

An Invocation for Pain in the Eye

Ahmad b. Muhammad Abu Ja'far narrated from Ibn Abu 'Umayr from Abu Ayyub al-Khazzaz from Muhammad b. Muslim from Abu 'Abd Allah al-Sadiq, peace be upon him, from al-Baqir from 'Ali b. al-Husayn from his father, who said that 'Ali b. Abu Talib, peace be upon him, said: 'When the Messenger of Allah, blessings of Allah be on him and his family, called me on the day of Khaybar, he was told: "O Messenger of Allah, he has inflammation (*al-ramad*) of the eyes." The Messenger of Allah said: "Bring him to me." So I went to him and said: "O Messenger of Allah, I have inflammation of the eyes and cannot see anything." The Messenger of Allah said:

"Approach me, O 'Ali." I approached him and he passed his hand over my eyes and recited: "In the Name of Allah, and by Allah, and peace be on the Messenger of Allah. O Allah, protect him from the heat and the cold, and preserve him from harm and affliction." 'Ali peace be upon him, said: I recovered, and by Him Who honoured him with Prophethood, bestowed on him the Message, and chose him over His servants, I felt neither heat nor cold nor pain in my eyes after that.'

He said: 'Sometimes 'Ali, peace be upon him, would go out on a bitterly cold winter's day with a torn shirt. It would be said: "O Amir al-Mu'minin, are you not affected by the cold?" He would reply: "Neither heat nor cold has affected me since the Messenger of Allah, blessings of Allah on him and his family, protected me with the invocation." Sometimes he would come out to us on an extremely hot day in a padded garment, and it would be said to him: "Are you not affected as other people are by this severe heat, so that you wear a padded garment?" He would give them the same reply.'