

The Door of His Forgiveness is Ever Open

Getting to know Al-Ghafir, Al-Ghafar,
Al-Ghafur, At-Tawwab, Al- 'Afuw

with Ustazah Huraidah Jumat



asmaulhusna

Al-Ghafir, Al-Ghafar, Al-Ghafur,
At-Tawwab, Al- 'Afuw



The Pillars of Repentance & Forgiveness

aaplus

First Verse of Repentance

- According to Imam al-Nawawi RA, there are a lot of verses about repentance in the Quran. Allah is Al-Ghafur, He is also Al-Ghaffar, Al-Ghafir, Al-Tawwab, Al-'Afuw, etc.
- There are a lot of verses scattered throughout the Quran talking about repentance and the forgiveness of Allah SWT.
- For this lesson, there are **three main verses** that we need to understand:

1

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا تُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَوْبَةً نَّصُوحًا

(Surah At-Tahrim 66:8)

O believers! Turn to Allah in sincere repentance

- This Ayah tells us that **the action of repentance is an obligatory action**; it is **wajib** upon every Muslim and every Muslimah to turn to Allah SWT with a sincere repentance, since it is addressed to all Believers.
- When we talk about repentance from our sins, there are **two types of sins**:
 - 1) **our sins with Allah**
 - 2) **our sins with His creation**
(i.e. human beings or the people around us).
- With the first sin with Allah SWT, the way to repentance is through **three actions**.



*A Note from
Ustazah Huraidah*

The door to repentance
does not necessitate the
completion of all three
steps before it can be
deemed as repentance.

Repentance begins with the
very first step you take.

With that very first step,
you have already embarked
on your path towards
repentance.



3 Steps to Repentance

1

TOTAL REMOVAL OF SINS

You completely step away from the sins. This means removing yourself from the sin, or stopping whatever wrongdoings that you are currently engaged in.

TOTAL REGRET

Rasulullah ﷺ says, “Regret is repentance”. The core of repentance is in having sincere regret in your heart.

2

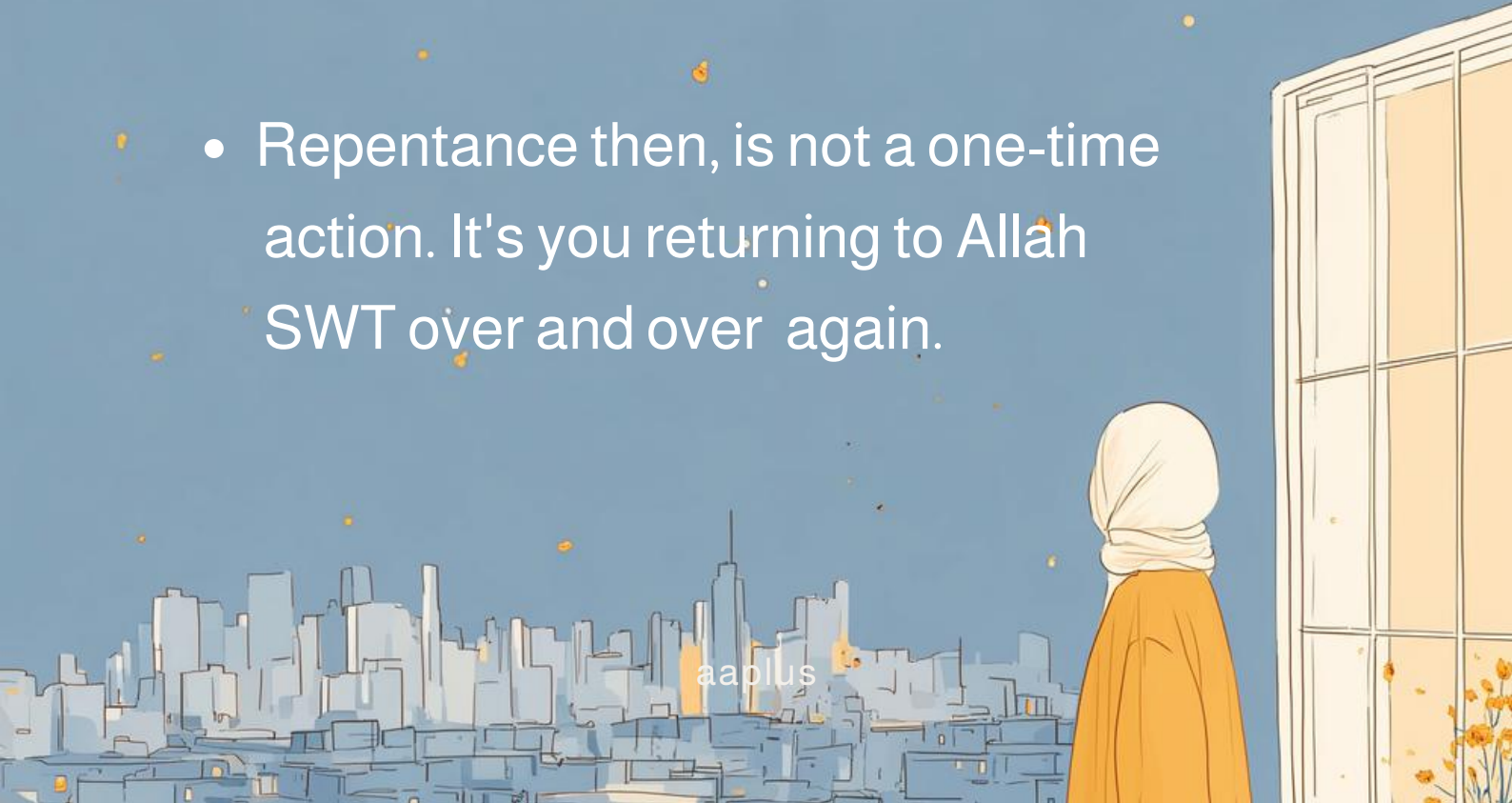
THE ZEAL TO NOT RETURN TO SIN

3

You have sincere determination not to return to the sin again, but it does not imply that you have to guarantee that you will not revert to your sin.

Repentance; Daily!

- Through these three stages of repentance, you will come to realise that repentance is an action you engage in daily, at every moment, with each passing second, and with every breath you take.
- There is no way that you can guarantee that you won't return to your sin, but that does not mean that you do not repent.
- Repentance then, is not a one-time action. It's you returning to Allah SWT over and over again.



Second Verse of Repentance

2

وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا
أَيُّهَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

(Surah An-Nur 24:31)

Turn to Allah in repentance all together,
O believers, so that you may be successful.

- Allah SWT has called every one of His servants to turn to Him, so that they may prosper or succeed. Here, Allah SWT teaches us that repentance is the door towards success (Falah). Hence, if you want success, your door to it is through repentance. Just as we are taught to wash our feet before or upon entering our house, or how we must wash and purify ourselves from haid or nifas through ghusl, and perform wudhu before entering the presence of Allah SWT in Solah, repentance serves as a form of purification.

Third Verse of Repentance

3

وَأَنِ اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ ثُمَّ تُوبُوا إِلَيْهِ

(Surah Hud 11:3)

And seek your Lord's forgiveness and turn to Him in repentance

- Allah SWT starts by reminding us about Istighfar. Here we see the distinction: **Istighfar is not necessarily Tawbah** (repentance), and vice versa. In Arabic, when we see ت س ا combined with a verb, it means 'to ask'. Making Istighfar means we are **asking** Allah SWT to veil us and our sins.
- Tawbah is the action of us returning to Allah SWT. We may say our istighfar, but it does not mean we have repentance. Why? If you have not done any of the three steps above, you do not have repentance.

Know the Difference!

Istighfar

asking Allah SWT to envelop our sins with His mercy so that our sins are covered,

Tawbah

to remove ourselves from the sins, and to return to Allah SWT with sincere regret and with the determination not to return to the sin.



Rasulullah ﷺ said,

والله إني لأستغفر الله وأتوب إليه في
اليوم أكثر من سبعين مرة

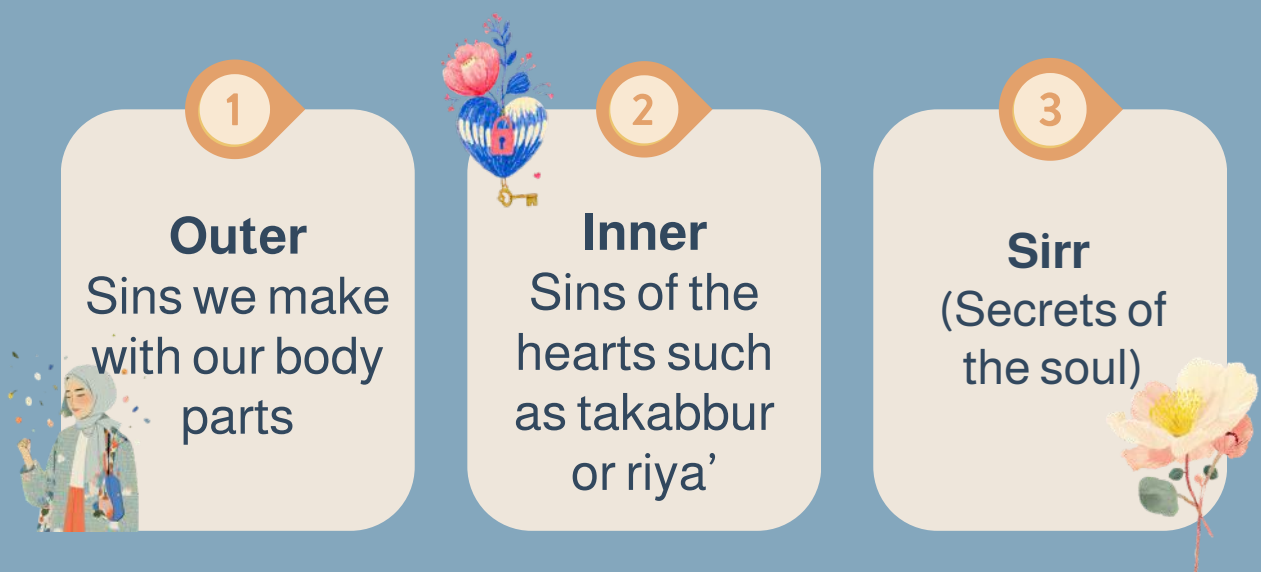
*“I swear by Allah that I
seek Allah's Pardon
(Istighfar) and turn to
Him in repentance
(Tawbah) more than
seventy times a day.”*

(Al-Bukhari)



We are all sinning servants of Allah

- In reality, Rasulullah ﷺ does not have any sins. From his hadith and his action, he ﷺ teaches us that as a servant of Allah SWT, regardless of whether you have committed a sin or not, and whether you are aware of the sin or not, **there are always shortcomings between you and Allah**. You should always see yourself as a sinning servant of Allah SWT.
- Sins are categorised into three parts:





In the secrets of our souls,
we view ourselves as the
servants of Allah SWT,
who continuously sin.

In that realm, we view things
according to their reality,
which is that we are a
creation of Allah SWT.

Every single moment of our
life, our breath, and our time
spent not remembering Allah
SWT is a sin.

asmaulhusna



Understanding

al-Ghafir
al-Ghafar
al-Ghafur

aaplus

A little note:

*To help us
understand and
connect with the five
Names of Allah SWT
in this lesson,
Ustazah Huraidah
will be sharing three
Salawat of Asmaul
Husna curated by
her Teacher.*

(May Allah SWT bless his efforts!)

Al-Ghafir, Al-Ghafar,

Al-Ghafur

اللَّهُمَّ يَا غَفُورًا لِلذُّنُوبِ، اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ، يَا غَافِرَ الذَّنْبِ،
 يَا غَفَّارًا لِلْعِبَادِ، صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا
 مُحَمَّدٍ، عَبْدِ الْغُفُورِ، عَبْدِ الْغَافِرِ، عَبْدِ الْغَفَّارِ، وَعَلَى
 آلِهِ، الَّذِي غَفَرْتَ بِهِ وَلِأَجْلِهِ الذُّنُوبَ، وَفَرَّجْتَ بِهِ
 الْكُرُوبَ، وَسَتَرْتَ بِهِ الْعُيُوبَ، وَرَفَعْتَ بِهِ كُلَّ عَذَابٍ
 وَمَكْرُوهٍ، صَلَاةً تَغْفِرُ بِهَا ذَنْبِي، فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ
 إِلَّا أَنْتَ، فَأَنْتَ الْغُفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ الْحَلِيمُ، مُتَعَلِّقًا
 بِاسْمِكَ الْغُفُورِ، فَلَا أَيَّاسُ مِنْ رَحْمَتِكَ، وَمُتَخَلِّقًا بِهِ
 فَأَعْفُو وَأَغْفِرْ لِمَنْ أَسَاءَ إِلَيَّ، كَمَا أَمَرْتَ حَبِيبَكَ أَنْ
 يَسْتَمِرَّ عَلَى مَا جُبِلَ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ هَذَا الْخُلُقِ فَقُلْتَ لَهُ:
 {فَأَصْفَحِ الصَّفْحَ الْجَمِيلَ} [الحجر: ٨٥]
 مُتَحَقِّقًا بِهِ فَلَا أَنْتَصِرُ لِنَفْسِي، بَلْ تَرَحَّمْ بِي الْقَرِيبَ
 وَالْبَعِيدَ، وَالْعَدُوَّ وَالصَّدِيقَ، يَا اللَّهُ يَا غُفُورُ
 يَا رَحِيمُ يَا حَلِيمُ.

Selawat of Al-Ghafir, Al-Ghafar, and Al-Ghafur

O Allah

O Ocean of Forgiveness for every sin,
forgive me, and wrap me in Your mercy.
O Pardoner of even the smallest fault.
O Ever -Forgiving Lord of all Your servants.

Send waves of blessing, peace, and light
upon our master Muhammad
Your beloved servant and upon his family
and his entire community.

Through him, You erase every sin.
Through him, You widen every narrow grief.
Through him, You conceal every hidden
flaw. Through him, You lift every burden of
pain and punishment.

By a prayer through which
my sins are forgiven
for none forgives sins but You alone.
You are the All-Forgiving,
the Most Merciful,
the Most Gentle,
the Most Patient.



By the grace of this prayer
I cling to Your Name, al-Ghafur,
so my heart does not collapse into despair,
and hope never leaves Your door.

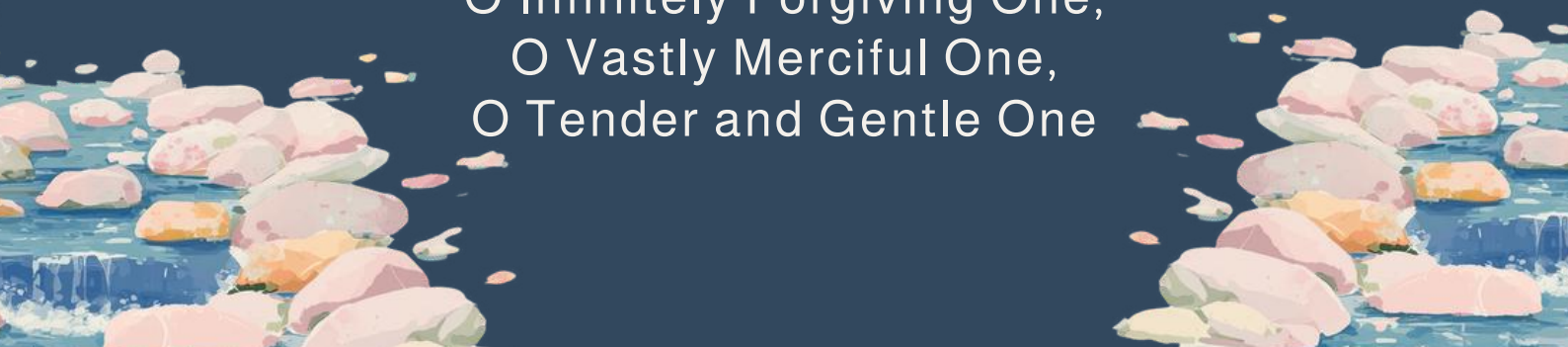
By the grace of this prayer
teach me the manners of Your Name,
al-Ghafur, that I may forget wounds
and forgive those who harmed me
as You commanded Your Beloved
to remain steadfast upon this noble character,
the very character You created him upon.

And You proclaimed:
So overlook them with beautiful forgiveness.

(Al-Hijr: 85)

By the grace of this prayer,
let Your Name al-Ghafur become alive within me
so I do not seek triumph for my own ego,
but learn to love all beings:
those near and those far,
the adversary and the companion alike.

O Allah
O Infinitely Forgiving One,
O Vastly Merciful One,
O Tender and Gentle One



He is The Ocean of Forgiveness



O Ocean of forgiveness for every sin, forgive me, and wrap me in Your Mercy. O Pardoner of even the smallest fault. O Ever -Forgiving Lord of all Your servant



- We begin not with our strength, our goodness, nor our deeds. **When we face Allah SWT, it is with our needs towards Him.** This is where we understand that humans are always in need of Allah SWT.
- To let us experience and understand that we are always in need of Allah SWT, we come to Him carrying our mistakes, regrets and silent tears, and we call Allah SWT as **غَفُورًا لِلذُّنُوبِ**. He is the One whose **forgiveness is vast like the ocean.**

- We ask Allah SWT not only for Him to forgive us, but for Him to envelop us in His mercy.
- Forgiveness is covering the sin, but when we ask Allah for His Mercy, we are asking Him to heal us. We are admitting our need to Allah SWT.
- When we say Allah is Al-Ghafur, we understand that **Allah sees even the smallest trembling of the heart, and still Allah SWT forgives.**
- Nothing is too minor for His attention, nor too insignificant for His compassion. Every sin does not leave the attention of Allah SWT, but at the same time, every sigh matters to Allah SWT. Every detail of your heart matters to Him.



The Comfort of Al-Ghafur



*By the grace of this prayer
I cling to Your Name,
al-Ghafur, so my heart does
not collapse into despair,
and hope never leaves
Your door.*



- By calling upon Al-Ghafur, Allah SWT is essentially comforting the servants who repeat sins or who fall again and again. Every time we return, Allah SWT returns to us with **greater** forgiveness and with **greater** mercy.
- Human's patience can run out, but there is no such thing with Allah SWT - **His forgiveness will never run out.**

Sent as a Mercy to Mankind



*Send waves of blessing, peace,
and light upon our master
Muhammad Your beloved
servant and upon his family
and his entire community.*



- Allah SWT sends Rasulallah ﷺ as His mercy. If we want to understand forgiveness, we have to look at how Rasulallah ﷺ forgave those who wounded him ﷺ.
- **Sending salawat opens the gates of softness in our hearts.** It connects us to the source of the beautiful character, Rasulallah ﷺ. He ﷺ taught us how to breathe through pain, and how to carry our sorrow with the dignity of being a servant of Allah.

Asking Allah through Salawat

- **‘Through him you conceal ever hidden flaw’:** We understand that Allah SWT covers, not exposes His servants. He hides our weaknesses from the world. He protects our dignity as believers.
- **‘Through him You lift every burden of pain and punishment’:** Rasulullah ﷺ was sent as mercy to all worlds, so his presence and teachings remove pain and lighten burdens.
- When we start to ask Allah SWT through the blessings of this Salawat, we are asking Allah to look at us, to focus His Gaze on us. We ask Him to observe us and our sins, while also taking responsibility by reflecting on ourselves and our wrongdoings. This teaches us courage and responsibility.

Clinging to Al-Ghafur



*By the grace of this prayer
I cling to Your Name, al-Ghafur,
so my heart does not collapse
into despair, and hope never
leaves Your door.*



- Despair is a whisper from Shaitan and Iblis, keeping us away from the light of Allah SWT. When we say **'I hold on to Your Name, so that my heart does not collapse into despair'**, it teaches us hope, because hope is a light from Allah SWT.
- We should hold on to Al-Ghafur when we remember our past, or when our shame starts to whisper in our thoughts. Allah's Mercy is stronger than our sins, our past and our memories.



*By the grace of this prayer
teach me the manners of Your Name,
al-Ghafur, that I may forget wounds
and forgive those who harmed me
as You commanded Your Beloved
to remain steadfast upon this noble character,
the very character You created him upon.*

*And You proclaimed: So overlook them with
beautiful forgiveness. (Al-Hijr: 85)*



- When Allah forgives us, we ‘become forgiveness’. He is embracing us with His Name and Character. We become strong, not weak, because it's not from us; it's from Allah SWT.
- Our hearts soften, and we start to forgive. In this, we can see **softness is strength**.
- **‘To have a beautiful forgiveness’**: Beautiful forgiveness has dignity. It neither humiliates nor keeps score. It frees both our souls and the souls of those we forgive.



*By the grace of this prayer,
let Your Name al-Ghafur become
alive within me so I do not seek
triumph for my own ego, but learn
to love all beings: those near and
those far, the adversary
and the companion alike.*



- We cling on to his Name Al-Ghafur again, and **let His Name become a reality in us, so that our ego stops ruling and that love grows.** Our enemies are met with mercy and enveloped with love and light.
- The Selawat ends by understanding that every healing starts with Allah. **Every heart starts with Allah SWT, and returns to Him. When Al-Ghafur becomes alive in us, we stop fighting for our egos.** We stop the need to be right, and we become a Mercy; we become forgiveness in human form.

Difference between al-Ghafir, al-Ghafur and al-Ghafar

1

al-Ghafir is the One
Who forgives each
returning sin

2

al-Ghafur possesses a
forgiveness that is vast
and deep, concealing
what ought not to be seen.

3

al-Ghafar is He Who
forgives endlessly

asmaulhusna



Diving into At-Tawwab

aaplus

at-Tawwab

اللَّهُمَّ يَا تَوَّابُ ، يَا مَنْ تُبْتُ عَلَى أَنْبِيَائِكَ
بِالْعِصْمَةِ، وَعَلَى أَوْلِيَائِكَ بِالْحِفْظِ، وَعَلَى عِبَادِكَ
بِالنَّدَمِ عَلَى الْمُخَالَفَاتِ أَوْ التَّقْصِيرِ فِي
الطَّاعَاتِ، صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
عَبْدِ التَّوَّابِ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ، الَّذِي دَلَّ الْعِبَادَ
عَلَيْكَ، وَعَلَّمَهُمُ التَّوْبَةَ مِنَ الذُّنُوبِ جَمِيعًا،
فَقَامُوا بِحَقِّ رُبُوبِيَّتِكَ وَالْوَهِيَّتِكَ، فَمِنْهُمْ
الْمُشْفِقُ وَالْمُنِيبُ وَالْأَوَّابُ، صَلَاةً أَتُوبُ بِهَا
إِلَيْكَ بِعَدَدِ الْأَنْفَاسِ وَاللَّحْظَاتِ، وَأَتَخَلَّقُ بِهَا مَعَ
الْعِبَادِ، فَأَقْبَلَ عُذْرَ الْمُعْتَذِرِ، وَأُحْسِنَ لِمَنْ أَسَاءَ
إِلَيَّ، تَكْرُمًا مِنْكَ يَا تَوَّابُ.

Selawat of at-Tawwab

O Allah
O Tawwāb, Ever-Accepting of repentance.
O Lord who grants repentance
to Your Prophets through Your Majesty,
to Your saints through Your guarding care,
and to all Your servants
through the sorrow of the heart
whenever they fall short or slip in obedience.

Pour Your prayers, peace, and blessing
upon our master Muhammad
Your servant, O Ever-Returning Lord
and upon his family
and all his community.

Through him You guide all Your servants
back to You.
Through him You teach them how to repent
from every sin, completely.

So Your servants rise
to fulfill their responsibilities
in perfecting the Rights of God
the Rights of Your Lordship
and the Rights of Your Divinity.



And among these manifestations,
You unveil Yourself through Your Names:
the Most Compassionate,
the One who brings creation back to Himself,
and the Ever-Acceptor of repentance.

By a prayer through which
I turn back to You
with every breath I take
and every moment that passes.

And by it I take on the character of
Your Name al-Tawwāb
among all Your servants:
so I accept the apologies of those
who seek pardon, I receive their excuses
with gentleness, and I show goodness to
those who have hurt me.

All of this flows only from the
overflow of Your generosity.

O Allah O Ever -Acceptor of repentance.



He Turns to you, *First*



O Allah

*O Tawwāb, Ever-Accepting of repentance.
O Lord who grants repentance
to Your Prophets through Your Majesty,
to Your saints through Your guarding care,
and to all Your servants
through the sorrow of the heart
whenever they fall short or slip in obedience.*

- At-Tawwab is the One Who turns toward you when you turn toward Him, since He is the One who accepts repentance. He is the **One who turns to you before you even turn towards Him.**
- He has already opened the door even before you cry, or your tears fall. He has softened your heart before you even had regret.



*Repentance is
not an
achievement,
but rather, it is
His Invitation.*

Because He turns toward you
before you even turn toward Him.

In Allah SWT's Guarding Care



*O Lord who grants repentance
to Your Prophets through Your Majesty,
to Your saints through Your guarding care,*



- We learn from the stories of the Prophets (may Allah bless them all) and also from the hadith of Rasulullah ﷺ, who repented more than 70 times a day, **that repentance is not a shame.** **It is nearness to Allah SWT.**
- Allah gives Prophets preservation, the saints a guarding care, and He gives us something beautiful - **regret**. The heaviness and discomfort in our chest is not a punishment; it is Allah SWT calling us home.

النَّدَمُ تَوْبَةٌ

Regret is repentance

(*Sunan Ibn Majah*)

- Regret is **evidence of life** in the heart.



*Pour Your prayers, peace, and blessing
upon our master Muhammad
Your servant, O Ever-Returning Lord
and upon his family
and all his community.*



- Rasulullah ﷺ did not shame any sinners; he ﷺ guided them gently in his Sunnah and Shama'il. He ﷺ guided every single sinner gently; he showed that Allah SWT loves those who return.
- Rasulullah ﷺ does not just teach the law; he ﷺ teaches direction. He ﷺ points the hearts of the Sahaba and the hearts of the believers towards Allah SWT.

- From Rasulullah ﷺ and his actions, we understand that guidance is not giving information; it is about the **orientation of the heart**.
- Remember the steps to repentance? Rasulullah ﷺ taught and embodied this path. He ﷺ turned repentance into hope.



*So Your servants rise
to fulfill their responsibilities
in perfecting the Rights of God
the Rights of Your Lordship
and the Rights of Your Divinity.*

- When we seek repentance from Allah SWT, it lifts us. Repentance is not passive, it makes us stand, and it restores our dignity so that we can fulfil the rights of Allah SWT. As a believer, we understand that repentance strengthens us.

A Continuous Mercy



*And among these manifestations,
You unveil Yourself through Your Names:
the Most Compassionate,
the One who brings creation back to Himself,
and the Ever-Acceptor of repentance.*

- Allah reveals Himself through the Names of At-Tawwab and from the verses of Tawbah - we have a Rabb Who is Loving. He does not abandon us. He turns to us before we turn to Him. He is Tawwab - He keeps accepting us. **His Mercy is continuous, not occasional.**



A Breathing Repentance



*By a prayer through which
I turn back to You
with every breath I take
and every moment that passes.*

- This is not once-a-day repentance; this is a breathing repentance.
- When we talk about the categories of sin, we understand that with every breath there is repentance, because every breath is borrowed from Allah. Every moment and every second is a trust from Allah SWT.
- To repent with every breath means we remain conscious, aware and returning to Allah SWT.

Repentance: A Lifelong Rythm



*All of this flows
only from the overflow
of Your generosity.*

*O Allah
O Ever -Acceptor of repentance.*

- Allah SWT makes us soft and envelops us with His Mercy. Hence, the softness, the merciful character that we have towards others, is a gift of Allah SWT.
- **‘O Ever -Acceptor of repentance’**: Repentance is a lifelong, continuous rhythm. When we reflect on the Name of At-Tawwab, we begin to accept apologies, we honour excuses, and we show goodness. We ask Allah, the Ever-Acceptor of repentance, to keep us returning, to keep us soft, to keep us near and to overflow us with His Gift.

asmaulhusna



Seeking
Al-'Afuw

aaplus

Al Afw: The Eraser of Faults

اللَّهُمَّ يَا عَفُوُّ بِمَحْضِ الْفَضْلِ، فَتُعْطِي
الْجَزِيلَ عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، وَتُبَدِّلُ السَّيِّئَاتِ
حَسَنَاتٍ لِمَنْ آمَنَ وَتَابَ، صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ
عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَبْدِ الْعَفْوَ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ،
الَّذِي عَفَا وَصَفَحَ الصَّفْحَ الْجَمِيلَ، وَأَعْطَى
الْجَزِيلَ مِنْ يَدِ الْكَرِيمِ، لِكُلِّ مُحْتَاجٍ وَفَقِيرٍ،
صَلَاةَ أَتَخَلَّقُ بِهَا بِالْعَفْوِ، فَأُعْطِي مَنْ
حَرَمَنِي، وَأَصِلَ مَنْ قَطَعَنِي، وَأَعْفُو عَمَّنْ
ظَلَمَنِي، يَا عَفُوُّ يَا غَفُورُ يَا اللَّهُ.

Selawat of al-Afuww

O Allah, O 'Afuww, who pardons by pure generosity alone:

You give abundance for what is little,
and You transform wrongs into goodness
for those who believe and return in repentance.

Send prayers, peace, and blessing
upon our master Muhammad
Your servant, O Most Pardoning Lord
and upon his family
and all his community.

He is the one who forgives
and responds with beautiful conduct.
He is the one who gives generously
from Your noble Hand
to all who are in need and longing.

By a prayer through which
I take on the character of Your Name, al-'Afuww:
so I may give to those who withhold from me,
so I may reconnect with those who cut me off,
and so I may forgive those who wrong me.

O Allah
O Most Pardoning One,
O Most Forgiving One.



The Pure Generosity of Al-'Afuw



O Allah
O 'Afuww, who pardons by pure
generosity alone:
*You give abundance for what is little,
and You transform wrongs into goodness
for those who believe and return in
repentance.*

- Al-'Afuw is **deeper** than forgiveness. It is not just covering, but it also means erasing the sins as if it never happened. **It's not pardoning; it is the removal of any trace.**
- Allah is Al-'Afuw because He is Generous by pure generosity. He gives abundance for what is little. We offer only a small repentance, but He gives us a big reward. **We give Him our tears, but He gives us transformation.** Our effort is little, but Allah SWT envelops us with an immense response.

- **‘You transform wrongs into goodness for those who believe and return in repentance’**: Not only are the sins erased, but they are rewritten. The mistake that we have done becomes the lessons for us to rise. This is mercy and generosity of Allah.



*Send prayers, peace, and blessing
upon our master Muhammad
Your servant, O Most Pardoning Lord
and upon his family
and all his community.*

- We send blessings to Rasulullah ﷺ because he embodied the name of Al-'Afuw: He ﷺ did not merely forgive; he erased grudges and restored dignity. He ﷺ responded with grace.



*He is the one who forgives
and responds with beautiful conduct.
He is the one who gives generously
from Your noble Hand
to all who are in need and longing*

- Rasulullah ﷺ forgave and treated people beautifully. He ﷺ smiled at those who wounded him, and gave to those who withheld from him. He ﷺ was not calculative. He ﷺ gave because Allah gives.



*By a prayer through which
I take on the character of Your Name,
al-'Afuww:
so I may give to those who withhold from me,
so I may reconnect with those who cut me off,
and so I may forgive those who wrong me.*

- Now we see the transformation in us from the Salawat. If Allah erases our faults, we must also erase the resentment in our hearts.
- **‘So I may give to those who withhold from me’**: This breaks our ego, because we respond to those who deprive us with generosity.

- We reconnect with those who cut us off. We choose relationship over our ego and our pride. We forgive those who wrong us, not because they deserve it but because we were forgiven by Allah.



*O Allah
O Most Pardoning One,
O Most Forgiving One.*

- We understand that erasing our sins is the Mercy of Allah SWT at its highest form. When we reflect on the name of Al-'Afuw, we begin giving to those who withheld from us. We forgive those who wrong us because we have received the forgiveness of Allah SWT.

Conclusion of the Five Names

- The five names that we have learnt - Al-Ghafir, Al-Ghafar, Al-Ghafur, At-Tawwab, Al-'Afuw - are not synonyms; **they are the stages of the love of Allah, and how He carries our broken souls back to His Embrace and Mercy.**
- **Al-Ghafir:** When Allah SWT forgives us at the **instant** of our mistake. He shows Mercy and Forgiveness the moment we stumble. No sin is too small, and no return is ever ignored. He forgives all mistakes.
- **Al-Ghafur:** Allah SWT not only forgive, but He also veils our shame and weaknesses. He softens our memories, hides what should not be exposed, and forgives with gentleness. He heals our hearts to protect our dignity.

- **Al-Ghafar:** We learn that Allah SWT forgives us repeatedly **over and over again**. Every time we fall, He embraces us repeatedly and patiently with gentleness.
- **At-Tawwab:** He does not wait for us to repent; He places repentance in us. **He turns to us before we even turn to Him**. The regret and heaviness that we feel are from At-Tawwab touching our hearts. **We think that we have returned to Allah, but in reality, it is Allah At-Tawwab who has turned to us first. At-Tawwab is a gift from Allah SWT.**
- **Al-'Afuw:** The deepest mercy of Allah SWT comes in the form of Al-'Afuw. He not only forgives, but He also removes all traces as if it never happened. No record, shadow or residue - He covers them all.

Summary of the Five Names & Traits

1

Allah is **al-Ghafir**,
Who **Forgives**.

2

Allah is **al-Ghafir**,
Who **Covers**.

3

Allah is **al-Ghafar**,
Who **repeatedly**
gives forgiveness.

4

Allah is **at-Tawwab**,
Who **repeatedly brings**
us back

5

Allah is **al-'Afuw**, Who
replaces our sins with
goodness.