20801 - “Seek help in having your needs met by being discreet.”

the question

Please give the status, if any, of this narration:
“Seek help for success or victory of your needs by being quiet. For verily,everything that has a ni'imah in it is envied.” Is this a hadith of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and, if so, where can it be found?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

This hadeeth was narrated by al-Tabarani in his three Mu’jams, by al-Bayhaqi in Shu’ab al-Eeman, by Abu Na’eem in al-Hilyah; by Ibn ‘Adiyy in al-Kamil, and by al-‘Aqeeli in al-Du’afa. The hadeeth says: “Seek help in having your needs met by being discreet, for everyone who is blessed with something is envied.” This was narrated from the hadeeth of Mu’adh ibn Jabal, ‘Ali ibn Abi Talib, Ibn ‘Abbas, Abu Hurayrah and Abu Bardah (may Allah be pleased with them).

Ibn Abi Hatim said that this hadeeth was munkar (rejected). Ibn al-Jawzi ruled that it is mawdoo’ (fabricated).

It was classed as da’eef (weak) by al-‘Iraqi, al-Suyooti in al-Jami’ al-Sagheer, and al-‘Ajlooni in Kashf al-Khifa’.

Al-Haythami said in Majma’ al-Zawaid (8/195): It was narrated that Mu’adh ibn Jabal (may Allah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “Seek help in having your needs met by being discreet, for everyone who is blessed with something is envied.” This was narrated by al-Tabarani in his three (Mu’jams), but its isnad (chain of narrators) includes Sa’eed ibn Salam al-‘Attar. Al-‘Ajali said there is nothing wrong with him, but Ahmad and others described him as a liar. The rest of its men are thiqat (trustworthy) except that

Khalid ibn Mi’dan did not hear it from Mu’adh.

‘Ilal Ibn Abi Hatim, 2/255; Fayd al-Qadeer by al-Manawi, 1/630; Kashf al-Khifa by al-‘Ajlooni, 1/135

This hadeeth was classed as saheeh (authentic) by al-Albani in al-Silsilah al-Saheehah, 3/436, hadeeth no. 1453; and in Saheeh al-Jami’, no. 943.

He narrated what the scholars said about the faults of this hadeeth, but he classed it as saheeh via the marfoo’ narration of Sahl ibn ‘Abd al-Rahman al-Jarjani from Muhammad ibn Mutarrif from Muhammad ibn al-Munkadir from ‘Urwah ibn al-Zubayr from Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him).

He said: The hadeeth with this isnad is jayyid (good) in my view. Al-Silsilah al-Saheehah, 3/439

And Allah knows best.