

## بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

### Benefits from the Biographies of the Callers to *al-Tawhīd*

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**D**URING THE LIFE OF THE NOBLE SCHOLAR ‘Abd Allāh al-Qar’āwī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ), reformer of the call to *al-Tawhīd* in the southern region of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (حرسها الله), he faced great obstacles in his mission to uproot polytheism and innovation and spread the pure call of the *Sunnah* and *Salafiyyah*. His enemies tried to tear down what he built, some out of ignorance and others from deception and envy, until the *Shaykh* was accused of being a magician and soothsayer. The poet said:

و من عاش بين الناس لم يخل من  
بما قال واش أو تكلم حاسد

*Whoever lives among the people will not be left alone from  
what the slanderer alleges or the envious one mouths*

This affair reached King ‘Abd al-Azīz (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ), and he stated: “If he is a magician, then he must be executed.” His crown prince, *Amir* Sa’ūd (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) said, “O Father, this man is from *Najd*, and we have not known of magicians among them.” The darts of lies increased upon the *Shaykh*, and he was also accused of being a British spy who was planted in the nation’s southern region to form a party that would rival it (i.e. the Kingdom), so the King decided to send a committee headed by *al-Shaykh* Fayṣal ‘Alī Mubārak, a judge from the district of *Jawf* and *al-Shaykh* Muḥammad ‘Alī al-Bīz, a judge from the district of *Tāif*, to explore the matter. The committee arrived in *Ṣāmiṭah* and prayed *Ṣalāt al-Maghrib*. The maṣjid was filled with students of knowledge. So the *Shaykh* instructed his student Ḥāfiẓ al-Ḥakamī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) to deliver a lecture; then, two of his students stood up, the first asking questions about *‘Aqīdah* and *al-Tawhīd*, and the second answering them. The committee was amazed at what they witnessed and heard from the students’ abilities. They were also delighted with the spread of *Salafi* schools, and discovered that the *Shaykh* was a reformer, not a corrupter in the land. So after the committee finished their duties, they sent a telegram to the King informing him of what they observed. When he received it, he went and prayed *Ṣalāt al-Fajr* with *al-Shaykh*

Muḥammad b. Ibrāhīm (رحمة الله), and after the lesson, he gave him the [committee's] determination for further reassurance concerning the *Shaykh's* (i.e. al-Qar'āwī's) condition. *Shaykh* Muḥammad said: "This man is from my students who are known for possessing knowledge and upright *manhaj*." He praised him and defended him from that which he was falsely and deceitfully accused; so King 'Abd al-'Azīz ordered that a twenty riyal stipend be awarded to every student in the schools of *Shaykh* al Qar'āwī.<sup>1</sup>




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<sup>1</sup> This was taken from the *Shaykh's* biography *al-Masīrah li Dā'iah Junūb al-Jazīrah al Imām 'Abd Allāh b. Muḥammad al-Qar'āwī* (pp. 106-107)