

The Tijani Wadhifah

Introduction

The Tijani Wadhifah (“daily office”) is a litany performed by adherents to the Tijani path on a daily basis, in congregation if possible. Much like the four positions of canonical prayer (i.e. standing, bowing, prostrating, and sitting), it consists of four repeated formulas of remembrance (seeking forgiveness, prayer on the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), testimony to the oneness of God, and a longer prayer on the Prophet (peace be upon him)), with a few extra phrases said before, after, and between each of the four fundamentals. As with all other aspects of the Tijani path, which is also known as “the path of Muhammad (peace be upon him)” and “the path of scholars,” everything in the Wadhifah has its basis in the Qur’an and the life example of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Although anyone is welcome to join in and recite the Wadhifah, only believing Muslims who are in a state of major and minor purity with water (i.e. “wudu”, not “tayummum”) may recite the last fundamental, i.e. the longer prayer on the Prophet (peace be upon him) known as The Jewel of Perfection. It is during the last five recitations of this final fundamental that the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his four successors (may God be pleased with them) visit the gathering—hence why a white sheet is often placed in the middle of the gathering, on which to receive them.

The Text

- Preparation: Seeking Refuge (Ta’awwudh)

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ.

a’ūdhu billāhi minash-shayṭānir-raġīm.

“I seek refuge in God from the reviled and rejected Satan.”

- Opening: Qur’an Chapter 1 (Surat al-Fatihah)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ
الْعَالَمِينَ، الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ، مَالِكِ يَوْمِ
الدِّينِ. إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ. اهْدِنَا
الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ، صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ
عَلَيْهِمْ، غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا
الضَّالِّينَ. آمِينَ.

Bismillāhir-rahmānir-rahīmil-ḥamdu lillāhi rabbil-‘ālamīn, ar-rahmānir-rahīm, māliki yawmid-dīn. iyyāka na’budu wa iyyāka nasta’in. ihdinaṣ-ṣirāṭal-mustaqīm, ṣirāṭal-ladhīna an’amta ‘alayhim, ḡhayril-maḡḡdūbi ‘alayhim wa laḡḡḡālīn. āmīn.

“In the name of God, the Most Widely and Deeply Merciful. All praise belongs to God, Lord of the Worlds, Most Widely and Deeply Merciful, Owner of the Day of Recompense. You alone we worship, and from You alone we seek help. Guide us to the straight path, the path of those whom You have blessed, not of those who incur anger, nor of those who are astray. Amen.”

- First Fundamental: Seeking Forgiveness (Istighfar) 30 times

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ
الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ.

astaghfirullāhal-‘adhīmal-ladhī lā ilāha illā huwal-ḡayyul-qayyūm.

“I seek forgiveness from God, the Immense, other than whom there is no god but He, the Living, the Sustainer of all.”

- Second Fundamental: The Prayer of the Opener (Salatul-Fatihah) 50 times

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، الْفَاتِحِ لِمَا
أُغْلِقَ، وَالْخَاتِمِ لِمَا سَبَقَ، نَاصِرِ الْحَقِّ
بِالْحَقِّ، وَالْهَادِي إِلَى صِرَاطِكَ الْمُسْتَقِيمِ،
وَعَلَى آلِهِ حَقَّ قَدْرِهِ وَمِقْدَارِهِ الْعَظِيمِ.

Allāhumma ṣalli ‘alā sayyidinā muḡammadinil-fātiḡi limā uḡḡliqa, wal-ḡḡāṭimi limā sabaqa, nāṣiril-ḡaḡqi bil-ḡaḡqi, wal-hāḡī ilā ṣirāṭiḡal-mustaqīm, wa ‘alā āliḡi ḡaḡqa qadriḡi wa miqdāriḡil-‘adhīm.

“O God, send prayer upon Our Master Muhammad—the opener of what was closed, and the seal to what preceded, the one who brings victory to the Truth by the Truth, and the guide to Your straight path—and upon his household, as is the due of his rank and his immense measure.”

- Conclusion of Salatul-Fatihah: Qur’an 37:180-2

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ رَبِّ الْعِزَّةِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ،
وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ، وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ
الْعَالَمِينَ.

subḡhāna rabbika rabbil-‘izzati ‘ammā yaṣifūn, wa salāmūn ‘alal-mursalīn, wal-ḡḡamdu lillāhi rabbil-‘ālamīn.

“May your Lord, the Lord of Might, be exalted above how they wrongfully describe Him, may peace be upon the messengers, and all praise is due to God, Lord of the Worlds.”

- Third Fundamental: Saying the Testimony of Faith (Tablīl) 100 times

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ.

lā ilāha illal-lāh.

“There is no deity but God.”

- Completion of the Testimony of Faith: Saying the Second Testimony of Faith

سَيِّدُنَا مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ، عَلَيْهِ سَلَامٌ اللَّهُ.

sayyidunā muḡammadur-rasūlul-lāh, ‘alayḡi salāmul-lāh.

“Our Master Muhammad is the Messenger of God, may God’s peace be upon him.”

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- **Fourth Fundamental: The Jewel of Perfection (*Jawbaratul-Kamal*) 12 times**

N.B.: one should only recite this if in a state of ritual purification by water (wudu'), and if one can be seated on the ground for at least the last 5 repetitions. Otherwise, one stays silent while the group recites it, or, if alone, one replaces it with 20 Salat-ul-Fatibi (see "Second Fundamental," above).

Also note that one raises one's hands in supplication for the last repetition.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى عَيْنِ الرَّحْمَةِ
الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ وَالْيَاقُوتَةِ الْمُتَحَقِّقَةِ الْحَائِطَةِ
بِمَرْكَزِ الْفُهْمِ وَالْمَعَانِي، وَتُورِ الْأَكْوَانِ
الْمُتَكَوِّنَةِ الْأَدْمِيَّيِّ صَاحِبِ الْحَقِّ الرَّبَّانِيِّ،
الْبَرِّقِ الْأَسْطَعِ بِمَرْوَنِ الْأَرْيَاحِ الْمَالِيَّةِ لِكُلِّ
مُتَعَرِّضٍ مِنَ الْبُحُورِ وَالْأَوَانِي، وَتُورِكَ
اللَّامِعِ الَّذِي مَلَأَتْ بِهِ كَوْتَكَ الْحَائِطِ
بِأَمْكِنَةِ الْمَكَانِي. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى
عَيْنِ الْحَقِّ الَّتِي تَتَجَلَّى مِنْهَا عُرُوشُ
الْحَقَائِقِ عَيْنِ الْمَعَارِفِ الْأَقْوَمِ صِرَاطِكَ
التَّامِّ الْأَسْفَمِ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى
طَلْعَةِ الْحَقِّ بِالْحَقِّ الْكَنْزِ الْأَعْظَمِ
إِفَاضَتِكَ مِنْكَ إِلَيْكَ إِحَاطَةَ النُّورِ
الْمُطْلَسَمِ، صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ
صَلَاةً تُعَرِّفُنَا بِهَا إِيَّاهُ.

Allāhumma ṣalli wa sallim
'alā 'aynir-raḥmatir-
rabbaniyyati wal-yāqūtatil-
mutaḥaqqiqatil-ḥā'iṭati
bimarkazil-fuhūmi wal-
ma'ānī, wa nūril-akwānil-
mutakawwinatil-ādamiyy
ṣāḥibil-ḥaqqir-rabbāniyy, al-
barqil-aṣṭa'ī bimuzūnil-
arbāḥil-mālī'ati likulli
muta'arriḍin minal-buḥūri
wal-awānī, wanūrikal-lāmi'il-
ladhī mala'ta bihi kawnakal-
ḥā'iṭa bi'amkanatil-makānī.
Allāhumma ṣalli wa sallim
'alā 'aynihil-ḥaqqil-latī tatajallā
minhā 'urūshul-ḥaqā'iqi
'aynil-ma'ārifil-aqwami
ṣirāṭikat-tāmmil-asqam.
Allāhumma ṣalli wa sallim
'alā ṭal'atil-ḥaqqi bil-ḥaqqil-
kanzil-a'dḥami ifāḍatika
minka ilayka iḥāṭatin-nūril-
muṭalsam, ṣallal-lāhu 'alayhi
wa 'alā ālihi ṣalātan
tu'arrifunā bihā iyyāh.

“O God, send prayer and peace upon the wellspring of divine mercy and the actualized ruby that contains the focal point of all understandings and meanings, the Adamic light of all constituted creations and possessor of divine Truth, the brightest flash of lightning that comes with profitable rainclouds that fill every body of water and container ready to receive them, and Your sparkling light by which You filled all Your creation, containing all places. O God, send prayer and peace upon the wellspring of the Truth, from which the thrones of realities become manifest, the source of the most upright knowledges, Your complete and straightest path. O God, send prayer and peace upon the emergence of the Truth by the Truth, the most immense treasure, that which You made to flood out from You to You, the encompassment of cryptic light— may God send prayer upon him and his family, a prayer by which You give us knowledge of him.”

- **Conclusion of Prayer on the Prophet with Qur'an 33:56**

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا
أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.

innal-lāha wa mala'ikatahu
yuṣallūna 'alan-nabiyy. yā
ayyuhal-ladhīna āmanū ṣallū
'alayhi wa sallimū taslīmā.

“Indeed, God and His angels send prayer upon the Prophet. O you who believe, send prayer and complete peace upon him.”

- **Fulfillment of the Command in Qur'an 33:56**

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلِّمْ
تَسْلِيمًا

ṣallal-lāhu 'alayhi wa 'alā
ālihi wa ṣaḥbihi wa sallama
taslīmā.

“May God send prayer and complete peace upon him, his family, and his companions.”

- **Conclusion of Whole Litany with Qur'an 37:180-2**

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ رَبِّ الْعِزَّةِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ،
وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ، وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ
الْعَالَمِينَ.

subḥāna rabbika rabbil-
'izzati 'ammā yaṣifūn wa
salāmun 'alal-mursalīn wal-
ḥamdu lillāhi rabbil-'ālamīn.

“May your Lord, the Lord of Might, be exalted above how they wrongfully describe Him, may peace be upon the messengers, and all praise is due to God, Lord of the Worlds.”



FORMS OF REMEMBRANCE OFTEN SAID AFTER THE WADHIFAH

- **“God Suffices Us” 450 times (may be divided up amongst the congregants)**

حُسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ.

ḥasbunal-lāhu wa ni'mal-
wakīl.

“God suffices us, and what an excellent trustee He is.”

- **“O Subtly Kind and Aware” 129 times**

يَا لَطِيفُ.

yā laṭīf.

“O Subtly Kind and Aware!”