

**Two well-known Salafi
preachers murdered by
extremists in Burkina Faso
during a Da'wah trip**

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Electronic Edition - Version 1.00
Monday 4 September, 2017

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فَمَنْ كَانَ يَرْجُوا لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ أَحَدًا

**"So whoever hopes for the Meeting with his Lord,
let him work righteousness and associate none
as a partner in the worship of his Lord."**

The Noble Qur.aan - Soorah al-Kahf, Aayah 110

Authored by

Abul-'Abbaas Naveed Ayaaz

Publisher

Madeenah.com
al-Madeenah an-Nabawiyah
Saudi Arabia
eMail: admin@madeenah.com

madeenah.com

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

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Such fictitious links,
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In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy.

We still hear that “extremism is inspired by Salafism,” “Wahhabism is the ideology of religious violence” and “Saudi Arabia funds terrorism” Such fictitious links, often concocted by a sensationalist media, have been falsified by Salafi scholars themselves over many centuries. They have explained how Muslims have fought religious extremism and terrorism throughout history; Prophetic narrations have prophesied and ostracised the Khawaarij - a deviant sect to which groups such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda are affiliated. We see over and over again that such terrorists, despite their claim of fighting ‘infidels,’ target Muslims and Muslim countries.

This was sadly demonstrated with the recent murder of two well-known Salafi preachers from Kuwait, at the hands of extremists in Burkina Faso. Along with him died his companion, a number of African students of knowledge and other innocent bystanders.

Shaykh Dr. Waleed Al-Alee, born in 1973 in Kuwait, was a PhD graduate from the famed Islamic University of Madeenah, Saudi Arabia. He was also a prolific author of various treatise, the Imaam of the Grand Mosque of Kuwait (Al-Masjid Al-Kabeer) and the Assistant Head of the Faculty of Sharee’ah, Dept. of Research.

Shaykh Dr Waleed was accompanied by his assistant, Shaykh Fahd Al-Husaynee, who was killed along with him. They had both travelled to a number of West African countries to spread the reformative message of Salafiyah, establish charitable enterprises and warn against this very scourge of extremism. Their journey took them to West African countries such as Mali and then Burkina Faso in which they travelled to many Masaajid, calling whole Christian villages to Islaam, giving sermons, and delivering lectures and lessons.

Whilst in the capital Ouagadougou one night, after a day of preaching, teaching and inviting locals to Islaam, Shaykh Waleed Al-Alee along with a small group of students went to a restaurant. As they sat down to eat, they were targeted in a militant attack by people carrying weapons.

Both Shaykh Waleed Al-Alee as well as his travelling companion Shaykh Fahd Al-Husaynee were killed immediately, along with a number of local Muslims. May Allaah have mercy upon them all and accept them amongst the martyrs.

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What other Salafi scholars and preachers said regarding Shaykh Waleed Ibn 'Alee (may Allaah have mercy on him)

Shaykh Ibraheem Ar-Ruhaylee (Professor in Aqeedah and teacher in the Prophetic Masjid in Madeenah): *“Waleed Al-'Alee grew up as a well-mannered student of knowledge, loving his teachers and colleagues. Then he became an Imaam and Khateeb, affecting others with his manners and sermons, and thereafter a university lecturer, affecting others by his knowledge and silence. And now, here he is, dying as a great and praiseworthy man.”*

Shaykh Saalih As-Sindhee (Professor in Aqeedah and teacher in the Prophetic Masjid in Madeenah): *“I offer my condolences to the students of knowledge regarding our brother Shaykh Waleed Al-'Alee - may Allaah have mercy upon him and allow him to attain the status of the martyrs. The eye sheds tears, the heart is saddened but we only say what pleases our Lord and we are saddened by his death.”*

Shaykh Badr Al-Utaybee (Head of the Da'wah Office in Taaif, senior student of Shaykh Ibn Baaz): *“May Allaah have mercy upon the two Shaykhs Waleed Al-'Alee and Fahd Al-Husaynee, and accept them both to be from amongst the martyrs. We ask Allaah to bestow patience and comfort upon their families. May the curse of Allaah be upon the Khawaarij.”*

Shaykh Abdullah Shuraykah (Imaam and Khateeb of Masjid Zaaid, Kuwait and student of Shaykh Ibn Uthaymeen and Shaykh Falaah Isma'eel): *“I did not see anyone similar to him in striving to take care of the needs of his brothers and traveling students; many a times he would intercede on behalf of others, even for people he did not know... he abandoned rumour mongering and disputes to its people and instead occupied his time with knowledge, teaching and calling to Allaah...”*

Shaykh Faysal Jaasim (Imaam in the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Kuwait): *“From Allaah we came, and to Allah we return. The two Shaykhs, Waleed Al-'Alee and Fahd Al-Husaynee, died in the incident in Burkina Faso. They are from amongst the best people I knew in their manners, characteristics and silence – may Allaah forgive them both.”*

O Allaah forgive them and have mercy upon them, raise their ranks amongst the rightly guided...”

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...he abandoned rumour mongering and disputes to its people and instead occupied his time with knowledge, teaching and calling to Allaah...

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Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq Al-Abbaad (Professor in Aqeedah and teacher in Al-Masjid An-Nabawi, Madeenah): *"I allude to an incident which took place yesterday night with one of the virtuous brothers who has a very special place in my heart and in my love for him – Shaykh Waleed Al-Alee from Kuwait, may Allaah the Most High have mercy upon him. He undertook a journey for Da'wah to Burkina Faso. He completed teaching Kitaab At-Tawheed, and also some people accepted Islaam at his hands.*

Some individuals with deviant ideologies... or other people... I do not know, they assaulted him with weapons and killed him, and so he died yesterday night - may Allaah have mercy upon him.

[The Shaykh was unable to carry on speaking, and held back tears...]

[Emotionally] We ask Allah to accept him as a martyr in His path..."

Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq Al-Abbaad also flew to Kuwait In order to pray the Janaazah Prayer, which was attended by thousands of Muslims, including many students of knowledge and scholars; amongst them the scholar of Kuwait, Shaykh Falaah Isma'eel.

Shaykh Mashhoor Hassan Aal Salmaan (a scholar of Hadeeth and senior student of Shaykh Albaani): *"Shaykh Waleed Al-'Alee, may Allaah have mercy upon him, delivered a sermon in our Masjid two years ago... the first time I met him was four years ago in Kuwait. Our brother Shaykh Waleed Al-Alee was a man humble within himself - always smiling, interacting well, calm-natured and always researching and studying... he was also very protective of what he said. If something evil was mentioned regarding somebody he would supplicate for him. I never heard him speaking about another; he was not insulting, critical or belittling of others. His speech was good, modest, only a good word would be heard from him, something which would benefit Islaam and the Muslims."*

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Lessons learnt from this unfortunate event

Although the above incident saddens the heart, a person who ponders and contemplates what occurred, realises numerous lessons and benefits from it:

1. The harm of the extremist groups such as Khawaarij, ISIS and Raafidha Shee'ah is primarily targeted at Muslims. In fact, it is targeted at not only Muslims but the best of the Ummah – its teachers and scholars who disseminate authentic knowledge. The fight against “the infidels” is a mere front for the killing of Muslims and undermining of Muslim countries, economies and governments.
2. There is a present-day struggle within Africa between various religions and ideologies. The work of Christian missionaries has done much damage, and now the Iranian-backed Raafidhah Shee'ah, Qadiyanis as well as extremist groups are also present. It is therefore a must for Salafi scholars and Du'aat to play their role in such a fragile yet fertile land.
3. The role of Da'wah is not for every speaker and internet personality. Rather, it must be carried out by people of knowledge – those who have humbled themselves at the feet of the scholars, and those who call with wisdom, insight and knowledge.
4. Leaving one's land for the sake of knowledge and Da'wah is considered to be Jihaad in the way of Allaah; thus the one who dies upon this path is considered a Martyr.
5. The importance of humbleness and modesty during Da'wah trips in one's accommodation, food, demands and when sitting and socialising with people. Da'wah trips are not for tourism and calling to oneself, rather they are for calling to Allaah and aiding His religion.

May peace and salutations be upon our Prophet, his companions, family and followers. All praise is for Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds.

Abul Abbaas Naveed Ayaaz
Nelson, Lancashire, United Kingdom
5th Dhul Hijjah, 1438h
27th August, 2017

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