

Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi (R.A.)

Sayyid-ut-Taa'ifa: The Sultan of Tariqat

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Preface

This eBook, presented by Barkateraza.in, narrates the exemplary life of Hazrat Abul Qasim Junaid Baghdadi (R.A.), the eleventh Imam of the Qadiriyyah Barakaatiyyah Raza-viyyah Nooriyyah silsila. Known as Sayyid-ut-Taa'ifa and Sultan-e-Tariqat, he was a beacon of Shariah and tasawwuf. As the mureed and khalifa of Hazrat Sirri al-Saqati (R.A.), his teachings on Fana fillah and divine love shaped Sufism. His mazaar in Shaunizia, Baghdad, remains a source of blessings.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi (R.A.) (218 A.H./830 C.E. – 298 A.H./910 C.E.) was a pivotal Sufi saint, scholar, and mufti, revered as Sayyid-ut-Taa'ifa. Born in Baghdad, he was the mureed and khalifa of his maternal uncle, Hazrat Sirri al-Saqati (R.A.). A master of Shariah and tariqat, he founded the Junaidi silsila, influencing major Sufi orders. Despite opposition calling him a heretic, his piety and wisdom earned accolades from the Prophet (PBUH) in dreams. His mazaar in Shaunizia, Baghdad, draws devotees.

Chapter 2

Early Life and Transformation

Born in Baghdad to Muhammad bin Junaid al-Khazzaaz, a mirror merchant, Junaid showed early spiritual inclination. At seven, accompanying Hazrat Sirri al-Saqati (R.A.) to Makkah, he defined shukr as not using Allah's bounties for disobedience, astonishing 400 ulama. When his father's offering was rejected by Sirri, young Junaid persuaded him to accept, citing divine justice, leading Sirri to take him as a mureed. A wrestler in youth, he let a poor Sayyid win a match, earning the Prophet's (PBUH) blessing in a dream, prompting him to abandon worldly pursuits.

Chapter 3

Spiritual Training and Mentors

Junaid studied fiqh under Hazrat Abu Ali Soori (R.A.), a student of Imam Shafi'i (R.A.), issuing fatawa by age 20. He received tasawwuf training from Hazrat Sirri al-Saqati (R.A.) and served Hazrat Muhaasibi (R.A.). His spiritual chain traces through Hazrat Ma'roof Karkhi (R.A.) to Imam Ali (R.A.) and the Prophet (PBUH). His rigorous training made him a master of Shariah and tariqat, surpassing even his Peer, as Sirri acknowledged.

Chapter 4

Miracles and Karamaat

1. Majoosi's Conversion: A fire-worshipper, disguised as a Muslim, asked about a hadith on a believer's foresight. Junaid discerned his zanaar and urged him to embrace Islam, leading to his immediate conversion.
2. Mureed's Face Restored: A mureed's face turned black after intending sin. Junaid prayed for three days, restoring his face, demonstrating his spiritual influence.
3. Exposing Illusion: A mureed dreamt of visiting Jannah nightly. Junaid instructed him to recite "La Hawla" in the dream, revealing it as a satanic illusion, saving him from deception.
4. Khalifa's Test: A slave girl, sent by the Khalifa to tempt Junaid, died from his spiritual jalaal, proving his divine protection against worldly lures.

Chapter 5

Ascetic Lifestyle

Junaid read 400 nafil raka'ts daily at his shop, later abandoning it for seclusion in Sirri's home, engaging in muraqiba for 40 years. For 30 years, he prayed Fajr with Isha's wudhu, and for 20 years, never missed Takbeer-e-Ula. He repeated salah if worldly thoughts intruded and performed Sajdah-e-Sahw for thoughts of Jannah. Fasting frequently, he lived on dry bread, rejecting wealth and urging charity to the needy.

Chapter 6

Compassion and Character

Junaid's humility shone in forgiving a thief who stole his kurta, even testifying for him in the market. He helped a poor Sayyid win a wrestling match and guided a Sayyid from Jilan to spiritual Hajj. His lecture caused 18 attendees to die from divine awe, reflecting his impact. He taught that true religious brothers solve others' problems, emphasizing communal welfare.

Chapter 7

Teachings and Aphorisms

Junaid defined tasawwuf as purifying the heart from worldly desires and Fana fillah as opposing nafs through zuhd, ibadat, and ikhlaas. His sayings include:

1. “Tasawwuf is cleansing the heart; Fana fillah opposes nafs through devotion and sincerity.”
2. “Obeying nafs is the root of ruin.”
3. “An eye blind to Allah’s creation, a tongue silent of His zikr, an ear deaf to truth, or a body devoid of worship is better dead.”
4. “Guarding the heart protects the Deen.”
5. “Renouncing the world ensures safe Imaan, a healthy body, and a happy heart.”
6. “A Sufi is like earth, bearing all; like a pasture, blooming despite filth.”
7. “Do not follow one who follows Quran but abandons the Prophet’s (PBUH) Sunnah.”

Chapter 8

Interaction with Contemporaries

Junaid served Hazrat Sirri al-Saqati (R.A.), his uncle and Peer, who praised his superior rank. He guided Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli (R.A.) and others, shaping the Junaidi silsila. His encounter with a Sayyid from Jilan and a barber in Makkah, who served him for Allah's sake, reinforced his teachings on selflessness. Despite opposition, the Prophet (PBUH) endorsed him in dreams.

Chapter 9

Legacy and Influence

Junaid's Junaidi silsila influenced all major Sufi orders, earning him the title Sayyid-ut-Taa'ifa. His khulafa, including Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli (R.A.), spread his teachings. His emphasis on Shariah alongside tasawwuf set a standard for Sufism. His mazaar in Shaunizia, Baghdad, remains a spiritual haven, where even Hazrat Shibli felt his presence.

Chapter 10

Passing and Mausoleum

Hazrat Junaid passed away on 27 Rajab 298 A.H. (910 C.E.) in Baghdad. During his final moments, he insisted on proper wudhu, reminded disciples to make khilaal, and wept in sajdah, citing his dire need for Allah's mercy. Reciting 70 verses of Surah Baqarah and tasbeeh, he passed saying "Bismillah." An unseen voice forbade touching his eyes and fingers, closed in Allah's remembrance. His mazaar in Shaunizia, Baghdad, is revered.

Bibliography

1. Tazkira-e-Aulia, Pages 5–14, by Traditional Sources.
2. Masaalikus Saalikeen, Vol. 1, Page 308.
3. Kashful Mahjoob, Pages 119, 201, by Ali Hujwiri.
4. Tazkiratul Awliya, Page 233, by Farid ad-Din Attar.
5. Shajratul Kaamileen, Pages 153–154.
6. Khazinatul Asfiyah, Vol. 1, Page 86.

Closing Prayer

May Allah, through the blessings of His Beloved Prophet (PBUH), Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi, the Sahaba, Ahl al-Bayt, and all Awliya Allah, grant us complete love for the Prophet, protect our faith, inspire righteous deeds, and fulfill our noble desires in this world and the hereafter. Ameen.