

# Tasawuf in Different Derivations

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## Abstract

*In this Research paper different derivations of tasawuf are discussed. Tasawwuf is one of the Islamic schools of thoughts, like Tafseer, Hadith, Fiqah, Maani Tasawwuf etc. We have also studied these ideas and derivations of tasawwuf analytically and comparatively. We have also proved with deep analyses that all ways and derivations of tasawwuf are for pleasure of Almighty Allah. The study of tasawuf has taught that the simplicity in human life, purification from greediness, blackness of bad deeds on heart, whiteness of good deeds on hearts, and different ways of life which is related to humanity is also discussed in this Research Paper. The importance, results, conclusion and also references from different books are enclosed.*

## Introduction

There are different ideas and thoughts of religious scholars about Tasawuf. The following are some ideas, thoughts and definitions of tasawuf.

### The various beliefs regarding the fact of tasawuf

Sheikh Ul Islam abi yahya Zakariyya al Ansari R A present his thought about tasawuf is as:

التصوف هو علم يعرف به احوال تركية النفوس و تصفية الاخلاق و تعبير الظاهر والباطن  
لنيل السعادة الابدية (1)

*Sufism is to build their knowledge of the conditions in which the purification of the soul and purifies it and settled, so that man attain eternal happiness.*

Shaikh abu al Hassan al Noori express his views about tasawuf is as:

التصوف ترك كل حظ للنفس (2)

*Sufism Abandon of all physical pleasures.*

التصوف هو الاخلاق البرضية

*Tasawwuf is a name of favorite (good) Morals*

التصوف الدخول في كل خلق سني والخروج من كل خلق دني

*Tasawwuf is that school of thought through which a man adopt good morals and leaves bad actions.*

التصوف خلق فبن زاد عليك في الخلق فقد زاد عليك في الصفا

*Sufism is the name of good manners, so who is better than you in good manners, he is better than you in Safa (Sufism).*

التصوف هو صفاء المعاملة مع الله تعالى واصله التعرف عن الدنيا (3)

*Mysticism is the purity of man's actions with Allah Almighty and its basic (origin) is to disconnect with this world.*

#### التصوف استقامة الاحوال مع الحق (4)

*Tasawwuf is the perseverance of human's situations with Allah*

#### **Definitions:**

The great English scholar of Tasawuf Nicholson has included seventy eight such statements in his translation of the famous Muslim Sufi biographer Abu Nuayam Isfahani's work Hayat-al-Auliya. Sheikh Suhrawardi has forwarded more than a thousand definitions of Tasawwuf In his book "Awaarif-ul-Ma`arif" (the Fragrances of Inner Knowledge). There are plenty of such examples in the works of numerous other exponents of Sufism. For want of space only three examples of definition of Tasawwuf from three famous scholars and influential Sufis (Practitioners of Tasawwuf) are given below:

Sheikh Abu Bakar Shibli R A defined Tasawwuf as follows: "Its beginning is the knowledge of Allah and its end is His Unity (Tauheed)."

Sheikh Junaid Baghdadi R A explains tasawuf is as follows "being dead to oneness and alive in Allah" that is in Sufis terminology fanna fi Allah and Baqa bi Allah.

Famous Sufi scholar hazrat Sheikh ul-Islam Zakariyya Ansari's R A defines tasawuf as "tasawuf teaches one to purify one's inner side of the life, improve one's moral character, and build up one's inner and outer life in order to attain perpetual pleasure of Allah, resulting in a state of perpetual bliss. Its subject matter is the purification of the soul, and its end or aim is the attainment of eternal satisfaction and blessedness." Sheikh Siraj Hendricks briefly explain above three definitions as the first definition consist on the intellect research and pertains to the intellect (aql) we can say that is shariat, the second definition which is also consist on the inner side of the life means it is related to heart that is tareekat and Muarifat it has called as haal and the third definitions also discussed on the both (body and soul) mean consists on inner and outer side of Sufis life. (5)

The word tasawuf has been derivate from "الصفا" which means "cleanness and purity". In the light of this definition we can make something pure from inner and outer side for clearing and purification is the name of tasawuf. (6)

Shaikh Abdul Fateh Basti (R.A) expresses the views about tasawuf in his own opinion in very good way he says that the tasawuf is word which indicate the meaning of purity, which person feels comfortable from inner and outer side is called tasawuf. (7)

The real meaning of tasawuf according to the famous book of language "Al Munjad" is to "purify the soul". (8)

Data Ganj Bakhsh Ali Hajwairi R A defines the tasawuf by taking the reference of Shaikh Khizri R A in his famous book "Kashaf Ul Maehjoob" he said that the tasawuf is to abstain oneself from evils and bad deeds. (9)

It means that to change the blackness of the heart into whiteness and made it purify from the blackness of bad deeds is tasawuf.

If we take word Al-Safa in our life so it will cleans heart from all evils, spites and impurity and it is conclusion would be very beneficial to get true pleasure of Al mighty Allah.

To be free from spite, Quran says that:

كلا بل ران على قلوبهم ما كانوا يكسبون (10)

*"Their hearts got rust because of bad deeds".*

The Holy Prophet S A W W said when a believer, commit sin his heart got taints of on consciousness of heart and if he pardon from his God his heart become once again pure and clear if not he will get extension by and by. (11)

It is said that stress in this Hadith that the act of good deeds and well fair actions will lead ones heart to be filled with spiritual light, on the other side if one is committing sins constantly his heart will never be filled with spiritual soul.

The Sufi is a person who refrains himself and his heart and makes himself free from evil desires he controls his emotion which are enjoined and taught by Allah and His Apostle S A W W. That person is considered as real mystic according to observing all above conditions.

Another derivation used for tasawuf is (الصوف) which means “the character of love and friendship”. According to opinion of above sentences mystic is said to be free from all the world desires, carnal wishes and develop his true love with his Lord which is totally based on to earn Ones Masters willing and this is totally for the sake of Almighty Allah. (12)

The third derivation of tasawuf is taken from the word “الصوف” meaning of this word is “to wear” it explained that the word tasawuf is on the root of “تفعل” it means to wear the simply dress namely the dress of wool “أون”

The great Scholar of his time Imam Abu Qasim Al-Qusheri R A said that tasawuf is called when Sufi wear the dress of wool. The Sufis wear the dress of wool for the getting pleasure of Allah.

The mystic got the title of mystic being free from this world`s luxurious life and they devoted their whole life in a way through which they can get pleasure of Allah for that purpose they wear simple dress which is low price dress namely the dress of wool (أون) (13)

The dress of wool is related only for the saint of tasawuf. It is said that this dress is interested dress of the saints because this dress is near to humbleness and abstain from proudness. This dress is also interested dress of Prophets of Allah.

If the word tasawuf would be derivate from the word “الصوف” its meaning would be to wear dress. The method of mystic wearing dress is simple familiar to the Prophets and he is not interested in worldly taste. once Holy Prophet S A W W said that when Hazrat Musa A S used to go towards “Toorseena” to talk with Almighty Allah he had been wear the simple dress (the dress of wool أون) (14)

Hazrat Hassan Basri R A said that the regarding Holy Prophet S A W W that He used to have meal with oil of olive and wears simple dress (the Dress of wool). (15)

The dress is simple dress of Sufi used to wear except this all the companion of the Holy Prophet S A W W also like and wear it.

By this method once simplicity high character and dignity is hidden in the Sufi dress that is why all the Sufi saints are very likeable by everywhere because of being simple and always intension towards the will of Allah Almighty.

The Fourth derivation of tasawuf is derivate from “الصوف” the meaning of this derivation is that the believers must preference his heart only and only for the pleasure of Allah. The aim of his life only and only to pleasure his only and one Lord. All the deeds which are related his life only and only for the Pleasure of Almighty Allah.

The fifth derivation of tasawuf is Al-Sufah “الصفة”. If the word tasawuf is abbreviate from the Al-Sufah then it indicates “to companion of the Prophet Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa S A W W”. The majority of scholars express that the Sufi Wright because they do have connection as the Ashab Sufah had who were being given the doctrine of religion by Prophet S A W W.

If tasawuf have been taken from Sufah is stands for number of those companion of Prophet S A W W who being free from their houses, children, kith and kin and were present every time in Masjid Nabvi to get doctrine from the Prophet S A W W These person were free from the all issues of society but they perform all the assignments which were assigned by the Prophet S A W W and they were the part of worldly life

They looked after everything with the passage of time but most important thing was only to be knowledgeable once addressing the companion of sufahc. The Holy Prophet S A W W says that be happy which one of among you is present here, and if one is happy he would be with me on the Day of Judgment (16)

The sixth derivation of tasawuf is derivate from al saf “الصَّف” it indicates to directs those pious saints. these pious are those consciousness people whose heart is free from all worldly warriors- sorrow, tension they have devoted themselves before their Lord .

The writers have proclaimed meaning of tasawuf is summarized in this method.

Tasawuf is such a heartily selfish less, sincerity and love with Almighty Allah which should have non-greedy for success in this world but also in the world of hereafter.

The mystic is one whose prayers are not to lure to get benefit and reward but they all do for getting their Lord's pleasure for that he keeps himself away from another deity and creatures.

### **Significance of tasawuf**

In this research paper tasawuf has been divided into six derivations its every derivations related to the spiritual love with it is clearly explained here that besides tasawuf no one cannot have his connection with Allah. In basic phenomenon is to devote ones desire world needs like carnal wishes, luxurious life means in simple words one has to totally submit himself in the boundary of Allah & then he would be ready to sacrifice his dearest things in the way of Allah. By this Allah will be too merciful upon his deeds.

The central ideas of above passage in that one has to show great efficiency to get the pleasure of Allah. For that purpose if he had to look his whole worldly like he would have done it for the sake of making his master satisfied with him.

Thoroughly deeply study of tasawuf expound that it is such a relevance with Allah that never wishes of Get response from his action as a reward.

While there is a sufficient variance in the worship of common people and people having command over the tasawuf. When incomes of our worship it is full of selfish if we give something in charity firstly we keep some desires in the name of Almighty Allah that he would give more than we gave. Whenever we inter the mosque for performing prayer hundreds of thoughts of thoughts develops in our mind that we will get reward of our worship so this is totally diverse than that of tasawuf.

Our worship is based on fear and reward that if we not did perform it we would be thrown into hell. On the contrary , pious and glorious people having belief in the hidden philosophy of tasawuf don't desire of getting reward , like paradise , or having luxurious like here in this world what they do just to earn the will of Lord of east , west , North and south owners of sky and earth.

Mystic says that we not desire to get paradise if we fail to earn the truly love and affiliation with Allah then it is useless for us because their every action in this world is for their betterment of relation that make no difference between their and Allah Loves in a nut and shale tasawuf is deeply and heartily loves that has no desires from One's beloved besides one thing that is to have just pleasure leaving all crucial need and desires in which comes world we are living in and world after here.

## **Findings**

By the brief study of tasawuf's definitions and all sides of derivations it is found herewith that tasawuf is knowledge where a Sufi has known a glance of some its fundamental principles. Some relevant ones are listed below: steadfast belief in God's Oneness without any strings whatsoever, and living a life that fulfils all its positive needs and requirements, in a fair, free and just manner whether these be of religious, social or secular nature. He pass his life totally according to will of Allah and suppressing his own wills and wishes. Living a life leading towards the state of self-annihilation in God (Fana fillah). Developing the utmost love of God as well as living in cordial harmony with all other beings regardless of color, race or faith in accordance with the saying of the Prophet of Islam Hazrat Muhammad SAWW that all human being are equal all has created from dust. Developing self-restraint and high degree of humility coupled with the respect of society, insuring the well-being, and joy of fellow humans. Being broad minded and always ready to congenially co-exist with the rest of the Creation of God. Develop the inner self in order to acquire the ability to win hearts and minds of others. Learning from anyone who can teach and seeking the company of pious people who abstain from sin and abide by the commandments of Allah.. Total respect of Law and refraining from anything that is unlawful. Suppressing all negative ambitions and developing and promoting the positive traits of moral character (Husn-e-Akhlaaq). Always being content with your lot (Sabr) with pure intention to gain the pleasure and nearness of God. One's always remaining in the state of gratefulness of God (Shukr) for his seen and unseen blessings on one.

## **Conclusion**

In above all Narrated views of Various Scholars Writers, thinkers, philosophers came to conclusion regarding tasawuf. That until human being free from lie, backbite, hatred, proud and spites. one cannot be on the way of tasawuf he would be not lead his life according tasawuf leaving these all bad activities.

In this research paper I'm trying to discuss different derivations of tasawuf and then comparative study of them, so when it is studies from different side it is declare that tasawuf is in different derivations but aim is same.

The Sufi will live in this world with simplicity, pure from greediness and selfishness and all his deeds are related to getting the Pleasure of Almighty Allah.

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