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## **A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF IBN RAJAB**

The following biography is an adapted version of the biography provided by ‘Imaad Ibn Saabir Al-Mirsee in his checking of Ibn Rajab's book *Adh-Dhull wal-Inkisaar Lil-‘Azeez-il-Jabbaar*. He has researched and compiled this biography using nine sources of reference that contain Ibn Rajab’s biography.

### **His name and lineage:**

He is the Imaam, the Haafidh Zayn-ud-Deen ‘Abd-ur-Rahmaan Ibn Ahmad Ibn ‘Abd-ir-Rahmaan Ibn Rajab Ibn Al-Husain Ibn Abeel-Barakaat Mas’ood As-Salaamee Al-Baghdaadee, who then became Ad-Dimashqee Al-Hanbalee, better known as Ibn Rajab Al-Hanbalee. Rajab was the nickname of his grandfather, ‘Abd-ur-Rahmaan. It is also held that it was a nickname given to him because of his being born in the month of Rajab. Ibn Rajab became famous and well known by that name, may Allaah have mercy on him.

### **His birth:**

He was born in Baghdaad in the year 736H according to the most correct opinion found in the discussions presented by those who recorded his biography.

### **His early youth and his search for knowledge:**

Allaah prepared for Ibn Rajab an environment of firm knowledge. His way of life based on acquiring knowledge and producing actions was established for him since his early youth. Because of this, the Haafidh gained much benefit from that. He himself explains that he received the authorization and religious approval from some of the major scholars (of his time) during his youth.

This indicates the degree of zeal and aspiration his family and especially his father – who was from the major scholars of his time – had towards acquiring knowledge. He studied at the hands of many different shaikhs such that some researchers of his biography have counted them to number close to forty.

### **His teachers:**

The checker of Ibn Rajab’s book *Sharh ‘Ilal At-Tirmidhee* has counted Ibn Rajab’s teachers to be thirty-six. However, he did not add to that, his father or Ibn An-Naqeeb or An-Nawawee (Ahmad Ibn ‘Abd-il-Mu’min). So with this, the number of his teachers reaches close to forty as we have stated previously.