



ALI 201:
Introduction to
sahifa sajjadiyya

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Holy Qur'an praises the learned

- يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا قِيلَ لَكُمْ تَفَسَّحُوا فِي الْمَجَالِسِ فَافْسَحُوا
يَفْسَحِ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ ۗ وَإِذَا قِيلَ انشُرُوا فَانشُرُوا يَرْفَعِ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا
مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ ۗ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ
- 58:11 O believers, if you are told to make room (for one another) in your assemblies, then do so, and Allah will make room for you, and if you are told to rise up, do so; Allah will raise up, by many degrees, those of you who believe and those who have been given knowledge. Allah is fully aware of what you do.

Hadith on seeking knowledge

- Text: رسول الله (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ): طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ... بِهِ يُطَاعُ الرَّبُّ وَيُعْبَدُ ، وَبِهِ تُوَصَّلُ الْأَرْحَامُ ، وَيُعْرَفُ الْحَلَالُ مِنَ الْحَرَامِ ، الْعِلْمُ إِمَامُ الْعَمَلِ وَالْعَمَلُ تَابِعُهُ ، يُلْهَمُ بِهِ السُّعْدَاءُ ، وَيُحْرَمُهُ الْأَشْرَارُ
- Seeking of knowledge is incumbent upon every Muslim... thru it the Lord is obeyed and worshipped, blood relations are maintained, and the lawful is distinguished from the prohibited. Knowledge leads to action and action follows it. The fortunate ones are inspired by it whereas the wretched ones are deprived of it (S of W, Hadith No. 4442, page 771)

Why should we study *Sahifa*?

- Spiritual upliftment/enhancing
- Need to invoke it regularly for our needs
- It has a remedy to our big challenges
- Profound explanation to Qur'anic concepts
- Helps getting closer to our Creator
- Consists of the art of addressing the Divine
- Takes the humanity to sublimity
- Use it as a spiritual & ethical mirror

From the Intro to *Sahifa*

- The title *Al-Sahifat al-Kamilat al-Sajjadiyya* refers to 'The "Perfect", or "Complete", Book of al-Sajjad'. Its commentator S. A. Shirazi, the word *kamila* refers to the perfection of the style and content
- The Imam taught it to two of his sons to ensure: it reaches its followers & posterity
- Experts maintain that the text is mutawatir
- Contains 54 main + 7 extra + 15 munajat + 7 days

Du'aa No. in the *Sahifa*

- It is one of the shortest supplications
- Long title: **وَ كَانَ مِنْ دُعَائِهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فِي الْإِسْتِعَاذَةِ مِنَ الْمَكَارِهِ وَ سَيِّئِ الْأَخْلَاقِ وَ مَذَامِّ الْأَفْعَالِ**
- Du'aa “In seeking Refuge from Hateful things, Bad Moral Qualities, and Blameworthy Acts.”
- Seeking refuge & protection with Allah from...
- The root *'aadha* in diff forms used 17 x in HQ
- Human being is capable of having/displaying these characteristics

Du'aa 8: section 1

- اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ هَيْجَانِ الْحَرْصِ ، وَ سَوْرَةِ الْغَضَبِ ، وَ غَلْبَةِ الْحُسَدِ ، وَ ضَعْفِ الصَّبْرِ ، وَ قِلَّةِ الْقَنَاعَةِ ، وَ شَكَاةِ الْخُلُقِ ، وَ إِحْسَاحِ الشَّهْوَةِ ، وَ مَلَكَةِ الْحُمِيَّةِ
- O God, I seek refuge in You:
 - from the agitation of craving,
 - the violence of wrath,
 - the domination of envy,
 - the frailty of patience,
 - the lack of contentment,
 - surliness of character,
 - urgency of passion,
 - the disposition to vehemence

Du'aa 8: passage 2

- وَ مُتَابِعَةِ الْهَوَى ، وَ مُخَالَفَةِ الْهُدَى ، وَ سِنَةِ الْعَفْلَةِ ، وَ تَعَاطِي الْكُلْفَةِ ، وَ إِثَارِ الْبَاطِلِ عَلَى الْحَقِّ ، وَ الْإِصْرَارِ عَلَى الْمَأْثِمِ ، وَ اسْتِصْغَارِ الْمَعْصِيَةِ ، وَ اسْتِكْبَارِ الطَّاعَةِ
- [O Allah, I seek refuge in You from]: following of caprice, opposing guidance, the sleep of heedlessness, undertaking the toilsome, preferring falsehood over truth, persisting in sin, making little of disobedience, making much of obedience

Du'aa 8: passages 3 & 4

- وَمُبَاهَاةِ الْمُكْثَرِينَ ، وَ الْإِزْرَاءِ بِالْمُقَلِّينَ ، وَ سُوءِ الْوِلَايَةِ لِمَنْ تَحْتَ أَيْدِينَا ،
وَ تَرْكِ الشُّكْرِ لِمَنْ اصْطَنَعَ الْعَارِفَةَ عِنْدَنَا أَوْ أَنْ نَعُضِدَ ظَالِمًا ، أَوْ نَخْذُلَ
مَلْهُوفًا ، أَوْ نَرُومَ مَا لَيْسَ لَنَا بِحَقٍّ ، أَوْ نَقُولَ فِي الْعِلْمِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ
- [O Allah, I seek refuge in You from]: vying with the wealthy, disparaging the poor, guarding badly over those in our hands, failing to thank those who have done good to us, aiding a wrongdoer, abandoning someone troubled, wanting what is not rightfully ours, and speaking about knowledge without knowing

Preparing for the next class

- Read & reflect passages 5 -10 of Du'aa 8
- Share experience how overcome bad traits
- You may do presentation or prepare your comments on these passages to benefit all
- Read the article by Ahmed H Sheriff
- Read Du'aa 54 for classroom discussion
- Choose a passage that you would like it to be covered in the course