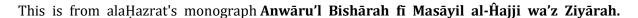
Manners of Visiting the beloved Messenger



(۱) زیارت افتدس قریب بواجب ہے بہت لوگ دوست بن کر طرح طرح ڈراتے ہیں 'راہ میں خطرہ ہے وہاں بیاری ہے 'خبر دار! کسی کی نہ سنو' اور ہر گز محرومی کا داغ لے کر نہ پلٹو' جان ایک دن جانی ضرور ہے اس سے کیا بہتر ہے کہ ان کی راہ میں جائے۔ اور تجربہ ہے کہ جو ان کا دامن تھام لیتا ہے اسے اپنے سامیہ میں بآرام لے جاتے ہیں کیل کا کھٹکا نہیں ہوتا۔ والحمد لللہ۔

1. To visit RasūlAllāh sis near to being *wājib*. Many people dressed in the guise of friends scare one by saying there is danger on the way, there is illness. Beware! Do not listen to anyone and never return deprived. Your life has to end one day anyway. What could be better than losing your life in his way? And it is has been seen that whosoever clings to the Prophet s, he keeps them in his protection. WalHamdulillah.

2. Make the intention of visiting the beloved Prophet & when visiting so much so that Imām ibn al-Hummām says that one must not intend to visit the Masajid Sharif.

3. On the journey, be engrossed in the recitation of Durūd Sharif.

4. When the blessed sanctuary comes into vision, it is better to be on foot. Cry, bow your head, lower your gaze and if possible, walk bare footed.

5. When you see the lightsome dome, increase salutations upon Him .

6. When you reach the blessed city, become encapsulated in the remembrance of the beauty of the beloved ...

7. Before going to the Masajid, anything need that will cause your attention to be divided must be catered for immediately. Apart from his remembrance, do not indulge yourself in any useless talk. Perform ablution and *siwāk* without delay and bathing is better. Don clean, white clothes and new clothes are better. Apply collyrium and perfume and musk is the best.

(^) اب فوراً آستانہ اقدس کی طرف نہایت خشوع وخضوع سے متوجہ ہو'رونانہ آئے تورونے کامنہ بناؤ'اور دل کوبزور رونے پرلاؤاورا بنی سنگدلی سے رسول اللہ صلی اللہ تعالیٰ علیہ وسلم کی طرف متوجہ کرو۔

8. Now proceed to the blessed court with utmost humility [khushú] and concentration [khuzu']. If you cannot cry, at least make yourself look like one who is crying. Try hard to make your heart to cause you to cry and turn to RasūlAllāh & from the depths of your heart.

9. When you arrive at the door of the Masajid, offer Ṣalāt [salutations] and Salam [greetings] and wait for a while as if to ask permission from the Master sto visit him. Say Bismillah and enter with your right foot first showing respect at all times.

10. Every Muslim knows the *adab* [respect] that is *FarĎh* [obligatory] at this moment. Your eyes, ears, tongue, hands, feet and heart must be free from any other thoughts [apart from the Messenger [36]]. Do not look at the beauty of the Masajid.

11. If someone comes before you with whom you must converse, try to avoid it, otherwise, do not prolong it beyond necessary. Even then, your heart must be towards the Master ...

12. Never, never say a loud word in the holy Masajid.

(13) Be assured that the life of dear Prophet & is real, physical and he alive just as he was before his demise. His demise, along with all Prophets, is just to fulfil the divine command and it is for one moment. Their demise is just being veiled from the public.

Imām Muḥammad ibn al-Ḥaj Makkī in *Madkhal* and Imām Aḥmed Qastalānī in *Mawāhib al-Ladunniya* and other Imāms *raḥmatullahi táālā álayhim ajmaýīn* say that:

حضور اقدس صلی اللہ تعالیٰ علیہ وسلم کی حیات وفات میں اس بات میں کچھ فرق نہیں کہ وہ اپنی امت کو دکھے رہے ہیں اور ان کی حالتوں اور ان کی نیتوں 'ان کے ارادوں 'ان کے ارادوں 'ان کے دوا تھے میں اصلاً کوئی پوشید گی نہیں۔

There is no difference in the life and demise of RasūlAllāh & in that he is seeing his Ummah, he knows their state, their intentions, their plans, the thoughts of their hearts. These things are so apparent to RasūlAllāh & that there is no veil in between. 1

Imām Raḥīmahullah, student of the Muḥaqqiq ibn al-Hummām writes in his *Mansik Mutawassit* and Álī Qārī Makkī writes in its commentary *Maslak Mutaqassit* that:

Indeed RasūlAllāh & knows about your visit, your standing, your greetings, your actions, your states and all your positions.²

(14) Now, if the congregation [for $Sal\bar{a}h$] is ready, then partake in it as your $Tahiyyat\ al-Masjid$ will also be included in it. Otherwise, if there is excessive yearning and it is not the disliked time for $Sal\bar{a}h$, then offer two rak'ahs of $Tahiyyat\ al-Masjid$ to thank Allah for this visitation. Recite a minimal recitation at the place where RasūlAllāh sused to pray which is now the centre of the Masjid where the Mihrab is situated. If you cannot get a space there, pray wherever you can as close to this place as possible. Then fall into a prostration of thankfulness and pray to Allah that: "Lord! Grant me the respect of your beloved and accept me and make me acceptable to the beloved Ameen!"

(15) Whilst maintaining yourself at the pinnacle of respect, lower your head and your eyes, become ashamed of your sins so much so that you sweat and you begin shaking. Remain confident of gaining the pardon and benevolence of RasūlAllāh . Enter into the court of RasūlAllāh from the eastern side which is the side where RasūlAllāh is is facing the *Qibla* which will mean that the blessed, munificent vision of RasūlAllāh is is upon you. This is enough for you in both worlds. WalHamdulillah.

(16) With the greatest reverence, with fear and aspiration, stand at least four hand-spans away from the lantern that is situated on the southern wall of the blessed shrine opposite the blessed

¹ *al-Madkhal ibn al-Ḥaj* – Fasl fī Ziyārat al-Qubūr, Dar al-Kutub al-'Arabi, Beirut – 1:252; *Sharh Mawāhib Zarqānī* – al-Maqsad al-'Aashir, 'Aamirah, Egypt – 8:348

² Maslak Mutaqassit maá Irshād al-Sārī – Chapter: Ziyarah Sayyid al-Mursaleen, Dar al-Kutub al-'Arabi, Beirut – pp. 338

countenance. With your back to the *Qibla* and facing towards the blessed shrine, stand with your arms folded as you would do in Ṣalāh. *Lubāb* and *Sharh Lubāb*, *Ikhtiyār Sharh Mukhtār* and *Fatāwā Álamgīrī* and other relied upon books explain this act of respect by saying:

Stand before RasūlAllāh & as you stand in Ṣalāh.3

اور لباب میں فرمایا:

This is what *Álamgīrī* and *Ikhtiyār* say and it is in *Lubāb* that:

Stand with the right hand on top of the left.4

(17) Beware not to kiss or touch the blessed gates as this is against proper respect. You should stand at least four hand-spans away. Is his mercy not enough that he called you to his shrine and granted a space there? Even though his merciful glance was towards you everywhere, it is now with you especially with this physical nearness. WalHamdulillah.

(18) Alḥamdulillah, along with your heart, your face is now also towards the pure gates that are the resting place of the beloved of Allah . With paramount esteem and a mournful voice; with a sorrowful expression, a shameful heart and a torn liver; in a medium tone, neither loud or harsh [as raising ones voice in his presence causes ones actions to be useless] nor too soft [as this is against the Sunnah even though he even knows what it in your heart as we have seen above] beseech thus:

اے پیارے نبی! آپ پر سلام ہواوراللہ کی رحمت وبر کات ہوں'اےاللہ کے رسول! آپ پر سلام ہو۔اے مخلوق خدامیں سب سے بہتر آپ پر سلام ہو۔اے گنہ گاروں کی شفاعت فرمانے والے آپ پر سلام ہو۔ آپ پر سلام ہو۔ آپ پر سلام ہو۔ آپ پر۔اور آپ کے آل واصحاب پر اور تمام امت پر سلام ہو

³ *Fatāwā Ḥindiya* − Khatima fi Ziyara Qabr al-Nabi ﷺ, Nurani Kutub Khana, Peshawar − 1:265

⁴ Sharh Lubāb maá Irshād al-Sārī – Chapter: Ziyarah Sayyid al-Mursaleen, Dar al-Kutub al-'Arabi, Beirut – pp. 337

Oh dear Prophet \$\mathbb{B}\$! May peace be upon you and the mercy and blessings of Allah. Oh Messenger of Allah \$\mathbb{B}\$! May peace be upon you. Oh the best of creation, may peace be upon you \$\mathbb{B}\$. Oh intercessor for the sinful, may peace be upon you \$\mathbb{B}\$. May peace be upon you, your family, your companions and the whole Ummah.⁵

(19) Recite as much peace and blessings upon him as possible. Seek his intercession for yourself, parents, shaykh, teacher, children, friends and all Muslims. Continuously implore him thus:

(۲۰) پھرا گرکسی نے عرض سلام کی وصیت کی بجالاؤ۔ شرعااس کا تعلم ہے۔اور یہ فقیر ذلیل ان مسلمانوں کو جواس رسالہ کو دیکھیں وصیت کرتاہے کہ جب انھیں حاضری نصیب ہو بورگارہ نصیب ہو فقیر کی زندگی میں یابعد کم از کم تین بار مواجہہ اقدس میں ضرور یہ الفاظ عرض کرکے اس نالا کُق ننگِ خلا کُق پر احسان فرما کیں 'اللہ ان کو دونوں جہاں میں جڑا بخشے۔آ مین

(20) Thereafter, if someone has conveyed Salam, fulfil their desire. This is binding upon you in the $Shar\bar{\imath}a$. This humble, worthless servant [Aḥmad Razā] requests those Muslims who read this monograph to favour him, either during his life or after his demise, that when you are gifted with the visitation, present the following words at least thrice, may Allah reward you in both worlds, $\hat{A}meen$:

اے اللہ کے رسول آپ پر صلوٰۃ وسلام ہو 'آپ کی آل وذریت پر بھی مر ذرہ کے برابر 'لاکھوں مرتبہ آپ کے غلام احمد رضابن نقی علی پر 'اور وہ آپ سے شفاعت کا خواستگار ہے اس کی اور تمام مسلمانوں کی شفاعت فرمائیے

(21) Then move one step to the right so that you are in line with the luminous face of Sayyidunā Siddīg al-Akbar rađiyAllāhu táālā ánhu and say:

(22) Then move the same direction again so that you are face to face with Sayyidunā Fārūq al-Aázam raðiyAllāhu táālā ánhu and say:

⁵ Sharh Lubāb maá Irshād al-Sārī – Chapter: Ziyarah Sayyid al-Mursaleen, Dar al-Kutub al-'Arabi, Beirut – pp. 338

⁶ Ibid - pp. 339

⁷ Ibid - pp. 339

اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْکَ يَااَمِيْرَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنِ ۗ اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْکَ يَامُتَمِّمَ الْأَرْبَعِيْنِ ۖ اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْکَ يَاعِزَّالْاِسُلَامِ وَالْمُسلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسلِمِيْنَ وَرَحُمَةُ اللهِ وَبَرُكَاتُهُ 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرُكَاتُه 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرْكَاتُه 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرْكَاتُه 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرْكَاتُه 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرْكَاتُه 8 وَرَحُمَةُ الله وَبَرْكَاتُهُ وَبَرْكَاتُهُ وَالْمُسْلِمِيْنَ اللّهُ وَاللهُ وَاللّهُ وَيْنِ اللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَالْمُ اللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَلّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللّهُ وَا

اے امیر المومنین آپ پر سلام۔ اے چالیس مسلمان پورے فرمانے والے! آپ پر سلام۔ اے اسلام اور مسلمانوں کی عزت! آپ پر سلام۔ اور مسلمانوں کی عزت! آپ پر سلام۔ اور حمت وبر کاتِ اللی کانزول ہو (۲۳) پھر بالشت بھر مغرب کی طرف پلیُواور صدیق وفاروق کے در میان کھڑے ہو کر عرض کرو:

(23) Then move a hand-span to your left so that you are in between Ṣiddīq and Fārūq and say:

اے رسول اللہ کے دونوں خلیفو! تم پر سلام ہو 'اے رسول اللہ کے دونوں وزیرو! تم پر سلام ہو۔اے رسول اللہ کے پہلو میں لیٹنے والو! تم پر سلام اور اللہ کی رحمتوں و بر کات کا نزول ہو 'آپ دونوں سے درخواست ہے کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ تعالیٰ علیہ وعلیما و ہارک وسلم کی خدمت اقد س میں میرے لیے شفاعت کا وسیلہ اور سہارا ہنو

(24) All these presences are times of acceptance. Be sincere in your supplications and make them fully. It is best to spend more time in reciting *Salawāt*.

(25) Then make supplications near the pure *minbar* [pulpit].

(26) Then offer two *rakáhs* of *nafl* at the *Rawdah al-Jannah* [the place that is between the blessed shrine and the *minbar* has been called a *Garden of Paradise* in the $Had\bar{t}h^{10}$ and then make supplications.

(27) Similarly, offer Ṣalāh at every pillar of the Masajid as these are places of acceptance and some as especially beneficial.

(28) As long as you are in radiant Madīnah, do not waste even one breath. Apart from the two necessities, stay as much as you can in the blessed Masjid whilst in the state of ablution. Spend your time in Ṣalāh, Qurânic recitation and Salawāt. Worldly talk is not allowed in any Masajid, especially this one.

⁸ Ibid - pp. 339

⁹ *Sharh Lubāb maá Irshād al-Sārī* – Chapter: Ziyarah Sayyid al-Mursaleen, Dar al-Kutub al-'Arabi, Beirut – pp. 340

¹⁰ Ibid - pp. 341

(29) Make the intention of *l'tikāf* every time you enter the Masjid. As a reminder, there is a plaque that says:

I intend to perform the Sunnah I'tikāf.

(30) If you can fast in Madīnah Sharif, especially in the heat, then this is beneficial as there is promise of intercession for the one who fasts.

(31) Every good deed here counts as 50,000, hence, strive to perform worship and do eat less.

(32) Finish at least one full recitation of the Qurân here and at the Kaába.

(33) Even glancing at the blessed shrine is worship just like looking at the Kaába or the Qurân. Hence, look at it in abundance, with respect, and recite plentiful *Salawāt*.

(34) Present yourself at the blessed shrine five times a day or at least at morning and night to offer your $Sal\bar{a}m$.

(35) In or out of the city, if your glimpse falls upon the blessed dome, then immediately face towards it, fold your arms and present *Salawāt*. Do not pass without doing this as this is against proper *adab*.

(36) Missing the congregational prayer is a sin at all places and if done habitually, it is a major sin and Haram. Here, apart from being a sin, it is also extreme deprivation, wa'l áyadhu billahi $t\acute{a}l\bar{a}$. It is in the $Sah\bar{a}h$ $Had\bar{a}h$ that RasūlAllāh a said: "Whoever prays forty prayers in my Masajid, freedom the hell and hypocrisy will be written for him".11

 $^{^{11}}$ $\it Musnad\,Ahmad\,bin\,Hanbal$ – Narrated by Ánas bin Mālik, Dar al-Fikr, Beirut – 3:155

(37) Never have your back towards the sanctified grave. Even in Ṣalāh, try not to have your back towards it. Rather, attempt to pray in a place where the blessed grave is not behind you.

(38) Do not perform circumambulation, nor prostration, nor bow so much that it is the same as $ruk\acute{u}$ (bowing). The respect for RasūlAllāh & is in his obedience.

سرایی جاسجدہ این جابندگی ایں جا قرار ایں جا

(39) To visit *Baqí*, *Uhud* and *Quba* is *Sunnah*. The reward of offering two *rakáh* in *Quba* is equal to one *úmrah*. If you wish, just stay at the blessed shrine. Sayyidī ibn Abī Ḥamza *quddassa sirrahu* would stand the whole eight days in this presence. One day he thought of visiting *Baqí* and other places but then he said that the door of Allah for the beggars is open, why should I leave it and go elsewhere?

(40) When leaving, present yourself at the blessed shrine - keep in mind all the **manners** of leaving that we mentioned in the chapter of leaving the Kaába - and incessantly pray with sincerity for benevolence thus:

"Oh Allah! Grant me death in the state of Īmān and according to the Sunnah in the city of Madīnah Sharif and let me be buried in Bagí."