

Praying for the Absolute Destruction of Non-Muslims¹

Question: Is it permissible to go to such extremes while supplicating during prayer in that someone prays for complete destruction for every single non-Muslim to be gone?

Answer: This is one of the widespread mistakes that people make in that they supplicate for the absolute destruction of every disbeliever. This is wrong. On the contrary, it is obligatory to pray for the guidance of non-Muslims except for those who specifically show enmity to Islam and the Muslims, waging war against the religion of Islam and the Muslims. Against such a person it's permissible to supplicate. As for a non-believer that doesn't really know anything about Islam, you then pray for his destruction?! This is completely wrong. You find many non-believers who enter this country then Allaah guides a great number of them to Islam. So, is a Muslim then permitted to pray for the utter destruction of people like these so that they are annihilated before learning about and accepting Islam?! Isn't a Muslim supposed to love that such people enter Islam?

لَأَنَّ يَهْدِيَ اللَّهُ بِكَ رَجُلًا وَاحِدًا خَيْرٌ لَكَ مِنْ أَنْ يَكُونَ لَكَ حُمْرُ النَّعَمِ

“If Allaah should guide even one person by you, it is better for you than if you were to possess the best, most expensive type of red camels.”²

Based on this, it is incumbent upon Muslims to ask Allāh (ﷻ) to guide non-Muslims, again except for those who openly wage war against Islam and show hostility to Islam and its people. Only these types of people can one supplicate against.³

¹ This fatwā was taken from a book called “Al-Fatāwā Ash-Shar’iyyah fī Al-Qadhāyā Al-‘Asriyyah,” a collection of various rulings by Muhammad Ibn Fahd Al-Husayn.

² Recorded by al-Bukhārī (no. 4210) and Muslim (no. 6173).

³ Taken from a recorded meeting with Shaykh ‘Abd al-Muhsin Āli-'Ubaykān prepared by Muhammad al-Ḥuşayn.