

Academy of Learning Islam
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**Understanding the occultation of
the Imam(AS)**

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- **Ghaibat-e-Kubra**
- **(The Greater Occultation)**
- **‘Presence’ & ‘Absence’**
- **Status Unknown: Evidence:**
- **A) Shaykh Tusi in Ghaybah writes on the authority of Shaykh Muhammad bin Uthman Al Amri who said: By Allah, the Master attends the season every year, sees people and knows them, but people see him and do not know him.**
- **B) Abu Sahl An Nawbakhti – the one who people thought would be appointed the third representative, but were surprised to find Husayn bin Rawh was appointed – when asked why he thought he was not appointed, replied: If submitted under pressure, perhaps I would reveal the whereabouts about the Imam (AS) whereas he (Ibn Rawh) would not do that even if he was under severe torture.**

- **2 Letters written to Shaykh Al Mufid d 413AH**
- **First one in the year 410 AH and the other one in 412 AH**
- **The letters are narrated in the work of Tabarsi in his Al Ihtijaj**
- **Each letter is signed by the Imam (AS)'s own handwriting in the end. In his second letter, the Imam (AS) says the letter was written upon his dictation and asks Shaykh Mufid to hide the actual letter from people, but to convey to them the contents therein.**
- **Contents include:**
 - **A) Praise for Shaykh Mufid**
 - **B) Some signs of things to come particularly in the land of Iraq where Shaykh Mufid was and the main Shias were concentrated at the time**
 - **C) Duties of believers which included purity of heart, sincerity in thought and deed, loyalty to the household of the Messenger (SAW)**

- **Difference between CONDITIONS and SIGNS.**

CONDITIONS	SIGNS
<p>1.Link to reappearance such that reappearance will not take place without the condition</p> <p>2. Once condition is realised, it remains until the time of reappearance and hence these conditions may happen either very close to his reappearance or during his reappearance</p>	<p>1.No such dependency link. Signs are only indicative.</p> <p>2.Signs may take place with similarity over time.</p>

- **CONDITIONS**

- **1) Complete Ideology**
- **2) Competent and Able Leader**
- **3) Helpers**

- **SIGNS**

- **Before reappearance of Imam (AS)**
- **Before the Day of Judgement (End of World)**
- **Some signs indicate rough time scale to final event**
- **Some are vague as far as time scale is concerned**

- **General (Indefinite) Signs talk of deterioration in morals, values and lifestyle**

- **Definite Signs:**

- **1) Dajjal**
- **2) Moon and Sun Eclipses**
- **3) Sufyani and how he and his army will be swallowed by earth.**
- **4) Loud Noise (Al Sayha)**
- **5) Killing of 'Nafs Al Zakiyyah'**