

The Intention for Seeking Knowledge

This noble intention was penned by the illustrious scholar of Tarim, Hadramawt, Imam AbdAllah bin Alawi al-Haddad, may Allah enshroud him in his mercy. He was blind from a very young age but grew in knowledge and stature to become the foremost educator in the Islamic sciences and spirituality of his time. His books are published until this day and he continues to be a source of benefit for many around the world. May Allah benefit us by him, ameen.

Note: Imam al-Dhahabi (Allah have mercy on him) points out to the signs of having a sincere intention or otherwise, He mentions that the one who seeks knowledge for the sake of Allah Most High, then that knowledge creates in him humility, humbleness and the fear of Allah. And the one who seeks knowledge for worldly gains, he becomes proud with his knowledge, thus argues and quarrels with other Muslims. (See: al-Muqizah, p. 65. Thanks to Dar al-Iftaa Leicester for this note)

In the Name of God, Most Merciful, Compassionate

Bismillahi rahmanir rahim

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

All praise to Allah, Lord of the Worlds. And salutations and greetings upon our master Muhammad and upon his family and companions.

*Al-hamdu-llilahi rabbi-'âlamîn wa salAllahu'ala saydinâ
Muhamamdin wa 'alâ âlihi wa sahbîhi wa sallam.*

وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ
وَسَلَّمَ

I intend to study and teach

Nawaytu al-ta'alluma wa talîma

نَوَيْتُ التَّعْلَمَ وَالتَّعْلِيمَ

to take and give a reminder

Wat-tadhakkara wa-tadhkîr

وَالْتَذَكُّرَ وَالتَّذْكَيرَ

take and give benefit

Wa- na'fa' wal-'intifâ'

وَالنَّفْعَ وَالتَّنْفِيعَ

take and give advantage

wal-îfâdah wa'l-istifâdah

وَالْإِفَادَةَ وَالتَّاسِيفَةَ

to encourage the holding fast to the book of Allah and the way of his messenger, upon him be peace

*Wa-l-hath 'ala-tamassuki bi kitâbillahi wa sunnati-rusûlihi,
salAllahu alayhi wa salam*

وَالْحَثَّ عَلَى التَّمَسُّكِ بِكِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَ سُنَّةِ رَسُولِهِ
صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

and calling to guidance and directing towards good

Wa-du'â il-al-hudâ wa-dalâlata 'alal-khayri

وَالدُّعَا إِلَى الْهُدَى، وَالدَّلَالََةَ عَلَى الْخَيْرِ

hoping for the countenance of Allah and His pleasure, proximity and reward,

ibtighâha waj-hillâhi wa mardâtihi wa qurbihi wa thawâbihi

إِبْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ اللَّهِ، وَمَرْضَاتِهِ، وَقُرْبِهِ، وَتَوَابِهِ

transcendent is He.

subhânahu wa ta'âla

سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى