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SAYYIDUL ISTIGHFAR

The Master Prayer for Forgiveness

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The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said about this prayer:

"The most superior way of asking for forgiveness from Allah is to say (the following)."

He also said, "If somebody recites this during the day with firm faith in it and dies on the same day before the evening, he will be from the people of Paradise; and if somebody recites it at night with firm faith in it and dies before the morning, he will be from the people of Paradise."

(Bukhari 6306)

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِّي

Allāhumma anta Rabbī

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

lā ilāha illā anta

خَلَقْتَنِي وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ

khalaqtanī wa ana 'abduka

وَأَنَا عَلَى عَهْدِكَ وَوَعْدِكَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ

wa ana 'alā 'ahdika wa wa'dika mastata'tu

أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا صَنَعْتُ

A'ūdhu bika min sharri mā ṣana'tu

أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعْمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ

abū'u laka binimatika 'alayya

وَأَبُوءُ بِذَنْبِي

wa abū'u bidhanbī

فَاغْفِرْ لِي

faghfirī

فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

fa innahū lā yaghfirudh-dhunūba illā anta

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِّي

Allāhumma anta Rabbī

O Allah, You are my Lord.

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

lā ilāha illā anta

There is no god but You.



Teaches me that only Allah ﷻ is One in all of His names and attributes. There is no one who is Creator or Sustainer for me other than Him ﷻ.

Ya Allah I am nothing, You are everything.

خَلَقْتَنِي وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ

khalaqtanī wa ana 'abduka

**You created me and I am Your
servant.**



You created me.
I acknowledge my weakness.
My duty is to serve Allah ﷻ

وَأَنَا عَلَىٰ عَهْدِكَ وَوَعْدِكَ

wa ana 'alā 'ahdika wa wa'dika

And I am committed to Your covenant

مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ

mastata'tu

and promise as much as I am able.



I acknowledge that I worship Him and do
not disobey Him ﷻ

to the best of my ability
I acknowledge my weakness.

أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا صَنَعْتُ

A'ūdhu bika min sharri mā ṣana'tu

**I seek refuge in You from the evil of
what I have done.**



I seek protection.
He ﷻ knows what I did.

أَبُوؤ لَكَ بِنِعْمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ

abū'u laka bini'matika 'alayya

I acknowledge Your favor upon me.

وَأَبُوؤ بِذَنْبِي

wa abū'u bidhanbī

And I acknowledge my sin.



I come to You ﷻ with everything You have done for me, all Your bounties, all the beautiful things You have blessed me with – my family, my status, my wealth.

And I come to You with my sins.
I can't hide anything.

فَاغْفِرْ لِي
faghfirī

So forgive me.

فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

fa innahū lā yaghfirudh-dhunūba illā anta

For surely none can forgive sins except You.



So forgive me,

for You are the Only one capable of
forgiving my sins.

The 7 Traps of Shaitan

Recite the previous dua to avoid or seek forgiveness if you fall into any of these traps.

1. Kufr (don't believe in Allah ﷻ)

Example: Shaitan's final goal is to lead me astray, so that I not only forget Allah ﷻ but also stop believing in Him or in any of His names and attributes.

2. Innovation (bid'ah), in belief or in practice

Example: Praying 3 rakat for Fajr to do more good deeds, even though it is not how Allah ﷻ asked to be worshipped.

3. Major sins

- Saying belief is in the heart, why do I have to pray?
- Speaking of Allah ﷻ without knowledge
- Clear opposition to prophetic ways (not difference of opinion)
- Do it my way, instead of following the Sunnah
- Innovation

Example:

- Missing Salah
- Dealing with Riba
- Stealing
- False witness
- Fornication
- Backbiting
- Lying

4. Minor sins

- Shaitan whispers that minor sins will be removed as long as I avoid major sins
- Belittling sins until I fall into persistently
- No sin is major with repentance and seeking forgiveness. And no sin is minor with persistence.

Example:

- Delaying salah
- Not lowering my gaze
- Using foul language
- Hurting people
- Not fulfilling others' rights

5. Permissible deeds that don't harm me but take me away from good deeds:

- Busy with too much halal – not doing extras
- Abandon recommended acts of Sunnah

Example:

- Spending 7–8 hours preparing for guests that I don't pray sunnah and rush through my salah
- Working too much that I don't have time left to read Qur'an

6. Ibada tal hawa: doing what I like, not what is more pleasing to Allah ﷻ

- Spending time on good deeds when the timing is not right

Example:

- Iqamah is going on, it is time to stand up for salah, but I'm reading the Quran. Both are virtuous, but this is not the time to be reciting the Qur'an. It is better to stand for prayer.
- Someone is sick and I should attend to them, but instead I chose to offer nawafil prayers. Attending to sick people is time sensitive and preferred.
- My husband is home and needs me, but I chose to attend live class because I like it. This is my hawa. Pleasing my husband comes first.

7. The devil assigns his army upon me to harm me in a number of ways, depending on my status in goodness.

- Attacked by people

Example:

- Shaytan will whisper to the people to attack me indirectly
- He will make them lie against me, spread rumors, or hurt me in other ways



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