

*From the Desk of
Syed Shaukat Zoha*

Knock 2.

It was pretty good gathering, hundred to hundred twenty-five brothers and sisters were attending the session. Everybody was there to get Baraka (blessings) of the evening. In our culture religious gatherings are part of Ibada (prayers). Nevertheless, different dates have different merit, some are considered as equal to many nights of Ibada where some are up to the level of performing Umra or Hajj as well.

One of the famous scholars was delivering speech. On every pause he makes, everybody loudly says salawat, takbeer or Subhan Allah as lead by one of the organizer. With very selective words, keeping rhythmical effect in speech and vicissitude of delivery; an important factor of speech to keep the audience attentive, he was telling some karamaats of one of the Aulia Allah. Although with the development in media technology news can be spread all over the globe in seconds, have not heard about any living Wali Allah resulting no karamaat are witnessed in present nor recent past? I raised

and dropped the question in unanswered box to check back later with my mentor.

I could see the people listening to speech with full attention and trying to understand the rank of Wali Allah which was of course beyond the limits of common people as this is matter of inner aspect, scholar had explained it earlier. Brother sitting next to me mentioned secretly about the speaker that he is ocean of knowledge. I agreed with him asking how big is his own pitcher to fill from the ocean. If not big enough can this scholar increase the capacity so, he may learn more? My brother looked at me as if I was asking for a miracle and miracles are for Aulia Allah only. I was waiting for his reply at the same time scholar was mentioning the importance of full filling the duties as disciple of these Aulias by giving donations to the organizations who are spreading the teachings of these Aulias.

After the speech rituals were performed and in the end supplications were made. Sooner dinner was served. I noticed every body was relaxed and started talking about the day to day life issues. Right from

the drop in the gas price to raise the property values. One group was discussing with all seriousness the importance of interfaith sessions going on world wide to spread the peace call of Islam. I asked some brothers about the message they get in meetings like this. They were all agreed that these are blissful moments and they get lot of knowledge in these meetings and off course Sawaab will be awarded too.

I recall my mentor saying
*"Our journey towards Allah and meeting
Him is not a journey from
Ignorance to knowledge, it is journey
from forgetfulness to remembrance*