

ISLAMIC STUDY CIRCLE

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Tawassul Wasila

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Tawassul Wasilah

Tawassul Literally means:
Request, Fervent plea, to make intercession for someone

Wasilah Literally means:
Medium, tools, means.

Tawassul In Shariah means:
Asking Allah Almighty to accept our prayers (Dua)
and to grant His favours
through (for the sake of) the Prophet Muhammed (pbuh)
or through his Jaah i.e. the special unique position that Allah has granted
him

The Ulama (Scholars) of Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jama'ah consider this practice as the
Sunnah of the Prophets and Sahabah

Tawassul

Types of Tawassul

There are three types of Tawassul

1. Tawassul through the Prophet (pbuh) before he came into this world
2. Tawassul through the Prophet (pbuh) during his physical lifetime in this world
3. Tawassul through the Prophet (pbuh) after his Wisal i.e. when he left this world physically

There are authentic evidences in the Islamic text to prove that Tawassul in all the abovementioned circumstances is allowed according to Islamic Law.

Tawassul

References from the Holy Quran

1.If, then after having sinned against themselves, they come to you (O Prophet) and ask Allah to forgive them — with the Apostle, too, praying that they be forgiven — they would assuredly find that Allah is an acceptor of repentance, a dispenser of grace.

(Surah An-Nisa No 4 Verse 64)

2.O Believers, have fear of Allah and seek the means (Wasilah) by which you get closer to Him and strive hard in His cause so that you may be successful.

(Surah Al-Ma'idah No 5 Verse 35)

Tawassul

Before the birth of the Prophet (Peace be upon him)

Hadith

The Prophet (peace be upon him) is reported to have said that when Adam (peace be upon him) committed Khata (by eating from the forbidden tree) he prayed to Allah saying:

"O my Lord, I seek forgiveness through Muhammed"

Allah asked:

"O Adam! How do you know Muhammed whom I have not created yet?"

Adam answered:

"O my Lord! When you created me with your hand and blew your spirit (soul) into me, I raised my head and I saw written on the pillars of the Throne (Arsh) — La ilaha Illallah Muhammedur Rasulullah — hence I discovered that no other name would ever be put with your name except the name of the one who is most loved by you."

Allah said:

"O Adam! What you are saying is the truth. Indeed Muhammed is loved most by Me from among my creation. As you pray through him I forgive you and (remember) I have created you for the sake of Muhammed (Peace be upon him)"

Reported by Hazrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) Ref (1) Al Mustadrak (A Book of Hadith) 2nd Volume by Imam Abu Abdullah al-Hakim died 405 AH (2) Collection of Fataawa, 2nd Volume by Hafiz Ibn Taimiyah died 728 AH (3) Imam Al-Bayhaqi (died 458 AH) and Imam Tabraani (died 360 AH) also reported this Hadith in their books. **N.B.** Imam Hakim confirmed this Hadith as Sahih, and said the chain of transmission (Asnad) of this Hadith is very reliable and strong.

Tawassul

During the Prophet's Lifetime (Peace be upon him)

Hadith

A blind man came to the Prophet (PBUH) and said:

"O Messenger of Allah, could you make Dua for me so that Allah may give me my sight back."

The Prophet (PBUH) said:

"If you want I will pray for your or if you observe patience that will be good for you."

The man said:

"Please pray for me."

So the Prophet asked him to perform a perfect Wudhu and make Dua with these words:

"O Allah! I beg you and turn to you through (with the Wasilah) Muhammed, the Prophet of Mercy. O Muhammed! I turn to my Lord in this need through you, so that it may be fulfilled. O Allah! accept the plea of the Prophet (in my favour)"

Reported by Hazrat Usman bin Hunaif

References:

1. Tirmidhi Sharif by Imam Abu Isa Muhammed Tirmidhi (died 279 AH)
2. Ibn-e-Majah by Imam Abu Abdullah Muhammed (died 273 AH)
3. Al-Mustadrak by Imam Abu Abdullah al-Hakim (died 405 AH)

N.B. After having completed his Dua this blind man stood up and was able to see perfectly. (Dalail-un-Nubuwwat; by Imam Al-Bayhaqi)

Tawassul

After the Prophet's Wisal (Peace be upon him)

The Practice of a Sahabi

Someone came to Hazrat Usman, the third Khalifah at that time. He asked for something from him. Hazrat Usman, due to some reason, did not pay attention to him. He complained about it to Hazrat Usman Ibn Hunaif, who advised him to do Wudhu and perform two Raka'at Nafl prayers and then to make the Dua that was taught by the Prophet (peace be upon him) to the blind man.

He followed this advice and then went to see Hazrat Usman again. This time he was received by Hazrat Usman warmly who listened to him and granted him what he asked. He then came back and thanked Hazrat Usman Ibn Hunaif, thinking that he must have intervened to Khalifah about him. However, Usman Ibn Hunaif told him that it was the result of his Dua to Allah Almighty through the Wasilah of the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him)

Reported by Umamah Ibn Sahl ibn Hunaif (A prominent Tabeyi)

References:

1. Dalail-un-Nubawwat by Imam al-Bayhaqi
2. Al-Mu'jam al-Saghir by Imam Tabraani

Tawassul

To make Dua with the Wasilah of a Wali

Hazrat Anas narrated:

Whenever drought threatened the people, Umar bin al-Khattab used to make Dua with the wasilah of Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib for rain. He used to say

"O Allah we used to make Dua with the Wasilah of our Prophet (peace be upon him) for rain and you would bless us with rain. Now we are praying through his uncle. O Allah! Bless us with rain. And so it would rain."

Bukhari