Excellence of Shaykh ɬabd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رحمة الله عليه

Solution to a problem in a dream
Blessings in the wheat

Destruction of the worldly life and the hereafter
Questions of 100 scholars

Presented by
Majlis Al-Madina-tul-‘Ilmiyyah
Translated into English by
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Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

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Du'ā' for reading this book

Read the following du'ā’ (supplication) before you study a religious book or an Islamic lesson; you will remember whatever you study:

ََِّٰٓ ْلاَسْتَقُرَّ بِنَارَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ َوِبَعْضَ الْأَمْوَالِ َوَالْأَرْوَاحِ َوَالْأَعْقَابِ

Translation

O Allah! 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:
Recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet ﷺ once before and after the du'ā’.
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Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî

Du‘â’ of Attar

O Lord of al-Muṣṭafâ! Whoever reads or listens to the 32-page booklet, ‘Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî (including 8 Saintly Marvels)’, save him from heresy and an evil ending, and grant him forgiveness without accountability.

The excellence of reciting ṣalât upon the Prophet

Sayyidunâ Shaykh Ḫusayn b. Aḥmad Kawwâz al-Bisâṭî states:

I made du‘â’ to Allah Almighty with these words: “(O Allah) I wish to see Abû Šâlîh al-Mu‘adhîn.” (My dua was answered and) I saw him in a good state.

I asked him, “O Abû Šâlîh! How are you?”
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

He replied, “O Abū al-Ḥasan! If I had not sent abundant şalawāt upon the beloved Prophet صلِّ الله علیه وَاله وَسَلّم, I would have been destroyed.”1

Glad tidings of death upon faith

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Ḥaqq al-Muḥaddith al-Dihlawī writes in ‘Akhbār al-Akhyār:

A pious predecessor صلِّ الله علیه وَاله وَسَلّم in a dream and pleaded, “O Messenger of Allah صلِّ الله علیه وَاله وَسَلّم, make duʿâ’ that I pass away upon the noble Quran and your Sunnah.”

The beloved Prophet صلِّ الله علیه وَاله وَسَلّم replied, “It will happen so, and why would it not when your shaykh is Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.”

That pious predecessor states. “I requested this from the beloved Prophet صلِّ الله علیه وَاله وَسَلّم three times, and each time he replied, ‘It will happen so, and why would it not when your shaykh is Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.’”2

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1 S‘ādat al-Dārayn, p. 136
2 Akhbār al-Akhyār, p. 152
What great virtue there is in having devotion for the Crown of the Saints, Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī, becoming his disciple and becoming affiliated with his spiritual chain.

O devotees of Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī! Our beloved spiritual guide has a most excellent rank. Through his blessings, his disciples and devotees also receive virtues, as the servants and devotees acquire merits due to the distinction of their master. May Allah Almighty allow us to remain steadfast in our devotion for Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī until our last breath, and may He raise us in his company on the Day of Judgement.

Beloved of Allah Almighty

It is related in the famous Hadith collection, Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, on the authority of Sayyidunā Abū Hurayrah that the Prophet ﷺ said,

When Allah loves a slave, He calls out to Jibrīl and says: “Indeed Allah loves so-and-so; so, love him.” Then, Jibrīl loves him. After that, Jibrīl announces to the inhabitants of the heavens, “Allah loves so-and-so; so, love him”; so, the
inhabitants of the heavens also love him, and then acceptance for him is placed among the inhabitants of the earth.\(^1\)

O devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī! It is evident from this that the widespread acceptance of the righteous believers and noble saints is proof of them being beloved to Allah Almighty, as noticeable in the examples of the widespread acclaim of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī, Khawājah Gharīb Nawāz, Shaykh ‘Alī al-Hujwāyrī and other well-known noble saints. Despite centuries having gone by since their departure from this world, hearts are still replete with love for them. It is also evident from this that a sign of a saint is that creation regard him as a saint and hearts naturally incline towards him.\(^2\)

Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khan Na‘īmī states:

People naturally utter the supplicatory words or for a saint, and people’s hearts instinctively incline towards such a person. The natural attraction of hearts is a sign of them being beloved in the court of Allah Almighty. Reflect on how we have not seen pious predecessors like Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī and Khawājah Ajmerī, but we have love for them.\(^3\)

\(^1\) Șahiḥ al-Bukhārī: 3209
\(^2\) Taṣır Širāṭ al-Jīnān, Maryam, verse 198, vol. 6, p. 159
\(^3\) Mirāt al-Manājīh, vol. 3, p. 389
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

This is an unseen, natural love. The reviver of Islam, the Imam of Ahl al-Sunnah, Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān states in the court of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī:

Kunjiyan dil ki Khuda ne tujhe din,
Esi kar ke yeh seena ho muhabbat ka khazinah tera
The keys to hearts, Allah has granted you
Make this heart a treasure trove of love for you

Explanation of Razā’s poetic words: ‘O Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! Allah Almighty has granted you the keys to the hearts of creation. Open my heart and place in it your love so that it becomes a treasure trove of love for you.

O devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! My spiritual guide was not only shown devotion by the masses, but also by other great saints, as he was their leader. The gnostic, Abū Ishāq Ibrāhīm b. Maḥmūd, states:

I heard my spiritual guide, Imam Abū ‘Abdullāh al-Baṭā’īḥī, say, “During the era of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī, I stayed with Sayyidunā Shaykh Aḥmad al-Rifāʿī for a few days. One day, the Shaykh said, ‘Inform us of some of the virtues of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.’ So, I mentioned some.
During this time, a man came, indicated towards Shaykh Aḥmad al-Rifāʿī  and said to me, ‘Do not enumerate the merits of anyone other than this shaykh [of mine] before us.’ Hearing this, Shaykh Aḥmad al-Rifāʿī  was displeased. He cast an awe-inspiring gaze at the man and said, ‘Who can enumerate the virtues of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī? Who can reach his rank? His station is very lofty amongst all the saints.’

Shaykh Aḥmad al-Rifāʿī  further stated, “The river of Islamic law is in his right hand, and the river of spiritual reality is in his left hand. Drink from whichever you wish. There is no second to him in this age.”

Sayyidunā Abū ʿAbdullāh al-Baṭaʿihī  says:

One day, I saw Shaykh Aḥmad al-Rifāʿī  counselling his nephews and senior disciples. A person had come with the intention of going to Baghdad, so the Shaykh said, “When you reach Baghdad, do not engage in any activity prior to visiting Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī  if he is alive, and if he has passed away, his resting place.” He then said, “Regretful is the one who does not see Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.”\(^1\)

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\(^1\) Fatāwā al-Razawīyyah, vol. 8, pp. 389-390
O devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! To remain steadfast in your love for the noble saints and acquire their gracious blessings, remain affiliated to the religious environment of Dawat-e-Islami: the religious movement of the devotees of the Prophet. If possible, offer the niyāz of Ghiyārwī sharīf diligently every month and gain its blessings.

Listen to the following account to strengthen the love for Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī in your hearts, and cling even tighter to the religious environment of Dawat-e-Islami.

**Repentance from heresy**

A brother from Hyderabad (Sindh, Karachi) began to keep the company of deviants. Due to evil company, his mind was also corrupted. For three years, he remained this way to the extent that he could neither understand niyāz nor Mawlid. He would raise objections to these matters at home. Prior to this heresy, he had a great passion for reciting ṣalawāt upon the Prophet, but as soon as he fell in with those impudent people, he also lost that due to their evil company.

However, Allah Almighty showered him with good fortune. He read about the virtues of ṣalawāt, which revived his passion, leading him to form a habit of reciting it again. One night, as he fell asleep reciting ṣalawāt, he saw the blessed Green Dome.
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî

Although his thinking had changed, he spontaneously recited “الصلاة و السلام يا رسول الله” in his dream.

When he awoke in the morning, his heart was in a state of unrest. He thought, “That which I could not understand occurred to me. What was I reciting?” He began to think that there is something here, and he should research to discover the true path.

Coincidentally, a Madani qafilah from Dawat-e-Islami came to a masjid close to his home. Somehow, through someone’s encouragement, he became a participant in this qafilah and set out in a state of confusion, seeking the truth. The qafilah leader introduced the Pious Deeds booklet to him and encouraged him to fill it in. When he read the booklet carefully, he was amazed as he found it to be a way of living based upon excellent guiding principles.

Through the company of the devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî and the blessings of acting upon the Pious Deeds booklet, he received grace and guidance from Allah Almighty. He gathered together all the Islamic brothers in the Madani qafilah and told them:

My mind was corrupted before. I used to say all sorts about all of you. Today, please all be witnesses that I sincerely repent from those previous corrupt beliefs and make the intention to remain affiliated with the religious environment of Dawat-e-Islami.
Excellence of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

The Islamic brothers expressed great happiness. The next day, this brother bought some sweet confections as niyāz for Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī and handed them out. He gained amazing blessings through this action. He had been suffering from a respiratory ailment for 35 years. He could not go a single night without experiencing pain. He also had pain in his right molar due to which he could not eat properly either. Through the blessings of the qafilah, he did not experience any breathing difficulties or any problems in eating during this period. He said:

I wholeheartedly testify that the beliefs of Ahl al-Sunnah are true, and I have good opinion that the religious environment of Dawat-e-Islami is accepted in the court of Allah Almighty and His final Prophet صلَّى الَّلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّم:

صلُوَا عَلَى الْحُجَّاجِ صَلَّى الَّلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ ﷺ

Solution to a problem in a dream

Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khān Naʿīmī once wrote a letter to Allamah Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓīmī:

I was facing an issue and was blessed with the vision of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī who informed me, “If you find yourself facing an issue, then turn to my son al-Kaẓīmī in Multan as he is a lion of Islam.” He then said, “I like the book he is writing.”
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

(Asking about this book, Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khān Naʿīmī wrote the following:) My master, which book is it that Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī praised?

At that time Allamah Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓimī was writing: ‘Taskīn al-Khawāṭir fi Masʿalat al-Ḥaḍīr wa al-Nāẓir’. He had written at the beginning of the book:

I have the honour of humbly presenting this in the court of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī through whose spiritual aid the like of me has been granted the ability to compile this book.¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy on them all and grant us forgiveness without accountability for their sake.

Inspirational account of Shaykh al-Kaẓimī’s book

I recall in my youth someone speaking against the beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم being ḥaḍīr and nāẓir. The help of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī was with me, and I gave that individual Shaykh Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓimī’s book ‘Taskīn al-Khawāṭir fi Masʿalat al-Ḥaḍīr wa al-Nāẓir’, telling him to read it.

¹ Faizan-e-Allama Kazmi, p. 64
That person used to live in my locality, and after reading the book, when I met him, he was so impressed by the book that he repented from his corrupt beliefs and began to affirm the attributes of ḥādir and nāẓir for the beloved Prophet ﷺ.

May Allah Almighty have mercy on Allama Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓimī عليه الصلاة والسلام and grant us forgiveness without accountability for his sake.

Some qualities of Shaykh Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓimī

The shaykh had a very humble personality. I think I always saw him being first in greeting with salaam. Despite being such a notable personality, he would not wait for someone to greet him, rather he would take the lead. Someone told me:

I once went to test the shaykh and tried to hide myself here and there. Suddenly, when the shaykh caught a glimpse of me, he immediately greeted me with salaam as per his habit.

Shaykh Sayyid al-Kaẓimī’s scholarly rank

Shaykh Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓimī عليه الصلاة والسلام attended the first annual gathering of Dawat-e-Islami in Kakrī Ground and delivered a speech. He passed away six years later. I found him to be someone who had great love for Dawat-e-Islami until his
passing away. One of his disciples, a hafiz from Rahim Yar Khan, states:

I was in the presence of Shaykh Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓīmī during the early days of Dawat-e-Islami when a person began raising objections against the founder.

After listening, the shaykh, out of humility, said about himself, “My dear brother! The work which Ilyas Qadiri is doing, neither can I do it nor have you done it.”

My good opinion is that at least in Asia, the shaykh was a peerless erudite scholar of his time. At this moment in time, there must be thousands of his students spread across the world. There were many letters shared between the Shaykh and myself.

May Allah Almighty have mercy on Shaykh Sayyid Aḥmad Saʿīd al-Kaẓīmī and grant us forgiveness without accountability for his sake.

Sincere counsel

Some misfortunate people reject the authority of the noble saints and do not hesitate to speak badly of them مَعَادَ اللَّهُ．

If someone has any doubts concerning the noble saints, he should have them removed, otherwise this will be
damaging in the Hereafter. Denigration of the noble saints is very dangerous. In a Hadith Qudsi in Ṣahīḥ al-Bukhārī, Allah Almighty states, “Whoever bears enmity towards a saint of Mine, I declare war upon him.”\(^1\)

Elaborating on these words of the Hadith, ʿAllāmah Ghulām Rasūl Riḍāwī writes:

That is, “Whoever bears enmity towards a saint because he is a friend of Mine, I declare war upon him and destroy him. I set such people upon him that continue to bring harm to him. This is his punishment in this world, and he will be punished further in the Hereafter.”\(^2\)

ʿAllāmah ʿAli al-Qārī states regarding the noble saints: Allah Almighty has mentioned a declaration of war against two categories of people:

1. Consumers of usury
2. Enemies of the noble saints

These are both extremely grave sins, because for Allah to declare war against them is a sign of an evil end, and such a person can never be successful.\(^3\)

\(^1\) Ṣahīḥ al-Bukhārī: 6,502
\(^2\) Tafhīm-al-Bukhari, vol. 9, p. 796
\(^3\) Mirqāt, vol. 5, p. 41, Hadith: 2266
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî

May Allah Almighty forgive our sins and save us from satanic whispers.

Be witnesses that I love all the noble saints that have come into this world and those that are yet to arrive.

矜-quality Allah on the Prophet صلّي الله عليه وسلم

Destruction of the worldly life and the hereafter

Imam Āḥmad Razā Khân states in al-Fatāwā al-Razawīyāh that to speak badly of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî is lethal poison and a cause for a person’s worldly life and Hereafter being ruined. معاذ الله

It is possible that someone may experience satanic whispers about why we mention such things about Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jilânî. The answer to this is that Allah Almighty chooses to grant whatever rank He wills to a servant. The greatest rank amongst creation has been granted to the beloved Prophet صلّي الله عليه وسلم. Even if our tongues become dry and our pens wear out in speaking about his glorious rank, we will still be unable to even cover a fraction of it.


Aasman gar tere talwon ka nazara karta
Roz ek chand tasadduq men otara karta
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

Meaning, “O Messenger of Allah صلِّ اللَّهَ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمُ صلى الله عليه وسلم, if the sky could see the blessed soles of your feet, it would sacrifice for them a moon each day.” If the soles are of such loftiness, what is the magnitude of the one they belong to!

 صلى الله عليه وسلم

Paralysis cured

Sayyidi Qutb al-Madinah Zia al-Dīn Aḥmad al-Madanī states:

Once, half of my body became paralysed. I became so ill that people began to think I would not survive. One night, I cried in the Prophetic court and called out, “O Messenger of Allah صلِّ اللَّهَ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمُ صلى الله عليه وسلم! My spiritual guide, Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رحمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, has sent me as a servant to your door. If this illness is a punishment for some mistake, then pardon me for the sake of my spiritual guide.”

I also presented pleas in the court of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī and Khawājah Gharīb Nawāz رحمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِما. When I fell asleep, I saw my spiritual guide, the reviver of Islam, the Imam of Ahl al-Sunnah, Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رحمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ with two saintly figures who had luminous countenances. He pointed towards one of them and said, “Look, Zia al-Dīn! This is Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.” Pointing to the other, he said, “This is Khawājah Gharīb Nawāz.”
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī placed his healing hand over the part of my body that was paralysed and said, “Rise.” I stood up in my dream. Then, these three saints began to offer salah. Thereafter, through the grace of Allah Almighty, I awoke to find myself cured.¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and forgive us for their sake.

اَمِينِ بِجَاهِلِ خَاتِمِ الْقِبَائِلِ صَلَّی اللَّهُ عَلَیْهِ مَسْلِمٍ
صَلُّوْا عَلَیْ الْحَبِيبِ صَلُّی اللَّهُ عَلَیْهِ مَسْلِمٍ

Devotion for Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

amongst Memons

Dear Islamic brothers, overall, the Memon community have a lot of respect for Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī. There is a great tendency amongst them to commemorate Ghiyārwin Shareef. Upon leaving the home, the elderly women even say: “Go my son with the intermediation of the leader of the awliyā’ and his help!”

We are in a world of technology, and a lot of content full of heresy is spreading. However, the struggle to spread guidance is also taking place. Sayyidunā Mūsā عليه السلام was sent

¹ Sayyidi Qutub-e-Madina, p. 12

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to overcome Pharaoh, and Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm ʿalāihi ʿaṣma qalā ṣallāl lāh ‘alayhi defeated Nimrūd, who claimed divinity.

May Allah Almighty protect us from satanic whisperings and grant us the ability to respect the noble saints ʿalāihi ʿaṣma qalā ṣallāl lāh ‘alayhi.

**Poor became wealthy**

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī’s elder son, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Razzāq al-Qādirī states:

> When my father became renowned, he performed Hajj. During the journey, I was holding the halter of his conveyance. When we reached a city to the south of Baghdad, he said, “Find the poorest household here.” So, we found a tent made of wool in a deserted place whose inhabitants were an old man, an old woman and a girl.

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī ʿalāihi ʿaṣma qalā ṣallāl lāh ‘alayhi took permission from the old man and stayed in that deserted place. The wealthy and important people of the city came to him requesting that he stays with them or any better place. However, he did not accept. The governor of that city sent him many cows, goats and conveyances for the journey. He also sent much food, gold, silver and other items. People arrived from all over in his service.
The shaykh told his companions, “I have given my share from all this wealth to the inhabitants of this home.”

When they heard this, they said, “We have also gifted our share.” In this way, all that wealth was given to the old man, the old woman and the girl. The Shaykh stayed overnight and departed in the morning.

Shaykh ʿAbd al-Razzāq al-Qādirī further states:

I passed that city again after many years, and what did I see? That old man had become the wealthiest of all the residents there. He told me, “This is all the blessing of that night when Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī came here and graced us.”

My spiritual guide blessed the poor first. However, how unfortunate that our attention is more towards the wealthy and less towards the poor.

Salah first

O devotees of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! The rank our spiritual guide reached was conferred upon him by Allah Almighty. Sainthood is granted by Allah Almighty. The noble saints strictly adhere to the obligatory and

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1 Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 198
necessary acts. My spiritual guide would offer 1,000 voluntary units daily, and for 15 years he completed a recital of the Quran every night. These pious predecessors would offer thousands of voluntary units of salah, whereas we are unfortunately unable to even offer the obligatory units.

Do we wish to restrict the blessings we take from Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رَحْمَةُ الـلّٰـهِ عَلَیْه to just eating the niyāz at gatherings where he is mentioned? Become his devotee and emulate him also. Prioritise being steadfast in your salah over distributing sweetmeats. Remember, salah is obligatory, and arranging niyāz is recommended. The rank of obligatory acts is significantly higher in comparison to acts that are recommendable.

Not acting upon the obligatory acts renders a person a sinner, whereas leaving the recommended is not a sin. Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رَحْمَةُ الـلّٰـهِ عَلِّی، who instilled in us the love of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رَحْمَةُ الـلّٰـهِ عَلِّی, states, “Whoever deliberately leaves even one salah is deserving of being burnt for thousands of years in the Hellfire.”

This is the misfortune of missing one salah. So, reflect on the wretchedness of the one who misses salah for months and years. Make intention to arrange niyāz, but also to never leave salah.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الَّذِينَ مُتَّجَلِّىٰ

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1 Fatāwā al-Razawiyah, vol. 9, p. 158
Excellence of Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه

Eight marvels of Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه states:

None of the noble saints are comparable to Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه in relation to saintly marvels. Some pious predecessors have even stated, “The saintly marvels of Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه are like a chain of pearls, for when it breaks, the pearls drop one after the other. Hence, his saintly marvels are innumerable.”

1. Reviving a chicken

A woman left her son in the service of Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه, saying, “He has great love for you. Please, train him.” He accepted him and made him undertake spiritual training. One day, his mother came and saw that her son had become frail from hunger and continual worship in the nights and was eating barley bread. When she came to Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه, she saw a plate in front of him with the bones of a chicken that he had eaten.

The lady said, “O Shaykh ʻAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! You eat chicken whilst my son eats barley bread.”

Hearing this, the Shaykh رحمّة اللّه عليه آيه placed his hands over the bones and said: “فَتَوَلَّ نِعْمَةُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الَّذِي يُخَفِّي الْعَظَمَاءُ وَ هُمْ رَمِيمٌ Stand by the

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1 *Ash’at al-Lam‘āt*, vol. 4, p. 610

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permission of Allah Who gives life to the bones when they have decayed.” Upon this, the chicken immediately stood up alive, clucking.

The Shaykh then remarked, “When your son reaches this station, he will eat whatever he wishes.”

May Allah Almighty have mercy on Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī and grant us forgiveness without accountability for his sake.

Jis tarah murde jilaaye, is tarah murshid mere
murda dil ko bhi jila, ya Ghaws-e-Azam dastagheer
O my spiritual guide! Just as you brought the dead alive
Revive the dead heart, O Ghawth Azam: the helper

Explanation of the poetry

O my dear spiritual guide, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! The way that you (through the power Allah Almighty bestowed upon you) brought back to life the dead, also revive my dead heart.

1 Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 128
2. Blessings in the wheat

Shaykh Abū al-'Abbās Aḥmad al-Qarashi al-Baghdādī states:

There was a drought in Baghdad. I mentioned my poverty and many dependants to Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī, whereupon the Shaykh took out a certain measure of wheat and informed me, “Place it in a sack and close its mouth. Open it from one side and take out what you need. Grind it and eat from it. However, never open its mouth.”

We took out and ate wheat from that sack for five years. One day, my wife opened the mouth of the sack, and the wheat finished within seven days.

I mentioned this occurrence to Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī and he said, “If you had left it and not opened its mouth, you would have eaten from it until your death.”¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and grant us forgiveness for their sake.

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 130
Saintly marvels are true

O devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! It is a unanimously accepted creed of the Ahl al-Sunnah that the saintly marvels of the noble Companions and the noble saints are a reality, and the saints manifest these marvels in every age. This phenomenon will continue until the Day of Judgement.

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Ḥaq al-Dehlawī states, “The manifestation of saintly marvels by the servants of Allah Almighty is established from the noble Quran and Hadith.”

In juz 3, Sūrah Āl ʿImrān, verse 37, the saintly marvel of Sayyidatunā Maryam— the noble mother of Sayyidūnā ‘Īsā— is mentioned:

كُلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيۡهَا زَكَّارِيَا الْبَخْرَابَ وَجَدَ عَنۡدَهَا رِزۡقًا قَالَ يّٰمَرۡيَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَرۡزُقُ مَنۡ شَآءُ بِغَيۡرِ حِسَابٍ ﴿قَالَتۡ ہُوَ مِنۡ عِنۡدِ اللّٰہِ ﴾

“Whenever Zakariyyā visited her at her prayer chamber, he would find new sustenance (i.e. non-seasonal fruits) with her. He asked, ‘O Maryam, from where did this come to you?’ She

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1 Ash’at al-Lam‘āt, vol. 4, p. 595
Excellence of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

answered, "That is from Allah; indeed, Allah gives to whom He wills without measure."²

3. Blessing of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

Shaykh Ismāʿīl bin ʿAlī states:

When Sayyidunā Shaykh ʿAlī bin Hiytī would be unwell, he would sometimes come and stay with me for some days. One day, he was unwell here, and Sayyidunā Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī came from Baghdad to visit him. In this way, two noble saints were present together in my home. I had two date palm trees in my home, which had dried out four years ago. They did not bear any dates, and we were considering chopping them down.

Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī performed ablution under one of them and offered two cycles of salah under the other. Both trees became green before our eyes, their leaves sprouting out. In that very week, they bore dates even though this was not the season for them. I took some dates and presented them to Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī. He ate some and said,

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¹ Al-Quran, 3:37, Translation from Kanz al-Īmān

² Sayyidatunā Maryam would have summer fruits in the winter and winter fruits in the summer. The People of the Cave sleeping for 309 years without food and drink is also a proof (of saintly marvels). (Tuhfat al-Murīd, p. 363)
“May Allah Almighty place blessings in your land, money, measure and your [animals’] milk.”

Sayyidunā Shaykh Ismā‘īl b. ‘Alī further states,

That year my land began to yield two to four times the normal produce. My situation now is such that if I spend one dirham, I profit two to three times as much, and when I place 100 sacks of wheat in a place and use fifty of them, when I look at them, I find that 100 still remain. My animals produce so much offspring that I lose count of them.

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and grant us forgiveness for their sake.

4. King of his era

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Ṭafsūnī was a pious predecessor and contemporary of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī. One day, whilst on the pulpit, he proclaimed, “Amongst the saints, I am like the crane amongst birds (i.e. the one with the longest neck).”

Amongst those present was Shaykh Aḥmad, a disciple of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī. He found it unacceptable that he had given himself superiority over Shaykh
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمته الله عليه. He threw his patched cloak and stood up.

Sayyidunā ‘Abd al-Raḥmān رحمته الله عليه gazed at him upwards and downwards a number of times and remained silent. People asked him the reason for his silence, and he replied. “I saw that there was no hair on his body that was devoid of the mercy of Allah.”

Then, he said to Shaykh Aḥmad رحمته الله عليه, “Put on your cloak.”

The disciple of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمته الله عليه replied, “This poor slave does not wear again a garment that he has cast away.”

His residence was at a distance of 12 days journeying. He called out to his noble wife, “Fāṭimah! Hand me my clothes.” She stretched out her hand from her place, handing over the clothes, and he extended his hand, taking the clothes and wearing them.

Sayyidunā ‘Abd al-Raḥmān رحمته الله عليه asked, “Whose disciple are you?”

He responded, “I am the servant of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī.”

Sayyidunā ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Ṭafsūnji رحمته الله عليه sent two of his disciples to Baghdād to mention to Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī رحمته الله عليه, “I am presenting myself in a station of proximity with Allah Almighty for 12 years. I neither see you coming nor departing.”

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These two disciples were leaving as Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jîlânî told two of his disciples, “Go to Ṭafsînî. Enroute you will come across two disciples of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Rahmân al-Ṭafsînî; take them back with you and reply to the shaykh by saying, “How can the one in the courtyard see the one in the hall, and how can the one in the hall see the one inside, and the one in a special place further inside? I am in that special station, and its sign is that on such and such a night, 12,000 saints were given spiritual cloaks. Recall that you were granted a green cloak with written upon it in gold.”

When Shaykh ‘Abd al-Rahmân heard this, he lowered his head and said, “Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir has spoken the truth, and he is the sultan of this era.”

O devotees of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qâdir al-Jîlânî! Allah Almighty has blessed His noble saints with lofty ranks. Allah Almighty bestows upon them great abilities. The noble Quran mentions the saintly marvel of one of the followers of Sayyidunâ Sulaymân عليه السلام, Sayyidunâ Ārif b. Barkhiyâ عليه السلام, where he brought the throne of Queen Bilqîs from a distance of thousands of miles within the blinking of an eye:

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1 Bahjat-al-Asrâr, pp. 60-61
Excellence of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī

‘He who had knowledge of the Book submitted; that 'I will present it in your majesty's court before the blink of an eye.'

When a saint from the ummah of Sayyidūnā Sulaymān has such a lofty station, what will be the station of the leader of the saints from the ummah of the master of all the prophets and messengers?

5. Cured epilepsy

It is related in Bahjat al-Asrār:

During Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī’s era, there was a man who suffered from epilepsy. The Shaykh said, “Say in his ear, ‘It is the command of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī that you depart from Baghdad.’” He became well at once, and even until this day, epilepsy does not occur in Baghdad.²

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1 Al-Quran, 27:40, Translation from Kanz al-Imān
2 Bahjat-al-Asrār, p. 140
6. Blood from coins

Sayyidunā Abū al-‘Abbās Khiḍr states:

One night, we were in the seminary of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn in Baghdad. A caliph presented himself, and after seeking some advice, he presented 10 bags of coins, which were being carried by his servant. The shaykh said, “I have no need for these bags.” However, the caliph refused to take them back and insisted that he accept them. The shaykh took a bag in each hand and squeezed them. Blood began to ooze from both bags. He then addressed the caliph saying, “Do you not have shame before Allah Almighty that you come to me with the blood of the people?” Hearing this, the caliph fell unconscious.¹

Dear Islamic brothers, the people of Allah Almighty are not desirous of worldly wealth. They do not give it any great importance. If they were to command a mound of earth, it would become gold. In fact, Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn taught patience and contentment and would say, “The apportioned provision will not increase through your chasing it, and it will not decrease due to your contentment; therefore, be pleased with the decree of Allah Almighty.”²

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 120
² Mīrāt al-Manājīḥ, vol. 7, p. 13
Rejection of saintly miracles is heresy

Mufti Amjad ‘Alī al-A‘zamī states, “Saintly marvels are a reality. The one who denies them is misguided.”

There are many types of marvels, such as covering long distances in a few moments, walking on water, flying in the air, knowing matters of the heart, seeing from afar, etc.

7. Questions of 100 scholars

Sayyidunā Muffarij b. Nabhān al-Shaybānī mentions:
When Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī became famous, 100 of the most erudite scholars of Baghdad agreed that each would prepare separate questions on various sciences to render him speechless. They all gathered before him. I was present there also, and when those scholars had all sat down, the Shaykh lowered his head.
At that moment, a light emanated from his heart that was visible to those for whom Allah Almighty willed. When that light passed through the heart of each scholar, they became bewildered and began to convulse.
Excellence of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

Then, they came to Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī at his pulpit, bare-headed. He embraced each one of them and said, “Your question was such and such, and its answer is this.” In this manner, he informed each of them their questions and gave their answers. When this gathering had concluded, I went to those scholars and asked them what had happened.

Explaining the harm of testing Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī, they said, “When we went and sat there, suddenly, we forgot everything; it was as though we knew nothing. However, when he embraced us, each of us found that our knowledge returned to us. Even more astounding than this is that he gave us answers to our questions that we did not know prior to that.”

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and forgive us without accountability for their sake.

O devotees of Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī! One who knows the matters of the heart is termed ʿalim ʿalā ākhirat. Shaykh ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Jilānī knew the matters of the hearts through the bestowal of Allah Almighty. Now, as the caveat “through the bestowal of Allah Almighty” has been mentioned,

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1 Qalāʿid al-Jawāhir, p. 33
there should be no satanic whispers as Allah Almighty is capable of informing His servants of hidden matters. He can grant this to whomever He wills, and Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī is from His special chosen saints.

8. Delayed arrival of the jinn

The father of Shaykh Abū Zakariyyā Yaḥyā bin Abī Naṣr al-Ṣahrāwī says:

I summoned jinn through a particular method, and they were delayed in arriving.

When they came, they said to me, “Do not try to summon us when Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī is delivering a sermon.”

I asked, “Why?”

They replied, “Because we attend his sermons.”

I asked, “You also attend his sermons?”

They responded, “Yes. We are present in great numbers amongst the men. There are many groups amongst us that have accepted Islam, and they have all repented at the hands of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī.”