

Munājāt Sha‘bāniyyah (7) – Exhilaration in the Lord’s Liqā’

Based on the exposition by ’Āyatullāh Shaykh Muḥammad Bāqir Taḥrīrī

21 Sha‘bān 1446 – 20 February 2025

إِلَهِي جُودُكَ بَسَطَ أَمَلِي وَ عَفْوُكَ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ عَمَلِي

My God! Your Generosity has increased my aspiration, and Your Pardon is worthier than my action.

إِلَهِي فَسَّرَنِي بِلِقَائِكَ يَوْمَ تَقْضِي فِيهِ بَيْنَ عِبَادِكَ

My God! So make me exhilarated by Your Meeting on the day wherein You will judge between Your Servants.

إِلَهِي اعْتِنَايَ إِلَيْكَ اعْتِنَاؤُ مَنْ لَمْ يَسْتَغْنِ عَنْ قَبُولِ عُذْرِهِ

My God! My apology to You is the seeking excuse of someone who cannot afford the non-acceptance of his apology, thus accept my excuse, O the Most Honouring One that the sinners seek excuse from.

فَأَقْبَلْ عُذْرِي يَا أَكْرَمَ مَنْ اعْتَدَرَ إِلَيْهِ الْمَسِيئُونَ

My God! Don’t turn my request down, and don’t undermine my yearning, and don’t cut off my hope and aspirations from You.

إِلَهِي لَا تَرُدَّ حَاجَتِي وَلَا تُخَيِّبْ طَمَعِي وَلَا تَقْطَعْ مِنْكَ رَجَائِي وَ أَمَلِي

My God! If You had wanted my disgrace, You would not have guided me, and if You had wanted to expose me, You would not have kept me well.

إِلَهِي لَوْ أَرَدْتَ هَوَانِي لَمْ تَهْدِنِي وَ لَوْ أَرَدْتَ فَضِيحَتِي لَمْ تُعَافِنِي

My God! I don’t reckon You will turn down a request I have expended my whole life in seeking it from You.

إِلَهِي مَا أَطَّئْتُكَ تَرُدُّنِي فِي حَاجَةٍ قَدْ أَفْنَيْتُ عُمْرِي فِي طَلَبِهَا مِنْكَ

The aspirations of a human are an indicator of his worthiness, and criteria of progress. The more a seeker seeks the Almighty, the sharper his vision becomes, and as a result the more nuanced and far-reaching his aspiration becomes. Only in the case of God-centered aspirations, one sets their sights on seemingly conflicting goals – perfections unattainable since they are unlimited, and likewise attainable since they are received at the extant of the capacity of the soul’s crucible, in perfect synchrony with the Divine Light. A wayfarer finds God’s generosity to be a stimulant to seeking his aspirations and despite his actions falling short, relies on the Lord’s Pardon to remove obstacles in moving towards those perfections¹ rather than relying on his own actions.

But what can be said about the **ultimate aspiration** – the *Liqā’ ’Allāh* (the Meeting with God)! An aspiration which when reached leaves nothing but ecstatic exhilaration for the servant. A meeting he has worked and toiled lifelong² – knowingly or unknowingly – but now he meets Him, in one of two states. Either with awareness of the Haqq (Truth, and Right) of his Lord³, receives his complete reward and is elated. Or without awareness and moves from elation to desperation. “Behold! They are surely in doubt regarding their meeting with their Lord, behold! He surely over all things is all-Encompassing!”⁴ “So the one who keeps hoping for the Meeting with his Lord, must act righteously and not associate any partners in servitude alongside His Lord”⁵. When the Meeting materializes with the Absolute Perfection, the truest gladdening transpires; as the human has met the solution of his problems, the medicine of all his ills, the fullness for all his voids and the abundance for his abject poverty. Nothing else matters now... At this stage, the human sees nothing of himself, other than of Him, from Him and for Him.

Reflection: Why can the human not afford the non-acceptance of his apology accepted from His Lord?

Discussion (with a scholar): What are ways for a wayfarer to prepare himself well for Liqā’ ’Allāh?

¹ Sūrah ash-Shūrā 42:30

² Sūrah al-Inshiqāq 84:6-15

³ Sūrah an-Nūr 24:25

⁴ Sūrah Fuṣṣilat 41:54

⁵ Sūrah al-Kahf 18:110