

The Preface Prayer

IN THE NAME OF GOD,
THE ALL-COMPASSIONATE AND MOST MERCIFUL

Praise be to God for His bringing the most
excellent success! I ask Him for:

guidance to follow His Path;

inspiration that is based upon the verification
of His Reality; 5

a heart of certainty that is orientated to confirming
His Truth;

a mind that is illumined by the providential grace
of recognising His Foreknowledge;

a spirit refreshed and gladdened by ardent desire 10
of Him;

a *soul at peace* from ignorance and being enveloped
in its clouds;

an understanding radiating with the flashes of
thought and its brilliance; 15

an innermost heart flourishing with the *spring-*
waters of illumination and its pure *nectar*;

speech strewn upon the carpet of expansion and its
clarification;

20 thought exalted above the apparent finery of the
ephemeral and its embellishment;

insight able to witness the secret mystery of Being
in the setting of creation and its rising;

senses maintained in full health by the refreshing
25 breeze of the Spirit and its smoothing the way;

a primordial natural constitution purified from the
ailment of falling short and its veiling
conditioning;

a disposition completely responsive to the reins
30 of Divine Law and its authority;

a [state at each] moment conducive to His uniting and
His distinguishing;

And a blessing-prayer and peace-greetings upon
Muhammad and his family and his company, and the
35 successors who came after him and the community of
those who follow his path – may they all be greeted
with peace.

The One desired is God, both in Being and in witness-
ing. He is the One intended, without any [possibility
40 of] denial or disclaimer.

For *He is sufficient for me, the most excellent Trustee.*