

THE 8 GATES JANAH

A COLLECTION OF PROPHETIC NARRATIONS PERTAINING TO THE GATES OF JANNAH

SHAYKH DR. ALI AHMED





The 8 Gates of Jannah

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First Edition

A Dedication

"Those who believed and whose descendants followed them in faith – We will join with them their descendants, and We will not deprive them of anything of their deeds. Every person, for what he earned, is retained." ($al-\bar{T}u\bar{r}$, 52:21)

To my parents: I make du^{c} for you in every sajdah and ask Allah to enter me into Jannah through the Gate of Parents.



Honorifics Key

For the Divine

Symbol	Arabic	Translation	
	سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَىٰ	Hallowed and exalted be He	
	تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَىٰ	Blessed and exalted be He	
	جَلَّ وَعَلَا	Majestic and exalted be He	
الله الله الله الله الله الله الله الله	عَزَّ وَجَلَّ	Mighty and majestic be He	
	جَلَّ جَلَالُهُ	Awesome be His majesty	

Prayers of Salām

Symbol	Arabic	Translation
	صَلَّىٰ ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ	Allah confer blessing and peace upon him
	عَلَيْهِ ٱلصَّلَاةُ وَٱلسَّلَامُ	Upon him be blessing and peace
	عَلَيْهِ ٱلسَّلَامُ	Upon him be peace
	عَلَيْهَا ٱلسَّلَامُ	Upon her be peace
	عَلَيْهِمَا ٱلسَّلَامُ	Upon them (dual) be peace
	عَلَيْهِمُ ٱلسَّلَامُ	Upon them be peace

Prayers of Riḍā

Symbol	Arabic	Translation	
مُنْفِقَالُ مُنْفِقِينًا	رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ	Allah be pleased with him	
(Fig.)	رَضِيَ ٱللهُ عَنْهَا	Allah be pleased with her	
المنتقبة	رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا	Allah be pleased with them (dual)	
2600 2600 2000	رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمُ	Allah be pleased with them	
٦	رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُنَّ	Allah be pleased with them (fem)	

Prayers of Raḥmah

Symbol	Arabic	Translation		
	رَحِمَهُ ٱللّٰهُ	Allah have mercy on him		
	رَحِمَهَا ٱللّٰهُ	Allah have mercy on her		
	رَحِمَهُمَا ٱللَّهُ	Allah have mercy on them (dual)		
	رَحِمَهُمُ اللَّهُ	Allah have mercy on them		
	رَحِمَهُنَّ اللهُ	Allah have mercy on them (fem)		

CONTENTS

Forewor	^d	1			
Introdu	ction	2			
Āyāt Per	Āyāt Pertaining to the Gates of Jannah4				
Ḥadīth I	Ḥadīth Pertaining to Some Gates of Jannah5				
When Do the Gates of Jannah Open?6					
For Who	om Will the Eight Gates of Jannah Be Opened?	14			
Distance	e Between the Gates of Jannah	21			
Gates of	Jannah	24			
1.	Bāb Ummat Muḥammad (ﷺ) - A Special Gate for the Ummah	28			
2.	Bāb al-Ṣalāh – Gate of Prayer	32			
3.	Bāb al-Jihād - Gate of Jihad	44			
4.	Bāb al-Ṣadaqah - Gate of Charity	54			
5.	Bāb al-Rayyān – Gate of Fasting	64			
6.	Bāb al-Ayman - The Right Gate	74			
7.	Bāb al-Dhikr - Gate of Divine Remembrance	80			
8.	Bāb al-Kāẓimīn al-Ghayẓ - Gate of Suppressing Anger	100			
9.	Bāb al-Wālid - Gate of the Father	118			
10.	Bāb al-Tawbah - Gate of Repentance	126			
11	Bāh al-Haii - Gate of Haii	138			

Foreword

بِسْمِ الله وَالْحَمْدُ لِلله وَالصَّلاةُ وَالسَّلامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ الله وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَن وَالاه أمَّا بَعدُ

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. May His blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah (), as well as his family, his companions, and all his followers.

I had a look at the work of our dear brother Sh. Ali Ahmed which he titled "The 8 Gates of Jannah", and I found it to be a beautiful collection of $\bar{a}y\bar{a}t$, $ah\bar{a}d\bar{i}th$, and $\bar{a}th\bar{a}r$ relating to the Gates of Jannah. The book acts as a useful resource for those seeking information on the topic. It can also be used by community imams for their sermons and families for their circles of remembrance.

The book does not offer commentary (*sharḥ*) on the quoted passages. It aims to relate the content in clear English for readers to immediately benefit from the guidance and wisdom held within it. Perhaps explanations of the narrations quoted is something to consider for future renditions.

May Allah place barakah in this work, and may He make us among those who will be allowed to enter Jannah from whichever gate they desire. $\bar{A}m\bar{n}n$.

Shaykh Dr. Haitham al-Haddad

Introduction

الحمَدُ لله رَبِّ العَلَمِينَ وَالصَّلاةُ وَالسَّلاَمُ عَلَى رَسُولِ الله وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحبِه أَجمَعِين أمَّا يَعدُ

All praises are due to Allah, the Lord of the Universe, and may His blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah (), his family, and his companions.

Every human being wants Paradise. Some haplessly seek it in this world at the expense of their Hereafter, while others seek only the Garden which Allah promised His obedient slaves. The Qur'an and the Sunnah teach us to wish and work for that which is eternal and everlasting:

"But you prefer the worldly life, while the Hereafter is better and more lasting." (al- $A^{q}\bar{a}$, 87:16-17)

"Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds – they will have the Gardens of Paradise as a lodging, wherein they will abide eternally. They will not desire from it any transfer." (al-Kahf, 18:107-108)

When it comes to *Jannah*, we **must** want it, desire it, beggingly ask Allah for it, and expend all efforts to reach it. As believers, we should have high hopes and lofty ambitions for *Jannah* – that Allah gives us the best and the highest part of it. We should be thinking and pondering about which gate of *Jannah* we want to enter through. When we have this mindset, the deeds (e.g., prayer and fasting) that are specific to that gate (e.g., the

Gate of Ṣalāh and al-Rayyān), will be performed out of love, with ease, and without any hesitation or burden.

For this reason, I have collected some of the prophetic narrations pertaining to the Eight Gates of Jannah in this book. After the pleasure of Allah, it is collated with multiple goals and intentions in mind: so that it may be read together as a family, that masjid imams may use it in their weekly lessons with their congregants, that it reorients and gives renewed focus to the youth, and for the reader to simply discover which gate of Jannah they aspire to enter through and consequently work towards. I have abstained from making my own commentary, as most of these reports are self-explanatory and straightforward. The book is not written as a rigorous, academic discussion of scholarly positions on the subject. Rather, its aim is to edify its readers and rejuvenate their zeal to seeking the everlasting bliss Allah has promised us.

Though the book is titled "The 8 Gates of Jannah", readers will notice that there are 11 gates mentioned altogether. This is because scholars are in agreement over four out of the eight gates since there are four clearly mentioned together in a <code>hadīth</code>. However, scholars have differed over the names of the remaining four. There are other opinions on the remaining four gates in addition to what is mentioned in the book. For the purposes of brevity, and due to what I thought the majority of the <code>Ummah</code> is in need of, I capped it at 11 total. Studious readers are invited to research the other names of the <code>Gates</code> of <code>Jannah</code> not mentioned in this book.

I ask Allah through His beautiful names that He grants us all and our families the highest level of *Jannat al-Firdaws*, in the company of the prophets, the truthful ones, the martyrs, and the righteous, and excellent are those as companions. $\bar{A}m\bar{i}n!$

Shaykh Dr. Ali Ahmed