up out of respect for him should take his place in the Fire."<sup>2</sup>

Abu Umamah narrated: The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) came out to us leaning on a stick. We stood up to show respect to him. He said: Do not stand up as non-Arabs do to show respect to one another."<sup>3</sup>

Abu Sa’id Al-Khudri said: When Banu Quraizah were capitulated and they agreed to accept Sa’d’s judgement, the Prophet (PBUH) sent a messenger to him. When he came, the Prophet (PBUH) said: stand up to your chief, or he said: “to the best of you”. He came and sat beside the Messenger of Allah (PBUH). Then the Prophet (PBUH) said (to Sa’d)." Those (i.e. Banu Quraizah) have agreed to accept your verdict." Sa’d said, "Kill their (men) warriors and take their offspring as captives, "On that the Prophet (PBUH) said, "You have judged according to Allah’s Judgment."<sup>4</sup>

Anas said, "The Companions of the Prophet (PBUH) used to shake hands when they meet, and would hug each other when they return from a travel."<sup>5</sup>

What we understand from these Ahadith is that the prohibition of standing up to welcome someone is not an absolute prohibition. It is restricted to the case when this standing is meant to show glorification as the non-Arabs would do at the time of the

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<sup>1</sup> Abu Dawud, *Sunan*, Book of General Behavior, Chapter: Standing up to honor a person, Hadith no. 5229.

<sup>2</sup> Al-Bukhari, *Al-Adab Al-Mufrad*, Chapter: Standing up to honor a person, Hadith no. 977.

<sup>3</sup> Abu Dawud, *Sunan*, Book of General Behavior, Chapter: Standing up to honor a person, Hadith no. 5230

<sup>4</sup> Abl-Bukhari, *Sahih*, Book of Asking for Permission, Chapter: Stand up for your Chief, Hadith no. 6262.

<sup>5</sup> Al-Tabarani, *Al-Mu‘jam Al-Awsat*, Hadith no. 97.

Prophet (PBUH). Thus when a text states the prohibition of standing, then it should be understood as applied to standing out of glorification as stated in the narration of which reads, "Do not stand up as non-Arabs do glorifying each other." Al-Bukhari reported this Hadith in his Book *Al-Adab Al-Mufrad* under the title "A Section of Standing for someone in Glorification." It is known the titles of Al-Bukhari are Juristic views. The same title is given by Abu Dawud in His *Sunan* "Section: Standing up to Honor a Person".

This understanding is supported by the Prophet's (PBUH) saying, "Stand up to (show respect to) your chief" i.e. Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh. If the Prohibition is meant to be absolute, the Prophet would not have said this. In addition, the Prophet's (PBUH) statements, "Whoever likes to have the slaves of Allah stand up out of respect for him" indicates that this person likes people to glorify him. However, when people just stand up out of respect and love, and on the other hand this person is humble one, then there is no harm in this.

