



Ṣalāt upon the Prophet - a Paradigm of Virtue



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Translated into English by
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دُرودِ پاک کی فضیلت

Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue

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Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
أَسَابِعُهُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Du‘ ā for reading this book

Read the following before you study a religious book or an Islamic lesson. You will remember whatever you study **بِسْمِ اللَّهِ**:

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَانْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

O Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ**! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O the One Who is the most glorious and honourable! (*Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, pp. 40*)

Note: **Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue**

Recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet **ﷺ** once before and after.

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Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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Attar’s prayer

O Lord of the Prophet! Whoever reads or listens to the 26 page booklet, *Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue*, grant them the ability to recite salat upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in abundance! Forgive them and their parents without accountability!

أَمِينٌ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

The excellence of reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet ﷺ

The final Prophet of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ declared, “Allah shall send ten mercies upon whoever recites ṣalāt upon me once.”¹

Shaykh Abū ‘Abdullāh al-Raṣṣā‘ رحمه الله عليه explains, “Mercy refers to bestowed gifts. (In relation to the previous hadith) Allah continuously confers gifts upon a servant in this world and the Hereafter.”

¹ *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*, p. 172, *hadith* 912

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Qāḍī Abū ‘Abdullāh al-Sakkākī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ adds:

A single mercy of Allah is better than the world and all it contains. What can then be said of a person upon whom Allah sends ten mercies? How many problems and calamities shall He distance from this person, and how many blessings shall the latter attain from them?

Shaykh Abū ‘Aṭā’illāh رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ further adds:

A single mercy bestowed by Allah suffices a person for every single matter of the world and Hereafter. Imagine then the state of a person upon whom Allah sends ten mercies!¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The eminent distinction of ṣalāt

The beloved of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ announced:

Friday is indeed amongst the most excellent of your days. On it, Ādam was created, his soul was taken, the Trumpet shall be blown, and annihilation shall occur. So, recite abundant ṣalāt upon me on this day, for indeed your ṣalāt is presented to me.

¹ Maṭāli‘ al-Musarrāt, p. 30

The Companions عَلَيْهِ الرِّضْوَانُ asked, “O Messenger of Allah, how will our ṣalāt be presented to you after you have passed away?” He replied, “Allah Almighty has prohibited the earth from decaying the bodies of the prophets.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Light on the Bridge of Ṣirāt

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Sending ṣalāt upon me is light for ‘a person upon’ the Bridge of Ṣirāt. Whoever recites eighty ṣalāt upon me on Friday, Allah forgives eighty years of his sins.”²

Reciting a thousand ṣalāt on Fridays

The merciful Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Whoever recites ṣalāt upon me a thousand times on Friday shall not die until he sees his place in Paradise.”³

A unique story of ṣalāt

The saint Sufyān al-Thawrī رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ saw a young man constantly reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet whilst making ṭawāf of the Ka‘bah. He explains:

¹ Sunan Abī Dāwūd: 1047

² Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaḡhīr: 5191

³ Al-Tarḡīb wa al-Tarhīb, vol. 2, p. 328, hadith 22

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“O young man!”, I asked, “Is there a special reason why you have left reciting *tasbīḥ* and *tahlīl* (سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ and لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ), and are only reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet?” The young man asked who I was, and I mentioned my name to be Sufyān al-Thawrī.

He responded, “If you were not from the pious servants of Allah, I would never have told you this secret! My father and I set out intending to perform ḥajj. On the way, my father fell gravely ill, and despite trying everything, I could not save him from death. After dying, his face became dark. I recited قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ and covered it.

In this anxious state, my eyes became heavy, and I fell asleep. In my dream, I beheld an individual whose beauty was unparalleled; his clothes were immaculate, and waves of fragrance were emitting from his body. He walked gracefully towards me, lifted the cloth from my father’s face and pointed towards it, whereupon my father’s face began to glow.

When he began to leave, I clung to his clothing and said, “Through you, Allah has saved my father’s honour whilst in these foreign lands. Who are you?”

He replied, ‘Do you not recognise me? I am he to whom Allah revealed the Quran, the Prophet of Allah,

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Muhammad, son of ‘Abdullah. Even though your father was deeply sinful, he would send abundant ṣalāt upon me. When afflicted by difficulty, he called out to me for help, and I assist all who send ṣalāt upon me in abundance.’

(The young man then said) After this, my eyes opened suddenly, and I found my father’s face glowing.”¹

Purposes and benefits

The scholar Ḥalimī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ (d. 403 AH) writes:

One purpose of reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet is to seek proximity to Allah by carrying out His command, whilst another is to fulfil a right the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has over us.

In the same vein, Ibn ‘Abd al-Salām رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ (d. 660 AH) mentions:

Our sending of ṣalāt upon the Prophet is by no means a form of intercession for him; how could people like us possibly intercede for such a lofty personality?

¹ *Tafsīr Rūḥ al-Bayān, Aḥzāb, verse no: 7, vol. 56, p. 225*

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Yet, Allah ordered us to recompense the favours of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ upon us, and if we cannot do that, we should make du‘ā for him. Knowing we are unable to recompense the Prophet’s favours upon us, Allah then instructed us to send ṣalāt upon him.

(Similar words are related from Shaykh Abū Muhammad al-Marjānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ)

Qāḍī Abū Bakr Ibn al-‘Arabī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ (d. 543 AH) elucidates:

He who recites ṣalāt upon the Prophet benefits from this himself, as this act guides towards good beliefs, purity of intention, expressions of love, consistent servitude and honouring the esteemed intermediary, the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.¹

Shaykh Abū al-Mawāhib رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

I beheld Allah’s Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in a dream. “You shall intercede for 100,000 people on the Day of Judgement”, he declared to me. I then asked, “O Messenger of Allah! How did I become worthy of this?” He explained, “Because you recite ṣalāt upon me and convey its reward to me.”²

¹ *Al-Mawāhib al-Ladunniyyah li al-Qastalani*, vol. 2, pp. 504 - 506

² *Al-Ṭabaqāt al-Sha‘rānī*, vol. 2, p. 101, number 318

The renowned Ḥasan al-Baṣrī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ revealed:

Whoever wishes to drink from a bowl filled at the Fountain of Kawthar, should recite this ṣalāt:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَأَوْلَادِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّتِهِ وَأَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ
وَأَصْحَارِهِ وَأَنْصَارِهِ وَأَشْيَاعِهِ وَمُحِبِّيهِ وَأُمَّتِهِ وَعَلَيْنَا مَعَهُمْ أَجْعِبْ عَيْنِي يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ¹

Fruit of Paradise

The Fourth Caliph of Islam, Sayyidunā ‘Alī b. Abī Ṭālib رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ has said:

Allah created a tree in Paradise whose fruit is bigger than an apple, smaller than a pomegranate, softer than butter, sweeter than honey and more fragrant than musk. Its branches are of pearls, its trunks of gold and leaves of gemstones. Only those who send abundant ṣalāt upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ will eat the fruit of this tree.²

¹ *Al-Shifā’*, part 2, p. 72

² *Al-Ḥāwī li al-Fatāwā*, vol. 2, p. 48

Paradise expands

Shaykh ‘Abd al-‘Azīz al-Dabbāgh رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ said, “One blessing of sending ṣalāt upon the Prophet is that when angels on the outskirts of Paradise recite this, Paradise itself expands.¹”

Assistance in every difficulty

Shaykh Abū Bakr al-Shiblī al-Baghdādī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ relates the following account:

I once saw my deceased neighbour in a dream and asked, مَا فَعَلَ اللَّهُ بِكَ – “How did Allah deal with you?”

He replied, “I faced intense difficulties and was unable to answer the questions of Munkar and Nakīr. I began thinking I perhaps did not die as Muslim! At that point a voice explained, ‘You are being given this punishment for speaking unnecessarily in the world.’”

Angels of punishment then began to approach. Suddenly, a sweet-smelling person of profound beauty came between the punishment and I. He reminded me of the answers to Munkar and Nakīr’s questions, and I answered accordingly. أَلْحَقْنَا بِاللَّهِ. The punishment was distanced from me.

¹ *Al-Abrīz*, vol. 2, p. 338

‘May Allah have mercy on you!’, I turned to the person and exclaimed, ‘Who are you?’

He replied, ‘I was created due to your abundant recital of ṣalāt, and I have been appointed to assist you in every difficulty.’”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The Prophet ﷺ can appear in the grave

مُبْرِكٌ اللَّهُ An angel can come into the grave to assist someone through the blessings of reciting ṣalāt. If this is the case, then without doubt, the leader of all creation including angels, he upon whom ṣalāt itself is recited, the beloved Prophet of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ can also bless our graves with his presence and help us!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The station of ṣalāt-reciters

Shaykh Abū Bakr al-Shiblī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ once visited the great scholar of Baghdad, Shaykh Abū Bakr b. Mujāhid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ. Upon his arrival, the latter stood up, embraced him, kissed his

¹ Al-Qawl al-Badī', p. 260

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forehead, and seated him next to himself with great decorum. Those in attendance said, “You and the people of Baghdad have been saying he lost his senses, yet why do you show him so much reverence today?”

The scholar replied, “I did not do this without reason. **اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ** Last night, I beheld something amazing in my dream. I saw the Prophet **صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّمَ** stand, embrace Abū Bakr al-Shiblī, kiss his forehead and seat him next to himself.

I asked, ‘O Messenger of Allah! Why do you show this level of kindness to him?’ He began to explain (giving news of the unseen): ‘He recites this verse after every salah:’

لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ يَأْتِي الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Indeed, there has come to you that Messenger from amongst yourselves; heavy upon him is your suffering, he immensely desires your well-being; utmost kind, merciful for the Muslims.¹
‘He then recites ṣalāt upon me.’²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ Al-Quran, 9:128, Translation from Kanz al-Īmān

² Al-Qawl al-Badī’, p. 346

Forgiveness due to writing ṣalāt

The Tābi'ī Sufyān b. 'Uyaynah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ explains:

I had a religious brother. After his death, I saw him in my dream and asked how Allah dealt with him. "Allah forgave me!", he replied. I then asked what deed led to his forgiveness.

He divulged, "I used to write hadith, and whenever the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was mentioned, I would write صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, intending to earn reward. By the blessings of this action, I was forgiven."¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Allah's Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said:

لَيَرِدَنَّ الْحَوْضَ عَلَى أَقْوَامٍ مَا أَعْرَفُهُمْ إِلَّا بِكَثْرَةِ الصَّلَاةِ عَلَيَّ

Some people shall arrive at the Fountain of Kawthar whom I shall not recognise except by their ample sending of ṣalāt upon me.²

¹ Al-Qawl al-Badī', p. 463

² Al-Qawl al-Badī', p. 264

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A sign of the Ahl al-Sunnah

Imam Zayn al-‘Ābidīn, ‘Alī b. Husayn b. ‘Alī رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ declared:

عَلَامَةُ أَهْلِ السُّنَّةِ كَثْرَةُ الصَّلَاةِ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

The hallmark of Ahl al-Sunnah is the profuse recital of ṣalāt upon the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.¹

How ṣalāt removes pain and difficulty

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Raḥmān b. Aḥmad رَحِمَهُمُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ said:

I went to a public bath and fell, causing my hand to swell and feel pain. I fell asleep later that night (whilst reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet), and in my dream I was honoured to see the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

I called out, “O Messenger of Allah!” and he replied, “Your recital of ṣalāt (whilst in pain) has rendered me emotional.” When I awoke in the morning, I found that by virtue of his beneficence, no sign of pain and swelling remained.²

¹ *Al-Qawl al-Badī’, p. 131*

² *Al-Qawl al-Badī’, p. 328*

Revelation to Prophet Mūsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

Allah revealed to Prophet Mūsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, “Do you wish for Me to be closer to you than your speech is to your tongue, your thoughts are to your heart, your soul is to your body and your sight is to your eyes?”

After Prophet Mūsā said yes, Allah then announced, “Then send abundant ṣalāt upon Muhammad.”¹ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلِّ اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Imam Jalāl al-Dīn al-Suyūṭī al-Shāfi‘ī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ writes in his book *Sharḥ al-Ṣudūr*, that during the visible life of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, when a person was on his death bed, it would be said nearby:

O Allah! Forgive this person, child of so and so. Make his grave cool and spacious. Grant him peace after death, closeness to the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, take him as a friend, and elevate his soul toward the souls of the pious. Gather us with him in that abode in which well-being perpetually continues and in which sadness and fatigue are not found.

¹ *Ḥilyat al-Awliyā*, vol. 6, p. 33, number 7716

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Furthermore, ṣalāt upon the Prophet would be recited until the person’s soul left their body.¹

The merits of writing ṣalāt in a book

Shaykh ‘Abdullāh b. Ṣāliḥ al-Ṣūfī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ relates of how a hadith scholar (*muḥaddith*) was seen in a dream and asked, “How did Allah deal with you?” He explained how Allah forgave him, and when asked for what reason, he began to explain, “For writing ṣalāt after the name of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in my books.”²

Virtue of ṣalāt

Ḥafṣ b. ‘Abdullāh رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ states:

After Abū Zur‘ah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ passed away, I saw him in a dream praying with angels in the sky. I asked how he reached such a rank, and he replied, “I wrote 100,000 hadith by hand and recited ṣalāt for each one. The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلَاةً صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ بِهَا عَشْرًا - ‘Allah sends ten mercies upon whoever recites ṣalāt upon me once.’”³

¹ *Sharḥ al-Sudūr*, p. 37

² *Tārīkh Ibn ‘Asākir*, vol. 54, p. 113, number 6646

³ *Tārīkh Baghdād*, vol. 10, p. 334, number 5469

Seeing the deceased in a dream

A woman came to Imam Ḥasan al-Baṣrī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ and said, “My young daughter has passed away and I wish to see her in a dream. Please tell me of a du‘ā I can read to fulfil my wish.” The imam did as such, and after reciting it that night, she saw her daughter in a dream. The latter was wearing a garment made from the tar of Hell, her hands chained, and feet shackled.

The woman related this dream to the imam the next day, and he was deeply saddened. After some time, he saw this girl in Paradise with a crown on her head. She began to say, “Do you recognise me? I am the daughter of the lady that told you of my previous wretched state.”

The imam asked what led to her state changing so dramatically, and she explained, “A pious person passed by the graveyard and recited ṣalāt upon the Prophet. Because of this, Allah removed punishment from five hundred of us in our graves.”¹

Point of note

A point to bear in mind: Through just one person’s recital of ṣalāt, a whole host of people were forgiven. So, will an individual who recited ṣalāt upon the Prophet for 50 years not be forgiven on the Day of Judgement?²

¹ *Mukāshafat al-Qulūb*, p. 24

² *Ibid*

Protection of body and soul

An intelligent person opined, “The body is protected by eating less, the soul is protected by committing fewer sins, whilst faith is protected by reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet.”¹

The warped face

A person once saw a warped and twisted face in the jungle. He asked who it was, to which the face replied, “I am your evil actions.” The man further inquired, “Is there a way for me to rid myself of you?” It responded, “By reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet.”²

The person who did not recite ṣalāt

There was once a man who did not send ṣalāt upon the Prophet. The final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ himself then came into his dream and displayed no inclination towards him.

The man asked, “Are you displeased with me? Is this why you did not turn your attention towards me?”

The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ replied, “No. I do not even recognise you.”

¹ *Mukāshafat al-Qulūb*, p. 9

² *Ibid*, p. 30

“My master, how can it be you do not recognise me?”, the man exclaimed, “Scholars of Islam say you recognise the members of your *ummah* more profoundly than their mothers do.”

The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ explained:

The scholars have spoken the truth, but you do not remind me of yourself by sending ṣalāt. I recognise my follower in accordance with the amount of ṣalāt he sends upon me.

This moved him deeply, and he began to recite ṣalāt 100 times daily. After some time, he was blessed with a vision of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ again, who then declared, “I now recognise you, and I shall intercede for you.”¹

Safety from a wild animal

The masterful shaykh, Abū al-Ḥasan ‘Alī al-Shādhilī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ was once in a jungle, when a wild animal suddenly came before him. He became worried for his safety, and in this state of fear, he began to recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet. By the blessings of this, he was kept safe from the wild animal.²

In another instance, ‘Abdullah b. Salām رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ once set out to visit his brother, ‘Uthmān رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. The latter appeared elated.

¹ *Mukāshafat al-Qulūb*, p. 30

² *Sa‘ādat al-Dārayn*, p. 152

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(When asked about the reason for his joy,) He mentioned, “I saw the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in my dream last night. He gave me a vessel filled with water. I drank to my fill and feel its coolness even now.”

‘Abdullah b. Salām asked, “How did you attain this rank?”, to which ‘Uthmān replied, “By sending copious ṣalāt upon the Prophet.”¹

Reciting ṣalāt with every hadith

Abū ‘Arūbah al-Ḥarrāthī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ used to always recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet whenever someone read hadith in front of him. He would also make his recital apparent for all to see.

He said:

One grace earned by reading hadith is that it allows one to recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet in great amounts in this world. Reading them also leads to the bounties of Paradise in the Hereafter.”²

“I would have been destroyed”

Shaykh Ḥusayn b. Aḥmad Kawwāz al-Bisātī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ explains:

¹ Sa‘ādat al-Dārayn, p. 198

² Sa‘ādat al-Dārayn, p. 198

I prayed to Allah and asked Him to allow me to see Abū Ṣāliḥ al-Muezzin رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in a dream. I saw him to be in excellent condition and asked, “O Abū Ṣāliḥ! How are you?”

He replied, “O Abū al-Ḥasan! If I had not sent abundant ṣalāt upon the Prophet, I would have been destroyed.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Cure for every pain

Once, Caliph Hārūn al-Rashīd رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ became ill. Despite many treatments, he was not returning to good health, and six months passed in this state. He happened to find out Shaykh Abū Bakr al-Shibli رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ was passing by his palace, so he requested for the saint to visit him.

When the saint arrived and saw the state of the caliph, he said, “Do not worry. By the mercy of Allah, you will recover today.” Then he recited ṣalāt upon the Prophet and passed his hand over the caliph’s body, whereupon he was immediately cured.²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ Sa‘ādat al-Dārayn, p. 136

² Rāhat al-Qulūb, p. 50

The story of a merchant

There was a prosperous merchant whose business was running excellently. Money was flowing in from all corners. A time then arrived when this came to an end, and his financial situation worsened severely. Business losses continued to pile up to the point his business halted, and he fell into poverty. He had taken a loan of 3000 dinars from a friend, and a date was set for repayment.

The lender asked for repayment of the loan on the appointed date, but the merchant asked to be excused, saying he did not have anything to give back. Following this, his friend raised a case with the judge, who summoned him to court. After hearing this case, he issued the merchant one month's respite and stressed for him to return the borrowed amount within the specified time.

The merchant was in great anxiety, worrying over what he could do. Perhaps he read somewhere or heard from scholars that Allah's Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ explained, "If any calamity or worry comes to someone, they should recite profuse ṣalāt upon me, as ṣalāt takes calamities and worries away and increases sustenance (*rizq*)."

The merchant sat in a corner of a masjid, and with a humble heart, began reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet.

When 27 days passed, he had a dream in which someone was saying:

Do not worry! Allah is the Maker and Arranger of all matters. Your debt will be repaid. Go to ‘Ali b. ‘Īsā, the minister of the ruling authority, and say to him, ‘Give me 3000 dinars to repay my debt.’

The merchant relates he was overjoyed when he awoke, and his anxiety had ceased. Then, the thought arose in his mind that if the minister asks for proof, he has nothing to substantiate his asking.

He was lost in these thoughts for an entire day until another night arrived. This time, he beheld none other than the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in his dream, who also informed him to go to ‘Ali b. ‘Īsā and mention the same thing.

When he awoke, there was no limit to his happiness. The next night in his dreams, he saw the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ again ordering the same course of action he did the previous night. The merchant humbly asked, “O Messenger of Allah! Please inform me of a sign or evidence I can tell the minister about.”

Upon this, the generous Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said:

If the minister asks you for proof, say, “You recite 5000 ṣalāt upon the Messenger of Allah after fajr salah before speaking to anyone. Nobody knows of this other than

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Allah and Kirāman Kātibīn (the angels who record deeds).”

The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ then departed.

In the morning, the merchant stepped out of the masjid after fajr. He noted the entire allotted one-month respite had now passed, and he was due to pay his debt back. He arrived at the minister’s residence and informed him of the entire account.

When the merchant mentioned the words of Allah’s Messenger, the minister was elated. The latter went back into his residence and brought out 9000 dinars. He counted out 3000 and said, “These are for fulfilment of your debt.” He counted out another 3000, saying, “These are for your household expenses.” He counted out the final 3000 and handed them to the merchant, saying, “These are for your business.”

When he was about to leave, the minister took an oath and exclaimed:

O brother! You are my brother in religion and faith! Do not break this link of brotherly love we have. Whenever you have a need for anything, come to me without hesitation, I will resolve your problem to the best of my ability.

The merchant went straight to the judge’s court. When both parties were summoned, he took 3000 dinars and placed them

before the judge. “Tell me”, the judge quizzed, “Where did you acquire such a large sum of money from when you were bankrupt?” The merchant relayed everything that had happened to a silent, listening judge.

The judge finally stood up, went to his home and returned with 3000 dinars. “The minister has earned great blessings, but I am also a servant of the Prophetic court”, he announced, “I hereby repay your entire debt from my own pocket.” When the lender saw all of this, he said, “You have attained great mercy, and I too want my share of this!” The lender then wrote down he had forgiven the merchant’s debt for the sake of Allah and His Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

The merchant said to the judge, “Thank you, but keep this money of yours. I have no need of it now.” The judge responded, “I will never take back the money I have brought out of love for Allah and His Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. It is yours; take it with you.”

The merchant finalised:

I left stuck in severe debt but returned home with 12,000 dinars. My debt had been repaid, I had money for my household expenses, and a substantial amount for

Ṣalāt upon the Prophet – a Paradigm of Virtue

carrying out business. All these blessings manifested through reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Blessings of ṣalāt

The expert hadith scholar of Delhi, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Haqq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, explains how reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet has the following benefits:

- Calamities and problems are averted.
- The ill are cured.
- Fear is uprooted.
- Oppression is removed.
- Victory is achieved over enemies.
- Love for the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ grows in one’s heart, and Allah becomes pleased with a person.
- Angels speak well of a person.
- The reciter’s heart, soul, life, wealth and possessions are purified.

¹ *Jazb- al-Qulūb*, p. 237

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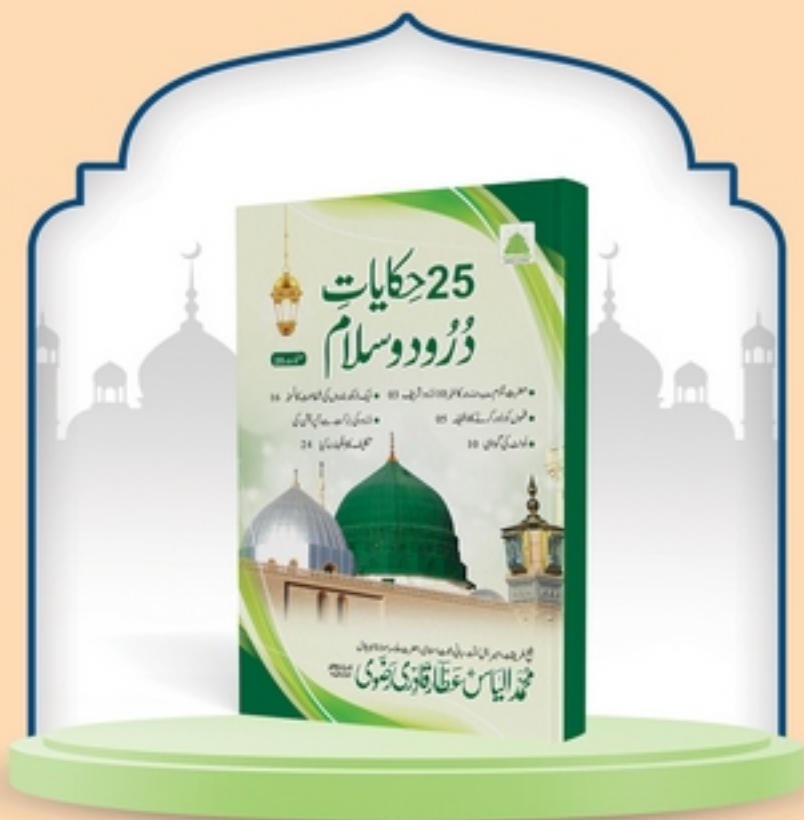
- Blessings are acquired and remain in four generations of the reciter's family.
- Salvation from the terrors of the Day of Judgement is obtained.
- The throes of death are rendered easy for a person.
- A person is protected from worldly causes of destruction.
- Poverty and lack of wealth are alleviated.
- Forgotten matters are remembered.
- When the reciter passes over the Bridge of Ṣirāṭ, light shall spread, and he shall pass over it in the blink of an eye.
- An unimaginable honour for the reciter is that his name is presented to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
- Love for the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ increases.
- The virtues, qualities, and excellences of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ become affixed in one's heart.
- Thoughts and contemplations of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ occur in one's mind.

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- Reciters gain special closeness to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
- A person beholds the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in their dreams.
- On the Day of Judgement, one attains the honour of shaking hands with the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
- Angels welcome and love the reciter.
- They record the reciter's ṣalāt with gold pens on silver tablets and pray for his forgiveness.
- Angels that roam the earth present the name of the reciter and his father to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ himself.¹

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¹ *Jazb al-Qulūb*, p. 229



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