1. “Al-Qāḍī Abū al-Ḥusayn Muḥammad Ibn Abī Yaʿlā said: I read to al-Mubārak saying to him: ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz al-Azjī informed us: ʿAlī Ibn Bushrān informed us: ʿUthmān, known as Ibn us-Samāk, informed us: Al-Ḥasan Ibn ʿAbd al-Wahhāb narrated to us: Sulaymān Ibn Muḥammad al-Munqarī narrated to us: ʿAbdūs Ibn Mālik al-ʿAṭṭār narrated to me: I heard Abū ʿAbdullāh Aḥmad Ibn Hanbal – رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُ - saying:

أُصولُ السُّـنَّةِ عندَنَا: التَّمَسُّكُ بِمَا كَانَ عَلَيْهِ أَصْحَابُ الرَّسُولِ- صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

The Fundamental Principles of the *Sunnah* with us are:

2. Holding fast to what the Companions of the Messenger of Allāh were upon.

الإِقْتِدَاءُ بِهِمْ،

3. Taking them [and their way] as a model to be followed.

وَتَرْكُ البِدَعِ،وَكُلُّ بِدْعَةٍ فَهِيَ ضَلالَةٌ،

4. The abandonment of innovations, and every innovation is misguidance.

وَتَرْكُ الخُصُومَاتِ

5. The abandonment of controversies.

وَ[تَرْكُ] الجُلُوسِ مَعَ أَصْحَابِ الأَهْوَاءِ،

6. The abandonment of sitting with the people of *Ahwāʿ* (desires).