

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلُودِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَأْنُ يُصْلِّي عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

The Imam gave Charity Secretly

There is no doubt that Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was one of the most famous Muhaddith of his time. He used to always visit a place in Syria called Tar-tus. There was an area called "Riqqah" and this was where he was mostly seen. When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - stayed here for a few days, many people used to visit him including a young man who used to serve him and whatever the great Imam needed, the young man was ever willing to help and assist. In this way, the great Imam developed a great fondness for this young man.

The young man used to also learn some Ahadith from Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him*. One day when the great Imam arrived in this village, he noticed that the young man was missing. Since he was in a hurry, he

continued on his journey and a few days later he returned to the same village. While he was there, he asked the people about the young man. They replied that he was in debt with someone and because he could not pay the debt, the person owed the money had initiated a case against him and he had been jailed. When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - asked the amount of debt which was owed by the young man, the people replied that he owed a certain person ten thousand Dirhams. The great Imam then began to search for the person to whom this money was owed and finally he met with this person at night.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - said to the person, "I am prepared to repay the debt of this young man but on one condition."

The person asked what this condition was and he replied, "As long as I am alive, you must never reveal my name to the young man. He must never know who repaid his debt."

The person agreed to this and the great Imam gave him the money.

Since it was already quiet late, the authorities could only release the young man in the morning. However, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - departed that same night on another journey.

The next day, the young man came to know that the great Imam had been to the village and had also inquired about him. When he heard this, he decided to go looking for the great Imam. He then met the great Imam in the next village.

When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Mubaarak - *may Allah be pleased with him* - met him, he asked the young where he was because he had arrived in his village but did not meet him. The young man replied that he had some problems with some debt and had to spend some time in jail.

The great Imam acted as if he knew nothing and asked what had happened and how he had been freed. The young man then revealed the entire story that someone had repaid his debt but he himself did not know who this person was. He then asked the young

man to continue to make Du'a for this person all the time, never revealing what had actually happened. (Sayr 'Alaam, Taarikh Baghdad)

There is no doubt that these are those blessed people who have been indicated to in the following Hadith. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, "On the Day of Judgement, there will be seven types of people who will enjoy the Shade of the Divine Arsh on that Day in which there will be no shade but this Shade. One of those lucky people will be that person who had given charity secretly. In fact, he had given charity so secretly that his left hand did not come to know what his right hand had given. (Sahih Bukhari Shareef, Sahih Muslim Shareef)