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The Truth

The Truth الحَقّ

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الحَقُّ

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : الحقُّ أقوى ظَهيرٍ1

1- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'The truth is the strongest support.'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 716]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : ألاَ وإنَّ الحَقَّ مَطايا ذُلُلٌ ، رَكِبَها أهلُها وأُعطُوا أزِمَّتَها ، فسارَتْ بِهِمُ الهُوَيْنا حتّى أتَتْ2 ظِلاًّ ظَليلاً.

2- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'Know that the truth is [like] tame mounts, whose owners have mounted them and have been handed their reins. They take them gently until they came to ample shade.'[Nahj al-Sa'ada, v. 3, p. 294]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : مَن يَطلُبِ العِزَّ بغَيرِ حقٍّ يَذِلَّ، ومَن عانَدَ الحقَّ لَزِمَهُ الوَهْنُ3

3- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'He who seeks might unrightfully will be humiliated, and he who opposes the truth will be afflicted with weakness.'[Tuhaf al-'Uqul, no. 95]

ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : لَيس مِن باطلٍ يَقومُ بإزاءِ الحقِّ إلّا غلَبَ الحقُّ الباطِلَ، وذلكَ قولُهُ : «بَلْ نَقْذِفُ4 بالحَقِّ على الباطِلِ فيَدْمَغُهُ ...» .

4– Imam al–Sadiq (a.s.) said, ‘No sooner does falsehood stand against the truth than the truth defeats the falsehood, for that is the purport of His verse: “Rather We hurl the truth against falsehood, and it crushes its head…”[Bihar al–Anwar, v. 5, p. 305, no. 24]

5ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : العِزُّ أنْ تَذِلَّ للحقِّ إذا لَزِمَكَ

5– Imam al–Sadiq (a.s.) said, ‘Honour is that you humble yourself to the truth when you face it.’[Bihar al–Anwar, v. 78, p. 228, no. 105]

The Weight of the Truth

ثِقَلُ الحَقِّ

6ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : إنَّ الحقَّ ثَقيلٌ مَرِيءٌ ، وإنّ الباطِلَ خَفيفٌ وَبِيءٌ

6– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Truly the truth is heavy but wholesome, whereas falsehood is light but plagued.’[Nahjul Balaghah, Saying 376]

7: ـ الإمامُ الباقرُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : لَمّا حَضَرَتْ أبي عليَّ ابنَ الحسينِ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) الوَفاةُ ضَمَّني إلى صَدْرِهِ ثُمَّ قالَ أيْ بُنَيَّ ، أُوصيكَ بِما أوْصاني أبي حِينَ حَضَرَتْهُ الوَفاةُ ـ وبما ذَكَرَ أنّ أباهُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) أوصاهُ بِهِ ـ : أيْ بُنَيَّ ، اصبِرْ على الحقِّ وإنْ كانَ مُرّاً.

7– Imam al–Baqir (a.s.) said, ‘At the time of his death, my father, Ali b. al–Husayn (a.s.) hugged me close to his chest and said, ‘O my son! I advise you as my father advised me at the time of his death, and he proceeded to mention that his father had advised him, saying: ‘O my son! Endure the truth even if it be bitter.’[Bihar al–Anwar, v. 70, p. 184, no. 52]

The Necessity of Telling the Truth Even to One’s Own Detriment

وُجوبُ قَولِ الحَقِّ ولَو عَلَى النَّفسِ

8ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) : أتْقى النّاسِ مَن قالَ الحقَّ فيما لَهُ وعَلَيهِ

8– The Prophet (S) said, ‘The most God wary of people is he who speaks the truth, be it for or against

him.'[Amali al-Saduq, p. 27, no. 4]

9- الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : في قائمةِ سَيفٍ مِن سُيوفِ رسولِ اللّهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) صَحيفَةٌ فِيها...قُلِالحقَّ ولو على نفسِكَ .

9- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'It is written on the hilt of one of the Prophet (S)'s swords: 'Speak the truth even if it be against yourself.'[Bihar al-Anwar, v. 74, p. 157, no. 2]

10- الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : إنّ أفْضلَ النّاسِ عندَ اللّهِ مَن كانَ العَملُ بالحقِّ أحَبَّ إليهِ ـ وإنْ نَقَصَهُ وكَرَثَهُ ـ مِن الباطِلِ وإنْ جَرَّ إلَيهِ فائدةً وزادَهُ .

10- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'The best of people in the sight of Allah is he who likes to act according to what is right – even if it brings him loss and misery – more than what is wrong, even if it brings him profit and increase of wealth.'[Nahjul Balaghah, Sermon 125]

11- الإمامُ الكاظمُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) : قُلِ الحقَّ وإنْ كانَ فيهِ هَلاكُكَ ، فإنَّ فيهِ نَجاتَكَ ... ودَعِ الباطِلَ وإنْ كانَ فيهِ نَجاتُكَ فإنّ فيهِ هَلاكَكَ .

11- Imam al-Kazim (a.s.) said, 'Speak the truth even if it entails your own ruin, for verily your deliverance is therein... and abandon falsehood even if it entails your deliverance, for truly therein is your ruin.'[Tuhaf al-'Uqul, no. 408]

Speaking the Truth When Pleased or Angered

قَولُ الحَقِّ فِي الرِّضا وَالغَضَبِ

12- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) : ألاَ لا يَمْنَعَنَّ رجُلاً مَهابَةُ النّاسِ أنْ يَتكَلَّم بالحقِّ إذا عَلِمَهُ . ألاَ إنّ أفضَلَ الجِهادِ كَلِمَةُ حقٍّ عندَ سُلطانٍ جائرٍ .

12- The Prophet (S) said, 'Lo! Fear of people must never prevent any man from telling the truth when he knows it; truly the best jihad is a true word spoken before an unjust ruler.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 43588]

13- الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ مِن وصاياهُ لابْنِهِ الحُسينِ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ : يا بُنيَّ ، أُوصيكَ بتَقْوى اللّهِ في الغِنى والفَقرِ ، و كَلِمَةِ الحقِّ في الرِّضا والغَضَبِ.

13– Imam Ali (a.s.) said in one of his wills to his son, al–Husayn (a.s.), ‘O my son! I advise you to fear Allah in both affluence and poverty, and to tell the truth both when pleased as well as when angered.’[Tuhaf al–’Uqul, no. 88]

Accepting the Truth

قَبولُ الحَقِّ

14ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) : اقْبَلِ الحَقَّ مِمَّن أتاكَ بِهِ ـ صَغيرٌ أو كَبيرٌ ـ وإن كانَ بَغيضاً ، وارْدُدِ الباطِلَ على مَن جاءَ بِهِ مِن صَغيرٍ أو كَبيرٍ وإنْ كانَ حَبيباً.

14– The Prophet (S) said, ‘Accept the truth from anyone who comes to you with it – be he lowly or noble, even if he himself is detestable to you. And reject falsehood from anyone who comes to you with it – be he lowly or noble, even if he is beloved to you.’[Kanz al–’Ummal, no. 43152]

The Criterion of Knowing the Truth

ميزانُ مَعرِفَةِ الحَقِّ

15ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ) : إنّ الحقَّ لايُعرَفُ بالرِّجالِ، اعْرِفِ الحقَّ تَعرِفْ أهلَهُ.

15– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Verily the truth is not known through men; know the truth [first] and you will know its people.’[Majma’a al–Bayan, v. 1, p. 211]

The Truth Can Side Equally With or Against Someone

لا يَجرِي الحَقُّ لِأحَدٍ إلّا جَرى عَلَيهِ

16ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ) : الحقُّ أوْسَعُ الأشياءِ في التَّواصُفِ ، وأضْيَقُها في التَّناصُفِ ، لا يَجْري لأحدٍ إلّا جَرى عَلَيهِ ، ولا يَجْري عليهِ إلّا جَرى لَهُ ، ولَو كانَ لأحَدٍ أنْ يَجْريَ لَهُ ولا يَجْريَ عليهِ لَكانَ ذلكَ خالِصاً للّهِ سُبحانَهُ .

16– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘The truth is the widest thing in description, but the narrowest in practicing justice. No sooner does it side with someone than it will side against him [at another time], and no sooner does it side against someone than it will side for him later. And if anyone is to side with it, never

going against it, then that would be purely for Allah, glory be to Him.’[Nahjul Balaghah, Sermon 216]

. ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ) : لا تَمْنَعَنّكُم رِعايةُ الحقِّ لأحدٍ عن إقامَةِ الحقِّ علَيهِ17

17- Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Do not let consideration for a person’s right hinder you from upholding the truth when it is against him.’[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 10338]

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