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Cursing Time

The Third Question from Fatwa no. 5432

Q3: (Do not curse time, as I am Time; I turn around...) Is this a Hadith, and if so, is it Sahih (authentic); meaning is its text Sahih, and what does it mean?

A: Al-Bukhari and Muslim related, on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him), that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, ("Allah (may He be Exalted) says: 'The son of Adam hurts Me by cursing time, as I am Time. I turn around the night and day.'") In another narration, ("Do not curse time, as Allah is Time.")

When explaining the meaning of this Hadith, Al-Baghawiy (may Allah be merciful with him) stated, "The Arabs were in the habit of defaming and cursing time when disasters and calamities occurred. They used to say: 'Time has struck us' or 'Time has destroyed us.' As they ascribed all the calamities that befell them to time, they cursed what they thought had caused them, but they were in fact cursing Allah (may He be Glorified and Exalted) as He is the One Who actually caused them to happen. Therefore, they were forbidden to curse time in this manner."

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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