



# Lessons of Ashura



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The Prophet of Islam (SAWA) bequeathed two precious legacies to continue the path of guidance and the way of perfection: «the Holy Qur'an» and «Ahl al-Bayt (AS)»; But worldliness, tribalism, staying away from the line of guardianship, and not paying attention to the Prophet's (SAWA) instructions caused the «Prophet's Household» who were one of the royal ways of human guidance, go to the sidelines, and as a result, Islam deviated from the main path and Imam Al-Hussain (AS) had to rise up. The government of the time could not bear it and martyred him and his companions in an unequal war in Karbala while he was thirsty and oppressed.

The movement of Imam Al-Hossein (AS) teaches us the lessons of «anti-oppression», «seeking justice», «responsibility towards society» and «freedom».

## Truth- seeking

Undoubtedly, every free person seeks the truth, The followers of Imam Al-Hossein (AS) always seek the implementation of the truth and avoid falsehood. And they stand on this path until the end of their lives.

Imam Al-Hussain (AS) said on the way to Karbala: **«Don't you see that the right is not conveyed and the wrong is not prohibited? In such a situation, a believer should prefer meeting**



his Lord over such a life, I do not see life with oppressors as destruction and death as salvation.»

### Avoiding humiliation

Imam Al-Hussain (AS) was forced to choose a comfortable life with oppressor or to be killed, he preferred martyrdom:

«Verily, the base-born [Yazid] the son of base-born has made us choose between two, swords and humiliation. And far from us is humiliation. Allah, His prophet, the believers, the honored spirits and the dignified souls reject our humiliation and prefer us not to submit to evil people but instead to face an honorable death.»

### Satisfaction and Submission

One of the stages of human perfection is the position of satisfaction and patience»; when a servant sees himself in the realm of divine sovereignty, he considers all his decisions based on wisdom and expediency and then he lives happily. Imam Al-Hussain (AS), in the last moments of his noble life that was the most difficult moments of Karbala, said»

«Oh Allah! I will be patient on your judgment, there is no god but You, O helper of those who seek help, there is no lord but You, and there is no deity but You, I will be patient with your judgment, O helper of



who has no help, O eternal one who is never ending, O reviver of the dead, O you who are dependent on every soul for what you have earned, Judge between us and them, you are the best judge.»

## Social Responsibility

Man is a social being and is responsible for the good and bad of the society, Therefore, upon seeing the deviation, he must react.

Imam Al-Hussain (AS) in a letter to his brother Muhammad Hanafiyah, wrote:

«I have not taken up arms in order to make merry, or be ecstatic over what I possess. I am not making mischief, nor exercising oppression. But I am ready to fight for the sole goal of seeking reform of the Ummah of my grandfather, the Apostle of Allah (SAWA). I want to enjoin good and forbid evil and guide the affairs of the people as my grandfather and father, Ali Ibn Abi Talib (AS) were doing.»



## Quotes from prominent world figures about Imam Al-Hussain (AS):

### **Philosopher Thomas Carlyle, said about Imam Hussain (AS):**

“The best lesson which we get from the tragedy of Karbala is that Hussain (AS) and his companions were rigid believers in God. They illustrated that the numerical superiority does not count when it comes to the truth and the falsehood. The victory of Hussain despite his minority, marvels me.”

### **George Jordac, Christian author and Lebanese writer and poet:**

“When Yazid, the tyrant ruler of the time, wanted to encourage people to kill Hussein, they asked how much money would you give? While the companions of Hussain (AS) told him that even if we are killed seventy times, we will still help you.»

### **Tomas Masaryk, philosopher and politician from Czech Republic:**

«Let's get rid of the colonizers like Hussain (AS) and prefer death with dignity to life with humiliation.»

### **Mohandas Gandhi, Indian activist, the leader of the Indian independence movement:**

«I have not brought anything new for the people of India; I just brought for them the results which I obtained from my researches about the history of Karbala and that of the champions of the event of 'Ashura. If we want to free India, it is incumbent upon us to traverse the same path which al-Hussain ibn 'Ali (as) traversed.»



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