

Negligence

My article today was inspired by my readings of Sufi philosophy and my attempt to understand this school of thought. For me, it's wrapped in ambiguity and contrast, coded with expressions that are difficult to interpret by a reader like myself. I attended a Sufi gathering once just for my own information. I found a great discrepancy that on one hand there is reverence and commitment to Quran and Sunna, but on the other hand there is deviation and fantasies that are difficult to believe or even understand.

The source of my inspiration today comes from what I read by Abdulkarim Aljili who died in the Hijri year 832. He was one of the pillars of Sufi philosophy and I'll share with you a few of his words. "Existence is mere fantasy for those who live their lives in negligence, they will not awake from their carelessness until after death, although some righteous men perceive the fantasy while still on this Earth because they are aware of this negligent state." I pondered over this word *negligence* a lot, and found that it relates to time and more specifically to the hands of the clock which measure our time on this Earth. Time passes without us even feeling it and we fail to look closely to our deeds because negligence blinds our insight, and not just any insight, but the insight of the heart. Negligence simply controls the course of our life without us noticing. The indifferent student who doesn't seize the opportunity to study while he has the chance will only realize what he missed and bemoan his loss once he is older in life. Also, the man who was blessed with wellness but doesn't watch his health. He will become ill and say, "Health is a crown on the heads of the healthy which is seen only by the sick." This saying summarizes the negligence of health. We can say the same for the safety and security of our