

The Inner Call

Capo up three frets and play
chords indicated in parentheses

Lyrics, music and movements by
Shivadam Adam Burke

The musical score is written on two staves in G minor (one flat) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, with chords Bb(G), Eb(C), and Bb(G) indicated above it. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with chords Dm(Em), Eb(C), Cm(Am), Eb(C), and Bb(G) indicated above it. The lyrics are: "I can hear the in-ner call as I rise a-bove in good-ness: Mo-ham-med-dar ras - sul - li - lah La il - a - ha il - la 'llah".

The feeling is beatific, as Mohammed might have felt, especially as he rose above himself to assume the role of Prophet:

- 1) I can hear the inner call
- 2) As I rise above in goodness:
- 3) Mohammedar Rasulillah
- 4) La ilaha illa 'llah

- 1) Facing and walking to right (right step/downbeat on "hear", R-L-R-L) with arms in receptive gesture, palms forward, hands moving from waist level, slowly coming up to cross over heart so that they enfold the heart at "call," also lowering head very slightly to emphasize an inward focus;
- 2) Continuing, facing line of direction, stepping R and rocking back on L, opening hands and arms out and up, leading from the heart - like the Sufi Heart and Wings unfolding - forehead tilting up slightly, arms reaching the pinnacle of upward motion at "rise"; then rocking again with rhythm R, L, arms flowing down, leading with elbows so that finger tips brush upwards like the ends of wings - feeling the buoyancy of upliftment - hands coming toward waist level with "goodness," and with this step, completing a turn fully towards center;
- 3) Enjoining hands in the circle with the 'zikr rowing motion,' at this point looking around and connecting with our brother and sister Messengers, or celebrating as if a host of angels honoring the Prophet.
- 4) Turning individually to L and slightly out from center, arms in receptive moon position with palms upward, ending the turn to face line of direction to begin again.

With the first movement, we recognize where we are, the internal and personal path we walk. The second is our epiphany, our own spiritual exaltation. In the third line, we bring that back into and for the benefit of our community as we share it with the circle of fellow travelers, prophets, angels; and finally, we affirm the ultimate Unity.

Perhaps Mohammed heard the voice of angels whispering to his inner ear, as his small 'I' self dissolved, informing him: "Mohammed is the Messenger of God"; and then once fully risen, heard proclaimed, Nothing exists except the One", which is The Message.

Similarly, each of us may hear the inner call, leading us toward the One. By beginning with the receptivity with which Mohammed entered his own practice, taking our commitment into our hearts and enclosing it like a precious jewel, our hearts may then open out to all, and as if to fly, and rise above our limited conceptions of self as we merge into the One.

