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## Being excluded from the manhaj

Translated by **asaheeha translations**

Article taken and slightly adapted from: <http://alalbaany.com>

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Question:** “Imaam Ibn Hajr<sup>1</sup> had some mistakes in ‘Aqeedah (creed), so does that exclude him from being upon the correct manhaj?”

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ): “If we all remember that **‘every human being sins much and the best of them are those who repent,**<sup>2</sup> and that infallibility is not for anyone after the Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم)<sup>3</sup>, then there is nothing odd about the fact that one who was an Imaam in da’wat ul-haqq (the call to the Truth) committed a mistake. So if he made a mistake in an issue or two or three or more, that does not exclude him from da’wat ul-haqq if he had adopted it. Al-Haafidh bin Hajr was like Imaam an-Nawawee and others who made mistakes in some affairs of ‘Aqeedah, but that does not exclude them from being among Ahl us-Sunnah wa l-Jamaa’aah, because the crucial factor is the correct ideology or righteous actions being predominant in a person.

When is a Muslim righteous? Is it a condition, in order for him to be righteous, that he does not commit any sin or act of disobedience? The answer is no. Rather, it is part of human nature that he would commit sins and acts of disobedience over and over again. So when is a slave righteous? When his good prevails over his evil, and his righteousness over his misguidance, and so on. Exactly the same thing is said with regard to knowledge-based affairs, whether they pertain to ‘Aqeedah or fiqh. So if this scholar was predominantly upon correct knowledge, he is saved. As for him having a mistake or some mistakes in fiqh or ‘Aqeedah, this does not exclude him from the correct ‘Aqeedah that he is predominantly upon. So what you mentioned about Ibn Hajr having these errors, that does not mean that we shouldn’t benefit from his book or that we don’t ask Allaah to have mercy on him or that we don’t include him among the Muslim scholars adhering to the Book and the Sunnah...”

source: Silsilah ul-hudaa wannoor, 727/1

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<sup>1</sup> Haafidh Ibn Hajr al-Asqalane (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) who wrote the famous explanation of Saheeh al Bukhaaree called Fath ul-Baree also has a book of the names and status of narrators of hadeeth called Taqreeb al-Tahdheeb.

<sup>2</sup> Saheeh Ibn Maajah no.3447

<sup>3</sup> (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him