Putting trust in Allaah first and then in someone else

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: alifta.net

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Question: Is it permissible to say: "I put my trust in Allaah, then in you" or: "I have hope in you brother..."?

Answer: It is permissible to say: "I put my trust in Allaah, then in you" for Tawakkul (putting trust in Allaah) is to leave one's affairs to Him and rely on Him Alone. Putting one's trust in the servants of Allaah after having Tawakkul in Allaah (Glorified and Exalted be He) is to authorise His servants to do the things that they can do. Allaah (Exalted be He) has Mashi'ah (Will) and so do His servants but the Mashi'ah of the servants of Allaah is dependent on that of Allaah, who says, [To whomsoever among you who wills to walk straight. And you cannot will unless (it be) that Allaah wills - the Lord of the 'Alameen (mankind, jinn and all that exists).] Allaah also says, [Verily, this (Verse of the Qur'aan) is an admonition, so whosoever wills, let him take a Path to his Lord (Allaah). But you cannot will, unless Allaah wills. Verily, Allaah is Ever All-Knowing, All-Wise.]

Moreover, this matter is clarified by our Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)¹ in the following Hadeeth that is related by Al-Nisaa'ee who declared it as Saheeh (authentic) on the authority of Qutaylah: A Jew came to the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and said: "You make partners to Allaah when you (Muslims) say: 'What Allaah and you will' and 'By the Ka`bah'." Therefore, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) ordered them when taking an oath to say: "By the Lord of the Ka`bah" and "What Allaah wills, then what you will". He (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said in another Saheeh Hadeeth: Do not say, "What Allaah wills and so-and-so wills," but say: "What Allaah wills then so-and-so wills".

May Allaah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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