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[Shama-il Tirmidhi] Rasulullah Using A Dye

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Shamaa-il Tirmidhi.
Chapter : 6. Rasulallah Using A Dye.

006 : 044 : Hadith 001

Abu Rimthah Taymi Radhiallahu 'Anhu says: "I attended a gathering of Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam with my son. Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam asked me, 'Is this your son?' I replied: 'Yes, this is my son. You be a witness to it.' Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said: 'The revenge of his crime (jinayah) is not on you, nor is the revenge of your crime on him.' (This will be explained in the commentary). Abu Rimthah Radhiallahu 'Anhu says: 'At that time I noticed a few hair of Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam were red." Imam Tirmidhi says: "This hadith is the most correct and closest on the subject of using a dye."

Commentary.

It was the custom in the pre-Islamic times (jaahiliyah) that a son was punished for the crimes of his father. On this basis Abu Rimthah Radhiallahu 'Anhu said this, so that if it would be necessary at any time, Sayyidina Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam would be witness that truly this was his son. Sayyidin Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam in refuting this custom of the jaahiliyyah said: "This is not the law of Islaam, that one person commits a crime and another gets punished for it." (No laden soul can bear anothers load. Surah Najm, 38).

006 : 045 : Hadith 002

Abu Hurairah Radhiallahu 'Anhu was asked: "Did Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam use a dye?" (for his hair). He replied: "Yes."

006 : 046 : Hadith 003

Jah-dhamah Radiallahu 'Anha, the wife of Bashir Kha-saasiyyah Radiallahu 'Anhu says: "I saw Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam coming out of the house after taking a bath and was stroking (or combing) his hair. There were signs of henna on his mubaarak head."

006 : 047 : Hadith 004

Anas Radhiallahu 'Anhu says: "I saw that the hair of Rasulallah Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam had been dyed."

Commentary.

As has been explained there are different narrations on the dying of the hair of Sayyidina Rasulullahu Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam. There is an apparent contradiction between this narration and the one mentioned in the first hadith of the previous chapter, where Sayyidina Anas Radiyallahu 'Anhu denies Sayyidina Rasulullahu Sallallahu 'Alayhi Wasallam used a dye. we may take both narrations to be correct, as they could have been narrated at an earlier and a later period.