

Imam Abu Hanifa and the drunk man

It is well known that Abu Hanifa (radi Allahu 'anhu), performed tahajjud (night optional prayer) every night. He would spend his night reciting the Quran. He had a neighbour who was an alcoholic, and he used to drink a lot and sing love poems. This used to bother the imam.

But one day, the imam did not hear this man's revelry, so he went and asked about him. They said, "Oh, so-and-so. They took him to jail." So, the very well respected imam went to the jail. He was the most respected imam and Qaadi at the time in that place. When the ruler found out the imam went to the jail, he asked for the reason and was told that the imam was concerned about his neighbour who had been arrested. So, the ruler said to release the man, and he was released.

The neighbour then asked Abu Hanifa why he did that, and he replied, "Because you have a right upon me as a neighbour, and I have not been neglectful of that." That was the reason that the neighbour made tauba to Allah subhana wa ta'ala