



Al-khalīfatu l-kabīr Hārūn ar-Rashīd kāna dā'iman yaṭlubu n-naṣīḥata mina l-ḥukamā' wa kāna hunāka rajulan dhakiyyan jiddan wa kāna lā yaghību 'an 'ayni l-khalīfa, ḥattā ghāra l-ākharūna wa lāḥaḥa l-khalīfatu dhālik. Wa fī yawmin qāla li mustashārīh: „Yā aṣḍiqā'ī masmūḥun lakum an ta'khudhū min qaṣrī mā tuḥibbūn.“

Fa asra'a kullin minhum li ya'khudha mā arāda mina l-jawāhir, wa lākinna hādha r-rajulu dh-dhakiyy amsaka bi l-khalīfa fa qāla lahu l-khalīfatu: „limādha lā ta'khudhu shay'an?“ Fa radda 'alayhi: „anta huwa mā uḥibb!“ Fa athbata bi hādha l-khiyāri annahu adhkā n-nāsi wa aḥkamuhum.

Naḥnu nakūnu majānīna idha ikhtarna hādhihi l-ḥayāti d-dunyā aw faḍḍalnā ajran 'ājilan 'alā rabbinā. Li dhālika 'allama r-rasūlu ﷺ aṣḥābahu an yas'aw ilā l-llāh. Fa qāla: „lā akh shā 'alaykumu l-kufr wa lākin akhshā an yakhtāru d-dunyā.“

Qalīlun mina n-nāsi hum man yakhtārūna l-llāh. Ikhtāru l-llāh wa sawfa ta'tikum s-sa'ādatu wa kulli khayr sa-takūnūna manṣūrīna wa lan yajraḥukum shay'wa lakum jannatu l-khuldwa sa-taṣīlu abṣārukum ilā s-samā'

Fal naqūlu:

„Yā Allāh, iyyāka nakhtār!“

The great Caliph Harun ar-Rashid regularly asked wise people for advice and there was one very wise man, and the Sultan's looking did not leave him, so that the others became jealous. The Sultan was well aware of this, so one day he said to his counsellors, „O my friends, I grant you that you may take anything in my palace that that you like.“

And everyone ran off and took what he wanted of the jewels. Only this clever one grabbed the Sultan. „Why don't you take something?“ asked the Sultan. „O my Sultan, you are what is dear to me!“ With this choice he proved that of all of them he was the cleverest and the wisest.

We are completely insane if we choose this life or seek reward in place of our Lord. That is why the Prophet ﷺ taught his companions to desire Allah. He said, „I do not fear that my community will fall back into disbelief, *kufr*, but I fear that they may choose this world.“

Very few people are the ones who choose the Lord. Choose Allah, and every joy and perfect good will come to you. You will be victorious, nothing will hurt you, and you will be in Paradise forever. Your looking will reach the heavens.

Thus we say:

„Yā Allāh, it is you whom we choose!“

حَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ

„ḥasbuna l-llāhu wa ni'ma l-wakīl“ [3:173]

„My sufficient is Allah, and he is the best guardian.“