

LETTER EIGHT
CONCERNING THE SPIRITUAL GUIDE [SHAYKH]

With His Glorious Name ﷺ
Allah, Allah, Allah

Honored *Hadrat Maulānā* Muhammad Sharīf (may the legacy of our scholars persist):

As-salāmu °alaykum wa rahmatullāhi wa barakātuhu.

This *faqīr* is well and wishes the same for you. Your detailed letter informed me of your situation.

Know that he who succeeds in the eyes of his spiritual guide [*shaykh*] is successful in the eyes of Allah ﷻ and His Rasūl ﷺ.²³ Be regular in your remembrance [*dhikr*] and reflection [*murāqabah*], and God willing [*inshā'Allah*], the doors of recognition [*ma'rifa*] will open with time.

Love will itself teach you the etiquettes [ādāb] of love.

²³ This is because the *shaykh* guides the seeker to the path of Islamic law [*sharī'ah*] and the example [*sunnah*] of the Messenger ﷺ, which is the accepted path of Allah ﷻ and His beloved Messenger ﷺ.

Remember that he who willfully renounces blameworthy deeds is placed among the truthful [*siddiqīn*]. This blessing is attained only through the love and company of the *shaykh*.

A sign is enough for the wise.

Was-salām maʿ al-ikrām,

Faqīr Zulfiqar Ahmad Naqshbandī *Mujaddidī*