The Whispered Prayer of the Hopeful

From the Munajat of the Sahifa Sajjadiya: the whispered prayer of the hopeful — those who ask of God's bounty with certainty of His giving.

34 lines · 4–5 min · alzair.app/munajat/munajat-rajeen

1

يا مَنْ إِذَا سَأَلَهُ عَبْدٌ أَعْطَاهُ،

yaa man id'a saalahoo a'b-dun aa'-t'aahoo

O He who gives to a servant who asks from Him,

2

وَإذا أَمَّلَ ما عِنْدَهُ بَلَّغَهُ مُناهُ،

wa id'aaa am-mala maa i'ndahoo bal-laghahoo munaahoo

takes him to his wish when he expectantly hopes for what is with Him,

3

وَإِذَا أَقْبَلَ عَلَيْهِ قَرَّبَهُ وَأَدْناهُ،

wa id'aaa aq-bala a'lay-hee qar-rabahoo wa ad-naah

brings him near and close when he approaches Him,

4

وَإذا جاهَرَهُ بِالْعِصْيانِ سَتَرَ عَلَىٰ ذَنْبِهِ وَغَطَّاهُ،

wa id'a jaaharahoo bil-i's'-yaani satara a'laa d'ambihee wa ghat'-t'aahoo

covers over his sin and cloaks it when he shows it openly,

5

وَإِذا تَوَكَّلَ عَلَيْهِ أَحْسَبَهُ وَكَفَاهُ

wa id'a tawak-kala a'lay-heee ah'-sabahoo wa kafaah

and satisfies and suffices him when he has confidence in Him!

6

إِلٰهِي مَنِ الَّذِي نَزَلَ بِكَ مُلْتَمِساً قِراكَ فَما قَرَيْتَهُ؟

ilaahee manil-lad'ee nazala bika mul-tamisan qiraaka famaa qaray-tah

My God, who is the one who has come before You seeking hospitality, and whom You have not received hospitably?

7

وَمَنِ الَّذِي أَناخَ بِبابِكَ مُرْتَجِياً نَداكَ فَما أَوْلَيْتَهُ؟

wa manil-lad'eee anakha bibaabika mur-tajeean-nadaaka famaaa aw-lay-tah

Who is the one who has dismounted at Your door hoping for magnanimity, and to whom You have not shown it?

8

أَيَحْسُنُ أَنْ أَرْجِعَ عَنْ بابِكَ بِالْخَيْبَةِ مَصْرُوفاً،

ayah'-sunu an ar-jia' a'm-baabika bil-khay-bati mas'-roofan

Is it good that I come back from Your door, turned away in disappointment,

9

وَلَسْتُ أَعْرِفُ سِواكَ مَوْلىً بِالإِحْسانِ مَوْصُوفاً؟

wa las-tu aa'-rifu siwaaka maw-lan bil-ih'-saani maw-s'oofan

while I know of no patron qualified by beneficence but You?

10

كَيْفَ أَرْجُو غَيْرَكَ وَالْخَيْرُ كُلُّهُ بِيَدِكَ؟!

kayfa ar-joo ghay-raka wal-khay-ru kul-luhoo beeadik

How should I have hope in other than You, when the good - all of it - is in Your hand?

11

وَكَيْفَ أُؤَمِّلُ سِوَاكَ وَالْخَلْقُ وَالأَمْرُ لَكَ؟!

wa kay-fa oo-am-milu siwaaka wal-khal-qu wal-am-ru lak

How should I expect from others, when for You are the creation and the command?

12

أَأَقْطَعُ رَجائِي مِنْكَ وَقَدْ أَوْلَيْتَنِي ما لَمْ أَسْأَلْهُ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ؟!

aaq-t'au' rajaaa-ee minka wa qad aw-lay-tanee maa lam as-al-hoo min faz''-lika

Should I cut off my hope for You, when You have shown me of Your bounty that for which I have not asked?

13

أَمْ تُفْقِرُنِي إلىٰ مِثْلِي وَأَنَا أَعْتَصِمُ بِحَبْلِكَ؟!

am tuf-qiruny ilaa mith-lee wa ana aa'-tas'imu bih'ab-lika

Would You make me have need for my like whilst I hold fast to Your cord?!

14

يا مَنْ سَعِدَ بِرَحْمَتِهِ الْقاصِدُونَ،

yaa man sai'da birah'-matihil-qaas'idoona

O He through whose mercy the strivers reach felicity

15

وَلَمْ يَشْقَ بِنِقْمَتِهِ الْمُسْتَغْفِرُونَ،

wa lam yash-qa binaqimatihil-mus-tagh-firoon

and through whose vengeance the seekers of forgiveness are not made wretched!

16

كَيْفَ أَنْسَاكَ وَلَمْ تَزَلْ ذاكِرِي؟!

kay-fa ansaaka walam tazal d'aakiree

How should I forget You, while You never cease remembering me?

17

وَكَيْفَ أَلْهُو عَنْكَ وَأَنْتَ مُراقِبِي؟!

wa kay-fa al-hoo a'nka wa anta muraaqibee

How should I be diverted from You while You are my constant watcher?

18

إلٰهِي بِذَيْلِ كَرَمِكَ أَعْلَقتُ يَدِي،

ilaahee bid'ay-li karamika aa'-laq-tu yadee

My God, I have fastened my hand to the shirt of Your generosity,

19

وَلِنَيْلِ عَطاياكَ بَسَطْتُ أَمَلِي،

wa linay-li a't'aayaaka basat'-tu amalee

I have stretched forth my expectation toward reaching Your gifts,

20

فَأَخْلِصْنِي بِخالِصَةِ تَوْحِيدِكَ،

faakh-lis'-nee bikhaalis'ati taw-h'eedika

so render me pure through the purest profession of Your Unity,

21

وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنْ صَفْوَةِ عَبِيدِكَ،

waj-a'l-nee min s'af-wati a'beedik

and appoint me one of Your choice servants!

22

يا مَنْ كُلُّ هارِبٍ إلَيْهِ يَلْتَجِئُ،

yaa man- kul-lu haaribin ilay-hee yal-taji-u

O He who is the asylum of every fleer,

23

وَكُلُّ طالِبٍ إيَّاهُ يَرْتَجِي،

wa kul-lu t'aalibin ee-yaahoo yar-tjee

the hope of every seeker!

24

يا خَيْرَ مَرْجُوٍّ،

yaa khay-ra mar-joo

O Best Object of hope!

25

وَيا أَكْرَمَ مَدْعُوٍّ،

wa yaaa ak-rama mad-u'w

O Most Generous Object of supplication!

26

وَيا مَنْ لا يُرَدُّ سائِلُهُ،

wa yaa mal-laa yurad-du saaa-iluh

O He who does not reject His asker

27

وَلا يُخَيَّبُ آمِلُهُ،

wa laa yukhay-yabu aaamiluh

or disappoint the expectant!

28

يا مَنْ بابُهُ مَفْتُوحٌ لِدَاعِيهِ،

yaa mam-baabuhoo maf-tooh'ul-lidaae'eh

O He whose door is open to His supplicators

29

وَحِجابُهُ مَرْفُوعٌ لِراجِيهِ،

wa h'ijaabuhoo mar-foou'l-liraajeehee

and whose veil is lifted for those who hope in Him!

30

أَسْأَلُكَ بِكَرَمِكَ أَنْ تَمُنَّ عَلَيَّ مِنْ عَطائِكَ بِما تَقَرُّ بِهِ عَيْنِي،

as-aluka bikaramika an tamun-na a'lay-ya min a't'aaa-ika bima taqar-ru bihee a'y-nee

I ask You by Your generosity to show kindness toward me through Your gifts, with that which will gladden my eye,

31

وَمِنْ رَجائِكَ بِما تَطْمَئِنُّ بِهِ نَفْسِي،

wa mir-rajaaa-ika bima tat'-ma-in-nu bihee naf-see

through hope in You, with that which will give serenity to my soul,

32

وَمِنَ الْيَقِينِ بِما تُهَوِّنُ بِهِ عَلَيَّ مُصِيباتِ الدُّنْيا،

wa minal-yaqeeni bima tuhaw-winu bihee a'lay-ya mus'eebaatid-dunyaa

and through certainty with that which will make easy for me the afflictions of this world

33

وَتَجْلُو بِهِ عَنْ بَصِيرَتِي غَشَواتِ الْعَمىٰ

wa taj-loo bihee a'n bas'eeratee ghashawaatil-a'maa

and lift from my insight the veils of blindness!

34

بِرَحْمتِكَ يا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

birah'-matika yaaa ar-h'amar-raah'imeen

By Your mercy, O Most Merciful of the merciful!