

## Prelude

*A‘ūdhu bi l-lāhi mina sh-shayṭāni r-rajīm*  
I seek refuge in God from Satan, the accursed.

*bismi l-lāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm*  
In the Name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

*inna l-lāha wa malā’ikatahu yuṣallūna ‘alā n-nabī*  
Surely, God and His angels bestow benedictions  
upon the Prophet.

*yā ayyuhā l-ladhīna āmanū ṣallū ‘alayhi wa sallimū taslīmā*  
O all you of faith, bless him and salute him  
with sincere salutation. (33:56)

Şalla l-lāhu ʿalayka wa ʿalā ālika wa sallam. Allāhumma şalli  
şalātan kāmīlatan wa sallim salāman tāmman ʿalā sayyidinā  
Muḥammad, al-ladhī tanḥallu bihi l-ʿuqad, wa tanfarīju bihi  
l-kurab, wa tuqḍā bihi l-ḥawāʾij, wa tunālu bihi r-ragḥāʾib, wa ḥusnu  
l-khawātīm, wa yustasqā l-ghamāmu bi wajhihi l-karīm, wa ʿalā  
ālihi wa şaḥbih, fī kulli lamḥatin wa nafasin bi ʿadadi kulli  
maʿlūmin laka yā Allāh.

May God bestow upon you and your family benedictions and salutations. O God, shower our master, Muḥammad, with the full extent of mercy, and with the full expanse of serenity, by whom all entanglements are disentangled, by whom all distress is allayed, by whom all needs are met, by whom all aspirations are achieved, by whom our final deeds are adorned, and by whose noble face are clouds petitioned to give drink; and upon his family and companions, with the blink of every eye and with every breath, as reaches the number of every thing known to You, O God!

## Dedication

- ❖ *Ilayka ilāha l-<sup>ʿ</sup>arshi arfa<sup>ʿ</sup>u ḥājatī  
wa ufdī bimā <sup>ʿ</sup>an kulli khalqika aktumu*  
  
To You, God of the Throne, I raise my only plea,  
To confess to You, my Lord, what others cannot see.
- ❖ *fā yā rabbi zidnī minka ṣabran wa dāwinī  
fā minka dawā mā ashtakīhi wa balsamu*  
  
My Lord, by Your Presence, treat and remedy  
My heart and the disease, O efface this misery.
- ❖ *wa kam laka min faḍlin <sup>ʿ</sup>alayya wa minnatin  
wa ḥāshāka arjū minka <sup>ʿ</sup>afwan fā uḥramu*  
  
I can't enumerate the blessings You've bestowed—  
Forbid, my God, my pardon from being withheld.
- ❖ *idhā lam takun lī fī ṣ-ṣi<sup>ʿ</sup>ābi faman turā  
yakūnu la<sup>ʿ</sup>amrī laka mā lastu afhamu*  
  
And if You don't save me from this living hell,  
What will become of me? Can anyone foretell?
- ❖ *fā anta l-ilāhu l-ḥaqqu mā liya maw'ilun  
siwāka wa mā li l-qalbi ghayruka yarḥamu*  
  
O God, You are the Real, my port, my only grace—  
My heart's true love above this dark and deadly place.

## The Prayer of the Oppressed

1. *Yā man ilā raḥmatihī l-mafarru  
wa man ilayhi yalja'u l-muḍḍarru*

O You, whose mercy is a refuge for all those  
In dire need who flee to You to lose their woes,

2. *wa yā qarība l-ʿafwī yā mawlāhu  
wa yā mughītha kullī man daʿāhu*

O master of reprieve, whose pardon is so near,  
You answer all in need; they know that You do hear!

3. *bika-stagħathnā yā mughītha ḍ-ḍuʿafā  
fa ḥasbunā yā rabbi anta wa kafā*

We beg for Your relief, redeemer of the weak;  
You are enough for us, both humbled and so meek.

4. *fa lā ajalla min ʿazīmi qudratik  
wa lā aʿazza min ʿazīzi saṭwatik*

No strength can ever match Your awesome majesty,  
No might can ever breach Your just authority.

5. *lī ʿizzī mulkika l-mulūku takhḍāʿu  
takhfīḍu qadra man tashā wa tarfaʿu*

The kings all bow like us to Your great sovereignty,  
You choose whom to abase or raise decisively.

6. *wa l-amru kulluhu ilayka radduhu*  
*wa bi yadayka ḥalluhu wa ʿaqduhu*

Calamities we face are only stopped by You;  
It's in Your Hands: they are dissolved within Your view.

7. *wa qad rafaʿnā amranā ilayka*  
*wa qad shakawnā ḍuʿfanā ʿalayka*

For solace in these states, we turn to You alone,  
Complaining that we cannot make it on our own.

8. *fa-rḥamnā yā man lā yazālu ʿālimā*  
*bī ḍuʿfinā wa lā yazālu rāḥimā*

Be merciful with us—You know our frailty.  
O You whose mercy falls like rain unceasingly,

9. *unzur ilā mā massanā mina l-warā*  
*fa ḥāluna min baynihim kamā tarā*

Please look upon us now in all our misery,  
Our state as souls oppressed displayed so openly:

10. *qad qalla jamʿunā wa qalla wafrunā*  
*wa-nḥaṭṭa mā bayna l-jumūʿi qadrūnā*

Our numbers are reduced, our former wealth effaced,  
Our once exalted rank and high repute abased;

11. *wa-staḍʿafūnā shawkatan wa shiddah*  
*wa-stanqaṣūnā ʿuddatan wa ʿiddah*

They think us without strength, and deem us without power,  
Our numbers in their eyes seem easy to devour.

12. *fa nahnu yā man mulkuhu lā yuslabu*  
*ludhnā bi jāhika l-ladhī lā yughlabu*

O You whose mighty kingdom never becomes less,  
We hope to take asylum in divine largesse;

13. *ilayka yā ghawtha l-faqīri nastanid*  
*ʿalayka yā kahfa ḍ-ḍaʿīfi naʿtamid*

Haven of the helpless, upon You we depend;  
Helper of the hapless, we trust in Your godsend!

14. *anta l-ladhī nadʿū li kashfi l-ghamarāt*  
*anta l-ladhī narjū li dafʿi l-ḥasarāt*

You are the one we call: relieve our heavy loads,  
Repel our life's travails, abolish what corrodes!

15. *anta l-ʿināyatu l-latī lā nartajī*  
*ḥimāyatan min ghayri bābihā tajī*

Your protection only, Your providence that's true,  
The door is Yours alone that everything comes through.

16. *anta l-ladhī nas‘ā bi bābi fadhlihi  
akramu man aghnā bi fayḍi naylihi*

You are the only one whose bounteous door we seek,  
Most generous of givers, O Lord, You are unique.

17. *anta l-ladhī tahdī idhā ḍalalnā  
anta l-ladhī ta‘fū idhā zalalnā*

You bring us to the path should we all go astray  
And overlook our slips when we lose our way;

18. *wasi‘ta kulla mā khalaqta ‘ilmā  
wa ra‘fatan wa raḥmatan wa ḥilmā*

All created things You hold in Your embrace,  
With mercy and with light, the compass of Your grace.

19. *wa laysa minnā fī l-wujūdi aḥqaru  
wa lā limā ‘indaka minnā aḥqaru*

Nothing in existence is able to compare  
With just how base we are in mortality’s affair.

20. *yā wāsi‘a l-iḥsāni yā man khayruhu  
‘amma l-warā wa lā yunādā ghayruhu*

O infinite in beauty, whose endless good befalls  
The creatures You have made, so answer all our calls!

21. *yā munqidha l-gharqā wa yā ḥannānu*  
*yā munjiya l-halkā wa yā mannānu*

You alone save drowning souls, so gracious with our states,  
Rescuing the doomed, relieving our dire straits:

22. *ḍāqa n-niṭāqu yā samī<sup>u</sup> yā mujīb*  
*‘azza d-dawā’u yā sarī<sup>u</sup> yā qarīb*

Constriction is increasing, there is no cure in sight,  
So hasten to our needs, respond to set them right!

23. *wa qad madadnā rabbanā l-akuffa*  
*wa minka rabbanā rajawnā l-luṭfa*

Our hands are raised to You, our palms are open wide:  
We seek sincerely endless grace You do provide.

24. *fa-lṭufbinā fimā bihi qaḍayta*  
*wa raḍḍinā bimā bihi raḍīta*

Be gentle with our souls in all You have decreed,  
Bestow on us what pleases You in what we need.

25. *wa abdili l-lāhumma ḥāla l-<sup>u</sup>usri*  
*bi l-yusri wa-mdudnā bi rīḥi n-naṣri*

Replace our state of hardship with Your gentle ease,  
And guide us with Your power’s prevailing breeze,

26. *wa-jʿal lanā ʿalā l-bughāti l-ghalabah*  
*wa-qṣur adhā sh-sharri ʿalā man ṭalabah*

And place our status over those who took our lands,  
Constrain their evil now, and tightly bind their hands;

27. *wa-qhar ʿidānā yā ʿazīzu qahrā*  
*yafṣīmu ḥablahum wa yuṣmī ḏ-ḏahrā*

Overcome our foes with Your subduing might,  
Unravel all their hopes, and force them to take flight;

28. *wa-ʿkis murādahum wa khayyib saʿyahum*  
*wa-hzim juyūshahum wa aḥsid raʿyahum*

Deter their evil aims, and dash their unjust plan;  
Repel them from our gates, and mystify each man.

29. *wa ʿajjili l-lāhumma fihim niqmatak*  
*fa innahum lā yuʿjizūna qudratak*

Be swift in justice, Lord, in this our anxious hour,  
For they cannot remove an atom of Your power.

30. *yā rabbi yā rabbi bi ḥabli ʿiṣmatik*  
*qadi-ʿtaṣamnā wa bi ʿizzi nuṣratik*

O Lord, by holding on to Your most gracious rope,  
We bind it to our faith, and knot it to our hope.

31. *fa kun lanā wa lā takun ʿalaynā  
wa lā takilnā ʿarfatan ilaynā*

So stand for us today, don't counter what we try,  
Forsake us not, O Lord, the blinking of an eye.

32. *fa mā aṭaqnā quwwatan li d-dafʿi  
wa lā-staṭaʿnā ḥīlatan li n-nafʿi*

We're powerless to stop this onslaught of their force,  
Or strategize to benefit our country's course.

33. *wa mā qaṣadnā ghayra bābika l-karīm  
wa mā rajawnā ghayra faḍlika l-ʿamīm*

We seek no good except what flows from Your wide door  
And yearn for grace that comes from Your unending more.

34. *fa mā rajat min khayrika ḡ-zunūnu  
bi nafsi mā taqūlu kun yakūnu*

All thoughts within our hearts will find serenity  
Through God who fashions all by only saying: "Be!"

35. *yā rabbi yā rabbi bika t-tawaṣṣulu  
limā ladayka wa bika t-tawassulu*

O Lord, by You alone, we will achieve our end,  
By You, through You, Your means to You—our only friend.

36. *yā rabbi anta ruknunā r-rafiu  
yā rabbi anta ḥiṣnunā l-manīu*

Sustainer of us all, O towering support,  
Our Lord who grants us all defense within His fort,

37. *yā rabbi yā rabbi anilnā l-amnā  
idhā-rtaḥalnā wa idhā aqamnā*

Secure our hearts within Your glorious defense,  
In restless journeys far or in our residence;

38. *yā rabbi wa-ḥfaz zaranā wa ḍaranā  
wa-ḥfaz tijāranā wa waffir jamanā*

Protect our herds, preserve our crops, increase our gains,  
And give and bless our commerce with approving rains;

39. *wa-jal bilādanā bilāda d-dīni  
wa rāḥata l-muḥtāji wa l-miskīni*

Fill our land with good prosperity,  
Release our citizens from dire poverty;

40. *wa-jal lahā bayna l-bilādi ṣawlah  
wa ḥurmatan wa manatan wa dawlah*

Establish righteous rule while granting noble station,  
With high respect and dignity in every nation;

41. *wa-j<sup>ʿ</sup>al mina s-sirri l-maṣūni ʿizzahā*  
*wa-j<sup>ʿ</sup>al mina s-sitri l-jamīli ḥirzahā*

Hide its natural strength in guarded secret trust,  
And veil its protection in a graceful, gracious mist.

42. *wa-j<sup>ʿ</sup>al bi ṣādin wa bi qāfin wa bi nūn*  
*alfa ḥijābin min warāʾihā yakūn*

By the sacred sounds of ṣad and qāf, and holy nūn,  
A thousand veils enfolding to protect our land from ruin,

43. *bi jāhi nūri wajhika l-karīmi*  
*wa jāhi sirri mulkika l-ʿazīmi*

By the rank of all the light from this Your Noble Face  
And sacred estimation of Your vast dominion's space,

44. *wa jāhi lā ilāha illā l-lāhu*  
*wa jāhi khayri l-khalqi yā rabbāhu*

By the elevated rank of "There is no god but God"  
And Your beloved chosen one who lived in purity, awed,

45. *wa jāhi mā bihi daʿāka l-anbiyā*  
*wa jāhi mā bihi daʿāka l-awliyā*

By the rank of every prophet, who ever called on You,  
By the rank of every saint, who ever sought from You,

46. *wa jāhi qadri l-quṭbi wa l-awṭādi*  
*wa jāhi ḥāli l-jarsi wa l-afrādi*

By the rank of humanity's blessed Pole and Pillars too,  
All solitary saints and inspired words from You,

47. *wa jāhi l-akhyāri wa jāhi n-nujabā*  
*wa jāhi l-abdāli wa jāhi n-nuqabā*

By the rank of those select and pious overseers,  
Chosen spiritual substitutes for those departing here,

48. *wa jāhi kullī ʿābidin wa dhākir*  
*wa jāhi kullī ḥāmidin wa shākir*

By the rank of faithful devotees who live in dignity,  
Who praise their God in gratitude for His decree,

49. *wa jāhi kullī man rafaʿta qadrahu*  
*mim-man satarta aw nasharta dhikrahu*

By the rank of everyone You raise to noble heights,  
Among those You conceal or those You bring to light,

50. *wa jāhi āyāti l-kitābi l-muḥkami*  
*wa jāhi li-smi l-aʿzami l-muʿazzami*

By the rank of every sign in Your Book's revelation  
And the greatest name concealed in veiled occultation,

51. *yā rabbi yā rabbi waqafnā fuqarā*  
*bayna yadayka du‘afā’a ḥuqarā*

Lord, we stand before You now, bereft without You, lost,  
Without design or strategy, by every tempest tossed;

52. *wa qad da‘awnāka du‘ā’a man da‘ā*  
*rabbān karīman lā yaruddu man sa‘ā*

We call on You with prayers of those who are infused  
With knowledge that their Lord is One who won’t refuse;

53. *fa-qbal du‘ā’anā bi maḥḍi l-fadli*  
*qabūla man alghā ḥisāba l-‘adli*

Accept this prayer, O Lord: with nothing but Your grace,  
Remove all just deserts and show us mercy’s face;

54. *wa-mnun ‘alaynā minnata l-karīmi*  
*wa-‘ṭif ‘alaynā ‘atfata l-ḥalīmi*

Reveal to us Your gifts, bestow on us Your favor  
With kindness that befits a gentle, clement savior;

55. *wa-nshur ‘alaynā yā raḥīmu raḥmatak*  
*wa-bsuṭ ‘alaynā yā karīmu ni‘matak*

Envelop us, O Lord, within Your mercy’s sea,  
And rain on us Your grace that falls abundantly;

56. *wa khir lanā fi sā'iri l-aqwāli*  
*wakhtar lanā fi sā'iri l-af'āli*

From all our words and deeds, choose those that remain  
The highest and the best, so heaven is our gain;

57. *yā rabbi wa-j'al da'banā t-tamassukā*  
*bī s-sunnati l-gharrā'i wa t-tanassukā*

O Plenitude, fill our lives and hearts with pure devotion,  
In perfect harmony with Your Prophet's generous ocean,

58. *wa-ḥṣur lanā aghrāḍanā l-mukhtalifah*  
*fika wa 'arrifnā tamāma l-ma'rifah*

And bring to focus all our aims into a single goal:  
Complete and blissful knowledge of You within our soul!

59. *wa-jma' lanā mā bayna 'ilmin wa 'amal*  
*wa-ṣrif ilā dāri l-baqā minnā l-amal*

Let us always act, Lord, in accord with Aḥmad's way,  
Directing all our hopes to a joyful Judgment Day;

60. *wa-nhaj binā yā rabbi nahja s-su'adā*  
*wa-khtim lanā yā rabbi khatma sh-shuhadā*

Always lead us, Lord, to what is right and true,  
The path real martyrs take and those who gaze on You;

61. *wa-j<sup>ʿ</sup>al banīnā fuḍalā'a ṣulaḥā*  
*wa <sup>ʿ</sup>ulamā'a <sup>ʿ</sup>āmilīna nuṣaḥā*

Raise our children up as brave and pious scholars  
Who base their days on Your sweet light as true exemplars;

62. *wa aṣliḥi l-lāhumma ḥāla l-ahli*  
*wa yassiri l-lāhumma jam<sup>ʿ</sup>a sh-shamli*

And unify the hearts of family and of friends,  
Facilitate for us in making our amends;

63. *yā rabbi wa-ftaḥ fathāka l-mubīna*  
*li man tawallā wa a<sup>ʿ</sup>azza d-dīna*

O Lord, bestow a clear decisive victory  
On all who aid this way and restore its dignity;

64. *wa-nṣurhu yā dhā ṭ-ṭawli wa-nṣur ḥizbahu*  
*wa-mla' bimā yurḍika <sup>ʿ</sup>anhu qalbahu*

Possessor of great might, aid him and those who serve,  
And fill their hearts with aspirations they deserve;

65. *yā rabbi wa-nṣur dīnanā l-Muḥammadī*  
*wa-j<sup>ʿ</sup>al khitāma <sup>ʿ</sup>izzihi kamā budī*

Aid us in the light of this Muḥammad's way,  
And make its glorious end as bright as its first day;

66. *wa-ḥfazhu yā rabbi bi ḥifẓi l-ʿulamā*  
*wa-rfaʿ manāra nūrihi ilā s-samā*

Protect it through the works of its faithful and true scholars  
And elevate its lights to its rightful radiant colors;

67. *wa-ʿfu wa ʿāfi wa-kfi wa-ghfir dhambanā*  
*wa dhamba kulli muslimin yā rabbanā*

Pardon and forgive us, and keep us safe from ill,  
And all submitted ones who seek to know Your will;

68. *wa ṣalli yā rabbi ʿalā l-mukhtāri*  
*ṣalātaka l-kāmilata l-miqdāri*

Bestow Your lordly solace on the perfect Chosen One,  
Your plenitudinous grace upon his dazzling sun;

69. *ṣalātaka l-latī tafi bi amrihi*  
*kamā yalīqu bi-rtifāʿi qadrihi*

Bestow on him a peace that befits his holy stature  
In accordance with the pure nobility of his nature,

70. *thumma ʿalā l-āli l-kirāmi wa ʿalā*  
*aṣḥābihi l-ghurri wa man lahum talā*

And on his noble family down the ages, everyone,  
Companions, followers, every daughter, every son.

71. *wa l-ḥamdu li l-lāhi l-ladhī bi ḥamdihi  
yablughu dhū l-qaṣḍi tamāma qaṣḍihi*

Praise belongs to God alone, with a praise so direct  
All praising seekers find their goal among the elect.