

YAAD
AL-MAHDI
(A.T.F.S.)

Hadi University

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْكَ يَا وَلِيَّ الْعَصْرِ (عج) أَذِرْ كُنَّا

ياد المهدى (عج)

Index

Lesson 1

Names of Fourteen Masoomeen (a.s.) 5

Lesson 2

Dua-e-Faraj.....7

Lesson 3

Some more information about Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) 9

Lesson 4

Ghaibat-e-Sughra and Ghaibat-e-Kubra..... 10

Lesson 5

Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.), Mother of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) - Part I 12

Lesson 6

Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.), Mother of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) - Part II15

Lesson 7

Birth of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.)..... 19

Lesson 8

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps a lost pilgrim find the way 24

Lesson 9

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps a lover of Ahlebait (a.s) 26

Lesson 10

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) opens the doors of sustenance for Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi 28

Lesson 11

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) cures Kaashaani 32

Lesson 12

Incident of Pomegranate 35

Lesson 13

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps the defender of Shiasm 39

Lesson 14

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) grants cure to Allamah Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.) 42

Lesson 15

Born through the prayers of Imam-e-Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) 44

Lesson 16

Commanded by Imam (a.t.f.s.) To Write a Book 46

Lesson 17

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) and Allamah Bahrul Uloom (r.a.) 48

Lesson 18

Seeking Permission to enter (Shaikh Murtaza Ansari (r.a.)) 51

Lesson 1

Names of Fourteen Masoomeen (a.s.)

Make the students memorise the names of all the 14 Masoomeen (a.s) and then ask all of them to repeat.

Sr.No	Name	Famous Title
1.	The Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (s.a.w.a.)	Mustafa
2.	The Daughter of the Holy Prophet Janabe Fatima Binte Muhammad (s.a.)	Zahra
3.	The First Imam Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib (a.s.)	Ameerul Momeneen
4.	The Second Imam Hazrat Imam Hasan (a.s.)	Mujtaba
5.	The Third Imam Hazrat Imam Husain (a.s.)	Shaheed-e-Karbala
6.	The Fourth Imam Hazrat Imam Ali ibn Husain (a.s.)	Zainul Abideen
7.	The Fifth Imam Hazrat Imam Muhammad Ibn Ali (a.s.)	Baqir
8.	The Sixth Imam Hazrat Imam Jafar Ibn	Sadiq

	Muhammad (a.s.)	
9.	The Seventh Imam Hazrat Imam Musa Ibn Jafar (a.s.)	Kazim
10.	The Eighth Imam Hazrat Imam Ali Ibn Musa (a.s.)	Reza
11.	The Ninth Imam Hazrat Imam Muhammad Ibn Ali (a.s.)	Taqi
12.	The Tenth Imam Hazrat Imam Ali Ibn Muhammad (a.s.)	Naqi
13.	The Eleventh Imam Hazrat Imam Hasan (a.s.)	Askari
14.	The Twelfth Imam Hazrat Imam MHMD Ibn Hasan (a.t.f.s.)	<u>Mahdi</u>

Lesson 2

Dua-e-Faraj

In this lesson teachers should make the students memorise the following dua and ask them to repeat the same. The teacher should also use the Dua cards.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 اللَّهُمَّ كُنْ لِوَلِيِّكَ الْحُجَّةِ بْنِ الْحَسَنِ صَلَواتُكَ عَلَيْهِ وَ
 عَلَى آبَائِهِ فِي هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ وَفِي كُلِّ سَاعَةٍ وَلِيًّا وَحَافِظًا وَ
 قَائِدًا وَنَاصِرًا وَدَلِيلًا وَعَيْنًا حَتَّى تُسْكِنَهُ أَرْضَكَ طَوْعًا وَ
 تُمَتِّعَهُ فِيهَا طَوِيلًا.

O Allah! be for Your representative the Hujjat (proof) son of Al -Hasan Your blessings be on him and his forefathers, in this hour and in every hour a guardian, a protector, a leader, a helper, a proof, and an eye until

*You make him live on the earth in obedience (to You)
and cause him to live in it for a long time.*

Lesson 3

Some more information about Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.)

1. Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) was born on 15th Shabaan 255 A.H. in the city of Saamarra.
2. His father's name was Hazrat Imam Hasan Askari (a.s.). He was the eleventh Imam (a.s.).
3. His mother's name was Janab Narjis Khatoon (a.s.). She was a Roman princess.
4. Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) assumed the responsibilities of Imamat on 8th Rabi-al-Awwal, 260A.H.
5. Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) is still alive and lives in Ghaibat.
6. Ghaibat means that a person who is alive remains hidden from the people and the people don't know his whereabouts.
7. Our Twelfth Imam Hazrat Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) has two Ghaibats:
 - ♦ The Short Ghaibat (Ghaibat-e-Sughra)
 - ♦ The Long Ghaibat (Ghaibat-e-Kubra)

Lesson 4

Ghaibat-e-Sughra and Ghaibat-e-Kubra

The Short Ghaibat (Ghaibat-e-Sughra)

This Ghaibat was for a period of 69 years from 260A.H. to 329 A.H.

During this ghaibat though Imam (a.t.f.s.) was hidden from the common people, but he was always available to some of his special deputies.

These special deputies were the connection between Imam (a.t.f.s.) and the common people. They used to convey the questions of the people to Imam (a.t.f.s.) and communicate Imam's (a.t.f.s.) replies to the people.

There were four special deputies of Imam (a.t.f.s.) in this period:

1. Hazrat Usman ibne Saeed-al-Amri (r.a.)
2. Hazrat Mohammad ibne Usman-al-Amri (r.a.)
3. Hazrat Husain ibne Rauh-e-Nawbakhti (r.a.)
4. Hazrat Ali ibne Mohammad-e-Saimuri (r.a.)

The Long Ghaibat (Ghaibat-e-Kubra)

In this ghaibat Imam (a.t.f.s.) is hidden from all and no one can claim to meet Imam (a.t.f.s.) at will. However, Imam (a.t.f.s.) can meet

whomsoever he pleases. There are many incidents of Imam (a.t.f.s.) meeting both scholars and the common people.

In this period he has generally instructed us to follow the religious scholars for all our religious problems.

Only Allah knows when the Longer Ghaibat will end and Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) will reappear. When he reappears, he (a.t.f.s.) will distribute all wealth equitably and establish truth and justice everywhere.

Lesson 5

Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.), Mother of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) - Part I

The Mother of Imam-e-Zamana (a.t.f.s.), Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.) was a Roman princess. She is introduced in the following narration of Behaarul Anwar, Vol. 51, Chapter 1, Hadith No. 12.

Sahl al-Shaybani narrates, ‘Bishr ibn Sulaiman al-Nakhkhaas, a descendant of Abu Ayyub Ansari and a devotee of Abu al-Hasan (a.s.) and Abu Muhammad (a.s.) and their neighbour at Saamarraa, Kafur, the servant came to me and said, “Our Master Abu al-Hasan Ali Ibn Muhammad (a.s.) is calling you.’ I went to the Master and as I sat in front of him, he said,

“O Bishr, you are from the descendants of the Ansaar. This devotion is your legacy, which each coming generation of yours inherits from your preceding generation. You are the trusted ones of us Ahle Bait (a.s.). I am elevating you and ennobling you by an excellence through which you will surpass all Shi’ites in devotion, by sharing a secret with you and sending you to purchase a certain bondmaid.”

He then wrote a very fine letter in Roman script and Roman language and imprinted his seal on it. He took out a yellow cloth wherein were two hundred gold coins. He said, "Take this and go to Baghdad." He told me to go to the crossing of the Euphrates on noon of such and such day and instructed me as follows when I reach the boats of the captives:

"You will see bondmaids in them. You will find buyers working for the procurers of the Abbasids and a small group from the Arab youths. When you see that keep an eye on a man called Umar ibn Yazid al-Nakhkhas from a distance all day long, until a bondmaid with the described qualities is brought to the buyers."

... At that moment go to Umar Ibn Yazid al-Nakhkhas and tell him you have a kind-hearted letter from a certain man of nobility, which he has written in Roman language and in Roman script, describing therein his benevolence, his fidelity, his excellence, and his generosity, so she may discern from it the character of its author. Should she be interested in him and choose him, then I am his representative in buying her from you."

Bishr Ibn Sulayman says, "I did all that which my Master Abu al-Hasan (a.s.) had ordered me to do with respect to the bondmaid. When she saw the epistle, she cried profusely and said to Umar Ibn Yazid, "Sell me to the author of this letter." She took the solemnest of oaths that should he refuse to sell her to him, she will take her life.

I negotiated the price with the dealer until it settled exactly on the amount of dinars my Master had given me. The money being sufficient, I took the bondmaid, who was extremely happy and joyous. I returned with her to my residence in Baghdad. She was very restless until she took out from her pocket the letter of our Master. She would kiss it and put it on her eyes and place it on her cheeks and touch it to her body. Astonished, I said, "You are kissing a letter whose author is unknown to you!"

“O the one who is unaware of the position of the progeny of Prophets (a.s.),” she responded. “Lend me your ears and empty your heart for my words. I am Malika, the daughter of Yashua, son of the Caesar of Rome. My mother is from the descendants of the disciples (Hawaariyyoon) of Jesus, and her lineage goes back to the successor of Jesus, Sham’oon. I will narrate to you the wonderful incident. My grandfather, the Caesar (of Rome), wanted me to marry his nephew when I was thirteen years of age. So, he gathered in his palace three hundred priests and monks from the descendants of the Hawaariyyoon, and from their men of stature seven hundred men. He gathered four thousand men from the commanders of the army and officers of the military and leaders of the armed forces and chiefs of the tribes. He erected a throne from the dearest of his riches, which was studded with varieties of jewels and was raised over forty steps.

When his nephew climbed, the crosses were fixed about, the bishops took their stands in great reverence, and the pages of the Bible were opened, suddenly the crosses collapsed from the top and hit the ground. The pillars of the throne crumbled and crashed onto the floor. My grandfather’s nephew, who had risen over the throne, fell down and became unconscious. The colours of the bishops changed and their chests trembled. Their leader said to my grandfather, ‘Please excuse me from facing this evil, which forebodes the demise of the Christian religion and the regal creed.’

“My grandfather took this as an evil omen and said to the bishops, ‘Erect these scaffolds, raise the crosses and bring the brother of this man, whose dreams have been ruined, so I may marry him to this young girl; so the evil of his dead brother may go away through his good-fortune. When they did that, the same thing happened to the second prospective groom as had happened to the first. People dispersed. My grandfather the Caesar stood in great distress.”

Lesson 6

Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.), Mother of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) - Part II

Janabe Narjis Khatoon (s.a.) continues her narration:

“The same night I dreamt that Prophet Jesus (a.s.), Sham’oon (a.s.) and a number of disciples (Hawaariyyoon) had gathered at my grandfather’s palace. They had installed a pulpit of light that was defying the heavens in height. It was the same spot where my grandfather had installed his throne. At this, Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.a.), Imam Ali - his son-in-law and successor the Commander of the Believers (a.s.) and a number of his sons (a.s.) entered. Prophet Jesus (a.s.) went forward and embraced him. Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) said to him, ‘O Ruhallah, I have come to you to propose to your successor Sham’oon for his daughter Malika for this son of mine’, pointing towards his son Abu Muhammad (Imam Hasan al-Askari) (a.s.), the son of the author of this epistle. Prophet Jesus (a.s.) looked at Sham’oon (a.s.) and said, ‘The greatest honor has come to you. Let your relation be bonded with the relation of the house of Muhammad (s.a.w.a.).’

“Sham’oon said, ‘It will be my honor to do so.’ He climbed the pulpit. Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) performed the rituals and married me to his son. Prophet Jesus (a.s.), the sons of Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) and the

disciples bore witness. When I woke up, I was scared to report this to my father or grandfather, fearing they will kill me. I kept this a secret and did not reveal it to them. Meanwhile, my heart longed for Abu Muhammad (a.s.) so much that I forsook eating and drinking. I became weak and became lean and sickly. There was no physician in the cities of Rome (modern day Italy) that my grandfather did not consult for my treatment. When despair overwhelmed him, he said to me, ‘O solace of my heart, do you have any wish that I may fulfill it?’” I said, ‘Grandfather, I see the doors of relief shut on me. However, if you save the Muslim captives in your prison from torture, remove their manacles, favour them and release them, I am hopeful that Prophet Jesus (a.s.) and his mother (a.s.) will give me health.’

When he did that, I made an effort to show good recovery and ate a little food. This made him very happy and he became ever intense to confer kindness and respect upon the captives.

“I also saw in my dreams for fourteen nights the Chief of the women of the worlds, Hazrat Fatima (s.a.). She visited me along with Janab Maryam (s.a.), the daughter of ‘Imran, and one thousand serfs from the Gardens. Janab Maryam (s.a.) said to me, “This is the Chief of the ladies (s.a.), the mother of your husband Abu Muhammad, (a.s.).’ I held her, cried and complained why Abu Muhammad (a.s.) did not come to visit me. The Chief of the ladies (s.a.) said,

‘...If you desire the pleasure of Allah, the Exalted, and the pleasure of Prophet Jesus (a.s.) and his mother (a.s.), and to have Abu Muhammad (a.s.) visit you, say, I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and that my father Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.’

“When I spoke these words, the Chief of the ladies of the world embraced me and my soul was blessed. She (s.a.) said, ‘Now expect the visitations of Abu Muhammad (a.s.). I am sending him to you.’ I woke up in great excitement and expectation of meeting Abu Muhammad (a.s.)

When it was the next night, I saw Abu Muhammad (a.s.) in my dream... and his visitations to me have not ceased yet.”

Bishr says, “I said to her, ‘How did you fall amongst the captives?’”

She said, “Abu Muhammad (a.s.) told me on one of the nights, ‘Your grandfather will shortly be dispatching an army to fight the Muslims on such and such day, and he will follow them. You have to join them in the wardrobe of servants along with a number of servants from such and such route. I did that and the vanguards of the Muslims encountered us, which led to my situation that you see. None knows that I am the granddaughter of the Roman Caesar until now except you and that is because I told you. The gentleman in whose share of booty I fell, asked me of my name. I concealed my identity from him and said, ‘Narjis’. He said, ‘A name of the servants.’ I said to her, “It is amazing that you are Roman and your language is Arabic.”

She said, “Due to my grandfather’s persistence and encouragement to increase my learning, he appointed a woman, who was his interpreter, to visit me. She would come to me day and night and teach me Arabic until I became fluent and articulate.”

Bishr says, “When I brought her back to my Master Abu al Hasan (a.s.) in Saamarraa. He said to her, “How did Allah show you the Glory of Islam and disgrace of Christianity and the nobility of Muhammad and his Household?” She said, “How would I describe, O son of the Messenger of Allah, something which you know better than me?” “I would like to confer kindness on you.” He said to her, “Which one is dearer to you, ten thousand gold coins or a happy tiding of eternal grandeur?” “Happy tidings of a son for me,” she said. “Rejoice the tidings of a son who will rule the world, from the East to the West, and will fill the earth with equity and justice as it would be fraught with oppression and corruption.” “From whom?” she asked. From the one for whom the

Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.a.) proposed for you on such and such night, in such and such year, replied my Master in Roman. He said, "To whom Jesus and his successor married you." "From your son Abu Muhammad (a.s.)?" she asked. Do you know him?" "Has there been a night he has not visited me since I have embraced Islam at the hands of the Chief of the Ladies?"

Our Master said to Kafur, "Call my sister Hakimah." And when she entered, he said to her, "Here she is." Lady Hakimah embraced her and was delighted to see her. Abu al-Hasan (a.s.) said to her,

"O daughter of the Messenger of Allah, take her to your house and teach her the duties and the traditions, for she is the wife of Abu Muhammad (a.s.) and the mother of al-Qaim (a.t.f.s.)."

The names of the mother of Hazrat Hujjat (a.t.f.s.) are Malika, Susan, Rehaanah, Saiqal and Narjis as narrated by Mohammad Ibn Ali Ibn Hamzah in Behaar al-Anwaar.

Lesson 7

Birth of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s)

Hakimah Khatoon, the daughter of Imam Muhammad Taqi al-Jawad (a.s.), and the aunt of Imam Hasan al-Askari (a.s.) narrates the conditions of the birth of Hazrat Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) as follows:

Abu Muhammad Imam Hasan Ibn Ali (al-Askari) (a.s.) sent for me and said,

“O Aunt! Break your fast with us tonight. This is the eve of 15th of Shabaan and Allah, the High, will bring forth the Hujjah on this night. He will be his Proof on His earth.”

Lady Hakimah (s.a.) says that she asked him, “Who is his mother?” He (a.s.) replied, “*Narjis*”. On this she said, “May Allah make me your ransom! There is no sign (of pregnancy) in her.” He (a.s.) said, “*It is as I tell you.*” Lady Hakimah continues, “I came and when I greeted and sat, she came to take off my shoes and wished me, saying “*My lady! How are you this evening?*” “Rather, you are my lady,” said I, “and the lady of my household”. She turned my word down and said, “What is this dear aunt?” “Dear child! Allah, the Exalted, will grant you tonight a boy, the master of this world and the hereafter.” She sat and felt shy. When I

finished breaking the fast, I went to bed and slept. It was in the middle of the night when I got up to perform prayers. I finished my prayers while Narjis was still sleeping and there was still no sign (of pregnancy) in her. I sat up performing the post-prayers supplications and then went to bed. All of a sudden I woke up. She was still asleep. She then woke up and performed prayers.

Lady Hakimah says, "As doubts arose in my mind, Abu Muhammad (Imam Hasan al-Askari) (a.s.) called out, *"Do not make haste, O aunt, the affair has come near."* I recited the Surahs Alif Laam Mim Sajdah and Yasin. As I was doing that she woke up suddenly. I rushed towards her and read the name of Allah on her and asked "Are you alright?" "Yes", she replied. "Pull yourself together and take heart. It will be as I told you". Lady Hakimah (s.a.) continues, "And then I fell unconscious as pain and discomfort seized her. I was brought back to my senses by my Master (a.s.). I removed the sheet from him, and there he was, prostrating on the earth with his forehead, palms, knees and toes. I pulled him to myself and he was pure and clean. Abu Muhammad (a.s.) called on me, *"Bring my son to me, aunt."* I took his son to him. He put his hands behind him and put the infant's feet on his chest. He then put his tongue in his mouth and touched his eyes, ears and joints with his hands. *"My son, speak"*, he said.

The infant said,

*"I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah,
He is the One without a partner, and I bear witness that
Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) is Allah's Messenger."*

He then sent salutations upon Amirul Momeneen (a.s.) and the other Imams (a.s.) till he reached his father and then stopped on account of reverence.

Abu Muhammad (a.s.) said, *"Take him to his mother so he may greet her and then bring him back to me."* I took him to his mother and he

greeted her. Then I brought him back and put him in the sitting room. He then said, *"Aunt, come to us on the seventh day."*

Lady Hakimah says, "In the morning, I came to offer my greetings to Abu Muhammad (a.s.). I removed the curtain looking for my Master. On failing to find him, I asked his father, "May I be your ransom, where is my Master?"

He (a.s.) said, *"We entrusted him to the one that the mother of Moses (a.s.) had entrusted him to."* When it was the seventh day, I came and greeted and sat down. He (a.s.) said, *"Bring my son to me."* I brought my master wrapped in a diaper. He did to his son what he had done earlier. Then he put his tongue into his mouth, as if he was feeding him milk or honey. Then he said, *"Talk, O my son."*

The blessed infant said, *"I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah."* He then praised and beseeched blessings for Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) and Ameerul Momeneen Ali (a.s.), and every one of the Imams (a.s.) till he reached his father. Then he recited this verse,

وَنُرِيدُ أَنْ نَمُنَّ عَلَى الَّذِينَ اسْتُضِعُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ
وَنَجْعَلَهُمْ أَئِمَّةً وَنَجْعَلَهُمُ الْوَارِثِينَ. وَنُكِّنَ لَهُمْ فِي
الْأَرْضِ وَنُرِي فِي رُءُوسِهِمْ أَهْلَهُمْ وَنُفِضَ مِنْهُمْ
كَأَنَّهُمْ يَخِذُّونَ

"And We desire to confer kindness upon those who have been enfeebled on the earth and make them Imams and make them heirs and give them power on earth and show Pharoah and Haaman and their armies what they have been averting."

Other narrations mention that, “When Hazrat Saaheb-ul-Amr (a.s.) was born, a light beamed from his forehead towards the heights of the heaven. I saw white birds descending from the sky, rubbing their wings on his head and body and then flying off. Hazrat Imam Hasan al-Askari (a.s.) told me,

“O aunt! Bring my son to me. On his arm, the Quranic verse was written,

جَاءَ الْحَقُّ وَزَهَقَ الْبَاطِلُ إِنَّ الْبَاطِلَ كَانَ زَهُوقًا

“Truth has arrived and falsehood vanished. Surely, falsehood was bound to vanish.”

Incidents of Meetings with Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.)

Lesson 8

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps a lost pilgrim find the way

Mullah Mohammed Taqi Majlisi (r.a.) who was the father of Allamah Muhammad Baqir Majlisi (r.a) narrates that he knew a very pious person in his time who used to go to Hajj every year. It was famous that he knew Tayyul Arz. Coincidentally he visited Isfahan. I met him and asked him about his ability, to do Tayyul Arz.

On hearing this he laughed and said: “The truth is only that once I was traveling for hajj when my caravan reached the place which was 5 stations away from Holy Makkah. I was left behind the caravan. The traces of caravan too were not visible and I had lost my way. In a state of extreme helplessness I was struck with thirst and was about to die, in that condition I beseeched Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s) by the words:

يا ابا صالح يا ابا صالح

“O Allah! Bestow Your Mercy on me and show me the way and deliver me from this problem”.

No sooner did my prayer finish, I saw a person coming towards me. When he came near me I found him to be a righteous and pure youth with handsome face, wheatish complexion and signs of nobility were

evident in him. He was riding a beautiful camel and was carrying a jug in his hand. On seeing him I saluted him. He returned my salutations and said: *“Are you thirsty?”* I said, *“Yes! I am very thirsty”*. He handed over the jug to me and I drank water from the jug. He then asked me: *“Do you want to unite with your caravan?”* I replied, *“Yes”*. On hearing this he made his camel kneel down, sat on it and also made me sit on it and proceeded towards holy Makkah.

It was my practice to recite Hirz-e-Yamani every day. When I started reciting it he listened carefully and corrected me at some places. He asked me after sometime: *“Do you recognize this place?”* I saw the place and realized that we have reached a place called ‘Atbaj’ in Makkah. He asked me to dismount the camel. As soon as I dismounted from the camel and looked back I found that he had disappeared with his camel. I realized that he was none other than our Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). I was grieved at separating from him and not recognizing him. My caravan entered Mecca after me. They were very happy to see me alive. Since I reached very early they started believing that I know Tayyul Arz.

Conclusions

- 1) In our difficulties we should ask Imam (a.t.f.s.) to help us.
- 2) Imam (a.t.f.s.) helps his followers.

Lesson 9

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s) helps a lover of Ahlebait (a.s)

Allamah Majlisi narrates in Behaarul Anwaar the incident of Abu Raajeh Hammami a resident of Hilla. There was a ruler in Hilla by the name Marjaan-e-Saghir (l.a.). He was staunch enemy of Ahle Bait (a.s.). Some people complained to him that Abu Raajeh doesn't have good opinion about some of the companions of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.a.). On this he summoned Abu Raajeh in his court. When Abu Raajeh came to his court, he beat him severely. His teeth were broken, his tongue was tied, a hole was made in his nose and a nail was put inside it. After this he was made to go from place to place. He was wounded so severely that he was on the verge of dying. The oppressive ruler ordered him to be killed, however some people said that he is old and severely wounded and about to die. He should be left to die by himself.

Everyone was sure that Abu Raajeh would die the same night, but next morning he was seen praying like a healthy man. His teeth were intact and all his wounds had disappeared. People were surprised and asked him about this. He said: "I saw that the death was very close, I prayed to Allah in my heart and sought help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). When the darkness of the night spread, I saw that the house was illuminated and Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) had arrived. He placed his blessed hand on my

face and said: "Go out and continue with your work. Allah has granted you success." After this I was cured as you are seeing it.

Shamsuddin Muhammad says that By Allah! Abu Raajeh was a weak old man with pale complexion, whose hammam (public bath) I used to visit often. But on that morning he looked like a healthy tall youth with red face, in his twenties. He remained in the same state till he was alive.

Morals:

- 1) Imam (a.t.f.s.) cares for his Shias and helps them when they call him.
- 2) If a person's condition is so bad that death is a certainty, Imam (a.t.f.s.) can rescue him as if nothing has happened. We should never despair of Imam's (a.t.f.s.) help.

Lesson 10

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) opens the doors of sustenance for Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi

It is narrated in Najmus Saquib that Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi who served Masjid-e-Kufa for several years was a very pious and religious man. He was staying in Masjid-e-Kufa along with his family. During his old age he lost his eye sight.

Apart from working as a caretaker of Masjid-e-Kufa, Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi used to sell some goods to the scholars and pilgrims who visited Masjid-e-Kufa. He used his earnings to support his family and some of the orphans. However, as a result of war between two tribes of Kufa the pilgrims and the scholars stopped visiting the Masjid-e-Kufa.

Due to this Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi lost his source of income and became poorer day by day. The situation became such that he could not even provide food to his family and the orphans he used to take care of. One night it so happened that children were crying on account of hunger.

Shaikh Muhammad Tahir Najafi turned towards Allah in such a distress condition and pleaded to Him:

“O Allah! I am satisfied with my condition and whatever you have ordained for me. But what should I do? I am yet to be blessed with a visit of my master Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). If You grant me permission to see the honourable face of my Imam (a.t.f.s.), I promise that I will never ask you for anything else ever again and will be happy and satisfied with the poverty that you have destined for me. I do want anything except a glance at the holy face of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.).”

Suddenly, I got up from my place. I saw a white cloth in my hand (this cloth was one which people normally put at the place of prostration in prayers). My other hand was in the hands of a handsome and awe inspiring youth. His strong personality and striking features gave me the impression that he was some emperor. My mind was in a daze and I did not know what was happening.

Then I saw that he had worn a green turban and a person dressed in white clothes was standing next to him. We started walking towards the Mehraab (prayer niche) in the mosque. When we reached there, the person who had taken hold of my hand turned to me and said: “O Taher, spread the cloth for the prayers.” I spread the cloth. It was outstandingly beautiful. I could not make out the material with which it had been made.

As I laid out the cloth and turned it towards the Qiblah, the handsome youth stood on it and began reciting prayers. I was mesmerized by his presence and slowly the noor (light) from his face increased so much that it was difficult to glance at it directly. His companion too stood behind him and got busy in reciting his prayers.

I stood ahead of them and was watching them. Who are these persons, I wondered? When they had completed their prayers, I saw that the person who was praying behind was no longer with us. Before I could absorb this, I became aware of a chair, which was about 4 feet in height and even had a shade attached to it. The respected Sayyed who was

praying ahead on the white cloth was sitting on it. The illumination from the chair and the face of this person was making it difficult for my eyes to see.

The respected Sayyed said: "O Taher, which emperor do you take me for?"

I said: "O Master, you are the emperor of emperors. You are a leader in knowledge and are not like the other kings." He said: "*O Taher, you have succeeded in your objective (of meeting Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.)). What do you wish now? Do we not take care of your needs everyday? Are your deeds not presented before us everyday?*" Finally the respected Sayyed promised me that my condition and wealth would improve and that I will never face poverty again.

At that time, a sinful person, who I knew by name and character entered Masjid-e- Kufa from the direction of the Sahn of Hazrat Muslim (a.s.). Suddenly I saw that the holy face of Imam (a.t.f.s.) was seized with anger. He turned his face towards that person and said, "Till where will you run and escape? Is not the earth and heaven our kingdom? Follow the' orders which we have issued, for you have no choice."

Then he turned towards me, smiled and said, "You have fulfilled your desires. Now do you want anything else?" I was so dumbstruck by his magnificence and brilliance that I could not speak up. He repeated his question and again I was in such a state that I could not reply. I was unable to express my happiness in words. Then within a flash, I saw that I was alone in the mosque and that Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) had disappeared. I looked towards the east and saw that morning was almost upon me. After this, the Shaikh says that the doors of sustenance were opened to him and he never faced the shortage of anything in his life.

Morals:

- 1) We must pay special attention towards our deeds because our deeds are reported to him (a.t.f.s.). It is narrated that if our deeds are good then Imam (a.t.f.s.) becomes happy and prays for more reward for us. However, if our actions are bad then Imam (a.t.f.s.) is upset.
- 2) Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) has pointed out that he is not negligent of our affairs. We may be involved in problems due to the examinations but it is only through the infallible Imams (a.t.f.s.) that our problems will be solved. And the blessings of this world and the hereafter can be achieved.

Lesson 11

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) cures Kaashaani

A person by the name Kaashaani arrived in the city of Holy Najaf with his friends. On account of the extreme illness and weakness both his feet were in poor condition and he was unable to walk. Looking at his condition his friends entrusted him to a righteous person and proceeded for Hajj.

Everyday his caretaker used to put him in a room, lock it and leave in search of sustenance, while Kaashaani used to be all alone in the room.

One day Kaashaani requested the caretaker that he was weary of staying in the same room and wanted to go out. He said that he does not want to stay any longer in the room. He asked the caretaker to take him out of the room and leave the rest to Allah.

The caretaker put him on his shoulders and took him to a place called “Maqaame Qaim” (a.t.f.s.). He made Kaashaani sit on a chair, washed his clothes, put them on a branch of a tree and as per his routine went to the desert.

As Kashaani sat there he reflected on his condition and loneliness, which saddened his heart. Meanwhile a handsome youth with a fragrant body entered the place known as Maqaame Qaim (a.t.f.s.),

stood there and recited few units (rak'ats) of prayer with great devotion and sincerity. After praying he came to Kaashaani and asked about his condition. Kaashaani said that he has been involved in great difficulties for long time. Allah, glory be to Him, is neither curing my disease so that I become healthy nor is He causing me to die so that I am relieved of my problems.

On hearing this the person said: "Don't worry, Allah will grant both of these to you. You shall be cured from this disease and shall also meet death after that". After he left the clothes which were put on the tree by the caretaker fell down. Thinking that the clothes would become Najis, Kaashaani quickly picked up the clothes, washed them and put them on the branch of a tree and went back to his place.

He suddenly realized that till some time before he could not stand on his feet and now he did all this without any problem. When he looked carefully at his self he found no traces of disease and weakness. He understood that the youth was none other than Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). He immediately got up from his place and started searching Imam (a.t.f.s.), but could not find him. He was very sad and angry and returned to his place. In the mean while the caretaker also returned and was surprised to see Kaashaani's condition. He asked him what happened and Kaashaani narrated the entire incident. The caretaker was very sad for himself and Kaashaani as they did not recognise Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). Kaashaani then returned to Najaf.

The scholars and reliable people of Najaf narrated that Kaashaani was healthy and sound till his friends returned from Hajj. He met them and they were happy at his quick recovery.

Kashaani lived for some days and died after falling ill as Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) had foretold. He is buried at the same place.

Morals:

- 1) Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) is granted the knowledge of the unseen.
- 2) Worship is liked by Imam (a.t.f.s.).
- 3) Imam (a.t.f.s.) is concerned about the Shias and solves their difficulties.

Lesson 12

Incident of Pomegranate

At the time when Bahrain was under the British rule, they appointed one Muslim as the governor with the intention that the city will be peaceful and progress under his rule. Both the governor and his minister were the enemies of Ahle Bait (a.s.). His minister was so intense in the enmity towards Ahle Bait (a.s.) that he troubled the believers of Ahle Bait (a.s.) and was always in search of a pretext to kill them.

One day the minister brought one pomegranate to the governor on which some words seem to be naturally inscribed which falsified the Shia belief in Imamate. The governor on seeing the pomegranate concluded that it was natural. He was very surprised and told his minister that it was a strong proof against the religion of Shias. The minister said that Shias are stubborn and don't accept evidence easily. However, it is appropriate that we summon them and show them this pomegranate. If they leave their religion then you will be rewarded, otherwise you should ask them to adopt one of the three options:

- ♦ Pay Jizya (tax paid by non-muslims in a Muslim state) and live in humiliation.

- ♦ Provide satisfying answers to the evidence.
- ♦ Or you should kill their men and take their children and women as captives and war booty.

The governor liked the suggestion and summoned the Shia scholars and other renowned personalities. When they gathered he placed the pomegranate before them and said:

“Either you provide satisfying answer to this or your men shall be killed, your woman and children shall be imprisoned and your wealth shall be confiscated. You shall pay Jizya like disbelievers and live in humiliation”. On hearing this the believers started trembling on their feet and did not know what to do. Some of them said that they should be given three days to provide an answer failing which the governor could do as he wished.

The governor acceded to their request and they returned in a state of fear. They held a meeting, exchanged thoughts and concluded that they should select ten pious people from Bahrain. After this three most pious people should be selected from them. They selected them and asked one of them to go to the desert, worship Allah and seek help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.).

He proceeded towards the desert and spent whole night in worship and sought help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) but did not find any solution to the problem.

On the second night another pious person was sent to the desert. He also spent the whole night in pleading to Allah and seeking help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.), but no result was evident.

On the third night they sent Muhammad Ibn Isa who was a very pious and abstaining person to the desert. The darkness of the night was engulfing. Barefooted and head uncovered he sought help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). Towards the last part of the night he heard a voice saying: *“O Muhammad ibn Isa! Why are you in this desert at this time”*.

Muhammad ibn Isa said: "Please leave me alone. I have come here for an important task which I shall not mention to anyone except my master Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). I shall place the problem before him who shall help me". The person said: *"O Muhammad ibn Isa, I am your Imam"*.

Muhammad ibn Isa said: "If you are Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) then you are well aware about my problem. He said: *"Yes, you are right, you have left your house because your ruler has threatened you."*

Muhammad ibn Isa says that on hearing this I turned towards the direction of the voice and said: "O my master, you know the problem we are involved in, you are our helper and refuge and you have the power to solve this problem."

He said:

"O Muhammad ibn Isa, in the house of the governor there is a pomegranate tree. When new fruits grow on the tree the minister makes a pomegranate from soil and wrote the said text on it and put it on one of the pomegranates. The pomegranate started growing this dye and the said text was inscribed on it."

When you go to the governor tomorrow tell him that you have the answer but will mention only at the home of the minister. The governor shall accompany you to the minister's house. When you enter the house go to the room on the right. Tell the governor that you wish to enter the room. The minister shall refuse but you remain firm on this and make sure that he does not enter the room alone. When you enter the room you will find a white bag in a box. Take that bag; it contains the dye, which the minister used. Put the pomegranate in the dye and show it to the ruler.

O Muhammad ibn Isa also inform the ruler about our second miracle. The miracle is that the pomegranate

contains nothing but dust and smoke. Ask the minister to open it. The dust and the smoke shall gather on his beard.

After these instructions from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) Muhammad ibn Isa was very happy. He kissed the place near the feet of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) and went to the city happily and informed the people.

The next morning the believers went to the ruler and Muhammad ibn Isa followed all the instructions of the Imam (a.t.f.s.) and the reality became evident for everyone. The governor inquired “Who are your Imams? The believers informed him about all the Imams (a.s.) till Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). On hearing this, the ruler accepted Shiasm. He also accepted the mastership of all the Imams (a.s.) and became a believer. He apologized to the believers of Bahrain and bestowed many gifts on them and sentenced the corrupt minister to death.

Morals:

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) solves all problems.

Lesson 13

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps the defender of Shiasm

Allamah Shaikh Hasan Ibn Yusuf Ibn Ali Ibn Mutahhar (May Allah be satisfied with him) also known as Allamah Hilli (r.a.) {648-726 A.D} is one of the most remarkable personalities of the Shi'ite sect. He had no equal during his period and was the most outstanding Shia scholar. He has been specially blessed by the Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s) with a special favour.

He acquired religious knowledge under the guidance of his father and uncle Muhaqqiq (r.a.) – the author of “Sharai-ul-Islam”. Khwaja Naseeruddin Tusi (r.a.), the great Shia scholar, was also one of his teachers. He attained Ijtehad at the age of 11 and taught many students.

Once in his childhood he was chased by his father for some reason. When his father was about to catch him he recited the verse of the Holy Quran on which prostration is necessary. On hearing the verse his father went into prostration while he did not since he was not baligh. His father again chased him and he did the same thing. His father became very happy at his trick, called his son near him and treated him with love and affection.

Allah bestowed such knowledge on him that in childhood itself he became a Mujtahid. He has written more than 70 books. His book ‘Tabseratul Mota’allemeen’ is so famous that 27 or 28 commentaries have been written on it.

Qazi Nurullah Shusatri (r.a.) narrates this incident in his book, “Majaalis-al-Momineen”:

A person had written a book against Shiaism and used to quote from it in assemblies and thus managed to mislead quite a few people and created doubts regarding the Imamath faith.

He never lent anyone this book for the fear that it may fall into the hands of the Shias and they may write a rebuttal.

In order to obtain this book, Allama Hilli (r.a.) began to attend the sermons of this man and also introduced himself as his student. After having achieved his confidence he requested him to lend the book for some time.

Since it was difficult for him to refuse Allama Hilli (r.a.) he told him: “I have vowed that I will not give this book to anyone for more than a single night”.

As there was no way out, Allama Hilli (r.a.) accepted this condition. That night he began copying the book. He wanted to copy as much as possible so that he could refute the arguments of the book. Around midnight he could no longer resist the onslaught of sleep. At that time, a respectful guest arrived and after the pleasantries he told Allama Hilli (r.a.) to go to sleep and entrust him with the completion of the book.

Allama agreed to it without any questions. When he woke up after some time, he found that it was morning and there was no sign of his guest. Upon searching he found that the book had already been completed by his guest; and at the end of it something was written.

When he looked closely, he found that the following words had been added at the end: “Inscribed by the Hujjat.”¹

Conclusions:

- 1) We should always be proactive in defending our faith.
- 2) Imam (a.t.f.s.) will support us in our efforts.

¹ (Rawzatul Jannaat, vo1.2, pg.282, Jannatul Maawa incident no. 22, Najmus Saquib incident no. 15)

Lesson 14

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) grants cure to Allamah Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.)

We all know that our beloved twelfth Imam, Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) is in Ghaibat (Occultation). During his Ghaibat we cannot meet Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) as and when we wish, but Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) can meet us whenever he wishes. In fact there are some fortunate people who called Imam (a.t.f.s.) for help when they faced problems and Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) met them and solved their problems. Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) himself says:

“Surely We have not forgotten you...”

Allamah Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.) is one of those fortunate people who were blessed with meeting Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.). He was a very great scholar. He is the author of the very famous book ‘Wasailush Shia’. He is buried in the courtyard of the shrine of our eighth Imam, Imam Ali b. Musa Raza (a.s.) in Mashhad, Iran.

When Allamah Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.) was 10 years old he fell ill very severely. His illness was so severe that his family and relatives lost all hopes of him getting cured and were weeping profusely over him.

Meanwhile, Allamah Shaikh Hurr-e-Amili went asleep and saw in a dream that Holy Prophet (s.a.w.a.) and A'immah (a.s.) are standing near him. He saluted and shook hands with all of them. While saluting and shaking hands with Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) he started weeping uncontrollably and complained to Imam (a.t.f.s.) in the following words:

“O my Master, I am afraid that I will die due to this disease and be unable to seek knowledge and do good deeds”.

Imam (a.t.f.s.) replied: *“Don’t be afraid, Allah will cure you and grant you a long life”*. Imam (a.t.f.s.) handed over a cup of water to Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.). As soon as he drank from that cup his illness was totally removed and he was cured.¹

Morals:

- 1) We should seek help from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) when we face any problem.
- 2) Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) helps his Shias when they call him for help.
- 3) We should always seek religious knowledge like Shaikh Hurr-e-Aamili (r.a.)

¹ Najmus Saaqib Incident no. 61, Jannatul Maawa Incident no. 3-8

Lesson 15

Born through the prayers of Imam-e-Mahdi (a.t.f.s.)

Shaikh Sadooq (expired 381 A.H.) was one of the greatest Shia scholars of the fourth century, who had earned the tide of Muallim (teacher). His book, *Man la Yahzarahul Faqih* is one of the four canonical books of Shi'ite hadith. It is an indispensable work of reference by the Mujtahid of Shia faith.

The exalted position of Shaikh Sadooq (r.a.) can be gauged from the fact that he was born through the prayers of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.), may our lives be sacrificed for him. Throughout his life he was the center of Imam's attention and favours. The incident is as follows:

The father of Shaikh Sadooq (r.a.) was known by the name of Ali Ibn Babawayh. He was one of the well-known jurisprudents and scholars of hadith in the city of Qum. Though he had been married to his cousin for a number of years he was not yet blessed with any children

In the year 305 A.H., he visited Baghdad and met the special representative of Imam (a.t.f.s.), Husayn Ibn Rauh Nawbakhti. Ibn Babawayh sent a letter through Muhammad bin Aswad with the request that it may be presented to Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) to pray to Allah in this regard.

A reply was soon received from Imam (a.t.f.s.) as follows:

“You will not have any children by this wife. I have prayed for you in this regard and soon you will be blessed by two sons (who would become jurists) through a lady of the Dailamite tribe.”¹

As foretold by Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.), Ibn Babawayh married a Dailamite lady after some time. The Almighty Allah blessed him with two sons whom he named Muhammad and Husayn.

Both his sons soon earned fame as the Shi’ite jurists and scholars of traditions in the city of Qum. Very few scholars of that time could reach such an exalted position.

The exceptional ability and brilliance especially in the narrating and memorizing of hadith; and his truth-fulness soon earned for him the title of Sadooq. He later became famous by this very honorific.

The contemporary scholars and his friends were amazed at his knowledge and infallible memory. It was evident that his brilliant mind and non-stop successes were due to the blessings of the prayers of Imam-e-Asr (a.t.f.s.).

He himself agreed to this fact and felt much honoured for the same. He often said: “I am born through the prayers of Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.).”

Morals:

- 1) We should ask for knowledge and understanding from Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.).

¹

Shaikh Taifah

Lesson 16

Commanded by Imam (a.t.f.s.) To Write a Book

The incident is narrated in the introduction of the same book (Kamaluddin) as follows:

The following events caused me to write this book:

When I had the honour of visiting the mausoleum of my master Hazrat Imam Abul Hasan ar-Riza (a.s.) and was returning home, I stayed at Nishapur for some time. Many of the Shias used to visit me. From the discussions I had with them, I concluded that they were amazed and astonished at the Ghaibat of Imam -e- Zamana (a.t.f.s.).

They were unfortunately haunted by doubts regarding Hazrat (a.t.f.s.). They had deviated from the straight path through their personal opinions and analogy. I tried my best to discuss with them and bring them back to the right path. Hence, I invited their attention to the authentic traditions of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.a.) and his purified household (a.s.) in this regard.

One day I was pondering upon the comfortable life that I had lived in my town of Rayy, with my family, children and brothers. All of a sudden sleep overcame me. I dreamt that I was circumambulating around the Kaaba. In the seventh round I came to Hajar-e-Aswad and kissed it

saying: “This is a trust that I submit and the covenant that I fulfill so that you give witness of my loyalty.”

(Supplication that the pilgrims recite at the Black Stone)

At that very moment I saw my Master, Hazrat Qaem (a.t.f.s.) as he stood at the door of Kaaba. I went towards him in a condition of grief and remorse. Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) came to know my inner feelings by looking at my face. I saluted him and after replying he said: “Why don’t you compile a book on the subject of ghaibat so that you become free of sorrow and grief.”

I said: “Son of the Prophet of Allah, I have collected some matter regarding ghaibat.” He (a.t.f.s.) told me,

“It is not as I want it to be. Now write a comprehensive book on Ghaibat and also mention therein the Ghaibat of the Prophets of Allah.”

After this Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) departed. I woke up and spent the time from dawn till sunrise in prayers, supplications and entreaties to Allah. I complained about the difficult times. When it was morning, I began to write the book as ordered by the Hujjat of Allah. I continued to pray to Allah for help and also sought forgiveness of sins.

(Introduction to the book Kamaluddin by Shaikh Sadooq. Persian Translation Published in two volumes.)

Morals:

- 1) We must plead and request for the help of Hazrat (a.t.f.s.).
- 2) We must seek Hazrat’s (a.t.f.s.) assistance and take refuge in him in times of difficulties.
- 3) We must make people aware about Hazrat’s (a.t.f.s.) existence.
- 4) We should try to remove the doubts regarding Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) from the minds of the people as much as possible.

Lesson 17

Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) and Allamah Bahrul Uloom (r.a.)

Allama Bahrul Uloom (r.a.) (1155-1212) is one of those scholars who had been favoured by Imam (a.s.)'s audience more than once. All scholars have praised his piety and accepted his superiority in piety and knowledge. They have narrated his achievements in their writings. Muhaddith Qummi has recorded in his book 'Rejaal' eight meetings of Bahrul Uloom's with the Imam of our age. One of such incidents is mentioned here when Imam (a.t.f.s.) made him sit near him and spoke to him in private...¹

What a great achievement it is for a follower of wilayat (Imamiya) that he is able to reach a stage in piety when the Imam-e-Zamana (a.t.f.s.) embraces him.

One day the people saw Allama Bahrul Uloom in an unusual state. Standing before the mausoleum of Imam Ali (a.s.) instead of reciting the Ziyarat in an upbeat mood, his eyes were filled with tears when he recited the following lines: "How pleasant it is to hear the recitation of Quran in your lovely voice."

¹ Fawaedur Razavia, Pg. 679

Afterwards, when he was asked the reason for this, he said : “When I was about to enter the sanctuary of Amir-ul- Momineen (a.s.), I saw Hazrat Hujjat (a.t.f.s.) seated at the head of Imam Ali’s (a.s.) tomb reciting the Quran in a state of concentration. Upon seeing him I began to repeat those words. But when I entered the Mausoleum I found that Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) had finished the recitation and departed from there...”¹

When Allama was staying in Mecca he was away from his relatives and followers. But in spite of this he had not forsaken the welfare of the needy and the poor people, and the needs of the students.

One day his secretary told him that whatever cash was there is now finished and nothing now remains. He should now think seriously in this regard. Let us read the incident in the words of the assistant himself.

“The Sayed did not say anything in reply. It was his practice in Mecca to perform the tawaf in the morning then retire for sometime alone in a room. I used to prepare a Huqqaah for him and he smoked it daily. Afterwards he used to go to another room to give lecture to his students. On this particular day the Sayed heard a voice from outside. He became tense and restless. He told me to hide the huqqaah while he himself assumed the posture of a humble servant. He rushed to the door and opened it.

A respectful Arab gentleman entered and then went to the private chamber of the Sayed and seated himself. The Sayed followed him and sat down near him in a humble manner.

For an hour or so they conversed between themselves and then the respectful personality arose to depart. The Sayed stood up too, and led him to the door; then he kissed his hands and helped him mount the camel that was waiting outside.

¹ Najmus Saaqib Incident no. 79, Jannatul Maawa Incident no.45

The guest departed and the Sayed returned. But the colour of his face had undergone a change. He gave me a promissory note, which was in his hand and said: "Take this note to such and such shop owner who is a money-changer at the Safa mountain and bring whatever he gives in lieu of it.

I took the promissory note and went to the money-changer. He took the note and kissed it respectfully. Then he said: "Get some coolies."

I brought four coolies. The money-changer loaded upon them as many money-bags as they could carry. Then we returned home.

One day I decided to go back to the money-changer and investigate the matter and also find out about the person who had given the promissory note. I could not find any shop at that place. I enquired from a person about the money-changer. He replied: "Such a money-changer has never been seen in this place." Then I realized that this was one of the divine secrets and it was due to the favour and blessing of Hazrat Hujjat (a.t.f.s.).¹

Morals:

- 1) We should trust Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) to solve our problems.
- 2) We should try our best to help the needy and deprived Shias.
- 3) We should recite the Holy Quran as much as possible.

¹ Najmus Saaqib Incident no. 76, Jannatul Maawa Incident 12, Fawaidur Razavia, Pg. 280

Lesson 18

Seeking Permission to enter

(Shaikh Murtaza Ansari (r.a.))

The famous Shia jurist who is considered by some to be the seal of Fuqaha was the late Shaikh Murtaza Ansari (r.a.) (1214-1281). His fame spreads to every country of the world where Shias exist. He was the descendant of the well-known companion of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.), Jabir Ibne Abdullah Ansari (r.a.). Allama Muhaddith-e-Noori (r.a.) writes about him thus: "The Almighty Allah favoured Jabir in such a way that He created among his descendants a personality who served his society as well as the faith by his knowl-edge, his research and study, piety and worship and by his intellect and understanding."¹

He was the supreme leader of Shias in his time and a faithful deputy of Imam (a.t.f.s). An ardent devotee of Hazrat Wali-e-Asr (a.t.f.s.), his attention never strayed from Hazrat (a.t.f.s.)

One of his students has mentioned that one night in Kerbala Moalla he left his house with a lamp because it was pitch dark in the streets. The lanes were also paved with wet mud. I saw a figure at a distance. When I came near, I saw that he was my teacher, Shaikh Ansari (r.a.).

¹

I became thoughtful on seeing him and wondered why he was out on the streets at this time of the night in spite of his weak vision and the dirt filled roads. I could not understand where he was going, but followed him in case he was waylaid. After walking for quite sometime the Shaikh came upon a door. He stood before the door, recited Ziarat-e-Jame'a with great respect and then entered the house.

After this I could not see anything. However I was able to hear the voice of the Shaikh as if he was in conversation with somebody.

After an hour when I entered the Haram of Imam Husain (a.s.), I saw that the Shaikh was also present there. A few days later when I met him, I tried to enquire about the happenings of that night. Upon my persistent questioning, he said: "Sometimes I seek the permission to be in company of Imam (a.t.f.s.). I go to that particular house (which you can never find) and recite Ziyarat-e-Jame'a. When I get permission the second time, I enter into the presence of Imam-e-Zamana (a.t.f.s.). Then I put forth difficult problems and questions to Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) and seek his help..."

Then the Shaikh put me under oath that I would not mention the fact to anybody as long as he was alive."

Certainly the affectionate connection of Imam (a.t.f.s.) with his general deputies (Nawwab-e-Aam) is much more. Imam (a.t.f.s.) is always attentive towards them and helps them, whenever the need arises.

We must also remember that Hazrat (a.t.f.s.) not only helps his deputies and assistants, but he is also prepared to help even the ordinary people like us if we have love and attachment with the purified household (Ahlul Bayt (a.s.)). What is necessary is that there should not be any obstruction and secondly there must be the divine will in this regard.

Morals:

- 1) Ziyarat-e-Jame'ah is a very comprehensive Ziyarat of the Ahle Bait (a.s.) and we must recite it frequently to show our love for them and acquire proximity with them.
- 2) The Mujtahideen are guided by Imam Mahdi (a.t.f.s.) in the difficult religious problems.

