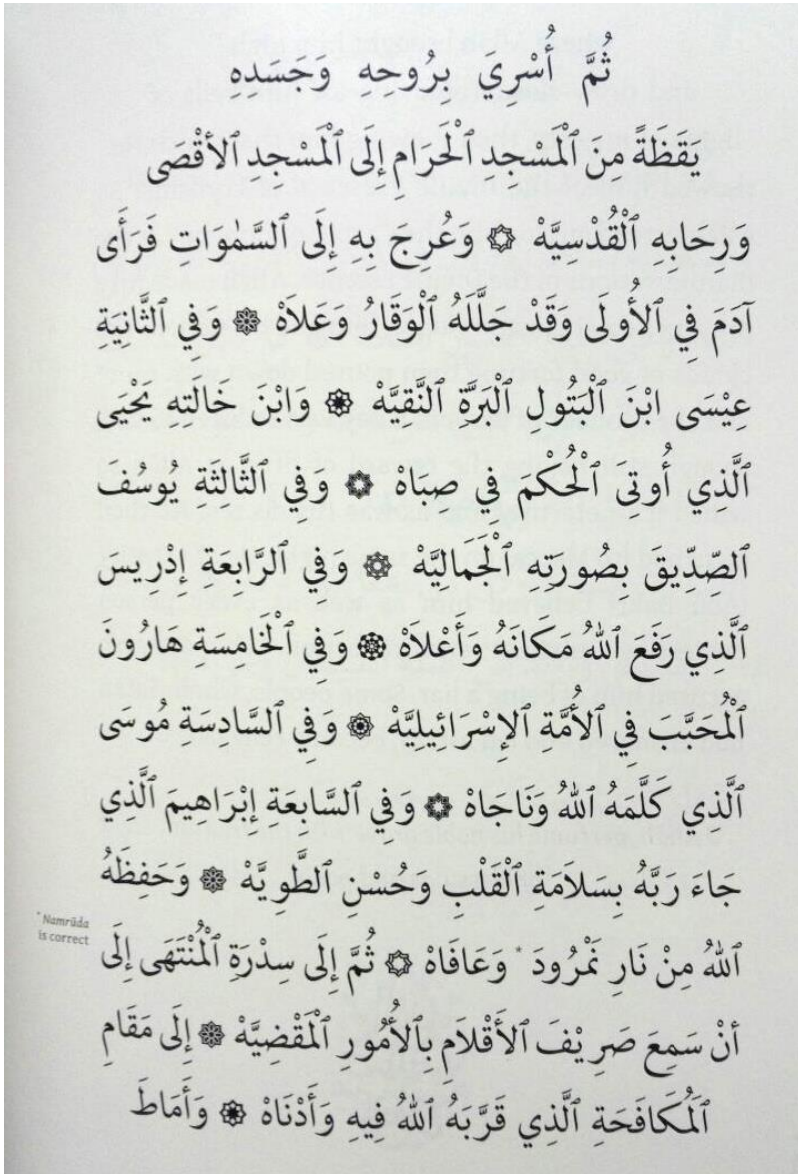


THE NIGHT JOURNEY – MI'RAJ



He was taken by night, in body and soul, while in a state of wakefulness, from the Haram Mosque [in Mecca] to the 'Furthest Mosque' [in Jerusalem] and its holy precincts * then he was raised into the heavens.

He beheld Adam in the first heaven and was enveloped and overspread with dignified bearing. *

In the second heaven he saw 'Isa [Jesus], son of the pure and pious Virgin Maryam [Mary]. * He also saw there the son of 'Isa's maternal aunt, Yahya [John the Baptist], who was granted wisdom during childhood. *

In the Third Heaven he saw Yusuf [Joseph], the Truthful, in his beautiful form. *

In the Fourth, Idris [Enoch] whom Allah 'raised to a lofty place'. *

In the Fifth, he beheld Harun [Aaron], beloved to the Israelite Nation. *

In the Sixth, Musa [Moses] whom Allah addressed directly and with intimacy. *

In the Seventh, Ibrahim [Abraham], who 'came to his Lord sound of heart'

and with inward excellence; * he whom Allah protected and saved from Nimrod's fire. *

Then, to the Furthest Lote Tree (Sidrat al-Muntaha) where he could hear the scribbling of pens engaged in the writing of destined affairs. * Then, the 'Station of Direct Encounter' - that Allah caused him to behold with his eyes - where Allah brought him nigh and drew close,

لَهُ حُجْبَ الْأَنْوَارِ الْجَلَالِيَّةِ ❁
 وَأَرَاهُ بِعَيْنِي رَأْسَهُ مِنْ حَضْرَةِ الرَّبُّوبِيَّةِ مَا أَرَاهُ ❁
 وَبَسَطَ لَهُ بِسَاطَ الْأِذْلَالِ فِي الْمَجَالِي الذَّاتِيَّةِ ❁ وَفَرَضَ
 عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى أُمَّتِهِ خَمْسِينَ صَلَاةً ❁ ثُمَّ انْهَلَ سَحَابُ
 الْفَضْلِ فَرُدَّتْ إِلَى خَمْسِ عَمَلِيَّةٍ ❁ وَلَهَا أَجْرُ الْخَمْسِينَ
 كَمَا شَاءَهُ فِي الْأَزَلِ وَقَضَاهُ ❁ ثُمَّ عَادَ فِي لَيْلَتِهِ وَصَدَّقَهُ
 الصِّدِّيقُ بِمَسْرَاهُ وَكُلُّ ذِي عَقْلٍ وَرَوِيَّةٍ ❁ وَكَذَّبَتْهُ
 قُرَيْشٌ وَارْتَدَّ مَنْ أَضَلَّهُ الشَّيْطَانُ وَغَوَاهُ ❁

عَطِّرِ اللَّهُمَّ قَبْرَهُ الْكَرِيمَ ❁ بِعَرْفِ شَدِيِّ مِنْ صَلَاةٍ
 وَتَسْلِيمٍ ❁ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَيْهِ ❁

عَلَيْهِ
 صَلَاتِي
 وَسَلَامِي

removing for him veils of lights of majesty, ❁ then showing him that which He showed him of the Divine Presence of Lordship. ❁ So Allah spread out for him the Carpet of Honour at the manifestations of the Divine Essence. ❁

Allah made fifty prayers a day obligatory upon him and his nation. ❁ The clouds of good fortune then poured down with rain ❁ and the number of prayers a day was reduced to five, though still having the reward of fifty, as Allah so willed it in eternity and as was His decree. ❁

He then returned (to Mecca) on the same night. He of veracity (Abu Bakr) believed him as well as every person possessing intellect and reflection. ❁ The Quraysh accused him of being a liar. Some people, whom Satan had ensnared and led astray, became renegades.

*O Allah, perfume his noble grave
 with the fragrant scent of
 blessings and peace*