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Performing ruqyah over the phone

Translated by Raha ibn Donald Batts
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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: Noble Shaykh, many of those who perform Ruqyah read upon the people via the telephone. Is this action correct?

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (حفظه الله)¹: No, this is not correct. This is from despised exaggeration and going to extremes. Ruqyah must be in person upon the one who is afflicted. One reads and blows upon him in his presence. This is that which has come within the Sunnah. As for this foolery, that the Ruqyah is recited by way of the telephone—the person performing the Ruqyah is in the east and the one for whom the Ruqyah is done is in the west—this is foolery. This does not benefit and it is not Ruqyah.

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^{1 (}حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him