

Who is Wali Allah (Friend of Allah) or Wali of his time?

Once one asked great Islamic Scholar of this modern era, Syed Moudoodi that has he seen a wali Allah?, he replied yes, he just saw this friend of Allah the other day at Lahore Railway station. He said as soon as the train stopped at the station, he saw all the porters were running towards the train and started bargaining and started carrying the luggage of the travelers. But he saw one porter was praying and he was not concerned at all about missing his wages by losing customers to other porters. After he finished his salah, I asked him to carry my luggage and after reaching to my ride I gave him one rupee. He returned 75 paisa to me and kept only a quarter of a rupee as his wages. I told him to keep all the money but he replied, no sir my wages for this service is only quarter of a rupee.

Believe us, we are all looking to find Wali Allah or to become ourselves friend of Allah and go through all sorts of hard work and even get humiliated to find one. We think to become a Wali Allah (friend of Allah), we have to work incredibly hard and sacrifice our health, wealth, kill our legitimate desires, spend sleepless nights in prayers, zikr (Remembrance of Allah) or perhaps put prayer bead in our necks, wear dirty and torn clothes and call for Allah loudly then we will reach the level of Wali Allah. It is also a reality that half of our population believes that Allah's Wali has to be abnormal person, or he does some magical tricks or fulfills our worldly desires instantly by giving you Dua's, some "wazifas" or "Taveez".

But in reality to become Allah's wali, one has to kill his ego, self esteem, pride and arrogance. One has to sacrifice his illegitimate worldly desires, lead a simple life and spend in the cause of Allah his most beloved things.

A famous writer, Ashfaq once wrote that one day he asked his father, what the difference is between "Ishq e Majazi" (means love for a specific human being) and "Ishq e haqeeqi" (means real love for Allah, the absolute reality)? After some deep thought he replied killing one's ego and self esteem for one particular human being is "Ishq e Majazi" and to kill your ego/self esteem in front of all humanity is "Ishq e haqeeqi"

Junaid Baghdadi, a great Islamic scholar, wali Allah and Saint was a very good and famous fighter. Once a very weak, old and fragile person challenged him for a

fight. Stadium was full of spectators and King of the time also came with his entourage to witness the fight. Before the fight began, that weak and fragile person came to Junaid Baghdadi and quietly told him that he is very poor person and after a few days his daughter is getting married and he financially cannot afford it. If Junaid Baghdadi purposely loses this fight with him, the king will give him lot of reward, but if he loses the fight, he will not be able to afford his daughter's marriage. Fight started and Junaid lost the fight. King and spectators couldn't believe their eyes and King ordered the rematch two more times and every time Junaid Baghdadi lost. King was so upset; he ordered that Junaid Baghdadi sit at the exit gate of the stadium and every spectator leaving the venue must spit on Junaid as for his humiliation. Though Junaid's ego/self esteem was crushed to ground, but his status as Wali Allah (Friend of Allah) was written in seven heavens for all time to come.

Allah's Wali (friend) is he, who makes people lives easy, who give hopeless people inspiration to live, brings happiness to people's faces. Whenever there is any argument, he stops his reasons and arguments to save other people hearts from breaking. He is the real Wali of Allah.

Once our beloved Prophet (SAW) said to Hazrat Ma'az bin Jabal (RA) , oh Ma'az shouldn't I tell you one act, which will take you to Jannah (Paradise) without accountability?, Ma'az (RA) replied, Ya Rasool Allah absolutely. Then Prophet (SAW) said Oh Ma'az, it is difficult and hard work, will you be able to do it?, He again replied, yes I will do it. The Prophet (SAW) said again, this act has to be done on continuous basis, will you do it?, his answer was again in the affirmative. The Prophet of Allah (SAW) said, Oh Ma'az " always Keep your heart clean like a mirror for everyone" {Meaning, no jealousy, no grudge against anyone, forgiveness to everyone, even if they harmed you, no ill feeling against anyone etc} you will enter Jannah without accountability.

A famous scholar name "Karkhi" said whose "Zahir" (meaning outer face, outer dimension or physical actions) is better than the "Batin"(meaning inner, spiritual dimension or intent of heart) than that person is a deceitful., but if his "Batin" is better than his "Zahir", then he is a wali (friend of Allah). Walayat (friendship with Allah) is not a person face or his personality, but in his character.

Once a person showed up at Ibrahim bin Adham and asked his permission to live for few days with him. After living few days with him, he was very disappointed and wanted to leave. Ibrahim asked him the purpose of his coming and leaving, he replied, he came because he heard a lot about Ibrahim bin Adhan's miracles and his being in state of personal revelations, but he did not see these things and very disappointed and is leaving. Ibrahim bin Adhan asked him, did you see any of my actions, which are against Allah's, Quran or sunnah? He replied in negative. Ibrahim smiled and told him, I have nothing bigger miracles or personal divine revelations than this (That is obeying Allah's, Quran and Prophet's commandments and avoidance of things which displeases Allah and His prophet (saw)).

The biggest sign of Wali Allah is that he lives in the present, never regrets past and not afraid of the future. He is happy in his present state of affairs and very thankful for whatever he has. He takes all his miseries, difficulties and hardship in this life and combines in one hardship of the hereafter and relieves himself of worldly miseries. One companion of Prophet (SAW) asked him what is "EMAN", he replied bear patience and forgives others. Believe me praying Tahujjud and fasting is easier than forgiving someone. Prophet (SAW) said ISLAM's beauty is to "feed hungry and always talk sweetly and truthfully"

No one will be better friend of Allah (Wali) than the one who bears patience, feeds hungry and cleanse his/her heart for other people. Remember who never complains to people and have peace in his life is the real Wali. Whose ever heart is paradise in this world, he will get paradise in the hereafter too, and whose ever heart is filled with complains, jealousy, envy, hatred, greed, ingratitude and accusations will continue to burn not only in this life but also in hereafter.

Bottom Line (Punch Line): The moral of these stories are:

- 1) Full fill obligatory commandments.
- 2) Avoid major sins
- 3) Always be happy and grateful in any circumstances.
- 4) Make other people lives happy
And become Wali Allah (Friend of Allah) of your time.