

# HIDDEN BLESSINGS

FORTY WISDOMS BEHIND CALAMITIES,  
DIFFICULTIES, TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

THE WISDOM OF ḤAKĪM AL-UMMAH SERIES—BOOK ONE

COLLECTED FROM THE WRITINGS OF

Ḥakīm al-Ummah, Mawlānā  
Muḥammad Ashraf ʿAlī Thānwī  
and other Great Scholars

Compilation, Translation, Foreword, and Commentary by  
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**NUR**  
PUBLICATIONS

Hidden Blessings - Forty Wisdoms Behind Calamities, Difficulties,  
Trials & Tribulations

Copyright: © Nur Publications 1441/2019

ISBN: 978-1-7338110-2-6 (paperback)

*Published by:*

ilmStore.in

7-2-167, Itwara Bazar, Nanded

Maharashtra, India – 431604

www.ilmStore.in | info@ilmStore.in | Tel: +91 9422009767

*in arrangement with:*

Nur Publications

P.O. Box 97

Union City, CA

United States of America

www.nurpublications.org

First edition: November 2016

Second edition: November 2019

First Indian Edition: October 2022

Design, Editing & Cover by: Nur Publications

Printed in India

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This edition is published by '**ilmStore.in**' in India and is  
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Lanka & the Maldives.

## *Dedication*

All the writings of this lowly servant are in reality  
due to the combined blessings of the company of our  
spiritual mentors:

‘Arifbillah, Ḥaḍrat Mawlānā Shāh Ḥakīm  
Muḥammad Akhtar Ṣāḥib  
(Allah have mercy upon him)

Ḥaḍrat Sayyid Ishrat Jamīl Mīr Ṣāḥib  
(Allah have mercy upon him)

Ḥaḍrat Mawlānā Shāh  
Qamaruz-Zamān Ṣāḥib Ilāhabādī  
(Allah preserve him)

## TRANSLITERATION AND HONORIFIC GUIDE

The transliteration used in our books is to facilitate the pronunciation of Arabic words using Roman script for the ease and convenience of our readers. However, this is not meant to be a substitute for learning to properly read and pronounce Arabic script. Every Muslim should take it upon themselves to learn the rules of *tajwīd* (proper Qur’ānic recitation) from a qualified teacher.

أء	a, ’	ط	ṭ	و	u
ب	b	ظ	ẓ	آ, ا	ā
ت	t	ع	‘	ي	ī
ث	th	غ	gh	ؤ	ū
ج	j	ف	f	ﷻ	“Glorified and Exalted”
ح	ḥ	ق	q	ﷻ	“Peace and blessing of Allah be upon him”
خ	kh	ك	k	ﷻ, ﷻ	“Peace be upon him/them”
د	d	ل	l	ﷻ, ﷻ	“Allah be pleased with him/her”
ذ	dh	م	m	ﷻ, ﷻ	“Allah be pleased with them”
ر	r	ن	n	ﷻ	“Allah have mercy upon him”
ز	z	و	w		
س	s	ه	h		
ش	sh	ي	y		
ص	ṣ	ـَ	a		
ض	ḍ	ـِ	i		

According to the convention used in our books:

-The Majestic Name, “Allah,” does not take a diacritic.

-The *tā marbūtab* (ة) that occurs at the end of some Arabic words is generally transliterated into English with an “h” at the end of the word, except when it comes in the names of people in which case it is dropped off.

-Arabic words transliterated into English are italicized except words that have been adopted into the English dictionary, commonly used words, and proper nouns.

-To make things easier for our readers, instead of using Arabic plurals, Arabic words are made plural by adding an “s” at the end of the singular word.

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# FOREWORD



ALFŪZ LITERALLY MEANS AN UTTERANCE (pl. *malfūzāt*). In the terminology of the people of *taṣawwuf* it refers to the wise sayings of the shaykhs of the spiritual path. Students would often transcribe the words and lectures of their shaykhs and compile them into books. These *malfūzāt* or “wisdoms” would often be read in gatherings, and lessons would be delivered from them.

The earliest precedent for such collections is the memorization and transcription of the blessed words of our Beloved Prophet ﷺ in the form of *ḥadīth*. Furthermore, as a supplement to the *ḥadīth* collections, narrators also preserved the words and anecdotes of the Prophet’s companions and the pious predecessors that followed after them. For example, *muṣannafs* of Imām Ibn Abī Shayba and Imām ‘Abd al-Razzāq ؒ contain hundreds of the *fatwās* (legal verdicts) and *malfūzāt* of the Ṣaḥābah and Tābi‘ūn.