

Translation Text of the Grand Shia Jurist Ayatollah Sayid Sadiq Husyani Shirazi Speech, Among the Believers, Scholars and Preachers, on the Arrival of Month Muharram 1441 AH, at His Main Office in the Holy City of Qom Iran, on Monday August 26th 2019.

I seek refuge in God, from Satan the accursed.

In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

We are approaching the months of Muharram and Safar,

and I offer my condolences to the holy awaited and promised savior,

Imam al-Mahdi (may God hasten his reappearance)

and I pray to God to expedite the advent of this holy Imam,

so that he would avenge the oppressed nations in history,

both before and after Islam and the Day of Ashura,

and he would particularly avenge the spilled blood of Imam Hussain (peace be upon him),

as well as his loyal household and companions.

"The martyrdom of Hussain (peace be upon him)

ignited a fire in the hearts of believers that never gets cold."

Imam Sadiq (peace be upon him) quoted this from his ancestor, the Prophet of Islam.

One day, the holy Prophet sat his young grandson, Imam Hussain on his lap and then, he uttered these words:

"The martyrdom of Hussain (peace be upon him)

ignited a fire in the hearts of believers that never gets cold."

Then, the Prophet stated: "My heart goes to the one killed for tears."

Someone asked Imam Sadiq to explain these words,

and Imam Sadiq replied:

"It means that no one will remember him, unless that he cries."

It doesn't matter what is exactly meant by "remember", many narrations support the hadith in general.

Any affliction in this world becomes less difficult, as time goes by, miseries and tragedies become more tolerable.

However, it is not the case in the afterlife;

in the afterlife, the bounties and rewards are all lasting and so are the punishments (in the afterlife).

In this world, the pleasures we experience gradually become less pleasing, when we experience a tragedy in this world, it becomes more tolerable as time goes by.

In the afterlife, "death embraces them from all places and he doesn't die".

The punishments in the afterlife don't become more tolerable.

Similarly, the bounties in the afterlife don't become less pleasing.

The pleasures of entering paradise on day one will last forever.

In this world, everything becomes less as time goes by.

But with respect to Imam Hussain's martyrdom, the Prophet said that this fire never gets cold.

And this is exceptional to Imam Hussain (peace be upon him).

I have repeatedly mentioned this that

four people are superior to Imam Hussain;

the holy Prophet, Imam Ali, Lady Fatimah, and Imam Hassan.

Though they are superior, Imam Hussain (peace be upon him) is still exceptional.

The martyrdom of the Prophet was really agonizing,

Lady Fatimah explains the Prophet's martyrdom by saying

"sanctities were trampled."

The experts can study these words.

The Prophet's martyrdom

was the starting point to all these tragedies on AhlulBayt and humanity.

Later on, it was the martyrdom of noble Lady Fatimah Zahra,
with all the heartrending details.

It is the same about the martyrdoms of Imam Ali and Imam Hassan.

The loss of all other Infallible Imams was so agonizing
that no words can describe them.

Nonetheless, this burning fire is only because of Imam Hussain's martyrdom.

It is a sign of having faith.

Let's put ourselves to test.

Do we have this fire burning in our hearts or not?

The holy Imam Sadiq said: "No believer remembers him unless that he cries."

Of course, it is clear that faith has varying stages,
and so does piety and clemency.

So, it doesn't mean that someone is not a believer (if they don't cry),
it means they don't have the higher ranks of faith.

You and I, and all other people, men and women, in all parts of the world,
young and old, educated or illiterate,

let's ask ourselves how much this fire is burning in our hearts.

It's indicative of our true faith.

"No believer remembers him unless that he cries."

Even crying for Imam Hussain (peace be upon him) is rewarded.

Even acting like crying, that is making yourself cry is also rewarded.

Even if someone doesn't cry at all, regardless of the reason,

if these people only act like crying, they will be rewarded too.

The spirit of the months of Muharram and Safar is about Imam Hussain.

"Hussain is from me and I am from Hussain."

It is very famous saying by the Prophet of Islam.

What does it mean that the Prophet is from Imam Hussain?

It means that

if it wasn't for the tragedy of Ashura and the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, no one would have ever heard the name of the holy Prophet and Islam.

Many of the God's messenger faced tragedies and were killed, they were tortured and faced hardships,

and finally, those messengers and their missions were lost in history.

The holy Quran has only mentioned a few messengers.

We don't know the names of all 124,000 messengers.

We don't know about more than 123,900 messengers in history.

If it wasn't for the tragedy of Ashura and Imam Hussain, and God destined this tragedy to be this influential in history, without it, everything was all gone.

Muharram and Safar are great opportunities to uphold Islam;

Islam will survive as it is promised by holy Quran.

"the true religion will prevail."

It will eventually happen in the time of Imam Mahdi,

but where do we stand in this?

I don't address these words only to the respected clergy and preachers, everyone should think about this.

What is our share of guiding people to Islam or strengthening their faith?

How many people can we guide to Islam through Imam Hussain's rituals?

Part of it depends on us, it requires God's favors and our willpower.

Quran also says: "man shall have nothing but what he strives for"

We need to work really hard.

I ask the respected preachers, though it is everyone's responsibility, but the dear preachers have more experience in this, any where they are, in Islamic or non-Islamic countries, at religious centers, mosques, or religious centers, in the two months of Muharram and Safar, it is a religious obligation on all Muslims to preach the basics of Islam to all humanity, not just Muslims and believers. It's not limited to Islamic countries and the Shia of AhlulBayt, it is addressed to all humanity.

"O people. I am sent by God to all of you." Quran [7:158]

The world's population is said to be 7 billion people, how many of them know about Islam?

Of course, I thank and pray for anyone who is preaching Islam, those who preach the basics of Islam to people, no matter if people accept it or not, at least they will have no excuse on Judgment Day.

Even the Prophet's companions didn't accept all that was by his holiness; there were hypocrites among them, they attended congregations led by the Prophet at the mosque.

It doesn't matter how many people would embrace Islam, what matters is to inform people of Islam, the basics of Islam, the things that are unanimously accepted by Muslims and Muslim scholars, all these things should be presented to all people.

One of these things, which is unknown even to the majority of Muslims, it is an Islamic law and everyone must know about it, it is about purchasing lands.

Governments, Islamic or non-Islamic shouldn't sell lands to people.

According to Islam, lands only belong to God and anyone who builds it.

No one can own lands.

Lands are only owned by God,

and according to the holy Prophet, lands are owned by people who build them.

"Lands only belong to God and anyone who builds it."

People own lands if they build a house, start a business, or make farms in it.

During the 10-year rule of the Prophet,

despite the fact that the Prophet really needed revenues,

since he used to take many loans to address Muslims' interests

but still he never tried to make money off lands.

The Islamic authorities, from all schools of Islam, agree on this.

This is one of the unknown Islamic laws.

Who is responsible to let people know of this law? It's everyone.

No matter if people accept it or not.

It is not exclusive to the basic Islamic laws.

All Islamic authorities, based on their juridical views,

are responsible to inform people of Islamic laws.

20 years ago, I met one of the dependents of an Islamic authority in Qom.

This person told me that when he was with that Islamic authority,

someone asked this scholar

whether he should inform his parents of an Islamic ruling,

knowing that it could cause hardships for them.

That Islamic authority had said that the parents don't need to know it.

When I heard this, I was shocked to see this decision by that scholar.

That man was responsible to inform his parents of the law of Islam,

so that they can find a way out of it.

I added that preaching the laws of Islam are obligatory for everyone.

I met with person awhile later,

and he told me that he had visited that religious authority

and he had told him about my objection,

and then that scholar changed his mind and agreed with me.

It is obligatory to preach Islamic laws.

This is very common among all clerics.

You can find this idea in all books on Islamic law,

therefore, it is obligatory to inform people of the basics of Islam.

Is owning lands by building them not an Islamic law?

Governments don't have the right to possess lands.

The dear scholar who can hear me, they can inquire about this issue.

It is obligatory for everyone to preach Islamic laws,

except those people who cannot do this,

considering that their inability is not due to lack of trying.

In this case, they are excused from this duty.

Almost 55 years ago, pieces of land were sold to people in holy Karbala;

they subdivided lands into 600 square meter pieces.

Once I remember that my brother asked the governor of Karbala:

"Is Iraq an Islamic country or not?"

The governor was shocked.

"Is Iraq an Islamic country or not?"

He smiled and replied: "Well, it is an Islamic country."

"So why do violate the laws of Islam?" My brother asked.

He then said that government can't possess and sell lands to people.

Lands only belong to God and the people who build those lands.

Governments can't sell property.

The governor said he had not heard of this law in his life.

My brother told him it's his own fault and he could ask scholars about it.

The governor said that city needs revenues,

but my brother said they cannot simply charge people with expenses.

The governor said they sell the lands for a cheap price,

the price of two or three sheep.

My brother then said they can't charge people with a penny for those lands.

Governor was taken aback.

The majority of Muslims are not aware of this law of Islam.

There are unworked lands and many unemployed people in Islamic countries.

I am speaking about one of the laws of Islam.

Lands belong to God and those who build them.

The world must be informed of this.

Muharram and Safar are good opportunities for this.

Governments can only supervise and prevent any form of violations.

There are successive traditions

that the Prophet of Islam took so many loans

that 7 years after his martyrdom, Imam Ali kept paying off those loans.

After the Prophet's martyrdom, Imam Ali went to hajj each year.

Imam Ali used to go to hajj and announce in the plains of Mena

that he would pay off all debts of the Prophet of Islam.

It is said that the Prophet had borrowed a bowl of barley;

each year, Imam Ali went to hajj and paid off the debts of the Prophet.

The Prophet took debts to help out needy people.

The Muslims' leader died in debt, so that other Muslims don't live in debt.

For seven years, Imam Ali paid off the debts of the Prophet.

The Prophet didn't sell lands to make money and pay off his debts.

Imam Ali ruled for five years and he never sold a piece of land to people.

Muslims must know these things.

If people are not informed, everyone is held accountable.

But once people are informed, it doesn't matter how they react.

There are many similar laws of Islam.

I recommend you all, especially the motivated and concerned youths,

to read about the laws of Islamic countries

and you will see that hundreds of those laws oppose Quran and Islam.

All Islamic authorities insist on preaching Islamic laws.

It is everyone's responsibility.

It was one example of laws that are unknown among Muslims,

let alone the non-Muslim countries.

We should let the world know of this.

These are the virtues of Islam.

Lands only belong to God and the people who build them.

Almost 60 years ago, when I traveled from holy Karbala to Kadhimiya,

in those times, when the machines and tools were not modern,

I could see plantations and farms on both sides of the road all along the way.

As far as eyes could see, there were farms and gardens.

But today, we can see more and more deserts in Islamic countries.

It's because only a name of Islam has survived in these countries.

We should present this law to everyone,

and if you have doubts, you can refer to trusted scholars.

Governments, Muslim or non-Muslim, cannot possess lands.

Second point is about preaching the sacred rituals of Imam Hussain.

The rituals of Imam Hussain (peace be upon him) must be universalized,

so that Islam survives.

The Prophet stated that he is from Hussain,
and many people around the world are believers because of Imam Hussain.

How many people around the world know about Imam Hussain?

I received a magazine which was published in many languages.

The magazine belongs to non-Muslims which is not a famous journal.

I don't want to mention the journal's name now,

this magazine was published in 83 million copies and in plus 340 languages.

There are hundreds of similar journals

that preach corruption and misguidance all around the world.

What do you think has caused these wars in Muslim countries?

For more than six decades, millions of young Muslims were killed,

millions of women became widows, millions of orphans.

It is all due to the spread of corruption, immoralities and misguidance.

A typical magazine was published in 83 million copies and in 340 languages.

Do we propagate the call of Imam Hussain in this volume?

Imam Hussain's supporters are everywhere, they have money and power,

they have enthusiasm and courage, particularly the young ones.

That magazine says it is funded by no government and it runs by donations.

You might wonder they are lying

but if they lied, because of relative freedoms in the west,

if they had lied, their competitors would have exposed them.

Let's not mind these issues now.

The person who brought me this magazine said that

three people knocked at every door

and they asked people what language they speak,

and they gave them this magazine.

This person had received the English, Arabic and Persian versions.

We should follow up on this path,
because it is obligatory to pave the way for a religious obligation,
as much as anyone can do it.

The tragedy of Imam Hussain was a big trial at all times.

God has promised great rewards

to all people who face problems while serving Imam Hussain (peace be upon him).

People get a mortgage to buy a house, they take loans for their wedding,
and if they can't pay them off, they are put in prison.

I don't encourage taking loans and going to prison,
but I don't know anyone who takes a loan for Imam Hussain
and they are put in prison because they didn't pay them off.

Is it not worth it to go to prison for Imam Hussain?

People risk going to prison for buying a house or throwing a party.

Imams said that it is haram to go to hajj, if you face a sentence;
however, they encourage visiting Imam Hussain's shrine no matter what.

Imam Sadiq said: "How ignorant you are!"

The man said: "I fear for my life."

He feared the threat of a regime and soldiers,
but the Imam said: One who visits Imam Hussain despite having fears,
it is not the same case about hajj
since scholars say the hajj is invalid in this case.

God has destined Imam Hussain to be exceptional.

Feel free to face prison, for the sake of Imam Hussain (PBUH).

These are basics of Islamic laws.

I don't encourage going to prison, but it's okay anyways
as so many people are in prisons.

This year, in one Islamic country,
the leader paid off the debts of prisoners who were in debt.
Why arrest these poor people in the first place?
Quran orders us to give them time.
Is it not a Quranic order to give them time?
Does prison solve the issue?
When a man is jailed, his family are driven to corruption.
The blame is partly on people who know these laws and don't express them.
These laws must be expressed.
The leader of that country paid for all those debts.
All year long, we should propagate Islamic laws,
but the best time is Muharram and Safar.
These things should be presented to the world.
So many TV channels propagate corruption and misguidance worldwide,
I even don't like to mention some of it,
these TV channels preach corruption all around the world
and they have even reached Muslim countries and left their impacts.
It is while that Shia TV channels are outnumbered by these propaganda TVs.
The rich should donate, and the poor should also contribute.
You should tolerate all the hardships in this way.
This is the path of all messengers.
Quran [14:12] says: "We surely will endure your hurt patiently."
You can't live a luxurious life, without facing any issues or troubles.
None of the prophets or Imams lived like this.
Oppressors always accused the righteous people;
and some gullible people bought these lies.
This is why many prophets suffered and were hurt.

Mostly, the prophets were accused of creating division.

Polytheists told Abu Talib that his nephew is creating division,
even today, reformers are accused of creating division.

If we take this to be creating division, that's not a bad thing.

Gentlemen, publish this verse to Muslims in all places.

All people who run religious centers should know this Quranic verse.

"The people were one nation."

"Then Allah sent forth Prophets to give them glad tidings and to warn them;"

You can read the exegesis by yourselves.

All people were infidels and lived in misguidance.

The Prophets divided people into two groups, believers and nonbelievers.

This type of division is good and necessary.

The Prophets destroyed that united nation,

"The people were one nation."

"Then Allah sent forth Prophets to give them glad tidings and to warn them;"

People were grouped as believers and nonbelievers.

Polytheists told Abu Talib that his nephew is causing division.

Muawiya said the same thing to Imam Ali (PBUH),

he also said the same thing to Imam Hussain (PBUH).

"O Hussain. Stop creating division!"

This was a common accusation.

Another accusation was that reformers was called foreign agents.

Just read verse 5 of Chapter Furqan.

Enemies denied God and his messenger.

Muawiya accused Imam Ali and Imam Hussain of this;

and also the great Mirza Shirazi.

I recommend the dear youths to read history, don't let others deceive you.

The propaganda machines from non-Muslim countries keep working.
Mirza Shirazi led an exceptionally important uprising in our history.
He released a fatwa and forced out 400,000 British agents from Iran.
People were killed in this uprising,
many books have been written on this subject.
In those times, the British bribed some people
to gossip and accuse Mirza of being a British agent!
He had forced out 400,000 British agents from Iran;
he saved Iran from colonialism.
Same thing happened to Mirza Taqi Shirazi in 1920 uprising.
There was a priest who insulted Mirza;
Mirza Mohammad Taqi united Iraq's population, 4 million people
to fight off British army with a backup force of one billion people.
Eventually, they defeated the British and killed many of them.
They had plans to colonize Iraq.
That priest used to say Mirza Mohammad Taqi is a British agent!
Some delegations of Mirza later said
that they insisted on cutting off the payments of this abusive priest
but Mirza didn't allow it.
This is how the holy Prophet and Imam Ali behaved.
They never suppressed their dissidents, this is what Muawiya does.
The Prophet never stopped paying hypocrites their share of treasury.
Those people who fought Imam Ali and killed his companions,
when they laid down their arms,
Imam Ali said that he would not stop paying them from treasury.
This Islam should be presented to the world,
both among Muslims and non-Muslims.

So that people have no excuse before God.

We are responsible to raise Imam Hussain's banner in all parts of the world; and if we fail, though unintentionally, we will be regretful in the afterlife.

Any young person, even without any help, can do many great things just cross out the word comfort.

Work hard and raise funds, don't mind discouragements and harassments.

The Prophet of Islam is a role model.

In the early days of Islam, polytheists visited Mecca to worship idols.

The Prophet used to go and talk to them about Islam,

just read history and traditions,

they insulted and made fun of the Prophet of Islam.

They didn't let the Prophet even talk to them.

They even spat at the Prophet of Islam.

The Prophet never lost hope on those people.

We shouldn't mind insults as well.

In the path of Imam Hussain and to propagate Islam, not impose Islam, the Prophet and Imam Ali never forced Islam on people.

People were free to accept or reject it.

We should be patient and tolerate insults in this way.

We can't give up for these excuses.

A young boy proposes to several girls but all of them reject him;

however, the boy never stops trying

and he will finally find the right person to marry.

Now in the case of building religious centers, mosques, preaching centers, or TV or radio stations that propagate AhlulBayt's culture,

we should be so persistent until we are successful.

We will be successful at the end; however, it requires patience.

We have no excuses.

People go to great lengths for their personal lives,
they should do the same for Imam Hussain (PBUH).

At the end, all those dear believers who serve Imam Hussain's rituals,
the clerics, university professors, the youths, the service units,
I recommend them all to never let go of anybody.

Try to keep all people under Imam Hussain's banner.

First off, many people change and become good.

But if they don't change, they will be blamed in the afterlife.

The Prophet is a great role model.

Imam Ali calls the Prophet, the leader of Imams.

Imam Ali is a role model.

For all peoples, there is a leader.

The Prophet didn't let go of any of hypocrites.

There were thousands of hypocrites among the Prophet's companions.

In a narration, Imam Sadiq said

that one thousand hypocrites became true believers in one incident.

Certainly, there were more than one thousand hypocrites.

We should be patient.

The members of Religious Service Units, and Religious Centers, the dear
preachers,

you shouldn't lose hope on anybody.

People change and you should act like the Prophet.

Those people who fought Imam Ali in Nahrawan (area),

when they laid down their arms, they were still hypocrites,

they went to the mosque where Imam Ali led the congregation,

these people chanted slogans against Imam Ali at mosque

but Imam Ali never minded them.

Imam Ali never persecuted them nor did he put them in prison.

God forbid, was Imam Ali mistaken? No, it's us who are mistaken.

Let's attract all people. People have different opinions.

Hypocrites created troubles for the Prophet,

but the Prophet never fought them.

Keep people under the banner of Imam Hussain.

Let's look at from a juridical perspective.

Imagine a person endows a mosque, school or orphanage with some property, and he designates a custodian to the place.

If the custodian performs his duties, that's okay.

But if the custodian doesn't perform his duties,

the ruler is not allowed to dismiss him; the ruler can assign an aide to him.

If that didn't work, they dismiss the custodian.

Why? Because Islam doesn't give up on people,

particularly in cases that are dependent on one's taste and likings.

So, the ruler cannot dismiss a bad custodian immediately,

and they assign an aide to him to supervise.

In many cases, assigning a supervisor is just enough.

Try to bring people under the banner of Imam Hussain,

so that you won't regret it in the afterlife.

Those people who worked harder and faced more hardships in this way, they will enjoy higher ranks the afterlife.

I hope that by the grace of Imam Hussain; 'this great ark of salvation'

Almighty God helps all of us be more successful than before.

I ask of Imam Hussain (peace be upon him),

since "God's wills in all affairs are surrendered to you"

this is an authentic prayer that is narrated by Sheikh Saduq,
I ask Imam Hussain to give us his special favors in this path.
May God bless Muhammad and his pure Household.