

Áqīdah al-Áwām: The Creed of Every Muslim

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

This is a didactic poem on Islamic creed written by Shaykh Sayyid Aḥmad al-Ḥasanī al-Marzūqī al-Mālikī (1205-1262 AH/1791-1846). He was the chief muftī of Mālikīs in the holy city of Makkah. The shaykh has himself written a commentary on this poem titled *Taḥṣīl Nayl al-Marām*; among other well-known commentaries are *Nūr al-Ḍalām* by Shaykh Muḥammad Nawawī al-Jāwī and *Jalā'a al-Aḥām* by Shaykh Muḥammad ibn Álawī al-Mālikī. He passed away in Makkah and is buried in Málāh. Shaykh Aḥmad Zaynī Daḥlān is among his prominent students.



1

أَبْدَأُ بِاسْمِ اللَّهِ وَالرَّحْمَنِ ✽ وَبِالرَّحِيمِ دَائِمِ الْإِحْسَانِ

abda'u bismillāhi wa'r raḥmāni * wa bi'r raḥīmi dā'ima'l iḥsāni

*I begin, in the name of Allāh, the Most Merciful;
The Beneficent; it is He who always bestows favours upon His slaves*

2

فَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَدِيمِ الْأَوَّلِ ✽ وَالْآخِرِ الْبَاقِي بِلَا تَحْوُلٍ

fa'l ḥamdu li'llāhi'l qadīmi'l awwali * wa'l-ākhirī'l bāqiy bilā taḥawwuli

*All praises belong to Allāh, the Eternal, The first without beginning
The Eternally Abiding, Un-perishing, Never Changing*

3

ثُمَّ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ سَرْمَدًا ✽ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ خَيْرٍ مَنْ قَدْ وَحَدَا

thumma's ṣalātu wa's salāmu sarmadā * āla'n nabiyyi khayri man qad waḥḥadā

*Thereafter, blessings and greetings everlasting
Upon the Prophet ﷺ, the best among all those who believe in One God*

4

وَأَلِيهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَ ✽ سَبِيلَ دِينِ الْحَقِّ غَيْرَ مُبْتَدِعٍ

wa aālihi wa ṣaḥbihi wa man tabi'y * sabīla dīni'l ḥaqqi ghaḥra muḥtadiy

*And upon his descendants, his companions and those who follow -
The path of the true religion and do not deviate or heresies follow*

5

وَبَعْدُ فَأَعْلَمُ بِوُجُوبِ الْمَعْرِفَةِ ❁ مِنْ وَاجِبٍ لِلَّهِ عِشْرِينَ صِفَةً

wa ba'adu fa-alam bi wujubi'l marifah * min wajibin li'llahi ishrina shifah

And know, it is necessary to know and believe

In twenty necessary attributes of Allāh

6

فَاللَّهُ مَوْجُودٌ قَدِيمٌ بَاقٍ ❁ مُخَالَفٌ لِلْخَلْقِ بِالْإِطْلَاقِ

f'Allāhu mawjūdun qadīmun bāqiy * mukhālifun li'l khalqi bi'l iṭlāqi

Allāh Exists, He is Pre-Eternal, Always Existing,

Absolutely unlike anything in the creation

7

وَقَائِمٌ غَنِيٌّ وَاحِدٌ وَحَيٌّ ❁ قَادِرٌ مُرِيدٌ عَالِمٌ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ

wa qā'imun ghaniyyun wāhidun wa ḥayy * qādir murīdun āālimun bi kulli shayy

He is Self-Subsisting, absolutely Independent, Only One and Living

He is absolutely All-Powerful, He Wills, He Knows everything

8

سَمِيعٌ الْبَصِيرُ وَالْمُتَكَلِّمُ ❁ لَهُ صِفَاتٌ سَبْعَةٌ تَنْتَظِمُ

samiyyuni'l baṣīr wa'l mutakallimu * lahu shifātun sabātun tantazimu

He Hears, He Sees, He Speaks

The following are seven Divine Attributes that are emphasised

9

فَقُدْرَةٌ إِرَادَةٌ سَمْعٌ بَصَرٌ ❁ حَيَاةٌ الْعِلْمُ كَلَامٌ اسْتَمَرُّ

wa-qudratun iradatun samun baṣar * ḥayātun'il ilmu kalāmuni'stamar

Power, Will, Hearing, Seeing

Life, Knowledge and Speech

10

وَجَائِزٌ بِفَضْلِهِ وَعَدْلِهِ ❁ تَرَكُّ لِكُلِّ مُمْكِنٍ كَفِعْلِهِ

wa jā'izun bi faḍlihi wa ādlihi * tarkun li kulli mumkinin ka-fi'ylihi

By His Divine Grace and Divine Justice - anything contingent

He can do or choose not do

11

أَرْسَلَ أَنْبِيَاءَ ذَوِي فَطَانَةٍ بِالصِّدْقِ وَالْتَّبَلِغِ وَالْأَمَانَةِ

arsala anbiyā'a dhawī faṭānah * bi's ṣidqi wa't tablīghi wa'l amānah

*He sent forth prophets, men of discerning and intelligence
Truthful men, trustworthy and upright who delivered the message*

12

وَجَائِزٌ فِي حَقِّهِمْ مِنْ عَرَضٍ بِغَيْرِ نَقْصٍ كَخَفِيفِ الْمَرَضِ

wa jā'izun fi ḥaqqihim min āraḍi * bi ghayri naqṣin ka khaffi'l maraḍi

*It is possible for them to suffer affliction
Such as illnesses that are not abhorrent or repugnant*

13

عَصَمْتُهُمْ كَسَائِرِ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَاجِبَةٌ وَفَاضَلُوا الْمَلَائِكَةَ

īṣmatuhum ka sā'iri'l malā'ikah * wājibatun wa fāḍalu'l malā'ikah

*They are divinely protected from sin, similar to angels
And they are superior to angels*

14

وَالْمُسْتَحِيلُ ضِدُّ كُلِّ وَاجِبٍ فَاحْفَظْ لِخَمْسِينَ بِحُكْمِ وَاجِبٍ

wa'l mustahīlu ḍiddu kulli wājibin * fa'ḥfaz li khamsīna bi ḥukmin wājibi

*Everything opposed to necessary attributes is impossible
Remember the fifty attributes by the Command of the Allāh*

15

تَفْصِيلُ خَمْسَةِ وَعِشْرِينَ لَزِمٌ كُلُّ مُكَلَّفٍ فَحَقِّقْ وَاعْتَنِمْ

tafṣīlu khamsatin wa īshrīna lazim * kulla mukallafin fa-ḥaqqiq wa'ghtanim

*It is imperative to know (the names) of twenty-five
On every responsible, sane, adult – learn and benefit from it*

16

هُمْ آدَمُ إِدْرِيسُ نُوحٌ هُودٌ مَعِ صَلَاحٍ وَإِبْرَاهِيمُ كُلُّ مُتَّبَعٍ

hum ādamun idrīsu nūḥun hūdū maā * ṣāliḥ wa Ibrāhīmu kullun muttabaā

*They are Ādam, Idris, Nūḥ, Hud
With Ṣāliḥ and Ibrāhīm - every one is to be followed ﷺ*

17

لُوطٌ وَإِسْمَاعِيلُ إِسْحَاقُ كَذَا ﴿١٧﴾ يَعْقُوبُ يُوسُفُ وَأَيُّوبُ اخْتَدَى

lūṭun wa ismāyīlu is'ḥāqu kadhā * yāqūbu yūsufu wa ayyubu'ḥtadhā

Luṭ, Ismāyīl, Is'ḥāq and also -

Yāqūb, Yūsuf and Ayyub in their footsteps عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

18

شُعَيْبٌ هَارُونُ وَمُوسَى وَالْيَسَعَ ﴿١٨﴾ ذُو الْكِفْلِ دَاوُدُ سُلَيْمَانُ اتَّبَعُوا

shu'aybu hārūnu wa mūsā wa'l yasaā * dhu'l kifli dāwūdu sulaymanu'ttabaā

Shu'ayb, Hārūn, Mūsā and Al-Yasā

Dhu'l Kifl, Dāwūd and Sulaymān following them عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

19

إِلْيَاسُ يُونُسُ زَكَرِيَّا يَحْيَى ﴿١٩﴾ عِيسَى وَطَهَ خَاتِمٌ دَعَا غَيًّا

ilyāsu yūnus zakariyyā yaḥyā * yīsā wa ṭā-hā khātimun daā ghayyā

Ilyās, Yūnus, Zakariyyah, Yaḥyā

Yīsā عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ and then Ṭā-hā is the last, the Seal of all Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

20

عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ ﴿٢٠﴾ وَالرَّحْمَةُ مَا دَامَتِ الْأَيَّامُ

ālayhimu's ṣalātu wa's salāmu * wa ālihim mā dāmat al-ayyāmu

Upon them be the blessings and greetings (of Allāh)

And Upon their descendants, until the final day

21

وَالْمَلَكُ الَّذِي بَلَا أَبٍ وَأُمٍّ ﴿٢١﴾ لَا أَكَلٌ وَلَا شَرِبٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُمْ

wa'l malaku'l-lladhī bilā abin wa umm * lā akla lā sharba wa lā nawma lahum

Angels are created without a father or mother

They neither eat, nor drink; and no sleep for them

22

تَفْصِيلُ عَشْرٍ مِنْهُمْ جِبْرِيلُ ﴿٢٢﴾ مِيكَالُ إِسْرَافِيلُ عَزْرَائِيلُ

tafṣīlu āshrin minhumu jibrīlu * mīkālu isrāfīlu āzrā'īlu

Ten of them are known in particular – Jibrīl

Mikā'il, Isrāfīl, Ázrā'il

23

مُنْكَرٌ نَكِيرٌ وَرَقِيبٌ وَكَذَا ❁ عَتِيدٌ مَالِكٌ وَرِضْوَانٌ اِخْتَدَى

munkar nakīrun wa raqībun wa kadhā * átīdu mālikun wa riḍwānu ḥtadhā

*Munkar, Nakir, Raqīb and so also,
Átīd, Mālik and Riḍwān following them*

24

أَرْبَعَةٌ مِنْ كُتُبٍ تَفْصِيلُهَا ❁ تَوَارَةٌ مُوسَى بِالْهُدَى تَنْزِيلُهَا

arbaānun min kutubin tafṣīlūhā * tawrātu mūsā bi'l hudā tanzīlūhā

*There are four Holy Books about which one should know
Torah given to Mūsā ﷺ; in it is guidance descended*

25

زُبُورٌ دَاوُدَ وَإِنْجِيلٌ عَلَى ❁ عِيسَى وَفُرْقَانٌ عَلَى خَيْرِ الْمَلَا

zabūru dāwūda wa injīlun ālā * yīsā wa furqānun ālā khayri'l malā

*Zabūr given to Dāwūd ﷺ; and Injīl (the Bible) revealed
to Yīsā ﷺ and Furqān (the Qur'ān) to RasūlAllāh ﷺ, the best in creation*

26

وَصُحُفٌ الْخَلِيلِ وَالْكَالِمِ ❁ فِيهَا كَلَامُ الْحَكَمِ الْعَلِيمِ

wa ṣuḥfu'l khalīli wa'l kalīmi * fihā kalāmu'l ḥakami'l ālīmi

*And scriptures revealed to al-Khalīl (Ibrāhīm ﷺ) and al-Kalīm (Mūsā ﷺ)
In which was recorded the Speech of He who Commands, the All-Knower*

27

وَكُلُّ مَا أَتَى بِهِ الرَّسُولُ ❁ فَحَقُّهُ التَّسْلِيمُ وَالْقَبُولُ

wa kullu mā atā bihi'r rasūlu * fa ḥaqquhu't taslīmu wa'l qabūlu

*And everything the Prophet ﷺ has brought with him
Is truth and obligatory to acknowledge, admit and accept without question*

28

إِيمَانُنَا بِيَوْمٍ آخِرٍ وَجَبَ ❁ وَكُلُّ مَا كَانَ بِهِ مِنَ الْعَجَبِ

īymānunā bi yawmi aākhirin wajaḥ * wa kullu mā kāna bihi mina'l ājab

*We believe in the last day – it is obligatory
And every miraculous and incredible thing mentioned about that day*

29

خَاتِمَةٌ فِي ذِكْرِ بَاقِي الْوَاجِبِ ❀ مِمَّا عَلَى مُكَلَّفٍ مِنْ وَاجِبٍ

khātimatun fi dhikri bāqiyi'l wājibi * mimmā ālā mukallafin min wājibi

*And finally, that which remains and is necessary to believe
And obligatory for every responsible, sane and adult individual*

30

نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٌ قَدْ أُرْسِلَا ❀ لِلْعَالَمِينَ رَحْمَةً وَفُضِيلًا

nabiyyuna muḥammadun qad ursilā * li'l āālamīna rahmatun wa fuḍḍilā

*Our prophet is Sayyidunā Muḥammad ﷺ, who was sent forth
for all the worlds, the universe as a mercy; and superior to everyone*

31

أَبُوهُ عَبْدُ اللَّهِ عَبْدُ الْمُطَّلِبِ ❀ وَهَاشِمٌ عَبْدُ مَنَافٍ يَنْتَسِبُ

abūhu ābdullāhi abdu'l muṭṭalib * wa hāshimun ābdu manāfin yantasiḥ

*His father is Ábdullāh, son of Ábdu'l Muṭṭalib,
the son of Hāshim, son of Ábd Manāf*

32

وَأُمُّهُ أَمِينَةُ الزُّهْرِيَّةِ ❀ أَرْضَعَتْهُ حَلِيمَةُ السَّعْدِيَّةِ

wa ummuḥu āminatu'z zuhriyyah * arḍa-āt-hu ḥalīmatu's saādiyyah

*His mother is Aāminah al-Zuhriyyah
And his wet-nurse is Ḥalimah al-Saādiyyah*

33

مَوْلِدُهُ بِمَكَّةَ الْأَمِينَةِ ❀ وَفَاتَهُ بِطَيْبَةَ الْمَدِينَةِ

mawliduḥu bi makkata'l amīnah * wafātuḥu bi ṭaybata'l madīnah

*He was born in Makkah the preserved sanctuary
He passed away in Madīnah, the pleasant city (Ṭaybah)*

34

أَتَمَّ قَبْلَ الْوَحْيِ أَرْبَعِينَ ❀ وَعُمُرُهُ قَدْ جَاوَزَ السِّتِينَ

atamma qabla'l waḥyi arba'yīnā * wa úmruḥu qad jāwaza's sittīnā

*He had completed forty years of age, before the Revelation came to him
And his age was sixty plus (when he left this earth)*

35

وَسَبْعَةٌ أَوْلَادُهُ فَمِنْهُمْ * ثَلَاثَةٌ مِنَ الذُّكُورِ تُفْهِمُ

wa sabátun awlāduhu fa minhumu * thalātun mina'dh dhukūri tufhamu

*His children are seven, among whom
Three are boys, and thus it is known*

36

قَاسِمٌ وَعَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَهُوَ الطَّيِّبُ * وَطَاهِرٌ بِدَيْنِ ذَا يُلَقَّبُ

qāsim wa ābdullāhi wa huwa't ṭayyibu * wa ṭāhirun bi-dhayni dhā yulaqqabu

*Qāsim and Ābdullāh, who is also known as Ṭayyib
and Ṭāhir – these two are his titles (of Ābdullāh)*

37

أَتَاهُ إِبْرَاهِيمُ مِنْ سُرِّيَّةٍ * فَأُمُّهُ مَارِيَّةُ الْقِبْطِيَّةُ

atāhu ibrahīmu min surriyyah * fa-ummuhu māriyatu'l qibṭiyyah

*Ibrāhīm was born of his bondmaid
(Ibrāhīm's) mother is Māriyah, the Copt (originally)*

38

وَعَيْرُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ مِنْ خَدِيجَةَ * هُمْ سِتَّةٌ فَخُذْ بِهِمْ وَلِجَةَ

wa ghayru ibrahīma min khadijah * hum sittatun fa khudh bihim walijah

*Apart from Ibrāhīm, all other children are from Khadijah
They are six in all – learn about them for the love (of the Prophet)*

39

وَأَرْبَعٌ مِنَ الْإِنَاثِ تُذَكَّرُ * رِضْوَانُ رَبِّي لِلْجَمِيعِ يُذَكَّرُ

wa arba'un mina'l ināthi tudhkaru * riḍwānu rabbi li'l jamīyi yudhkaru

*The four daughters mentioned are thus
May Allāh be pleased with all of them*

40

فَاطِمَةُ الزَّهْرَاءُ بَعْلُهَا عَلِيٌّ * وَابْنَاهُمَا السَّبْطَانِ فَضْلُهُمْ جَلِيٌّ

faṭimatu'z zahrā'u baāluhā āliy * wa'bnāhuma's sibṭāni faḍluhum jalīy

*Fāṭimah al-Zahrā'a whose husband is Āliy
Their two sons are Sibṭayn (two grandsons) of eminence and superiority*

41

فَزَيْنَبٌ وَبَعْدَهَا رُقَيْيَةٌ ❀ وَأُمُّ كَلْثُومٍ زَكَتْ رَضِيَّةٌ

fa-zaynabun wa baādahā ruqayyah * wa ummu kulthūmin zakat radiyyah

(Other daughters are:) Zaynab and after her Ruqayyah

And Umm Kulthūm, the pure and worthy ❀

42

عَنْ تِسْعِ نِسْوَةٍ وِفَاةَ الْمُصْطَفَى ❀ خَيْرِنَ فَاخْتَرْنَ النَّبِيَّ الْمُقْتَفَى

ān tis'ī niswatin wafātu'l muṣṭafā * khuyyirna fa'khtarana'n nabīyā'l muqtafā

The Chosen One (Muṣṭafā) ❀ passed away survived by nine blessed wives

Given the choice, they all chose to remain with the Final Prophet ❀

43

عَائِشَةُ وَحَفْصَةُ وَسَوْدَةُ ❀ صَفِيَّةٌ مَيْمُونَةٌ وَرَمْلَةٌ

āa'ishatun wa ḥafṣatun wa sawdah * ṣafiyyatun, maymūnatun wa ramlah

Āa'ishah, Hafsaḥ and Sawdah

Safiyyah, Maymunah and Ramlah ﷺ

44

هِنْدٌ وَزَيْنَبُ كَذَا جُوَيْرِيَّةٌ ❀ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ أُمَّهَاتٌ مُرْضِيَّةٌ

hindun wa zaynabun kadhā juwayriyyah * li'l mu'minīna ummahātun murdiyyah

Hind, Zaynab and Juwayriyyah

They are all mothers of believers, the blessed ladies ﷺ

45

حَمْرَةٌ عَمُّهُ وَعَبَّاسٌ كَذَا ❀ عَمَّتُهُ صَفِيَّةٌ ذَاتُ اخْتِدَا

ḥamzatu āmmuhu wa ābbāsun kadhā * āmmatuhu ṣafiyyatun dhātu'ḥtidhā

Ḥamzah and Ābbās are his two uncles

And Ṣafiyyah is his aunt among those who became believers ﷺ

46

وَقَبْلَ هِجْرَةِ النَّبِيِّ الْإِسْرَا ❀ مِنْ مَكَّةَ لَيْلًا لِقُدْسٍ يُدْرَى

wa qabla hijrati'n nabīyī'l isrā * min makkatin laylan li qudsin yudrā

Before the migration (Hijrah), the Prophet ❀ went on the Night Journey

From Makkah to Jerusalem in a short span of the night

47

وَبَعْدَ إِسْرَاءٍ عُرُوجٍ لِّلسَّمَآ * حَتَّىٰ رَأَى النَّبِيُّ رَبَّهُ كَلَّمَآ

wa baāda isrā'in úruūjun li's samā * ḥattā ra-a'n nabīyyu rabban kallamā

And after that short journey in the night, he ascended to the heavens

Until he ﷺ saw his Lord Almighty and spake to Him

48

مِنْ غَيْرِ كَيْفٍ وَأَنْحِصَارٍ وَأَفْتَرَضَ * عَلَيْهِ خَمْسًا بَعْدَ خَمْسِينَ فَرَضَ

min ghayri kayfin wa'n ḥiṣārin wa'fturid * ālayhi khamsan baāda khamsīna farad

He saw Allāh without modality, nor the sight encompassing Him

Finally, he received five obligatory prayers, which were initially fifty

49

وَبَلَّغَ الْأُمَّةَ بِالإِسْرَاءِ * وَفَرَضَ خَمْسَةَ بِلَا امْتِرَاءِ

wa ballagha'l ummata bi'l isrā'i * wa farḍi khamsatin bila'mtirā'i

He has informed his followers about the Night Journey

And the five prayers concerning which there is no dispute.

50

قَدْ فَازَ صِدِّيقٌ بِتَصَدِّيقٍ لَهُ * وَبِالْعُرُوجِ الصِّدْقِ وَآفِي أَهْلَهُ

qad fāza ṣiddiqun bi taṣḍīqin lahu * wa bi'l úrūjī's ṣidqu wāfā ahlahu

(Abū Bakr) al-Ṣiddīq ﷺ is superior to everyone for his ready attestation

of his ﷺ Ascension and Night Journey, as it was rightful to affirm

51

وَهَذِهِ عَقِيدَةٌ مُخْتَصِرَةٌ * وَلِلْعَوَامِ سَهْلَةٌ مُبَسَّرَةٌ

wa hādhihi áqīdatun mukhtaṣarah * wa li'l úlūmi sahlaturun muyassarah

This is a brief and concise creed (of Islām)

Made simple for the laity and easy to read, understand and remember

52

نَاظِمٌ تِلْكَ أَحْمَدُ الْمَرْزُوقِي * مَنْ يَنْتَبِي لِلصَّادِقِ الْمَصْدُوقِ

nāzimu tilka aḥmadu'l marzūqi * man yantamī li'ṣ ṣādiqi'l maṣḍūqi

This ode was composed by Aḥmad al-Marzūqī

Who is related to the Truthful, and one attested to be True (Prophet) ﷺ

53

وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَصَلَّى سَلَامًا ❁ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ خَيْرٍ مَنْ قَدْ عَلَّمَا

wa'l ḥamdu lillāhi wa ṣallā sallamā * āla'n nabiyyi khayri man qad āllamā

*All praises be to Allāh; and blessings and salutations
upon the Prophet ﷺ, the greatest of all teachers*

54

وَالْأَلِ وَالصَّحْبِ وَكُلِّ مُرْشِدٍ ❁ وَكُلِّ مَنْ بِخَيْرٍ هَدِي يَقْتَدِي

wa'l āli wa's ṣaḥbi wa kulli murshidi * wa kulli man bikhayri hadyīn yaqtadī

*And his progeny, and his companions and every (Muslim) guide
And everyone who sincerely follows the True Guidance (Islām)*

55

وَأَسْأَلُ الْكَرِيمَ إِخْلَاصَ الْعَمَلِ ❁ وَنَفْعَ كُلِّ مَنْ بِهَا قَدِ اشْتَغَلَ

wa as'alu'l karīma ikhlāṣa'l āmal * wa nafā kulli man bihā qad īshtaghal

*I beseech Allāh, He who Bestows Favour for sincerity in actions
And to give benefit to everyone who reads this poem*

56

أَبْيَاتُهَا مَيِّزٌ بَعْدَ الْجُمَلِ ❁ تَارِيخُهَا لِي حَيٌّ غُرٌّ جُمَلٍ

abyātuha mayzun bi-āddi'l jummalī * tāriḫuhā lī ḥayyu ghurrin jummalī

*The number of couplets in this poem are by chronogram **Mayz** (i.e. 57)
And the year of composition is the chronogram **Ḥayy Ghurr** (i.e. 1258 AH)*

57

سَمَّيْتُهَا عَقِيدَةَ الْعَوَامِ ❁ مِنْ وَاجِبٍ فِي الدِّينِ بِالتَّمَامِ

sammaytuhā āqīdata'l āwāmi * min wājibin fi'd dīn bi't tamāmī

*I have named it “The Creed for Every Muslim”
Necessary for everyone to believe in everything said in it*

