

## On Consumption

Ja'far b. Muhammad b. Ibrahim narrated from Ahmad b. Bashara that he said: When I went to perform the Hajj, I went to Medina. I entered the mosque of the Messenger of Allah, blessings be on him, and there was Abu Ibrahim sitting by the side of the *minbar*. I approached him and kissed his head and hands and greeted him. He returned my greeting and said: "How is your illness?" I replied: "I am still suffering from it." I had consumption. He said: "Take this medication in Medina before you leave for Mecca and you will be restored to health, Allah, the Exalted, willing."

I brought out an ink-well and paper and he dictated to us: "Take equal parts of Indian nard, cardamom, saffron, pyrethrum, henbane (*al-banj*), white hellebore (*kharbaq abyad*), and two parts of *abarfiyun*. Grind and sieve them in a piece of silk, and mix with honey which has had its froth removed. Give the person afflicted with consumption the equivalent of a chick-pea with warm water to take before sleeping. You will not drink that for three nights without being cured, Allah, the Exalted, willing." I did that and Allah removed it from me and I was cured by the will of Allah, the Exalted.