

Chapter Three

JAALIYAT-U'L-AKDAAR WA'S-SAYF-U'L-BATTAAR

Of: MAWLANA DIYA UD-DEEN KHALID AL-BAGHDADI رحمته الله

An Appreciation by Siddiq Osman Noormuhammad

1. ASMA ALLAH رحمته الله, **ASMA U'N NABI** رحمته الله **AND ASMA AHL BADR** رحمته الله

Mawlana Diya ud-Deen Khalid al-Baghdadi al-'Uthmani رحمته الله (1192-1242 A.H; 1778-1826 C.E) has written a gem of a **kitab** (book) called Jaaliyat-u'l-Akdaar wa's-Sayf-u'l-Battaar fi's-Salaati 'ala'l-Mukhtaar. Any Muslim would be proud to possess it as his choice collection of classics.

The distinctive feature of this incomparable treasure is that it has **salawaat** (blessings) and **salaams** (salutations) on our beloved Holy Prophet Sayyidina wa Mawlana Muhammad al-Mustafa رحمته الله spiritually strengthened with three mighty fortresses. These are:

1. **Asma u'l Husna**, the 99 Most Beautiful Names of Allah رحمته الله,
2. **Asma u'n Nabi**, the blessed names of the Holy Prophet Muhammad رحمته الله, with his attributes of praise, and
3. **Asma Ahl Badr**, the blessed names of his 313 Companions or **Sahaba** رحمته الله, who fought together with him against the 1000 **mushrikeen** (polytheists) of Makkah in the Battle of Badr. Allah رحمته الله made the Muslims victorious, and thus established Islam as the acceptable universal religion till the end of time. So the Companions رحمته الله who fought in the Battle of Badr are foremost among the greatest heroes of Islam. **SubhanAllah!** (Glorified is Allah!)

The **AwliyaAllah** (Friends of Allah, sufi masters, saints) and the **saliheen** (the pious) who write these books of **salawaat** on the Holy Prophet Muhammad رحمته الله inevitably include **Asma Allah u'l Husna** in their **salawaat** as they are very near and dear to them. And why not? **Asma u'l Husna** surely lead us to Paradise as we learn from the following blessed Hadith Shareef.

Hadrat Abu Hurayrah رحمته الله reported that the Beloved Prophet رحمته الله said: "Allah Most High has ninety nine Names. He who enumerates them will enter Paradise". (Tirmidhi and Bayhaqi)

At this juncture, let us make the **niyyah** (intention) of memorizing the **Asma Allah u'l Husna** if we have not already done so.

Each of the **Asma Allah u'l Husna** in the book is to be recited three times except **Yaa Allah** (O Allah, 100 times), **Yaa Latif** (O The Most Gentle, 21 times), **Yaa Wadud** (O The Loving One, 22 times) and **Yaa Sabur** (O The Patient One, 7 times).

Asma Allah u'l Husna have both **Jamaal** (Majestic Beauty) and **Jalaal** (Majestic Might) but **Asma Ahl Badr** are very **jalaali** while **salawaat** are pure **jamaal**, so the **jalaal** (majestic might) of **Asma Ahl Badr** is cooled off with the **jamaal** (majestic beauty) of **salawaat** on the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

The book begins with **As-Salaatu Ibrahimiyyah**. Then come the most Beautiful Names of Allah ﷻ. **Yaa Allah** (O Allah) is to be recited 100 times, followed by **Yaa Rahman** (O Most Beneficent One), **Yaa Raheem** (O Most Merciful), and **Yaa Malik** (O Sovereign Lord), each to be recited 3 times. **As-Salaatu Ibrahimiyyah** is repeated, followed by invoking Allah ﷻ with His Most Beautiful Names of **Yaa Quddus** (O Most Holy One), **Yaa Salaam** (O Bestower of peace), **Yaa Mu'min** (O The Granter of Security) and **Yaa Muhaymin** (O The Protector). Then start the names of the **Sahaba** (Companions رضى الله عنهم) who fought in the battle of Badr, in alphabetical order. First are mentioned all the **Sahaba** whose names start with the letter **alif**. These are interspersed with **Asma Allah u'l Husna** and 29 **salawaat** (blessings), each of which begins with “**Wa bi Fadlillahumma Salli wa Sallim wa Baarik ‘alaa Sayyidina Muhammad**” (And with Your Grace, O Allah! Bless, and bestow peace and favour on our master Sayyidina Muhammad). The book ends with **du‘a** (supplication to Allah ﷻ) for **maghfira** (forgiveness of sins) and eternal bliss in Paradise.

The **Khulafa ar-Raashideen al-Mahdiyyeen** رضى الله عنهم, the four rightly-guided **Khulafa** of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, that is, Sayyidina Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضى الله عنه, Sayyidina ‘Umar al-Farooq رضى الله عنه, Sayyidina ‘Uthman Dhu’n-Nurayn رضى الله عنه, and Sayyidina ‘Ali al-Murtada رضى الله عنه are all mentioned. Among the other great **Sahaba** mentioned are Hadrat Talha ibn ‘Ubaydillah رضى الله عنه, Hadrat Zubayr ibn ‘Awwaam رضى الله عنه, Hadrat ‘Abdirrahman ibn ‘Awf رضى الله عنه, Hadrat Sa‘d ibn Abi Waqqaas رضى الله عنه, Hadrat Sa‘eed ibn Zayd رضى الله عنه and Hadrat Abi ‘Ubayda ‘Aamir ibn al-Jarraah رضى الله عنه. Together with the four **Khulafa ar-Rashideen**, they are called the ‘**Asharatu’l Mubashshara** رضى الله عنهم, the ten who were given glad tidings of Paradise by the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

It is true that Sayyidina ‘Uthman Dhu’n Nurayn رضى الله عنه was not physically present in the Battle of Badr but even so, the historians and the ‘**ulama** (scholars) have included his name because the beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ had instructed him to remain behind to take care of his wife Sayyidatina Ruqayya رضى الله عنها, the daughter of the beloved Prophet, as she was seriously ill in Madina. Her condition was indeed so serious that immediately after the Muslims returned from Badr, she passed ahead رضى الله عنها.

2. SALAWAAT ‘ALA’R-RASUL ﷺ

According to Mawlana Diya ud-Deen Khalid al-Baghdadi رضى الله عنه, the letters **kaaf, haa, yaa, ‘ayn, saad** in the first verse of Surah Maryam refer to the **sifaat** (attributes) of Allah ﷻ or of the Prophet, Sayyidina Muhammad ‘Arabi رضى الله عنه, as captured in one of the **salawaat** in his book Jaaliyat-u’l-Akdaar as follows:

وَبِفَضْلِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى وَسَلَّمَ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ الَّذِي هُوَ صَاحِبُ الْبُرْهَانِ وَالسَّبَبِ فِي وُجُودِ كُلِّ
 إِنْسَانٍ كَأَفْ كَرَمِ الْكِفَايَةِ هَاءِ الْأُلُوْهِيَّةِ وَالرِّعَايَةِ وَيَاءِ الْيَقْظَةِ وَالْهَدَايَةِ عَيْنِ الْعِصْمَةِ وَالْعِنَايَةِ وَصَادُ
 الصِّرَاطِ الْمَنْشُورِ صِرَاطِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَصَيُّرُ الْأُمُورِ

صَلَاةٌ تُسَبَّلُ ﴿٥﴾

اللَّهُمَّ (يَا عَزِيْزُ يَا جَبَّارُ يَا مُتَكَبِّرُ يَا خَالِقُ) (٣ مَرَّةً) بِهَا عَلَيَّ السِّرُّ الْجَمِيْلُ وَأَتَوْسَلُ إِلَيْكَ بِحَقِّ عَبْدِكَ
 الْأَرْقَمِ ابْنِ أَبِي الْأَرْقَمِ مَوْلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ﴿٥﴾ أَسْعَدَ بْنَ يَزِيْدَ ﴿٥﴾ أَنَسِ بْنِ مُعَاذٍ
 ﴿٥﴾ أَنَسِ بْنِ قَتَادَةَ ﴿٥﴾ أَنَسَةَ مَوْلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ﴿٥﴾ أَوْسِ بْنِ ثَابِتٍ ﴿٥﴾ أَوْسِ
 بْنِ خَوْلِيٍّ ﴿٥﴾ إِيَّاسِ بْنِ أَوْسٍ ﴿٥﴾ إِيَّاسِ بْنِ الْبُكَيْرِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ

And with Your Grace, O Allah! Bless, and bestow peace and favour
 on our master Sayyidina Muhammad who is the Possessor of the Clear Proof,
 and the reason for the existence of all humans.

The letter **kaaf** stands for the Prophet's all-sufficient generosity,
 the letter **haa** is for Allah's Divine Power and Providential Care,
 the letter **yaa** denotes the Prophet's wakefulness and guidance,
 the letter '**ayn** stands for his sinlessness and loving care,
 and the letter **saad** denotes a wide-open straight path;

“**The path of Allah to Whom belongs
 whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth.
 Behold (how) all matters return to Allah**”. (42:53)

A blessing (on the Holy Prophet ﷺ) that pours like mercy:

O Allah (O The Mighty, O The Compeller,
 O The One Supreme in Greatness, O The Creator); [recited 3 times]
 make this (blessing) a beautiful covering on me;

and I seek a means to approach You for the sake of the right of Your servant
 al-Arqam ibni Abi'l Arqam رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, the slave emancipated by Rasulallah,
 blessing and peace of Allah the Exalted be upon him;

As'ad ibni Yazeed رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; Anas ibni Mu'aadh رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; Unays ibni Qatadah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ;

Anasah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, the slave emancipated by Rasulallah ﷺ;

Aws ibni Thaabit رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; Aws ibni Khawliyy رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; Iyaas ibni Aws رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; Iyaas ibni'l Bukayr رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ,
 may Allah the Exalted be pleased with them all.

We notice that the **salawaat** (blessings) in Jaaliyat-u'l-Akdaar have a standard, yet very rich
 format. Each **salaat** (blessing) is followed by:

1. **Asma u'n Nabi** and praise of the noble Prophet ﷺ coupled with a verse from the Holy Qur'an in his honour,
2. A description of the **salaat**, (in this instance; **salaatan tusbilu**: an invocation of blessing that pours like mercy),
3. **Asma u'l Husna**, in the order in which they are universally known,
4. **Du'a** (supplication to Allah ﷻ), and
5. **Asma Ahl Badr** ﷺ, in alphabetical order.

We also notice that each **salaat** (blessing) in this book is simultaneously a **du'a** (supplication to Allah ﷻ) which uses three different types of **wasila** (means of approach to Allah ﷻ); first, **Asma u'l Husna**; second, the **salaat** on the Holy Prophet ﷺ; and third, **Asma Ahl Badr** ﷺ.

The **salaat** that preceded the one quoted earlier contains the names of two more Companions whose names begin with the letter “**alif**”. These are: Hadrat Ubayy ibn Ka'b ﷺ and Hadrat al-Akhnas ibn Kubayb ﷺ.

The **salaat** that follows the one quoted earlier, contains the names of the **Sahaba** (Companions ﷺ) whose names begin with the letter “**baa**”.

The next **salaat** has the names of the **Sahaba** ﷺ whose names begin with the letter “**taa**”. In this way **Asma Ahl Badr** ﷺ are presented alphabetically in the **salawaat**.

Al-Hamdu Lillah (All Praise is for Allah ﷻ!)

3. LOVE OF ALLAH ﷻ, RASULULLAH ﷺ AND THE SAHABA ﷺ

The spiritual stature of Mawlana Diya ud-Deen Khalid al-Baghdadi قتيب الله is especially manifested in the manner in which he overflows with **salawaat** (blessings) on the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. He is truly immersed in the love of Allah ﷻ, the love of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the love of the **Sahaba** ﷺ. We would expect that of him since he traces his spiritual roots in Tariqa an-Naqshbandiyya all the way to Sayyidina Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه, his genealogical descent is from Sayyidina 'Uthman Dhu'n-Nurayn رضي الله عنه while his mother was a descendant of Sayyidina 'Ali al-Murtada رضي الله عنه. How much blessing is that? **Al-Hamdu Lillah!** (All Praise is for Allah!)

His biography in Arabic is given at the end of his book Jaaliyat-u'l-Akdaar. His full name is Mawlana Khalid bin Ahmad bin Husayn al-Baghdadi قتيب الله. He came from a saintly Kurdish family which was rooted in the **sufi** tradition, and his grandfather was considered a WaliyyAllah (Friend of Allah, **sufi** saint).

From his youth, Mawlana Khalid al-Baghdadi قتيب الله was ascetic, slept little and preferred seclusion. He is an international personality who was born on the outskirts of Sulaymaniyya in Iraq where he acquired his education in **tafsir** of Qur'an, Hadith and Shafi'i **fiqh** (jurisprudence); he was given **ijaza** (authorization) in **tariqa** al-Qadiriyya by Shaykh Mustafa al-Kurdi رحمته الله in Sham (which now comprises of Syria and Palestine); he performed Hajj and visited Makkah and

Madina; he also travelled to Iran, Afghanistan and India; he was given the **ijaza** (authorization) by Mawlana ‘Abdullah Ghulam ‘Ali Dehlavi an-Naqshbandi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in Dehli in the Qadiriyya, Naqshbandiyya, Chishtiyya and Suhrawardiyya tariqas; and when he returned to Baghdad, five hundred **‘ulama** (scholars) became his **murideen** (disciples) whom he taught **tafsir**, Hadith, and **fiqh**; after which he passed ahead in Damascus. He is acclaimed as the **qutb** (greatest **sufi** master, saint) of his time. **Allahu Akbar!** (Allah is Supremely Great!)

He composed **qasaaid** (eulogies) and **madih** (panegyrics) in Arabic, Farsi and Kurdi among which is his **takhmees** of Mawlana AbdulRahman Jami’s **qasida** (eulogy) in Farsi. A **takhmees** is the augmentation of a **qasida** from couplets to quintets. When he visited Makkah, he recited Dalaail u’l Khayraat (Proofs of Good Deeds) of Imam al-Jazuli رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in front of the Ka’ba. **SubhanAllah!** (Glorified is Allah ﷻ!) All in good time, Allah ﷻ blessed him to compose a book of **salawaat** himself.

Waqf Ikhlas of Istanbul, Turkey has done a great service to Muslims to have this book published. They have prepared it with the love and care it truly deserves. Allah’s Names have been printed in green, **salawaat** on the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in black, and the names of the **Sahaba** رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ in red, with a beautiful flower painting on the borders on each page. **Al-Hamdu Lillah!** (All Praise is for Allah ﷻ!)

May Allah ﷻ fill us with His love, the love of His Prophet ﷺ and the love of the **Sahaba** رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ. **Aameen Yaa Rabb-al-‘aalameen** (may it be so, O Lord of the worlds!).

Al-Fatiha!

Siddiq Osman Noormuhammad
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Reference

Mawlana Diya ud-Deen Khalid al-Baghdadi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, Jaaliyat-u’l-Akdaar wa’s-Sayf-u’l-Battaar fi’s-Salaati ‘ala’l-Mukhtaar, Hakikat Kitabevi, Istanbul, Turkey, 1991.