

Ruling of crying and wailing over a Dead Person

Imaam Al-Nawawee's Riyad-us-Saliheen Chapter 153

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Wailing is unanimously forbidden (Haraam) as will be mentioned later on. There are some Ahadeeth which forbid us from crying over somebody's death, and which inform us that the dead will be tormented in their graves as a result of their relatives crying over their death. This prohibition applies only to those cases where crying is accompanied with lamenting and wailing. Weeping without these two is, permissible; and the Ahadeeth in support of this are many, including the following:

925. Ibn `Umar (May Allaah be pleased with them) reported: The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) visited Sa`d bin `Ubadah during his illness. He was accompanied by `Abdur-Rahman bin `Auf, Sa`d bin Abu Waqqas and `Abdullah bin Mas`ud (May Allaah be pleased with them). The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) began to weep. When his Companions saw this, their tears also started flowing. He (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) said, "**Do you not hear, Allaah does not punish for the shedding of tears or the grief of the heart, but punishes or bestows mercy for the utterances of this** (and he pointed to his tongue)."¹

926. Usamah bin Zaid (May Allaah be pleased with him) reported: A grandson (child of the daughter) of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) was presented to him while the child was at his last breath. Tears began to flow from the eyes of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam). Sa`d said to him: "What is this, O Messenger of Allaah?" He (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) said, "**It is mercy which Allaah has placed in the hearts of his slaves. Allaah bestows His Mercy on the merciful among His slaves.**"²

927. Anas (May Allaah be pleased with him) reported: The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) came to his son Ibrahim (May Allaah be pleased with him) when he was breathing his last. The eyes of the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) began shedding tears. `Abdur-Rahman bin `Auf (May Allaah be pleased with him) said, "O Messenger of Allaah, you too weep?" He (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) said, "**O Ibn `Auf! It is mercy.**" Then he began to weep and said, "**The eyes are shedding tears and the heart is grieved, and we will not say except what pleases our Rubb. O Ibrahim! Indeed we are grieved by your departure.**"³

¹ Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim

² Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim

³ Al-Bukhaaree