
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	4
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 <i>Sura al-Fath</i>	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	31
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 <i>hadith</i> 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	
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 <i>Kawthar</i> to him in the Garden	119
Section 12: The <i>hadiths</i> 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 (<i>mu'jizat</i>)	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 <i>baraka</i>	158
Section 14: His causing water to flow by his <i>baraka</i>	159
Section 15: Making food abundant by his <i>baraka</i> 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 <i>karamat</i> and <i>barakat</i> 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 <i>jinn</i>	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 <i>Sunna</i>	217
Section 4: What is related from the <i>Salaf</i> and the Imams about following his <i>Sunna</i> , taking his guidance and the <i>Sira</i>	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 <i>Salaf</i> 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 <i>nasiha</i> for the Prophet	231
CHAPTER THREE: EXALTING HIM AND THE NECESSITY TO RESPECT AND HONOUR HIM	
Section 1: <i>Ayats</i> 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 <i>Salaf</i> for the transmission of the <i>hadiths</i> 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 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	
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 <i>adab</i> 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	279
Section 1: Concerning the belief of the heart of the Prophet from the moment of his prophethood	279
Section 2: The protection of the Prophets from defects before prophethood	289
Section 3: The Prophet's knowledge of the affairs of this world	293
Section 4: Protection from Shaytan	295
Section 5: The truthfulness of the Prophet in all states	299
Section 6: Refutation of certain suspicions	300
Section 7: His state in connection with reports concerning this world	308
Section 8: Refutation of certain objections	310
Section 9: The Prophets' protection from outrageous and grave wrong actions	314
Section 10: The Prophets' protection from acts of rebellion before they were Prophets	317
Section 11: Oversight and forgetfulness in respect of actions	319
Section 12: Discussion of the <i>hadiths</i> on the Prophet's oversight	320
Section 13: The refutation of those who say that small wrong actions are permissible for the Prophet and an examination of their arguments	324
Section 14: The state of the Prophets in their fear and asking forgiveness	336

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	
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 <i>hadith</i> of the Prophet's will	354
Section 7: Study of other <i>hadiths</i>	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	
Section 1: The Judgement of the <i>Shari'a</i> 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 <i>adab</i> 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 <i>dhimmi</i> 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 <i>ijtihad</i> 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	424
Section 5: The judgement on <i>adhimmi</i> who curses Allah	434
Section 6: The judgement on anyone who claims divinity or utters falsehoods and lies about Allah	435
Section 7: The judgment on the one who unintentionally counters the majesty of his Lord by disreputable words and foolish expressions	436
Section 8: The judgement on the one who curses the Prophets in general and the angels	438
Section 9: Judgement in relation to the Qur'an	440
Section 10: The judgement on the one who curses the People of the House, the Prophet's wives and the Companions	442

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	449
Glossary of Hadith Collections Referred to in the Text	457
Glossary of People Mentioned in the Text	458
Synopsis of Section Contents	494
Biographical Note on the Author of the Shifa'	510