



**M.T.O. Sufi Association
 Newsletter**

*In annihilation I found the path's repair
 Until of heart I emerged aware
 Words became meagre and rare
 Upon me dawned revelation's air*

*The "I", freedom from self did proclaim
 The soul, the body's bonds did disclaim
 The mount of love illumined became
 My Joseph, the well's depths overcame*

*With each breath seek the friend
 On annihilation does eternal life depend
 Within, seek God to comprehend
 The mystery of "breath" apprehend*

*From the "self" do refrain
 Annihilate the "none", in the "Only" sustain
 Like the mount of Angha, your heart maintain
 O, pauper seek the king's domain*

-Professor Sadegh Angha



**Discovery of
 Truth**

By Professor Nader Angha²

The word *irfan* means gnosis. This concept has been used in the mathematical, biological, and physical sciences, indicating in-depth research into the reality of each subject. For instance, when the phrase "mathematical gnosis" is used, it means that the researcher has stepped beyond the ordinary boundaries of mathematics and is seeking to find the

reality of it. But the definition of gnosis particularly refers to religious gnosis. The *arif* (Sufi) is he who has attained knowledge of the reality of religion. If the purpose of scientific work is to reveal the truth that is hidden and illuminate the meaning of life, we can logically conclude that science and *irfan* (Sufism) are the same.

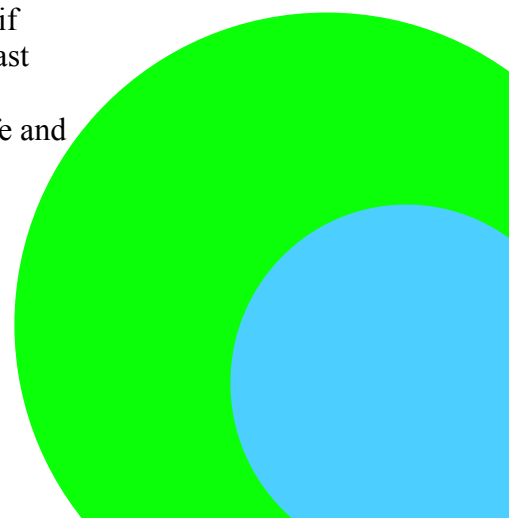
It is apparent that if someone does a vast amount of work researching the life and

accomplishments of a mathematician, even if his research is entirely accurate, detailed, and as close to reality as possible, no one would call the researcher a mathematician. It is of utmost importance that we realise that the same is true in the metaphysical sciences.

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Coping with Failure

Defeat can be one of the most difficult experiences that we as human beings have to go through in our lives. To try the hardest we can, to put in all the efforts that we possibly can muster up, to put our blood sweat and tears into something and then have it fail is a crushing experience.

One is often left feeling empty, hopeless and alone in their struggle. However, what is disguised as one of the terrors of our thoughts could very well be reversed to a life changing revelation.

If you truly accept defeat, then you will learn how to never let it happen again. If you truly fail, you will learn how to truly succeed, and that knowledge alone is priceless. So, do not let your failures go by as a sign of your weakness, let it be seen that because of your failures you are now stronger and wiser than ever.

Discovery of Truth

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As inept and facetious as it seems, if we observe our own attitude and behaviour toward metaphysical subjects, it becomes apparent that this is exactly the behaviour we engage in. People may pretend to know about existence, gnosis, and the meaning of life, but their lifestyles indicate they are far from cognition. The only thing they recognise as the state of "enlightenment" is their philosophical arguments and undefined vocabulary. "Knowledge based on Physical observation is the greatest veil in the discovery of truth."³

The basis and source of science is the inquiring soul, the creative "self" that breaks through the mind's limitations and steps beyond the social and cultural norms in order to discover the unknown. Sufism is the cognition of this inquisitive soul and creative self. Sufism is the essence of religion and the reality of the teachings of the Prophets. It is not based on interpretations nor blind faith. The true meaning of science is the discovery of truth and the genuine application of all the creative forces within the human being, above and beyond what is interpreted by others.

A Secret

*A secret I will reveal openly to you
Pay heed as you comprehend it
Then, your heart will find peace*

*In the state of awe, attributes and Essence
are one and the same*

*Go seek this state of awe,
for 'tis awe that seeks the Essence
Though your awe is in you alone*

*Should God's self-emanating Essence engulf you
Then your awe will intensify the heart's luminosity
Tremendous perfection is the light of soul*

*For this reason the Master Gnostic, Rumi
In his magnificent book, the Mathnawi, thus stated
In simple words*

*"Sell cleverness and buy awe
Cleverness is doubt and awe insight"³
Tear the veils [that cover the Truth]*

*Disputes and inquiries of the limited senses
Hinder your steps toward your goal
Your desires are mere illusions before you*

*On the path to God,
awe does relinquish all appearances
It thus negates this world's "reality"
'Tis obliteration of all fantasies and of every desire
Fear and apprehension on this path, negate oneness
and drive you to polytheism
Thus distancing you away from cognitive certitude
They possess not stability*

-Professor Sadegh Anghā