

From Sahifa sajadiya of Imam Zayn al-`Ābidīn (`a)

O Allah, O He whom the depiction of the
describers fails to describe!

اللَّهُمَّ يَا مَنْ لَا يَصِفُهُ نَعْتُ الْأَوَاصِفِينَ

O He beyond whom passes not the hope of the
hoppers!

وَيَا مَنْ لَا يُجَاوِزُهُ رَجَاءُ الرَّاجِينَ

O He with whom is not lost the wage of the
good-doers!

وَيَا مَنْ لَا يَضِيعُ لَدَيْهِ أَجْرُ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

O He who is the ultimate object of the fear of
the worshippers!

وَيَا مَنْ هُوَ مُنْتَهَى خَوْفِ الْعَابِدِينَ

O He who is the utmost limit of the dread of the
god-fearing!

وَيَا مَنْ هُوَ غَايَةُ خَشْيَةِ الْمُتَّقِينَ

This is the station of him whom sins have
passed from hand to hand,

هَذَا مَقَامٌ مَنْ تَدَاوَلَتْهُ أَيْدِي الذُّنُوبِ

offenses' reins have led him on,

وَقَادَتْهُ أَرْمَةٌ الْخَطَايَا

and Satan has gained mastery over him.

وَأَسْتَحْوَذَ عَلَيْهِ الشَّيْطَانُ

He fell short of what You have commanded
through neglect

فَقَصَرَ عَمَّا أَمَرْتَ بِهِ تَفْرِيطًا

and he pursued what You have prohibited in
delusion,

وَتَعَاطَى مَا نَهَيْتَ عَنْهُ تَغْرِيرًا

like one ignorant of Your power over him

كَالْجَاهِلِ بِقُدْرَتِكَ عَلَيْهِ

or one who denies the bounty of Your
beneficence toward him,

أَوْ كَالْمُنْكَرِ فَضْلَ إِحْسَانِكَ إِلَيْهِ

until, when the eye of guidance was opened for
him

حَتَّى إِذَا أُنْفَتِحَ لَهُ بَصَرُ الْهُدَى

and the clouds of blindness were dispelled,

وَتَقَشَعَتْ عَنْهُ سَحَابُ الْعَمَى

he reckoned that through which he had
wronged himself

أَخْصَى مَا ظَلَمَ بِهِ نَفْسَهُ

and reflected upon that in which he had
opposed his Lord.

وَفَكَّرَ فِيمَا خَالَفَ بِهِ رَبَّهُ

He saw his vast disobedience as vast

فَرَأَى كَبِيرَ عَصْيَانِهِ كَبِيرًا

and his great opposition as great.

وَجَلِيلَ مُخَالَفَتِهِ جَلِيلًا

So he turned to You, hoping in You

فَأَقْبَلَ نَحْوَكَ مُؤَمِّلًا لَكَ

and ashamed before You,

مُسْتَحْيِيًا مِنْكَ

and he directed his beseeching toward You,
having trust in You.

وَوَجَّهَ رَغْبَتَهُ إِلَيْكَ ثِقَةً بِكَ

He repaired to You in his longing with certitude

فَأَمَّكَ بِطَمَعِهِ يَقِينًا

and he went straight to You in fear with
sincerity.

وَقَصَدَكَ بِخَوْفِهِ إِخْلَاصًا

His longing was devoid of every object of
longing but You,

قَدْ خَلَا طَمَعُهُ مِنْ كُلِّ مَطْمُوعٍ فِيهِ غَيْرِكَ

and his fright departed from every object of
fear but You.

وَأَفْرَخَ رَوْعَهُ مِنْ كُلِّ مَحْذُورٍ مِنْهُ سِوَاكَ

So he stood before You pleading,
 his eyes turned toward the ground in
 humbleness,
 his head bowed before Your might in lowliness;
 he revealed to You in meekness those secrets of
 his which You know better than he;
 he numbered for You in humility those sins of
 his which You count better than he;
 he sought help from You before the dreadful
 into which he has fallen in Your knowledge
 and the ugly which has disgraced him in Your
 judgment
 the sins whose pleasures have turned their
 backs and gone
 and whose evil consequences have stayed and
 stuck fast.
 He will not deny Your justice, my God, if You
 punish him,
 nor will he consider Your pardon great if You
 pardon him and hast mercy upon him,

for You are the Generous Lord

for whom the forgiveness of great sins is
 nothing great!

O Allah, so here I am: I have come to You
 obeying Your command

for You have commanded supplication

and asking the fulfillment of Your promise,

for You have promised to respond:

You have said, "Supplicate Me and I will
 respond to you."

O Allah, So bless Muhammad and his
 Household,

meet me with Your forgiveness just as I have
 met You with my confession,

lift me up from the fatal infirmities of sins

just as I have let myself down before You,

and cover me with Your covering

just as You have shown no haste to take
 vengeance on me!

O Allah, make firm my intention to obey You,

فَمَثَلَ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ مُتَضَرِّعاً
 وَعَمَّضَ بَصَرَهُ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ مُتَخَشِعاً
 وَطَاطَأَ رَأْسَهُ لِعِزَّتِكَ مُتَذَلِّلاً
 وَأَبْتَكَ مِنْ سِرِّهِ مَا أَنْتَ أَعْلَمُ بِهِ مِنْهُ خُضُوعاً
 وَعَدَدَ مِنْ ذُنُوبِهِ مَا أَنْتَ أَحْصَى لَهَا خُشُوعاً
 وَأَسْتَعَاثَ بِكَ مِنْ عَظِيمٍ مَا وَقَعَ بِهِ فِي عِلْمِكَ
 وَقَبِيحٍ مَا فَضَحَهُ فِي حُكْمِكَ
 مِنْ ذُنُوبٍ أَدْبَرَتْ لَذَاتِهَا فَذَهَبَتْ
 وَأَقَامَتْ تَبِعَاتِهَا فَلَزِمَتْ
 لَا يُنْكِرُ يَا إِلَهِي عَدْلَكَ إِنْ عَاقَبْتَهُ
 وَلَا يَسْتَعْظِمُ عَفْوَكَ إِنْ عَفَوْتَ عَنْهُ وَرَحِمْتَهُ
 لِأَنَّكَ الرَّبُّ الْكَرِيمُ
 الَّذِي لَا يَتَعَاطَمُهُ غُفْرَانُ الذَّنْبِ الْعَظِيمِ
 اللَّهُمَّ فَهَا أَنَا ذَا قَدْ جِئْتُكَ مُطِيعاً لِأَمْرِكَ
 فِيمَا أَمَرْتَ بِهِ مِنَ الدُّعَاءِ
 مُتَنَجِّزاً وَعَدَكَ
 فِيمَا وَعَدْتَ بِهِ مِنَ الْإِجَابَةِ
 إِذْ تَقُولُ: «أَدْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ.»
 اللَّهُمَّ فَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ
 وَأَلْقِنِي بِمَغْفِرَتِكَ كَمَا لَقَيْتَكَ بِإِقْرَارِي
 وَأَرْفَعْنِي عَنْ مَصَارِعِ الذُّنُوبِ
 كَمَا وَضَعْتَ لَكَ نَفْسِي
 وَأَسْتُرْنِي بِسِتْرِكَ
 كَمَا تَأْتَيْتَنِي عَنِ الْإِنْتِقَامِ مِنِّي
 اللَّهُمَّ وَثَبْتُ فِي طَاعَتِكَ نِيَّتِي

strengthen my insight in worshipping You,

give me the success of works which will wash away the defilement of offenses,

and take me following Your religion

and the creed of Your prophet Muḥammad, upon him be peace, when You take me.

O Allah, I repent to You in this my station

from my sins, great and small,

my evil deeds, inward and outward,

and my lapses, past and recent,

with the repentance of one who does not tell himself that he might disobey

or secretly think that he might return to an offense.

You have said, my God, in the firm text of Your Book,

that You accept repentance from Your servants,

pardon evil deeds,

and love the repentant,

so accept my repentance as You have promised,

pardon my evil deeds as You have guaranteed,

and make obligatory toward me Your love as You have stipulated!

To You, my Lord, belongs my stipulation that I will not return to what is disliked by You,

my guarantee that I will not go back to what You blame,

and my covenant that I will stay away from acts of disobedience to You.

O Allah, You know better what I have done,

so forgive me what You know

and turn me through Your power to what You love.

O Allah, counted against me are claims that stay in my memory

وَأَحْكِمْ فِي عِبَادَتِكَ بِصِيرَتِي
وَوَقِّفْنِي مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ لِمَا تَغْسِلُ بِهِ دَسَّ الْخَطَايَا
عَنِّي

وَتَوَقِّفْنِي عَلَىٰ مِلَّتِكَ
وَمِلَّةِ نَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ إِذَا تَوَقَّيْتَنِي

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ فِي مَقَامِي هَذَا

مِنْ كَبَائِرِ ذُنُوبِي وَصَغَائِرِهَا

وَبَوَاطِنِ سَيِّئَاتِي وَظَوَاهِرِهَا

وَسَوَالِفِ زَلَاتِي وَحَوَادِثِهَا

تَوْبَةً مَنْ لَا يُحَدِّثُ نَفْسَهُ بِمَعْصِيَةٍ

وَلَا يُضْمِرُ أَنْ يَعُودَ فِي خَطِيئَةٍ

وَقَدْ قُلْتَ يَا إِلَهِي فِي مُحْكَمِ كِتَابِكَ

إِنَّكَ تَقْبَلُ التَّوْبَةَ عَنْ عِبَادِكَ

وَتَعْفُو عَنِ السَّيِّئَاتِ

وَتُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ

فَأَقْبَلْ تَوْبَتِي كَمَا وَعَدْتَ

وَأَعْفُ عَنِ سَيِّئَاتِي كَمَا ضَمِنْتَ

وَأُوجِبْ لِي مَحَبَّتَكَ كَمَا شَرَطْتَ

وَلَكَ يَا رَبِّ شَرْطِي أَنْ لَا أَعُودَ فِي مَكْرُوهِكَ

وَضَمَانِي أَنْ لَا أَرْجِعَ فِي مَذْمُومِكَ

وَعَهْدِي أَنْ أَهْجُرَ جَمِيعَ مَعَاصِيكَ

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا عَمِلْتُ

فَاغْفِرْ لِي مَا عَمِلْتُ

وَأَصْرِفْنِي بِقُدْرَتِكَ إِلَيَّ مَا أَحْبَبْتَ

اللَّهُمَّ وَعَلَيَّ تَبِعَاتٌ قَدْ حَفِظْتُهُنَّ

and claims that I have forgotten,
while all of them remain in Your eye that does
not sleep
and Your knowledge that does not forget!

So, compensate their owners,
lighten their load upon me,
lift up their weight from me,

and preserve me from approaching their like!

O Allah, but I cannot be faithful to my
repentance without Your preservation,
nor can I refrain from offenses without Your
strength.

So, strengthen me with a sufficient strength
and attend to me with a defending
preservation!

O Allah, if any servant repents to You,
while in Your knowledge of the Unseen will
break his repentance
and return to his sin and offense,

I seek refuge in You lest I be like that!

So, make this my repentance

a repentance after which I will need no
repentance
and a repentance which will obligate the
erasing of what has gone by
and safety in what remains!

O Allah, I ask pardon from You for my
ignorance,

and I ask You to disregard my evil acts!

So join me to the shelter of Your mercy through
graciousness
and cover me with the covering of Your well-
being through bounteousness!

O Allah, I repent to You

from everything opposed to Your will

وَتَبَعَاتٌ قَدْ نَسِيْتُهُنَّ
وَكُلُّهُنَّ بِعَيْنِكَ الَّتِي لَا تَنَامُ
وَعِلْمِكَ الَّذِي لَا يَنْسَىٰ

فَعَوِّضْ مِنْهَا أَهْلَهَا

وَأَحْطُطْ عَنِّي وَزْرَهَا

وَحَفِّفْ عَنِّي ثِقْلَهَا

وَأَعْصِمْنِي مِنْ أَنْ أَقَارِفَ مِثْلَهَا

اللَّهُمَّ وَإِنَّهُ لَا وَفَاءَ لِي بِالتَّوْبَةِ إِلَّا بِعِصْمَتِكَ

وَلَا أَسْتَمْسَاكَ بِي عَنِ الْخَطَايَا إِلَّا عَنْ قُوَّتِكَ

فَقَوِّئِي بِقُوَّةٍ كَافِيَةٍ

وَتَوَلَّئِي بِعِصْمَةٍ مَانِعَةٍ

اللَّهُمَّ أَيُّمَا عَبْدٍ تَابَ إِلَيْكَ

وَهُوَ فِي عِلْمِ الْغَيْبِ عِنْدَكَ فَاسِخٌ لِتَوْبَتِهِ

وَعَائِدٌ فِي ذَنْبِهِ وَخَطِيئَتِهِ

فَإِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ أَنْ أَكُونَ كَذَلِكَ

فَاجْعَلْ تَوْبَتِي هَذِهِ

تَوْبَةً لَا أَحْتَاجُ بَعْدَهَا إِلَىٰ تَوْبَةٍ

تَوْبَةً مُوجِبَةً لِمَحْوِ مَا سَلَفَ

وَالسَّلَامَةِ فِيمَا بَقِيَ

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعْتَذِرُ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ جَهْلِي

وَأَسْتَوْهِبُكَ سُوءَ فِعْلِي

فَاضْمُنِّي إِلَىٰ كَنْفِ رَحْمَتِكَ تَطَوُّلاً

وَأَسْتُرْنِي بِسِتْرِ عَافِيَتِكَ تَفَضُّلاً

اللَّهُمَّ وَإِنِّي أَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ

مِنْ كُلِّ مَا خَالَفَ إِرَادَتَكَ

or far from Your love—

the thoughts of my heart,

the glances of my eye,

the tales of my tongue—

with a repentance through which each bodily part will by itself stay safe from ill consequences with You

and remain secure from Your painful penalties feared by transgressors!

O Allah, so have mercy on my being alone before You,

the pounding of my heart in dread of You,

and the trembling of my limbs in awe of You!

My sins, my God, have stood me in the station of degradation in Your courtyard.

If I remain silent, none will speak for me;

if I seek an intercessor, I am not worthy for intercession.

O Allah, bless Muhammad and his Household,

make Your generosity intercede for my offenses,

follow up my evil deeds with Your pardon,

repay me not with the punishment that is my proper repayment,

spread over me Your graciousness,

wrap me in Your covering,

and do with me what is done by a mighty man,

when a lowly slave pleads to him and he shows him mercy,

or a rich man, when a poor slave submits himself and he raises him to wealth!

O Allah, I have no protector against You,

so let Your might be my protector!

I have no intercessor with You,

أَوْ زَالَ عَن مَحَبَّتِكَ

مِنْ خَطَرَاتِ قَلْبِي

وَلَحَظَاتِ عَيْنِي

وَحِكَايَاتِ لِسَانِي

تَوْبَةً تَسْلَمُ بِهَا كُلُّ جَارِحَةٍ عَلَيَّ حَيَالِهَا مِنْ

تَبِعَاتِكَ

وَتَأْمَنُ مِمَّا يَخَافُ الْمُعْتَدُونَ مِنْ أَلِيمِ سَطَوَاتِكَ

اللَّهُمَّ فَارْحَمْ وَحَدِّثِي بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

وَوَجِيبَ قَلْبِي مِنْ خَشْيَتِكَ

وَأَضْطْرَابَ أَرْكَانِي مِنْ هَيْبَتِكَ

فَقَدْ أَقَامْتَنِي يَا رَبُّ ذُنُوبِي مَقَامَ الْخِزْيِ بِفَنَائِكَ

فَإِنْ سَكَتَ لَمْ يَنْطِقْ عَنِّي أَحَدٌ

وَإِنْ شَفَعْتُ فَلَسْتُ بِأَهْلِ الشَّفَاعَةِ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ

وَشَفِّعْ فِي خَطَايَايَ كَرَمَكَ

وَعُدْ عَلَيَّ سَيِّئَاتِي بِعَفْوِكَ

وَلَا تَجْزِنِي جَزَائِي مِنْ عِقُوبَتِكَ

وَأَبْسُطْ عَلَيَّ طَوْلَكَ

وَجَلِّلْنِي بِسِتْرِكَ

وَأَفْعَلْ بِي فِعْلَ عَزِيزٍ

تَضَرَّعَ إِلَيْهِ عَبْدٌ ذَلِيلٌ فَرَحِمَهُ

أَوْ غَنِيٌّ تَعَرَّضَ لَهُ عَبْدٌ فَقِيرٌ فَنَعَشَهُ

اللَّهُمَّ لَا خَفِيرَ لِي مِنْكَ

فَلِيخْفُرْنِي عِزُّكَ

وَلَا شَفِيعَ لِي إِلَيْكَ

so let Your bounty be my intercessor!

My offenses have set me quaking,

so let Your pardon give me security!

Not all that I have said rises up from my ignorance of my evil footsteps or forgetfulness of my blameworthy acts in the past, but in order that Your heaven and those within it

and Your earth and those upon it

may hear the remorse which I have professed to You

and the repentance through which I have sought asylum with You.

Then perhaps one of them, through Your mercy, may show mercy upon my evil situation

or be seized by tenderness for my evil state.

There may come from him for my sake a supplication

to which You give ear more than to my supplication

or an intercession surer with You than my intercession

through which I may be delivered from Your wrath and attain to Your good pleasure!

O Allah, if remorse is a repentance toward You,

then I am the most remorseful of the remorseful!

If refraining from disobedience is a turning back to You,

then I am the first of those who turn back!

If praying for forgiveness alleviates sins,

surely I am one of those who pray for Your forgiveness!

O Allah, as You have commanded repentance and guaranteed acceptance,

as You have urged supplication, and promised to respond,

so bless Muhammad and his Household,

accept my repentance,

فَلْيَشْفَعْ لِي فَضْلَكَ

وَقَدْ أَوْجَلْتَنِي خَطَايَايَ

فَلْيُوِّمْنِي عَفْوِكَ

فَمَا كُلُّ مَا نَطَقْتُ بِهِ عَنْ جَهْلٍ مِنِّي بِسُوءِ أَثْرِي

وَلَا نَسِيَانٍ لِمَا سَبَقَ مِنْ ذَمِيمٍ فِعْلِي

وَلَكِنْ لِتَسْمَعَ سَمَاوُكَ وَمَنْ فِيهَا

وَأَرْضُكَ وَمَنْ عَلَيْهَا

مَا أَظْهَرْتَ لَكَ مِنَ الْإِنْدَمِ

وَلَجَأْتُ إِلَيْكَ فِيهِ مِنَ التَّوْبَةِ

فَلَعَلَّ بَعْضَهُمْ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَرْحَمُنِي مِنْ سُوءِ مَوْقِفِي

أَوْ تُدْرِكُهُ الرَّقَّةُ عَلَيَّ لِسُوءِ حَالِي

فَيُنَالَنِي مِنْهُ بِدَعْوَةٍ

هِيَ أَسْمَعُ لَدَيْكَ مِنْ دُعَائِي

أَوْ شَفَاعَةٍ أَوْ كَدُّ عِنْدَكَ مِنْ شَفَاعَتِي

تَكُونُ بِهَا نَجَاتِي مِنْ غَضَبِكَ وَفَوْزِي بِرِضَاكَ

اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ يَكُنِ الْإِنْدَمُ تَوْبَةً إِلَيْكَ

فَأَنَا أُنْدَمُ الْنَادِمِينَ

وَإِنْ يَكُنِ التَّرْكُ لِمَعْصِيَتِكَ إِنْابَةً

فَأَنَا أَوَّلُ الْمُتَنِيبِينَ

وَإِنْ يَكُنِ الْإِسْتِغْفَارُ حِطَّةً لِلذُّنُوبِ

فَأَنَا لَكَ مِنَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ

اللَّهُمَّ فَكَمَا أَمَرْتَ بِالتَّوْبَةِ وَضَمِنْتَ الْقَبُولَ

وَحَثَّتْ عَلَيَّ الدُّعَاءِ وَوَعَدْتَ الْإِجَابَةَ

فَصَلِّ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ

وَأَقْبَلْ تَوْبَتِي

and return me not to the returning place of disappointment in Your mercy!

Surely, You are Ever-turning toward the sinners

and All-compassionate toward the offenders who turn back!

O Allah, bless Muhammad and his Household just as You have guided us by him!

Bless Muhammad and his Household just as You have rescued us through him!

Bless Muhammad and his Household,

with a blessing that will intercede for us on the Day of Resurrection, the day of neediness toward You!

You are powerful over everything,

and this is easy for You.

وَلَا تَرْجِعْنِي مَرْجِعَ الْخَيْبَةِ مِنْ رَحْمَتِكَ

إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ التَّوَّابُ عَلَى الْمُذْنِبِينَ

وَالرَّحِيمُ لِلْخَاطِئِينَ الْمُنِيبِينَ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ كَمَا هَدَيْتَنَا بِهِ

وَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ كَمَا اسْتَنْقَذْتَنَا بِهِ

وَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ

صَلَاةً تَشْفَعُ لَنَا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَيَوْمَ الْفَاقَةِ إِلَيْكَ

إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

وَهُوَ عَلَيْكَ يَسِيرٌ