ولو قيل لي

للشيخ إبراهيم بن محمد بن ناصر الدين المويلق

In Praise of Imam
Abū al-Ḥasan al-Shādhilī

By Shaykh Ibrāhīm Muḥammad ibn Nāṣir al-Dīn al-Muwaylaq

Arabic text: Returning to Allah
English translation: Returning to Allah
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وَلَوْ قِيلَ لِي مَنْ فِي الرِّجَالِ مُكَمَّلٌ ❊❊❊ لَقُلْتُ إِمَامِي الشَّاذِلِيُّ أَبُو الحَسَنِ

If I were asked, "Who among men is perfected?" (after the Prophet ﷺ and his ṣahābah) ❊ I would say, "My Imam, al-Shadhili Abu al-Hasan."

لَقَدْ كَانَ بَحْرًا فِي العُلُومِ وَرَاسِخًا ❊❊❊ وَلَا سِيَّمَا فِي عِلْمِ الفَرَائِضِ وَالسُّنَنِ

He was an ocean of knowledge, deeply rooted, ❊ especially in the science of inheritance and the Prophetic traditions (i.e. *fiqh* and *ḥadīth*)

وَمِنْ مَنْهَلِ التَّوْحِيدِ قَدْ غَبَّ وَارْتَوَى ❊❊❊ فَلِلَّهِ كَمْ أَرْوَى قُلُوبًا بِهَا شَجَنْ

From the spring of Tawhid, he filled his vessels and drank copiously; ❊ how many hearts afflicted by trials did he revive for Allah?

وَحَازَ عُلُومًا لَيْسَ تُحْصَى لِكَاتِبٍ ❊❊❊ وَهَلْ تَحْصُرُ الكُتَّابُ مَا حَازَ مِنْ فَنَنِ؟

He acquired sciences that no writer could count ❊
— can books ever encompass the sciences he mastered?

فَكُنْ شَاذِلِيَّ الوَقْتِ تَحْظَى بِسِرِّهِ *** وَفِي سَائِرِ الأَوْقَاتِ مُسْتَغْنِيًا بِعَنْ

So be a Shādhilī in this time to attain his secret, ❇
and at all times be a Shādhilī, and you will be sufficed.

فَإِنِّي لَهُ عَبْدٌ وَعَبْدٌ لِعَبْدِهِ *** فَيَا حَبَّذَا عَبْدٌ لِعَبْدِ أَبِي الحَسَنِ

I am his servant, and a servant to his servant ❇
oh, how great it is to be the servant of the servant of Abū al-Ḥasan!

إِذَا لَمْ أَكُنْ عَبْدًا لِشَيْخِي وَقُدْوَتِي *** إِمَامِي وَذُخْرِي الشَّاذِلِيِّ أَكُنْ لِمَنْ؟

If I am not a servant to my Sheikh and my exemplar, ❇
my Imam and my treasure, al-Shadhili — then whom would I serve?

فَيَا رَبِّ بِالسِّرِّ الَّذِي قَدْ وَهَبْتَهُ *** تَمُنُّ عَلَيْنَا بِالمَوَاهِبِ وَالفِطَنِ

O Lord, by the secret You granted him, ❇
Bestow upon us Your gifts and insights!



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