# Litany of Imam Ali

*The Litany (al-litany) of Imam Ali (a.s.) from the Sahifa Alaviya — a prolonged plea upon God's names for pardon, provision and protection.*

75 lines · 7–8 min · alzair.app/duas/dua-litany-imam-ali

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**1**

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ تَبِيدُ مَعَالِمُهُ

*subhana man la tabidu ma`alimuhu*

Glory be to Him Whose signs never perish.

**2**

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ تَنْقُصُ خَزَائِنُهُ

*subhana man la tanqusu khaza'inuhu*

Glory be to Him Whose reserves never downgrade.

**3**

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ ٱضْمِحْلاَلَ لِفَخْرِهِ

*subhana man la idhmihlala lifakhrihi*

Glory be to Him Whose honor never vanishes.

**4**

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ يَنْفَدُ مَا عِنْدَهُ

*subhana man la yanfadu ma `indahu*

Glory be to Him Whose possessions never run out.

**5**

سُبحَانَ مَنْ لاَ ٱنْقِطَاعَ لِمُدَّتِهِ

*subhana man la inqita`a limuddatihi*

Glory be to Him Whose duration (of existence) is never interrupted.

6

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ يُشَارِكُ احَداً فِي امْرِهِ

*subhana man la yushariku ahadan fi amrihi*

Glory be to Him Who never betakes to Himself a partner in His affairs.

7

سُبْحَانَ مَنْ لاَ إِلٰهَ غَيْرُهُ

*subhana man la ilaha ghayruhu*

Glory be to Him save Whom there is no god.

8

...

...

Thereafter, say the following supplicatory prayer:

9

يَا مَنْ عَفَا عَنِ ٱلسَّيِئَاتِ وَلَمْ يُجَازِ بِهَا

*ya man `afa `ani alssayyi'ati wa lam yujazi biha*

O He who overlooks sins and does not inflict punishment in return,

10

إِرْحَمْ عَبْدَكَ يَا اللَّهُ

*irham `abdaka ya allahu*

(please) have mercy on Your servant, O Allah,

11

نَفْسِي نَفْسِي

*nafsi nafsi*

that is I myself, that is I myself.

12

انَا عَبْدُكَ يَا سَيِّدَاهُ

*ana `abduka ya sayyidahu*

I am Your servant, O my Chief,

13

انَا عَبْدُكَ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ يَا رَبَّاهُ

*ana `abduka bayna yadayka ya rabbahu*

I am Your servant; I am at Your disposal; O my Lord.

14

إِلٰهِي بِكَيْنُونَتِكَ يَا امَلاَهُ

*ilahi bikaynunatika ya amalahu*

O my God, in the name of Your Being, O my Hope,

15

يَا رَحْمٰنَاهُ يَا غِيَاثَاهُ

*ya rahmanahu ya ghiyathahu*

O my All-beneficent, O my Supporter,

16

عَبْدُكَ عَبْدُكَ لاَ حِيلَةَ لَهُ

*`abduka `abduka la hilata lahu*

Your servant, Your servant, has no strategy.

17

يَا مُنتَهىٰ رَغْبَتَاهُ

*ya muntaha raghbatahu*

O Ultimate of my desire!

18

يَا مُجْرِيَ ٱلدَّمِ فِي عُرُوقِ عَبْدِكَ

*ya mujriya alddami fi `uruqi `abdika*

O He Who makes blood run into the veins of Your slave!

19

يَا سَيِّدَاهُ يَا مَالِكَاهُ

*ya sayyidahu ya malikahu*

O my Chief, O my Master!

20

ايَا هُوَ ايَا هُوَ يَا رَبَّاهُ

*aya huwa aya huwa ya rabbahu*

O He Who is Unique! O He Who is Unique! O my Lord!

21

عَبْدُكَ عَبْدُكَ

*`abduka `abduka*

I—Your servant, Your servant—

22

لاَ حِيلَةَ لِي وَلاَ غِنىٰ بِي عَنْ نَفسِي

*la hilata li wa la ghinan bi `an nafsi*

have no strategy and I cannot avail myself

23

وَلاَ اسْتَطِيعُ لَهَا ضَرّاً وَلاَ نَفْعاً

*wa la astati`u laha dharran wa la naf`an*

and I have no control over loss or over profit.

**24**

وَلاَ اجِدُ مَنْ اصَانِعُهُ

*wa la ajidu man usani`uhu*

I do not find anyone from whom I may seek help;

**25**

تَقَطَّعَتْ اسْبَابُ ٱلْخَدَائِعِ عَنِّي

*taqatta`at asbabu alkhada'i`i `anni*

so, all profitable avenues have been blocked,

**26**

وَاضْمَحَلَّ كُلُّ مَظْنُونٍ عنِّي

and all my expectations have turned into disappointments.

**27**

افْرَدَنِي ٱلدَّهْرُ إِلَيْكَ

*afradani alddahru ilayka*

Helpless and forsaken I came to You,

**28**

فَقُمْتُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ هٰذَا ٱلْمَقَامَ

*faqumtu bayna yadayka hadha almaqama*

So, I have presented myself before You in this current stand.

**29**

يَا إِلٰهِي بِعِلْمِكَ كَانَ هٰذَا كُلُّهُ

*ya ilahi bi`ilmika kana hadha kulluhu*

O my God, You are aware of all that which I speak about.

**30**

فَكَيْفَ انْتَ صَانِعٌ بِي

*fakayfa anta sani`un bi*

So, how would You deal with me?

**31**

وَلَيْتَ شِعْرِي كَيْفَ تَقُولُ لِدُعَائي

*wa layta shi`ri kayfa taqulu lidu`a'i*

If I but knew how would You dispense with my prayer?

**32**

اتَقُولُ نَعْمَ امْ تَقُولُ لاَ

*ataqulu na`am am taqulu la*

Would You say, ‘Yes’ or ‘No’?

**33**

فَإِنْ قُلْتَ لاَ فَيَا وَيْلِي يَا وَيْلِي يَا ويْلِي

*fa-in qulta la fayawayli yawayli yawayli*

If You say ‘No,’ then I am ruined! I am ruined! I am ruined!

**34**

يَا عَوْلِي يَا عَوْلِي يَا عَوْلِي

*ya `awli ya `awli ya `awli*

Woe to me! Woe to me! Woe to me!

**35**

يَا شِقْوَتِي يَا شِقْوَتِي يَا شِقْوَتِي

*ya shiqwati ya shiqwati ya shiqwati*

Oh my misery! Oh my misery! Oh my misery!

**36**

يَا ذُلّي يَا ذُلِّي يَا ذُلِّي

*ya dhulli ya dhulli ya dhulli*

Oh my ill-luck! Oh my ill-luck! Oh my ill-luck!

**37**

إِلَىٰ مَنْ وَمِمَّنْ

*ila man wa mimman*

To whom? By Whom?

**38**

اوْ عِنْدَ مَنْ اوْ كَيْفَ اوْ مَاذَا

*aw `inda man aw kayfa aw madha*

From whom? How? What?

**39**

اوْ إِلَىٰ ايِّ شَيْءٍ الْجَا

*aw ila ayyi shay'in alja'u*

In which place to take shelter?

**40**

وَمَنْ ارْجُو

*wa man arju*

For whom shall I hope?

**41**

وَمَنْ يَجُودُ عَلَيَّ بِفَضْلِهِ حِينِ تَرْفُضُنِي

*wa man yajudu `alayya bifadhlihi hina tarfudhuni*

Who shall bestow upon me with his favor when You forsake me?

42

يَا وَاسِعَ ٱلْمَغْفِرَةِ

*ya wasi`a almaghfirati*

O Liberal in forgiveness!

43

وَإِنْ قُلْتَ نَعَمْ كَمَا هُوَ ٱلظَّنُّ بِكَ وَٱلرَّجَاءُ لَكَ

But if You say ‘Yes,’ as I expect You to say and as I desire from You,

44

فَطُوبَىٰ لِي انَا ٱلسَّعيدُ وَانَا ٱلْمَسْعُودُ

*fatuba li ana alssa`idu wa ana almas`udu*

then joy is for me, I am successful, I am happy;

45

فَطُوبِي لِي وَانَا ٱلْمَرْحُومُ

*fatuba li wa ana almarhumu*

then joy is for me, I will receive (Your) mercy.

46

يَا مُتَرَحِّمُ يَامُتَرَئِّفُ

*ya mutarahhimu ya mutara"ifu*

O Ever-merciful! O Ever-compassionate!

47

يَا مُتَعَطِّفُ يَا يَا مُتَحَنِّنُ

*ya muta`attifu ya mutahanninu*

O Ever-sympathetic! O Ever-commiserating!

**48**

يَا مُتَمَلِّكُ يَا مُقْسِطُ

*ya mutamalliku ya muqsitu*

O Ever-sovereign! O Just!

**49**

لاَ عَمَلَ لِي اَبْلُغُ بِهِ نَجَاحَ حَاجَتِي

*la `amala li ablughu bihi najaha hajati*

I lack any act due to which I can attain achievement of my desire.

**50**

اسْالُكَ بِٱسْمِكَ ٱلَّذِي جَعَلْتَهُ فِي مَكْنُونِ غَيْبِكَ

*as'aluka bismika alladhi ja`altahu fi maknuni ghaybika*

I thus beseech You in the name of Your Name which You have reserved in the innermost of Your Hidden Knowledge

**51**

وَٱسْتَقَرَّ عِنْدَكَ فَلاَ يَخْرُجُ مِنْكَ إِلىٰ شَيْءٍ سِوَاكَ

*wastaqarra `indaka fala yakhruju minka ila shay'in siwaka*

and it has thus settled with You so firmly that nothing of it can come out from You to any other thing.

**52**

اسْالُكَ بِهِ وَبِكَ فَإِنَّهُ اجَلُّ وَاشْرَفُ اسْمَائِكَ

*as'aluka bihi wa bika fa'innahu ajallu wa ashrafu asma'ika*

I beseech You by it and by You, for it is certainly the most exalted and honored of Your Names.

**53**

لاَ شَيْءَ لِي غَيْرُ هٰذَا

*la shay'a li ghayru hadha*

I have nothing to mention except this,

**54**

وَلاَ احَدَ اعْوَدُ عَلَيَّ مِنْكَ

*wa la ahada a`wadu `alayya minka*

and no one can be more beneficent to me than You.

**55**

يَا كَيْنُونُ يَا مُكَوِّنُ

*ya kaynunu ya mukawwinu*

O Absolute Being! O Creator of creation!

**56**

يَا مَنْ عَرَّفَنِي نَفْسَهُ

*ya man `arrafani nafsahu*

O He Who has introduced Himself to me!

**57**

يَا مَنْ امَرَنِي بِطَاعَتِهِ

*ya man amarani bita`atihi*

O He Who has commanded me to obey Him!

**58**

يَا مَنْ نَهَانِي عَنْ مَعْصِيَتِهِ

*ya man nahani `an ma`siyatihi*

O He Who has warned me against disobeying Him!

**59**

وَيَا مَدْعُوُّ يَا مَسْؤُولُ

*wa ya mad`uwwu ya mas'ulu*

O He Who is besought! O He Who is pleaded!

**60**

يَا مَطْلُوباً إِلَيْهِ

*ya matluban ilayhi*

O He Who is desired!

**61**

رَفَضْتُ وَصِيَّتَكَ ٱلَّتِي اوْصَيْتَنِي وَلَمْ اطِعْكَ

*rafadhtu wasiyyataka allati awsaytani wa lam uti`ka*

I have overlooked Your instructions, which You gave me and have not obeyed You.

**62**

وَلَوْ اطَعْتُكَ فِيمَا امَرْتَنِي لَكَفَيْتَنِي مَا قُمْتُ إِلَيْكَ فيهِ

*wa law ata`tuka fima amartani lakafaytani ma qumtu ilayka fihi*

If I obeyed You in what You have ordered me, You would certainly grant my requests that I am presenting before You.

**63**

وَانَا مَعَ مَعْصِيَتِي لَكَ رَاجٍ

*wa ana ma`a ma`siyati laka rajin*

In spite of my transgression, I am hopeful for You.

**64**

فَلاَ تَحُلْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ مَا رَجَوْتُ

*fala tahul bayni wa bayna ma rajawtu*

So, do not let my hope remain unfulfilled.

**65**

يَا مُتَرَحِّماً لِي اعِذْنِي مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيَّ وَمِنْ خَلْقِي

*ya mutarahhiman li a`idhni min bayni yadayya wa min khalfi*

O He Who always has mercy upon me, keep me safe, under Your protection, from (all evils that are) before me, behind me,

66

وَمِنْ فَوْقِي وَمِنْ تَحْتِي

*wa min fawqi wa min tahti*

above me, below me,

67

وَمِنْ كُلِّ جِهَاتِ ٱلإِحَاطَةِ بِي

*wa min kulli jihati al-ihatati bi*

and from all sides that surround me.

68

اَللَّهُمَّ بِمُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِي

*allahumma bimuhammadin sayyidi*

O Allah, [I beseech You] in the name of Muhammad, my master,

69

وَبِعَلِيٍّ وَلِيِّي

*wa bi`aliyyin waliyyi*

and [in the name of] `Ali, my chief,

70

وَبِٱلاَئِمَّةِ ٱلرَّاشِدِينَ عَلَيْهِمُ ٱلسَّلاَمُ

*wa bil-a'immati alrrashidina `alayhimu alssalamu*

and [in the names of] the orthodox Imams (leaders), peace be upon them,

71

ٱجْعَلْ عَلَيْنَا صَلَوَاتِكَ وَرَافَتَكَ وَرَحْمتَكَ

*ij`al `alayna salawatika wa ra'fataka wa rahmataka*

(please) bestow upon us with Your blessings, compassions, and mercy;

72

وَاوسِعْ عَلَيْنَا مِنْ رِزْقِكَ

*wa awsi` `alayna min rizqika*

and grant us expansive shares of Your sustenance;

73

وَٱقْضِ عَنَّا ٱلدَّيْنَ وَجَميعَ حَوَائِجِنَا

*waqdhi `anna alddayna wa jami`a hawa'ijina*

and help us repay our debts and settle all our needs,

74

يَا اللَّهُ يَا اللَّهُ يَا اللَّهُ

*ya allahu ya allahu ya allahu*

O Allah, O Allah, O Allah.

75

إِنَّكَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَديرٌ

*innaka `ala kulli shay'in qadirun*

Verily, You have full power over all things.