

Nastaliq
بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

ALI 374: Arba'in Ziyārat

We plan to discuss the importance and etiquette of pilgrimage to Najaf, Karbala, Kazimayn and Samarra. The course will focus on connecting spiritually to the Imams who are visited and the main ādāb of Ziyārat. Practical issues such as Salāt in the airplane, performing wudhū made easy, and complete or shortened (qasr) prayers in Iraq will also be covered. Time permitting we will have question and answer session.

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Muharram 27, 1438/ October 29, 2016

Taqwa should be our provision

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وَمَا تَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ يَعْلَمُهُ اللَّهُ وَتَزَوَّدُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَى
وَاتَّقُونِي يَا أُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ

- ➔ Q 2:197 *And whatever good you do, Allah knows it. And take provision, for indeed the best provision is taqwā. So be wary of Me, O you who people of understanding!*

Hadith on performing ziyārat of Arba'een

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Imam Hasan al-'Askarī alayhis salaam on the signs of a believer:

وَرَدَ فِي الْكُتُبِ الْمُعْتَبَرَةِ عَنِ الْإِمَامِ الْحَسَنِ الْعَسْكَرِيِّ: عِلَامَاتُ الْمُؤْمِنِ
خَمْسٌ: صَلَاةٌ إِحْدَى وَخَمْسِينَ، وَزِيَارَةُ الْأَرْبَعِينَ، وَالتَّخْتُمُ بِالْيَمِينِ، وَتَعْفِيرُ
الْجَبِينِ، وَالْجَهْرُ بِبِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ.

Arba'een is one of the four occasions on which visiting Imam al-Husayn (a) is highly recommended. Other occasions are on: The Day of 'Ashura, Middle of Sha'ban and the Day of 'Arafah.

Reflections before departing for the trip:

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- Knowledge (ma'rifat) about the person
- Understand & ponder over recitations
- What if we were to visit them during their life time?
How different it would be?
- Total humility & reverence when nearing
- Renewal of the pledge to the Imam (a)
- How can I change on account of this trip?

Ensure that we do not delay or miss our salāt

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On account of being a traveler and lacking good facilities, many pilgrims delay their daily prayers or sometimes even miss them. Avoid this totally.

أَبَوَا عَبْدِ اللَّهِ ع: حَجَّةٌ أَفْضَلُ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَمَا فِيهَا وَصَلَاةٌ فَرِيضَةٌ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ أَلْفِ حَجَّةٍ

Imam al-Sadiq (a): *Performing one Hajj is better than the world and whatever is in it, and saying obligatory prayers is better than one thousand (mustahab) Hajj.* (Tabdhib al-Ahkam, 2:240, H.953; Wasā'il H. 4460)

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One of the main purpose of ziyārat

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عَنْ الْحَسَنِ بْنِ عَلِيِّ الْوَشَّاءِ قَالَ سَمِعْتُ الرَّضَا ع يَقُولُ إِنَّ لِكُلِّ إِمَامٍ عَهْدًا فِي عُنُقِ
أَوْلِيَائِهِ وَ شِيعَتِهِ وَ إِنَّ مِنْ تَمَامِ الْوَفَاءِ بِالْعَهْدِ وَ حُسْنِ الْأَدَاءِ زِيَارَةَ قُبُورِهِمْ فَمَنْ زَارَهُمْ
رَغْبَةً فِي زِيَارَتِهِمْ وَ تَصَدِيقًا بِمَا رَغِبُوا فِيهِ كَانَ أَيْمَتُهُمْ شُفَعَاءَهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ.

Hasan b. Ali al-Washha reports that he heard Imam al-Ridha (a) saying: For every Imam there is a covenant on the neck of his friends and followers (shi'ahs); the best and complete way to fulfilling this covenant is to visit their graves. One who goes there with a sincere desire of visiting them and with conviction, then their Imams will intercede on their behalf on the Day of Resurrection (Al-Kafi, v. 4, p. 567)

Etiquette of ziyārat

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- From the *Mafatīhul* in section on Ziyārat the 1st part is *Adaab al-Safar*
- If possible travel on select days
- (Sat, Tue & Thu; avoid Mon, Wed & Fri before zuhr)
- Fast for 3 days: Wed, Thu & Friday
- **إِنَّ أَبِي . . . اشترى السلامة مِنَ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ بِمَا تَيْسَّرَ**
- Say some of recommended Du'ās
- **مِنْ فِقْهِ الْمُسَافِرِ حِفْظُ نَفَقَتِهِ**

Rights of fellow pilgrims (zawwār)

- ◉ Al-Bāqir (a): *It does not matter if one visits this House if he does not possess three traits: Cautiousness which prevents him from sinning; forbearance which helps him rule over his anger; and good interaction with those who are with him.*
- Imam al-Sadiq (a): *You should be a good companion to those who accompany you, speak less and say only that which is good, mention Allah increasingly, wear purified clothes, perfume, Ghusl before going to holy places, be humble, establish a lot of prayers, say salawāt, help needy ones, not look at (what is forbidden)*
- Imam al-Kazim (a): *whoever prays for his brothers (in belief) in his absence, is called from the Throne, ‘(O Servant of Allah) you will have one hundred thousand times as much reward as one may receive for his prayer*

Wudhu made simple

- 2 Use of spray bottles for wudhu
 - ▶ You can carry it on board, 3 oz. or less, in your purse or pocket when going to Haram
 - ▶ Ensure that you spray enough water
 - ▶ Washing should be different from wiping
 - ▶ Use bathrooms for wudhu or spray bottles when travelling by plane, trains or coaches
 - ▶ Renew your wudhu using spray bottle whilst in the Haram if you would like to keep your spot
 - ▶ Ladies to ensure that not to expose hands & feet

Saying salāt on board - 1

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If you are scheduled to arrive at your destination early enough to go through security, perform wudhu, determine Qibla and find a suitable place to say your prayers then you are allowed to say your prayers at the destination, provided they do not get qadhā. Otherwise, you need to say your prayers on board.

- 1. Say Qasr salāt on board, except if you are a frequent traveler (*kathīrus safar*).
- 2. When traveling, it is advisable to maintain the *tahārah* (ritual purity) of your body and clothes till at least prayer time. For those who can retain their wudhu for longer time, it is advisable to perform the wudhu with the niyyat of *qurbatan ilallāh* (seeking nearness to God) before departing.

Saying salāt on board – 2

- 1¹ 3. Ensure that the prayer time has begun before you say prayers. Use of app from www.halaltrip.com is helpful in finding prayer times when flying. Alternatively, if you have info on local sunrise and sunset timings while you are traveling then it is helpful in determining prayer timings.
- ➔ 4. Face completely towards qibla direction when saying takbīratul ihrām (i.e. the saying of first *Allāhu akbar* after the *niyyat*). Use of app from www.halaltrip.com is helpful in determining qibla direction on board. Alternatively, you can use TV screens in the airplane or ask member of the crew about the direction to Makkah. Do not be concerned about the change in direction of the airplane when you are saying your prayers. Of course, you will again determine qibla direction when you begin the next prayer, such as ‘asr after zuhr and ‘ishā after maghrib prayer.

Saying salāt on board - 3

12. Where possible observe all qiyām (standing), rukū (bowing), sajda (prostrating) and qu‘ūd (sitting) positions required in salāt. This can be done in the exit rows or in designated prayer places on some Muslim flights (e.g. Iran Air, Saudi Airline). Otherwise, after rising and facing towards Qibla during takbīratul ihrām, say your prayers on the assigned seats. Use gestures (*‘ishāra*) to determine the four position in salāt, such as sitting straight in lieu of qiyām, slight tilting for qu‘ud, bending for ruku, further bending for sajad. (Note there is a difference of opinion between scholars on whether one should say the prayers in the aisles, washrooms, and serving corners/sections of the plane or confine to saying prayers in the designated seats. You may check with a local scholar and decide accordingly. It is essential that a Muslim does not face unnecessary harassments or profiling by airline crew or security officials. Saying prayer is personal devotion between the Almighty Lord and a humble servant.)

Praying full in Iraq

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- 1) Haram of Imam al-Husayn in the Haa'ir
 - 2) Masjid Kūfa, rather the entire city of Kūfa
 - One prayer is equal to 1000 prayers
 - 1 wājib prayer = 1hajj; 1 mustahab prayer = umrah with the Holy Prophet (s).
 - 6th Imam: if people were to know its merits, they would come to it crawling
 - Special prayer of Hajaat in the middle of it
 - 1000 prophets & 1000 awsiyaa have prayed in it
 - It will be the venue of payer for Imam Mahdi
- 3) Masjid Sahla – considered as part of new Kūfa

References, check if they are active:

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Holy places in Iraq & their history: <http://www.al-islam.org>

➤ Significance of ziyarah: www.al-islam.org/revolution/2.htm

➤ Ziyarah manuals with translation: <http://www.asserattours.com>

➤ <https://www.academyofislam.com/ali-374/>

➤ <http://www.duas.org/walkoffree.htm>
& <http://www.duas.org/ziaratiraq.htm>