

Burying fingernail clippings and magicians

Shaykh Sulayman Ar Ruhaylee

Question: May Allah reward you with good and bless you. The questioner asks about clipping nails at night?

Shaykh Sulayman: It is permissible at any time; during the day and the night. The brother reminded me of something.

When you clip your nails is it recommended to bury them? It has been narrated in a Hadith from Al Bayhaqi and others; that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم commanded that hair and nails should be buried. But the narration is weak. Al Bayhaqi said every transmission of this narration is weak. Therefore this is a weak Hadith. And there is nothing authentic narrated about this from the standpoint of it being from the Sunnah. But Imam Ahmad may Allah have mercy upon him said Ibn Umar used to do this. Ibn Umar may Allah be pleased with him used to do this; he would bury his nail clippings.

He said there is a benefit in this because the magicians mostly utilize hair and nails for their magic spells. Thus if the person buries his hair and nails he will be safe from their evil.

So we say burying nail clippings is a permissible practice. And it contains a benefit. But we don't say it is the Sunnah.