



# Call of the Divine

The Voice of the Ansari Qadiri Rifai Tariqa  
Hearts Find Peace Only with Allah's Zikr

## How to Get Out of the Way

Es-Seyyid Es-Shaykh Taner Ansari

*Bismillah Al Rahman Al Rahim* [In the name of Allah, The One Who Acts with Mercy, The Source of Mercy]. All praise belongs to Allah. Allah owns everything. All power belongs to Allah and not to us. May Allah's peace and blessings be on Prophet Muhammad and his family and on all the other prophets and their families.

### What Are You?

*Inshallah*, I am going to talk about something important that all of us have to do. My job is to show you an understanding of it; it's you who is going to do it. All our life, our fight is for this land. What is this land? This body here. Who is going to be in this body? That's your call. Do you want Allah or you to be in this body? This is the fight – you, your *nafs* and Allah, which one? And which one is you? First of all, you need to determine what is you? To come to that point you need a lot of education, training, agony, and letting go of the *nafs* and attachments. What is *nafs*? *Nafs* is all attachments and focuses on other than Allah. When you identify with your *nafs* and say it is you, then you have problems. But when you identify with your Creator, there is no problem except letting go of the *nafs*.

### Free Will

Free will is important for Allah and He does not want to override your free will for anything. We insist on the necessity of free will. We don't want to coerce anybody. You need to come to certain decisions with your own free will. The first decision you have is to choose between *nafs* or Allah. After that, make your commitments to the path. What are your commitments? If you want Allah to be your commitment, you have to be really committed. You cannot be your own shaykh, you cannot be your own guide. What is needed is to be out of the way. When you are your own shaykh, how can you be out of the way? You are always in the way. You have to go to an authorized dealer to sell you a good seat on an airplane, and then he or she will take you where you want to go. Likewise, you need a shaykh to guide you on the path to Allah.

The whole issue is that you attribute to yourself some power, but do you really have this power? Can you even do anything? What is this power? All power belongs to Allah, and He has been playing "you" up to now. From here on, you decide, "That's enough now that He plays me. Now let Him play Himself and let me watch." That is the line you want to come to. When you come to this point, "I want to watch Allah play Himself, and I will watch and learn," then what do you have to do? You have to be committed to this and you have to get out of the way so that you can see. You have to do what you are saying.

## **Why Are We Here?**

We are always in confusion because of misconceptions, miscommunications and mis-visualizations. All these things make up a life for ourselves which is not true. How do you wake up from this confusion? We are here to learn Allah. The purpose of creation is to be a school for learning Allah, and the classroom is our body, where we are going to learn. These actions are going to take place in the body. Are you going to fail? Yes. I guarantee that you are going to fail many times. But when you fail it means that you will try again until you pass. When you fail, you say, "This was not good; now I know." This brings you to the determination not to do what is incomplete and unacceptable, but to do what is positive. The failing turns to a positive direction, and you have to keep on. Then you come to the decision that you have to have communication with the Creator so you will learn.

The whole thing is set up for this communication. The perceptions in your body are set up for this communication. We are, in fact, doing nothing else but learning Allah, consciously or not. First we learn *nafs*. When we go after *nafs*, which is opposite of Allah, does it make us happy? Maybe for a moment.

Allah wants to be known by free will, not by force. Allah wants to have a loving relationship with us. Allah wants to share His Knowledge with us. Allah wants to share His Existence with us. That's why we are here.

## **How Do You Get Out of the Way?**

Of course all these *zikrs* that we give you do the job. The function of *zikr* is to distance you from your *nafs* in order to give you more positive energy towards the Creator. This body is the time-share where you learn Allah. How do you learn Allah in the body? If you keep looking in the mirror and seeing yourself, you are not going to learn Allah. You are going to learn "you," which is not that good. You need to move away and let Allah live in your body and learn Allah by observing and feeling. Whatever Allah shares with you is your secret between you and Allah.

Before you can get out of the way, you have to be in control of your body. Most of you are not in control of your body. We have five senses. Right now you are looking at me and listening to me at the same time. But I don't know what is happening in your mind and where your attention is. Are your attention and existence all the way throughout your body or just in one place? Your concentration and your focus are on just one point. For example, if something hurts, your attention goes there. If there is no pain, your attention goes somewhere else. Therefore, your concentration and focus are under your free will. If you want to concentrate on something, you can bring your concentration to that thing with your will.

In order for me to see the whole crowd I need to look somewhere in the middle, at a certain focal point. When I turn, the focal point also changes. In your body there is this concentration point or free will that can shift from one point to another, which is not in

the brain, but in your soul. That free will is the real you. You can also add sound while you are looking. Then you can change your concentration point so that you can see and hear at the same time. Similarly, you can add smell and all the other senses and move the concentration point accordingly, to distribute the energy to all the senses. Your free will command-post has to move inside deeper some place where all your senses are equally attended to. When that happens, you are in the surrender state because you are not concentrating on any particular thing. You are at a place where you want to receive – the reception or surrender state. This is the point where you are out of the way because you are not trying to manipulate anything. Now you are waiting to receive Allah’s presence to do whatever you want. Because outer and inner, your five senses are sensing Allah. That’s not you. You are just an observer.

Some observers just see. Some hear and some feel. Try not to control the situation. Allah does whatever He wants and just observe. So when we say, “Get out of the way,” it means get out of the way; don’t try to manipulate or override anything. Then Allah does things, and then the brain says, “Maybe I should do it this way.” Let Allah do; don’t try to interfere. The whole problem is that we try to interfere. We have to learn through trial and error that interference does not work. Allah does not need our assistance, our opinion or consultation. Allah wants us, with our free will, to get out of the way so that we see Allah full-time here and fall in love with Allah here.

—Es-Seyyid Es-Shaykh Taner Ansari  
April 23, 2016

### **Call of the Divine**

August 11, 2016

©2016 Ansari Publications

[www.qadiri-rifai.org](http://www.qadiri-rifai.org)

All Rights Reserved.

**Publisher:** Ansari Publications

**Editorial Staff:** Shaykha Muzeyyen Ansari, Shaykha Elizabeth Muzeyyen Brown,  
Carol Janan Taylor, Shaykh Reeyaaz Goolamhossen, Rosie Nur-Iman White,  
Shaykh Anjum Baig, Shaykha Sheila Khadija Foraker, Rubina Moosa Ghoor, Shaykh Nishaat Siddiqi

**Transcriptions:** Shaykh Reeyaaz Goolamhossen,  
Inna Faktorovich