



BLESSINGS OF IMAM بَارِقِ الرَّحْمَةِ عَلَيْهِ BĀQIR



Presented by

Majlis Al-Madina-tul-'Ilmiyyah

Translated into English by

Translation Department (Dawat-e-Islami)

فیضانِ امام باقرؑ رحمۃ اللہ علیہ

Faizan-e-Imam Bāqirؑ رحمۃ اللہ علیہ

Blessings of Imam Bāqirؑ رحمۃ اللہ علیہ

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Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

An English translation of 'Faizan-e-Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ'



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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Du'a for Reading the Book

Read the following *du'a* (supplication) before you study a religious book or an Islamic lesson, you will remember whatever you study, **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ**:

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَانْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

Translation

O Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ**! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O the One Who is the Most Glorious and Honourable! (*Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, pp. 40*)

Note:

Recite *salat* upon the Prophet ﷺ once before and after the *du'a*.

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
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Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

Du'a of Attar

“O Lord of Mustafa! Whoever reads or listens to the booklet *Blessings of Imam Bāqir*, grant them the true devotion of the beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, his family, and honourable Companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ. Grant them steadfastness in Dawat-e-Islami and admit them into Paradise without accountability.”

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Virtue of Sending *Salat* upon the Prophet ﷺ

Sayyiduna Ghulam Hassan Sawaag, famously known as Pir Sawaag رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, once said:

“When you face many worries and difficulties, reciting *salat* upon the Prophet is the way to alleviate them.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ Fuyoodat-e-Husayniyyah, p. 193

News from the Unseen

In his childhood, the great Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ once visited the famous Companion, Sayyiduna Jabir bin ‘Abdullah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. Sayyiduna Jabir’s eyesight had become impaired due to old age, and so he asked, “Who are you?” Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ replied, “I am Muhammad bin ‘Ali bin Husayn bin ‘Ali al-Murtada (رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ).” Sayyiduna Jabir رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ then approached Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, kissed his hands and said, “The beloved Prophet of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has given you salaam.” The people present asked, “How can this be?” (As the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ had passed away from the world at that time.) Sayyiduna Jabir رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ explained, “I was with the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, and Sayyiduna Imam Husayn رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ was playing whilst seated in his lap. The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, ‘O Jabir! My grandson will have a son named ‘Ali (Zayn al-Abidin). On the Day of Judgement, it will be announced: “Stand, O leader of the worshippers!” and he will then stand. He will have a son by the name of Muhammad. O Jabir! You will see him, and you are to give him my salaam when you meet him.”’¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and forgive us without accountability for their sake!

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاةِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّيْنَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

¹ Al-Sawa’iq al-Muhriqah, p. 201

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Birth and introduction

Sayyiduna Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ is the son of Imam Zayn al-Abidin رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, the grandson of Sayyiduna Imam Husayn رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ and the great-grandson of Sayyiduna 'Ali رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ and Sayyidatuna Fatimah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهَا. He is the fifth shaykh of *tariqah* in the Qadiriyyah Razawiyyah Attariyyah spiritual order. His name is Muhammad, his appellation is Abu Ja'far and his titles are Bāqir, Shakir and Hadi (the latter of which means, 'he who guides'). He was born approximately three years prior to the events of Karbala on the 3rd of Safar 57AH, on a Friday in Madinah.¹

Why is he referred to as Bāqir?

The reason behind the name Bāqir being attributed to him is mentioned in “Al-Sawa’iq Al-Muhriqah”. In this work, it states that the term *baqr al-ard* refers to excavating the earth and unearthing its hidden treasures. Similarly, he رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ went on to uncover many secrets behind the rulings of Allah and explained their wisdoms. Bāqir also refers to one who cleaves through knowledge, and since he possessed vast knowledge, he

¹ Masalik Al-Salikain, vol. 1, p. 213; Tareekh Mashaaikh Qadiriyyah, p. 75

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

was known as Bāqir.¹

Sayyiduna Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ had four sons and three daughters. According to one opinion, he had five sons and two daughters.²

The Rank of Imam Bāqir

O devotees of the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt! It is the favour of Allah that we love those He loves and are attached to them.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ, what a wonderful connection we have with Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, as he is our spiritual guide. The descendants of both Imam Hasan and Husayn رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا meet at Imam Bāqir. This is because his father, Imam Zayn al-'Abidin رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, is the son of Imam Husayn رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, and his mother is the daughter of Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. He also has a deeply rooted link to the first caliph of the Muslims, *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, by means of being related to him.

The son of *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr, *Sayyiduna* Muhammad bin Abu Bakr رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, was appointed as governor of Egypt at the behest of *Sayyiduna* 'Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. *Sayyiduna* Muhammad bin Abu Bakr had a son, *Sayyiduna* Qasim رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, who went on to have a daughter called *Sayyidatuna* Farwah bint Qasim رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا.

¹ *Sawa'iq Al-Muhriqah*, p. 201

² *Mirat Al-Manajih*, vol. 8, p. 621

Imam Bāqir and *Sayyidatuna* Farwah bint Qasim proceeded to marry one another, and the sixth shaykh of the Qadiriyyah Razawiyyah Attariyyah spiritual order, Imam Ja'far Sādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, was born from their tie. Thus, *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is the maternal grandfather of every Sayyid, and *Sayyiduna* 'Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is their paternal grandfather.¹

Loving the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt

Dear Islamic brothers, having love for the honourable Companions and Ahl al-Bayt رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ is a means of salvation and necessary to receive the intercession of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ on the Day of Judgement. There are many incidents in which the Companions and the Ahl ul-Bayt expressed their love and compassion for one another. For example, the granddaughter of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, the daughter of Imam Ja'far Sādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, is named after the mother of the believers, *Sayyidatuna* 'Aaishah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا. Her shrine is located in Egypt next to a masjid, and due to this connection, it acquired the name of Masjid 'Aaishah.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ *Mirat Al-Manajeeh*, vol. 1, p. 622

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

The Golden Chain

Hadith are reported by various narrators. The specific narrations reported by Imam Ja'far Sādiq, from Imam Bāqir, from Imam Zayn al-'Abidin, from Imam Hasan and then from Sayyiduna 'Ali رَضِوا اللهُ عَلَيْهِمُ اجمعين are referred to as “سلسلة الذهب” by the scholars of Hadith رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. In English, this translates as ‘the golden chain’.¹

Scope of Knowledge

Sayyiduna ‘Abdullah bin Ata رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ stated:

“I have not seen anyone from the *ulama* in whose company the knowledge of even the scholars appeared to be less apart from Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. I saw Hakam bin Uyaynah sitting before him as if he were a student of knowledge.”²

Helping Jinn Solve their Issues

A man narrates: I sought permission to meet Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ and the people said, “Do not make haste, as there are many people with him, and he has not come outside yet.” Twelve men left the room wearing tight quilted outer garments, gloves and socks. They said “اَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ” and left. When I approached

¹ *Mirqat Al-Mafatih*, vol. 10, p. 657, under *Hadith*, 6287

² *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 217, *Hadith*, 3757

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, I asked, “Who were the people that left?” He replied, “They were your Jinn brothers.” I became amazed and asked, “Can you see and meet them?” He answered, “Yes! Just as you ask me about halal and haram, they too learn from me.”¹

The *Shajarah* in Arabic

Imam Ahmad Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ has written a *shajarah* (genealogical tree detailing spiritual lineage) in the form of *salat* upon the Prophet. Sayyiduna Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ is mentioned with these words:

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَيْهِمْ وَعَلَى النَّبِيِّ السَّيِّدِ الْاِمَامِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ عَلِيٍّ الْبَاقِرِ رَضِيَ
اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا

*Translation: “O Allah Almighty! Send peace and blessings upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and upon Muhammad bin 'Ali Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ.”*²

Likewise, he mentions Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in a couplet of a Persian *shajarah* in the form of an *istighatha* (request for aid):

¹ Shawahid al-Nubuwwah, p. 239

² Tareekh-wa-Sharh Shajarah Qadiriyyah Barkatiyyah Razawiyyah, p. 108

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

*Bāqira ya 'Alim-e-Saadaat ya bahr al-'Uloom
Az 'Uloom-e-Khud badaf' jahl ma imdad kun*

Translation: “O Imam Bāqir! You are a great scholar of the Sayyids and an ocean of knowledge. Through the knowledge granted to you by Allah, remove my ignorance and help me.”¹

His Acts of Worship

Sayyiduna Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ was immensely devout and pious and would busy himself in worship at all times like his father. His son, Sayyiduna Imam Ja'far Sādiq رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ explains:

In the middle of the night, my father would say in the court of Allah: “O Allah! You commanded me, but I did not obey. You prohibited me, but I did not stop. This servant is present in Your court with no excuse.² O Allah! The night has arrived, and the kingdoms of rulers have ceased. The stars have become apparent in the sky and the people are sleeping. O Allah! You are Eternal and All-Seeing. Your being is pure. You do not sleep, nor do You fatigue. The one who asks from You is not left empty handed.”³

¹ Tareekh-wa-Sharh Shajarah Qadiriyyah Barkatiyyah Razawiyyah, p. 128

² Hilyat al-Awliya, vol. 3, p. 217, Hadith, 3760

³ Tareekh Mashaikh Qadiriyyah Barkatiyyah Razawiyyah, p. 82

His Blessed Habits

Sayyiduna Khalid bin Dinar رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ mentions that whenever *Sayyiduna* Muhammad bin 'Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ smiled, he would say, “O Allah! Do not become displeased with me.”¹

Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Yahya رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ adds: “I saw Imam Abu Ja’far Muhammad bin 'Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ wearing a yellow lower garment. Excluding the obligatory prayers, he would offer 50 units of prayer in the day and night. ‘الْقُوَّةُ لِلَّهِ جَمِيعًا’ was written on his ring, which means, ‘All power belongs to Allah.’”²

Sayyiduna Abu Bakr رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ is the First Caliph according to *Sayyiduna* 'Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ

Imam Ja’far Sādiq رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ reports from his father, Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ: After the people took an oath of allegiance (*bay’ah*) with *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, he told them to renounce their oath (out of humility) for seven days thereafter. On the seventh day, *Sayyiduna* 'Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ went to him and said: “We will not renounce our *bay’ah*, and nor do we desire this. If we did not consider you to be eligible (of being the caliph), we would never have pledged our allegiance to you.”³

¹ *Sifat Al-Safwah*, vol. 2, p. 78

² *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 217, *Hadith*, 3758 - vol. 3, p. 213, *Hadith*, 3737

³ *Al-Riyad Al-Nadira*, vol. 1, p. 252

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Sayyiduna Abu Bakr and Sayyiduna Umar Farooq رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمَا

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: “The entire family of Sayyidatuna Fatimah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا have unanimously agreed that only the best of words can be used to describe Sayyiduna Abu Bakr and Sayyiduna Umar رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمَا. (It is evident that the best of words are used for the best of people.)”¹

Those who do not call Abu Bakr “Siddiq”

Sayyiduna Urwah bin Abdullah رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ reports:

“I was in the company of Imam Bāqir Abu Ja’far Muhammad bin ‘Ali bin Hussain رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ and said: ‘How is it to adorn a sword?’ He answered: ‘There is no harm in this, as Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddiq رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ has done so.’ ‘You called him Siddiq?’ I asked. Upon hearing this, Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ immediately rose to his feet, faced the qiblah and said: ‘Yes! He is Siddiq. Yes! He is Siddiq. Yes! He is Siddiq. Whoever does not call him Siddiq (truthful), Allah will cause his words to be false in this world and the Hereafter.’”²

¹ Sawa’iq Al-Muhriqah, p. 52

² Fazaail Al-Sahabah, vol. 1, p. 419, Raqm 655

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Love for the Companions

Sayyiduna Abdul Malik bin Abu Sulayman رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: “I asked Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ for the commentary of this verse:

إِنَّمَا وَلِيُّكُمُ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا الَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَ
يُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَهُمْ رَاكِعُونَ ﴿٥٥﴾

You have no friends except Allah and His Messenger, and the believers; that they establish salah, and give zakat and remained bowed down in the majestic court of Allah.¹

He replied by explaining that this verse is in reference to the Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ. I said: ‘People say this verse is referring to Sayyiduna ‘Ali al-Murtada رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ.’ He replied: ‘He is also from the Companions of the Prophet.’”²

Those who Falsely Claim to Love the Ahl al-Bayt

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said to Jabir Ju’fi: “O Jabir! I have received news of people in Iraq who claim to love us (i.e. the Ahl al-Bayt)

¹ [Kanz-ul-Iman (Translation of Quran)] (Part 06, Surah Al-Maa'idah, verse 55)

² Tareekh Ibn ‘Asakir, vol. 54, p. 289

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but speak ill of *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr and *Sayyiduna* Umar رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا. They say I have commanded them to do this. Tell them, I express absolutely no connection or ties with them in the court of Allah. If I do not supplicate for mercy to descend upon the *Shaykhayn* (*Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr and *Sayyiduna* Umar Faruq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا) and for their ranks to be raised, may I then not gain the intercession of my grandfather صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Only the enemies of Allah can be negligent of such personalities.”¹

Disassociating from Shaykhayn is to Disassociate from the Ahl al-Bayt

On another occasion, he said to Jabir Ju'fi: “Let the people of Kufa know that I have no connection with those who speak ill of the Shaykhayn رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا, and I am pleased with *Sayyiduna* Abu Bakr and *Sayyiduna* Umar رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا. Whoever is unaware of their virtue and excellence is unacquainted with the Sunnah (i.e. Hadith).”²

Comprehensive Words to Praise Allah Almighty

Imam Ja'far Sādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ explains: “One day, the mule of my father, Muhammad bin 'Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, became lost. He said: ‘If Allah returns it to me, I will praise Him in a way that He will be pleased.’ After a while, Allah Almighty returned the mule

¹ *Al-Bidayah wa al-Nihayah*, vol. 6, p. 457

² *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 217, Hadith, 3753-3754

to him along with the saddle and reins. Once he was sat comfortably on the mule, he looked towards the sky and said 'أَلْحَدُ لِلَّهِ' and nothing else. When he was asked about this, he said: 'Have I missed something or said anything extra? I have attributed all praise to Allah.'"¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon them and forgive us without accountability for their sake.

أَمِينُ بَجَاهِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

How to Avoid a Bad Death

Imam Awza'i رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ mentions that he went to Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ in Madinah and asked about the commentary of the following verse of the Quran:

يَمْحُوا اللهُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيُثَبِّتُ ۚ وَعِنْدَهُ أُمُّ الْكِتَابِ ﴿٣٩﴾

*Allah erases and affirms whatever He wills; and the actual writing is with Him.*²

¹ Mawsu'ah Ibn Abi Al-Dunya, vol. 1, p. 497, Hadith, 105

² [Kanz-ul-Iman (Translation of Quran)] (Part 13, Surah Al-Ra'd, verse 39)

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said: “Yes, my father reports from Sayyiduna 'Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, who said: ‘I asked the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ regarding this verse and he said: “O 'Ali! I give you good news and tell those from my nation after me that giving charity in the correct manner, doing good, having good relations with your parents and mending ties of kinship replaces misfortune with good fortune, increases your lifespan and prevents a bad death.”’”¹

Dear Islamic brothers, those who are fortunate will not only have good relations with their parents, but they will always be at their service, especially when they reach old age. All devotees of the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt should be kind to their relatives. If they sever a relationship, try to reconcile and mend family ties. Being kind and courteous in response to someone showing kindness to you is nothing extraordinary. It is a sign of excellence, however, to respond with kindness when you are not treated the same way. Mend ties with the one who severs relations with you. Bestow upon the one who deprives you, and forgive the one who oppresses you.²

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: “The fastest means of attaining reward is to be kind to your relatives, and the fastest means to punishment is to be rebellious and mischievous.”³

¹ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 6, p. 156, *Hadith*, 8140

² *Mu'jam Awsat*, vol. 4, p. 160, *Hadith*, 5567

³ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 219, *Hadith*, 3768

Severing relations with relatives without a valid *shar'i* excuse is such a reprehensible act that Imam Zayn-ul-'Aabideen رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ advised his son, Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, to avoid the company of those who sever relations with their relatives.

The Advice of the Father to Son

Sayyiduna Muhammad bin 'Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ states: With the intention of giving me advice, my father, Imam Zayn al-'Abidin رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, said, “You should not adopt the company of five people, nor should you converse or travel with them.” I said, “May I be sacrificed for you! Who are those people?” He began to explain, “Do not adopt the company of a transgressor, as he will betray you for a morsel or less.” I asked, “What do you mean by less than a morsel?” He answered, “He will have greed for a morsel but will not acquire it.” “Who is the second person?” I asked. “Do not adopt the company of a miser, as he will not give you money when you are in desperate need of it.” “Who is the third person?” I asked. “Do not adopt the company of a liar, because he is like a mirage that distances that which is close to you and brings near that which is far.” “Who is the fourth person?” I asked. “Do not sit in the company of a fool, as he will cause you harm when trying to bring you benefit.” “Who is the fifth person?” I asked. “Avoid the company of those who sever

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

relations with their relatives, as the Quran mentions they are cursed (distant from the mercy of Allah) in three places.”¹

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ himself later went on to tell own his son:

“O my son! Refrain from laziness and narrow-mindedness, as they are the keys to all evil. If you fall victim to laziness, you will be unable to fulfil anyone’s rights. If you fall victim to narrow-mindedness, you will be unable to be patient upon the truth.”²

Visiting the honourable Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ is a *tabi’i* of great rank from Madinah and hails from the ranks of elite jurists and scholars of Hadith. He met and reported Hadith from the Companions of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, such as Sayyiduna Anas, Sayyiduna Jabir and Sayyiduna ‘Abdullah bin Umar رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ.

Good news for the Devotees of the Ahl al-Bayt

O devotees of the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt! The people of Allah understand the language of animals and also answer their cries for help. A man narrates:

I was travelling with Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ through a valley between Makkah and Madinah. He was travelling on a mule,

¹ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 215, *Hadith*, 3745

² *Sifat Al-Safwah*, vol. 2, p. 78

and I was riding a donkey. Suddenly, a man descended from the mountain who began supervising the mule. Meanwhile, a wolf placed his palm in front of the mule's saddle and remained in conversation with the Imam for some time. Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ then said to the wolf, "Now you can go back. I have done as you wished." The wolf turned and proceeded on its way.

Imam Bāqir then turned to the narrator of this incident and asked, "Do you know what the wolf said to me?" "Allah, His Messenger and you know best." The great Imam then began to explain, "The wolf issued a plea to me, saying, 'My child will soon be born, and so please pray for him. Pray in the court of Allah that my child or any of my progeny does not harm anyone who has love for you.'" Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ then made *du'a* for the wolf in the court of Allah.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Asking for Sustenance

Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ once heard the chirping of a bird and said to the person next to him: "Do you know what the bird is saying?" The man replied in the negative. The Imam explained: "The bird is praising Allah and asking for today's sustenance."²

¹ *Shawahid Al-Nubuwwah*, p. 239

² *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 219, *Hadith*, 3766

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

When Imam Baqir met Imam Abu Hanifah

An esteemed scholar of Hanafi jurisprudence, Imam Abu Yusuf رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ narrates: “I asked my teacher, Imam al-A’zam Abu Hanifah رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, ‘Have you met Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ?’ The Imam replied: ‘Yes, I met him and asked him a *shar’i* question, to which he gave a remarkable answer that I had never heard before.’”¹

The Consequences of Disrespect

A king once asked for Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ to visit him, but his intention behind this was to martyr him. As soon as the Imam arrived, the king asked for forgiveness and offered gifts, exhibiting great honour and respect. After the Imam left, the people asked, “You called him in order to take his life; why did you show such respect?” The king responded: “As Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ came towards me, I saw two fierce lions standing on either side of him. They said, ‘If you display even the slightest bit of disrespect, we will tear you to pieces.’”²

Statements of Imam Bāqir

O devotees of the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt! The statements of the *awliya* رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ are guiding lights, highlighting how to live a good life. Acting upon them can better our lives in this world

¹ Tareekh Mashaaikh Qadiriyyah Barkatiyyah Razawiyyah, p. 81

² Tareekh Mashaaikh Qadiriyyah Barkatiyyah Razawiyyah, p. 83

and the Hereafter. Their concise words are a treasure of knowledge. Here are some of the statements of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِ:

- The salaam of lowly people is with abhorrent words. (Meaning, evil people begin their speech with unpleasant dialogue.)¹
- Misfortune is attached in some way or another to everything, and the misfortune of knowledge is to forget.²
- The scholar who provides benefit from his knowledge is better than 1,000 worshippers.³
- I swear by Allah! Satan the accursed is happier upon the death of a scholar than the death of 70 worshippers.⁴
- There are three extremely difficult actions:
 1. Remembering Allah regardless of your condition.
 2. Being just to yourself.
 3. Helping a Muslim brother in financial need and support.⁵

¹ *Sifat Al-Safwah*, vol. 2, p. 77

² *Al-Bidayah An-Nihayah*, vol. 6, p. 456

³ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 214, *Hadith*, 3740

⁴ *Sifat Al-Safwah*, vol. 2, p. 77

⁵ *Tafseer Al-Durr Al-Manşur*, part. 9, *Al-Anfaal*, verse. 45, vol. 4, p. 75

- Refrain from arguing and fighting, as it corrupts the heart and brings about hypocrisy.¹
- The quarrelsome are those who debate upon the verses of Allah for no reason.²
- Sayyiduna Thabit رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ narrates: “Muhammad bin 'Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ gave the commentary of the following verse:

أُولَٰئِكَ يُجْزَوْنَ الْغُرْفَةَ بِمَا صَبَرُوا

*They will be rewarded the highest position in Paradise; the recompense of their patience.*³

The great Imam explained, ‘(They will receive this reward) For the patience they had during poverty and starvation in the world.’⁴

- I have a brother who is great and honourable in my eyes. The reason for this is because he considers the world to be insignificant.⁵

¹ Hilyat al-Awliya, vol. 3, p. 215, Hadith, 3749

² Hilyat al-Awliya, vol. 3, p. 216, Hadith, 3750

³ [Kanz-ul-Iman (Translation of Quran)] (Part 19, Surah Al-Furqan, verse 75)

⁴ Tafseer Al-Durr Al-Manšur, part. 19, Al-Furqaan, verse. 75, vol. 6, p. 285

⁵ Sifat Al-Safwah, vol. 2, p. 78

- Whoever has been given gentleness and good manners possesses all goodness and comfort. His condition will be good in this world and the hereafter. Whoever is deprived of good manners and goodness is upon the path of every evil and difficulty. However, Allah protects who He wills.¹
- ‘Ubaydullah bin Waleed reports, “Muhammad bin ‘Ali Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِ said to us: ‘Can any of you take what you desire from the pocket of your brother?’ We replied in the negative. The Imam responded: ‘The brotherhood between you is not then what you think it is.’”²
- You will know how much love your brother has for you when you ascertain how much love you have for him.³
- The Imam said to Jabir Ju’fi: “O Jabir! Think of the world as a place of resting momentarily before departing, or think of it as wealth you acquired in a dream and realised you gained nothing when you awoke. For the intelligent and those who possess the recognition of Allah, this world is like a shadow. Ask Allah for the protection of your faith and intellect.”⁴

¹ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 218, *Hadith*, 3762

² *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 218, *Hadith*, 3763

³ *Sifat Al-Safwah*, vol. 2, p. 79

⁴ *Hilyat al-Awliya*, vol. 3, p. 218, *Hadith*, 3765

Blessings of Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

- The most beloved action to Allah is to ask from Him, and only supplication can change destiny. The fastest way of acquiring good deeds is to maintain a good relationship with your family, and the fastest means of being punished is to be rebellious. It is sufficient for a person to be classed as flawed if he sees such faults in others that he is blind to see in himself, commands others to refrain from that which he cannot distance from himself, and causes harm to those around him for no reason.¹

Death

Sayyiduna Imam Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ passed away on the 7th of Dhu al-Hijjah in 114AH or 117AH.² He is buried near the shrine of Sayyiduna Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ in Jannat al-Baqi'.³ He was shrouded in the clothes he used to pray in, as per his will.

O Allah! Grant us true love for the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt, and may we live and die upon this.

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاوِزَاتِ النَّبِيِّيْنَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

¹ Al-Bidayah An-Nihayah, vol. 6, p. 457

² Sharh Shajarah Qadiriyyah Razawiyyah Attariyyah, pp. 54-56)

³ Jami' Karamaat al-Awliya, vol. 1, p. 164

Next Week's Booklet



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