

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee'



Carrier of the Flag of Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel

AL-MANHAJ  BOOKS

Compiled by Maktabah Al-Idreese in Yemen

**The Scholars' Praise
for Shaikh Rabee'
Carrier of the Flag of
Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel**

Compiled by Maktabah Al-Idreesee As-Salafiyyah
In San'aa, Yemen

Translated by
abu maryam isma'eel alarcon

© Copyright www.al-manhaj.com



Published on-line by www.al-manhaj.com

The official web site of:

Masjid Ahlul-Qur'aan wa Sunnah
109-06 Van Wyck Exressway
South Ozone Park, NY 11420
USA

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 300077
JFK Airport Station
Jamaica, NY 11430

URL: www.al-manhaj.com
E-mail: info@al-manhaj.com
Tel/Fax: (718) 529-9496

Important Note:

The following document is an on-line book publishing of www.al-manhaj.com. This book was formatted and designed specifically for being placed on the Web and for its easy and convenient distribution. At the time of this e-book publishing, we are not aware of any other book similar to it, in terms of its translation from its original Arabic source. Since this book was prepared for free on-line distribution we grant permission for it to be printed, disbursed, photocopied, reproduced and/or distributed by electronic means for the purpose of spreading its content and not for the purpose of gaining a profit, unless a specific request is sent to the publishers and permission is granted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Foreword.....	5
2. Introduction.....	6
3. A Brief Biography of Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee.....	12
4. The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee'.....	16
5. The Praise of Imaam Al-Albaanee.....	16
6. The Praise of Imaam Ibn Baaz.....	17
7. The Praise of Shaikh Muqbil Ibn Haadee Al-Waadi'ee.....	19
8. The Praise of Imaam Ibn Al-'Uthaimeen.....	19
9. The Praise of Shaikh Saalih Al-Fawzaan.....	21
10. The Praise of Shaikh Muhammad Al-Bannaa.....	22
11. The Praise of Shaikh Muhammad Ibn 'Abdillaah As-Subayyal.....	23
12. The Praise of Shaikh Ahmad An-Najmee.....	24
13. The Praise of Shaikh Al-Maghraawee.....	24
14. The Praise of Shaikh 'Ubaid Al-Jaabiree.....	25
15. The Praise of Shaikh Saleem Al-Hilaalee.....	26
16. The Praise of Shaikh 'Alee Hasan Al-Halabee.....	26
17. Closing Remarks.....	28

FOREWORD

All praise be to Allaah and may the peace and blessings of Allaah be on His Messenger. This book you have before you is a translation of a small pamphlet that was prepared, printed and distributed by Maktabah Al-Idreesee from San'aa, Yemen concerning "**The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee.**"

This treatise was also made available over the Internet as a downloadable file in such sites as rabee.net and alsalafia.com. This is where we obtained our source for this current translation. So we encourage all readers who wish to access the Arabic source for this book to go to the above mentioned web sites and download the file called "**Shifaa-ul-'Aleel fee Thanaa-il-'Ulamaa 'alaa Ash-Shaikh Rabee'**"

There were many reasons for selecting this current book for translation and publishing. The first and most important of them was to allow the Muslims to become acquainted with who the scholars of our time are and to get a first hand look at how the scholars of Ahl-us-Sunnah praise and commend one another. Secondly, in recent times there have been big debates amongst the Muslims, especially those of them who adhere to the way of the Salaf, on certain issues concerning this noble Shaikh. We felt that this is largely due to their being unaware of who Shaikh Rabee' is and what the scholars have said about him. Shaikh Rabee', as indicated by Shaikh Al-Albaanee, is in our current times, the leading personality in the field of *Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel* (i.e. declaring who is reliable, trustworthy and upon the correct way from those who are unreliable and on a deviant way). At times, this field requires those specialized in it to speak about certain popular and renowned figures in order to clarify their mistakes or expose their deviations. So no doubt, Shaikh Rabee' has spoken against some callers and teachers in the Muslim world that are esteemed by many. But this was only part of his sincere advice, as he was fulfilling his duty of clarifying to the ummah the mistakes of certain people so that the Muslims will not follow them in that. But unfortunately the result of this at times is that the Muslims do not readily accept from him and question his authority, and even go further and ridicule and belittle him. So we felt that it was important, especially amidst the rumors and lies being spread about this noble scholar, to present our Muslim readers with the present treatise.

Furthermore, we ask Allaah to reward all those brothers in charge of putting the book together in its Arabic form, namely the brothers in Yemen. They have also included several footnotes, which add clarification to certain issues and they have categorized the treatise into easy to read and access sections. So may Allaah reward them with the best of rewards and may He make this treatise a source for strengthening and putting light to this blessed da'wah of the Way of the Salaf.

Written by abu maryam isma'eel alarcon
for www.al-manhaj.com on April 25, 2001

INTRODUCTION

Verily, all praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him, we seek His assistance and we ask for His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Him from the evils of our souls and the evils of our actions. Whoever Allaah guides, no one can lead him astray and whoever is caused to go astray, there is no one that can guide him. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allaah - alone with no partners. And I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ ۖ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

"O you who believe, fear Allaah as He ought to be feared and do not die except while you are Muslims." [Surah Aali 'Imraan: 102]

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ
وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً
وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ ۖ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا

"O mankind, fear Allaah who created you from a single soul (Adam) and from that, He created its mate (Eve). And from them He brought forth many men and women. And fear Allaah to whom you demand your mutual rights. Verily, Allaah is an ever All-Watcher over you." [Surah An-Nisaa: 1]

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٧٠﴾ يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ
أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۗ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا

"O you who believe, fear Allaah and speak a word that is truthful (and to the point) - He will rectify your deeds and forgive you your sins. And whoever obeys Allaah and His Messenger has achieved a great success." [Surah Al-Ahzaab: 70-71]

Indeed, the best of speech is the Book of Allaah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad, *sallAllaahu'alayhi wa sallam*. And the worst of matters are those that are newly invented, for every newly invented matter is an innovation, and every innovation is a misguidance

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

and every misguidance is in the Hellfire. To Proceed:

Allaah had indeed promised us that He would protect His Religion and that He would preserve His Book and His Prophet's Sunnah, as He says:

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

"Verily, We have revealed the Dhikr (Qur'aan and Sunnah) and surely We will preserve it." [Surah Al-Hijr: 9] From Allaah's way of preserving His Religion - as well as His mercy for His servants - is that He has prepared for it men who will continue to pass it down to those that come after them, in its pure and unadulterated form, free from any defects. These are the individuals who recorded the Knowledge and the Religion in books while preserving that in their hearts - not growing weak or tired of doing that until they reached their graves.

These people are the scholars - the adherents to the Qur'aan and the Hadeeth and the inheritors of the Prophets, who defend Allaah's Religion and fight to clarify His Prophet's Sunnah.

Allaah has given the scholars a high and lofty position in Islaam, as well as an honorable rank amongst mankind, as He says:

يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ

"Allaah will raise those who believe amongst you and who have been given knowledge, many levels." And He says: **"Say: Are those who have knowledge equal to those who do not have knowledge?"** [Surah Al-Mujaadilah: 11]

Allaah has commanded us to refer our questions to them and to turn back to their sayings. And He made that like a certification on their part, as He says:

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِن قَبْلِكَ إِلَّا رِجَالًا نُّوحِيٓ إِلَيْهِم مَّا فَسَّخَلُوا أَهْلَ الذِّكْرِ إِن كُنتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

"And We have not sent before you except men whom We gave revelation to. So ask the people of dhikr (remembrance, i.e. knowledge) if you don't know." [Surah An-Nahl: 43] The people of *dhikr* are the scholars - those who have knowledge of what Allaah revealed to His prophets.

Abu Ad-Dardaa, *radhyAllaahu 'anh*, reported: "I heard the Messenger of Allaah, *sallAllaahu*

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

'alayhi wa sallam, say: **'Whoever treads a path, by which he seeks knowledge, Allaah will pave a way for him to Paradise because of it. Verily, the angels lower their wings out of contentment for the seeker of knowledge. And indeed, everything in the heavens and in the earth - even the fish in the sea - asks forgiveness (from Allaah) for the scholar. The virtue of the scholar over the worshipper is like the virtue of the moon over all the stars. Truly, the scholars are the inheritors of the prophets. And indeed the prophets do not leave behind any *deenar* or *dirham* (currency) for inheritance, but rather they only leave behind knowledge as inheritance. So whoever takes hold of it, then he has taken hold of an abundant share (of inheritance).'**"¹

The ayaat, ahaadeeth and athaar (narrations from the Salaf) concerning their high virtue are many. So they have the greatest share and the loftiest portion in terms of virtue and status.²

O Brother, listen to the great words of the Imaam of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, Imaam Ahmad Ibn Hanbal, when he spoke on the characteristics of the scholars and their effect on the people and the people's effect on them:

"All praise be to Allaah who placed in every era, after the period of the messengers, remnants from the people of knowledge, who call those who deviated to guidance and who have patience with their harm. And with the Book of Allaah, they revive the dead and with the light of Allaah, they cause the blind to see. So how many people, whom the Devil has killed, have they revived? And how many people, who were lost and astray have they guided? So what a great effect do they have upon the people! And what an ugly effect do the people have on them! They (i.e. the scholars) take away from the Book of Allaah, the distortions of the extremists, the false claims of the liars and the wrong interpretations of the ignorant - those who hold high the banners of innovation and unleash the outbreaks of mischief (*fitnah*). So they are in disagreement with the Qur'aan, they are in opposition to the Qur'aan and they unanimously agree with one another to withdraw themselves from the Qur'aan. They say things about Allaah and about the Book of Allaah without knowledge. They talk about the ambiguous matters in speech and they deceive the ignorant people on matters that are obscure to them. We seek refuge in Allaah from the *fitan* (trials) of the misguided ones."³

So look at the biographies of the noble and distinguished Scholars and Muhadditheen throughout the history and generations, from the time of the righteous Sahaabah and their Successors (Taabi'een), then those that came after them from the eminent Imaams, to this current day of ours. You will find that they sacrificed their lives, their wealth and their time for the sake of being sincere to Allaah, His Book, His Messenger, the Muslim leaders and their common folk.

¹ Abu Dawood (3641), At-Tirmidhee (2683) and Ibn Maajah (223)

² Refer to the book *Miftaah Daar As-Sa'aadah* of Imaam Ibn Al-Qayyim

³ See the Introduction to his book "*Ar-Radd 'Ala-al-Jahmiyyah waz-Zanaadiqah*"

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

So the right that these scholars possess over others is that they (the people) do not mention them except with goodness. And whoever mentions them in an evil way, then he is on other than the Correct Path.

And it is from the principles of Ahl-us-Sunnah and from the requirements of their beliefs, that it is an obligation to love the People of the Sunnah, to praise and speak highly of them and to not criticize them. This is such that the Salaf, may Allaah have mercy on them, considered the criticizing of Ahl-us-Sunnah and those who defend the Sunnah to be from the signs of the people of innovation and misguidance. In fact, they would consider a person to be from the people of innovation by just him criticizing the scholars (alone).

Imaam Ahmad Ibn Hanbal, *rahimahullaah*, said: "If you see a man slander Hamaad Ibn Salamah then have doubt about his Islaam, for indeed he (Hamaad) was harsh against the innovators." [*As-Siyar* (7/447)]

Abu Zur'ah, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"If you see a man from Koofah speak vilely about Sufyaan Ath-Thawree and Zaa'idah, then no doubt he is a Raafidee. And if you see a person from Shaam speak vilely about Mak-hool and Al-Awzaa'ee, then no doubt he is a Naasibee. And if you see a person from Khurasaan speak vilely about 'Abdullaah Ibn Al-Mubaraak, then no doubt he is a Murji'ee. And know that all of these groups are united in their hatred for Ahmad Ibn Hanbal, because there is no one amongst them except that he has in his heart an arrow (ready) for him, which cannot be recovered from." [*Tabaqaat-ul-Hanaabilah* (1/199-200)]

Na'eem Ibn Hamaad, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"If you see a man from Iraq speak (badly) about Ahmad Ibn Hanbal, then have doubt about his Religion. And if you see a person from Basrah speak (badly) about Wahb Ibn Jareer, then have doubt about his Religion. And if you see a man from Khurasaan speak (badly) about Ishaq Ibn Raahawaih, then have doubt about his Religion." [*Taareekh Baghdad* (6/438) and *Taareekh Dimashq* (8/132)]

Abu Ja'far Ibn Muhammad Ibn Haaron Al-Mukhramee, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"If you see a man attacking Ahmad Ibn Hanbal, then know that he is an innovator, a deviant." [*Taqdimah Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel* (pg. 308-309) and *Taareekh Dimashq* (5/294)]

Abu Haatim Ar-Raazee, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"If you see a person from Rayy or anyone else hating Abu Zur'ah, then know that he is an innovator." [*Taareekh Baghdad* (10/329) and *Taareekh Dimashq* (38/31)]

And Abu Haatim, *rahimahullaah*, also said:

"A sign of the people of innovation is their battling against the people of Narrations." [*As-Sunnah of Al-Laalikaa'ee* (1/179)]

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

Imaam Abu 'Uthmaan As-Saabooni, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"The signs of the people of innovation are clear and obvious. The most apparent of their signs is their severe enmity for those who carry the reports of the Prophet." [*Aqeedat-us-Salaf* (pg. 101)]

As-Safaareene, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"And we are not focusing on mentioning the virtues of the people of Hadeeth, for indeed their virtues are well known and their merits are many. So whoever belittles them, then he is despicable and lowly. And whoever hates them, then he is from the backward party of the Devil." [*Lawaa'ih-ul-Anwaar* (2/355)]

Among these distinguished scholars and eminent Mujaahideen is the Shaikh, the 'Allamah, Abu Muhammad Rabee' Ibn Haadee 'Umair Al-Madkhalee, may Allaah continue to let him remain in defense of His Religion and cause us to benefit from this prolonging of his life.

The Shaikh, may Allaah preserve him, has truly worked hard to clarify the Sunnah, and he has struggled intensely to explain what the Correct Way is. All of this is from his sincerity to Allaah, His Book, His Messenger, the Muslims leaders and their common folk. So how many confused people did he cause to see, and how many people who went astray did he direct to the way of guidance?

So we ask Allaah to grant him the best reward for what he has done on behalf of Islaam and the Muslims. And we ask Allaah to place him, as well as us, in the company of the prophets, the *siddeeqeen* (those who believed in the prophets), the martyrs, and the righteous - and what a great company they are.

However, there is no doubt that for every good blessing that exists (for someone) there is someone envious of it, and for every truth, there is someone who rejects or denies it.

Shaikh 'Abdul-Lateef Aali Shaikh, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"From the natural habit of the people of innovation is that when they are broke of possessing any proofs and the avenues (of arguing) have become constricted for them, they cast faults and blemishes on the Ahl-us-Sunnah and criticize them, while praising themselves."

So the Raafidah (group) met their ruin at the hands of the Prophet's Companions, and so did the people of the Great Slander (against 'Aa'ishah). And likewise, Ahmad Ibn Abee Duwaad and others from the Mu'tazilah met their destruction with Ahmad Ibn Hanbal. And Ibn Makhloof Al-Maaliqee met his ruin at the hands of Shaikh-ul-Islaam Ibn Taimiyyah. As-Subkeer met his ruin at the hands of Al-Haafidh Adh-Dhahabee and so did Ibn Dihlaan and his followers from the Sufis at the hands of Shaikh-ul-Islaam Muhammad Ibn 'Abdil-Wahhaab, as well as all the other followers of the Shaytaan who met their fate at the hands of the followers of Ar-Rahmaan.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

All of this was due to Allaah testing His servants from Ahl-us-Sunnah to know who the truthful and believing ones were from the lying and hypocritical. And it was so Allaah could increase the reward of these servants of His, due to the criticism they receive from those who are astray and lead others astray.

In order to clarify the truth and to advise the ummah, we decided to distribute and spread these words and recommendations that the noble scholars have given to Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee. This is so that one who is unaware (of the Shaikh) could know his status and so that the hearts of the believers could be at rest and tranquility and so that someone who is ruined at his hands does not fall into such a circumstance without first being informed.

And all praise be to the One, through whose grace, all good deeds are completed. And may the peace and blessings of Allaah be on Muhammad and on his family and Companions.⁴

⁴ The source of this treatise was originally compiled by Al-Idreese Salafi Bookstore of San'aa, Yemen under the supervision of the brother, Shaikh 'Alee Hamood Al-Idreese, may Allaah preserve him. Then some noble brothers placed additions to it, so may Allaah reward all of them with the best of rewards.

A BIOGRAPHY OF SHAIKH RABEE' IBN HAADEE AL-MADKHALEE ⁵

His Name and Lineage:

He is the Shaikh, the 'Allaamah, the Muhaddith, Rabee' Ibn Haadee Ibn Muhammad 'Umair Al-Madkhalee from the tribe of Mudaakhala, a well-known tribe in the Jaazaan district in the southern part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This is one of the tribes of Banoo Shabeel. Shabeel was Ibn Yashjab Ibn Qahtaan.

His Birth:

He was born in the village of Jaraadiyah, which is a small village to the west of the town of Saamitah, close to three kilometers away from it. Now, the village is connected to that town. He was born in the year 1351H, towards the last part of the year. His father passed away almost a year and a half after his birth, so he was raised and brought up in the house of his mother, may Allaah have mercy on her. She supervised him and took charge of raising him in the best possible manner, and she taught him good characteristics, such as honesty and trustworthiness and to be motivated about making the prayers. She would make him go pray, while under the supervision of his paternal uncle.

His Educational Upbringing:

When the Shaikh reached the age of eight, he joined the study circles of the village. There, he learned proper handwriting and recitation (of the Qur'aan). From those who taught him handwriting, were Shaikh Shaibaan Al-'Areeshee and Al-Qaadee Ahmad Ibn Muhammad Jaabir Al-Madkhalee. He also learned under a third person, called Muhammad Ibn Husain Makkee from the town of Sibyaa'. He studied the Qur'aan under Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Muhammad Jaabir Al-Madkhalee, as well as the subjects of Tawheed and Tajweed.

Afterwards he studied in the Salafee School of Saamitah. From the teachers whom he studied under in this school, were: the knowledgeable, Shaikh Naasir Khaloofah At-Tiyaash Mubaarakee, *rahimahullaah*, who was a famous scholar from the major students of Shaikh Al-Qar'aawee, *rahimahullaah*. He studied the books *Buloogh Al-Maraam* and *Nuzhat-un-Nadhr* of Al-Haafidh Ibn Hajr under him.

Then he joined the educational institute in Saamitah after that, and there he studied under a number of noble Mashaayikh, the most famous of whom, generally speaking, were: Shaikh Haafidh Ibn Ahmad Al-Hakamee - the well-known great scholar, *rahimahullaah*, and his brother, Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Ahmad Al-Hakamee. He also studied under the great scholar, the Muhaddith, Ahmad Ibn Yahyaa An-Najmee, may Allaah preserve him, and the Shaikh, the 'Allaamah, Dr. Muhammad Amaan Ibn 'Alee Al-Jaamee, *rahimahullaah*. He also studied under the Shaikh, the Faqeeh Muhammad Sagheer Khameesee the book *Zaad Al-Mustaqni*' with

⁵ This biography was taken from the book of Shaikh Rabee' "*At-Ta'assub Adh-Dhameem wa Aathaaruhu*" (The condemned form of fanaticism and its Effects), with some additions made to it.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

regard to the subject of Fiqh. And there are many others whom the Shaikh studied under, such as in the subjects of Arabic Language, Literature, Eloquent Speech (Balaagha), etc.

In the year 1380H, upon finishing his allotted time, the Shaikh graduated from the educational institute of Saamitah. In the beginning of the year 1381H, he joined the Faculty of Sharee'ah in Riyadh and stayed there for a period of one or two months. Then the Islaamic University of Madeenah opened, so he moved to Madeenah and joined the Islaamic University's Faculty of Sharee'ah. He studied there for the length of four years and graduated in the year 1384H with a grade of *Mumtaz* (Excellent).

The teachers whom the Shaikh studied under while in the Islaamic University:

1. The Shaikh, the 'Allaamah, the former Chief Muftee of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn 'Abdillaah Ibn Baaz, *rahimahullaah*, under whom he studied *Al-'Aqeedah At-Tahaawiyyah*.
2. The 'Allaamah, the Muhaddith, Shaikh Muhammad Naasir-ud-Deen Al-Albaanee, *rahimahullaah*, under whom he studied the subject of Hadeeth and its chains of narration.
3. The Shaikh, the 'Allaamah, 'Adul-Muhsin Al-'Abbaad, under whom he studied the subject of Fiqh for three years, with the book *Bidaayat-ul-Mujtahid*.
4. The Shaikh, the 'Allaamah, the Haafidh and Mufasssir, Muhammad Al-Ameen Ash-Shanqeetee, author of the book *Adwaa-ul-Bayaan*, under whom he studied the subjects of Tafseer and the Principles of Fiqh for four years.
5. Shaikh Saalih Al-'Iraaqee, under whom he studied 'Aqeedah (Creed).
6. The Shaikh, the Muhaddith, 'Abdul-Ghaffaar Hasan Al-Hindee, under whom he studied the Science of Hadeeth and its terms.

After graduating from the Islaamic University of Madeenah, he worked as a teacher in one of the learning institutes of the Islaamic University for a while. Then he joined the Department for Higher Studies at Umm Al-Qurraa University, where he continued his studies, obtaining his Masters Degree in the subject of Hadeeth in 1397H, by having completed his dissertation, which is well known as "Between the two Imaams, Muslim and Ad-Daaraqutnee."

Then in the year 1400H, he obtained his Doctorate Degree from Umm Al-Qurraa also, with the grade of *Mumtaz* (Excellent). And this was because of his checking of the book "*An-Nukat 'alaa Kitaab Ibn As-Salaah*" of Al-Haafidh Ibn Hajr, *rahimahullaah*.

After that, he went back to working as a teacher in the Islaamic University (of Madeenah) in the Faculty of Hadeeth, where he taught Hadeeth and its Sciences. He became head of the Dept. of

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

Sunnah in the Department for Higher Studies several times. Now, he currently holds the position of chair-holding professor.

His Attributes and Characteristics:

The Shaikh, may Allaah preserve him, is distinguished by his great humbleness in front of his (Muslim) brothers, students, questioners and visitors. He is humble with regard to his household, his clothes and his means of transportation - not liking to have luxury in any of these things. He is also always joyful and with a cheerful countenance. He doesn't fatigue his students with too much talk. And his gatherings are always filled with readings in Hadeeth and the Sunnah and warnings against innovation and its people, to the extent that a person that doesn't know him well or mix with him, may think to himself that the Shaikh doesn't preoccupy himself except with doing this! He loves the Salafee Students of Knowledge and he is polite to them and treats them nicely. And he strives to assist them with their needs as much as he is able to, both physically and financially. His home is always open to the students of knowledge, to the point that not one day passes that he is able to eat his breakfast or lunch or dinner by himself. And he inquires about his students and assists them and shares with them.

He is among the persistent and enthusiastic callers to the Qur'aan and the Sunnah and the Creed of the Salaf. Many in these times cannot equal his great zeal and passion for the Sunnah and the Creed of the Salaf. And in our time, he is from those who are defending this methodology of the Salaf As-Saalih, day and night, in hidden and in open, without letting the accusations of critics censure him, for the sake of Allaah.

His Books:

His books are many, all praise be to Allaah. The Shaikh has written on many important and required topics, especially that of refuting the people of innovation and desires in these times, in which the rectifiers are few and the troublemakers are many. His books include:⁶

1. "Between the two Imaams, Muslim and Ad-Daaraqutnee" - It is a large volume, which was his Master's Dissertation)
2. "*An-Nukat 'alaa Kitaab Ibn As-Salaah*" - This was printed in two volumes and was his Doctorate's Dissertation.
3. A Verification of the book "*Al-Madkhal Ilaa As-Saheeh*" of Al-Haakim - The first volume of this book was printed.
4. A Verification (checking) of the book "*At-Tawassul wal-Waseelah*" of Ibn Taimiyyah - In one volume.
5. "Methodology of the Prophets in Calling to Allaah" (Translated and printed in English)
6. "Methodology of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah in Criticizing Men, Books and Groups"
7. "The Categorization of the Hadeeth into Saheeh, Hasan and Da'eef between the actuality of

⁶ Translator's Note: The titles of the Shaikh's books have been translated into English, however, this does not mean that they are available in the English language. From the list, we only know of one that has been translated and printed in English and it is "The Methodology of the Prophets in Calling to Allaah."

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

- the Muhadditheen and the falsification of the Blind followers” - A Refutation of ‘Abdul-Fattaah Abu Ghuddah and Muhammad ‘Awaamah
8. “Exposing Al-Ghazaalee's stance on the Sunnah and Its People”
 9. “Preventing the Aggression of the Disbelievers and the Ruling for Seeking Assistance from Non-Muslims”
 10. “The Status of Ahlul-Hadeeth”
 11. “The Methodology employed by Imaam Muslim in Arranging his Saheeh”
 12. “The Ahlul-Hadeeth are the Victorious and Saved Group” - A Discussion with Salmaan Al-‘Awdah
 13. “A Treatise on the Prophetic Hadeeth”
 14. “Shedding Islaamic Light on the Creed and Ideology of Sayyid Qutub”
 15. “The Abuses of Sayyid Qutub against the Companions of Allaah’s Messenger”
 16. “Protection against the Dangers that are found in the Books of Sayyid Qutub”
 17. “The Decisive Border between the Truth and Falsehood” - A Discussion with Bakr Abu Zayd
 18. “*Majaazafaat Al-Hidaad*”
 19. “The Clear Proof concerning Protecting the Sunnah”
 20. One Group (*Jamaa’ah*) not many Groups (*Jamaa’aat*) and One Path not Several” - A Discussion with ‘Abdur-Rahmaan ‘Abdul-Khaaliq
 21. “*An-Nasr-ul-‘Azeez ‘alaa Ar-Radd-il-Wajeez*”
 22. “The Condemned Form of Fanaticism and its (bad) Effects”
 23. "Clarifying the corruption of the standard used to measure" - A debate with a hizbee (sectarian) that conceals himself
 24. "Warning of the Falsehoods in *Tawdeeh Al-Maleebaari*"
 25. "A Refutation of the Falsehoods of Musa Ad-Duwaish"
 26. "Annihilating the Fabrications of 'Abdul-Lateef Bashmeel"
 27. "The Onslaught of Salafee Blazing Meteors against the Khalafee encampments of 'Adnaan"
 28. "Advice is a Collective Responsibility in Da'wah Work" - This was printed in the magazine "*At-Taw'eeyah Al-Islaamiyyah*"
 29. "The Qur'aan and the Sunnah - their effect, their status, and the need for them in establishing education in our schools" - Printed in the 16th Issue of the Islaamic University Magazine
 30. "The Islaamic Ruling concerning the one who reviles Allaah's Messenger or criticizes some part of His Message" - This is an article that appeared in the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabs* (Issue 8576) on 9/5/1977.

The Shaikh has other books that we did not mention here. We ask Allaah to assist him in completing the good and to grant him the ability to do what He loves and is pleased with. Surely, Allaah has power over that and He is Able to do it

**THE SCHOLARS' PRAISE FOR THE SHAIKH, DR.
RABEE' IBN HAADEE 'UMAIR AL-MADKHALEE**

1. The Muhaddith, the 'Allaamah, Muhammad Naasir-ud-Deen Al-Albaanee:

In a cassette entitled 'Abul-Hasan Al-Ma'ribee's Meeting with Al-Albaanee',⁷ the following question was presented to the Shaikh:

"Despite the stance that the two Shaikhs, Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee and Muqbil Ibn Haadee Al-Waadi'ee, have taken in fighting against innovations and the deviant opinions and sayings, some of the youth have doubts as to if the two Shaikhs are upon the Salafee way."

So the Shaikh, *rahimahullaah*, answered by saying:

"Without a doubt, we praise Allaah, the Most High, for preparing for this upright Da'wah, which is based on the Qur'aan and the Sunnah according to the methodology of the Salaf As-Saalih, numerous callers throughout the various parts of the Muslim lands. They are the ones who take charge of the communal obligation (*fard kifaa'ee*), when there are very few who take this responsibility in the Muslim world today. So degrading and belittling these two Shaikhs (Rabee' and Muqbil), who call to the Qur'aan and the Sunnah and what the Salaf As-Saalih were upon and who wage war against those who oppose this correct methodology. As is quite clear to everyone, it either comes from one of two types of people. Either it comes from someone who is ignorant or someone who follows his desires... If he is ignorant, then he can be taught. But if he is one who follows his desires, then we seek Allaah's refuge from the evil of this person. And we ask Allaah, Mighty and Sublime, to either guide him or break his back."

Then the Shaikh, *rahimahullaah*, said:

"And furthermore, I want to say that what I saw from the writings of the Shaikh, Dr. Rabee', was that they were beneficial. And I do not recall seeing any error on his part (in these books) nor any deviation from the methodology, which we are in conformity with him on and he with us."

Also, in the tape entitled "*Al-Muwaazanaat: A modern-day Innovation*" given by Al-Albaanee, the Shaikh added more to his praise for Shaikh Rabee'. After talking about this present-day innovation (of *Muwaazanaat*), the Shaikh stated:

"And in brief, I say that the Carrier of the Flag of (the science of) *Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel* today, in this present time, and rightfully so, is our brother, Dr. Rabee'. And those who refute him, do not do so with knowledge at all. And the knowledge is with him. And even though I have told him often that if he would only be softer in his manners, that would be more beneficial for the masses of people, whether they are with him or against him. But as for with respect to knowledge, then there is absolutely no grounds for criticizing him, except for that which I have mentioned just now

⁷ Translator's Note: All cassette titles were translated from Arabic to English. This does not mean that the tape is available in the English language unless otherwise specified.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

that there is some severity in (his) manners. But as for the saying that he is not fair (in mentioning a person's good deeds, when mentioning his bad deeds), then this is a statement that carries no weight. No one says such a statement except for one of two people - either he is ignorant, so he must learn, or he is biased and following his desires. So this person, we have no recourse with regard to him, except to supplicate to Allaah to guide him to the Straight Path."

He, *rahimahullaah*, also said, commenting on the conclusion of the book "*Al-'Awaasim mimmaa fee Kutub Sayyid Qutb min Al-Qawaasim*" (Protection against the Dangers that are found in the Books of Sayyid Qutb):

"Everything that you have refuted Sayyid Qutb in is true and correct. From this, it will become quite clear to every Muslim, who has some sort of Islaamic education, that reads this that Sayyid Qutb was not knowledgeable about Islaam, whether about its fundamental principles (*Usool*) or its subsidiary issues (*Furoo'*).⁸ So may Allaah reward you, O brother (Rabee') for fulfilling this obligation of clarifying and exposing his ignorance and deviation from Islaam."

2. The Imaam, the Muhaddith, the 'Allaamah, Shaikh 'Abd-ul-'Azeez Ibn Baaz:

Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azeez Bin Baaz was asked about what he meant by his "Clarification" (a speech he gave), so he responded on (7/28/1412) in a cassette entitled "Explaining the Clarification":

"This clarification that we spoke about - what was intended by it was the da'wah (call) of everyone - all of the callers and scholars - in a constructive criticism. And our intent was not our brothers in Madeenah from amongst the students of knowledge, teachers and callers. And our intent was not other than them from the people in Makkah or Riyadh or Jeddah. Rather, our intent

⁸ How can the Qutubi Surroris make this man - Sayyid Qutb - a mujaddid and an Imaam when he was ignorant of the fundamental aspects of Islaam before the subsidiary aspects!! By Allaah, this is something very strange! So abandon your lies O you whom Allaah has tested by means of this man and defending of him. Can someone who is ignorant of the fundamental aspects of Islaam be considered a *mujaddid* (reviver)?! What will he revive? Rather, this kind of person can only be a *mujaddid* (reviver) of innovations and a reviver of diseases that are deadly to Islaam and to the Muslims. And this is known from his books, for he has revived the views of the Jahmiyyah and the Mu'tazilah and the views of the Rawaafid and the Khawaarij and the views of the Sufis, such as that of *wahdat-ul-wujood* (Allaah and the creation are all one existence). This is what Sayyid Qutb has revived, so how can someone who has this condition be considered an Imaam? - unless he is an Imaam of misguidance! And that is what he is, may Allaah protect us from his fitnah and his evil. Many of the scholars have refuted Sayyid Qutb, including Shaikh 'Abdullaah Ad-Duwaish, Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee (in four separate books) and Shaikh Mahmood Shaakir. The latter has refuted Sayyid Qutb in the issue of his reviling of the Companions of Allaah's Messenger. But Sayyid Qutb did not pay heed to the refutation of Shaikh Mahmood Shaakir and instead was proud and stubborn and persisted in his reviling and belittling of the Companions as is quite clear in the Introduction of the book "*Mataa'in Sayyid Qutb fee Ashaabi Rasoolillaah*" (The Abuses of Sayyid Qutub against the Companions of Allaah's Messenger) of Shaikh Rabee' [Second Printing]

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

was that of all the people in a general manner. And our brothers - the well-known mashaayikh in Madeenah - we have no doubt in them. They possess sound Creed and are from the Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, such as Shaikh Muhammad Amaan Ibn 'Alee (Al-Jaamee), Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee (Al-Madkhalee), Shaikh Saalih Ibn Sa'ad As-Suhaymee, Shaikh Faalih Ibn Naafi' and Shaikh Muhammad Ibn Haadee. All of them are known to us for their perseverance, knowledge and sound Creed...However, the callers to falsehood - those who hunt in murky water (i.e. aimlessly)⁹ - they are the ones who confuse the people. And they talk about these matters, saying "He meant by it such and such", and this is not good. It is an obligation to take someone's words according to the best manner of understanding."

Also in the tape "Sticking to the Salafee Manhaj", which was recorded in the masjid of Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn Baaz (*rahimahullaah*) in Taa'if, Shaikh Rabee' gave a lecture on Thursday (3rd of Muharram 1413) called "Sticking to the Qur'aan and the Sunnah". In this talk, the Shaikh incited the people to follow these two sources while in the presence of Shaikh Bin Baaz. And after Shaikh Rabee' finished with his talk, Shaikh Ibn Baaz commented on it saying:

"In the Name of Allaah, and may the peace and blessings of Allaah be on Muhammad, his family, Companions and those who follow his guidance. All of us have listened to the words of the noble Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee on the subject of sticking to the Book and the Sunnah and warning against what opposes them and (warning against) the causes for splitting and dividing and being fanatical to one's desires. And he has indeed done well and spoken correctly and benefited us, may Allaah reward him and multiply his reward. This is the obligation upon all of the ummah - to stick to the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allaah and refer to them for judging affairs - whether small or big. So we ask Allaah that He grant the noble Shaikh Rabee' every good and that He reward him for his talk..."

In the tape "Questions from Sweden", Shaikh Ibn Baaz was asked about Shaikh Rabee' and responded by saying:

"Indeed, Shaikh Rabee' is from the scholars of the Sunnah - (and then he mentioned Shaikh Muhammad Amaan Al-Jaamee with him and said) - the two of them are know to me for their knowledge and virtue."

Also refer to the book "The Methodology of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah in Criticizing Men, Books and Groups" (of Shaikh Rabee') to see Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn Baaz's good words for this book.

Truly, we don't know any man that is upon what Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn Baaz was upon -

⁹ The ones whom Shaikh Ibn Baaz, *rahimahullaah*, is referring to here are: Salmaan Al-'Awdah, Safar Al-Hawaali and Muhammad Sa'eed Al-Qahtaanee, as well as all others that stand in need of clarification. And the Shaikh has called them "callers to falsehood" and "those who hunt in murky water (i.e. aimlessly)", wa laa Hawla wa laa Quwata illaa Billaah!

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

inwardly and outwardly - from love of the Sunnah and support for its people and hatred for innovation and warning against its people, like Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee is. The Shaikh did not cease to love him, praise him and recommend him - in fact, he granted him permission to something greater than all of this, and it was permission for him to teach in his masjid in Makkah. There he taught his well-known class on *Fat'h-ul-Majeed* - which continues until today - and this is a proof that the Shaikh died while he was pleased with him and with his *manhaj* (methodology).¹⁰

3. The Muhaddith, the 'Allamah, Muqbil Ibn Haadee Al-Waadi'ee:

In the cassette entitled "Questions from Hadhramaut", Shaikh Muqbil was asked: "What is your opinion concerning those who say that Shaikh Rabee' is *mutahawwir* (rash and hasty)?" So the Shaikh responded by saying:

"Shaikh Rabee' has experience in knowing the current state of affairs because he lived with the Ikhwaan Al-Mufliseen for a long period of time. All praise be to Allaah, he is the best at rectifying these affairs and refuting the innovations of the innovators, so I ask Allaah to preserve him."

And in the cassette "Question regarding the Sunnah posed to the great scholar of the lands of Yemen: Questions from the youth of Taa'if", the Shaikh said:

"From those who have the most insight and knowledge of the groups (*jamaa'aat*) and the pollution of these groups in our time is the brother, Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee, may Allaah preserve him. Whoever Shaikh Rabee' says about that he is a hizbee (partisan), then you will discover after a few days that he is really a hizbee.¹¹ You will remember that. An individual may conceal himself in the beginning - he doesn't want that his true nature be discovered. But when he gains strength and followers and he knows that talk about him will not harm him, he manifests and reveals what he is truly upon. So I advise that his (Shaikh Rabee's) books be read and that benefit be derived from them, may Allaah preserve him."

4. The Shaikh, the 'Allamah, Muhammad Ibn Saalih Al-'Uthaimeen:

In the cassette "Al-'Uthaimeen's Meeting with Rabee' Al-Madkhalee and Muhammad Al-Imaam", the Shaikh, *rahimahullaah*, said:

¹⁰ How can he not be pleased with him and his methodology when it is the methodology of the Salaf As-Saalih (Righteous Predecessors) in protecting the Tawheed and the Sunnah from the distortions and lies of the people of innovations and misguidance?

¹¹ By Allaah, he has spoken the truth, for Shaikh Rabee' has informed us of (the condition of) many people and after a while, that which the Shaikh said about them began to manifest itself, may Allaah preserve him.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

"Indeed, we praise Allaah that He has enabled our brother, Doctor Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee to visit this province (in Saudi Arabia) so that those who are unaware of certain matters may know that our brother is on the side of the Salafiyyah - the way of the Salaf. May Allaah grant success to him and us. And I do not mean by "salafiyyah" that it is a separate and individual party (*hizb*) that opposes those apart from it amongst the Muslims. Rather what I mean by "salafiyyah" is that he is following the way of the Salaf in his methodology and especially in comprehending Tawheed and denouncing those who oppose it. And we all know that Tawheed is the foundation of the Message for which reason Allaah sent his messengers... Our Brother Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee's visit to this province and specifically to our region of Unayzah, no doubt it will have an effect here. And it will become clear to many of the people what they were unaware of due to their inflaming, propagating and allowing their tongues to talk freely.¹² And how many are the people that feel sorrow for what they have stated against the scholars when it becomes clarified to them that they were in fact correct."

Then on the same tape, one of the people in the gathering said: "There is a question concerning the books of Shaikh Rabee'?"

So he, *rahimahullaah*, responded: "It is clear that this question is in no need of my response, for as Imaam Ahmad was once asked about Ishaq Ibn Raahawaih – may Allaah have mercy on them all – so he said: "The likes of me is asked about Ishaq? Rather Ishaq should be asked about me!"¹³ I have already spoken at the start of my talk about what I know of Shaikh Rabee', may Allaah gave him tawfeeq. And I still insist on what I stated then until now. And his coming here and his talk in which he informed me of what he did - no doubt - are from the things that only increases a person in his love for him and his supplicating for him."

And in the tape "Shaikh Rabee's meeting with Shaikh Ibn 'Uthaimen concerning the manhaj", he, *rahimahullaah*, was asked the following question:

"We know about many of the deviations of Sayyid Qutb, but the only thing that I have not heard about him, but which I heard from one of the students of knowledge and which I am not satisfied with – is that Sayyid Qutb was from those who held the belief in *wahdat-ul-wujood*. Naturally, this is clear-cut disbelief. So was Sayyid Qutb from those who held the belief in *wahdat-ul-wujood*? I hope for your response and may Allaah reward you. With good."

So the Shaikh, *rahimahullaah*, responded: "My examination of the books of Sayyid Qutb is little and I do not know of the condition of this man. However, the scholars have written remarks about his book on tafseer (i.e. *Fee Dhilaal-il-Qur'aan*), such as the books of Shaikh 'Abdullaah Ad-Duwaish, *rahimahullaah*. Also, our brother Shaikh Rabee' Al-Madkhalee wrote some

¹² These are the Hizbees (partisans) from the Ikhwaan Al-Muslimeen and the Suroori Qutubis!

¹³ This is an assertion from the great scholar, Ibn 'Uthaimen, to the fact that Shaikh Rabee' is the Carrier of the Flag of Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel. And also, this is a sign of the Shaikh's humbleness, may Allaah have mercy on him.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

remarks about Sayyid Qutb concerning his tafseer and other aspects. So whoever wants to refer to them, then he should refer to them.”

He was also asked about Shaikh Rabee' in the cassette “Questions from Sweden” and responded: “With respect to Shaikh Rabee', I do not know anything of him except good. And the man is one who possesses (knowledge and following of) the Sunnah and Hadeeth.”

In another tape entitled “Unveiling the contradictions of Ahmad Salaam”, which was a telephone link-up from Holland, the question was posed to the Shaikh:

“What is your advice to the one who prevents the tapes of Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee from being distributed claiming that they will lead to *fitnah* (turmoil), and that in these tapes is praise for the leaders in Saudi Arabia - and this praise of his for the leaders is hypocrisy?”

So the Shaikh answered: “Our view is that this is a mistake and a great error. Shaikh Rabee' is from the scholars of the Sunnah and from the people of goodness. And his Creed is sound and his methodology is upright. But when he spoke out against some (popular) figures amongst the people of recent times, and he deafened them with (his exposition of) these faults...”

5. Shaikh Dr. Saalih Ibn Fawzaan Al-Fawzaan:

In his introduction to (Shaikh Rabee's) book “Methodology of the Prophets in Calling to Allaah” (pg. 12-13), the Shaikh says:

“And this is because Islaam calls to gathering together upon the truth, as Allaah says: **‘That you should establish the Religion and not make division within it.’** [Surah Ash-Shooraa: 13] And Allaah says: **‘And hold firmly onto the Rope of Allaah – all of you together – and do not divide (into sects).’** [Surah Aali ‘Imraan: 103] Since clarifying and explaining this matter is an obligation, a group amongst the scholars - that have protectiveness (of this Religion) and the ability to verify – took the responsibility of cautioning against the errors of these groups. And they took charge of explaining their opposition to the Call towards the Methodology of the Prophets, so that perhaps these groups may return to the truth - for indeed, arriving at the truth is the objective of the believer – and so that those who are unaware of the errors of these groups will not continue to be deceived by them. And from those scholars that have taken charge of this duty, acting on the hadeeth - (**‘The Religion is sincerity. Religion is sincerity. Religion is sincerity.’ We said: ‘To who, O Messenger of Allaah?’ He said: ‘To Allaah, His Book, His Messenger, the Muslim leaders and their common folk’**) – from those who clarified and advised is Shaikh Dr. Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee. In this book, which is before us, entitled “Methodology of the Prophets in Calling to Allaah”, he has explained - may Allaah grant him success and reward him with good - the methodology of the Messengers in Calling to Allaah according to what is stated in the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger. And he has

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

compared this with the methodology of the opposing groups so that the difference between the methodology of the messengers and those various methodologies in opposition to the methodology of the messengers can become clear...”

In his introduction to the book (also by Shaikh Rabee') “One Group not many groups and One Path, not several”, the Shaikh said:

“However, during recent times, there appeared groups that ascribed themselves to the Da'wah and which were guided by leaders specific to their groups. Each of these groups made a specific methodology for themselves the result of which was dividing, differing and a constant struggle between these groups – all of which the Religion forbids and which the Book and the Sunnah prohibit. So when the scholars refuted this methodology employed by these groups, which was foreign to Islaam, some brothers set out to defend them. And from the people that defended these groups was the Shaikh 'Abdur-Rahmaan 'Abdul-Khaaliq, by way of his printed treatises and recorded cassettes. He did all of this in spite of being advised not to do it by his brothers. Then he added to that, his reproaching and condemnation of those scholars that didn't agree with him in his actions. And he labeled them with descriptions that were unbecoming of them, and he did not desist from that – not even against some of the sheikhs that taught him! The noble Shaikh, Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee took the responsibility of refuting him in this book, which the reader holds before him, by the title 'One Group not many groups and One Path, not several.' And I have read it and found that it sufficiently fulfills its objective, all praise be to Allaah.”

And in the cassette “Questions from Sweden” (recorded on Rabee'-ul-Aakhira 1417H), the Shaikh said after mentioning Shaikh Rabee' along with a group of other scholars:

“They are from the prominent scholars that have an active role in the Da'wah (Call) and in refuting those who desire to deviate from the correct way of the Da'wah. So his tapes must be distributed for there is a huge benefit in them for the Muslims.”

6. The 'Allaamah, Shaikh Muhammad Ibn 'Abd-il-Wahhaab Marzooq Al-Bannaa:

In his introduction to the book “One Group not many groups and One Path, not several”, the Shaikh, may Allaah preserve him, said:

“I know Dr. Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee from the days when I was a student at the Islamic University (in Madeenah) as someone who was anxious to learn the Sunnah and the Way of the Salaf As-Saalih, as well as to follow that methodology and call others to that Straight Path. I graduated with him and the brothers 'Abdur-Rahmaan 'Abdul-Khaaliq, 'Umar Sulaymaan Al-Ashqar and Shaikh Muhammad Amaan Al-Jaamee along with some Sudanese students that were upon the same methodology of Da'wah in Sudan during the summer recess of that year. And amongst the best of those (of us) who stood firm on this path (of the Way of the Salaf) was

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee. We ask Allaah that He continue his firmness, for he has filled the gap by defending the Sunnah and clarifying the mistakes of some people whom we bear witness to their virtuousness, yet whom many people are deceived by. This is such as his advice to the son, Shaikh 'Abdur-Rahmaan ('Abdul-Khaaliq) in the book 'One Group not many groups and One Path, not several.' And in this book, he clarifies the truth that he holds, so may Allaah reward him with the best reward and may He grant us, the brother 'Abdur-Rahmaan, and all of the brothers, the methodology of the Straight Path. And may He protect us all from the deviant paths. And I have come to know of the death of Shaikh Muhammad Amaan Al-Jaamee, may Allaah forgive him and grant him a spacious place in Paradise. He was indeed among those who defended the Sunnah and who called to following the Way of the Salaf. I ask Allaah that He accept his efforts and that he forgive him and us."

7. Shaikh Muhammad Ibn 'Abdillaah As-Subayyal, chief caretaker of the affairs of Masjid Al-Haraam and Masjid An-Nabawee and the Imaam and khateeb of Masjid Al-Haraam:

In the book "*An-Nasr-ul-'Azeez 'alaa Ar-Radd-il-Wajeez*" (pg. 11), he said:

"All praise be to Allaah, and the peace and blessings on the one whom no prophet will come after him, Muhammad, and on his family and Companions. To proceed: Indeed, the noble Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee, who is a professor at the Islaamic University of Madeenah, is from the well-known scholars and popular callers in the scholarly and educational circles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He is known for his authority in the sciences of the Sunnah as well as other subjects from the Islaamic Sciences. The Shaikh has a big role in calling to Allaah upon the methodology of the Salaf As-Saalih, defending the correct Salafee Creed and refuting those amongst the people of innovation and desires that oppose it by what is mentioned to him, so he is well thanked for that. So we ask Allaah to continue His blessing on him and that He increase him in his ability and his focus."

And in the cassette "Unveiling the contradictions of Ahmad Salaam" (tape 1), the following was recorded:

Question: "What is your advice to the one who prevents (the distribution of) the tapes of the well known scholars from Ahl-us-Sunnah, such as Shaikh Muhammad Amaan Al-Jaamee, *rahimahullaah*, and Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee, *hafidhahullaah*, to the point that he says that the Shaikh's tapes will bring about *fitnah*?"

The Shaikh answered: "I seek refuge in Allaah, I seek refuge in Allaah...no. Look, the tapes of these two Shaikhs are from the best of tapes. They call the people to the Sunnah and to cling tightly onto the Sunnah, but no one talks bad about them except one who follows his desires. Most of the people that talk about them are the people of sects and parties – those who affiliate themselves with one of the groups or parties. They are the ones who make such statements. As

for these two Shaikhs, then they are known for sticking to the Sunnah and for possessing a Creed in accordance with the way of the Salaf. And they are from the best of people.”

8. Shaikh Ahmad An-Najmee:

In the first cassette of the tape set "The Rulings of the Scholars on the Statements of 'Adnaan 'Aroor",¹⁴ the Shaikh said:

"As for Shaikh Rabee' - he is known for his effort in clarifying the Sunnah and refuting the innovators. May Allaah reward him with good."

9. Shaikh Muhammad Ibn 'Abdir-Rahmaan Al-Maghraawee:

On the cassette "A talk on the Manhaj", the Shaikh was asked about Shaikh Rabee' during the Hajj of the year 1418H the following question: "Our Shaikh, as it is well-known, in your treatise "The Mufasssiroon and Ta'weel", you touch upon the subject of Sayyid Qutb. So do you agree with everything that Shaikh Rabee' has written in this regard (i.e. about Sayyid Qutb)?"

So the Shaikh said: "One-hundred percent."

Then he was asked: "What do you say about some of the refutations that you have seen done against Shaikh Rabee'?"

So he said: "The refutations that I have seen, there is no proof or evidence in them. Nor do they mention page numbers or specific quotes by which students of knowledge can refer to for this claim that is being made by the author. Rather, it is nothing more than free-lance writing, which any person can do. Anyone can get a pen and start writing about anything. If you want me to write sixty pages for you, leave me alone in this room until the morning time and when you come back you will find that I have written sixty pages - all of which will be just free-lance writing (i.e. not researched or referenced). However, the foundation is that when someone says something,

¹⁴ This 'Aroor has invented false and corrupt principles by which he tries to defend the people of innovation and misguidance. And he is from the extremists with regard to promoting Sayyid Qutb, to the point that he said: "I do not know of any person on the face of this earth that has spoken about the *minhaaj* (methodology) in the manner that Sayyid Qutb has spoken about it"!!! And he has many statements in which he praises Sayyid Qutb and commends and exalts his books. And 'Aroor is well known for lying and falsifying information about him (i.e. in favor of Sayyid Qutb), may Allaah protect us from the evil of the Qutubis. And we ask Allaah that He expose them day after day. Many of the scholars have refuted 'Aroor and have clarified his falsifications, deceptions and lies on the Salafees - not to mention Shaikh Rabee' from one perspective and 'Aroor's excessiveness with regard to Sayyid Qutb from another perspective. So O brothers, strive to find out about 'Aroor and every misguided innovator so that you can beware of them, especially in these times in which the people of innovations, desires and calamities are many.

he should accompany it with proofs and evidences.¹⁵ But as for if someone says "such and such" without detailing page numbers and quotes and so on, then this is in fact a crime against the author (he is writing about). And furthermore we say that Shaikh Rabee' is not infallible and that it is possible that he can make some errors, but we let go of those that we know of. However, when we read his book, we were amazed by it and we supplicated to Allaah for good for him and we continue to supplicate for him.

And Shaikh Rabee' is our Shaikh. We know of his honesty and his defending of the Sunnah. This is the way we evaluate him, and Allaah is the best of Evaluators. And I hold him to be from the best of our teachers in Madeenah and the most truthful of them and the most defending of the Sunnah with his wealth and prestige in spite of whatever illness he has and the many obstacles (in his path). And furthermore, since we became acquainted with the Shaikh in recent times, when we were residing in Madeenah, we did not see from the Shaikh anything except defending of the Sunnah and eradicating of innovations and what was obscure and not known to us. And Allaah will reward him for that. So we must supplicate to Allaah for good for Shaikh Rabee' and support what he writes. And if he has errors, then they should be noted in what occurs between him and us...Therefore, what is being said about Shaikh Rabee', then to me, Shaikh Rabee' did well in whatever he wrote. And we ask Allaah that He reward him and everyone that defends Islaam and the authentic Creed with good on behalf of Islaam and the Muslims. This is my belief concerning him and this is the belief that I will meet Allaah with."

10. Shaikh 'Ubaid Al-Jaabiree:

He was asked about Shaikh Rabee' on the cassette "A Clarification of some of the Errors of 'Adnaan 'Aroor, and it was said to him: "There is a lot of talk going on about Shaikh Rabee' - is he considered one of the scholars of the Muslims?"

¹⁵ He means by this that the four pages that were distributed about Shaikh Rabee' do not have any proofs or evidences in them, unfortunately. Rather, what is found in them are lies against Shaikh Rabee' as Shaikh Rabee' himself has explained in his refutation of the author of these pages in his book "*Al-Hadd-ul-Faasil bainal-Haqqi wal-Baatil - Hiwaar ma'a Bakr Abu Zayd*" (The Decisive Border between the Truth and Falsehood - A discussion with Bakr Abu Zayd). The Qutubis are the ones who distribute these pages - pages of evil - in refutation of the Carrier of the Flag of Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel and the one who defends some of the Prophets and Companions, and ahead of that, Allaah and the Book and the Sunnah. And after all this, unfortunately, those who are broke from possessing any clear proofs and evidences cling tightly onto these pages. This is clear proof that these types of people are broke and void of any evidences. Why do these people distribute and spread these pages when they know full well that there is evil within them. And in these pages is defense for the one who reviles the prophet of Allaah, Moosaa and the rightly-guided Khaleefah, 'Uthmaan, and who nullifies his ('Uthmaan's) Khilaafah and makes takfeer on the Islaamic societies, and who claims that the Qur'aan is created and who professes the belief of *wahdat-ul-wujood*, as well as all the other destructive trials for the ummah. The Qutubis distribute these pages all across the world and they call it "The Golden Advice" when in reality they are "The Pages of Injustice." And it has been made known by the author of these four pages that he curses whoever distributes what he wrote.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

So he responded: "Shaikh Rabee', all praise be to Allaah, is well-known with the elite personalities and the scholars. And furthermore, our shaikh (teacher), Shaikh 'Abdul-'Azeez Bin Baaz has praised and approved of him. And I would not think that you would present this question to me."

11. Shaikh Saleem Al-Hilaalee:

He, may Allaah preserve him, said in his introduction to Shaikh Rabee's book "Methodology of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah in Criticizing Men, Books and Groups" (page 11-12):

"Indeed, refuting the people of desires is an honorable topic from the many topics of Jihaad. And how can this not be, when its people hold the position of protectors of this Religion, defending it from the distortions of the extremists, the false claims of the liars and the wrong interpretations of the ignorant..."

Before you, dear reader, is a treatise on the most precious and valuable (forms) of knowledge, which has been written by a noble brother (i.e. Shaikh Rabee') who strives to ensure that the Salafee Methodology remains in its pure form as was known and understood by the scholars. And he is also eager that the Muslim youth are not deceived by the mirage of the innovators and the saintly halos that they place upon the heads of their leaders and callers."

Also in the cassette "Questions from a Yemeni student to the students of Al-Albaanee", after being presented a question from the Yemeni student concerning the books of Shaikh Rabee', he responded:

"Concerning these books that have been written on this topic, then they are books that the scholars have praised, so it is in no need of my approbation nor that of those like me from the other students of knowledge. It is sufficient that Shaikh Muhammad Naasir-ud-Deen Al-Albaanee, *hafidhahullaah*,¹⁶ has approved of them and mentioned good about them. And likewise the scholars of these lands – (i.e. in Saudi Arabia, because the tape was recorded during the time of Hajj) - have approved and praised them and written commendations for them. So the words of the scholars are sufficient for us with regard to these books, and we ask Allaah that He grant benefit by them and that He make them purely and sincerely for Him."

12. Shaikh 'Alee Ibn Hasan Al-Halabee Al-Atharee:

¹⁶ Translator's Note: This tape was recorded while Shaikh Al-Albaanee, *rahimahullaah*, was still alive. The original source of this book was compiled before the deaths of Shaikh Al-Albaanee and Shaikh Ibn 'Uthaimeen, so the phrase "*hafidhahullaah*" (May Allaah preserve him) was substituted by "*rahimahullaah*" (May Allaah have mercy on him). In this particular quote, we decided to leave the Shaikh's words as they were.

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee

In the cassette "Questions from a Yemeni student to the students of Al-Albaanee", the Shaikh was asked:

"What is your view on the book of Shaikh Rabee' "Methodology of Ahl-us-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah in Criticizing Men, Books and Groups" because there are people amongst us that unfortunately abstain from the books of Shaikh Rabee'?"

So the Shaikh responded by saying:

*"The position of the Faqeeh towards the Safeeh (foolish person)
Is the same as the position of the Safeeh towards the Faqeeh.
So this one abstains from that one
While the other is more abstaining of the first one."*

"So those people that abstain from his efforts, it is an obligation to abstain from them. It is incumbent to turn the people towards knowledge and not to chase them away from the knowledge. We say to them: 'Read, so whatever you find in accordance with the truth, then accept it.' However, these kinds of people are not raised and brought up upon this. They are raised on rejection and non-acceptance from the very beginning. 'Read, do you not have minds, do you not have eyes and intellects and sight? Read, and so whatever conforms with the truth then take hold of it.' However, the reality is not such for they were raised on denial and non-acceptance of Knowledge from the scholars and on rejecting it from its carriers and those who call to it. They do not do this for any other reason than to protect themselves from being trampled under the feet (i.e. humiliated) due to the Scholars and due to their not being from amongst their ranks, nor even like them! This is what we say and we repeat the words of the poet:

*For the likes of this, the heart dies of grief
If the heart has Islaam and Eemaan in it."*

CLOSING REMARKS

So this is a small treatise containing some of the praises of the scholars for Dr. Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee, may Allaah preserve him and guard him and make Paradise his and our final abode. These statements are only a small portion of the many praises that the scholars - those living and those who have passed away - have given to this noble scholar (Shaikh Rabee' Ibn Haadee).

So the testimony of the people of knowledge is sufficient for us as testimony. And Allaah has called on their testimony in His Book concerning the greatest matter that requires one's testimony and that is Tawheed, as Allaah says:

شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ وَأُولُو الْعِلْمِ قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ لَا
إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

"Allaah bears witness that No deity has the right to be worshipped, and so do the angels and those who have been given knowledge. (He is always) maintaining His creation with justice. There is no deity worthy of worship except Him, the All-Mighty, the All-Wise." [Surah Aali-'Imraan: 18]

And dear brother, do not be like the one about whom Allaah says:

وَإِذَا جَاءَهُمْ أَمْرٌ مِّنَ الْأَمْنِ أَوْ الْخَوْفِ أَذَاعُوا بِهِ

"And when (news of) a matter comes to them concerning (matters of) security or fear, they propagate it..." But rather implement the saying of Allaah:

وَلَوْ رَدُّوهُ إِلَى الرَّسُولِ وَإِلَى أُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْهُمْ لَعَلِمَهُ الَّذِينَ يَسْتَنْبِطُونَهُ مِنْهُمْ

"But if they had only returned it back to the Messenger and those in authority amongst them, those amongst them who are able to derive a correct conclusion from it would have understood it (and made it known to them)." [Surah An-Nisaa: 83]

And beware O brother of being from those about whom Allaah says:

وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ بَغَيْرِ مَا كُتِبَ لَهُمْ فَقَدْ أَحْتَمَلُوا بُهْتَانَنَا وَإِنَّمَا مُبِيَّنًا

"And those who harm the believing men and believing women undeservedly, they bear (on themselves) the crime of slander and plain sin." [Surah Al-Ahzaab: 58]

And remember the saying of the Prophet, *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wa sallam*: **"Whoever says something about a believer that is not true about him will be locked away in the boiling puss of the Hellfire, until he turns back from what he said."** ¹⁷

In these times, the false rumors and claims (against Shaikh Rabee') have become widespread, but:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُدْفِعُ عَنِ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ كُلَّ خَوَّانٍ كَفُورٍ

"Indeed Allaah will defend those who believe. Verily Allaah does not love every treacherous, ungrateful person." [Surah Al-Hajj: 38]

So O servants of Allaah, do not listen to what these prejudiced and spiteful people say in their belittling and defaming of the Ahl-us-Sunnah. Rather act on the saying of Allaah:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن جَاءَكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَن تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا
بِجَهْلَةٍ فَتُصِيبُوا عَلَى مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ

"O you who believe, if an evildoer comes to you with some news, then verify it, lest some people be afflicted by you due to ignorance and then you will feel remorse for what you did later." [Surah Al-Hujuraat: 6]

And take heed of the saying of the Prophet: **"It is enough of a lie for a person that he narrate everything he hears."**

This is our conclusion and may Allaah send His peace and blessings on our sayyid, Muhammad, his family and Companions.

¹⁷ See *Silsilat Al-Ahaadeeth As-Saheehah* (no. 437)

The Scholars' Praise for Shaikh Rabee' Carrier of the Flag of Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel

There were many reasons for selecting this current book for translation and publishing. The first and most important of them was to allow the Muslims to become acquainted with who the scholars of our time are and to get a first hand look at how the scholars of Ahl-us-Sunnah praise and commend one another. Secondly, in recent times there have been big debates amongst the Muslims, especially those of them who adhere to the way of the Salaf, on certain issues concerning this noble Shaikh. We felt that this is largely due to their being unaware of who Shaikh Rabee' is and what the scholars have said about him.

Shaikh Rabee', as indicated by Shaikh Al-Albaanee, is in our current times, the leading personality in the field of *Al-Jarh wat-Ta'deel* (i.e. declaring who is reliable, trustworthy and upon the correct way from those who are unreliable and on a deviant way). At times, this field requires those specialized in it to speak about certain popular and renowned figures in order to clarify their mistakes or expose their deviations. So no doubt, Shaikh Rabee' has spoken against some callers and teachers in the Muslim world that are esteemed by many. But this was only part of his sincere advice, as he was fulfilling his duty of clarifying to the ummah the mistakes of certain people so that the Muslims will not follow them in that. But unfortunately the result of this at times is that the Muslims do not readily accept from him and question his authority, and even go further and ridicule and belittle him. So we felt that it was important, especially amidst the rumors and lies being spread about this noble scholar, to present our Muslim readers with the present treatise.

Excerpt from the Foreword of this Book