

To The Heaven

The horrific scenes that Lady Zaynab had witnessed in her life did not part from her for even a single moment; her eyes were always tearful and her words uttered in wailing for her brother and the martyrs. She used to call out the names of her brothers, sons and nephews, and then she would be loose consciousness. In this state she was like a feeble body without soul, awaiting death, which could be the only relief. She awaited death so as to express grief to her grandfather and parents about all that she had seen. Thus, she was affected by illnesses one after another and she had to stay in bed for a long time while suffering the agonies of her ailments.

Even in the last sparks of her life, the scenes of Karbala and Damascus were alive before her eyes. However, death came to her while her tongue was glorifying the Almighty Lord, Who will take revenge from those who had wronged her. She departed on Sunday, the fifteenth of Rajab, 62 AH at the age of fifty-seven.¹

Her Burial Place

Historians have different opinions about the burial place of Lady Zaynab. Some have defined it to be al-Baqi in Medina. This opinion is not acceptable because if she were buried there, she would have a special tomb just like the others who were buried there. It is probable that she, like her mother, asked to be buried at night so that no one would know about the location of her grave.

A good group of historians concur that she died in a small village in Damascus and was buried there. They recorded that she immigrated to Syria when Medina was affected by a disastrous famine, due to which Abdullah ibn Jafar left for Syria.

It seems however that the story of this famine is baseless, since most of the historians and narrators have never referred to any such incident during that period. Besides, Abdullah ibn Jafar was so rich that he was unlikely to be adversely influenced by such a famine, and that he was too generous to leave his people in such a famine and immigrate to the center of his enemies. At any rate, it is widespread that Lady Zaynab was buried in Damascus and there is now a handsome shrine pilgrimaged by thousands of people every day, seeking the blessings and mercy of Almighty Allah, just like the holy shrine of Imam

al-Husayn.

Another good number of historians have recorded that Lady Zaynab was buried in Egypt.² For all Egyptians, this is an unquestionable fact, and her handsome shrine there is one of the most significant signs Egypt. The historians have recorded the following about Lady Zaynab's immigration to Egypt:

In Medina, Lady Zaynab began to rally the public against the ruling authorities and the unjust Umayyad State. As a result, people of Medina rebelled and formed armed forces to face the ruling authorities. In response, Yazid sent a heavy army commanded by the criminal Muslim ibn Aqabah to kill the rebels and civilians harshly and mercilessly. He even turned them into slaves for Yazid.

Fearing the activities of Lady Zaynab, the ruler of Medina wrote to Yazid about danger perceived from her presence in Medina. The tyrant wrote back that he should banish her to any country she would choose. First of all, Lady Zaynab refused, but Zaynab daughter of Aqil, her cousin, convinced her to leave for the good of religion. She then opted for Egypt. Her nieces Fatimah and Sukaynah, daughters of Imam al-Husayn (a), accompanied her in her (final) journey.

They arrived in Egypt on the last days of Dhu'l-Hijjah, and were received hospitably by the ruler of Egypt, Maslamah ibn Mukhallad al-Ansari, who offered Lady Zaynab to reside in his own house in al-Tamra, and she lived there for eleven months and fifteen days. On Sunday, 15th of Rajab, 62 A.H., Lady Zaynab departed from life and was buried in that house. There is now a handsome shrine carrying her name and teaching all generations the meanings of real humanity and defense of freedom and belief.³

In his book entitled *al-Tarikh*, Ibn Asakir records:

“Lady Zaynab resided in Egypt where she died and was buried. The lady buried in Damascus is her sister, Zaynab al-Wusta.”

The Egyptians as well as the other Muslims throughout the globe pilgrimage to the holy shrine everyday especially on the occasion of her death. They, including scholars and religious people, crowd around the shrine seeking the Lord's blessings and mercy through the intercession of Lady Zaynab. Rulers of Egypt, such as Kafur al-Akhshidi, Ahmad ibn Tawlawn, and al-Dafir-bin-Nasrillah also had the honor to visit the holy shrine.

When the month of Rajab begins, people from everywhere gather around the holy shrine reciting the Holy Book of Allah and other Duas. Furthermore, some of them reside there for half of the month.

Reconstructions and restorations to the holy shrine have been carried out several times all through the course of history, at the hands of virtuous kings and leaders of Egypt, such as, Fakhruddin Thalab al-Jafari, Ali Pasha al-Wazir (in 956 AH), and Abdul-Rahman Katkhada (in 1174 AH). In 1212 AH, Uthman al-Muradi reconstructed the shrine, but he had to stop when the French occupied the country. In 1326 AH, Yusuf Pasha carried on with the reconstruction and his works were dated through some poetic

verses written on a tablet of marble. Anyhow, the final touches took place at the hands of Muhammad Ali Pasha. In 1276 AH, Said Pasha reconstructed some parts of the shrine, and in 1294 AH, Khedive Muhammad Tawfiq Pasha reconstructed other parts. The operation was completed in 1304 AH.

In any case, every country or place where Lady Zaynab resided has a right to take pride in this Lady who has been the honor of Islam and all Muslims. At any rate, Lady Zaynab's place is in the heart of each and every seeker of truth. She has been too great a personality to be contained by any tomb, and fruit of one's deed depends upon their intent.

Ziyarah of Lady Zaynab

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the leader of the Prophets.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ سَيِّدِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the owner of the (Heavenly) Pond and the Standard.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ صَاحِبِ الْحَوْضِ وَاللِّوَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him who was taken to the skies and who reached the position of the length of two arrows or even closer.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ عُرِجَ بِهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَوَصَلَ إِلَى مَقَامِ قَابِ قَوْسَيْنِ أَوْ أَدْنَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the Prophet of right guidance, the master of (all) human beings, and the savior of the servants (of Allah) from being destroyed.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ نَبِيِّ الْهُدَى وَسَيِّدِ الْوَرَى وَمُنْقِذِ الْعِبَادِ مِنَ الرَّدَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the one who has conformed (himself) to sublime morality, enjoyed the broad honor, and owned the (Heavenly) Signs and the Wise Remembrance of Allah (i.e. the Holy Quran).

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ صَاحِبِ الْخُلُقِ الْعَظِيمِ وَالشَّرَفِ الْعَمِيمِ وَالْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the owner of the Lofty Position, the Pond from which people shall

drink (on the Resurrection Day), and the Standard, which shall be witnessed by everybody.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ صَاحِبِ الْمَقَامِ الْمَحْمُودِ وَالْحَوْضِ الْمُرُودِ وَاللِّوَاءِ الْمَشْهُودِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the Path of Islam and the one given the qiblah and the Quran, and the example of honesty, right, and benevolence.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْهَجِ دِينِ الْإِسْلَامِ وَصَاحِبِ الْقِبْلَةِ وَالْقُرْآنِ وَعَلِمِ الصِّدْقِ وَالْحَقِّ وَالْإِحْسَانِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O daughter of the choice of the Prophets, the example of the pious ones, and the well known in both the earth and the heavens.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ صَفْوَةِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَعَلِمِ الْأَتْقِيَاءِ وَمَشْهُورِ الذِّكْرِ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَالسَّمَاءِ، وَرَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O daughter of the best of Allah's creation, the master of His creatures, the foremost created individual before the existence of (Allah's) earth and heavens, the last of the existent ones (who shall endure) after the extinction of this world and its beings, and the one whose soul is a copy of the Divinity and whose heart is the treasury of the Eternal, Subsistent God.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ خَيْرِ خَلْقِ اللَّهِ وَسَيِّدِ خَلْقِهِ وَأَوَّلِ الْعَدَدِ قَبْلَ إِجَادِ أَرْضِهِ وَسَمَاوَاتِهِ وَآخِرِ الْأَبَدِ بَعْدَ فَنَاءِ الدُّنْيَا وَأَهْلِهَا الَّذِي رُوحُهُ نُسْخَةُ اللَّأْهُوتِ وَصُورَتُهُ نُسْخَةُ الْمُلْكِ وَالْمَلَكُوتِ وَقَلْبُهُ خَزَانَةُ الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ، وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O daughter of the one who is shaded by clouds, is the master of the Two Worlds, is the chief of the two beings (i.e. man and jinn), and is the Intercessor of the ummah on the Resurrection Day.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ الْمُظَلَّلِ بِالْغَمَامِ سَيِّدِ الْكَوْنَيْنِ وَمَوْلَى الثَّقَلَيْنِ وَشَفِيعِ الْأُمَّةِ يَوْمَ الْمَحْشَرِ وَرَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the master of the Prophets' successors.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ سَيِّدِ الْأَوْصِيَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the leader of the God-fearing ones.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ إِمَامِ الْأَتْقِيَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the shelter of the saints.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ رُكْنِ الْأَوْلِيَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the support of the Choice ones.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ عِمَادِ الْأَصْفِيَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the leader of the Religion.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ يَعْسُوبِ الدِّينِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the commander of the faithful ones.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the Chief of the Prophets' successors.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ سَيِّدِ الْوَصِيِّينَ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the leader of the pious ones.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ قَائِدِ الْبِرَّةِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the preventer of the infidels and the wantons.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ قَامِعِ الْكُفْرَةِ وَالْفَجْرَةِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the inheritor of the Prophets.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ وَارِثِ النَّبِيِّينَ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the successor of the Chief of Apostles.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ خَلِيفَةِ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of brightness of the Religion.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ ضِيَاءِ الدِّينِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the Great News (as it is certainly proved).

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ النَّبَأِ الْعَظِيمِ عَلَى الْيَقِينِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O daughter of the one to whom the mission of settling accounts with people (on the Resurrection Day) is given, between whose hands the Heavenly Pond (of al-Kawthar) is put, and whom is intended by the (Prophet's) Statement of the Ghadir Day.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ حِسَابُ النَّاسِ عَلَيْهِ وَالْكَوْثَرُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ وَالنَّصُّ يَوْمَ الْغَدِيرِ عَلَيْهِ، وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the lady whose she-camel was driven by (Archangel) Gabriel, and whose misfortune (of Imam al-Husayn's being slain in Karbala) was shared by (Archangel) Israfil, and due to whose anger the All-exalted Lord was angry, and for whose misfortune of Karbala, (the Prophets) Abraham the Friend of Allah, Noah, and Moses the Spoken by Allah wept.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ قَادَ زِمَامَ نَاقَتِهَا جِبْرَائِيلُ وَشَارَكَهَا فِي مُصَابِهَا إِسْرَافِيلُ، وَعَظِيبَ سَبَبِهَا الرَّبُّ الْجَلِيلُ، وَيَكِي لِمُصَابِهَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ الْخَلِيلُ وَنُوحٌ وَمُوسَى الْكَلِيمُ فِي كَرْبَلَاءَ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the shining full moons.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ الْبُدُورِ السَّوَاطِعِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O daughter of the brilliant suns.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ الشُّمُوسِ الطَّوَالِعِ، وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Well Zamzam and Safa (of the landmarks of Mecca)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ زَمْرَمَ وَالصَّفَا

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Mecca and Mina – a height in Mecca.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَكَّةَ وَمِنَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him whom was carried by Buraq to the heavens.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ حُمِلَ عَلَى الْبُرَاقِ فِي الْهَوَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him who carried the zakat (almsgiving) by the margins of his dress to give it to the paupers.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ حَمَلَ الزَّكَاةَ بِأَطْرَافِ الرِّدَاءِ وَيَذَلُّهُ عَلَى الْفُقَرَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him whom was taken by night from the Inviolable Masjid to the Farthest Masjid.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ أُسْرِيَ بِهِ مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him who fought with two swords.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ ضَرَبَ بِالسَّيْفَيْنِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of him who offered prayers to the two qiblas.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مَنْ صَلَّى الْقِبْلَتَيْنِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Muhammad al–Mustafa (the Selected by God)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا بِنْتَ مُحَمَّدٍ الْمُصْطَفَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Ali al–Murtada (the Pleased one)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ عَلِيِّ الْمُرْتَضَى

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Fatimah al-Zahraa (the Resplendent).

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ فَاطِمَةَ الزَّهْرَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of Khadijah al-Kubra (the Grand)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ خَدِجَةَ الْكُبْرَى

Peace be upon you and upon your grandfather, Muhammad al-Mukhtar (the Chosen.)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَى جَدِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ الْمُخْتَارِ

Peace be upon you and upon your father, Haydar al-Karrar (the Attacking Lion.)

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَى أَبِيكَ حَيْدَرَ الْكَرَّارِ

Peace be upon you and upon the pure, choice masters who are the Arguments of Allah on lands, the chiefs of the earth and the heavens, and love for whom is a prescription that is incumbent upon all creatures.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَى السَّادَاتِ الْأَطْهَارِ الْأَخْيَارِ، وَهُمْ حُجَجُ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْأَقْطَارِ وَسَادَاتُ الْأَرْضِ وَالسَّمَاءِ الَّذِينَ حُبُّهُمْ
فَرَضَ عَلَى أَعْنَاقِ كُلِّ الْخَلَائِقِ

Peace be upon you, O daughter of the glorified, holy servant of Allah.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ وَلِيِّ اللَّهِ الْمُعْظَمِ

Peace be upon you, O aunt of dignified, holy servant of Allah.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا عَمَّةَ وَلِيِّ اللَّهِ الْمُكْرَمِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O mother of misfortunes; Zaynab.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا أُمَّ الْمَصَائِبِ يَا زَيْنَبُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace be upon you—the virtuous, rightly guided one!

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ أَيَّتُهَا الْفَاضِلَةُ الرَّشِيدَةُ

Peace be upon you—the Woman of perfection, knowledge, doer of good.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ أَيَّتُهَا الْكَامِلَةُ الْعَالِمَةُ الْعَامِلَةُ

Peace be upon you—the noble gentlewoman.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ أَيَّتُهَا الْكَرِيمَةُ النَّبِيلَةُ

Peace be upon you—the pious, infallible one.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ أَيَّتُهَا التَّقِيَّةُ النَّقِيَّةُ

Peace be upon you—who showed her love for al-Husayn; the wronged, in many situations and had to suffer awful heartbreaking misfortunes.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا مَنْ ظَهَرَتْ مَحَبَّتُهَا لِلْحُسَيْنِ الْمَظْلُومِ فِي مَوَارِدِ عَدِيدَةٍ وَتَحَمَلِ الْمَصَائِبِ الْمُحْرِقَةَ لِلْقُلُوبِ مَعَ
تَحْمُلَاتٍ شَدِيدَةٍ

Peace be upon you—who guarded the Imam on the Day of Ashura when he was killed, and sacrificed her soul for the salvation of Zayn al-Abidin at the gathering of the most wretched one (i.e. Ubaydullah ibn Ziyad), and addressed with a speech, just like that of (Imam) Ali, in the streets of Kufa despite the presence of her enemies.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكِ يَا مَنْ حَفِظْتَ الْإِمَامَ فِي يَوْمِ عَاشُورَاءَ فِي الْقَتْلِ وَبَدَلْتِ نَفْسَهَا فِي نَجَاةِ زَيْنِ الْعَابِدِينَ فِي مَجْلِسِ أَشُقَى
الْأَشْقِيَاءِ وَنَطَقْتَ كُنُطُقَ عَلِيِّ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فِي سِكَكِ الْكُوفَةِ وَحَوْلَهَا كَثِيرٌ مِنَ الْأَعْدَاءِ

Peace be upon you—who thrust her forehead with the front part of the howdah, when she saw the severed head of the Chief of Martyrs (i.e. Imam al-Husayn), and caused blood to flow from beneath her veil and from the howdah in the view of the enemies.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ نَطَحَتْ جَبِينَهَا بِمُقَدِّمِ الْمَحْمَلِ إِذْ رَأَتْ رَأْسَ سَيِّدِ الشُّهَدَاءِ وَيَخْرُجُ الدَّمُ مِنْ تَحْتِ قِنَاعِهَا وَمِنْ
مَحْمَلِهَا بِحَيْثُ يَرَى مَنْ حَوْلَهَا مِنَ الْأَعْدَاءِ

Peace be upon you, O the representative of the Infallible Imam.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا تَالِيَةَ الْمَعْصُومِ

Peace and Allah's Mercy and Blessings be upon you, O you who were tested through patience amidst misfortunes like al-Husayn the oppressed.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَمْتَحَنَةً فِي تَحْمَلِ الْمَصَائِبِ كَالْحُسَيْنِ الْمَظْلُومِ، وَرَحْمَةَ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace be upon you who are far away from you home.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْبَعِيدَةُ عَنِ الْأُوطَانِ

Peace be upon you who were taken as captive through cities.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْأَسِيرَةُ فِي الْبُلْدَانِ

Peace be upon you when you were bewildered in that ruined place in Syria.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْمُتَحِيرَةُ فِي خَرَابَةِ الشَّامِ

Peace be upon you when you were bewildered as you stood by the (severed) body of the Chief of Martyrs and called out for your grandfather – the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and his family, saying: "Oh, Muhammad! May the angels in the Heavens bless you! This is Husayn under the open sky! His turban and his clothes have been stripped! His limbs are severed! And your daughters are being taken captives! Complaining (about this) is only to Allah."

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْمُتَحِيرَةُ فِي وُقُوفِكَ عَلَى جَسَدِ سَيِّدِ الشُّهَدَاءِ وَخَاطَبْتِ جَدَّكَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ بِهَذَا
النِّدَاءِ: "صَلَّى عَلَيْكَ مَلَائِكَةُ السَّمَاءِ! هَذَا حُسَيْنٌ بِالْعِرَاءِ مَسْلُوبٌ الْعِمَامَةَ وَالرِّدَاءَ، مُقَطَّعُ الْأَعْضَاءِ، وَبَنَاتُكَ سَبَايَا! وَاللَّهِ
الْمُشْتَكِي."

You also said, "O Muhammad! This is Husayn! Winds are blowing at his body! His head is cut off from

his back! Bastards have killed him! Oh, for my grief for you, Abu Abdullah!

وَقَالَتْ: "يَا مُحَمَّدُ! هَذَا حُسَيْنٌ تَسْفِي عَلَيْهِ رِيحُ الصَّبَا، مَجْدُودَ الرَّأْسِ مِنَ الْقَفَا، قَتِيلَ أَوْلَادِ الْبِغَا. وَاحْزَنَاهُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أَبَا عَبْدِ اللَّهِ."

Peace be upon you whose heart cried out for al-Husayn; the oppressed, the stripped, and the one who fell on dust, and you said in a sad tone, "May my father be sacrificed for the one for whom I may sacrifice my soul! Oh, for him who was depressed until he passed away! Oh, for him who had been thirsty until he departed from life! Oh, for him whose beard was dropping blood!"

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ تَهَيَّجَ قَلْبُهَا لِلْحُسَيْنِ الْمَظْلُومِ الْعُرْيَانِ الْمَطْرُوحِ عَلَى الثَّرَى وَقَالَتْ بِصَوْتِ حَزِينٍ: "بِأَبِي مَنْ نَفْسِي لَهُ الْفِدَاءُ، بِأَبِي الْمَهْمُومِ حَتَّى قَضَى، بِأَبِي مَنْ شَبَبَتْهُ تَقَطُّرُ الدِّمَاءِ."

Peace be upon her who wept for the (severed) body of her brother among the killed ones so painfully that every one—whether friend or even enemy, wept for her and it was reported through authenticated narrations that people saw even horses shed tears, as they galloped past on their legs.

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ بَكَتْ عَلَى جَسَدِ أُخِيهَا بَيْنَ الْقَتْلَى حَتَّى بَكَى لُبْكَائِهَا كُلُّ صَدِيقٍ وَعَدُوٍّ، وَرَأَى النَّاسُ دُمُوعَ الْخَيْلِ تَنْحَدِرُ عَلَى حَوَافِرِهَا عَلَى التَّحْقِيقِ

Peace be upon her who took the responsibility of gathering and guarding the daughters of the Messenger of Allah and the children of al-Husayn on the afternoon of the day of Ashura, and she stirred up the situation when the two oppressed, strange children were martyred.

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ تَكَفَّلَتْ وَجَمَعَتْ فِي عَصْرِ عَاشُورَاءَ بَنَاتِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ وَأَطْفَالَ الْحُسَيْنِ وَقَامَتْ لَهَا الْقِيَامَةُ فِي شَهَادَةِ الطِّفْلِينِ الْغَرِيبِينَ الْمَظْلُومِينَ

Peace be upon her whose eyes did not sleep so as to guard the family of the Messenger of Allah at Taff of Nineveh, and was taken as captive and was humiliated at the hands of her enemies.

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ لَمْ تَنْمَ عَيْنُهَا لِأَجْلِ حِرَاسَةِ آلِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ فِي طَفِّ نَيْنَوَى وَصَارَتْ أُسِيرَةً ذَلِيلَةً بِيَدِ الْأَعْدَاءِ

Peace be upon her who had to ride a saddleless camel and then called on her brother Abul-FadhI (al-Abbas), saying, "O brother! O Abul-FadhI! It was you who helped me mount a camel when I left Medina."

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ رَكِبَتْ بَعِيرًا بَغِيرِ وِطَاءٍ وَنَادَتْ أَخَاهَا أَبَا الْفَضْلِ بِهَذَا النَّدَاءِ: "أَخِي أَبَا الْفَضْلِ، أَنْتَ الَّذِي أُرَكِبْتَنِي إِذْ أُرِدْتُ الْخُرُوجَ مِنَ الْمَدِينَةِ"

Peace be upon her who addressed a remarkably eloquent speech in the center of Kufa so that all voices were silenced (to listen to her with astonishment)

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ خَطَبَتْ فِي مَيْدَانِ الْكُوفَةِ بِخُطْبَةٍ نَافِعَةٍ حَتَّى سَكَتَتِ الْأَصْوَاتُ مِنْ كُلِّ نَاحِيَةٍ

Peace be upon her who said clear-cut arguments in the gathering of (Ubaydullah) Ibn Ziyad who said to her, "How did you see that which Allah had done to your brother?" Answering him, she said as honest witness, "I saw nothing but good!"

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ احْتَجَّتْ فِي مَجْلِسِ ابْنِ زِيَادٍ بِاحْتِجَاجَاتٍ وَاضِحَةٍ وَقَالَتْ فِي جَوَابِهِ بَيِّنَاتٍ صَادِقَةٍ، إِذْ قَالَ ابْنُ زِيَادٍ: "لَزَيْنَبَ سَلَامُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهَا: "كَيْفَ رَأَيْتِ صُنْعَ اللَّهِ بِأَخِيكَ الْحُسَيْنِ؟" قَالَتْ: "مَا رَأَيْتُ إِلَّا جَمِيلًا"

Peace be upon you who was imprisoned by the enemies under an open sky, and had to see people of Syria celebrate (the martyrdom of her brother) with pleasure, joy, and raised flags.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أُسِيرَةً بِأَيْدِي الْأَعْدَاءِ فِي الْفُلُوتِ وَرَأَيْتِ أَهْلَ الشَّامِ فِي حَالَةِ الْعَيْشِ وَالسُّرُورِ وَنَشْرِ الرِّيَاطِ

Peace be upon her who was tied with a rope to the arm and the neck of Imam Zayn al-Abidin, and she, along with sixteen persons from the family of the Messenger of Allah, was forced to enter (the session of Yazid) while they were enchained with iron fetters. Meanwhile, Ali ibn al-Husayn (Imam Zayn al-Abidin) said to Yazid, "What if the Messenger of Allah sees us in such a manner? What will be his impression?"

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مَنْ شُدَّ الْحَبْلُ عَلَى عَضُدِهَا وَعُنُقِ الْإِمَامِ زَيْنِ الْعَابِدِينَ وَأَدْخَلُوهَا مَعَ سِتَّةِ عَشَرَ نَفَرًا مِنْ آلِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ وَهُمْ كَالْأَسْرَاءِ مُقْرَنِينَ بِالْحَدِيدِ مَظْلُومِينَ، وَقَالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ الْحُسَيْنِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ لِيَزِيدَ: "يَا يَزِيدُ مَا ظَنُّكَ بِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ لَوْ رَأَى عَلَى هَذِهِ الْحَالَةَ؟"

Then, Lady Zaynab – mother of misfortunes – said to Yazid after he had poetized, "(Had my forefathers who were killed at the Battle of Badr witnessed this, they would have been very much delighted. Then they'd have said, "May your hands, O Yazid, never be paralyzed)

How dare you hit the lips of Abu Abdullah (a), the Master of the Youths of Paradise?"

She then said, "Although circumstances have made me to speak to you, I see your power trivial in my eyes, find your talk big and your rebuke excessive, but my eyes are tearful, and the chests filled with fire.

What can be stranger than all strange things that the Party of the Shaitan is killing the honored Party of Allah.

If you regard us as your booty, you shall soon find us as your opponents—that will be when you find nothing but what your hands had committed,

وَمَا رَبُّكَ بِظَلَّامٍ لِلْعَبِيدِ

“And your Lord never treats His servants unjustly (41:46)”

To Allah is my complaint, and upon Him do I rely. So scheme however you wish to scheme, and carry out your plots, and intensify your efforts, for, by Allah, you shall never be able to obliterate our mention, nor will you ever be able to kill the revelation (that was revealed to us), nor will you ever exalt to our position, nor will your shame ever be washed away. Your view shall be proven futile, your days limited in number, and your wealth wasted on the Day when the caller calls out,

أَلَا لَعْنَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَى الظَّالِمِينَ

“The curse of Allah be upon the oppressors. (11: 18)”

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, Who sealed the life of our ancestors with honour and forgiveness, and that of our last ones with martyrdom and mercy. We plead to Allah to complete His rewards for them, grant them an increase, and recompense us pleasingly; He is the most Merciful, the most Compassionate. Allah suffices us, and He is the best Guardian.

May Allah bless Muhammad and his Pure, Immaculate Household.

ثُمَّ قَالَتْ أُمُّ الْمَصَائِبِ زَيْنَبُ لَه: "قَاتِلَا لِأَهْلُوا وَاسْتَهْلُوا فَرَحًا ثُمَّ قَالُوا يَا زَيْدُ لَا تُشَلِّ، مُنْتَحِيًا عَلَى ثَنَائِي أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ، عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ، سَيِّدِ شَبَابِ أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ تَنَكُّهُنَّ بِمُخَصَّرَتِكَ؟"

ثُمَّ قَالَتْ: "وَلَيْنَ جَرَتْ عَلَيَّ الدَّوَاهِي مُخَاطِبَتِكَ، إِنِّي لَأَسْتَمْعِرُ قَدْرَكَ وَأَسْتَعْظِمُ تَقْرِيعَكَ وَأَسْتَكْرِ تَوْبِيخَكَ، لَكِنَّ الْعُيُونَ عَبْرَى وَالصُّدُورُ حَرَى. أَلَا فَالْعَجَبُ كُلُّ الْعَجَبِ لِقَتْلِ حِزْبِ اللَّهِ النُّجَبَاءِ بِحِزْبِ الشَّيْطَانِ الطُّلُقَاءِ"

وَلَيْنَ اتَّخَذْتَنَا مَغْنَمًا لَتَجِدُنَا وَشِيكًا مُغْرَمًا حِينَ لَا تَجِدُ إِلَّا مَا قَدَّمْتَ يَدَاكَ، ﴿وَمَا رَبُّكَ بِظَلَّامٍ لِلْعَبِيدِ﴾ فَإِلَى اللَّهِ الْمُشْتَكَى وَعَلَيْهِ الْمُعُولُ فِي الشَّدَةِ وَالرَّخَاءِ.

فَكَدُّ كَيْدِكَ وَاسْعَ سَعْيِكَ وَنَاصِبُ جَهْدِكَ! فَوَاللَّهِ لَا تَمُحُونَ ذِكْرَنَا وَلَا تُمِيتُ وَحْيَنَا وَلَا تُدْرِكُ أَمَدَنَا وَلَا تَرُخَّصُ عَنْكَ عَارَهَا.

وَهَلْ رَأَيْكَ إِلَّا فَنَدٌ وَأَيَّامُكَ إِلَّا عَدَدٌ وَجَمْعُكَ إِلَّا بَدَدٌ. يَا يَزِيدُ أَمَا سَمِعْتَ قَوْلَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتًا بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ يُرْزَقُونَ﴾

فَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ الَّذِي خَتَمَ لِأَوْلِيَانَا بِالسَّعَادَةِ وَالْمَغْفِرَةِ وَالْآخِرِينَ بِالشَّهَادَةِ وَالرَّحْمَةِ، وَنَسَأَلُ اللَّهَ أَنْ يُكْمِلَ لَهُمُ الثَّوَابَ وَيُوجِبَ لَهُمُ الْمَزِيدَ وَيُحْسِنُ عَلَيْنَا الْخِلَافَةَ؛ إِنَّهُ رَحِيمٌ وَدُودٌ، وَحَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ .

وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ الطَّاهِرِينَ

1. See al-Ubaydali, al-Sayyidah Zaynab wa Akhbar al-Zaynabiyat, 9.

2. This saying is agreed by the following scholars: Ibn Asakir in al-Tarikh al-Kabir, Ibn Tawlaw in al-Risalah al-Zaynabiyah, al-Sharani in Lawaqih al-Anwar, Muhammad Sabban in Isaf al-Raghibin, al-Shabalnaji in Nur al-Absar, al-Shabrawi in al-Ithaf, Hasan al-Adawi in Mashariq al-Anwar, al-Mannawi in al-Tabaqat, Jalaluddin al-Sayuti in al-Risalah al-Zaynabiyah, al-Ajhuri in Musalsal Ashura, and many others.

3. See Isaf al-Raghibin 196, al-Shamrani, Lawaqih al-Anwar 23, al-Ithaf bi Hubb al-Ashraf 93, and Masahriq al-Anwar, 100.