Mawlana Rumi and Mwlawiyyah Order Ahmad Shah Durrani

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Abstract:

The paper discusses the past and present of Mawlawiyya Order of Sufism which is named after Mawlana Jalaluddin Rumi, one of the most famous Sufi masters and celebrated poet. Mawlana Rumi (born 1207) was not the head of an order during his lifetime but the Order was gradually organized by his immediate successors, especially his son, Sultan Walad and his friend and disciple Celebi HussamudDin. Based on Rumi's message of love as being the motive force of the universe, the Order soon spread throughout the Ottoman territory. Although Sufi Orders are legally banned in modern Turkey, Mawlawiyya is considered one of the largest Sufi Orders in the country. The paper also explores Rumi's message of love and brotherhood and discusses the tradition of Mawlawi Sama (Whirling Dance) which has become popular in many Western countries. Each year, different groups from Turkey perform the Sama ceremony in some of the most famous cultural venues abroad. Rumi's family is still holding the seat of leadership of the Mawlawiyya Order. A number of individuals and groups seek direct guidance from the descendants of Mawlana. While discussing the current situation of Mawlawiyya Order, the paper also discusses the origin and ban on Sufism in Turkey.

Key words: Mawlawiyya, Mawlana Rumi, Ottoman territory, Sufism, Turkey.