Mawlana Shaykh Muhammad Adil ar-Rabbani

DON'T ASK FOR FAME

As-Salāmu ʻAlaykum wa RaḥmatuLlāhi wa Barakātuh.
Aʻūdhu BiLlāhi Minash-shayṭāni r-rajīm. BismiLlāhi r-Raḥmāni r-Raḥīm.
Wa ṣ-Salātu wa s-Salāmu ʻalá Rasūlinā Muḥammadin Sayyidi l-Awwalīna wa l-Akhirīn.
Madad yā RasūlAllāh, Madad yā Sādāti Aṣḥābi RasūliLlāh, Madad yā Mashāyikhinā, Dastūr Mawlana Sheikh Abdullāh al-Fāʼiz ad-Dāghistāni, Sheikh Muḥammad Nāẓim al-Ḥaqqānī. Madad. Ṭarīqatunā aṣ-Suḥbah wa l-Khayru fi l-Jamʻiyyah.

Our Prophet ṣallá Llāhu ʻalayhi wa-sallam says, "Fame is a test." Many people chase after fame; yet, our Prophet ṣallá Llāhu ʻalayhi wa-sallam has declared it to be a calamity. This is because a person seeks fame to exalt their own ego—they want to be known, to stand out among others. People today are all running after this; everyone is striving, asking, "What can I do to get noticed?" In reality, this yields no benefit. It only serves to inflate the ego—it benefits nothing but the ego. Many of the troubles that befall people stem from this very thing, as they leave the way of Allāh ʻAzza wa-Jalla and our Prophet ṣallá Llāhu ʻalayhi wa-sallam becoming preoccupied with the question: "How can I exalt myself?"

True Exaltation belongs only to Allāh ʻAzza wa-Jalla. A human being ought to practice humility; humility is what befits a person. Arrogance (pride) and fame bring only calamity. Even if one manages to satisfy their ego to some extent in this world, they will be held to account in the Hereafter. They will be asked: "How could you act this way? What have you done? You deceived so many people—you thought you were superior to others?" Therefore, chasing after fame is not good. Everything should be done solely for the sake of Allāh ﷻ. When you perform a good deed, it does not matter whether others know you or not; what matters is that Allāh ʻAzza wa-Jalla knows you. Let your renown be in the sight of Allāh ﷻ, not in the eyes of people. Once you have obeyed Allāh ﷻ and become a servant accepted by Him ﷻ, nothing else is of any importance.

Our Prophet ṣallá Llāhu ʻalayhi wa-sallam states in a ḥadīth sharīf: A person whom others hold in no regard may, in fact, be better than all of them. You might not value such a person if you were to see them, yet their true worth is immense—immense in the sight of Allāh ﷻ. If they were to make a duʼā', it would be answered; it is this individual who is truly accepted by Allāh ﷻ—not the one who possesses fame. Do not chase after fame, and do not strive for it. Whatever you do, do it solely for the sake of Allāh ﷻ. If He ﷻ wills, Allāh ﷻ will make you famous and recognized among people. But do not become known for the wrong reasons. Nowadays, people go to all sorts of disgraceful lengths just to gain fame and be recognized by others. This is a calamity, an affliction. May Allāh ﷻ protect us from the evil of our egos, and may Allāh ﷻ protect us from the harm of fame.

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Wa min Allāhi t-Tawfīq. Al-Fātiḥa.

Mawlana Sheikh Muhammad Adil ar-Rabbani
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