

THE MISSING ELEMENT **The End of Argumentation and Doctrinal Domination**

A PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Let me introduce myself that you may be informed of the background of my work. I've been a devotee of Sufism, Islam and all forms of Holistic Health Education since the early 60's when I got out of the service. As you may, or not, be able to discern from my website, I've been on the pathway to knowledge of natural healing all of my life. This did not come about from some horribly disabling disease in my youth, as it has for many, (and I don't count it out, either, thank you God), but from a natural calling of deep interest and interminable curiosity. I was teaching almost as soon as I was learning, for I felt my path to be of vital interest to everyone. Ain't that just like a kid :-). I've had that feeling stomped on a few times, not being able to handle very well humiliation for my bravado, but it still persists, and I teach with authority, even when some of what I teach is admittedly hunch, intuition, or educated guess. I give my self that permission because I believe so much in the value of what I'm learning and offering, and also because of a feeling of correctness and alrightness that people pick up on when sitting with me - which I then perceive and reflect so it magnifies and leaves us all feeling much better, and understanding more, for the experience.

I'm then always pleasantly surprised (?), no, consistently overjoyed, when I discover that my methods are not only innovative to say the least but actually right on. And this happens through meeting or reading others of a more "educated", (safe, authoritative) background who have reached or are reaching the same conclusions. Please read, for example, the lovely article of my beautiful friend Dr. Jodi "Shams" Prinzvalli, Ph.D. CAC. who sums up and introduces so beautifully the healing process that we initiate.
<http://www.energeticpsychology.com/teachings.htm>

And there are many more. Every branch of medicine, healing and health philosophy has led me to my conclusions, and this work, in my daily life and practice, is proving successful. What's more, I am not alone in the practice of this kind of healing as many of the contemporary healers and soul psychologists have either reached or are reaching the same conclusions. And the more of us that practice and agree who make their voices heard, the sooner the whole world will "get it"

THE MISSING ELEMENT **The End of Argumentation and Doctrinal Domination**

Just as Sufism is considered the "Missing Element" in the Islam of today, and "Islam" is considered the Missing Element in Sufism and the world at large of today, there is yet a deeper "Reality", a "Haqq" that we are all supposedly striving toward, that appears to be missing in both, and most certainly partially, in the world at large. I say partially because it

can be found plainly and simply in many of the manifest spiritual paths of today, but due to historical and ego reasons, is not the emphasis in either Islam or Sufism. It is my contention that it should be, for it would bring about the Unity of spiritual faiths, and the "conversion of the world" into a friend rather than an enemy.

It stands to reason, however, that it is not the emphasis in either Islam or Sufism, for if indeed we actually knew what we were looking for, the search would be over. This alludes to "The Presence or Absence of the Spiritual Quest in Islam and Sufism".

The Missing Element that I'm referring to is easily stated but realized with substantially more difficulty. What I'm referring to is the Physical and Perceptual Benefit of Understanding. - i.e.

What do I mean when I say "Ana"?

Why and How is it that when We Remember God, God Remembers us. Where does this "focus" come from and what does it "focus" on?

Now the reason that it is more difficult to realize than to simply understand is this - there are actually three stages of learning and the ego loves the first stage and takes it as the be-all and end-all of learning. So in order to aid you in grasping the actual "Reality" of this concept (which is the point of healing), it is greatly helpful to understand the actual Mechanics of Learning - the three levels of knowledge and knowing.

So a little digression...

The Samyama Process

So let's comprehend "Haqiqat", and ask Msr. Al-Hallaj what, in God's name, was he referring to and in what surrounding was it necessary for him to be put to death? And, does it still apply? Will I be killed for professing that "ana" is what's missing and that "ana" is Haqq, our truth and reality and the means by which we genuinely perceive and know God? My point is that the word Haqq, or Truth, has, in its third stage, the implication of actuality, of direct realization, of actually getting it. Really! And should the goal be so hard that it's "out of reach" - in "forbidden" territory?

Note the Qur`anic phrase "Wa maa Adraka ma al Haqqah?" And what will impress upon you what this Reality is? Does that not imply (at least) that it might not be readily grasped and that we might require some assistance in being impressed with its significance? This is an explanation for our work of teaching (i.e. helping people and health oriented students reach to) The Benefit, i.e. the Physical (not mental) Perception of the Reality of Surrender. This may never be completed, and indeed we are told that it is not, but life is never the same after it's begun. That's why we call it a New Reality. And, for the sake of Unity, it is nothing less or even more than the Samadhi, or "Blissful Self-Realization" of the Self-Realized in any and all paths that teach it as a goal. The Sufis say, "Who Knows Oneself, Knows God", because it is through the means of knowing the self that God is truly known/realized.

These knowledges are not unknown but quite common outside the world of "Islam", but fear, guilt and shame have permeated and taken control of the teaching and teachers of religion to such a degree that they are being taught as the very fundamentals and then acted upon as such. So that in spite of the love and the blessing of life that is the Gift of Allah to all, the supposed upholders and supporters of Allah's truth use it to destroy.

We KNOW that you CAN "Get this" (because no one doesn't have it), by keeping company with the people of this way. It's simply that their focus is different. There is a Reality, and it lies often deeply buried within us, which if brought to the fore and appreciated for what it is, will shed the light of true understanding on our words, worlds and realities. But why is it so difficult to see? Because we ignore it. And who ARE the people of this way? THAT is a VERY good question. Let it be us, but they are certainly the people of no further argument.

Now this can seem offensive to the people of the way who hold the teachers and the prophets as more than themselves, and as having something that they do not, much the same as a child sees his or her parents. And this is, in many ways, true. But I've never met a real master or teacher who was not intent upon helping his or her students see through the illusions that were keeping them from the satisfaction of self realization.

For each of us, there must and will come a day when the nature of Allah and life dawns on one, and it may take death itself, (and that's why we're taught to die before we die?) and they realize that they are no less within their own reality than anyone else is within theirs. What an empowering revelation! (And is it really our own power that we're afraid of?)

This brings us to the immediate Reality of the witnessing to the Oneness of Allah and the Prophecy of Muhammad that is both our first pillar of our practice and the final goal of every prayer. And yes, our realities are different, but they are nevertheless our realities, and the same in that they are our realities, as opposed to our opposing illusions, and Allah is the Lord of ALL our realities, thereby the common thread, and in each of our realities, and ultimately, the only existent reality.

So what kind of a world was it in which Al Hallaj had to be executed for saying something that many people today take to be not merely true but the necessary actuality of the situation? And are we to support them, the people of acceptance, or the people of de Nile? Evidently it was much the same as it seems to be today "within" the "world" of "Islam"... where some things are accepted and others are indignantly and righteously rejected, and all for the sake of demonstrating a faithful adherence to doctrine. But what if, just what if, that doctrine were (God forbid!) wrong?

But is that not what we conspiracy theorists are actually saying? That the "Reality" of Islam was left in the dust (Yaa `Aliiii, Yaa Abu Turab) while the "doctrine" was manipulated and made king? Why then would it be that the Arising Imam will reveal a truth that the masses would hold so strange that they would travel the world in search of some other leader and come back to him in abject defeat? And what is the "Sunrise in the West", anyway?

Back! It (Haqq, Reality) also has a first, second and third stage of comprehension, as does comprehension itself. And often times we who do not know about these stages will tend, even desire, to confuse the first stage with the third. Hence students (Arabic: Taliban) - deprived of real upbringing (i.e. psychological and spiritual maturity - tarbiyya, from Rabb, upbringing), who are thrust into a confusing world with only a mutilated doctrine/dogma to cling to, confused by their anxieties, desperate and driven to do way better than their fathers who were also in denial, prideful, desperate and driven - will assume to be teachers and attempt to instruct and change the world by authoritatively teaching that of which they have only the most "fundamental" knowledge. And their unknown and unrecognized (except by others) motivations will drive them to further acts of destruction in their desperation to prove themselves "worthy" of "God's" (parental) love. And when it is said to them believe as the other believe, they say "innama nahnu muslihun", surely WE are the right doers (on the RIGHT path) - making thereby the rest of the world and God's creation wrong and lawful targets for their frustration and rage.

This is our Islamic heritage devoid of true Sufism, and this is the result of the hostility toward the true inner teachings of the Ahlul Bait.

And this is also child psychology 101, or upbringing (tarbiyya).

w/love
ali

ANA-I HAQQ - What Does it Mean, Really?
Does it mean that your self is all there is?
and that if you do not see yourself as the manifestation,
the Zahir of God, the Rahmatun lil `Alameen,
then you are setting up partners with God
by claiming that you are other?
And is that the hidden secret to the eternal life in the Garden,
that stays away from all but the truly Surrendered?
And how will we explain it otherwise?
Who has convinced us that truth is unacceptable?

And do I really need to listen to the Irate Voices that would get all righteous in the name of some doctrine and like to kill me for saying that in this world and the next the self is all there is for without it there is no God because the Reality, in order to be God, needs to have a reflection to know itself and see itself as a particle of the whole otherwise the whole could not be known, appreciated, praised and worshipped (see my poem "The Loneliness of God") - and want to declare my blood lawful on the basis of the Judgment against al-Hallaj which was really a judgment against the people who passed it?

How dare you say that?!
There's NOTHING missing in Sufism!

There's NOTHING missing in Islam!
Outrageous Claims!
The Missing Element is your link to the Truth,
your realization of God, not just your imagination.
The missing Element is your link to Al Mahdi, the "Hidden"
Guide of the Muslims, but more like "Forgotten".
The Missing Element is YOU!
But do you need me to tell you who you are?
Surrender To Truth - It's your only option.
Resistance is Futile! You Are Already Assimilated!
Where's the Smile?

Unveiling the Secret
The Spiritual Significance of my Manifestation
Who am "I" - The Id-Entity
Where Am "I"?
Why Am "I" Missing?
Why am "I" the Missing Element in Sufism?
Why Won't "I" Come Out?
If We Are All ONE, why will we not identify with the living?!
What's the Point of Life?
Bringing Peace and Harmony to Earth and Humanity.
Is it possible?
why is it not here already?
It's All So Obvious!

TOPICS IN PROGRESS

Personal Introduction -
Why I believe as I do.
The Zen Reality
Kwan Yin and The Bodhi Chitta
A New Reality
About the Hidden Imam Mahdi
Imam Mahdi - The Lost SOUL of Islam
"The Mahdi Is Within!" - Your Guide is Within you.
If you cannot connect then you are probably
still in the "Victim/Saviour" mode,
waiting for someone else to do it for you.
On "Getting It!" (done)
The Message (done)
The New Reality (done)
The Learning Process (done)
Radical Therapy
Addressing Avoidance
At Last! The Smile!

THE CHALLENGE
THROWING DOWN THE GAUNTLET

WELCOME TO THE MISSING ELEMENT

Where You ARE already the Center of your Universe,
And you do not need to do any "work" to "get there".
You MAY decide upon "Heaven" or "Hell",
Here and Now!

You may also postpone your decision,
and that's known as the healing process,
and to that point our friend and Sufi Poet Hafiz
has this, and much more, to say:

"All your images of winter I see against your sky.
I understand the wounds that have not healed in you.
They exist because God and Love have yet to become real enough
to allow you to forgive the dream."

The Essence of Health Science is gifted to us
in the form of a Simple Command - to SURRENDER!

But what is the true meaning of that Command?
And how do we know and experience the benefit
of obedience to that command, Immediately. Here and Now!

Do we Really need to learn all the knowledge that every one else has,
in order to be admitted to the "Garden"?!

Doesn't that mean that only the "knowers" are the "in" people?

Isn't that kinda like the guilt ridden "Original Sin" theory
of the missionaries of old,
where ignorance (of our doctrine) is the sin,
and only knowledge with conformity
gets you "in"?

Can we not have that confidence, that trust,
the REAL knowing, Now, not later,
without having to run the gauntlet
of the competitors and knowledge brokers?
I say Yes, of course, and the facts back it up.

And isn't it possible that the longer we wait
the more difficult it might become?

So be warned, you who rely upon partial or incorrect knowledge as your claim to being in the "sect of salvation", the "right" way. You may not like what I say, but I am not ignorant of your doctrine, so learn with the eye of your heart.

Because the Truth of Islam and Al-Mahdi has dawned, (note) and adherence to falsehood will reap only its own reward!

For where you wish to live NOW has always been your choice. But be sure you have ALL the facts. You have a lifetime to make up your mind, so don't jump to hasty conclusions, without understanding your motivations.

It is said that No one can Claim to the Garden without having walked through the fire. And What IS The Fire? It is Mortal Existence, however short or long. So Learn How to WALK! Through the Fire of your own Existence, and what it Means! and Why it's Important! and the impact of true reasoning on your health and destiny! For As You Live Now, So Shall It Be.

Surrounding yourself in knowledge is good but it is NOT the answer. Here you will learn to understand Why we recite the Wird and other Litanies Why they were composed What their purpose is. And most of all, Why the Choice is important to choose the Garden now and How to do that and How to stay in that decision. These are all the real topics of the Religion of Islam. Every path that leads to these conclusions is true and contradiction is false and must be investigated for motive.

People of Unity are People of Agreement and Learning. People of Dis-Unity are people of contradiction and hostility in one form or another.

These are MY writings, MY opinions and MY Beliefs.

I take Soul Responsibility for them and refer to
your opinions and beliefs for reference.
Anything that is right on in them I take responsibility for
and may my errors in assumption, accuracy and knowledge
be judged and forgiven according to my intention (I pray)
by God Alone.
But do point them out in a way of constructive assistance,
I beg of you.

Collaboration is welcome; dispute is expected
and will be taken as a blessing
although it is not my responsibility to convince you,
only to convey this message.

And the Message IS?
That True Spiritual Health is the Blessing Directly from Al-Ilah,
with NO intermediaries,
and that Al-Ilah (la tukhlifu-l-Mi`ad) does not go back on His promise,
and Al-Ilah, unlike our parents, cannot withdraw His blessings.
That He draws us inexorably towards Himself,
through life and death,
and that Surrender (in any language)
is Essential to true Spiritual Health,
and the key to recovery of physical health,
and the gate to the Garden of Paradise
a similitude of which we have been given and can feel,
should we choose to accept it, right here on Earth.

Let us not mistake our refusal of error with our refusal of truth.
Let us not confuse our refusal of our parents with our refusal of God.
Let us not project our refusal onto God.
God is that which neither can nor should be refused.
God is persistent in Its subtle and hidden methods
to bring you into the Love.

The Experience of Reality:
The "Reality" of this Surrender can be had
only by doing the "Work" of Surrender,
and The Healing is the Work!
Healing our Hearts for Love.

And part of it is the acceptance of all that is good,
useful and productive in ALL religions, Spiritual paths,
practices and people, excluding only exclusion.
And the overlooking and ignoring of sins,
mistakes and errors in judgment in all people and ideologies,

as long as they are correctable and do not infringe upon the peace and well being of others.

Violence as a Means of Acquisition:
For Muslims, in spite of their ideologies,
War should not be waged
and Surrender should be the coin of the realm.
There is currently no ideology that is more harmful to people
and to faith than that of war itself.
Surrender and the giving up of "arms as a way to victory"
will lead to great difficulty but save the lives necessary
to convince the world that peace is a realistic goal
and way to the achievement of mutual satisfaction.

According to the immutable law of Karma,
you SHALL reap what you sow -
unless you sincerely confess to the errors of your way,
and set about to mend and make aright
the wrongs that you have done.
And there ARE prescribed, common and well known standards
for accomplishing that, which will and must be meted
with compassion and the eye toward forgiveness -
not with harshness and the eye toward revenge.
Few are they capable of such compassion and understanding
in spite of the myriad claiming to it.

And Justice without compassion and understanding
is not Justice at all, it is revenge.
And unto the meters shall be the meted.
For "Judgment is Mine!" Sayeth the Lord!
And there is none among the true followers
of religion or spirituality
who dispute that.

SO!

That being said, and with Security in Faith,
I will continue with this work of fact and inspiration,
expecting your patience and forgiveness of any perceived error,
in hopes of the goal of inspiring
a deeper understanding of true spiritual health,
and your ability to benefit and dispense, as I have,
from that understanding, which I refer to
as the "Reality" of Surrender.

If controversy gets you attention,
then my purpose is half completed.

**IS UNITY POSSIBLE?
A Voice in the Wilderness**

To the Editors: MuslimWakeUp

And again, the same result. I wrote to you once before about this defensive and paranoid quest for causation ending without understanding or even the option of compassion at the doorsteps of a power hungry, angry and defensive nation.

So here you have it again, but God-damn it. Can't you see that it is this very attitude that both fosters and condemns the rage and frustration that is now 'terrorizing' the world?

Talk about getting off the high horse?

"The tumult of the world, unleashed by the Neo-Cons' immoral quest for power masked by the so-called "war on terror" has taken us to this sorry state where cultures and civilizations stand on the edge of a precipice. But now is also the moment for the multifarious voice of moderate Muslims to ring out true and loud."

What do you mean "has taken us to this sorry state"? We were in this sorry state long before the neo cons decided to get defensive and take over the world.

What do you mean "immoral"? Where is your ability to educate even your own, let alone 'others'? Criticism is not education, have you noticed?

I say again,

Until the Muslim world can come together and resolve their own differences and govern correctly their own people and ideology they will always be challenged by aggressive outsiders no matter where they come from.

It's not the challenge that is responsible for chaos, it's the response. We respond with blame and therefore helplessness, period. And it's because we do not know how else to handle it or what else to do.

Well here's a voice in the wilderness for you.

People want Truth. Only Truth satisfies. As long as we refuse to dig up our own truth and continue to bury it under (superior) doctrines covering our shame and guilt; as long as we use our so-called possession of Truth and Reality to shore up our feelings of moral superiority which hide our total helplessness and inability to respond correctly to the challenge, we do indeed have nothing but sincerity and further illusion to offer. We hold ourselves up as nations of priests exacting a toll of surrender and tribute from the rest of the world for the truth which we no longer have. We want 'them' to surrender to a reality that we do not have. World conditions are pure symptomology and until we respond to it correctly, and we can, it

will only get worse and we will continue to be faced with aggressive and even overwhelming challenges.

Until we recognize that "WE" are the problem we can do nothing but blame and feel morally superior, a totally ineffective response.

Here again is my original article.

IS UNITY POSSIBLE?

So Anwar Ibrahim (muslimwakeup.com) says - "Manipulations of this sort (America's support for the Taliban) have led to the mess we see in Afghanistan today." - which leads immediately to the deeper question of the "Muslims" manipulability.

We are being manipulated by Doctrinal Superiority and losing our lives because of it!

Only when the historical differences in "Islam" are ironed out once and for all will there actually manifest on earth the peace that is the true attribute of God and which permeates throughout His creation and which is immediately available to - and loved by - all who seek it.

How is it that the Muslims are no longer bringing Peace and education to the world but are instead caught up in the same turf wars of world conquest that they claim to be defending against? The answer must simply be because they do not know and are not experiencing the truth and reality of their own religion! Truth? Does that mean Haqiqat? Isn't that what the Sufis claim to be able to bring to the table? And how can "knowing the truth" be easy when God Himself states in the Qur`an about it "wa maa adraka ma al haa-qah?" "And how is it that I will convey to you (what will show or demonstrate to you) what your truth is?"

Sounds like knowing truth is not easy and must surely entail a "greater struggle" with will and dedication over personal resistance (through the three levels of certitude - `ilmul yaqin, `ainul yaqin and haqqul yaqin) to attain to the Garden of a personal knowing of God. It seems much easier to simply deny this and falsely interpret the point of the revelation to mean domination over others, but the facts of history prove differently.

The question of Self and God Realization has always been a big issue in "Islam", which doctrinally preaches against it (and leaves us with the question of why and in what environment was Al-Hallaj RA so brutally executed for even expressing it?) even though it is purported by many to be the aim of the practices. But if these practices were diverted/subverted into being the tools for the subjugation and militarization of the masses under the dominant rulers of the times - so much so that the people under such influence were totally convinced that waging war on and killing the family descendants of their very own prophet was a holy duty incumbent upon them, it leaves us then with the question, "What in fact was the original Intent?"

The goal of a "subjugated" Muslim is to be a subject and to share the joys of subjugation by inviting others to join the ranks. So we are subjects of the Qur`an and Sunnah, and that necessarily means of someone's interpretation. No wonder the gates of ijtihad (independent judgment) have been closed. If we were to judge for ourselves we would never judge in favor of war. So it is much simpler to let someone else have passed the judgments of our duty upon us, and that means employing hatred of the 'other' as a tool for anger and conquest, even though our very first duty is to Love. Love the Lord thy God with thy body mind heart and soul.

We are always and dutifully relying upon someone else's interpretation because we have lost, lost touch with and lost sight of the genuine philosopher's stone, the actual touchstone, the means by which we genuinely understand, i.e. our true selves.

Contrarily, the goal of a "liberated" Person is to share Liberation.

So there is now no argument that the "doctrines" of Islam have been "manipulated" in favor of subjugation. And if the "religion" leads to war and no longer leads to the Real Truth of God, how then are we to get to the Real Truth of God except by rejecting religion and accepting God Only, i.e. through direct experience? And does that not lead us to self-realization? And is that not the true goal, desire and ultimate destiny of us all? Is it not true that when we remember God, God remembers us? And is it not through this process of remembering that we are transformed and come to know and become our true selves? Is there anyone who denies that?

Yet the question still remains - what are we going to do about resolving the manipulations of the past that are distorting the present so badly? And how can we have world peace without it? Surely if we continue to leave this issue unaddressed, then we can count on more of the same or even worse results.

The question is - will we continue waging an unholy war against innocent people or will we resolve the differences, once and for all, between the three S's - Sufis, Sunnis and Shi`a? This has been attempted many times before but never with the weight of the world community behind it. If this root problem is brought into the open and addressed by the world community including ALL of the "Influential Muslims, including the so-called "Clerics" of both Saudi Arabia and Iran, then the Truth of the matter will surely arise and there will be a true, peaceful and lasting unity among ourselves and with the people of all religions whose purpose is also heaven on earth, and Peace, once and for all. Why should the world not be interested in resolving once and for all this doctrinal dispute that is grandfathering world terror and fueling wars of fear and domination?

Doctrinal differences are taking us only to Hell. There is only One Reality, and that is the Reality that we are all supposedly striving for - the Reality of the Garden of Eternal Peace which exist right here and now, never didn't and never won't. We do not get to heaven by revenge or killing anyone and we do not get to heaven by adamant assertion of superiority. We get to heaven immediately through Surrender, pure and simple. And "Islam" is the Command to Surrender. Period.

So are we going to teach Peace and true Surrender, which, believe me, is truly the Jihadul Akbar? Or are we going to continue teaching conflict and war in the name of doctrinal superiority? There are in reality only two states, the state of peace and surrender or the state of conflict and anxiety. It is your answer to this question that is going to decide your destiny. The Jihadul Akbar is named that for the very good reason that it is truly the most difficult of battles. True Surrender is not easy. History bears witness to the fact that the majority of people to date have chosen to fight and die in wars of territory rather than to fight and die in the battle for innocence over fear. Yet it is exactly this battle that is the true battle for God. And that is the other reason why it is named so, because it is truly the greater battle - greater, more significant and more difficult - the harder choice. That's why so few choose it and so many choose the other. But the time has come for the fires of the hot war to be extinguished and the battles of the "cool" war to be fought. In the inner war, staying cool in the middle of the fire is the command that Ibrahim understood from God when cast into it by Nimrod. It's not easy. That's why it's Akbar (Greater).

The question is - what is the purpose of our religion? Is it not a vehicle to take us to Heaven? So what, then, if they were diverted for worldly gains, was the original intent of the practices? Were they not meant to be taught as a way, a means to realize God? And is not God-realization in itself the manifest success, the self-acceptance, the forgiveness, the salvation referred to as "Falah" that we are called to in the call to prayer? And is it not our Inevitable Destiny? And is not Surrender itself, being the key to the Garden of Allah to be found in the heart of every true believer, sufficient in itself as a Gift (for the attainment of our Inevitable Destiny)? Is that not the meaning of the Qur'anic verse "Al hamdulillahi `ala ni`matul Islami wa kafaah bih ni`mah." Praise be to God for the Gift of Surrender, And it is surely sufficient as a Gift."?

We might safely say that the purpose of Salaah (prayer) is Falah (success). Isn't that what we pray for? Or that the practices revealed by God are the means to get to and preserve the Garden of our innocence and truth in God. I don't think any Muslim will argue this. And if that's not our inescapable God-realization, I don't know what is.

It is thankfully not the only way to attain salvation. Prophet SAS said that the revelation of Islam would come to the hearts of two kinds of people - those to whom it was a revelation and those to whom it was a confirmation. This implies that there are and were people from before who knew the truth. (It is reported that Imam `Ali RA confirmed that the Buddhists were people of unity and ordered a halt to the aggressive hostilities, too late.) This affirms that the people of truth, the 'Sabiqun', near ones in all religions, are the people of the garden. Are we to believe that only people professing the "Islamic" faith will get to heaven? Isn't that exactly what some sects of Christianity like to believe?

And is it not a fact that as you live your life in this world so shall it be in the next? And that living the life of the garden in this world is the way to bring heaven on Earth? And are we not the people of "Die Before you Die"? And does that not bring peace to the heart? And is that not the point - to bring peace, not war?

And don't we all believe that the advent of Al-Mahdi along with `Isa (Jesus) will do exactly that - straighten out our differences once and for all? Will not the innocent be vindicated and the guilty corrected according to the weight of their deeds? And does that not happen already, in daily life? Are we being observant - or are we in avoidance?

And what is judgment day if not the day upon which true judgment will be exercised? And how long and for whom will we wait for the exercise of true judgment to occur? Will we not be judged for not finding and using our true judgment, by which I mean - judging against our judgment of others and surrendering as commanded directly to God and seeking ways to further peace by teaching truth? And is this not the equivalent of seeking our own truth and inner guidance? And is this not the personal analogy of the search for true guidance in the outward? And do we not know that Al-Mahdi will not appear before we are ready to receive him? And if we are ready to receive him what for do we need him if not to wage the righteous war on those who have offended and do not believe in him and his teaching of truth and those who have judged against him and themselves by judging against others when God has clearly stated the judgment is His alone? Who are these people who set themselves up as partners to God, judging incorrectly and unrighteously on His behalf? And what is the righteous war if not on the twofold level of teaching the truth for the healing of division and separation and defending the innocence against the unapacifiably aggressive? Is this not simple child psychology?

Are we not being so judged, even at this moment? Who closed the doors on true judgment? I for one refuse to follow blind doctrine because it has supposedly been "proven" finally once and for all to be "right".

"Doctrinal Superiority" is the very crux of all argument and dispute, in the name of which millions of innocents are dying (relieved, I'm sure, of the responsibility of having to live in this insane world) - but for whose deaths the living are responsible and doing nothing to come to a unified accord with life on this planet, bringing down upon themselves nothing but more hellfire and brimstone and killing even more innocents in the process. The motto of these fanatics is "Hell bent for Heaven", "I'm Right, you're Wrong! I'm going to get there, and you blood is lawful!"

So, how are Muslims NOT responsible. How can we continue to focus blame on 'others'. Why do we feel it incumbent upon us to fight, die and kill for the 'survival' and dominance of a doctrine? Is not the Reality of God Sufficient for us, or are we simply out of touch with it? And if so, why? What is wrong with our religion that it no longer teaches us the truth about life and the way to live it but insists upon a heaven gained at the expense of self and others?

For all the people arguing about the superiority of their very personal doctrine, it becomes manifest that none if not very few actually know the truth, and those would be the self-selected few who are very close to the Imam Mahdi through being very close to their own inner reality.

And the converse is also true - that those close to, believing in and nourished by their own inner reality are, wittingly or not, very close to the Imam (hidden guide) and the real truth of the matter.

w/love
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So the question is really one of healing our inner hypocrisy - are we really seeking Peace for God and the healing that it brings, or are we seeking it for a thinly veiled or deeply buried sense of need for ideological domination - a trait of the ego. Is it God and Peace for the sake of God and Peace, or are we seeking simply to verify the superiority of our own ideology and doctrinal preferences? Get the difference? And I'm sure you are clear about your viewpoint toward the "establishment" of "Islam" as you see it or as it "is". But shouldn't the reality of God be established in your own heart first? And isn't that the best way to convince others - through the healing feeling they receive when sitting in your secure and peaceful company? Isn't indoctrination what everyone naturally seeks to avoid? Shouldn't we remove the need to indoctrinate others from our hearts by living in the reality in order to communicate on a real level? Or is Reality not Acceptable? Truth is not a doctrine! God is Reality and the only Reality! That is the meaning of Tawhid - Unity!

How do we remove the need to indoctrinate others from our hearts? By feeling and knowing the Unity of God in our hearts and bodies and training our minds to think accordingly. This is the process of removing the idols of indoctrination from our hearts and becoming real. But Oh! What a hole that leaves! What? Be Real Now! The underlying paradigm, or common underlying assumption among all liars, deceivers and persistent dreamers is that "Truth is Not Acceptable as it is!"

But know, that God is closer to us than our Jugular veins, and that He is the Lord of majesty and honor (dhu'l Jalali wal Ikram). So how much majesty and honor can you accept? Or have you been so beaten down by your self, parents and life in general that you can accept none at all, and can only heap derision upon the (Muslim) people who would help you, i.e. the great Sufi poets like Hafiz and Rumi, and maybe even your next door neighbor who has been hiding from you all along. Basically the question here is - how far away from you is the Reality (al Haaa-qah) of God? And are we fulfilling our primary responsibility of "Love the Lord thy God with all your body, mind, heart and soul", or are we just doing it in our minds?

If we are discontent with anything but ourselves we are still not in perfect Surrender. And we may never be. But it is well known that to be content with our discontent allows us to look at it objectively as opposed to responding to it subjectively, where its resolution becomes your only driving motivation. Successful are they who understand their needs and can approach any problem with Divine objectivity, free from attachment to the need for personal attachment. They are the ones who have completed their maturation in God-Consciousness (taqwa).

Ask yourself simply, "What am I afraid of?" The whole of the argument in Islam is between Fear and Love. Those in fear are afraid of becoming universal because that is their "true" self, and they have a huge amount of fear of themselves and vested interest in their artificial self (ego). Also the Universal being requires universal love and understanding forgiveness (which includes Divine retribution in the form of reaping what one sows, but is nevertheless left to the domain of God), and that will include their all-needed "enemy". And where does the need for an enemy come from? And can we, and how can we if we can, clear ourselves from that need?