

مدارج السالكين

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

All praises are due to Allah. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.

www.markazalsalam.com

t.me/markazalsalam

[+97150 8008875](https://www.whatsapp.com/+971508008875)

info@markazalsalam.com

t.me/dropletsofdew



Al Salam Islamic Center



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

مدارج السالكين

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

13 DECEMBER 2022 | 19 JAMAD AL AWWAL 1444 | CLASS #2

INTRODUCTION

SUPPLICATION FOR GUIDANCE

أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم كان يقول: "اللهم إني أسألك
الهدى والتقى والعفاف والغنى"

'Abdullah bin Mas'ud (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) used to say:

"*Allahumma inni as'alukal-huda wat-tuqa wal-afafa wal-ghina*
(O Allah! I ask You for guidance, piety, chastity and self-sufficiency)".¹

¹ Riyadh As Saliheen, Muslim, Book 1, Hadith 71

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has already made a path for us and He guides us to what is needed. Previously we mentioned in Surah Al 'Asr that we do not want to lose ourselves or any opportunities in the time He has granted.
- Our completion is not about perfection, but our completion is to believe and perform righteous good deeds – this is what makes us accomplished. And with others, we will be complete when we enjoin based on truth and are patient. Then what comes next?
- We need guidelines to hold on to while on the path to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Sometimes we can forget, sometimes we can see things that confuse us, sometimes we see injustice in life, or we can forget our main covenant with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to worship Him alone, or we forget

what to do. So we will find all the main guidelines in Surah Al Fatiha.

- When looking at the book (مدارج السالكين) – someone might assume we immediately go to the worships of the heart, but previous to it are these guidelines found in Surah Al Fatiha

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER (مدارج السالكين)

SURAH AL FATIHA

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.

2

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

[All] praise is [due] to Allah, Lord of the worlds -

3

الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful,

4

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

Sovereign of the Day of Recompense.

5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

It is You we worship and You we ask for help.

6

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

Guide us to the straight path -

7

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor, not of those who have evoked [Your] anger or of those who are astray.

- We constantly need Surah Al Fatiha, and it is required to be recited in every unit of prayer. Without it, our prayer would be invalid.
- Thus something we always refer to, is sufficient and a curer for us is Surah Al Fatiha. It is the Mother of the Book and the Opening Chapter.

- Once the Prophet (ﷺ) told ‘Ubay ibn Kaa’b (may Allah be pleased with him), “shall I tell you of a surah that is not found in the Torah, Gospel and Furqan?”.

NOTHING IS LIKE SURAH AL FATIHA

وَعَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ لِأَبِي بِنِ كَعْبٍ: «كَيْفَ تَقْرَأُ فِي الصَّلَاةِ؟» فَقَرَأَ أُمَّ الْقُرْآنِ فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ مَا أَنْزَلْتُ فِي التَّوْرَةِ وَلَا فِي الْإِنْجِيلِ وَلَا فِي الزَّبُورِ وَلَا فِي الْفُرْقَانِ مِثْلَهَا وَإِنَّهَا سَبْعٌ مِنَ الْمَثَانِي وَالْقُرْآنُ الْعَظِيمُ الَّذِي أُعْطِيَتْهُ»

Abū Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him) said: When Allah’s Messenger once asked Ubayy b. Ka’b how he recited in the course of the prayer and he recited Umm al- Qur’ān (Surah Al Fatiha) , he said, “By Him in whose hand my soul is, nothing like it has been sent down in the Torah, the Injīl, the Zabūr, or the Qur’ān, and it is seven of the oft-repeated

verses and the mighty Qur'ān (Qur'ān, 15:87) which I have been given."²

- In Surah Al Fatiha, there is a great amount of guidance and a great amount of lofty goals. We may seek a job or a home, but Surah Al Fatiha elevates us because it makes whatever we seek very high and lofty.

LOFTY GOALS IN SURAH AL FATIHA

TO KNOW WHO IS THE ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP

- Nothing will make sense if we do not know Who is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). And in Surah Al Fatiha we find three main names of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) which other names of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) refer to:

² Mishkat al-Masabih 2142, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih

1. Allah: this Name is about the Divinity of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)
 2. Ar Rabb: includes the actions of Allah and how He nurtures His slaves
 3. Ar Rahman: The Most Merciful and the connection between the Master and the slave is all based on mercy
- No matter what we see in our life, we should not forget Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), His actions and His mercy.
 - The entire structure of Surah Al Fatiha is all about tawheed – The Oneness of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH ADH DHAARIYAAT 56

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

And I did not create the jinn and mankind
except to worship Me.

1. AL ULOOHYAH – DIVINITY OF ALLAH

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is perfect and He is The One we attach to. We submit and attach to Him with no question because we cannot grasp why things happen.
- It is important to understand Who is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in the path of the traveler and not to understand why did this happen or not happen. What is important is to attach to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in order to continue in the path.

SURAH AL FATIHA 5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ

It is You we worship

2. AR ROOBUBIYAH – LORDSHIP OF ALLAH

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) nurtures us, all the creations, all the angels, all the devils and all that is in the

heavens and the earth. It is not in the hands of anyone to nurture, guide or provide except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) nurtures with His blessings and every decree comes to us whether it is with means or without means. If we know it is all nurturing from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), then the impact is to rely on Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and submit to Him and be pleased with Him.

SURAH AL FATIHA 5

وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

and You we ask for help.

- We ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to help us in everything we go through in our life. In our path to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), things come along the way, but we want to continue.

- No one can benefit or help us except Allah Ar Rabb, and we rely on Him to give us. We have many needs, feelings and requests, and we do not want to ask others, but ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). And this is a movement of the heart, “O Allah I rely on You”.

3. MERCY OF ALLAH

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is vast in His mercy and we specifically find a great amount of mercy in the surah in the below ayah:

SURAH AL FATIHA 6

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

Guide us to the straight path

- We are not left alone to find our way, and when we ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to guide us to the Straight Path then surely He will guide us in

every part of our life, in our self, our feelings, our faith, our worship, and this will make us balanced, and not extreme.

- In conclusion, “You alone we worship” protects us from shirk because it is clear to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone and not try to make connections.
- And “You alone we seek help” protects us from relying on ourselves, feeling arrogant and proud.
- And sometimes we be torn and confused, but what shows there is a great amount of mercy? To believe that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The Most Merciful to guide us to the Straight Path. Thus:
 1. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The One Whom we attach to.

2. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The Nurturer so we ask for His help.
3. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The Most Merciful so He guides us to the Straight Path.
- And there is one word in Surah Al Fatiha which shows our belief in all three Names, what is it? (الْحَمْدُ) – alhamd – the praise.

SURAH AL FATIHA 2 TO 3

2

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

[All] praise is [due] to Allah, Lord of the worlds -

3

الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ

The Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful,

- We praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) because He is perfect.

- We praise Him because He is The Lord and Nurturer of the Whole World, so we rely on Him when we want anything.
- We praise Him because He is Ar Rahman Ar Raheem, The Most Merciful, The Especially Merciful.
- And the best dua is “alhamdulillah” – we praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for His perfection, nurturing and mercy.
- When we know all these parts, then everything is praiseworthy. All that happens to us is praiseworthy and all that we receive is praiseworthy.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

[ALL] PRAISE IS [DUE] TO ALLAH, LORD OF THE WORLDS -

REFERENCES

1. مدارج السالكين - ابن القيم

RELATED RESOURCES

THE SUPERIOR CHAPTER OF THE QUR'AN

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/path-of-the-traveller>

TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE RECORDING:

<https://markazalsalam.com/recordings-notes>

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