

Do not say "Upon you be peace" for "Upon you be peace" is the greeting of the dead

Abu Juray al Hujaymi (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: I went to the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and said: "Upon you be peace, O Messenger of Allah." He said: "Do not say 'Upon you be peace' for 'Upon you be peace' is the greeting of the dead."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by At-Termedhy - Narrated by Abu Daoud]

The meaning of the Hadīth: A man went to the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and greeted him saying: "Upon you be peace, O Messenger of Allah." So the Prophet forbade him from greeting in that way. And because the Prophet disliked his greeting, he even did not reply to it and told him that this is the way to greet the dead (not the living). Then the Prophet taught him the proper way to greet as mentioned in another Hadīth: "Say peace be upon you". The Prophet's statement that this was the greeting of the dead does not mean that this is what should be said when visiting the graves, because the way of greeting the dead has been reported from the Prophet while visiting the graves as: "Peace be upon you, O dwellers of the abode of the believers." Rather, he said that in reference to the way people used to greet the dead in the pre-Islamic era.

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