

A Devotional Supplication Revealed by the Báb in Honour of Siyyid Kāẓim Rashtī: Containing an Allusion of Profound Significance

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Introduction and background:

What follows is a provisional English translation of a devotional supplication revealed by the Báb in honour of Siyyid Kāẓim Rashtī, the eminent Shaykhī leader and distinguished companion on the spiritual path. This sacred text, imbued with profound reverence and subtle allusions, provides insight into the spiritual relationship between the Báb and His revered predecessor. Rendered into English with the utmost fidelity to its exalted tone and theological depth, this translation aims to preserve both the spiritual resonance and elevated register of the original Arabic. The text of this prayer is published in *Nasím-i Şaharī*, p. 81, by Dr. Vahíd Rafatí. However, he does not indicate the date of its revelation.

The Báb reveals:

“Praise be unto God, Who bringeth into being whatsoever He willeth by His command. And verily He knoweth all that is in the heavens and on the earth. Glorified and exalted is He above all that they describe...

And Thou didst raise Me up from the pathway of the sea unto the habitations of Thy sanctity¹, in the precincts of Thy trusted ones, the custodians of Thy Wisdom, the pillars of Thy Unity, the martyrs who bore witness before all creation, and the chosen ones among Thy servants.

Until there was consummated, in that place, that which Thou hadst ordained for Me in the hidden knowledge of Thine unseen realm.

And Thou didst nurture Me through Thy bounty, without My having acquired knowledge at the feet of any among the learned of that land.

¹ This refers to the Báb's journey from Búshíhr to Karbala, undertaken in 1839–1840 C.E., where He remained for approximately one year. See *Nabil-i-A'zam*, *The Dawn-Breakers*, trans. Shoghi Effendi (Wilmette: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 1932), pp. 91–92.

Except that Thou didst console Me, on many a day, through the presence of one among Thy servants²—him whom Thou hadst made master over his self, strengthened his heart with the spirit of faith, and inspired with that which caused him to forget all else within his inmost being.

Then, after that, Thou didst ordain for Me to descend³, until I sought leave from the sanctified retreats, and returned from the sacred lands unto the land upon whereon I was born⁴...”

A Devotional Supplication Revealed by the Báb in Honour of Siyyid Kāzīm Rashtī — Based on a Typescript of the Original Arabic

الحمد لله الذي يبدع ما يشاء بامرهِ و أنه ليعلم ما في السموات وما في الارض سبحانه و تعالى عما يصفون... و ارفعتنى من سبيل البحر الى مساكن قدسك في جوار امناء وحيك و اركان توحيدك و شهدائك على خلقك و اصفائك من عبادك حتى قضى على هنالك ما قدرت لي في علم الغيب و ربيتي بفضلك من دون ان اتعلم عند احد من علماء تلك الارض الا نسنتي في كثير من الايام بمحضر احد من عبادك الذي عرفته حكم نفسه و ايدته بروح الايمان في فؤاده و الهتمته ما ينسى الكل في سرّه ثم بعد ذلك قد قضيت لي النزول حتى استأذنت من محال القدس و رجعت عن الاراضى المقدسة الى الارض التي ولدت عليها

² This is a reference to Siyyid Kāzīm Rashtī.

³ The term ‘descent’ here denotes the Báb’s departure from the sanctified precincts, marking his return to his earthly birthplace.

⁴ Shíráz, the birthplace of the Báb.