Editorial

Human beings are desperately in the need of having relationship with God. Because all blessings that they are endowed with are from God Who does not need anyone or anything. God gives life to everything out of His Kindness and Majesty. He does not ask for anything in return unless human being's taking the true path towards Him. Mankind would not reach this goal unless he connects God in each and every moment of his life to overcome inside and outside enemies by the help of God; then he can put aside hindrances on his way of perfection. It is apparent that men have no way to reach sanctuary of God (as our reason declares God's Greatness is so high that is above the limitations of our thought, logic, and imagination, even elites' thought and understanding.).

According to reason, God Almighty is Unique and Unmatched. On the other hand, people are living among those who are similar to themselves, so imagining a God who has no parallel is difficult for them. This is the very truth human beings can find in themselves.

Now, how can human beings who feel the need of talking to God, can talk to a Being whom has no imagination of? In addition, God has ordered people to pray:

ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ

Pray to Me for I shall answer your prayers (40:60)

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قُلْ مَا يَعْبَأُ بِكُمْ رَبِّي لَوْلَا دُعَاؤُكُمْ

Say: 'My Lord cares little for you if it was not for your supplication,(25:77)

And He announces if people do not pray, they will have no place before Him.

Then what should we do?

The very God who brings human beings from non-existence into existence and is aware of their need, and also orders them to pray, opens the way of talking for them. He orders His Prophets and their true successors to teach people how to pray.

For this, a lot of prayers from Prophets and infallibles reached us; they form the fundamentals of our knowledge regarding prayer. In addition to prayers mentioned in Quran from different prophets, there is a chapter in most books about traditions titled “a chapter of pray”.

One of the books specifically allocated to prayers is “Sahifah Sajjadiyah” which includes 54 prayers from Imam Sajjad , ‘Ali ibn al-Husayn, the forth true successor of Prophet Muhammad. He is the grandson of ‘Ali ibn Abi Talib and Fatimah, the daughter of Prophet. In this collection there are prayers for different states of men.

It also includes an ethical code for human beings’ relationship with different groups of people. A look at the titles of prayers can give us a view of this vast garden of spirituality.

Sacred groups: prophets, angels, and followers of prophets.

Times and conditions of life: for days and nights, in hardship, for sickness, for poverty, midnights after night prayer, thanking God, remembrance of death, reciting Quran.

Requests: asking for good temper, happy end of life, overcoming Satanic temptations, health, repentance, hiding weak points.

Relationship with other groups: parents, children, neighbors, friends, border guards.

Special occasions: advent and end of Ramadan, Fitr and Adha, ‘Arafah Day.

We are honored to allocate some parts of our Journal to Sahifah. We hope, we can find more opportunities to pick a bunch of flower of this garden to offer to you.

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