

Do Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام also undergo questioning in the grave?

Darulifta Ahlesunnat (Dawateislami)

Question

What do the scholars of Islam say regarding the following matter: Were the noble Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام subjected to questioning in their graves, and was our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ also questioned in the grave?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الْجَوَابُ بِعَوْنِ الْمَلِكِ الْوَهَّابِ اللَّهُمَّ هِدَايَةَ الْحَقِّ وَالصَّوَابِ

According to the preferred opinion, our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ, and indeed any other Prophet عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام, did not undergo questioning in the grave.

As stated in Musāmarah:

”والاصح ان الانبياء عليهم الصلاة والسلام لا يسألون في قبورهم ولا اطفال المومنين اما الانبياء فلا تة قد ورد ان بعض صالحى الامة يامن فتنة القبر بسبب عمل صالح---واذا ثبت هذا لك لبعض الامة فالانبياء عليهم الصلاة والسلام مع علو مقامهم المقطوع لهم بسببه بالسعادة العظمى ومع عصمتهم اولى بذلك“

Meaning, the soundest opinion is that the Prophets and children of Muslims will not be questioned in their graves. As for the Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام, it is because it has been narrated that some righteous individuals of the Ummah are saved from the tribulation of the grave due to their righteous deeds. Therefore, if this is established for some members of the Ummah, then the Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام, with their high status, for whom ultimate bliss is assured, and with their infallibility, are all the more deserving of this. (Al-Musāmarah Sharḥ al-Musāyarah, pp. 232-233)

‘Allāmah Mullā ‘Alī al-Qārī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ (d. 1014 AH) states:

”واستثنى من عموم سؤال القبر الانبياء عليهم السلام والاطفال والشهداء ففى صحيح مسلم انه عليه الصلوة والسلام سئل عن ذلك؟ فقال: كفى ببارقة السيوف شاهداً ففى الكفاية انه لا سؤال للانبياء عليهم السلام“

Meaning, the Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام, children, and martyrs are exempted from the generality of questioning in the grave. Thus, in

Sahih Muslim, it is narrated that when the Beloved Prophet ﷺ was asked about this, he said: 'Being martyred under the shade of swords is sufficient for there not to be any questioning in the grave.' Hence, it is stated in al-Kifāyah that there is no questioning in the grave for the Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام (Sharḥ al-Fiqh al-Akbar, pp. 181-182)

وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger ﷺ knows best.)

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Date: Islamic Magazine Faizan e Madina September 2025



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