

¹كَالْتَلَجِ فِي الصَّيْفِ وَكَالْمَطَرِ فِي الْحَصَادِ هَكَذَا الْكَرَامَةُ
عَيْزٌ لِأَنفَقِ بِالْجَاهِلِ.²كَالْعُصْفُورِ لِلْفَرَارِ وَكَالْشُّبُوتِ
لِلطَّيْرَانِ، كَذَلِكَ لَعْنَةُ بَلَا سَبَبٍ لَا تَأْتِي.³السَّوْطُ لِلْفَرَسِ
وَاللِّجَامُ لِلْجَمَارِ، وَالْعَصَا لِيُظْهِرَ الْجَهْلَالِ.⁴لَا تُجَاوِبِ
الْجَاهِلَ حَسَبَ حِمَاقَتِهِ لئَلَّا تَعْدِلُهُ أَنْتَ.⁵جَاوِبِ الْجَاهِلَ
حَسَبَ حِمَاقَتِهِ لئَلَّا يَكُونَ حَكِيمًا فِي عَيْنِي نَفْسِهِ.⁶يَقْطَعُ
الرَّجُلَيْنِ، يَشْرَبُ طُلْمًا، مَنْ يُرْسِلُ كَلَامًا عَنْ يَدِ
جَاهِلٍ.⁷سَاقَا الْأَعْرَجِ مُتَدَلِّلَتَانِ، وَكَذَا الْمَثَلُ فِي قَمِ
الْجَهْلَالِ.⁸كُضْرَةٌ جَوَارِيَةٌ كَرِيمَةٌ فِي رُجْمَةٍ هَكَذَا الْمُعْطِي
كَرَامَةً لِلْجَاهِلِ.⁹شَوْكٌ مُرْتَفِعٌ بِيَدِ سَكْرَانٍ مِثْلُ الْمَثَلِ فِي
قَمِ الْجَهْلَالِ.¹⁰رَامَ يَطْعَنُ الْكَلْبَ، هَكَذَا مَنْ يَسْتَأْجِرُ الْجَاهِلَ
أَوْ يَسْتَأْجِرُ الْمُخْتَالِينَ.¹¹كَمَا يَعُودُ الْكَلْبُ إِلَى قَيْنِهِ هَكَذَا
الْجَاهِلُ يُعِيدُ حِمَاقَتَهُ.¹²أَرَأَيْتَ رَجُلًا حَكِيمًا فِي عَيْنِي
نَفْسِهِ. الرَّجَاءُ بِالْجَاهِلِ أَكْثَرُ مِنَ الرَّجَاءِ بِهِ.¹³قَالَ
الْكَسْلَانُ، الْأَسَدُ فِي الطَّرِيقِ، السَّبُلُ فِي
السَّوَارِعِ.¹⁴الْبَابُ يَذُورُ عَلَى صَائِرِهِ، وَالْكَسْلَانُ عَلَى
فَرَاشِهِ.¹⁵الْكَسْلَانُ يُخْفِي يَدَهُ فِي الصَّخْفَةِ وَيَسْقُ عَلَى
أَنْ يَرُدَّهَا إِلَى قَمِهِ.¹⁶الْكَسْلَانُ أَوْفَرُ حِكْمَةٍ فِي عَيْنِي
نَفْسِهِ مِنَ السَّبْعَةِ الْمُجَبِّينِ يَعْقِلُ.¹⁷كَمْفَسِكِ أَذْنِي كَلْبٍ
هَكَذَا مَنْ يَغْبُرُ وَيَتَعَرَّضُ لِمُسَاجَرَةٍ لَا تَنْفَعُهُ.¹⁸مِثْلُ
الْمُجْنُونِ الَّذِي يَرْمِي تَارًا وَسِهَامًا وَمَوْنًا،¹⁹هَكَذَا الرَّجُلُ
الْخَادِعُ قَرِيبَهُ وَيَقُولُ، أَلَمْ أَلْعَبْ أَتَا. ²⁰يَعْدَمُ الْحَطَبُ
تَنْطَفِئُ النَّارُ، وَحَيْثُ لَا تَمَامَ يَهْدَأُ الْخِصَامُ.²¹فَحْمٌ لِلْجَمْرِ
وَحَطَبٌ لِلنَّارِ هَكَذَا الرَّجُلُ الْمُخَاصِمُ لِنَهْيِجِ النَّارِ.²²كَلَامُ
النَّمَامِ مِثْلُ لَقَمِ خُلُوعٍ فَيَنْزِلُ إِلَى مَخَادِعِ الْبَطْنِ.²³فِصَّةُ
رَعْلٍ تُعَسِّي سَقْفَةً، هَكَذَا الشَّقَاتَانِ الْمُتَوَقِّدَتَانِ وَالْقَلْبُ
السَّرِيرُ.²⁴يَسْقَتِيهِ يَتَنَكَّرُ الْمُبْغِضُ، وَفِي جَوْفِهِ يَصْعُ
عِشًّا.²⁵إِذَا حَسَنَ صَوْنُهُ فَلَا تَأْمِنُهُ، لِأَنَّ فِي قَلْبِهِ سَنَعَ
رَجَاسَاتٍ.²⁶مَنْ يُعْطِي بُعْصَةً بِمَكْرٍ يَكْشِفُ حُبَّتَهُ بَيْنَ
الْجَمَاعَةِ.²⁷مَنْ يَخْفُرُ حُفْرَةً يَسْقُطُ فِيهَا، وَمَنْ يُدْخِرُ
خَجْرًا يَرْجِعُ عَلَيْهِ.²⁸اللِّسَانُ الْكَاذِبُ يُبْعِضُ مُنْسَجِحِيهِ،
وَالْقَمُ الْمَلِيقُ يُعِدُّ حَرَابًا.

¹As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.²As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.³A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.⁴Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.⁵Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.⁶He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage.⁷The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.⁸As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool.⁹As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.¹⁰The great God that formed all things both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.¹¹As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.¹²Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.¹³The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.¹⁴As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed.¹⁵The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.¹⁶The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.¹⁷He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.¹⁸As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,¹⁹So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and

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saith, Am not I in sport?²⁰ Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.²¹ As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.²² The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.²³ Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.²⁴ He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;²⁵ When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart.²⁶ Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation.²⁷ Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.²⁸ A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.