

Dating Prophetic Traditions Implying the Prophet Prayed for Whom Were Accused by Him in Sunni Hadith Collections

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Abstract

Dating fabricated traditions provides valuable information about social, political and cultural conditions of first centuries of Islamic society. One sample of false traditions is a group of prophetic traditions, which imply that the prophet prayed for whom were accused by him, mentioned in Sunni hadith collections. Using content analysis and different methods of dating traditions, this paper indicates the historical and geographical origin of these hadiths and their forgers' intellectual, political and social tendencies. For gathering information, library method and for investigating the data, analytical and descriptive methods were used. In conclusion, by the end of the third century, traditions were contained in 16 Sunni hadith sources. Findings show that they were most probably fabricated in line with Umayyad policies before 58 AH. By Abū Huraira and 'Ā'isha or by their names and were spread in Medina, Levant, Iraq, Bahrain and then in Mecca, Egypt, Yamen and Wāsiṭ. In next generations some narrators copied these traditions or made new ones with the same contents and different forms. They then attributed them to Companions such as al-Jabir, Salmān, Abū Sa'īd al-Khūdrī, Abū aṭ-Ṭūfāil, and 'Anas who transmitted narrations in which Ummayds were condemned and Imam 'Alī was praised. The most important attempt of Ummayds in forging these traditions was to neutralize the influence of prophetic tradition in which Ummayds were accused and blamed.

Keywords: *Prayer for Whom Were Accused, Different Methods of Dating, Content Analysis, Sunni hadith Collections.*

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