'Neither Fleeing nor Stay but to Allah ^{-azwj}	www.hubeali.com
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In the Name of Allah^{-azwj} the Beneficent, the Merciful. The Praise is for Allah^{-azwj} Lord^{-azwj} of the Worlds, and Blessing be upon our Chief Muhammad^{-saww} and his^{-saww} Purified Progeny^{-asws}, and greetings with abundant greetings.

'Neither Fleeing nor Stay but to Allah-azwj'

We all are going to die, sooner or later, Allah^{-azwj} has Mentioned death at several places in the Holy Quran¹, in these Verses, we are reminded about the death, about the fixed time of the death, Allah^{-azwj} Calls the ' التَّفْسُ الْمُطْمَئِنَةُ — the contented soul' to return to Him^{-azwj} being successful and Mercied (89-28-30). However, related to our topic, there is a Holy Verse where Allah^{-azwj} Warns the pretentious people to wish for the death if they can escape the accountability:

Then wish for the death if you were truthful' [62:6]

An unjust, unholy person will never wish for the death, but a Believer will – the Momin, upon completion of his term, would love to meet with his Lord^{-azwj}. As Prophet Yahya^{-as} says: Where is the fleeing and where is the staying, O Allah^{-azwj}, except to You^{-azwj}

And it is reported,

'Yahya^{-as} Bin Zakariya^{-as} was thinking in the length of the night regarding the matter of Paradise and Fire. He^{-as} stayed awake his^{-as} night and the sleep did not seize him^{-saww}. Then he^{-as} said in the morning: 'O Allah^{-azwj}! Where is the fleeing and where is the staying, O Allah^{-azwj}, except to You^{-azwj}!''²

Below we learn from is a beautiful and detailed Hadith-e-Qudsi, which makes a Believer not only to wish for the meeting his Lord^{-azwj} but also guides him/her to become a truthful and loyal Believer.

عَنْ كِتَابِ إِرْشَادِ الْقُلُوبِ لِلدَّيْلَمِي، رُوِيَ عَنْ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عِ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ص سَأَلَ رَبَّهُ سُبْحَانَهُ لَيْلَةَ الْمِعْزَاجِ فَقَالَ يَا رَبِّ أَيُّ الْأَعْمَالِ أَفْضَالُ

¹ For example: 2:156, 89:27-30, 16:61, 31:34, 63:10-11, 3:185

² Bihar Al-Anwaar V 68 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 76 H 8 d

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From the book 'Irshad Al Quloub' of Al Daylami -

'It is reported from Amir Al-Momineen^{-asws} that the Prophet^{-saww} asked his^{-saww} Lord^{-azwj} the Glorious on the night of the Ascension (Mi'raj). He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Which of the deeds is the best?'

Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic Said: "There isn't anything in My^{-azwj} Presence superior to the relying upon Me^{-azwj} and the satisfaction with what I^{-azwj} have Apportioned!

O Muhammad^{-saww}! I^{-azwj} have Obligated one loving Me^{-azwj} for giving gifts to each other for My^{-azwj} Sake, and Obligated ones loving Me^{-azwj} to be compassionate to each other for My^{-azwj} Sake, and Obligated to connect with each other for My^{-azwj} Sake, and Obligated ones loving to be relying upon Me^{-azwj}.

And there isn't any flag (limitation) for My^{-azwj} Love, nor any peak, nor any end-point, and every time a flag is raised for them, a flag is dropped for them. They are those who are looking at the created being with My^{-azwj} Looking at them, and they are not raising the needs to the creatures. Their bellies are light from eating the Permissible(s), their bounties in the world is My^{-azwj} Zikr, and My^{-azwj} Love and My^{-azwj} Satisfaction with them.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! If you^{-saww} love to be the most devout of the people, then be ascetic regarding the world and desirous regarding the Hereafter!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O my^{-saww} God^{-azwj}! How can I^{-saww} be the most ascetic regarding the world and most desirous regarding the Hereafter?'

He^{-azwj} Said: "Take from the world, the light (less) from the food, and the drink, and the clothing, and do not hoard for tomorrow, and be constant upon My^{-azwj} Zikr!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! And can I^{-saww} be constant upon Your^{-azwj} Zikr?'

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He^{-azwj} Said: "By isolating from the people, and your hating the sweet and the sour, and freeing your belly (by fasting) and your house from the world.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Be careful of not being like the young boy. When he looks at the green and the yellow, he loves it, and when he is give something from the sweet and the sour, he is deceived by it!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Point me^{-saww} upon a deed I^{-saww} can draw closer to You^{-azwj}!'

He^{-azwj} Said: "Make your^{-saww} night as a day, and your^{-saww} day as a night!"

قَالَ يَا رَبِّ كَيْفَ ذَلِكَ

He-saww said: 'O Lord-azwj! How can that be so?'

He-azwj Said: "Make your-saww sleep as your-saww Salat, and your food as the hunger!

O Ahmad^{-saww}! By My^{-azwj} Might and My^{-azwj} Majestic! There is no Momin servant who guarantees four characteristics for Me^{-azwj}, except I^{-azwj} shall Enter him into the Paradise – he would fold his tongue and not open it except for what concerns him, and he would guard his heart from the insinuations (of Satan^{-la}), and he would preserve My^{-azwj} Knowledge and My^{-azwj} Looking at him, and the hunger would be delight of his eyes!

O Ahmad^{-saww}! If you^{-saww} could taste (wish) for the sweetness of hunger, and the silence, and the isolation and that which inherit from these!"

He-saww said: 'O Lord-azwj! What is the inheritance of hunger?'

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He^{-azwj} Said: 'The wisdom, and guarding the heart, and drawing closer to Me^{-azwj}, and the constant grief, and lightness of provision between the people, and the word of truth, and he would not mind whether he lives in ease or hardship!

يَا أَحْمَدُ هَلْ تَدْرِي بِأَيِّ وَقْتٍ يَتَقَرَّبُ الْعَبْدُ إِلَى اللَّهِ

O Ahmad-saww! Do you-saww know in which timing the servant can draw closer to Allah-azwj?"

قَالَ لَا يَا رَبِّ

He-saww said: 'No, O Lord-azwj!'

قَالَ إِذَا كَانَ جَائِعاً أَوْ سَاجِداً-

He^{-azwj} Said: "When he is either hungry or doing Sajdah!

يَا أَحْمَدُ عَجِبْتُ مِنْ ثَلَائَةِ عَبِيدٍ عَبْدٌ دَحَلَ فِي الصَّلَاةِ وَ هُوَ يَعْلَمُ إِلَى مَنْ يَرْفَعُ يَدَيْهِ وَ قُدَّامَ مَنْ هُوَ وَ هُوَ يَنْعُسُ وَ عَجِبْتُ مِنْ عَبْدٍ لَهُ قُوتُ يَهْمٍ مِنَ الحُنثِيش أَوْ غَيْرِهِ وَ هُوَ يَهْتَمُّ لِغَدٍ وَ عَجِبْتُ مِنْ عَبْدٍ لَا يَدْرِي أَبِيّ رَاضِ عَنْهُ أَمْ سَاخِطٌ عَلَيْهِ وَ هُوَ يَضْحَكُ

O Ahmad^{-saww}! I^{-azwj} am surprised from three servants – a servant who entered into the Salat while he knows the One^{-azwj} who is raising his hands to, and the One^{-azwj} who is in front of, but he still becomes drowsy/inattentive. And I^{-azwj} am surprised at a servant having his daily subsistence from the herbs or something else, and he still accuses (complains) for the next day. And I^{-azwj} am surprised who does not know whether I^{-azwj} am Pleased with him or Annoyed upon him, and he still laughs!

يَا أَحْمُدُ إِنَّ فِي الْجُنَّةِ فَصْراً مِنْ لُؤْلُؤَةٍ فَوْقَ لُؤْلُؤَةٍ وَ دُرَّةٍ فَوْقَ دُرَّةٍ لَيْسَ فِيهَا فَصْمٌ وَ لَا وَصْلٌ فِيهَا الْحُوَاصُّ أَنْظُرُ إِلَيْهِمْ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ سَبْعِينَ مَرَّةً وَ أُكَلِّمُهُمْ كُلَّمَا نَظَرْتُ إِلَيْهِمْ أَزِيدُ فِي مُلْكِهِمْ سَبْعِينَ ضِعْفاً وَ إِذَا تَلَذَّذَ أَهْلُ الْجُنَّةِ بِالطَّعَامِ وَ الشَّرَابِ تَلَذَّذُوا بِكَلَامِي وَ ذِكْرِي وَ حَدِيثِي

O Ahmad^{-saww}! In the Paradise there is a castle of pearls above pearls, and gems above gems. There are no cracks (joints) nor any connections in it. The special ones (elites) look at them seventy times every day, and I^{-azwj} Speak to them every time I^{-azwj} Look at them. I^{-azwj} Increase in their kingdom seventy manifold, and whenever the people of Paradise derive pleasure with the food and the drink, they derive pleasure with My^{-azwj} Speech and My^{-azwj} Zikr, and My^{-azwj} Discussion!"

قَالَ يَا رَبِّ مَا عَلَامَاتُ أُولَئِكَ

He-saww said: 'O Lord-azwj! What are their signs?'

قَالَ هُمْ فِي الدُّنْيَا مَسْجُونُونَ قَدْ سَجَنُوا أَلْسِنَتَهُمْ مِنْ فُضُولِ الْكَلَامِ وَ بُطُوكُمُمْ مِنْ فُضُولِ الطَّعَامِ- يَا أَحْمَدُ إِنَّ الْمَحَبَّةَ لِلَّهِ هِيَ الْمَحَبَّةُ لِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَ التَّقَرُّبُ إِلَيْهِمْ

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He^{-azwj} Said: "They are prisoners in the world. Their tongues have imprisoned them from the surplus talk, and their bellies, from the surplus food. O Ahmad^{-saww}! The gifting to Allah^{-azwj} it is the gifting to the poor and drawing closer to them!"

قَالَ يَا رَبِّ وَ مَن الْفُقْرَاءُ

He-saww said: 'O Lord-azwj, and who are the poor?'

قَالَ الَّذِينَ رَضُوا بِالْقَلِيلِ وَ صَبَرُوا عَلَى الجُوعِ وَ شَكَرُوا عَلَى الرَّحَاءِ وَ لَمْ يَشْكُوا جُوعَهُمْ وَ لَا ظَمَأَهُمْ وَ لَمْ يَكْذِبُوا بِٱلْسِنَتِهِمْ وَ لَمْ يَغْضَبُوا عَلَى رَبِّيمْ وَ لَمْ يَغْتَمُّوا عَلَى مَا فَاتَهُمْ وَ لَمْ يَفْرَحُوا بِمَا آتَاهُمْ-

He^{-azwj} Said: "Those who are satisfied with the little and are patient upon the hunger, and they thank upon the ease, and they do not complain of their hunger nor of their thirst, and they do not lie with their tongues, and they do not get angered upon their Lord^{-azwj}, and they are not saddened at what is lost from them, and they do not rejoice at what comes to them.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Loving Me^{-azwj} is loving the poor, therefore go near the poor and draw their seats closer to you^{-saww} and distance the rich and distance their seats from you^{-saww}, for the poor are My^{-azwj} Loved ones.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Do not adorn with the soft clothes, and good food, and soft carpets, for the soul is a shelter of every evil and it is a friend of every evil. You^{-saww} are pulling it to obedience of Allah^{-azwj} while it is pulling you^{-saww} to disobey Him^{-azwj} and opposes you^{-saww} from obeying Him^{-azwj}, and it obeys you in what you^{-saww} dislike and rebels when you^{-saww} are satiated, and complains when you^{-saww} are hungry.

And it gets angered when you^{-saww} are impoverished, and is arrogant when you^{-saww} are self-sufficient, and it forget when you^{-saww} get old, and is heedless when you^{-saww} are safe, and it is a pair of Satan^{-la}; and an example of the soul is like an example of the ostrich. It eats a lot, and when it is loaded upon, it cannot fly, and an example of the Oleander (flower). It's colour is excellent and it's taste is bitter.

O Ahmad-saww! Hate the world and its people, and love the Hereafter and its people!"

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He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}, and who are people of the world, and who are people of the Hereafter?'

He^{-azwj} Said: 'People of the world, his eating, and his laughter, and his sleep, and his anger is a lot. He is of little satisfaction, not even apologising to the one he is offensive to, nor does he accept an apology from the one apologising to him. He is lazy during the obedience, brace during the disobedience. His hopes are long and his death is near. He does not reckon himself as being of little benefit. He is of a lot of talk, little of fear, a lot of happiness during the meal.

And people of the world are neither thanking during the prosperity, nor are they being patient during the afflictions. A lot of people in their presence is few. They are praising themselves with what they haven't done and they are claiming what isn't for them, and they are speaking (reproaching) with what they are conferring, and they are mentioning evil deeds of the people, and there are taking their (people's) good deeds lightly!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Does this fault happen to be the same among people of the world?'

He^{-azwj} Said: 'O Ahmad^{-saww}! Faults of people of the world are a lot. Among them is the ignorant and the stupidity. They are not being humble to the one they are learning from, and there are intellectuals in their own view while in the presence of the Gnostics, they are idiots.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! The good people and people of the Hereafter, gentle are their faces, a lot is their modesty, little is their stupidity, a lot is their benefit, few are their plans. The people are in comfort from them while they themselves are in fatigue from them. Their talk is weighed (careful). They reckon their own selves, tiring for it. Their eyes sleep and their hearts do not sleep. Their eyes are crying and their hearts are doing Zikr.

When the people are being written as being from the heedless ones, they are being written as being from the ones doing Zikr. They are praising (Allah-azwj) in the beginning of the

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bounties, and there are thanking in the end of it. Their supplications are being raised in the Presence of Allah^{-azwj} and their speeches are being heard. The Angels rejoice with them, circulating their supplications beneath the veils.

The Lord^{-azwj} Loves to Hear their speech just as the mother loves her children, and nothing pre-occupies them away from Allah^{-azwj} even for the blink of an eye, nor are they wanting a lot of food, nor a lot of talk, nor a lot of clothes. The people are dead in their view while Allah^{-azwj} is Living in their view, Eternal, Benevolent.

The ones turning away, they call them honourably, and they are wanting the ones coming to them gently. The world and the Hereafter have become one in their view. The people are dying once, while one of them is dying seventy times a day from fighting against their own selves and opposing their own whims.

And the Satan^{-la} is the one who flows in their veins, and if the wind were to blow, it would shake them, and if they were to stand in front, it is as if they are a solid structure. I^{-azwj} do not See in their hearts any pre-occupation for a created being.

By My^{-azwj} Mighty and My^{-azwj} Majesty! I^{-azwj} shall Cause them to live a good life when their souls separate from their bodies. I^{-azwj} will not Cause the Angel of death to prevail upon them, nor will anyone be in charge of capturing their soils apart from Me^{-azwj}, and I^{-azwj} will Open for their souls, doors of the sky, all of them, and I^{-azwj} will Raise the veils besides Me^{-azwj}, all of them.

And I^{-azwj} will Command the Gardens, so they will be decorated, and the Maiden Houries so they will be escorted (to their husbands), and the Angels so they will send Salawaat, and the trees so they will bear fruit, and the fruits of Paradise so they will hang lower.

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And I^{-azwj} will Command a wind from the winds which are beneath the Throne, so they will carry a mountain of camphor and yellow musk so they will become firewood from without there being a fire. They will be entering it and there will not happen to be any curtain between Me^{-azwj} and his soul.

فَأَقُولُ لَهُ عِنْدَ قَبْضِ رُوحِهِ مَرْحَباً وَ أَهْلًا بِقُدُومِكَ عَلَيَّ اصْعَدْ بِالْكَرَامَةِ وَ الْبُشْرَى وَ الرَّحْمَةِ وَ الرِّضْوَانِ– وَ جَنَّاتٍ لَهُمْ فِيها نَعِيمٌ مُقِيمٌ خالِدِينَ فِيها أَبَداً إِنَّ الله عنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظيمٌ فَلَهْ رَأَيْتَ الْمَلائكَةَ كَيْفَ بِأَخُذُ بِمَا وَاحِدٌ وَ يُعْطِيهَا الْآخَرُ –

I^{-azwj} will be Saying to him at the capture of his soul: "Welcome and hello at your arrival to Me^{-azwj}! Ascend with the honours, and the glad tidings, and the Mercy, and the Pleasure *and Gardens for them wherein is everlasting Bliss [9:21] Abiding therein for ever; surely Allah, in His Presence is a Mighty Recompense [9:22]*. If only you^{-saww} could see the Angels, how one takes with it and the other gives it.

يَا أَحْمَدُ إِنَّ أَهْلَ الْآخِرَةِ لَا يَهْنَؤُهُمُ الطَّعَامُ مُنْذُ عَرَفُوا رَكِّمُمْ وَ لَا يَشْغَلُهُمْ مُصِيبَةٌ مُنْذُ عَرَفُوا سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ يَبْكُونَ عَلَى حَطَايَاهُمْ يَتْعَبُونَ أَنْفُسَهُمْ وَ لَا يُرِيحُونَا وَ إِنَّ رَاحَةَ أَهْلِ الجُنَّةِ فِي الْمَوْتِ وَ الْآخِرَةُ مُسْتَرَاحُ الْعَابِدِينَ

O Ahmad^{-saww}! People of the Hereafter, the food is not pleasurable to them since they have recognised their Lord^{-azwj}, nor does any difficulty pre-occupy them since they recognised their evil deeds. They are crying upon their mistakes (sins), exhausting their souls and not resting them, and the comfort of the people of Paradise is in the death, and the Hereafter is a comfort of the worshippers.

مُونِسُهُمْ دُمُوعُهُمُ الَّتِي تَفِيضُ عَلَى حُدُودِهِمْ وَ جُلُوسُهُمْ مَعَ الْمَلَاثِكَةِ الَّذِينَ عَنْ أَيْمَافِهِمْ وَ عَنْ شَمَائِلِهِمْ وَ مُنَاجَاتُهُمْ مَعَ الْجُلِيلِ الَّذِي فَوْقَ عَرْشِهِ وَ إِنَّ أَهْلَ الآجزة قُلُونُهُمْ فِي أَجْوافِهِمْ قَدْ قَرَحَتْ يَقُولُونَ مَتَى نَسْتَرِيحُ مِنْ دَارِ الْفَنَاءِ إِلَى دَار الْفَقَاءِ –

Their consoler are their tears which flow upon their cheeks, and their sitting is with the Angels, the ones on their right and on their left, and their whispering with the Majestic Who is above His^{-azwj} Throne, and people of the Hereafter, their hearts in their interior are rejoicing. They are saying, 'When will we be resting from the temporal house to the ever-lasting House?'

يَا أَحْمَدُ هَلْ تَعْرِفُ مَا لِلزَّاهِدِينَ عِنْدِي فِي الْآخِرَةِ

O Ahmad! Do you know what is for the ascetics in My-azwj Presence in the Hereafter?"

قَالَ لَا يَا رَبِّ

He-saww said: 'No. O Lord-azwj!'

قَالَ يُبْعَثُ الْخُلْقُ وَ يُنَاقَشُونَ بِالْحِسَابِ وَ هُمْ مِنْ ذَلِكَ آمِنُونَ إِنَّ أَدْنَى مَا أُعْطِي لِلرَّاهِدِينَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ أَنْ أُعْطِيهُمْ مَفَاتِيحَ الْجِنَانِ كُلَّهَا حَتَّى يَفْتَحُوا أَيَّ بَابٍ شَاءُوا وَ لَا أَحْجُبُ عَنْهُمْ وَجْهِي

He^{-azwj} Said: 'The creatures will be Resurrected while they would be safe from that. The least of what would be given to the ascetics in the Hereafter is that they would be given keys of the

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Gardens, all of them, until they can open whichever door they so desires to, and I^{-azwj} will not Veil My^{-azwj} Face.

And I^{-azwj} will Favour upon them with a variety of pleasures from My^{-azwj} Speech, and I^{-azwj} will Make them sit in truthful sitting, and I^{-azwj} shall Remind them of what they had done and toiled in the house of the world.

And I^{-azwj} will Open for them, four doors from the doors – a door the gifts would be entering to them from it, morning and evening, from My^{-azwj} Presence, and a door they will be looking from it towards Me^{-azwj}, however they so desire to, without any difficulties, and a door they will be noticing from it to the Fire. They will be looking from it at the unjust ones, how they are being Punished, and a door the butlers and the Maiden Houries will be entering to them from it!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Who are these ascetics, those whom You^{-azwj} have described?'

He^{-azwj} Said: 'The ascetic, he is the one no house for him to ruin so he could be saddened at its ruination, nor is there any son for him to be dying so he could be grieving at his death, nor is there for him anything which can go away so he would grieve at its going away, nor does any person recognise him to distract him away from Allah^{-azwj} for the blink of an eye, nor is there any surplus food for him to be Questioned about it, nor are there any soft clothes for him.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Faces of the ascetics are paled from exhaustion of the night, and fasting of the day, and their tongues are feeble except from Zikr of Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted. Their hearts are stabbed in their chests from the frequency of their opposing their own whims. They have withered themselves from the frequency of their silence.

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They give the efforts from themselves, neither from fear of fire, nor from yearning of Paradise, but they are looking into kingdoms of the skies and the earth, so they are knowing that Allah^{-azwj} the Glorious and Exalted is rightful of the worship. It is as if they are looking at the One^{-azwj} above these!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Will You^{-azwj} be Giving this to anyone from my^{-saww} community?'

He^{-azwj} Said: "O Ahmad^{-saww}! This is a rank of the Prophets^{-as}, and the truthful from your^{-saww} community, and other communities, and people from the martyrs!"

He^{-azwj} Said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! Which of the ascetics are more, the ascetics of my^{-saww} community or ascetics of the children of Israel?'

He^{-azwj} Said: "The ascetics of the children of Israel in (comparison) to ascetics of your^{-saww} community are like a black hair in a white cow!"

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}! How can that happen to be, and the number of children of Israel are more than my^{-saww} community!'

He^{-azwj} Said: "Because they complained after the conviction, and they rejected after the acknowledging!"

Rasool-Allah^{-saww} said: 'I^{-saww} Praise Allah^{-azwj} a lot for the ascetics, and thanked Him^{-azwj}, and supplicated for them. I^{-saww} said: 'O Allah^{-azwj}! Protect them, and Mercy them, and Protect their religion upon them which You^{-azwj} are Pleased for them.

O Allah-azwi! Grace them Eman of the Momineen, that which there isn't any doubt and deviation after it, and devoutness not having any desires after it, and fear not having any

heedlessness after it, and knowledge not having ignorance after it, and intellect not having idiocy after it, and nearness not having remoteness after it, and humbleness not having cruelty after it, and remembrance not having forgetfulness after it, and honour not having lowliness after it, and patience not having tedium (boredom) after it, and forbearance not having haste after it.

And Fill their hearts with modesty from You^{-azwj} until they are embarrassed from You^{-azwj} all the time, and Make them insightful with afflictions of the world and their own afflictions, and insinuations of Satan^{-la}, for You^{-azwj} Know what is within myself^{-saww} and You^{-azwj} are All-Knowing of the hidden matters!'

(He^{-azwj} Said): "O Ahmad^{-saww}! Upon you is to be with the devoutness, for the devoutness is head of the religion, and middle of the religion, and end of the religion. The devoutness draws the servant closer to Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted.

O Ahmad^{-azwj}! The devoutness is like the ear-ring between the ornaments, and the bread between the foods. The devoutness is head of the Eman, and the pillar of religion. The devoutness, its example is like an example of the ship just as it is in the sea, not is saved except the one who was in it, like the ascetics cannot be saved except with the devoutness.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! No servant recognises Me^{-azwj} and humbles to Me^{-azwj} except I^{-azwj} Humble to him.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! The devoutness opens the doors of worship upon the servants, so he becomes honourable by it in presence of the people, and he connects by it to Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Upon you^{-saww} is to be with the silence, for the hearts of the longest lifespan are hearts of the righteous and the silent ones, and the most ruined of hearts are hearts of the speakers with what does not concern them.

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O Ahmad^{-saww}! The worship is of ten segments – nine of these is seeking the Permissible (sustenance). When your food and drink is good then you are in My^{-azwj} Protection and My^{-azwj} Care!"

قَالَ يَا رَبِّ مَا أُوَّلُ الْعِبَادَةِ

He-saww said: 'O Lord-azwj! What is the first worship?'

قَالَ أَوَّلُ الْعِبَادَةِ الصَّمْتُ وَ الصَّوْمُ

He-azwj Said: "The first worship is the silence and the fasting!"

قَالَ يَا رَبِّ وَ مَا مِيرَاثُ الصَّوْمِ

He^{-saww} said: 'O Lord^{-azwj}, and what is the inheritance of fasting?'

قَالَ الصَّوْمُ يُورِثُ الحِكْمَةَ وَ الحِكْمَةُ تُورِثُ الْمَعْرِفَةَ وَ الْمَعْرِفَةُ تُورِثُ الْيَقِينَ فَإِذَا اسْتَيْقَنَ الْعَبْدُ لَا يُبَالِي كَيْفَ أَصْبَحَ بِعُسْرِ أَمْ بِيُسْرِ

He^{-azwj} Said: "The fasting inherits the wisdom, and the wisdom inherits the recognition, and the recognition inherits the conviction. When the servant is convinced, he does not mind how he becomes, in hardship or ease!"

وَ إِذَا كَانَ الْعَبْدُ فِي حَالَةِ الْمَوْتِ يَقُومُ عَلَى رَأْسِهِ مَلَائِكَةٌ بِيَدِكُلِّ مَلَكٍ كَأْسٌ مِنْ مَاءِ الْكَوْثَرِ وَكَأْسٌ مِنَ الْخَيْدِ فِي حَالَةِ الْمَوْتِ يَشُولُونَ لَهُ طِبْتَ وَ طَابَ مَثْوَاكَ إِنَّكَ تَقْدَمُ عَلَى الْعَزِيزِ الْحُكِيمِ الْحَبِيبِ الْقَرِيبِ

And when the servant is in the state of death, Angels will stand upon his head. In the hand of each Angel will be a cup of camphor, and a cup of drink. They will quench his soul until his pangs and bitterness (of death) are gone, and they will give him glad tidings with the mighty glad tidings, and they will be saying to him: 'Feel good! Your destination is good. You are heading toward the Mighty, the Wise, the Beloved, the Near One!'

فَتَطِيرُ الرُّوحُ مِنْ أَيْدِي الْمَلائِكَةِ فَتَصْعَدُ إِلَى اللَّهِ تَعَالَى فِي أَسْرَعَ مِنْ طَرْفَةِ عَيْنٍ وَ لَا يَبْقَى حِجَابٌ وَ لَا سِثْرٌ بَيْنَهَا وَ بَيْنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ إِلَيْهَا مُشْتَاقٌ وَ تَجُلِسُ عَلَى عَبْنِ عِنْدَ الْعَرْشِ

The soul flies off from the hands of Angels and it ascends to Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted quicker than the blink of an eye, and there neither remains a veil nor a curtain between it (soul) and Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted, and Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic is Desirous to (meet) him, and he is seated at a spring by the Throne.

ثُمَّ يُقَالُ لَهَا كَيْفَ تَرَكْتِ الدُّنْيَا-

Then He-azwj Says to it: "How did you leave the world?"

فَتَقُولُ إِلْهِي وَ عِزَّتِكَ وَ جَلَالِكَ لَا عِلْمَ لِي بِالدُّنْيَا أَنَا مُنْذُ خَلَقْتَنِي خَائِفَةٌ مِنْكَ

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It (soul) says, 'My God^{-azwj}! By You^{-azwj} Mighty and Your^{-azwj} Majesty! There is no knowledge for me with the world. Since You^{-azwj} had Created me, I have been fearing from You^{-azwj}'.

Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted Says: "You speak the truth, My^{-azwj} servant. You were in the world with your body while your soul was with Me^{-azwj}, so you were in My^{-azwj} Eyes, your secrets and your announcements. Ask, I^{-azwj} shall Give you, and wish to Me^{-azwj}, I^{-azwj} shall Honour you. This here is My^{-azwj} Paradise. You have succeeded regarding it, and this is My^{-azwj} Neighbourhood, so dwell in it!"

The soul says, 'My God^{-azwj}! Introduce Yourself to me, so I can be needless by it from entirety of Your^{-azwj} creatures! By You^{-azwj} Might and Your^{-azwj} Majesty! If Your^{-azwj} Satisfaction were to be in my being cut into pieces and pieces, and to be killed seventy times with the severest of killings the people can be killed with, Your^{-azwj} Satisfaction would be more beloved to me.

My God^{-azwj}! How can I be fascinated with myself? And I am disgraced if You^{-azwj} don't Honour me, and I am overcome if You^{-azwj} don't Help me, and I am weak if You^{-azwj} don't Strengthen me, and I am dead if You^{-azwj} don't Revive me with Your^{-azwj} Zikr, and had it not been for Your^{-azwj} veil, I would have been exposed the first time I had disobeyed You^{-azwj}!

My God^{-azwj}! How can I not seek Your^{-azwj} Satisfaction and You^{-azwj} have Perfected my intellect until I recognised You^{-azwj}, and I recognised the truth from the falsehood, and the Commands from the Prohibitions, and the knowledge from the ignorance, and the light from the darkness?'

Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic Says: "By My^{-azwj} Mighty and My^{-azwj} Majestic! I^{-azwj} will not Veil between Me^{-azwj} and you, during any time from the timings. Like that I^{-azwj} Deal with My^{-azwj} Loves ones!

O Ahmad-saww! Do you know which life is most welcoming, and which life is more lasting?"

قَالَ اللَّهُمَّ لَا

He-saww said: 'O Allah-azwj, no!'

He^{-azwj} Said: 'As for the welcoming life, it is which its owner is not lazy from doing My^{-azwj} Zikr, nor does he forget My^{-azwj} bounties, nor does he ignore My^{-azwj} right. He seeks My^{-azwj} Satisfaction during his night and his day.

وَ أَمَّا الْحَيَاةُ الْبَاقِيَةُ فَهِيَ الَّتِي يَعْمَلُ لِنَفْسِهِ حَتَّى مُمُونَ عَلَيْهِ الدُّنْيَا وَ تَصْغُرَ فِي عَيْنِهِ وَ تَعْظُمُ الْآخِرَةُ عِنْدَهُ وَ يُؤْثِرَ هَوَايَ عَلَى هَوَاهُ وَ يَبْتَغِيَ مَرْضَانِي وَ يُعَظِّمَ كَقَ عَظَمَتِي وَ يَنْكُونُ وَيُعْظِمَ الْآخِرَةُ وَ يُبْغِضَ الشَّيْطَانَ وَ وَسَاوِسَهُ وَ لَا يَجْعَلَ حَقَّ عَظَمَتِي وَ يَذْكُرَ عِلْمِي بِهِ وَ يُرَاقِبَنِي بِاللَّيْلِ وَ النَّهَارِ عِنْدَ كُلِّ سَيِّئَةٍ أَوْ مَعْصِيَةٍ وَ يُنَقِّيَ قَلْبَهُ عَنْ كُلِّ مَا أَكْرَهُ وَ يُبْغِضَ الشَّيْطَانَ وَ وَسَاوِسَهُ وَ لَا يَجْعَلَ لِإِبْلِيسَ عَلَى قَلْبِهِ سُلْطَاناً وَ سَبِيلًا

And as for the lasting life, it is which he works for himself until the world becomes insignificant to him and is belittle in his eyes, and the Hereafter is magnified in his view, and he prefers My^{-azwj} Desires over his own desires, and he seeks My^{-azwj} Satisfaction and magnifies the right of My^{-azwj} Magnificence, and he remembers My^{-azwj} Knowledge of him, and he watches out for Me^{-azwj} at night and day at every evil deed or (act of) disobedience, and he purifies his heart from all what I^{-azwj} Dislike, and he hates the Satan^{-la} and his^{-la} insinuations, and he does not make any authority and a way to be for Iblees^{-la} upon his heart.

When he does that, I^{-azwj} Settle Love in his heart until I^{-azwj} Make his heart to be for Me^{-azwj}, and his free times, and his pre-occupations, and his worries, and his discussions, from the bounties which I^{-azwj} have Favoured with upon people from My^{-azwj} creatures who love Me^{-azwj}, and I^{-azwj} Open the eyes of his heart and his ears until he hears with his heart and looks by his heart at My^{-azwj} Permissible(s), and My^{-azwj} Magnificence.

And I^{-azwj} Restrict the world upon him, and Cause the world to be hateful, and hateful to him whatever pleasures there are in it, and I^{-azwj} Caution him of the world and whatever is in it, like what the shepherd cautions his sheep from the pastures of doom.

When he were to be like this, he will flee from the people with a fleeing, and he will transfer from a temporal house to the lasting house, and from the house of Satan-la to the house of the Beneficent.

يَا أَحْمُدُ وَ لَأُزَيِّنَنَّهُ بِالْمَيْبَةِ وَ الْعَظَمَةِ فَهَذَا هُوَ الْعَيْشُ الْهَنِيءُ وَ الْحَيَاةُ الْبَاقِيَةُ وَ هَذَا مَقَامُ الرَّاضِينَ فَمَنْ عَمِلَ بِرِضَايَ أُلْزِمُهُ ثَلَاثَ خِصَالٍ أُعَرِّفُهُ شُكْراً لَا يُخَالِطُهُ الجُهْلُ وَ ذِكْراً لَا يُخَالِطُهُ النِسْيَانُ وَ مَحَبَّةً لَا يُؤْثِرُ عَلَى مَحَبَّق مَحَبَّةً الْمَخْلُوقِينَ O Ahmad^{-saww}! And I^{-azwj} will Adorn him with the awe and the magnificence. This it is the welcoming house and the lasting life, and this is the position of the satisfied. The one who works with My^{-azwj} Satisfaction, I^{-azwj} shall necessitate three characteristics to him – I^{-azwj} shall Cause him to recognise the thanking, not mingling the ignorance, and Zikr not mingled with the forgetfulness, and love not preferring upon My^{-azwj} love the love of the created beings.

When he loves Me^{-azwj}, I^{-azwj} will Love him, and Open the eyes of his heart to My^{-azwj} Majesty, and I^{-azwj} will not Hide from him the special of My^{-azwj} creatures, and I^{-azwj} will Whisper to him in the darkness of the night and brightness of the day until his discussion with the created beings is cut off and his sitting with them.

And I^{-azwj} shall Make him hear My^{-azwj} Speech and speech of My^{-azwj} Angels, and I^{-azwj} will Make him recognise the secrets which I^{-azwj} have Concealed from My^{-azwj} creatures, and I^{-azwj} will Clothe him the modesty until the creatures, all of them are embarrassed from him, and he will walk upon the earth having been Forgiven for.

And I^{-azwj} shall Make his heart as a container and insightful, and I^{-azwj} will not Hide from him anything from a Garden or Fire, and I^{-azwj} will Make him recognise what shall pass upon the people during the Day of Qiyamah, from the horrors and the adversities, and I^{-azwj} will not Reckon the rich and the poor, and ignoramuses and the scholars, and I^{-azwj} Cause him to sleep in his grave and Send down Munkar and Nakeer (two questioning Angels) to him until they question him, and he will not see the pangs of death and nor darkness of the grave and nor the tomb (narrowness), and the emerging horrors.

Then I^{-azwj} will Set-up his scale for him and Publish his register (of deeds). Then I^{-azwj} will Place his book in his right hand, and they (others) will read it published. Then I^{-azwj} will not Make any interpreter to be between Me^{-azwj} and him. So, these are attributes of the loving ones.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Make your worries as one worry. Make your tongues as on tongue, and make your body as living. Do not be heedless from Me^{-azwj}. One who is heedless from Me^{-azwj}, I^{-azwj} will not Care in which valley he is destroyed.

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O Ahmad^{-saww}! Use your^{-saww} intellect before it goes away. The one who uses his intellect will neither err nor transgress.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Do you not know for which thing (reason) I^{-azwj} have Merited you^{-saww} over rest of the Prophets^{-as}?'

قَالَ اللَّهُمَّ لَا

He-saww said: 'O Allah-azwj, no!'

He^{-azwj} Said: "Due to the conviction, and good manners, and generous self, and merciful morals, and like that are pegs of the earth. They cannot be pegs except with these.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! When the servant keeps his belly hungry, and protects his tongue, I^{-azwj} Teach him the wisdom, and if he were to be a Kafir, his wisdom would be an argument upon him and a scourge, and if he were to be a Momin, his wisdom would be a Noor for him and a proof, and a healing, and a mercy. Thus, he would know what cannot be known, and he would have insight of what cannot be sighted.

The first of what I^{-azwj} would Make him to be insightful of are faults of his own until he is too pre-occupied from faulting others, and I^{-azwj} will Cause him to have insight intricacies of knowledge until the Satan^{-la} cannot enter to see him.

O Ahmad^{-saww}! There isn't anything from the worship more Beloved to Me^{-azwj} than the silence and the fasting. The one who fasts and does not protect his tongue, would be like the one standing (for Salat) and does not recite (Quran) in his Salat. So I^{-azwj} Give him Rewards of the standing and do not Give him Rewards of the worshippers.

O Ahmad-saww! Do you-saww know when the servant becomes a worshipper?'

قَالَ لَا يَا رَبّ

He-saww said: 'No, O Lord-azwj!'

قَالَ إِذَا اجْتَمَعَ فِيهِ سَبْعُ خِصَالٍ وَرَعٌ يَحْجُزُهُ عَنِ الْمَحَارِمِ وَ صَمْتٌ يَكُفُّهُ عَمَّا لَا يَعْنِيهِ وَ حَوْفٌ يَزْدَادُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ مِنْ بُكَائِهِ وَ حَيَاءٌ يَسْتَحْيِي مِتِي فِي الْخَلَاءِ وَ أَكُلُ مَا لَا بُدَّ مِنْهُ وَ يُبْغِضُ الدُّنْيَا لِبُعْضِي لَهَا وَ يُحِبُّ الْأَحْيَارَ لِجُبِّي إِيَّاهُمْ–

He^{-azwj} Said: "When seven characteristics are gathered in him – devoutness cutting him off from the Prohibitions, and silence restraining him from what does not concern him, and fear increasing his crying every day, and modesty embarrassing him from Me^{-azwj} during the isolation, and he eats what there is no escape from, and he hates the world due to My^{-azwj} Hatred for it, and he loves the good people due to My^{-azwj} Love for them.

يَا أَحْمَدُ لَيْسَ كُلُّ مَنْ قَالَ أُحِبُ اللَّهَ أَحَبُّنِي حَتَّى يَأْخُذَ قُوتاً وَ يَلْبَسَ دُوناً وَ يَنَامَ سُجُوداً وَ يُطِيلَ قِيَاماً وَ يَلْزَمَ صَمْتاً وَ يَتَوَكَّلَ عَلَيَّ وَ يَبْكِيَ كَثِيراً وَ يُقِلَّ ضِحْكاً وَ يُخَالِفَ هَوَاهُ وَ يَتَّخِذُ الْمُسْجِدَ بَيْتاً وَ الْعِلْمَ صَاحِباً وَ الزَّهْدَ جَلِيساً وَ الْغُلْمَاءَ أَجِبًاءَ وَ الْفُقْرَاءَ وَفَقَاءَ

O Ahmad^{-saww}! Not everyone who says, 'I love Allah^{-azwj}', love Me^{-azwj}, until he takes to daily bread, and wears lowly (clothes), and sleeps in Sajdah, and prolongs standing, and necessitates silence, and relies upon Me^{-azwj}, and cries a lot, and little is his laughter, and he opposes his whims, and he takes the Masjid as a house, and the knowledge as a companion, and the ascetism as a sitting companion, and the scholars as loved ones, and the poor as friends.

وَ يَطْلُبَ رِضَايَ وَ يَفِرَّ مِنَ الْعَاصِينَ فِرَاراً وَ يَشْغَلَ بِلِكُرِي اشْتِغَالًا وَ يُكْثِرَ التَّسْبِيحَ دَائِماً وَ يَكُونَ بِالْوَعْدِ صَادِقاً وَ بِالْعَهْدِ وَافِياً وَ يَكُونَ قَلْبُهُ طَاهِراً وَ فِي الصَّلَاةِ زَاكِياً وَ فِي الْفَرَائِضِ مُجْتَهِداً وَ فِيمَا عِنْدِي فِي الثَّوَابِ رَاغِباً وَ مِنْ عَذَابِي رَاهِباً وَ لِأَحِبَائِي قَرِيناً وَ جَلِيساً–

And he seeks My^{-azwj} Satisfaction, and flees from the disobedience with a fleeing, and he pre-occupies with My^{-azwj} Zikr as pre-occupation, and he frequents the glorification constantly, and he becomes truthful of the promise, and loyal with the pact, and his hearing becomes clean, and is pure in the Salat, and striving in the obligations, and desirous of the Rewards regarding what is with Me^{-azwj}, and fearful from My^{-azwj} Punishment, and pairs and sits to My^{-azwj} loved ones.

يَا أَحْمُدُ لَوْ صَلَّى الْعَبْدُ صَلَاةَ أَهْلِ السَّمَاءِ وَ الْأَرْضِ وَ يَصُومُ صِيَامَ أَهْلِ السَّمَاءِ وَ الْأَرْضِ وَ يَطُوبِي مِنَ الطَّعَامِ مِثْلَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَ لَبِسَ لِبَاسَ الْعَارِي ثُمُّ أَرَى فِي قَلْبِهِ مِنْ حُبِّ الدُّنْيَا ذَرَّةً أَوْ سَعَتِهَا أَوْ رِئَاسَتِهَا أَوْ حُلِيِّهَا أَوْ زِينَتِهَا– لَا يُجَاوِرُنِي فِي دَارِي وَ لَأَنْزِعَنَّ مِنْ قَلْبِهِ مَحَبَّتِي

O Ahmad^{-saww}! If the servant were to pray Salat of people the sky and the earth, and fasts fasting, and he bends from the (lack of) food like the Angels, and wear the clothing of the bare, then I^{-azwj} See in his heart a particle of love of the world, or it's capaciousness, or its governance, or its ornaments, or its adornments, he will not be in My^{-azwj} Vicinity in My^{-azwj} House, and I^{-azwj} will Remove My^{-azwj} love from his heart.

وَ عَلَيْكَ سَلَامِي وَ رَحْمَتِي وَ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعالَمِينَ.

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And upon you^{-saww} is My^{-azwj} Greetings and My^{-azwj} Mercy!" And the Praise is for Allah^{-azwj}, Lord^{-azwj} of the worlds".³

Abbreviations:

 \mathbf{saww} : - \mathbf{S} al lal la ho \mathbf{A} llay hay \mathbf{W} a Aal lay he \mathbf{W} asallam

azwj: - Az Za Wa Jalla

asws: - **A**llay hay **S**alawat **W**ass **S**alam **AJFJ:** Ajal Allah hey wa Fara Jaak

ra: - Razi Allah^{-azwj} La: - Laan Allah^{-azwj}

³ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 74 - The book 'Al Rawza' - Ch 2 H 6