

٢٧٦. وَقَالَ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ): اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ أَنْ تُحَسِّنَ فِي لَامِعَةِ الْعُيُونِ عَلَانِيَتِي وَتَقْبِحَ فِيمَا أَبْطَنُ لَكَ سِرِّيْرَتِي مُحَافِظًا عَلَي رِثَاءِ النَّاسِ مِنْ نَفْسِي بِجَمِيعِ مَا أَنْتَ مُطَّلِعٌ عَلَيْهِ مِنْي فَأَبْدِي لِلنَّاسِ حَسْنَ ظَاهِرِي وَأَفْضِي إِلَيْكَ بِسَوْءِ عَمَلِي تَقْرَبًا إِلَى عِبَادِكَ وَتَبَاعِدًا مِنْ مَرْضَاتِكَ.

276. Amīr al-mu'minīn, peace be upon him, said: O' my Allāh, I seek Your protection from this that I may appear to be good in the eyes of the people whilst my inward self may be sinful before You, and that I may guard myself (from sins) only for show before the people although You are aware of all about me. Thus, I appear before the people in good shape although my evil deeds are placed before You. This means achieving nearness to Your creatures but remoteness from Your pleasure.