



FORTY HADITH ON INTERCESSION

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(radi Allahu anhu)*

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**Published by
Imam Mustafa Raza Research Centre
Overport, Durban, South Africa
www.noori.org**

www.alahazratnetwork.org

QUESTION:

What do the Islamic Jurists state in the following matter: Is the issue of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) being an intercessor proven from the hadith?

Translators note:

Readers will find certain Ahadith, many narrations counted as one, for example Hadith no. 27, 28,29. The reason for this is that the same narration appears a number of times in many books by various other narrators.

AL JAWAAB - THE ANSWER:

Subhaanallah! It is amazing to hear such a question, where Muslims and those who claim to be followers of the Sunnah, have such doubts. This is definitely one of the signs of the nearness of Qiyamaah. 'Inna Lil laahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raaji'oon.'

The Ahadith on Shafa'ath are so evident, that they cannot be concealed. Various Sahaba, scores of Taabi'een and thousands of Muhaditheen have narrated them. This is such a clear issue, that every kitaab of Hadith has some information on this. Leaving the authentic sources, even the ordinary people know the facts concerning topics like the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) being blessed with seeing Allah, and Intercession. This humble servant has written a detailed book on this topic, in which I have documented many Ahadith on this topic, but to answer this query, I am only presenting forty such Ahadith for your perusal. However, before presenting these Ahadith-e-Mubaraka, I would like to present a few verses of the Holy Qur'an on the said topic:

First verse: Almighty Allah says, 'It is soon that Almighty Allah will bless you with the station of Praise'(Qur'an 17-79)

It is in the Hadith Shareef, that Huzoor (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) was asked concerning the Station of Praise (Maqaame Mahmood) and he replied by saying, 'It is Intercession' (Jaame Tirmizi pg 164 vol 2)

Verse Two: Almighty Allah says in the glorious Qur'an,

'And it is near, that Allah will bestow so abundantly upon you, that you may be pleased.' (Al Quran 93-5)

Concerning this verse, it is in Dailmi Musnadul Firdaus on the narration of Hazrath Ali (radi Allahu anhu) that the Holy Prophet Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'When Almighty Allah has promised to please me, then I will not be pleased, if even one of my Ummah was left in the fire of hell.' (Tafseer Kabeer of Fakhrudeen Razi Page 213)

It is on the authority of Hazrath Maula Ali (radi Allahu anhu) in Tabrani, Mu'jib and Musnadul Firdaus etc. that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'I will intercede for my Ummah until my Creator summons me (saying), 'O Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam)! Are you pleased?' then I will answer by saying, O My Creator! I am pleased' (Ad Dur rul Manthoor fi Tafseeril Ma'thoor By Abdur Rahmaan Suyuti Page 361 vol 2)

Verse Three: Almighty Allah says in the glorious Qur'an

'O Beloved! Ask for forgiveness of the sins of the Believing men and Believing women.' (Al Qur'an 19-47)

In this verse of the Holy Quran, Almighty Allah is commanding

His Beloved Nabi (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) to ask for forgiveness of the sins of the Believing men and believing women. If this is not intercession, then what is it?

Fourth verse: Almighty Allah says,

‘And if they do injustice unto their souls, then they should come to You, they should repeat to Allah, And the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) should ask for their Pardon, then verily they will find that Allah is most forgiving and Most Compassionate.’ (Al Qur’an 64-4)

Sixth Verse: Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur’an,

‘When it is said to the hypocrites, Come, let the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) intercede on your behalf, then they would turn their heads away.’ (Al Qur’an 5-23)

In this verse, the pathetic condition of the hypocrites is being explained, that even though they are being commanded to ask the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) to intercede on their behalf, they reject this divine command. It must be remembered that if one does not ask today, then he will not be able to gain intercession tomorrow on the day of Reckoning. May Almighty Allah bless us with the intercession of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) in this world and in the hereafter. Aameen.

EVIDENCE FROM AHADITH

It is very evident in the Ahadith, that discuss the issue of Shafa'at-e-Kubra (The Highest Station of Intercession), that on the day of reckoning, it will be a very lengthy day that will not seem to end, the sun will be just above our heads, Hell will be close by, the heat equivalent to that of ten years will be gathered in the sun at this time and the heat will be so intense that we pray Allah protect us from this. The ground will seep with the perspiration of the people, causing the perspiration to come up so high that it will cover our throats. People will be drowning in their own perspiration, choking so much so, as if their hearts will be in their throats. Every person will be drenched and so exhausted by the intensity of this heat, that they will go out in search of an intercessor. They will go to Nabi Adam, Nabi Nooh, Nabi Ibrahim, Nabi Moosa, Nabi Esa (alaihimus Salaatu wa Tasleem). Every Nabi will answer in the negative, by saying that the station of intercession is beyond them. Each one will send the people to the next, until we all go to Shafi-ul-Muznabeen, Rahmatul lil Aalimeen (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) whom on hearing their pleas will say, 'I am here to Intercede, I am here to Intercede.' The Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) will then go into Sajdah and intercede. Almighty Allah will then say, 'O Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) Raise your head, and ask, your words will be heard and ask, so that your request may be fulfilled, and intercede, so that your intercession may be accepted.' (Sahih Bukhari page 1119 Vol 2 - Sunan Ibn Majah Page 320 - Majmau - Zawa'id Page 373 Vol 10)

This will be the actual Station of Praise (Maqaamul Mahmood), where all will sing the Praise of the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) and it is here that the excellence of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) will become clear to all.

The status that has been blessed to the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) in the Court of Almighty Allah, has never been given to any other. The Excellence that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) has in the Court of Allah is such that none other has. Praise be to Allah, The Lord of the Worlds!

It is for this reason that Almighty Allah will inspire in the hearts of people through His Eternal Wisdom, that they should first go to all the other Prophets, from where they will be turned away, after which they will come to the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam). The reason for this is so that all shall see the closeness of the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) in the Court of Almighty Allah. Almighty Allah will show all on that day that none has the right to open the doors of intercession except His Beloved Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam).

These Ahadith (relating to intercession) are documented in the Sahih of Bukhari and Muslim and are well known by the Muslims. There is thus no need to go too deep into the explanation of these Ahadith. For those who wish to do so and have even a little knowledge of Hadith, should peruse the Mishkaat Shareef etc. or ask someone that has the knowledge to read the relevant Ahadith to them. It is stated in the very same Ahadith-e-Mubarakah, that after opening the doors of intercession, Shafi-ul-Muznabeen (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) will go on interceding, Almighty Allah will continuously answer his intercession with the same statement and in every intercession the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) will cause countless people to be pardoned for their sins.

With the exception of the acclaimed narrations that I have already presented, I am also presenting forty such Ahadith on intercession, that very seldom reach the reach the general public. (Insha Allah) after perusing these narrations, the faith of

the Muslims will be strengthened, the hearts of those who reject will burn in the flame of enmity, especially the hearts of those who reject the intercession of our Beloved Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam).

It will become evident from these Ahadith that our Master and Leader Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) has been blessed with the authority of intercession and it is only his blessed court from which we may gain salvation. These Ahadith will show that Almighty Allah has blessed and appointed the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) as the possessor of intercession, not like one Najdi who says that Allah will decide on who to make an intercessor. These Ahadith will show that the intercession of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is not for those persons who have committed minor or un-intentional sins, but for those who have committed major sins. By Allah! Who blessed his Beloved with being the Intercessor, His intercession is for great sinners like us, whose every hair is soaked in sin.

Hadith No 1 & 2

It is recorded by Imam Ahmed with the sanad of Sahih on the authority of Hazrath Abdullah bin Umar (radi Allahu anhu) and by Ibn Majah on the authority Hazrath Abu Moosa Ash'ari (radi Allahu anhu) that the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'Almighty Allah gave me the choice of either intercession or taking half my Ummah into Jannat. I took intercession for it is that which will be of more use and more needed. Do you think that my Intercession is for those who are pure Muslims? No, but my intercession is for those sinners that are covered in sin and wrong.' (Ibn Majah Page 329)

Hadith No.3

Ibn Adi narrates on the authority of Ummul Mo'mineen Sayyida Umme Salma (radi Allahu anhu), that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My intercession is for those of my Ummah, whose sins have destroyed them.' (Majma-u-Zawa'id Page 378 Vol. 10)

This is the Truth, O my Intercessor. May I be sacrificed at your blessed feet.

Hadith No. 4,5,6,7 & 8

Hazrath Abu Dawood, Tirmizi, Ibn Hab'baan, Haakim and Baihaqinarrate with correctness from Hazrath Anas bin Maalik (radi Allahu anhu), and Tirmizi, Ibn Majah, Ibn Hab'baan and Haakim also narrate from Hazrath Jabir (radi Allahu anhu), and Tabrani and Mu'jim Kabeer narrate from Hazrath Abdullah Ibn Abbas (radi Allahu anhu), and from Hazrath Abdullah ibn Umar and Hazrath Ka'ab ibn Ujzah (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My Intercession is for those in my Ummah, who have committed major sins (Gunah-e-Kabeera).'

Hadith No. 9

Hazrath Abu Ahmed bin Ali Baghdaadi (radi Allahu anhu) narrates on the authority of Hazrath Abu Dawood (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My intercession is for the sinners in my Ummah.'

Hadith No. 10 & 11

Tibrani and Baihaqi narrate from Hazrath Buraida (radi Allahu anhu) and Tabrani Mu'jim Awsat from Hazrath Anas (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'On the day of Qiyaamah I will intercede for more people

than the amount of trees, stones and pebbles there are on earth.'

Hadith No. 12

Bukhari, Muslim, Haakim and Baihaqi narrate on that authority of Hazrath Abu Hurairah (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My intercession is for every person who recites the Kalma, by reciting with the tongue and confirming with the heart.'

Hadith No. 13

Ahmed, Tibrani and Bazzaz narrate on the authority of Hazrath Ma'aaz ibn Jabl and Hazrath Abu Moosa Ash'ari (radi Allahu anhum), that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'There is much gain in intercession for my Ummah, since it is for every person who dies with Imaan.'

Hadith No. 14

It is in Tibraani and Mu'jim, on the authority of Hazrath Abu Hurairah (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'I will open the door of hell and leave, and then I will praise Allah, none has ever done this before me and none shall do so after me. I will remove every such person from hell, who read La Ilaha Ilal laa with a sincere heart.'

Hadith No. 15

It is in Tibraani and Baihaqi on the authority of Hazrath Abdullah ibn Abbas (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, '(On the day of reckoning) Pulpits

of gold will be laid for the Ambia (Prophets). All of them will sit on these Pulpits, except me. I will stand humbly before Allah, in this fear, that I should not be allowed to enter Paradise whilst my Ummah are left behind. I will then say, O My Allah! My Ummah, My Ummah. Almighty Allah will then say, 'O Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam)! What is your wish? What should I do with your Ummah?' and I will answer by saying, O My Allah! Allow their reckoning to be speedy. I will then intercede (for them) until I am given a message of them being released from the fire of Hell. Then Maalik, the Gate Keeper of Hell will say, O Muhammed (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam), You did not even leave the names sake of the sign of Allah's wrath in your Ummah.'

Hadith No. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21

Bukhari, Muslim and Nasa'i narrate on the authority of Hazrath Jaabir bin Abdullah (radi Allahu anhu), Ahmed with the sanad of Hassan, Bukhari, Bazzaz, Tabraani, Baihaqi and Abu Naeem narrate on the authority of Hazrath Abdullah bin Abbas (radi Allahu anhu), and Ahmad, Bazzaz, Daarmi, Ibn Shaiba, Abu Ya'laa, Abu Naeem and Baihaqi narrate on the authority of Hazrath Abu Zirr (radi Allahu anhu), and Tabraani, Mu'jim Awsat narrate from Hazrath Abu Saeed Khudri (radi Allahu anhu) and Kabeer narrates on the authority of Saa'ib ibn Yazeed and Ahmad, ibn Abi Shaiba and Tabraani also narrate on the authority of Hazrath Abu Moosa Ash'ari (radi Allahu anhu) a Hadith in which the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'I have been appointed as the Intercessor, intercession has been bestowed specifically to me, and except me none has been given this position.'

Hadith No. 22 & 23

It is on the authority of Ibn Abbas, Abu Saeed and Abu Moosa (radi Allahu anhu), the same which is the crux of the Hadith narrated by Ahmad Bukhari and Muslim on the authority of Hazrath Anas (radi Allahu anhu), and the Shaikhain have narrated on the authority of Hazrath Abu Hurairah (radi Allahu anhu), that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'Even though thousands of the Ambia's duas are accepted, verily they are given one special dua by Allah, that they may ask whatever they desire. Every Nabi from Hazrath Adam right up to Hazrath Esa (alaihi salaatu was salaam) made this dua whilst on earth, and I have kept this dua for the hereafter. That (dua) is my intercession, for my Ummah. I have kept this dua for my entire Ummah who left this world with Imaan.'

Allahu Akbar! O Sinners of the Ummah! Did you see how merciful our Beloved Nabi (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is on us? Allah blessed him with three requests, that he may ask as he wished, but our Beloved Nabi (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) never used any one of them for himself. He has kept every one of them for us. Two he used on earth and even that was for us and one he kept as intercession for us on the day of reckoning. On the day, when none will be of assistance to us, our Merciful and Beloved Nabi (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) will be there for us. Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an, 'Heavy upon him is your suffering, ardently desirous of your welfare, to Muslims is so kind and Merciful.' (Al Qur'an 128-9)

By Allah the Greatest! By Allah, Who blessed him with compassion and Kindness! No mother or father is so compassionate towards even his or her only child, like the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is towards every one of his Ummah. O Allah! You are aware of our weaknesses and shortcomings, and of His excellence. O Allah! Send Salutations upon him and his family on our behalf, Salutations

that are worthy of His excellence and a means of gaining his Mercy. Aameen.

What is the condition of some of those who call themselves the Ummah? Some want to doubt His excellence, some try to doubt his intercession, some think of praising him like themselves, some become upset and angry when he is praised.

They call his reverence Innovation, and to respect Him Polytheism. Wa laa Hawla Wa laa Quwatta Ila Bi laahil Aliyil Azeem.

Hadith No. 24

It is narrated in Sahih Muslim on the authority of Hazrath Abi bin Ka'ab (radi Allahu anhu) that the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'I have twice on earth said, O Allah forgive my Ummah, O Allah forgive my Ummah, and I have kept the third for that day on which the entire creation of Allah will come towards me, even Hazrath Ebrahim Khalilullah (alaihi salaam).' (Musnad Imam Ahmed bin Hambal Page 127 Vol. 5 - Sahih Muslim Page 273 Vol. 1)

Hadith No. 25

Baihaqi narrates on the authority of Hazrath Abu Hurairah (radi Allahu anhu) that on the night of Me'raj, the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said in the court of Almighty Allah, (O Allah!) You have given certain excellence to your Nabis, and Almighty Allah said, 'That which I have bestowed upon you is better than all that which I have given them. I have kept intercession hidden for you, except you none has been blessed with this.'

Hadith No. 26

Ibn Abi Shaiba, Tirmizi, Ibn Majah and Haakim narrate on the authority of Abi bin Ka'ab (radi Allahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'On the day of Reckoning, I will be the Leader, Spokesperson and Intercessor of the Ambia and I do not say this with any pride.' (Sunan Ibn Majah Page 330)

Hadith No. 27 to 40

It is narrated by Ibn Muni on the authority of Zaid ibn Arqam and fourteen other Sahaba (radi Allahu ta'aala anhum) that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My intercession on the Day of Qiyamah is a reality (fact) and he who does not bring Imaan on this, then his will not be accepted.' (Mustadrik Page 71 Vol. 1)

Intercession of Rasoolullah (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam):

Let us hear with the ears of our hearts, that the Holy Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is the leader of the first and the last, He is the most exalted amongst the Prophets and Messengers, He is the most revered in the Court of Allah, and is the Most exalted after the Almighty amongst the creation of Allah. Huzoor (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) has been blessed with such excellence in the Court of Almighty Allah, that no other creation is equal or even close to his excellence. This is evident from the verses of the Qur'an, The Ahadith-e-Mubaraka, statements of the Sahaba, Tabi'een, A'ima-e-Mujtahideen and all other learned Ulama. No person who claims to be a Muslim has the right to question or doubt this fact.

THE STATUS OF RASOOLULLAH (SALLAL LAAHU ALAIHI WASALLAM):

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Almighty Allah says in the Glorious Qur'an, 'O Beloved! I have sent you not but as Mercy unto the Worlds.'

All the creations of Allah, Angels, Jins and Humans are included in this. Huzoor (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) asked Jibraeel (alaihis salaam) if he was also included in this and he said, ' Yes. I was unaware of my state when Almighty Allah said, 'By the Lord of the Arsh, the Revered one, even there his command is adhered to.' I am content to know that the existence of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is mercy for the entire Universe.

Even the passing away of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is a means of mercy. The Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) said, 'My physical (worldly) life is best for you and my passing away is also best for you.'

It is in another Hadith as follows, 'When Almighty Allah wishes to send His mercy upon any Ummah, then he takes their Nabi away from them and He makes that Nabi the means of them entering Paradise.'

The word used in the Hadith is 'Farata' Farat refers to that person who reaches the final destination before his group, thus preparing for their coming, in other words arranging food, water etc. for them so that when they reach this destination they have everything they need.

Hazrath Ibn Abbas (radi Allahu anhu) says that the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) is mercy unto the believers and disbelievers, since in this time the kaafirs are even protected from the wrath of Allah which used to descend on the kaafirs of the past. Almighty Allah says, 'It is not the dignity of Allah, that

he may send his wrath upon them O Beloved! Whilst you are amongst them.'

In another verse Almighty Allah says, 'O Beloved! We have exalted for you your remembrance.'

Almighty Allah is saying that whenever He is remembered, then His Beloved will be remembered, like in the Azaan and in Namaaz. Hazrath Qatadah (radi Allahu anhu) says that Almighty Allah has exalted the remembrance of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) in this world and in the Hereafter, for whosoever reads the Khutba, Tashahud or Namaaz will have to read, 'Ash Hadu Allah ilaha illal laa wa Ash hadu An'na Muhammadur Rasoolullah.'

Almighty Allah says that He has perfected Imaan with His and the remembrance of His beloved. Allah also says, 'O Beloved! I have made you my Zikr (remembrance) for whosoever will remember you, will remember me.'

Almighty Allah says, 'Verily Allah sent towards you Zikr, which is (His) Rasool.'

Hazrath Imam Jaafar Saadiq says that Almighty Allah says, 'Whomsoever remembers you with Prophethood will remember me as being the Creator.'

Almighty Allah kept His and HIS beloved's name free from the Harf aatifa ('Waaw' which means 'and') showing that His beloved's remembrance cannot be separated from His. This is only for His beloved and for none other.

It is in the Sharah Shifa as follows, 'Many Ulama say that the name of Allah is with the name of Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) according to the verse 'and we have exalted for you your remembrance' is inscribed on everything. In other words

Almighty Allah has inscribed His remembrance with the remembrance of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) in everything, be it in Angels, the skies, the earths, buildings, the Arsh (Throne of Allah) stones, raw bricks or trees and fruit etc. Allah has inscribed on everything the Name of the Prophet (sallal laahu alaihi wasallam) with His Name, even though most of the creation cannot see this.'

As Salaatu Was Salaamu Alaika Ya Rasoolallah sallal laahu alaihi wasallam wa alaa Aalika wa Ashabika Ya Shafi-al-Muznabeen