

# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Shaykh Muhammad Al-Ameen Ash-Shanqeetee (d. 1393H)

رحمه الله

(Compiled by Abu Muhammad Yahya)

Muhammad Al-Ameen ibn Muhammad al-Mukhtar ibn 'Abdil-Qādir al-Jaknee ash-Shanqeetee (1325H/1907 – 1393H/1973) was a distinguished Scholar (from Mauritania) renowned for his profound knowledge in various Islamic sciences, particularly Qur'anic exegesis (tafsir).



### Early Life and Education

Born in 1325H (1907) in the region known as Shanqeet, now part of modern-day Mauritania, Ash-Shanqeetee hailed from the Jaknee tribe, a lineage tracing back to Ya'qūb ibn Jākin. He was raised in a scholarly family, which provided him with a robust foundation in Islamic education. By the age of ten, he had memorized the Qur'an under the tutelage of his uncle, Abdullah ibn Muhammad al-Mukhtār. He further honed his skills in tajweed and the art of writing the Uthmāni script with his cousin, Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Mukhtār. His aunt introduced him to Arabic grammar and the Seerah (Prophetic biography). He expanded his studies in fields such as fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence), tafsir, hadith, usool al-fiqh (principles of jurisprudence), and poetry under the guidance of prominent scholars of his time, including Shaykh Muhammad ibn Sālih and Shaykh Ahmad al-Afram.

### Contributions

After completing his studies, Ash-Shanqeetee served as a teacher and judge in Mauritania, where his rulings were respected and enforced by local authorities. In 1947, he performed Hajj and subsequently began teaching at Masjid An-Nabawi in Madinah. His teaching style attracted many, leading to invitations to continue his educational endeavors in the region. He was renowned for his exceptional memory and deep understanding of the Qur'an. His most notable work, "Adwaa-ul-Bayaan fee Tafseer-il-Qur'an bil-Qur'an," showcases his ability to interpret the Qur'an using the Qur'an itself, reflecting his mastery in Arabic eloquence and grammar.

In 1951, he was invited to teach in Riyadh's educational institutes and colleges. Later, he moved to Madinah to teach at the Islamic University of Madinah, where he mentored many students, including prominent scholars like Shaykh 'Abdul-'Azīz ibn Bāz and Shaykh Bakr ibn 'Abdullah Abu Zayd.

## Notable Works

Shaykh Ash-Shanqeetee authored several influential books that have significantly contributed to Islamic scholarship:

- **Adwaa' al-Bayaan fi Tafseer al-Qur'an bil-Qur'an:** This is his seminal work in Tafsir, where he interprets the Qur'an using the Qur'an itself. His profound understanding of Arabic grammar and eloquence is evident throughout this tafsir.
- **Adab al-Bahth wal-Munadharah:** A treatise on the etiquettes of research and debate, providing guidelines for scholarly discussions.
- **Daf'u Eehaam al-Idhtiraab 'an Aay al-Kitaab:** In this work, he addresses and resolves perceived contradictions within Qur'anic verses.
- **Alfiyyah fil-Mantiq:** A poetic composition focusing on the science of logic.
- **Man'u Jawaaz al-Majaaz fil Munazzal lit-Ta'abbud wal-I'jaaz:** A discussion on the inimitability of the Qur'an and the concept of metaphor within its text.
- **Mudhakkirah Usool al-Fiqh:** A concise treatise on the principles of Islamic jurisprudence.

## Personal Characteristics

Ash-Shanqeetee was known for his asceticism and contentment with little. He emphasized that his migration from Shanqeet to Saudi Arabia was accompanied by a treasure rarely found: contentment (Al-Qanaa'ah). He stated that had he desired status, he knew the paths to it but preferred the afterlife over worldly gains. He was also noted for his strict adherence to Islamic ethics, never permitting backbiting in his gatherings.

## Death

Ash-Shanqeetee passed away on Thursday, 17th Dhul Hijjah 1393H (1973) in Mecca after returning from Hajj. His funeral prayer was led by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Azīz ibn Bāz in the Sacred Mosque of Mecca, and he was buried in the Jannat al-Mu'allāh cemetery. A funeral prayer in absentia was also held in the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah, attended by countless pilgrims.

Ash-Shanqeetee's legacy continues through his scholarly works and the numerous students he taught and mentored, leaving an indelible mark on Islamic scholarship.