

A Short Biography Sheikh Eşref Efendi

Sheikh Esref Efendi was born in Mersin, Turkey, on January 6, 1964. He was already very religious as a child, although he was not raised with a strict religious education. Nevertheless, he always had a great respect for and strong spiritual attraction to the heavenly stations of the Creator.

He was always very selective both in his circle of friends and in the places he visited. For a time he experimented with music, but that lost its appeal to him because this occupation with its associated environment and lifestyle did not corresponded to his own vision of life.

In his youth he spent most of his time with studying the history of the world and the prophets and making observations about the social behaviour of the people and their psyche, and comparing it to observations of the socio-political process of the world.

In spite of the attainment of a lot of worldly knowledge through his own efforts, he had a feeling in his heart that a certain something was missing, both in his knowledge and in his life.

After a deep depression in his private life, he finally discovered it. The connection to wisdom was missing in his life. Knowledge and life without wisdom brought neither a sense to the knowledge nor happiness in life.

The answers to his many questions about knowledge and life remained a mystery to him. The answer to his question, of just from where one should take this wisdom and where exactly one could find it, came to his aid from a holy saying of the last prophet, may peace be upon him:

"Find wisdom, where it is protected. Know however that wisdom is not an object that one finds being bought and sold at every market. No, it is a jewel and you must search for and find this jewel with its owner."

Shortly thereafter, he met by coincidence in Berlin *Sheikh Nazim al Haqqan*i, the honourable Grand Master of the world's largest Sufi order, the Naqshbandi. He instantly realized that he had finally found the connection to wisdom and its owner.

It did not take many years for him to receive from his master the spiritual permission, to move from a small training ground to the large arena, to speak now to all people that are searching for the truth, to give them the answers to all their questions, and to counsel and heal them as their spiritual therapist, shepherd and guide.

Since 1995, Sheikh Esref Efendi has been pursuing this holy task and training people in Germany, Europe and throughout the world on a spiritual level through conversations, to teach them how to lead a happy life both here and hereafter.

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