

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وَدِدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon  
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his  
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

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## The Awliyah avoided the Rich

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There is no doubt that the true Awliyah have always avoided the company of the rich and famous.

It is mentioned that Sultan Barber had given an entire village to Hadrat Sayyiduna Baba Fareed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - but the great Saint refused to accept it.

On many occasions such gifts were presented to Hadrat Nizaamudeen Awliyah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - but he also refused to accept any of these gifts. He used to say to his Mureeds, "If I accept these gifts, then some people would say that today I have gone to visit my orchard. Today, I am looking after my crops. What connection do I have with such things?" He then closed his blessed eyes and declared, "Our Mashaa'ikh have never accepted any land or property from anyone." (Fawaa'idul Fawaad)

Besides the question of accepting any gifts from the rich and famous, they even considered the idea of inter -ingling with the rich and famous as Haraam.

In the “Malfuz Shareef” of Hadrat Sayyiduna Baba Fareed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - he mentions that, “Once Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah Sahl Tustari - *may Allah be pleased with him* -was one day called to make damm for the Ruler of Iraq. As an expiation or Kaffaarah for this act, he divorced himself from people for seven years. It is the opinion of the Mashaa’ikh that the company of the rich and famous is a very serious poison for them.”

There is no doubt that it does not look good for a Faqeer to visit the house of a rich and powerful person, however for the opposite to happen, it looks much better and acceptable.

The King of the Awliyah, namely Hadrat Sayyiduna Ghous Paak, Sheikh Abdul Qadir al-Jilani - *may Allah be pleased with him* - never used to visit the mansions or palaces of any of the rich and famous. If at any time, any rich and famous person came to his blessed court, he never stood up for them. (Tabqaat Al Kubra)

This has been the history of the Awliyah. They never accepted gifts of property from anyone and never saved money or riches. They also did not have shops or factories. They never attached themselves to the rich and famous. They never built large mansions and palaces. Whatever came to them, they immediately distributed this among the poor and needy. In this way, as they came empty-handed into the world and they left empty-handed without any material wealth. This is the meaning of completing divorcing oneself from the world. It is mentioned that when the great Saint, Hadrat Sayyiduna Baba Fareed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - passed away, they could not even find items to prepare his Kafan in his house. When they needed to place a small barrier around his grave, they broke one part of the wall in his house and used the bricks from there to do so! (Fawaa'idul Fawaad)

This is completely different from the latest “peers” and “mashaa’ikh”. We notice that recently in the Indo Pak subcontinent, there was a special conference which was called for by a group of famous people calling itself “Tanzeemul Mashaa’ikh”. Is there a greater joke in history? These so called “mashaa’ikh” also had a special meeting with the

government and made it clear that as other citizens are given a plot or piece of land, they should also be given a piece of land or plot! Has this ever been heard of in the history of the Awliyah? In other words, these so-called “mashaa’ikh” have become nothing but land grabbers and money grabbers. We know of certain “mashaa’ikh” who have actually asked the government authorities that they be given a special stipend every month to run their ‘khanqahs’. Besides that, huge sums of money are sent to these “mashaa’ikhs” for projects which do not even exist. In fact, some of them have mastered the art of collection and we urge people who are looking for a “master plan” to make collection to kindly forward their inquiries to these modern “mashaa’ikh”. We are sure that through their assistance and a little commission thrown their way, they would certainly give you a “true master plan.”

Recently, a new trend has developed where the eldest son becomes the Sajjaadah and a few months later, his other brothers will gladly take him to court to fight for their ‘right of joint ownership’. What ownership are they fighting for? It is obvious, the ownership to collect their share of the “war booty”.