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**Institute of Islamic - African Studies International** 

# شُكْرُ الْوَاهِبِ الْمُفِيضَ لِلْمَوَاهِبِ



### **Showing Gratitude to the Benefactor**

for the Divine Overflowing Given to Those He Favors by

The Gnostic Sage the Illuminated Erudite

#### Shaykh Abd'l-Qaadir ibn Mustafa at-Turuudi

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Published by SANKORE'



**Institute of Islamic - African Studies International** 

www.siiasi.org

The Palace of the Sultan of Maiurno Maiurno, Sennar, Sudan

#### **Book design by Muhammad Shareef**

The cover design is the expression 'al-hamdulillahi' (All praises are due to Allah), written in block kufic script, using the four colors: yellow, black, green and red. Each of the colors corresponds with the four seasons: august, winter, spring and summer; the four temperaments: hot/humid, cold/humid, cold/dry and hot/dry; and the four elements: air, water, earth and fire. Each of the four realities have seven Arabic letters which correspond to them, which indicate the seven days of the week and the 28 days of the lunar month, excluding the day the moon disappears represented by the 29<sup>th</sup> letter which is laam/alif (Y). The motif encloses a hausa 'wise man knot', which represents all inclusive knowledge. This in turn, encloses the hatumere' (seal) or paranormal square which represents existence (al-kawn), with three intersecting squares enclosing an empty center, which represents the Perfect Human (insaan kaamil). The 'al-hamdullillahi' is the first articulation of the macrocosmic human and the 'al-hamdullillahi' is the last articulation of the 'microcosmic human as he enters the Paradise of Gnosis of its Lord. Thus, the motif represents eternal praise of Allah for endowing humanity with all inclusive knowledge of existence.

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The first edition of this text was published in 1991. The second edition with the commentary was published in 2013.

إلله والله الرص الدويم الهم صاعب لهيد ناه عده واسلم وباله الموال والهماء والمبداء عد صور المعدا والسمساء عد صور المعدا والسمساء عد صور المعدا والسمساء والمده والمدال المده والمدالة والعلام المده والمده والمده والمدالة والعلام المده والمده والمده

Folio 1 of the manuscript Shukr'l-Waahib of Shaykh Abd'l-Qaadir ibn Mustafa from the private library of Shaykh Muhammad Bello ibn Abd'r-Raaziq ibn Uthman ibn Shaykh Abd'l-Qaadir ibn Mustafa in Maiurno, Sennar, Sudan. The scribe of this manuscript was Shaykh Abd'r-Rahman ibn Uthman ibn Shaykh Abd'l-Qaadir ibn Mustafa, who was known as Shaykh Ya'bana. The type of paper was the traditional intergenerational type which Dr. M. Abd'l-Baqi al- Kunari and Dr. J. M. Bloom described so accurately in their brief but monumental studies. The paper used is an Italian import with the legendary 17th century tre lune (three crescent moon) watermark. This type of paper had been re-imported into the regions of the Bilad 's-Sudan since the 13th century up until the time this manuscript was transcribed in the later part of the 19th century. The size of the manuscript is 60 centimeters in length by 45 centimeters in width [60 cml x 45cmw]. The dimension of the inscription is 55 centimeters in length by 32 centimeters in width [55 cml x 32 cmw]. There is an average of 20 lines of colophon on each of the four folios which this manuscript comprises. The type of ink is a brownish-black ink made from burnt date stones and gum Arabic. The style of writing is the sharp and tightly stylized Jihadi script which was born in the 19th century in the unifed Hausa confederation of the Sokoto Caliphate. The central location of Hausaland between the luxuriant civilizations of Songhay in the west and Kanem-Borno in the east; is what produced this pragmatic cursive shorthand style. It was thus born out of a combination of the western Tinbukti-Andalusi style prevalent from Kumasi to Merrekesh and the Sus al-Aqsa and the royal eastern Barnawi-Ifriqi style which spread as for as Sennar and Mecca in the east and was highly regarded among the booksellers of Tunis, Tripoli, Cairo and Alexandria. The quality of the scribal hand is even, clear, consistent and strong but streamlined and concise; like the art of war afterwhich it was named - jihadi. It thus, can be counted among those forms of writing which developed with the advancement of swordsmanship, like those of the Japanese bushido samurai culture and the scholar-warriors of WuDang mountain.



# **Showing Gratitude to the Benefactor** for the Divine Overflowing He Gives to Those Favored



#### بسنم اللهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدِ وَسَلَّمَ

In the name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful, O Allah send blessings upon our master Muhammad and grant him peace

أَبْدأُ بِإِسْمِ خَالِقِ الأَنْوَارِ فِي سَجْفِ الْقُلُوبِ وَالأَبْصَارِ

I begin with the Name of the Creator of illuminations
Into the veil which envelopes the hearts and inner visions

وَفَائِقِ الْعُلَمَاءِ وَالْهَبَاءِ عَن صُور الصِّفَاتِ وَالأَسْمَاءِ

The One who makes the knowers and particles transcend
The outer appearance of the Divine Attributes and Names

ذَرِي الرَّفْرَفَ الرَّفِيعَ الأَطْلَسِ لَمَّا تَجَلِّي بِالْجَلالِ الأَقْدَسِ

The One who diffuses the projection of the exalted orbit

When He manifests the Self Disclosure of His Most Holy Majesty

أَحْمَدُهُ إِذْ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ بِالْقَلِمِ الْحِكْمَةَ وَالْبِيَانَ

I praise Him since He is the One who teaches man By means of the Primordial Pen, wisdom and acute clarity

أَفَاضَ فِي قَوَالِبِ النَّاسُوةِ وَالرُّوحِ قَابَلِيَّةَ اللَّاهُوةِ

Which He infuses in the matrices of human nature And the spirit the receptivity for Divine realities

فَاسْتَجْمَعتُ مُجَامِعَ الْعُلُومِ لَمَّا حُوتُ مِن حِكْمَةِ الْقُيُومِ

For, I have gathered together a compilation of the sciences Which I gleamed from the wisdom of the Eternally Self Subsistent

سُبْحَانَهُ سَعْدَانَهُ لَقَدْ صَبَا خَوَاصَ خَلْقِهِ عَطَاءُ عَجَباً

Glory be to Him perpetually Who dispenses upon
The elite of His creatures, Divine gifts which are amazing

ثُمَّ الصَّلاةُ وَالسَّلامُ السَّرْمَدَا عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْمُصْطَفَى مُحَمَّد

Then may eternal blessings and everlasting peace Be upon the Chosen Prophet Muhammad

وَأَلِهِ ذَوى الْمَرَاتَبِ الْعَلا وَصِحْبِهِ وَمَن طَرِيقَهُم تَلا

And his family, the possessors of exalted spiritual ranks
And his Companions, and those who follow in their spiritual Path

فَقَصْدُنَا بِالنَّظْمِ شُكُّرُ الْوَاهِبِ سُبْحَانَهُ المُقَيْضَ لِلْمَوَاهِبِ

My objective with the poem is **Showing Gratitude to the Benefactor**Glory be to Him **For the Overflowing He Gives Those Favored** 

Regarding what we were singled out for with respect to sciences For fulfilling rights include gratitude to Him as an obligation

Not for fame or in order to boast due to them

But rather desiring by means of them to have increase in them

So, I praise Allah, the One who guided me

To show gratitude to Him for the love He has shown me.



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### ذِكْرُ مَا أُوتِيتُهُ مِنَ الْعُلُومِ الشَّرْعِيَةِ Mentioning What I Received From the Shari`a Sciences

فَنُونَهَا بِالنَّقْلِ أَوْ بِالسَّمْعِ لَقَدْ أَخَذْنَا مِنَ عُلُومِ الشَّرْعِ For we have taken from the sciences of the shari'a Its disciplines by means of textual and direct oral transmission لِلْكُتُب الْكُبَار وَالصُّغَار وبالمطالعات للأسفار And by perusing the volumes of text Of the prominent books as well as the minor ones وَالنَّحْو وَالْبَيَانِ بِالتَّعْرِيفِ مِنَ اللُّغَاتِ وَمنَ التَّصْريفِ From the linguistic sciences, from morphology And grammar, and rhetorical eloquence by deep study وَالسُّنِي الْوَاضِحَةِ التَّمَامِ وَمن أُصنولِ الْفِقْهِ وَالْكَلامِ From the foundations of jurisprudence and scholastic theology And a study of the clear and perfected Sunna وَالْفِقْهِ وَالتَّفْسِيرِ وَالدِّرَايَةِ وَغَيرِهَا بِالْحِفْظِ وَالْعِنَايَةِ And jurisprudence, *Our'anic* exegesis and transmitted expertise And other than these by means of memorization and diligence وَمن تَصنوُف التَّخَلُّق الَّذِي لِسَالِكِ الْخُصنوس خَيْرٌ مَا اخْتَذِي From the spiritual purification of character reformation that Is to the wayfarer of the elite, the best which can be bestowed

### ذِكْرُ مَا أُوتِيتُهُ مِنَ عُلُومِ الأَوَائِلِ بِالنَّقْلِ وَيغَيْرِهِ

## Mentioning What I Received From the Elemental Sciences by Means of Textual Transmission and Other Than That

مِن نُبَذٍ كَثِيرَةِ أَوْ جَمَلِ لَقَدْ أَفَدْنَا مِن عُلُومِ الأَوَّلِ We garnered benefit from the elemental sciences From many small books or from condensed texts بالنَّقْل أَوْ بِمَا بِأَيْدِنَا وَقَعَ مِنْ كُتُب لَهُم وَمن تَصنانِيفِ جُمِعَ By means of textual transmission or by what fell in my hands From books on these and what had been collected from texts بِالْفَهُم أَوْ بِالنَّقْلِ عَن ذَوبِهَا وَكَثْرَة الْمُطَالعَاتِ فِيهَا And from extensive perusal of these texts With comprehension or transmission from its masters كَالطِّبِّ وَالْهَبْئَة وَالْحسَابِ وَالنُّطْقِ الْهَادِي إِلَى الصَّوَابِ Like medicine, physiognomy, arithmetic And logic which guides to what is correct وَحِكْمَةِ النُّجُومِ وَالطَّبَائِعِ مَعُونَةِ الطِّبِّ بِحُكْمِ وَاقِع The wisdom of the stars and physics, which Is the assistant to medicine by the prevailing judgment. من طَبْعها وَعَدِّها الْمَعْرُوف وَالْعِلْمِ بِالأَوْفَاقِ وَالْحُرُوفِ And the science of paranormal squares and of letters from the perspective Of the intrinsic effects and numerical values that are well known وَالرَّمْلِ وَالأَجْفَارِ وَالزِّيَارِجِ وَالأَسْمَاتِ الصَّعْبَةِ الْمَخَارِجِ The science of geomancy, onomatomancy and circular divinatory tables And demarcation, the articulation of which is difficult قَدِيمَةٍ فِي الْوَضْعِ أَوْ جَدِيدَةٍ وَغَيْرِهَا مِن حُكْمِ عَدِيدِهِ

And other than these whose judgments are numerous

And whose original formulation is ancient or recent

### ذِكْرُ مَا أُوتِيتُهُ مِنَ عُلُومِ الْحَقَائِق

#### Mentioning What I Received From the Sciences of Spiritual Realities

وَاعْلَمْ بِأَنَّا قَدْ نَقَلْنَا كُتُبًا فِي نَهْجِهَا عَلَى ثِقَاتِ أَدَبًا Realize that we have transmitted texts Regarding its method from those reliable in spiritual courtesies فَفَاضَ فَهُمُنَا بِعَوْنِ الْحَقِّ فِيهَا عَلَى التَّحْقِيقِ وَالتُّرْقِي Our understanding was inundated by the help of the Absolute Being In these realities based upon verification and spiritual progress عِلْمَ الأُلُوهِيَةِ وَالذَّوَاتِ وَالْوَصْفِ وَالشُّئُونِ ثُمَّ الذَّاتِ The science of divinity and the science of the essences And the qualities, the enterprises, and then the Divine Essence وَالصِّفَاتِ قَالبَ الْعُلَمَاء عِلْمَ التَّجَلِيَاتِ لِلأَسْمَاءِ The science of the Self Manifestation of the Divine Names And Attributes which is the matrix of the scholars and the learned وَقُدْرَةٍ عِلْمٍ إِرَادَةٍ حَيَاةٍ أَمِ الْكِتَابِ كُنْهَهُ مَعَ السَّمَاةَ And power, knowledge, will, life The Mother of the Book, its quintessence with its sublimity

وَعِلْمَ الأَرْوَاحِ وَالْمَلَكُوةِ وَرُوحِ الأَرْوَاحِ مِنَ الْجَبَرُوةِ

And the science of the spirits and the unseen spiritual kingdoms And the Spirit of all spirits in the kingdom of power

وَغَيْرِهَا مِن نُبْذِ الْحَقَائِقِ مِمَّا اسْتِعْدُنَا بِهِ بِفَهْمِ فَائِقِ

And other than these among a portion of the divine realities

From which we were prepared by heightened understanding.

#### ذِكْرُ مَا أُتِيتُهُ مِنَ عُلُومِ الأَوْلِيَاءِ وَهِيَ عُلُومُ الأَسْرَارِ لَكِنَ عَلَى طَرِيقَةِ الصّوفِيَةِ Mentioning What I Received in the Sciences of the Awliyya Which Are the Sciences of Secrets According to the Path of the Sufis

وَاعْلَمْ بِأَن فَاطِرَ الْقَوَّالِ أفاضبها لنا بفهم كامل Realize that the Originator of articulations Inundated us with perfect comprehension in these sciences وَهْيَ عُلُومُ لاَّ تَرَى نَقْلَةً وَدُونَهَا الدَّلاَئِلَ الْعَقْلِيَةَ They are sciences for which there are no written texts Nor can they be articulated utilizing rational proofs يَمْنَحُهَا الْقُدُوسُ مَن يُعَلَّمَ وَشَرْحُهَا عَلَى الصَّرِيح يُحَرِمَ The Holy One bestows upon the one who learns it Although elucidating it openly has been made prohibited وَانَّمَا نَذْكُرُ بِالْإِشَارَةِ وَالْوَحْى مَا جَرَتْ بِهِ الْعِبَارَةِ Thus we will mention them by means of allusion And revelation by what will convey the correct expression كَذَا تَلَاشِي الْكَوْنِ بِلا فَعَالِ منْهَا عُلُومُ الْجَذْبِ وَالْإهْمَال From them: the sciences of divine attraction and ecstatic inattention Likewise, the annihilation of universal existence without effects عِلْم حِجَابِ الْعِزَّةِ الْمُؤَيدِ كَذَا مِنَ الْعُلُومِ مِنْ عِلْمِ الْبَدِ Likewise from these sciences is the science of the Hand And the science of the Veil of Eternal Glory وَمِن حَفِيهِنَّ عِلْمُ الْقَدَمِ وَاللَّوْحِ وَالنُّونِ وَعِلْمُ الْقَلَمِ And from its environs is the science of the Foot The Tablet, the Primordial 'Nuun' and the science of the Pen عِلْمُ الرِّدَاءِ الْمُعَلِّمُ الْمُطلِّ علْمُ الْخُبُلاة وَعلْمُ الظِّلِّ The science of 'conceptualized visions' and the science of the 'Shadow'

The science of the 'Gown', the ascendant teacher

### وَالدُّرَّةِ الْبَيْضَاءِ وَعِلْمُ الْوَرَقَاءِ

عِلْمُ الزَّوَائِدِ وَعِلْمُ الْعَنْقَاءِ

The science of the residuals and the science of 'the Griffon' And the 'White Pearl and the science of the 'Pages'

The 'Throne', the 'Footstool' and the 'Bridal Pavilion' The 'Black Swamp', the science of the 'Lote Tree'

And other than these which are comprehended by experience
And is understood by the one mad in Allah and the sober traveler

All of these sciences without exception are the spiritual methods

Of the most notable of the outstanding luminaries of transmission



# ذِكْنُ مَا أُتِيتُهُ مِنَ عُلُومِ الأَسْرَارِ أَيْضًا لَكِنَ عَلَى غَيْرِ طَرِيقَةِ الصُّوفِيَةِ Mentioning What I Received From the Science of Secrets As Well, However Outside of the Path of the Sufis

وَإِنَّمَا نَذْكُرُ بِالتَّاوِيحِ مَنَعَتْنِي بِهِ عَن التَّصْرِيحِ

We will mention them by means of allusion

Preventing me by it from declaring them openly

مَا خَصَّنَا بِهِ الْحَكِيمُ الْفَتَّاحُ مِن حِكَمٍ بُحُورِهَا لاَ تَتَزُحُ

What the Wise Opener designated us with

From the wisdom whose oceans never run dry

وَلَيْسَ مِن طَرِيقَةِ التَّصنَوُّفِ حُصنُولُهَا لَنَا فَخُذْهُ وَاعْرِفُ

Not from the path of spiritual purification

Were they obtained by us, so seize it and realize

مِنْهَا الْجَدْوَالُ الَّتِي ذَكَرْبَا أُصُولُهَا فِي بَعْضِ مَا كُتُبُنَا

Among them are the Tabulations of what we mentioned Whose foundation we placed in some of our books

كَذَا مَفَاتِيحُ صِفَاتِ الظَّاهِرِ وَدُونِهَا الأَسْرَارِ سَاتِرِ

Likewise the keys of the attributes of the outward

Excluding these are the secrets which are concealed

عِلْمُ الْقَوِّي الْمُثَاتِي الرُّوحَانِي وَمَرْتَقَىِّ الْعَنَاصِرِ النُّورَانِي

The science of the spiritual tridimensional power

And the place of ascent of the elemental lights

وَبَحْرِ عِيْسَى الْقُدُسُ الَّاهُوتِي وَمَاءِ عَيْنِ الْخَصَرِ الْحَيُوتِي

And the Holy Divine Sea of Jesus

And the Living Water of the Spring of al-Khadr

عِلْمُ حُرُوفِ إسْمِهِ الْمَعَظِمِ وَمنْهُ عِلْمُ الْحَجَرِ الْمُكَرِّمِ

The science of the letters of His Immense Name

And from this is the science of the Venerated Black Stone

عِلْمُ النَّوَامِيسِ وَقَلْبُ الْعَيْنِ مِنْ السَّاعِلْمُ الْحَوَامِيمِ بِغَيْرِ مَيْنِ [Jnstitute of Isl

The science of the *nawaamees* and the heart of the letter `ayn The science of the *hawaameem* without fabrication

The science of the letters which open the *Qur'anic* chapters Upon the matrices of the ranges of recorded existence

And other than these from the sciences which are concealed Where the strongest intellects fall short and turn away



# ذِكْرُ عُلُومِ أَخِرِ مِنَ عُلُومِ الأَسْرَارِ أُوتِيتُهَا وَهْيَ مِنَ عُلُومِ الْكَشْفِ الأَكْبَرِ وَلاَ مَطْمَعٌ لِأَحَدِ فِيهَا غَيْرُنَا وَلاَ يَفْكُهَا إِلاَّ الْخَتَمُ الْمُحَمَّدِي وَهُوَ الْمَهْدِي عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ لِأَحَدِ فِيهَا غَيْرُنَا وَلاَ يَفْكُهَا إِلاَّ الْخَتَمُ الْمُحَمَّدِي وَهُوَ الْمَهْدِي عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

Mentioning the Other Sciences From the Sciences of Secrets That I Have Received From the Sciences of the Greatest Unveiling Which No One Except Us Have Craved for and Which None Will Disclose Except the *Muhammadan* Seal, Who is the *Mahdi*, upon him be peace

The science of the Stout of Heart and the Universal Perimeter Which Manifest the moment of the hours of the totality.

The meanings of the Most Immense Concealed Name Hidden in the Spirit or treasured in its secret

Then I deciphered the talismans of the Book

That none of the Awliyya had decoded through communication

The science of the augmentations of the sciences of the Prophets Transmitted in every epoch from the sciences of the *Awliyya* 

The science of the manifestation of the night and the day Then I entered into the *Ka'ba* of Secrets

And I also obtained the sciences of the Throne
In the world of sleep without any difficulty

Each of these sciences are from the sanctified realities
And from vision during sleep, not from the sensory

So, all praises are due to Allah who by means of His praise Has perfected in us the righteousness of His divine support عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْهَاشِمِيِّ أَحْمَدَ

ثُمَّ الصَّلاةُ وَالسَّلامُ سَرْمَدًا

Then blessings and peace eternally
Be upon the Haashimi Prophet Ahmad

بِنُورِهِ اَهْتَدَي عَلَى مَرِّ الزَّمَن

وَأَلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَكُلِّ مَنْ

And upon his family, Companions and everyone who By means of his light is guided throughout the ages

تمت وبالله التوفيق

It is complete and success is with Allah



# SANKORE'



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