



Whoever ate garlic or onion should keep away from us—or he said: from our mosque—and stay at home."

Jābir ibn 'Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him and his father) reported that the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "Whoever ate garlic or onion should keep away from us—or he said: from our mosque—and stay at home." The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) was brought a pot containing green legumes. Upon noticing it had an odor, he asked and was informed of the legumes therein. He said: "Bring it near" to one of his Companions who was with him. On seeing that he disliked eating it, he said: "Eat, for indeed, I privately converse with one you do not converse with."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) forbade the one who ate garlic or onion from going to the mosque so as not to offend his brothers, attending the congregational prayer, with their smell. It is a prohibition of Tanzīh (what is not strictly forbidden) from going to the mosque, not from eating them because they are from the permissible foods. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) was brought a pot containing vegetables, and when he sensed an odor therein and was informed of what it contained, he refrained from eating it and brought it near to one of his Companions to eat from it; however, he disliked eating from it in imitation of the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him), who said upon seeing him: Eat, for indeed, I converse with the angels through the revelation. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) informed that the angels are offended by unpleasant odors just like people.

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