

ALI 326: AN INTRODUCTION TO ZIYARAT JAMIAH AL-KABIRA

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WHAT IS ZIYARAT?

- The word زيارة means to visit.
- Ziyarat is the visitation of the Awliya of Allah (swt)
- “The one who visits me after I die, I will visit him in the grave...”



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ZIYARAT?

1. Contacting the Imam/ Seeking their Intercession

- وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ رَّسُولٍ إِلَّا لِيُطَاعَ بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ وَلَوْ أَنَّهُمْ إِذْ ظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ جَاءُوكَ فَاسْتَغْفَرُوا اللَّهَ وَاسْتَغْفَرَ لَهُمُ الرَّسُولُ لَوَجَدُوا اللَّهَ تَوَّابًا رَحِيمًا
- And We did not send any apostle but that he should be obeyed by Allah's permission; and had they, when they were unjust to themselves, come to you and asked forgiveness of Allah and the Apostle had (also) asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah Oft-returning (to mercy), Merciful. (4:64)

2. A Means to Honor the Imam

- The Ahlul Bayt are individuals whose obedience is mandatory; مفترض الطاعة

3. Renewing Our Pledge of Loyalty

- We state in one of the Ziyarat of Imam Hussain; لبيك يا داعي الله
- Tawalla/ Tabarra a

4. A Way of Expressing Our Identity

- (Example: Ziyarat Arbaeen)

ZIYARAT JAMIAH AL-KABIRA

- Narrated by Imam Ali al-Hadi (as) to Musa bin Imran al-Nakhai
- Can be recited to visit the Prophet or any of the Imams (as)
- Demonstrates the role of the Imam and formulates the position of Imamate in Islamic theology



ZIYARAT JAMIAH AL-KABIRA (II)

- Scholars say it has reached a level of authenticity like Nahjul Balagha and Sahifa Sajjadiya.
- Narrated by Sheikh al-Saduq in **من لا يحضره الفقيه**
- Sheikh Tusi also narrates it in his works.
- Allamah Majlisi says its "the best Ziyarat" in Bihar.
- Muhammad Taqi al-Majlisi says, "I could not visit the Imams except by this Ziyarat."

ZIYARAT JAMIAH AL-KABIRA (III)

- Musa bin Imran says, "I said to [Imam al-Hadi]; teach me the true words of the Prophet that I should recite when visiting anyone of you."
- The Imam responds, "If you have reached the door, then stand, recite the shahadatayn and be in the state of purity, and if you enter and see the grave, then say, 'Allahu Akbar' 30 times, then walk a little, with contentment of the heart and the body, and take smaller steps, and recite 'Allahu Akbar' 30 times, then get closer to the grave, then recite 'Allahu Akbar' 40 times, (completing 100), and say: [the Ziyarat]..."

ZIYARAT JAMIAH AL-KABIRA (III)

- السلام عليكم يا أهل بيت النبوة و موضع الرسالة
 - Peace be upon you oh family of the Prophet and site of the message
- و مختلف الملائكة و مهبط الوحي و معدن الرحمة
 - And [where] different Angels are present, and upon where the revelation has descended, and on the center of mercy...
- و خزان العلم
 - And the reservoir of knowledge

THE SALUTATION

- We begin the salutations with السلام عليكم
 - السلام - peace
 - السلام هو التسليم - submission
- Reciting the salutation with تسليم is معرفة to the Imam.
- ultimate declaration of بابي أنتم و أمي و نفسي و مالي و أسرتي - submission

REFLECTIONS FROM ZIYARAT JAMIAH

- The door by which humanity is tried; الباب المبتلى به الناس
 - The similitude of the Ahlul Bayt is to باب حطة
 - The doors to reach Allah (swt)
- من اتاكم نجا و من لم يأتكم هلك



REFLECTIONS FROM ZIYARAT JAMIAH (II)



- فراغب عنكم مارق ; "The one who desires you (your positions) is a defector/renegade."
- والمقصر من حقكم زاهق ; "Those who limit your rights are liars."
- ولازم لكم لاحق ; "And one must hold steadfast to you."

REFLECTIONS FROM ZIYARAT JAMIAH (III)

- وَمَنْ قَصَدَهُ تَوَجَّهَ بِكُمْ ; [They are the path toward God]
- مَوَالِيٍّ لَا أُحْصِي ثَنَائَكُمْ [Our intellects cannot perceive them]
- وَلَا أَبْلُغُ مِنَ الْمَدْحِ كُنْهَكُمْ وَمِنَ الْوَصْفِ قَدْرَكُمْ [Our remembering their merits does not do them justice]

THE MERITS OF AHLUL BAYT (A)

- Hadith says; لَا يُقَاسُ بِأَلِ مُحَمَّدٍ أَحَدٌ وَ مَنْ قَاسَ فَقَدْ كَفَرَ
- The Ahlul Bayt cannot be compared to anyone, and the one who compares, is a disbeliever.
- We recite in the Ziyarat; طَاطَا كُلُّ شَرِيفٍ لِشَرَفِكُمْ ، وَبَخَعَ كُلُّ مُتَكَبِّرٍ لِبَطَاعَتِكُمْ ، وَخَضَعَ كُلُّ جَبَّارٍ لِفَضْلِكُمْ ، وَذَلَّ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ لَكُمْ
- Imam Sadiq says, أَنْكَارُ فَضَائِلِهِمْ كُفْرٌ
- Allamah Majlisi outlines the definition of *ghuluw*
- In sajdah-al-sahw, we get closer to God by sending our salutation on the Prophet

THE MERITS OF AHLUL BAYT (II)

- Imam Hadi teaches us to say: **وَبِكُمْ يُنَزِّلُ الْغَيْثَ ، وَبِكُمْ يُمَسِّكُ السَّمَاءَ أَنْ تَقَعَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ ، وَبِكُمْ يُنَفِّسُ الْهَمَّ وَيَكْشِفُ الْخُصْرَ ، وَعِنْدَكُمْ مَا نَزَلَتْ بِهِ رُسُلُهُ ، وَهَبَطَتْ بِهِ مَلَائِكَتُهُ**
 - "Through you, the raindrops descend, and through you, the skies do not fall on the earth, and through you..."
- Is this against the Tawhid of Allah (swt)?

AHLUL BAYT: THE PATH TO GOD

- The Ziyarat states: **اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّى لَوْ وَجَدْتُ شُفَعَاءَ اقْرَبَ اِلَيْكَ مِنْ مُحَمَّدٍ وَاَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ الْاَخْيَارِ الْاَيُّمَّةِ الْاَبْرَارِ لَجَعَلْتُهُمْ شُفَعَائِي**
- Allah (swt) has placed their pleasure as His pleasure...

