

## RAQIB DAN ATID- Recording Angels

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَىٰ الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ،  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَىٰ  
سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَىٰ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May we be forgiven by Allah the Almighty in this life and the hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

We would like to invite everyone in this Friday congregation to enhance understanding of the role of angels sent by Allah the Almighty to monitor and record every human act in the 'book of good and bad deeds'.

As followers of Islam, we must believe that this book that records our good and bad deeds is part of our faith in the angels and the Day of Judgment. On this day, all good and bad deeds of each individual's life will be revealed. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 54 (surah al-Qamar) verse 52 and 53:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ فَعَلُوهُ فِي الزُّبُرِ ﴿٥٢﴾ وَكُلُّ صَغِيرٍ وَكَبِيرٍ مُسْتَطَرٌّ ﴿٥٣﴾

Which means: *And everything they did is in written records. And every small and great [thing] is inscribed.*

Those who were righteous believers and performed good deeds in their lifetime will receive their books from their right hand on The Day of Judgment and the *hisab* (count for every human practice in the world whether good or bad) will be simplified. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 84 (surah al-Insyiqaq) verses 7 till 9:

فَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ بِيَمِينِهِ ﴿٧﴾ فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا ﴿٨﴾ وَنَقَلِبُ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهِ مَسْرُورًا ﴿٩﴾

Which means: *Then as for he who is given his record in his right hand, he will be judged with an easy account and return to his people in happiness.*

Those who had done a lot of evil deeds in their lifetime will receive the book of deeds from their left hand or from behind. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 69 (surah al-Haqqah) verse 25:

وَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ بِشِمَالِهِ فَيَقُولُ نِيلَنِي لِمَ أُوتِيَ كِتَابِي ﴿٢٥﴾

Which means: *But as for he who is given his record in his left hand, he will say, "Oh, I wish I had not been given my record".*

Allah the Almighty says in chapter (surah Insyiqaq) verse 10 and 11:

وَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ وَرَاءَ ظَهْرِهِ ﴿١٠﴾ فَسَوْفَ يَدْعُوا ثُبُورًا ﴿١١﴾

Which means: *But as for he who is given his record behind his back,  
He will cry out for destruction*

**Dear brothers ans sisters,**

According to Tafsir Ibn Kathir, every servant of Allah the Almighty is accompanied by four angels during the day and night. Two angels guarding every servant of God i.e. one is in front and one is behind him. Two other angels are on our left and right whose duty is to record every good or bad deed of a person.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 50 (surah Qaf) verses 17 and 18:

إِذْ يَنْفَخُ الْمُنْفِخِينَ عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ قَعِيدٌ ﴿١٧﴾ مَا يَلْفِظُ مِنْ قَوْلٍ إِلَّا لَدَيْهِ رَقِيبٌ عَتِيدٌ ﴿١٨﴾

Which means: *When the two receivers receive, seated on the right and on the left. Man does not utter any word except that with him is an observer prepared [to record].*

The angel who is tasked to record one's deeds is mentioned in the Qur'an as '*katibin katim*' (honorable recorders or noble writers). Most of us recognize it as Raqib and Atid. Raqib means 'that keeps watch over daylight and never parting with humans'. Meanwhile, Atid means "that it is always present and impossible to delegate to others'.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

We commit many sin and vices because we forget or do not care that angels are always recording our deeds. Therefore, increase our faith and remember that angels never neglect their duties. We as believer should not delay or leave our prayers if we know that the angels are watching us. We should also refrain from engaging in sinful deeds.

We should repent immediately whenever we have sinned as the Prophet (pnuh) had mentioned in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Tabrani:

إِنَّ صَاحِبَ الشُّمَالِ لَيَرْفَعُ الْقَلَمَ سِتَّ سَاعَاتٍ عَنِ الْعَبْدِ الْمُسْلِمِ الْمُخْطِئِ أَوْ الْمُسِيءِ، فَإِنْ نَدِمَ وَاسْتَعْفَرَ اللَّهَ مِنْهَا أَلْفَاهَا،  
وَالِإِلَّا كُتِبَتْ وَاحِدَةً

Which means: *The angel of the left raises [and holds] his pen for six hours from the Muslim servant of Allah who has wronged or committed a mistake. So if he regrets and seeks Allah's forgiveness from it he returns it back, and if that is not the case then it is written as one.*”

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Let us be reminded again that the angels are constantly recording all our deeds in this world. Do we want to be categorised as those who regret in the Hereafter because our book of deeds is filled with abominable and sinful acts? Indeed the regret is too late. It is impossible for us to return to the world to repent. Therefore, let us seek repentance now so that our

books are filled with good deeds. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 99 (surah al-Zalzalah) verses 7 and 8:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ ﴿٧﴾ وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ ﴿٨﴾

Which means: *So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it,  
And whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it.*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.