



Du‘ā 36:  
When **Hearing Thunder** in  
the *Sahīfa* with two  
translations



Translation by Dr. William C. Chittick	Translation by Ahmad Ali Muhani	Text of the Du‘ā in Arabic
<i>His Supplication when looked upon Clouds and Lightning and Heard the Sound of Thunder</i>	<i>One of his prayers on seeing clouds and lightning and hearing the sound of thunder</i>	وَكَانَ مِنْ دُعَائِهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ إِذَا نَظَرَ إِلَى السَّحَابِ وَ الْبَرْقِ وَسَمِعَ صَوْتِ الرَّعْدِ
1. O Allah, these are two of Your signs and these are two of Your helpers. They rush to obey You with beneficial mercy or injurious vengeance, so rain not down upon us from them the evil rain (Cf. Q 25:40) and clothe us not through them in the garment of affliction!	1. O Allah, these two are two of Your Signs. Both of these are two of Your assistants prompt in serving You by (diffusing) beneficial grace, or severe punishment. Therefore do not let them shower on us an evil rain. Do not, by them, put on us garments of calamity (i.e. involve us in calamity by means of them).	(1) اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ هَذَيْنِ آيَاتِنِ مِنْ آيَاتِكَ، وَهَذَيْنِ عَوْنَانِ مِنْ أَعْوَانِكَ، يَبْتَذِرَانِ طَاعَتَكَ بِرَحْمَةٍ نَافِعَةٍ أَوْ نِقْمَةٍ ضَارَّةٍ، فَلَا تُمَطِّرْنَا بِهِمَا مَطَرِ السَّوْءِ، وَلَا تُلْبِسْنَا بِهِمَا لِبَاسَ الْبَلَاءِ
2. O Allah, bless Muhammad and his Household, send down upon us the benefit of these clouds and their blessing, turn away from us their harm and their injury, strike us not through them with blight, and loose not upon our livelihoods any bane!	2. O Allah, bless Muhammad and his Ā1 (family). Send down on us the benefit of these clouds and their blessing. Turn away from us its torment and injury. Do not (through it) visit us with affliction. Do not send down any blight on our means of support.	(2) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَأَنْزِلْ عَلَيْنَا نَفْعَ هَذِهِ السَّحَابِ وَ بَرَكَتَهَا، وَاصْرِفْ عَنَّا أَذَاهَا وَ مَضَرَّتَهَا، وَلَا تُصِبنَا فِيهَا بِآفَةٍ، وَلَا تُرْسِلْ عَلَيَّ مَعَايِشِنَا عَاهَةً
3. O Allah, if You have incited them as vengeance and loosed them in anger, we seek sanctuary with You from Your wrath and implore You in asking Your pardon! So incline with wrath toward the idolaters and set the millstone of Your vengeance turning upon the heretics! (i.e., those who deviate from right way)	3. O Allah, if You have raised it (the cloud) by way of torment and sent it on account of displeasure, then verily we crave Your Shelter from Your Wrath and cry unto You to beg Your Pardon. Therefore, turn with Wrath towards the (worshippers) of many gods. Set in motion the mill of Your Chastisement for the unbelievers.	(3) اللَّهُمَّ وَإِنْ كُنْتَ بَعَثْتَهَا نِقْمَةً وَأَرْسَلْتَهَا سَحْطَةً فَإِنَّا نَسْتَجِيرُكَ مِنْ غَضَبِكَ، وَنَبْتَهِلُ إِلَيْكَ فِي سُؤَالِ عَفْوِكَ، فَمِنْ بِالْغَضَبِ إِلَى الْمُشْرِكِينَ، وَأَدِرْ رَحَى نِقْمَتِكَ عَلَى الْمُلْحِدِينَ.
4. O Allah, take away the barrenness of our lands with	4. O Allah, remove the dryness of our cities with	(4) اللَّهُمَّ أَذْهَبْ مَحَلَّ بِلَادِنَا

<p>Your watering, dislodge the malice from our breasts with Your providing, distract us not from You through other than You, and cut none of us off from the stuff of Your goodness, for the rich is he to whom You have given riches, and the safe he whom You have protected!</p>	<p>Your watering. Remove the suspicion of our breasts by supplying us with nourishment from You. Do not remove us from You in favour of some other than You. Do not cut off from all of us the cause of Your Benevolence, for verily prosperous is he whom You make so. He whom You preserve is safe.</p>	<p>بِسْمِيَاكَ، وَأُخْرِجْ وَحَرَ صُدُورِنَا بِرِزْقِكَ، وَلَا تَشْغَلْنَا عَنْكَ بِعَيْرِكَ، وَلَا تَقْطَعْ عَنَّا كَافِتِنَا مَادَّةَ بَرِّكَ، فَإِنَّ الْعَنِيَّ مَن أَغْنَيْتَ، وَإِنَّ السَّالِمَ مَن وَقَيْتَ</p>
<p>5. No one has any defence against You, nor any means to bar Your penalty, You decides what You will for whom You will and You decree what You desire for any whom You desire!</p>	<p>5. None has a defender besides You and none can restrain Your Wrath. You command whatever You will upon whomsoever You choose and decree what You resolve for whomsoever You do determine it.</p>	<p>(5) مَا عِنْدَ أَحَدٍ دُونَكَ دِفَاعٌ، وَلَا بِأَحَدٍ عَن سَطْوَتِكَ امْتِنَاعٌ، تَحْكُمُ بِمَا شِئْتَ عَلَى مَن شِئْتَ وَتَقْضِي بِمَا أَرَدْتَ فِيمَن أَرَدْتَ</p>
<p>6. So to You belongs praise for protecting us from affliction and to You belongs thanks for conferring upon us blessings, a praise which will leave behind the praise of the praisers, a praise which will fill the earth and the heaven!</p>	<p>6. Therefore, all praise is due unto You for such affliction as You have defended us from. You deserve all gratitude for what You have given us of Your Blessing – a praise that would surpass the praise of those that praise, a praise that would fill earth and heaven.</p>	<p>(6) فَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ عَلَى مَا وَقَيْتَنَا مِنَ الْبَلَاءِ، وَلَكَ الشُّكْرُ عَلَى مَا حَوَّلْتَنَا مِنَ النِّعَمَاءِ، حَمْدًا يُحْلِفُ حَمْدَ الْحَامِدِينَ وَرَاءَهُ، حَمْدًا يَمَلَأُ أَرْضَهُ وَسَمَاءَهُ</p>
<p>7. Surely You are the All-kind through immense kindnesses, the Giver of abounding favours, the Acceptor of small praise, the Grateful for little gratitude, the Beneficent. The Benevolent, Possessor of graciousness! There is no God but You; <i>unto You is the homecoming.</i> (Q 2: 285)</p>	<p>7. Verily, You are the Giver of magnificent gifts, the Bestower of great favours, the Acceptor of the smallest praise, the Rewarder for the least gratitude, the Benevolent Patron,  The Master of Generosity, there being no god besides You and unto You is our return.</p>	<p>(7) إِنَّكَ الْمَنَّانُ بِجِسِيمِ الْمَنِّ، الْوَهَّابُ لِعَظِيمِ النِّعَمِ، الْقَابِلُ بِيسِيرِ الْحَمْدِ، الشَّاكِرُ قَلِيلِ الشُّكْرِ، الْمُحْسِنُ الْمُجْمِلُ دُو الطَّوْلِ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ، إِلَيْنِكَ الْمَصِيرُ .</p>