

# Be a serious Salafi

In the Name of Allaah the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

All the praise is for Allaah, the Lord of all that exists; may prayers and peace be upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family and noble companions. To Proceed:

This is a brief statement regarding the mistranslation of a book title. **This mistranslation has become widespread and we now see many of our Salafee brothers and sisters using this mistranslation as logos, class/seminar titles, and more.** This is due, in part, to the various social media outlets, which are, in truth a double edged sword. While much good can be spread very quickly, errors and misguidance can spread just as quickly from those who do not have true concern for the *بيتة العلم الأمانة* (knowledge based trust), and are simply concerned with putting out information hastily without verifying the correctness of that information.

Sometime ago, an excellent book was authored by the noble Shaykh ‘Abdus-Salaam As-Suhaymee. The Arabic title of this book is: *الجدادة على سلفياً كن* This book was translated by a group in the UK who has ties to Al-Halabee, Aboo Usaamah Adh-Dhahabee, and others who fight the Salafees in the UK and other places. However, this is not the subject of this piece. The issue is the mistranslation of the title in English. The translator translated the title as: Be a Serious Salafee. Although this is what is required of every Salafee; that he/she be serious about their Salafiyyah; this is an incorrect translation of the title. The mistake lies in the translation of the word: *الجدادة* which means: Path/way/street. The translator seems to have translated it as: *الجداد* serious/earnest.

The author, within the very same book explains the title, and his intent behind it. This title was taken from a statement by Shaykh Bakr Aboo Zayd within his book: *Hilyah Taalibil-‘Ilm* (The Etiquettes of the Student of Knowledge). The Shaykh Abdus-Salaam says within the book: “Some of the brothers sought from me that I should print these lessons, so I reviewed them and added some additional comments in connection to the topic; and I deemed it appropriate to title it:

كن سلفياً على الجداد  
**Be Salafee upon the Path”**

Then in a footnote at this point the Shaykh added: “This title is derived from that which the Eminent Shaykh, the Doctor Bakr Aboo Zayd, said in his beneficial book: *Hilyah Taalibil-‘Ilm* pg. 8, wherein he said during his speech concerning the etiquettes of the student of knowledge: ‘Be a Salafee upon the path; upon the way of the Salaf as-Salih; the companions, may Allaah be pleased with them, and those who followed their footsteps in all aspects of the religion; from At-Tawheed, acts of worship and the likes; distinguished by adherence to the narrations of Allaah’s Messenger ﷺ and implementing the Sunan upon yourself while abandoning disputing, argumentation, and delving deep into theological rhetoric and that which brings about sins and hinders one from the legislation.”

All of the footnotes within the Arabic version of the book are from the Shaykh himself (Shaykh Abdus-Salaam As-Suhaymee); but perhaps the translator missed this one.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih Al-'Uthaymeen, may Allaah have mercy upon him, said in his explanation of Hilyah Taalibil-'Ilm: "This is from the most important of affairs; that a person be upon the path of the Salaf As-Saalih in all of the affairs of the religion; from At-Tawheed, worship, social interactions, and other than that." (Audio posted along with this)

This is a small piece of advice to my brothers and sisters, as it relates to this title, and this phrase which has become widespread; and I ask Allaah to make us all serious Salafees, who are upon the path; the path of the companions and those who followed them in goodness.

عَلِمَهُ إِذَا بِالْحَقِّ يَتَكَلَّمُ أَنَّ النَّاسَ مَخَافَهُ أَحَدَكُمْ يَمْنَعَنَّ لَا : قَالَ وَسَلَّم عَلَيْهِ اللَّهُ لِيَصْنَعَ النَّبِيُّ أَنَّ عَبَّاسِ ابْنِ عَن  
On the authority of Ibn 'Abbaas, may Allaah be pleased with him, who said: The Prophet ﷺ said: "Let not fear of the people prevent one of you from speaking the truth if he knows it."<sup>1</sup>

Written by one in need of Allaah's Mercy:  
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