

حق ا على على مولاه على!

Haq! 'Ali, 'Ali, Maulah, 'Ali!  
Qawwali performed by Nusrat Fatah 'Ali Khan.

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by

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## Notes:

This hadith text is called the Qaul (saying) of the Prophet and it forms part of virtually every Qawwali performance in the Sub-continent either at the beginning or (most often) at the close. (Qureshi, 1986, pp. 20-22)

Girāmi is the pen-name of the poet of this section of the qawwali, which is in Persian.

This next section, still in Persian is by Ghâlib. Haider (arabic: lion) is one of the common titles of 'Ali.

The language of the rest of the qawwali is for the most part Urdu.

Khaibar, an oasis to the north of Madina, was defeated during one of the campaigns of Muhammad by 'Ali after Abu Bakr and 'Umar had failed.

(Guillaume, 1955, pp. 510-519)

Yazdân – a pre-Islamic Persian word for God.

Re is a shortened form of the Hindi exclamation, are!

"If a person has me for his master, then Ali, surely he, yes he will be his master." (Hadith of the Prophet)

Ali is my Imam and I am the servant of Ali.

A thousand noble\* souls sacrifice themselves in devotion to the name of Ali.

I belong to Haider\*; I am a wandering dervish, intoxicated.

I am the favoured servant of Ali.

I may be the foremost of those quite drunk [with ecstasy],  
But I'm a mere street-dog belonging to the Lion of God.

Sometimes the wall sways; sometimes the door begins to tremble.

At the very mention of the name of Ali, Khaibar\* begins to tremble.

Lion of God\*, O Ali. "Ali is his master, Ali."

When my life goes forth from my body, may these words be on my lips.

When, o\* when that happens, o my soul . . .

مَنْ كُنْتُ مَوْلَاهُ فَعَلِيٌّ فَإِنَّ هَذَا فَهَذَا مَوْلَاهُ

علی امام من است و منم غلام علی.  
ہزار جانِ گرامی فدای نام علی.

حیدری ام قلندرم مستم  
بندہء مرتضای علی ہستم.

پیشوای تمام رندانم  
کہ سگِ کوی شیرِ یزدانم

کبھی دیوار ہلتی ہے - کبھی در کانپ جاتا ہے -  
علی کا نام سن کر، اب بھی خیبر کانپ جاتا ہے -

شاہِ مردان اے علی . . . . علی مولاہ علی . . .

جب جان تن سے نکلے لب پہ میرے یہی ہوگا  
جب رہے جب رہے، اے منوا . . .

Târe = Tâle

Mushkil kushâ (Persian: lit. Opener of problems)—  
one of the titles of 'Ali.

La fatâ illâ 'Alî— variously attributed to Muham-  
mad or to an angelic voice from heaven at the  
battle of Badr (624 A.D.). This saying formed the  
basis of an idea of chivalry in Islam. See the arti-  
cle on "Futûwa" in the Encyclopedia of Islam.

This name alone, my love, is faithful.

May this name take away\* all your sufferings.

The blessing of this name alone has  
opened up the mystery of reality.  
Join the song !

Ali, Ali is his master!

Why would I call upon someone who has no power?

I call upon the one who fulfils everyone's need.

I make appeal to the Lion of God.

Get out of my sight, Trouble,

Or I will call upon the Solver of Problems\*

Because he is my Ali, Ali.

Ali, Ali is his master.

Prince of men, O Ali!

"There is no young hero but Ali."\*

Lion of God, O Ali!

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

On my body be "Ali, Ali!", on my tongue "Ali Ali!"

If I die, write "Ali, Ali!" on my shroud.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

یہی نام سچا ہے پیارے  
یہی نام ترے سب دکھ تارے  
اسی نام کی برکت نے دیا رازِ حقیقت کھول  
تو بھی گا!

علی علی مولاہ!

کب کسی بینوا سے کہتا ہوں ؟  
سب کے حاجت روا سے کہتا ہوں  
بات شیر خدا سے کہتا ہوں  
دور ہو جا نظر سے ، اے مشکل ،  
ورنہ مشکل کشا سے کہتا ہوں !  
کیونکہ وہ ہیں میرے علی علی -  
علی علی مولاہ

شاہ مردان اے علی!

"لا فتی الا علی!"

شیر یزدان اے علی!

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

تن پر علی علی ہو زیاں پر علی علی!

مر جائوں تو کفن پہ بھی لکھنا علی علی!

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

This line and several others which follow show how important the person of 'Ali has become in Sufi devotion.

Without the love of Ali, the goal is never reached.

Nor is union ever achieved in prayer.

Servants of God! Hear what God swears:

"The one who doesn't encounter 'Ali, does not encounter God."\*

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Countless searches far and wide yielded nothing.

From the Leader we discover the direction of the goal we desire.

If we meet 'Ali, we meet him in the dwelling place of God.

If we search for God, him too will we meet in the house of 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

He who invokes the name of 'Ali with a pure heart,

He alone will taste the joys of eternal life.

Servants of God! Hear what God swears:

"The name of 'Ali will stop those who are falling."

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Halo around the moon of prophethood, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Light in the darkness of futility, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Essence of the message of \* 'Ali, 'Ali!

Heart of the lesson of faith, 'Ali, 'Ali!

بغیر حب علی مدعا نہیں ملتا -

عبادتوں کا بھی ہرگز صلہ نہیں ملتا -

خدا کے بندو سنو غور سے خدا کی قسم

جسے علی نہیں ملتے ، خدا نہیں ملتا .

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

بصد تلاش نہ کچھ وسعت نظر سے ملا

نشانِ منزلِ مقصود راہبر سے ملا

علی ملے تو ملے خانہء خدا سے ہمیں

خدا کو ڈھونڈھا تو وہ بھی علی کے گھر سے ملا

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

خلوصِ دل سے علی کا جو نام لیتا ہے

وہی تو لذتِ عمرِ دوام لیتا ہے .

خدا کے بندو سنو غور سے خدا کی قسم

علی کا نام تو گرتوں کو تھام لیتا ہے!

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

پیغمبری کے چاند کا ہالہ علی علی!

باطل کی تیرگی کا اجالا علی علی!

پیغامِ جوہر علی علی!

ایمان کے سبق کا ہے گوہر علی علی!

\* Indecipherable on the tape.

Jibra'il (Gabriel) was the angel who brought the verses of the Qur'an to Muhammad. It is significant that 'Ali is called the "teacher of Gabriel."

Janūn usually associated with demonic possession, here represents the ecstasy of the Sufi devotee.

Zikr or dhikr (Arabic: recalling) usually means remembering God especially by reciting his 99 Beautiful Names. It is the heart of Sufi piety and worship. It is a mark of the importance of 'Ali that the term and the practice are applied to him. This whole Qawwali, with its repetition of different titles of 'Ali, could well be called Zikr-e-'Ali.

According to tradition, Abu Tâlib, 'Ali's father told his wife who was having difficulty in giving birth to go to the Ka'aba (then the centre of pre-Islamic idolatry) and pray to the gods for help. 'Ali was born there.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Illustrious teacher of Gabriel,\* 'Ali, 'Ali!

Honoured master of creation, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Smile of the foremost of prophets, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Most gracious and honourable source  
of frenzied delight,\* 'Ali, 'Ali!  
Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

The meaning of worship is recalling\*  
the names of 'Ali.

The fulness of the heart of faith is recalling the  
names of 'Ali.

O you who search for what brings peace of  
heart,

What brings peace of heart is recalling the  
names of 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Born of the Ka'aba,\* religion fulfilled,  
'Ali, 'Ali!

Prophethood's first witness, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Ever on the lips of those worthy of heaven,  
'Ali, 'Ali!

The only incomparable one of creation,  
'Ali, 'Ali!

Storehouse of unchanging pleasures, 'Ali, 'Ali!

Symphony of the great achievements of justice,  
'Ali, 'Ali!

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

حق! علی علی مولاه علی علی!

استادِ جبرائیلِ مکرم علی علی!

مولائے کائناتِ معظم علی علی!

سردارِ انبیاء کا تبسم علی علی!

چشمِ جنونِ افضل و اکرم علی علی!

حق! علی علی مولاه علی علی!

عبادتوں کا جو عنوان ہے تو ذکرِ علی۔

کمالِ مرکزِ ایمان ہے تو ذکرِ علی۔

سکونِ قلب کا سامان ڈھونڈھنے والو،

سکونِ قلب کا سامان ہے تو ذکرِ علی۔

حق! علی علی مولاه علی علی!

مولودِ کعبہ ، دینِ مکمل علی علی!

پیغمبری کا شاہدِ اول علی علی!

وردِ زبانِ اہلِ زمانہ علی علی!

یکتائے روزگارِ یگانہ علی علی!

الطافِ بے بدل کا خزانہ علی علی!

انصاف کی عظمتوں کا ترانہ علی علی!

حق! علی علی مولاه علی علی!

Murtaza (Arabic: lit. the one with whom [God] is delighted)—a title of 'Ali.

Mirāj (Arabic: lit. ladder, instrument used for ascent) The journey of Muhammad to heaven on his mount, Burāq.  
Sayyid ul Bashar — a title of Muhammad.

Muhammad went beyond where any other prophet or angel had gone—to the throne (arsh) of God.

A tradition has it that when Muhammad spoke gems came from his mouth.

Wali (Arabic)—a name of God, with a wide range of meanings. Sufis prefer the meaning 'friend'.

According to tradition, when Muhammad reached the throne of God and saw the 'hand of God' he recognized it as the hand of 'Ali. God not having a physical hand called upon 'Ali to provide it when necessary.

Mahfil (Arabic: an occasion of celebration) is the term used for a gathering of Sufis for zikr. The gathering for chanting and singing is called mahfil-e-samā'.

Vision of the truth, lamp of the dawn. How can I express the perfection I saw?

In every atom I saw the radiant Muhammad and Murtaza.\*

God swears that 'Ali shall not be separated from the Prophet, nor the Prophet from 'Ali.

Whoever sees 'Ali, sees the Prophet.

Whoever sees the Prophet sees God.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

When dawn came after the Night Journey,\*

People saw the radiance of the sacred face of the Master of Mankind.\*

His servants said, "Deign to reveal also to us! What you, O master, saw on the heavenly throne."\*

The ruby lips of the gracious Prophet opened to bring forth their gems.\*

"On the throne I saw the extraordinarily exalted position of Haider.

Wherever I went, there was the voice of God."\*

Wherever I looked, I saw 'Ali.\*

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

"Worship means beholding Haider." Thus proclaimed the Prophet.

The vision of Haider. All behold the vision of Haider.

Whoever has a gathering\* held in his honour most surely comes to that gathering.

Come, all behold the vision of Haider!

All behold the vision of Haider!

نظر حقیقت شمع صباہی تو کیا کہوں کس ادا کو دیکھا

ہر اک ذرہ میں جلوہ فرما محمد و مرتضیٰ کو دیکھا

قسم خدا کی علی نبی سے، نبی علی سے جدا نہیں ہے

علی کو دیکھا نبی کو دیکھا

نبی کو دیکھا خدا کو دیکھا !

حق! علی علی مولانا علی!

سحر ہوئی شب معراج کی تو لوگوں نے

جمال پاک رخ سید البشر دیکھا

کہا غلاموں نے "ہم سے بھی کیجیے ارشاد

جو کچھ حضور نے، یا شاہ، عرش پر دیکھا

گوہر فشا ہوئے لعل لب رسول کریم

"عجیب مرتبہ حیدر کا عرش پر دیکھا"

ولی ولی کی صدا تھی جہاں جہاں پہنچے

علی علی نظر آیا جدھر جدھر دیکھا"

حق! علی علی مولانا علی!

دید حیدر کی عبادت ہے یہ فرمان نبی.

دید حیدر کی، سب کر لو دید حیدر کی . . .

جن کی محفل ہو وہ محفل میں ضرور آتے ہیں

اؤ سب کر لو دید حیدر کی!

سب کر لو دید حیدر کی!

Spread out your gazes like coats on the path,  
for He has come!  
Make of your hearts a carpet,  
for He has come!  
"Worship means the vision of Haider." Thus  
proclaimed the Prophet.  
'Ali is the spirit of the Prophet, the body of  
the Prophet, the soul of the Prophet.

The fullness of purification is 'Ali;

The Sword of God's truth,\* 'Ali;

The Pir of pirs, 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

His the lordship over the rulers of both  
the worlds\*.  
His the leadership of the leaders of all the earth.

The beauty of destiny\* is 'Ali.

The vizier\* of the Prophet is 'Ali.

The representation of Truth is 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Our Master 'Ali is the comfort of those poor in  
this world.\*

Whoever has Muhammad as his master,  
'Ali is his Master.\*

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

نگاہوں راہ میں بچھا دو کہ آپ آئے ہیں  
دلوں کو فرش بنا دو کہ آپ آئے ہیں  
دید حیدر کی عبادت ہے یہ فرمانِ نبی.  
ہے علی روحِ نبی، جسمِ نبی، جانِ نبی

کلِ تطہیرِ علی  
حق کی شمشیرِ علی  
پیروں کے پیرِ علی

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

دونوں عالم کے ہے ولیوں پہ ولایت ان کی  
ساری دنیا کے اماموں پہ امامت ان کی

حسنِ تقدیرِ علی ،  
نبی کے وزیرِ علی،  
حق کی تصویرِ علی.

حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

غریباں دا زمانے وچ سہارا ہے علی مولا.  
محمد جس کا مولا اس کا مولا ہے علی مولا.  
حق! علی علی علی مولاہ علی علی!

Haqq literally means "truth" but it is also one of the  
name of God. Hence it is translated here as 'God's truth.

Pir— a Sufi leader, successor to the founder of the order.  
Hence the meaning here is that 'Ali is the foundation of  
the very institution of Sufism.

Donon 'alam— Heaven and earth.

Taqdir (Arabic: lit. God's fixing of the destiny of each  
person from all time)

For the Shi'a, 'Ali was Muhammad's 'right-hand-man'  
and his designated successor.

This line is in Panjabi.

This line is the Urdu translation of the hadith on which  
the qawwali is based, the Qaul.

Saim (Arabic: lit. one who fasts) is the pen-name (takhallus) of the author of this section of the qawwali.

Tradition has it that Muhammad went to the Ka'abah to see how it was with his aunt who had gone there to give birth. She was worried that the child ('Ali) had not opened his eyes. Muhammad took him in his arms and he immediately opened his eyes. He did not see the idols of the Ka'aba but the new prophet of monotheism.

Mâlik-e-taqdîr -- a title we would expect to be applied to God rather than to 'Ali. This is typical of the titles used in the qawwali generally.

Dast-e-illah -- see note above concerning the Mi'raj.

La fatâ -- see note on p. 2 above.

Mustafâ -- one of the more common titles of Muhammad.

His place of birth, O Saim\*, was the sanctuary of the Ka'aba.

When he opened his eyes what did he see but the face of Muhammad.\*

The light of enlightenment is 'Ali.

The full moon which gives us light is 'Ali.

The master of destiny\* is 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

The Hand of God\* is undoubtedly the Lion of God, 'Ali.

The meaning of "Has he come?" is the prince of whom it was said, "There is no other hero"--'Ali. Just as there is only one essence of Muhammad without equal, So there will never be born another 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

The song of the heart of every saint is "Ali, 'Ali!"

The very atmosphere of heaven on high rings with "Ali, 'Ali!"

The one who shows the way to the seeker after God is 'Ali, 'Ali.

The beloved of God's Chosen One\* is 'Ali, 'Ali.

Truly! Ali, Ali, Ali is his master. Ali, Ali!

Prince of mankind, O 'Ali!

"There is no young hero but 'Ali."

Lion of God, O 'Ali!

ان کی، صائم، ہے ولادت کی جگہ حرم کعبہ  
آنکھ کھولی تو چہرہ محمد ہی دیکھا۔

نورِ تنویرِ علی

بدرِ منیرِ علی

مالکِ تقدیرِ علی

حق! علی علی علی مولانا علی علی!

دستِ اللہ کیوں نہ ہو شیرِ خدا علی۔

مقصود "هل اتی؟" ہے شاہ "لا فتی" علی۔

جس طرح ایک ذاتِ محمد ہے بيمثال

پیدا ہوا نہ ہوگا کوئی دوسرا علی۔

حق! علی علی علی مولانا علی علی!

ہر اک ولی کے دل کی صدا ہے "علی علی!"

خلدِ بریں کی آب و ہوا ہے علی علی۔

جو پائے حق کا راہنما ہے علی علی۔

محبوبِ مصطفیٰ خدا ہے علی علی۔

حق! علی علی علی مولانا علی علی!

شاہِ مردان ہے علی! لا فتی الٰہ علی!

شیرِ یزدان ہے علی!



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