My God, tongues fall short of attaining praise of You proper to Your majesty,

intellects are incapable of grasping the core of Your beauty,

eyes fail before gazing upon the glories of Your face,

and You have assigned to Your creatures no way to know You

save incapacity to know You!

My God, place us among those within the gardens of whose breasts the trees of yearning for You have taken firm root

and the assemblies of whose hearts have been seized by the ardour of Your love!

They seek shelter in the nests of meditation,

feed upon the gardens of nearness and disclosure,

drink from the pools of love with the cup of gentle favour,

and enter into the watering-places of warm affection.

The covering has been lifted from their eyes,

the darkness of disquiet has been dispelled from their beliefs and their innermost minds

the contention of doubt has been negated from their hearts and their secret thoughts,

their breasts have expanded through the verification of true knowledge,

their aspirations have ascended through precedent good fortune in renunciation,

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إِلهِي قَصُرَتِ الأَلْسُنُ عَنْ بُلُوغِ ثَنائِكَ، كَما يَلِيقُ بجَلالِكَ،

وَعَجَزَتِ الْعُقُولُ عَنْ إِدْرِاكِ كُنْهِ جَمالِك،

وَانْحَسَرَتِ الأَبْصارُ دُونَ النَّظَرِ إلى سُبُحاتِ وَجْهِكَ، وَلَمْ تَجْعَلْ لِلْخَلْقِ طَرِيقاً إلى مَعْرِفَتِكَ

إلاَّ بِالْعَجْزِ عَنْ مَعْرِفَتِكَ.

إِلهِي فَاجْعَلْنا مِنَ الَّذِينَ تَرَسَّخَتْ أُشْجارُ الشَّوقِ إِلهِي فَاجْعَلْنا مِنَ الَّذِينَ تَرَسَّخَتْ أُشْجارُ الشَّوقِ إِلَيْكَ فِي حَدائِقِ صُدُورِهِمْ،

وَأُخَذَتْ لَوْعَةُ مَحَبَّتِكَ بِمَجامِعِ قُلُوبِهِمْ،

فَهُمْ إِلَىٰ أُوْكارِ الأَفْكارِ يَأْوُونَ،

وَفِي رِياضِ الْقُرْبِ وَالْمُكاشَفَةِ يَرْتَعُونَ،

وَمِنْ حِياضِ الْمَحَبَّةِ بِكَأْسِ الْمُلاطَفَةِ يَكْرَعُونَ،

وَشَرايِعَ الْمُصافاةِ يَرِدُونَ

قَدْ كُشِفَ الْغِطاءُ عَنْ أَبْصَارِهِمْ،

وَانْجَلَتْ ظُلْمَةُ الرَّيْبِ عَنْ عَقائِدِهِمْ وَضَمَائِرِهِمْ،

وَانْتَفَتْ مُخالَجَةُ الشَّكِّ عَنْ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَسَرائِرِهِمْ،

وَانْشَرَحَتْ بِتَحْقِيقِ الْمَعْرِفَةِ صُدُورُهُمْ،

وَعَلَتْ لِسَبْق السَّعادَةِ فِي الزَّهادَةِ هِمَمُهُمْ،

THE WHISPERED PRAYER 12 OF THE KNOWERS

their drinking is sweet from the spring of devotion to good works,

their secret thoughts are delicious in the sittingplace of intimacy,

their minds are secure in the place of terror,

their souls are serene through the return to the Lord of lords,

their spirits have reached certitude through triumph and prosperity,

their eyes have been gladdened through gazing upon their Beloved,

their settling place has been settled through reaching the request and attaining the expectation,

and their commerce has profited through the sale of this world for the next!

My God, how agreeable for hearts are the thoughts inspiring Your remembrance,

how sweet travelling to You through imagination upon the roads of the unseen worlds,

how pleasant the taste of Your love,

how delightful the drink of Your nearness!

So give us refuge from Your casting out and Your sending far,

and place us among the most elect of Your knowers, the most righteous of Your servants,

the most truthful of Your obeyers, the most sincere of Your worshipers!

O All-mighty, O Majestic, O Generous, O Endower!

By Your mercy and kindness, O Most Merciful of the merciful!

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وَعَذُبَ فِي مَعِينِ الْمُعَامَلَةِ شِرِبُهُمْ
وَطَابَ فِي مَعْلِسِ الْأَنْسِ سِرُّهُمْ،
وَطَابَ فِي مَوْطِنِ الْمَحَافَةِ سِرِبُّهُمْ،
وَأَمِنَ فِي مَوْطِنِ الْمَحَافَةِ سِرِبُّهُمْ،
وَاطْمَأْنَت ْ بِالرُّجُوْعِ إلى ٰ رَبِّ الأَرْبابِ أَنْفُسُهُمْ،
وَتَيَقَّنَت ْ بِالْفَوْزِ وَالْفَلاحِ أَرْواحُهُمْ،
وَتَيَقَّنَت ْ بِالنَّوْرِ إلى مَحْبُوبِهِمْ أَعْيُنُهُمْ،
وَقَرَّت ْ بِالنَّظَرِ إلى مَحْبُوبِهِمْ أَعْيُنُهُمْ،
وَاسْتَقَرَّ بِإِدْراكِ السُّوِّلِ وَنَيْلِ الْمَأْمُولِ قَرَارُهُمْ،
وَرَبِحَت ْ فِي بَيْعِ الدُّنْيَا بِالآخِرةِ تِجارَ تُهُمْ.

إِلَهِي مَا أَلَذَّ خَواطِرَ الإِلْهَامِ بِذِكْرِكَ عَلَىٰ الْقُلُوبِ، وَمَا أُحْلَىٰ الْمَسِيرَ إِلَيْكَ بِالأَوْهَامِ فِي مَسالِكِ الْغُيُوبِ، وَمَا أُطْيَبَ طَعْمَ حُبِّكَ، وَمَا أُعْذَبَ شِرْبَ قُرْبِكَ،

فَأُعِذْنا مِنْ طَرْدِكَ وَإِبْعادِكَ،

وَاجْعَلْنا مِنْ أُخَصِّ عارِفِيكَ، وَأُصْلَحِ عِبادِكَ، وَأَصْلَحِ عِبادِكَ، وَأَصْدَقِ طائِعِيكَ وَأُخْلَصِ عُبَّادِكَ، يا عَظِيمُ، يا جَلِيلُ، يا كَرِيمُ، يا مُنِيلُ، برَحْمَتِكَ وَمَنَّكَ يا أُرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.