

Accusation of being called Wahhabi

The Accusation against Muhammad bin AbdulWahab

-Rahimullaah-

With the Nickname 'Wahabeeya'

Contents:

The nickname of 'Wahabeeya'

Definition of the title 'Wahabeeya'

When was the Word first used?

The Misuse of this Ascription

A Separate Madhab

Is there a difference between al-Wahabeeya & as-Salafeeyah?

Historically Wrong

Al-Wahabeeyah is an ascription to the Beautiful Name of Allaah 'al-Wahhab'.

The Effect on al-Eemaan by this Name

The Difference between the bestowing of the Creator and the creation

What the Scholars Said

Shaykh Albaani was asked about al-Wahabeeya

Shaykh AbdulAziz bin Abdullaah bin Baz said

Shaykh Salih Al-Fawzaan said

The nickname of 'Wahabeeya'

Ahmad bin Hajr Aala Boottamee (d. 1423 A.H.) *-Rahimullaab-* said in his book about

Muhammad bin Abdulwahab *-Rahimullaabi:*

'They, the enemies of the Dawa intended to dispraise them [the people of Tawheed] with the nickname of 'Wahabeeya' and they are the Mubtadia' , they do not love the Messenger -as they claim.

This has now become a nickname for everyone who calls to the Book and the Sunnah, to adhering to the evidence, to enjoining good and forbidding evil, And warring against Bida and superstitions, and adhering to the Madhab of the Salaf.

So you see everyone who opposes him or opposes other than him whether it is a Bida or an evil, then they face that saying: 'you are a Wahabi!' So this title has become -and praise be to Allaah- praise worthy and a title for the sect which follows the Kitab and the Sunnah, and upon everyone who embraces the Madhab of the Salaf as-Salih, and upon everyone who calls to Tawheed al-Ulooheeya and al-Eebaadah and this is sufficient as an honour and privilege.'

[Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahab Aqeedatuhu as-Salafeeyah wa Dawatuhu al-Isలాheeya wa Thana al-Ulama alayhi' p.67]

Definition of the title 'Wahabeeya'

Shaykh Muhammad Hamd al-Faqeehi *-Rabimillaab-* said:

'Wahabeeya is an ascription to the Imam the rectifier Shaykh ul Islaam Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab the reviver of the 12th century [al-Hijri]. This

ascription is not according to the scales of Arabic language, it would have been correct to say: 'al-Muhammadeeyah' since the name of the one who conveyed this Dawa and who established it was Muhammad and not AbdulWahhab.'

[Athar ad-Dawa al-Wahabeeya fee al-Islaheeya ad-Deeneeya wal-Imraaneeya fee Jazeeratul Arab wa Ghayreeha' p.29]

The historian Mahmood Shukri al-Aloosi said:

'Those who opposed them called Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab's followers 'al-Wahabeeya' and this ascription is not correct. The ascription in reality is to Shaykh Muhammad because he was the one who called t he people to leave what they were upon of Bida' and desires. He aided the Sunnah and commanded to follow it.'

['Tareekh Najd' p.113]

When was the Word first used?

This word appeared around 1229- 1231 A.H. /1814- 1816 C.E. It was used by an Orientalist named John Lewis Burckhardt who published a book called 'Notes on the Bedouins and Wahabys' collected during his travels in the east' published in 1831.

[Muhammad bin AbdulWahab Muslih Muthloom' Mas'ood Nadawi p.166-167]

The Misuse of this Ascription

Shaykh Muhammad Nasiruddeen al-Albaani *-Rabimullaab-* commented about Suyootee:

'Some of the neglectful from the people hasten to accuse Suyootee -as is their habit- that he is a Wahabi! Even though Suyootee passed away before Muhammad bin AbdulWahab passed away by about three hundred years!!

This reminds me of a curious story in some of the schools in Damascus, there was a well-known Christian teacher who was discussing the movement of Muhammad bin AbdulWahab in the Arabian Peninsula and how he fought against Shirk, Bida' and superstitions, and it appears that he commended him, so some of his students said: it appears that the teacher is a Wahabi!!'

[Silsilah Saheehah p.111-112]

Shaykh Muqbil bin Hadi al-Wada'ae *-Rabimullaab-* said:

'The enemies of Islaam intentionally try to push people away from this blessed awakening by using various terms to turn Muslims away.'

He continues:

'That evil term which the communist, Ba'theeyoon, Nasiryoon, Rafidh, Muqtada Soofeeyah, spreading it in our societies to prevent it is none other than the word 'Wahabeeya'. So whoever adhered to the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allaah *-sallAllaahu alayhi wa Aalibi wa sallam-* then those groups try to push

people away from him and they apply that derogatory nickname to him to push people away from him.'

[Laqab al-Wahabeeyah wa Athreehi fee Sudd un ad-Dawa tul Salafeeyah p.114]

Shaykh Muqbil bin Hadi al-Wa'adi *-Rabimullaab-* said:

'As for Wahabeeyah, then with this ascription it has been schemed and engineered by the enemies of Islaam; this is because the Dawaa of Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab *-Rabimullaab-* was an Islamic Dawaa.'

[Ijabtul Saa'il alaa Aaham al-Masa'il p.542]

A Separate Madhab

King AbdulAziz bin Saud *-rabimullaab-* delivered a sermon to the Hujjaj in the year 1347 A.H. / 1929 C.E.

'They call us Wahabeeyoon and they call our Madhab al-Wahabi in regards it to being a specific Madhab. This is an evil mistake which began from false lies claimed which the people spread for their personal interests. We are not people of a new Madhab or a new Aqeedah, Muhammad bin AbdulWahab did not bring anything new, so our Aqeedah is the Aqeedah of the Salaf as-Salih which came in the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger and what the Salaf as-Salih were upon.

We respect the four Imams, there is no difference to us between Malik, Shafi'ae, Ahmad and Abu Hanifah, we hold all of them with respect.

This is our Aqeedah which Shaykh ul Islaam Muhammad bin AbdulWahab established and called to and this is our Aqeedah.

It is the Aqeedah built upon the Tawheed of Allaah -Azza wa Jal- pure from all doubts, free from all Bida'.

So this Aqeedah of Tawheed is the one which we call to and it is this Aqeedah which gives us success from what we are in from trials and difficulties.'

[<http://www.alriyadh.com/1535330>]

Is there a difference between al-Wahabeeya & as-Salafeeyah?

'If it is meant by al-Wahabeeya the Dawa of Shaykh Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhab then this is Salafeeyah and if they mean by it his followers, then the supposed origin is also that they are Salafiyoon. However, viewing it from the use of the word amongst the people and their application of this word, we find that al-Wahabeeya is more general than as-Salafeeyah. This is because the title al-Wahabeeya is applied to everyone who criticises the practices of the Soofeeyah and evil practices of the grave worshippers.'

[Laqab al-Wahabeeyah wa Athreehi fee Sudd un ad-Dawa tul Salafeeyah p.51]

Historically Wrong

In the second century there was a sect founded by AbdurRahman bin Abdulwahab bin Rustum (d.197 A.H.) in North Africa. Its methodology and

beliefs were that of the khawarij al-Ebaadeeyah. This sect was called al-Wahhabeeyah in ascription to its founder Abdullaah bin Wahhab ar-Rasibee, it was also called Rustomeey in ascription to his father Rustum. They nullified a lot of the Sharia' and the pilgrimage of Hajj.

[Tass-hee Khata Tareekhi Hol al-Wahabeeya]]

Al-Wahabeeyah is an ascription to the Beautiful Name of Allaah 'al-Wahhab'.

Al-Wahhab (The Bestower)

Al-Wahabeeyah is an ascription to the Beautiful Name of Allaah 'al-Wahhab'.

It is mentioned in the Book of Allaah three times :

1 - In Soorah Alaa Imraan :

<< (They say): 'Our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate (from the truth) after You have guided us, and grant us mercy from You. Truly, You are the Bestower.' >>

[Alaa Imran : 8]

2 - Twice in Soorah Saad :

<< Or have they the treasures of the Mercy of your Lord, the All-Mighty, the Real Bestower? >> [Saad : 9]

<< He said: 'My Lord! Forgive me, and bestow upon me a kingdom such as shall not belong to any other after me: Verily, You are the Bestower.'>> [Saad : 35]

The meaning of the word as it relates to Allaah :

Ibn Jareer *-Rahimullaab-* said in his Tafseer of the saying of Allaah Ta'ala : << Truly, You are the Bestower." >> [Alaa Imran : 8] :

'meaning indeed You are the One who gives Your worshippers the capability and correctness to remain steadfast upon Your Deen and believe truthfully in Your Book and Your Messenger.

Al-Wahhab (The Bestower) to whomsoever He wills from His creation and with whatever He wills from Dominion, authority and Prophethood.

Indeed You are Wahhab (Bestower) of what You want to whom You want, in Your Hand is treasures of everything You open them of what You want for whom You want.'

[Tafseer Tabari 3/125, 23/82, 103]

The Effect on al-Eemaan by this Name

Indeed The Wahhab is Allaah Alone, In His Hands are the treasures of everything, He is the One who owns the heavens and the earth and whoever is in them. Allaah Ta'ala said :

<< To Allaah belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He creates what He wills. He bestows female (offspring) upon whom He wills, and bestows male (offspring) upon whom He wills. Or He bestows both males and females, and He

renders barren whom He wills. Verily, He is the All-Knower and is Able to do all things. >> [Shuraa : 49 -50]

Ibn Katheer *-Rabimullaab-* said :

'Allaah Ta'ala informs us that He is the Creator of the heavens and the earth and He is The Owner of them and The Controller of them. Whatever Allaah willed happened and whatever He did not will, will not happen. He gives to whom He wants, prevents from whom He wants, there is none who can prevent Him from giving what He wants and none can give what He prevents and He creates whatever He wishes.'

Ibn Katheer continues :

'Then Allaah placed the people of four types, from them those to whom He gave daughters, from them to whom He gave sons, from them to whom He gave from both males and females, from them those whom He prevented males and females and made them barren with no offspring no son.

<< Verily, He is the All-Knower >> meaning : about whom is deserving of a division for all these types of divisions.

<<is Able to do all things. >> meaning : with what He wants from the different grades of the people from these divisions.

[Tafseer Ibn Katheer 4/121]

The Difference between the bestowing of the Creator and the creation

Al-Khatabi *-Rahimullaah-* said:

'Everyone who gives something from worldly possessions to his companion then he is a Wahib (a giver), but he does not have the right to be called Wahhab except the one who disposes of what he has in the different ways of bestowing so his possessions are many and continuous.

As for the creation then they have control over what they possess of wealth or gifts in various different circumstances, they do not possess the ability to bestow cure for the sick, or a son for the barren, or guidance for the misguided, or pardoning for the one trialed. Allaah is the Wahhab (The Bestower) Subhanahu and He possess all those things, His generosity covers all the creation, and His possessions are continuous and His favours are connected.'

[an-Nahj al-Asma fee Sharh Asmaa Allaah al-Husnaa vol.1 p.190]

What the Scholars Said

Shaykh Albaani was asked about al-Wahabeeya

' al-Wahabeeya is a title from amongst the different titles, because there is no Jama'ah in this Duniya which gives itself 'al-Wahabeeya', but rather their enemies and opposers applied these terms to them.

There is no effect of this term among the custom of the Muslims, because there is no group that exists which says: we are Wahabeeyoon - but there are millions of Muslims today who say: we are Salafiyoon.'

The Shaykh continues:

'This is of the same status of insulting by using nicknames and this has been prohibited against in the Noble Qur'aan.

What is al-Wahabeeya? What is the story of al-Wahabeeya? Why were they given the title al-Wahabeeya?

Therefore, there is no Jamaah given the title of al-Wahabeeyoon and they have no story to tell.

Also this answer is for the sake of argument, in reality there are people in the Najd and al-Hijaz who are known as Hanabila from teh view of thier Madhab. These Hanabila in the Najd are distinct above the Najd from other than the Najd in a great matter, which is the Aqeedah and that is in particular to the Aqeedah of Tawheed.

So the Hanabila of Najd understood Tawheed correctly and they understood that what negates this Tawheed due to the different types of Shirk and idolatry practices. The virtue of that understanding goes back to Muhammad bin AbdulWahab. He was the one who revived the Dawa of Tawheed from the Shirk and idolatry practices in the land of Najd and he followed in doing so

a previous reviver of this Dawa and other than it, he was none other than Shaykh ul Islaam Ibn Taymeeyah.

Ibn Taymeeyah did not bring anything new just like Muhammad bin AbdulWahab in following him, but rather they revived the Dawa of Muhammad bin Abdullaah -Sallawaat Allaah wa Salam alayhi.

Both (Ibn Taymeeyah & Muhammad bin AbdulWahab) removed what had covered the hearts of the Muslims from deviancy from Tawheed in those days.

With time and countries being close to each other the Dawa of Muhammad bin AbdulWahab had began to spread. It reached Indian sub-continent then to Egypt then to Syria and this Dawa continues to spread until it takes over the whole of the earth In Shaa Allaah, fulfilling the saying of Allaah:

<< It is He Who has sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth (Islaam), to make it superior over all religions even though the *Mushrikûn*>> [Tawbah: 33]

This 'Dawa of Tawheed' has been called 'Dawa of Wahabeeya' and they called their followers 'al-Wahabeeyoon', in reality this name has been invented.'

The Shaykh continued:

'From the angle of Arabic language, al-Wahabeeya is a distinction, because Wahabeeyah is an ascription to al-Wahab and al-Wahab is Allaah

The Shaykh continued:

'However, I say this definition was brought by the enemies and opposers of the Dawa of 'Tawheed.'

[al-Hawee min Fatawa Shaykh al-Albaani' p.90-91]

Shaykh AbdulAziz bin Abdullaah bin Baz said:

Assalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

From AbdulAziz bin Abdullaah bin Baz to the honourable respected Brother - may Allaah give him success in beneficial knowledge and acting upon it. Ameen .

Q - You said : What is Al-Wahabeeyah and is it a fifth Madhab it follow some of the four Madhab?

Assalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

The Answer :

Many of the people apply this word to the Dawa of the Shaykh al-Imam Muhammad bin AbdulWahab bin Sulayman at-Tameemi al-Hanbali -*Rabimullaah*.

They call him and his followers Al- Wahabeeyoon. Everyone, who has the least amount of knowledge of the movement of the Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahab -*rabimullaah*- and his Dawa knows, that he undertook spreading the Dawa of pure 'Tawheed and warning against Shirk and all its different types

like attaching oneself to the dead and to others like worshipping trees and rocks etc.

In his Aqeedah (belief) he *-rahimullaab-* was upon the Madhab of the Salaf as-Salih and was upon the Madhab of Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal ash-Shaybaani *-rahimullaab-* in the different branches of the Deen. This is shown by his books, his Fatawa and the books of his followers from his children and grandchildren and others, all his books have been printed and distributed amongst the people.

Imam Muhammad *-rahimullaab-* came at a time when what was stronger was that Islaam was a strange matter. The evil climate over the Arabian Peninsula and over other places were the clouds of ignorance except for those whom Allaah had willed. With that ignorance, worship of partners with Allaah and idols was widespread, so the Shaykh *-rahimullaab-* took to becoming serious and concerned, he struggled, strove and established efforts in stopping paths of transgression. He used different means which lead to spreading Tawheed amongst the people pure from superstitions etc.

From the blessings of Allaah Subhanahu is that Allaah gave Imam Muhammad bin Saud, the leader of Dar'eeyah at that time, the capability to accept this Dawa and undertook this path with the Shaykh along with his sons and those under his authority and those who followed him in this goodness - may Allaah reward them with all goodness and forgive them, and give success

to them all in everything in which Allaah is pleased with and good for His worshippers.

All the regions of the Arabian Peninsula continue to live under the shade of this excellent Dawaa until this very day.

Muhammad Ibn AbdulWahab's Dawaa was in conformity with the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger *-alayhi as Sallat wa sallam*. Al-Wahabeeya is not a fifth Madhab as the ignorant biased people claim, but rather it an invite to the Salafi Aqeedah and a revival of what was taught from the pillars of Islaam and Tawheed in the Arabian Peninsula as it was once taught in the past'.

[Majmoo' al-Fatawa wa Rasial shaykh AbdulAziz bin Abdullaah bin Baz Vol.1]

Shaykh Muhammad Hamid al-Faqeeh *-Rabimullaah-* (d. 1378 A.H. - 1959 C.E.), the head of 'Jama'at Ansaar al-Muhammadiyya' said in his book 'Athr ad-Dawatul - Wahhabeeyah':

'al-Wahhabeeyah is an ascription to the Imam, rectifier, Shaykh ul-Islam Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab the reviver in the 12th century. This ascription is illogical in relation to Arabic language.

What is correct, is the ascription to be called 'al-Muhammadiyya' since the name of the associate of this Dawaa and the one who established it is Muhammad and not AbdulWahhab.'

The Shaykh continues:

'Indeed they are Hanabilah, biased towards the Madhab of Imam Ahmad in its branches, just like all the followers of the other Madhabs. So they [the followers of Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab] do not claim, whether by statements or writing that Shaykh Ibn AbdulWahhab came with a new Madhab. Or that he invented some knowledge other than what was with the Salaf as-Salih.

Indeed, his actions and Jihad was to revive acting upon the correct Deen and to return the people back to what was affirmed by the Qur'aan regarding Tawheed Ilaheeya and worship of Allaah Alone, being humble, subservient, with Dua' oaths and vows, trust and obedience to the Qur'aanic legislations.

Also regarding Tawheed of Asmaa wa Sifaat, so that a person believes in the Ayaat as they are mentioned, not with 'Tahreef' (alteration & distortion of the textual wording or meaning), interpreting them, without Tashbeeh (Resembling) and not giving a 'Tamtheel' (applying a similitude for Allaah) to what is mentioned in the wording of the clear Arabic Qur'aan. Furthermore to that what came from the Messenger - - and what the Companions and those who succeeded them and the guided Imams from the Salaf and those who came after - may Allaah be pleased with them - in that which is the correct Deen and to implement the testification of La ilaha ila Allaah wa Muhammadur Rasool Allaah, cannot be fulfilled correctly except in this way.'

[From the book: 'Shaykh Muhammad AbdulWahhab 'Aqeedatuhu as-Salafeeyah' by Ahmad bin Hajr bin Muhammad Alaa Abu Taamee p.90]

Shaykh Salih Al-Fawzaan said:

"This name is a mistake from the angle of its wording and from the angle of its meaning:

As for it being a mistake from the angle of its wording then that is because the Dawa with this title is not ascribed to the one who established it, he is Shaykh Muhammad.

Rather it is ascribed to Abdulwahab who has no efforts in this whatsoever. Therefore, it is an ascription based upon other than an Arabic scale.

This is because the correct ascription would be to say: 'ad-Dawat ul-Muhammadeeyah' however, the opponents of this Dawa understood that this ascription is a good one and does not push people away so they put in its place a false ascription.

As for the mistake from the angle of its meaning then it is because this Dawa does not exit from the methodology of the Madhab of the Salaf as-Salih from the Companions, their Successors and those who followed them. Therefore, it would be obligatory to say/call it: 'ad-Dawat as-Salafeeyah', because the one established this Dawa did not innovate anything in this Dawa of that which is ascribed to him as did the callers of the deviated sects from Isma'eeleeyah

and Qarameetta. Since If these deviant sects were called 'Salafeeyah' then the people would reject [their claim] and the history of this name, because these sects are outside the Madhab of the Salaf because these sects were innovated by those who established them.

So the correct ascription in wording and in meaning of the Dawa of Shaykh Muhammad bin Abdulwahab it should be said: 'ad-Dawat ul-Muhammadeeyah' or 'ad-Dawat Salafeeyah'. However, when this ascription caused the enemies to be angry they interpolated its wording, this is why the word 'Wahabeeyah' was not known amongst the followers of the Shaykh but indeed those who opposed them used it as insulting nicknames, rather they used it as insulting nicknames for everyone who took as Deen the Madhab of the Salaf even if he was in India or Egypt or Africa or in other places.'

[Mujalat Kuliya Usool ad-Deen' No. 1 (1397-1398) p.68-69 Jamia al-Imam Muhammad bin Saud al-Islameeyah Riyadh]

Statements of the Scholars regarding Shaykh Muhammad bin

AbdulWahhab *-Rahimullaah*

- Shaykh Muqbil bin Hadi al-Wa'adi *-Rahimullaah-* said:

'Allaah caused the Dawa of Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab *-Rahimullaah-* to benefit many Islamic countries and Allaah caused Najd to benefit. There were from them those who worshipped Zayed bin al-Khattab, there were those who

would slaughter for some date palm trees and believe in them. There were those who would carry out Bida and superstitions. Then praise be to Allaah - Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab -may Allaah reward him with goodness - stood alone and was aided by the Saudi family.'

[Ijabtul Saa'il alaa Aaham al-Masa'il p.575]

- Shaykh Muhammad bin Khalil Harras -*Rahimullaah*- said:

' Shaykh Muhammad bin AbdulWahhab -*Rahimullaah*- is a major Imam from the Imams of religious rectification, who appeared in Najd, called to pure Tawheed and revived the Madhab of the Salaf. He was aided by the Family of Saud in his Dawa until he ended all Bida of Shirk like making Dua to the inmates of graves, extremism of praising the creation . He returned all the Najd territories to the domain of pure Tawheed -may Allaah have mercy upon him and abundant reward.'

[Nabraas min Fatawa al-Imam Muhammad bin Khalil Harras p.63]