

## *An Analysis of the Theory & Practices of Tasawwuf (Sufism)*

This book is an answer to the urgent need to explain and reveal the practices of the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, many of which have been hidden or denied by the development of a hard and heartless strain of Islam. The Holy Prophet ﷺ was sent as a Mercy to all the worlds, and his whole life is an example of that purpose. Those who follow and love him ﷺ develop softness of heart and wisdom in judgment and love of their fellow human beings. Yet in recent years they have been frequently maligned, castigated and pushed to the sidelines in contemporary Islamic discourse.

The purpose of this book is to educate the reader about some of the benefits of Sufi practices, and to demonstrate how they are in full accordance with the Shari'a. Tasawwuf (Sufism), from the very beginning, has always been integral to the Din of Islam, functioning as the means of realization and implementation of the principle of Ihsan or the perfection of one's actions in the way of Islam.

Tasawwuf, as such, is neither a madhab, nor a sect, nor an ideology, nor a cult, nor a foreign import, nor an heretical invention. It is a science concerning the reality of Allah ﷻ, His Messenger ﷺ, and the self, transmitted faithfully and without interruption from the Prophet ﷺ himself. It is the belief of the writer that the current corruption of the Ummah and its degradation is a direct result of - among other things - the crumbling away of the pivotal principle of Ihsan as realized through the active practice of Tasawwuf. In the words of a contemporary Muslim leader, Syed Zayn al-Abdin, "Many calamities have befallen the Ummah during the last 200 years, but one of the worst has been the rejection of Tasawwuf. We find ourselves without coherent leadership and following self-proclaimed scholars who teach a dry, literalist and legalistic religion cut off from its traditional and spiritual heritage. In some cases, this develops into a harsh and uncompromising political ideology, with violent results. While we understand the sources of this ideology, we cannot condone its methods or attitude. Islamic civilization, which was remarkably stable and united for over 1,200 years, is now in a crisis of disunity."

This book contains many answers, rebuttals, and explanations carefully researched. They are based on Qur'an, authentic hadith and the wisdom of widely accepted and acknowledged traditional Muslim scholars. It is a veritable textbook for anyone who is seeking the heart and soul of Islam, hidden far too long from the general understanding of the Muslims and non-Muslims.

If you often find yourself at a loss when confronted with intolerant, arrogant, and aggressive 'experts' who profess to have all the answers, then we believe you will find this book will prove of great use to you.

*The Publishers*