

## Tamtheel and Tashbeeh

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

**Question:** Noble Shaykh, may Allaah treat you well; is it permissible for a person, regarding the statement of Allaah, (سبحانه)<sup>1</sup>:

وَمَا قَدَرُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ قَدْرِهِ وَالْأَرْضُ جَمِيعًا قَبْضَتُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

[They made not a just estimate of Allaah such as is due to Him. And on the Day of Resurrection the whole of the earth will be grasped by His Hand.]<sup>2</sup>

Is it permissible for one who clench his fist (in demonstration—i.e., when reciting this)?

**Shaykh al-Uthaymeen** (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ)<sup>3</sup>: He who clenches his fist in front of the people, then this is Tamtheel (Anthropomorphism) and Tashbeeh (likening Allaah to his creation is some of His Attributes). It is not permissible a person to do anything which denotes Tashbeeh and Tamtheel; especially in front of the people. Moreover, he has lied! Does he know that Allaah will grasp the earth in this manner with which he has clenched (his fist)? Maybe He will grasp it in another manner. Because grasping is different, even amongst the people. Due to this, one should not do that.

Perhaps one will say: When the Messenger, (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)<sup>4</sup>, recited:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ سَمِيعًا بَصِيرًا

[Truly, Allaah is Ever All-Hearer, All-Seer.]<sup>5</sup>

That he placed his fingers upon his eyes and ears; then we say: This has come within the Sunnah and it is the truth. The Prophet, (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), wanted to emphasise these two Attributes—Hearing and Seeing—by mentioning their places in the children of Aadam (i.e., the place of hearing and seeing). As for reporting the “howness” of the Grasping while one does not know (how it is) this is Haraam; it is lying upon Allaah.

<sup>1</sup> (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) The Exalted

<sup>2</sup> سورة الزمر - Soorah az-Zumar [39:67]

<sup>3</sup> (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

<sup>4</sup> (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

<sup>5</sup> سورة النساء - Soorah an-Nisaa [4:58]