

The Watermelon Stand

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Aboo Layla al-Atharee said, "Shaykh al-Albaanee was with [his wife] Umm al-Fadl in his car and stopped next to a watermelon stall, and Umm al-Fadl, as normal, got out since she, it seems, knew about them [i.e., which ones were good to buy etc.].

The person selling them was Egyptian and after he had weighed one and was carrying it to the car for her he asked her, 'Yaa Hajjah! Do you know where Al-Albaanee's house is?'

She said, 'You want [to see] him?' He said, 'Yes.' She said, 'Here he is in the car.'

Upon which the Egyptian dropped the melon, breaking it into pieces, and rushed to Shaykh al-Albaanee kissing him [on his head], saying, 'Wallaahi O Shaykh! I've been wanting to see you for a long time! I want something from you as a gift [to remember you by]!'

The Shaykh said, 'I don't have anything right now.' In the end the man took the Shaykh's hat and the Shaykh went back home bareheaded!"