



ALI 172: Preparing for Ziyaarah to Iraq

Session 2: Sunday
Rajab 21, 1431/ July 4, 2010



Holy Qur'an aayat 9:24

• قُلْ إِنْ كَانَ آبَاؤُكُمْ وَأَبْنَاؤُكُمْ
وَإِخْوَانُكُمْ وَأَزْوَاجُكُمْ وَعَشِيرَتُكُمْ
وَأَمْوَالٌ اقْتَرَفْتُمُوهَا وَبِجَارَةٌ تَخْشَوْنَ
كَسَادَهَا وَمَسَاكِينُ تَرْضَوْنَهَا أَحَبَّ
إِلَيْكُمْ مِنْهُ فَارْزُقُوهُمْ مِنْهُ وَقُولُوا
لَهُمْ قَوْلًا مَعْرُوفًا وَأَطِيعُوا أَمْرَ اللَّهِ
وَأَطِيعُوا أَمْرَ الرَّسُولِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ
مِّنْ حَبْلِ الْجَنْبِطِ وَالسَّيْلِ الْمَسْكُونِ
سَبِيلَهُ فَبِئْسَ مَا كَانُوا يَفْعَلُونَ

Translation of ayat 9:24

- 9:24 Say, ‘If your fathers and your sons, your brethren, your spouses, and your kinsfolk, the possessions that you have acquired, the business you fear may suffer, and the dwellings you are fond of, are dearer to you than God and His Apostle & to waging jihad in His way, then wait until God issues His edict.’

With pilgrims in your group

- Be considerate to them. They have rights over you. Serve them, prepare necessities
- Overlook their faults and mistakes
- Proper use of bathroom & keeping it clean
- Avoid: loud talking, inappropriate joking, making fuss about issues, talking privately, entering places reserved for women
- Exhibit pleasant manners and interactions

Specific *adaab* for Ziyaarat

The *Mafaateeh* has 28; a few of them:

- *Ghusl*, don clean clothes & put perfume
- Avoid gossip, vain talk & arguments
- Do not enter the *haram* if *ghusl* is *wajib*
- Walk in short steps & total humility
- Continuous *Tasbeeh* and 100 x *takbeer*
- أن يُعَطَّرَ فَاهِ بِالصَّلَاةِ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام
- Recite *idhn al-dukhoor* w/meanings

Adaab at the Haram

- Kiss, if you wish, the entrance
- Pause at the gate as if waiting for the idhn
- Upon seeing the grave: do *takbeer* & say
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ → *ridhwan* of God
- Recite recommended *ziyaarats* (general, special, short & long), then 2 rak. Prayer
- If *salat* is on, then join in prayers; if it begins during *ziyarat*, cut short & pray

Common points for all Ziyaarah

- Where possible, stand close to the shrine to recite ziyaarah; but be considerate to others by not staying for too long
- *Ziyaarat Jami'ah al-Kabeerah* common to all imams & prophets; read w/meaning
- Recite ziyaarah o.b.o. Imam al-Mahdi, parents, family & friends who requested for Du'as; can combine a few people.

Miscellaneous issues

- Visit the *Maraaji`* & other scholars
- Visit local orphanage, poor institutions
- Participate in *jamaa`at* prayers
- Visit bookstores & exhibitions
- Interact with local people; thank security guards & respect workers
- Can we give money to the beggars?

Interacting with other pilgrims

- Exhibit good *akhlaq* of interaction
- Net work with them, exchange contacts
- Have a look at their Du‘a manuals
- Their way of devotion may be better
- Greet them, pray for them, take interest in their affairs, esp. about their countries
- Exchange visits & taking meals together

The city of Kufa

- Mount Sinai in Surat Tin refers to city of Kufa
- It is the haram of Allah, HP & A Mu'minin
- Recite when entering: *Bismillaahi wa billaahi wa fee sabeelillaah, wa 'alaa millati rasoolillaah (s), Allaahumma anzilnee munzalan mubaarakan, wa anta khayrul munzileen.* As you near the masjid say *Allaahu akbar, wa laa ilaaha illallaah, wal hamdu lillaah, wa subhaanallaah.* Memorize this to recite this before every haram

Najaf: the Haram of Imam Ali (a)

- Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq (a): *We say that behind the city of Kufah there is a grave where no person suffering from any affliction takes shelter without being healed by God Almighty. (story of a lion)*
- By his graveside the sorrows of those who suffer from grief is removed and those suffering from maladies are cured when they embrace his grave
- Ziyaarat Aminullah here & in all harams

Masjid al-Kufah near Najaf

- Option of praying full as a traveler
- One prayer is equal to 1000 prayers
- 1 *wajib* s. = hajj; *musthb* s. = umrah w/HP
- 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 wasis prayed here
- It'll be the venue of payer for Imam Mahdi
- Visit more than once, if possible

Merits of Ziyaarah of al-Husayn

- Its excellence equals that of *hajj*, *'umrah* and *jihad*; rather exceeds all these by degrees
- Forgiveness for one's sins, an easy reckoning on Day of Retribution, elevation of rank, acceptance of Du'as, & increase lifespan
- Safety of one's body and property, expansion of one's provision, fulfillment of *hajaat* and removal of the causes of worries and distress.
- Least reward sins are forgiven, his life & property are held safe until returns to family
- Relief fr. agony of death & fr. terror of grave
- Special Du'a by I Sadiq for zuwwar of Husayn

Adaab of Ziyaarah of al-Husayn

- Fast for 3 days before leaving & *ghusl* on 3rd d.
- depart home w/ humility, walking gently & w/ dignity; say a lot: *Lâ ilaha illallah, wallahu akbar, wal hamdu lillah*; continue praising Allah, say *salawaat* a lot
- “I have heard that some people carry along roasted lambs and sweets while going for the *ziyarah* of al-Husayn. They would not . . . [do this] when visiting the graves of their own ancestors and relatives.” & you should arrive at his shrine with dusty and disheveled hair” (str: mourning by wife fr Banu Kalb)
- Walk bare foot a distance before the shrine

At the Haram of al-Husayn (a)

- On reaching the grave, stroke it w/ your hand:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا حُجَّةَ اللَّهِ وَابْنَ حُجَّتِهِ،

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ يَا مَلَائِكَةَ اللَّهِ وَزُورَ قَبْرِ ابْنِ نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

- The main part of *a'maal* is Du'a - answering of supplications under its dome is one of the things granted by Allah to the Imam for his martyrdom. We take advantage of this matter and take care not to neglect the opportunity to repent from sins, entreat God for forgiveness and to make petitions for fulfillment of his needs. Best to recite as much from *al-Sahifa al-Kamilah*, which are the finest of Du 'as.

Hadhrat 'Abbas (a)

- Spend enough time in his Haram also
- Sometime you will get a better spot here
- Imam al-Sajjad: *May Allah's mercy be on Abbas. He sacrificed himself for his brother & gave his life for his sake. They severed his arms while he was serving his brother, & God Almighty rewarded him for that by giving him two wings with which he flies in paradise, like Ja'far b. Abi Talib. Abbas has a station with Allah which will be envied by all martyrs on the Day of Resurrection & they would aspire to it.*

Bidding farewell

- Buy gifts for others but do not let that take up too much of your time and rob you of spirituality
- Recite ziyarah recommended for bidding farewell and pray eagerly that you should be given chance to return
- Talk to group leaders and offer your voluntary services for future groups

Recommended books

- *Mafatteeh al-Jinaan* w/ clear to read arabic text, printed in Beirut (available in Haram)
- *Saheefa-e-Ziyaraat*, Kamil & Kausar Public.
- *Supplications: Prayers & ziyarats*, Ansariyan
- *Guide to Ziyarat: Selected Supplications*, S. Husayn Talib, tr. L Takim
- *Al-Sahifat al-Sajjadiyya* tr. W. Chittick
- *Kamil al-Ziyarat*, Ibn Qulawayh, tr. S. Milani
- ? *Book of Ziyaarat to Iraq*, P.E.T. Karachi