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## Revised Preface



## In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

[1] Gratitude and praise be to the Mighty Presence of the Possessor of Majesty, the lights of the subtleties of whose Wisdom shine from every single particle of the universe, and the effects of the marvels of whose Power radiate from every single part of existent things; to the Powerful who brought forth from the forming mold with the hand of destiny so many luminous bodies; to the Subduer who caused the many spherical bodies to wander submissively in the revolving whirlpool; to the Ordainer who turned one lower point into the center of the equator of the upper circuits; to the Regulator who made a handful of earth the basis for the positions of the stars and orbs to regulate the rules of both existences and to bring in order the ranks of both worlds. Just as He illuminated the encompassing surface of the irrealis world with the luminous heavenly bodies, he adorned the center of the upper bodies with the true lights of guidance and teaching of the prophets and holy men so that the proofs of the oneness of God and means of [His] abstraction, which includes the ways to supplicate to the Originator and Restorer and the pathways of attaining [knowledge of] the provenance and destination, were made clear and demonstrated.<sup>1</sup> “Is not His the

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1. In addition to the “Revised Preface,” some manuscripts have a shorter preface consisting of only the first paragraph of the “Revised Preface.”

creation and the command? Blessed be God, the Lord of the worlds.”<sup>1</sup>

[2] And gifts of prayers and presents of salutations of the Divine Majesty be upon the seal of the prophets, the essence of the purest, Muḥammad the chosen one, and to his family, companions, progeny, and loved ones, eternally and perpetually.

[3] After setting forth this opening, one should know that this book is a concise treatise on the science of the configuration (*hay'at*) of the upper and lower bodies and the knowledge of distances and sizes in an abridged way. It was written in haste upon the request of some friends, and it was named *al-Risāla al-Mughniya* (The sufficing treatise). If the great ones will ennoble it through the honor of their study, convey the correction of any mistakes they find, this will not be unbecoming of their generosity. May the glorified God, by His grace and kindness, grant success and support, and protection and strength in all circumstances!

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1. Cf. Quran, 7:54.