

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.

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Al Salam Islamic Center



سم الله الرحمن الرحيم
لا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله

مدارج السالكين

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

24 DECEMBER 2022 | 30 JAMAD AL AWWAL 1444 | CLASS #10

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

SUPPLICATION FOR ALLAH TO JUDGE BETWEEN MATTERS

كَانَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَفْتَتِحُ صَلَاتَهُ قَالَتْ كَانَ إِذَا قَامَ
مِنَ اللَّيْلِ افْتَتَحَ صَلَاتَهُ قَالَ " اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّ جِبْرِيلَ وَمِيكَائِيلَ
وَإِسْرَافِيلَ فَاطِرَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ عَالِمَ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ أَنْتَ
تَحْكُمُ بَيْنَ عِبَادِكَ فِيمَا كَانُوا فِيهِ يَخْتَلِفُونَ اللَّهُمَّ اهْدِنِي لِمَا
اخْتَلَفَ فِيهِ مِنَ الْحَقِّ إِنَّكَ تَهْدِي مَنْ تَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ

"I asked 'Aishah: 'With what did the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) start his prayer?' She said: 'When he got up to pray at night he would start his prayer with the words:

*Allahumma Rabba Jibril wa Mika'il wa Israfil;
Fatirus-samawati wal-ard, 'alim al-ghaybi wash-
shahadah, anta tahkumu bayna 'ibadika fima
kanu fih yakhtalifun, Allahumma ihdini
limakktulifa fih min al-haqq innaka tahdi man
tasha'ila siratin mustaqim*

(O Allah, Lord of Jibril, Mika'il and Israfil, Creator of the heavens and the earth, Knower of the unseen and the seen, You judge between Your slaves concerning wherein they differ. O Allah, guide me to the disputed matters of truth for

You are the One Who guides to the Straight Path)."²

- We ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to guide us to the Straight Path, and this Path is not easy unless we attach to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SUPPLICATION FOR EASE

اللَّهُمَّ لَا سَهْلَ إِلَّا مَا جَعَلْتَهُ سَهْلًا، وَأَنْتَ تَجْعَلُ الْحَزْنَ إِذَا شِئْتَ
سَهْلًا

Allāhumma lā saḥla illā ma ja`altahu saḥla wa anta taj`alu 'l-ḥazna idhā shi'ta saḥla.

O Allah, there is no ease other than what You make easy. If You please You ease sorrow.

- The Straight Path is slippery, thinner than a strand of hair, sharper than a sword, there are thorns and hooks on the Sirat and it is above the hellfire. This is not easy, but we need to complete attachment to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

² Sunan an-Nasa'i 1625

SURAH MARYAM 71

وَإِنْ مِنْكُمْ إِلَّا وَارِدُهَا ۚ كَانَ عَلَىٰ رَبِّكَ حَتْمًا مَّقْضِيًّا

There is not one of you but will pass over it (Hell): this is with your Lord; a Decree which must be accomplished.

- When we praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), it brings about love. When we know He is The Most Merciful, then we will be hopeful. When we know He is The Owner of the Day of Judgement, then we will magnify Him. When we say, “You alone we worship and You alone we ask for help”, then it shows tawheed, that we single out Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone in worship and we rely on Him.
- We may pray or fast from the outside, but the real guidance is how our heart is guided to the Straight Path.

SURAH AT TAGHABUN 11

وَمَنْ يُؤْمِنِ بِاللَّهِ يَهْدِ قَلْبَهُ

And whoever believes in Allah - He will guide his heart.

- We never want to deny or disbelieve in any of the blessings of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We want our heart to be guided to all that He has told us, commanded us and prohibited us.

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

الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ

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.

- The Straight Path is in the definite form, so there is only one path, and only that path is straight.

SURAH AL AN'AAM 153

وَأَنَّ هَذَا صِرَاطِي مُسْتَقِيمًا فَاتَّبِعُوهُ ۖ وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا السُّبُلَ فَتَفَرَّقَ بِكُمْ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ ۚ ذَٰلِكُمْ وَصَّاكُم بِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

And, [moreover], this is My path, which is straight, so follow it; and do not follow [other] ways, for you will be separated from His way.

This has He instructed you that you may become righteous.

- This ayah is admonition in order to have taqwa.
- It is important to have a companion in our path to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). The seeker of this path cannot be alone because there are challenges.
- 'Umar bin Al Khattaab (رضي الله عنه) said the best blessing after Islam was to have a companion. The companion is our mirror.
- Even if we have people around us, but we do not want to be alone in our thoughts. We do

not want the guidance to be awkward. We all want to feel accommodated.

SUPPLICATION FOR GUIDANCE

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ

The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor

- The path itself has people whom Allah (سبحانه) bestowed His favor upon them. It is important to always be with our companion and not look at something else because our way will not be more sufficient without them.

RANKS OF GUIDANCE

- There are ranks of guidance, but not everyone will attain all. Guidance can come in different forms and each one has a different and beautiful story in how they were guided to the Straight Path.

SURAH AL AN'AAM 124

اللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ حَيْثُ يَجْعَلُ رِسَالَتَهُ

Allah is most knowing of where He places His message.

1. TO BE SPOKEN TO DIRECTLY (تَكْلِيمِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لِعَبْدِهِ)

(يَقْظَةً بِلَا وَسْطَةٍ)

- This is only for the Prophet Mohammed (ﷺ) and Musa (عليه السلام), and not for anyone else. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has spoken to them directly with no mediator and while they are awake.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) spoke to the Prophet Mohammed (ﷺ) directly in the Israa and Mi'raaj. And He spoke directly to Musa (عليه السلام).

SURAH AL BAQARAH 253

تِلْكَ الرُّسُلُ فَضَّلْنَا بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ ۚ مِنْهُمْ مَنْ كَلَّمَ اللَّهُ ۗ

Those messengers - some of them We caused to exceed others. Among them were those to whom Allah spoke

- We believe that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) speaks and His Words are the most beautiful, and there is nothing like it. The Speech of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is His Attribute and the Qur'an is the Speech of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

2. DIVINE INSPIRATION SPECIFIC TO THE PROPHETS (مرتبة الوحي المختصّ بالأنبياء)

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will inspire the messengers, and this rank is not for people.

SURAH AN NISAA 163

إِنَّا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ كَمَا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَى نُوحٍ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ ۗ وَأَوْحَيْنَا إِلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ وَإِسْحَاقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ وَالْأَسْبَاطَ وَعِيسَىٰ وَأَيُّوبَ وَيُونُسَ وَهَارُونَ وَسُلَيْمَانَ ۗ وَآتَيْنَا دَاوُدَ زَبُورًا

Indeed, We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad (ﷺ)], as We revealed to Noah and the prophets after him. And we revealed to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, the Descendants, Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and Solomon, and to David We gave the book [of Psalms].

3. ALLAH SENDS JIBREEL TO THE MESSENGERS FOR INSPRIATION (إرسال الرّسول الملّكيّ إلى الرّسول البشريّ)

- The Angel Jibreel will carry the message from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to the messengers.

- These first three ranks are purely for the messengers and not people. Knowing this protects us from deviation.

4. TO SPEAK SOMETHING ALLAH CONFIRMS IT

(التَّحْدِيثُ)

- The person speaks within himself and when he says it to others, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) supports it and it happens. For example, 'Umar bin Al Khattaab (رضي الله عنه) said the mother of the believers should cover their faces, then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) revealed the ayah supporting it.

THOSE WHO SPEAK TRUTHFULLY AND IT HAPPENS

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ. رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " إِنَّهُ قَدْ كَانَ فِيمَا مَضَى قَبْلَكُمْ مِنْ الْأُمَمِ مُحَدِّثُونَ، وَإِنَّهُ إِنْ كَانَ فِي أُمَّتِي هَذِهِ مِنْهُمْ، فَإِنَّهُ عَمْرُبْنُ الْخَطَّابِ ".

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Amongst the people preceding you there used to be 'Muhaddithun' (i.e. persons say things that come true later on), and if there are any such persons amongst my followers, it is `Umar bin Al-Khattab."³

- This is not sixth sense or foretelling the future, but this is the rank of the truthful ones who are so clear from the inside and outside. And this is a way of guidance from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

5. DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF SITUATIONS (الإفهام)

- A person will understand incidents and situations. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guides the person to make him understand it in a way others do not see.

³ Sahih al-Bukhari 3469

SURAH AL ANBIYA 78 TO 79

78

وَدَاوُودَ وَسُلَيْمَانَ إِذْ يَحْكُمَانِ فِي الْحَرْثِ إِذْ نَفَشَتْ فِيهِ غَنَمُ
الْقَوْمِ وَكُنَّا لِحُكْمِهِمْ شَاهِدِينَ

And [mention] David and Solomon, when they judged concerning the field - when the sheep of a people overran it [at night], and We were witness to their judgement.

79

فَفَهَّمْنَاهَا سُلَيْمَانَ ۚ وَكُلًّا آتَيْنَا حُكْمًا وَعِلْمًا ۚ وَسَخَّرْنَا مَعَ
دَاوُودَ الْجِبَالَ يُسَبِّحْنَ وَالطَّيْرَ ۚ وَكُنَّا فَاعِلِينَ

And We gave understanding of the case to Solomon, and to each [of them] We gave judgement and knowledge. And We subjected the mountains to exalt [Us], along with David and [also] the birds. And We were doing [that].

- Someone can understand matters more than others and this is guidance from Allah (سبحانه). (وتعالى).

- When a person understands or says something and it happens, it is not to praise such a person, but it is guidance from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). This is from the ways Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guides people.

UNDERSTANDING IS GUIDANCE FROM ALLAH

سَمِعْتُ أَبَا جُحَيْفَةَ، قَالَ سَأَلْتُ عَلِيًّا. رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. هَلْ
عِنْدَكُمْ شَيْءٌ مَّا لَيْسَ فِي الْقُرْآنِ وَقَالَ مَرَّةً مَّا لَيْسَ عِنْدَ النَّاسِ
فَقَالَ وَالَّذِي فَلَقَ الْحَبَّ وَبَرَأَ النَّسَمَةَ مَّا عِنْدَنَا إِلَّا مَا فِي الْقُرْآنِ،
إِلَّا فَمَا يُعْطَى رَجُلٌ

Narrated Ash-Shu`bi: I heard Abu Juhaiifa saying, "I asked `Ali 'Have you got any Divine literature apart from the Qur'an?' (Once he said...apart from what the people have?) `Ali replied, 'By Him Who made the grain split (germinate) and created the soul, we have nothing except what is in the Qur'an and the ability (gift) of understanding Allah's Book which He may endow a man with.'⁴

⁴ Sahih al-Bukhari 6903

- We ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to teach us and make us understand.
- ‘Umar bin Al Khattab (رضي الله عنه) said about understanding that it is a blessing from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for the slave, and a light that He casts inside the heart, making the person understand matters which others would not understand.
- When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guides someone, He makes them understand in different ways. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us truthful and forgive our sins. Ameen.
- This is the rank of the truthful ones who come after the messengers. The sidiqeen are foremost and will quickly pass the Sirat.

SURAH AS SAJDAH 24

وَجَعَلْنَا مِنْهُمْ أُمَّةً يَهْدُونَ بِأَمْرِنَا لَمَّا صَبَرُوا ۖ وَكَانُوا بِآيَاتِنَا
يُوقِنُونَ

And We made from among them leaders guiding by Our command when they were patient and [when] they were certain of Our signs.

- The sidiqeen are patient and they have absolute certainty in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and all He has said, so this makes them hasten to rely on Him and trust Him.
- We will continue with the remaining ranks of guidance tomorrow in sha'a Allah.

WRITE HOW ALLAH GUIDED YOU, HIS WAYS OF GUIDANCE AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PROPHET (ﷺ) MAY ALLAH MAKE IT A MEANS OF INSPIRATION AND GUIDING OTHERS TO (لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله).

WE ASK ALLAH TO FAVOR US TO BE ON HIS PATH AND TO MAKE US TRUTHFUL. AMEEN.

REFERENCES

1. مدارج السالكين - ابن القيم



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PATH OF THOSE WHOM YOU HAVE FAVORED

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN

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

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