

**Du‘a for Sunday** (Supplication No. 62 in *Psalms of Islam*)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ \* اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

[I begin] in the Name of Allah (God), the Beneficent, the Merciful  
O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad

**Begin in the name of Allah**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَا أَرْجُو إِلَّا فَضْلَهُ، وَلَا أَخْشَى إِلَّا عَدْلَهُ، وَلَا أَعْتَمِدُ إِلَّا قَوْلَهُ، وَلَا أُمْسِكُ إِلَّا بِحَبْلِهِ

I begin in the Name of Allah (God), from whom I hope nothing but His Bounty; and from whom I fear nothing but His Justice. I rely upon nothing except His word, and I cling to nothing except His rope.

- Benefits of beginning with Allah’s name
- Hadith on the significance of *basmalah*
- Why hope for bounties and not our own good deeds?
- Why fear the justice of Allah? Du‘a: اللَّهُمَّ عَامِلْنَا بِفَضْلِكَ وَلَا تُعَامِلْنَا بِعَدْلِكَ
- Importance of Allah’s words and His rope. What does it point to?

**Seeking sanctuary & refuge in Allah**

بِكَ أَسْتَجِيرُ يَا ذَا الْعَفْوِ وَالرِّضْوَانِ مِنَ الظُّلْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ، وَمِنْ غَيْرِ الزَّمَانِ، وَتَوَاتُرِ الْأَحْزَانِ،  
وَطَوَارِقِ الْحَدَثَانِ، وَمِنْ إِنْقِضَاءِ الْمُدَّةِ قَبْلَ التَّأْهِبِ وَالْعُدَّةِ.

I seek refuge with You - O’ the possessor of pardon and good pleasure- from tyranny and enmity, from changes of time and recurrent sorrows, from being stricken with mishap, and from a life ended without preparation.

- Allah is possessor of pardon & good pleasure; we invoke these qualities
- From the injustice of the rulers thru the great authority of Allah.
- Divine protection from tyranny and animosity – 2 dangers for believers
- Enmity not limited to peoples, but it also includes satanic whisperings (see below)
- Changes of time includes instability, social & political forces, & aging
- Recurring of sorrows: lengthy sickness, inequity in society, family problems, etc
- Praying for the avoidance of mishaps & accidents, esp due to our negligence
- Expiration of term unexpectedly due to sudden death or change of situation; this could also happen on account procrastination. “Majority of the inmates of hell would be there on account of procrastination.” (p. 44, *Anecdotes for Reflection*, Part 1).

وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ يَا رَبِّ مِنْ هَمَزَاتِ الشَّيَاطِينِ، وَأَحْتَرِزُ بِسُلْطَانِكَ مِنْ جَوْرِ السَّلَاطِينِ.

I seek refuge with You, my Lord, from the promptings of Satan, and with Your might protect me from the tyranny of kings/rulers.

- Satanic whisperings inflicts all human beings especially when doing good actions, such as saying salat, doing charity, *tilawah* of the Qur'an, etc.
- Believers have been asked in the Qur'an to pray: Lord, I seek protection in You from the temptations of the devils - وَقُلْ رَبِّ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ هَمَزَاتِ الشَّيَاطِينِ (23:97)
- Only Divine might can destroy the tyranny of rulers

### Seeking guidance, help & wish from Allah

وإياك أَسْتَرْشِدُ لِمَا فِيهِ الصَّلَاحُ وَالْإِصْلَاحُ، وَبِكَ أَسْتَعِينُ فِيمَا يَقْتَرِنُ بِهِ النَّجَاحُ وَالْإِنجَاحُ،  
وإياك أَرْغَبُ فِي لِبَاسِ الْعَافِيَةِ وَتَمَامِهَا وَشُمُولِ السَّلَامَةِ وَدَوَامِهَا،

From You alone I seek guidance towards righteousness and reform/good response and from You I seek help in granting me success and satisfaction/ setting right and from You alone I wish the garment of well-being/health and its completion, and everlasting peace.

- Best and complete guidance for righteousness, etc if from Allah alone
- Success and satisfaction is good for life as well as for self esteem
- Well-being and its completion, essential for leading good life
- Real peace is that which is everlasting, not temporary or periodical

### Simple but universal prayer

فَتَقَبَّلْ مَا كَانَ مِنْ صَلَاتِي وَصَوْمِي، وَاجْعَلْ غَدِي وَمَا بَعْدَهُ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ سَاعَتِي وَيَوْمِي، وَأَعِزَّنِي فِي عَشِيرَتِي وَقَوْمِي، وَاحْفَظْنِي فِي يَقْظَتِي وَنَوْمِي، فَأَنْتَ اللَّهُ خَيْرُ حَافِظٍ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

So, accept my past prayers and fasts, and make my morrow and that which follows, better than my present hour and day. Make me respected among my family and my community, and guard me in my waking and in my sleep; For You are Allah, the Best Protector, and You are the Most Merciful of those who are merciful. O' Allah

- I may have been negligent in the past, so accept my past prayers & fasts
- My tomorrow & days after should be better than today & this hour
- Hadith of the 7<sup>th</sup> Imam on not equating two days in our life
- A believer is supposed to be respected in the family as well as in the community
- Allah's protection is sought in all conditions. Hadith: take out sadaqah early in the day and before sleeping
- Allah is the protector over all things (11:57; 34:21); protection of the earth & heavens does not tire Him (2:255) and Allah is the best protector and He is the most Merciful of the merciful (12:64).

### Special prayer for Sunday- to be cleansed of *shirk*

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَبْرَأُ إِلَيْكَ فِي يَوْمِي هَذَا وَمَا بَعْدَهُ مِنَ الْآحَادِ مِنَ الشَّرْكِ وَالْإِلْحَادِ، وَأَخْلِصُ لَكَ  
دُعَائِي تَعَرُّضًا لِلْإِجَابَةِ

O Allah, on this day, and all Sundays that follow, I free myself from associating partners with You, and of infidelity, and I direct my supplications sincerely to You, seeking Your acceptance.

- Rhyming of 'ahad' with *aahaad* & *ilhaad*. i.e. Sunday (yawmul ahad) should remind us to stay away from *shirk* and from heresy
- *Shirk* is so dangerous and condemned that we pledge to abandon it in all the days
- *Khuloos* – i.e. sincerity only comes after cleaning oneself of all aspects & shades of *shirk*. Little wonder that surat *Qul huwallahu ahad* is known as surat Ikhlas.

Asking for Divine honor, protection, focus & forgiveness

فَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ خَيْرِ خَلْقِكَ الدَّاعِي إِلَى حَقِّكَ، وَأَعِزَّنِي بِعِزِّكَ الَّذِي لَا يُضَامُ، وَاحْفَظْنِي بِعَيْنِكَ الَّتِي لَا تَنَامُ، وَاخْتِمْ بِالْإِنْقِطَاعِ إِلَيْكَ أَمْرِي وَبِالْمَغْفِرَةِ عُمْرِي، إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

So, bless Muhammad and his progeny, the best of Your creation, the preacher of the Truth, Honor me with Your Honor which can never be diminished; And, protect me with Your Eye that never sleeps; And end my affair by cutting me off from everything except my reliance on You alone, and (terminate) my life in forgiveness. Surely, You are the Forgiving, the Merciful.

- Sending blessings on the Prophet, the best of the creation & calling for Truth
- We pray for the greatest honor & dignity, thru Divine honor
- We need real & permanent protection, thru Divine protection. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time it comes in this supplication. Perhaps, it also involves protection of faith.
- Total devotion & focus to Allah, another way of staying away from Shirk
- We would like to end the life having been forgiven
- Divine Forgiveness & Mercy can give us salvation, nothing else.