

Shaykh Mashhoor Hasan Aal Salmaan

(*hafidhahullaah*)

ON THE RULING ON WEARING THE SHALWAAR KHAMEES TO DISTINGUISH ONESELF¹

Question:

What's the ruling on wearing Pakistani clothing (i.e. *Shalwaar Khamees*)?

Answer:

It is prohibited for a person to wear *Libaas us-Shubrah* [ostentatious attire which stands out] and this is clothing which is worn in order to show off acts of worship or to distinguish a set of people from others or distinguish oneself from others. The people of Afghanistan and Pakistan wear these clothes so those who go there (i.e. from the Arabs and other non-Pakistanis) and see their strength and know about their involvement in (armed) jihad then start to distinguish themselves from other people by wearing such clothing and believing that they too are *Mujaabidoon*² So they wear it as an indication of their jihad and due to this it becomes *Libaas us-Shubrah*.

Whoever wears Afghan attire to distinguish himself and believes that by wearing it he is raising the banner of jihad and that he is a *Mujaahid* and that other than him is sitting and thinks that he has conquered Sind and Hind and that others besides him are asleep and not making jihad - then such a person is an oppressor to his own self and an oppressor to his brothers and there is no doubt that such a person is wearing *Libaas us-Shubrah*!

I supplement what I say and the rulings with the reality, and know that those who wear such attire want to promote and manifest certain things, they do not want mere relaxation and comfort in their clothing rather they have specific aims in wearing such clothes. So whoever wears these clothes in this way and takes it as a sign of jihad and that he is a *Mujaahid* and that others are sitting down doing nothing – then these clothes are a sign that the person has manifested clothing as a sign of a certain act of worship and it is prohibited for a Muslim to take

¹ From our Shaykh's Q&A session dated Saturday 16 May 2009 CE, it can be referred to here: www.mashhoor.net

² **Translator's note:** This is what we find in Morocco for example, where in some parts of the country, especially in those cities where the *takfiris* are active, we see brothers who look more like Afghans than Arabs! They even designed a Moroccan *Shalwaar Khamees* in order to emphasize their distinction from others!

a form of clothing as an indication of an act of worship to distinguish themselves from other people.