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Authors Introduction

In the Name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful

All Praise belongs to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, and the good outcome belongs to the pious; Allah bless His chosen elite ones, the choicest from among those whom He favors, the manifestation of His kindness to the world, namely Muhammad ('s) and his Pure Progeny ('a).

The sinning servant of Allah ('a), the perishing captive, Husain son of Ali ibn Sadiq al-Bahrani, says that he is seeking help from his Lord, relying on Him, soliciting all of that through the one whom He loves the most from among His creation, to compile excerpts from the pieces of advice of Ahl al-Bayt ('a) to their followers so that they ('a) may thereby provide guidance to their servants, and so that the latter's hearts may live.

dark minds, because of indulgence in whims and desires which insinuate the committing of sins and transgressions, may thus be enlightened. I hope Allah will grant me His support and assistance and make this a treasure for the Day of Returning to Him; He is the most Generous, the most Giving. Upon Him is my reliance and dependence, and He suffices me; how Great is the One upon Whom I rely!

Let us provide for this book an Introduction explaining the purpose of confirming these statements and attracting attention to these niceties. I used to often indulge my soul, which repeatedly inclines to what is wrong, in the hope that I would compile useful legacies from AhI al-Bayt ('a) so that such indifferent hearts may wake up, so that these dead souls may come back to life after having turned away from Allah and shunned Him. But my inactivity always stopped me from doing so. I took to laziness, causing my own harm.

If knowledge is not applied, it will only cause the knowledgeable person to get even further from Allah, and it cannot be expected to affect the hearts. This is so based on what is transmitted about Ahl al-Bayt ('a) who advised that if a scholar did not implement his knowledge, his admonishment would be removed

from the hearts; such is stated in Vol. 1, p. 44, of *Al-Kafi*.

When I saw how my life-span was approaching its expiration and how the end was nigh, I was of the view that procrastination was of no avail and excuses were futile. This led me to seek the opinion of some loved ones. Because of the desire of some close friends of mine, I sought advice from Allah, praise to Him, with the intention that this would be my own self-admonishment, perhaps my soul would be reawakened.

I anticipated it would bring me goodness and a blessing because it is a response to the wish of my brethren and a means of seeking nearness to Allah, the Praised One, through serving the tales of Ahl al-Bayt, and I hoped He would thus honor me.

I decided, with the will and power of Allah, to compile incidents relevant to Ahl al-Bayt ('a) in various chapters and from different sources without mentioning the references or investigating the exact text of statements, for their contexts are accepted by sound minds which believe in them, and a straightforward nature testifies for them. What is meant is mere reference; all help is sought from Allah; from Him comes any action's success; upon Him one must rely.

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