

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| ABOUT THE AUTHOR | VII |
| FOREWORD | |
| BY SHAYKH GALĀL 'ALĪ 'ĀMER AL-JIHĀNĪ | IX |
| PROLOGUE | 13 |
| INTRODUCTION | 15 |
| A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF IMAM ABŪ 'ABDULLĀH AL-SANŪSĪ | 27 |
| THE FOUNDATIONAL PROOFS [UMM AL-BARĀHĪN] BY MUHAMMAD B. YŪSUF AL-SANŪSĪ AL-ḤASANĪ | 35 |
| ABRIDGMENT OF IMAM AḤMAD B. 'ĪSĀ'S COMMENTARY | 49 |
| CHAPTER I | |
| 1.0 JUDGMENTS | 51 |
| 1.1 RATIONAL JUDGMENTS | 52 |
| CHAPTER II | |
| 2.0 WHAT IS OBLIGATORY IN THE SACRED LAW UPON EVERY LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE PERSON | 55 |
| 2.1 KNOWLEDGE AND CONFORMISM | 57 |
| CHAPTER III | |
| 3.0 SOME OF WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR ALLAH | 61 |
| 3.1 THE SELF-SIGNIFYING ATTRIBUTE | 62 |
| 3.2 THE NEGATING ATTRIBUTES | 66 |
| 3.2.1 PRE-ETERNALITY [QIDAM] | 66 |
| 3.2.2 ENDLESSNESS [BAQĀ'] | 69 |
| 3.2.3 ABSOLUTE DISSIMILARITY FROM ALL CONTINGENT BEINGS [MUKHĀLAFA LIL-ḤAWĀDITH] | 70 |
| 3.2.4 SELF-SUBSISTENCE [QIYĀM BIL-NAFS] | 71 |
| 3.2.5 ONENESS [WAḤDĀNIYYA] | 73 |
| 3.3 THE QUALITATIVE ATTRIBUTES [ṢIFĀT AL-MA'ĀNĪ] | 77 |
| 3.3.1 OMNIPOTENCE AND WILL | 80 |
| 3.3.2 KNOWLEDGE | 89 |
| 3.3.3 LIFE | 90 |
| 3.3.4 HEARING AND SIGHT | 91 |
| 3.3.5 SPEECH | 93 |
| 3.4 THE PREDICATIVE ATTRIBUTES [AL-ṢIFĀT AL-MA'NAWIYYA] | 99 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 3.4.1 HIM BEING ALL-POWERFUL | 99 |
| 3.4.2 HIM BEING WILLING | 100 |
| 3.4.3 HIM BEING ALL-KNOWING | 100 |
| 3.4.4 HIM BEING LIVING | 100 |
| 3.4.5 HIM BEING ALL-HEARING | 100 |
| 3.4.6 HIM BEING ALL-SEEING | 100 |
| 3.4.7 HIM BEING SPEAKING | 100 |
| 3.5 SOME OF WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ALLAH, THE SUBLIME AND MAJESTIC | 103 |
| 3.5.1 NON-EXISTENCE [‘ADAM] | 103 |
| 3.5.2 CONTINGENCY [ḤUDŪTH] | 103 |
| 3.5.3 HAVING AN END | 104 |
| 3.5.4 HAVING LIKENESS TO CONTINGENCIES | 104 |
| 3.5.5 INABILITY TO AFFECT WHAT IS POSSIBLE | 122 |
| 3.6 WHAT IS POSSIBLE FOR ALLAH, THE EXALTED | 129 |

CHAPTER IV

| | |
|---|-----|
| 4.0 THE RATIONAL PROOFS | 135 |
| 4.1 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR ALLAH’S EXISTENCE | 135 |
| 4.1.1 AFFIRMING SOMETHING ADDITIONAL TO A SUBSTANCE: AN ACCIDENT | 143 |
| 4.1.2 INVALIDATING THE VIEW THAT IT IS SELF-SUBSISTENT, AND INVALIDATING THE VIEW THAT IT CAN DISPLACE ITSELF [2 AND 3] | 143 |
| 4.1.3 INVALIDATING THE VIEW OF ITS MANIFESTATION AND CONCEALMENT | 143 |
| 4.1.4 ESTABLISHING THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMETHING ETERNAL TO CEASE IN ITS EXISTENCE | 143 |
| 4.1.5 AFFIRMING THAT SUBSTANCES ARE INSEPARABLE FROM THIS ADDITION [THE ACCIDENT] | 143 |
| 4.1.6 ESTABLISHING THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF CONTINGENCIES WITHOUT A FIRST [ḤAWĀDITH LĀ AWWAL LAHĀ] | 144 |
| 4.2 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR PRE-ETERNALITY | 145 |
| 4.3 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR ENDLESSNESS | 146 |
| 4.4 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR ALLAH’S ABSOLUTE DISSIMILARITY FROM CONTINGENT BEINGS | 147 |
| 4.5 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR ALLAH’S SELF-SUBSISTENCE | 149 |
| 4.6 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR ALLAH’S ONENESS | 150 |
| 4.7 THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT ALLAH IS DESCRIBED WITH OMNIPOTENCE, WILL, KNOWLEDGE, AND LIFE | 153 |
| 4.8 THE RATIONAL PROOF FOR HEARING, SIGHT, AND SPEECH | 154 |

| | | |
|------|--|-----|
| 4.9 | THE RATIONAL PROOFS FOR THE IMPOSSIBILITIES | 154 |
| 4.10 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT ALLAH CAN AFFECT THE POSSIBLE OR LEAVE IT | 155 |

CHAPTER V

| | | |
|-------|--|-----|
| 5.0 | THE MESSENGERS —PEACE AND BLESSINGS BE UPON THEM | 157 |
| 5.1 | WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE MESSENGERS ﷺ | 164 |
| 5.2 | WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE MESSENGERS ﷺ | 166 |
| 5.2.1 | LYING | 166 |
| 5.2.2 | TREACHERY [KHİYĀNA] | 166 |
| 5.2.3 | CONCEALMENT | 167 |
| 5.2.4 | STUPIDITY AND DIM-WITTEDNESS | 168 |
| 5.3 | WHAT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE MESSENGERS ﷺ | 168 |
| 5.4 | THE RATIONAL PROOFS | 170 |
| 5.4.1 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT TRUTHFULNESS IS NECESSARY FOR THEM ﷺ | 170 |
| 5.4.2 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT FAITHFULNESS IS NECESSARY FOR THEM ﷺ | 173 |
| 5.4.3 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT THEY ﷺ CONVEYED WHAT THEY WERE ORDERED TO CONVEY | 175 |
| 5.4.4 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT INTELLIGENCE AND SAGACITY ARE NECESSARY FOR THEM ﷺ | 177 |
| 5.4.5 | THE RATIONAL PROOF THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE MESSENGERS ﷺ TO POSSESS INCIDENTAL QUALITIES | 177 |
| 5.4.6 | THE BENEFITS OF THE MESSENGERS ﷺ POSSESSING INCIDENTAL QUALITIES | 178 |

CHAPTER VI

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 6.0 | HOW THE MEANINGS OF THIS DOCTRINE ARE CONTAINED WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE TWO TESTIMONIES: <i>THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH AND MUHAMMAD IS THE MESSENGER OF ALLAH</i> | 183 |
| 6.1 | SELF-SUFFICIENCY | 184 |
| 6.2 | LIFE | 188 |
| 6.3 | OMNIPOTENCE | 189 |
| 6.4 | WILL | 189 |
| 6.5 | KNOWLEDGE | 189 |
| 6.6 | ONENESS | 190 |
| 6.7 | MUHAMMAD ﷺ IS THE MESSENGER OF ALLAH | 194 |
| 6.8 | THE ANGELS | 197 |
| 6.9 | THE REVEALED BOOKS | 200 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 6.10 THE LAST DAY | 200 |
| 6.11 BELIEF IN THE MESSENGERS ﷺ | 205 |
| CHAPTER VII | |
| 7.0 THE MEANING OF ĪMĀN AND ISLAM | 207 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 215 |
| AUTHOR'S BIBLIOGRAPHY | |
| BY SHAYKH GALĀL 'ALĪ 'ĀMER AL-JIHĀNĪ | 217 |

TRANSLITERATION TABLE

| | | | |
|-------|----|---|-----|
| أ/آ/إ | ā | ظ | ẓ |
| ب | b | ع | ‘ |
| ت | t | غ | gh |
| ث | th | ف | f |
| ج | j | ق | q |
| ح | ḥ | ك | k |
| خ | kh | ل | l |
| د | d | م | m |
| ذ | dh | ن | n |
| ر | r | ه | h |
| ز | z | و | w/ū |
| س | s | ي | y/ī |
| ش | sh | ة | a |
| ص | ṣ | ء | ’ |
| ض | ḍ | أ | a |
| ط | ṭ | إ | i |

FORMULAIC EXPRESSIONS



Exalted and Sublime is He
 Allah bless him and give him peace
 Peace be upon him
 Peace be upon them
 Allah be pleased with him
 Allah be pleased with her
 Allah be pleased with them