الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ حَمْداً كثيراً طيباً مُبَارِكاً فيهِ كَمَا يُحِبُّ ويرضَى، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لاَ إِلَهَ إِلاَّ اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءَ قَدِيرٌ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سيدَنَا مُحَمَّداً عَبْدُ اللهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، وصفيُّهُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءَ قَدِيرٌ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سيدَنَا مُحَمَّداً عَبْدُ اللهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، وصفيُّهُ مِنْ خلقِهِ وحَلَي أَلُهُم صَلِّ وسَلِّمْ وبَارِكْ عَلَى سيدِنَا محمدٍ وعلَى آلِهِ مِنْ خلقِهِ وحَلَيلُهُ، فاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وسَلِّمْ وبَارِكْ عَلَى سيدِنَا محمدٍ وعلَى آلِهِ وصفيهِ أَجْمِعِينَ، وعلَى مَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بَإِحسانٍ إلَى يومِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. We thank Him as is befitting to His glorious Sovereignty and Status. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship, except for Allah alone without any partners or peers. To Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth and whatever is within them. And He is over all things competent. I also witness that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. He is the Best of His Creation, the Closest to Him. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family, his companions, and all those who will follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

 The Sun today has an average distance of about 93,000,000 miles relative to planet Earth and yet heat waves which we experience from time to time can be quite unbearable whilst other hot climates of the world are almost uninhabitable. With that in mind, reflect over the following words of the Prophet

"The sun will be brought close to mankind on the Day of Resurrection until its distance from them will be one mile". Then the Prophet said "Because of this, people will become submerged in sweat, the severity of which will depend on their deeds. Some will be submerged up to their ankles, others up to their knees, others up to their waists whilst others will be submerged to their jaws." The Prophet then pointed to his mouth. (Muslim)

 Amidst these harrowing scenes of abnormality, the unprecedented levels of heat, discomfort and stress, a select group of blessed Muslims will be escorted to enjoy a shade which Allah has provided for them on this long Day.

- 'Surely such shade is for the Prophets and Messengers', yes, but, it is not exclusive to them. There are spaces available for reservation for you; the Prophet said:
- "There are seven types of people whom Allah will give protection with His Shade on a Day when there will be no shade except His Shade.
- (1) A just ruler
- (2) a young person who grew up with the worship of Allah
- (3) a person whose heart is attached to the mosque
- (4) two persons who love, meet and depart from each other for the sake of Allah
- (5) a man whom a beautiful and high ranking woman seduces, but he rejects this offer by saying: 'I fear Allah'
- (6) a person who gives a charity and conceals it to such an extent that the left hand might not know what the right has given
- (7) and a person who remembers Allah in privacy and his eyes weep." (Al-Bukhari)

وَيَوْمَ يُنفَخُ فِي الصُّورِ فَفَزِعَ مَن فِي السَّمَوَتِ وَمَن فِي الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا مَن شَآءَ اللَّهُ وَكُلُّ أَتَوْهُ دَخِرِينَ

And on the day when the trumpet shall be blown, then those who are in the heavens and those who are in the earth shall be terrified except such as Allah please, and all shall come to Him abased. (27:87)

فَإِذَا النُّجُومُ طُمِسَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَآءُ فُرِجَتْ وَإِذَا الْجِبَالُ نُسِفَتْ

So when the stars are made to lose their light, and when the heaven is rent asunder, and when the mountains are carried away as dust. (77:8-10)

كُّلَّا إِذَا دُكَّتِ الْأَرْضُ دَكًّا دَكًّا

Nay! when the earth is made to crumble to pieces... (89:21)

• This 'shade' is to be understood literally, a real shade. But how can such shade be provided whilst no mountains, buildings, trees or objects will be present? The following narration answers such a question in a way which only increases one's desire to be amongst the shaded ones. The Prophet said,

"Allah will shade them within the shade of His Throne."