

When Entering The Market Place

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ،
لَهُ الْمُلْكُ، وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ، يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ، وَهُوَ حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ،
بِيَدِهِ الْخَيْرُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

La i-lā-ha il-lal-lāh waḥ-da-hu lā sha-ree-ka la-hu, la-hu-l-mul-ku wa la-hu-l-ḥam-du, yuḥ-ye wa
yu-mee-tu, wa hu-wa ḥay-yun lā ya-moo-tu, Bi-ya-di-hi-l-khai-ru, wa hu-wa 'a-lā kul-li shay-in
Qa-deer.¹

None has the right to be worshipped except Allāh, alone, without any partner. His is the kingdom and His is the praise. He gives life and He causes death. He is the Ever-Living and He does not die. In His Hand is all good, and He is Able to do all things.

The text of the Hadeeth:

On the authority of Umar Bin Al-Khattāb (may Allāh be pleased with him), from the Messenger of Allāh (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam), that he said: "Whoever entered the *Sooq* (market-place) and then said: '**Lā i-lā-ha il-lal-lāh waḥ-da-hu lā sha-ree-ka la-hu . . .**', - Allāh will **record** for him one million (1,000,000) good deeds, and **erase** from his record one million (1,000,000) bad deeds, and **raise him up** one million (1,000,000) degrees (i.e., in Paradise)."²

This Hadeeth was also reported with the additional words: "...and (Allāh) will **build** for him a house in Paradise."³

Explanation of the Hadeeth:

The statement of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Lā i-lā-ha il-lal-lāh**" (None has the right to be worshipped except Allāh) means: There is nothing that has the right to be worshipped (in truth) except Allāh, the Most High.

¹ Fortress of the Muslim, no. 209.

² Reported by at-Tirmidhee, no. 2726, Ibn Mājah, no 2226 and others. Shaykh al-Albānee said that it is Ḥasan (Good).

³ Saḥeeḥ al-Jāmi', no. 6231. Shaykh al-Albānee said that it is Ḥasan (Good).

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Waḥ-da-hu**" (Alone) is to re-emphasize the *affirmation* that Allāh Alone has the right to be worshipped.

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Lā sha-ree-ka la-hu**" (Without any partner) is to re-emphasize the *negation* of the right to be worshipped for anyone other than Allāh.

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**La-hu-l-mul-ku wa la-hu-l-ḥamdu**" (His is the kingdom and His is the Praise) means: The kingdom and dominion of the Heavens and Earth all belong to Him; every created being is under His authority. Both the dominion and all praise are exclusively His right, while no one other than Him has any share in either of them. Allāh is praised due to His Qualities of perfection, due to all that He has created, the wise and just laws that He has legislated, as well as the innumerable bounties which He continuously showers upon His creatures.

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Yuḥ-yee wa yu-mee-tu**" (He gives life and He causes death) means: He, Alone, is the One who controls every affair, especially the greatest of all affairs, i.e., giving life and causing death.

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Wa hu-wa ḥay-yun lā ya-moo-tu**" (He is the Ever-Living and He does not die) means: He is the Ever-Living, Whose life is perfect, absolute, and never-ending, while every other life must come to an inevitable end (i.e., death).

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Bi Ya-di-hi-l-khair**" (In His Hand is all good) means: Good is not in the hands of anyone other than Allāh. Although only good has been mentioned here, in reality all matters, including good and evil, are in the Hands of Allāh, Who controls everything. Evil has not been mentioned here - out of respect to Allāh - so that no one will attribute evil to Him.

His saying (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "**Wa hu-wa 'a-la kul-li shay'in Qa-deer**" (And He is Able to do all things) means: Allāh, Alone, controls life and death, good and evil, and everything in existence.

The reward for one who recites these words upon entering the market-place *reflecting* upon its meaning, *believing* in it *sincerely* from the Heart, is that Allāh will:

1. **Record** for him *one million good deeds*, i.e., in his record of deeds, kept by the noble recording Angels;
2. **Erase** from his record *one million evil deeds*;
3. **Raise** him up *one million degrees* (i.e., in Paradise) above the station which he had achieved before reciting these words, since the *raising* of degrees is the result of the *increase* in good deeds.
4. **Build** for him a house in Paradise.

The wisdom behind the achievement of this tremendous reward is due to the distinction earned by someone who remembers Allāh and busies himself with affairs concerning the Hereafter - in exaltation of Allāh - while being surrounded by the people of the marketplace who are totally occupied with trading and making money, making false oaths and telling lies in order to sell their goods, totally *unmindful* of the remembrance of their Lord. There is no doubt that the one who remembers Allāh in

this situation is deserving of a great reward from his Lord. Additionally, the greatness of his reward is in consideration of the central themes contained in this Hadeeth, i.e.,

A. That Allāh, Alone, deserves all worship (*Tawheed*), and

B. The praise and glorification of Allāh - with the beautiful qualities and characteristics mentioned in this Hadeeth, including: sovereignty, power, controlling life and death, and possessing all good, etc.

[Taken from: '*Reflections Upon Selected Daily Supplications*' - Abu Muhammad]