

Volunteer Service Posting from Imam Mustansir bi'l-Ilaah II's (a.s.) (Pir) Pandiyat-i Jawanmardi

Posting No. 1: Strengthen Religion

In Pandiyat-i Jawanmardi, Imam NOOR Mowlana Shah Mustansir bi'l-Ilaah II (a.s.) teaches us about strengthening religion:

"O, believers, O, pious ones! Now is the time when you should strengthen religion (din), by helping each other, by trying to gain knowledge, by advancing the religious cause, and striving to make your faith complete. Gain safety by obeying the Imam of the time, and become completely obedient to his orders. Act and do everything piously, — a pious act is that which is carried out in obedience to the word of the Imam. Do unhesitatingly what you are told by the blessed word of the Imam, — then you will attain (real) salvation (rastagaari). Then follow your Pir and Prophet, (by this) following your God. Follow the Imam of your time strictly, so that he may take you under his protection, helping you, granting you victory and relief. Follow your Pir, and regard your association with him as a great boon. Listen to his words, and act according to them, because they are the words of the Imam, and if you act according to them, they will be like medicine to you. And obedience to the Imam, attention to his word, and that of the guiding pir (pir-i murshid) together with his instruction (taa'lim), followed by action in accord with these, will bring about the healing of spiritual ailments (maradhaa-i batiniyyat), and lead to soundness and clarity of the heart. And the wisdom of the teachers makes the mirror of heart clean and shining." (page 17)

Posting No. 2: Keep the Human Spirit Alive in Both Worlds

In Pandiyat-i Jawanmardi, Imam NOOR Mowlana Shah Mustansir bi'l-Ilaah II (a.s.) teaches us how to keep the human spirit alive in both worlds:

"Whoever is (a) real man must be united with his spiritual brother. The human spirit is unifying, the spirit of the animal is dividing — from it comes the principle of opposition. The animal spirit derives its life from food. When the latter is not supplied to it, it dies. But the human spirit is kept alive by the recognition of the Imam and love for the followers of the Truth (ahl-i haqq), and if both these do not exist, it perishes.

Therefore, O believers, if you want to be alive in both worlds, perfect your faith, because (only) by the light of faith may you attain eternal life. And faith comes from and is perfected by the recognition and knowledge (ma'rifat wa shinakht) of the Imam of the time, and obedience and love for his followers. Therefore, follow your Imam, and be happy and united with each other amongst yourselves in order that you may be alive in both worlds, and in the hereafter you may become resurrected with the pious, with prophets and saints in the presence of the Imam, with the greatest joy at meeting each other again." (pages 35-36)

Reference

Imam Noor Mowlana Shah Mustansir bi'l-Ilaah II. Advices of Manliness (Pandiyat-i Jawanmardi). Translated from Persian to English by W. Ivanow. The Ismaili Society Series A No. 6.

Peace, light, barakat, taid and a 'golden' didar,
Noorallah juma
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