The Whispered Prayer of the Complainers

From the Munajat of the Sahifa Sajjadiya: the whispered prayer of those who complain of the soul that commands evil, and seek God alone as its physician.

36 lines · 4–5 min · alzair.app/munajat/munajat-shakeen

1

إِلٰهِي إِلَيْكَ أَشْكُو نَفْساً بِالسُّوءِ أَمَّارَةً،

ilaaheee ilay-ka ash-koo naf-sana bis-sooo-i am-maarah

My God, to You I complain of a soul commanding to evil,

2

وَإِلَى الْخَطِيئَةِ مُبادِرَةً،

wa ilaal-khat'ee-ati mubaadirah

rushing to offenses,

3

وَبِمَعاصِيكَ مُولَعَةً،

wa bimaa'as'eeka moolaa'h

eager to disobey You,

4

وَلِسَخَطِكَ مُتَعَرِّضَةً،

wa lisakhat'ika mutaa'r-riz''atan

and exposing itself to Your anger.

5

تَسْلُكُ بِي مَسالِكَ الْمَهالِكِ،

tas-luka bee masaalikal-mahaalik

It takes me on the roads of disasters,

6

وَتَجْعَلُنِي عِنْدَكَ أَهْوَنَ هَالِكٍ،

wa taj-a'lunee i'ndaka ah-wana haalik

it makes me the easiest of perishers before You;

7

كَثِيرَةَ الْعِلَلِ طَوِيلَةَ الأَمَلِ،

kathyratal-i'lal, t'awylatal-amal

many its pretexts, drawn out its expectations;

8

إِنْ مَسَّهَا الشَّرُّ تَجْزَعُ،

im-mas-sahaash-shar-ru taj-zau'

when evil touches it, it is anxious,

9

وَإِنْ مَسَّهَا الْخَيْرُ تَمْنَعُ،

wa im-mas-sahaal-khay-ru tam-nau'

when good touches it, grudging;

10

مَيَّالَةً إِلَىٰ اللَّعِبِ وَاللَّهْوِ،

may-yaalatan ilaal-lai'bi wal-laah-wi

inclining to play and diversion,

11

مَمْلُوَّةً بِالْغَفْلَةِ وَالسَّهْوِ،

mam-looo-atam-bil-ghaf-lati was-sah-wi

full of heedlessness and inattention,

12

تُسْرِعُ بِي إِلَىٰ الْحَوْبَةِ،

tus-riu' beee ilaal-h'aw-bah

it hurries me to misdeeds

13

وَتُسَوِّفُنِي بِالتَّوْبَةِ.

wa tusaw-wifunee bit-taw-bah

and makes me delay repentance.

14

إِلٰهِي أَشْكُو إِلَيْكَ عَدُوّاً يُضِلُّنِي

ilaaheee ash-kooo ilay-k a'doo-way-yuz''il-lunee

My God, I complain to You of an enemy who misguides me

15

وَشَيْطانَاً يَغْوِينِي،

wa shay-t'aanay-yugh-weenee

and a satan who leads me astray.

16

قَدْ مَلأَ بِالْوَسْواسِ صَدْرِي،

qad malaa bil-was-waasi s'ad-ree

He has filled my breast with tempting thoughts,

17

وَأَحاطَتْ هَواجِسُهُ بِقَلْبِي

wa ah'aat'at hawaajisuhoo biqal-bee

and his suggestions have encompassed my heart.

18

يُعاضِدُ لِيَ الْهَوىٰ،

yua'az''idu leeal-hawaa

He supports caprice against me,

19

وَيُزَيِّنُ لِي حُبَّ الدُّنْيَا،

wa yuzay-yinu lee h'ub-bad-dunyaa

embellishes for me the love of this world,

20

وَيَحُولُ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ الطَّاعَةِ وَالزُّلْفىٰ.

wa yah'oolu bay-nee wa bay-nat'-t'aaa'ti waz-zul-faa

and separates me from obedience and proximity!

21

إِلٰهِي إِلَيْكَ أَشْكُو قَلْباً قاسِياً

ilaaheee ilay-ka ash-koo qal-bana qaaseea

My God, to You I complain of a heart that is hard,

22

مَعَ الْوَسْواسِ مُتَقَلِّباً،

maa'l-was-waasi mutaqal-liban

turned this way and that by tempting thoughts,

23

وَبِالرَّيْنِ وَالطَّبْعِ مُتَلَبِّساً،

w-wa bir-ray-ni wat'-t'ab-i' mutalab-bisaa

clothed in rust and the seal,

24

وَعَيْنَاً عَنِ الْبُكاءِ مِنْ خَوْفِكَ جامِدَةً،

wa a'y-nana a'nil-bukaaa-i min khaw-fika jaamidatan

and of an eye too indifferent to weep in fear of You

25

وَإِلَىٰ ما تَسُرُّها طامِحَةً.

w-wa ilaa maa tasur-ruhaa t'aamih'ah

and eagerly seeking that which gladdens it!

26

إِلٰهِي لا حَوْلَ وَلا قُوَّةَ إِلاَّ بِقُدْرَتِكَ،

ilaahee laa h'aw-la wa laa qoo-wata il-laa biqud-ratik

My God, there is no force and no strength except in Your power,

27

وَلا نَجاةَ لِي مِنْ مَكارِهِ الدُّنْيا إِلاَّ بِعِصْمَتِكَ،

wa laa najaata lee mim-makaarihid-dunyaaa il-laa bii's'-matik

and no deliverance for me from the detested things of this world save through Your preservation.

28

فَأَسْأَلُكَ بِبَلاغَةِ حِكْمَتِكَ،

faas-aluka bibalaaghati h'ik-matika

So I ask You by Your far-reaching wisdom

29

وَنَفاذِ مَشِيَّتِكَ،

wa nafaad'i mashee-yatika

and Your penetrating will

30

أَنْ لا تَجْعَلَنِي لِغَيْرِ جُودِكَ مُتَعَرِّضاً،

an-laa taj-a'l-nee lighay-ri joodika mutaa'r-riz''aa

not to let me expose myself to other than Your munificence

31

وَلا تُصَيِّرَنِي لِلْفِتَنِ غَرَضاً،

wa laa tus'ay-yir-nee lil-fitani gharaz''aa

and not to turn me into a target for trials!

32

وَكُنْ لِي عَلَىٰ الأَعْداءِ ناصِراً،

wa kul-lee a'laal-aa'-daaa-i naas'iraa

Be for me a helper against enemies,

33

وَعَلَىٰ الْمَخازِي وَالْعُيُوبِ ساتِراً،

wa a'laal-makhaazee wal-u'yoobi saatiraa

a coverer of shameful things and faults,

34

وَمِنَ الْبَلاءِ واقِياً،

a protector against afflictions,

35

وَعَنِ الْمَعاصِي عاصِمَاً،

waa'nil-maa'as'ee a'as'iman

a preserver against acts of disobedience!

36

بِرَأْفَتِكَ وَرَحْمَتِكَ يا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

biraa-fatika wa rah'-matika yaaa ar-h'amar-raah'imeen

By Your clemency and mercy, O Most Merciful of the merciful!