

# Munājāt Sha‘bāniyyah (10) – Rise in God’s Love!

Based on the exposition by ’Āyatullāh Shaykh Muḥammad Bāqir Taḥrīrī

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إِلَهِي لَمْ يَكُنْ لِي حَوْلٌ فَانْتَقَلَ بِهِ عَنِ مَعْصِيَتِكَ إِلَّا فِي وَقْتٍ  
أَيَّقَطْتَنِي لِمَحَبَّتِكَ

وَكَأِ أَرَدْتُ أَنْ أَكُونَ كُنْتُ فَشَكَرْتُكَ بِإِذْخَالِي فِي كَرَمِكَ وَ  
لِتَطْهِيرِ قَلْبِي مِنْ أَوْسَاحِ الْعَفْوَةِ عِنْدَكَ

إِلَهِي انْظُرْ إِلَيَّ نَظَرَ مَنْ نَادَيْتَهُ فَأَجَابَكَ وَ اسْتَعْمَلْتَهُ بِمَعُونَتِكَ  
فَأَطَاعَكَ

يَا قَرِيباً لَا يَبْعُدُ عَنِ الْمُعْتَرِّ بِهِ وَ يَا جَوَاداً لَا يَبْخَلُ عَمَّنْ رَجَا ثَوَابَهُ

إِلَهِي هَبْ لِي قَلْباً بُدِنِيهِ مِنْكَ شَوْقَهُ وَ لِسَاناً يَرْفَعُ إِلَيْكَ صِدْقَهُ وَ  
نَظراً يَتَرَبُّهُ مِنْكَ حَقُّهُ

**My God!** I did not have the ability (by which) I could move away from Your disobedience, except in moments that You woke me up to Your Love.

And the way you Willed that I be, I was, thus I thanked You for including me in Your Magnanimity, and for purifying my heart from the filth of negligence towards You.

**My God!** Look at me the look of a person who You have called out to, and he answered you, and who You empowered to serve You and he obeyed You.

O the Near who is not away from the one infatuated with Him! O the Generous who does not withhold from the one who hopes for His reward.

**My God!** Grant me a heart that is drawn near to You by its passion, and a tongue whose truthfulness raises it towards You, and a sight whose authenticity brings it close to You.

**No falling with God’s Love:** The magnanimity of the Almighty shapes our progress towards Him, the love emanating from Him kindles life within, and saves us from slipping into disobedience. The human being grapples with the various pulls on his soul – from material needs and desires to spiritual and heavenly attractions and inclinations – all needing a balance. The essence of balance – which lies in ensuring a Divine purpose with every natural inclination – is constantly under threat. In those times, it is only with God’s Loving attention, can a wayfarer truly save himself from slipping into disobedience.

To ensure that the balance is maintained consistently, it is imperative for the human to refresh at every possible instance, the commitment to reciprocating God’s Infinite Love; a love that revolutionizes the human soul to attain God’s Pleasure, which results in the immersion of a servant in Divine Love in such a way that he not only becomes God’s Beloved, rather He makes him endeared to His creation, and exposes its secrets to him<sup>1</sup>. It is through this special benevolence and magnanimity of the Almighty that a servant grows away from being negligent towards his duty towards Him and is intrinsically grateful for this blessing.

**Divine Special Attention:** Seeking God’s Look and Grace is the essence of our being. Had it not been for it, our existence would be at risk. In this section of the Munājāt, the seeker by admitting more of his existential poverty and utterly submitting to His Lord, is seeking intercession through the Almighty’s Proximity and Generosity. In the words of the Infallible ‘a, our ability to answer His Call, submit to Him and enjoy His rewards for obedience, all belong to His Grace and Attention.

**Rising with God’s Love:** The aware heart of a wayfarer constantly seeks to focus his attention towards the Almighty. At times it goes through periods of strength, at times weakness. All in all, as God’s Love which invites movement towards Infinite Perfection, the human being needs to rise towards it with his whole being. The heart has a duty, so does the tongue and likewise the vision. Together, the soul of the human – to which the heart is the core - must reach a level of passion that will throttle the human forward in his journey. This reflects in firm commitment to the Truth – in speech, action and intention - as well as Reality – in seeing all things in their most authentic standing. A servant can truly serve, and as a wayfarer can only tread the path of God’s Love, through clear and profound belief, matched with sincere and truth-oriented lifestyle, all seeking God with the height of passion and enthusiasm in *Liqa’ ’Allāh*.

**Reflection:** How does God’s Love affect me in my personal challenges, and progress in servitude?

**Discussion (with a scholar):** How can one nurture truth-oriented passion in their soul?

<sup>1</sup> Wāfi v.3 s.2 p.40