

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A *MURĪD* AND A
MURĀD

The travelers on the path of love are of two types. The first is called a *murīd* [seeker], and denotes one whose progress is based on his own effort and worship. The second is called a *murād* [one who is sought], and denotes a person whom the Beloved ﷺ Himself wishes to draw near to Him.

The difference between a *murīd* and a *murād* may be understood by comparing the lives of Prophet Musa ﷺ and the blessed Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Prophet Musa ﷺ was a *lover* of Allah [*muhibbullah*], while the blessed Prophet ﷺ was the *beloved* of Allah [*mabbubullah*]. This distinction is highlighted by the following examples:

Example Number One

Prophet Musa ﷺ was granted a meeting with Allah ﷻ at Mount Sinai. Allah ﷻ narrates:

و لما جاء موسى لميقتنا

And when Musa came to meet Us. (7:143)

However, when the blessed Prophet ﷺ was granted a meeting with Allah ﷻ during the Ascension [*mi'raj*], Allah ﷻ stated:

سبحان الذي أسرى بعبده

Glorified is He who brought His slave for a journey at night. (17:1)

The verb “came” [*jā'a*] is used for Prophet Musa ﷺ whereas the verb “brought” [*asrā*] is used for the blessed Prophet ﷺ. Prophet Musa ﷺ was told where to *come* for the meeting, whereas the blessed Prophet ﷺ was sent an angel to *bring* him to the meeting.

*The enamored one is brought by the Beloved to the gathering,
Whilst the seeker [sālik] is shown the direction from afar.*

Example Number Two

Prophet Musa ﷺ prayed:

رب اشرح لي صدري

O my Lord, expand my breast for me. (20:25)

Whereas, regarding the blessed Prophet ﷺ, Allah ﷻ revealed:

ألم نشرح لك صدرك

Have We not expanded for you your breast? (94:1)

Example Number Three

Prophet Musa ﷺ had to climb Mount Sinai to receive revelation, whereas the Quran was sent to the blessed Prophet ﷺ:

فإنه نزله على قلبك بإذن الله

It is he (Gabriel) who has revealed (this scripture) upon your heart by Allah's leave. (2:97)

The ways of love dictate that the lover [*muhibb*] hopes and desires to meet the Beloved [*mabbub*] ﷺ. Yet sometimes the Beloved ﷺ also desires that the lover come to meet Him. And when the Beloved ﷺ also wishes to meet, then it becomes easy to draw near to Him.

When the Most Beautiful One ﷺ arranges a meeting, then the true pleasure of love [*'ishq*] is attained. When the lover knows that the Beloved ﷺ loves him as well, then his happiness knows no bounds.

The love of the lover manifests in deep sighs of longing, whereas the love of the Beloved ﷺ is subtle and hidden. The love of the lover weakens his body, while the love of the Beloved ﷺ invigorates the lover's body.

*The love of the Beloved is subtle and hidden,
While the love of lovers is a noticeable wound,
The love of lovers weakens the body,
Whereas, the love of the Beloved invigorates the lover.*

When Allah ﷻ bestows His grace upon a servant, He opens the way to reach Him. Then the remembrance [*dhikr*] of Allah ﷻ predominates.

*The call to love was issued throughout the worlds,
Yet he whom the Beloved Himself loved,
Was granted the remembrance of the Beloved.*

Understand that since the goal can be attained only with the help of Allah ﷻ, He alone should be called upon:

اللهم يا قاضي الحاجات و يا دافع البليات
و يا حل المشكلات و يا كافي المهمات
و يا شافي الأمراض و يا منزل البركات
و يا سبب الأسباب و يا رافع الدرجات و يا مجيب الدعوات
و يا أمان الخائفين و يا خير الناصرين و يا دليل المتحيرين
و يا غياث المستغيثين اغثي إلهي أنت مقصودي
و رضاك مطلوبتي، تركت لك الدنيا و لآخرة أتمم علي
نعمتك و ارزقني وصولك التام، بجاه سيد المرسلين
و برحمتك يا ارحم الراحمين. آمين ثم آمين



*The paper is finished, the pen is finished, and we are finished,
But, the fable of desire, is still not finished.*