Q6: Will you please explain the aforementioned comment of Shaykh Al-Islam. Was his comment based on the fact that the Hadith was authentically reported on the authority of Imam Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) or due to the fact that it has a weakness, as is evident from the wording?

A: We explained the meaning in our answer to the third question. As for what was reported on the authority of Imam Ahmad, regarding Tawassul (supplicating to Allah) through the Prophet (peace be upon him), and in a form with weaknesses in it, there is no Sahih (authentic) narration on this, as far as we know, from Imam Ahmad (may Allah be merciful with him). Even if it was ranked as Sahih by him, it would not serve as a proof. In fact, the correct opinion on this issue is that of other than him, and they are the Junhur (dominant majority of scholars) of Ahl Al-Sunnah (those adhering to the Sunnah), because that is based on evidence taken from the Shari`ah (Islamic law).

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

The Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'