



## The Rights of the Muslim over the Muslim <sup>1</sup>

*Imām al-Ḥabīb ‘Abdullāh al-Ḥaddād*

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Indeed there are many rights of the Muslim over another Muslim. <sup>2</sup> We mentioned these briefly in The Book of Assistance; so look to it if you wish.

Indeed the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: *The rights of the Muslim over (another) Muslim are six: It was said: And what are these O Messenger of Allah? He said: When you meet him read salām upon him, and when he calls you answer him, and when he seeks your advice counsel him, and when he sneezes and praises Allah respond to it, and when he is ill pray for him and when he dies follow him (the funeral procession).*

**And from an emphasized right of a Muslim over another:** Sincere counsel in matters of faith, assistance in righteousness and piety, and motivation in the obedience of Allah the Lord of the Worlds.

**From among the chief rights:** Covering of shortcomings, respite from difficulties, assistance in important affairs, fulfillment of needs and eagerness in assisting (him). Helping the oppressed, supporting the feeble, and easing the task of the one in complicatedness; revering the senior and showing compassion to the young.

Do not harm anyone from the Muslim community or despise him, do not hold him in contempt or abandon him, do not ridicule or mock him. Do not cheat anyone from the Muslim community, be envious of him or deceive him, and do not have ill opinions about him.

Hold with great concern the affairs of the Muslims, rejoice in the (favorable) paths they take and grieve over what afflicts them. Love everything for them that which you love for yourself and abhor for them what you abhor for yourself as indeed the Messenger of

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from Imam ‘Abdullāh al-‘Alawī al-Ḥaddād's *Nasā’ih al-Dīniyya wal-Wasāya al-Imāniyya* from the chapter of *Walāyāt al-Ḥuqūq*, the section *Haq al-Muslim ‘alā Muslim*

<sup>2</sup> Brother/sister in Islam

Allah ﷻ said: *None of you will truly believe until you love for your brother what you love for yourself.*

And he ﷻ said: *A Muslim to another Muslim is like a construction that supports one another.*

He ﷻ has said: *Whoever is not concerned over the affairs of the Muslims is not from among them.*

He ﷻ said: *He who does not show compassion to our young or revere our elders is not from among us.*

He ﷻ said: *He who loathes us is not from among us.*

He ﷻ has said: *Assist your brother, tyrant or the subjugated.* A man replied: We will help him if he is oppressed but how can we help the tyrant? He ﷻ said: *refraining from coercion is in essence assisting him.*

He ﷻ said: *Do not be envious, misleading, show enmity, or be impartial and do not trade over the trade of others. Be, (oh) servants of Allah, brothers, a Muslim is a brother to another Muslim. Do not oppress him or abandon him, deceive him or lie to him. Righteousness is here – [signaling towards his heart with his hand three times]. Deceiving a Muslim brother is enough of an evil for one man. The blood, money and honor are prohibited for every Muslim over another Muslim.*

He ﷻ said: *The one who relieves for the believer a distress from the miseries of this world, Allah relieves distress for him from the miseries of the last day. And whoever eases the task for the one in difficulty Allah eases for him (his matters) in this world and the next. And whoever hides (the faults) of the Muslim, Allah will cover (his faults) in this world and the next. And Allah is in the assistance of the slave so long as the slave is in the assistance of his brother.*

He ﷻ said: *Whoever is seeing to the need of his brother Allah takes care of his needs.*

And Allah speaks the truth and he guides to the path.

