

*Akhi, the beggar sage, sits at the city gates, instructing all in the dance of life.*

# Ask Akhi...



Dear Akhi,

Yesterday, looking at checks I had written on the computer, I saw that I made a donation of \$1500 to an organization to help animals. I had intended to send them just \$15.00! What should I do? (I wouldn't feel so badly if I'd given it to people!)

Perplexedly,  
Ooooh \$ooo Embarrassed!

Dear Oh So Eç'd,

On behalf of all of my four-legged friends, I thank Allah for your generosity, or your oversight, whichever the case may be. Your heart was very big to consider the needs of our animal neighbors to begin with. If only more people would appreciate what we have in common with all living, and inanimate beings.

I have two comments for you and your embarrassment.

One comes from a local businesswoman who pointed out to me that the period after the number 5 on your note of exchange is most important. It holds everything in place. Sometimes, it is the punctuation that makes the difference! In your case, the lack of punctuation makes you more generous.

Secondly, Akhi believes that contributions to animals will be a blessing for people too! Indeed, they fertilize our crops, bear our goods to market, and sometimes surrender themselves for our table. More than once Akhi's heart has filled with gladness because one or the other animal has reminded me of the goodness of Allah.

Mind your punctuation, but give thanks for all things.

Much peace,  
Akhi

*Feel free to send your letters to the sage from Damascus c/o the Beacon Street office*

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## Beacon Bits

From the returns for the Spring 2002 appeal, winners of T-shirts or Barb Ballenger recordings were:

Sr. Mary Alyce Koval, Principal at St. Charles School in Boardman OH, and Mary and Doug Powell of Shaker Heights

Yes, Beacon Street T-shirts are still available. We have adult S, M, L, and XL. \$10 is the reduced summer special price with \$2 total shipping for your order. Such a deal! It is brightly four-colored on a heavyweight 50/50 cotton/poly blend. A great gift idea!