

‘Witness’ document of Belief & Good Deeds for the Deceased
From Mafatih al Jinan compiled by Shaykh Abbas al-Qummi

Shaykh al-Ṭūsī has advised that the following should be written on paper as a document of witness of the belief & knowing only good deeds of the deceased believer.

This document is made & signed by one witness & further attested to by 40 believers (who can sign despite their knowledge of faults of the deceased).

This document is then folded, put in an envelope and put with the palm-leaf stalk on the right side of the deceased. It is preferably written with camphor (i.e. water with which camphor is mixed). and non-aromatic aloe-wood, must be put on the dead person’s forehead

It is said that Allah will forgive the deceased for his faults if 40 believers testify in this way.

BEFORE signing, the following dua is to be recited by the first witness:

In the Name of Allah; the All-beneficent, the All-merciful.

bismillāhi alrraḥmāni alrraḥīmi

I bear witness that there is no god save Allah,

ashhadu an lā ilāha illā allāhu

One and Only Lord and having no associate with Him.

waḥdahū lā sharīka lahū

I also bear witness that Muḥammad is His servant and messenger,

wa ashhadu anna muḥammadan ‘abduhū wa rasūluhū

May Allah bless him and his Household.

ṣallā allāhu ‘alayhi wa ālihi

[I also bear witness that] Paradise is true,

wa anna aljannata ḥaqqun

Hellfire is true,

wa anna alnnāra ḥaqqun

the Hour [of Resurrection] is true and is coming; there is no doubt about it,

wa anna alssā’ata ḥaqqun ātiyatun lā rayba fiḥā

and Allah shall resurrect those who are in graves.

wa anna allāha yab’athu man fi alqubūri

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ
صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ
وَأَنَّ الْجَنَّةَ حَقٌّ
وَأَنَّ النَّارَ حَقٌّ
وَأَنَّ السَّاعَةَ حَقٌّ آتِيَةٌ لَا رَيْبَ
فِيهَا
وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْعَثُ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ

THE INSCRIPTION to be written & kept on the Right side of the dead body with a palm leaf:

In the Name of Allah; the All-beneficent, the All-merciful.

bismillāhi alrraḥmāni alrraḥīmi

The witnesses whose names are mentioned in this document-paper witness

shahida alshshuhūdu
almusammawna fī hādha alkitābi

that their brother-in-Allah
[_____]

anna akhāhum fī allāhi 'azza wa
jalla...

has asked them to witness for him, entrusted with them this statement, and confessed in their presence

ash-hadahum wastawda'ahum wa
aqarra 'indahum

that he bears witness that there is no god save Allah,

annahū yashhadu an lā ilāha illa
allāhu

One and Only and having no associate with Him,

waḥdahū lā sharīka lahū

that Muḥammad, may Allah bless him and his Household, is His servant and messenger,

wa anna muḥammadan ṣallā allāhu
'alayhi wa ālihi 'abduhū wa
rasūluhū

that he acknowledges all of the prophets and the messengers [of God], peace be upon them,

wa annahū muqirrun bijamī'i al-
anbiya'i walrrusuli 'alayhimu
alssalāmu

that 'Alī is the representative of Allah and the leader appointed by Him,

wa anna 'aliyyan waliyyu allāhi
wa imāmuhū

that the Imams from 'Alī's progeny are his leaders,

wa anna al-a'immata min wuldihi
a'immatuhū

that they are in sequence are al-Ḥasan, al-Ḥusayn,

wa anna awwalahum alḥasanu
walḥusaynu

'Alī the son of al-Ḥusayn,

wa 'aliyyu ibnu alḥusayni

Muḥammad the son of 'Alī,

wa muḥammadu ibnu 'aliyyin

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
شَهِدَ الشُّهُودُ الْمُسَمَّونَ فِي
هَذَا الْكِتَابِ
أَنَّ أَخَاهُمْ فِي اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ ...
()
أَشْهَدُهُمْ وَأَسْتَوِدَعُهُمْ وَاقْرَأَ
عِنْدَهُمْ
أَنَّهُ يَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ
وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ
وَأَنَّهُ مُقِرٌّ بِجَمِيعِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ
وَالرُّسُلِ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ
وَأَنَّ عَلِيًّا وَوَلِيَّ اللَّهِ وَإِمَامُهُ
وَأَنَّ الْأَئِمَّةَ مِنْ وَوَلَدِهِ أَيْمَتُهُ
وَأَنَّ أَوْلَهُمُ الْحَسَنُ وَالْحُسَيْنُ
وَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ الْحُسَيْنِ
وَمُحَمَّدُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ

Ja'far the son of Muḥammad,

wa ja'faru ibnu muḥammadin

وَجَعْفَرُ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ

Mūsā the son of Ja'far,

wa mūsā ibnu ja'farin

وَمُوسَى بْنُ جَعْفَرٍ

'Alī the son of Mūsā,

wa 'aliyyu ibnu mūsā

وَعَلِيُّ بْنُ مُوسَى

Muḥammad the son of 'Alī,

wa muḥammadu ibnu 'aliyyin

وَمُحَمَّدُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ

'Alī the son of Muḥammad,

wa 'aliyyu ibnu muḥammadin

وَعَلِيُّ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ

al-Ḥasan the son of 'Alī,

walḥasanu ibnu 'aliyyin

وَالْحَسَنُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ

and the Rising Argument-person,

walqā'imu alḥujjatu

وَالْقَائِمُ الْحُجَّةُ

peace be upon them all;

'alayhimu alssalāmu

عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

and that Paradise is true,

wa anna aljannata ḥaqqun

وَأَنَّ الْجَنَّةَ حَقٌّ

Hellfire is true,

walnnāra ḥaqqun

وَالنَّارُ حَقٌّ

the Hour [of Resurrection] shall be coming; there is no doubt about it,

walssā'ata ātiyatun lā rayba fiḥā

وَالسَّاعَةُ آتِيَةٌ لَّا رَيْبَ فِيهَا

and Allah shall resurrect those who are in graves;

wa anna allāha yab'athu man fi alqubūri

وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْعَثُ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ

and that Muḥammad, may Allah bless him and his Household, is Allah's servant and messenger;

wa anna muḥammadan ṣallā allāhu 'alayhi wa ālihi 'abduhū wa rasūluhū

وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ

عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

he has come with the truth,

jā'a bilḥaqqi

جَاءَ بِالْحَقِّ

that 'Alī is the representative of Allah,

wa anna 'aliyyan waliyyu allāhi

وَأَنَّ عَلِيًّا وَليُّ اللَّهِ

the vicegerent after Allah's Messenger,

walkhalifatu min ba'di rasūli allāhi

وَالْخَلِيفَةُ مِنْ بَعْدِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

may Allah's blessings be upon him and his Household,

ṣallā allāhu 'alayhi wa ālihi

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ

and the one appointed by Allah's Messenger to succeed him in his nation,

wa mustakhlafuhū fi ummatihi

وَمُسْتَخْلَفُهُ فِي أُمَّتِهِ

carrying out the command of his Lord the All-blessed and All-exalted,

that Fāṭimah is the daughter of Allah's Messenger,

her two sons al-Ḥasan and al-Ḥusayn

are the sons and grandsons of Allah's Messenger,

the two leaders to the true guidance,

and the two principals of mercy,

and that 'Alī, Muḥammad,

Ja'far, Mūsā,

'Alī, Muḥammad,

'Alī, al-Ḥasan,

and the Argument-person, peace be upon them all,

are Imams, leaders,

inviters to Allah the All-majestic and All-high,

and arguments [of Him] against His servants.

mu'addiyan li'amri rabbihī
tabāraka wa ta'alā

wa anna fāṭimata bintu rasūli
allāhi

wabnayhā alḥasana walḥusayna

ibnā rasūli allāhi wa sibṭāhu

wa imāmā alhudā

wa qā'idā alrraḥmati

wa anna 'aliyyan wa
muḥammadan

wa ja'faran wa mūsā

wa 'aliyyan wa muḥammadan

wa 'aliyyan wa ḥasanan

walḥujjata 'alayhimu alssalāmu

a'immatun wa qādatun

wa du'atun ilā allāhi jalla wa 'alā

wa ḥujjatun 'alā 'ibādihi

مُؤَدِّيًا لِأَمْرِ رَبِّهِ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى

وَأَنَّ فَاطِمَةَ بِنْتُ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

وَأَبْنَيْهَا الْحَسَنَ وَالْحُسَيْنَ

أَبْنَارَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ وَسِبْطَاهُ

وَإِمَامًا أَلْهُدَى

وَقَائِدًا الرَّحْمَةِ

وَأَنَّ عَلِيًّا وَمُحَمَّدًا

وَجَعْفَرًا أَوْ مُوسَى

وَعَلِيًّا وَمُحَمَّدًا

وَعَلِيًّا وَحَسَنًا

وَالْحُجَّةَ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

أَيِّمَةً وَقَادَةً

وَدُعَاةَ إِلَى اللَّهِ جَلَّ وَعَلَا

وَحُجَّةَ عَلَى عِبَادِهِ

The writer of this document-paper should then address the witnesses with these words:

O.....] and
[.....] whose names
are mentioned in this document-
paper,

certify for me this testimony of you

so that you will meet me carrying
it at the Divine Pond.

yā... wa yā... almusamayna fi
hādha alkitābi

athbitū li hādhihi alshshahādata
'indakum

hattā talqawnī bihā 'alā alḥawḍi

يَا... وَيَا... الْمُسَمَّيْنَ فِي هَذَا

الْكِتَابِ

إثْبِتُوا لِي هَذِهِ الشَّهَادَةَ عِنْدَكُمْ

حَتَّى تَلْقَوْنِي بِهَا عَلَى الْحَوْضِ

As a reply, the witnesses should say:

O [.....] we entrust
you with Allah.

Our testimony, admission, and
brotherhood

are entrusted with Allah's
Messenger,

may Allah bless him and his
Household.

We invoke upon you peace,

Allah's mercy, and His blessings.

yā... nastawdi'uka allāha

walshshahādatu wal-iqrāru wal-
ikhā'u

mawdū'atun 'inda rasūli allāhi

ṣallā allāhu 'alayhi wa ālihī

wa naqra'u 'alayka alssalāma

wa raḥmata allāhi wa barakātihī

يَا... نَسْتَوِدْعُكَ اللَّهُ

وَالشَّهَادَةُ وَالْإِقْرَارُ وَالْإِخَاءُ

مَوْدُوعَةً عِنْدَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ

وَنَقَرْنَا عَلَيْكَ السَّلَامَ

وَرَحْمَةَ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ

40 SIGNATURES

1.	2.
3.	4.
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