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Chapter 8: Allah does not leave the world with no authority (Hujjah)

(1) Some of the famous speech of Imam Ali (as) to Kumayl bin Ziyad an-Nakh'iy:

Kumayl said: "Amirul Mo'mineen (as) held my hand and took me with him towards the graveyard. When we reached the desert (went out of the country), he sighed deeply and said (after a long speech):

.ولا تخلو الأرضُ من حجةٍ قائم لله بحجته إما ظاهر معلوم، وإما خائف مغمور، لئلا تبطلَ حجج الله وبيناته

"The earth does never remain without a Hujjah; either apparent and known or afraid and unknown lest Allah's proofs and signs will be invalid."1

Does the statement of Imam Ali (as) "apparent and known" not refer to the known person and the known place and does his statement "afraid and hidden" not refer to the disappearing person and the unknown place?

وأخبرنا أحمد بن محمد بن سعيد بن عقدة قال: حدثنا محمد بن المفضل وسعدان بن إسحاق وأحمد بن _ 2 الحسين بن عبد الملك ومحمد بن أحمد القطواني قالوا: حدثنا الحسن بن محبوب، عن هشام بن سلام، عن أبي حمزة الثمالي، عن أبي إسحاق السبيعى قال: سمعت من يوثق به من أصحاب أمير المؤمنين يقول: قال أمير المؤمنين في خطبة خطبها بالكوفة طويلة ذكرها :

اللهم فلا بد لك من حجج في أرضك حجة بعد حجة على خلقك، يهدونهم إلى دينك، ويعلمونهم علمك لكيلا يتفرق أتباع أوليائك، ظاهر غير مطاع، أو مكتتم خائف يترقب، إن غاب عن الناس شخصه في حال هدنتهم في دولة الباطل فلن يغيب عنهم مبثوث علمهم، وآدابُهم في قلوب المؤمنين مثبتة، وهم بها عاملون، يأنسون بما يستوحش منه المكذبون ويأباه المسرفون بالله. كلام يكال بلا ثمن لو كان من يسمعه بعقله فيعرفه ويؤمن به ويتبعه، وينهج نهجه فيفلح به؟ ثم يقول: فمن هذا؟ ولهذا يأرز العلم إذ لم يوجد حملةً يحفظونه ويؤدونه كما يسمعونه من العالم.

(2) Ahmad bin Muhammad bin Sa'eed bin Oqda narrated from Muhammad bin al-Mufadhdhal, Sa'dan bin Iss'haq, Ahmad bin al-Husayn bin Abdul Melik and Muhammad bin Ahmad al-Qatawani all narrated from al-Hasan bin Mahboob from Hisham bin Salim from Abu Hamza ath-Thimali that Abu Iss'haq as-Subay'iy had said: I have heard one of the trusted companions of Imam Ali (as) saying that Imam Ali (as) has said in a long speech he made in Kufa:

"O Allah, it must be that You have authorities on Your earth one after the other over Your people to guide them to Your religion and to teach them Your knowledge lest the followers of Your guardians separate. They (the authorities) are either apparent without being obeyed or afraid, hidden and awaiting. If their persons are absent from people during their truce in the state of untruth, their knowledge will never be absent from them (from people). Their principles are fixed in the hearts of the believers, who act according to these principles. They become pleasant with what the liars become unpleasant and with what those, who are indifferent to the obligations of Allah, deny. Speech that is measured without any price; but is there any one hearing it with his mind, perceiving it, believing in it and following it as an ideal to succeed with it? And who is he? Therefore knowledge is lost because there is no one to bear it, to preserve it and to teach it as it is heard from the ulama."

Then he said after a long speech:

"O Allah, I know well that knowledge is not lost totally nor its means disappear because You do not leave the earth without an authority over Your people; either apparent and obeyed or afraid, absent and disobeyed lest Your proofs will be vain and Your faithfuls will go astray after You have guided them."

The same was narrated by Muhammad bin Ya'qoob al-Kulayni from Ali bin Muhammad from Sahl bin Ziyad from Muhammad bin Yahya and others from Ahmad bin Muhammad from Ali bin Ibraheem from his father from al-Hasan bin Mahboob from Hisham bin Salim from Abu Hamza ath-Thimali from Abu Iss'haq as-Subay'iy from one of Imam Ali's trusted companions.2

(3) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob al-Kulayni narrated from Ali bin Ibraheem bin Hashim from his father from ibn Abu Omayr from Mansoor bin Younus and Sa'dan bin Muslim from Iss'haq bin Ammar that Abu

Abdullah as-Sadiq (as) had said:

"The world will not be empty of a jurisprudent (imam). Whenever the believers add something (a heresy) to the religion, he prevents them from that and whenever they omit something of it, he completes it for them."3

4 حدثنا محمد بن يعقوب، عن محمد بن يحيى، عن أحمد بن محمد، عن علي بن الحكم، عن الربيع بن محمد $\frac{1}{2}$: المسلى، عن عبد الله بن سليمان العامري، عن أبى عبد الله أنه قال

(4) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob narrated from Muhammad bin Yahya from Ahmad bin Muhammad from Ali bin al-Hakam from ar-Rabee' bin Muhammad bin al-Mussalli from Abdullah bin Sulayman al-Aamiri that Abu Abdullah as-Sadiq (as) had said:

"The world will still have an authority from Allah knowing the permissible and impermissible things and inviting people to the way of Allah."4

(5) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob narrated from some of his companions from Ahmad bin Mihran from Muhammad bin Ali that al-Husayn bin Abul Ala' had asked Abu Abdullah as-Sadiq (as):

"Is the world left without an imam?"

He replied: "No, it is not."5

(6) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob narrated from Ali bin Ibraheem from Muhammad bin Eessa from Younus from ibn Miskan from Abu Baseer that Abu Abdullah as-Sadig (as) had said:

"Allah does not leave the world without a jurisprudent (imam); otherwise the truth is not distinguished

from the untruth."6

7 ـ عن محمد بن عيسى، عن محمد بن الفضيل، عن أبي حمزة الثمالي، عن أبي جعفر الباقر ـ 7 : أنه قال

واللهِ، ما ترك الله أرضَه منذ قبض الله آدمَ إلا وفيها إمامٌ يُهتدى به إلى الله، وهو حجته على عباده، ولا تبقى الأرض باده عباده .

(7) Ali bin Ibraheem narrated from Muhammad bin Eessa from Muhammad bin al-Fudhayl from Abu Hamza ath-Thimali that Abu Ja'far al-Baqir (as) had said:

"By Allah, He has not left the world, since Adam had left to the better world, without an imam guiding people to the way of Allah and being the authority of Allah over His people. The world will never be left without an authority (from Allah) over the people."7

(8) The previous series of narrators narrated that Abu Hamza ath-Thimali had said: I asked Abu Abdullah as-Sadiq (as): "Is the world left without an imam?" He said:

"If the world remains without an imam, it will sink."8

.قال: لا

.(قلت: فإنا نروي عن أبي عبد الله أنها لا تبقى بغير إمام إلاّ أن يسخط الله على أهل الأرض (أو قال: على العباد

. فقال: لا تبقى الأرضُ بغير إمام، ولو بقيت إذاً لساخت

(9) The previous narrators narrated from Muhammad bin al-Fudhayl that he had said:

I asked Imam ar-Redha (as): "Is the world left without an imam?"

He said: "No, it is not."

I said: "We narrate from Abu Abdullah as-Sadiq (as) that it is not left without an imam except if Allah becomes angry with the people."

He said: "The world is not left without an imam. If it is left without an imam, it will sink."9

(10) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob al-Kulayni narrated from Ali bin Ibraheem from Muhammad bin Eessa from Abu Abdullah al-Mo'min from Abu Hurasa that Abu Ja'far al-Baqir (as) had said:

"If the imam is removed from on the earth for an hour, it will sink with its people and will surge like the sea."10

.قال: لا

(11) Muhammad bin Ya'qoob narrated from al-Husayn bin Muhammad from Mu'alla bin Muhammad that al-Washsha' had said:

I asked Imam ar-Redha (as): "Is the world left without an imam?" He said: "No, it is not."

I said: "We narrate traditions saying that it does not remain without an imam except if Allah becomes angry with the people." He said: "It does not remain without an imam, otherwise it sinks."11

- 1. Mo'jam Ahadeeth al-Imam al-Mahdi, vol.3 p.67.
- 2. Biharul Anwar, vol.23 p.54, Mo'jam Ahadeeth al-Imam al-Mahdi, vol. 3 p.67.
- 3. Basa'ir ad-Darajat p.332, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.178, Kamal ad-Deen p.221, Ilal ash-Shara'i' p.220.
- 4. Al-Mahassin p.236, Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.484, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.178.
- 5. Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.485, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.178, al-Imama wet-Tabsira p.27, Kamal ad-Deen p.223.
- 6. Al-Kafi, vol. 1 p. 178, Biharul Anwar, vol. 23 p. 36.
- 7. Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.485, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.178, al-Imama wet-Tabsira p.29, Ilal ash-Sharayi' p.197, Mukhtasar Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.8, Biharul Anwar, vol.23 p.22.
- 8. Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.488, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.179, al-Imama wet-Tabsira p.30, Kamal ad-Deen p.201, Ilal ash-Sharayi' p.198.
- 9. Biharul Anwar, vol.23 p.33, Mo'jam Ahadeeth al-Imam al-Mahdi, vol. 4 p. 177.
- 10. Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.488, Al-Kafi, vol.1 p.179, Kamal ad-Deen p.203, Dala'il al-Imama p.230.
- 11. Bassa'ir ad-Darajat p.488, Biharul Anwar, vol.23 p.28.

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