



Du‘ā 21
At the time of Sorrow
in the *Sahīfa* with two
Translations



Translation by Dr. William C. Chittick	Translation by Ahmad Ali Muhani	Text of the Du'ā in Arabic
<i>His Supplication when Something Made him Sorrow and Offenses Made him Worry</i>	<i>One of his prayers for When anything Grieved him or a Sense of Error made him Sad</i>	وَكَانَ مِنْ دُعَائِهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ إِذَا حَزَنَهُ أَمْرٌ وَأَهَمَّتْهُ الْخَطَايَا
1. O God, O Sufficer of the isolated and weak and Protector against terrifying affairs! Offenses have isolated me, so there is none to be my companion. I am too weak for Your wrath and there is none to strengthen me. I have approached the terror of meeting You and there is none to still my fear.	1. O Lord, O Guardian of the weak individual. You who does give protection against terrible things, errors have made me solitary. There is no companion with me. I am weakened by Your wrath. There is none to support me. I have become sensible of the dread of meeting You. There is none to pacify my apprehension.	1) اللَّهُمَّ يَا كَافِيَ الْفَرْدِ الضَّعِيفِ، وَوَاقِيَ الْأَمْرِ الْمُخَوِّفِ، أَفْرَدْتَنِي الْخَطَايَا فَلَا صَاحِبَ مَعِيَ، وَضَعُفْتُ عَنْ غَضَبِكَ فَلَا مُؤَيِّدَ لِي، وَأَشْرَفْتُ عَلَى خَوْفِ لِقَائِكَ فَلَا مُسَكِّنَ لِرَوْعَتِي
2. Who can make me secure from You when You have filled me with terror? Who can come to my aid when You have isolated me? Who can strengthen me when You have weakened me?	2. None who can remove my fear when You have made me solitary, And who can strengthen me when You have weakened me.	2) وَمَنْ يُؤْمِنُنِي مِنْكَ وَأَنْتَ أَخَفْتَنِي، وَمَنْ يُسَاعِدُنِي وَأَنْتَ أَفْرَدْتَنِي، وَمَنْ يُقَوِّينِي وَأَنْتَ أضعَفْتَنِي
3. None can grant sanctuary to a vassal, my God, but a lord, none can give security to one dominated but a dominator, none can aid him from whom demands are made but a demander.	3. O Lord, there is no one to give shelter to the creatures, but the Creator. No one can give refuge to the weak but the strong. No one helps to win the object sought for, except the seeker.	3) لَا يُجِيرُ، يَا إِلَهِي، إِلَّا رَبُّ عَلَى مَرْبُوبٍ، وَلَا يُؤْمِنُ إِلَّا غَالِبٌ عَلَى مَغْلُوبٍ، وَلَا يُعِينُ إِلَّا طَالِبٌ عَلَى مَطْلُوبٍ
4. In Your hand, my God, is the thread of all that, in You the place of escape and flight, So bless Muhammad and his Household, give sanctuary to me in my flight	4. In Your hand my Lord, are all these means of assistance. With You is shelter and refuge. Therefore, bless Muhammad and his Āl (family). Protect me in my escape and fulfil my	4) وَيَبِيدُكَ، يَا إِلَهِي، جَمِيعُ ذَلِكَ السَّبَبِ، وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَفْرُغُ وَالْمَهْرَبُ، فَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَأَجِرْ هَرَبِي،

and grant my request!	desire.	وَأَنْجِحْ مَطْلَبِي
<p>5. O God, if You should turn Your generous face away from me, withhold from me Your immense bounty, forbid me Your provision, or cut off from me Your thread, I will find no way to anything of my hope other than You nor be given power over what is with You through another's aid,</p> <p>For I am Your servant and in Your grasp; my forelock is in Your hand (Cf. Q 11:56).</p>	<p>5. O Lord if You turn Your gracious countenance away from me and withhold from me Your magnificent bounty, or keep back Your sustenance from me or cut off from me Your connection I shall find no way to realize any object of my hope without You. I shall have no power over what is with You, with the help of any other than You,</p> <p>For verily I am Your servant and in Your power. My forelock is in Your hand.</p>	<p>(5) اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ إِذَا صَرَفْتَ عَنِّي وَجْهَكَ الْكَرِيمَ أَوْ مَنَعْتَنِي فَضْلَكَ الْجَسِيمَ أَوْ حَظَرْتَ عَلَيَّ رِزْقَكَ أَوْ قَطَعْتَ عَنِّي سَبَبَكَ لَمْ أَجِدِ السَّبِيلَ إِلَى شَيْءٍ مِنْ أَمَلِي غَيْرِكَ، وَلَمْ أَقْدِرْ عَلَى مَا عِنْدَكَ بِمَعُونَةِ سِوَاكَ، فَإِنِّي عَبْدُكَ وَفِي قَبْضَتِكَ، نَأْصِيبِي بِيَدِكَ</p>
<p>6. I have no command along with Your command. Accomplished is Your judgement of me, just Your decree for me! I have not the strength to emerge from Your authority nor am I able to step outside Your power.</p> <p>I cannot win Your inclination, arrive at Your good pleasure, or attain what is with You except through obeying You and through the bounty of Your mercy.</p>	<p>6. I have no command along with your Command. Your command is effective in me. Your decree is just concerning me. I have no strength to go out of Your kingdom, nor can I pass beyond Your power;</p> <p>Nor can I attract Your love, win Your approbation, nor obtain what is with You, except by serving You and by Your gracious indulgence.</p>	<p>(6) لَأُأْمِرَ لِي مَعَ أَمْرِكَ، مَا ضَرَفِي فِي حُكْمِكَ، عَدْلٌ فِي قَضَائِكَ، وَلَا قُوَّةَ لِي عَلَى الْخُرُوجِ مِنْ سُلْطَانِكَ، وَلَا أَسْتَطِيعُ مُجَاوَزَةَ قُدْرَتِكَ، وَلَا أَسْتَمِيلُ هَوَاكَ، وَلَا أَبْلُغُ رِضَاكَ، وَلَا أَنْالُ مَا عِنْدَكَ إِلَّا بِطَاعَتِكَ وَبِفَضْلِ رَحْمَتِكَ</p>
<p>7. O God, I rise in the morning and enter into evening as Your lowly slave. I own no profit and loss for myself except through You. I</p>	<p>7. My Lord, I rose in the morning and brought the day to a close, being all the while Your humble creature, having no power either to benefit or</p>	<p>(7) إِلَهِي أَصْبَحْتُ وَأَمْسَيْتُ عَبْدًا دَاخِرًا لَكَ، لَأُأْمَلِكُ لِنَفْسِي نَفْعًا وَلَا ضَرًّا إِلَّا</p>

witness to that over myself and I confess to the frailty of my strength and the paucity of my stratagems. So accomplish what You have promised me and complete for me what You have given me,

For I am Your slave, miserable, abased, frail, distressed, vile, despised, poor, fearful and seeking sanctuary!

injure my soul. But through You I bear this witness against my soul and acknowledge the weakness of my strength and the scarcity of my means. Therefore, fulfil what You have promised me. Accomplish for me what You have given me.

For verily, I am Your servant, meek, humble, weak, miserable, contemptible, despicable, insignificant, needy, timid and seeking shelter.

بِكَ، أَشْهَدُ بِذَلِكَ عَلَى
نَفْسِي، وَأَعْتَرِفُ بِضَعْفِ
قُوَّتِي وَقِلَّةِ حِيلَتِي، فَأَنْجِزْ
لِي مَا وَعَدْتَنِي، وَتَمِّمْ لِي مَا
آتَيْتَنِي، فَإِنِّي عَبْدُكَ
الْمُسْكِينُ الْمُسْتَكِينُ
الضَّعِيفُ الضَّرِيرُ الْحَقِيرُ
الْمُهِينُ الْفَقِيرُ الْخَائِفُ
الْمُسْتَجِيرُ

8. O God, bless Muhammad and his Household and let me not forget to remember You in what You have done for me, be heedless of Your beneficence in Your trying me, or despair of Your response to me, though it keep me waiting, whether I be in prosperity or adversity, hardship or ease, well-being or affliction, misery or comfort, wealth or distress, poverty or riches!

8. O Lord bless Muhammad his Āl (family). Do not let me forget to remember You because of what You have given me nor let me neglect Your goodness in conferring blessings upon me. Let me not be hopeless concerning Your acceptance of me, although You may delay helping me, no matter if I be in prosperity or poverty or hardship or comfort or safety or calamity or privation or opulence or wealth or indigence or misery or happiness.

(8) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ
وآلِهِ، وَلَا تَجْعَلْنِي نَاسِيًا
لِذِكْرِكَ فِيمَا أَوْلَيْتَنِي، وَلَا
غَافِلًا لِإِحْسَانِكَ فِيمَا
أَبْلَيْتَنِي، وَلَا آيسًا مِنْ
إِجَابَتِكَ لِي وَإِنْ أَبْطَأَتْ عَنِّي
فِي سَرَاءٍ كُنْتُ أَوْ ضَرَاءً،
أَوْ شِدَّةٍ أَوْ رَخَاءٍ، أَوْ عَافِيَةٍ
أَوْ بَلَاءٍ، أَوْ بُؤْسٍ أَوْ نَعْمَاءٍ أَوْ
جِدَّةٍ أَوْ لَأْوَاءٍ أَوْ فَقْرٍ أَوْ غِنَى

9. O God, bless Muhammad and his Household, make me laud You, extol You, and praise You in all my states so that I rejoice not over what You give me of this world nor sorrow over that

9. O Lord bless Muhammad and his Āl (family). Let me hail, praise and thank You in all my circumstances so that I may not be too glad over what You have given me of this world, nor too sorry for

(9) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ
وآلِهِ، وَاجْعَلْ تَنَائِي عَلَيْكَ،
وَمَدْحِي إِيَّاكَ، وَحَمْدِي لَكَ
فِي كُلِّ حَالَاتِي حَتَّى لَا

<p>of it which You withhold from me! Impart reverential fear of You to my heart, employ my body in that which You accept from me,</p> <p>And divert my soul through obedience to You from all that enters upon me, so that I love nothing that displeases You and become displeased at nothing that pleases You!</p>	<p>what You have denied me of it. Inspire my heart with Your fear. Employ my body in what You would accept from me.</p> <p>Engage my soul in Your service, disregarding everything that happens to me so that I may not like anything that You dislike nor dislike anything that You like.</p>	<p>أَفْرَحَ بِمَا آتَيْتَنِي مِنَ الدُّنْيَا، وَلَا أَحْزَنَ عَلَيَّ مَا مَنَعْتَنِي فِيهَا، وَأَشْعِرَ قَلْبِي تَقْوَاكَ، وَأَسْتَعْمِلُ بَدَنِي فِيَمَا تَقْبَلُهُ مِنِّي، وَأَشْغَلُ بِطَاعَتِكَ نَفْسِي عَنْ كُلِّ مَا يَرِدُ عَلَيَّ حَتَّى لَا أُحِبُّ شَيْئًا مِنْ سُخْطِكَ، وَلَا أَسْخَطُ شَيْئًا مِنْ رِضَاكَ</p>
<p>10. O God, bless Muhammad and his Household, empty my heart for Your love, occupy it with remembering You, animate it with fear of You and quaking before You, strengthen it with beseeching You, incline it to Your obedience, set it running in the path most beloved to You, And subdue it through desire for what is with You all the days of my life!</p>	<p>10. O Lord bless Muhammad and his Āl (family). Empty my mind (of everything) but Your love. Engage it in remembering You. Exalt it with fear of You and dread of You. Strengthen it with longing for You. Incline it to Your obedience. Move it in the path most loved By You.</p> <p>Let it, throughout the days of my life, soften with a longing for what is with You.</p>	<p>10) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وآلِهِ، وَفَرِّغْ قَلْبِي لِمَحَبَّتِكَ، وَأَشْغَلْهُ بِذِكْرِكَ، وَأَنْعِشْهُ بِخَوْفِكَ وَبِالْوَجَلِ مِنْكَ، وَقَوِّهِ بِالرَّغْبَةِ إِلَيْكَ، وَأَمِلْهُ إِلَى طَاعَتِكَ، وَأَجْرِ بِهِ فِي أَحَبِّ السُّبُلِ إِلَيْكَ، وَذَلِّلْهُ بِالرَّغْبَةِ فِيَمَا عِنْدَكَ أَيَّامَ حَيَاتِي كُلِّهَا</p>
<p>11. Let my provision in this world be reverential fear of You (Cf. Q 2:197), my journey be toward Your mercy and my entrance be into Your good pleasure! Appoint for me a lodging in Your Garden, give me strength to bear everything</p>	<p>11. Let fear of You be my provision on my journey from this world. Let my departure be towards Your Mercy and my entry be into Your approbation. Let my abode be in Your Paradise. Grant me strength whereby I may bear all things approved</p>	<p>11) وَأَجْعَلْ تَقْوَاكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا زَادِي، وَإِلَى رَحْمَتِكَ رِحْلَتِي، وَفِي مَرْضَاتِكَ مَدْخَلِي، وَأَجْعَلْ فِي جَنَّتِكَ مَثْوَايَ، وَهَبْ لِي قُوَّةً</p>

<p>that pleases You, make me flee to You and desire what is with You,</p> <p>Clothe my heart in estrangement from the evil among Your creatures, and give me intimacy with You, Your friends and those who obey You!</p>	<p>by You. Let my flight be towards You and my longing for what is with You.</p> <p>Clothe my heart with abhorrence of Your wicked creatures. Grant me love for You, for Your friends and Your servants.</p>	<p>أَحْتَمِلُ بِهَا جَمِيعَ مَرْضَاتِكَ، وَاجْعَلْ فِرَارِي إِلَيْكَ، وَرَغْبَتِي فِيمَا عِنْدَكَ، وَالْأَيْسُ قَلْبِي الْوَحْشَةَ مِنْ شِرَارِ خَلْقِكَ، وَهَبْ لِي الْأُنْسَ بِكَ وَبِأَوْلِيَائِكَ وَأَهْلِ طَاعَتِكَ</p>
<p>12. Assign to no wicked person or unbeliever a kindness toward me or a hand that obliges me, nor to me a need for one of them! Rather make the stillness of my heart, the comfort of my soul, my independence and my sufficiency lie in You and the best of Your creatures!</p>	<p>12. Do not put me under obligation to any wicked person or infidel, nor let him be favoured by me, nor let me have need of him. Nay let the calmness of my mind, the comfort of my soul, my independence and my self-sufficiency spring from You and Your righteous creatures.</p>	<p>12) وَلَا تَجْعَلْ لِفَاجِرٍ وَلَا كَافِرٍ عَلَيَّ مِنْةً، وَلَا لَهُ عِنْدِي يَدًا، وَلَا بِي إِلَيْهِمْ حَاجَةٌ، بَلِ اجْعَلْ سُكُونُ قَلْبِي وَأُنْسَ نَفْسِي وَاسْتِغْنَائِي وَكِفَايَتِي بِكَ وَبِخِيَارِ خَلْقِكَ</p>
<p>13. O God, bless Muhammad and his Household, make me their comrade, make me their helper, and oblige me with yearning for You and doing for You what You love and approve! <i>You are powerful over everything</i> (Q 3:26) and that is easy for You.</p>	<p>13. O Lord, bless Muhammad and his Āl (family). Let me be their companion. Make me their Supporter. Favour me with a desire for Yourself. Give me grace to do for Your sake what You love and approve. Verily, everything is under Your power and this is easy for You.</p>	<p>13) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَأَلِهِ، وَاجْعَلْنِي لَهُمْ قَرِينًا، وَاجْعَلْنِي لَهُمْ نَصِيرًا، وَأَمُنُّ عَلَيَّ بِشَوْقٍ إِلَيْكَ، وَبِالْعَمَلِ لَكَ بِمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى، إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ، وَذَلِكَ عَلَيْكَ يَسِيرٌ</p>