

Munājāt Sha‘bāniyyah (2) – Whisper

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

Oh Allah! Send your choicest mercy upon Muhammad and the progeny of Muhammad S.

وَ اسْمِعْ دُعَائِي إِذَا دَعَوْتُكَ وَ اسْمِعْ نِدَائِي إِذَا نَادَيْتُكَ

Hear my prayer when I supplicate to you, and **Hear** my cry when I call out to you

وَ أَقْبِلْ عَلَيَّ إِذَا تَاجَيْتُكَ فَقَدْ هَرَبْتُ إِلَيْكَ وَ وَقَفْتُ بَيْنَ

And **turn towards me** when I whisper to you! (as) surely **I have come fleeing** to you and (now) **stand** before you

يَدَيْكَ

(in a state that I am) **desperately pleading** towards You, **beseeking** You, (being) **hopeful** towards what you have rewarding for me,

مُسْتَكِينًا لَكَ مُتَضَرِّعًا إِلَيْكَ رَاجِيًا لِمَا لَدَيْكَ تَوَائِي

(while) **You know** what is in my soul and **You have news** of my need and **You are aware** of my hidden reality.

وَ تَعْلَمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِي وَ تَخْبُرُ حَاجَتِي وَ تَعْرِفُ ضَمِيرِي

The Merciful Creator, alone worthy of all Perfections, is the ultimate source and destination of all creation. The collective journey of ascent, is facilitated by the descent of His Mercy through its conduits, upon all beings from its treasures near the Almighty in measured quantity¹. The Holy Prophet of Islam and his Noble Progeny are the beings who channel the maximum mercy of the al-Raḥmān al-Raḥīm to all creation and to the believers. By beginning with a salutation upon them (salawāt), the doors of the unlimited mercy are opened, which lies at the essence of spiritual wayfaring towards the Almighty.

Connecting with the Almighty, like any other being, begins with *confirming attention* (seeking from the listener alongside alertness and awareness from the speaker). At times it is through the senses, physical or beyond; yet the process of supplication invokes the al-Samī‘ (the Hearing One) who surely responds when one prays or cries out for assistance². “Were it not for your attention to your neediness towards the Needless (du‘ā), what store would my Lord set by you?”³

The Munājāt outlines the journey an alert, aware and active human takes towards the Almighty – by knowing his limitations and seeking the source of all Perfections. The process of whispered conversation invokes **complete attention** (turn towards me!) from someone whose heart is tender, seeking refuge from all except Him; because the wayfarer on his journey is *fleeing* towards the Almighty. The urgency of the situation presents the state of abject existential poverty alongside desperation, as the servant – humbled yet hopeful – presents himself before the Merciful Omniscient Lord – whose knowledge of the servant encompasses his needs, his wants, his inclinations, his thoughts and his inner essence – nothing is hidden from the Beloved.

Reflection: How close am I to the said imagery - of a desperate servant fleeing towards the Almighty?

Discussion (with a scholar): How can we develop the spiritual state to have Munājāt with the Almighty?

¹ Sūrah al-Ḥijr 15:21

² Sūrah ‘Ibrāhīm 14:39

³ paraphrased version of Sūrah al-Furqān 25:77