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Letter 20: To Ziyad ibn Abih

To Ziyad ibn Abih (*son of his* [*unknown*] *father*), *when 'Abdullah ibn al-'Abbas was the Governor of Basrah, the suburbs of Ahwaz, Fars and Kirman while Ziyad was his deputy in Basrah.*

ومن كتاب له (عليه السلام)

إلى زياد بن أبيه

وهو خليفة عامله عبدالله بن العباس على البصرة، وعبد الله عامل أميرالمؤمنين (عليه السلام) يومئذ عليها وعلى كور الاهواز فارس وكرمان و

I truthfully swear by Allah that if I come to know that you have misappropriated the funds of the Muslims, small or big, I shall inflict upon you such punishment which will leave you empty handed, heavy backed and humiliated; and that is an end to the matter.

وَإِنّي أُقْسِمُ بِاللهِ قَسَماً صَادِقاً، لَئِنْ بَلَغَني أَنَّكَ خُنْتَ مِنْ فَيْءِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ شَيْئاً صَغِيراً أَوْ كَبِيراً، لاَشُدَّنَّ عَلَيْكَ شَدَّةً تَدَعُكَ قَلِيلَ الْوَفْرِ، ثَقِيلَ الظَّهْرِ، ضَئِيلَ الاْمْرِ، وَالسَّلاَمُ.

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