

# مدارج السالكين

## PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

All praises are due to Allah. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.

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Al Salam Islamic Center



سم الله الرحمن الرحيم  
لا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله

## مدارج السالكين PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

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### INTRODUCTION

◦ We praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in the beginning and the end and we cannot begin without praising Him and giving His right. We do not want to forget Him in anything we do.

### SUPPLICATION SEEKING ALLAH'S HELP

"يا معاذ، والله إني لأحبك، ثم أوصيك يا معاذ لا تدعن في دبر كل صلاة تقول: اللهم أعني على ذكرك وشكرك، وحسن عبادتك"

The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) held my hand and said, "O Mu'adh, By Allah, I love you

and advise you not to miss supplicating after every Salat (prayer) saying:  
*'Allahumma a'inni 'ala dhikrika wa shukrika, wa husni 'ibadatika,'*  
 (O Allah, help me remember You, expressing gratitude to You and worship You in the best manner)".<sup>1</sup>

- There is a huge difference between a slave and master and a mother and child. For example, we would not appreciate it if our child leaves and goes without informing us. Or we would not appreciate it if our child does not greet us in the morning or does not tell us good night. We would not appreciate it if our child does not speak to us. And to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the best example, our heart has to love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) before seeking His help and asking Him. And this is the secret of:

<sup>1</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Abu Dawud and An- Nasa'i , Book 1, Hadith 384

## SURAH AL FATIHA 5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

It is You we worship and You we ask for help.

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER (مدارج السالكين)

YOU ALONE WE WORSHIP AND YOU ALONE WE ASK FOR HELP (إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ)

- Before what we want or need something, we should show our love to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is (المعبود المألوه) (The One Worthy of being worshipped and The One Who is perfect).
- Imagine if people only use us without appreciating our qualities and goodness; we do not like this kind of attitude. And this shows how we appreciate feelings more than just actions.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) does not want anything from us, but we should give Him His right. We should love Him and it should be unconditional.
- Issues arise between people due to lack of feelings between them, and we get affected by the behavior of people when they are ungrateful or unloving to us because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants to show us the feelings we do not like and how we deal with Him. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) forgive us. Ameen.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The Most Beautiful on His own. He has no wife, no son, no children and no partner. There is no one connected to Him. However, our connection to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is by being a slave to Him.

- All humans are slaves of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), whether willingly or unwillingly. And the angels are slaves of Allah The Most Merciful.
- When a slave submits to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) then he will be honored. And when a slave does not, then he will be humiliated by the master he has chosen besides Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). So he becomes either a slave of the people, spouse, money or status, and whatever he has chosen is below the standard, so surely it will take him down.
- To be a slave of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is not about manual work or not having any rights. This is human slavery between human and human. That's why people hear "slave" and say "no, I don't want to be slave".

- But we are talking about being a slave of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). He does not want us to feed Him, provide Him or serve Him. A slave means to love and respect His Master.

### SURAH ADH DHAARIYAAT 56 TO 58

56.

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

And I (Allah) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (Alone).

57.

مَا أُرِيدُ مِنْهُمْ مِنْ رِزْقٍ وَمَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ يُطْعَمُونِ

I seek not any provision from them (i.e. provision for themselves or for My creatures) nor do I ask that they should feed Me (i.e. feed themselves or My creatures).

58.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الرَّزَّاقُ ذُو الْقُوَّةِ الْمَتِينُ

Verily, Allah is the All-Provider, Owner of Power, the Most Strong.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) created us to be a slave to Him, to love and magnify Him. And every time He will show us more of His beauty and perfection, so we will always be connected to our Master.
- He will always show us His beauty and majesty, and when He shows us how beautiful, merciful, kind and gentle He is, then automatically, we will be waiting, “I am at Your service”. So whatever we do is not a burden or hassle. Automatically we will excel and do our best.
- The angels are the Slaves of the Most Merciful, and they are never absent from missing any command because they love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) the most.
- Our journey is not a journey of limbs and struggling. People think that whatever is not



easy and difficult to do then that is worship, but this is not the case. The religion is to love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and to accept wherever He takes US.

- For example, if we are reciting Qur'an and our child comes, we think we have to push them away, and say, "no, I am worshipping", but this is not worship. This is worship of one's desires.
- We accept whatever Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) brings to US.
- To be a slave is love between the slave and Master, and this is what a person remains firm and patient on, so he remains firm on his feelings and not his limbs.
- What makes it a beautiful patience? When we are patient for The One we love, and this will make it a beautiful journey.

- We need to understand the meaning of worship before isti'ana (seeking help from Allah).
- To keep our feelings firm in the religion, we should not turn our eyes away from those who remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and become distracted.

### SURAH AL KAHF 28

وَاصْبِرْ نَفْسَكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ بِالْغَدَاةِ وَالْعَشِيِّ يُرِيدُونَ  
 وَجْهَهُ ۖ وَلَا تَعْدُ عَيْنَاكَ عَنْهُمْ تُرِيدُ زِينَةَ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا ۗ وَلَا تُطِعْ  
 مَنْ أَغْفَلْنَا قَلْبَهُ عَن ذِكْرِنَا وَاتَّبَعَ هَوَاهُ وَكَانَ أَمْرُهُ فُرُطًا

And keep yourself patient [by being] with those who call upon their Lord in the morning and the evening, seeking His countenance. And let not your eyes pass beyond them, desiring adornments of the worldly life, and do not obey one whose heart We have made heedless of Our remembrance and who follows his desire and whose affair is ever [in] neglect.

- We always want to see the beauty of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) more than anything in this life because He is The Most Beautiful and Most Gentle.

### SURAH ASH SHURA 11

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

There is nothing like Him; and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.

### SURAH AL IKHLAAS 4

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

"And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."

- We want our heart to be connected and to love The Most Beautiful, and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) placed it in our fitra to love beauty. For example in beauty pageants, one crown is handed over to the next winner and the next

winner the next year, and this is the meaning of succession. It gets passed on.

### SURAH AL BAQARAH 30

وَإِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ إِنِّي جَاعِلٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ خَلِيفَةً

And [mention, O Muhammad (ﷺ)], when your Lord said to the angels, "Indeed, I will make upon the earth a successive authority."

- Humans succeed one another. After a person dies, his wealth and property are passed on to another. When one messenger passes away, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sends another, and they are all brothers who love each other. But no one succeeds Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- In order to love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), we need a great amount of maintaining it. For example, in the start of any relationship, it begins with love,

but then with time it becomes “practical and operational”, so the feelings fade.

- But if we want to maintain the feelings, it is not about accounting or worrying about how much we give and receive, and we appreciate the little we get, so it becomes a very easy connection. And to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the best example, we have to maintain in loving Him and that is through any action or decree He brings our way. Our life will be meaningless if we do not clearly understand:

### SURAH AL FATIHA 5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

It is You we worship and You we ask for help.

- (إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ) (It is You we worship): is the love and magnification of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- (وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ) (and You we ask for help.): is the Lordship and nurturing of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). For example, if a mother does not care or nurture her child, does it show love? No. And we can end up disabling the Lordship of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) when we do not ask for His help.
- There is faith and there is sweetness of faith and a person will taste sweetness of faith when:
  1. He loves Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and His Messenger (ﷺ)
  2. He loves others for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)
  3. He hates to go back to disbelief after being saved from it

## TASTED THE SWEETNESS OF FAITH

أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ. صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. " ثَلَاثٌ مَنْ كُنَّ فِيهِ وَجَدَ طَعْمَ الْإِيمَانِ - وَقَالَ بُنْدَارٌ حَلَاوَةَ الْإِيمَانِ - مَنْ كَانَ يُحِبُّ الْمَرْءَ لَا يُحِبُّهُ إِلَّا لِلَّهِ . وَمَنْ كَانَ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِمَّا سِوَاهُمَا . وَمَنْ كَانَ أَنْ يُلْقَى فِي النَّارِ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ أَنْ يَرْجِعَ فِي الْكُفْرِ بَعْدَ إِذْ أَنْقَذَهُ اللَّهُ مِنْهُ "

It was narrated from Anas bin Malik that the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said:

“There are three things, whoever has them has found the taste of faith (One of the narrators) Bundar said: ‘The sweetness of faith; When he loves a man and only loves him for the sake of Allah. When Allah and His Messenger are more beloved to him than anything else; and when being thrown into the fire is dearer to him than going back to disbelief after Allah has saved him from it.’<sup>2</sup>

- You alone we worship purifies us from riyaa and you alone we ask for help purifies us from arrogance.

<sup>2</sup> Sunan Ibn Majah 4033

- (إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ) (It is You we worship and You we ask for help.): is the way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), it is our contract with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and it is a cure from all diseases that can happen on our way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- For example when we travel, we do not want to fall sick. And similarly, we do not want to fall sick on our way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and be taken off-track when we seek the praise of people and look up at ourselves.
- The way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is a journey of love and not a journey of rituals. Someone may not have many rituals, but they have great feelings for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) Whom they do not see. When we make love a priority more than what we are doing, then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will make



us reach our goal faster than someone who is only thinking of how to reach by limbs.

- There may be pauses and breaks in life, but it is important to hope for the best from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), and the final worship we should perform before passing away is to think good of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

### THINK GOOD OF ALLAH BEFORE DEATH

قَالَ سَمِعْتُ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَبْلَ وَفَاتِهِ بِثَلَاثٍ يَقُولُ  
"لَا يَمُوتَنَّ أَحَدُكُمْ إِلَّا وَهُوَ يُحْسِنُ بِاللَّهِ الظَّنَّ".

I heard Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) as saying three days before his death: None of you should die but hoping only good from Allah.<sup>3</sup>

- And we want to prepare to think good of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) while we are here in this life.

MAY ALLAH HELP US WORSHIP HIM ALONE AND SEEK HIS HELP. AMEEN.

<sup>3</sup> Sahih Muslim 2877

## REFERENCES

1. مدارج السالكين - ابن القيم



## RELATED RESOURCES

SURAH AL FATIHA: YOU ALONE WE WORSHIP AND YOU ALONE WE ASK FOR HELP

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN](#)

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/path-of-the-traveller>

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