

A'udhubillah...rajeem

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا
الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

اللَّهُمَّ كُنْ لَوْلِيِّكَ الْحُجَّةِ بْنِ الْحَسَنِ
صَلَوَاتِكَ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آبَائِهِ - فِي هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ وَ فِي كُلِّ سَاعَةٍ
وَلِيًّا وَ حَافِظًا وَقَائِدًا - وَ نَاصِرًا وَ دَلِيلًا وَعَيْنًا
حَتَّى تُسَكِّنَهُ أَرْضَكَ طَوْعًا - وَ تُمَتِّعَهُ فِيهَا طَوِيلًا.

O Allah, send blessings on Mohammad and his Ahlul Bayt

O Allah, become, now and always, the Guardian, Shield, and Leader; Helper, Guide, and Protector; of Your wali (representative), Al-Hujjat-ibn-Al-Hasan (Your blessings be on him and his forefathers) so that he may become firmly established on Your earth, and govern for a long time.

Salawaat!

Our Holy Prophet (SAW) said:

حُسَيْنٌ مِنِّي وَ أَنَا مِنَ الْحُسَيْنِ

“Husain is from me, and I am from Husain”

In other words, Imam Husain (AS) is Rasool-Allah's flesh and blood, and the message of Rasool-Allah (SAW), the existence of Islam is ONLY due to Imam Husain (AS).

The goal of this year's series of speeches by the students of ALI School is Husain Shanaasi, that is to enhance our understanding of Imam Husain (AS) under the guidance of this Hadees of Rasool-Allah (SAW).

These speeches are available on the ALI School website.

Moharram 4: Imam Husain (as) During the 3 Khalifs

Ali Naqvi



The Prophet of Islam (pbh) passed away in the 11th year of Hijra. Imam Husayn was only seven years old at that time. Abu Bakr became the first Khaleefa after Prophet Muhammad (pbh). On Umar bin Khattab's advice, Abu Bakr collected an armed party and surrounded the house of Fatima Zahra where most of the men of Bani Hashim were gathered.

Ali asked as to why they had gathered. They said that he (Ali) should do Abu Bakr's ba'yat like everybody else.

Ali asked: 'And if I did not?'

Umar said: "You will be beheaded, if you didn't"

Ali said: "Will you kill someone who is Abdullah (a worshipper of Allah) and Akhu-Rasool Allah (brother of the prophet of Allah)?"

Umar said: "Yes, you are Abadullah, that we accept, but we don't accept you as a brother of the Prophet." The situation grew uglier. However, Fatima Zahra came to the door and protested. Umar threatened to burn the house down. He broke the door, Bibi Fatima was crushed between the door and the wall.

Rasoolullah had given to his daughter Fatima Zahra a property called Fadak. Fadak was a village located at a two-day walking distance from Medina. Apparently, it was inhabited by Jews who refused to submit to Islam at the beginning, but when they later realized the might of the Muslims, especially after they, led by Ali Ibn Abu Talib conquered Khaibar, the Jews decided to yield to the Messenger of Allah without fighting. So he took possession of the village and as per Allah's command Rasoolullah gave it to Bibi Fatima. After Rasoolullah's demise Abu Bakr took away Fadak by force and refused to give to Bibi Fatima and narrated a false tradition that prophets do not leave anything for their kiths and kin. Abu Bakr lived for only two and half years as Khaleefa. He nominated Umar Ibn Khatab as his successor on his death-bed. Imam Husayn (A.S) was now ten years old.

Umar appointed the elder son of Abu Sufyan, Yazid, as the governor of Syria. Yazid did not live very long and soon after his death the Khaleefa appointed his younger brother Mu'awiyah to that same post. Mu'awiyah turned out to be a shrewd politician who would use any means to get what he wanted. He used terror to subdue those who were

foolhardy enough to raise a voice of dissent and money to buy those off who were greedy. Imam Husayn attained manhood during Umar's reign. Umar remained as Khaleefa for ten years. When Umar visited Damascus, he saw all this. But he also saw that Mu'awiyah had become so strong militarily as well politically that if he was checked now, he would revolt.

After Umar's assassination, Uthman Ibn Afan, a prominent member of the clan of Banu Umayya, became Khaleefa. Uthman himself had no scruples when it came to favours for his relatives. He misused the treasury. He had two prominent companions of the Prophet beaten up when they questioned him. This was sufficient evidence for Mu'awiyah to pursue his own ambitious plans, which he did. While Mu'awiyah was busy paving the way for his own son Yazeed's succession to the throne of Damascus, the excesses by Uthman reached to such an extent that people from the provinces gathered in Madinah. First, as delegations with genuine complaints, they turned into lynching mobs which eventually killed Uthman and then forced Ali to accept the position of Khaleefa. Imam Husayn was now thirty-two years old.

Ali ibn Abi Talib was a man of a different temperament and principles. He was the closest to the Prophet and his teachings. He immediately put radical reforms in action; he removed all those governors in the provinces who were appointed by Uthman and were reported to have oppressed the people unjustly and plundering the treasury. This, obviously, hurt the Banu Umayya in general because, Uthman had distributed these lucrative positions to his clansmen. Mu'awiyah refused to give up his post and accept Imam Ali as Khaleefa. There was a battle at the banks of the river Furat in Iraq, which ended in utter confusion and without result, mainly because of the lack of wit among the people who were representing Imam Ali during negotiations. Imam Ali was assassinated during prayers in the mosque of Kufa in Iraq in the 40th year of Hijra. Muawiyah was now free to do anything he wanted. Imam Ali's followers in Kufa elected Imam Hasan to become the Khaleefa. Muawiyah sent army to attack the innocent people living under the rule of Imam Hasan (A.S). Imam Hasan gathered people to fight with the enemy, but the army generals were bribed by Muawiyah and joined the enemy camp. Imam Hasan saw the dwindling support in his camp and decided that it was futile to fight Muawiyah. He was more concerned about safety and security of the remaining few of his followers.

The army led by Imam Hasan [a] became the prey of disorder. Spies, agents and the bearers of disrupting news found their way into it. Imam Hasan [a] was on the brink of being forced to surrender to his enemy! The ummah, which he was planning a bright and successful

future for, and leading its march into history, diverted its course to the advantage of his foe! That was the result of the rumors and luring promises. Imam Hasan accepted to hand over the power to Muawiya under some conditions, and one of the conditions was that he should not appoint any one as his successor, but return it to Imam Hasan Or Imam Hussain. Muawiya poisoned Imam Hasan and appointed his son Yazeed as his successor.

Today is the 4th night of Moharram.

Our majlis continues. We will recite nawhas to mourn the great loss in Karbala. Our eyes will shed more tears and our matam will increase.

Let us focus our minds on Husayn in Karbala. On 9th Moharram, Yazid's commanders decide to fight Husayn and his men. They blow the trumpets to start the battle. Husayn was not ready to fight. He called his brother, Abbas, the commander of his small army. "Abbas! Go to the commanders of Yazid's army and ask them to give us one more night. We will be ready tomorrow." Abbas went with Husayn's request. It was granted. Why did Husayn ask for one more night? No Husayn was waiting for a special guest – HUR!

But who was Hur? Hur was a captain of Yazid's army. He was the captain who stopped Husayn from going to Kufa. He, with his 1,000 men, forced Husayn to come to Karbala.

The events in Karbala teach us many lessons.

We should think of Hur all the time during our life. Hur had a choice between Heaven and Hell. It is never too late to ask for forgiveness. Hur chose Heaven. He chose happiness in the world hereafter. In our lifetime, there are many times when we have to make a choice between good and bad, between Halal and Haram, between right and wrong, between Hell and Heaven.

The 10th of Moharram came!

"AL-ATASH! AL-ATASH! AL-ATASH!", echoed through Hur's ears.

Hur could not take it anymore. He called his son and said:

"My son, I have made a terrible mistake. I have brought such a honest and truthful man here to be killed. Please, my son, quickly take me to Imam Husayn. I want to beg him to forgive me before it is too late. I am ashamed of myself. Hur and his son mounted their horses and headed towards Husayn's camp. "Welcome, Hur, welcome. I have been waiting for you." Hur threw himself at Husayn's feet. "My master, please forgive me. Please forgive me. I am

extremely sorry for what I have done. I am ashamed of myself." Imam Husayn took Hur in his arms and said:

"Hur, my friend, I forgive you. I assure you that my grandfather, my father and my mother have also forgiven you. Come with me, Hur." It was Fajr time. Ali Akber gave Adhan. They all prayed the Fajr Namaaz. Soon after that, Yazid's soldiers blew the trumpets to start the battle.

Hur asked Imam Husayn for permission to go and fight the enemies of Islam.

"Hur, you are my guest. You have only been with me for a short time. I have not been able to look after you properly. I have neither fed you nor have I been able to give you water. At least spend some time with me. No, Hur, no. I cannot let you die! You are my guest."

Hur did not give up. He kept insisting on being the first to go to battle.

Imam Husayn then thought that, the longer Hur stayed with him, the more he would suffer from thirst and hunger.

Imam Husayn gave permission to Hur. Hur went to the battlefield.

He was a strong and brave man. He fought the battle gallantly and killed many of Yazid's men. Eventually, Hur came off his horse. Severely wounded, he called for Husayn.

"Master, Master! Come quickly. Let me see you for the last time." Imam Husayn placed Hur's head on his lap.

"KHUDA HAFIZ, HUR. My grandfather is waiting for you. My father and mother are waiting for you. We will be joining you soon in Heaven. Khuda Hafiz, Hur"

Imam Husayn, with tears in his eyes, prayed to Allah:

"YA, ALLAH! Please forgive Hur and grant him a place in Heaven."

Hur died on Imam Husayn's lap and Abbas and Ali Akber helped Imam carry Hur's body to the tent.

INNA LILLAHE WA INNA ELAIHI RAJEOON!