Bismi¹ laahi¹ rahmaani¹ raheemi. In the name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate.

MAWLAAYA SALLI WA SALLIM DAA IMAN ABADAN, ALAA HABIIBIKA KHAYRIL KHALQI KOULLIHIMII.

CHAPTER 1: ON LYRICAL LOVE - YEARNING

Amin tazakkuri djiiraanin bizii salamii, Mazadjta dame-an djaraa min muqlatin bidamii.

Is it from recollection of neighbors in the valley of Zii Salami, That you mix tears with blood as they flow from your eyes?

Am habbati riihu min tilqaa-i kaazimatin, Wa awmadal barqu fii zalmaa-i min idamii.

Or perhaps sweet breezes blowing from Kazima's direction? Or bolts of lightning that flash in the depth of Mount Iddam?

Famaa li-aynayka in qultak fufaa hamataa, Wa maa liqalbika in qulta-s-tafiq yahimii.

What's wrong with your eyes? you say, "stop!" But that only increases their painful downpour.

Or your heart? You say, "Wake up!" But it wanders even further astray in distraction!

Ayahsabou Sabbu annal hubba munkatimun, Maa bayna mounsadjimin minhou wa moudtarimii.

Does someone so flooded with love think it can be hid, Behind such a downpour of tears or a heart's raging fires?

Lawlal hawaa lam turiq dame-an alaa talalin, Wa laa ariqta lizikril baani wal alamii.

Without love's passion you would never have wept so over the traces of your beloved's camp,

Nor spent sleepless nights recalling the fragrance of a willow or the mountain your darling walked in.

Walaa a-aaratka sawbay abratin wa danan, Zikral khiyaami wa zikraa saakinil khiyamii dwell

Nor would the mere memory of tents and those who dwelt there, Have draped you in mourning clothes, weeping and wasting away.

Fa kayfa tunkiru hubban ba-e-da maa chahidat, Bihii alayka uduwlud dame-i wassiqamii.

How can you deny such a love, when true tears, And real heartbreak testify so strongly against you?

Wa assbatal wadjdu khattay abratin wa danan, Mislal bahaari alaa khaddayka wal anami.

The sorrow of love has etched two salty troughs down your face, And branded gaunt marks on it as yellow and blood-red roses.

Na-am saraa tayfou man ahwaa fa arraqanii, Wal houbbou ya-e-taridoul lazzaati bil alamii.

-How true! In the night a vision of the one I long for came and deprived me of sleep,
But love is famous for impeding pleasures with pain!

Yaa laa-imii fil hawaal ouzriyyi ma-e-ziratan, Minnii ilayka wa law ansafta lam taloumii.

O you who fault me for this vestal love, accept my excuse-Yet if you judged fairly, you would find me blameless

Adatka haaliya laa sirrii bimoustatirin, Anil woushaati wa laa daa-ii bimounhasimii.

May you never have to live like this! I can't even keep it a secret, From my critics, I'm so feverish and lovesick!

Mahhadtanii nousha laakin lastou asma-ouhou, Innal mouhibba anil ouzzaali fii samamii.

You have given me good advice, but I can't hear it-A lover's ears are deaf to the outcries of love-critics.

Innit tahamtou nasiiha shayba fii azalin, Washaybou ab adou fii nous-hin anit touhamii.

How can I listen? I don't even trust the counsel of gray hairs, And everyone knows old age is guileless when it comes to good counsel!