



Shadhiliyya Sufi Center

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As salaamu alaykum,

With deep gratitude, the Shadhiliyya Sufi Center (SSC) Board and Administration would like to thank everyone who has so generously given of their time, creativity and wealth to the SSC during the recent crisis, as well as in the past. Truly Allah is ar-Razzaq, our Provider, and He is al-Karim, the Generous, a quality we see reflected in you.

Thanks to the support of members of the tariqa we have very good news to share. As of March, the mortgages on the old and new land in Pope Valley have been paid off using funds loaned to SSC by beloveds for a three year period. This will provide much needed financial relief as we reorganize to develop the Mother Center as a self-sustaining operation, and sell the parcels on the new land to retire the loan and provide operating capital. Allah has also given us a beautiful metaphor in water that is again flowing on the land. This reflection seems to affirm and confirm the change in direction we are now undertaking.

Over the past few years the SSC has, at times, struggled to operate in a way that inspires confidence in our vision and our ability to manifest it. Our intention has always been to move from the highest love and best interests of the tariqa, and yet we have made some missteps along the way. For this we ask your forgiveness and mercy. In our attempts to grow as an organization, we have labored and stumbled. With the help of Allah, we are now walking through our current challenges in a new and beautiful way.

To accomplish our goal of building an effective and enduring organization, we have made the commitment to change our organizational structure and operating model, and we ask you to consider two things. First, that you give us a chance to work with you to continue the process of building the national tariqa, and, second, that you actively help guide the tariqa. We value and need your love, your talents, and your support, so that together we can create a strong, radiant, spiritual organization for ourselves and for the generations after us who will, if Allah is willing, "drink of the pure water" that is the Shadhiliyya way.

We have committed to the following steps to ensure a successful community, insha'llah:

- Development of communication strategies to foster community connection and administrative transparency; including a new website and a tariqa newsletter, published at least quarterly;
- Quarterly posting of easy to understand SSC financial statements to inform you of organizational growth and resource management;
- Establishment of an operating committee for the Mother Center which will manage finances and operations at the Center and will seek input from the

- national tariqa;
- Creation of opportunities and a framework (circle model) for more beloveds to become involved in decision-making and management of tariqa affairs;
- Establishment of a Community Resolution Circle, to support clearing and healing in communities with a team of trained mediators;
- Development of a comprehensive long-range plan within the next 12 months for organizational growth, programs, and self-sufficiency.

The attachments include further information and details about SSC. In them you will find:

- a financial statement for 2007,
- a brief explanation of the organization and history of SSC, with a companion organizational chart available on the website, and
- A listing of the organizational bodies, including the new circles. The circles function like committees. All beloveds are invited to participate in any circles of their choosing.

This letter and all the attachments are posted on the website at www.suficenter.org under Community News. There you can find information on how to participate through joining circles, volunteering or donating. We welcome your support and look forward to working together to serve all those whose hearts are crying and who wish to benefit from the message of peace, love, mercy, justice, freedom and beauty.

With our love and deepest thanks,

The Shadhiliyya Sufi Center Board

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