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Important Events

الملاحم-Important events

1. One who understands the times [in which he lives] does not neglect to prepare [for what is to come].

2. One who is crippled by the hardship of the times is raised by the assistance of the noble-minded ones.

3. How quick the hours pass in the day and how fast the days pass in the month and how quick the months pass in the year and how fast the years pass in the lifetime!

4. Days are the pages of your lifetime so eternize [or bind] them with your best deeds.

5. Hours are the lurking place of banes.

6. Hours plunder lifetimes.

7. The passing of days brings the benefit of experiences.

8. Hours diminish lifetimes.

9. The passing of days reveals the hidden secrets.

10. Verily you are only [the sum total of] a fixed number of days, and every day that passes you by takes a piece of you with it, so reduce your desires and be moderate in your earning.

11. Verily the previous generations were only wiped out by the alternation of movements and stillness.

12. The early morning hours of Saturdays and Thursdays are a blessing.

13. The era of the just [ruler] is the best of eras.

14. Verily your moments are portions of your life, so do not pass your time except in that which will save you [in the Hereafter].

15. In every instance there is an action [that should be performed].

16. There will come a time upon the people when nothing of the Qur'an will remain except its written text, and nothing of Islam [will remain] but its name; on that day their masjids will be marvellously constructed buildings, but will be empty of (or desolate with regards to) guidance.

17. A time will come upon the people when none will be given a high position except the slanderer, none will be deemed witty except the corrupt and none will be regarded as weak but the just. People will consider charity as a loss, keeping ties with near relatives as an obligation and worship as a means of gaining superiority over people. Vain desires will overcome them and guidance will disappear from among them.

18. The camel growls after its silence, and time pounces [attacking] like a rapacious beast of prey.

19. By the One who split the seed and created humankind, there will surely come forth amongst you a community that will strike the heads on the interpretation of the Qur'an just as Muhammad (s) began [conveying to you] its revelation, this is the decree from the Most Merciful upon you in the end of days.

20. Do not plunge into the surge (or fire) of sedition that comes your way, and move away from its path while opening up the middle of the road for it [to pass].

21. He will direct desires towards guidance when [people] will have turned guidance towards desires, and he will turn his opinion towards the Qur'an when they turn the Qur'an towards their opinions.

22. You have forgotten what you were reminded of and felt safe from that which you were warned about, so your opinion has gone astray and your affair has dispersed.

23. Do you see (or observe) anyone other than a poor man suffering poverty, or a rich man who shows ingratitude in return for the blessings that Allah has bestowed on him, or a miser who denies the right of Allah in order to increase his wealth, or an unruly person who closes his ears [as if he is deaf] to all [wise] counsel.

24. By the One who sent Muhammad (s) with the Truth, you will verily be mixed [and shaken] a complete mixing, and sifted a total sieving and fully mixed as by a ladle in a cooking pot, until those who are low from among you become high and the high ones become low, and those who have fallen behind will come forward and those who are in front will fall behind.

25. The masses are not reformed except by justice.

26. It was said to him ('a): Verily nothing can reform the people of Kufa except the sword. To this he ('a) replied: If nothing but my destruction reforms them then may Allah not reform them!

- قيلَ لَهُ - عَلَيْهِ السّلامُ -: إِنَّ أَهْلَ الكُوفَةِ لايُصْلِحُهُمْ إِلاَّ السَّيْفُ، فَقالَ عَلَيْهِ السّلام -: إِنْ لَمْ يُصْلِحُهُمْ إِلاَّ إِفْسادي فَلا26 . أَصْلَحَهُمُ اللّهُ .

27. The bane of the masses is disobedience [to the rightful ruler].

28. How many an owner of great wealth has been turned into a lowly pauper by [the passage of] time.

29. How will you remain in your current state when time is [in the process of] transforming you?!

30. One who blames [the vicissitudes of] time, his blame will be lengthy.

31. People do not say about anything, "[what a great] blessing!" except that time has hidden a bad day for it.

32. Verily you are [living] in an age when those who speak about the truth are few, and tongues are weary of uttering the truth, and those who stick to the truth are humiliated. The people of this time are engaged in disobedience and make peace with each other upon treachery [and deceit]. Their youths are violent [and wicked] while their elders are sinful. Their scholars are hypocrites and their speakers are deviants. Their young do not respect the elderly and their rich do not support the poor.

33. Verily you will be faced with my vilification and repudiation, so revile me [if you must], but beware of

repudiating me.

34. We have come upon an age of intransigence and an era of ingratitude. In it the good-doer is counted as an evil-doer and the unjust increases in his insolence.

35. The people may become brothers in wickedness and desert one another in religion, and [they may] love each other over falsehood and hate each other over the truth.

36. So fear Allah with the fearing of one whose body has become fatigued by fright, and who has been kept awake from his little sleep by his night worship, and who has been made thirsty in the heat of his days by hope [of attaining nearness to Allah].

37. How amazing it is; and why would I not be amazed by the mistake of this community (or these groups) with their different arguments with regards to their religion. They neither follow the footsteps of the Prophet nor do they emulate the actions of the vicegerent. They do not believe in the unseen and do not restrain themselves from [sins and] shortcomings. They act on uncertainties and tread in [the way of] their passions. For them good is whatever they [like and] consider good and evil is whatever they [dislike and] consider evil. Their reliance for resolving problems is on themselves and their confidence in regard to dubious matters is on their own opinions, as if each one of them is his own leader, even though he has formed his opinion without turning to reliable sources and strong proofs.

- فَيا عَجَبا ومالِيَ لاأَعْجَبُ مِنْ خَطاءِ هذهِ الأُمَّةِ (الفِرَقِ) عَلَى اخْتِلاف حُجَجِها في دياناتِها (دينِها)، لايَقْتَصُونَ أَثَرَ 77 نبيّ، ولايَعْقُونَ عَنْ عَيْب، ولايَعْقُونَ عَنْ عَيْب، يَعْمَلُونَ فِي الشَّبَهات، ويَسيرُونَ فِي الشَّهَوات، لَبِيّ، ولايَعْقُونَ عَنْ عَيْب، ولايَعْقَلُونَ فِي الشَّهُوات، والمُنْكَرُ عِنْدَهُمْ ما أَنْكَرُوا، مَفْزَعُهُمْ فِي المُعْضَلاتِ إلى أَنْفُسِهم، وتَعْويلُهُمْ فِي المُبْهَماتِ عَلَى آرائِهمْ، كَأَنَّ كُلاً (كُلُّ امْرِئ) مِنْهُمْ إمامُ نَفْسِه، قَدْ أَخَذَ فيما يَرى بغَيْر وَثِيقات بَيّنات، وَلا أَسْباب مُحْكَمات .

38. Indeed, you have again reverted to the position of the Bedouin Arabs after migration [to Islam] and have become [divided into] different parties after once being closely united.

39. Indeed those who [would] remember and remind [the people about Allah] have left you and only those who forget [Allah and the Day of Resurrection] and cause others to forget have remained behind.

40. Indeed the reins of destruction are dragging you and locks of darkness [and malice] lay fixed on your hearts.

41. Indeed you have become devoted to one another in the love of this transient world and the rejection of the Hereafter.

42. Indeed the religion of one among you has become like the licking of his tongue, [or like] the hobby that is pursued by one who is free from his work and has gained the approval of his master.

43. They have plunged into the seas of temptations and have taken to innovation rather than following the practices of the Prophet, and they have gone deep into ignorance while abandoning knowledge.

44. Do not lose hope in time when it withholds, and do not rely upon it when it gives, and always be extremely cautious of it.

45. Verily time will pass for those who remain [in this world] just as it passed for those gone by. That which has gone shall not return and that which is in it will not remain forever. Its later deeds are the same as the former ones. Its affairs try to excel each another and its banners follow each other. Its

companion is never separated from hardship, annihilation, pillage and war.

46. Verily time has its bow stretched [and ready], and its arrow does not miss, and its wound does not heal. It afflicts the healthy with sickness and the [one who is] safe with destruction.

47. Time is responsible for the separation of loved ones.

48. An hour of humiliation is not compensated for by a lifetime of honour.

49. Be flexible with time when it submits itself to you and do not put anything in danger out of hope for gaining more [than it].

50. Time has indeed made its gratitude incumbent on the one who attains what he seeks.

51. Time wears out the bodies, renews hopes, brings death closer and takes aspirations further away.

52. Time consists of two days: a day for you and a day against you, so when it is for you then do not become vain and ungrateful, and when it is against you then have patience.

53. Time has two states: destruction and bestowal; that which it destroys does not return and that which it bestows does not last.

54. Verily time is an enemy who is not shown enmity, a [chosen] judge who is not unjust and a fighter who has not [and cannot be] fought.

55. One who resists time is compelled by it and one who submits to it is not safe [from it].

56. The age of the tyrant [ruler] is the worst of ages.

57. Every day is driving towards its morrow.

58. Calamities are born from the passage of time.

59. There is no guarantee on time.

60. One is neither safe from the passage of time nor secure from the calamities of the days.

61. It behoves the one who knows about time not to feel secure from its adversities and vicissitudes.

62. Obedience is the shield of the masses and justice is the shield of the [rulers of] nations.

63. So the hearts are heedless of right guidance, too hard to accept their [good] fortune, traversing on the wrong paths as though the one being addressed is someone else, and as though the fortune lies in amassing worldly gains.

64. How effective these admonitions [would be] if only they were received by pure hearts, attentive ears and unwavering minds.

65. From them mischief will spring up and all wrong will turn towards them. They will fling anyone who isolates himself from it (i.e. the mischief) back into it and they will drive anyone who stays back from it towards it.

66. If falsehood dominates, it has [always] been so in the past, and if truth diminishes, that too has often occurred and may [again] happen. It is seldom that a thing lags behind and remains behind.

67. Indeed the evil people have emerged and the righteous people have hidden; and falsehood has become abundant while truth has diminished.

68. Time has indeed come full circle to its [initial] state, as it was when the heavens and earth were first created.

69. The abominable has become so rampant that the shame one feels from it has reduced.

70. Dishonesty has increased so much that there are only few who can [now] be trusted.

71. Why is it that I see you as bodies without souls, and souls without prosperity, and devotees without righteousness, and traders without profits?!

72. Time betrays its companion and does not please the one who blames it.

73. When the epoch becomes corrupt, the wicked gain mastery [over the people].

74. In time there are vicissitudes (or lessons [to be learnt]).

75. One who busies himself with [the worldly activities of his] lifetime becomes occupied by it [and pays no heed to the Hereafter].

| 76. Whoever feels safe from time is betra | ayed by it and whoever i | regards it as great is | humiliated by it. |
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