

Prayer offered at the completion of the recitation of the Holy Qur'ān

اَللّٰهُمَّ اَرْحَمْنِيْ بِالْقُرْاٰنِ وَاَجْعَلْهُ لِيْ اِمَامًا وَّنُوْرًا وَّهَدًى وَّرَحْمَةً
اَللّٰهُمَّ ذَكِّرْنِيْ مِنْهُ مَا نَسِيتُ وَعَلِّمْنِيْ مِنْهُ مَا جَهِلْتُ وَارْزُقْنِيْ
تِلَاوَتَهُ اَنْاءَ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَاَجْعَلْهُ لِيْ حُجَّةً يَّا رَبَّ الْعٰلَمِيْنَ

O Allāh have mercy on me with (the blessings) of the Great Qur'ān. Make it for me a Model, Light, Guidance and Mercy. O my Allāh remind me whatever I have forgotten of it and teach me what I do not know of it. Grant me its recitation in the watches of the night and in the hours of day. O Lord of the worlds make it an Authority for me for my benefit. Amin

SOME ARABIC WORDS EXPLAINED

Abū Lahab: His real name was 'Abdul-'Uzzā and he was an uncle of the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

Al-Jūdī: is one of those mountains which divide Armenia on the south from Mesopotamia and that part of Assyria which is inhabited by the Kurds, from whom the mountain took the name of Cardū or Gardu but the Greeks turned it into Gordyaci. The remains of the ark were to be seen on the Gordyaen mountains, and Emperor Heraclius is said to have gone from the town of Thamanin up to the mountain al-Jūdī and saw the place of the ark. There was also formerly a famous monastery on one of these mountains called *the monastery of the ark*.

Allāh: The proper name of God.

Aş-Şafā wal-Marwah: Two hills near the Ka'bah in Mecca which Arabian history and the traditions of Islām connect with the story of Hagar and Ishmael. Abraham left them in the wilderness near these hills. They stand as a monument to Hagar's travail when she ran between them seven times in search of water for Ishmael, and seven circuits between these hills constitute one of the rites of the Pilgrimage.

'Arafāt: The name given to a plain or valley near Mecca where pilgrims halt in the latter portion of the ninth day of Dhū'l- Hijjāh. It is nine miles from Mecca and the halt of the pilgrims at this place forms one of the principal ceremonies of the Pilgrimage.

Badr: Literally meaning 'full moon,' is the name of a place on the route between Mecca and Medina. Here the first regular battle took place between Muslims and the Quraish of Mecca in which the Quraishite power received a severe shaking.

Bahīrah: A name given by pagan Arabs to a she-camel (according to some also an ewe or a she-goat) which they let loose to feed, after slitting its ears. It was dedicated to some god and its milk was not used, nor its back.

Ba'l: The name of a god, probably the sun-god.

Becca: is the name given to the valley of Mecca. The word is also considered by some to be the same as Mecca, its *mīm* having been changed into *bā*.

Dhūn-Nūn or *Şahibul-Hūt*: The Prophet Jonah.

Dhul-Qarnain: mentioned in the Qur'ān refers to King Cyrus, the founder of the Medo-Persian empire which represented the two horns of the ram of Daniel's famous dream.

Hajj: Pilgrimage to the Ka'bah.

Hām or *Hāmi*: A camel forbidden to be used by the Arabs for riding or carrying burdens. The she-camel was neither ridden nor shorn of her hair and was not debarred from pasture or water.

Hunain: Scene of an important battle between the Holy Prophet^{sa} and certain pagan tribes of Arabia in 8 A.H. The place lies to the south-east of Mecca, about 15 miles from it.

Iblīs: is a being who contains little of good and much of evil and who, on account of his having despaired of God's mercy, owing to his disobedience, is left perplexed and confounded. *Iblīs* may be said to represent the powers of evil as distinguished from the powers of good.

SOME ARABIC WORDS EXPLAINED

Idrīs: Enoch of the Bible.

Jālūt: In the Bible the parallel name is Goliath (I Sam. 17: 4) which means, running, ravaging and destroying spirits or 'a leader' or 'a giant'.

Jinn: This word has been applied in the Qur'ān to the following:

- (a) Evil spirits which inspire evil thoughts in the minds of men. They are the agents of Satan;
- (b) Some imaginary beings whom the infidels worshipped but who existed nowhere in the world;
- (c) The inhabitants of northern hilly tracts of Europe, of white and red colour, whom other peoples looked upon as beings separate from other human beings and who lived detached from the civilized peoples of Asia but who were destined to make great material progress in the latter days and to lead a great revolt against religion;
- (d) Peoples belonging to alien religions and nationalities; and
- (e) Wild and savage peoples who in pre-historic times, before man had developed enough morally to be given a revealed code of laws, lived in caves and hollows of the earth and were subject to no rules of conduct.

Ka'bah: The sacred House at Mecca to which Muslims turn their faces while praying.

Mann: The root meaning of this word is: (1) a favour; (2) anything obtained without trouble or difficulty; (3) honey-dew.

Mash'arūl-Ḥarām: is the name given to a small hill in Muzdalifah which lies between Mecca and 'Arafāt. It is about six miles from Mecca. Here the pilgrims stop for the night after their return from 'Arafāt on the evening of the ninth day of the month of Ḥajj.

Qiblah: Literally meaning direction to which a person turns while praying, refers to the Ka'bah at Mecca.

Quraish: A famous tribe of Mecca to which the Holy Prophet^{sa} belonged.

Rā'inā: The word means, 'look to us', but with a little change of the accent the word means, a foolish or conceited person.

Sā'ibah: A she-camel set free by the Arabs to go wherever she pleased, generally as an offering to the gods. Often a she-camel having given birth to ten female young ones was let loose to pasture where she would, and she was not ridden nor was her milk drunk except by her young.

Salwā: A whitish bird resembling a quail found in some parts of Arabia and the neighbouring countries. The root meaning of this word is: (1) whatever renders a person contented and happy; (2) honey.

Shahru Ramaḍān: The Islamic month of fasting.

Tālūt: In the Bible the parallel name is Saul (I Sam. 10: 23).

Tuwā: The name of the valley where the first manifestation of God to Moses took place.

'Umrah: Lesser Pilgrimage in which some of the rites of the Pilgrimage are left out.

Unẓurnā: The word means, 'have regard for us'.

Wādīun-Naml: The name of a valley which is situated between Jibrūn and 'Asqalān,

and Namlah is the name of a tribe.

Waṣīlah: A she-camel that was let loose by the Arabs in the name of a god after she had given birth to seven female ones consecutively. If, at the seventh birth, she bore a pair, male and female, these were also let loose.