

***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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Poems of BURDAT AL MOUBAARAKAT (Al Bouseeree)*

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.*