

The Trustworthiness of Abu Nuâ□□ aym al-Fadl ibn Dukayn

Description

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Abu Nuâ□□ aym al-Fadl ibn Dukayn, the great Hafiz and Shaykh of Islam, was a partner of Abd al-Salam ibn Harb al-Malaaâ□□ i. They ran a shop in Kufa selling fabrics and other goods, as was common among many early scholars who relied on their own earnings for sustenance (10/142).

Ahmad ibn Mansur al-Ramadi said: â□□ I went out with Ahmad (ibn Hanbal) and Yahya (ibn Maâ□□ in) to Abd al-Razzaq as their servant. When we returned to Kufa, Yahya ibn Maâ□□ in said, â□□ I want to test Abu Nuâ□□ aym.â□□ Ahmad said, â□□ Do not do so; the man is trustworthy.â□□ Yahya replied, â□□ I must.â□□ He took a piece of paper and wrote thirty hadiths, placing at the head of every ten a hadith that was not from Abu Nuâ □□ aymâ□□ s narrations. They then went to Abu Nuâ□□ aym, who came out and sat on a clay bench. Ahmad ibn Hanbal sat him on his right, Yahya on his left, and I sat below the bench.

Yahya took out the paper and read ten hadiths to him. When he reached the eleventh, Abu Nuâ□□ aym said, â□□ This is not from my narrations; strike it out.â□□ He then read the second set of ten, and Abu Nuâ□□ aym remained silent until the second hadith, when he said, â□□ This is not from my narrations; strike it out.â□□

When he read the third set and reached the third hadith, Abu Nuâ□□ aymâ□□ s expression changed, and his eyes turned red. He turned to Yahya and said, â□□ As for this one (pointing to Ahmad), his piety is too great to do such a thing. As for this one

(pointing to me), I am too insignificant for him to do this to. But this is your doing, O wrongdoer!â□□ He then kicked Yahya with his foot, throwing him off the bench, stood up, and went inside his house. Ahmad ibn Hanbal said to Yahya, â□□ Did I not warn you and tell you that he is reliable?â□□ Yahya replied, â□□ By Allah, his kick is more beloved to me than this entire journey.'â□□

From al-Husayn ibn Amr al-Anqazi, who said: â□□ A man knocked on Abu Nuâ□□ aymâ□□ s door. Abu Nuâ□□ aym asked, â□□ Who is it?â□□ The man replied, â□□ It is me.â□□ Abu Nuâ□□ aym asked, â□□ Who is â□□ meâ□□ ?â□□ The man said, â□□ A man from the children of Adam.â□□ Abu Nuâ□□ aym came out, kissed him, and said, â□□ Welcome! I did not think anyone from this lineage remained.'â□□

Abu Nuâ□□ aym said: â□□ I often marvel at Aishaâ□□ s statement, â□□ Those who provided for us have passed away.â□□ But I say:
â□□ *The people have gone, leaving us behind,*
Among the worst of humankind.
We count them as part of our number,
But when examined, they are not people.
Whenever I seek something from them,
They preempt me with despair before I even ask.
They weep for me until I wish
I could escape from them unscathed.'â□□

(Siyarul Aâ□□ laamin Nubalaa: 10/142)

Category

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