

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلُودِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَأْنُ يُصْلِّي 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*

The Awliya work for a Living

It is reported that Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - and Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ishaq - *may Allah be pleased with him* - were among those eminent Saints of Islam who used to cut wood and earn their living. One day, they made a promise to each other that they would climb the mountain together and help each other to cut wood. Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - managed to climb the mountain before his companion and after cutting the wood he wanted, he sat waiting.

However, when his blessed companion took a while to come, Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - started to search for him on the mountain face. When he finally met his blessed companion, he noticed that he was sitting on one side and the head of a lion was on his lap and his companion was removing the flies from around the face of the lion. Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - then asked him, "O Abu Ishaq! What is this?" He replied,

“The lion had pleaded to me and I felt sorry for it. Now, I am waiting for it to wake up so that I can join you.”

However, Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - left him in that state and went forward. Suddenly, he found a purse on the ground in which there were a thousand Dinaars. The purse was also full of sand and dust. He then thought to himself that he will go and give all of this as Sadqah. As he came down from the mountain, he came across a black slave.

This person had an injury on his face, his feet were cut and near his head, there was a bundle of wood. He wanted to sell this bundle of wood in the market place. Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then thought to himself that this poor black slave was certainly entitled for charity. In fact, who would be more entitled for charity than this person.

He then removed ten Dinaars from this purse and handed it to the black slave. He said to him, “Please take this money and organize yourself”.

When the black slave heard this, he shouted out, “Please go and place the gold where you had found it. What has not been earned through your hands, you have no right to give it away as charity. I swear in the Divine Name of Allah Almighty I have walked past this same purse for nearly one year and I still have no idea what is inside the purse. How have you been defrauded by the world. What is not permissible for you to take, you have taken that.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - admits that he was highly embarrassed by the words of this black slave. He also realized that this person himself was from among the Awliyah.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali bin Bakaar – narrates, “I then left the purse where I had found it and when I returned to where I had seen him, I noticed that he had disappeared from that spot. On further inquiry, I was told that he only appears once a week to cut wood. He then sells this for one Dirham and is able to purchase his provision for the entire week with this one Dirham. He also never requests anyone for help or support.”

We make Du'a that Allah Almighty blesses us with the qualities of these great Saints.
Ameen. (Ar Roud Al Faa'iq)