

In Praise of the Prophet 3

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In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

May the blessing and peace of God be upon our Master, Prophet Muhammad.

I pray to God, my Creator, oh the One who accept prayers

swiftly, oh You who is close, oh You my Lord!

Know that God hears the one who calls Him!

Oh You my Lord, accept my wishes,

for I have prayed to You, the One I cherish!

Oh my Lord, remove all my difficulties!

I give thanks to God, He who built the Kaaba,

and revealed the prophet [Muhammad] exiled to Medina!

The one whose soul was created first and the last [prophet] to be sent!

The one who is the subject of all fascinations and who rests in Medina!

The one who has been credited with all sorts of miracles!

The one who is the master of all kinds of knowledge and who rests in Medina!

The one for whom the water of Zamzam¹ gushed to honor his great-grandparents!

The one who has the best body shape and rests in Medina!

He was born on a Monday and was sent as messenger of Allah on a Monday!

He made his celestial ascension on a Monday and returned the same day to Medina!

He passed away on the same day and returned to the land of truth [the hereafter]!

His privileged mausoleum is in Medina.

¹ *Zamzam* is water drawn from a well of the same name located inside *Masjid al-Haram* in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. The Islamic tradition reports that the well was revealed to Hajjar, the second wife of *Abraham* and mother of *Ishmael*, during her peregrinations in the hot desert of Arabia.

He shines brighter than the moon and the sun!

It is noted that a somber night does not exist in Medina!

The light rises and shines all around!

It is a miracle that Allah has granted to the people of Medina!

The one on whom the Quran has been revealed,

verse by verse, is resting in Medina!

Lamiin² made this journey in one single night!

The one who flew over hundreds of sacred places is in Medina!

He was welcomed in the rooms of honor and arrived in the mysterious place!

The one who saw God rests in Medina!

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He praised God and his wishes were fulfilled

The one who received the gift of intercession is in Medina!

It is the pilgrimage to Mecca and the zakat he was given [to honor him]!

The man of prayer and fasting, rests in Medina!

The one who had once touched the udders of the goat

that suddenly became filled with milk, rests in Medina!

The one who spoke with the Holy Spirit³ and went past the seventh heaven,

the one that animals and plants have thanked is in Medina!

The one for whom a tree trunk cried to express its yearning,

² *Lamiin*: from the Arabic *al-Amin*, one of the names of Prophet Muhammad which means the trustworthy.

³ According to some Muslim scholars, the Holy Spirit (*Rūh al-Qudus*) is another name of the Angel Gabriel (*Jibril*). To others, it is the name of another angel.

with audible cries, rests in Medina!⁴

The one that the trees, rocks, and leaves greeted

with eloquent greetings is in Medina!⁵

The one for whom the sunset was once delayed

so that he could pray on time, is in Medina!

The one for whom the moon was once split, one half came [toward him],

and he prayed for it there, rests in Medina!⁶

The one who was welcomed with all honors by the angels in ranks,

the one who led the prophets in prayers, is in Medina!

The one that the angels wish to work hard for

to satisfy his needs, rests in Medina!

The one that the Houris [women of paradise] cannot wait to see

his death, his remains rest in Medina!

Some thirsty members of his army who wanted water to drink

had once given [empty] containers to the owner of Medina [Muhammad]

who filled them up with blessings!

[On that day], clean water quenched the thirst of the army of Medina!

[Another miracle] happened when three hundred men were digging

a trench, according to what was reported in the hadiths of the owner of Medina!⁷

⁴ It is reported that during his sermons, Prophet Muhammad used to lean on a tree trunk. The day he used a pulpit, the latter started crying. Prophet Muhammad walked up to the trunk and put his hand on it to calm it down. See Hadiths Al-Bukhārī, Vol. 4, number 783.

⁵ See Hadiths Tirmidhi, number 3630 and Hakim, number 2607.

⁶ See Hadith: Al-Bukhārī, Vol. 4, number 831.

⁷ This is about another miracle reported by Al-Bukhārī and Al-Muslim from Anas. According to Anas, people were one in search of water to purify themselves before praying but could not find enough. Some water was brought to Prophet Muhammad in a container where he dipped his hand. Then he asked people to come take it for their ablutions. In the

“Jabir⁸ has brought us a lot of food!

Bring it here!” the owner of Medina [Muhammad] told him.

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When Jabir told his wife that

he had noticed much hunger on the face of owner of Medina,

his wife replied: “Please, calm down!

They are Arabs! Do not shame me before the people of Medina!”

When Jabir came with little food,

“Come on, let’s eat!” said [to his companions] the owner of Medina!

Jabir had regrets [for he knew the food was not enough]. He was ashamed and quiet!

He realized he had just exposed himself to the people of Medina!

Then, the Prophet mixed with his privileged hand the food in the container, and

the food was filled with blessings that had fed all the army of Medina!

[The Prophet] told him: “Take the leftover [from the food] to your wife!

That should be enough for dinner in Medina!”

Jabir took the leftover food and went home thanking God!

He received thanks from the heads of households of Medina!

It was the leftover food that fed his family until they were full!

They kept what was left for the next day in Medina!

The one who never strayed from the right path,

the one who has the best fragrance, rests in Medina!

spot, water gushed from his fingers. Everyone was able to make ablutions. Anas estimated there were about three hundred people.

⁸ Jabir Ibn Abdullah participated in the Treaty of Agba and lived for a very long time. This allowed him to become one of the greatest hadith narrators. He is one of the five companions who reported the most hadiths.

The one whose shadow cannot be seen [under the sun],⁹

the one who is brighter than the sun, rests in Medina!

The one who knows what comes behind and before him,

The one who knows the Celestial Throne of God, is in Medina!

The one on whom a fly never landed when he had no blanket,

– I am not exaggerating – is in Medina!

The one who has long harmonious fingers, thick palms, and thick feet,

the one whose knees are smooth, rests in Medina!

The one who has wide shoulders, a face that is little slim,

and is of average size, rests in Medina!

The one who has flat cheeks and long eyebrows,

The one who has long eyelashes, is in Medina!

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The one who has a fair face and an aquiline nose,

the one who cannot be mistaken with anyone, is in Medina!

The one who has a wide face and an iris with intense darkness,

the one whose lips look like gold, is in Medina!

Some even say that [his lips] are worth more than gold!

They shine like the moonlight, [the lips] of the owner of Medina,

like the moon on its fourteenth half,¹⁰

like the sunlight, [the lips] of the owner of Medina!

⁹ What the poet means here is that the body of Prophet Muhammad is brighter than the sun, and when he walks under the sun his shadow cannot be seen.

¹⁰ The moon is brighter on the night of the 13th through the 14th in every month (when it is full).

Both [the sun and the moon] have been brightened by his light!¹¹

They are both sacralized for the sake of the owner of Medina!

The world has been illuminated from his light!

The hereafter has become eternal thanks to the owner of Medina!

I regret to be created in this recent epoch,

and to be far from my beloved of Medina!

I missed the chance to be created in his epoch,

and be introduced to my beloved of Medina!

I am crying my eyes out deep in my heart!

This has increased my desire to go to Medina!

This has paralyzed my body and given me goosebumps!

My heart beats for the love of Medina!

If God had included me among his privileged people, those who performed

the pilgrimage to Mecca, who prayed before the owner of Medina,

if God had turned me into a wind that blows,

to enter the city of Medina,

I would walk between these beautiful buildings and its inhabitants!

I would greet them and would pray at the mausoleum of the owner of Medina!

If God had turned me into a cloud and positioned me [in the sky],

I would rain to make wet, even if only a small drop, the city of Medina!

I would gaze with my poor eyes these beautiful white

buildings! What a city of joy! Oh look at Medina!

¹¹ The sun and the moon are brightened by the light of the Prophet Muhammad.

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If God had turned me into a bird and let me fly,

I would flap my wings up to Medina!

I would walk on the sand of the privileged mausoleum!

I would kiss this white sand of the owner of Medina!

I would kiss this white sand! [Muhammad] gives me joy!

My action would be valued by the owner of Medina!

Anyone who will witness that experience will say: "Here is a city of blessings!"

It resembles paradise, the interior of Medina!

It is one of the most respected places,

for the venerated Muhammad rests in Medina!

It is he who had changed opposing tribes into allies!

The lucky ones among them responded to the call of the prophet of Medina!

The rebels among them had been defeated by his sword

and the daggers of the victorious warriors of the prophet of Medina!

When Abū Jahl¹² had been captured at the battle of Badr,

many tribes came to pledge allegiance to the man of Medina!

The Qurayza or the Nadir, despite their mastery of warfare,

had all been defeated! They ended up pledging allegiance to the owner of Medina!¹³

The battles of Taif and Hunayn are also famous!¹⁴

¹² Abū Jahl was one of the polytheists leaders of Mecca from the *Quraysh*, known for his opposition to the Prophet Muhammad and the first Muslims of Mecca.

¹³ The conflict with the *Qurayza* took place in January 627 AD (AH 5). The one with the *Nadir* occurred in August 625 AD (4 AH).

¹⁴ The siege of Taif took place in 630 AD, when Muslims besieged the city of Taif after their victory at the battle of *Hunayn* and in *Awta*. The battle of *Hunayn* opposed Muhammad and his companions against the *Hawazin* and *Thaqif* tribes in 630 AD (AH 8). The battle ended with the decisive victory of Muslims who had many prisoners.

He defeated his adversaries. They ended up pledging allegiance to the owner of Medina!

He was also victorious in *Mustaliq* and *Khaybar*!¹⁵

Tabuk is the last military expedition of the owner of Medina!¹⁶

The companions of the Prophet sent to fight these wars were numerous.

Those who were elected and guaranteed¹⁷ were those who were with the owner of Medina!

Only a few were sent abroad!

“Let them begin the battle, help will come from the owner of Medina!”

The Truthful Spirit [Angel Gabriel] had descended from the sky with news

regarding the foreign invasion of the owner of Medina!

“Let Ali come to back up the battle of the *sahabas*,¹⁸

otherwise, the battle of the owner of Medina will not end!”

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“Let one hundred companions go with Ali!

The owner of Medina will leave the country!”

When Ali pointed his sword towards his adversaries, ten of them died!

The two-pointed sword belonged to the owner of Medina!

The blind¹⁹ are in torment! Happy is the one who loves the man of Medina!

“Let the elderly, the sick, and the ones recovering remain in Medina!”²⁰

I attest that it is the will of God!”

¹⁵ The first battle against the *Mustaliq* tribe took place in December 627 AD, and that of *Khaybar* between 628-629 AD.

¹⁶ According to Muslim historians, the battle of Tabuk is a military expedition led by the Prophet Muhammad in October 630 Ad. With about 30000 men, he marched towards Tabuk in the northeastern part of present-day Saudi Arabia with the purpose of attacking the Byzantine army.

¹⁷ They are those who were guaranteed to receive God’s reward in this world and access paradise if they die.

¹⁸ The companions of Prophet Muhammad.

¹⁹ Those who did not see the truth of Islam.

²⁰ They are exempt from taking part in the war.

The blind who died were the ones who doubted the owner of Medina,
the one who had seen the group that left Mecca
in a convoy of camels traveling towards Medina!
The elect from the generations of the privileged [Muhammad] led them
at a speed that raised dust in the direction of Medina!
The residents of Medina were impatient to see that day!
They were preparing to welcome the companions of the owner of Medina!
These joyful elected [companions of Muhammad] showed themselves while thanking God!
They had the certainty they would arrive in Medina!
God has created [Muhammad] from the light even before the creation of mankind,
and He associated his name with that of the owner of Medina,²¹
and he attributed to him some of His names:
The Loving Merciful is a name of God and of the owner of Medina too!
[God] is called in the hereafter The Most Merciful for the welcome
that He reserved to mankind thanks to the owner of Medina!
To stand on Mount Arafat and before the well of Zamzam in Mecca,
all these things are sacralized thanks to the owner of Medina!
To stand in Sham²² for the weighting of good deeds and to receive one's book [on Judgment Day],
and to cross the bridge of hell, is to confirm the privileges of the owner of Medina!
When mankind is resuscitated in the hereafter,
there will be unanimity for our beloved of Medina!

²¹ Here the author alludes the *shabada* "There is no gods beside God, and Muhammad is the Messenger of God," that every new convert must profess before embracing Islam.

²² *Sham* refers to the Greater Syria region. Some Muslims believe that the resurrection will take place there.

With him will be those who dedicated their lives to singing his praises,

and who had abided by the obligations of those who followed the man of Medina!

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When hell will come in the hereafter with its lively sparks,

the only one who will be able to calm it will be our beloved of Medina!

All the angels will jump while circumambulating the Throne of God!

They will say: "Oh Lord, oh You who have privileged the one of Medina!"

Prophets trembling with worries about their own matters

will all turn towards our beloved of Medina!

Mankind will go to the prophets to request

their intercession before [God], who has privileged the man of Medina!

They will each declare sadly: "I dare not!" After going to all

the prophets, all mankind will converge towards the prophet of Medina!

All mankind will arrive singing the praises of the privileged one and will submit to him stating:

"Intercede on our behalf for we are in difficulty, dear owner of Medina!"

Muhammad will accept and bow [before God], then the Creator of the Universe

will tell him: "Oh raise your head, my dear beloved of Medina!

Today is a day of retribution of mankind's acts of worship!

Make all your wishes and they will be fulfilled, my dear beloved of Medina!"

[Muhammad] will tell him: "My Creator, my beloved in truth,

hellfire has terrified the believers!"

The Almighty will then tell His Hell:

"Hell, obey my beloved of Medina!"

Hell will apologize, step aside, and stop its high heat!

The relieved humanity will stay hopeful along with the believers!

Hell will bow and stop its burning heat!

It will cool off to respect the owner of Medina!

[Muhammad] will be next to the humanity of God and the land of eternal happiness [paradise]!

The bridge²³ will be placed above hell so that the believers can cross it.

God will replace the earth with a new one,

a very white one that will enlighten the believers!

He will spread a light emanating from His image!

He will accept the great intercession of the owner of Medina!

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The prophets will approach and walk [on the bridge] with their communities!

The witness²⁴ of the prophets will be the owner of Medina!

Those who did not believe in God will be disappointed,

regretting they did not follow the owner of Medina!

They will request God to return them to the earth to practice the religion! He will

reply to them: "No, it is impossible! Let the enemies of the religion be punished!"

The angels will escort them and throw them into the bottom of the fire!

Hell will take revenge for our beloved of Medina!

All the prophets will approach the one of Medina,

in the thousands, under the eyes of the one of Medina!

Seventeen thousand will be

blessed by the blessings of the owner of Medina!

²³ The bridge above hell (*sirāṭ*).

²⁴ It is Prophet Muhammad who is considered the witness and intercessor on behalf of all believers before God.

The remaining will have their actions weighed!

Anyone whose weight of good deeds is heavier will honor the owner of Medina!

God has elected all the prophets of mankind,

but all the prophets are surpassed by the owner of Medina!

The Prophet David will sing the praises of the owner of Medina!

He will cross the bridge of hell with his people!

The Sovereign [God] will order an angel to go to the splendid place

to look for the key to open paradise for the owner of Medina!

[God] had the will to let him enter with his communities

in paradise, him and the believers!

The angel will fly over the kingdom of God for one thousand years!

He will complain and be impatient to welcome the owner of Medina!

The angel will implore God, who knows where the splendid place is located!

He will be told: "Keep walking, Oh dear beloved of the believers!"

He will keep walking like before [for another thousand years]!

He will feel lonely and will turn to [God], He who privileged the man of Medina!

He will be told: "Call the Holy Spirit, the Good!

The angel will call him. The latter is close to the owner of Medina!"

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Angel Gabriel will greet him, then say [to the angel who called him]: "Who are you?"

"The keeper of the paradise of Firdaws, dear beloved of the believers!"²⁵

Then he will declare: "I did not recognize you. To which clan do you belong?" [The angel

²⁵ *Firdaws* is the name of the highest level of paradise. The author reveals here the identity of the angel sent to get the keys. He is the keeper of *Firdaws* called *Riqdwan* by scholars.

will answer]: "I am the one who should be in contact with the owner of Medina.

I am a messenger of the Owner of the creatures!

I am the one who will welcome the owner of Medina!

God has ordered me to go to the splendid place

to bring the keys of paradise and open it for the owner of Medina!

God has decided to let him enter with his communities

to paradise, him and the believers!"

Then Angel Gabriel will tell him: "Misfortune is reserved

to those who say no to the man of Medina!"

The angel will answer: "You are perfectly right, God has offered

eight paradises to the owner of Medina!"

Then the Holy Spirit, very joyful, will thank God!

He will thank God for privileging the owner of Medina!

[The Holy Spirit] will say: "I swear that it is very far [the splendid place where the

keys of paradise are located]! You will not get there through a short voyage.

It will take a ten-year trip!"

The Holy Spirit will guide the angel, dear friends of believers!

The angel will see the villas and their lights!

As soon as he arrives to the beloved place of the believers,

he will faint for a long time before waking up!

He will thank God, who has privileged the owner of Medina!

Then the Holy Spirit will tell him: "I swear

there are many keys in here, dear beloved of the believers."

For one key alone, even if all mankind was gathered,

they could not move it, dear friend of the owner of Medina!

The keys have been laying here for about one million years;

they are all in pure gold, dear beloved of believers!"

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The angel will answer him²⁶: "Just bring them for I am a simple messenger!

I will respect the directives of [God], the one who privileged the man of Medina!"

And the Angel Gabriel will bring them. There are nine thousand [keys] in total

with hundreds bearing the name of the owner of Medina!

With respect to the other ninety-nine,

they will bear the names of [God], the one who privileged the owner of Medina!

The angel will fly with the keys towards the Throne of God, and the keys will become

as light as a feather for the beloved of the believers!

Then, the angel will be told: "Open and settle the Prophet

and the believers in paradise!"

There will be ten fences surrounding the land of happiness [paradise]! Drums

will be beaten! They will be ten in number, according to the owner of Medina!

One must travel for one thousand years to walk the first fence!

It will take the same time for each fence, according to the owner of Medina!

It will take ten thousand years to walk around all the fences before arriving to the land

of eternal happiness!²⁷ Inside are the most privileged of the believers. The shining trees will show their beauty and thank God,

by bringing their fruits to our beloved of Medina!

²⁶ The angel who is sent will tell the Holy Spirit.

²⁷ Paradise.

The birds will sing, boast, and thank God

by bringing their meat to our beloved of Medina!

The villas will open their gates thanking God,

waiting to welcome the beloved of Medina!

The beautiful women of paradise will sit and wait impatiently!

They cannot wait for the entrance of our beloved of Medina!

They will wear perfumes, happily showing off!

They will jostle each other to see our beloved of Medina!

They will bring water so that the believers wash themselves one last time;

and they will never see any filth anymore!²⁸

They will live forever,

and will live there forever. The believers will be enlightened!

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[The beautiful women of paradise] will shine like the night stars

in the company of the glowing bodies of the believers!

They will serve them zanjabil drinks!²⁹

They will give red spoons of gold to the believers!

They will serve them a rich and varied menu

that will be eaten, while thanking God, by those who had chosen the religion!

One thousand new garments will be brought to these blessed people!

The believers will all dress with pleasure!

God, the Sovereign, will lay a very beautiful

²⁸ The believers will stay forever in that state of cleanliness in this purified place (paradise).

²⁹ See Q 76:17-18.

golden crown over the head of the owner of Medina!

The tabala³⁰ created by the Creator of Humanity

will be beaten to inform the owner of Medina!

The angels called Ghanā'ima and Futūthi will lift it!

The angel Azrael³¹ will beat it to inform the owner of Medina,
with the angel Israfil.³² In one single beating of this tabala,
about a thousand songs will be sung in honor of the owner of Medina!
and it will be like this with every beat until they stop!

Listen! A group of men will head towards the owner of Medina!

This group will join the group of the Prophet!

Such a great gathering has never been seen before, dear believers!

The angels will bring golden crowns

they will pass them around up to the owner of Medina!

The prophets and their companions will approach to wear them. They will wear them

until the shadow of the crowns is on the owner of Medina!

Thus, all eyes will see a novelty that will give them the joy of gazing!

All eyes will converge to see the owner of Medina!

Everyone will get ready and await the entrance of the Prophet in paradise!

The angels will allow a group to welcome the owner of Medina!

Those who died in the holy wars will detach themselves from the group with pride!

They will rest in the beautiful villas with the owner of Medina!

³⁰ Big tam-tam that is found in many West African societies.

³¹ The Angel of Death.

³² The angel that will blow the trumpet to signal the Day of Judgment (Q 39:68).

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The angels thriving at the throne of God

will say: "Glory to God," and will praise God and the owner of Medina!

The beautiful women of paradise will come out to look,

and are impatient to see the entrance of our beloved of Medina!

It will be the light of God's Throne that will enlighten the land of blessings [paradise]!

Believers will walk into a light that will never go out,

in contrast to the sun and the moon in the earthly world

that used to set or eclipse at times for the believers!

Those who only followed their desires [neglecting their religious obligations] in this world,

will not see these lights of paradise. I swear, dear believers!

Men and women believers will be found [in paradise],

all those who were righteous people and who lived according to the faith!

Please, oh my God, oh the Merciful,

include among those who will be close to the owner of Medina in the hereafter!

May Your blessing be upon him, upon his companions,

and upon all those who followed the owner of Medina!

The end. Glory to God, the Almighty.

Monday between Asr prayer (afternoon)

and Maghrib prayer (sunset). Glory to God, Lord of the Universe.

Oh God, forgive my parents.

May paradise be our eternal abode.

May the peace and blessing of God be upon our Master Muhammad.