

حَايِيَّاهُ ابْنُ أَبِي دَاوُدَ

Ha'iyyah Ibn Abi Dawud

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In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds. We praise Him, seek His help and forgiveness, and seek refuge in Him from the evils of our souls and the misdeeds of our actions. Whomever Allah guides, none can mislead, and whomever He leaves astray, none can guide.

To proceed: This is the timeless poem Ha'iyyah by the noble scholar Abu Bakr Ibn Abi Dawud—may Allah have mercy on him—the son of the great compiler of Sunan Abi Dawud. This concise yet profound poem is a summary of the creed of Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah, presented with eloquence, clarity, and sincerity.

Its verses lay out the core beliefs of Islam, touching upon love for the Companions, rejection of innovations, affirmation of the divine attributes without distortion, and holding fast to the Sunnah. It serves as a beacon for those seeking correct belief and a reminder of the straight path, drawn from the Qur'an and authentic Sunnah.

May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and his companions, all of them.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

تَمَسَّكَ بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ وَاتَّبِعِ الْهُدَى * وَلَا تَكُ بِدْعِيًّا لَعَلَّكَ تُفْلِحُ

Hold firmly to the rope of Allah and follow the guidance, and do not be an innovator, so that you may succeed.

وَدِنُ بِكِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَالسُّنَنِ الَّتِي * أَتَتْ عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ تَنْجُ وَتَرْبِحُ

And adhere to the Book of Allah and the Sunnahs which came from the Messenger of Allah – you will be saved and gain success.

وَقُلْ غَيْرُ مَخْلُوقٍ كَلَامُ مَلِكِنَا * بِذَلِكَ دَانَ الْأَتْقِيَاءُ وَأُفْصَحُوا

And say: “The speech of our Sovereign is uncreated”, with that the righteous ones professed faith and spoke clearly.

وَلَا تَكُ فِي الْقُرْآنِ بِالْوَقْفِ قَائِلًا * كَمَا قَالَ أَتْبَاعُ لَجْهِمٍ وَأَسْجَحُوا

And do not be one who says “I withhold” regarding the Qur'an as did the followers of Jahm, who approved (of that statement).

وَلَا تَقُلِ الْقُرْآنُ خُلِقَ قَرَأْتُهُ * فَإِنَّ كَلَامَ اللَّهِ بِاللَّفْظِ يُوضَحُ

And do not say: The Qur'an is created, for I have recited it, for indeed, the speech of Allah is clarified through expression.

وَقُلْ يَتَجَلَّى اللَّهُ لِلْخَلْقِ جَهْرَةً * كَمَا الْبَدْرُ لَا يَخْفَى وَرَبُّكَ أَوْضَحُ

And say: “Allah will manifest Himself openly to the creation”, just as the full moon is not hidden – and your Lord is more visible!

وَلَيْسَ بِمَوْلُودٍ وَلَيْسَ بِوَالِدٍ * وَلَيْسَ لَهُ شَبَهُ تَعَالَى الْمُسَبَّحُ

He is not born, nor does He give birth, and there is nothing like Him – exalted is the One glorified!

وَقَدْ يُنْكِرُ الْجَاهِمِيُّ هَذَا وَعِنْدَنَا * بِمِصْدَاقِ مَا قُلْنَا حَدِيثٌ مُصَرَّحُ

And the Jahmite may deny this, but with us there is a clear hadith confirming what we have stated.

رَوَاهُ جَرِيرٌ عَنْ مَقَالِ مُحَمَّدٍ * فَقُلْ مِثْلَ مَا قَدْ قَالَ فِي ذَاكَ تُفْلِحْ

It was narrated by Jarir from the statement of Muhammad, so say just as he said regarding that – you will succeed.

وَقَدْ يُنْكِرُ الْجَهْمِيُّ أَيْضًا يَمِينَهُ * وَكِلْتَا يَدَيْهِ بِالْفَوَاضِلِ تَنْفَحُ

And the Jahmite also denies His [Allah's] right hand, yet both His [Allah's] Hands bestow with generous favours.

وَقُلْ يَنْزِلُ الْجَبَّارُ فِي كُلِّ لَيْلَةٍ * بَلَا كَيْفَ جَلَّ الْوَاحِدُ الْمُتَمَدِّحُ

And say: "Al-Jabbar descends every night", without [asking] how – exalted is the One, worthy of praise.

إِلَى طَبَقِ الدُّنْيَا يَمُنُّ بِفَضْلِهِ * فَتُفْرَجُ أَبْوَابُ السَّمَاءِ وَتُفْتَحُ

To the lowest heaven, He grants from His bounty, then the gates of the heavens are opened and unsealed.

يَقُولُ أَلَا مُسْتَغْفِرٌ يَلْقَى غَافِرًا * وَمُسْتَمْنَحٌ خَيْرًا وَرِزْقًا فَيُمنَحُ

He says: "Is there any seeker of forgiveness who will find a Forgiver? and any seeker of goodness or provision, that he may be granted it."

رَوَى ذَاكَ قَوْمٌ لَا يُرَدُّ حَدِيثُهُمْ * أَلَا خَابَ قَوْمٌ كَذَّبُوهُمْ وَقُبِّحُوا

That was narrated by a people whose hadith is not to be rejected. Indeed, ruined are the people who denied them and were disgraced!

وَقُلْ إِنَّ خَيْرَ النَّاسِ بَعْدَ مُحَمَّدٍ * وَزِيرَاهُ قَدَمًا ثُمَّ عُثْمَانُ الْارْجَحُ

And say: "Indeed, the best of people after Muhammad are his two ministers from the beginning – then Uthman, the most meritorious."

وَرَابِعُهُمْ خَيْرُ الْبَرِيَّةِ بَعْدَهُمْ * عَلِيٌّ حَلِيفُ الْخَيْرِ بِالْخَيْرِ مُنْجِحُ

And the fourth of them, the best of creation after them, is Ali, ally of virtue, successful through goodness.

وَإِنَّهُمْ لِلرَّهْطِ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِمْ * عَلَى نُجُبِ الْفِرْدَوْسِ بِالنُّورِ تَسْرَحُ

Indeed, they are the group, no doubt about them, riding upon the steeds of Paradise, they roam with light.

سَعِيدٌ وَسَعْدٌ وَابْنُ عَوْفٍ وَطَلْحَةُ * وَعَامِرُ فَهْرٍ وَالزُّبَيْرُ الْمُدَّحُّ

Sa'eed, and Sa'd, and Ibn Awf, and Talhah and Amer Ibn Fuhairah and
Az-Zubair – the praised one.

وَقُلْ خَيْرَ قَوْلٍ فِي الصَّحَابَةِ كُلِّهِمْ * وَلَا تَكُ طَعَانًا تَعِيبُ وَتَجْرَحُ

And say the best words about all the companions, and do not be a fault-
finder, criticising and harming them.

فَقَدْ نَطَقَ الْوَحْيُ الْمُبِينُ بِفَضْلِهِمْ * وَفِي الْفَتْحِ آيٌ لِلصَّحَابَةِ تَمْدَحُ

For the clear revelation has spoken of their virtue, and in Surah Al-Fath
are verses praising the companions.

وَبِالْقَدَرِ الْمَقْدُورِ أَيقِنُ فَإِنَّهُ * دِعَامَةُ عِقْدِ الدِّينِ وَالدِّينُ أَفِيحُ

And have firm belief in the decreed Qadar, for it is the pillar of the
religion's foundation – and the religion is vast.

وَلَا تُنْكِرَنَّ جَهْلًا نَكِيرًا وَمُنْكَرًا * وَلَا الْحَوْضَ وَالْمِيزَانَ إِنَّكَ تُنْصَحُ

And do not deny – out of ignorance – Nakir and Munkar [the two questioning angels],
nor the Hawdh (Prophet's pond) nor the Scale – indeed, you are being advised.

وَقُلْ يُخْرِجُ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ بِفَضْلِهِ * مِنَ النَّارِ أَجْسَادًا مِنَ الْفَحْمِ تُطْرَحُ

And say: "Allah the Almighty will, by His bounty, bring out bodies from the
Fire, blackened like charcoal, cast forth."

عَلَى النَّهْرِ فِي الْفِرْدَوْسِ تَحْيَا بِمَائِهِ * كَحَبِّ حَمِيلِ السَّيْلِ إِذْ جَاءَ يَطْفَحُ

To a river in Paradise – they will live by its water, like seeds carried by the flood
when it overflows.

وَإِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ لِلْخَلْقِ شَافِعٌ * وَقُلْ فِي عَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ حَقٌّ مُوَضَّحُ

Indeed, the Messenger of Allah will intercede for the creation, and say: The
punishment of the grave is a clarified truth.

وَلَا تُكْفِرَنَّ أَهْلَ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِنْ عَصَوْا * فَكُلُّهُمْ يَعْصِي وَذُو الْعَرْشِ يَصْفَحُ

And do not declare the people of prayer disbelievers, even if they sin, for they
all commit sins, and the Lord of the Throne pardons.

وَلَا تَعْتَقِدْ رَأْيِي الْخَوَارِجِ إِنَّهُ * مَقَالٌ لِمَنْ يَهْوَاهُ يُرْدِي وَيَفْضَحُ

And do not hold the views of the Khawarij – indeed, it is a doctrine for those who follow desires – it destroys and disgraces.

وَلَا تَكُ مُرْجِيًّا لَعُوبًا بِدِينِهِ * أَلَا إِنَّمَا الْمُرْجِيُّ بِالَّذِينَ يَمَزُحُ

And do not be a Murji who plays with his religion, indeed, the Murji merely mocks the religion.

وَقُلْ إِنَّمَا الْإِيمَانُ قَوْلٌ وَنِيَّةٌ * وَفِعْلٌ عَلَى قَوْلِ النَّبِيِّ مُصَرَّحٌ

And say: “Indeed, faith is statement and intention, and action – as explicitly stated by the Prophet.”

وَيَنْقُصُ طَوْرًا بِالْمَعَاصِي وَتَارَةً * بِطَاعَتِهِ يَنْمِي وَفِي الْوِزْنِ يَرْجَحُ

And it decreases at times with sins, and at other times with obedience it grows – and weighs heavier on the scales.

وَدَعْ عَنْكَ آرَاءَ الرِّجَالِ وَقَوْلَهُمْ * فَقَوْلُ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أَزْكَى وَأَشْرَحُ

And leave aside the opinions of men and their sayings – for the saying of the Messenger of Allah is purer and clearer.

وَلَا تَكُ مِنْ قَوْمٍ تَلَهَّوْا بِدِينِهِمْ * فَتَطْعَنَ فِي أَهْلِ الْحَدِيثِ وَتَقْدَحُ

And do not be among the people who mock their religion – so you begin attacking the People of Hadith and criticising them.

إِذَا مَا اعْتَقَدْتَ الدَّهْرَ يَا صَاحِبَ هَذِهِ * فَأَنْتَ عَلَى خَيْرٍ تَبَيُّتُ وَتُصْبِحُ

If you hold this belief throughout your life, Oh companion, then you are upon goodness – you sleep and wake upon it.