

Knowing Oneself · Hapeesee Salae

Knowing *Oneself*

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In Sufi thought, "knowing oneself" refers to recognising one's own existence and understanding the self (nafs) in order to turn toward ultimate truth. The figures gathered around the composition represent the diversity of human experience in the external world, while the black field at the centre symbolises the inward journey of the individual. The single golden point at its centre represents the inner self and the divine truth concealed within this multitude.

In this sense, drawing upon the Sufi understanding that "Whoever knows himself knows his Lord," the work emphasises that truth is not to be sought solely in the external world, but within the inner realm of the human being. **The golden point within the darkness symbolises the spiritual journey from the darkness of the nafs toward the light of truth.**



Another work by the artist

> *"Whoever knows himself knows his Lord.*
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> A SAYING CENTRAL TO SUFI THOUGHT
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> Truth is not to be sought solely in the external world, but within the inner realm of the human being.