

‘Radi Allahu Ta’ala’, ‘Alaihissalam’ and ‘Rahmatullah Alaih’ :Who should be given these titles?

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‘Radi Allahu Ta’ala’, ‘Alaihissalam’ and ‘Rahmatullah Alaih’ are *dua* and can be used for any person interchangeably. They are **not** reserved for any particular personalities.

A. Radi Allahu Ta’ala anhu [May Allah be pleased with him]

General understanding: It should be used “**only**” with *sahaba ekram* [Companions of The Prophet].

Fact: Quran does not put any such restriction. Quran uses it for:

1. Some of companions and those who followed them - Quran 9:100.
2. Those companions who took pledge with the Prophet - Quran 48:18
3. Common believers - Quran 98:7-8; 58:22; 5:119;

Just like you can do *dua* for someone to get paradise, to be *saleh/muttaqi*/successful, similarly, you can do *dua* for someone that Allah may be pleased with him/her.

Over past 14 centuries, scholars have used *Radi Allahu Ta’ala* for people **other** than Sahaba, Tabeyeen and Tabe Tabeyeen. There is a very long list of books referring the same.

B. Alaihissalam [Peace be upon him]

General understanding: It should be used only with Prophets other than Prophet Muhammad, angels, Hazrat Maryam etc.

Fact: Hadees books like **Sahih Bukhari, Sunan Tirmidhi, Sunan Abu Dawood, Musnad Ahmed Bin Hambal** have extensively used *Alaihissalam* with names of Hazrat Ali, Hazrat Fatima, Hazrat Hussain etc.

When you greet someone and say “*Assalam u alaikum*”, it means “Peace be upon you”. You do this for any person.

C. Rahmatullah Alaih [May Allah’s mercy/blessing be upon him]

General understanding: It should be used “only” with very pious people or great scholars.

Fact: It is a *dua* for getting *rahmat* or blessing of Allah so it can be used as *dua* for any person.