

Salat al-Mashishiyya

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مَنْ مِنْهُ انْشَقَّتِ الْأَسْرَارُ * وَانْفَلَقَتِ الْأَنْوَارُ * وَفِيهِ ارْتَقَتِ الْحَقَائِقُ *
وَتَنَزَّلَتْ عُلُومُ آدَمَ فَأَعْجَزَ الْخَلَائِقِ * وَلَهُ تَضَاءَلَتِ الْفُهُومُ فَلَمْ يُدْرِكْهُ مِنَّا سَابِقٌ وَلَا لَاحِقٌ *
* فَرِيَاضِ الْمَلَكَوْتِ بِزَهْرِ جَمَالِهِ مُونِقَةً * وَحِيَاضِ الْجَبْرُوتِ بِفَيْضِ أَنْوَارِهِ مُتَدَفِّقَةً * وَلَا
شَيْءَ إِلَّا وَهُوَ بِهِ مَنْوُطٌ * إِذْ لَوْلَا الْوَاسِطَةُ لَذَهَبَ كَمَا قِيلَ الْمَوْسُوطُ * صَلَاةً تَلِيْقُ بِكَ
مِنْكَ إِلَيْهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ * اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّهُ سِرُّكَ الْجَامِعُ الدَّالُّ عَلَيْكَ * وَحِجَابُكَ الْأَعْظَمُ الْقَائِمُ
لَكَ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ * اللَّهُمَّ الْحَقِيقِي بِنَسَبِهِ * وَحَقِيقِي بِحَسَبِهِ * وَعَرَّفْنِي إِيَّاهُ مَعْرِفَةً أَسْلَمُ بِهَا
مِنْ مَوَارِدِ الْجَهْلِ * وَأَكْرَعُ بِهَا مِنْ مَوَارِدِ الْفَضْلِ * وَاحْمِلْنِي عَلَى سَبِيلِهِ إِلَى حَضْرَتِكَ *
حَمَلًا مَخْفُوفًا بِنُصْرَتِكَ * وَاقْذِفْ بِي عَلَى الْبَاطِلِ فَأَدْمَعُهُ * وَزَجِّ بِي فِي بَحَارِ الْأَحَدِيَّةِ *
وَأَنْشُلْنِي مِنْ أَوْحَالِ التَّوْحِيدِ * وَأَغْرِقْنِي فِي عَيْنِ بَحْرِ الْوَحْدَةِ * حَتَّى لَا أَرَى وَلَا أَسْمَعُ وَلَا
أَجِدَ وَلَا أَحِسَّ إِلَّا بِهَا * وَاجْعَلِ الْحِجَابَ الْأَعْظَمَ حَيَاةَ رُوحِي * وَرُوحَهُ سِرَّ حَقِيقَتِي *
وَحَقِيقَتَهُ جَامِعَ عَوَالِمِي بِتَحْقِيقِ الْحَقِّ الْأَوَّلِ * يَا أَوَّلَ يَا آخِرَ يَا ظَاهِرَ يَا بَاطِنَ * اِسْمَعُ
نِدَائِي بِمَا سَمِعْتَ بِهِ نِدَاءَ عَبْدِكَ زَكْرِيَّا * وَانْصُرْنِي بِكَ لَكَ * وَأَيِّدْنِي بِكَ لَكَ * وَاجْمَعْ
بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ * وَحُلْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ غَيْرِكَ *

اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ

According to some, each "āh" in اللَّهُ should extend for approximately 12 counts.

إِنَّ الَّذِي فَرَضَ عَلَيْكَ الْقُرْآنَ لَرَادُّكَ إِلَى مَعَادٍ * (28:85)

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً وَهَيِّئْ لَنَا مِنْ أَمْرِنَا رَشَدًا * (18:10)

This marks the end according to older copies of the prayer. Some have added the following verse.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ ۚ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا * (33:56)

Transliteration

Allāhumma ṣalli ‘alā man minhu n-shaqqati l-asrār(u), wa-n-falaqati l-anwār(u), wa fihī r-taqati l-ḥaqā’iq(u), wa tanazzalat ‘ulūmu Ādama fa-a’jaza l-khalā’iq(i), wa lahu taḍā’alati l-fuhūmu fa-lam yudrik-hu minna sābiqun wa lā lāḥiq(un), fa-riyāḍu l-malakūti bi-zahri jamālihi mūniqah(tun), wa ḥiyāḍu l-jabarūti bi-fayḍi anwārihi mutadaffiqah(tun), wa lā shay’a illā wa huwa bihi manūṭ(un), idh lawla l-wāsiṭatu la-dhahaba kamā qīla l-mawsūṭ(u), ṣalātan talīqu bika minka ilayhi kamā huwa ahluh(u), Allāhumma innahu sirruka l-jāmi‘u d-dallu ‘alayk(a), wa ḥijābuka l-a’ḥzamu l-qā’imu laka bayna yadayk(a), Allāhumma alḥiqni bi-nasabih(i), wa ḥaqqiqnī bi-ḥasabih(i), wa ‘arrifnī iyyāhu ma‘rifatan aslamu bihā min mawāridi l-jahl(i), wa akra‘u bihā min mawāridi l-faḍl(i), wa-ḥmilnī ‘alā sabīlihi ilā ḥaḍratik(a), ḥamlan maḥfūfan bi-nuṣratik(a), wa-qdhif bī ‘ala l-bāṭili fa-admaghah(u), wa zujja bī fi biḥāri l-aḥadiyyah(ti), wa-nshulnī min awḥāli t-tawhīd(i), wa aghriqnī fi ‘ayni baḥri l-waḥdah(ti), hattā lā arā wa lā asma‘a wa lā ajida wa lā uḥissa illā bihā, wa-j‘ali l-ḥijāba l-a’ḥzama ḥayāta rūḥi, wa rūḥahu sirra ḥaqqīqatī, wa ḥaqqīqatahu jāmi‘a ‘awālimī bi-taḥqīqi l-ḥaqqi l-awwal(i), Yā Awwalu Yā Ākhiru Yā Zāhiru Yā Bāṭin(u), isma‘ nidā’i bimā samī‘ta bihi nidā’a ‘abdika Zakariyyā, wa-nṣurni bika lak(a), wa ayyidni bika lak(a), wa-jma‘ baynī wa baynak(a), wa ḥul baynī wa bayna ghayrik(a).

Allāāh Allāāh Allāāh.

According to some, each "āh" in "Allāh" should extend for approximately 12 counts.

Inna lladhī faraḍa ‘alayka l-qur’āna la-radduka ilā ma‘ād. (28:85)

Rabbanā ātinā min ladunka raḥmatan wa-hayyi’ lanā min amrinā rashada. (18:10)

This marks the end according to older copies of the prayer. Some have added the following verse.

Inna Llāha wa-malā’ikatahu yuṣallūna ‘ala n-nabiyyi yā ayyuha lladhīna āmanū ṣallū ‘alayhi wa sallimū taslīma. (33:56)

Translation

○ Allah, send prayers upon the one from whom the spiritual secrets were sundered, and from whom the lights burst forth, and in whom the ultimate realities arose.

The one in whom descended the knowledge of Adam and thus stymied all of creation, and before whom all understandings dwindled, thus none of us before or after has ever realised his true essence and none of us ever will.

The gardens of the dominion (malakut) are fair with the flowering of his resplendent beauty, and the pools of the omnipotence (jabarut) pour forth through his ever-flowing illuminations.

And there is nothing except that it is conditioned by him, since if not for the means, the end – as has been said – would have gone.

Send upon him such a prayer that truly befits You – from You unto him as is deserving to him.

○ Allah, indeed, he is Your all-embracing secret, the guide unto You, and Your Supreme Sentinel standing for You, before You.

○ Allah! Connect me with his lineage, realise me through his excellence, grant me knowledge of him – knowledge through which I attain salvation from the streams of ignorance, and by which I may sip from the streams of bounty.

And carry me on his path unto Your Divine Presence – with a carrying surrounded by Your aid.

And hurl me against falsehood so I smash it, and plunge me into the seas of Absolute Oneness, and pluck me from the mires of affirming unity, and drown me in the centre of the sea of oneness until I neither see nor hear nor find nor sense anything but by it.

○ Allah! Make the Supreme Sentinel the life of my spirit, and make his spirit the secret of my reality, and make his reality the connector of my realms, by the realisation of the first truth.

○ First! ○ Last! ○ Outward! ○ Inward!

Hear my plea as You heard the plea of Your servant Zakariyya.

And grant me victory through You and for You, and aid me through You and for You, and join me and You, and come between me and other than You.

Allah, Allah, Allah!

Verily the One who has enjoined the Quran upon you shall most certainly bring you back to a return. (28:85)

○ our Lord! Grant us a mercy from You, and grant us rectitude in our affair. (18:10)

Indeed, Allah and His angels send prayers upon the Prophet. ○ you who believe! Send prayers and abundant salutations upon him! (33:56)

Line by Line

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مَنْ مِنْهُ انشَقَّتِ الْأَسْرَارُ

Allāhumma ṣalli ‘alā man minhu n-shaqqati l-asrār(u)

○ Allah, send prayers upon the one from whom the spiritual secrets were sundered,

وَانْفَلَقَتِ الْأَنْوَارُ

wa-n-falaqati l-anwār(u)

and from whom the lights burst forth,

وَفِيهِ ارْتَقَتِ الْحَقَائِقُ

wa fihi r-taqati l-ḥaqā'iq(u)

and in whom the ultimate realities arose.

وَتَنْزَلَتْ عُلُومُ آدَمَ فَأَعْجَزَ الْخَلَائِقُ

wa tanazzalat ‘ulūmu Ādama fa-a‘jaza-l-khalā'iq(i)

The one in whom descended the knowledge of Adam and thus stymied all of creation,

وَلَهُ تَضَاءَلَتِ الْفُهُومُ فَلَمْ يُدْرِكْهُ مِنَّا سَابِقٌ وَلَا لَاحِقٌ

wa lahu taḍā'alati l-fuhūmu fa-lam yudrik-hu minna sābiqun wa lā lāḥiq(un)

and before whom all understandings dwindled, thus none of us before or after has ever realised his true essence and none of us ever will.

فَرِيَاضُ الْمَلَكُوتِ بِزَهْرِ جَمَالِهِ مُونِقَةٌ

fa-riyāḍu l-malakūti bi-zahri jamālihi mūniqah(tun)

The gardens of the dominion (malakut) are fair with the flowering of his resplendent beauty,

وَحِيَاضُ الْجَبْرُوتِ بِفَيْضِ أَنْوَارِهِ مُتَدَفِّقَةً

wa ḥiyāḍu l-jabarūti bi-fayḍi anwārihi mutadaffiqah(tun)

and the pools of the omnipotence (jabarut) pour forth through his ever-flowing illuminations.

وَلَا شَيْءَ إِلَّا وَهُوَ بِهِ مَنُوطٌ

wa lā shay'a illā wa huwa bihi manūṭ(un)

And there is nothing except that it is conditioned by him,

إِذْ لَوْلَا الْوَاسِطَةُ لَذَهَبَ كَمَا قِيلَ الْمَوْسُوطُ

idh lawla l-wāsiṭatu la-dhahaba kamā qīla l-mawsūṭ(u)

since if not for the means, the end — as has been said — would have gone.

صَلَاةٌ تَلِيْقُ بِكَ مِنْكَ إِلَيْهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

ṣalātan talīqu bika minka ilayhi kamā huwa ahluh(u)

Send upon him such a prayer that truly befits You — from You unto him as is deserving to him.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّهُ سِرُّكَ الْجَامِعُ الدَّالُّ عَلَيْكَ

Allāhumma innahu sirruka l-jāmi‘u d-dallu ‘alayk(a)

○ Allah, indeed, he is Your all-embracing secret, the guide unto You,

وَحِجَابُكَ الْأَعْظَمُ الْقَائِمُ لَكَ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

wa ḥijābuka l-a‘ẓamu l-qā‘imu laka bayna yadayk(a)

and Your Supreme Sentinel standing for You, before You.

اللَّهُمَّ أَحْبِبْنِي بِنَسَبِهِ

Allāhumma alḥiqni bi-nasabih(i)

○ Allah! Connect me with his lineage,

وَحَقِّقْنِي بِحَسَبِهِ

wa ḥaqqiqnī bi-ḥasabih(i)
realise me through his excellence,

وَعَرِّفْنِي إِيَّاهُ مَعْرِفَةً أَسْلَمَ بِهَا مِنْ مَوَارِدِ الْجَهْلِ

wa ‘arrifnī iyyāhu ma‘rifatan aslamu bihā min mawāridi l-jahl(i)
grant me knowledge of him — knowledge through which I attain salvation from the streams
of ignorance,

وَأَكْرَعُ بِهَا مِنْ مَوَارِدِ الْفَضْلِ

wa akra‘u bihā min mawāridi-l-faḍl(i)
and by which I may sip from the streams of bounty.

وَاحْمِلْنِي عَلَى سَبِيلِهِ إِلَى حَضْرَتِكَ

wa-ḥmilnī ‘alā sabīlihi ilā ḥaḍratik(a)
And carry me on his path unto Your Divine Presence —

حَمَلًا مَحْفُوفًا بِنُصْرَتِكَ

ḥamlan maḥfūfan bi-nuṣratik(a)
with a carrying surrounded by Your aid.

وَاقْذِفْ بِي عَلَى الْبَاطِلِ فَأَدْمَغْهُ

wa-qdhif bī ‘ala l-bāṭili fa-admaghah(u)
And hurl me against falsehood so I smash it,

وَزُجِّ بِي فِي بَحَارِ الْأَحَدِيَّةِ

wa zujja bī fi biḥāri l-aḥadiyyah(ti)
and plunge me into the seas of Absolute Oneness,

وَأَنْشُلْنِي مِنْ أَوْحَالِ التَّوْحِيدِ

wa-nshulnī min awḥāli t-tawhīd(i)
and pluck me from the mires of affirming unity,

وَأَغْرِقْنِي فِي عَيْنِ بَحْرِ الْوَحْدَةِ

wa aghriqnī fī ‘ayni baḥri l-waḥdah(ti)
and drown me in the centre of the sea of oneness

حَتَّى لَا أَرَى وَلَا أَسْمَعُ وَلَا أَجِدَ وَلَا أَحِسُّ إِلَّا بِهَا

hattā lā arā wa lā asma‘a wa lā ajida wa lā uḥissa illā bihā
until I neither see nor hear nor find nor sense anything but by it.

وَأَجْعَلِ الْحِجَابَ الْأَعْظَمَ حَيَاةَ رُوحِي

wa-j‘ali l-ḥijāba l-a‘ẓama ḥayāta rūḥi
O Allah! Make the Supreme Sentinel the life of my spirit,

وَرُوحَهُ سِرِّ حَقِيقَتِي

wa rūḥahu sirra ḥaqīqatī
and make his spirit the secret of my reality,

وَحَقِيقَتَهُ جَامِعَ عَوَالِمِي بِتَحْقِيقِ الْحَقِّ الْأَوَّلِ

wa ḥaqīqatahu jāmi‘a ‘awālimī bi-taḥqīqi l-ḥaqqi l-awwal(i)
and make his reality the connector of my realms, by the realisation of the first truth.

يَا أَوَّلُ يَا آخِرُ يَا ظَاهِرُ يَا بَاطِنُ

Yā Awwalu Yā Ākhiru Yā Zāhiru Yā Bāṭin(u)

○ First! ○ Last! ○ Outward! ○ Inward!

إِسْمَعْ نِدَائِي بِمَا سَمِعْتَ بِهِ نِدَاءَ عَبْدِكَ زَكَرِيَّا

isma' nidā'i bimā sami'ta bihi nidā'a 'abdika Zakariyyā

Hear my plea as You heard the plea of Your servant Zakariyya.

وَأَنْصُرْنِي بِكَ لَكَ

wa-nṣurni bika lak(a)

And grant me victory through You and for You,

وَأَيِّدْنِي بِكَ لَكَ

wa ayyidni bika lak(a)

and aid me through You and for You,

وَأَجْمَعْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ

wa-jma' baynī wa baynak(a)

and join me and You,

وَحُلْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ غَيْرِكَ

wa ḥul baynī wa bayna ghayrik(a)

and come between me and other than You.

الله الله الله

Allāāh Allāāh Allāāh

Allah, Allah, Allah!

According to some, each "āh" in "Allāh" should extend for approximately 12 counts.

إِنَّ الَّذِي فَرَضَ عَلَيْكَ الْقُرْآنَ لَرَادُّكَ إِلَىٰ مَعَادٍ

Inna lladhī farada ‘alayka l-qur’āna la-radduka ilā ma‘ād

Verily the One who has enjoined the Quran upon you shall most certainly bring you back to a return. (28:85).

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا مِن لَّدُنكَ رَحْمَةً وَهَيِّئْ لَنَا مِنْ أَمْرِنَا رَشَدًا

Rabbanā ātinā min ladunka raḥmatan wa-hayyi' lanā min amrinā rashada

O our Lord! Grant us a mercy from You, and grant us rectitude in our affair. (18:10)

This marks the end according to older copies of the prayer. Some have added the following verse.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ

Inna Llāha wa-malā'ikatahu yuṣallūna ‘ala N-Nabiyyi

Indeed, Allah and His angels send prayers upon the Prophet.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

Yā ayyuha lladhīna āmanū ṣallū ‘alayhi wa sallimū taslīma

O you who believe! Send prayers and abundant salutations upon him! (33:56)

About Salat al-Mashishiyya

Salat al-Mashishiyya was transmitted by the great saint and Gnostic Abd al-Salam Ibn Mashish. Of the well-known formulas of prayer, this is one of the best, and its virtues are immense. It is effective for forging a special connection (nisbat) with the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and for seeing him in dreams. It is considered the most important prayer upon the Prophet ﷺ in the Shadhili Tariqa.

About Salat al-Mashishiyya, the erudite Sayyid Muhammad Ibn Abidin, a prominent scholar and jurist from Syria, and author of the famous *Radd al-Muhtar ala al-Dur al-Mukhtar*, said in his *thabat*:

I have also received the prayer of the Shaykh and Imam, the Pole and knower of Allah and guide unto Him, the possessor of the luminous spiritual path and tremendous and radiant spiritual states, the one of Prophetic lineage and excellent character, our master and liege lord, scion of the Prophetic Household, Abd al-Salam Ibn Mashish – pronounced with a *ba* or a *mim* – al-Husayni al-Maghribi (d. 622 AH).

This prayer was mentioned by al-Shihab Ahmad al-Nakhl and his student al-Shihab al-Manini and their respective *thabats*. Al-Nakhli mentioned that he received the prayer from Shaykhs Ahmad al-Babuli and Isa al-Tha' alabi. He said, "He [Shaykh Isa] instructed me to recite it once after the Dawn Prayer and once after the Sunset Prayer.... I also saw in some annotated copies of the prayer that it should be recited three times daily: after the Dawn Prayer, after the Sunset Prayer and after the Night Prayer. So great are the lights and secrets obtained from this prayer that only Allah knows their reality. In reciting this prayer there comes divine succor and the lordly spiritual opening (*al-fath al-rabbani*). The one who makes it his regular practice to recite this prayer will remain in a state of truthfulness and sincerity; his breast will be expanded and his affair will be made easy, and he will enjoy the protection of Allah from all travails, tribulations, and sicknesses, inwardly and outwardly; he will be granted victory against all foes; he will receive Allah's tremendous divine assistance in all of his affairs; he will be looked upon with the eye of Allah's solicitude and concern – the Generous and Bestower – and the solicitude of His Messenger, may Allah send prayers and peace upon him and his Family and Companions. The benefit of this prayer will manifest when it is recited regularly and with truthfulness, sincerity, and God-consciousness – *and whosoever obeys Allah and His Messenger and fears Allah and keeps conscious of Him, then it is they who are the triumphant.* (24:52)

References

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