

Imam Ali^{a.s.}'s Sermon¹ on

Recognition of Oneself is the Key to Appreciation of One's Creator^{a.s.}

Rasool Allah^{saww.} said, 'Ya Ali^{a.s.} no one has recognised you^{a.s.} except Allah^{swt.} and myself^{a.s.} and no one has recognised me^{saww.} except Allah^{swt.} and yourself^{a.s.} and no one has appreciated Allah^{swt.} except yourself^{a.s.} and myself^{saww.}, then on what grounds do people claim our recognition?

Hazrat Imam Ali^{a.s.} Says, one who recognises oneself is able to appreciate one's creator. The recognition of 'oneself' is to understand his origin and final destination, in other words to understand from where he has come from and where he stands currently and where he is going to end-up. This is subjected to the acknowledgment of one's that reality, which is 'confined entity' by realising this and then appreciation of Allah^{swt.}'s first ever bounty which enlightened the darkness (including the confined entity).

Then by the command of 'Wajib-ul-wajud^{swt2}' (Allah^{swt}) the 'Noor' of His^{swt} bounty was revealed for benefits of others. This (Noor) revealed in the form of a 'Nuqtah'³ which is the focus and source of all universes and engulfs all that exists and is the spirit of all souls and is the foundation of all bounties⁴.

He (Allah^{swt}) is the First Sign and the hidden treasure of that 'Oneness' which cannot be divided, this is due to the fact that Allah^{swt} as an Entity that cannot be recognised by His creatures. Thus, He could only be appreciated through His^{swt} attributes. And 'Nuqtah' is the attributes of Allah^{swt} and it provides proof for His existence as Allah^{swt} is recognised through the revelation of His attributes ('Nuqtah'). And that 'Nuqtah' exists due to the blessings of the 'undividable One' and radiates in the 'Sky of Mohammadiya'. **And Prophet Mohammed^{saww} has pointed out to this very fact that if we^{as} did not exist then Allah^{swt} would not be appreciated and we^{as} would not be recognised if Allah^{swt} were not present.** Thus 'Wo' (Allah^{swt}) is 'Wo' that 'Noor' from which 'all Noors', have originated and 'Wo' is that 'undividable Oneness' from which all other entities have come into existence. And 'Wo' is that 'Hidden treasure' from which other treasures have surfaced and 'Wo' is that 'Wisdom' from which prudence have gained knowledge. And 'Wo' is that 'Nafs⁵' from where all other beings have gained their existence. And 'Wo' is that 'Looh' which possesses the details about all the 'unseen and hidden' and 'Wo' is that 'Kursy' who engulfs all the skies and the earth. And 'Wo' is that grand 'Arsh' Who's knowledge and greatness encircles all that exists. And 'Wo' is that 'Eye' from where all visions have gained

¹ Nahjul Asrar, 'Man Arafa Nafsa Faqad Arafa Rabb'

² The One who is Eternal, Who's existence is compulsory-Allah^{swt.}

³ Nuqtah-e-Wahid- a Divine Origin

⁴ Noor al Shabah

⁵ Entity

their sight. And 'Wo' is that 'Authenticity' which has been referred to by all creations, similar to the verdict of 'Wajib-ul-wajud^{SWT}' with the 'undividable Unity'. Thus, 'the most knowledgeable intellectuals'⁶ wisdom is incapable to reach near the reality of 'Mohammed^{saww} and Ali^{as}'s 'Divine characteristics' or the even the realm of that reality! As the gate to their realm is covered by the divine curtains and you are not given knowledge about them^{as} but very little.

⁶ Urafa