Legal Ruling Concerning Offering 'Congratulations' On the Occasion of the Hijree New Year

Imaam 'Abdul-'Azeez ibn 'Abdullaah ibn Baaz (Rahimahullaah)

Question:

We are at the beginning of the *Hijree* New Year and some of the people are exchanging congratulations upon the start of the *Hijree* New Year, by saying (to one another): *Kullu 'Aamm wa Antum Bi-Khair* (May Every Year Find You Upon Goodness).

So, what is the legal ruling concerning this act of congratulating (one another in this manner)? May Allaah Bless You!

Answer:

In the Name of Allaah, the Beneficent, the Merciful. All of the praise belongs to Allaah, the Lord of all the worlds. And may the praise of Allaah in the Highest Assemblies of the Angels and peace, safety and security by upon His worshiper, His Messenger, the best of His creation, the one entrusted with His revelation, our Prophet, our Imaam and our Master, Muhammad ibn Abdullaah and (as well) upon his family, his companions (may Allaah be pleased with all of them) and whoever travels upon his path and follows his guidance until the Day of Judgment.

As for what follows - then, I do *not* know that congratulations on the occasion of the New Year has any basis or origin from *as-Salaf as-Saalih* (the Righteous Predecessors). Nor do I know of anything from the *Sunnah* or in *al-Kitaab al-Azeez* (al-Qur'aan) which points to it being something legislated (in Islaam).

However, if someone initiates this (congratulations) to you (with such a saying), then, there is no harm for you to say: Wa Anta Ka-dhaalika (And the same to you).

If someone says to you: Kullu 'Aamm wa Antum Bi-Khair (May Every Year Find You Upon Goodness)... - then, there is nothing to prevent you from saying (in return): Wa Antum Ka-dhaalika (And the same to you); or (your saying to them): Nas'alullaah Lanaa wa Laka Kulla Khair (We ask Allaah for us and for you to have every goodness), or (your saying) that which is similar to this.

As for *initiating* this (congratulations) [i.e. being the one to say this first] - I know of *no basis* for this. Na'am (yes)!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7NeSenJCGk

[Translated by: Abu Muhammad A.R. Shakir, 30th Dhul-Hijjah 1438 AH / September 21, 2017 CE]