

### MERITS OF MASJID AL-SAHLAH

Excluding Masjid al-Kūfah, no place in this region can match Masjid al-Sahlah in merits and honor. Masjid al-Sahlah was the house of Prophet Idrīs (‘a) and Prophet Abraham (‘a). It was also the abode of al-Khaḍīr (‘a).

Abū-Baṣīr has reported that Imam al-Ṣādiq (‘a), once, said to him, “Abū-Muḥammad, I see coming that the Rising (*al-qā’im*) Imam (‘a), accompanied by his family members and dependants, shall reside at Masjid al-Sahlah, which he shall betake as his house. All the Prophets that Almighty Allah sent offered prayers at this mosque, and one who resides there will have the reward of residing in the tent of Allah’s Messenger (‘a). A true believer’s heart must long for that place, which contains a rock carrying the images of all Prophets. Verily, any one who offers a prayer in this mosque and beseeches Almighty Allah with sincerity shall have his needs settled by Almighty Allah. Also, any one who betakes this mosque as shelter shall definitely be protected by Almighty Allah against that which frightens him.”

Abū-Baṣīr answered, “This is in fact an unmatched virtue.”

The Imam (‘a) added, “Yes, it is. This place is one of the places at which Almighty Allah desires to be besought. Each day and night and without cessation, the angels visit this mosque to worship Almighty Allah therein. Verily, were I to live next to that mosque, I would perform all my prayers there. Abū-Muḥammad, there is more to mention about this mosque.”

Abū-Baṣīr commented, “May Allah accept me as ransom for you! Will the Rising Imam live there forever?”

“Yes, he will,” answered the Imam (‘a)... etc.

### DEVOTIONAL ACTS AT MASJID AL-SAHLAH

It is highly recommended to offer at Masjid al-Sahlah a two-unit prayer between the obligatory Maghrib (Sunset) and ‘Ishā’ (Evening) prayers, for it has been reported that Imam al-Ṣādiq (‘a) said that Almighty Allah shall definitely save whoever offers this prayer and supplicates Almighty Allah from all grievances.

In the word of some guidebooks of ziyārah, when you intend to enter Masjid al-Sahlah, you may stop at its gate and say the following words:

In the Name of Allah (I begin),	bismi allāhi	بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
in Allah (I trust),	wa billāhi	وَبِاللَّهِ
from Allah (I derive power),	wa min allāhi	وَمِنَ اللَّهِ
to Allah (I refer all my affairs),	wa ilā allāhi	وَإِلَى اللَّهِ
only that which Allah wills shall come to pass,	wa mā shā'a allāhu	وَمَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ
and the most excellent Names are Allah’s.	wa khayru al-asmā'i lillāhi	وَخَيْرُ الْأَسْمَاءِ لِلَّهِ
I rely upon Allah.	tawakkaltu `alā allāhi	تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ
There is neither might nor power except with Allah the All-high and All-great.	wa lā ḥawla wa lā quwwata illā billāhi al`aliyyi al`azīmi	وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ
O Allah, (please) make me of those who construct Your mosques and houses.	allāhumma ij`alnī min `ummāri masājidika wa buyūtika	اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْنِي مِنْ عُمَّارِ مَسَاجِدِكَ وَبُيُوتِكَ
O Allah, I turn my face toward You, asking You in the name of Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad	allāhumma innī atawajjahū ilayka bimuḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي اتَّوَجَّهْتُ إِلَيْكَ بِمُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
and I present them before my requests;	wa uqaddimuhum bayna yaday ḥawā'ijī	وَاقْدِمُهُمْ بَيْنَ يَدَي حَوَائِجِي
so, O Allah, (please) make me worthy of Your regard in their names,	faj`alnī allāhumma bihim `indaka wajīhan	فَاجْعَلْنِي اللَّهُمَّ بِهِمْ عِنْدَكَ وَجِيهًا

in this world and the Hereafter  
and make me of those who are  
made near to You.

O Allah, (please) accept my  
prayers in their names,

forgive my sins in their names,

expand sustenance for me in  
their names,

respond to my supplications in  
their names,

grant me all of my requests in  
their names,

and look at me with Your All-  
noble Face;

such a kind look due to which I  
shall attain Your honor,

and (please) never turn Your  
Face away from me

in the name of Your mercy, O  
most merciful of all those who  
show mercy.

O He Who changes hearts and  
sights,

(please do) make my heart  
permanently steady in following  
Your religion

and the religion of Your Prophet  
and Intimate servant,

do not cause my heart to deviate  
after You have guided me (to the  
true path),

and grant me mercy from You,

for You are the most liberal  
Giver.

O Allah, I am turning my face  
towards You,

seeking Your pleasure,

desiring for Your reward,

having full faith in You,

and putting all trust in You.

So, O Allah, meet me with Your  
face

and allow me to meet You with  
my face.

You may then recite Āyah al-Kursī (2:255), Sūrah al-Falaq, Sūrah al-Nās, each one seven times and then repeat the following doxoloty prayer seven times, too:

All glory be to Allah.

fī alddunyā wal-ākhirati wa  
min almuqarrabīna

allāhumma ij`al ṣalātī bihim  
maqbūlahan

wa dhanbī bihim maghfūran

wa rizqī bihim mabsūṭan

wa du`ā'ī bihim mustajāban

wa ḥawā'ijī bihim maqḍiyyatan

wanzur ilayya biwajhika  
alkarimi

naẓratan raḥīmatan astawjibu  
bihā alkarāmata `indaka

thumma lā taṣrifhu `annī  
abadan

birahmatika yā arḥama  
alrrāḥimīna

yā muqalliba alqulūbi wal-  
absāri

thabbit qalbī `alā dīnika

wa dīni nabīyyika wa waliyyika

wa lā tuzigh qalbī ba`da idh  
hadaytani

wa ḥab lī min ladunka  
raḥmatan

innaka anta alwahrābū

allāhumma ilayka tawajjahtu

wa marḍātaka ṭalabtu

wa thawābaka ibtaghaytu

wa bika āmantu

wa `alayka tawakkaltu

allāhumma fa'aqbil biwajhika  
ilayya

wa aqbil biwajhī ilayka

فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَمِنَ الْمُقَرَّبِينَ

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ صَلَاتِي بِهِمْ مَقْبُولَةً

وَدَنْبِي بِهِمْ مَغْفُورًا

وَرِزْقِي بِهِمْ مَبْسُوطًا

وَدَعَائِي بِهِمْ مُسْتَجَابًا

وَحَوَائِجِي بِهِمْ مَقْضِيَّةً

وَأَنْظُرْ إِلَيَّ بِوَجْهِكَ الْكَرِيمِ

نَظْرَةً رَحِيمَةً اسْتَوْجِبُ بِهَا الْكَرَامَةَ

عِنْدَكَ

ثُمَّ لَا تَصْرِفْهُ عَنِّي أَبَدًا

بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ وَالْأَبْصَارِ

ثَبِّتْ قَلْبِي عَلَى دِينِكَ

وَدِينِ نَبِيِّكَ وَوَلِيِّكَ

وَلَا تُزِغْ قَلْبِي بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنِي

وَهَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً

إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ

اللَّهُمَّ إِلَيْكَ تَوَجَّهْتُ

وَمَرْضَاتِكَ طَلَبْتُ

وَتَوَابِكَ ابْتَغَيْتُ

وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ

وَعَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْتُ

اللَّهُمَّ فَاقْبِلْ بِوَجْهِكَ إِلَيَّ

وَأَقْبِلْ بِوَجْهِي إِلَيْكَ

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ

subḥāna allāhi

All praise be to Allah.	walḥamdu lillāhi	وَأَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ
there is no god save Allah.	wa lā ilāha illā allāhu	وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
Allah is the Most Great.	wallāhu akbaru	وَأَلَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

Then, you may say the following doxological and supplicatory words:

O Allah, all praise be to You for You have guided me.	allāhumma laka alḥamdu `alā mā hadaytanī	اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ أَلْحَمْدُ عَلَى مَا هَدَيْتَنِي
All praise be to You for You have favored me.	wa laka alḥamdu `alā mā faḍḍaltanī	وَلَكَ أَلْحَمْدُ عَلَى مَا فَضَّلْتَنِي
All praise be to You for You have honored me.	wa laka alḥamdu `alā mā sharraftanī	وَلَكَ أَلْحَمْدُ عَلَى مَا شَرَّفْتَنِي
All praise be to You for all of the good turns that You have bestowed upon me.	wa laka alḥamdu `alā kulli balā'in ḥasanin ibtalaytanī	وَلَكَ أَلْحَمْدُ عَلَى كُلِّ بَلَاءٍ حَسَنٍ أَبْتَلَيْتَنِي
O Allah, (please do) accept my prayer and supplication, purify my heart,	allāhumma taqabbal ṣalātī wa du`ā'ī	اللَّهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ صَلَاتِي وَدُعَائِي
expand my breast for me,	wa ṭahhir qalbī	وَطَهِّرْ قَلْبِي
and accept my repentance.	washraḥ lī ṣadri	وَأَشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي
You are indeed the Oft-returning to mercy and the All-merciful.	wa tub `alayya	وَتُبْ عَلَيَّ
	innaka anta alttawwāwābu alrraḥīmu	إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ

Sayyid Ibn Ṭāwūs says that if you intend to visit Masjid al-Sahlah, you may choose for this visit the time between the Maghrib and the `Ishā' obligatory prayers at the night before Wednesday. This is because this time is better than any other time. At Masjid al-Sahlah, you may offer the obligatory Maghrib Prayer and then offer the Maghrib supererogatory prayer. Then, you may stand up for offering a two-unit prayer as the prayer of greeting the mosque. This prayer may be intended for seeking nearness to Almighty Allah. When you finish, you may raise your hands towards the sky and say the following supplicatory prayer:

You are Allah; there is no god save You.	anta allāhu lā ilāha illā anta	أَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
You are the Beginner of the process of creation and the Repeater of it.	mubdi' alkhālqi wa mu`iduhum	مُبْدِيُ الْخَلْقِ وَمُعِيدُهُمْ
You are Allah; there is no god save You.	wa anta allāhu lā ilāha illā anta	وَأَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
You are the Creator of creatures and the Sustainer of them.	khāliq alkhālqi wa rāziqhum	خَالِقُ الْخَلْقِ وَرَازِقُهُمْ
You are Allah; there is no god save You.	wa anta allāhu lā ilāha illā anta	وَأَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
You are the Straightener and the Expander.	alqābiḍu albāsiṭu	الْقَابِضُ الْبَاسِطُ
You are Allah; there is no god save You.	wa anta allāhu lā ilāha illā anta	وَأَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
You are the Manager of all affairs	mudabbiru al'umūri	مُدَبِّرُ الْأُمُورِ
and the Resurrector of those who are in graves.	wa bā`ithu man fī alqubūri	وَبَاعِثُ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ
You are the Inheritor of the earth & whatever/ whoever is on it.	anta wārithu al-arḍi wa man `alayhā	أَنْتَ وَارِثُ الْأَرْضِ وَمَنْ عَلَيْهَا

I beseech You by Your Name: the concealed, the obscured, the ever-living, and the self- subsistent.	as'aluka bismika almakhzūni almaknūni	اَسْأَلُكَ بِاسْمِكَ الْمَخْزُونِ الْمَكْنُونِ الْحَيِّ الْقَيُّومِ
You are Allah; there is no god save You.	alḥayyi alqayyūmi	وَأَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
You are the Knower of secrets and what is yet more hidden.	wa anta allāhu lā ilāha illā anta	عَالِمِ السِّرِّ وَخَفَىٰ
I beseech You by Your Name: the Name that You respond to him who beseeches You by it	`ālimu alssirri wa akhfā	اَسْأَلُكَ بِاسْمِكَ الَّذِي إِذَا دُعِيَ بِهِ اجْتَبَتْ
and the Name that You give him who asks You by it.	as'aluka bismika alladhī idhā du`īta bihī ajabta	وَإِذَا سُئِلَتْ بِهِ أُعْطِيَتْ
And I beseech You in the name of the duty of Muḥammad and his Household towards You	wa idhā su'ilta bihī a`ṭayta	وَأَسْأَلُكَ بِحَقِّكَ عَلَىٰ مُحَمَّدٍ وَاهْلِ بَيْتِهِ
and in the name of the duty that You have made incumbent upon Yourself towards them	wa as'aluka biḥaqqika `alā muḥammadin wa ahli baytihi	وَبِحَقِّهِمُ الَّذِي أُوجِبْتَهُ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِكَ
to send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad	wa biḥaqqihim alladhī awjabtahū `alā nafsika	أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَىٰ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
and to grant me my requests	an tuṣalliya `alā muḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	وَأَنْ تُفْضِيَ لِي حَاجَتِي
at this very hour! At this very hour!	wa an taqḍiya lī ḥājati	السَّاعَةَ السَّاعَةَ
O Hearer of prayers!	alssā`ata alssā`ata	يَا سَامِعَ الدُّعَاءِ
O my Master! O my Lord! O my Aide!	yā sāmi`a alddu`ā'i	يَا سَيِّدَاهُ يَا مَوْلَاهُ يَا غِيَاثَاهُ
I beseech You by all the Names that You used for Yourself	yā sayyidāhu yā mawlāhu yā ghiyāthāhu	اَسْأَلُكَ بِكُلِّ اسْمٍ سَمَّيْتَهُ بِهِ نَفْسَكَ
and the Names that You take exclusively for Yourself in the Unseen Knowledge of You	as'aluka bikulli ismin sammayta bihī nafsaka	أَوْ أَسْتَأْتِرُتَ بِهِ فِي عِلْمِ الْغَيْبِ عِنْدَكَ
to send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad	aw ista'tharta bihī fī `ilmi alghaybi `indaka	أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَىٰ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
and to expedite our relief to this very hour.	an tuṣalliya `alā muḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	وَأَنْ تُعَجِّلَ فَرَجَنَا السَّاعَةَ
O He Who changes hearts and sights!	wa aṅ tu`ajjila farajanā alssā`ata	يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ وَالْأَبْصَارِ
O Hearer of prayers!	yā muqalliba alqulūbi wal- abṣāri	يَا سَمِيعَ الدُّعَاءِ
You may then prostrate yourself, show submission to Almighty Allah, and supplicate Him for anything you need. Then, you may move to the west-northern side of the mosque, which is the place of Prophet Abraham's house, from where he used to ready himself for fighting against the giants. At this place, you may offer a two-unit prayer after which you may say the Tasbīḥ statements followed by this supplicatory prayer:	yā samī`a alddu`ā'i	
O Allah, (I beseech You) in the name of this holy area	allāhumma biḥaqqi hādhihi albuq`ati alshsharīfati	اللَّهُمَّ بِحَقِّ هَذِهِ الْبُقْعَةِ الشَّرِيفَةِ
and in the name of him who used to worship You here.	wa biḥaqqi man ta`abbada laka fihā	وَبِحَقِّ مَنْ تَعَبَّدَ لَكَ فِيهَا
You know my needs;	qad `alimta ḥawā'ijī	قَدْ عَلِمْتَ حَوَائِجِي

so, (please) send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad and settle them for me.

faṣalli `alā muḥammadin  
wa āli muḥammadin  
waqḍihā

فَصَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَأَقْضِيهَا

You have accounted my sins;

wa qad aḥṣayta dhunūbī

وَقَدْ أَحْصَيْتَ ذُنُوبِي

so, (please) send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad and forgive them for me.

faṣalli `alā muḥammadin  
wa āli muḥammadin  
waghfirhā

فَصَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَأَغْفِرْهَا

O Allah, (please do) keep me alive as long as life is better for me,

allāhumma aḥyinī mā idhā  
kānat alḥayātu khayran lī

اللَّهُمَّ أَحْيِنِي مَا إِذَا كَانَتْ أَحْيَاةٌ خَيْرًا لِي

cause me to die if death is better for me,

wa amitnī idhā kānat  
alwafātu khayran lī

وَأَمِتْنِي إِذَا كَانَتْ أَلُوفَاةٌ خَيْرًا لِي

cause me to die bearing loyalty to Your intimate servants and antagonism against Your enemies,

`alā muwālāti awliyā'ika  
wa mu`ādati a`dā'ika

عَلَيَّ مُوَالَاةِ أَوْلِيَائِكَ وَمُعَادَاةِ أَعْدَائِكَ

and do to me that which befits You,

waf`al bī mā anta ahluhū

وَأَفْعَلْ بِي مَا أَنْتَ أَهْلُهُ

O most merciful of all those who show mercy!

yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna

يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

You may then move to the other side, which is in the kiblah direction, and offer a two-unit prayer. You may then raise your hands towards the sky and say the following supplicatory words:

O Allah, I have offered this prayer seeking Your pleasure,

allāhumma innī ṣallaytu ḥādhihī  
alṣṣalāta ibtighā'a marḍātika

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي صَلَّيْتُ هَذِهِ الصَّلَاةَ

أَبْتِغَاءَ مَرْضَاتِكَ

wishing for Your gift,

wa ṭalaba nā'ilika

وَطَلَبَ نَائِلِكَ

and hoping for Your prizes and rewards;

wa rajā'a rifdika wa jawā'izika

وَرَجَاءَ رِفْدِكَ وَجَوَائِزِكَ

so, (please do) send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad,

faṣalli `alā muḥammadin wa āli  
muḥammadin

فَصَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

accept it from me with the best acceptance,

wa taqabbalhā minnī bi-aḥsani  
qabūlin

وَتَقَبَّلْهَا مِنِّي بِأَحْسَنِ قَبُولٍ

make me gain what I hope, out of Your mercy,

wa ballighnī birahmatika  
alma'mūla

وَبَلِّغْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ أَلْمَا مَوْلٍ

and do to me that which befits You,

waf`al bī mā anta ahluhū

وَأَفْعَلْ بِي مَا أَنْتَ أَهْلُهُ

O most merciful of all those who show mercy!

yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna

يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

You may then prostrate yourself and put your cheek on the ground. Then, you may walk to the eastern side of the mosque where you may offer a two-unit prayer. After that, you may extend your hands and say the following supplicatory words:

O Allah, if my sins and faults

allāhumma in kānat aldhunūbu  
walkhaṭāyā

اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كَانَتْ الذُّنُوبُ وَالْخَطَايَا

have caused my face to be tattered in Your view;

qad akhlaqat wajhī `indaka

قَدْ أَخْلَقْتَ وَجْهِي عِنْدَكَ

therefore, they impeded my voice from reaching You

falam tarfa` lī ilayka ṣawtan

فَلَمْ تَرْفَعْ لِي إِلَيْكَ صَوْتًا

and You thus have not responded to any of my prayers,

wa lam tastajib lī da`watan

وَلَمْ تَسْتَجِبْ لِي دَعْوَةً



I then beseech You in Your Name, O Allah,	fa'innī as'aluka bika yā allāhu	فَأِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ يَا اللَّهُ
for there is verily nothing like You,	fa'innahū laysa mithlaka aḥadun	فَأِنَّهُ لَيْسَ مِثْلَكَ أَحَدٌ
I seek the intercession of Muḥammad and his Household to You,	wa atawassalu ilayka bimuḥammadin wa ālihī	وَأَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِمُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ
and I beseech You to send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad,	wa as'aluka an tuṣalliya `alā muḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	وَأَسْأَلُكَ أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
to come to me with Your Noble Face,	wa an tuqbila ilayya biwajhika alkarimi	وَأَنْ تُقْبَلَ إِلَيَّ بِوَجْهِكَ الْكَرِيمِ
to accept my turning my face towards You,	wa tuqbila biwajhī ilayka	وَتَقْبَلَ بِوَجْهِهِ إِلَيْكَ
not to let me down when I supplicate You,	wa lā tukhayyibnī ḥīna ad`ūka	وَلَا تُخَيِّبْنِي حِينَ أَدْعُوكَ
and not to deprive me (of Your response) when I please You.	wa lā taḥrimnī ḥīna arjūka	وَلَا تَحْرِمْنِي حِينَ أَرْجُوكَ
O most merciful of all those who show mercy!	yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna	يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

According to an anonymous guidebook of Ziyārah, it has been mentioned that you may then walk to the other eastern corner of the mosque and offer there a two-unit prayer and then say the following supplicatory prayer:

O Allah, I do beseech You by Your Name, O Allah,	allāhumma innī as'aluka bismika yā allāhu	اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِاسْمِكَ يَا اللَّهُ
to send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad,	an tuṣalliya `alā muḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
to cause the best of my lifetime to be the last of it,	wa an taj`ala khayra `umrī ākhirahū	وَأَنْ تَجْعَلَ خَيْرَ عُمْرِي آخِرَهُ
the best of my deeds to be the last of them,	wa khayra a`mālī khawātimahā	وَخَيْرَ أَعْمَالِي خَوَاتِيمَهَا
and the best of my days to be the day on which I meet You.	wa khayra ayyāmī yawma alqāka fihī	وَخَيْرَ أَيَّامِي يَوْمَ لِقَاكَ فِيهِ
Verily, You have power over all things.	innaka `alā kulli shay'in qadīrun	إِنَّكَ عَلَيَّ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ
O Allah, (please) accept my prayer	allāhumma taqabbal du`ā'i	اللَّهُمَّ تَقَبَّلْ دُعَائِي
and listen to my confidential speech (with You).	wasma` najwāya	وَأَسْمَعْ نَجْوَايَ
O All-high! O All-great!	yā `aliyyu yā `azīmu	يَا عَلِيُّ يَا عَظِيمُ
O All-powerful! O All-prevalent!	yā qādiru yā qāhiru	يَا قَادِرُ يَا قَاهِرُ
O He Who is Ever-living and never dies,	yā ḥayyan lā yamūtu	يَا حَيًّا لَا يَمُوتُ
(please) send blessings upon Muḥammad and the Household of Muḥammad,	ṣalli `alā muḥammadin wa āli muḥammadin	صَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
forgive my sins that I have committed between You and me,	waghfir liya aldhhdhunūba allatī baynī wa baynaka	وَأَغْفِرْ لِي الذُّنُوبَ الَّتِي بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ
do not expose me in the presence of the witnesses,	wa lā tafḍaḥnī `alā ru'ūsi al-ashhādi	وَلَا تَفْضَحْنِي عَلَيَّ رُؤُوسِ الْأَشْهَادِ
guard me with Your Eye that never sleeps,	waḥrusnī bi`aynika allatī lā tanāmu	وَأَحْرُسْنِي بِعَيْنِكَ الَّتِي لَا تَنَامُ

and have mercy upon me as You have full power over me.	warḥamnī biqudratika `alayya	وَأَرْحَمْنِي بِقُدْرَتِكَ عَلَيَّ
O most merciful of all those who show mercy!	yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna	يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ
May Allah send blessings upon our master Muḥammad and upon his Immaculate Household.	wa ṣallā allāhu `alā sayyidinā muḥammadin	وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
	wa ālihī alṭṭāhirīna	وَأَلِهِ الطَّاهِرِينَ
O Lord of the worlds!	yā rabba al`ālamīna	يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Then, you may offer a two-unit prayer in the house that is situated in the middle of Masjid al-Sahlah. Upon accomplishment, you may say the following supplicatory words:

O He Who is nearer to me than my life-vein!	yā man huwa aqrabu ilayya min ḥabli alwarīdi	يَا مَنْ هُوَ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيَّ مِنْ حَبْلِ الْوَرِيدِ
O He Who does whatever He wills!	yā fa``ālan limā yurīdu	يَا فَعَّالًا لِمَا يُرِيدُ
O He Who intervenes between man and his heart!	yā man yaḥūlu bayna almar'i wa qalbihī	يَا مَنْ يَحُولُ بَيْنَ الْمَرْءِ وَقَلْبِهِ
(Please do) send blessings upon Muḥammad and his Household and intervene between us and those who intend harm to us, in the name of Your might and power.	ṣalli `alā muḥammadin wa ālihī wa ḥul baynanā wa bayna man yu'dhīnā	صَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَأَلِهِ وَحَلِّ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَ مَنْ يُؤْذِينَا
	biḥawlika wa quwwatika	بِحَوْلِكَ وَقُوَّتِكَ
O He Who saves from all things and nothing can ever save from Him!	yā kāfiyan min kulli shay'in wa lā yakfī minhu shay'un	يَا كَافِيًا مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَلَا يَكْفِي مِنْهُ شَيْءٌ
(Please do) relieve us from whatever aggrieves us from our worldly and religious affairs.	ikfinā almuḥimma min amri alddunyā wal-ākhirati	أَكْفِنَا الْمُهِمَّ مِنْ أَمْرِ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ
O most merciful of all those who show mercy!	yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna	يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

You may then put both your cheeks on the ground.

This holy area of Masjid al-Sahlah is currently known as *maqām zayn al-`Ābidīn* (the Place of Imam Zayn al-`Ābidīn).

In the book of *al-Mazār al-Qadīm*, it is mentioned that one may offer at this place a two-unit prayer and then say the previously mentioned supplicatory prayer, which begins with the following statement:

O Allah, I beseech You, O He Whom cannot be seen by eyes...	allāhumma innī as'aluka yā man lā tarāhu al`uyūnu...	اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ يَا مَنْ لَا تَرَاهُ الْعُيُونُ
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Next to this place, there is an area known as *maqām al-mahdi* (the Place of Imam al-Mahdi). It is thus appropriate to visit Imam al-Mahdi ('a) from this place.

However, some books of ziyārah have instructed that one, while standing up at this place, may visit Imam al-Mahdī ('a) with the ziyārah formula that begins with the following statements:

Peace of Allah—perfect, complete,	salāmu allāhi alkāmilu alttāmmu	سَلَامُ اللَّهِ الْكَامِلُ التَّامُّ
comprehensive, and thorough...	alshshāmilu al`āmmu...	الشَّامِلُ الْعَامُّ...

This form of ziyārah has been mentioned in the seventh chapter of the first section of this book under the title, Seeking Aid From Imam al-Mahdī (pp. 458 of vol. 1).

Sayyid Ibn Tāwūs has included this form of ziyārah with the other forms that are used for visiting Imam al-Mahdī ('a) in the Holy Vault (*sirdāb*) in Sāmarrā' after offering a two-unit prayer.

PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION AT ZAYD MOSQUE

You may then walk to the mosque of Zayd ibn Ṣawhān, which is near to Masjid al-Sahlah, and offer a two-unit prayer there. After accomplishment, you may extend your hand and say the following supplicatory prayer:

O my God, I, the wrongdoer and sinful, am extending my hands to You, on account of the good opinion that I carry about You.

ilāhī qad madda ilayka  
alkhāṭī'u almudhniḅu yadayhi  
biḅusni ḅannihī bika

إِلَهِي قَدْ مَدَّ إِلَيْكَ الْخَاطِيءُ الْمَذْنِبُ  
يَدَيْهِ بِحُسْنِ ظَنِّهِ بِكَ

O my God, I, the evildoer, am sitting before You, confessing to You of my ill deeds

ilāhī qad jalasa almusī'u bayna  
yadayka muqirran laka bisū'i  
`amalihī

إِلَهِي قَدْ جَلَسَ الْمُسِيءُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ  
مُقِرًّا لَكَ بِسُوءِ عَمَلِهِ

and hoping for You to overlook my faults.

wa rājiyan minka alṣṣafḅa `an  
zalalihī

وَرَجِيًّا مِنْكَ الصَّفْحَ عَنْ زَلَلِهِ

O my God, I, the unjust, am raising my hands in the hope of attaining that which You have in possession;

ilāhī qad rafa`a ilayka  
alḅḅālimu kaffayhi rājiyan limā  
ladayka

إِلَهِي قَدْ رَفَعَ إِلَيْكَ الظَّالِمُ كَفِّهِ  
رَجِيًّا لِمَا لَدَيْكَ

so, do not deprive me of Your favors, out of Your mercy.

falā tukhayyibhu biraḅmatika  
min faḅlika

فَلَا تُخَيِّبُهُ بِرَحْمَتِكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ

O my God, I, the reverter to disobedience, am kneeling before You,

ilāhī qad jathā al`ā'idu ilā  
alma`āṣī bayna yadayka

إِلَهِي قَدْ جَنَّا الْعَائِدُ إِلَى الْمَعَاصِي  
بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

for I fear the day on which all created beings shall kneel before You.

khā'ifan min yawmin tajthū fihi  
alkhalā'iqu bayna yadayka

خَائِفًا مِنْ يَوْمٍ تَجْتَوِي فِيهِ الْخَلَائِقُ  
بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

O my God, I, the faulty servant, am coming to You with panic and fear,

ilāhī jā'aka al`abdu alkhāṭī'u  
fazi`an mushfiqan

إِلَهِي جَاءَكَ الْعَبْدُ الْخَاطِيءُ فَرِعًا  
مُشْفِقًا

raising my sight to You with caution and hope, shedding tears, seeking forgiveness, and showing regret.

wa rafa`a ilayka ṭarfahū  
ḅadhīran rājiyan  
wa fāḅat `abratuhū  
mustaghfiran nādīman

وَرَفَعَ إِلَيْكَ طَرْفَهُ حَذِرًا رَجِيًّا  
وَفَاضَتْ عَبْرَتُهُ مُسْتَغْفِرًا نَادِمًا

By Your Might and Majesty I swear! When I disobeyed You, I have not intended to violate You

wa `izzatika wa jalālika mā  
aradtu bima`ṣiyatī  
mukhālafataka

وَعِزَّتِكَ وَجَلَالِكَ مَا ارَدْتُ  
بِمَعْصِيَّتِي مُخَالَفَتَكَ

and when I disobeyed You, I have never been unaware of You

wa mā `aṣaytuka idh  
`aṣaytuka wa anā bika jāhilun

وَمَا عَصَيْتُكَ إِذْ عَصَيْتُكَ وَأَنَا بِكَ  
جَاهِلٌ

I have never intended to expose myself to Your punishment, and I have never belittled Your watching over me; rather, my soul has commended to me,

wa lā li`uqūbatika  
muta`arriḅun  
wa lā lināzarika mustakhiffun  
wa lākin sawwalat lī nafsī

وَلَا لِعُقُوبَتِكَ مُتَعَرِّضٌ  
وَلَا لِنَظْرِكَ مُسْتَخِفٌّ  
وَلَكِنْ سَوَّلْتُ لِي نَفْسِي

my adversity has overcome me, and I was deceived by Your screen that covers all my defects.

wa a`ānatnī `alā dhālika  
shiqwatī  
wa gharranī sitruka almurkhā  
`alayya

وَأَعَانَتْنِي عَلَى ذَلِكَ شِفَوْتِي  
وَعَرَّتْنِي سِتْرُكَ الْمُرْخَى عَلَيَّ

Now, who can save me from Your punishment?

famin al-āna min `adhābika  
man yastanqidhunī

فَمِنْ أَلَانَ مِنْ عَذَابِكَ مَنْ يَسْتَنْقِذُنِي؟



Whose rope can I maintain if  
You cut the rope that connects  
me with You?

wa baḥabli man a`taşimu in  
qaṭa`ta ḥablaka `annaī

وَبَحَبْلِ مَنْ أَعْتَصِمُ إِنْ قَطَعْتَ  
حَبْلَكَ عَنِّي؟

What a shame shall be on me  
tomorrow when I will be  
detained before You

fayā saw'atāhu ghadan min  
alwuwūfi bayna yadayka

فَيَا سَوْأَ تَأَهُ غَدًا مِنْ أَلْوُقُوفِ بَيْنَ  
يَدَيْكَ

when the light-loaded ones will  
be allowed to pass,  
but the heavy-loaded ones will  
be stopped?

idhā qīla lilmukhiffīna jūzū

إِذَا قِيلَ لِلْمُخَفِّينَ: جُوزُوا  
وَلِلْمُثْقَلِينَ: حُطُّوا

Shall I pass with the light-  
loaded ones or shall I be  
stopped with the heavy-loaded  
ones?

wa lilmuthqilīna ḥuṭṭū

أَفَمَعَ أَلْمُخَفِّينَ أَجُوزُ أَمْ مَعَ  
أَلْمُثْقَلِينَ أَحُطُّ؟

Woe to me! The older I am the  
more sinful I become!

waylī kullamā kabura sinnī  
kathurat dhunūbī

وَيَلِي كَلَّمَا كَبُرَ سِنِّي كَثُرَتْ ذُنُوبِي!

Woe to me! The more aged I am  
the more disobedient I become!

waylī kullamā tāla `umrī  
kathurat ma`āşiyyī

وَيَلِي كَلَّمَا طَالَ عُمُرِي كَثُرَتْ مَعَاصِيِي

So often have I declared  
repentance!

fakam atūbu

فَكَمْ أَتُوبُ

And so often have I returned to  
committing acts of  
disobedience!

wa kam a`ūdu

وَكَمْ أَعُودُ

Has not the time come that I be  
ashamed of my Lord?

amā āna lī an astahyiya min  
rabbī

أَمَا أَنْ لِي أَنْ أَسْتَحْيِيَ مِنْ رَبِّي

O Allah, (I beg You) in the name  
of Muḥammad and the  
Household of Muḥammad,  
please, forgive me and have  
mercy upon me.

allāhuma fabiḥaqqi  
muḥammadin wa āli  
muḥammadin

اللَّهُمَّ فَبِحَقِّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

O most merciful of all those who  
show mercy and most excellent  
forgiver of all those who forgive!

ighfir lī warḥamnī

إِغْفِرْ لِي وَارْحَمْنِي

You may then try to weep and put your face on the dust, saying:

yā arḥama alrrāḥimīna wa  
khayra alghāfirīna

يَا رَحِمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ وَخَيْرَ الْغَافِرِينَ

(Please) have mercy upon him  
who had misbehaved and  
committed sins,

irḥam man asā'a waqtarafa

إِرْحَمْ مَنْ أَسَاءَ وَأَقْتَرَفَ

but he then submitted and  
confessed.

wastakāna wa`tarafa

وَأَسْتَكَانَ وَأَعْتَرَفَ

Then, you may put your right cheek on the ground and say the following words:

If I am the worst servant (of  
You),

in kuntu bi'sa al`abdu

إِنْ كُنْتُ بِسِّسَ الْعَبْدِ

then You are the All-excellent  
Lord.

fa'anta ni`ma alrrabbu

فَأَنْتَ نِعْمَ الرَّبُّ

You may then put your left cheek on the ground and say the following words:

Your servant's sin has been very  
flagrant,

`azuma aldhhanbu min `abdika

عَظُمَ الذَّنْبُ مِنْ عَبْدِكَ

then let Your pardon be very  
excellent,

falyaḥsun al`afwu min `indika

فَلْيَحْسُنِ الْعَفْوُ مِنْ عِنْدِكَ

O All-generous!

yā karīmu

يَا كَرِيمُ

You may then return to the normal position of prostration and repeat the following word one hundred times:

Pardon! Pardon!

āl`afwa al`afwa

الْعَفْوُ الْعَفْوُ

## ZAYD AND ŞA`ŞA`AH

Zayd Mosque is one of the honorable mosques in the city of al-Kūfah. It is ascribed to Zayd ibn Şawhān, one of the grand companions of Imam `Alī (`a). He is also regarded as one of the loftiest personalities. He was martyred in the Battle of the Camel (*al-jamal*) under the command of Imam `Alī (`a). The previously mentioned supplicatory prayer is ascribed to Zayd and he is reported to have used to said it in the supererogatory prayers of night (i.e. the night prayers).

Next to this mosque, there is the mosque of Şa`şa`ah ibn Şawhān, Zayd's brother. Şa`şa`ah was also one of the intimate companions of Imam `Alī (`a). He was one of the well-versed scholars of religious knowledge and one of the faithful believers. He was so eloquent that Imam `Alī (`a) called him as *al-khaṭīb al-shahshah* (the skillful orator) and praised him for his rhetoric and expressiveness. The Imam (`a) also praised Şa`şa`ah for his asceticism and aid.

Having attended the funeral ceremony of Imam `Alī's holy body at night from al-Kūfah to al-Najaf, Şa`şa`ah was present; and when Imam `Alī's body was buried, Şa`şa`ah stopped at the tomb, took a handful of its dust, dispersed it on his head, and said, "May Allah accept my father and mother as ransoms for you, O Commander of the Believers! Congratulations, Abu'l-Ḥasan! Your birth was uniquely excellent, your steadfastness was typically firm, and your striving was outstandingly great. You have thus attained that for which you hoped, your trade has been successful, and you have joined your Lord... etc."

Şa`şa`ah went on in the same style and he then wept so heavily that all those who were present could not resist weeping. Hence, Şa`şa`ah held and orated in a consolation ceremony at midnight in the presence of Imam al-Ḥasan, Imam al-Ḥusayn, Muḥammad ibn al-Ḥanafiyah, al-`Abbās, and the other sons and cousins of Imam `Alī—peace be upon them all. When Şa`şa`ah finished his oration, the attendants turned to Imam al-Ḥasan and Imam al-Ḥusayn to console them for their father's martyrdom. They then returned to al-Kūfah.

In conclusion, Şa`şa`ah Mosque is also one of the holy places in the city of al-Kūfah. A group of our scholars have seen Imam al-Mahdi (`a) offering a two-unit prayer there during the month of Rajab. He then said the supplicatory prayer that begins with the following statement:

O Allah, the Lord of the complete favors, the utter bounties...

allāhumma yā dhā alminani  
alssābighati wal-ālā'i alwāzi`ati...

اللَّهُمَّ يَا ذَا الْمِنَنِ السَّابِغَةِ وَالْأَلَاءِ  
الْوَارِعَةِ...

This supplicatory prayer has been previously mentioned within the acts that are advisably done each day in the month of Rajab (i.e. General Acts in Rajab). It is the fourth in the order of these acts (pp. 520 of Vol. 1).

Although it may be understood that this supplicatory prayer is within the acts that are done at Şa`şa`ah Mosque, because Imam al-Mahdi (`a) said it there, this act (i.e. the two-unit prayer and the supplicatory prayer) is dedicated to the general acts of the month of Rajab, as is confirmed in the books of our scholars. Therefore, I have mentioned it within the acts of the month of Rajab.