



FATEMIYE

LITANIES *for* THE SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE



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from his book
Naḥt al-‘Ilm

Translation
Adnaan Raja

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

For
Imam Ahmad b. Hanbal



الطبعة الإلكترونية الأولى

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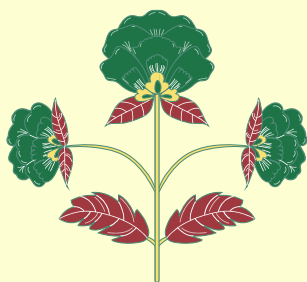
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah the Merciful and Compassionate

*Benefitting
from
Books*

Before you begin reading a book, recite Sūrat al-Fātiḥah and dedicate its reward to the author's soul. In doing so, you will reap the blessing of the author, which, by Allah's grace, will aid your understanding.

*Difficult
Texts*

Should a passage prove difficult to grasp, pause, close the book, and offer two rak'ahs of prayer. Frame your intention around seeking Allah's assistance, asking Him to resolve your difficulty and illuminate the meanings embedded within the text

Eloquence

Should you struggle to articulate yourself, or find yourself overcome by hesitation and mistakes in your speech, consistently invoke the Divine Name Yā Badī' {يَا بَدِيعُ} one thousand times daily for forty consecutive days. By the grace of Allah, you will be granted true eloquence.

*Before
Every
Lesson*

Among the greatest litanies for attaining openings in knowledge and ease in understanding is Sūrat al-Fātiḥah, as a regular litany, reciting it seven times before every lesson. Each morning after Fajr, it is also recommended to recite it one hundred times.

Improving
Comprehe-
nsion

Whoever is slow in comprehension should persist in reciting the following verse: {وَتَعِيهَا أُنْزُ وَاعِيَّةٌ} (Q. 69:12).

Studying
a
Difficult
Book

If one is studying a book whose contents seem difficult, let him write at the beginning of the book the saying of Allah Most High:

وَإِذْ نَتَقْنَا الْجَبَلَ فَوْقَهُمْ كَأَنَّهُ ظُلَّةٌ وَظَنُّوا أَنَّهُ وَاقِعٌ بِهِمْ خُذُوا مَا آتَيْنَاكُمْ بِقُوَّةٍ وَاذْكُرُوا مَا فِيهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ
(Q. 7:171).

Overcom-
ing
Fatigue

If one needs to review notes but is overcome by sleep, they should repeatedly invoke the Divine Name Yā Qayyūm {يَا قَيُّوْمٌ} without a specific quantity. By Allah's permission, its effect will be witnessed.

For
Wisdom
&
Knowledge

One should regularly combine the two Sacred Names Yā 'Alīm Yā Ḥakīm {يَا عَلِيْمُ يَا حَكِيْمٌ}. He should recite them in seclusion while facing the qiblah, sitting bareheaded upon the ground with nothing intervening between him and the earth, one thousand times daily for forty days. He will, by Allah's permission, witness remarkable increase in knowledge and wisdom.

Leaving
a
Sin

Whoever has become accustomed to a sin and repeatedly falls back into it should regularly recite the Divine Name Yā Tawwāb {يَا تَوَّابٌ} as a daily litany of one thousand repetitions. Allah will aid him in remaining firm upon repentance.

Loss
of
Motivation

Whoever has lost enthusiasm for study and diligent effort should frequently invoke the Divine Name Yā Bā'ith {يَا بَاعِثُ} throughout his free time, without restricting himself to a specific number.

Seeking
Divine
Bestowals

One should persevere in remembrance and supplication using the Divine Names Yā Wahhāb Yā Razzāq {يَا وَهَّابُ يَا رَزَّاقُ}. These two Names are keys to the opening of divine gifts. They are beautifully combined in the following supplication:

{وَهِّبْ لِي يَا وَهَّابُ عِلْمًا وَحِكْمَةً، وَارْزُقْنِي يَا رَزَّاقُ كُلَّ مَا
يُسَهِّلُ لِي.}

*Bestow upon me, O Bestower, knowledge and wisdom; and
provide for me, O Provider, everything that facilitates my path.*

Memoris-
ing the
Qur'an

Whoever is engaged in memorising the Quran should regularly recite *Sūrat al-Muzammil* every day, for among its special properties is that it aids and facilitates the memorisation of the Quran.

Memorisation

Another practice that assists in memorising the Quran is to recite the verse:

{وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ}
(Q. 54:22).

One should recite it one hundred time dailys, and repeat it throughout the day without limiting oneself to a fixed number.

Strengthening Memory

The following verse strengthens one's ability to memorise and prevents forgetfulness:

{سَنُقْرِئُكَ فَلَا تَنْسَى}
(Q. 87:6)

Recalling What Was Memorised

To assist in recalling what one has memorised and strengthening one's memory, regularly invoke Yā Mubdi' Yā Mu'id {يَا مُبْدِئُ يَا مُعِيدُ} one thousand times each day.

Openings in Any Science

Recite the Divine Name Yā 'Alīm {يَا عَلِيمُ} one hundred and fifty times every morning and evening. After completing the recitation, say:

{اللَّهُمَّ عَلِّمْنِي الْعِلْمَ الْفُلَانِيَّ}

replacing {الْعِلْمَ الْفُلَانِيَّ} with the name of the science.



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