

**Sufism has its own structure of mystical Transformation**

**The role of the Murshid or teacher is more important than a spiritual director**

- **The teacher mediates spiritual realization**
- **Embodies it/ manifests it**
- **The disciple loves the teacher**
- **Suffers difficulties and enjoys comfort**
- **This love opens up into Divine love**
- **God's gift and the grace of a Murshid to constellate it.**
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**Some similar Stages of Spiritual Development**

- **Refinement of the ego and purification of the heart (involves self denial, retreats, meditation, fasting) Repentance**
- **Recollection/Remembrance (Dhikr) chanting Wazifas a to unity of God and overcome illusion**
- **Silent Contemplation "Mushada"**
- **"Sama" Dancing and singing a trance "Wajd"**
- **When controlled a "tasting" immediate reality of God**
- **Removal of the veil of illusions (wahm) opens to a vision of the heart**
- **Direct spiritual intuition "ru'yat al-qualb"**

**Hafiz' Poetry**

- **Opens the reader to the quality of consciousness that is the mystical state.**
- **Its wide range of potential meanings allows it to be read within its own "code" as well as within another mystical system.**
- **The poetry invites all the basic attitudes of love mysticism—joy in the presence of the beloved, willingness to suffer absence and purification, surrender, gratitude, transformation, etc.**
- **It may awaken the reader to new levels of mystical consciousness through which the Beloved reveals God's self.**



**Come Dance With Me  
Johna Peterson**

**I wish I could speak like music  
Sing swaying fields into words  
Hold Truth against your body and dance.**

**Ref.  
Come Dance with me  
Come Dance with me  
Come Dance with me...into the light**

**I wish I could speak like music  
And cover you with light  
I wish I could speak divine music  
Of those sublime rhythms of Life.  
I wish I could speak divine music  
Like limbs of earth and sky  
I wish I could speak divine music  
Their sweet surrender and bend.**

**I wish I could speak like music  
'gainst God's luminous breath  
I wish I could speak divine music  
'gainst your precious body and dance.**

**Poetry Source, Hafiz, 305**