# Divine Unity[[1]](#footnote-1)

# There is no deity but God.

A most orderly activity is apparent on the face of the universe, especially on the page of the earth. And we observe there a most wise creativity. And we clearly see a most systematic unfolding; that is the opening up and giving of an appropriate shape and form to everything.

Furthermore, we see a most comprehensive, generous bountifulness.

This state proves, provokes awareness of the necessary existence and unity of an Active, Creative, Opening, Munificent Possessor of Glory.

*The good news in this phrase is such that the human spirit, subject as it is to countless needs and the attacks of innumerable enemies, finds a place of recourse, a source of help. This opens for it the door of a treasury of mercy that will guarantee all its needs, and provides it with a point of support and Strength which shows it its Master and Owner; just as it makes known to it its Creator and True Object of Worship, Who possesses an absolute power that will secure it from the evil of all its enemies. Through pointing this out, the phrase saves the heart from utter desolation and the spirit from aching sorrow; it ensures an eternal joy, a perpetual happiness.*

# He is One.

When we open our eyes, the first thing that attracts our eyes is a universal and perfect order; we see that there is a comprehensive and sensitive equilibrium.

Everything exists within a precise order and delicate balance and measure.

This state, therefore, necessarily and self-evidently proclaims that no time and no place, absolutely nothing, can be outside the grip of power of One single Glorious Maker.

Each thing and all things, together with all of their functions, are organized and directed within the grip of power of an All-Powerful Possessor of Will; and they are embellished with the adorning of a Loving Benefactor.

*Good news: God is One. Do not wear yourself out having recourse to other things; do not demean yourself and feel indebted to them; do not flatter them and fawn on them and humiliate yourself; do not follow them and make things difficult for yourself; do not fear them and tremble before them; because the Monarch of the universe is One, the key to all things is with Him, the reins of all things are in His hand, everything will be resolved by His command. If you find Him, you will be saved from endless indebtedness, countless fears.*

# He has no partner.

Just as he has no partner in his divinity, God is One, so too in His actions and in His creating He has no partner.

*Good news: the human spirit which has attained to faith may, without let or hindrance, opposition or interference, in any state, for any wish, at any time and in any place, enter the presence of the Possessor of Beauty and Glory, the One of power and perfection Who is the Pre-Eternal and Post-Eternal Owner of the treasuries of mercy, the treasuries of bliss, and may present its needs. And finding His mercy, relying on His power, it will attain perfect ease and happiness.*

# His is the dominion.

That is, every creature from the face of the earth to the limits of creation,

from the minutest particles to the heavenly bodies,

everything from pre eternity to post eternity,

the heavens and the earth

this world and the hereafter,

belongs to Him,

His is the highest degree of ownership in the form of the greatest affirmation of unity.

His is the dominion because;

the macrocosm is similar to the microcosm;

His creating the macrocosm makes it as a place of prostration, while His giving of existence to the microcosm makes it as prostrating;

His power in the former reveals His majesty, while His mercy in the latter arrays His bounty;

His majesty in the former testifies that He is One, while His bounty in the latter proclaims that He is Single, Undivided.

*Good news: The universe, which you love, to which you are connected and which grieves you by its confusedness and which you are unable to put right, is the property of an All-Powerful and Merciful One. So hand over the property to its Owner, leave it in Him. Attract His pleasure, not His harshness. He is both All-Wise and All-Merciful. He has free disposal over His property and administers it is He wishes. Whenever you take fright, say like Ibrahim Hakki: ‘Let's see what the Master does; whatever He does, it is best;’ see it well, and do not interfere!"*

# He is the praise.

That is, since the perfections that are found in all beings and are the cause of acclaim are His, praise, too belongs to Him.

Acclaim from whomever to whomever it has come and will come, from pre-eternity to post-eternity, all of it belongs to Him.

When we look around we see gardens, lofty stars, all ornamented beings saying

“We are the miracles of powers of an All-Powerful One of Glory. We testify to the unity of an All-Wise Creator and an All-Powerful Maker.

*Good news: O mankind! Do not suffer and sorrow when bounties cease, for the treasury of mercy is inexhaustible. And do not dwell on the fleeting nature of pleasure and cry out with pain, because the fruit of the bounty is the fruit of a boundless mercy. And since its tree is undying, when the fruit finishes it is replaced by more. If you thankfully think that within the pleasure of the bounty itself is a merciful favor a hundred times more pleasurable, you will be able to increase the pleasure a hundredfold. Within an apple an august monarch presents to you is a pleasure superior to that of a hundred, rather a thousand, apples because it is he that has bestowed it on you and made you experience the pleasure of a royal favor. In the same way, through the phrase `His is the praise' will be opened to you the door of a spiritual pleasure a thousand times sweeter than the bounty itself. For this phrase means to offer praise and thanks; that is to say, to perceive; the bestowal of bounty. This in turn means to recognize the Bestower, which is to reflect on the bestowal of bounty, and so finally to ponder over the favor of His compassion and His continuing to bestow bounties.*

# He grants life.

That is, the one who gives life is He alone. It is also He alone Who created all things. Life is the spirit, light, result, and summary of the universe. So whoever grants life must also be the creator of the whole universe.

He is the Ever-Living and Self-Subsistent One.

*Good news: O man! Do not trouble yourself by taking the heavy responsibilities of life onto your own shoulders. Do not think of the transience of life and start grieving. And do not see only its worldly and unimportant fruits and regret that you came to this world. Rather, the life-machine in the ship of your being belongs to the Ever-Living and Self Subsistent One, and it is He Who provides for all its expenses and requirements. Also, your life has a great many aims and results and they pertain to Him, too. As for you, you are just a helmsman on the ship, so do your duty well and take the wage and pleasure that come with it. Think just how precious is the life-ship and how valuable its benefits; then think just how Generous and Merciful is the Owner of the ship. So, rejoice and give thanks and know that when you perform your duty with integrity, all the results the ship produces will in one respect be transferred to the register in which your actions are recorded, that they will secure an immortal life for you, will endow you with eternal life.*

# And deals with death.

That is, the one who gives death is He. Just as He grants life, He also takes life and grants death. But death is not only destruction and extinction by causes or nature. Rather, just as a seed becomes a tree through superficially dieing.

*Good news: Death is not destruction, or nothingness, or annihilation; it is not cessation, or extinction; it is not eternal separation, or non-existence, or a chance event; it is not authorless obliteration. Rather, it is being discharged by the Author Who is All-Wise and All-Compassionate; it is a change of abode. It is being dispatched to eternal bliss, to your true home. It is the door of union to the Intermediate Realm, which is where you will meet with ninety-nine per cent of your friends."*

# And He is living and dies not.

That is, His life is pre-eternal and post-eternal. Death and nonexistence cannot befall Him.

*Good news: There is an Everlasting Beloved Who will cure and bind your wounds caused by countless separations from the ones you love. Since He exists and is undying, whatever may happen do not fret over the others. Furthermore, the beauty and generosity, virtue and perfection in them, which are the cause of your love, are, passing through many veils, the shadows of the palest of shadows of the manifestation of the Ever-Enduring Beloved's ever-enduring Beauty. Do not grieve at their disappearance, for they are mirrors of a sort. The changing of the mirrors renews and embellishes the manifestation of the Beauty's radiance. Since He exists, everything exists.*

# All good is in His hand.

All good things are in His hand, all good deeds are in His account book, all beneficence is in His treasury. Thus those desiring good must seek it from Him, those wishing for what is best must turn to Him.

*Good news: O you wretched ones! When you journey to the grave do not cry out in despair, ‘Alas! Everything we owned is destroyed, all our efforts wasted; we have left the beautiful broad earth and entered the narrow grave,’ for everything of yours is preserved, all your actions written down, every service you have rendered recorded. One of Glory in Whose hand is all good and Who is able to bring all good to fruition, will reward your service: drawing you to Himself, He will keep you only temporarily under the ground. Later, He will bring you to His presence. What happiness for those of you who have completed their service and duty; your labor is finished, you are going to ease and mercy! Service and toil are over, you going to receive your wage!*

# And He is powerful over all things.

Absolutely nothing at all is difficult for Him. It is so simple and easy for Him that according to the meaning of, “His command is only, when He wills a thing to be, He but says unto it, “Be!”, and it is.”

It is as if He only has to command and it is done.

*Good news: O man! The service you have offered and the worship you have performed are not for nothing. A realm of reward, an abode of bliss, has been prepared for you. An unending Paradise is awaiting you in place of this fleeting world of yours. Have faith and confidence in the promise of the Glorious Creator Whom you know and Whom you worship, for it is impossible for Him to break His promise. In absolutely no respect is there any deficiency in His power; impotence cannot interfere in His works. Just as He creates your tiny garden, so too is He able to create Paradise for you, and He has created it and promised it to you. And because He has promised, He shall, of course, admit you to it.*

# And with Him all things have their end.

That is, everything will return to the realm of permanence from the transient realm, and will go to the seat of post-eternal sovereignty of the Ever-Ending One.

Transforming from this world to the hereafter.

*Good news: O mankind! Do you know where you are going and to where you are being impelled? As is stated at the end of the Thirty-Second Word, a thousand years of happy life in this world cannot be compared to one hour of life in Paradise. And a thousand years of life in Paradise cannot be compared to one hour's vision of the sheer loveliness of the Beauteous One of Glory. And you are going to the sphere of His mercy, and to His presence.*

*The phrase announces this good news as well: "O mankind! Do not be apprehensive imagining that you are going to extinction, non-existence, nothingness, darkness, oblivion, decay, and dissolution, and that you will drown in multiplicity. You are going not to extinction, but to permanence. You are being impelled not to non-existence, but to perpetual existence. You are going to enter not darkness, but the world of light. And you are returning to your true owner, to the seat of the Pre-Eternal Monarch. You will not drown in multiplicity, you will take your rest in the sphere of Unity. You are bound not for separation, but for union.*

# Discussions:

1. Which hadith mentions about this 11-phrase proclamation? When is it recommended to recite it? What is the reward for it?
2. What are the nuances among the first three points?
3. What is the difference between Monarch (or President) and its government vs Divine Throne?
4. What are the main take-away points? Unity?
5. What is the difference between oneness and uniqueness?
6. Which Esmas do each of these 11-phrases point to?

1. From the 20th Letter, The Letters, BSN [↑](#footnote-ref-1)