

Turning up on time

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

“Dr. ‘Abdullah ibn Muhammad al-Tayyaar, may Allaah protect him, mentioned a novel incident that happened to him with **Shaykh Ibn Uthaymeen** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹ saying, ‘The Shaykh invited me alone to lunch in Dhul-Hijjah of 1403 [Sept. 1983], then he said, ‘Do you want to bring anyone along with you?’ So I said, ‘Yes, the Vice Dean, and [also] the Dean of the Faculty of Sharee’ah and its Vice Dean [too].’ So the Shaykh (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) said to me, ‘You should come at twelve Dhuhr time,’ and he emphasised the fact that I should not be late.

So [when it was time to visit him] we set out for the Shaykh’s house and got there ten minutes after the set time, and there was the Shaykh leaving his house to get into his car, we caught him and said, ‘We’ve arrived, O Shaykh.’ He said, ‘You have children at home, go and have lunch with them. You did not come on time.’ So we insisted [on him changing his mind] so he laughed and said, ‘On the condition that you do not turn up late again.’”²

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² Al-Jaami’ li-Hayaatil-’Allamah Muhammad Ibn Saalih al-’Uthaymeen, p. 28.