

ومن خطبة له (عليه السلام) في الاستسقاء وفيه تنبيه العباد إلى وجوب استغاثة رحمة الله إذا حبس عنهم رحمة المطر

## Praying for rain

أَلَا وَإِنَّ الْأَرْضَ الَّتِي تَحْمِلُكُمْ، وَالسَّمَاءَ الَّتِي تَظِلُّكُمْ، مُطِيعَتَانِ لِرَبِّكُمْ، وَمَا أَصْبَحْتَا تَجُودَانِ لَكُمْ بِيَرَكْتَهُمَا تَوْجِعًا لَكُمْ، وَلَا زُلْفَةً إِلَيْكُمْ، وَلَا لَخِيرٍ تَرْجَوَانِهِ مِنْكُمْ، وَلَكِنْ أَمَرْنَا بِمَنَافِعِكُمْ فَأَطَاعْتَا، وَأَقِيمْتَا عَلَى حُدُودِ مَصَالِحِكُمْ فَقَامْتَا.

Beware; the earth which bears you and the sky which overshadows you are obedient to their Sustainer (Allāh). They have not been bestowing their blessings on you for any feeling of pity on you or inclination towards you, nor for any good which they expect from you, but they were commanded to bestow benefits on you and they are obeying, and were asked to maintain your good and so they are maintaining it.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْتَلِي عِبَادَهُ عِنْدَ الْأَعْمَالِ السَّيِّئَةِ بِنَقْصِ الثَّمَرَاتِ، وَجَبْسِ الْبَرَكَاتِ، وَإِغْلَاقِ خَزَائِنِ الْخَيْرَاتِ، لِيَتُوبَ تَائِبٌ، وَيَقْلَعَ مَقْلَعٌ، وَيَتَذَكَّرُ مِتَذَكِّرٌ، وَيَزْجُرُ مَزْجُرٌ. وَقَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ سَبْحَانَهُ الْإِسْتِغْفَارَ سَبِيلاً لِدُرُورِ الرِّزْقِ وَرَحْمَةً الْخَلْقِ، فَقَالَ: ﴿اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ إِذْ هُمْ كَانَ غَفَّارًا. يُرْسِلِ السَّمَاءَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِدْرَارًا. وَيُمْدِدْكُمْ بِأَمْوَالٍ وَبَنِينَ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ جَنَاتٍ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ أَنْهَارًا.﴾

Certainly, Allāh tries his creatures in respect of their evil deeds by decreasing fruits, holding back blessings and closing the treasures of good, so that he who wishes to repent may repent, he who wishes to turn away (from evils) may turn away, he who wishes to recall (forgotten good) may recall, and he who wishes to abstain (from evil) may abstain. Allāh, the Glorified, has made the seeking of (His) forgiveness a means for the pouring down of livelihood and mercy on the people as Allāh has said: “. . . Seek ye the forgiveness of your Lord! Verily, He is the Most forgiving, He will send (down) upon you the cloud raining in torrents, and help you with wealth and sons (children) . . .” (Qur’ān, 71:10—12)

فَرَحِمَ اللَّهُ أَمْرًا اسْتَقْبَلَ تَوْبَتَهُ، وَاسْتَقَالَ خَطِيئَتَهُ، وَبَادَرَ مِنْيَتَهُ!

Allāh may shower mercy on him who took up repentance, gave up sins and hastened (in performing good acts before) his death.

اللَّهُمَّ إِذَا خَرَجْنَا إِلَيْكَ مِنْ تَحْتِ الْأَسْتَارِ وَالْأَكْنَانِ، وَبَعْدَ عَجِيجِ الْبَهَائِمِ وَالْوِلْدَانِ، رَاغِبِينَ فِي رَحْمَتِكَ، وَرَاجِينَ فَضْلَ نِعْمَتِكَ، وَخَائِفِينَ مِنْ عَذَابِكَ وَنِقْمَتِكَ.

O my Allāh! we have come out to Thee from under the curtains and coverings (of houses) when the beasts and children are crying, seeking Thy Mercy, hoping for the generosity of Thy bounty and fearing Thy chastisement and retribution.

اللَّهُمَّ فَاسْقِنَا غَيْثَكَ، وَلَا تَجْعَلْنَا مِنَ الْقَانِطِينَ، وَلَا تَهْلِكْنَا بِالسِّنِينَ، وَلَا تَوَاخِذْنَا ﴿بِمَا فَعَلَ السُّفَهَاءُ مِنْذًا﴾ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

O my Allāh! give us to drink from Thy rain and do not disappoint us, nor kill us by years (of drought) nor punish us “..for what the foolish among us have committed” (7:155), O the Most Merciful of all !

اللَّهُمَّ إِذَا خَرَجْنَا إِلَيْكَ نَشْكُو إِلَيْكَ مَا لَا يَخْفَى عَلَيْكَ، حِينَ أَلْجَأْتَنَا الْمَضَائِقَ الْوَعْرَةَ، وَأَجَاءْتَنَا الْمَقَاحِطَ الْمُجْدِبَةَ، وَأَعَيْتَنَا الْمَطَالِبَ الْمَتَعْسِرَةَ، وَتَلَاحَمْتَ عَلَيْنَا الْفِتْنَ الْمَسْتَصْعِبَةَ.

O my Allāh! we have come out to Thee to complain to Thee what is (already) not hidden from Thee, when the seven troubles have forced us, droughty famines have driven us, distressing wants have made us helpless and troublesome mischiefs have incessantly befallen us.

اللَّهُمَّ إِذَا نَسَأَلُكَ إِلَّا تَرُدُّنَا خَائِبِينَ، وَلَا تَقْلِبُنَا وَاجِمِينَ، وَلَا تَخَاطِبُنَا بِذُنُوبِنَا، وَلَا تَقَاسِنَا بِأَعْمَالِنَا.

O my Allāh! we beseech Thee not to send us back disappointed, nor to return us with down-cast eyes, nor to address us (harshly) for our sins, nor deal with us according to our deeds.

اللَّهُمَّ انْشُرْ عَلَيْنَا غَيْثَكَ وَبِرْكَتِكَ، وَرِزْقَكَ وَرَحْمَتَكَ، وَاسْقِنَا سَقِيًّا نَافِعَةً مَرُوبَةً مَعْشِبَةً، تَنْبِتُ بِهَا مَا قَدِ فَاتَ، وَتُحْيِي بِهَا مَا قَدِ مَاتَ، نَافِعَةً الْحَيَا، كَثِيرَةً الْمَجْتَنَى، تَرْوِي بِهَا الْقَبْعَانَ، وَتَسِيلُ الْبَطْنَانَ، وَتَسْتَوْرِقُ الْأَشْجَارَ، وَتَرْخِصُ الْأَسْعَارَ، إِنَّكَ عَلَى مَا تَشَاءُ قَدِيرٌ.

O my Allāh! do pour on us Thy mercy, Thy blessing, Thy sustenance and Thy pity, and make us enjoy a drink which benefits us, quenches our thirst, produces green herbage with which all that was lost gets a growing and all that had withered comes to life again. It should bring about the benefit of freshness and plentifulness of ripe fruits. With it plains may be watered, rivers may begin flowing, plants may pick up foliage and prices may come down. Surely, Thou art powerful over whatever Thou willest.