

The Measure of Reward for Each Illness

Abu 'Atab narrated from Muhammad b. Khalaf — and I think al-Husayn [b. Bistam] also related to us — from al-Washsha' from 'Abd Allah b. Sinan from Muhammad b. Sinan from al-Sadiq, peace be upon him, who said: "One night's sleeplessness during an illness that afflicts a believer is [equal to] a year's worship."

From him from Ja'far b. Muhammad, peace be upon him, from 'Ali b. al-Husayn, peace be upon him, from his father, peace be upon him, who said: 'I heard the Messenger of Allah, blessings on him and his family, say "One night's fever expiates a year's sins."'

By this chain of transmitters from 'Abd Allah b. Sinan, who said: I was in Mecca and had kept secret something no one but Allah, the Mighty and Sublime, knew. When I arrived in Medina, I called on Abu 'Abd Allah al-Sadiq, peace be upon him. He looked at me, then said: "Ask Allah's forgiveness for that which you have concealed and do not make known." I said: "I ask Allah's forgiveness." He ['Abd Allah b. Sinan] said: The medial vein (*al-'irq al-madini*) on one of my feet (*al-riji*) had become prominent. When I bid him [al-Sadiq] farewell— that was before the vein became prominent— he said to me, "Whosoever suffers and is patient, the decree of Allah credits him with a reward of a thousand martyrs."

'Abd Allah b Sinan said: When I reached the second stage [on the return journey] the vein became prominent, and I continued suffering for months. When I performed the Hajj the next year, I called on Abu 'Abd Allah, peace be upon him, and said to him: "Invoke Allah's protection for my foot." I told him that this foot was painning me. He replied: "Never mind this foot. Give me your healthy foot and Allah will heal you." So I stretched the other foot out before him and he invoked Allah's protection over it. When I stood up and bid him farewell and reached the second stage, the vein became prominent in the foot. I said: "By Allah, he did not protect it, but only caused an affliction." I suffered for three nights, then Allah, the Mighty and Sublime, cured me and the invocation benefited me.

The invocation is: "In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate: O Allah, I ask You by Your Pure, Immaculate, Most Holy and Blessed Name, by Which whoever asks of You, You grant him, and by Which whoever calls on You, You answer him, to bless Muhammad and his family, and to heal the suffering in my head (*al-ra's*), my hearing (*al-sam'*), my sight (*al-basar*), my belly, my back (*al-zahr*),

my hand (*al-yad*) my foot, my body (*al-jasad*), and in all my organs (*al-a'da'*) and limbs (*al-jawarih*). Surely You are Gracious to whomsoever You will, and You are Powerful over all things.”

He said: Al-Khazzaz al-Razi narrated from Faddala, from Aban b. ‘Uthman from Abu Hamza al-Thumali from al-Baqir, peace be upon him, from Amir al-Mu’minin, peace be upon him, who said: ‘Whosoever is afflicted with a pain in his body, let him invoke protection for himself and say: “I take refuge in the Might of Allah and His Power over things. I seek protection for myself in the Omnipotent of the heavens. I seek protection for myself in the One with Whose Name no disease harms. I seek refuge for myself in the One Whose Name is a blessing and a cure.” If he recites that, no pain or illness will afflict him.’

‘Ali b. Ibrahim al-Wasiti narrated from Mahbub from Muhammad b. Sulayman al-Awdi from Abu Jarud from Abu Ishaq from al-Harith al-A’war, who said: I complained to Amir al-Mu’minin, peace be upon him, of aches and pains in my body. He said: ‘When anyone of you suffers [from pain], let him recite: “In the Name of Allah and by Allah, and blessings of Allah on the Messenger of Allah and his family. I take refuge from the evil that I suffer in the Might of Allah and His Power over what He wills.” If he recites that, Allah will turn away the affliction from him, if He, the Exalted, wills.’

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