

From [Fatawa Ridawiyah, vol.18](#), p.490

RasulAllah sallAllahu ‘alaihi wasallam was not in need of advice [mashwarah] from anyone. He is not dependant on anything in the universe except his Lord. Hence, for him to ask the opinion of his companions was to honour them and also to teach them about Ijtihad and to make it a Sunnah for the ummah. The dear Prophet sallAllahu ‘alaihi wasallam himself said:

“Indeed Allah and His Prophet sallAllahu ‘alaihi wasallam are not in need of counsel from anyone but Allah has made the practice of seeking opinions a mercy upon my ummah. He who seeks advice from others will find guidance and he who refuses will inevitably commit mistakes”.

ibn ‘Adi and Bayhaqi narrate this from ibn ‘Abbas radiyAllahu ta’ala anhuma with a Hasan [good] chain. Bayhaqi has it in Shu’b al-Iman, Hadith 7542, Dar al-Kutub al-‘Ilmiyah, Beirut – 6/77; Durr al-Manthur from Bayhaqi and ibn ‘Adi. Maktaba Ayatullah al-‘Azmi, Qum, Iran – 2/90

Imam Hasan al-Basri says:

“Allah knows that rasulAllah sallAllahu ‘alaihi wasallam does not need their advice but His will is to make it a Sunnah [for the ummah]”.

Sa’eed bin Mansur narrated it in his Sunan and also ibn Mundhar, Bayhaqi and Abu Hatim. al-Mawahib al-Ladunniya, al-Maqsad al-Rabi’, al-Fasl al-Thani, al-Maktab al-Islami, Beirut – 2/601