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Sermon 14: Your land is close to the sea ...

This also is in condemnation of the people of Basrah

(ومن كلام له (عليه السلام

في مثل ذلك

Your land is close to the sea and away from the sky. Your wits have become light and your minds are full of folly. You are the aim of the archer, a morsel for the eater and an easy prey for the hunter.

أرْضُكُمْ قَرِيبَةٌ مِنَ المَاءِ، بَعِيدَةٌ مِنَ السَّماءِ، خَفَّتْ عُقُولُكُمْ، وَسَفِهَتْ حُلُومُكُمْ، فَأَنْتُمْ غَرَضٌ لِنَابِل، وَأُكْلَةٌ لاِكِل، وَفَرِيسَةٌ لِصائِد.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 14

(1) Al-Mufid, *al-Jamal,* 217;

(2) al-Waqidi, *al-Jamal, see* al-Mufid, *op. cit.;*

(3) al-Dinawari, *al-'Akhbar,* 151;

(4) Ibn Qutaybah, *'Uyun*, I, 217;

(5) al-Mas'udi, *Muruj*, II, 368;

(6) Ibn 'Abd Rabbih, *al-'Iqd,* II, 169.

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