Chapter Six

MAJMU'AH SALAWAAT-U'R-RASUL (A COMPENDIUM OF BLESSINGS ON THE PROPHETIC MESSENGER (**)

of: KHWAJA 'ABDUR RAHMAN CHOHRAVI

An Appreciation by Siddiq Osman Noormuhammad

1. IT IS A GIFT FROM ALLAH

Majmu'ah Salawaat-u'r-Rasul (A Compendium of Blessings on the Prophetic Messenger) of Hadrat Mawlana Khwaja 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi (passed ahead 1342 A.H.), is a gift given to him by Allah (Salutations) on our Holy Prophet Sayyidina wa Mawlana Hadrat Muhammad al-Mustafa in 30 chapters. Each chapter of 48 pages (one of which is the title page), weaves the Asma Allah u'l-Husna (The Most Beautiful Names of Allah (Supplication to Allah (Invocation of blessings on the Prophetic Messenger) and du'a (supplication to Allah (Invocation of blessings on the Prophetic Messenger) and du'a (supplication to Allah (Invocation of blessings on the Prophetic Messenger) and du'a (supplication to Allah (Invocation of blessings on the Prophetic Messenger) and Salutation; that of the second, "Fi Salawaatihi wa Zuhurihi" (On the Holy Prophet's Light and Manifestation); that of the second, "Fi Salawaatihi wa Salaamihi" (On Blessings and Salutations on him); of the third, "Fi Badnihi wa A'dhaaihi" (On his Blessed Body and Limbs) and so on. Each chapter begins with Surah al-Fatiha and ends with Surah Ikhlas. However, before Surah al-Fatiha, Allah is invoked for the sake of Bismillah (In the Name of Allah). For example, Chapter 7, "Fee Asmaaihi wa Sifaatihi" (On his Blessed Names and Attributes) begins with the following du'a:

بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ اللهُمَّرِ اِنِّي اَسْئَلُكَ بِاَسْمَا ئِكَ بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ وِبِاسْمَا ءِحبِيْبِكِ بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ وَبِاسْمَا ءِجَمِيْعِ اَنْدِيَا ئِكَ وَرُسُلِكَ بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ وَبِاسْمَا ءِجَادِكَ الصَّالِحِيْنَ بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim

(In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful). (1:1) O Allah! I beg of You through the means of Your Names, **Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim**;

and through the means of the attributive names of Your Beloved (Prophet),

Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim;

and through the means of the names of all Your Prophets and Your Prophetic Messengers المنابعة, **Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim**;

and through the means of the names of all Your pious servants,

Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim.

As each chapter of the <u>Majmu'ah</u> begins with **Surah al-Fatiha** and ends with **Surah Ikhlas**, it is perhaps appropriate here to recite **Surah Ikhlas** three times and **Surah al-Fatiha** once.

Surah Ikhlas (3 times)

Al-Fatiha!

2. THE BELOVED PROPHET \$\mathscr{B}\$ LOVES HIM

For the sake of **Bismillah**, Allah made Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi a **Qutb** (spiritual pillar), a great **sufi** saint in Tariqa al-Qadiriyyah. His '**imamah** (prayer turban) was of **Asma u'l-Husna**, his fingerprints were of **Salawaat u'r-Rasul** and his lips and tongue were an unceasing chant of **du'a**. The Holy Prophet made him his very own, Shaykh 'Abdul Qadir al-Jilani embraced him, and Nabi Nuh lent him his Ark and taught him the verse:

بِسۡمِ ٱللَّهِ مَجۡرِلهَا وَمُرۡسَلهَآ

In the Name of Allah shall be its course and its anchoring. (11:41)

He could see that on the Ark was written:

لاَ اللهُ اللهُ مُحَمَّدُ رُسُولُ اللهِ

None is to be worshipped but Allah. Muhammad is the Prophetic Messenger of Allah.

He boarded the Ark with **Bismillah** and at once inscribed **Asma u'l-Husna** on its sails, **Salawaat u'r-Rasul** on its oars and **du'a** on its masts. The **sufi** saints who were gathered at the riverbank all joined in the **du'a** together with thousands of angels. The anchor was drawn up after the recitation of **Asma u'l-Husna** which filled 14 pages. The fishes joined in the **Salawaat** and **Salaams** and the birds chanted **Allahu** and **Ahad** (The One and Only), the blessed Names of Allah most dear to the Shaykh. The river was smooth and swift flowing and when it came to a gorge, the Shaykh was in full control, the only one who understood such deep spiritual mysteries. As the Ark splashed into the sea, with waves rising on both the sides, it formed the Name "Allah" in Arabic and all aboard were drenched with river and sea water all together and the drenching was **Rahmah** (Mercy) of Allah , each drop representing a thousand **salawaat**.

The sea would not be left out either and offered <u>Hizb u'l-Bahr</u> of Imam Abu'l Hasan ash-Shazili, the **malaika** (angels) recited the **hamd** (Praise of Allah), the **adhkaar** and the **awraad** (regular voluntary invocations) from the <u>Wird u'l-Latif</u> and the <u>Ratib</u> of Mawlana al-Haddad, and the blood in the veins of the rowers flowed with **du'a**. Enough **Asma Allah**, **salawaat** and **du'a** was recited to fill 1410 letter-size pages in 2 volumes of 15 chapters each. The Ark came safely ashore with the following **salaat**:

May Allah's blessing be upon him, his Family, his wives, his descendants, his offspring and his Companions, all of them

3. IT HAS THE MUSK OF THE QUR'AN

Al-Fatiha!

The <u>Majmu'ah</u> is full of verses from the Holy Qur'an. For example, Chapter 19 titled "Fi Ayaatihi wa Bishaaraatihi" (On the Verses of the Qur'an and Glad Tidings about him) begins with 127 **salawaat**, musk-scented with verses of the Holy Qur'an, four of which are:

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad, for whose sake Allah said (in the Holy Qur'an):

Say (O Prophet ﷺ)! If you love Allah, follow me; Allah will love you. (3:31)

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad, and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad, for whose sake Allah said (in the Holy Qur'an):

And establish Prayer and give Zakah (the obligatory charity)

and obey the Prophetic Messenger, so that you may obtain mercy (from Allah ...). (24:56)

ٱللَّهُمَّرَصَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِينَا هُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى اللهِ اللهِ عَلَى اللهُ فِي حَقِّهِ اللهُ فَي حَقِّه لَا لَهُ مَا لَا اللهُ فِي حَقِّه لَا اللهُ فَي حَقَّلَ اللهُ فَي حَقَّه لَا اللهُ فَي حَقَّلَ اللهُ فَي حَقَّلَ اللهُ فَي حَقَّلَ اللهُ فَي حَقَّلَ اللهُ فَي حَقَلَ اللهُ عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلّا عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلّا عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلّا عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلّا عَلّا عَلَيْ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad, for whose sake Allah said (in the Holy Qur'an):

Certainly you have in the Prophetic Messenger of Allah an excellent example (to follow). (33:21)

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad, for whose sake Allah said (in the Holy Qur'an):

Surely, those who pledge allegiance to you (O Beloved Prophet), pledge allegiance to Allah; the hand of Allah is over their hands. (48:10)

Once he has presented all the verses of the Holy Qur'an Kareem specifically related to the beloved Prophet , he offers the **Du'a-u Khatmu'l-Qur'an** (Supplication on Completion of Qur'an Recitation).

Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi achieves comprehensiveness in this instance as he does throughout the **kitab** (book) by reminding us in the following **salaat** that indeed, the noble Prophet Muhammad al-Mustafa has been glowingly described not only in the Holy Qur'an, but in all other Divinely revealed Books as well.

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا عُحَهَّدٍ الَّذِيْ قَالَ اللهُ تَعَالَى فِي حَقِّ أَوْصَافِه فِي الزَّبُوْرِلِلَاوْ دَعَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَفِي التَّوْرَاتِ لِمُوسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَفِي الرِّنْجِيْلِ لِعِيْسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَفِي الرِّنْجِيْلِ لِعِيْسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَفِي كُلِّ صُحُفٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad whose noble qualities Allah the Exalted rightfully described

in the Zabur of Nabi Dawud (peace be upon him), and in the Tawraat of Nabi Musa (peace be upon him), and in the Injil of Nabi 'Isa (peace be upon him), and in all the Divine scriptures, may Allah bless him and grant him peace.

4. IT HAS THE FRAGRANCE OF HADITH SHAREEF

Each chapter is also full of Hadith Shareef. For example, Chapter 14 titled "Fee Qaalihi wa Maqaalihi" (On what he said and his teachings) devotes the first few pages to 225 salawaat woven around the blessed Hadith Shareef, one of which is:

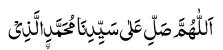
O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad who said: "Indeed, actions are judged by intentions".

The Hadith Shareef in this **salaat** has been narrated by Sayyidina 'Umar ibn al-Khattab and is the first Hadith reported in <u>As-Sahih</u> (Authentic) of Imam al-Bukhari and, and in <u>Riyad u's-Salihin</u> (Gardens Of The Righteous) of Imam an-Nawawi.

Chapter 26 titled "Fee Khuluqihi wa Akhlaaqihi" (On His Moral Character and Noble Behaviour), is also full of **salawaat** blended with Hadith Shareef related to the topic, three of which are:

O Allah! Bless our master Sayyidina Muhammad who said: "Indeed, the more weighty thing placed in the Scales (of good deeds) of a believer on the Day of Judgement is his good behaviour, and surely, Allah detests a person who is obscene and shameless".

The Hadith Shareef in this **salaat** has been narrated by Hadrat Abu ad-Darda' and is reported by Imam at-Tirmidhi as well as by Imam an-Nawawi in <u>Riyad us-Salihin</u> (with slightly different wording).



سَأَلَرَجُلُ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ غَيَّا بَيْنَ جَبَلَيْنِ فَأَعْطَاهُ اِيَّاهُ فَأَتَى قَوْمَهُ فَقَالَ، أَيْ قَوْمِي اَسْلِمُوا، فَوَاللهِ إِنَّ مُحَمَّدًا لَيُعْطِي عَطَاءً مَا يَخَافُ الْفَقْرَ

O Allah! Bless our master Sayyidina Muhammad, the Prophet, who, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, was once asked by someone to give him a flock of sheep between the mountains and he gave that to him.

So, that person came to his community and said: "O people! Embrace Islam. By Allah! Truly, Muhammad gives away so much as if he does not fear poverty".

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad who never said "no" whenever he was asked for anything.

The Hadith Shareef in this salaat has been narrated by Hadrat Jabir bin 'Abdullah and is reported by Imam Al-Bukhari and Imam Muslim and Imam Muslim.

5. SALAWAAT WITH HADITH AL-QUDSI

One of the most pleasing features of this **kitab** is that Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi presents many **salawaat** with Hadith al-Qudsi as well. The difference between Hadith al-Qudsi and Hadith an-Nabawi is that while Hadith an-Nabawi are Sayings of the blessed Prophet (Sallallahu 'alayhi wa Sallam), Hadith al-Qudsi is what Allah has communicated to him through revelation, inspiration, or in a dream, and the beloved Prophet has then communicated it in his own words. The Qur'an is of course superior to Hadith al-Qudsi because besides being revealed, it is Allah's own Word.

One of the **salawaat** in the <u>Majmu'ah</u> containing Hadith al-Qudsi is as follows:

وَكُمْ مِّنْ فَقِيْدٍ اَفْسَلَهُ الْفَقُرُ
وَكُمْ مِّنْ غَنِيّ اَفْسَلَهُ الْفَقُرُ
وَكُمْ مِّنْ عَنِيّ اَفْسَلَهُ الْعَافِيّةُ
وَكُمْ مِّنْ عَالِمٍ اَفْسَلَهُ الْعَافِيّةُ
وَكُمْ مِّنْ عَالِمٍ اَفْسَلَهُ الْعِلْمُ،
يَاتِنِيُ احْمَ، زَارِعُوْنِ وَرَابِحُوْنِ وَاسِقُونِ وَعَامِلُوْنِ،
اِنَّارِ بْحَكُمْ عِنْدِي مَالَا عَيْنُ رَأْتُ وَلَا أَذُنَّ سَمِعَتْ وَلَا خَطَرَ عَلَى قَلْبِ بَشَرٍ
وَلَا تَنْفَلُ خَزَائِينَ وَلَا يَنْقُصُ مُلْكِي،
وَلَا تَنْفَلُ خَزَائِينَ وَلَا يَنْقُصُ مُلْكِي،

O Allah! Bless our master Sayyidina Muhammad who said in Hadith al-Qudsi that Allah said:
O son of Adam!
How many lamps have been put out by the wind, and how many worshippers have been spoiled by pride, and how many faqeers (derveshes) have been spoiled by faqr (poverty), and how many of the rich have been spoiled by riches, and how many of the healthy have been spoiled by good health, and how many of the learned have been spoiled by knowledge?
O son of Adam!
Sow for Me, profit for My sake, put your confidence in Me, and work for Me.
Truly, the gain you will have from Me (in Paradise), no eye has seen, no ear has heard, nor has it occurred to the heart of any human being. My treasures do not run out and My Kingship does not decrease.
I am the Bestower.

6. THE BELOVED PROPHET'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNSEEN

Chapter 21, "Fee 'Ilmihi wa 'Ilmi Ghaybihi" (On his knowledge of what is seen and his knowledge of the Unseen), has 361 salawaat proving that the blessed Prophet had the knowledge of the seen as well as the unseen. For example, the beloved Prophet had seen heaven and hell, he had seen Archangel Jibril as well as the other angels, he had been to the seven heavens and met the Prophets when he was invited by Allah on mi'raj (heavenly ascension), he had seen the punishment given to sinners in their graves, he knew who would go to heaven and hell, he knew that Imam al-Hasan would one day unite two Muslim factions, and he knew that Sayyidatina Fatima would be the first to follow him after he left his earthly existence. He made many other prophecies all of which came true. For example, he prophesized that Allah will conquer Rome and Persia for the Muslims. He knew about Sidratu'l

Muntaha (the farthest Lote-tree), 'Arsh (Allah's Throne), Maqam Mahmud (The Highest Praised Station), as well as the Tasbeehaat (words of Glorification of Allah by by the angels in the various heavens. He informed us that the Tasbeeh recited by the angels in the first heaven is "Subhana Dhi'l Mulki wa'l Malakut" and Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi has a salaat for it:

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا هُحَتَّدٍ وَعَلَى الْسَيِّدِنَا هُحَتَّدٍ اللَّهُمَّ الْسَيِّدِنَا هُحَتَّدٍ اللَّهُ الْسَاءَ اللَّهُ الْسَاءُ اللَّهُ الْسَاءَ اللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْمُعْلَمُ اللَّهُ الْمُعْلَمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُعْلَمُ اللْمُعْلَمُ اللْمُوالِمُ الللْمُلْمُ اللْمُعْمِلْمُ اللْمُلْم

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad who informed that the Glorification of Allah by the angels on the first heaven is: Glorified is The Owner of the Sovereignty and the Kingdom of heaven.

In the same way, he informed about the **Tasbeehaat** (words of Glorification) by the angels on the other heavens as follows:

On the second heaven:

سُبِحَانَ ذِالْعِزَّةِ وَالْجَبَرُوْتِ

Glorified is The Possessor of Honour and Omnipotence

On the third heaven:

سُبِعَانَ الْحَتِّى الَّذِيثَ لَا يَمُوْتُ

Glorified is The Ever-Living, The Everlasting

On the fourth heaven:

سُبُّوْحُ قُنُّوْسُ رَبُّنَا وَرَبُّ مَلْئِكَةِ وَالرُّوْح

Glorious, The Most Holy, our Lord, and the Lord of the angels and of the Archangel Jibril ماليتانا

On the fifth heaven:

سُبُحَانَ مَنْ جَمَعَ بَيْنَ الشَّلْجِ وَالنَّارِ

Glorified is He Who brought together ice and fire

On the sixth heaven:

سُبُحَانَ الْمَلِكِ الْقُتُّوسِ رَبِّ كُلِّ شَيءٍ وَالَيْهِ النُّشُورِ

Glorified is The King, The Most Holy One, Lord of all creation, and to Him is the return (on the Day of Judgement)

On the seventh heaven:

سُبْحَانَ خَالِقِ النُّوْر

Glorified is The Creator of light

When we finish reciting Chapter 21 of Majmu'ah Salawaat-u'r-Rasul, we obtain the certitude that Allah gave the sum total of all knowledge, both manifest and hidden to the beloved Prophet who then distributes it among people in proportion to what has been decreed for them by Allah , Khaaliqu kulli shay' (the Creator of everything).

7. HIS LOVE FOR ALLAH 38 AND THE PROPHET 28

Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi received this priceless inheritance in immense measure. As you recite each chapter, you marvel at his love for Allah for the beloved Prophet for his Family and Companions for the awliya (sufi saints) and the salihin (the pious) for his Family and Companions for the awliya (sufi saints) and the salihin (the pious) for his Family and Companions for the awliya (sufi saints) and the salihin (the pious) for his Family and Companions for the awliya (sufi saints) and the salihin for the prophets for the awliya (sufi saints) and on all the other Prophets for the mentioning more than a hundred Prophets for by name), on the ummahaat u'l-mu'mineen (mothers of faithful believers) for the sapecially on Sayyidatina Khadija for and Sayyidatina 'Aisha for the Ahl u'l-Bayt (his blessed Household), especially Sayyidina 'Ali, Sayyidatina Fatima, Sayyidina Imam al-Hasan, and Sayyidina Imam al-Husayn for the Khulafa ar-Rashidin al-Mahdiyyin, that is Sayyidina Abubakr as-Siddiq, Sayyidina 'Umar al-Faruq, Sayyidina 'Uthman Dhu'n-Nurayn and Sayyidina 'Ali al-Murtada for the other sahaba (Companions) for mentioning more than a hundred sahaba by name, on the awliya and the salihin for the sa

Let us savour seven salawaat from the Majmu'ah to appreciate his love for the Prophet 3.

Noor Muhammad-i

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا هُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى الْسَيِّدِنَا هُحَمَّدٍ اللَّهُمَّ مَلِ اللَّهُ الْمُنَورَةُ قَبْلَ الْخَلْقِ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهُ بَمِيْعَ الْاَشْيَاءِ الَّذِينَ خَلَقَ مِنْهُ بَمِيْعَ الْاَشْيَاءِ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad

whose **noor** (light) Allah created before (other) creation and from it created all other things.

Qadamu Sidqin

اَللَّهُمَّرَصَلِّ وَسَلِّمُ عَلَى قَدَمِ صِنْقٍ صَلُوةً تُقَيِّمُنَا مِهَا إلى صِنْقِ الْمَصْنُوقِيْنَ الْمُقَرَّبِيْنَ الْمَحْبُوبِيْنَ الْمُبَشِّرِيْنَ وَبَشِّرِ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوۤ أَأَنَّ لَهُمۡ قَدَمَ صِدۡقٍعِندَ رَبِّمَ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on "One with a sincere footing" (one of the Asma' un-Nabi ﷺ); such a blessing which will lead us towards

the truth of those who are accepted as truthful, those drawn near to Allah, the beloveds, the givers of glad news (as You told the beloved Prophet):

and give glad news to the believers

that they have a footing of truth with their Lord. (10:2)

How he spent his time

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad whose time was used in three parts: one part was for Allah, one part was for his Family, and one part was for himself; then the part that was for himself, he again divided into two: one for himself and one for his dealings with people.

His sifaat (Noble Attributes)

اللهُمَّ صَلِّوسَلِّم عَلَى سَيِّدِنا مُحَهَّدٍ وَعَلَى الْسَيِّدِنا هُحَهَّدٍ اللهُمَّ صَلَّا اللهُ عَلَى الْسَيِّدِنا هُحَهَّدٍ وَعَلَى الْسَيِّدِنا هُحَهَّدٍ وَعَلَى الْسَعْرِ فَةُ رَأْسَ مَالِهِ وَالطَّاعَةُ غَايَةَ امَالِهِ وَالْعَقُلُ اَصُلُ دِينِهِ وَالتَّفَكُرُ ضِيَاءُ يَقِيئِهِ وَالْحُبُّ اسَاسُهُ وَالتَّقُولِ لِبَاسُهُ وَالتَّهُ مُرَكَبُهُ وَالزُّهُ لُهُ مَكْسَبُهُ وَذِكُرُ اللهِ تَعَالَى اَنِيْسُهُ وَالزُّهُ لُهُ مَكْسَبُهُ وَذِكُرُ اللهِ تَعَالَى اَنِيْسُهُ وَالتَّوْكُ لُكُ اللهِ وَتَعَالَى اَنِيْسُهُ وَالطَّهُ مُرَكَةً وَالمَّامُ اللهُ وَالتَّوْكُ لُكُ كِسَاءُهُ وَالسِّمَاءُ وَالسَّمَ اللهُ وَالسَّمُ اللهُ وَالْسَمَاءُ وَالسَّمَ اللهُ وَالسَّمُ اللهُ وَالْسَمَاءُ وَالسَّمَ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ وَالسَّمُ اللهُ وَالسَّمُ اللهُ وَالسَّمَ اللهُ اللهُ

وَالصِّدُقُ زَادُمَعَادِهٖ وَالْفَقُرُ فَغُرُهُ عَلَى آقُرَانِهِ وَالْعَجْزُ إِلَّى حَضْرَةِ اللهِ تَعَالَى رَوْنَقُ بُسْتَانِهِ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad whose knowledge was his capital investment, and obedience (to Allah was the utmost limit of his hopes, and intellect was the basis of his religion, and meditation was the brightness of his certitude, and love was his foundation, and reverential awe of Allah was his clothing, and ardent desire (to please Allah at all times) was his conveyance, and abstinence was his earning, and the remembrance of Allah The Exalted was his close friend, and grief was his sitting companion, and patience was his robe, and reliance on Allah was his garment, and contentment was a pearl in his crown, and certitude was the light of his lamp, and fear (of Allah was the fruit of his heart, and truth was the provision for his Hereafter, and poverty was what he prided himself about over others, and humbleness in the Presence of Allah The Exalted was the beauty of his garden.

Basharun laa ka'l bashar

ٱللَّهُمَّرَ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنِنَاهُ عَبَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ الْ سَيِّدِنَاهُ عَبَّدٍ اللَّهُمَّ وَنِسُبَةُ عَلَى الْخَبَّدِ وَنِسُبَةُ عَالَى الْكَلْقِ نِسْبَةُ يَاقُوْتٍ بَيْنَ حَجَرٍ لَيَسَرُّ لَا كَالْبَشَرِ وَنِسْبَتُهُ مِنَ الْخَلْقِ نِسْبَةُ يَاقُوْتٍ بَيْنَ حَجَرٍ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad who was a human being but not like other human beings. His comparison with creation is like that of a priceless gem among stones.

Shari'ah, Tariqa, Haqiqa, Ma'rifa

ٱللهُمَّرَصَلِّ وَسَلِّمُ عَلَى مُطَاعٍ صَلُوةً تُطِيْعُنَا مِهَا شَرِيْعَةَ الْهُحَبَّدِيَّةِ وَطَرِيْقَةَ الْاَحْمَدِيَّةِ وَحَقِيْقَةَ السَّرْ مَدِيَّةِ وَمَعْرِفَةَ الْإِلهِيَّةِ بِإِطَاعَةِ، أَطِيعُوا ْٱللَّهُ وَأَطِيعُواْ ٱلرَّسُولَ O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on the "one who is obeyed"; such a blessing by means of which You may make us obey Sayyidina Muhammad's Shari'ah (law), and Sayyidina Ahmad's Tariqa (spiritual path), and the eternal Haqiqa (Essential reality), and Ma'rifa (direct knowledge of Allah's Attributes); by obeying (the verse of the Qur'an):

Obey Allah and obey the (Prophetic) Messenger. (4:59)

In this **salaat**, four of the blessed attributive names of the beloved Prophet ﷺ from the **Asma' un-Nabi** ﷺ have been used: Mutaa', Muhammad, Ahmad and Rasul ﷺ.

Fanaa Fillah, Baqaa Billah

ٱللَّهُمَّرَ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَاهُ عَلَى الْكُهُمَّ مِنَاهُ عَلَى الْكِسَيِّدِنَاهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ اللَّهُ عَلَى الللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُعْلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُعْمَلِي الْمُعْمَلِي الْمُعْمِقِيلِ عَلَى الْمُعْمَالِمُ عَلَى الْمُعْمِعُ عَلَى الْمُعْمِعُ عَلَى الْمُعْمِعُ عَلَى الْمُعْمِعُ عَلَى الْمُعْمِعُ عَلَى الْمُعْمَ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad who was extinct in You at all times and who was abiding with You in all situations.

8. SALAAT ON THE SALAAH (PRAYER) OF THE PROPHET 🗯

An established tradition among the **mashaayikh** (spiritual masters) who have composed **salawaat** is to invoke blessings of Allah on each of the **a'maal** (actions or deeds) of the blessed Prophet. Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi is no exception. His **salaat** (blessing) on the **Salaah** (Prayer) of the beloved Prophet is a gem nobody would like to part with.

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَاهُ عَلَى اللَّهُمَّ مِالُوعَلَى اللَّهُمَّ مِنَاهُمَّ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَاهُمَّ اللَّهُمَّ مَلَّ عَلَى التَّعْرِيْمَ اللَّهُ الْمُسْتَعَبَّاتِ وَنَفْلِهِ فِي النَّا التَّعْرِيْمَ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ المَّالِمَ اللَّهُ الللْهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الللْهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُ الللْمُ الللْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْمُ الْمُلْمُ اللْمُلْ

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad and on his tree stump among all tree stumps, and on his intention among all intentions, and on his takbeer (Allahu Akbar, Allah is Supremely Great) among all takbeeraat,

and on his state of ritual consecration (to start a Prayer), among all such states of consecration,

and on his obligatory Prayer among all obligatory Prayers,

and on his necessary Prayer among all necessary Prayers,

and on his Prayer which became his Tradition among all such Traditional Prayers,

and on his recommended Prayer among all recommended Prayers,

and on his optional Prayer among all optional Prayers,

and on his permitted Prayer among all permitted Prayers,

and on his optional night-vigil Prayer among all those who perform optional night-vigil Prayers, and on his recitation (of the Qur'an) among all reciters.

In invoking blessings on the Prayer of the beloved Prophet , the Shaykh also invokes blessings on the tree stump where he used to deliver his Friday **khutbah** (sermon) until a pulpit was built for him as we learn from this blessed Hadith Shareef:

Narrated by Jabir bin Abdullah :: The Prophet used to stand by a tree or a date palm on Friday. Then an Ansari woman or man said, "O Prophetic Messenger of Allah! Shall we make a pulpit for you?" He replied, "If you wish". So they made a pulpit for him and when it was Friday, he proceeded towards the pulpit (for delivering the sermon). The date-palm cried like a child! The Prophet descended (the pulpit) and embraced it while it continued moaning like a child being quietened. The Prophet said, "It was crying for (missing) what it used to hear of religious knowledge given near to it". (al-Bukhari)

9. SALAAT WITH TASBEEHAAT AND PRAISE OF ALLAH

Trust Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi to come up with a **salaat** with **Tasbeehaat** and the **Kalima at-Tawhid** as in this instance:

ٵڵؖۿۄۜۧڝٙڸؚۜۼڸڛٙؾؚٮؚڹٵۿؗۼؠۜڽۣٵڷڹؽۊٵؘڶ؞ ۺۼٵڽٵڵڡۅٵڬؠ۬ۮۑڵڽۅۅٙڵٳڵڡٙٳؖڵٳڶڵۿۅٵڵڷٵٛػڹۯ؞ ۅؘڝٙڸؚۼڸڛؾؚٮڹٵۿۼؠۧڽۣٵڷڹؿۊٵڶ؞ ۺۼٵؽٵڵؿۅۅٛڮؠٛڽ؋ ۅؘڝٙڸؚۼڸڛٙؾؚٮؚڹٵڡٛۼؠڕٵڷڹؿۊٵڶ؞ ڒٳڵڡٳڵڒٳڵ۫ۿۅؙڂڒٷؘڵۺٙڔؽڮڶڬڵۿؙٳؙڮؙڶڰؙڶڰؙڶڰۏڵۿٵڵڿؠؙۮۅۿۊۼڸػؙڸؚۜۺؽۦؚ۠ۊٙۑؽڗؖ

O Allah! Bless our master Sayyidina Muhammad who said,

"Glorified is Allah, and all Praise is for Allah

and none is to be worshipped but Allah, and Allah is Supremely Great."

And Bless Sayyidina Muhammad who said,

"Glorified is Allah as He Himself Praises Himself."

And Bless Sayyidina Muhammad who said, "None is to be worshipped but Allah; He is One; He has no partner. His is the Kingdom and His is the Praise and He is All-Powerful over all things."

10. HIS SCHOLARSHIP

The miracle is that Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi did not obtain a **madrasa** education beyond learning Qur'anic recitation, nor did he learn how to write. His <u>Majmu'ah Salawaat-u'r-Rasul</u> is therefore a gift from Allah like. It took 12 years, 8 months and 20 days to complete; and was sent for publication to his **Khalifa** (deputy) in Rangoon, Burma in the year the Shaykh left his earthly abode in Pakistan on 1st Dhu'l Hijjah 1342 A.H.

The preface to the <u>Majmu'ah</u> gives the life history of the Shaykh. The fact that he was destined for great heights was revealed at the tender age of eight when he kept optional fasts for 40 continuous days while being initiated into **tariqa** (spiritual path leading to Allah . While yet a child, he achieved **tazkiya** (spiritual purification). SubhaanAllah! (Glorified is Allah)!

When you recite Majmu'ah Salawaat-u'r-Rasul , you realise that Muslim scholarship is alive and well, but that it is not disseminated widely enough. If a book remotely resembling this masterpiece had been produced by a Christian concerning his religion, dozens of Ph.D's would already have been produced on it but the aim of Muslims is to seek **Rida Allah** (the Pleasure of Allah), and just reciting the Majmu'ah from cover to cover is enough of an achievement. And now we can benefit from its translation in Urdu as well, by Shaykh u'l-Hadith Mawlana Muhammad Ashraf Siyalwi, of which the first six chapters have already been done with great loving care befitting its dignity and stature.

The Majmu'ah is in the tradition of Imam al-Jazuli's Dalaail u'l-Khayraat (Proofs of Good Deeds), in that it is a selected compilation of **salawaat** existing up to that time. It is evident that Allah had opened the heart of Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi to the vast seas of 'ulum (knowledge) of this world as well as the Hereafter. He was an authority on **salawaat**, du'a, awraad and adhkaar of which he presented his choicest collection in 1410 pages of the Majmu'ah. Indeed, he loved Dalaail u'l-Khayraat so much that he composed a salaat on it as follows:

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى دَلِيُلِ الْخَيْرَاتِ، صَلُوةً تُلَلِّلُنَا مِهَا بِلَلَا يُلِ الْخَيْرَاتِ وَشَوَارِقِ الْأَنُوارِ، وَتُخَيِّرُنَا مِهَا بِخَيْرِ خِيَارِ الْاَخْيَارِ الْاَبْرَارِ، فَٱسْتَبِقُواْ ٱلْخَيْرَاتِ O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on the "Proof of Good Deeds", a blessing by means of which You may guide us to <u>Dalaail u'l-Khayraat wa Shawaariq u'l-Anwaar</u> (Proofs of Good Deeds and the Brilliant Burst of Sunshine), and by means of which You may choose us as charitable good people, with the pick of the pious elite, the best of the righteous, (as You said in the Holy Qur'an):

so strive to excel in good deeds. (2:148 and 5:48)

The beloved Prophet is **Daleel u'l-Khayraat** (Guide to good deeds), Imam al-Jazuli compiled a book of blessings on him called <u>Dalaail u'l-Khayraat</u> (Proofs of Good Deeds) and Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi composed a **salaat** on the **Daleel u'l-Khayraat** together with the title of the book <u>Dalaail u'l-Khayraat</u> to fulfil Allah's command of **Fastabiqu'l Khayraat**! Isn't that neat and special?

This naturally raises the question: if you really aspire to recite the encyclopaedic <u>Majmu'ah</u> from cover to cover, how would you really go about doing it? If you recite a chapter a day, you can complete its thirty chapters in a month. Each chapter takes about two to three hours to recite, depending on how fast and proficient you are at Arabic recitation. On the other hand, if the **mureedeen** (disciples) decide to adopt a more leisurely pace and recite a chapter a week (7 pages a day), that would give them at most 21 minutes of recitation every day and at this rate, they can complete the <u>Majmu'ah</u> in seven months. Allahu Akbar (Allah is Supremely Great)!

To gain a flavour of it and some appreciation, the beginner would be well advised to recite at least the first three chapters because they form an integrated whole, starting with and ending in **Asma u'l-Husna** (the Most Beautiful Names of Allah), with **salawaat** and **du'a** interspersed in-between. That might indeed provide the encouragement to complete the whole **kitab!** However, before embarking on this momentous venture, the **saalik** (spiritual traveller) would be well advised to get the **ijaza** (permission) of his **Shaykh** (spiritual master).

11. HIS DU'A

It is fitting to conclude with the **du'a** at the end of Chapter 15 in Volume 1 which combines **du'a** with **Asma u'l-Husna**, verses of the Holy Qur'an and **salaat** in a manner that is an outstanding feature of the Majmu'ah of Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman Chohravi

ٱللّٰهُمَّرِيَاحَيُّ يَاقَيُّوْمُ يَاحَنَّانُ يَامَنَّانُ يَاكَتَّانُ يَاسُلُطَانُ يَاسُبُحَانُ،

لَّا إِلَىهَ إِلَّا أَنتَ شُبْحَىنَكَ إِنِّي كُنتُ مِنَ ٱلظَّلِمِينَ ﴿ فَٱسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ وَجَعَّيْنَهُ مِنَ ٱلظَّلِمِينَ ﴿ وَكَذَالِكَ اللَّهُ وَكَذَالِكَ اللَّهُ وَكَذَالِكَ اللَّهُ وَكَذَالِكَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَرَكَرِيّا آلِذَ اللَّهُ وَكَذَالِكَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَرَكَرِيّا آلِهُ وَرَكِرِيّا آلِهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّالَةُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللّلِكُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّالِكُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللّلْمُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللّلْمُ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّالَ

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّوَسَلِّمُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا هُحَهَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ اللِسَيِّدِنَا هُحَهَّدٍ مَا لَا هُمَّ اللَّهُمَّ مَلْهُ وَ اللَّهُمَّ مَلْهُ وَ اللَّهُ عَلَى مَنْ اللَّهُ الْوَاحِدِيَّةِ وَحُضُورِ حَضَرَاتِ الْمُقَلَّسَةِ الْوَحْدَانِيَّةِ مَطْهَرِ الْأَكْدِيَّةِ وَحُضُورِ حَضَرَاتِ الْمُقَلَّسَةِ الْوَحْدَانِيَّةِ مَطْهَرِ الْأَكْدِيَّةِ وَحُضُورِ حَضَرَاتِ الْمُقَلِّمَةِ الْوَحْدَانِيَّةِ وَلُمْ يَكُن لَهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْمُ اللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللللَّهُ اللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللللَّهُ الللللْكُولُ اللللْكُولُ اللللْكُولُ اللَّهُ الللْكُولُولُ اللللْكُولُولُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللللْكُولُ اللَّهُ اللْلِلْلِي الللللْلُهُ اللْلِلْمُ اللْلَهُ اللْمُعَلِّمُ اللْلِلْلِي الْمُؤْلِمُ اللللْلَهُ اللللْلَهُ اللْلَّهُ اللْلِلْلْلِلْلِلْلِلْلِلْلَّالِمُ اللْلْلِي اللللْلَّالِ اللْلَّهُ الْلَهُ الْمُؤْلِلْلْمُ اللْلُهُ الْ

O Allah! O The Ever-Living, O The Self-Existing by Whom all subsist,

O The Compassionate, O The One Who Bestows favours,

O The Judge, O The Ruler, O The Glorified.

(Prophet Yunus, peace be upon him, said):

"None is to be worshipped but You, Glorified are You; indeed I acted improperly".

Then We responded to him and delivered him from the grief and thus do We deliver the believers.

And Zakariyyaa when he called out to his Lord (saying):

"O my Lord! Leave me not alone and You are the Best (Final) Inheritor (of everything). (21:87-89)

O Allah! Bless and bestow peace on our master Sayyidina Muhammad

and on the Family of Sayyidina Muhammad,

who appearance manifests Divine Unity, and

who is manifestly present

in the Sacred Manifestations of

the Oneness of Allah

(which is declared in His Praise by all His creation)

and present in the Sacred Presence of the Oneness of Allah

(as Allah says in the Holy Qur'an):

Say (O Prophet ﷺ): He, Allah is One.

Allah, The Self-Sufficient, Eternally Besought.

He begets not, nor was He begotten.

And there is none like Him. (112:1-4)

Al-Fatiha!

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