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阿博都-巴哈



- 壹 -

うよう、乃上帝。

**个 在**上天众灵环绕之地周围盘桓礼 拜之人啊!你当在唯一真神的门槛前举起 双手,满怀感激,说:每位热忱挚爱者的 至高追求啊!每位彷徨之人的向导啊!祢 对这孱弱仆役惠赐祢无尽福祐,将这卑微 不幸者引向祢合一性之门槛。祢将慈爱活 水捧至这干渴的唇边,以上天慈悲和风重 振这疲敝枯萎的灵魂。我向祢致谢,祢已 从祢至仁恩惠中赐予我满盈的一份,赋予 我殊荣以登临祢神圣门槛<sup>1</sup>。我祈求祢天国 中无边的一汪鸿泽。望祢施与祐助,降赐 仁恩。

<sup>1. &</sup>quot;神圣门槛"指巴哈欧拉陵殿

— 貳 —

形圣友啊!今世来世万众的渴求 者啊! 兹悲的钟爱者啊! 这些无 助之魂陶醉干祢的爱、这些孱弱之人托庇 于祢的门槛。他们因与祢远离而夜夜悲吟 嗟叹,因恶意之民的攻击而日日呜咽哀 惊。他们每时每刻都会历经苦痛折磨,一 呼一吸均在忍受邪恶压迫者之暴虐煎熬。 赞美归于祢,虽有凡此诸般,他们却似满 堂火焰炽燃,如日月光辉灿烂。他们宛若 飞扬旗幡, 矗立圣道之中; 他们好似英勇 骑手, 迅疾驰入疆场。他们犹如馥郁芳 菲,尽情绽放;仿佛笑靥玫瑰,欣喜满 怀。因而、仁爱的供养者啊、借祢王国施 降天恩, 惠助这些神圣灵魂, 俯允这些圣 洁之十展现至高者之表征。祢是普施恩惠 者、怜悯者、大慈大悲者、体恤者。

- 去 -

天 双的仁爱之主啊!虽然缺乏德能 难抵困厄,但德能却是祢恩赐的 赠礼。主啊!施与我们能力,赋予我们功 德,以使我们展现最强坚贞,舍弃这尘世 与芸芸众生,燃起祢圣爱之火,如蜡烛般 烈焰烬燃,光芒四射。

天国之主啊!解救我们脱离这虚幻尘 间,引领我们迈入无限之境。让我们全然 不受这凡俗生活之束缚,使我们蒙福得享 天国厚礼。令我们摆脱这貌似真实的虚空 世界,授予我们永生。赐予我们欢乐欣 喜,惠予我们愉悦满足。让我们心怀宽 慰,灵魂和平安宁,以使我们在升向祢天 国之际来到祢尊前,在天国界域倍感欢 欣。祢乃施与者,恩赐者,万能者! 我世的钟爱,我仰慕的朋友啊!
我无法靠近祢尊前、饱受与祢远离之苦还要多久呢?带我前往祢天国归宿,在祢崇高圣域显现之际看顾我,为我投下祢慈爱的目光。

万能之主啊!将我列入天国居民当 中。我住在这必朽尘寰,赐我虚空界的寓 所;我属于这凡俗之境,向我倾注祢辉煌 绚烂之光;我栖身这尘埃之域,让我成为 祢天国之民,从而在祢道路上舍命捐生, 令我心底之渴望得偿。头戴神恩冠冕,发 出胜利呼喊:"上帝之荣耀!最荣耀者之荣 耀!"

- 伍 -

**1** 慈的主啊!这些灵魂是祢的朋 友,他们聚集一处,因祢之爱而 心驰神往。他们为祢圣美光芒而狂喜,为 祢馨香发丝而着迷。他们心系于祢,卑微 而无助,徘徊于祢的路途。朋友与陌路 人,他们一概舍离,而坚守祢之合一,在 祢尊前俯首礼拜。

他们属此凡界,而祢将其迎入天国。 他们犹如荒芜贫瘠之野里的枯枝败叶,而 祢使其成为真知明悟之园中的幼苗;他们 喑哑无声,而祢令其开口畅言;他们意气 消沉,而祢使其神采焕发;他们宛若干涸 贫瘠的土壤,而祢将其化作内在涵养之玫 瑰园;他们好似人类世界的孩童,而祢令 其慧至上天的成熟。

仁慈之主啊!将祢护祐笼罩下的一处 港湾、一处庇难所授予他们,为其抵挡试

炼与磨难,施以祢无形匡助,降下祢无边 恩泽。

攀爱的仁主啊!他们犹如身躯,祢 乃生命之灵。有赖灵之恩泽,身躯方得鲜 活与秀美。故而,他们亟需祢予以增强, 于此新天启,他们渴求你圣灵支撑之力。 祢乃强大者,祢乃给予者、供养者、恩赐 者、宽恕者,祢乃自无形界域放射万丈光 芒之尊。

- 陆 -

**补申** 圣的上帝啊! 难解之困弥艰, 难克 之艰凸显。主啊! 消除这些困难, 昭示祢威力权能之迹象。减轻这些困苦, 于此坎坷征途,为我们铺平道路。神圣的 上帝啊! 障碍难以逾越,我们艰辛劳苦又 遭逢无数灾殃。舍祢别无援手,非祢别无 救助。我们将全部希望寄托于祢,将一切 事务交付于祢照顾。祢是向导, 化解诸般 困难之尊, 祢乃睿智者, 明察者, 垂听 者。

- 茶 -

悲之神啊!万能之尊啊!我一介 孱弱仆人,力薄孤助,却是在祢 仁恩笼罩下受培养,由祢慈悲乳汁所哺 育,在祢慈爱怀抱中成长。主啊!我贫困 穷乏,然而,若蒙祢施恩,穷人皆得富 足;若不得祢惠赐,富人尽皆穷困孤独。

神圣的上帝啊!赐我力量肩负此重 担,使我得以守护此无上赠礼,因为考验 来势汹涌,试炼猛烈冲击,令山岳悉数化 为尘土,高耸之巅消逝无踪。祢全然知 晓,我一心只欲念记祢,我灵魂唯求仰爱 祢。扶我起身服务于祢所垂爱者,让我永 远侍奉在祢门槛前。祢乃仁爱者。祢乃万 般恩惠之主。

— 捌 —

**2** 色的上帝啊!将我唤起,使我清 醒。让我除祢之外超然一切,因爱 慕祢的圣美而心驰神往。向我拂送圣灵气 息,容我聆听阿卜哈天国的召唤。赐我上 天力量,在我心房深处点燃灵之灯盏。为 我解除诸般束缚,令我摆脱各种依恋,从 而无所渴求,唯求祢喜悦;无所寻觅,唯 觅祢容颜;无所践行,唯行祢圣道。恩准 我让疏忽者留心、昏睡者觉醒,为焦渴者 捧上生命之水,为患病染疾者带来神圣疗 愈。

我虽贫贱卑微,但祢却是我的港湾和 庇护所,我的支柱和援手。求祢施降天助,乃至人人为之震惊。上帝啊!确然, 祢乃万能者,强大者,施与者,恩赐者, 无所不察者。



うよう、乃上帝。

**个** 上帝啊,我的上帝!我已面向 祢,祈求祢沧海洪流般的疗愈。主啊,惠 助我侍奉祢的子民,医治祢的仆人。有祢 相助,我开出的疗方便是医治每个疾患病 痛的良药,是给每个炽烈干渴者的新生之 水,是给每颗祈盼之心的一帖香膏。若无 祢相助,那便只是一番折磨,而我绝无法 治愈任何一人。

上帝啊,我的上帝!求祢施展威力, 扶助我医治病患。确然,祢乃医治者,满 足者,祛痛除疴者,统御万象者。

- 拾 -

 野!赐我一份祢的慈爱与眷顾,关 爱我,保护我,赐我荫庇之所及慷慨恩泽,以使我终结之日迥异于初始之时,我生命结束之日可开启祢诸多福祐之门。惟愿我每时每刻蒙祢垂降慈爱恩泽,每一呼吸蒙祢施予宽宥慈悲,直到我在祢 飘扬旗幡之荫祐下,抵达万众称赞的王国。祢乃恩赐者,永恒仁爱者;诚然,祢乃恩典恩惠之主。

# - 拾壹 -

**(** 养者啊,宽恕者啊!一个高贵灵 魂升向实在王国,从必朽尘俗世 界赶赴永恒荣光领域。求祢使这初至宾客 地位擢升,为这长期仆役披上奇妙袍服。

无双之主啊!求祢施予宽恕及温柔眷 顾,以使这灵魂进入祢奥秘天宅,成为光 明集会上的亲朋密友。祢乃给予者,恩赐 者,永恒仁爱者。祢乃赦免者,温柔者, 至强者。



うよう、乃上帝。

**个** 宽宥之主啊!这些仆人乃高尚之 士,这些光明心灵因祢指引之光而熠熠生 辉。他们饮下祢爱之佳酿的满溢之杯,聆 听祢知识旋律透露的万古玄机。他们心系 于祢,挣脱疏离之陷阱,坚守祢之合一。 求祢使这些珍贵灵魂成为天堂居民之良 朋,融入那群祢拣选者当中。使其在上界 归宿成为祢奥秘知交,浸沐于光之海洋。 祢乃恩赐者,明耀者,仁慈者。

- 拾叁 -

**२•२•••**<sup>2</sup> 圣的上帝啊!将这位祢门槛之仆的 父母浸沐于祢宽恕之洋,洗濯他 们,洁净他们,除却种种罪责过错。求祢 对其施以宽恕怜悯,惠予宽仁赦宥。诚 然,祢乃赦免者,永恒宽恕者,施与丰厚 恩典之尊。宽恕之主啊!我们虽是罪人, 但寄望于祢的允诺与担保。虽被谬误之黑 暗所笼罩,却时时面向祢慷慨眷爱之晨 晓。与祢门槛相称地那般对待我们,与祢 门庭相宜地那般降赐我们。祢乃永恒宽恕 者,赦免者,忽视诸多缺点之尊。

- 拾肆 -

**1** 慈之主啊!使我舍弃眷恋而心田 圣洁,让我听闻喜讯而灵魂欢 悦。令我对朋友及陌路人同样无所依恋, 而为祢之爱心神往,全然献身于祢,满怀 炽热狂喜,舍祢再无所欲,非祢别无所 求,唯行祢之道,唯与祢神交;犹如夜莺 着迷于祢的爱,日夜叹息哭号,泣声高 叫:"呀巴哈乌-拉卜哈!"

- 拾伍 -

 野!祢倾洒恩惠何等浩荡,惠赐如 洪泽川流!祢使万众之心宛若同一 颗心,将万众之魂结为同一灵魂。祢为僵 化身躯注入生机与感知,为死寂形骸赋予 灵性意识。经由至仁者之阳灿烂映照,祢 使这些微渺尘埃成为可见存在;经由合一 性之沧海浪涛激涌,祢令这些易逝滴水澎 湃呼号。

万能者啊, 祢为一根稻草赋予山岳威 能, 让一粒微尘映现烈日华光! 求祢施与 仁慈与恩惠, 以使我们挺身为祢的圣业服 务, 不致愧对世间万民。



 能之主啊!我们均由你权能之强大 堂心紧握。祢是我们的支柱和援 手。求祢对我们施与怜悯,降赐恩泽,开 启恩典之门,向我们投下祢恩眷的目光。 计我们沐浴一股新生和风、重振我们的渴 慕之心。启明我们的双眼,再造我们的心 灵殿堂、让花榭芳亭无不钦羡。愉悦和畅 快所有灵魂。揭示祢亘古力量、彰显祢浩 大威能。使人灵之鸟飞上新高度、让祢在 此凡界的密友参悟祢天国奥秘。令我们步 履坚定,赐我们刚毅之心。我们是罪人, 称乃永恒宽恕者;我们是祢仆役, 祢乃至 尊之主;我们是无家游子,称乃港湾和庇 护所。求祢宽仁地扶助我们散播祢的芬 芳,弘扬祢的圣言。望祢提升放逐者之地 位,施与赤贫者无尽珍宝。求祢将力量赐 供养者, 称乃仁惠者, 称乃统御万象之 主。

#### - 拾柒 -

**入止** 乃至圣者,至耀者。

**个** 泰上帝之名,那怜悯者,慈悲 者! 赞美上帝,万千世界之主!

主啊我的上帝,我的港湾,我的庇护 所!即便致以最精妙的赞词、最优美的颂 诗,我又何能恰如其分地称道称?全能 者、宽恕者啊,因我知晓,即便颂扬祢万 能威力的仅仅一个迹象, 赞美祢所创造的 单单一个词语,每位能言善辩者也会吞吐 支吾, 世人口舌笔墨每番称誉都将令人困 惑。确然,人心之鸟倘欲飞升祢神明圣洁 之重雪必然断翅, 幻念之蛛亦无能在祢知 识苍穹之巅结其纤弱之网。故而、我别无 他法,唯有自表短绌无能;我别无住所, 唯有自告贫困穷乏。诚然, 祢之无从理解 乃是理解之真谛所在, 自告短绌乃是至祢

尊前的唯一途径,自认贫穷乃是真实财富 之源。

主啊!惠助我,惠助祢真诚仆人侍奉 祢崇高门槛,赐我们力量求告祢神明圣 尊,让我们在祢唯一之门前谦卑恭顺。我 的主啊,在祢的道路上坚定我的步履,以 祢奥秘天穹放射的万丈光芒照亮我的心 田。借祢宽恕乐园吹来的荡漾和风重振我 的精神,以祢圣灵草地散发的新生气息欢 悦我的灵魂。令我在祢合一地平线上容颜 焕发,将我归入祢真诚仆人当中,与祢坚 贞役从同列。

#### - 拾捌 -

 野,我们的上帝!我们无助,祢乃 力量权能之主。我们不幸,祢乃万 能者,无量荣耀者。我们贫穷,祢乃拥有 一切者,无比慷慨者。求祢宽仁地佑助我 们侍奉祢神圣门槛,并扶持我们,经由祢 使人坚强的恩典,在赞颂祢的黎明之地敬 拜祢。让我们在祢众生间传播祢神圣芬 芳,强健我们的腰身,在祢仆人中为祢服 务,从而指引列邦朝向祢至大圣名,带领 列民来到祢光辉的合一海洋之滨。

主啊!解救我们,令我们不再眷恋尘 世及尘间万民,脱离往昔之罪与来日之 苦,从而极尽喜悦,焕发光彩,挺身弘扬 祢的圣言,日夜歌咏祢的美誉,并召唤众 人步入指引之道,嘱咐众人持守正直,并 让我们在祢所创万物中吟唱祢合一之经 文。祢绝能如祢所悦而为。祢确乃万能 者,至强者。

- 拾玖 -

うみの方上帝。

**个** 攀爱的仁主啊!这些朋友因圣约 佳酿而振奋激昂,在祢爱之旷野里流连徜 徉。他们因远离祢而烈焰焚心,热切渴盼 祢展露光芒。望祢自无形王国,那不可见 之域,向他们昭示祢昭然璀璨之恩惠,倾 洒祢熠熠光辉之恩典。每时每刻施予新福 泽,揭示新惠赐。

神圣的上帝啊!我们软弱, 祢乃至强 者。我们微如蝼蚁, 祢乃荣耀王国之君。 求祢垂恩施惠, 以使我们燃起火焰, 光耀 四方, 并彰显力量, 奉献服务。恩准我们 为这黑暗世间带来光明, 为这飞逝尘寰注 入灵性。令我们无有片刻安歇, 不染今生 短暂之物。让我们能摆设指引之宴, 用我 们的心血铭刻爱之经文, 抛开恐惧和危 险, 如同结满果实之树, 使人性之完美展 现于此刹那尘间。确然, 祢乃洪恩广大 者, 极尽怜悯者, 永恒宽恕者, 赦免者。



**今**, 乃无量光耀者。

**个**公 我的主啊,我的尊王,我的统 领,我的君主!我用口舌与心魂向祢呼 告:求祢为这仆人披上祢眷顾之袍服,祢 可靠援助之衣装,祢护佑之铠甲。匡扶他 在祢子民中称道祢、赞誉祢的美德;在每 个颂扬祢之合一与圣洁的集会上,让他张 开唇舌道出对祢的赞颂和崇拜。诚然,祢 乃威能者,强大者,无量荣耀者,自立自 存者。

# - 贰拾壹 -

**我**的主啊,我心魂之渴求啊!求祢 对祢众友倾注慈爱,赐予无尽慈 悲。求祢做热爱祢者的慰藉,做渴慕祢者 的朋友、亲近你者的抚慰。他们心中灼烧 仰爱祢之火,灵魂炽燃崇拜祢之焰。他们 尽皆期盼赶赴爱之祭坛,从而欣然舍命捐 生。

神圣的上帝啊!为他们施降恩泽,指 引正途,惠助其获得灵性胜利,授予其上 天赠礼。主啊,求祢宽宏开恩扶助他们, 使其光辉面容成为指引之灯,在寻求认知 祢的集会中闪耀;使其光辉面容成为天恩 表征,在阐释祢经文的聚会上昭显。确 然,祢乃慈悲者,宏恩广大者,万人求助 之尊。

## - 贰拾贰 -

乃无量荣耀者,无比辉煌者。 神圣的上帝啊, 宽恕之主啊!我 何能恰如其分地赞美祢、充分地敬拜祢、 颂扬祢?任何口舌对祢的形容,无非谬 误;任何笔墨对祢的描绘,均表明欲成此 艰巨仟务乃愚妄之为。口舌不过元素组构 的器官、言辞语句无非是偶然的属性。我 又怎能用凡界言语之器具, 讴歌咏赞那无 双无匹之尊呢? 凡我所能言说、所能谋 求,皆囿于人心智之所及,拘于人世间之 限制。人之思想岂能攀上高耸的神明圣性 之巅、幻念之蛛那纤弱的空想之网安能结 在神圣天宅之上?我别无可为,唯有自表 无能,自告短绌。诚然,称乃拥有一切 者, 无可企及者, 无量超乎明悟之人所能 理解的圣尊。

# - 贰拾叁 -

**全中**圣的上帝啊, 祢乃永恒宽恕者!万 能之神啊, 祢乃宽仁者!应允祢所 钟爱的这位仆人在祢荣光笼罩下安身, 准 许此低微的不幸之人在祢慈悲界域里繁荣 兴盛。让他畅饮与祢亲近之杯, 容他栖居 在圣树庇荫之下。授予他企及祢尊前之 荣,赐予他恒久极乐。惠助此崇高之士的 幸存亲族跟从他们这位亲爱长辈的脚步, 在万人中展现他的品格德操, 行走祢的大 道, 探寻祢的喜悦, 言说祢的美誉。祢乃 永爱之神, 宏恩之主。

## - 贰拾肆 -

**天** 与伦比的上帝啊!我们是祢卑微 仆役,祢是无量荣耀者。我们是 罪人,祢是永恒宽恕者。我们是囚虏,贫 穷低贱,祢是我们的庇护与救助。我们微 如蝼蚁,祢是权威之主,端坐至高天堂。 护佑我们,以示祢恩典,勿令我们无缘于 祢的眷顾扶助。主啊!祢的考验确然严 峻,祢的试炼足以摧垮钢铁根基。保全并 增强我们,畅快并欢悦我们的心田。宽仁 地协助我们就像阿博都-巴哈一般侍奉祢神 圣门槛。

## - 贰拾伍 -

**之十**乃上帝。

上帝啊,我的上帝!极尽谦逊与 热忱、恭谨与虔敬、我用舌与心、用灵与 魂,用理智与良知恳求祢,俯允此家庭最 深切之渴望,成全其最可嘉的行为,为其 命定诸般尊荣与圆满, 恩惠与美质, 繁荣 与拯救。其家人已在祢灿烂晨光破晓之时 投奔干祢庇荫下, 求庇干祢安全港湾与强 固堡垒。诚然,他们听从祢的召唤,趋近 祢的门槛,燃起祢的爱火,着迷于祢的神 圣气息。他们坚持服务祢的圣业、谦卑面 对祢的容颜,昂然挺立于祢庇祐笼罩下。 他们因肩负祢圣名而声闻于祢子民,他们 在祢众仆间称道祢。

上帝啊,我的上帝!以祢亘古之荣耀 提升他们,在祢恢弘王国里表彰他们,于 此伟大之日借祢恩典之军辅助他们。主

啊,我的上帝!使其旌旗高举,为其施降 更多护佑,将其表征广布四方,令其光辉 愈加明亮,以使其成为祢万般惠赐之灯的 玻璃罩,成为祢仁爱与恩泽的传播者。

主啊,我的上帝!求祢在他们孤独之 时与他们为伴,在其苦痛之际八方援助; 授以他们祢的经书,施以他们祢无比的赠 礼。祢确为强大者,威能者,仁惠者,慷 慨者;祢诚乃慈悲者,怜悯者。

#### - 贰拾陆 -

主啊, 祢宏泽满溢、仁恩丰足,

祢的知识直抵我心魂深处!

清晨,我灵魂唯蒙祢安抚,

唯有祢明了我失意愁苦。

心中对祢萌发片刻称道, 除祢之外, 便无药可求, 唯受渴望前敖。

心不为祢叹息必定凋零;

眼不为祢哭泣不如失明! 威能之主啊,每当黑暗将我吞没,

念记祢便使我心头光辉闪烁。 求祢开恩,将祢灵气吹入我身,

前所未有者,便可自此永存。

普世之主啊,

除了祢那奔涌恩泽, 请勿思量我们何能何德。 这群折翼之鸟低缓飞翔, 求祢垂怜赐予崭新翅膀。



# Prayers of 'Abdu'l-Baha



e is God.

De la Gou. O thou who circlest in adoration about the Spot round which circle the Concourse on high! Raise thou thy hands in gratitude at the Threshold of the one true God, and say: O Thou the highest aspiration of every ardent lover! O Thou the Guide of every wandering soul! Thou hast favoured this feeble servant with Thine infinite blessings, and led this hapless and lowly one unto the Threshold of Thy oneness. Thou hast lifted to these parched lips the living waters of Thy loving-kindness and revived this weary and withered soul with the breezes of divine mercy. I yield Thee thanks for having bestowed upon me a full portion from Thy most gracious favour and invested me with the honour of attaining unto Thy sacred Threshold, <sup>1</sup> I beseech an infinite share from the bounties of Thy Kingdom on high. Grant Thine assistance. Confer Thy gracious favour.

<sup>1.</sup> Reference to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh.

Thou unseen Friend! O Desire of all in this world and the world to come! O Thou compassionate Beloved! These helpless souls are captivated by Thy love, and these feeble ones seek shelter at Thy Threshold. Every night they sigh and moan in their remoteness from Thee, and every morn they lament and weep by reason of the onslaught of the people of malice. They are afflicted at every moment with a fresh anguish, and are sore tried at each breath by the tyranny of every wicked oppressor. Praise be to Thee that, notwithstanding this, they are ablaze as a temple of fire and shine resplendent as the sun and the moon. They stand tall, like upraised banners, in the Cause of God. and hasten. like valiant horsemen. into the arena. They have bloomed like sweet blossoms and are filled with joy like the laughing rose. Wherefore, O Thou loving Provider, graciously assist these holy souls by

Thy heavenly grace which is vouchsafed from Thy Kingdom, and grant that these sanctified beings may manifest the signs of the Most High. Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Pitiful, the All-Merciful, the Compassionate. Thou peerless and loving Lord! Though capacity and worthiness are lacking, and it is infinitely hard to withstand tribulations, yet worthiness and capacity are gifts vouchsafed by Thee.

O Lord! Give us capacity and make us worthy, that we may evince the most great steadfastness, renounce this world and all its people, kindle the fire of Thy love, and even as candles, burn bright with a consuming flame and shed abroad our radiance.

O Lord of the Kingdom! Deliver us from this world of vain illusions, and lead us unto the realm of the infinite. Suffer us to be wholly freed from this nether life, and cause us to be blessed with the bountiful gifts of the Kingdom. Release us from this world of nothingness that beareth the semblance of reality, and confer upon us life everlasting. Bestow on us joy and delight, and favour us with gladness and contentment. Comfort our hearts, and grant peace and tranquillity to our souls, so that upon ascending unto Thy Kingdom we may attain Thy presence and may rejoice in the realms above. Thou art the Giver, the Bestower, the Almighty! my eternal Beloved and my adored Friend! How long shall I remain bereft of Thy presence and sorely afflicted by remoteness from Thee? To the retreats of Thy heavenly Kingdom lead me, and at the scene of the appearance of Thy supernal Realm cast upon me the glance of Thy loving-kindness.

O Thou Omnipotent Lord! Number me among the denizens of the Kingdom. This mortal world is my abode; grant me a habitation in the realms of the Placeless. To this earthly plane I pertain; shed upon me the effulgence of Thy glorious light. In this world of dust I dwell; make me an inmate of Thy heavenly realm, so that I may lay down my life in Thy path and attain to my heart's desire, may crown my head with the diadem of divine favour and raise the triumphal cry of "O Glory of God, the Most Glorious!" Thou kind Lord! These souls are Thy friends who are gathered together and are carried away by Thy love. They are transported by the rays of Thy beauty and captivated by Thy musk-laden locks. They have surrendered their hearts to Thee and, lowly and helpless, wander in Thy path. They have forsaken friend and stranger alike and have laid hold of Thy unity, bowing in adoration before Thee.

They belonged to this nether world; Thou didst welcome them into Thy Kingdom. They were as withered plants in the wilderness of deprivation and loss; Thou didst make them the saplings of the garden of knowledge and understanding. Their voices were stilled; Thou didst cause them to speak forth. They were dispirited; Thou didst shed illumination upon them. They were as parched and barren soil; Thou didst turn them into a rose-garden of inner meanings. They were as children in the world of humanity; Thou didst enable them to attain heavenly maturity.

O Thou kind One! Grant them a haven and a refuge within the shelter of Thy protection, and shield them from tests and trials. Lend them Thine invisible assistance, and confer upon them Thine infallible grace.

O Thou kind and beloved Lord! They are as the body, and Thou art the Spirit of life. The body is dependent for its freshness and beauty upon the grace of the spirit. They stand, therefore, in need of Thy confirmations and yearn for the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit in this new Revelation. Thou art the Mighty. Thou art the Giver, the Provider, the Bestower, and the Forgiver. Thou are the One Who shineth brightly from the invisible Realm. - 6 -

Divine Providence! Perplexing difficulties have arisen and formidable obstacles have appeared. O Lord! Remove these difficulties and show forth the evidences of Thy might and power. Ease these hardships and smooth our way along this arduous path. O Divine Providence! The obstacles are unyielding, and our toil and hardship are conjoined with a myriad adversities. There is no helper save Thee, and no succourer except Thyself. We set all our hopes on Thee, and commit all our affairs unto Thy care. Thou art the Guide and the Remover of every difficulty, and Thou art the Wise, the Seeing, and the Hearing. God of Mercy! O Thou Omnipotent One! I am but a feeble servant, weak and helpless, but I have been nurtured within the shelter of Thy grace and favour, nourished from the breast of Thy mercy, and reared in the bosom of Thy lovingkindness. O Lord! Poor and needy though I be, yet every needy one is made prosperous through Thy bounty, while every wealthy one, if bereft of Thy favours, is indeed poor and desolate.

O Divine Providence! Grant me the strength to bear this heavy burden, and enable me to safeguard this supreme bestowal, for so strong is the force of tests and so grievous the onslaught of trials that every mountain is scattered in dust, and the highest peak reduced to nothing. Thou knowest full well that in my heart I seek naught but Thy remembrance, and in my soul I desire nothing save Thy love. Raise me up to serve Thy loved ones, and let me abide forever in servitude at Thy Threshold. Thou art the Loving. Thou art the Lord of manifold bounties.

Divine Providence! Awaken me and make me conscious. Cause me to be detached from all else save Thee, and captivate me by the love of Thy beauty. Waft upon me the breath of the Holy Spirit, and suffer me to hearken to the call of the Abhá Kingdom. Bestow upon me heavenly power, and kindle the lamp of the spirit within the innermost chamber of my heart. Release me from every bond, and deliver me from every attachment, that I may cherish no desire except Thy good-pleasure, seek naught besides Thy Countenance, and tread no path other than Thy path. Grant that I may enable the heedless to become mindful and the slumberers to awaken, that I may proffer the water of life to those who are sore athirst and bring divine healing to those who are sick and ailing.

Though I am lowly, abased, and poor, yet Thou art my haven and my refuge, my supporter and my helper. Send down Thine aid in such wise that all may be astounded. O God! Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Powerful, the Giver, the Bestower, and the All-Seeing.

He is God. O God, my God! I have set my face towards Thee, and supplicate the outpourings of the ocean of Thy healing. Graciously assist me, O Lord, to serve Thy people and to heal Thy servants. If Thou dost aid me, the remedy I offer will become a healing medicine for every ailment, a draught of life-giving waters for every burning thirst, and a soothing balm for every yearning heart. If Thou dost not aid me, it will be naught but affliction itself, and I will scarcely bring healing to any soul.

O God, my God! Aid and assist me through Thy power to heal the sick. Thou art, verily, the Healer, the Sufficer, He Who is the remover of every pain and sickness, He Who hath dominion over all things.

Lord! Grant me a measure of Thy grace and loving-kindness, Thy care and protection, Thy shelter and bounty, that the end of my days may be distinguished above their beginning, and the close of my life may open the portals to Thy manifold blessings. May Thy loving-kindness and bounty descend upon me at every moment, and Thy forgiveness and mercy be vouchsafed with every breath, until, beneath the sheltering shadow of Thine upraised Standard, I may at last repair to the Kingdom of the All-Praised. Thou art the Bestower and the Ever-Loving, and Thou art, verily, the Lord of grace and bounty. Thou Provider, O Thou Forgiver! A noble soul hath ascended unto the Kingdom of reality, and hastened from the mortal world of dust to the realm of everlasting glory. Exalt the station of this recently arrived guest, and attire this longstanding servant with a new and wondrous robe.

O Thou Peerless Lord! Grant Thy forgiveness and tender care so that this soul may be admitted into the retreats of Thy mysteries and may become an intimate companion in the assemblage of splendours. Thou art the Giver, the Bestower, the Ever-Loving. Thou art the Pardoner, the Tender, the Most Powerful.

**H** e is God. O Thou forgiving Lord! These servants were noble souls, and these radiant hearts were made illumined and resplendent through the light of Thy guidance. They drank a brimming cup of the wine of Thy love, and gave ear to eternal mysteries by the melodies of Thy knowledge. They bound their hearts to Thee, broke free from the snare of estrangement, and laid hold of Thy unity. Make these precious souls companions of the inmates of Heaven, and admit them into the circle of Thy chosen ones. Make them intimates of Thy mysteries in the retreats of the realm above, and immerse them in the sea of lights. Thou art the Bestower, the Luminous, and the Kind.

Divine Providence! Immerse the father and mother of this servant of Thy Threshold in the ocean of Thy forgiveness, and purge and sanctify them from every sin and transgression. Grant them Thy forgiveness and mercy, and bestow upon them Thy gracious pardon. Thou, verily, art the Pardoner, the Ever-Forgiving, the Bestower of abundant grace. O Thou forgiving Lord! Though we are sinners, yet our hopes are fixed upon Thy promise and assurance. Though we are enveloped by the darkness of error, yet we have at all times turned our faces to the morn of Thy bountiful favours. Deal with us as beseemeth Thy Threshold, and confer upon us that which is worthy of Thy Court. Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoner, He Who overlooketh every shortcoming.

Thou kind Lord! Sanctify my heart from all attachment, and gladden my soul with tidings ofjoy. Free me from attachment to friend and stranger alike, and captivate me with Thy love, that I may become wholly devoted to Thee and be filled with fervid rapture; that I may desire naught but Thee, seek no one except Thyself, tread no other path besides Thine, and commune only with Thee; that I may, even as a nightingale, be spellbound by Thy love and, by day and night, sigh and wail and weep and cry out, "Yá Bahá'u'l-Abhá!" Lord! What an outpouring of bounty Thou hast vouchsafed, and what a flood of abounding grace Thou has granted! Thou didst make all the hearts to become even as a single heart, and all the souls to be bound together as one soul. Thou didst endow inert bodies with life and feeling, and didst bestow upon lifeless frames the consciousness of the spirit. Through the effulgent rays shed from the Day-Star of the All-Merciful, Thou didst invest these atoms of dust with visible existence, and through the billows of the ocean of oneness, Thou didst enable these evanescent drops to surge and roar.

O Almighty One Who endowest a blade of straw with the might of a mountain and enablest a speck of dust to mirror forth the glory of the resplendent sun! Grant us Thy tender grace and favour, so that we may arise to serve Thy Cause and not be shamefaced before the peoples of the earth.

Thou Omnipotent Lord! We are all held within the mighty grasp of Thy power. Thou art our Supporter and our Helper. Grant us Thy tender mercy, bestow upon us Thy bounty, open the portals of grace, and cast upon us the glance of Thy favours. Let a vivifying breeze waft over us, and quicken Thou our yearning hearts. Illumine our eyes and make the sanctuary of our hearts the envy of every blossoming bower. Rejoice every soul and gladden every spirit. Reveal Thine ancient power and make manifest Thy great might. Cause the birds of human souls to soar to new heights, and let Thy confidants in this nether world fathom the mysteries of Thy Kingdom. Set firm our steps and bestow upon us unwavering hearts. We are sinners, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving. We are Thy servants, and Thou art the Sovereign Lord. We are homeless wanderers, and Thou art our haven and refuge. Graciously aid and assist us to diffuse Thy

sweet savours and to exalt Thy Word. Elevate the station of the dispossessed, and bestow Thine inexhaustible treasure upon the destitute. Vouchsafe Thy strength unto the weak, and confer heavenly power upon the feeble. Thou art the Provider, Thou art the Gracious, Thou art the Lord Who ruleth over all things. e is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

L In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful! Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds!

O Lord my God, my Haven and my Refuge! How can I befittingly make mention of Thee, even with the most wondrous words of glorification or the most eloquent odes of praise, O Thou Almighty and Forgiving One, aware as I am that the tongue of every eloquent speaker doth falter, and every expression of praise from either human pen or tongue is confounded in its attempt to glorify but one of the signs of Thine omnipotent power or to extol a single Word that hath been created by Thee. Indeed, the wings of the birds of human minds are broken in their attempt to soar up to the atmosphere of Thy divine holiness, and the spiders of idle fancy are powerless to weave their frail webs upon the loftiest summits of the canopy of Thy

knowledge. No recourse is there for me, then, but to acknowledge my powerlessness and shortcomings, and no habitation is there for me but in the depths of poverty and privation. Verily, powerlessness to comprehend Thee is the essence of understanding, confession of shortcomings is the only means of attaining Thy presence, and admission of poverty is the source of true wealth.

O Lord! Graciously assist me and Thy sincere servants in our servitude to Thine exalted Threshold, strengthen us in our supplication to Thy divine holiness, and enable us to be lowly and submissive before the door of Thy oneness. Make firm my steps in Thy path, O my Lord, and illumine my heart with the effulgent rays shed from the heaven of Thy mysteries. Refresh my spirit with the stirring breeze that wafteth from the paradise of Thy pardon and forgiveness, and gladden my soul through the reviving breath diffused from the meadows of Thy holiness. Brighten my face above the horizon of Thy unity, and grant that I may be reckoned as one of Thy sincere servants and numbered with Thy bondsmen who stand firm and steadfast.

Lord, our God! We are helpless; Thou art the Lord of strength and power. We are wretched; Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious. We are poor; Thou art the All-Possessing, the Most Generous. Graciously assist us in our servitude to Thy sacred Threshold, and aid us, through Thy strengthening grace, to worship Thee at the dawning-places of Thy praise. Enable us to diffuse Thy holy fragrances amongst Thy creatures, and strengthen our loins to serve Thee amidst Thy servants, so that we may guide all nations to Thy Most Great Name and lead all peoples to the shores of the glorious ocean of Thy oneness.

O Lord! Deliver us from the attachments of the world and its peoples, from the transgressions of the past, and from the afflictions yet to come, that we may arise to exalt Thy Word with the utmost joy and radiance and celebrate Thy praise in the daytime and in the night season, that we may summon all people to the way of guidance and enjoin them to observe righteousness, and that we may chant the verses of Thy unity amidst all Thy creation. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

e is God. O Thou kind and beloved Lord! These friends are exhilarated with the wine of the Covenant and are wanderers in the wilderness of Thy love. Their hearts are consumed by the flames of remoteness from Thee, and they yearn eagerly for the revelation of Thy splendours. From Thine invisible Kingdom, the Realm of the unseen, reveal unto them the effulgent glory of Thy grace, and shed upon them the radiance of Thy bounty. At every moment, send forth a new blessing and reveal a fresh favour.

O Divine Providence! We are weak and Thou art the Most Powerful. We are as tiny ants and Thou art the King of the Realm of Glory. Bestow Thy grace and confer Thy bounty upon us, that we may kindle a flame and shed its splendour abroad, that we may show forth strength and render some service. Grant that we may bring illumination to this darksome earth and spirituality to this fleeting

world of dust. Suffer us not to rest for a moment, nor to defile ourselves with the transitory things of this life. Enable us to prepare a banquet of guidance, inscribe with our life-blood the verses of love, leave fear and peril behind, become even as fruitful trees, and cause human perfections to appear in this ephemeral world. Thou, in truth, art the All-Bountiful, the Most Compassionate, the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoner. e is the All-Glorious.

e is the All-Glorious. O my Lord, my King, my Ruler, and my Sovereign! I call upon Thee with my tongue, my heart, and my soul, saying: Clothe this servant of Thine with the robe of Thy care, the raiment of Thine unfailing help. and the armour of Thy protection. Assist him to make mention of Thee and to extol Thy virtues amidst Thy people, and unloose his tongue to utter Thy glorification and praise in every assemblage held to celebrate Thy unity and sanctity. Thou art, in truth, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Glorious, the Self-Subsisting.

my kind Lord, O Thou the desire of my heart and soul! Bestow upon Thy friends Thy loving-kindness, and grant them Thine unfailing mercy. Be Thou a solace to Thine ardent lovers, and a friend, a comforter, and a loving companion to them who yearn for Thee. Their hearts are ablaze with the fire of Thy love, and their souls are consumed with the flame of devotion to Thee. They long, one and all, to hasten unto the altar of love, that they may willingly lay down their lives.

O Divine Providence! Grant them Thy favour, guide them aright, graciously aid them to achieve spiritual victory, and confer upon them heavenly bestowals. O Lord, assist them by Thy munificence and grace, and make their radiant faces lamps of guidance in assemblies devoted to the knowledge of Thee, and signs of heavenly bounty in gatherings where Thy verses are expounded. Thou art, verily, the Merciful, the All-Bountiful, the One Whose help is implored by all men. e is the All-Glorious, the Most

Effulgent. O Divine Providence, O forgiving Lord! How can I ever befittingly sing Thy praise or sufficiently worship and glorify Thee? Thy description by any tongue is naught but error, and Thy depiction by any pen is an evidence of folly in attempting this formidable task. The tongue is but an instrument composed of elements; voice and speech are naught but accidental attributes. How, then, can I celebrate, with the instrument of an earthly voice, the praise of Him Who hath neither peer nor likeness? All that I can say or seek is limited by the grasp of the human mind and encompassed by the bounds of the human world How can human thought ever scale the lofty summits of divine holiness, and how can the spider of idle fancy ever weave the frail web of vain imaginings upon the retreats of sanctity? Naught can I do but testify to my powerlessness and confess

my failure. Thou art, verily, He Who is the All-Possessing, the Inaccessible, He Who is immeasurably exalted above the comprehension of them that are endued with understanding.

Divine Providence, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving! O Thou Almighty God. Thou art the Gracious! Let this dearly loved servant of Thine abide beneath the shadow of Thy glory, and grant that this hapless and lowly one may prosper and flourish within the precincts of Thy mercy. Give him to drink from the chalice of Thy nearness, and let him abide under the shade of the Blessed Tree. Confer upon him the honour of attaining Thy presence, and bestow upon him everlasting bliss. Graciously assist the surviving kindred of this noble soul to follow in the footsteps of their dear father, to show forth his character and conduct amongst all people, to follow Thy path, seek Thy good-pleasure, and utter Thy praise. Thou art the Ever-Loving God, the Lord of bounty.

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Thou incomparable God! We are Thy humble servants, and Thou art the All-Glorious. We are sinners, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving. We are captives, poor and lowly, and Thou art our shelter and our aid. We are as tiny ants, and Thou art the Lord of majesty, enthroned in the highest heaven. Protect us, as a token of Thy grace, and withhold not from us Thy care and assistance. O Lord! Thy tests are indeed severe, and Thy trials can lay in ruin foundations wrought of steel. Preserve and strengthen us; cheer and gladden our hearts. Graciously assist us to serve, even as 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Thy sacred Threshold.

**H** e is God. O God, my God! With utter lowliness and fervour, humility and devotion, I implore Thee with my tongue and my heart, with my spirit and my soul, and with my mind and my conscience, to grant the most cherished of all desires, destine the most meritorious of all deeds, and ordain all honour and perfection, favour and beauty, prosperity and salvation for this family that hath hastened to Thy sheltering shadow at the break of Thy resplendent morn and sought refuge within Thy safe haven and Thy mighty stronghold. Verily, these souls heeded Thy call, drew nigh unto Thy Threshold, were set aflame with the fire of Thy love, and were carried away by the breaths of Thy holiness. They were constant in the service of Thy Cause, humble before Thy Countenance, and noble beneath Thy sheltering shadow. They are renowned as the bearers of Thy name amongst Thy people and make mention of

Thee amidst Thy servants.

O God, my God! Exalt them by Thine ancient glory, honour them in Thy Kingdom of grandeur, and assist them with the hosts of Thy favours in this great Day. O Lord, my God! Raise aloft their banner, grant them an ampler share of Thy protection, spread abroad their signs, and increase their radiance, that they may become a glass for the lamp of Thy manifold favours and spreaders of Thy lovingkindness and bounties.

O Lord, my God! Be Thou their companion in their loneliness, and in their moments of anguish surround them with Thine aid. Bequeath unto them Thy Book and vouchsafe unto them the full measure of Thy gifts and bestowals. Thou art in truth the Mighty, the Powerful, the Gracious, the Bountiful, and verily, Thou art the Merciful, the Compassionate.

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O Lord so rich in bounty, so replete with grace, Whose knowledge doth mine inmost heart and soul embrace!

#### At morn,

the solace of my soul is none but Thee; The knower of my loss and woe is none but Thee.

The heart that for a moment hath Thy mention known Will seek no friend save longing pain for Thee alone.

> Withered be the heart that sigheth not for Thee, And better blind the eye that crieth not for Thee!

In all mine hours of deepest gloom, O Lord of might, My heart hath Thy remembrance for a shining light.

> Do, through Thy favour, breathe Thy spirit into me, That what hath never been may thus forever be.

Consider not our merit and our worth, O Lord of bounty, but the grace Thou pourest forth.

Upon these broken-winged birds whose flight is slow Out of Thy tender mercy newfound wings bestow.

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## 巴哈伊祷文

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