## WHO IS SHEIKH BEN HALIMA ABDERRAOUF?

Sheikh Ben Halima Abderraouf was born in Tunisia in 1967 from a Tunisian father and an American mother.

He grew up in both cultures until he embraced Islam at the age of fifteen. He since engaged in learning and teaching Islam through student, youth and da'wa organisations. He continued his studies in France in 1986 where he settled. A statistical and economic engineer and Olympic mathematical champion, he also memorised Qur'aan on his own and achieved a master degree in Arabic.

After tremendous experience in da'wa in various communities and countries, he gave his full time to Islamic activities from 1995 and founded a French Islamic publishing house where he wrote, translated and edited 20 books, including the translation of Hayatus Sahabah.

Sheikh Ben Halima Abderraouf has been practicing Ruqyah professionally since 1997 and from 2005 spends most of the year in tours and campaigns explaining Ruqyah and shirk issues, treating, training and establishing Ruqyah centres throughout the world.

It is important to note that Sheikh Ben Halima Abderraouf does not ascribe to the constituents of Amaliyyaat which at times may/may not involve the use of Taweez and other such activities/constituents which do not have a solid footing in terms of evidence from Qur'aan and Sunnah.

It is also important to note that the science of Ruqyah is a developing one, and Raaqis (people who practice Ruqyah) develop new trends and methods over time. The developing trends can be adaptable.

Therefore, advice and verdicts is required by and sought from Muslim scholars that specialise in the field of Fiqh to authenticate these new developing methods.

Alhamdulillah, Sheikh Ben Halima Abderraouf has sought such council from various Ulama nationally and internationally and many of them have recommended and approved his method of Ruqyah.

Allah Ta'ala has ensured much success with this method that many have inculcated his method of Ruqyah in their lives, media organisations have promoted his works and have hosted him on numerous occasions with interviews linked to his method of Ruqyah, centres have been established worldwide and Ulama Councils have authenticated his works and method.

Activities of da'wa and tabligh really shaped Sheikh Ben Halima Abderraouf's training in spirituality, predication and group management. His first three days

outing was in England in 1983 when he was sixteen, then first forty days in 1987 in Pakistan.

Since then he did 19 times "forty days" in addition to the four months, and even learnt Urdu to have direct contact with leaders.

The da'wah and tabligh activity is a unique framework to understand the effort of the Nabi  $\rho$ . The tabligh is often blamed to be an "old fashioned" way of predication and people think it should take advantage of modern techniques therefore missing the point of tablighs goal and spirit. The tabligh is not a predication structure but a training one, and you will not be trained by preaching on radio or in newspaper, but by facing all kinds of people in the streets, by being belittled any time you are aggressed or humiliated, by searching all kinds of wisdoms to touch peoples' heart and by imploring Allah every night to guide them.

This is the training that matches most of Sahaaba (RA) which reproduces the Nabis' s.a.w life and enables us to live the Qur'aan.