Muhammad
Messenger of Allah
Ash-Shifa of Qadi 'Iyad

Qadi 'Iyad ibn Musa al-Yahsubi
Translated by Aisha Abdarrahman Bewley
CONTENTS

PART ONE

Allah’s great estimation of the worth of His Prophet expressed in both word and action

CHAPTER ONE: ALLAH’S PRAISE OF HIM AND HIS GREAT ESTEEM FOR HIM

Section 1: Concerning praise of him and his numerous excellent qualities 4
Section 2: Allah’s describing him as a witness, and the praise and honour entailed by that 10
Section 3: Concerning Allah’s kindness and gentleness to him 12
Section 4: Concerning Allah’s swearing by his immense worth 14
Section 5: Concerning Allah’s oath to confirm his place with Him 16
Section 6: Concerning Allah’s addressing the Prophet with compassion and generosity 21
Section 7: Concerning Allah’s praise of him and his numerous excellent qualities 22
Section 8: Concerning Allah instructing His creation to say the prayer on the Prophet, His protecting him and removing the punishment because of him 24
Section 9: Concerning the marks of honour given to the Prophet in Sura al-Fath 25
Section 10: How Allah, in His Mighty Book, demonstrates the honour in which He holds him and his position with Him and other things which Allah gave him 28

CHAPTER TWO: ALLAH’S PERFECTING HIS GOOD QUALITIES OF CHARACTER AND CONSTITUTION, AND GIVING HIM ALL THE VIRTUES OF THE DEEN AND THIS WORLD

Section 1: Preface 32
Section 2: His physical attributes 33
Section 3: His cleanliness 34
Section 4: His intellect, eloquence and the acuteness of his faculties 37
Section 5: His eloquence and sound Arabic 39
Section 6: The nobility of his lineage, the honour of his birthplace and the place where he was brought up 42
Section 7: His state regarding the necessary actions of daily life 44
Section 8: Marriage and things connected to it 46
Section 9: Things connected to money and goods 49
Section 10: His praiseworthy qualities 50
Section 11: His intellect 53
Section 12: His forbearance, long-suffering and pardon 54
Section 13: His generosity and liberality 58
Section 14: His courage and bravery 59
Section 15: His modesty and lowering the glance 60
Section 16: His good companionship, good manners and good nature 61
Section 17: His compassion and mercy 64
Section 18: His integrity, probity in contracts and maintaining ties of kinship 66
Section 19: His humility 67
Section 20: His justice, trustworthiness, decency and truthfulness 69
Section 21: His sedateness, silence, deliberation, manly virtue and excellent conduct 71
Section 22: His abstinence regarding the things of this world 72
Section 23: His fear of Allah, obedience and intensity of worship 74
Section 24: The qualities of the Prophets 75
Section 25: The hadith of al-Hasan from Ibn Abi Hala on the Prophet’s qualities 80

CHAPTER THREE: ON THE THE SOUND AND WELL-KNOWN TRADITIONS RELATED ABOUT THE IMMENSE VALUE PLACED ON HIM BY HIS LORD, HIS EXALTED POSITION AND HIS NOBILITY IN THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT 84

Section 1: His place 84
Section 2: The miracle of the Night Journey 91
Section 3: The reality of the Night Journey 96
Section 4: Refutation of those who say it was a dream 99
Section 5: His vision of His Lord 101
Section 6: His conversing intimately with Allah 105
Section 7: His proximity and nearness 107
Section 8: His preceding people on the Day of Rising 108
Section 9: His being singled out for Allah’s love and close friendship 110
Section 10: His being given Intercession and “the Praiseworthy Station” 114
Section 11: Allah's giving mediation, high degree, and Kawthar to him in the Garden 119
Section 12: The hadiths related about the prohibition of disparity between the Prophets 120
Section 13: His names and their excellence 122
Section 14: Allah honouring the Prophet with some of His own Beautiful Names and describing him with some of His own Sublime Qualities 126
Section 15: Recapitulation of the qualities of the Creator and the creature 132

CHAPTER FOUR: ON THE MIRACLES WHICH ALLAH MANIFESTED AT THE PROPHET'S HANDS AND THE SPECIAL PROPERTIES AND MARKS OF HONOUR (KARAMAT) WITH WHICH HE HONOURED HIM 134

Section 1: Preface 134
Section 2: Prophethood and Messengership 135
Section 3: The meaning of miracles (mu'jizat) 137
Section 4: On the inimitability of the Qur'an 141
Section 5: The inimitability of the Qur'an’s composition and style 144
Section 6: Information about unseen things 147
Section 7: The reports of past generations and departed nations 148
Section 8: The challenge to the Arabs and their incapacity to respond and informing them that they would not be able to do so 150
Section 9: The terror aroused by hearing the Qur'an and the awe it inspires in people's hearts 151
Section 10: The Qur'an's remaining throughout time 152
Section 11: Other aspects of the Qur'an’s inimitability 153
Section 12: The splitting of the moon and holding back the sun 156
Section 13: On water flowing from the Prophet’s fingers and increasing by his baraka 158
Section 14: His causing water to flow by his baraka 159
Section 15: Making food abundant by his baraka and supplication 161
Section 16: On the tree speaking and its testifying to his prophethood and its answering his call 165
Section 17: The story of the yearning of the palm-trunk 168
Section 18: Similar incidents with inanimate things 169
Section 19: Signs in connection with various animals 171
Section 20: Bringing the dead to life, their speaking, infants and suckling children speaking and testifying to his prophethood 175
Section 21: On healing the sick and those with infirmities 178
Section 22: On the Prophet’s supplication being answered 180
Section 23: On his karamat and barakat and things beings transformed for him when he touched them 183
Section 24: On the Prophet’s knowledge of the unseen and future events 186
Section 25: Allah’s protecting the Prophet from people and His being enough for him against those who injured him 193
Section 26: His knowledges and sciences 197
Section 27: Reports of the Prophet’s dealings with the angels and jinn 201
Section 28: Reports about his attributes and the signs of his messengership 203
Section 29: What is related about his birth 204
Section 30: Conclusion and Appendix 206

PART TWO

Concerning the rights which people owe the Prophet, peace be upon him

CHAPTER ONE: THE OBLIGATION TO BELIEVE IN HIM, OBEY HIM, AND FOLLOW HIS SUNNA 213

Section 1: The obligation to believe in him 213
Section 2: The obligation to obey him 215
Section 3: The obligation to follow him and obey his Sunna 217
Section 4: What is related from the Salaf and the Imams about following his Sunna, taking his guidance and the Sira 219
Section 5: The danger of opposing his command 220

CHAPTER TWO: ON THE NECESSITY OF LOVING THE PROPHET 223

Section 1: Concerning the necessity of loving him 223
Section 2: On the reward for loving the Prophet 224
Section 3: On what is related from the Salaf and the Imams about their love for the Prophet and their yearning for him 224
Section 4: The signs of love for the Prophet 226
Section 5: On the meaning and reality of love for the Prophet 229
Section 6: The obligation of nasiha for the Prophet 231

CHAPTER THREE: EXALTING HIM AND THE NECESSITY TO RESPECT AND HONOUR HIM 234

Section 1: Ayats in the Qur'an on this subject 234
Section 2: On the esteem, respect and veneration due to him 236
Section 3: Respect and esteem for the Prophet after his death 237
Section 4: On the esteem of the Salaf for the transmission of the hadiths of the Messenger of Allah 239
Section 5: Devotion to his family, descendants and wives 241
Section 6: Respect for his Companions, devotion to them and recognising what is due to them 244
Section 7: Esteem for the things and places connected with the Prophet 247

CHAPTER FOUR: THE PRAYER ON THE PROPHET AND ASKING PEACE FOR HIM, AND THE OBLIGATION OF DOING IT AND ITS EXCELLENCE 250

Section 1: The meaning of the prayer on the Prophet 250
Section 2: The judgement about the prayer on the Prophet 251
Section 3: On the situations in which it is recommended to say the prayer on the Prophet 253
Section 4: Concerning the manner of doing the prayer on the Prophet and asking for peace for him 256
Section 5: On the excellence of the prayer on the Prophet, asking for peace for him and supplication for him 259
Section 6: Censure of those who do not bless the Prophet and their wrong action 261
Section 7: On the Prophet's being singled out by having the prayer on him revealed to him 262
Section 8: The dispute about praying on other than the Prophet and the other Prophets 263
Section 9: Concerning the visit to the Prophet's grave, the excellence of those who visit it and how he should be greeted 265
Section 10: The adab of entering the Mosque of the Prophet and its excellence and the excellence of Madina and Makka 269
PART THREE

On what is necessary for the Prophet and what is impossible for him, what is permitted for him and what is forbidden for him and what is valid in those human matters which can be ascribed to him

This part is the secret of the book and its core of the fruit. What comes before it lays the foundation and provides the proofs for the clear anecdotes we will relate in it. It governs what follows it and accomplishes the goal of this book. When its promise is put to the test and its duty fulfilled, the breast of the accursed enemy will be constricted and the heart of the believer will shine with certainty and its lights will fill his breast. The man of intellect will then value the Prophet as he should be valued.

CHAPTER ONE: CONCERNING MATTERS OF THE DEEN AND THE PROPHET'S BEING PROTECTED FROM IMPERFECTION

Section 1: Concerning the belief of the heart of the Prophet from the moment of his prophethood

Section 2: The protection of the Prophets from defects before prophethood

Section 3: The Prophet's knowledge of the affairs of this world

Section 4: Protection from Shaytan

Section 5: The truthfulness of the Prophet in all states

Section 6: Refutation of certain suspicions

Section 7: His state in connection with reports concerning this world

Section 8: Refutation of certain objections

Section 9: The Prophets' protection from outrageous and grave wrong actions

Section 10: The Prophets' protection from acts of rebellion before they were Prophets

Section 11: Oversight and forgetfulness in respect of actions

Section 12: Discussion of the hadiths on the Prophet's oversight

Section 13: The refutation of those who say that small wrong actions are permissible for the Prophet and an examination of their arguments

Section 14: The state of the Prophets in their fear and asking forgiveness
Section 15: The benefit of the sections investigating the Prophet's protection from wrong action 339
Section 16: On the protection of the angels 341

CHAPTER TWO: THE STATES OF THE PROPHET IN RESPECT OF THIS WORLD AND WHAT NON-ESSENTIAL HUMAN QUALITIES HE COULD HAVE 345

Section 1: The state of the Prophets in relation to the human condition 345
Section 2: His state in relation to sorcery 346
Section 3: The Prophet's states in respect of worldly matters 349
Section 4: The Prophet's judgements 350
Section 5: The Prophet's reports relating to this world 351
Section 6: The hadith of the Prophet's will 354
Section 7: Study of other hadiths 357
Section 8: The Prophet's actions in this world 359
Section 9: The wisdom contained in the illnesses and afflictions of the Prophets 363

PART FOUR

The Judgements concerning those who think the Prophet imperfect or curse him, may Allah bless him and grant him peace

CHAPTER ONE: CLARIFICATION ABOUT CURSING THE PROPHET OR SAYING THAT HE IS IMPERFECT BY ALLUSION OR CLEAR STATEMENT 373

Section 1: The Judgement of the Shari'a regarding someone who curses or disparages the Prophet 373
Section 2: The proof of the necessity of killing anyone who curses the Prophet or finds fault with him 376
Section 3: The reasons why the Prophet pardoned some of those who harmed him 380
Section 4: The judgment regarding someone who maligns the Prophet without deliberation or really believing what he has said 385
Section 5: Is someone who says such things an unbeliever or an apostate? 386
Section 6: The judgement regarding words that could be construed to be a curse. 387

Section 7: The judgement on someone who describes himself with one of the attributes of the Prophets. 390

Section 8: The judgement regarding someone who quotes such words from someone else. 394

Section 9: The states of the Prophet which can be mentioned for the sake of instruction. 397

Section 10: The necessary adab when mentioning reports about the Prophet. 400

CHAPTER TWO: THE JUDGEMENT AGAINST SOMEONE WHO CURSES THE PROPHET, REVILES HIM, DISPARAGES HIM OR HARMS HIM, AND HOW SOMEONE WHO DOES THIS SHOULD BE PUNISHED; ABOUT CALLING ON HIM TO REPENT AND THE STATUS OF HIS INHERITANCE. 402

Section 1: The statements and opinions on the judgement of someone who curses or disparages the Prophet. 402

Section 2: The judgement on an apostate if he repents. 405

Section 3: The judgement on the apostate whose apostasy is not established. 407

Section 4: The judgement regarding the dhimmi regarding this matter. 408

Section 5: Regarding the inheritance of someone who is killed for cursing the Prophet, and whether one washes him and says the funeral prayer over him. 413

CHAPTER THREE: CONCERNING THE JUDGEMENT ON ANYONE WHO CURSES ALLAH, HIS ANGELS, HIS PROPHETS, HIS BOOKS, AND THE FAMILY OF THE PROPHET AND HIS COMPANIONS. 416

Section 1: The judgement on someone who curses Allah and the judgement regarding asking him to repent. 416

Section 2: The judgement about ascribing to Allah something that does not befit Him through ijtihad and error. 417

Section 3: Verification of the statement about considering faulty interpreters to be unbelievers. 420
Section 4: Clarification of which statements amount to disbelief; what one hesitates about or is disputed and what does not amount to disbelief

Section 5: The judgement on *adhimmi* who curses Allah

Section 6: The judgement on anyone who claims divinity or utters falsehoods and lies about Allah

Section 7: The judgment on the one who unintentionally counters the majesty of his Lord by disreputable words and foolish expressions

Section 8: The judgement on the one who curses the Prophets in general and the angels

Section 9: Judgement in relation to the Qur'an

Section 10: The judgement on the one who curses the People of the House, the Prophet's wives and the Companions

Thus the book ends: a bright light on the brow of belief, a priceless pearl in the crown of clarification, removing every confusion and clarifying every conjecture, a healing for the breasts of the believers. It brings the truth out into the open and confronts the ignorant with it.

I seek help with Allah - there is no god but Him.

**APPENDICES**

Glossary of Arabic Words

Glossary of Hadith Collections Referred to in the Text

Glossary of People Mentioned in the Text

Synopsis of Section Contents

Biographical Note on the Author of the Shifa'