

Is it true that there are no da'eef reports?

[English]

هل صحيح أنه لا توجد أي رواية ضعيفة؟

[اللغة الإنجليزية]

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What is the number of ahadith as compared to the number of narrators? Is it true that there are no weak (da'eef) reports although there are many weak narrators?.

Praise be to Allah.

It is difficult to compare the number of reports and the number of narrators, because one hadith may have been transmitted by a number of narrators, just as one narrator may have transmitted a number of ahadith.

The view that there are no da'eef (weak) reports is not correct, because the position of the narrator and his status with regard to his character, precision and memory, has a great impact on the ruling on his reports.

We will give you some examples of that.

1 - The hadith "Recite Ya-Seen over your dead." This was narrated by Abu Dawood and Ibn Maajah, via Sulaymaan al-Taymi from Abu 'Uthmaan from his father from Ma'qil ibn Yassar.

This hadith is da'eef because the identity of Abu 'Uthmaan and his father are not known. See Irwa' al-Ghaleel, 3/150, no. 688.

2 - The hadith "No child should be separated from his mother." This was narrated by al-Bayhaqi, from the hadith of Husayn ibn 'Abd-Allaah ibn Damrah from his father from his grandfather. Al-Nawawi (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "This is a da'eef hadith, and there is consensus that Husayn ibn 'Abd-Allaah is da'eef." (Al-Majmoo', 9/445).

These ahadith are da'eef because their narrators are da'eef.

It may also be the case that the isnaad is da'eef but the hadith itself is Sahih because it is narrated through another chain which is Sahih.

Or the isnaad may be Sahih, but the text is da'eef, because of some fault in it.

This is a vast field of knowledge which requires study and experience.

And Allah knows best.