

Surah Balad, Chapter 90

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful

Verses 1 – 20

{ لَا أُقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ 1 }

1. Verily I swear by this City (of Mecca).

{ وَأَنْتَ حِلٌّ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ 2 }

2. And why should I not swear) when you are resident thereof. 1

{ وَوَالِدٍ وَمَا وَلَدَ 3 }

3. And I swear by Ali (born therein) his progeny (Divine Lights).

{ لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي كَبَدٍ 4 }

4. Verily is mancreated for Labour (which is his destiny).

{ أَيَحْسَبُ أَنْ لَنْ يَقْدِرَ عَلَيْهِ أَحَدٌ 5 }

5. Does he think there is none to control him?

{يَقُولُ أَهْلَكْتُ مَا لَا لُبَدًا 6}

6. He says² "I have wasted a lot of wealth.

{أَيَحْسَبُ أَنْ لَمْ يَرَهُ أَحَدٌ 7}

7. Does he think nobody saw him?

{أَلَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ 8}

8. Did We not endow on him two eyes?

{وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ 9}

9. And a tongue and two lips?

{وَهَدَيْنَاهُ النَّجْدَيْنِ 10}

10. And pointed him out two paths leading to (good paradise by righteous acts and evil to hell by following passion)?

{فَلَا اقْتَحَمَ الْعَقَبَةَ 11}

11. In spite of which he did not cross the table land of gratitude.³

{وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْعَقَبَةُ 12}

12. And what is that table land?

{فَكَ رَقَبَةً 13}

13. Emancipation of a slave.

{أَوْ إِطْعَامٌ فِي يَوْمٍ ذِي مَسْغَبَةٍ} 14

14. Or (in the alternate feeding) during (personal) want.

{يَتِيمًا ذَا مَقْرَبَةٍ} 15

15. The related orphan.

{أَوْ مِسْكِينًا ذَا مَتْرَبَةٍ} 16

16. Or the helpless and homeless beggar.

{ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ} 17

17. And then be of the faithful, advising others on patience and practicing kindness.

{أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْمَيْمَنَةِ} 18

18. Those are (the attributes of the) followers Ali (Shia).

{وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بآيَاتِنَا هُمْ أَصْحَابُ الْمَشْأَمَةِ} 19

19. And who denied of Our nominated leadership (i.e. of Divine Lights).

{عَلَيْهِمْ نَارٌ مُؤَصَّدَةٌ} 20

20. Who shall be hellward encased in a fire box.

Moral

From Couplet Two it follows Karabla, where the mausoleum of Hussain (dearest to God) and soil whereof has a purificating effect on sinful Shias is supreme.

Clear. Note table land above is affectionate attachment to Divine Lights proved by following them.

1. Importance of an oath is due to the Prophet, whom the Quraish drew out of Mecca and not due to the town.
2. Omar ibn Abde wad who refused to embrace faith as he had wasted his lot of wealth in dissuading people from

embracing Islam and therefore, he was slain in the Battle of the Trench by Ali.

3. To qualify him for admission to Paradise.

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