

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وَدِدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

Quick to give Fatwah

It is mentioned that once someone asked the great scholar, Imam Shu'bah - *may Allah be pleased with him*, a certain question and he replied that he did not know the answer. The person then said, "You are the Mufti of Iraq and a great Jurist and yet you say you do not know."

The great Imam replied that there was no embarrassment in this because even the Angels had mentioned this when they were questioned by the Almighty Allah.

The same has been mentioned about Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*. Once Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed bin Musayyib - *may Allah be pleased with him*, the famous Taaba'een, stated, "O Allah! Please protect me from giving a wrong Fatwah and protect others from receiving a Wrong fatwah from me."

Once someone asked Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam Shafi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - a question and he remained silent. The person asked him a question and again he remained silent. On the third occasion, the great Imam replied that he was trying to analyse whether it was better to remain silent or to speak.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abi Layla - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that he had met one hundred and twenty Ansaari Ashaab and whenever he asked them any question, they always referred him to another blessed companion. In this manner he went from one to the next until he finally arrived at the first person.

It was a habit of the blessed companions that whenever they mentioned any Hadith Shareef, they ardently wished that another blessed companion would substantiate their statement.

Imam Abul Husain Azadi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - mentions that, "People are very quick to give answers and Fatwah, but if the same question was asked of Hadrat Sayyiduna Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - he used to gather all those who took in the Battle of Badr before answering." In other words, he used to make sure he consults with everyone before making a decision or giving an answer.