

Appointing someone to be in charge whilst upon a journey

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Appointing someone to be in charge whilst upon a journey

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Taken from the works of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

With regards to appointing someone to be in charge when making a journey, the Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹ states:

The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)² commanded the musaafireen (travelers) that when they are three that they should appoint one of them as their ameer, so that their affair does not become one of chaos.

And it is obligatory to obey this ameer whom they have appointed to be in authority in that which relates to the rulings of the journey, because they have appointed him as an ameer. So if he is put in authority over his people during the journey and he says, "O so and so, start fixing such and such" and it is something connected to the journey then it is obligatory upon (that person) to obey. If not, then there is no benefit in (his) leadership.

As for if the ameer says to one of his companions, "O so and so, bring me my shoes" then this is not binding upon him to obey because they made him an ameer with regards to that which is connected to the affairs of the journey; and this (command of his) was something not connected to the affairs of the journey.

And if he said to one of them, "O so and so, prepare the breakfast for us" then this is binding upon him because this (matter) is connected to the journey.

(Sharh al Arba'een an Nawawee (p124) of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ))

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him