

## Fana

### General

"Fanaa (Arabic: فناء *fanā'*) in Sufism is the "passing away" or "annihilation" (of the [self](#)).<sup>[1]</sup> Fana means "to die before one dies", a concept highlighted by famous notable Muslim saints such as [Rumi](#) and later by [Sultan Bahoo](#).<sup>[2]</sup> Fana represents a breaking down of the individual ego and a recognition of the fundamental unity of God, creation, and the individual self.<sup>[1]</sup> Persons having entered this enlightened state obtain awareness of the intrinsic unity ([Tawhid](#)) between [Allah](#) and all that exists, including the individual's mind. It is coupled conceptually with [baqaa](#), subsistence, which is the state of pure consciousness of and abidance in God.<sup>[3]</sup>" (Source [Wikipedia](#))

## Stages of Fana

"This explains that there are in fact three basic stages of Fana. <sup>[4]</sup>

### Fana fi Shaikh

This is the first level of Fana where the seeker annihilates in the being of his [Murshid](#). This is only possible through Ishq-e-Murshid.

**by an aid authority** a trusted Murshid / Spiritual Guid, **the heart will be tied to HIS magnificence on a path of truth** By taking (Bayyah) or pledging allegiance one becomes tied to the rope of spirituality that will show you the path. **Allowing the inner journey to begin and witnessing the ocean of knowledge**, the knowledge that you start acquiring is that of inner spirituality and the outer existence is mirrored from what you have perceived. **through the trusted representative that the heart's light has identified through HIS grace.** a true spiritual guide that one's heart desires to be in the company of, as the heart has yearning for. the Murshid has touched your heart and started purifying it bringing light into the heart and allowing your soul to traverse.

The love and respect for the Murshid here becomes a state of Fana, Your actions, Your Seeing, your Speaking are not your owns but that of your Peer / Murshid.

### Fana fi Rasool

This is the second level of Fana where the seeker annihilates in the being of [Rasool](#). This is only possible through Ishq-e-Rasool.

### Fana Fillah

This is the third and final stage of Fana where the seeker annihilates in the essence of Allah attained only through [Ishq-e-Haqeeqi](#). "  
(Source [Wikipedia](#))

## References

1. Harmless, William. *Mystics*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008
2. *Sulṭān Bāhū* (1998). *Death Before Dying: The Sufi Poems of Sultan Bahu*. University of California Press. ISBN978-0-520-92046-0.
3. "[Fana in Sufism](#)". *Britannica*.
4. Hazrat Sakhi Sultan, Mohammad Najib-ur-Rehman. *Stages of Annihilation*. Sultan-ul-Faqr Publications Regd. p. 288. ISBN 9789699795183.