



Du‘ā 34:

**When is Afflicted** 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 he was Afflicted or saw someone Afflicted with the Disgrace of Sin</i>	<i>One of his Prayers in Affliction and on seeing anyone afflicted on account of sins</i>	<p>وَكَانَ مِنْ دُعَائِهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ إِذَا ابْتُلِيَ أَوْ رَأَى مُبْتَلَى بِفَضِيحَةٍ بَدَنَبٍ</p>
<p>1. O Allah, to You belongs praise for Your covering over after Your knowledge and Your pardon after Your awareness! Each of us has committed faults, but You have not made him notorious, done indecencies, but You have not disgraced him, and covered over evil deeds, but You have not pointed to him.</p>	<p>1. O Allah, all praise is due unto You for concealing (sins) after Your knowledge of them and for giving security (to sinners) after Your receiving information (of them). For, verily every one of us has sinned and You did not make him notorious. He did commit glaring errors, and You did not disgrace him. He secretly perpetrated wrongs but You did not point him out.</p>	<p>(1) اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ الْحَمْدُ عَلَى سِتْرِكَ بَعْدَ عِلْمِكَ، وَمُعَافَاتِكَ بَعْدَ حُبْرِكَ، فَكُلُّنَا قَدْ افْتَرَفَ الْعَائِبَةَ فَلَمْ تَشْهَرُهُ، وَارْتَكَبَ الْفَاحِشَةَ فَلَمْ تَفْضَحْهُ، وَتَسْتَرَّ بِالْمَسَاوِيِّ فَلَمْ تَدُلَّنْ عَلَيْهِ.</p>
<p>2. How many are Your prohibited acts which we have performed, Your commandments of which You have told us which we have transgressed, the evil deeds which we have earned, the offenses which we have earned, the offenses which we have committed! You see them to the exclusion of all observers; You have the power to make them public above all the powerful! By giving us safety You have veiled their eyes and stoppled their ears.</p>	<p>2. How many acts forbidden by You have we done? (How many) Commands of which You did inform us have we omitted to perform. (How many) wrongs have we committed and sins have we perpetrated. You were aware of them without the spectators knowing them and had power over their publication, above the powerful. The security (You gave us) was a screen for us before their eyes and an obstruction to their ears.</p>	<p>(2) كَمْ نَهَى لَكَ قَدْ أَتَيْنَاهُ، وَأَمْرٍ قَدْ وَقَفْتَنَا عَلَيْهِ فَتَعَدَّيْنَاهُ، وَسَيِّئَةٍ أَكْتَسَبْنَاهَا، وَخَطِيئَةٍ ارْتَكَبْنَاهَا، كُنْتَ الْمُطَّلِعَ عَلَيْهَا دُونَ النَّاطِرِينَ، وَالْقَادِرَ عَلَى إِعْلَانِهَا فَوْقَ الْقَادِرِينَ، كَانَتْ عَافِيَتُكَ لَنَا حِجَاباً دُونَ أَبْصَارِهِمْ، وَرَدْماً دُونَ أَسْمَاعِهِمْ</p>
<p>3. So make the shameful things You have covered over and the inward reality You have concealed our admonisher, a restrainer</p>	<p>3. Therefore, let what You have covered of secret errors and concealed of blemishes be an admonisher to us. A restrainer from bad conduct</p>	<p>(3) فَاجْعَلْ مَا سَتَرْتَ مِنَ الْعَوْرَةِ، وَ أَحْفَيْتَ مِنَ الدَّخِيلَةِ، وَاعِظْ لَنَا، وَزَاجِرًا</p>

upon bad character traits and committing offenses, and a striving toward the repentance that erases [sins] and the praiseworthy path!

and commission of sins. An inducement to repentance which erases sin and to the course of life approved by You.

عَنْ سُوءِ الْخُلُقِ، وَاقْتِرَافِ  
الْخَطِيئَةِ، وَسَعْيًا إِلَى التَّوْبَةِ  
الْمَاحِيَةِ، وَالطَّرِيقِ الْمَحْمُودَةِ

4. Bring the time of striving near and visit us not with heedlessness of You! Surely we are Your beseechers, the repenters of sins.

4. Be pleased to hasten its time. Do not visit us with negligence of You. Verily we long for You and repent of sins.

4) وَ قَرَّبِ الْوَقْتَ فِيهِ، وَلَا  
تَسْمُنَا الْعَقْلَةَ عَنْكَ، إِنَّا إِلَيْكَ  
رَاغِبُونَ، وَمِنَ الذُّنُوبِ تَائِبُونَ

5. And bless Your chosen, O Allah, from Your creation, Muhammad and his descendants, the friends selected from among Your creatures, the pure, and make us listeners to them and obeyers, as You have commanded! (Cf. Q 4:59)

5. Bless, O Allah, Your chosen ones out of Your creation, Muhammad and his descendants, the elect from among Your creatures, the holy. Let us be attentive listeners to their teachings and obedient as You have commanded.

5) وَصَلِّ عَلَى خَيْرَتِكَ اللَّهُمَّ  
مِنْ خَلْقِكَ مُحَمَّدٍ وَعِترتهِ  
الصِّفْوَةِ مِنْ بَرِيَّتِكَ الطَّاهِرِينَ،  
وَاجْعَلْنَا لَهُمْ سَامِعِينَ وَمُطِيعِينَ  
كَمَا أَمَرْتَ .