



The Burda


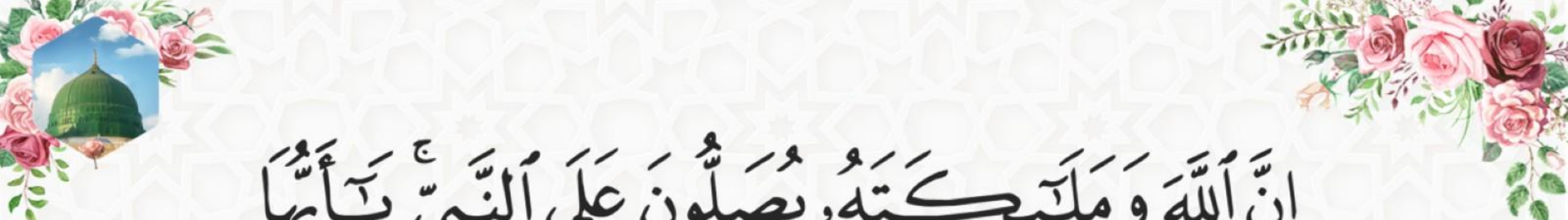
Imam Sharaf Ad-Din Al-Busiri

Compiled by

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إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا
الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

**Allah and his angels bless the Prophet– so,
you who believe, bless him too and
give him greetings of peace.**

Qur'an – Surah 33 Ayah 56

A decorative border featuring pink and red roses in the corners and a central wreath of green leaves and blue berries. The background has a subtle geometric pattern.

Chapter 1

Nostalgic Rhapsody & Love Complaint



مَوْلَايَ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ دَائِمًا أَبَدًا
عَلَى حَبِيبِكَ خَيْرِ الْخَلْقِ كُلِّهِمْ

My Master! Bestow blessings and peace constantly and eternally,
Upon Your Beloved, the Best of Creation entirely

أَمِنْ تَذَكُّرِ جِيرَانٍ بَدِي سَلَمِ

Is it from remembering neighbours at Dhu Salam

مَزَجَتْ دَمْعًا جَرَى مِنْ مُقْلَةٍ بَدَمِ

That you shed tears admixed with blood from your eyes?

أَمْ هَبَّتِ الرِّيحُ مِنْ تِلْقَاءِ كَازِمَةٍ

Or because wind has blown from the direction of Kazima

وَأَوْ مَضَ الْبَرْقُ فِي الظُّلْمَاءِ مِنْ إِضْمٍ

And lightning has flashed in the dark of Idam?

فَمَا لِعَيْنَيْكَ إِذَا قُلْتَ اكْفَاهِمَنَا

So what ails your eyes that when you tell them 'stop', they continue to weep still more?

وَمَا لِقَلْبِكَ إِذَا قُلْتَ اسْتَفِقْ يَرِيمِ

And what ails your heart that when you bid it awake, it wanders further in distraction?

أَيَحْسَبُ الصَّيْبُ أَنَّ الْحُبَّ مِنْكُمْ

Does the lovelorn man think that love can be hidden

مَا بَيْنَ مَنْسَجِمٍ مِنْهُ وَمُضْطَرِمٍ

Behind a torrent from his [eyes], or a heart's raging fire?

لَوْلَا اِهْوَايَ لَمْ تُرِقْ دَمْعًا عَلٰى طَلَلٍ

But for passion, you would not shed tears at an
abandoned camp,

وَلَا اَرِقْتِ لِدِكْرِ الْبَانَ وَالْعَلَمِ

Or lie awake at night recalling the fragrant willow or the mountain;

فَكَيْفَ تُنْكِرُ حُبًّا بَعْدَ مَا شَهِدَتْ

So how can you deny this love when tears and
sickness,

بِهِ عَلَيْكَ عُدُولُ الدَّمْعِ وَالسَّقَمِ

Truthful witnesses, have testified to it against you?

وَأُتْبِتَ الْوَجْدُ خَطِّي عِبْرَةً وَضَنِّي

Lovesickness has etched two lines of tears and gauntness,

مِثْلَ الْبَهَارِ عَلَى خَدَّيْكَ وَالْعَنَمِ

Upon your cheeks, like yellow spice and red 'anam

نَعَمْ سَرَى طَيْفٌ مِّنْ أَهْوَى فَأَرَّقَنِي

Yes, my beloved's apparition came to me and denied me sleep,

وَالْحُبُّ يُعْتَرِضُ اللَّذَاتِ بِالْأَلَمِ

For love always opposes pleasures with pain!

يَا لَا يَمِي فِي الْهُوَى الْعُذْرِيَّ مَعْدِرَةً

O you who blame me for this chaste love, pardon me!

مِنِّي إِلَيْكَ وَلَوْ أَنْصَفْتَ لَمْ تَلِمِ

But had you judged fairly, you would not have blamed me.

عَدَّتْكَ حَالِي لَا سِرِّي بِمُسْتَرٍ

May you be spared my condition! My secret cannot be concealed

عَنِ الْوُشَاةِ وَلَا دَائِي بِمُنْحَسِمٍ

From detractors nor is there any cure for my ailment!

مَحْضَتْنِي النَّصِيحَ لَكِنْ لَسْتُ أَسْمَعُهُ

You have given me sincere advice, but I cannot hear it;

إِنَّ الْمُحِبَّ عَنِ الْعُدَّالِ فِي صَمَمٍ

A lover's ears are deaf to the reproaches of critics

إِنِّي أَتَّهَمْتُ نَصِيحَ الشَّيْبِ فِي عَدْلٍ

I hold suspect even the advice of my own grey hairs

وَالشَّيْبُ أَبْعَدُ فِي نَصِيحٍ عَنِ التُّهْمِ

Even though their advice is far from deception

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Chapter 2

Warnings about the
Caprices of the Ego



فَإِنَّ أَمَّارَتِي بِالسُّوءِ مَا اتَّعَظْتُ

Because of its ignorance, my ill-commanding ego has paid no heed

مِنْ جَهْلِهَا بِنَذِيرِ الشُّيْبِ وَالْهَرَمِ

To the warner of grey hair and approaching old age;

وَلَا أَعَدَّتْ مِنَ الْفِعْلِ الْجَمِيلِ قَرَى

Nor has it prepared good deeds in welcome

ضَيْفِ أَلَمٍ بِرَأْسِي غَيْرَ مُحْتَشِمٍ

For an unannounced guest who has settled on my head.

لَوْ كُنْتُ أَعْلَمُ أَنِّي مَا أُوقِرُهُ

Had I realised, I would not have honoured it;

كَتَمْتُ سِرًّا بَدَأَ لِي مِنْهُ بِالْكُتْمِ

I would have used [black] katam-dye to hide what it showed



مَنْ لِي بِرَدِّ جَمَاحٍ مِنْ غَوَايَتِهَا

Who will help me restrain my bolting ego from its wilfulness

كَمَا يُرَدُّ جَمَاحُ الْخَيْلِ بِاللُّجَمِ

As a rebellious horse may be restrained with reins?



فَلَا تَرْمُ بِالْمَعَاصِي كَسْرَ شَهْوَتِهَا

Do not try to thwart unlawful desires by satisfying them,

إِنَّ الطَّعَامَ يُقْوِي شَهْوَةَ النَّهْمِ

For food only increases a glutton's desires.

وَالنَّفْسُ كَالطِّفْلِ إِن تَهْمَلْهُ شَبَّ عَلَى

The ego is like a child: neglect it and it will grow up loving

حُبِّ الرِّضَاعِ وَإِن تَقْطِمْهُ يَنْقَطِمِ

To suckle; but if you wean it, it will be weaned.

فَاصْرِفْ هَوَاهَا وَحَازِرْ أَنْ تُتَوَلِّيَهُ

Divert its vain desires and beware of giving it power,

إِنَّ الْهَوَىٰ مَاتَوَلَّىٰ يُصِمُّ أَوْ يَفِصِمُ

For vain desires pollute or destroy whatever they control.

وَرَاعِهَا وَهِيَ فِي الْأَعْمَالِ سَائِمَةٌ

Guard it as it grazes in the field of actions;

وَإِنْ هِيَ اسْتَحْلَتِ الْمَرْعَى فَلَا تُسِمِ

And should it find the grazing sweet, do not let it roam.

كَمْ حَسَّنَتْ لَذَّةَ الْمُرِّ عَاقِلَةٌ

How often it has found delight in something fatal,

مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ يَدْرِ أَنَّ السُّمَّ فِي الدَّسَمِ

For [one] cannot tell that there is poison in the fat!



وَاحْشِ الدَّسَائِسَ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَمِنْ شَبَعٍ

Beware of the snares of hunger and of satiety,

فَرُبَّ مَخْمَصَةٍ شَرُّهُ مِنَ التُّخْمِ

being hungry at times can be worse than gorging oneself!



وَاسْتَفْرِغِ الدَّمْعَ مِنْ عَيْنٍ قَدْ امْتَلَأَتْ

Empty out the tears from an eye that has filled itself up

مِنَ الْمَحَارِمِ وَالزَّمِّ حُمِيَةَ النَّدَمِ

with forbidden sights. Maintain a strict diet of remorse.

وَخَالِفِ النَّفْسَ وَالشَّيْطَانَ وَاعْصِهِمَا

Oppose the self and Satan and disobey them;

وَإِنْ هُمَا مَحَضَّاكَ النُّصْحَ فَاتَّهِمِ

If they offer you advice, be suspicious of them.

وَلَا تُطِيعُ مِنْهُمَا خَصْمًا وَلَا حَاكِمًا

Obey neither of them, whether they oppose or give judgment,

فَأَنْتَ تَعْرِفُ كَيْدَ الْخَصْمِ وَالْحَاكِمِ

For you know the wiles of opponent and judge.

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ مِنْ قَوْلٍ بِلَا عَمَلٍ

I seek Allah's forgiveness for words bereft of deeds,

لَقَدْ نَسَبْتُ بِهِ نَسْلًا لِذِي عُقْمٍ

As by them I attributed progeny to a sterile man.

أَمَرْتُكَ الْخَيْرَ لَكِنْ مَا اتَّعَمَرْتُ بِهِ

I enjoined goodness upon you while failing to heed the same.

وَمَا اسْتَقَمْتُ فَمَا قَوْلِي لَكَ اسْتَقِيمِ

I was not upright, so what use is my enjoining uprightness?

وَلَا تَزَوَّدْتُ قَبْلَ الْمَوْتِ نَافِلَةً

I have not gathered provisions of voluntary prayers before death,

وَلَمْ أُصَلِّ سِوَى فَرِيضٍ وَلَمْ أُصِمِّ

or prayed and fasted beyond what is obligatory.

Chapter 3

Praise of the
Prophet ﷺ



ظَلَمْتُ سُنَّةَ مَنْ أَحْيَا الظُّلَامَ إِلَى

I have wronged the Sunna of him who enlivened the dark nights

أَنْ اِشْتَكَيْتُ قَدَمَاهُ الضُّرَّ مِنْ وَرَمٍ

By praying till his feet complained of painful swelling.

وَشَدَّ مِنْ سَغَبٍ أَحْشَاءَهُ وَطَوَى

He placed a stone over his belly and soft skin,

تَحْتَ الْحِجَارَةِ كَشْحًا مُتْرَفَ الْأَدَمِ

Tightening a belt over it to diminish the hunger pangs.

وَرَأَوْا دَنَّتَهُ الْجِبَالُ الشُّمُّ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ

Lofty mountains tried, to tempt him with turning to gold,

عَنْ نَفْسِهِ فَأَرَاهَا أَيَّمَا شَمَمٍ

But he showed them the height of his own loftiness!

وَأَكَّدَتْ زُهْدَهُ فِيهَا ضَرُّ وَرَثَتُهُ

His dire neediness only strengthened his detachment;

إِنَّ الضَّرُّ وَرَثَةٌ لَا تَعْدُو عَلَى الْعِصْمِ

neediness like his never leads to transgression.

وَ كَيْفَ تَدْعُو إِلَى الدُّنْيَا ضُرُّ وَرَةِ مَنْ

How could need tempt him with worldliness, when but for him

لَوْ لَا هَلَمْ تُخْرِجَ الدُّنْيَا مِنَ الْعَدَمِ

The world would not have emerged from non-existence?

مُحَمَّدٌ سَيِّدُ الْكَوْنَيْنِ وَالثَّقَلَيْنِ

Muhammad is the master of both abodes, of both kinds,

وَالْفَرِيقَيْنِ مِنْ عَرَبٍ وَمِنْ عَجَمٍ

And both classes [of people]: Arabs and non-Arabs.

نَبِيِّنَا إِلَّا مِرُّ النَّاهِي فَلَا أَحَدٌ

Our Prophet, who commands and who forbids;

أَبْرَّ فِي قَوْلٍ لَا مِنْهُ وَلَا نَعَمٍ

None is more true than him in saying “yes” or “no”.

هُوَ الْحَبِيبُ الَّذِي تُرْجَى شَفَاعَتُهُ

He is the Beloved whose intercession is hoped for,

لِكُلِّ هَوْلٍ مِنَ الْأَهْوَالِ مُقْتَحِمٍ

Victorious over every terror and disaster.

دَعَا إِلَى اللَّهِ فَالْمُسْتَمْسِكُونَ بِهِ

He called [people] to Allah, so those who hold fast to him

مُسْتَمْسِكُونَ بِحَبْلِ غَيْرِ مُنْقَصِمٍ

Are holding fast to a rope that never shall break.

فَاقَ النَّبِيِّينَ فِي خَلْقِهِ وَفِي خُلُقِهِ

He excelled the other Prophets in form and qualities;

وَلَمْ يُدَانُوهُ فِي عِلْمِهِ وَلَا كَرَمِهِ

Their knowledge and nobility did not come near his.

وَ كَلَّمُهُمْ مِنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ مَلْتَمِسُ

They all seek something from Allah's Emissary –

غَرَفًا مِنَ الْبَحْرِ أَوْ رَشْفًا مِنَ الدِّيمِ

handfuls from the sea, or small sips of drizzle.

وَوَاقِفُونَ لَدَيْهِ عِنْدَ حَدِّهِمْ

They all stand before him, observing their limits;

مِنْ نُقْطَةِ الْعِلْمِ أَوْ مِنْ شَكْلَةِ الْحِكْمِ

Dots to his knowledge, or vowel-marks to his wisdom.

فَهُوَ الَّذِي تَمَّ مَعْنَاهُ وَصُورَتُهُ

It is he whose meaning and form attained perfection

ثُمَّ اصْطَفَاهُ حَبِيبًا بَارِيءُ النَّسَمِ

Then the Maker of Souls chose him for His beloved.

مُنَزَّاهٌ عَنْ شَرِّ يَكِّ فِي مَحَاسِنِهِ

Exalted above having a rival in his perfections;

فَجَوْهَرُ الْحُسْنِ فِيهِ غَيْرُ مُنْقَسِمٍ

In him is the undivided essence of beauty.

دَعْ مَا ادَّعَتْهُ النَّصَارَى فِي نَبِيِّهِمْ

Eschew the claim Christians have made for their Prophet.

وَاحْكُمْ بِمَا شِئْتُمْ مَدْحًا فِيهِ وَاحْتَكِمْ

Then say in his praise what you will, but wisely!

وَأَنْسُبْ إِلَى ذَاتِهِ مَا شِئْتَ مِنْ شَرَفٍ

Ascribe whatever honour you will to his essence,

وَأَنْسُبْ إِلَى قَدْرِهِ مَا شِئْتَ مِنْ عِظَمٍ

And ascribe what greatness you will to his worth;

فَإِنَّ فَضْلَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ لَيْسَ لَهُ

For the worth of Allah's Emissary has no limit

حَدٌّ فَيُعْرَبُ عَنْهُ نَاطِقٌ بِفَمٍ

That could be expressed by a human mouth.



لَوْ نَاسَبَتْ قَدْرَهُ آيَاتُهُ عِظَمًا

If his miracles were commensurate with his greatness,

أَحْيَا اسْمُهُ حِينَ يُدْعَى دَارِ سِ الرِّمَمِ

The mere mention of his name would give life to dry bones.



لَمْ يَمْتَحِنَّا بِمَا تَعْيَا الْعُقُولُ بِهِ

He did not try us with things that confound the mind

حِرْصًا عَلَيْنَا فَلَمْ نَرْتَبْ وَلَمْ نَرِهِم

Out of concern for us, so we neither doubted nor strayed.

أَعْيَا الْوَرَى فَهَمْ مَعْنَاهُ فَلَيْسَ يُرَى

Man's mind is exhausted trying to understand his meaning;

فِي الْقُرْبِ وَالْبُعْدِ فِيهِ غَيْرُ مُنْفَحِمٍ

All of them, near or far, appear as if dumbstruck.

كَالشَّمْسِ تَظْهَرُ لِلْعَيْنَيْنِ مِنْ بَعْدِ

He is like the sun: small to the eye when seen from afar,

صَغِيرَةٌ وَتُكَلِّمُ الطَّرْفَ مِنْ أَمَمٍ

But dazzling to the sight when seen close up.

وَ كَيْفَ يُدْرِكُ فِي الدُّنْيَا حَقِيقَتَهُ

How can his reality be grasped in this world

قَوْمٌ نِيَامٌ تَسَلُّوا عَنْهُ بِالْحُلُمِ

By sleeping folk, distracted from him by dreams?

فَمَبْلَغُ الْعِلْمِ فِيهِ أَنَّهُ بَشَرٌ

The extent of our knowledge is that he is a mortal –

وَأَنَّهُ خَيْرُ خَلْقِ اللَّهِ كُلِّهِمْ

And that he is the best of Allah's creation!

وَ كُلُّ آيَةٍ أَتَى الرَّسُولَ الْكَرِيمُ بِهَا

Every miracle produced by the noble Emissaries

فَإِنَّمَا أَتَتْهُمْ مِنْ نُورِهِ بِهَيْمٍ

Came to them by virtue of his light alone

فَإِنَّهُ شَمْسٌ فَضَّلِ هُمْ كَوَاكِبُهَا

For he is the sun of virtue, and they are its planets;

يُظْهِرُنَ أَنْوَارَهَا لِلنَّاسِ فِي الظُّلْمِ

They display its lights to mankind in the darkness.

أَكْرَمٌ بِخَلْقِ نَبِيِّ زَانَهُ خُلُقُهُ

How noble the qualities of a Prophet beautified by such traits:

بِالْحُسْنِ مُشْتَمِلٍ بِالْبِشْرِ مُتَّسِمٍ

Full of beauty, and marked by smiles and good cheer!

كَالزَّهْرِ فِي تَرَفٍ وَالْبَدْرِ فِي شَرَفٍ

Like flowers in delicate beauty, like the full moon in honour;

وَالْبَحْرِ فِي كَرَمٍ وَالذَّهْرِ فِي هِمَمٍ

like the sea in generosity, like time in persistence.

كَأَنَّهُ وَهُوَ فَرُّدٌ مِنْ جَلَالَتِهِ

So majestic was his presence that even when alone

فِي عَسْكَرٍ حِينَ تَلْقَاهُ وَفِي حَشَمٍ

he appeared surrounded by a large army and retinue.

كَأَنَّمَا اللُّؤْلُؤُ الْمَكْنُونُ فِي صَدْفٍ

It is as if precious hidden pearls, sparkling from their shells,

مِنْ مَعْدِنِي مَنْطِقٍ مِنْهُ وَمُبْتَسِمٍ

came from the treasure-mine of his speech and smile.

لَا طِيبَ يَعْدِلُ تُرْبًا ضَمَّ أَعْظَمَهُ

No perfume can match the ground that holds his bones.

طُوبَى لِمَنْ شَقِيَ مِنْهُ وَمَلَّتِهِمِ

Blessed are those who breathe in its fragrance or kiss it!



Chapter 4

On The Prophet's
Birth ﷺ



أَبَانَ مَوْلِدُهُ عَنْ طِيبِ عُنْصُرِهِ

His birth made the purity of his pedigree evident;

يَا طِيبَ مُبْتَدَأِ مِنْهُ وَمُخْتَمِرِ

O how pure were his beginning and his end!

يَوْمُ تَفَرَّسَ فِيهِ الْفُرْسُ أَنَّهُمْ

On that day the Persians intuited that they

قَدْ أُنذِرُوا بِحُلُولِ الْبُؤْسِ وَالنِّقَمِ

Had been warned of looming misery and retribution.

وَبَاتَ إِيوَانُ كِسْرَى وَهُوَ مُنْصَدِعٌ

That night the throne room of Khusraw became cracked,

كَشَمَلٍ أَصْحَابِ كِسْرَى غَيْرَ مُلْتَمِعٍ

Khusraw's people, too, crumbled, never to be restored.

وَالنَّارُ خَامِدَةٌ إِلَّا نَفَاسٍ مِنْ أَسْفٍ

The sacred fire, grief-stricken, breathed its last,

عَلَيْهِ وَالنَّهْرُ سَاهِي الْعَيْنِ مِنْ سَدَمٍ

And the river [Euphrates] dried up out of worry.

وَسَاءَ سَاوَةٌ أَنْ غَاضَتْ بِحَيْرِئِهَا

Sā'a was saddened by its lake drying up;

وَرُدُّوْا رِدْهَا بِالْغَيْظِ حِينَ ظَمِي

the thirsty who went to drink there came back in a rage!

كَأَنَّ النَّارَ مَا بِالمَاءِ مِنْ بَلَلٍ

As if the fire, from sorrow, took on the water's wetness

حُزُّ نَاوٍ بِالمَاءِ مَا بِالنَّارِ مِنْ ضَرَمٍ

And water assumed the fire's quality of blazing.

وَالْجِنُّ يُنَادُونَ بِالْأَلْوَانِ
الَّتِي لَمْ يُخَالَقُوا فِيهَا

There were jinn calling out, and dazzling lights

وَالْحَقُّ يُظْهِرُ مِنَ
الْحَقِّ مَنْ يَكْفُرُ بِهِ

As truth was manifested in both word and reality.

عَمُوا وَصَمُوا فَأَعْلَانُ الْبَشَائِرِ لَمْ

They were blind and deaf, so the glad tidings proclaimed

يُسْمَعُ وَبَارِقَةُ الْإِنذَارِ لَمْ تُشَمِّ

Went unheard, and the warning lightning-flash was not seen.

مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا أَخْبَرَ الْأَقْوَامَ كَاهِنُهُمْ

Even after the soothsayers had informed their peoples

بِأَنَّ دِينَهُمُ الْمَعْوَجَّ لَمْ يَقُمْ

That their crooked religion would not endure,

وَبَعْدَ مَا عَايَنُوا فِي الْأُفُقِ مِنْ شُهُبٍ

And even after their eyes saw meteors on the horizon

مُنْقَضَةٍ وَفَوْقَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مِنْ صَنَمٍ

Plunging downwards, as idols were toppled on earth;

حَتَّىٰ غَدَا عَنْ طَرِيقِ الْوَحْيِ مُنْهَزِمٌ

Until devils, routed, from the path of revelation,

مِنَ الشَّيَاطِينِ يَقْفُو إِثْرَ مُنْهَزِمٍ

Fled in the wake of those who had been overpowered.

كَانَهُمْ هَرَبًا أَبْطَالُ أَبْرَهَةَ

Fleeing like the brave warriors of Abraha

أَوْ عَسَاكِرٍ بِالْحَصَى مِنْ رَأْحَتَيْهِ رُمِي

Or the army pelted by pebbles thrown by his hand,

نَبَذَ الْمَسِيحَ مِنْ أَحْشَاءِ مُلْتَقِمٍ

Cast by him after glorifying Allah in the palm of his hand,

نَبَذَ الْمَسِيحَ مِنْ أَحْشَاءِ مُلْتَقِمٍ

As he who glorified his Lord was cast from the whale.

Chapter 5

The Prophet's
Miracles ﷺ



جَاءَتْ لِدَعْوَتِهِ الْأَشْجَارُ سَاجِدَةً

Trees came prostrating to him when he called,

تَمْشِي إِلَيْهِ عَلَى سَاقٍ بِلَا قَدَمٍ

Walking towards him on trunks without feet

كَأَنَّمَا سَطَّرَتْ سَطْرًا لِمَا كَتَبَتْ

As though they had inscribed lines of splendid calligraphy

فُرُوْعُهُا مِنْ بَدِيعِ الْخَطِّ بِاللَّقَمِ

With their branches along the path.

مِثْلَ الْغَمَامَةِ أَنَّى سَارَ سَائِرَةً

Like the cloud that hovered over him wherever he went,

تَقِيهِ حَرًّا وَطَيْبِ لِلْهَجِيرِ حَمِي

Shielding him from the intense oven of the midday heat.

أَقْسَمْتُ بِالْقَمَرِ الْمُنْشَقِّ إِنَّ لَهُ

I swear by the [Lord of the] moon that was split in two

مِنْ قَلْبِهِ نَسْبَةٌ مَبْرُورَةٌ الْقَسَمِ

a true oath: it has truly a connection with his heart.

وَمَا حَوَى الْغَارُ مِنْ خَيْرٍ وَمِنْ كَرَمٍ

And by the goodness and nobility contained in the cave

وَكُلُّ طَرْفٍ مِنَ الْكُفَّارِ عَنْهُ عَمِي

While the disbelievers' every glance was blind to him.

فَالصِّدْقُ فِي الْغَارِ وَالصِّدِّيقُ لَمْ يَرِ مَا

Truthfulness and the True One in the cave wavered not

وَهُمْ يَقُولُونَ مَا بِالْغَارِ مِنْ أَرِمٍ

While they said 'No one who breathes is in the cave!'

ظَنُّوا الْحَمَامَ وَظَنُّوا الْعُنْكَبُوتَ عَلَى

They supposed that a dove would never perch,

خَيْرِ الْبَرِيَّةِ لَمْ تَنْسُجْ وَلَمْ تَحْمِ

Or a spider would spin its web, for the Best of Creation

وَقَايَةُ اللَّهِ أَغْنَتْ عَنْ مُضَاعَفَةٍ

Their protection by Allah absolved them of need

مِنَ الدَّرُوعِ وَعَنْ عَالٍ مِنَ الْأُطْمِ

for additional armour or for lofty fortresses.

مَا سَأَمَنِي الدَّهْرُ ضَيْمًا وَاسْتَجَرْتُ بِهِ

Never, when fate oppressed me, have I sought refuge in him

إِلَّا وَنِلْتُ جِوَارًا مِنْهُ لَمْ يُضْمِ

Never, when fate oppressed me, have I sought refuge in him

وَلَا التَّمَسُّتُ غِنَى الدَّارَيْنِ مِنْ يَدِهِ

And never have I sought wealth in both worlds from his hand

إِلَّا اسْتَلَمْتُ النَّدَى مِنْ خَيْرِ مُسْتَلِمٍ

Without receiving largesse from the best of givers.

لَا تُنْكِرِ الْوَحْيَ مِنْ رُؤْيَاهُ إِنَّ لَهُ

Do not deny the revelations he received in his dreams;

قَلْبًا إِذَا نَامَتِ الْعَيْنَانِ لَمْ يَنَمْ

For though his eyes slept, he had a heart that slept not.

وَذَاكَ حِينَ بُلُوغِ مِّنْ نُّبُوَّتِهِ

That was when he attained his Prophetic status;

فَلَيْسَ يُنْكَرُ فِيهِ حَالُ مُحْتَلِمٍ

the night dreams of mature men cannot be denied!

تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ مَا وَحِي بِمُكْتَسَبٍ

Blessed is Allah! Revelation is not something acquired!

وَلَا نَبِيٌّ عَلَى غَيْبٍ بِمُتَّهَمٍ

Nor can a Prophet's knowledge of the Unseen be deemed suspect.

كَمْ أَبْرَأْتُ وَصِيبًا بِاللَّمْسِ رَاحَتُهُ

How many sick people were healed by the touch of his hand;

وَأَطْلَقْتُ أَرْبَابًا مِنْ رِبْقَةِ اللَّمَمِ

how many released from the tight knots of madness!

وَأَحْيَتِ السَّنَةَ الشُّهْبَاءَ دَعْوَتُهُ

His supplication brought life to a grey year [of drought] –

حَتَّى حَاكَتْ غُرَّةً فِي الْأَعْصِرِ الدُّهُمِ

Marked it out from dark years like [a horse's] white blaze.

بِعَارِضٍ جَادًا أَوْ خِلْتِ الْبِطَاحَ بِهَا

With generous rainclouds, so much that you would have thought

سَيْبٌ مِنَ الْيَمِّ أَوْ سَيْلٌ مِنَ الْعَرَمِ

That the valleys flowed with sea water or the flood of 'Arim.



Chapter 6

The Nobility of the
Qur'an and its Merit



دَعْنِي وَوَصِّفِي آيَاتِ لَهُ ظَهَرَتْ

Let me describe to you the signs that were manifested for him,

ظُهُورَ نَارِ الْقَرَى لَيْلًا عَلَى عِلْمِ

Visible like the village beacons lit atop hills at night.

فَالدَّرُّ يُزْدَادُ حُسْنًا وَهُوَ مُنْتَظِمٌ

Though a pearl is more lovely when strung [with others],

وَلَيْسَ يَنْقُصُ قَدْرًا غَيْرَ مُنْتَظِمٍ

Its value is not diminished when alone and unstrung.

فَمَا تَطَّأُولُ أَمَالِ الْمَدِيحِ إِلَى

To what hope can the giver of praise aspire

مَا فِيهِ مِنْ كَرَمِ الْأَخْلَاقِ وَالشِّيمِ

Of doing justice to his noble qualities and traits?

آيَاتُ حَقِّ مِنَ الرَّحْمَنِ مُحَدَّثَةٌ

Signs of truth from the All-Merciful—revealed within time

قَدِيمَةٌ صِفَةٌ الْمَوْصُوفِ بِالْقَدِيمِ

Yet pre-eternal; the attribute of Him who is pre-eternal.

لَمْ تَقْتَرِنَ بِزَمَانٍ وَهِيَ تُخْبِرُنَا

They are not connected with time, yet they inform us

عَنِ الْمَعَادِ وَعَنْ عَادٍ وَعَنْ إِرَامٍ

About the Resurrection, and about 'Īd and Iram.

دَامَتْ لَدَيْنَا فَفَاقَتْ كُلَّ مُعْجَزَةٍ

They remained with us, thus surpassing every miracle

مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ إِذْ جَاءَتْ وَلَمْ تَدُمِ

Of the other Prophets, which came but did not last.

مُحَكَّمَاتٌ فَمَا تَبْقِيَنَّ مِنْ شُبُهَةٍ

Unequivocal verses leaving no doubt to remain

لِذِي شِقَاقٍ وَمَا تَبْغِيَنَّ مِنْ حَكَمٍ

in dissenters, and requiring no arbiter.

مَا حُورِبَتْ قَطُّ إِلَّا عَادِمِينَ حَرْبٍ

No implacable foe has attacked them

أَعْدَى الْأَعَادِي إِلَيْهَا مُلْقِي السَّلَامِ

But that he retreated from battle and sued for peace.

رَدَّتْ بَلَاغَتُهَا دَعْوَى مُعَارِضِهَا

Their sheer eloquence refutes the claim of their opponent,

رَدَّ الْغَيُورِ يَدَ الْجَانِي عَنِ الْحُرْمِ

As a jealous man wards off an assailant's hand from his wife.

لَهَا مَعَانٍ كَمَوْجِ الْبَحْرِ فِي مَدَدٍ

They contain meanings like the sea's bountiful waves,

وَفَوْقَ جَوْهَرِهِ فِي الْحُسْنِ وَالْقِيمِ

And surpass the sea's jewels in beauty and value.

فَمَا تُعَدُّ وَلَا تُحْصَى عَجَائِبُهَا

Their marvels can neither be counted nor numbered,

وَلَا تُسَامُ عَلَى الْإِكْتَارِ بِالسَّامِ

And frequent repetition never gives rise to tedium.

قَرَّتْ بِهَا عَيْنُ قَارِيهَا فَقُلْتُ لَهُ

They delighted the one who recited them, so I told him,

لَقَدْ ظَفِرْتُ بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ فَاَعْتَصِمِ

'You have the Rope of Allah, so hold fast to it!'

إِنْ تَتْلُهَا خِيفَةً مِنْ حَرِّ نَارٍ لَطَىٰ

If you recite them out of fear of a blazing fire's heat

أَطْفَأَتْ حَرًّا لَطَىٰ مِنْ وَرْدِهَا الشُّبِّمِ

from their cool wells they will quench the blazing heat

كَأَنَّهَا الْحَوْضُ تَبَيَّضُ الْوُجُوهُ بِهِ

Like the Pool, they brighten the faces of the sinful,

مِنَ الْعُصَاةِ وَقَدْ جَاءُوا هُ كَالْحُمَمِ

Though they had come to it as black as charcoal.

وَكَالْصِّرَاطِ وَكَالْمِيزَانِ مَعْدِلَةً

Like the Traverse and like Scales in justice;

فَالْقِسْطُ مِنْ غَيْرِهَا فِي النَّاسِ لَمْ يَقُمْ

True justice amongst men cannot be upheld from any other source.

لَا تَعْجَبِينَ لِحَسُودٍ رَاخٍ يُنْكِرُهَا

Do not be amazed at an envious person who denies them

تَجَاهُلًا وَهُوَ عَيْنُ الْحَاذِقِ الْفَهْمِ

Feigning ignorance, though he has perception and understanding.

قَدْ تَنَكَّرَ الْعَيْنُ ضَوْءَ الشَّمْسِ مِنْ رَمْدٍ

For the eye, when inflamed, may be averse to the sun's light;

وَيُنْكِرُ الْفَمُ طَعْمَ الْمَاءِ مِنْ سَقَمٍ

And the mouth, when ailing, may loathe water's taste.



Chapter 7

The Prophet's Miraculous
Night Journey and Celestial
Ascension



يَا خَيْرَ مَنْ يَمَّمُ الْعَافُونَ سَاحَتَهُ

O best of those to whose courtyard seekers turn to

سَعِيًّا وَفَوْقَ مُتُونِ الْأَيْنِقِ الرَّسِمِ

Hastening on foot or the backs of strong camels!

وَمَنْ هُوَ الْآيَةُ الْكُبْرَى لِمُعْتَبِرٍ

O Greatest Sign for those who contemplate!

وَمَنْ هُوَ النِّعْمَةُ الْعُظْمَى لِمُغْتَنِمٍ

O Supreme Grace for those who seek to gain!

سَرَيْتَ مِنْ حَرَمٍ لَيْلًا إِلَى حَرَمٍ

You journeyed by night, from Sanctuary to Sanctuary

كَمَا سَرَى الْبَدْرُ فِي دَاجٍ مِنَ الظُّلَمِ

as the full moon travels through the pitch black sky.

وَبَيْتٌ تَرُقَىٰ إِلَىٰ أَنْ نِلْتِ مَنْزِلَةً

That night you ascended till you reached a station

مِنْ قَابِ قَوْسَيْنِ لَمْ تُدْرِكْ وَلَمْ تُرْمِ

Of Two Bows' Length—one never attained or hoped for!

وَقَدَّمَكَ جَمِيعُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ بِهَا

There all the Prophets and Emissaries gave you precedence,

وَالرُّسُلِ تَقْدِيمَ مَخْدُومٍ عَلَى خَدَمِ

As a master is given precedence by those who serve him.

وَأَنْتَ تَخْتَرِقُ السَّبْعَ الطَّبَاقِ بِرِهِمْ

You traversed the seven heavens with them [behind you]

فِي مَوْكِبٍ كُنْتَ فِيهِ صَاحِبَ الْعَلَمِ

In a procession wherein you were the standard-bearer.

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا لَمْ تَدَعْ شَأْوَ الْمُسْتَبِقِ

Until your proximity left no space for the avid seeker,

مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَلَا مَرْقَىٰ لِمُسْتَنِمٍ

Nor any higher summit for one seeking elevation.

خَفَضْتَ كُلَّ مَقَامٍ إِلَّا ضَافَةَ إِذْ

You surpassed all other stations in comparison

نُودِيتَ بِالرَّافِعِ مِثْلَ الْمُفْرَدِ الْعَلِيمِ

When acclaimed on high as 'The Matchless and Eminent'—

كَيْمَاتَفُوزٍ بِوَصْلٍ أَيْ مُسْتَرٍ

So that you might triumph through a tryst hidden

عَنِ الْعُيُونِ وَسِرٍّ أَيْ مُكْتَمٍ

From sight. How hidden a secret that was!

فَحُزَّتْ كُلُّ فَخَارٍ غَيْرَ مُشْتَرِكٍ

So you received every glory without rival

وَجُزَّتْ كُلُّ مَقَامٍ غَيْرَ مُزْدَحَمٍ

And gained every station alone, unbeset.

وَجَلِّ مِقْدَارُ مَا أُوتِيَتْ مِنْ رُتَبٍ

How glorious is the worth of the ranks you were given

وَعَزَّ إِدْرَاكُ مَا أُوتِيَتْ مِنْ نِعَمٍ

How difficult it is to grasp the graces conferred!

بُشْرَى لَنَا مَعْشَرَ الْإِسْلَامِ إِنَّ لَنَا

Glad tidings for us, O people of Islam,

مِنَ الْعِنَايَةِ كُنَّا غَيْرَ مُنْهَدِمِ

For we have an indestructible pillar of divine care.

لَمَّا دَعَا اللَّهُ دَاعِيََنَا لِطَاعَتِهِ

When Allah named the one who called us to obey Him

بِأَكْرَمِ الرُّسُلِ كُنَّا أَكْرَمَ الْأُمَمِ

The Noblest of Emissaries, we became the noblest of nations!



Chapter 8

The Prophet's Jihad



رَأَعَتْ قُلُوبَ الْعِدَا أَنْبَاءُ بَعْثَتِهِ

The news of his being sent had cast fear into the hearts of foes

كَنْبَاءَةٌ أَجْفَلَتْ غُفْلًا مِنَ الْغَنَمِ

as heedless sheep are startled by sudden noise.

مَا زَالَ يَلْقَاهُمْ فِي كُلِّ مَعْرَكٍ

He continued to meet them on every battleground

حَتَّىٰ حَاكُوا بِالْقَنَا حُمَّا عَلَىٰ وَضَمِّ

Until spears cut them, like meat on a butcher's block.

وَدُّوا الْفِرَارَ فَكَادُوا يَغِيبُونَ بِهِ

They longed to flee, almost jealous of

أَشْلَاءَ شَالَتْ مَعَ الْعِقْبَانِ وَالرَّخِمِ

The dead flesh carried off by hawks and vultures.

تَمْضِي اللَّيَالِي وَلَا يُدْرُونَ عِدَّتَهَا

The nights passed with them unaware of their number,

مَا لَمْ تَكُنْ مِنْ لَيَالِي الْأَشْهُرِ الْحُرُمِ

Apart from the nights of the Sacred Months.

كَأَنَّ مَا لِلدِّينِ ضَيْفٌ حَلَّ سَاحَتِهِمْ

As if the religion were a guest that had arrived at their courtyard,

بِكُلِّ قَرْمٍ إِلَى لَحْمِ الْعِدَا قَرْمٍ

With every honoured chieftain eager for the flesh of their foes.

يَجْرُءُ بِحَرَ خَمِيْسٍ فَوْقَ سَابِحَةٍ

Bringing forth a sea of soldiers on swift steeds,

يَرْمِي بِمَوْجٍ مِنَ الْأَبْطَالِ مُلْتَطِمٍ

Tossing wave upon wave of onrushing heroes.

مِنْ كُلِّ مُنْتَدِبٍ لِلَّهِ مُحْتَسِبٍ

All responding to Allah's call and anticipating reward,

يَسْطُو بِمُسْتَأْصِلٍ لِلْكَفْرِ مُصْطَلِمٍ

Boldly charging on, and uprooting disbelief.

حَتَّىٰ غَدَتْ مِلَّةُ الْإِسْلَامِ وَهِيَ بِهِمْ

Until the religion of Islam was, through them,

مِنْ بَعْدِ غُرْبَتِهِمَا مَوْصُولَةَ الرَّحِمِ

Reunited in kinship after being in exile.



مَكْفُولَةٌ أَبَدًا مِنْهُمْ بِخَيْرِ آبٍ

Forever protected from [foes] by the best of fathers and husbands,

وَ خَيْرِ بَعْلِ فَلَمْ تَيْتَمْ وَلَمْ تَيْمِ

So that she was no longer an orphan or a widow.



هُمُ الْجِبَالُ فَسَلُّ عَنْهُمْ مُصَادِمَهُمْ

They were mountains! Ask those who came to blows with them

مَاذَا رَأَى مِنْهُمْ فِي كُلِّ مَصْطَدِمٍ

What they saw from them on every field of battle.

وَسَلُّ حُنَيْنًا وَسَلُّ بَدْرًا وَسَلُّ أُحُدًا

Ask Hunayn, ask Badr, ask Uḥud—

فُصُولَ حَتْفٍ لَهُمْ أَذْهَى مِنَ الْوَأْخَمِ

Seasons of death, more disastrous for them than the plague!

الْمُصْدِرِي الْبَيْضِ حُمْرًا بَعْدَ مَا وَرَدَتْ

White swords returned, dripping red after taking drink

مِنَ الْعِدَا كُلِّ مُسَوِّدٍ مِّنَ اللَّيْمِ

From beneath the black heads of all their enemies.

وَالْكَاتِبِينَ بِسُومِ الْخَطِّ مَا تَرَكَتْ

Like scribes with wielded spears for pens,

أَقْلَامُهُمْ حَرْفَ جِسْمٍ غَيْرِ مُنْعَجِمٍ

Leaving no letter of a body unmarked with dots.

شَاكِي السِّلَاحِ لَهُمْ سِيمَاتٌ مِّزُهُمْ

Well-armed, they were distinguished by a clear sign,

وَالْوَرْدُ دِيمَتَا زُ بِالسِّيْمَا عَنِ السَّلْمِ

as a rose differs from an acacia tree in its features.

يُهْدِي إِلَيْكَ رِيَّاحُ النَّصْرِ نَشْرَهُمْ

The winds of victory bring you their scent as a gift;

فَتَحْسَبُ الزَّهْرَ فِي الْأَكْمَامِ كُلِّ كَمِي

You would think each armed hero a flower in bud!

كَأَنَّهُمْ فِي ظُهُورِ الْخَيْلِ نَبْتُ رُبَا

As if, riding their steeds, they were flowers on a hill-top

مِنْ شِدَّةِ الْحَزْمِ لَا مِنْ شِدَّةِ الْحُزْمِ

Held firm not by strong stirrups, but by strength of resolve.

طَارَتْ قُلُوبُ الْعِدَا مِنْ بَأْسِهِمْ فَرَقًا

Their forceful onslaught so put their foes' hearts to flight

فَمَا تُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ الْبُهْمِ وَالْبُهْمِ

that you could not have told a herd from a warrior.

وَمَنْ تَكُنْ بِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ نَصْرَتْهُ

For the one whose help comes from the Emissary of Allah

إِنْ تَلَقَّه الْأُسْدُ فِي آجَامِهَا تَجِمِ

Even lions finding him in their dens will be loth to face him.

وَلَنْ تَرَى مِنْ وَلِيٍّ غَيْرِ مُنْتَصِرٍ

You will not see one saint who is not victorious through him;

بِهِ وَلَا مِنْ عَدُوٍّ غَيْرِ مُنْقَصِمٍ

Or a single foe of his who is not dealt mortal blows.

أَحَلَّ أُمَّتَهُ فِي حِرْزِ مِلَّتِهِ

He gave his nation sanctuary in the stronghold of his faith,

كَاللِّيْثِ حَلَّ مَعَ الْأَشْبَالِ فِي أَجْمٍ

As a lion settles in with its cubs in a thicket.

كَمْ جَدَّتْ كَلِمَاتُ اللَّهِ مِنْ جَدَلٍ

How often have Allah's words felled his opponents,

فِيهِ وَ كَمْ خَصَمَ الْبُرْهَانُ مِنْ خَصِمٍ

And how often the Qur'an has defeated its enemies!

كَفَاكَ بِالْعِلْمِ فِي الْأُمِّيِّ مُعْجَزَةٌ

The erudition of an unlettered one is miracle enough

فِي الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ وَالتَّأْدِيبِ فِي الْيَتِيمِ

in an Age of Ignorance, as is an orphan's education.

Chapter 9

Seeking Intercession
through the Prophet ﷺ



خَدَمْتُهُ بِمَدِيحِ اسْتَقِيلُ بِهِ

By this eulogy I have served him, seeking absolution

ذُنُوبَ عُمَرٍ مَضَى فِي الشُّعْرِ وَالْخِدْمِ

For the sins of a life spent in poetry and patronage.

إِذْ قَلَّدَانِي مِمَّا تَخْشَى عَوَاقِبُهُ

For these two have yoked me, with consequences I fear;

كَأَنِّي بِهِمَا هَدْيٌ مِّنَ النَّعَمِ

as if I were, on their account, a ritual lamb for slaughter.

أَطَعْتُ غِيَّ الصِّبَا فِي الْحَالَتَيْنِ وَمَا

In both I obeyed the reckless folly of youth,

حَصَّلْتُ إِلَّا عَلَى الْآثَامِ وَالنَّدَمِ

And gained nothing except sins and regrets.

فِيَا خَسَارَةً نَفْسٍ فِي تِجَارَتِهَا

Alas, what abject loss for a soul in its transaction!

لَمْ تَشْتَرِ الدِّينَ بِالدُّنْيَا وَلَمْ تَسْمِ

It did not buy the Next World at the price of this – or even try to!

وَمَنْ يَبِيعْ أَجْلاً مِنْهُ بِعَاجِلِهِ

Anyone who sells the Hereafter for the ephemeral

يُبْنَ لَهُ الْغَبْنُ فِي بَيْعِهِ وَفِي سَلَمِهِ

Will be cheated in their present and future transactions.

إِنَّ آتِ ذُنُوبًا فَمَا عَهْدِي بِمُنْتَقِضٍ

I have sinned, yet my pledge to the Prophet is unbroken;

مِنَ النَّبِيِّ وَلَا حَبْلِي بِمَنْصَرِمٍ

Nor has the rope binding me to him been severed.

فَإِنِّي لِي ذِمَّةٌ مِنْهُ بِتَسْمِيَّتِي

For I have a protective covenant with him owing to my name—

مُحَمَّدًا وَهُوَ أَوْفَى الْخَلْقِ بِالذِّمَمِ

Muhammad—and he is the most loyal of mankind to covenants.

إِنْ لَمْ يَكُنْ فِي مَعَادِي آخِذَا بِيَدِي

If, in the Hereafter, he does not take me by the hand

فَضْلًا وَإِلَّا فَقُلْ يَا زَلَّةَ الْقَدَمِ

From pure grace, what a terrible slip of the foot!

حَاشَاهُ أَنْ يَحْرِمَ الرَّاجِيَ مَكَارِمَهُ

Far be it for him to deprive one hopeful of his generous gifts,

أَوْ يَرْجِعَ الْجَارُ مِنْهُ غَيْرَ مُحْتَرَمٍ

Or for a neighbour to turn back without being honoured by him!

وَمُنْذُ أَلْزَمْتُ أَفْكَارِي مَدَائِحَهُ

Ever since I have focused my thoughts on his praises,

وَجَدْتُهُ لِمَخْلَاصِي خَيْرَ مُلْتَزِمٍ

I have found him the one most committed to my salvation.

وَلَنْ يَفُوتَ الْغِنَى مِنْهُ يَدًا تَرِبَتْ

His wealth will not overlook a dusty, needy hand;

إِنَّ الْحَيَا يُنْبِتُ الْأَزْهَارَ فِي الْأَكْمَامِ

For showers cause flowers to bloom on hill-tops.

وَلَمْ أُرِدْ زَهْرَةَ الدُّنْيَا الَّتِي اقْتَطَفْتُ

I sought not the flowers of this world

يَدَا زُهَيْرٍ بِمَا أُثْنَى عَلَيَّ عَلَى هَرِيمٍ

Which Zuhayr picked for his praise of Harim.

A decorative border featuring pink and red roses, green leaves, and blue berries, framing the central text. The background has a subtle geometric pattern.

Chapter 10

Intimate Discourse and
the Petition of Needs



يَا أَكْرَمَ الْخَلْقِ مَا لِي مَنْ أُلُوذُ بِهِ

O Noblest of Creation, whose protection can I seek

سِوَاكَ عِنْدَ حُلُولِ الْحَادِثِ الْعَمَمِ

But yours, when the Universal Event comes to pass?

وَلَنْ يَضِيقَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ جَاهُكَ بِي

O Emissary of Allah, your rank will not be diminished

إِذَا الْكَرِيمُ تَجَلَّى بِاسْمِ مُنْتَقِمِ

By me when the Generous One appears, named as the Avenger.

فَإِنَّ مِنْ جُودِكَ الدُّنْيَا وَضَرَّتَهَا

For this world and its companion the Next come from your bounty,

وَمِنْ عُلُومِكَ عِلْمَ اللُّوحِ وَالْقَلَمِ

And part of what you know is knowledge of the Tablet and Pen.

يَا نَفْسُ لَا تَقْنَطِي مِنْ زَلَّةٍ عَظُمَتْ

O soul, despair not over a fault that is immense;

إِنَّ الْكَبَائِرَ فِي الْغُفْرَانِ كَاللَّمَمِ

Enormities, with divine forgiveness, are like minor errors.

لَعَلَّ رَحْمَةَ رَبِّي حِينَ يَقْسِمُهَا

Perchance my Lord's mercy, when He apportions it,

تَأْتِي عَلَى حَسَبِ الْعِصْيَانِ فِي الْقِسْمِ

Will be distributed in accordance with the measure of sins.

يَا رَبِّ وَاجْعَلْ رَجَائِي غَيْرَ مُنْعَكِسٍ

O my Lord, let not my hope in You be overturned

لَدَيْكَ وَاجْعَلْ حِسَابِي غَيْرَ مُنْخَرِمٍ

And do not make my account devoid of value.

وَالطُّفُ بِعَبْدِكَ فِي الدَّارَيْنِ إِنَّ لَهُ

Be gentle with Your servant in this life and the Next;

صَبْرًا مَتَى تَدْعُهُ إِلَّا هُوَ أَلْ يُنْهَزِمُ

For his patience flees when he is visited by terrors.

وَأُذُنٌ لِّسُحْبِ صَلَاةٍ مِّنْكَ دَائِمَةٍ

And may clouds of Your blessings rain down constantly

عَلَى النَّبِيِّ بِمُنْهَلٍ وَمُنْسَجِمٍ

Upon the Prophet, pouring down in abundance.

مَا رَنَحْتُ عَذَبَاتِ الْبَانَ رِيحُ صَبَاً

For as long as the east wind stirs the branches of willows,

وَأَطْرَبَ الْعَيْسَ حَادِي الْعَيْسِ بِالنَّغَمِ

And camel-drivers bring joy to their camels with melody.

ثُمَّ الرَّضَاعِنُ أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعَنْ عُمَرَ

Then extend Your good-pleasure to Abū Bakr and to ‘Umar

وَعَنْ عَلِيٍّ وَعَنْ عُثْمَانَ ذِي الْكُرَمِ

And to ‘Ali, and to ‘Uthmān, the generous

وَالْآلِ وَالصَّحْبِ ثُمَّ التَّابِعِينَ فَهُمْ

And to the Family and the Companions, and then the Followers

أَهْلُ التُّقَى وَالنَّقَا وَالْحِلْمِ وَالْكَرَمِ

the people of Godfearingness, purity, forbearance and generosity.

يَا رَبِّ بِالْمُصْطَفَى بَلِّغْ مَقَاوِدَنَا

O Lord, by the Chosen One, allow us to attain our hopes

وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا مَا مَضَى يَا وَاسِعَ الْكَرَمِ

And forgive us for what has gone past, O Vastly Generous.

وَاعْفِرْ إِيَّاهِ لِكُلِّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ بِمَا

And forgive, O God, all of the Muslims, by virtue

يَتْلُونَ فِي الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَىٰ وَفِي الْحَرَمِ

Of what they recite in the Furthest Mosque [al-Aqṣā] and the
Sacrosanct Mosque [al-Haram]

بِجَاهِهِ مَنْ بَيْتُهُ فِي طَيْبَةِ حَرَمٍ

By the rank of him whose house is a sanctum in Ṭayba [Medina]

وَإِسْمُهُ قَسَمٌ مِنْ أَعْظَمِ الْقَسَمِ

And whose name is an oath—from the greatest of oaths!

وَهَذِهِ بُرْدَةُ الْمُخْتَارِ قَدْ خُتِمَتْ

This Burda Ode of the Chosen One is thus complete

وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي بَدْءِهَا وَفِي خَتْمِهَا

And all praise is due to Allah in its beginning and its end.

أُبَيَّاتُهَا قَدْ أَتَتْ سِتِّينَ مَعَ مِائَةٍ

Its couplets—numbering one hundred and sixty—have come;

فَرِّجْ بِهَا كُرْبَنَا يَا وَاسِعَ الْكَرَمِ

Relieve us our difficulties by them, O Vastly Generous!