

Concerning the Hadeeth: “May Allaah bless the smooth skinned woman”

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Question: There is a hadeeth that states: "May Allaah bless the smooth-skinned woman" and another one that states: "Verily, you are in a time in which whoever abandons a tenth for the sake of his Religion, he will be saved." What are their sources and what is the extent of their authenticity?

Answer: Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹: The first hadeeth: "May Allaah bless the smooth-skinned woman" has no source to it. Nor is it possible that you will find such an alteration as this one in the religious texts. And that is because a woman's being smooth-skinned or her being hairy is something that no one has any ability or power over. This is the creation of Allaah. And this (hadeeth) is comparable to some fabricated ahaadeeth, which have condemnation in them for one group of the human race, describing them with attributes through which black cannot be distinguished from white. So it is possible that a white person can be from these bad attributes just as it is possible that a black person can be from it.

But a person's being smooth-skinned or hairy and his having a white complexion or a black complexion, all of this is just like his being either tall or short – he is neither praised nor condemned for any of these things. This is especially the case if this issue is based upon race. Some of us look towards the black person with a look of contempt because of the blackness of their skin. And perhaps some black people look towards white people with that same kind of look. And in a well-known expression, they call them "zanbras" meaning leper.

These are matters based on race. With regard to all of the human being, it is impossible to put praise or dispraise upon anything that he has no control over. Indeed, the praise and dispraise is only for that which is produced by this adult human being, regardless of whether he is white, black, smooth-skinned or hairy.

As for the hadeeth: "Verily, you are in a time...", it has been reported by at-Tirmidhee with a weak chain of narration. However, some of the others (scholars of hadeeth) have reported it with a different wording. It is transmitted in Silsilat al-Ahaadeeth as-Saheehah.

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