

Below a poem about Imam Abul Hasan al-Shahili, *radiya Allah at'ala 'anhu*. The name of the author is Sheikh Ibrahim ibn Muhammad ibn Nasir al-Din al-Muwayliq, and the meter of the poem is *bahr al-tawil* (الطويل), which goes as:

فَعُولُنْ مَفَاعِيلُنْ فَعُولُنْ مَفَاعِلْ

وَلَوْ قِيلَ لِي مَنْ فِي الرِّجَالِ مُكَمَّلٌ — لَقُلْتُ إِمَامِي الشَّاذِلِيَّ أَبُو الْحَسَنِ
لَقَدْ كَانَ بَحْرًا فِي الْعُلُومِ وَرَاسِخًا — وَلَا سِيَّمَا فِي عِلْمِ الْفَرَائِضِ وَالسُّنَنِ
وَمِنْ مَنَهْلِ التَّوْحِيدِ قَدْ غَبَّ وَارْتَوَى — فَلِلَّهِ كَمْ أَرَوَى قُلُوبًا بِهَا مَحَنٌ
وَحَازَ عُلُومًا لَيْسَ تُحْصَى لِكَاتِبٍ — وَهَلْ تَحْصِرُ الْكِتَابُ مَا حَازَ مِنْ فَنَنْ
فَكُنْ شَاذِلِيَّ الْوَقْتِ تَحْطَى بِسِرِّهِ — وَفِي سَائِي الْأَوْقَاتِ مُسْتَعْنِيًا بَعَنُ
فَإِنِّي لَهُ عَبْدٌ وَعَبْدٌ لِعَبْدِهِ — فَيَا حَبَّذَا عَبْدٌ لِعَبْدِ أَبِي الْحَسَنِ
إِذَا لَمْ أَكُنْ عَبْدًا لِشَيْخِي وَقُدُوتِي — إِمَامِي وَذُخْرِي الشَّدْلِيَّ أَكُنْ لِمَنْ
فِيَا رَبِّ بِالسِّرِّ الَّذِي قَدْ وَحَبَّتَهُ — تَمُنُّ عَلَيْنَا بِالْوَاهِبِ وَالْفَطْنِ

If i were asked: Who among men is perfect? -

I would answer: my leader, al-Shadhiliyy Abul Hasan.
He was like an ocean of knowledge, and firmly rooted,
Especially in the Law of inheritance and the Sunan
He drank avidly the drink of tawhid, and quenched his thirst.
How many hearts afflicted by trials has he given solace (water) for Allah!
He gained sciences that can not be enumerated by any writer -
For how could books encompass the arts he achieved?
So devote time wholeheartedly to Me (*), and you will obtain his secrets,
And at all other times be free of worries.
I am his servant, and the servant of his servant -
How great is a servant of the servant of Abu al-Hasan!
Where I not a servant to my Sheikh and my exemplar guide,
My leader and my treasure al-Shadhili – then to whom would i be?
O Lord, by the secret you gave to him
Grant us the gift and presence of mind!

(*) *fakun Shadhilia al-waqt*: a meaning attributed to the name of Imam al-Shadhili is “exclusively devoted to Me”, i.e. to Allah, from there i attempted the translation: “devote time wholeheartedly to Me”/ *bmk*