

يَسْأَلُكَ اللَّهُ جَلَّ جَلَالُهُ
مَا رَغْبَتُكَ؟
مَا تَرُغِبُ؟ فَمَا جَوَابُكَ؟

Yas'aluka Allāhu jalla jalāluhu:
“Mā raghbatuka?
Mā targhabu?” — Famā jawābuka?

Allah, the Exalted, asks you: “What is your desire? What do you truly wish for?”—And your answer?

لَا تَخْطِئُ فِي طَلَبِ شَيْءٍ
ضَعِيفٍ، كَمَا طَلَبَ ذَلِكَ
الْبَدَوِيُّ، الَّذِي أَغْضَبَ
نَبِيَّنا ﷺ
بَطْلِهِ جَمَلًا
وَاحِدًا

Lā takhtī' fī ṭalabi shay'in
ḍa'ifin, kamā ṭalaba dhālika al-
badawīyy, alladhī aghḍhaba
nabiyyana ﷺ
biṭalabihi jamlan
wāḥidan.

Do not fall into the error of asking for something trivial, as that Bedouin did—a request that so angered our Prophet ﷺ because he desired nothing more than a single camel.

إِلَّا، بَلْ فَكِّرْ بِأَفْضَلِ الْأُمُورِ
إِتَّخَذَ النَّبِيُّ سُلَيْمَانَ
قُدْرَةً لَكَ، فَنُفِي الْقُرْآنِ
يُقَالُ:

Lā, bal fakkir bi-afḍali al-umūr!
Ittakhidh an-nabiyya Sulaymān
qud-watan laka, fa fī al-Qur'ān
yuqālu:

No—think bigger! Take inspiration from Prophet Sulaiman, who in the Qur'an declares:

وَوَرِثَ سُلَيْمَانُ دَاوُودَ
وَقَالَ: يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، عَلِمْنَا
مِنْطِقَ الطَّيْرِ، وَأَوْثِنَا مِنْ
كُلِّ شَيْءٍ

“Wa waritha Sulaymān Dāwūd, wa
qāla: Yā ayyuhā n-nās, ‘ullimnā
manṭiq al-ṭayr, wa ūtīnā min
kulli shay'.” (27:16)

“And Sulaiman inherited Dawud, and he said, ‘O people, we have been taught the language of birds, and we have been given from all things.’”

نَحْنُ الْآنَ فِي رَمَضَانَ،
حَيْثُ يَمْنَحُنَا اللَّهُ جَلَّ جَلَالُهُ،
هَذَا لَا نِهَآيَةَ لَهَا،
خَاصَّةً فِي صَلَاةِ التَّرَاوِيحِ اللَّيْلِيَّةِ
وْخَاصَّةً فِي صَلَاةِ الْوُتْرِ وَسُورَةِ
الْإِخْلَاصِ، حَيْثُ يَتَوَافَدُ عَدَدٌ لَا
يُحْصَى مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ إِلَى
مَسْجِدِنَا بِسَبَبِ تِلَاوَتِهَا الْمُمَيَّزَةِ

naḥnu al-ān fi ramadān,
ḥaytha yamnaḥunā allāh jalla jalāluh
hadâyâ lâ nihâyat laha, khâsatan fi
salati t-tarawîh al-layliya. wa khâsatan
fi salât al-witr wa sûrat al'ikhlâsi,
ḥaythu yatawâfad ‘adad la yuḥsaa
min al-malâyikat ila masjidina
bisabab tilâwatiha al-mumayyazat.

It is now Ramadan, as Allah Almighty gives us countless gifts, especially in the nightly Tarawih prayers. This is especially true for the Witr prayer and Surat Al-Ikhlās, whose characteristic *) recitation causes countless angels to stream into our mosque.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ
اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ
لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

3 x (112:1-4)

*) in „Peckham stile“.