



**LANTURNA**

## **THE YEARS OF THE BELOVED**



I | May God Bless and Sanctify His Slave

II | Propheying the One He Fore-Gave

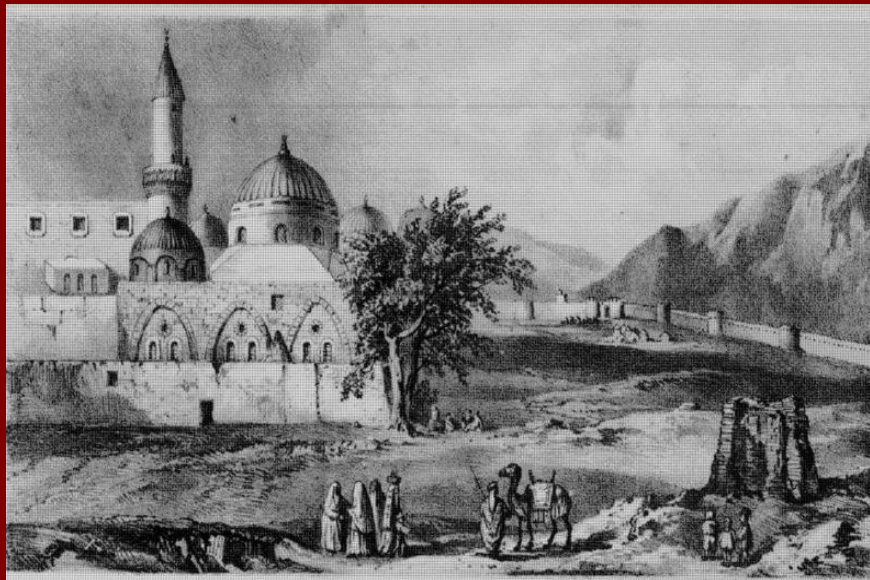
III | From the Cradle to the Cave

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V | Medina and the Luminous Grave



*May Allah Bless  
And Sanctify His Slave*



MURALLA EL NABI: THE PROPHET'S PLACE OF PRAYER.



## PROPHETIC LIGHTANIES

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

Allah and His angels confer blessings upon the Prophet.  
O faithful! Invoke blessings upon him, and sanctify him abundantly!

—*al-Aḥzāb* 33:56

“I once asked, ‘Messenger of Allah!  
I invoke abundant blessings upon you,  
but what portion of my supplications should I dedicate  
to invoking blessings upon you?’  
He said: ‘Whatever you wish.’

I asked, ‘One quarter?’  
He said, ‘Whatever you wish, but more is better for you.’

I asked, ‘Half?’  
He said, ‘Whatever you wish, but more is better for you.’

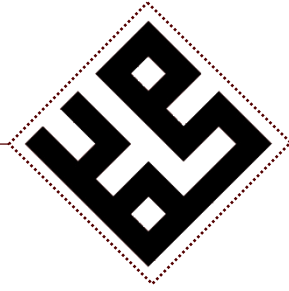
I asked, ‘Then two thirds?’  
He said, ‘Whatever you wish, but more is better for you.’

I said, ‘Then I shall devote all of my supplications as  
invocations of blessings upon you!’

He said, ‘Then your concerns shall be alleviated,  
and your sins forgiven.’”

أخرج الترمذي عن الطفيل بن أبي بن كعب  
عن أبيه قال يا رسول الله إني أكثر الصلاة  
عليك فكم أجعل لك من صلاتي فقال ما  
شئت قال قلت الربع قال ما شئت فإن  
زدت فهو خير لك قلت النصف قال ما  
شئت فإن زدت فهو خير لك قال قلت  
فالثلاثين قال ما شئت فإن زدت فهو خير  
لك قلت أجعل لك صلاتي كلها قال إذن  
تكفي همك ويغفر ذنبك

—Related by al-Tirmidhī on the authority of Ubayy b. Kaʿb



# Prophesying the One He Fore-Gave





## GOD BE HIS WITNESS!

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَإِذْ أَخَذَ اللَّهُ مِيثَاقَ النَّبِيِّينَ لَمَا آتَيْتُكُمْ مِنْ كِتَابٍ وَحِكْمَةٍ ثُمَّ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مُصَدِّقٌ لِمَا مَعَكُمْ . لَتُؤْمِنُنَّ بِهِ وَلَتَنْصُرُنَّهُ . قَالَ أَأَقْرَضُكُمْ وَأَخَذْتُمْ عَلَىٰ ذَلِكُمْ إِصْرِي . قَالُوا أَقْرَضْنَا . قَالَ فَاشْهَدُوا وَأَنَا مَعَكُمْ مِنَ الشَّاهِدِينَ

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

Lo, when Allah took the Covenant of the Prophets!

“After I have vouched the Book and wisdom safe on you—

should then there come unto you a Messenger, confirming what is with you:

Believe in him, you must, and succour him!”

He said, “Are you of accord, accepting for yourselves the burden of this pact?”

They declared, “We are of accord!”

He proclaimed, “Then bear witness! And I, too, bear witness—along with you.”

—*Āl Imrān* 3:81

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَ الرَّسُولَ النَّبِيَّ الْأُمِّيَّ الَّذِي يَجِدُونَهُ مَكْتُوبًا عِنْدَهُمْ فِي التَّوْرَةِ وَالْإِنْجِيلِ يَأْمُرُهُمْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَاهُمْ  
عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَيُحِلُّ لَهُمُ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَيُحَرِّمُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْخَبَائِثَ وَيَضَعُ عَنْهُمْ إِصْرَهُمْ وَالْأَغْلَالَ الَّتِي كَانَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ  
فَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِهِ وَعَزَّرُوهُ وَنَصَرُوهُ وَاتَّبَعُوا النُّورَ الَّذِي أُنْزِلَ مَعَهُ . أُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

...those who follow the Messenger,

that unlettered Prophet, whom they find prophesied in the Torah and the Gospel—

who bids them unto all good, and forbids them from all evil;

who prescribes for them what is wholesome, and proscribes for them what is harmful;

and who alleviates them of their burden and the fetters that are upon them.

So those who believe in him, honour him, succour him, and follow the light revealed with him:

they are, indeed, the prosperous!

—*al-Aʿrāf* 7:157





# *From the Cradle to the Cave*





## THE LINEAGE OF LIGHT

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
وَتَقَلُّبِكَ فِي السَّاجِدِينَ

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

“...and your transitioning among those who prostrate.”

—*al-Shu‘arā’* 26:219

## TENDING THE FLOCK

كُلُّكُمْ رَاعٍ وَكُلُّكُمْ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ  
فَالْإِمَامُ رَاعٍ وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ  
وَالرَّجُلُ فِي أَهْلِهِ رَاعٍ وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ  
وَالْمَرْأَةُ فِي بَيْتِ زَوْجِهَا رَاعِيَةٌ وَهِيَ مَسْئُولَةٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهَا  
وَالْخَادِمُ فِي مَالِ سَيِّدِهِ رَاعٍ وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ

Each of you is a shepherd, and each of you is responsible for his flock.  
The leader is a shepherd, and he is responsible for his flock;  
the man is the shepherd of his family, and he is responsible for his flock;  
the woman is the shepherd of her husband’s household, and she is responsible for her flock;  
the servant is the shepherd of his patron’s wealth, and he is responsible for his flock.

—Related by al-Bukhārī and Muslim on the authority of ‘Abd Allāh b. ‘Umar



## MERCHANT & MARRIAGE



آمَنْتُ بِي إِذْ كَفَرَ بِيَ النَّاسُ وَصَدَّقْتَنِي إِذْ كَذَّبَنِي النَّاسُ  
وَأَسْتَنِي بِمَا لَهَا إِذْ حَرَمَنِي النَّاسُ وَرَزَقَنِي اللَّهُ وَلَدَهَا إِذْ حَرَمَنِي أَوْلَادَ النِّسَاءِ

She believed in me when others rejected me!  
She ascribed truth to me when others ascribed the lie!  
She supported me with her wealth when others refused me!  
And Allah provided me with her children, but deprived me the children of any other woman.

—Related by Aḥmad on the authority of ‘Ā’ishah

## WORDS WITHOUT LETTERS



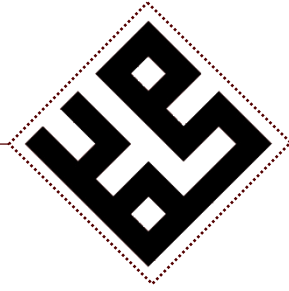
By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation  
Read, by the name of your Lord, Who created-  
created man from a clinging clot.  
Read, for your Lord is most bountiful:  
He Who taught by the pen-  
taught man what he knew not.

—al-‘Alaḳ 96:1-5

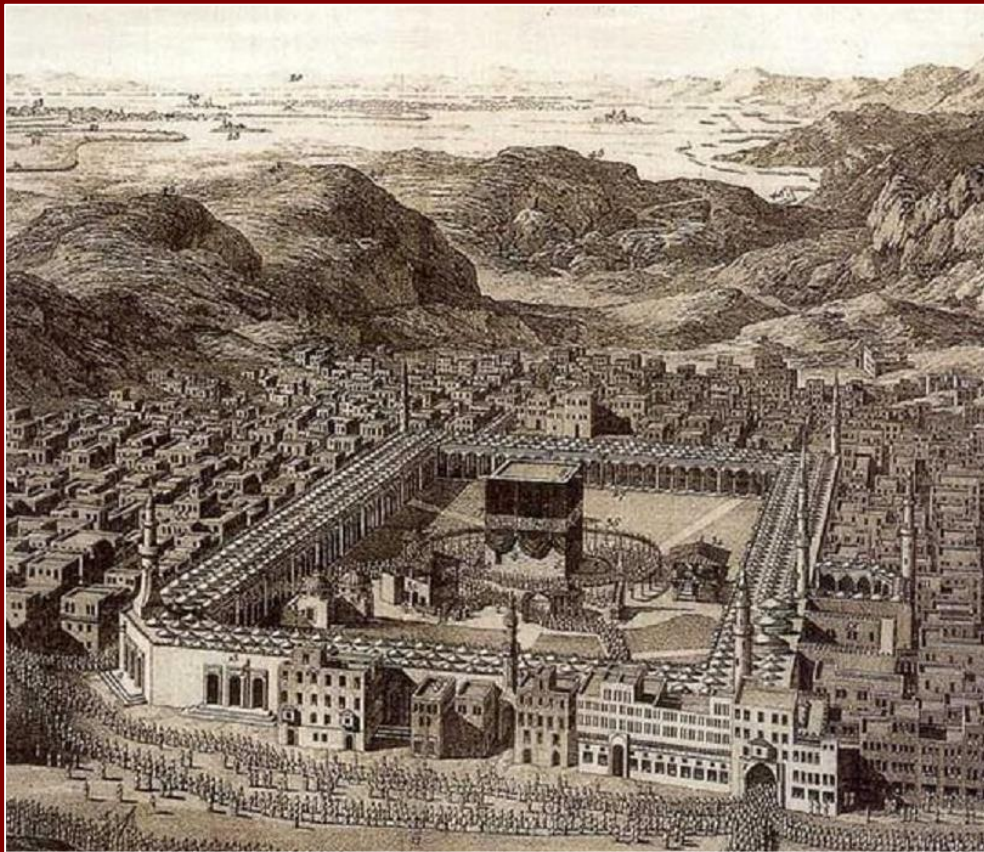
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

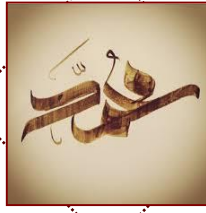
اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ  
خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ  
اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ  
الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ  
عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ





# *Mecca, Home of the Brave*





## SILENCE IN THE SKIES



By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

By the morning when bright!  
By the serenity of night!  
Your Lord forsook thee not,  
And He is not displeased.  
And the Hereafter is better  
for you than what precedes.  
And your Lord shall give you,  
such that you are well pleased.  
Did He not find you an orphan, then provide a haven?  
Did He not find you alone, then the way was shown?  
Did He not find you in need, and then freed?  
So, as for the orphan: suppress him not;  
and as for the beggar: oppress him not;  
and as for your Lord's blessing:  
proclaim it!

—*al-Duḥā* 93:1-11

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالضُّحَىٰ  
وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَىٰ  
مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَىٰ  
وَلَلْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ لَّكَ مِنَ الْأُولَىٰ  
وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰ  
أَلَمْ يَجِدْكَ يَتِيمًا فَآوَىٰ  
وَوَجَدَكَ ضَالًّا فَهَدَىٰ  
وَوَجَدَكَ عَائِلًا فَأَغْنَىٰ  
فَأَمَّا الْيَتِيمَ فَلَا تَقْهَرْ  
وَأَمَّا السَّائِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ  
وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ



## THE EYE OF THE STORM

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

Warn the nearest of your kinsfolk,  
and lower your wing to the faithful, who follow you.  
But if they defy you, say: "I am absolved of what you do!"  
And rest your trust in the Almighty, the Compassionate,  
Who sees you as you stand.

—*al-Shu'arā'* 26:214-218

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَأَنْذِرْ عَشِيرَتَكَ الْأَقْرَبِينَ  
وَاحْفَظْ جَنَاحَكَ لِمَنِ اتَّبَعَكَ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ  
فَإِنْ عَصَوْكَ فَقُلْ إِنَّي بِرِيءٍ مِمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ  
وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى الْعَزِيزِ الرَّحِيمِ  
الَّذِي يَرَاكَ حِينَ تَقُومُ

## SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

فَقَالَ النَّجَاشِيُّ مَرْحَبًا بِكُمْ وَمِنْ جِئْتُمْ مِنْ عِنْدِهِ . اُمْكُثُوا فِي أَرْضِي مَا شِئْتُمْ  
وَأَمَرَ لَنَا بِطَعَامٍ وَكِسْوَةٍ وَقَالَ رُدُّوا عَلَى هَذَيْنِ هَدِيَّتَهُمَا

Then the Negus proclaimed:  
"Welcome to you and to the one from whom you came!  
Sojourn in my kingdom as long as you well please!"  
Then he had food and clothing brought to us,  
and ordered: "Return to these two their gifts at once!"



## BOYCOTT

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

اِقْتَرَبَتِ السَّاعَةُ وَانْشَقَّ الْقَمَرُ  
وَإِنْ يَرَوْا آيَةً يُعْرِضُوا وَيَقُولُوا سِحْرٌ مُسْتَمِرٌّ  
وَكَذَّبُوا وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ وَكُلُّ أَمْرٍ مُسْتَقَرٌّ  
وَلَقَدْ جَاءَهُمْ مِنَ الْأَنْبَاءِ مَا فِيهِ مُزْدَجَرٌ  
حِكْمَةٌ بَالِغَةٌ فَمَا تُغْنِ النُّذُرُ  
فَتَوَلَّ عَنْهُمْ يَوْمَ يَدْعُ الدَّاعِ إِلَى شَيْءٍ نَكُرٍ  
خُشْعًا أَبْصَارُهُمْ يَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ كَأَنَّهُمْ جَرَادٌ مُنتَشِرٌ  
مُهْطِعِينَ إِلَى الدَّاعِ يَقُولُ الْكَافِرُونَ هَذَا يَوْمٌ عَسِرٌ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

The Hour has drawn near and the moon has split.  
And if they behold a sign, they turn away, alleging: "Incessant magic!"  
They reject it, and follow their own desires, but every matter shall soon settle!  
And news of admonition has already reached them, upon far-reaching wisdom.  
But deterrents are of no avail, so turn away from them!  
The day when the caller calls to a dire thing!  
And then with their fearful eyes, they emerge from the graves,  
as if they were scattered locusts, scrambling about toward the summoner.  
The faithless shall say, "This is a grave day!"

—*al-Qamar* 54:1-8



## TWICE ORPHANED

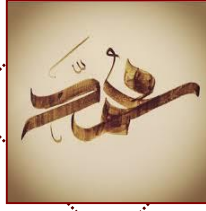
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ لَكَ صَدْرَكَ  
وَوَضَعْنَا عَنْكَ وِزْرَكَ  
الَّذِي أَنْقَضَ ظَهْرَكَ  
وَرَفَعْنَا لَكَ ذِكْرَكَ  
فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا  
إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا  
فَإِذَا فَرَغْتَ فَانصَبْ  
وَإِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ فَارْغَبْ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

Did We not expand your heart for you,  
and relieve you of your burden,  
which virtually broke your back!  
Did We not exalt your mention!  
So verily, ease accompanies every hardship.  
Verily, ease accompanies every hardship!  
So when you find yourself free, exert yourself still,  
and turn unto your Lord with all your yearning.

—*al-Sharḥ* 94:1-8



## ONENESS

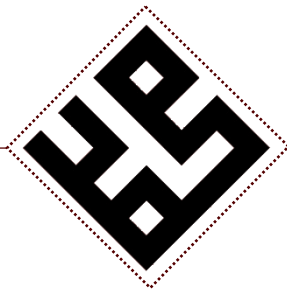


اللَّهُمَّ إِلَيْكَ أَشْكُو ضَعْفَ قُوَّتِي وَقِلَّةَ حِيلَتِي وَهَوَانِي عَلَى النَّاسِ . يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ أَنْتَ رَبُّ  
الْمُسْتَضْعِفِينَ وَأَنْتَ رَبِّي . إِلَى مَنْ تَكِلُنِي إِلَى بَعِيدٍ يَتَجَهَّمُنِي أَمْ إِلَى عَدُوٍّ مَلَكَتْهُ أَمْرِي . إِنْ  
لَمْ يَكُنْ بِكَ عَلَيَّ غَضَبٌ فَلَا أُبَالِي غَيْرَ أَنَّ عَافِيَتَكَ هِيَ أَوْسَعُ لِي . أَعُوذُ بِنُورِ وَجْهِكَ الَّذِي  
أَشْرَقَتْ لَهُ الظُّلُمَاتُ وَصَلَحَ عَلَيْهِ أَمْرُ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ أَنْ يَحِلَّ عَلَيَّ غَضَبُكَ أَوْ أَنْ يَنْزِلَ بِي  
سَخَطُكَ . لَكَ الْعُتْبَى حَتَّى تَرْضَى وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِكَ

Allah! I complain to you my lack of strength, my scarcity of means, and my insignificance in the eyes of others. O most Compassionate Lord of all who show compassion! You are the Lord of the meek, you are my Lord. To whom shall You entrust me: to some distant person who may look upon me with contempt, or to some enemy to whom You shall confer authority over my affair? So long as You are not displeased with me, nothing else concerns me, though Your relief is easier for me. I seek refuge in the light of Your countenance—by which every crevice of darkness is illumined, and by which the affair of this life and the hereafter is made whole—that Your wrath reach me not, that your displeasure descend not upon me! I confess unto You my shortcoming until You are content. There is no strength or power except by You!

*Allāhumma ilayka ashkū ḍa'fa quwwatī wa qillata ḥīlatī wa hawānī 'alā n-nās; yā arḥama r-rāḥimīna anta rabbu l-mustaḍ'afīna wa anta rabbī; ilā man takilunī ilā ba'īdin yatajahhamunī am ilā 'aduwwin mallaktahu amrī; in lam yakun bika 'alayya ghaḍabun falā ubālī ghayra anna 'āfiyataka hiya awsa'u lī; a'ūdhu bi nūri wajhika l-ladhī ashraḡat lahu ṣ-ṣ-ḡulumātu wa ṣaluḡa 'alayhi amru d-dunyā wa l-ākhirah an yaḡilla 'alayya ghaḍabuka aw an yanzila bī sakhaṭuk; laka l-'utbā ḡattā tarḡā wa lā ḡawla wa lā quwwata illā bik.*





## THE CIRCLE OF TIME



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا  
مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى  
الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ  
لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا  
إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

Sublime is He who brought His servant by night,  
from the Sacred Mosque to the Farthest Mosque—  
whose environs We have blessed,  
that We may show him some of Our signs.  
Verily, He hears all, He sees all!

—*al-Isrā'* 17:1



## THE LOTE TREE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالنَّجْمِ إِذَا هَوَىٰ . مَا ضَلَّ صَاحِبُكُمْ وَمَا غَوَىٰ . وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ .  
إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَىٰ . عَلَّمَهُ شَدِيدُ الْقُوَىٰ . ذُو مِرَّةٍ فَاسْتَوَىٰ . وَهُوَ بِالْأُفُقِ الْأَعْلَىٰ .  
ثُمَّ دَنَا فَتَدَلَّىٰ . فَكَانَ قَابَ قَوْسَيْنِ أَوْ أَدْنَىٰ . فَأَوْحَىٰ إِلَىٰ عَبْدِهِ مَا أَوْحَىٰ . مَا كَذَبَ الْفُؤَادُ مَا رَأَىٰ .  
أَفَتُمَارُونَهُ عَلَىٰ مَا يَرَىٰ . وَلَقَدْ رَآهُ نَزْلَةً أُخْرَىٰ . عِنْدَ سِدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَىٰ . عِنْدَهَا جَنَّةُ الْمَأْوَىٰ .  
إِذْ يَغْشَى السِّدْرَةَ مَا يَغْشَىٰ . مَا زَاغَ الْبَصَرُ وَمَا طَغَىٰ . لَقَدْ رَأَىٰ مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَىٰ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

By the star, as it falls!  
Your companion has not deviated, he has not erred.  
And he speaks not of his own discretion.  
It is but a revelation, revealed!  
One endowed with power taught him—  
endued with wisdom—who stood poised, in the loftiest horizon.  
Then, he approached and drew nigh, until he was but two bow-lengths away, or nearer still. Then  
did He reveal to His servant what He revealed.  
His heart in no wise distorted what he beheld.  
Will you, then, contend with him, as to what he sees?  
For he even beheld him at another descent,  
near the Lote Tree of the Utmost Periphery, nigh unto the Haven of Heaven.  
Lo! The Lote Tree—enshrouded in ineffable splendor!  
His eye swerved not, nor swept astray.  
Verily, he beheld some of the magnificent signs of his Lord!



## HISTORY TURNS A PAGE



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

فَاسْتَجَابَ لَهُمْ رَبُّهُمْ أَنِّي لَا أُضِيعُ عَمَلَ عَامِلٍ مِّنْكُمْ مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ بَعْضُكُمْ مِّنْ بَعْضٍ  
فَالَّذِينَ هَاجَرُوا وَأُخْرِجُوا مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ وَأُوذُوا فِي سَبِيلِي وَقَاتَلُوا وَقُتِلُوا لَأُكَفِّرَنَّ عَنْهُمْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ وَلَأُدْخِلَنَّهُمْ  
جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ ثَوَابًا مِّنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الثَّوَابِ

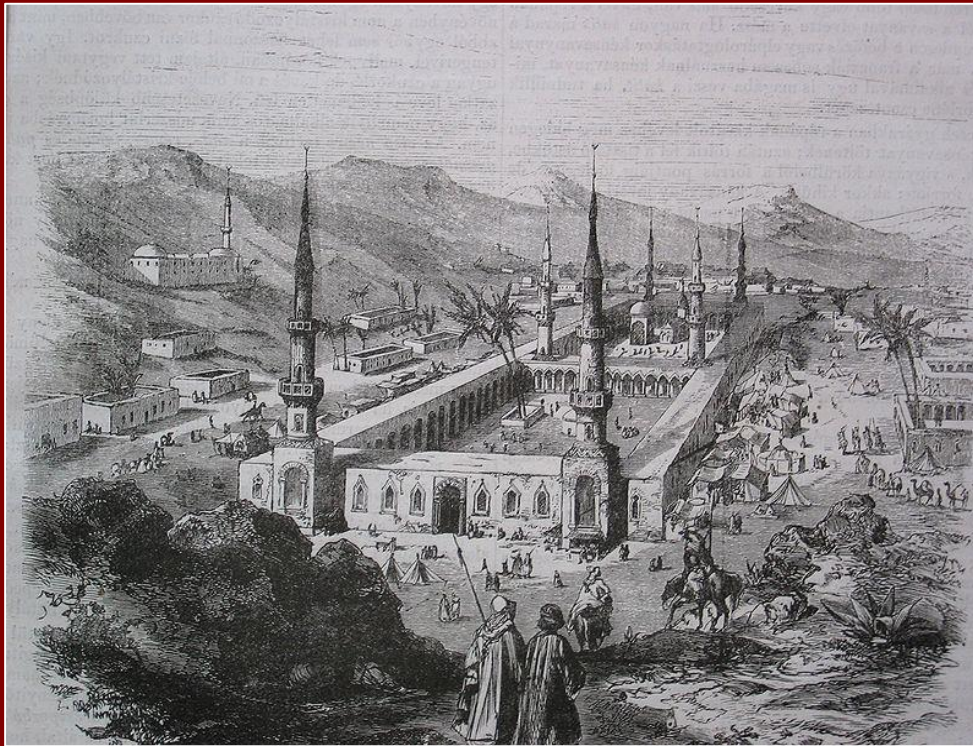
By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

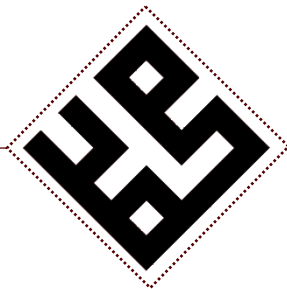
Then their Lord answered them, "I do not waste the work of anyone  
who endeavors among you- male or female. You come from one another!  
So those who migrated and were expelled from their homes,  
and were tormented for My sake,  
and those who fought and were killed:  
I shall surely absolve them of their misdeeds,  
and admit them into gardens beneath which streams flow—  
a recompense from Allah, and the best recompense is with Allah."

—*Āl ‘Imrān* 3:195



# *Medina and the Luminous Grave*





## ... MY BROTHER'S KEEPER



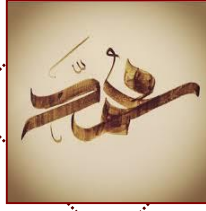
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالَّذِينَ تَبَوَّءُوا الدَّارَ وَالْإِيمَانَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ  
يُحِبُّونَ مَنْ هَاجَرَ إِلَيْهِمْ  
وَلَا يَجِدُونَ فِي صُدُورِهِمْ حَاجَةً مِمَّا أُوتُوا  
وَيُؤْثِرُونَ عَلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ وَلَوْ كَانَ بِهِمْ خَصَاصَةٌ  
وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

And those before them who settled in the land and in faith:  
they love those who migrate to them,  
and they find not in their hearts any need  
for that which is given to them,  
but prefer others to themselves,  
though dire poverty be their own lot.  
And those who protect themselves from greed are the prosperous!

—*al-Hashr* 59:9



## MOSQUE & MARKET

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا نُودِيَ لِلصَّلَاةِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْجُمُعَةِ فَاسْعَوْا إِلَىٰ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَذَرُوا الْبَيْعَ  
ذَلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ .  
فَإِذَا قُضِيَتِ الصَّلَاةُ فَانْتَشِرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَابْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِ اللَّهِ  
وَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ .  
وَإِذَا رَأَوْا تِجَارَةً أَوْ لَهْوًا انفَضُّوا إِلَيْهَا وَتَرَكُوكَ قَائِمًا  
قُلْ مَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ خَيْرٌ مِنَ اللَّهْوِ وَمِنَ التِّجَارَةِ وَاللَّهُ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

O faithful! When the call is given for prayer on Friday,  
hasten unto the mention of Allah, and put off all business.  
That is better for you, if you but knew!  
Then when the prayer is finished,  
disperse through the land and seek the bounty of Allah,  
and heed Allah that you may prosper.  
And when they sight a deal or leisurely allurement,  
they scatter off toward it, leaving you standing!  
Say, "What is with Allah is better than any allurement or dealing,  
and Allah is the best of providers!"





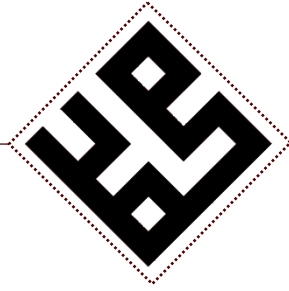
## THE FULL MOON OF BADR

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَقَدْ نَصَرَكُمُ اللَّهُ بِبَدْرٍ وَأَنْتُمْ أَذِلَّةٌ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ .  
إِذْ تَقُولُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَلَنْ يَكْفِيَكُمْ أَنْ يُدْعِيَكُمْ رَبُّكُمْ بِثَلَاثَةِ آلَافٍ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُنْزِلِينَ .  
بَلَىٰ إِنْ تَصْبِرُوا وَتَتَّقُوا وَيَأْتُوكُم مِّنْ فُورِهِمْ هَذَا يُمْدِدْكُمْ رَبُّكُمْ بِخَمْسَةِ آلَافٍ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُسَوِّمِينَ .  
وَمَا جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَّا بُشْرَىٰ لَكُمْ وَلِتَطْمَئِنَّ قُلُوبُكُمْ بِهِ وَمَا النَّصْرُ إِلَّا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَكِيمِ

By the Name of Allah  
Compassionate in His essence  
Compassionate with His creation

Certainly Allah helped you all at Badr, when you were belittled.  
So be heedful of Allah, that you may be grateful.  
Behold, when you said to the faithful:  
“Is it not enough for you that your Lord should aid you  
with three thousand angels sent down?”  
Yes, if you are steadfast and God-wary,  
and should they come at you suddenly,  
your Lord will aid you with five thousand marked angels!  
Allah did not decree it but as good news for you, to reassure therewith your hearts,  
and victory comes only from Allah, the Almighty, the Wise.



## STAND YOUR GROUND



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَقَدْ صَدَقَكُمُ اللَّهُ وَعْدَهُ إِذْ تَحُسُّوهُم بِأُذُنِهِ حَتَّى إِذَا فَشِلْتُمْ وَتَنَازَعْتُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ وَعَصَيْتُمْ مِمَّنْ بَعْدَ مَا أَرَاكُمْ مَا تُحِبُّونَ . مِنْكُمْ مَّنْ يُرِيدُ الدُّنْيَا وَمِنْكُمْ مَّنْ يُرِيدُ الْآخِرَةَ ثُمَّ صَرَفَكُمْ عَنْهُمْ لِيَبْتَلِيَكُمْ وَلَقَدْ عَفَا عَنْكُمْ وَاللَّهُ ذُو فَضْلٍ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

By the Name of Allah,  
Compassionate in His essence,  
Compassionate with His creation.

Allah fulfilled His promise to you when, by His leave, you were about to annihilate your enemy—until you flinched and fell to disputing about the order, then disobeyed it after He brought you within sight of that which you covet! Among you are some who hanker after this world and others who desire the hereafter! Then did He divert you from your foes in order to test you—and He forgave you, for Allah is Forgiving, Compassionate.

—*Āl ‘Imrān* 3:152

## HATERS & HYPOCRITES



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

مَا كَانَ لِلنَّبِيِّ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ يَسْتَغْفِرُوا لِلْمُشْرِكِينَ وَلَوْ كَانُوا أُولَىٰ قُرْبَىٰ  
مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُمْ أَصْحَابُ الْجَحِيمِ

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation  
The Prophet and the faithful may not plead for the forgiveness of polytheists,  
even if they should be their relatives,  
after it has become clear to them that they shall be denizens of Hell!

—*al-Tawbah* 9:113



## NECKLACE OF THE DOVE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ جَاءُوا بِالْإِفْكِ عُصْبَةٌ مِنْكُمْ . وَلَوْلَا إِذْ سَمِعْتُمُوهُ ظَنَّ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ خَيْرًا وَقَالُوا هَذَا إِفْكٌ مُبِينٌ . وَلَوْلَا جَاءُوا عَلَيْهِ بِأَرْبَعَةِ شُهَدَاءَ فَإِذْ لَمْ يَأْتُوا بِالشُّهَدَاءِ فَأُولَئِكَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ هُمُ الْكَاذِبُونَ . وَلَوْلَا فَضْلُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَتُهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ لَمَسَّكُمْ فِي مَا أَفَضْتُمْ فِيهِ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ . إِذْ تَلَقَّوْنَهُ بِالسِّنْتِكُمْ وَتَقُولُونَ بِأَفْوَاهِكُمْ مَا لَيْسَ لَكُمْ بِهِ عِلْمٌ وَتَحْسِبُونَهُ هِينًا وَهُوَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَظِيمٌ . وَلَوْلَا إِذْ سَمِعْتُمُوهُ قُلْتُمْ مَا يَكُونُ لَنَا أَنْ نَتَكَلَّمَ بِهَذَا سُبْحَانَكَ هَذَا بُهْتَانٌ عَظِيمٌ . يَعِظُكُمُ اللَّهُ أَنْ تَعُودُوا لِمِثْلِهِ أَبَدًا إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ . وَيُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمُ الْآيَاتِ وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ . إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ تَشِيعَ الْفَاحِشَةُ فِي الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ . وَلَوْلَا فَضْلُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَتُهُ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ رَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

Indeed, those who initiated the calumny are a band from among yourselves! Why did the men and women of faith—when you all heard of it—think not the best of one another and assert: “This is a patent lie!” Why did they not bring four witnesses! Since they brought not witnesses, they are liars in the sight of Allah! And were it not for the grace and compassion of Allah unto you in this world and in the hereafter, an awful doom would have overtaken you for that whereof you murmured. When you welcomed it on your tongues, mouthing that whereof you had no knowledge, you counted it a trifle. But in the sight of Allah, it is grave! And why did you not, when you heard of it, say, “It is not for us to repeat such a thing! Glory be unto You! This is a monstrous defamation!” Allah forewarns you, lest you should ever repeat the like thereof—should you have any faith! Allah makes clear the signs for you, and Allah is possessed of knowledge and wisdom. Indeed, for those who want indecency to spread among the faithful: there is a painful punishment for them in this world and the hereafter, and Allah knows, while you know not! Were it not for the grace and compassion of Allah upon you...! But Allah is Clement, Compassionate.



## THE GREAT COMPROMISE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَهُوَ الَّذِي كَفَّ أَيْدِيَهُمْ عَنْكُمْ وَأَيْدِيَكُمْ عَنْهُمْ بِبَطْنِ مَكَّةَ مِنْ بَعْدِ أَنْ أَظْفَرَكُمْ عَلَيْهِمْ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرًا . هُمُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَصَدُّوكُمْ عَنِ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ وَالْهَدْيِ مَعْكُوفًا أَنْ يَبْلُغَ مَحِلَّهُ وَلَوْلَا رِجَالٌ مُؤْمِنُونَ وَنِسَاءٌ مُؤْمِنَاتٌ لَمْ تَعْلَمُوهُمْ أَنْ تَطَّوَّهُمْ فِتْصِيكُم مِّنْهُمْ مَّعَرَّةٌ بَغِيرَ عِلْمٍ لِّدِخَالِ اللَّهِ فِي رَحْمَتِهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ لَوْ تَزَيَّلُوا لَعَذَّبْنَا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا . إِذْ جَعَلَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فِي قُلُوبِهِمُ الْحَمِيَّةَ حَمِيَّةَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَى رَسُولِهِ وَعَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَأَلْزَمَهُمْ كَلِمَةَ التَّقْوَى وَكَانُوا أَحَقَّ بِهَا وَأَهْلَهَا وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا . لَقَدْ صَدَقَ اللَّهُ رَسُولَهُ الرُّؤْيَا بِالْحَقِّ لَتَدْخُلَنَّ الْمَسْجِدَ الْحَرَامَ إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ آمِنِينَ مُحَلِّقِينَ رُءُوسَكُمْ وَمُقَصِّرِينَ لَا تَخَافُونَ فَعَلِمَ مَا لَمْ تَعْلَمُوا فَجَعَلَ مِنْ دُونِ ذَلِكَ فَتْحًا قَرِيبًا . هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَى وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَكَفَى بِاللَّهِ شَهِيدًا

By the Name of Allah, Compassionate in His essence, Compassionate with His creation

It is He Who withheld their hands from you, and your hands from them, in the valley of Mecca, after He had granted you victory over them, and Allah sees best what you do. They are the ones who disbelieved and barred you from the Sacred Mosque, and kept the offering from reaching its destination. Had there not been faithful men and women whom you did not know that you were trampling down and on whose account a crime would have accrued to you unawares, He would have allowed you to force your way; but He admits into His mercy whomsoever He wills. And had they been separate, We would have surely punished the faithless among them with a painful chastisement. When the faithless nourished belligerence in their hearts—the belligerence of raging ignorance—Allah sent down His tranquility upon His Prophet and upon the faithful, and made them abide by the command of self-restraint, for they were the worthiest of it and deserved it well, and Allah has knowledge of all things. Certainly, Allah has fulfilled His Prophet's vision in all truth! You will surely enter the Sacred Mosque—as Allah wills—in safety, with your heads shaven or hair cropped, without fear. He knows what you know now, and He decreed besides this a victory nigh at hand! It is He Who has sent His Prophet with guidance and the religion of Truth, that He may make it prevail over all religions, and Allah suffices as witness!



## HAND IN HAND



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لَقَدْ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ يُبَايِعُونَكَ تَحْتَ الشَّجَرَةِ  
فَعَلِمَ مَا فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ فَأَنْزَلَ السَّكِينَةَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَثَابَهُمْ فَتْحًا قَرِيبًا .  
وَمَغَانِمَ كَثِيرَةً يَأْخُذُونَهَا وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا .  
وَعَدَكُمْ اللَّهُ مَغَانِمَ كَثِيرَةً تَأْخُذُونَهَا فَعَجَّلَ لَكُمْ هَذِهِ وَيَكْفِ أَيْدِيَ النَّاسِ عَنْكُمْ  
وَلِتَكُونَ آيَةً لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَيَهْدِيَكُمْ صِرَاطًا مُسْتَقِيمًا .

By the Name of Allah,  
Compassionate in His essence,  
Compassionate with His creation.

Allah was certainly pleased with the faithful  
when they swore allegiance to you under the tree!  
He knew what was in their hearts,  
so He sent tranquility down upon them,  
and requited them with a victory near at hand,  
and abundant spoils that they shall seize,  
and Allah is Almighty, Wise.

Allah has promised you abundant spoils, which you shall seize.  
He has hastened this for you, and withheld the hands of men from you,  
so that it may be a sign for the faithful, that He may guide you unto a straight path.

—*al-Fath* 48:18-20



## MARCH ON MECCA



By the Name of Allah,  
Compassionate in His essence,  
Compassionate with His creation.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

When the succour of Allah comes with victory,  
and you behold the people,  
entering Allah's religion in throngs:  
extol, then, the praises of your Lord,  
and plead to Him for forgiveness.  
Indeed, He ever turns to the repentant!

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ .  
وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا .  
فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا

—*al-Naṣr* 110:1-3

## SERMON ON THE MOUNT

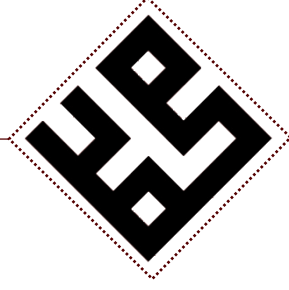


إِنِّي قَدْ تَرَكْتُ فِيكُمْ شَيْئَيْنِ لَنْ تَضِلُّوا بَعْدَهُمَا كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَسُنَّتِي وَفِي رِوَايَةِ كِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَعِثْرَتِي

I have left among you two things after which you shall never be misguided:  
the Book of Allah and my example!"—  
and in another narration:  
"...the Book of Allah and my family!"

—Related by al-Tirmidhī on the authority of Jābir b. ‘Abd Allāh





## ... RATHER, THE EXALTED COMPANION



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ أَفَإِنْ مَاتَ أَوْ قُتِلَ انْقَلَبْتُمْ عَلَى أَعْقَابِكُمْ  
وَمَنْ يَنْقَلِبْ عَلَى عَقْبَيْهِ فَلَنْ يَضُرَّ اللَّهَ شَيْئًا وَسَيَجْزِي اللَّهُ الشَّاكِرِينَ

By the Name of Allah,  
Compassionate in His essence,  
Compassionate with His creation.

Muhammad is but a Messenger; Messengers have passed on before him.  
If he dies or is slain, will you, then, turn back on your heels!  
And anyone who turns back on his heels harms not Allah in the least!  
And, soon, Allah shall reward the grateful.

—Āl 'Imrān 3:144

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ



## **LANTURNA**

Lanturna is a nonprofit, educational initiative that intends through its various projects to establish learning collectives throughout North America to enrich personal practice and communal life. Lanturna purposes to familiarize students with the scholars and savants of the past, as well as living luminaries; to institute and localize community service projects; and to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood among individuals and families, all while conveying Prophetic guidance for devotional endeavoring and spiritual growth.



Abu Anas Hisham Mahmoud



El-Hajj Hisham Mahmoud studied theology, hadith, legal theory, jurisprudence, ethics, Qur'an recitation, and Arabic with scholars in Morocco, Mauritania, and Egypt. He has taught for more than a decade at Yale, Princeton, and Harvard, then left the Academy to institute Lanturna, an educational initiative that intends to establish learning collectives throughout North America. He continues to read with scholars and students in the United States. Currently, Hajj Hisham resides in Pennsylvania with his wife and three children, and he wants to be like any one of them when he grows up.