

عمد منشؤ الأنوار والظل

Muḥammad is the Source of Light and Shade

مُحَمَّدٌ مَنْشُؤُ الْأَنْوَارِ وَالظُّلْلِ وَأَصْلُ تَكْوِينِهَا مِنْ حَضْرَةِ الْأَزَلِ

Muḥammadun mansha·u-l-anwāri wa-ẓ-ẓilali
wa aṣlu takwīnihā min ḥaḍrati-l-azali

*Muḥammad is the source of light and shade
and the origin of their creation from the Eternal Presence.*

فَنُورُهُ أَوَّلُ الْأَنْوَارِ لَمَّا قَضَى إِظْهَارَ أَسْمَائِهِ فِي الْعَالَمِ الْأَوَّلِ

Fa nūruhu awwalu-l-anwāri lammā qaḍā
izhāra asmā·ihi fi-l-‘ālamī-l-awwali

*His light was the first of the lights when Allah decreed
That His Names be manifest in the principal world.*

مِنْهُ أَكْتَسَتْ سَائِرُ الْأَشْيَاءِ إِيجَادَهَا وَمِنْهُ إِمْدَادُهَا مِنْ غَيْرِ مَا خَلَلَ

Minhu-ktasat sā·iru-l-ashyā·i ijādaha
wa minhu imdāduhā min ghayri mā khalali

*From this light all things donned the raiment of existence,
and from it their being is ceaselessly sustained.*

تَقَاطَرَتِ الْأَنْبِيَاءُ وَالرُّسُلُ مِنْهُ كَمَا تَقَاطَرَتْ سَائِرُ الْأَمْلَاقِ وَالْحُلَلِ

Taqāṭara-l-anbiyā wa-r-ruslu minhu kamā
taqāṭarat sā·iru-l-amlāki wa-l-ḥulali

*From it flowed forth the stream of prophets and messengers;
from it all the angels and degrees of beauty.*

فَنَسَبَةُ الْخَتْمِ وَالْأَقْطَابِ مِنْ نُورِهِ كَنُقْطَةٍ مِنْ بُحُورِ النُّورِ وَالْبَلَلِ

Fa nisbatu-l-khatmi wa-l-aqtābi min nūrihi
ka nuqṭatin min buḥūri-n-nūri wa-l-balali

*The Seal and the Poles¹ in relation to his light
are like a droplet and the mist from luminous oceans.*

وَالشَّمْسُ وَالْبَدْرُ وَالنُّجُومُ مِنْهُ بَدَتْ كَالْعَرْشِ وَاللَّوْحِ وَالْكَرْسِيِّ وَالذُّوَلِ

Wa -sh-shamsu wa -l-badru wa -n-nujūmu minhu badat
ka-l-‘arshi wa-l-lawḥi wa-l-kursīyyi wa-d-duwali

*From it came forth the sun, moon, and stars,
the Throne, Tablet, Footstool, and all sublime domains.*

فَشَاهِدِ النُّورَ قَدْ عَمَّ الْوُجُودَ وَلَا تَكُنْ تَرَى غَيْرَهُ تَصِلُ عَلَى عَجَلٍ

Fa shāhidi-n-nūra qad ‘amma-l-wujūda wa lā
takun tarā gharyrahu taṣil ‘alā ‘ajali

*So see this light which envelops all existence –
see nothing else and you will quickly arrive.*

لِأَنَّهُ الظُّهْرُ الأَعْلَى لِأَسْمَائِهِ وَسِرُّ أَوْصَافِهِ مِنْ غَيْرِ مَا عَلِلِ

Li annahu-l-maẓharu-l-a‘lā li asmā‘ihi
wa sirru awṣāfihi min ghayri ‘ilali

*He is the highest manifestation of the Names;
he is the flawless mystery of the Qualities.*

فَاللَّهُ إِخْتَارَهُ فِي عِلْمِهِ الْقَدِيمِ لِلخَلْقِ أَرْسَلَهُ طَرًّا وَالدَّرُسِ

Fa-Llāhu ikhtārahu fi ‘ilmīhi-l-qadīmi
li-l-khalqī arsalahu ṭurran wa li-r-rusuli

*Allah chose him in His eternal knowledge
and sent him for all creatures and all Messengers.*

أَسْرَى بِهِ اللهُ لَيْلًا بَعْدَ مَبْعَثِهِ لِقَابِ قَوْسَيْنِ حَتَّى فَازَ بِالأَمَلِ

Asrā bihi-Llāhu laylan ba‘da mab‘athihi
li qāba qawsayni ḥattā fāza bi-l-amali

*After his advent, Allah conveyed him by night
to within two bow-lengths that his hope might be granted.*

وَأَسْتَبَشَرَ العَالَمُ العُلُوِيَّ لَمَّا رَقَى وَالْعَرْشُ قَدْ حَصَلَ الأَمَانَ مِنْ وَجَلِ

Wa-stabshara-l-‘ālamu-l-‘ulwiyyu lammā raqā
wa-l-‘arshu qad ḥaṣṣala-l-amāna min wajali

*And the sublime realm rejoiced when he ascended,
and the Throne gave him shelter from fear.*

وَأَخْرَقَ الْحُجُبَ وَالْأَنْوَارَ حَتَّىٰ دَنَا ۖ وَنُودِيَ اذُنُ حَبِيبِي وَأَسْكُنُ مِنْ خَجَلٍ

Wa-khtaraqa-l-ḥūjba wa-l-anwāra ḥattā danā
wa nūdiya-dnu Ḥabībi wa-skun min khajāli

*And he pierced the veils and lights until he drew near
and was called to: "Approach, My Beloved, and be not shy."*

وَمَعَ اللَّحْظَ فِي أَنْوَارِنَا وَأَطْلُبُنْ كُلَّ الَّذِي شِئْتَهُ تُعْطَىٰ بِلاَ مَلَلٍ

Wa matti'i-l-laḥẓa fī anwārina wa-ṭluban
kulla-l-ladhī shi'tahu tu'ṭa bilā malali

*"Let your gaze find pleasure in the vision of Our lights,
and ask all you desire. You will be given without stint."*

فَارْجِعَ الْمُصْطَفَىٰ بِكُلِّ مَكْرَمَةٍ ۖ وَأَخْبَرَ النَّاسَ بِالْأَفْصَا وَبِالسُّبُلِ

Fa urji'a-l-Muṣṭafā bi kulli makrumatin
wa akhbara-n-nāsa bi-l-aqṣā wa bi-s-subuli

*Then the Chosen One was returned bearing every honor,
and told people of the Furthest Mosque and the paths.²*

فَلذُّ بِهِ يَا أَخِي فِي كُلِّ مُعْضَلَةٍ ۖ يَضْحَىٰ حَدِيثُكَ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ كَالْعَسَلِ

Fa ludh bihi yā akhī fī kulli mu'ḍilatin
yaḍḥā ḥadīthuka bayn-n-nāsi ka-l-ʿasali

*So, my brother, keep to [his way] in the face of every problem
and your discourse among people will become like honey.*

وَلَذِّ السَّمْعِ بِالْأَخْلَاقِ وَالشَّيْمِ وَأَذْكَرُ شَمَائِلَهُ وَأَحْذَرُ مِنَ الزَّلَلِ

Wa ladhhdhidhi-s-sam^ʿa bi-l-akhlāqi wa-sh-shiyami
wa-dhkur shamā+ilahu wa-ḥdhar mina-z-zalali

*Find delight in hearing of his character and person
speak about his qualities and be careful not to slip.*³

فَكَمْ خَوَارِقَ قَدْ جَاءَتْ عَلَى يَدِهِ فَأَعْجَزَتْ سَائِرَ الْحَسَادِ وَالْمَلَلِ

Fa kam khawāriqa qad jā+at ʿalā yadihi
fa aʿjazat sā+ira-l-ḥussādi wa-l-milali

*How many were the miracles that came to pass by his hand
that enviers and religions were powerless [to explain].*

وَإِنَّ أَعْظَمَ خَارِقٍ لَهُ ظَهَرَ هَذَا الْكِتَابُ الَّذِي قَدْ جَاءَ بِالْعَمَلِ

Wa inna aʿzama khāriqin lahu ḡaharā
hādha-l-kitābu-l-ladhī qad jā+a bi-l-ʿamali

*And the greatest of miracles that through him appeared
is this Book which came with its practice.*

فِي كُلِّ جَارِحَةٍ مِنْهُ فَوَائِدٌ لَا يُحْصِيهَا عَدٌّ وَلَا تُدْرِكُهَا بِالْمَعْلِ

Fi kulli jāriḡatin minhu fawā+idu lā
yuḡṡihā ʿaddun wa lā tudriḡhā bi-l-muqli

*In each of his limbs were benefits beyond reckon
and beyond perception by the physical eye.*

وَقَدْ أَحَاطَ كِتَابُ اللَّهِ مِنْهَا بِمَا يُبْرِئُ كُلَّ سَقِيمِ الْقَلْبِ مِنْ عِلَلٍ

Wa qad aḥāṭa kitābu-Llāhi minhā bi mā
Yubri+u kulla saqīmi-l-qalbi min ʿilali

*From among them the Book of Allah has enclosed
those which cure every illness of the heart.*

وَلَيْسَ يُقَدَّرُ قَدْرُهُ الْعَظِيمُ قَتَىٰ فَالْعَجْزُ عَنْ مَدْحِهِ مِنْ أَحْسَنِ السُّبُلِ

Wa laysa yaqduru qadrahu-l-ʿazīma fatan
fa-l-ʿajzu ʿan madḥihi min aḥsani-s-subuli

*Since none can reckon the immensity of his station
being unable to truly praise him is the best of paths.**

وَقَدْ تَشَبَّهْتُ فِي مَدْحِي وَجِئْتُ إِلَىٰ رُحْمَاكَ مُسْتَشْفِعًا لِلَّهِ تَشْفَعُ لِي

Wa qad tashabbahtu fī madḥī wa ji+tu ilā
ruḥmāka mustashfiʿan li-Llāhi tashfaʿu li

*In my praise I've copied [others] and to your mercy I have come
Seeking the intercession with Allah that you can grant.*

يَا أَعْظَمَ الْخَلْقِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ مَنْزِلَةً اعْطِفْ عَلَيْنَا بِمَا نَرْجُوهُ يَا أَمَلِي

Yā aʿẓama-l-khaliqi ʿinda-Llāhi manzilatan
iʿṭif ʿalaynā bi mā narjūhu yā amalī

*O my hope, O you whose station is greatest with Allah!
Be kind to us in that for which we wish.*

مَنْ يَحْتَمِي بِكَ يَصْحَى الْكَوْنُ يَخْدُمُهُ لِأَجْلِ جَاهِكَ يَا مُدَّ كُلِّ وَايٍ

Man yaḥtamī bika yaḍḥa-l-kawnu yakhdumuhu
li ajli jāhika yā mumidda kulli waliyyi

*Creation serves the one who seeks shelter in you,
by your honor. You who are the aid of every saint!*

بِكَ اِحْتَمَيْتُ فَلَا تَكِلْنِي يَا سَنَدِي لِلنَّفْسِ وَالْجِنْسِ وَاجْبُرْنَا مِنَ الْخَلَلِ

Bika-ḥtamaytu fa lā takilnī, yā sanadī
bi-n-nafsi wa-l-jinsi wa-j-burnā mina-l-khalali

*O my support! With you I seek shelter, so do not leave me
to the ego or the body, and heal us of our faults.*

وَلَيْسَ يُلْحَقُ عَبْدٌ أَنْتَ نَاصِرُهُ فَانْتَ لِي عُمْدَةٌ فِي السَّهْلِ وَالْجَبَلِ

Wa laysa yulḥaqu ʿabdun anta nāsiruhu
fa anta lī ʿumdatun fi-s-sahli wa-l-jabali

*A servant will not be overcome if you are his ally.
you are my staff in the flatlands and mountains.*

وَقَدْ تَحَيَّرْتُ فِي أَمْرِي فَخُذْ بِيَدِي فَلَا تَحْوُلْ لِي عَنْ نُورِكَ الْأَوَّلِ

Fa qad taḥayyartu fī amrī fa khudh bi yadī
fa lā taḥawwula lī ʿan nūrika-l-awwali

*I am confused in my way so take me by the hand.
for me there is no turning from your principal light.*

صَلَّى عَلَيْكَ إِلَهَ الْعَرْشِ مَا ظَهَرَتْ شَمْسُ الْحَقِيقَةِ بِالْأَسْمَاءِ وَالْفِعَالِ

Salla ʿalāyka ilāhu-l-ʿarshi mā zahara
shamsu-l-ḥaḳīqatin bi-l-asmāʾi wa-l-fiʿālī

*May the God of the Throne send blessings upon you
as long as the sun of inner truth shines through the Names and Acts.*

كَذَلِكَ الْكَلِّ وَالْأَصْحَابُ مَا بَتَّتْ عُشْبٌ وَمَا سَحَّتِ السَّمَاءُ مِنْ بَلَلٍ

Ka dhāka āluka wa-l-āṣḥābu mā nabatat
ʿushbun wa mā sakhkhati-s-samāʾu min balali

*And upon your family and Companions as long as new grass sprouts
and the sky pours down its moisture on the earth.*

تَمَّ الرِّضَىٰ عَنْ رِجَالِ اللَّهِ كُلِّهِمْ مَا سَبَّحَ الْكَوْنُ مَنْ يُجَلُّ عَنْ مَثَلِ

Thumma-r-riḍā ʿan rijāli-Llāhi kullihimi
mā sabbaha-l-kawnu man yuḥallu ʿan mathali

*And may divine contentment be with all the men of Allah
As long as creation glorifies the One Who beyond compare.*

وَأَبْسُطْ لِإِخْوَانِنَا الْخَيْرَاتِ أَجْمَعَهَا دُنْيَا وَأُخْرَىٰ وَلَا تَكِلْنَا لِلْعَمَلِ

Wa-bsuṭ li ikhwānina-l-khayrāti ajmaʿahā
dunyā wa ukhrā wa lā takilnā li-l-ʿamali

*Bestow upon our brethren goodness that includes
this world and the Next, and do not leave us to our deeds. ⁵*

وَاعْفِرْ لَوَالِدِينَا الزَّلَّاتِ أَجْمَعَهَا وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ بِفَضْلِ مِنْكَ يَا أَزَلِي

wa-ghfir li wālidīna-z-zillāti ajma^ʿahā
wa-l-muslimīna bi faḍlin minka yā Azalī

*And O Allah, Eternal, forgive our parents their mistakes
and forgive all the Muslims by Your Infinite Grace.*

