

## The Poem Of Imam Shafi' Before His Passing.

While Imam Shafi' was ill, his friend Al Muzni asked him: "What is your condition?"

Imam Shafi' replied: "I am journeying from this world, and departing from my brothers, drinking from the cup of death, and upon Allah, Exalted is His remembrance, arriving. And no! By Allah, I do not know if my soul is traveling towards Paradise or the Fire!"

Imam Shafi' then began to cry profusely and recited the following:

*"In You, the Creator, I raise my longing, and even if I am, O Possessor of Kindness and Generosity, an evildoer, a criminal. When my heart became hardened and my paths became narrow, I took my hope in Your pardon and forgiveness as an opening and an escape, My sins seemed very great to me but when I compared them to Your forgiveness, I found Your forgiveness to be far greater, You are and still remain the only One who can forgive sins, You grant and forgive out of Your benevolence and generosity, Perhaps the One who is the source of all goodness will forgive and overlook my mistakes, And will hide the sins and burden that I accumulated, My sins seemed very great to me, so I turned (to You) in humility, Were it not for my contentment in you, I wouldn't, O my Lord, have seen any comfort at all, So if You forgive me, You would have forgiven a sinner, A rebellious, oppressive tyrant still sinning, So my crime is very great, past and present, But Your forgiveness that embraces Your servant is greater and higher, So whomsoever holds fast to Allaah is truly saved from mankind, And whosever's hopes are in Him, will be far removed from any regrets."*