

Islamic Tijaniya Foundation of America, ITFA
Poems of BURDAT AL MOUBAARAKAT (Al Bouseeree)

Bismi^l laahi^r rahmaani^r 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!*

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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?*

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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!*

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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!*

CHAPTER 2: ON WARNING ABOUT THE CAPRICES OF THE SELF.

Fa inna ammaaratee bis suu-I mat ta-azat
Min djahlihaa binazeerish shaybi wal harami.

*This self of mine that drives me to error
Has turned a blind eye to gray hair and approaching old age.*

Walaa a-addat minal fi-e-lil djameeli qiraa,
Dayfin alamma bira-e-see ghayra mouhtashimi.

*It hasn't even prepared a banquet of deeds for this unexpected
guest
Who has set up permanent camp on my head.*

Law kuntu a-e-lamu annee maa uwaqqiruhu,
Katamtu sirran badaa lee minhu bil katami.

*Had I known, I wouldn't have paid him any respect at all-
I would have camouflaged his secret with black dye.*

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Man lee biraddi djimaahi min ghawaayatihaa,
Kamaa yuraddu djimaahul khayli bil ludjumi.

*Who can restrain my bolting soul from its selfish desires,
Like bridles that bring restive steeds under control?*

Falaa tarumu bil ma-aasee kasra shahwatihaa,
Innat ta-aama yuqawwee shahwatan nahimi.

*Do not attempt to break its appetite through wanton indulgence-
Notice how food only strengthens a glutton's craving.*

Wan nafsu kat tifli in tahmilhu shabba alaa,
Hubbir radaa-I wa in taftimhu yanfatimi.

*The self is like an infant –if you live it, it will grow up loving to
suckle,
But if you wean it, soon it will lose its desire for the breast.*

Fasrif hawaahaa wa haazir an tuwalliyahu,
Innal hawaa maa tawallaa yusmi aw yasimi.

*Divert the self's desires and avoid empowering it-
Whenever desire takes charge, it either destroys or defiles.*

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Wa raa-ihaa wa hiya fil a-e-maali saa-imatun,
Wa in hiyas tahlatil mar-aa falaa tusimi.

*Shepherd over it as it grazes freely in the field of actions,
But should it find the pasturage sweet, restrain its casual
roaming.*

Kam hassanat lazzatan lilmar-I qaatilatan,
Min haysu lam yadri annas summa fid dasami.

*How often it has found some deadly pleasure delightful,
Not knowing that poison lies hidden in cream!*

Wakhshad dasaa-isa min djuu-in wa min shiba-in,
Farubba makhmasatin sharrun minat tukhami.

*Be on guard against the traps of hunger and satiety-
An empty stomach can be worse than a full one.*

Wastafrihid dame-a min aynin qad imtala-at,
Minal mahaarimi wal zam himyatan nadami.

*Empty out every last tear from an eye that has gorged
On forbidden deserts, and cling to a diet of remorse.*

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Wa khaalifin nafsa wash shaytaana wa-e-sihimaa,
Wa in humaa mahhadaakan nusha fat tahimi.

*Contradict the infantile self and Satan, and disobey them-
If either of them offers you sincere advice, be suspicious!*

Walaa tuti-e minhumaa khasman walaa hakaman,
Fa anta ta-e-rifu kaydal khasmi wal hakami.

*Submit to neither, whether they come as adversary or arbiter-
By now you should know the intrigues of both adversary and
arbiter!*

*Astaghfirul laaha min qawlin bilaa amalin,
Laqad nasabtu bihee naslan lizee uqumi.*

*I seek God's forgiveness for words without deeds-empty talk
holds no promise,
Like expecting children to spring from a man who is sterile.*

Amartukal khayra laakin ma-e-tamartu bihi,
Wamas taqamtu fama qawlee lakas taqimi.

*I counsel you to good, but all the while ignore it myself.
I haven't been upright, so how dare I tell you, "Be upright!"*

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Walaa tazawwadtū qablal mawti naafilatan,
Walam usal siwaa fardin walam asumi.

*Nor have I prepared for my death by increasing my devotions,
Neither praying nor fasting beyond what is normally required.*

**CHAPTER 3: ON THE PRAISE OF THE PROPHETE,
UPON HIM BE PRAYERS AND PEACE**

Zalamtu sunnata man ahyaaaz zalaama ilaa,
Ani-shtakat qadamaahud durra min warami

*I have neglected the path of the one brought black nights
To life by praying, until even his feet swelled with distress.*

.Washadda min saghabin ahshaa-ahu watawaa,
Tahtal hidjaarati kash-han mutrafal adami.

*To quell is hunger he tightened his midriff
By strapping stones to his soft sides and strong ribs.*

Waraawadathul djibaalush shummu min zahabin,
An nafsihi fa-araahaa ayyamaa shamami.

*Lofty mountains, to entice him, draped themselves in gold,
But he showed them a towering soul, perfectly content, without
desire.*

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Wa akkadat zuhdahu fiihaa daruuratuhu,
Innad daruurata laa ta-e-duu alal isami

*The extremity of his needs only confirmed his freedom from
desire-
Need never overshadows Virtue that is firmly rooted.*

Wa kayfa tad-uu ilad dunyaa daruuratu man,
Lawlaahu lam takhrudjid dunyaa minal adami.

*How could the need of such a man be answered by the world,
When without him this world would never have come into being!
[interlude]*

**Muhammadun sayyidul kawnayni was saqalay..,
Ni wal fareeqayni min urubin wa min adjami.**

*Mouhammad, lord of both worlds, lord of both species,
Lord of both assemblages-Arabs and all others.*

Nabiyyunal aamirun naahee falaa ahadun,
Abarra fee qawli laa minhu walaa na-ami.

*Our Prophet, commander of right, forbiddener of wrong-
No soul kept his word more justly, whether “Yes” or “No.”*

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huwal habeebul lezee turdjaa shafaa-atuhu,
Likulli hawlin minal ahwaali muqtahami.

*He is the beloved whose intercession is hoped for
As arms against a host of relentless calamities.*

Da-aa ilal laahi fal mustamsikuuna bihee,
Mustamsikuuna bihablin ghayri munfasimi.

*He called on God. Whoever clings to him
Clings to a rope that will never unravel nor break.*

Faaqan nabiyyeena fee khalqin wa fee khuluqin,
Wa lam yudaanuuhu fee ilmin walaa karami.

*His form and character surpassed even the previous prophets,
And none have approached him in knowledge or nobility.*

Wa kulluhum min rasuulil laahi multamisun,
Gharfan minal bahri aw rashqan minad diyami.

*They all seek from the Messenger of God
Cupfuls from his ocean or sips from his unceasing rain.*

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Wa waafiquuna ladayhi inda haddihim,
Min nuqtatil ilmi aw min shaklatil hikami.

*They all stand before him according to their limits,
As if dots on his knowledge or diacritical marks on his wisdom.*

Fahuwal lezee tamma ma-e-naahu wa suuratuhuu,
Summa-stafaahu habeeban baari-un nasami.

*He is the one whose meaning and form were perfected,
And then the Originator of souls chose him as the beloved.*

Munazzahun an shareekin fee mahaasinihi,
Fadjaw-harul husni feehi ghayru munqasimi.

*Incomparable, his beauty has no peer-
The essence of beauty itself is in his nature.*

Da-e madda-athun nasaaraa fee nabiyihimi,
Wahkum bimaa shi-e-ta Madani feehi wahtakimi.

*Leave aside what the Christians have claimed for their prophet-
Then praise him as you like, but do so wisely.*

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wansub ilaa zaatihee maa shi-e-ta min sharafin,
Wansub ilaa qadrihee maa shi-e-ta min ozami.

*Ascribe to his essence what you wish of honor,
Attribute to his exalted status what you will of greatness!*

Fa inna fadla rasuulil laahi laysa lehuu,
Haddun fayu-e-riba anhu naatiquun bifami.

*Truly, the Messenger of God's bounty
Cannot be overstated by two lips and a tongue.*

Law naasabat qadrahu aayaatuhu izaman,
Ahyaa-smuhu heena yud-aa daarisar rimami.

*If a miracle could equal his stature in magnitude,
The mere mention of his name would revive decaying bones.*

Lam yamtahinnaa bimaa ta-e-yal uquulu bihee,
Hirsan alaynaa falam nartab wa lam nahimi.

*Concerned for our welfare, he did not confuse us with matters
We could not fathom, so we neither wandered nor wavered.*

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a-e-yal waraa fahmu ma-e-naahu falaysa yuraa,
lilqurbi wal bu-e-di feehi ghayru munfahimi.

*Human beings cannot grasp his meaning-
Even those at his side could not keep up with him.*

Kash shamsi taz-haru lil-aynayni min bu-e-din,
Sageeratan wa tukillut tarfa min amami.

*He is like the sun, small to the eye when seen from afar,
But when glimpsed close up, it dazzles and overwhelms.*

Wa kayfa yudriku fid dunyaa haqeeqatahu,
Qawmu niyaamun tasallaw anhu bil hulumi.

*How can slumberous souls in this world grasp his reality
Distracted as they are by the strength of their dream?*

*Fa mablaghul ilmi feehi annahu basharun,
Wa annahu khayrul khalqil laahi kullihimi.*

*The extent of what we know of him is this: He is a man,
And yet, without exception, he is the best of God's Creation.*

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*Wa kullu aayin ataa ruslul kiraamu bihaa,
Fa innamat tasalat min nuurihi bihimi.*

*All of the signs brought by the noble prophets before him
Came to them through his light alone.*

*Fa innahu shamsu fadli hum kawaakibuhaa,
Yuz-hirna anwaaraha linnaasi fiz zulami.*

*He is the bounteous sun and they her orbiting planets-
She reveals their lights for humanity in the darkness of night-*

*Hattaa iza a tala-at fil ufqi amma hudaa...,
..hal aalameena wa ahyat saa-iral umami.*

*Until finally his light dawned on the horizon,
And his radiant guidance suffused the world and brought life to
Countless civilizations. [interlude]*

*Akrim bikhalqi nabiiyyin zaanahu khuluqun,
Bil husni mushtamilin bil bishri muttasimi.*

*What excellence lies in the birth of a prophet adorned with such
Character!
Beauty itself shines forth from his smiling face!*

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Kazzahri fee tarafin wal badri fee sharafin,
Wal bahri fee karamin wad dahri fee himami.

*Exquisite as a lily, illustrious as a full moon,
Magnanimous as the ocean, persistent as time.*

Ka annahu wahwa fardun min djalaalatihi,
Fee askarin heena talqaahu wa fee hashami.

*Due to his majesty, even when alone,
He seemed surrounded by military might and cohorts of
courtiers.*

*Ka annamal lu-e-lu-ul maknuunu fee sadafin,
Min ma-e-dinay mantiqin minhu wa mubtasimi.*

*It is as if precious pearls, locked in their shells,
Poured from the treasury of his sweet mouth and smile.*

Ta-e-yal uquulu kalaalan inda ru-e-yatihi,
Ka annamaa nazarat lish-shamsi min amami.

*As if, face to face with the sun,
Minds were forced o blink at the mere sight of him.*

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Laa teeba ya-e-dilu turuban damma a-e-zumahu,
Tuubaa limuntashiqin minhu wa multasimi.

*No perfume is as sweet as the ground that holds his bones-
What Paradise awaits the one who breathes its scent or brushes
lips against its soil!*

CHAPTER 4: ON HIS BIRTH

Abaana mawliduhu an teeb unsurihi,
Yaa teeba muftada-in minhu wa mukhtatami.

*His birth revealed the purity of his elemental nature-
O pure from first to last!*

Yawmun tafarrasa feehil fursu annahumu,
Qad unziruu bihuluulil bu-e-si wan niqami.

*That day the Persians perceived in truth that they had
Been forewarned of impending difficulties and disasters.*

Wa baata eewaanu kisraa wahwa munsadi-un,
Kashamli as-haabi kisraa ghayra multa-imi.

*That evening the emperor's throne room cracked into pieces,
Like the solidarity of his retinue, beyond repair.*

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Wan naaru khaamidatul anfaasi min asafin,
Alayhi wan nahru saahil ayni min sadami

The Magian's fire expired out of sorrow.
The Euphrates River forgot its course out of grief.

Wa saa-a saawata an ghaadat buhayratuhaa,
Warudda waariduhaa bil ghayzi heena zamee.

The shocked village of Sawa watched its lake dry up;
Anyone searching for water came back mad with thirst.

Ka anna bin naari maa bil maa-i min balalin,
Huznan wa bil maa-i maa bin naari min darami.

As if fire were as wet as water from sorrow,
And water took on fire's inflammable nature.

Wal djinnu tahtifu wal anwaaru saati-atun,
Wal mhaqqu yaz-haru min ma-e-nan wa min kalimi

Jinn cried out from afar, and the flare of his birth lit up the
darkened land,
The Truth became plain as day in word and meaning.

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Amuu wa sammuu fa i-e-laanul bashaa-iri lam,
Tusma-e wa baariqatul inzaari lam tushami.

*Yet they were blinded and deafened by denial, so the good news
Went unheard and the warning flashes unseen.*

Min ba-e-di maa akhbaral aqwaama kaahinuhum,
Bi anna deenahumul mu-e-wadja lam yaqumi.

*And all this after even their own diviners declared,
Their creed could no longer stand up on its own.*

Wa ba-e-da maa aayanuu fil ufqi min shuhubin,
Munqaddatin wafqa maa fil ardi min sanami.

*And even after they witnessed comets crashing on the skyline,
Falling to earth as their idols fell on their faces.*

Hattaa ghadaa an tareeqil wahyi munhazimun,
Minash shayaateeni yaqfuu isra munhazimi.

*Until demons, diverted from revelation's path,
Followed the footsteps of other devils who fled in defeat,*

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Ka annahum haraban abtaalu abrahamin,
Aw askarun bil hasaa min raahatayhi rumees.

*Fleeing like the wretched combatants of Abraha,
Like the army rooted by pebbles hurled from his hand,*

Nabzan bihee ba-e-da tasbeehin bibatnihimaa,
Nabzal musabbihi min ahshaa-i multaqimi.

*Cast from his palms after they finished praising God,
The way prayerful Jonas was cast from the belly of the whale.*

CHAPTER 5: ON HIS MIRACLES

Djaa-at lida-e-watihil ashdjaaru saadjidatanm
Tamshee ileyhi alaa saaqin bilaa qadami.

*At his call, trees came bowing in prostration-
Footless tree trunks trudging toward him!*

Ka-annamaa satarat satran limaa katabat,
Furuu-uhaa min badeeil khatti billaqami

*Penning a perfect inscription with their branches!
A wondrous sign along the way,*

Mislal ghamaamati annaa saara saa-iratan,
Taqeehi harra wa teesin lihadjeeri hamee.

*Like the cape of clouds that trailed after him
To shield him from the sky's noon fire, hotter than an
oven.[interlude]*

Aqsamtu bilqamaril-munshaqqi inna lehuu,
Min qalbihee nisbatan mabruuratal-qasami.

*I swear by the Lord of the moon split in two,
So deeply involved with his heart, and this oath is true!*

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Wa maa hawal ghaaru min khayrin wa min karamin,
Wa kullu tarfin minal kuffaari anhu amee.

*And by the lord of the cave in which he hid
Where a posse of blind skeptics failed to find him.*

Fassidqu fil ghaari wassiddeequ lam yarimaa,
Wa hum yaquuluuna maa bilghaari min arimi.

*The Truth and his friend the Truthful kept quiet in the cave,
While outside the search party grumbled, "It's just an empty
cave!"*

Zannul hamaama wa zannul ankabuuta alaa,
Khayril bariyyati lam tansudj wa lam tahumi.

*They were wrong to think a spider couldn't weave a curtain
Or a dove hover lovingly over creation's crown.*

Wiqaaayatul laahi aghnat an mudaa-afatin,
minadduruu-i wa an aalin minal utumi.

*God's protection was all he needed: no excess armor,
Strategic lookout towers, or powerful fortresses!*

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Maa saamanid-dehru dayman wastadjartu bihee,
Ilaa wa niltu djiwaaran minhu lam yudami.

*If ever the people of my time intended to mistreat me,
I simply took refuge in his harbor, and no harm came.*

Walal-tamastu ghinad-daarayni min yadihee,
Illa-stalamtun-nadaa min khayri mustalami.

*By seeking the wealth of this world and the next from his hand,
I received my lot straight from the Generous Donor.*

Laa tunkiril wahya min ru-e-yaahu inna lehuu,
Qalban iza naamatil aynaani lam yanami.

*Beware of rejecting the prophet's nocturnal revelations-
Though his eyes may sleep his heart never slumbers!*

Wa zaaka heena buluughin min nubuwwatihee,
Falaysa yunkaru feehi haalu muhtalimi,

*They came to him at the outset of his prophetic mission-
So these dream-visions of his cannot be denied.*

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Tabaarakal-laahu maa wahyun bimuktasabin,
Wa laa nabiiyun alaa ghaybin bimuttahami.

*Blessed is God! Revelation doesn't come through effort,
Nor should we doubt a prophet when he speaks of the unseen.*

Kam abra-at wasaban billamsi raahatuhuu,
Wa atlaqat araban min ribqatil-lamami.

*How many seek were healed by the lightness of his touch!
How many in need were freed from mental affliction!*

Wa ahyatis-sanatash-shahbaa-a da-e-watuhuu,
hattaa hakat ghurratan fil a-e-surid-duhumi

*His prayer revived the land in a year of drought,
Like a bright ivory inlay in the midst of ebony seasons.*

Bi-aaridin djaa-a aw khiltal bitaaha bihaa,
Saybun minal yammi aw saylun minal arimi.

*With clouds breaking open so generously
Valleys seemed filled with sea waves or foods from burst dams.*

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Lammaa shakat

*When the valley complained of the sky's withholding rain,
He said, atop hills and mountains, "Pour down, and return to
nature's way!"*

*The earth fulfilled her sacred trust again with nourishment
For men and beasts by permission of her Creator.*

*She put on green dress of silky grasses,
Winding turbans around the heads of hilltops and palm trees.*

*The palm trees stood up straight to show off their necklaces
Which lit up the eye like gorgeous red and yellow poppies.*

*The drought's disease departed so completely,
Even despairing folk were filled with renewed virtues.*

*If you faithfully follow the clear signs of the prophets,
You will simply be adding one sparkling splendor to another.
[end of CD1]*

*So say to anyone trying to outdo my praise of him,
"These are effortless gifts- I saddled no camels to obtain them."*

*Don't say, "How could you possibly fashion such excellent
verses?"
For no one ever asks of God's bounty, "How much exactly?"*

*Without God's providence it would never have come about,
For in essence the mute and the mellifluous are equals.*

**CHAPTER 6: ON THE EXALTED STATURE AND
MIRACULOUS MERITS OF THE QURAN**

Da-e-nee wa wasfiya aayaatin lehuu zaharat,
Zuhuura naaril qiraa laylan alaa alami.

*Let me describe the signs that appeared to him like bonfires
On mountain peaks lit for night travelers by some thoughtful
host.*

Fad-durru yazdaadu husnan wa huwa muntazimun,
Wa laysa yanqusu qadran ghayra muntazimi.

*Though a earl's beauty may multiply if strung with many others,
Its value is not diminished when displayed on its own.*

Famaa tataawulu aamaalil madeehi ilaa
Maa feehi min karamil akhlaaqi wash-shiyami.

*How can a praising poet hope to plumb the depth
Of its noble virtues and majestic traits?*

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Aayaatu haqqin minar-rahmaani muhdasatun,
Qadeematun sifatul mawsuufi bil qidami.

*These signs from God of what is real radiate into the present-
Eternal gems from the jewel-box of the Infinite, the Merciful.*

Lam taqtarin bizamaanin wahya tukhbirunaa,
Anil ma-aadi wa an aadin wa an irami

*Though not in time, they tell us of time, of what awaits us at the
resurrection,
As well as what befell past people, such as Aad and Iram.*

Daamat ladaynaa fafaqqat kulla mu-e-djizatin,
Minan-nabiyyeena iz djaa-at wa lam tadumi.

*Because they have endured into our time, they surpass the
miracles
Of prior prophets, which came but did not last.*

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Muhakkamaatun fama tubqeena min shubahin,
Lizee shiqaaqin wa maa tabgheena min hikami

*They are full of clear wisdom without double meaning
For anyone torn by dissension, and this proof needs no judge.*

Maa huuribat qattu illaa aada min harabin,
a-e-dal a-aadee ileyhaa mulqiyas-salami

*Whenever these words were attacked, even the worst of their
enemies
Were forced to retreat, pleading on their knees for peace.*

Raddat balaaghatuhaa da-e-waa mu-aaridihaa,
Raddal ghayuuri yal djaanee anil hurami.

*Their eloquence deflects any opponent, just as an honorable
man
Prevents a villain from violating his home. [Interlude]*

Lahaa ma-aanin kamawdjil bahri fee madadin,
Wa fawqa djahrihee fil husni wal qiyami.

*They contain meanings as continual as ocean waves,
Yet exceed the ocean's treasures in both worth and beauty.*

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Fa maa tu-addu wa laa tuhsaa adjaa-ibuhaa,
Wa laa tusaamu alal iksaari bis-sa-ami.

*Their marvels are uncountable and uncontainable-
Even with repetition, this book never seems tedious.*

Qarrat bihaa aynu qaareehaa faqultu lehuu,
Laqad zafirta bihablil-laahi fa-e-tasimi.

*The reciter's eyes were soothed by it, so I said to him,
"You have grasped the rope of God- now hold on tight."*

In tatluhaa kheefatan min harri naari lazaa,
Atfa-e-ta harra lazaa min wirdihash-shabimi

*If you recite it when the Fire's flames overwhelm you,
Its cool springs of flowing water will put them out.*

Ka annahal hawdu tabyaddul wudjuuhu bihee,
Minal usaati wa qad djaa-uuhu kal humami.

*As if it were the pool of paradise, by which char-black faces
Of the disobedient are cleansed and brightened.*

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Wa kas-siraati wa kal-meezaani ma-e-dalatan,
Fal qistu min ghayrihaa fin-naasi lam yaqumi

*It is like the straight path and the scale set up in equity.
Justice from any other source won't benefit its people.*

Laa ta-e-djaban lihasuudin raaha yunkiruhaa,
Tadjaahulan wa huwa aynul haaziqil fahimi.

*Don't be surprise if a resentful soul denounces or denies it
Feigning ignorance, despite a subtle understanding.*

Qad tunkirul aynu daw-ash-shamsi min ramadin,
Wa yunkirul famu ta-e-mal maa-i min saqami.

*For often an infected eye cannot bear soothing sunlight,
Just a sick tongue finds no comfort in sweet water.*

***CH 7: PRAYERS AND PEACE
ON THE ASCENSION OF THE PROPHET, UPON HIM BE***

Yaa khayra man yammamal aafuuna saahatahuu,
Sa-e-yan wa fawqa mutuunil aynuqir rusumi.

*O best of those whose courtyards are sought by seekers of
solace,
Hurrying on swift feet or riding on the backs of trailblazing
camel!*

Wa man huwal aayaatul kubraa limu-e-tabirin,
Wa man huwan-ni-e-matul uzmaa limughtanimi.

*O you who are the greatest sign for the discerning,
The most blessed gift of those desiring gain!*

Sarayta min haramin laylan ilaa haramin,
Kamaa saral badru fee daadjin minaz-zulami.

*You soared by night from the near sanctuary to the furthest,
The way a bright moon moves across a sky enveloped in
darkness.*

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Wa bitta tarqaailaa an nilta manzilatan,
Min qaabi qawsayni lam tudrak wa lam turami.

*You spend the night ascending until you reach the station of
“two bows’ lengths or nearer,”
A point of intimacy never before realized nor even dreamed of.*

Wa qaddamatka djamee-ul anbiyaa-i bihaa,
Wa rusli taqdeema makhduumin alaa khadami.

*All the previous prophets and messengers gave precedence to
you,
The way a generous host defers to a guest of honor.*

Wa anta tahtariqu sab-attibaaqa bihim,
Fee mawkibin kunta feehi saahibal alami

*Then you started out, penetrating the seven heavens
With them in procession behind you, and you their standard
bearer,*

Hattaa izaal lam tada-e sha-e-wan limustabiqin,
Minad-dunuwwi wa laa marqan limustanimi

*Until you left no space of Divine presence for others to attain,
Nor any summit for seekers of heights to aspire to.*

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Khafadta kulla mqaamin bil idaafati iz,
Nuudeeyta bir-raf-I mislal mufradil alami.

*You achieved every station by rightful possession
Addressed by God with exaltation, a unique subject in heavenly
syntax.*

Kaymaa tafuuza biwaslin ayyi mustatirin,
Anil uyuuni wa sirrin ayyi muktatami,

*In this way you attained the Station of Arrival,
Veiled from the gaze of onlookers, a sealed in silence.*

Fakhuzta kulla fakhaarin ghayri mushtarakin,
Wa djuzta kulla maqaamin ghayri muzdahimi

*Thus you gathered every honor without peer,
And traversed every station in solitude.*

*Wa djalla miqdaaru maa wulleeta min rutabin,
Wa azza idraaku maa uleeta min ni-ami.*

*What preeminence you have been entrusted with!
Past counting are all the blessing granted you!*

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Bushraa lanaa ma-e-sharal islaami inna lanaa,
Minal inaayati ruknan ghayra munhadimi.

*Glad tidings for us, the people of Islam!
We have a pillar of providence, utterly imperishable.*

*Lamaa da-al laahu daa-eeanaa litaa-atihee,
Bi-akramir-rusli kunnaa akramal umami.*

*You called us to God obedience. When He named you
“The most eminent of emissaries,” we became the noblest of
nations!*

***CH 8: ON THE CHIVALROUS STRUGGLE OF GOD'S
MESSENGER,
UPON HIM BE PRAYERS AND PEACE***

Raa-at quluubal idaa anbaa-u bi-e-satihee,
Kanab-atin adjfalat ghufan minal ghanami.

*Mention of his mission struck fear in the hearts of Truth's
enemies
The way the deep roar of a lion panics a herd of distracted
goats.*

.Maa zaala yalqaahumuu fee kulli mu-e-tarakin,
Ata hakaw bil qanaa laman alaa wadami.

*He continued to encounter them in every field of battle,
Until, due to piercing spears, they resembled flesh on skewers.*

Waddul firaara fakaaduu yaghbituuna bihee,
Ashlaa-a shaalat ma-al iqbaani war-rakhami.

*They were filled with the longing to flee, almost envying
The carrion carried off by eagles and vultures.*

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Tamdil-layaalee wa laa yadruuna iddatahaa,
Maa lam takun min layaalil ash-huril-hurumi

*Nights passed, but they lost track of time,
Except among the irenic nights of the sacred months of truce.*

Ka-annamad-deenu dayfun halla saahatahum,
Bikulli qarmin ilaa lahmil idaa qarimi

*As if the Prophet's way were a guest who'd arrived at their very
doorstep
Accompanied by brave men hungry for their harmful enemies,*

Yadjurru bahra khameesin fawqa saabihatin,
Yarmee bimawdjin minal abtaali multatimi

*Followed by an ocean of hosts mounted on swift steeds,
Pouring forth engulfing wave after wave of heroic warriors,*

Min kulli muntadibin lillaahi muhtasibi,
Yastuu bimusta-e-silin lilkuфри mustalimi.

*Each answering God's call expecting divine requital,
Bravely engaged in battle with weapons uprooting rejection of
Reality.*

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hattaa ghadat millatul islaami wa hiya bihim,
Min ba-e-di ghurbatihaa mawsuulatar-rahimi.

*Until, after its initial obscurity, the community of Islam,
United, became bound by profound ties of kinship.*

Makfuulatan abadan minhum bikhayri abin,
Wa khayri ba-e-lin falam taytam wa lam ta-imi.

*Always protected from enemies by the finest father
And most gracious husband, they were never left orphaned nor
suffered Widowhood*

Humul djibaalu fasal anhum musaadi-mahum,
Maa zaa ra-aa minhumuu fee kulli mustadami.

*They were mountains: just ask those who confronted them
What it is they witnessed on every field of battle.*

Wa sal hunaynan wa sal badran wa sal uhudan,
Fusuula hatfin lehum adhaa minal wakhami.

*Ask Hunayn, ask Badr, ask Uhud- destiny-days
More bitter than any drawn-out death from the plague.*

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Al-masdaril beedi humran ba-e-da maa waradat,
Minal idaa kulla muswaddin minal-limami.

*Polished silver swords streaked with glistening crimson
After passing through the long black locks of their enemies' hair*

Wal kaatibeen bisumril khatti maa tarakat,
Aqlaamuhum harfa djismin ghayra mun-adjimi.

*As if they were scribes, their Indian spears pens
That left nobody without diacritical dots and slant marks.*

In qaama fee djaami-ilhayhaa khateebuhumu,
Tasaamamat anhu uznaasimmatis-samami

*So determined in battle, their most intrepid warriors' ears
Would feign deafness to an orator standing right in their midst.*

Shaakis-silaahi lehum siymaa tumayyizuhum,
Wal-wardu yamtaazu bis-seemaa minas-salami.

*Fully armed, they had a detail that set them apart,
The way a thorny rose can be distinguished from a prickly
thorn-bush.*

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Tuhdee ileyka riyaahun-nasri nashrahumu,
Fatahsibuz-zahra fil akmaami kulla kami.

*The winds of their victories grant you flagrant news,
Such that you deem them flower-buds of fortitude about to burst
forth.*

Ka-annahum fee zuhuuril khayli nabtu ruban,
Min shiddatil hazmi laamin shiddatil huzumi

*As if, upon the backs of their steeds, they were firmly rooted
flowers on hilltops,
Held there not from tight saddle-straps, but from taut
resolution.*

Taarat quluubul idaa min ba-e-sihim faraaqan
famaa tufarriqu baynal bahmi wal buhami.

*From the majesty of their might, their enemies' hearts fled,
Unable to tell the difference between goat herds or war hordes.*

Wa man takun birasuulil-laahi nusratuhu,
In talqahul usdu fee aadjaamihaa tadjimi

*If one's victory is with the Messenger of God, then even lions,
Happening upon him in their dens, are left dazed dumbfounded.*

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Man ya-e-tasim bika yaa khayral-waraa sharafan,
Fallaahu haafizuhu min kulli muntaghimi.

*Whoever clings to you, O best of creation in honor,
God is his Protecting Guardian from every vengeful foe.*

Wa lan taraa min waliyyin ghayri muntasirin
Bihee wa laa min aduwwin ghayri munfasimi.

*You will never see a true ally of his unless he be victorious,
Nor a true enemy of his other than dejected and defeated.*

Ahalla ummatahuu fee hirzi millatihi,
Kallaysi halla ma-al ashbaali fee adjami.

*He placed his community in the refuge of his Way,
Just as a great lion retreats with its cubs to the safety of its lair.*

Kam djaddalat kalimaatul-laahi min djadilin,
Feehi wa kam khasamal burmaanu min khasimi

*How often the words of God have halted his churlish contender;
How often the Quran has conquered his quarrelsome foe.*

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Kafaaka bil ilmi fil ummiyyi mu-e-djizatan,
Fil djaahiliyyati wat-ta-e-deebi fil-yutumi.

Such knowledge in an unlettered man, such refinement in an orphan
In Age of Ignorance should suffice you as miracle of his truth!

***CH 9: ON SEEKING INTERCESSION THROUGH THE
PROPHET, (UPON HIM BE PRAYERS AND PEACE)***

Khadamtuhu bimadeehin astaqeelu bihee,
Zunuuba umrin madaa fish-shi-e-ri wal khidami

*I have served him in this poetic praise hoping to redeem
The errors of a life misspent in courtly verse and patronage;*

Iz qalladaaniya maa tukhshaa awaaqimuhu,
Ka-annanee bihimaa hadyun minan-na-ami

*Since both have fettered me with a yoke that portends a bad end,
As if I was a sacrificial lamb, singled out for slaughter.*

Ata-e-tu ghayya sibaa fil-haalatayni wa maa,
Hasaltu illaa alal-aasaami wan-nadami

*In both pursuits I obeyed the desires of a delirious youth,
Gaining nothing in the end but wrongs and the remorse that
follows.*

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Fayaa khasaraata nafsini fee tidjaaratihaa,
Lam tashtarid-deena bid-dunyaa walam tasumi

*What loss my soul has suffered in its commerce! In exchange for
this world,
It didn't purchase the next, nor even enter into the transaction.*

Wa man yabi-e aadjilan minhu bi-aadjilihee,
Yabin lehul-ghubnu fee bay-in wa fee salami

*Selling off long-term assets there for short-term gains here,
One soon sees the treachery this type of dealing brings.*

In aati zanban famaahdee bimuntaqidin,
Minan-nabiyyi walaa hablee bimunsarimi

*Even should I have future sins, in this prophet
My faith remains firm and my connection tightly bound.
[Interlude]*

Fa-inna lee zimmatan minhu bitasmiyatee,
Muhammadan wahwa awfal khalqi biz-zimami

*Simply by my name being Muhammad, I must have a covenant
with him.
And of all creation, he is the most faithful in keeping covenants.*

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In lam yakun fee ma-aadee aakhizan biyadee,
Fadlan wa illaa faqul yaa zallatal-qadami

*In the next life, if he takes me bounteously by my hand, then say
“What a jubilee!” If not, then cry, “What a catastrophe!”*

Haashaahu an yuhrimar-raadjee makaarimahu,
Aw yardji-al-djaaru minhu ghayra muhtarimi

*Far be it from him to withhold his virtues from anyone in deed,
Or that reaching his refuge one should return empty-handed,
unprotected.*

Wa munzu alzamtu afkaaree madaa-ihahu,
Wadjadtuhu likhalaasee khayra multazimi

*Since I have focused all my thoughts on praising alone,
He has proved the best of those committed to my ultimate
salvation.*

Walan yafuutal-ghinaa minhu yadan taribat,
Innal-hayaa yunbitul-azhaara fil-ikami

*His charity will not exclude a hand that poverty has soiled,
See how rain brings forth flowers on foothills that were barren!*

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Walam urid zahrata-dunyaa leti-qtatafat,
Yadaa zuhayrin bimaa asnaa alaa hirami.

*But it is no longer the prize-flowers of this world that I long for,
Like those the court-poet Zuhair received for praising king
Harim.*

***CH 10: ON INTIMATE DISCOURSE AND THE PETITION
OF ONE'S STATE***

Yaa akramal-khalqi maa lee man aluuzu bihee,
Siwaaka inda huluulil-haadisil-amami

*O most generous of creation, who but you can I turn to
When the Universal Cataclysm occurs?*

Wa lan yadeeqa rasuulal-laahi djaahuka bee,
Izal-kareemu tahallaa bismi muntaqimi

*Your preeminence, O messenger of God, is not diminished by
my need
Even if the Generous One should manifest as the Avenger.*

Fa-inna min djuudikad-dunyaa wa darratahaa,
Wamin uluumika ilmal-lawhi wal-qalami

*From your largest flows the good of this world and its
counterpart in the next,
And from your knowledge is some understanding of the tablet
and the pen.*

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Yaa nafsu laa taqnatee min zallatin azumat,
Innal-kabaa-ira fil-ghufraani kallamami

*O soul, do not despair of a mistake blown out of proportion-
When God forgives, even mortal sins become mere blunders.*

La-alla rahmata rabbee heena yaqsimuhaa,
Ta-e-tee alaa hasabil-isyaaani fil-qisami

*Perhaps when my Lord apportions His mercy,
It will come apportioned in measure equal to one's
transgressions.*

Yaa rabbi wadj-al radjaa-ee ghayra mun-akisin,
Ladayka wadj-al hisaabee ghayra munkharimi

*O my lord, don't let my hope in you be deterred,
And don't leave my expectations unfulfilled.*

Waltuf bi-abdika fid-daarayni inna lehu,
Sabran mataa tad-uhul-ahwaalu yanhazimi

*Be gentle with your servant both Here and in the Hereafter.
My patience is so wanting that calamities call, I'm at a loss
how to answer.*

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Wa-e-zan lisuhbi salaatin minka daa-imatin,
alan-nabiyyin bimunhallin wa munsadjimi

*And let a cloud of your incessant prayers
Rain down gently on the prophet and pour forth forever.*

maa rannahat azabaatil-baani reehu saban,
wa atrabal-eesa haadil-eesi bin-naghmi

*As long as the levanteer's gentle breezes waft the willow's
quivering branches
And cameleers spur camels on with their moving melodies.*

sumar-ridaa an abeebakrin wa an umaran,
wa an aliyyin wa an usmaana zil-karami

*Show pleasure with Abu Bakr and Umar and Ali,
And with Uthman as well, the openly magnanimous.*

wal-aali was-sahbi summat-taabi-eena fahum,
ahlut-tuqaa wan-naqaa wal-hilmi wal karami

*And on the family of Muhammad, his Companions and
followers,
Those people of piety, purity, forbearance and nobility.*

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yaa rabbi bil-mustaphaa balligh maqaasidanaa
waghfir lanaa maa madaa yaa waasi-al karami

*O my Lord, by the chosen one, realize our goals,
And forgive us the wrongs we've committed, O Vast in
generosity.*

waghfir ilaahee likullil-muslimaana bima,
yatluuhu fee masjidil-aqsa wa fil-harami

*Include in your forgiveness, my God, everyone who bows before
You,
Reciting in the furthest Mosque and in the two Sanctuaries.*

bidjaahi man baytuhuu fee taybatin haramun,
wa-ismuhuu qasamun min a-e-zamil-qasami

*By the preeminence of the one whose house is in the Pure Land,
And whose name is an oath among the greatest of oaths.*

wa haazihee burdatul-mukhtaari qad khutimat,
wal-hamdu lillaahi fee bad-in wa fee khatami

*This is the Poem of the Cloak composed for the Chosen One-
All praise is due to God at its outset and at its end.*

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Abyaatuhaa qad atat sitteena ma-e mi-atin
Farridj bihaa karbanaa yaa waasi-al karami

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Yaa rabbi salli alal mukhtaari min mudarin
wal anbiyaa wa djamee-I rusli maa zukiruu

wa salli rabbi alal haaddee wa shee-atihi
wa sahabihee man litayyid deeni qad nasharuu

wa djaahaduu ma-ahuu fillaahi wadjtahaduu
wa haadjaruu wa lehuu aawaw wa qad nasaruu

wa bayyanul farad walmasnuuna wa-e-tasabuu
lillaahi wa-e-tasamuu billaahi fantasaruu

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Azkaa salaatin wa anmaahaa wa ashrafahaa
Yu-attirul kawna rayyaa nashrihal attiru

Ma-e-buuqatan bi-abeeqil miski zaakiyatan
Min teebihaa aradjur ridwaani yantashiru

Addal hasaa was saraa war ramli yatba-uhaa
Nadjmus samaa wa nabaatul ardi wal madaru

Wa adda wazni masaaqeelil djibaali kamaa
Yaleehi qatru djamee-il maa-i wal mataru

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Wa adda maa hawatil ashdjaaru min waraqin
Wa kulli harfin ghadaa yutlaa wa yustataru

Wal wahshi wat tayri wal asmaaki ma-e na-amin
Yaleehimul djinnu wal amlaaku wal basharu

Waz zarru wan namlu ma-e djame-il hubuubi kazaa
Washa-e-ru was suufu walaryaashu wal wabaru

Wa maa ahaata bihil ilmu muheetu wa maa
Djaraa bihil qalamul ma-e-muuru wal qadaru

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Wa adda na-e-maa-ika¹ laatee mananta bihaa
Alal khalaa-iqi muzkaanuu wa muz-hushiruu

Wa adda miqdaarihee saamee lezee sharufat
Bihin nabiyyuuna wal amlaaku waftakharuu

Wa adda maa kaana fil akwaani yaa sanadee
Wa maa yakuunu ilaa an tub-asa^s suwaru

Fee kulli tarafati aynin yatrifuuna bihaa
Ahlis samaawaati wal ardeena aw yazaruu

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