The Khulāsa

A SUMMARY OF ABU 'ISA AT-TIRMIDHĪ'S ASH-SHAMĀ'IL AL-MUHAMMADIYYAH

Sheikh Muḥammad 'Abd al-Ḥayy al-Kattānī

Edited & Annotated by JAVED IQBAL



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For my esteemed teacher,
Sheikh Umarji Ahmad,
At whose feet I was fortunate to study
Ash-Shamā'il al-Muḥammadiyya
May Allah Most High elevate his
status and illuminate his grave. Āmīn.
(Editor)

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PREFACE

n the name of Allāh, the Most Clement, the Ever Kind. All praise belongs to Allāh, Lord of the worlds, and may peace and blessings be invoked upon Muḥammad, His chosen one, and upon his family and companions, one and all.

Faith (*īmān*) is nurtured with love of the Messenger of Allah and by following his example. In the words of the Qur'ān, "Say: if you love Allah, follow me; Allah will love you and forgive your sins, and Allah is forgiving and merciful" (Sūrah Āl-ʿImrān). Love of the Messenger of Allah is intrinsic to faith itself, as "None of you is a believer until I am dearer to him than his children, his parents and all mankind" (Bukhārī and Muslim). It is thus apparent that attaining to the pleasure of Allah and loving the Messenger of Allah are inseparable. However, this requires knowledge of his life and sublime qualities, hence the scholars of Islam have expended much effort in capturing his description in the Shamā'il literature, of which this book before you is a luminous example.

The *Khulāsa*' is a summary of the most famous work on *Shamā'il*, Imam at-Tirmidhī's *Ash-Shamā'il al-Muḥammadiyyah*. It presents the salient elements of Tirmidhī's work in form

more easily accessible to the new generation of Muslims, and facilitates an acquaintance with this essential knowledge. In bringing this work to fruition, there are many to whom we owe our gratitude, and our hope for them, and for all who read and benefit from this work, is to be among those for whom the intercession of the Messenger of Allah is accepted.

Yahya Batha July, 2014 London

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على سيدنا ونبينا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه اجمعين

he hallmark of true love for Allah Most High is obedience to His Messenger, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him. It is unwavering devotion to his blessed personage which compels an ardent lover to closely observe his noble mannerism and character in every aspect of life, transporting lovers of Allah's Messenger to the highest planes of proximity to Allah.

As this love deepens in intensity, thoughts of the Messenger are infused into every heartbeat and a person becomes restless to see his blessed countenance, as Allah's Messenger said, "Among those of my nation who are most intense in their love for me are a people who will come after me, who would give their family and wealth in exchange for seeing me" (Muslim).

For such lovers, there is no greater solace than studying