

## Munajat of Shabaniyah

It is recommended to say the following whispered prayer (munajat) in the month of Shaban. It has been narrated by Ibn Khilawayh who commented on it, saying, "This is the confidential prayer of Imam Ali Ameer al-Mumineen and the Holy Imams (a.s.) who used to recite it in the month of Shaban." It is advisable to recite it with presence of heart all the time.

مَنَاجَاةٌ شَعْبَانِيَّةٌ

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

O Allah, (please do) send blessings to Muhammad and the Household of Muhammad,

وَأَسْمَعْ دُعَائِي إِذَا دَعَوْتُكَ

You listen to my prayer whenever I pray,

وَأَسْمَعْ نِدَائِي إِذَا نَادَيْتُكَ

listen to my call whenever I call upon you,

وَأَقْبِلْ عَلَيَّ إِذَا نَاجَيْتُكَ

and accept from me whenever I confidentially whisper to You,

فَقَدْ هَرَبْتُ إِلَيْكَ

for here I am fleeing in to You,

وَوَقَفْتُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

standing before You,

مُسْتَكَيناً لَكَ مُتَضَرِّعاً إِلَيْكَ

showing submission to You, imploring You,

رَاجِئاً لِمَا لَدَيْكَ ثَوَابِي

and hoping for the reward that You have.

وَتَعَلَّمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِي

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You know what is in my inner self,

وَتَخْبِرُ حَاجَتِي

recognize my needs,

وَتَعْرِفُ ضَمِيرِي

recognize my hidden affairs,

وَلَا يَخْفَى عَلَيْكَ أَمْرٌ مُنْقَلَبِي وَمُثَوَايَ

and all my moves and stillness are known by You.

وَمَا أَرِيدُ أَنْ أَبْدِيَ بِهِ مِنْ مَنَاطِقِي

So are all the utterances which I want to begin with,

وَأَتَفَوَّهَ بِهِ مِنْ طَلِبَتِي

all the requests that I want to express,

وَأَرْجُوهُ لِعَاقِبَتِي

and all the expectation that I hope for my future.

وَقَدْ جَرَتْ مَقَادِيرُكَ عَلَيَّ يَا سَيِّدِي

All that which You, O my Master, have decided for me

فِيمَا يَكُونُ مِنِّي إِلَى آخِرِ عُمْرِي

up to the end of my life,

مِنْ سَرِيرَتِي وَعَلَانِيَتِي

including my secret and open matters, shall be experienced by me.

وَبِيَدِكَ لَا يَبْدُ غَيْرُكَ زِيَادَتِي وَنَقْصِي

And it is in Your Hand, not anybody else's, that are all increase and decrease,

وَنَفْعِي وَضَرِّي

and all my benefits and harms that come upon me.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ حَرَمَتَنِي فَمَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَرْزُقُنِي

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O my God, if You deprive me (of Your sustenance), then who else can ever provide me with sustenance?

وَإِنْ خَذَلْتَنِي فَمَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَنْصُرُنِي

If You disappoint me, then who else can ever back me?

إِلَهِي اْعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ غَضَبِكَ وَحُلُولِ سَخَطِكَ

O my God, I do seek Your protection against Your wrath and against the befalling of Your ire upon me.

إِلَهِي إِنْ كُنْتُ غَيْرَ مُسْتَاهِلٍ لِرَحْمَتِكَ

O my God, if I do not deserve Your mercy,

فَأَنْتَ أَهْلٌ أَنْ تَجُودَ عَلَيَّ بِفَضْلِ سَعَتِكَ

You are still expected to confer upon me with Your expansive favor.

إِلَهِي كَأَنِّي بِنَفْسِي وَاقِفَةٌ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

O my God, I now imagine how I will stand before You,

وَقَدْ أَظَلَّهَا حُسْنُ تَوَكُّلِي عَلَيْكَ

shaded by my good idea about You on account of my trust in You,

فَقُلْتَ مَا أَنْتَ أَهْلُهُ وَتَعَمَّدْتَنِي بِعَفْوِكَ

and You will decide for me that which befit You and You will include me with Your forgiveness.

إِلَهِي إِنْ عَفَوْتَ فَمَنْ أَوْلَى مِنْكَ بِذَلِكَ

O my God, if you pardon me, then who else is worthier than You are in pardoning.

وَإِنْ كَانَ قَدْ دَنَا أَجَلِي وَلَمْ يُدْنِنِي مِنْكَ عَمَلِي

If my time of death is approaching while my deeds are still too short to approach me to You,

فَقَدْ جَعَلْتُ الْإِقْرَارَ بِالذَّنْبِ إِلَيْكَ وَسِيلَتِي

I am then considering my confession of being guilty to be my means towards You.

إِلَهِي قَدْ جُرْتُ عَلَى نَفْسِي فِي النَّظَرِ لَهَا

O my God, I have wronged myself when I allowed myself to behave unrestrainedly;

فَلَهَا الْوَيْلُ إِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرْ لَهَا

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therefore, woe will betide me if You do not forgive.

إِلَهِي لَمْ يَزَلْ بِرُكِّ عَلَيَّ أَيَّامَ حَيَاتِي

O my God, You have never ceased Your favors from me all my lifetime;

فَلَا تَقْطَعْ بِرَّكَ عَنِّي فِي مَمَاتِي

so, (please) do not stop Your favors from covering me after my death.

إِلَهِي كَيْفَ آيَسُ مِنْ حُسْنِ نَظَرِكَ لِي بَعْدَ مَمَاتِي

O my God, how can I despair of Your nice custody over me after my death

وَأَنْتَ لَمْ تُؤَلِّني إِلَّا الْجَمِيلَ فِي حَيَاتِي

while You have not shown me but the good throughout my lifetime?

إِلَهِي تَوَلَّ مِنْ أَمْرِي مَا أَنْتَ أَهْلُهُ

O my God, (please) manage my affairs in the very way that befits You,

وَعُدَّ عَلَيَّ بِفَضْلِكَ عَلَى مُذْنِبٍ قَدْ غَمَرَهُ جَهْلُهُ

and confer upon me—a sinful person who is covered by his ignorance—with Your favors.

إِلَهِي قَدْ سَتَرْتَ عَلَيَّ ذُنُوبًا فِي الدُّنْيَا

O my God, You have concealed my sins in my worldly life,

وَأَنَا أَحْوَجُ إِلَى سِتْرِهَا عَلَيَّ مِنْكَ فِي الْآخِرَى

but I need Your concealment more urgently in the Next Life.

إِذْ لَمْ تُظْهِرْهَا لِأَحَدٍ مِنْ عِبَادِكَ الصَّالِحِينَ

You have thus not disclosed my sins before any of Your righteous servants;

فَلَا تَفْضَحْنِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ عَلَى رُؤُوسِ الْأَشْهَادِ

therefore, (please) do not expose me on the Resurrection Day before all the witnesses.

إِلَهِي جُودُكَ بَسَطَ أَمَلِي

O my God, it is Your magnanimity that expanded my hope,

وَعَفْوُكَ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ عَمَلِي

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and surely Your pardon is more preferable than my deeds.

إِلَهِي فَسُرِّنِي بِإِقَائِكَ يَوْمَ تَقْضِي فِيهِ بَيْنَ عِبَادِكَ

O my God, so (please) delight me when I meet You on the day when You shall judge between Your servants.

إِلَهِي أَعْتَذَرِي إِلَيْكَ أَعْتَذَارُ مَنْ لَمْ يَسْتَغْنِ عَنْ قَبُولِ عُذْرِهِ

O my God, I submit to You the apology of one who cannot dispense with the acceptance of his excuse;

فَأَقْبَلْ عُذْرِي

so, (please) accept my excuse,

يَا أَكْرَمَ مَنْ أَعْتَذَرَ إِلَيْهِ الْمُسِيئُونَ

O most Magnanimous of all those before whom the guilty make an apology.

إِلَهِي لَا تَرُدَّ حَاجَتِي

O my God, (please) do not reject my request,

وَلَا تُخَيِّبْ طَمَعِي

do not fail my big hope for You,

وَلَا تَقْطَعْ مِنْكَ رَجَائِي وَآمَلِي

and do not disappoint my desire and expectation for You.

إِلَهِي لَوْ أَرَدْتَ هَوَانِي لَمْ تَهْدِنِي

O my God, had You wanted to humiliate me, You would not have guided me (to You).

وَلَوْ أَرَدْتَ فَضِيحَتِي لَمْ تُعَافِنِي

Had You decided to disclose me, You would not have saved me.

إِلَهِي مَا أَظُنُّكَ تَرُدُّنِي فِي حَاجَةٍ قَدْ أَفْنَيْتُ عُمْرِي فِي طَلِبِهَا مِنْكَ

O my God, I do not expect You to reject my request that I spent my whole lifetime asking for it from You.

إِلَهِي فَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ أَبَدًا أَبَدًا دَائِمًا سَرْمَدًا

O my God, all praise be to You, forever, forever, perpetually, everlastingly,

يَزِيدُ وَلَا يَبِيدُ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى

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increasingly, and imperishably, as exactly as You like and please.

إِلَهِي إِنْ أَخَذْتَنِي بِجُرْمِي أَخَذْتُكَ بِعَفْوِكَ

O my God, if You punish me for my offense, I shall demand with Your pardon,

وَإِنْ أَخَذْتَنِي بِذُنُوبِي أَخَذْتُكَ بِمَغْفِرَتِكَ

if You punish me for my sins, I shall demand with Your forgiveness,

وَإِنْ ادْخَلْتَنِي النَّارَ أَعْلَمْتُ أَهْلَهَا أَنِّي أَحِبُّكَ

and if You decide to send me to Hell, I shall declare to its inhabitants that I love You.

إِلَهِي إِنْ كَانَ صَغُرَ فِي جَنْبِ طَاعَتِكَ عَمَلِي

O my God, if my deed is too little when compared to the true obedience to You,

فَقَدْ كَبُرَ فِي جَنْبِ رَجَائِكَ أَمَلِي

then my hope for You is too big when compared to my prospect from You.

إِلَهِي كَيْفَ انْقَلَبُ مِنْ عِنْدِكَ بِالْخِيَّةِ مَحْرُومًا

O my God, how can it be that I return from You with disappointment and deprivation

وَقَدْ كَانَ حُسْنُ ظَنِّي بِجُودِكَ أَنْ تَقْلِبَنِي بِالنَّجَاةِ مَرْحُومًا

while I expect, depending upon Your magnanimity, that You will endow me with safety and mercy?

إِلَهِي وَقَدْ أَفْنَيْتُ عُمْرِي فِي شَرِّ السَّهْوِ عَنْكَ

O my God, I have spent my whole lifetime with the vigor of being negligent to You

وَأَبْلَيْتُ شَبَابِي فِي سَكْرَةِ التَّبَاعُدِ مِنْكَ

and I have spent my whole youth with the inebriety of being far away from You.

إِلَهِي فَلَمْ اسْتَيْقِظْ أَيَّامَ اغْتِرَارِي بِكَ

O my God, I have not thus woken up to myself during the period when I seductively felt safe from Your punishment

وَرُكُونِي إِلَى سَبِيلِ سَخَطِكَ

and when I was taking the path that ends with Your ire.

إِلَهِي وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ وَأَبْنُ عَبْدِكَ قَائِمٌ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ

O my God, nevertheless, I am—Your servant and the son of Your servant—now standing before You

مُتَوَسِّلٌ بِكَرَمِكَ إِلَيْكَ

and begging You in the name of Your generosity.

إِلَهِي أَنَا عَبْدٌ اتَّصَلْتُ إِلَيْكَ مِمَّا كُنْتُ أَوَاجِهُكَ بِهِ

O my God, I am, being Your servant, disowning all that with which I used to face You;

مِنْ قِلَّةٍ أَسْتَحْيَايَ مِنْ نَظْرِكَ

namely, my shameless inconsideration of You,

وَاطْلُبُ الْعَفْوِ مِنْكَ إِذِ الْعَفْوُ نَعْتُ لِكَرَمِكَ

and I am hereby appealing for Your pardon since pardon is one feature of Your generosity.

إِلَهِي لَمْ يَكُنْ لِي حَوْلٌ فَانْتَقَلَ بِهِ عَنْ مَعْصِيَتِكَ

O my God, I had no strength by which I would rid myself of the acts of disobedience to You

إِلَّا فِي وَقْتٍ ائْتَقَطْتَنِي لِمَحَبَّتِكَ

except after You aroused me to love You.

وَكَمَا أَرَدْتَ أَنْ أَكُونَ كُنْتُ

Hence, I have become as exactly as You want me to be.

فَشَكَرْتُكَ بِإِدْخَالِي فِي كَرَمِكَ

I have thus thanked You, for You have included me with Your generosity

وَلِتَطْهِّرَ قَلْبِي مِنْ أَوْسَاحِ الْعَفْلَةِ عَنْكَ

and You have purified my heart from the filths of being inattentive to You.

إِلَهِي أَنْظُرْ إِلَيَّ نَظَرَ مَنْ نَادَيْتَهُ فَاجَابَكَ

O my God, (please) look at me in the same way as You have looked at one whom You called and he has responded to You

وَأَسْتَعْمَلْتَهُ بِمَعُونَتِكَ فَاطَاعَكَ

and whom You have conferred with Your aid and he thus has obeyed You.

يَا قَرِيبًا لَا يَبْعُدُ عَنِ الْمُغْتَرِّ بِهِ

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O He Who is too close to depart from one who is inadvertent to Him!

وَيَا جَوَاداً لَا يَنْخَلُ عَمَّنْ رَجَا ثَوَابَهُ

O He Who is too magnanimous to deprive one who hopes for His reward!

إِلَهِي هَبْ لِي قَلْباً يُدْنِيهِ مِنْكَ شَوْقُهُ

O my God, (please) grant me a heart whose longing for You will approach it to You,

وَلِسَاناً يُرْفَعُ إِلَيْكَ صِدْقُهُ

a tongue whose truthfulness is directed to You,

وَنَظْراً يُقَرِّبُهُ مِنْكَ حَقُّهُ

and a sight whose righteousness advances towards You.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ مَنْ تَعَرَّفَ بِكَ غَيْرُ مَجْهُولٍ

O my God, he who recognizes You shall never be anonymous,

وَمَنْ لَازَ بِكَ غَيْرُ مَخْذُولٍ

he who seeks Your shelter shall never be disappointed,

وَمَنْ أَقْبَلَتْ عَلَيْهِ غَيْرُ مَمْلُولٍ

and he whom is attended by You shall never be boring.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ مَنْ أَنْتَهَجَ بِكَ لَمْسْتَتِيرٍ

O my God, he who abides by Your Path shall be enlightened,

وَإِنَّ مَنْ أَعْتَصَمَ بِكَ لَمْسْتَجِيرٍ

and he who resorts to You shall be succored.

وَقَدْ لُذْتُ بِكَ يَا إِلَهِي

I am thus having recourse to You, O my God!

فَلَا تُخَيِّبْ ظَنِّي مِنْ رَحْمَتِكَ

So, (please) do not disappoint me as regards Your having mercy upon me

وَلَا تَحْجُبْنِي عَنْ رَافِقِكَ

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and do not divest me of Your kindness.

إِلَهِي اقْمِنِي فِي أَهْلِ وِلَايَتِكَ

O my God, grant me, among those who show servitude to You,

مُقَامَ مَنْ رَجَا الزِّيَادَةَ مِنْ مَحَبَّتِكَ

the position of one who (incessantly) longs for more love for You.

إِلَهِي وَالْهَمْنِي وَلَهَا بِذِكْرِكَ إِلَى ذِكْرِكَ

O my God, (please) inspire me with passionate love for ceaseless reference to You,

وَهِمَّتِي فِي رُوحِ نَجَاحِ اسْمَائِكَ وَمَحَلِّ قُدْسِكَ

and (please) devote all my pursuit to my attaining the delight of the success that is achieved through Your names and the amount of Your Holiness.

إِلَهِي بِكَ عَلَيْكَ إِلَّا الْحَقَّتَنِي بِمَحَلِّ أَهْلِ طَاعَتِكَ

O my God, I beseech You in Your name to put me in the position of those who are obedient to You

وَالْمَثْوَى الصَّالِحِ مِنْ مَرْضَاتِكَ

and in an honorable standing of Your pleasure,

فَإِنِّي لَا أَقْدِرُ لِنَفْسِي دَفْعًا

for I, verily, have no power to rescue

وَلَا أَمْلِكُ لَهَا نَفْعًا

or to benefit myself.

إِلَهِي أَنَا عَبْدُكَ الضَّعِيفُ الْمُذْنِبُ

O my God, I am Your servant—the feeble and sinful—

وَمَمْلُوكُ الْمُئِيبِ

and Your slave—the penitent.

فَلَا تَجْعَلْنِي مِمَّنْ صَرَفْتَ عَنْهُ وَجْهَكَ

So, (please) do not include me with those against whom You have turned Your face

وَحَجَبَهُ سَهْوُهُ عَنْ عَفْوِكَ

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or those whom are deprived of Your pardon because of their inattentiveness to You.

إِلَهِي هَبْ لِي كَمَالَ الْإِنْقِطَاعِ إِلَيْكَ

O my God, (please) grant me absolute devotion to You

وَاِنْرِ ابْصَارَ قُلُوبِنَا بِضِيَاءِ نَظَرِهَا إِلَيْكَ

and illuminate the sights of our hearts with the light of observing of You

حَتَّى تَخْرِقَ ابْصَارُ الْقُلُوبِ حُجُبَ النُّورِ

so that the sights of the hearts will penetrate the Screens of Light

فَتَصِلَ إِلَى مَعْدِنِ الْعَظَمَةِ

and arrive at the Core of Magnificence,

وَتَصِيرَ أَرْوَاحُنَا مُعَلَّقَةً بِعِزِّ قُدْسِكَ

and that our souls hang to the majesty of Your Holiness.

إِلَهِي وَاجْعَلْنِي مِمَّنْ نَادَيْتَهُ فَاجَابَكَ

O my God, (please) make me of those who responded to You when You called them,

وَلَا حَظَّتْهُ فَصَعِقَ لِحَالِكَ

those who were shocked for Your Majesty when You observed them

فَنَاجَيْتَهُ سِرًّا وَعَمِلَ لَكَ جَهْرًا

and You have thus taken into their confidence and they acted for You openly.

إِلَهِي لَمْ أَسْلُطْ عَلَى حُسْنِ ظَنِّي قُتُوطَ الْإِيَّاسِ

O my God, I have shaded neither despair nor gloom over my good idea about You

وَلَا أُنْقَطَعَ رَجَائِي مِنْ جَمِيلِ كَرَمِكَ

and I have never lost hope in Your excellent magnanimity.

إِلَهِي إِنْ كَانَتْ الْخَطَايَا قَدْ اسْقَطَتْني لَدَيْكَ

O my God, if my sins have overthrown me in Your sight,

فَأَصْفَحْ عَنِّي بِحُسْنِ تَوَكُّلِي عَلَيْكَ

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then please pardon me for my excellent trust in You.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ حَطَّيْتَنِي الذُّنُوبُ مِنْ مَكَارِمِ لُطْفِكَ

O my God, if my wrongdoings have caused me to lose Your honorable kindness,

فَقَدْ نَبَّهَنِي أَلْيَقِينُ إِلَى كَرَمِ عَطْفِكَ

then my belief in You has called my attention to the generosity of Your sympathy.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ اِنَامَتَنِي الْغَفْلَةُ عَنِ الْإِسْتِعَادِ لِلِقَائِكَ

O my God, if my inadvertence has screened me against readying myself for meeting You,

فَقَدْ نَبَّهَتَنِي الْمَعْرِفَةُ بِكَرَمِ آلَائِكَ

then my recognition of the generosity of Your bounties has awakened me.

إِلَهِي إِنَّ دَعَانِي إِلَى النَّارِ عَظِيمُ عِقَابِكَ

O my God, if Your grave chastisement has drawn me to Hellfire,

فَقَدْ دَعَانِي إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ جَزِيلُ ثَوَابِكَ

then Your opulent reward has drawn me to Paradise.

إِلَهِي فَلَكَ اسْأَلُ وَإِلَيْكَ ابْتَهِلُ وَارْغَبُ

O my God, You alone do I pray and You alone do I implore and desire.

وَاسْأَلُكَ أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

I beseech You to bless Muhammad and the Household of Muhammad

وَأَنْ تَجْعَلَنِي مِمَّنْ يُدِيمُ ذِكْرَكَ

and to include me with those who always mention You,

وَلَا يَنْقُضُ عَهْدَكَ

who never breach their covenant to You,

وَلَا يَغْفُلُ عَنْ شُكْرِكَ

who never fail to thank You,

وَلَا يَسْتَخِفُّ بِأَمْرِكَ

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and who never belittle Your affairs.

إِلَهِي وَالْحَقْنِي بِنُورِ عِزِّكَ الْبَهْجِ

O my God, (please do) connect me with the most brilliant Light of Your Dignity

فَاكُونَ لَكَ عَارِفاً

so that I will recognize You

وَعَنْ سِوَاكَ مُنْحَرِفاً

and I will leave everybody else,

وَمِنْكَ خَائِفاً مُرَاقِباً

and that I will be fearful of and careful with You.

يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

O Lord of Majesty and Honor!

وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ رَسُولِهِ وَآلِهِ الطَّاهِرِينَ

May Allah send blessings to Muhammad, His Messenger, and upon his Household the Infallible,

وَسَلَّمَ تَسْلِيماً كَثِيراً

and exalt them very much.