

## After Completing Prayer (Salāh)

اللَّهُمَّ أَعِنِي عَلَى ذِكْرِكَ وَشُكْرِكَ وَحُسْنِ عِبَادَتِكَ

Allāhum-ma a-'in-née 'a-lā dhik-ri-ka wa shuk-ri-ka wa ḥus-ni 'E-bā-da-tik

O Allāh! Help me to remember You, and to be thankful to You,  
and to worship You in the best manner.<sup>1</sup>

### The text of the Hadeeth:

On the authority of Mu'ādh Bin Jabal (may Allāh be pleased with him): That the Messenger of Allāh (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) took him by his hand one day and said: **O Mu'ādh! By Allāh! Indeed I love you, and I advise you, O Mu'ādh, never leave off saying these words at the end of every prayer: 'O Allāh! Help me to remember You, and to be thankful to You, and to worship You in the best manner.'**<sup>2</sup>

**Shaykh Abdur-Razzāq Bin Abdul-Muhsin Al-'Abbād** (may Allāh preserve both him and his father) [after placing this supplication under the title of *what is said after the completion of the Salāh*] says: "The scholars of Islām have **two** views concerning whether this supplication is recited *before* or *after* the *Tasleem* (i.e. saying: 'As-Salāmu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatul-lāh...'). Shaykh-ul-Islām Ibn Taymiyyah is of those who hold the view that it is said *before Tasleem*. And Allāh knows best."

### Explanation of the Hadeeth:

**The saying of the Prophet** (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**A-'in-née**" means: seeking Allāh's 'Awn (help) or *Is-ti-'ā-nah*, like in Al-Fātiḥah (1:5), "...Wa Iy-yāka nas-ta-'een" (...and You Alone we ask for help). Indeed, there is no success without *help* from Allāh!

**His saying** (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**'A-lā dhik-ri-ka**" (to remember You): Comprises all types of *Thanā* (praise, glorification), including recitation of *Qur'ān* and occupying oneself with Islamic knowledge by studying and teaching.

The reason why *Dhikr* (remembrance) is mentioned before *Shukr* (thankfulness, gratitude) is because a person will not be *thankful* if he does not first *remember* the One who deserves to be *thanked*.

<sup>1</sup> Fortress of the Muslim, no. 59.

<sup>2</sup> Sunan Abi Dāwood, no. 1522 and Sunan an-Nasā'ee, no. 1303. Al-Albānee said that it is authentic (*Saheeh*) in *Saheeh Abi Dāwood*, no. 1347.

In this same way *Dhikr* (remembrance) is mentioned before *Shukr* (thankfulness, gratitude) in the saying of Allāh, the Most High:

فَاذْكُرُونِي آذْكُرْكُمْ وَآشْكُرُوْلِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ 

Therefore *remember Me* (by praying and glorifying); I will remember you. And be *thankful* to Me (for My countless favors on you) and never be ungrateful (to Me). (2:152)

**His saying** (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Wa shuk-ri-ka**" (And to be thankful to You): *Ash-Shukr* (gratitude, thankfulness) is by means of the **heart** by acknowledging and confessing to the favors and bounties of Allāh; then by means of the **tongue** by mentioning the favors of Allāh and praising Him for them; then by means of the **limbs of the body** by obedience to Allāh, compliance with His commands and avoiding His prohibitions.

By being thankful and grateful, the blessings and favors of Allāh, which one presently enjoys, *will remain*; and those which one does not have, may be added as an *increase* to what he already has. **Allāh, the Most High, said:**

وَإِذْ تَأْذَنَ رَبُّكُمْ لِئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ

وَلِئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ 

And (remember) when your Lord proclaimed: If you are **thankful** (by accepting faith and worshipping Allāh, Alone), I will give you **more** (of My blessings); but if you are **ungrateful**; verily, My punishment is indeed severe. (14:7)

**His saying** (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Wa hus-ni 'E-bā-da-ti-k**" (and to worship You in the best manner): Here the worship is qualified by the word '**Hus-ni**' (i.e., that it be done in the best manner) since only the worship which is performed in its best manner will be considered as '*E-bā-dah khā-li-sah*' (i.e., worship done sincerely for Allāh, Alone). And if any worship is *not done sincerely* for the sake of Allāh, Alone - as well as in accordance with the *Sunnah* of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) - then it will *not be accepted* by Allāh, *nor will it benefit the one who performs it*.

[Taken from: '*Reflections Upon Selected Daily Supplications*' - Abu Muhammad]