

EPILOGUE

On the Mystery of the Three Final Magnifications

This is the general mystery of the opening magnifications of God. So long as the wayfarer does not remove the seven veils, he will not arrive at the door of God and the doors of admission to the court will not open for him, and it is by removing the veils that the splendours of beauty and awe-inspiring majesty are revealed to him. In the same way, after returning from the degree of arrival and sheer annihilation and attainment of the state of awareness, the theophanies of the essence, of the names, and of the actions—in the sequence opposite to that of the wayfaring to God—take place in his heart, and for each one of the theophanies he utters a magnification to God. Since these theophanies do not take place through the multitude of veils of the beauty of the Beloved, the wayfarer, with each raising of the hand, alludes to not being veiled from any degree. Just as during the first magnification offered up to God he witnessed the splendour of the essence in the presence of the names and attributes, so with the raising of the hand he alludes to the fact that the determinates of the names and attributes do not veil the theophany of the essence. During the second magnification offered up to God he witnesses the theophanies of the names in the presence of the archetypes, or rather he also witnesses within them the theophanies of the essence, and with the raising of the hand he alludes to not being veiled. During the third magnification offered up to God, he witnesses the theophanies of the essence, names, and actions in the mirror of the external archetypes, and with the raising of the hand he negates their veiledness.

So, the opening magnifications are for the sake of witnessing the theophanies, from the exoteric to the esoteric, and from the theophanies of actions to the theophanies of the essence. The raising of the hand during them is for the sake of removing the veils until he arrives at the degree of spiritual closeness and true ascension. The final magnifications are for the sake of witnessing the theophanies from the esoteric to the exoteric and are for the sake of witnessing the theophanies from those of the essence to those of the actions, and the raising of the hand during them is an allusion to not being veiled and the removal of veils. Praise be to God, firstly and lastly, exoterically and esoterically.

A Concluding Supplication

O God, connect our steps of action to goodness, and, in conclusion, grant us gnosis and God-seeking. Cut short of our hearts the deviating hand of the accursed devil; light up our hearts with the spark from the fire of Thy love, so that we may become enraptured. Burn the harvest of our egoity and self-worship with the light of the fire of Thy love, so that we do not see and seek any other than Thee, and so that the burden of our hearts is not unburdened save at Thy threshold.

O Beloved, even now that we are far from Thee and covered from Thy ever-beautiful beauty, Thy generous hand reaches forth. Remove the thick veils from between us so that we may be compensated in our remaining days of life for what has passed. Indeed, Thou art the Bestower of Blessings.

Finished by the hands of this poor author on 21 Rabī' al-Thānī 1358 AH/1939.