



Du‘ā 33:
When **Asking for the Best**
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 in Asking for the Best</i>	<i>One of his prayers soliciting Divine advice on important affairs</i>	وَكَانَ، مِنْ دُعَائِهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فِي الْإِسْتِخَارَةِ
1. O Allah, I ask from You the best in Your knowledge, so bless Muhammad and his Household and decree for me the best!	1. O Allah, I consult You on behalf of welfare because of Your Knowledge. Therefore, bless Muhammad and his Āl (family). Decree for me that which is good.	(1) اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ، فَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَأَقْضِ لِي بِالْخَيْرَةِ
2. Inspire us with knowledge to choose the best and make that a means to being pleased with what You have decreed for us and submitting to what You have decided! Banish from us the doubt of misgiving and confirm us with the certainty of the sincere!	2. Inspire us with knowledge of choice. Let this be a means towards resignation to what You have decreed for us, and submission to what You have commanded. Therefore remove from us the wavering of doubt. Support us with the certainty of the sincere.	(2) وَأَهْمُنَا مَعْرِفَةَ الْإِحْتِيَارِ، وَاجْعَلْ ذَلِكَ ذَرْبَةً إِلَى الرِّضَا بِمَا قَضَيْتَ لَنَا وَالتَّسْلِيمِ لِمَا حَكَمْتَ فَأَزِخْ عَنَّا رَبِّبِ الْإِرْتِيَابِ، وَأَيِّدْنَا بِبِقِينِ الْمُحْلِصِينَ
3. Visit us not with incapacity to know what You have chosen, lest we despise Your measuring out, dislike the place of Your good pleasure, and incline toward that which is further from good outcome and nearer to the opposite of well-being!	3. Do not visit us with inability to realize what You have chosen, lest we think lightly of Your Decree, dislike the place of Your Approbation, incline towards that which is far removed from excellence of conclusion and is very nigh the opposite of safety:	(3) وَلَا تَسْمُنَا عَجْزَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ عَمَّا تَخَيَّرْتَ فَتَعَمِطَ قَدْرُكَ، وَنُكْرَهُ مَوْضِعِ رِضَاكَ، وَتَجَنَّحْ إِلَى الَّتِي هِيَ أَبْعَدُ مِنْ حُسْنِ الْعَاقِبَةِ، وَأَقْرَبُ إِلَى ضِدِّ الْعَافِيَةِ
4. Make us love what we dislike in Your decree and make easy for us what we find difficult in Your decision!	4. Make us love what we dislike of Your Decree. Facilitate for us what we deem hard of Your Command.	(4) حَبِّبْ إِلَيْنَا مَا نَكْرَهُ مِنْ قَضَائِكَ، وَسَهِّلْ عَلَيْنَا مَا نَسْتَضْعِبُ مِنْ حُكْمِكَ
5. Inspire us to yield to that which You bring upon us by Your will, lest we love the delay of what You have hastened and the hastening	5. Inspire us with submission to what You send upon us of Your Will till we may not long for the delay of what You hasten, nor long for the	(5) وَأَهْمُنَا الْإِنْقِيَادَ لِمَا أَوْرَدْتَ عَلَيْنَا مِنْ مَشِيَّتِكَ حَتَّى لَا نُحِبَّ تَأْخِيرَ مَا عَجَّلْتَ، وَلَا

of what You have delayed, dislike what You love, and choose what You dislike!

speedy fulfilment of what You delay, nor dislike what You love, nor choose what You hate.

تَعْجِيلِ مَا أَخَّرْتَ، وَلَا نَكْرَهُ مَا أَحْبَبْتَ، وَلَا نَتَّخِيزَ مَا كَرِهْتَ

6. Seal us with that which is most praised in outcome and most generous in issue! Surely You give generous gain, bestow the immense, dost what You wilt, and *You art powerful over everything* (Q 3:26).

6. And make the end of our lives praiseworthy and our return toward You most noble. Verily You give noble benefits. Your gifts are magnificent. You do what You will and have power over everything.

(6) وَاحْتِمْنَا بِأَلَّتِي هِيَ أَحْمَدُ عَاقِبَةً، وَأَكْرَمُ مَصِيرًا، إِنَّكَ تُفِيدُ الْكَرِيمَةَ، وَتُعْطِي الْجَسِيمَةَ، وَتَفْعَلُ مَا تُرِيدُ، وَأَنْتَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ.