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## LOVE OF ALLAH & ADVENT OF MEHDI

The importance of the love of Allah and how it can be achieved. Also, why following the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Mehdi (AS) is mandatory to obtain the love of Allah.

The following verse of the Holy Qur'an emphasizes the need for the love of Allah as a basic characteristic of a Momin. In Surah Al-Maida verse 54, God says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَنْ يَرْتَدَّ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِينِهِ فَسَوْفَ يَأْتِي اللَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ  
اذلة على المؤمنين اعزة على الكافرين .....

PICKTHAL: O ye who believe! Whoso of you becometh a renegade from his religion, (know that in his stead) Allah will bring a people whom He loveth and who love Him, humble toward believers, stern toward disbelievers, striving in the way of Allah, and fearing not the blame of any blamer. Such is the grace of Allah which He giveth unto whom He will. Allah is All-Embracing, All-Knowing.

From this Ayat, the following points emerge:

"Allah will bring a people" means that the leader of these people will be sent by Allah; thus being the Caliph of Allah [Mehdi].

In this Qur'anic verse, the word "renegade" is being used to describe the people straying away from the love of Allah.

Therefore, the main duty of the leader of this group of people will be to establish and maintain the love of Allah in the hearts of the people.

Now we must ask ourselves, how is Allah's love achieved?

Lets refer to the Holy Qur'an for some guidance.

To begin with, following the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is

Farz (mandatory).

Without following the Prophet (pbuh), the love of Allah cannot be achieved.

This has been mentioned in the Holy Qur'an.

In the third Surah, (Surah Al-Imran, verse 31), 'Allah tells the Holy Prophet to tell the people this' (English translation):

قل ان كنتم تحبون الله فاتبعوني يحببكم الله و يغفر لكم ذنوبكم والله غفور رحيم  
Qul in kuntum tuhibboona Allaha faittabiAAoonee yuhbibkumu  
Allahu wayaghfir lakum thunoobakum waAllahu ghafoorun  
raheemun

**Translation:** "Say: 'If ye do love Allah, Follow me: Allah will love you and forgive you your sins: For Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.'"

What Allah is saying here is that: If you love Allah, then you should follow the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and if you do so, Allah will love you and forgive your sins.

Since this was written in the Qur'an, it is Farz (mandatory). Thus, following the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is essential in a person's attempt to achieve the love of Allah.

Also, many times in the Qur'an, Allah says:

واطيعواالله واطيعواالرسول

"WaateeAAoo Allaha waateeAAoo alrrasoola"

"So obey Allah, and obey His Messenger."

This also shows that obeying the Prophet (pbuh) is a Farz.

Following the Prophet (pbuh) means obeying all of the commands of the Prophet (pbuh).

Among other things, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) has informed the Ummah about the advent of a Mehdi who will be the Caliph of Allah. There are several Ahadiths on this subject and they reached the level of [Hadiths-e-Mutawatira] because of the frequency of their recurrence.

The well-known Hadith-e-Soban is as follows:

"Then the Caliph of Allah, the Mehdi, would appear. If you hear about him, go to him and make covenant (Ba'ith) with him

even if you would have to crawl on ice for that purpose, as he be the Caliph of Allah"; (Ibn Maja)

The importance of the advent of Mehdi (AS) is also highlighted in the following Hadith:

"The world shall not come to an end unless a person is born from the progeny of my family (or my house) who shall bear my name and his father shall bear the name of my father. He will fill the earth with justice and equity as it would be filled with in-justice and in-equity."

This Hadith shows that without the arrival of Mehdi (AS), the Day of Resurrection will not come upon us.

Allah ordained to follow the Prophet (pbuh) and the Prophet (pbuh) has ordained to follow Mehdi (AS).

Therefore, following the Caliph of Allah is also mandatory to achieve the love of Allah.

A study of the teachings of Mehdi (AS) clearly leads us toward the human destiny.

The human destiny is to seek the vision of Allah.

This destiny can only be fulfilled with the love of Allah.

The purpose of the advent of Mehdi (AS) is to spread the teachings of Vilayath. Following are the Faraiz-e-Vilayath (mandatory acts of Vilayath):

Migration

Trust in God

Remembrance of Allah

Companionship of the pious

Seclusion

Self-Negation (Tark-e-Duniya)

The quest for the vision of Allah

Just to show you an example of Mehdi's (AS) teachings, once Imam Mehdi (AS) said "Momin is one who has seen Allah with physical eyes, or with the eyes of the heart, or in a dream. A person who at least has a desire to seek Allah is a Momin too." Then Imam Mehdi (AS) questioned his companions, "What is obligatory for a seeker to reach Allah?" He himself replied, "It is

the love of Allah and devotion." He further explained that it can be achieved through constant Zikr [Insaf Nama].

The teachings of Mehdi (AS) are completely in accordance with the Qur'an. The gist of Mehdi's (AS) teachings, as is the gist of the Holy Qur'an, is the love of Allah. Loving Allah is also an important attribute of the Momin.

The journey that is needed to reach Allah's love goes through the path of the Qur'an, the following of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and the following of Imam Mehdi (AS).

Straying from a single component of this path will result in the loss of Allah's love.

Having acknowledged the path that is necessary to seek Allah's love, let's go back and reexamine the very first Ayat that I presented. As previously mentioned, in surah Maida, Allah said:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَنْ يَرْتَدَّ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِينِهِ فَسَوْفَ يَأْتِي اللَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ  
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Mehdi (AS) has indicated that this Qur'anic verse infers that the attributes mentioned are of the people of Mehdi (AS). Therefore, as Mehdavis we should have the following attributes:

1. Loving Allah
2. Good relations with Momins
3. Determined against the unbelievers
4. Fighting in the way of Allah
5. Not fearing the blame of any blamer

Thus it is clear from this that all Mehdavis must have the love of Allah as the fundamental attribute of their life.

At the end I pray to Allah that He keeps us firmly on our faith.