

ALI 545: THE SOCIO-POLITICAL ROLE OF THE AHLUL-BAYT (PEACE BE UPON THEM)

The Academy for Learning Islam
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RECAP

The role of Imam includes leading the society

All the Imams were put under pressure,
imprisoned, exiled, killed.

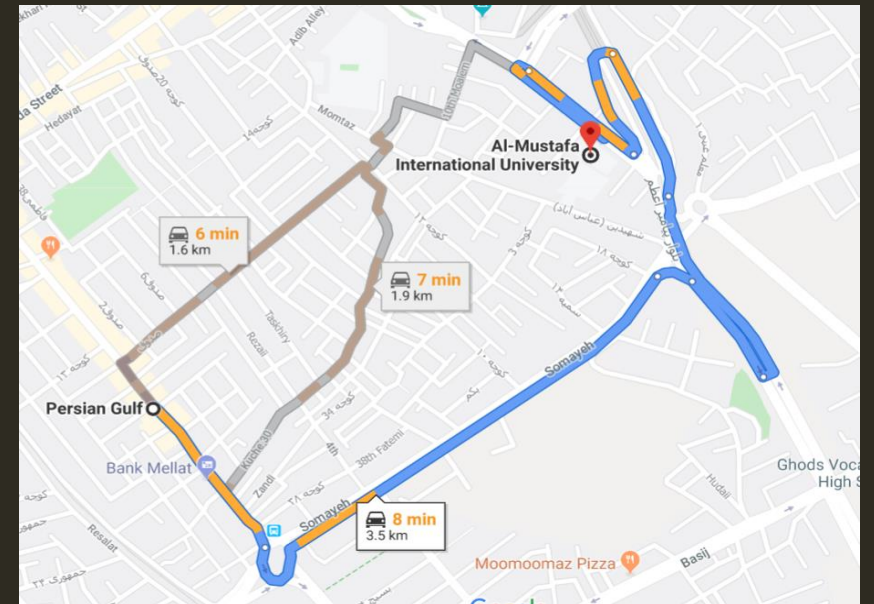
Their true image has been distorted

History did not write everything

Fabricated narrations

Different paths towards one goal

What was known to the caliphs then is hidden
from the Shi'ah today



OUTLINE

We want to try and get an inkling of the political and social role of the Imams (peace be upon them) from their interactions with

- The caliphs
- Their Shi'ah
- The scholars
- The poets
- Revolutionaries



SCHOLARS AND POETS

Scholars: The ideological and cultural leaders of that society

- Muslims were keen to know what the Prophet's (s) opinion was on any matter (59:7)
- An important tool
- The likes of Ka'ab al-Ahbaar and Abu Hurayrah

Poetry: A deep and effective force

- At that time there were many poets
- The most eloquent of Arabic poetry was written, al-Mu'allaqat
- Everyone would recite poetry: men, women, kids

1. 'IKRIMAH DURING HAJJ

Abu 'Abdullah 'Ikramah ibn Abdullah (d. 107 AH)

A North African faqih of Makkah. A close student of Ibn 'Abbas.

Story of him meeting the Imam in the time of Hajj

وَقَالَ يَا ابْنَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ لَقَدْ جَلَسْتُ مَجَالِسَ كَثِيرَةً بَيْنَ يَدَيِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ وَغَيْرِهِ فَمَا
أَدْرَكَنِي مَا أَدْرَكَنِي أَنْفَاءً فَقَالَ لَهُ أَبُو جَعْفَرٍ ع وَبِكَ يَا عَبِيدَ أَهْلِ الشَّامِ إِنَّكَ بَيْنَ
يَدَيِ بُيُوتِ أَذْنِ اللَّهِ أَنْ تُرْفَعَ وَ يُذَكَرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ

2. KUTHAYYIR AND KUMAYT

Kuthayyir rebuked by the Imam for reciting poetry in favour of ‘Abdul Malik
Kumayt and his famous collection of poems known as the *Haṣhimīyāt*

سَاءَ سَوَاءٌ وَرِعِيَّةَ الْأَنْعَامِ سَاسَةٌ لَا كَمَنْ يَرَى رِعِيَّةَ النَّاسِ
لَا كَعَبْدِ الْمَلِكِ أَوْ كَوَلِيدِ أَوْ سُلَيْمَانَ بَعْدُ أَوْ كَهَشَامِ

*They (the family of Muhammad [s] are) Leaders but not like those who see
governing over people to be like tending to a flock of animals
Not like ‘Abdul Malik or Walid or Sulayman after him, or like Hashim*

3. LETTER OF IMAM AL-SAJJAD (A)

Muhammad bin Muslim Zuhri, aka Muhammad bin Shahaab (d. 124 AH)

A famous faqih and narrator of hadith in Madinah

Malik bin Anas, “I didn’t find any faqih and muhaddith in Madinah, save Zuhri”

Fabricated hadith about Jerusalem

Sincerely loved Imam al-Sajjad (a)