

## Fulfilling Needs

### الحوائج وقضاؤها

1. Verily the needs of the people that are addressed to you are a blessing from Allah upon you, so take advantage of them and do not be weary of them, lest they should turn into [divine] wrath.

.. إِنَّ حَوَائِجَ النَّاسِ إِلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَةٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ فَاعْتَنِمُوهَا وَلَا تَمَلُّوهَا فَتَتَحَوَّلَ نَقْمًا<sup>1</sup>

2. Do not delay granting the needy to tomorrow, for you do not know what will happen to you and to him tomorrow.

.. لَا تُؤَخِّرْ إِنَاءَةَ الْمُحْتَاجِ إِلَى غَدٍ، فَإِنَّكَ لَا تَدْرِي مَا يَعْرِضُ لَكَ وَلَهُ فِي غَدٍ<sup>2</sup>

3. You must seek the fulfilment of your needs through people of honourable dispositions and origins, you will be successful [in getting what you need] with them, without any delay or any sense of obligation.

.. عَلَيْكُمْ فِي قَضَاءِ حَوَائِجِكُمْ بِكَرَامِ الْأَنْفُسِ وَالْأَصُولِ تُنْجَحَ لَكُمْ عِنْدَهُمْ مِنْ غَيْرِ مَطَالٍ وَلَا مِنْ<sup>3</sup>

4. You must seek your needs from those who are honourable and of good origins, for they are more likely to fulfil them [quickly and without obligation] and they are purer in your eyes.

- عَلَيْكُمْ فِي طَلْبِ الْحَوَائِجِ بِشِرَافِ النُّفُوسِ ذَوِي الْأَصُولِ الطَّيِّبَةِ، فَإِنَّهَا (فَائِنَةٌ) عِنْدَهُمْ أَفْصَى وَهِيَ (وَهُمْ) لَدَيْكُمْ<sup>4</sup> (لَدَيْهِمْ) أَزْكَى.

5. I am amazed at the person who is approached by his Muslim brother in need and refuses to fulfil it, not deeming himself worthy of [doing] good; so assume that he does not desire any reward nor does he

fear any punishment. Do they lack interest in [acquiring] noble traits?

- عَجِبْتُ لِرَجُلٍ يَأْتِيهِ أَخُوهُ الْمُسْلِمُ فِي حَاجَةٍ، فَيَمْتَنِعُ عَنْ قَضَائِهَا وَلَا يَرَى نَفْسَهُ لِلْخَيْرِ أَهْلًا، فَهَبْ أَنَّهُ لَا تَوَابَ يُرْجَى 5  
ولاعقاب يُتَّقَى، أفتزهدونَ في مكارمِ الأخلاقِ.

6. Not having your needs fulfilled is better than seeking them from those who are not worthy.

.. فَوْتُ الْحَاجَةَ خَيْرٌ مِنْ طَلَبِهَا مِنْ غَيْرِ أَهْلِهَا 6

7. Being generous with power [and fulfilling the needs of the people with it] is the alms–tax of power.

.. بِذُلِّ الْجَاهِ زَكَاةُ الْجَاهِ 7

8. Expediting the release [of the needy from his need] is [a means of] success.

.. تَعْجِيلُ السَّرَّاحِ نَجَاحٌ 8

9. The fulfilling of needs is not made righteous except by three things: by considering it to be small such that it becomes great, by hiding it such that it is made apparent [by Allah] and by expediting it such that it becomes felicitous.

.. لَا يَسْتَقِيمُ قَضَاءُ الْحَوَائِجِ إِلَّا بِثَلَاثَ: بِتَصْغِيرِهَا لِتَعْظُمَ، وَسِتْرِهَا لِتُظْهَرَ، وَتَعْجِيلِهَا لِتَهْنَأَ 9

10. Everyone who has been given time [to do good before his death] gives excuses for postponement [of good deeds].

.. كُلُّ مُؤَجَّلٍ يَتَعَلَّلُ بِالتَّسْوِيفِ 10

11. Turning away the needy is the cause of diminishment of affluence.

.. سَبَبُ زَوَالِ الْيَسَارِ مَنَعُ الْمُحْتَاجِ 11

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