

## Halqa Meeting of March 29, 2015

Abdul Hayy: God says, “We will show them Our signs on the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that He is the Real.” From this we can understand that we should be watching for God’s signs, in both the world outside of us, and within our thoughts, emotions, and our visions of the imagination. Of Himself, God says that He is the Apparent (Outer) and the Hidden (Inner) reality of things. So it is really God who knows and experiences all things, including what occurs in ourselves, even if people are generally unaware of this fact. We should keep this in mind when considering our dreams.

A dream: I am in a crowded house full of confusion and a northern Afghan with a simple heart approaches me. He explains that he finds most of the people in the house difficult to understand, and that he is appalled by some of their peculiar behavior. He tells me he’s found a way out of the house so I follow him to a corner where there is a door. When he opens it, I see an ocean just outside. As I enter the ocean and I realize that it is luminous and full of small amorphous beings, mostly blue, which are covered in shifting geometric designs. There are so many of them that I wonder if I will be able to continue swimming. As I easily swim through them, I go farther out where I discover a zone full of small bats. They are just like the bats of the land but jet black. They are swimming by the millions through the water. I thank God for showing me this astonishing discovery. As I swim farther out, I observe that some of the bats are sick and dying. Some are sinking, and as I look into the depths of the ocean and see tall cluttered shapes that are spinning on the ocean bottom. As I get closer I realize that they are decaying human beings spinning around and around with many creatures and objects orbiting them. These attachments are connected in some unseen manner to the corpses and swirling around with them. I am saddened by this, so I make my way back to the luminous ocean.

When I awake, I relive the dream for a few minutes without trying to interpret it. A bit later I begin to think about its meaning. Some time later, I open the Masnawi at random and land upon this passage:

Masnawi Book III, starting at verse 1292.

**I won’t tell you because you’re still not ripe;  
You live in springtime and haven’t seen summer.**

**O noble friends, this world is like a tree;  
We hang from it like half-ripe fruit.**

**The unripe fruit hold tightly to the branches;  
They're unfit for the palace because of unripeness.**

**Once tart and sweet, and biting lips,  
they ease their hold on the branches.**

**When the mouth grows sweet from such wealth  
this world's wealth seems cold to a person.**

**Being unripe is the clinging and the rigid stance;  
While you're a fetus, there's only drinking blood.**

**There remains something else, but telling it  
to you is by the Holy Spirit without me.**

**No, you shall speak it to your own ear,  
not me, not other than me, you who are also me.**

**Just like when you go into sleep,  
and you yourself face yourself.**

**You hear yourself and imagine someone else  
telling you secrets in your dreaming sleep.**

**You are not one you, O good companion;  
No, you are the sky and the deep ocean.**

**The vastest you is nine-hundred folds you;  
It's an ocean drowning a hundred of you.**

**Why limit it by talk of waking and sleeping?  
Don't breath such words for God knows best.**

**Don't breathe words, hear the word-breathers say  
that which is beyond speech and explanation.**

**Don't breathe words, hear from the Sun  
what's not found in books nor discourse.**