

WEEKLY BOOKLET



The Rank of Shaykh Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ (SPEECH)

- Everyone's shaykh
- A gift from Allah
- How can I not respect him?
- The blessings of affiliation

Shaykh al-Tareeqah Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah,
Founder of Dawat-e-Islami, Hazrat Allamah Mawlana

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غوث اعظم رحمة الله عليه کا مقام و مرتبہ

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī

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The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī



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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Dua for reading this book

Recite the following before you read a religious book or begin an Islamic lesson; you will remember whatever you study اِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ.

اَللّٰهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَاَنْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ

O Allah! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O He Who is the Most Glorious and Honourable! (Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, p. 40)

Note: recite *ṣalāt* upon the Prophet ﷺ once before and after.

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ
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The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī¹

Attar’s prayer:

O Allah! Whoever reads or listens to this booklet, *The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jilānī*, raise them on the Day of Judgement in the shaykh’s company, and forgive them and their parents without accountability.

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

The excellences of sending ṣalāt upon the Prophet

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Adorn your gatherings by sending ṣalāt upon me, as your sending of ṣalāt upon me shall be light for you on the Day of Judgement.”²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Meeting Prophet Khidr

Imam Abū Muhammad b. ‘Abd Baṣrī رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ was asked if Prophet Khidr عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was physically alive or not.

¹ Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri delivered a bayan during Rabī‘ al-Ākhir 1444 AH in Karachi’s Faizan-e-Madinah, before one of the Madani Muzakara held leading up to the 11th of the month. This is its written form with some changes.

² Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaḡhīr: hadith 4580

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

He replied, “I met Prophet Khidr and humbly inquired for him to tell me about Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī. He explained:”

He is unmatched amongst all beloveds and the qutb of every saint. No saint was granted a station, except Allah bestowed ‘Abd al-Qādir a higher one. None of them were given the drink of divine love except ‘Abd al-Qādir was blessed with a sweeter one. None amongst the saints are as close to Allah as him.

Allah kept one of His secrets within him, which allowed to excel beyond the other saints. Whoever Allah has given sainthood now and until the Day of Judgement; all of them respect, revere, and love ‘Abd al-Qādir.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Raised by two ranks

Let us now look at how renowned saints revered and loved Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. The successor of the shaykh, ‘Alī b. Haytī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

I accompanied the shaykh to the shrine of Shaykh Ma‘rūf Karkhī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, who was an accomplished saint.

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, pp. 235-236

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

The shaykh gave salam: **السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا شَيْخُ مَعْرُوفُ! عَبْرَتَاكَ يَدَا رَجَتَيْنِ**
– “O Shaykh Ma‘rūf! Peace be upon you! We have exceeded you by two ranks.”

Via a voice from the grave, Ma‘rūf Karkhī responded:
وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا سَيِّدَ أَهْلِ زَمَانِهِ - “And may peace be upon you, O leader of those in your time!”¹

May Allah have mercy upon them and forgive us without accountability for their sake.

إِمِينُ بَجَاهِ خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

As written in *Fatāwā Riḍāwiyya*:

There is no doubt in the soaring rank of Ghawth al-A‘ẓam, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. A ghawth is the leader of every saint in his era. Our Ghawth al-A‘ẓam has this position after Imam Ḥasan ‘Askarī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ and this shall endure until the arrival of Imam Mahdī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. His blessed foot is upon the neck of every saint.²

Everyone’s shaykh

¹ Qalā’id al-Jawāhir, p. 39

² Nuzhat al-Khāṭir al-Fātir, p. 6; Fatāwā Riḍāwiyya, vol. 26, p. 559

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ declared, “Humans and jinns have their separate shaykhs, yet I am a shaykh for them all.”

As he passed away, he said to his sons, “The difference between you, me, and the entire creation, is that of the heavens and earth. Do not affiliate or compare me with anybody.”¹

Commemorating the blessings of Allah

Dear Islamic brothers! The statements of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in which he praises himself, are a way in which he announced the blessings of Allah and made them public.

The Quran states:

وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ ﴿١١﴾

*And as for the blessing of your Lord, publicise it.*²

Allah Almighty granted the shaykh a great rank, many skills, and a host of virtues, and he rejoiced upon these blessings by making statements similar to that mentioned previously.

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, pp. 22-23

² Al-Quran, Al-Ḍuhā, verse 11; translation from Kanz al-‘Irfān

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

He also warned people to refrain from criticising or speaking ill of him (due to his saintly position). Otherwise, they may fall into ruin.

If anyone disparages or speaks ill of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, they may even lose their faith, as Allah proclaimed in a ḥadīth qudsī, “Whoever has enmity for a saint of Mine; I declare war upon him.”¹

This narration clearly specifies one should not insult Allah’s saints.

A gift from Allah

Abū al-Ḥasan ‘Alī b. Sanjarī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said, “Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir is one of the world’s kings world and a gift from Allah to creation.”²

A message for travellers to Baghdad

Sayyid Aḥmad Kabīr Rifā‘ī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ was advising his nephews and murīds, when a man who intended to travel to Baghdad visited him. Sayyid Aḥmad said, “When you reach Baghdad, visit Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī if he is alive, or visit his shrine. Do this before anything else.”

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī: hadith 6502

² Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 432

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

Both Aḥmad b. Abī Bakr Ḥarīmī and Abū ‘Amr ‘Uthmān Ṣarīfinī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said, “By Allah! There has not been a saint like Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir, nor will there be.”¹

His rank and qualities

Abū ‘Amr ‘Uthmān b. Marzūq Qarashī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ is our shaykh, imam, and master. He is the leader of everyone upon the path of Allah in our time. He will be our imam when we stand before Allah. The saints and distinguished names of our time took a staunch oath regarding in the importance of referring to the shaykh’s work and honouring his rank.²

Do not leave the ocean for a river

Abū al-Qāsim ‘Umar b. Mas‘ūd Bazzār رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

My shaykh, ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, used to speak well of ‘Adī b. Musafir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. I desired to meet this individual. I asked my shaykh for permission to visit him, which he gave me. When I arrived at his abode, I found him sat at the door.

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 56

² Ibid, p. 332

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

“O ‘Umar!”, he exclaimed, “Welcome! You have left an ocean for a river. Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir is the leader of all saints in this era.”¹

How can I not respect him?

Mūsā b. Māhin al-Zūlī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said, “As of now, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir is the greatest person, a saintly leader, and head of the ‘Arifīn. How can I not respect him when heavenly angels do so?”²

The founder of the Suharwardī Sufi spiritual order, Shaykh Shihāb al-Dīn Abū Ḥaṣṣ ‘Umar Suharwardī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

I went with my uncle and shaykh, Abū Najīb ‘Abd al-Qāhir Suharwardī, to visit Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir. My uncle honoured him greatly and sat in silence. When we left, I asked him about the respect he showed and he replied, “How can I not respect him when his being is perfect and complete? His authority stretches over the entire world.”³

One visit was not enough

Shaykh Khidr Mawṣilī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 289

² Ibid, p. 435

³ Ibid, p. 438

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

One day, I visited Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir. During my stay, I thought of visiting Shaykh Aḥmad Kabīr Rifā‘ī. The shaykh said, ‘Do you wish to see Shaykh Aḥmad?’

When I said yes, the shaykh lowered his head for a while before saying, “O Khidr! Here is Shaykh Aḥmad.” I then saw Shaykh Aḥmad, who projected a majestic aura. I stood to greet him.

He turned to me and said, “Why would someone who has visited the leader of all saints want to me? I am under his supervision.” He then disappeared from my sight. After Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir passed away, I visited Shaykh Aḥmad Kabīr Rifā‘ī, and found him to be the exact same in appearance as I had seen earlier.

“O Khidr!”, he said, “Was seeing me once not enough?”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

His saintly qualities

Mirzā Maẓhar Jān-i-Jānān رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

In my dream, I saw host of saints sat in a circle and meditating upon a raised platform.

¹ Fatawa Ridawiyah, vol. 28, p. 388

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

One was the leading name of the Naqshbandī order, Bahā' al-Dīn Naqshband. He was sat upon his knees, whilst Junayd al-Baghdādī was sat leaning against a pillow.

Everybody suddenly stood and left. When I asked what was happening, I was told they were going to welcome the fourth Caliph of Islam, ‘Alī b. Abī Ṭālib رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. As he arrived, someone held his hand with great love and respect. I asked who this was and was told it was Uways Qarnī.

A luminous room appeared and they all entered. I asked why they were doing this, and someone answered, ‘Today is the ‘urs of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ and they have gathered to commemorate it.’¹

Glad Tidings for Qadiris

Glad tidings for murīds of the shaykh, for he declared no matter how sinful any of them are, none of them will die until they repent.²

When someone loves the shaykh dearly, his life changes.

¹ Kalimāt al-Ṭayyibat, p. 78

² Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 191

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

I was given a register containing the names of my friends and all who will become my murīds until the Day of Judgement, and I was told they are my responsibility.

I asked the angel appointed upon Hell if any of my murīds are in there, to which it said no.¹

He further stated:

I take oath by the honour and majesty of my Lord! My hand of support is upon my murīd just as the sky is above the Earth. It is not an issue if my murīd is not righteous. اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ I am righteous. By my Lord! I will not leave the court of Allah until all my murīds are in Paradise.²

The blessings of affiliation

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

Glad tidings for he who saw me, or saw somebody who saw me, or looked upon somebody who looked upon

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 193

² Ibid

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِ

somebody who saw me! I feel sorry those who have not.”¹

The great shaykh also said:

Allah promised me He will admit all my murīds and friends into Paradise. Whoever is affiliated with me and takes my name, Allah will accept and be graceful to them even if they are sinful, simply because they are my murid.

I made Munkar and Nakir promise to not scare my murīds in their graves.²

The shaykh explained, “Nobody can imagine the bounties Allah has prepared for His servants in Paradise.”³

O those who love the shaykh! Try to read biographies about him. Here is an amazing statement of his, and we Allah to grant us ability to act upon it: “We must always obey Allah and never deviate from the correct path.”⁴

Make an intention to never sin again, to never miss a salah, to never miss a congregational salah without reason, to never leave obligatory fasts, to pay zakat, to perform ḥajj when it becomes

¹ Bahjat al-Asrār, p. 53

² Ibid, p. 193

³ Ghawth-i-Pāk Kē Hālāt, p. 77

⁴ Futūḥ al-Ghayb Ma’a Qalā’id al-Jawāhir, p. 44

The Rank of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

obligatory upon you, to never lie, and to not shorten the beard and grow it to a fistful in size.

Make intention to refrain from watching movies, listening to music, looking at unveiled women, drinking alcohol, offering and taking bribes, dealing with interest, and disobeying your parents. These are all acts of disobedience which Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ told us to avoid.

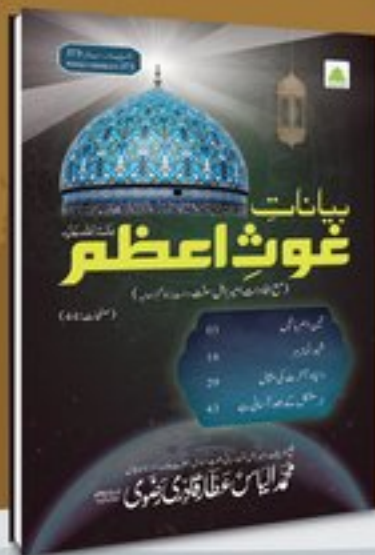
Through the mercy of Allah, once we refrain from sins, perform good deeds, fill in the Pious Deeds booklet, travel with Madani Qafilahs and adopt the company of the righteous, we will then please Allah and His Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and enter Paradise with Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ.

إِنْ شَاءَ اللهُ

A method of seeing Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī in a dream

As written in *Madani Treasure of Blessings*: Whoever recites Qaṣīdah Ghawthiyya three times will see Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in their dream. إِنْ شَاءَ اللهُ

Next Weekly Booklet



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