

Bismillaahi wal hamdulillaahi wassalaatu wassalaamu 'alaa rasoolillaahi.

Often we seek Allaah's help through Du'aa, but it does not seem to help. We keep calling upon Him, but it appears that He does not care. It concerns us very much and raises quite a lot of anxiety and frustration, especially when we are desperate, when we need help badly, and when we are in need of His help the most. Why does that happen when Allaah has told us clearly: Call upon me, I will respond you. Ghaafir 40:60

This is Allaah's promise to His slaves and Allaah is always true to His promises. However, if we feel that in our case, it is not happening, it might be for one or more of the following reasons:

1. As a general rule, Allaah SWT does not help unless the person who is seeking help does his best according to his power, resources and circumstances for the matter He is praying for. If the person sincerely tries his best by doing whatever is possible for him to do, then Allaah SWT listens to his Du'aa and takes care of all those factors that are beyond that person's power, control, resources or influence. As a result, the objective is achieved. However, without a commensurate effort, mere Du'aa is disregarded. The only exception to this rule is the case of a person who has dedicated his life in the service of Allaah's Deen, Muslim Ummah and Jihaad. Allaah SWT will help him in his personal affairs, even if some efforts in his personal affairs are lacking because of his dedication to Islamic work (Jihaad). In fact, depending on the level of sincerity, devotion and quality of Jihaad, Allaah may choose to fulfill his personal needs even without his asking.

2. A Du'aa may not be accepted by Allaah because the person requesting Allaah's help is feeding and clothing himself with the resources earned by Haraam means. Similarly, a Du'aa will not be accepted if what is being asked for is something un-Islamic, bad or causes un-Islamic or undesirable results.

3. If a person does not indulge in Haraam, is not asking Allaah for something bad and puts a genuine effort towards his goal, his Du'aa will certainly be accepted. The acceptance may however, take any of the following forms:

1. Allaah SWT grants what is asked;
2. Allaah SWT removes some problem that the requester did not know about, or grants something that is better for the requester than what is asked;
3. What is asked for does not fit in Allaah's scheme of things so He deposits the reward for making Du'aa in the requester's account to benefit him on the Day of Judgement.

Naturally, the requesting person does not know what has happened when the acceptance is in the form b or c. In such situations, some people may become dejected or impatient and may quit making Du'aa. That indeed is a losing proposition.

Wise people know that a sincere Du'aa never goes in vain, so they always continue to make Du'aa even if it seems that it is not benefiting. Earnestly calling upon Allaah SWT through Du'aa is always a winning strategy. It is an excellent form of worship that is loved by Allaah SWT from

Some Points to Remember about Acceptance of Du'aa's

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His slaves. In fact, Du'aa represents the essence of worship. When we raise our hands or fall in Sajdah to pray to Allaah SWT, we display our humbleness in front of Him, recognize our helplessness in the matters that are not in our control and acknowledge that only He has the full power and authority to make things happen. This brings Allaah's power into our plans and projects. We put our best efforts and He ensures that they bear fruit.

Thus, we must call upon Allaah's help repeatedly and frequently through earnest Du'aa, without ever giving up, for all our needs and plans while doing our utmost to fulfill those needs and execute those plans. This what Allaah expects from sincere Muslims and this is what He loves.