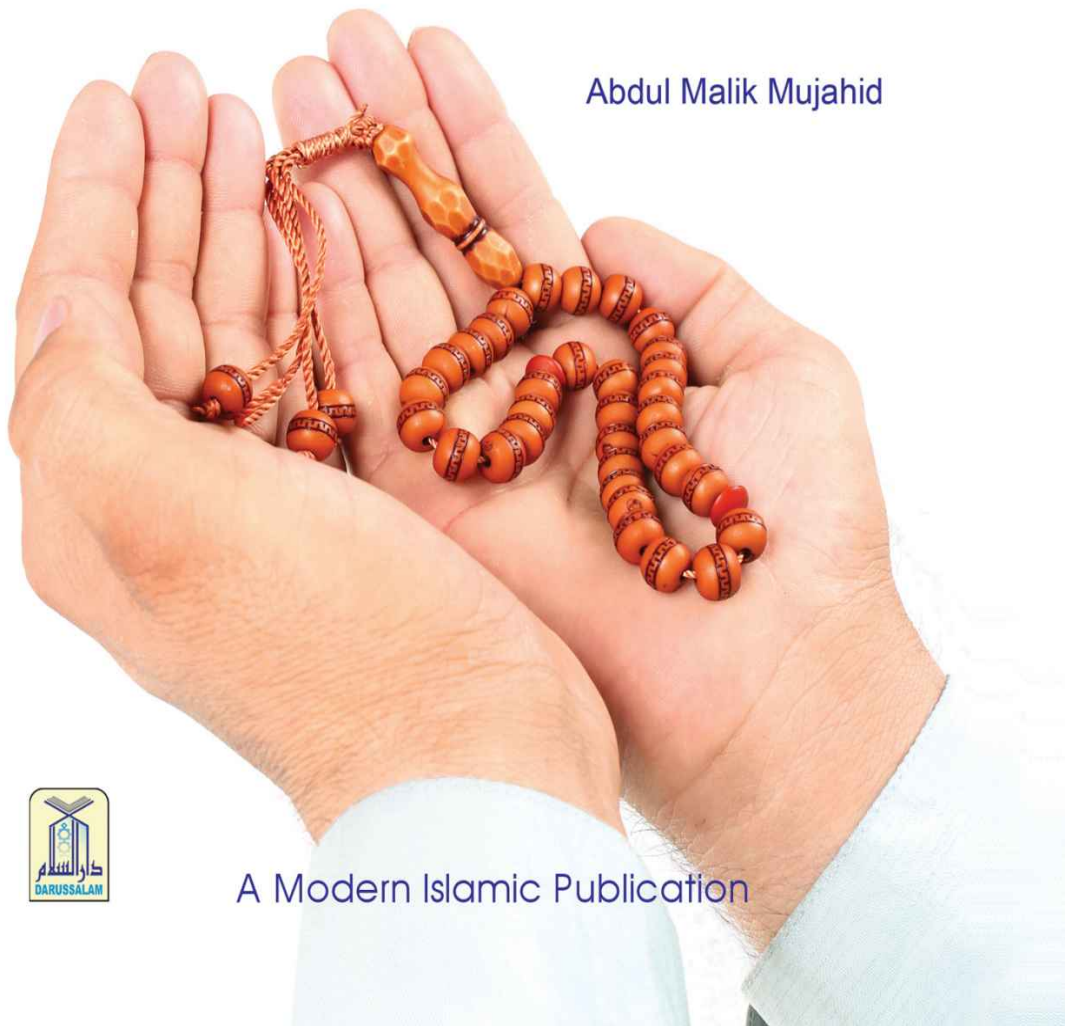


GOLDEN STORIES OF ACCEPTED PRAYERS

Abdul Malik Mujahid



A Modern Islamic Publication

The Golden Stories of Accepted Prayers

Written By: Abdul Malik Mujahid

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Publisher's Note

What are invocations? In a real sense these are requests which come from the bottom of our hearts to Allah Almighty. Allah is always ready and happy to receive prayers from anyone at any time.

If you're facing any difficulties or trouble you should immediately turn to Allah for help. The best invocations are those narrated by the Prophet. If you don't speak Arabic, you can pray in your mother tongue.

When we pray we should feel assured that Allah will accept our requests. We should do so with complete sincerity and devotion.

Prayers can be made at any time, but there is a greater possibility our prayers will be accepted if we do so at specific times:

Once Aisha asked Allah's Messenger (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him), "If I find Lailatul Qadr (the Night of Power), what should I ask of Allah?"

Allah's Messenger (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) said, "You should say,

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ كَرِيمٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

'O Allah, Merciful and Compassionate, forgive me.'

The invocations of parents are also accepted by Allah (SWT). We should be obedient and loyal to our parents. This will make them happy and they'll regularly pray for us.

Allah (SWT) also accepts invocations after midnight from Tahajjud prayer.

Allah (SWT) also accepts invocations after we perform our obligatory prayers.

After reciting tashahhud and praying for the Prophet, we should pray for ourselves because Allah accepts invocations at this time.

Prayers are also accepted between athaan and iqama, because Allah's Messenger (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) said,

لَا يُرَدُّ الدُّعَاءُ بَيْنَ الْأَذَانِ وَالْإِقَامَةِ

"Between athaan and iqama invocations are not rejected."

Invocations are also effective when made after two-thirds of the night has passed.

Invocations are also accepted during the athaan.

On Friday, between Asr and Maghrib prayer, there is a specific time when invocations are accepted, according to a hadeeth of the Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him).

Prayers can also be made when drinking Zamzam.

Allah also accepts the prayers of his slaves on Arafat during Hajj.

Prayers are also granted during Ramadan.

The first 10 days after Dhul Hijjah are blessed and is a time when Allah accepts invocations.

When making our supplications to Almighty Allah, we must abstain from all prohibited behavior and actions, including the use of ill-gotten money.

We should remember to only seek assistance and guidance from Allah (SWT).

I'm thankful to my entire team for their cooperation and hard work in producing this publication. This includes particularly Qari Muhammad Iqbal, Abdul Waghied Misbach, Professor Muhammad Zulfiqar and our senior artist Shahzad Ahmad.

A Servant of the Qur'an and Sunnah

Abdul Malik Mujahid

October 2012, Dhul Hijjah 1433

I'm the Prayer of my father Ibrahim



Thousands of years ago, Ibrahim Khalilullah and his son Isma'il built the Ka'bah in the dry and waterless valley of Makkah. The Ka'bah was made the first place for the worship of Allah Almighty in this universe. This Holy Sanctuary undoubtedly possesses an exalted status and unparalleled glory.

Imam al-Qastalani writes:

“The House of Allah was built ten times. It was first built by angels. The second time by Adam, the third time by Adam's son Sheeth, the fourth time by Ibrahim, the fifth time by the community of 'Amalqa, the sixth time by the tribe of Banu Jurhum, the seventh time by Qusay ibn Kilab, the forefather of Allah's Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him), the eighth time by the Quraish, the ninth time by Abdullah bin Zubair and the tenth time by Hajjaj bin Yusuf.”

“The House of Allah was built ten times. Ibrahim and Isma'il built the Holy Ka'bah the fourth time.”

When the Ka'bah was being built by Ibrahim and Isma'il for the fourth time and its walls raised, Ibrahim asked his son to bring him a stone to stand on, so that he could finish the building.

Isma'il then brought the stone for Ibrahim to stand on. This stone was later known as Maqam Ibrahim (the Station of Ibrahim).

After he completed building Allah's House, Ibrahim uttered the following supplication:

﴿وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ رَبِّ اجْعَلْ هَذَا بَلَدًا آمِنًا وَارْزُقْ أَهْلَهُ مِنَ الشَّمَرَاتِ مَنْ آمَنَ مِنْهُمْ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ﴾

“And (remember) when Ibrahim (Abraham) said, “My Lord, make this city (Makkah) a place of security and provide its people with fruits, such of them as believe in Allah and the Last Day.”

Ibrahim had the honor of having his supplication answered. True to his prayer, the place is still an abode of peace that commands great respect. Fruits grown across the world are abundantly available to its residents throughout the year. Then Ibrahim and Isma'il made another supplication:

﴿رَبَّنَا وَابْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ

ءَايَاتِكَ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ﴾

“Our Lord! And send amongst them a Messenger of their own (and indeed Allah answered their invocation by sending Muhammad), who shall recite to them Your Verses and instruct them in the Book (this Qur’ān) and Al-Hikmah (full knowledge of the Islamic laws and jurisprudence or wisdom or Prophet’s legal ways), and purify them. Verily, You are the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.”

By ‘purification’ they implied that he would purify their souls and entire way of life including their behavior, characters, habits, social dealings, interactions and politics. This was the practical responsibility of Allah’s Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) to the Companions, which he fulfilled to the best of his ability.

Thousands of years have elapsed since the father and the son prayed, and Allah Almighty granted their prayers. Then the birth of the best of creation, the chief of Adam’s progeny, the one who intercedes with Allah on behalf of the sinful, Muhammad, took place.

The Companions said,

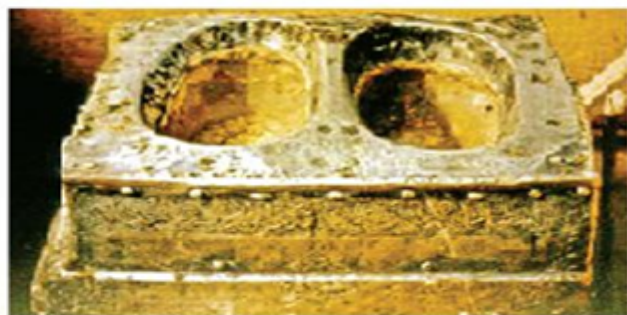
‘أَنَا دَعْوَةُ أَبِي إِبْرَاهِيمَ ، وَبُشْرَى عِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ ،
وَرَأَتْ أُمِّي أَنَّهُ خَرَجَ مِنْهَا نُورٌ ضَاءَتْ لَهُ قُصُورُ الشَّامِ’

“O Allah’s Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him)! Tell us something about your origin.” The Prophet replied, “I am the prayer of my father Ibrahim and the glad tidings of ‘Isa Ibn Maryam (Jesus Christ, the son of Mary). My mother had a dream that a light emanated from her body that lit the castles of Syria.”

Esteemed readers, this Light of Guidance was the eminent being of our Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) whose auspicious birth eliminated the darkness of infidelity and polytheism, and illuminated the whole world with the light of Islamic Monotheism and Prophetic Sunnah.



Muqam -e-Ibrahim



The stone where Ibrahim stood for the building of Holy Ka'ba

Her Last Prayer was also Granted



Dr. Ahmad was a renowned and sought-after physician in his country. People had to wait for many days before they could get an appointment with him.

The eminent doctor was once invited to an international medical conference which was to be held in a major city in his country. He had to deliver a paper and receive a shield and a commendation certificate in recognition of his services to medicine. As he headed out to the airport, he felt pleased that he was going to be honored by his peers and colleagues that evening.

After the usual check-in at the airport, he boarded the plane, which took off as scheduled. After about 45 minutes, an airhostess made the following announcement: “Dear passengers, due to a technical problem we are being forced to land at a nearby airport instead of the scheduled destination. We deeply regret the inconvenience.”

“Delegations from around the world have come to attend this event, and now you’re telling us that the alternative plane will arrive after 16 hours!”

The plane landed at the airport without any difficulty and the passengers disembarked and went to the lounge. After some time, the airport authorities announced that it was not possible to fix the problem immediately and that the passengers would have to wait for the arrival of an alternative plane. No-one knew when the other plane would arrive. A little while later it was announced that the other plane would only arrive the following day.

Dr. Ahmad was quite shocked at the announcement. This was an important night which he had been looking forward to for several weeks. He got up from his seat, went to a senior airport official, introduced himself and said: “I’m a doctor and I was on my way to present a paper tonight. Delegations from around the world have come to attend this event, and now you’re telling us that the alternative plane will arrive after 16 hours!”

The officer replied, “With all due respect doctor, we can fully appreciate the inconvenience that you’re experiencing, but I cannot do anything. Moreover, it’s not my responsibility to arrange for an alternative plane. It takes only three to four hours by road to reach the city where you have to attend the conference. If you are in a great hurry, I suggest you get a rental car from the airport and drive to your destination.”



Dr. Ahmad did not like driving long distances, but he had no other option. He hired a car and started towards his destination. He had not gone far when all of a sudden the weather turned bad. Dense, dark clouds covered the sky and there was a heavy downpour, coupled with a violent storm. Dr. Ahmad then lost his way in the dark. Hungry and tired, he desperately searched for some shelter and something to eat.

As he was driving past a small village, he impulsively stopped his vehicle in front of one of the houses and knocked on the door. He heard the frail and feeble voice of an old woman from inside saying: "Whoever you are, please come in, the door is open." When Dr. Ahmad went into the house, he found an elderly woman sitting on a rocking chair. The doctor said: "The battery of my mobile has run down. May I use your mobile phone?" The old woman smiled and said, "My son, what are you talking about? Perhaps you don't know where you are. We don't have electricity or phones here. You are in a small village where there are no civic amenities. You look hungry and thirsty, and it seems you have lost your way. There is a meal and tea on the table, please eat something before we talk." Dr. Ahmad thanked the elderly woman and being tired and famished after his eventful journey, started eating.

Suddenly someone stirred on the cot beside the old woman's chair, and he heard a baby crying. The old woman patted the baby to sleep and supplicated tenderly and humbly for its wellbeing. Dr. Ahmad finished his meal and said to the woman, "O mother, your good manners, kindness and hospitality have won my heart. I'm sure Allah Almighty will answer all your prayers."

"My son," the old woman said, "Allah has always answered and granted my prayers. Only one prayer remains unanswered because of my weak faith. You are a traveler, please pray that it may also be answered."

Dr. Ahmad was curious and said, "What prayer has not been answered? Please let me know what you want; I'm just like your son. God willing, I will do my best to carry out your wish."

The woman said, "My dear son! This supplication is not for my sake, it is for this orphan baby, my grandson. His parents have passed away and he is suffering from a bone disease that has incapacitated him. He cannot move or walk. I've tried various treatments and taken him to eminent doctors but to no avail. All the doctors have been unable to find a cure for him. People have advised me to take the baby to a certain Dr. Ahmad who is reputed to have the expertise to treat such cases. He is a renowned surgeon and can successfully operate on the child, but he lives far from here. It's not easy to reach him. As you can see, I'm an old woman with one foot in the grave. I'm extremely worried about who will take care of him after I die. This is why I've been praying to Allah Almighty; so that He may create an opportunity for me to take the baby to Dr. Ahmad so that he can be treated and cured."

Dr. Ahmad's eyes filled with tears and with a quiver in his voice, said: "O mother! My plane developed a technical fault, and I was forced to give up my journey due to a violent storm and torrential rain. Allah Almighty brought me to your house. Your last prayer has also been answered. Allah, the Lord of Honor, has created this situation. If Allah wills it, I will treat your grandson."

﴿أَمَّنْ يُجِيبُ الْمُضْطَرَّ إِذَا دَعَاهُ وَيَكْشِفُ السُّوءَ وَيَجْعَلُكُمْ
خُلَفَاءَ الْأَرْضِ أَءِلَٰهٌ مَّعَ اللَّهِ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَذَكَّرُونَ﴾

“Is not He (better than your gods) Who responds to the distressed one, when he calls on Him, and Who removes the evil, and makes you inheritors of the earth, generation after generation? Is there any ilah (god) with Allah? Little is that you remember!”

“O mother, your good manners, kindness and hospitality have won my heart. I’m sure Allah Almighty will answer all your prayers. ”

Dear readers, I’ve taken this incident from Mawsoo’at-ul-Qisas and thought deeply about which city this incident took place. To my mind, Dr. Ahmad left Riyadh for Abha and after the plane developed a fault, perhaps it landed at Taif airport. Allah (SWT) knows best.

Never Harm Anyone



I once came across a person in a marketplace with only one arm who said that if people heard his story they would never harm anyone ever again. When I asked him what happened, he told me the following story:

“I was a government employee, a police official to be precise. One day I saw a fisherman carrying a big fish. I approached him and said, ‘Give this fish to me.’ He said he had no objection to giving me the fish, but I had to pay the price he wanted. ‘I have nothing to eat at home and my children are waiting for me to bring them something to eat. I put a lot of effort into catching this fish,’ he said. My immediate reaction was to start beating him; and I then snatched the fish from his hands. But as I headed home, the fish suddenly jerked and bit my thumb. I felt a severe pain, which worsened when I got home. It was at night and I thought I would go to the doctor the next day. I did not sleep that entire night because of the intense pain.”

“The following morning I again went to the doctor who advised me to have the hand amputated. So my hand was cut off”



“Early the next morning I went to a doctor and showed him the injured thumb. He said that the thumb had turned gangrenous and I had to have it amputated for my own health. He warned that even a minor delay would cost me my whole hand. I immediately asked him to go ahead with the amputation. He then cut off my thumb. When I got back home, I still felt severe pain in my hand. I was in agony that entire night. The following morning I again went to the doctor who advised me to have the hand amputated. So my hand was cut off. I thought my ordeal was over, but the pain only worsened. I started screaming in pain and crying out for help. When the doctor examined me, he said the amputation of the entire arm was the only solution because the infection could spread to my entire body.”

“The people in my locality soon heard what had happened. One religious person approached me asking, ‘What caused your injury?’ When I told him the story of the fish, he said, ‘You should’ve gone to the fisherman the moment the fish bit you and begged his pardon. Only one part of your body has been amputated. You still have time; search for the fisherman and somehow bring him round.’ I immediately started searching for the fisherman, but he had left our city. I eventually found him in another city. The moment I saw him, I fell at his feet and said weeping: “Forgive me for the sake of Allah, forgive me for the sake of Allah (SWT)!”

“The fisherman asked me who I was. I told him I was the person who had stolen his fish, and showed him that my hand had been amputated. When the fisherman saw this, he burst into tears. Then he said, ‘O my brother, after seeing you in this distress, my heart goes out to you. Indeed, I forgive you for the sake of Allah (SWT).’ Then I said,

“Please tell me if you put a curse on me when I beat you and took the fish from you.”

‘Dear brother! Please tell me if you had put a curse on me when I beat you and took the fish from you.’”

“The fisherman said he had cursed me by saying:

‘فَأَرْنِي قُدْرَتَكَ فِيهِ’

‘O Allah (SWT)! I’m weak; he is strong who has taken away my sustenance forcefully and wrongfully. O my Sustainer, plunge this man into trouble and distress and show me Your Power and Providence.’”

“I said, ‘O my brother! Allah (SWT) has shown you His Power and Providence. I seek forgiveness from Allah Almighty for my sins.’”

“My immediate reaction was to start beating him. I then snatched the fish from his hands. But as I headed home, the fish suddenly jerked and bit my thumb.”

Unseen Help



A great scholar and master of prophetic narrations, Al-Hassan bin Sufyan An-Naswi was a very pious and virtuous person. During his quest for knowledge, he went with nine other students to study hadith in Egypt with a certain Shaykh-ul-hadith.

But after a few days they had nothing to eat because their money had run out. After suffering for three days, they had no other option but to go outside and beg. For honorable, self-respecting and conscientious young men, begging was no easy task. It was finally decided they would draw lots to determine who would go outside and beg. It fell on the shoulders of Imam Al-Hassan bin Sufyan.

“Instead of begging, Imam Al-Hassan bin Sufyan performed two rak’ahs and supplicated in the mosque.”

Instead of stretching his hands out to people, Imam Al-Hassan bin Sufyan performed two rak’ahs and then started a long supplication in a corner of the mosque. He lifted his hands to the heavens and prayed to Allah Almighty in absolute humility. He was still kneeling in supplication when a well-dressed and handsome young man entered the mosque and asked for him. The other hadith students pointed towards him. The Imam raised his head and ended his prayer. The young man said to him: “O Shaykh, the present Egyptian ruler, Amir Ahmad bin Tulun Abul Abbas Turki, has sent me to you. He extends his greetings and begs your pardon for being unaware of your circumstances. Taking care of you was one of his responsibilities. He apologizes for this act of omission. He will present himself to you tomorrow. I’ve brought you something from him which you must accept.” The young man placed pouches containing a hundred dinars each before every student.

The hadith students were very pleased at this generous and kind gesture and asked the young man, “How did Amir Ibn Tulun come to think of us?” The young man said, “The Amir was taking a nap in the afternoon when he saw in a dream a lance-bearing horse rider floating in the air towards him. The rider approached the Amir, poked him in the side with the lance and said in an imperious tone, ‘Rise and help Al-Hassan bin Sufyan and his companions! Go and help them! They’ve been hungry for the past three days.’ The Amir woke up and immediately gave me the dinars to deliver to you.”

Shortly afterwards the Egyptian ruler went to the mosque to see the hadith students in person. He purchased the land around the mosque and donated it to the mosque and the students.

Nothing is Difficult for Allah (SWT)



The middle-aged man had been lying unconscious for months under a white sheet in the intensive care unit of the hospital, oblivious to his surroundings, with medical equipment and feeding tubes attached to his body. A computer was constantly noting his heartbeat and recording his other vital signs. Doctors in white coats examined the patient at regular intervals but would always shake their heads in disappointment. A nurse also watched over the patient.

His wife and their fourteen-year-old son would visit without fail twice a day. They would look at him with great affection and love, change his clothes and smooth the creases of his blankets. They often asked the nurse on duty, “Is there any sign of improvement?” The nurse would only shrug her shoulders.

They would leave the hospital with a sense of helplessness. Then when all seemed lost, both started praying regularly for him to the Lord of the heavens. They would look to the sky, seeking mercy, often weeping uncontrollably.

The doctors and paramedics felt sorry for them and wondered why they visited him so often. One day a doctor asked the woman, “Why do you take the trouble to visit twice a day? He is not recovering at all.” The wife simply replied:



وَاللَّهُ الْمُسْتَعَانُ، وَاللَّهُ الْمُسْتَعَانُ،

“I seek Allah’s help; I seek Allah’s help.”

Then one day a miracle took place at the hospital. The patient, who had been lying paralyzed for months started moving in his bed, opened his eyes, removed the oxygen mask and called the nurse.

The nurse was astonished and could not believe her eyes. She rushed over to the patient. The patient asked her to remove all the medical paraphernalia attached to his body, but the nurse replied that only the doctors could remove the machines. She called the doctor who was also completely shocked at the patient's remarkable recovery. The doctor ordered an immediate examination of the patient, asked for the machines to be removed, the room tidied and the patient cleaned.

“Why do you take the trouble to visit twice a day? He’s not recovering at all.”

After some time, when visiting hours began, the man's wife and son arrived at the usual time. When they went into the room, they could hardly believe their eyes. They both burst into tears of joy. The family's husband and father had been cured!

When the doctor saw this happy scene, he asked the wife: “Were you hopeful that one day your husband would completely regain his health?” She said: “Yes, I was sure that one day I'd find my husband fully recovered, waiting for me when I came to visit him in the hospital.”

The doctor then said: “Your husband has his health back but to tell you the truth, the credit cannot go to the hospital or the doctors. There are limitations to medical science. We try to treat the patient to the best of our knowledge and abilities. I ask you by Allah (SWT), what have you been doing during this time, what routine have you been following?”

The woman replied: “I'll tell you the truth because you've asked me in the name of Almighty Allah. When I first visited my husband, I was satisfied that he was stable and his condition was not deteriorating. I supplicated for him. In our neighborhood, my son and I gave charity and alms to beggars and the needy and asked them to pray for my ailing husband. Today Allah Almighty has rewarded me for my patience and prayers. I have my husband back.”

Dear readers, this incident makes it clear that we should never lose hope in Allah's mercy. We should stick to charitable acts, patience and prayer. If we do so, Allah, the Lord of Honor, will certainly bless us.

“Today Allah Almighty has rewarded me for my patience and prayers. I have my husband back. ”

The Importance of Prayer on the Battlefield



At one stage during the siege of Kabul by the Muslims, when it was time for Dhuhr, the commander of the Muslims, Qutayba bin Muslim, performed the prayer and knelt in supplication before Allah Almighty, saying: “O Allah! Grant us (this) conquest and Your help, because conquests and help are invariably from you.”

There were about 100,000 Muslim troops involved in the battle. After performing the Dhuhr prayer, Qutayba bin Muslim issued orders for his men to find Muhammad bin Wasai, a pious and mustajab-ud-da'wah person. This was at a critical time in the battle, with many lives at stake.

The warriors found Muhammad bin Wasai leaning on his lance, weeping bitterly, raising his finger heavenwards and saying: “O Ever-Living and the One Who sustains and protects all that exists!”



When the soldiers reported back to Qutayba bin Muslim, tears welled up in his eyes and he said:

وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ! لَأُضْبِعُ مُحَمَّدَ بْنَ وَاسِعٍ خَيْرٌ عِنْدِي
مِنْ مِائَةِ آلْفِ سَيْفٍ شَهِيرٍ وَمِنْ مِائَةِ آلْفِ مُقَاتِلٍ طَرِيرٍ

“By Allah in Whose hands is my soul! To me, Muhammad bin Wasai’s finger (raised heavenwards) is better than one hundred thousand unsheathed scintillating swords and one hundred thousand fighting troops.”

Then a fierce battle ensued. Allah Almighty blessed the Muslims with a great victory and subjected their enemy to a humiliating defeat. The Muslims conquered Kabul by the time it was ‘Asr prayer, which they performed inside the conquered city.

“Muhammad bin Wasai’s finger (raised heavenwards) is better than one hundred thousand unsheathed swords and one hundred thousand fighting troops.”