

## On Shiite Manners and their Position Near God and their Rights

### On Shiite Manners

307- Abi Osamah said that once he went to say farewell to Imam Sadiq (a.s). He narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Why do you invite the people to follow me? I swear by God that I have not found anyone who would listen to and obey me except for one man, who was Abdullah ibn Abi Ya'fur, may God bless him. He obeyed me and performed what I advised him to do. I swear by God that it is better for you if you keep in your heart what I make you aware of, and do not divulge it. This way you will be nobler since you know what others need and you do not need what the people have. But when you divulge what I order you to keep as a secret you will be humiliated by the people for this act." Abi Osamah said: "May I be your devoted servant! What happens if one keeps what you tell him a secret and does not tell it to your friends. When they hear it from someone else they will get really upset." Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "I swear by God that I what I tell you is right. Tell me what will you tell your brothers and friends who will rush to see you tomorrow when you go to Kufa and ask about what I told you?" Abi Osamah said: "I will only tell them whatever you tell me, no more and no less." Then Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Deliver my greetings to those who listen and obey me. Advise them to fear God and adhere to piety, struggling for God, honesty in speech and trustworthiness, extending their prostration in prayer, and treating their neighbors with kindness.

This is the cause for which the Prophet Muhammad (a.s) was appointed. Therefore you must return whatever you are entrusted with to its owner, whether he is a good person or a bad one, since the Prophet of God (a.s) has stressed that even a borrowed needle with thread should be returned to its owner. Attend and do your prayers in their congregational prayers<sup>1</sup>. Attend their burial ceremonies. Visit them when someone gets ill. Respect their rights. I get pleased when I hear that you are pious, honest, trustworthy, well behaved, and are known to be one of my followers. Then the people will say these are the manners that Imam Sadiq (a.s) has taught. Whenever you act otherwise, I will suffer from the bad consequences. I swear by God that my father told me: "One of the followers of Imam Ali (a.s) who lived in Mecca was the most trustworthy Shiite, and the most honest one. The people used to go to him to leave their goods or their wills for safekeeping. When people asked about him, they would be asked if anyone else could be found like him." Therefore fear God, be a source of pride, and not a source of infamy for us. Attract all love and friendship towards us, and repel all evil and wrong accusations from us. We are not as we are said to be. There is a certain right established for us in the divine Book, and we are relatives of the Prophet of God (a.s). We are divinely Pure, and are born pure; and no one else can claim to be born pure, and he is a liar if he does so. Remember God often and remember death often. Recite the Quran. Send a lot of blessings for the Prophet since there are ten goods in this act. Remember what I advised you to do. I will trust you to God."

308- Isma'il ibn Am'mar narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) told him: "I advise you to fear God and adhere to piety, honesty, trustworthiness, kindness with your neighbors and frequent prostrations for God, since Muhammad (a.s) has advised us so."

309- Amr ibn Sa'eed ibn Hilal said that he once told Imam Sadiq (a.s): "May I be your devoted servant! I shall not see you for a few years. Please give me some advice which I may act upon." Imam Sadiq (a.s) told him: "I advise you to fear God and adhere to piety, and struggling in God's way. Know that piety is not useful without struggling and making an effort. Abstain from enslaving your soul with the greed to surpass those who are better off than you are. God the Almighty frequently told His Prophet: "Let not their wealth nor their (following in) sons dazzle thee" (The Holy Quran: Tauba 9:55)

God also said: "Nor strain thine eyes in longing for the things We have given for enjoyment to parties of them, the splendor of the life of the world." (The Holy Quran: Ta-Ha 20:131) Remember the life of the Prophet (a.s) whenever you get tempted. Remember that his food was barley and his confection was dates, and he used palm branches to make fire. Whenever a calamity falls upon you, remember the calamities that befell the Prophet of God (a.s), since no one else has ever experienced any calamities worse than those."

310- Amr ibn Yazeed narrated that Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "O' Followers of the Household of Muhammad! I advise you to be like the mid-sized cushions, so that those who exaggerate and those who are left behind both settle down in your position<sup>1</sup>." Someone asked who the exaggerators were. He replied: "They are the ones who ascribe to us what we do not ascribe to ourselves. They are not associated with us and we are not associated with them either." Then someone asked who those left behind were. Imam Baqir (a.s) replied: "The ones who are seeking good. They will get it. And they will receive the appropriate reward." He then faced us and said: "I swear by God that we have no authority from God, and we have no relations of kin with God, and we have no authority over God. You cannot get closer to God except through obedience to Him. Thus you can benefit from our friendship only if you obey God, and if any of you disobey God he shall not gain any benefit from our friendship."

311- Amr ibn Aban narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "O' You! The followers who are associated with us! Be a source of honor for us, not a source of infamy. Why can you not live among the people as Imam Ali's (a.s) companions did? Each one of them was the leader of the people and the one who called them to prayer where he lived. He was trustworthy and guarded their properties. Please visit the ill, participate in burial ceremonies, and pray in the

mosques. Do not let others surpass you in performing good deeds. I swear by God that you are not superior to them in this regard." He then looked at Amr ibn Aban who was the youngest man present and said: "You who are the younger people should not be lazy. Go to visit them so often that they start to become your followers. Know that God is better for you than them."

312- Abdullah ibn Bokir said that he went to see Imam Sadiq (a.s) along with two other persons. One of them asked Imam Sadiq (a.s) if he should attend the congregational prayers. The Imam (a.s) replied: "Go to the prayers. Attend the congregations. Visit the ill. Respect their rights." He then said: "Do you fear that we might mislead you to corruption? I swear by God that we will never mislead you."

313- Moavieh ibn Vahab narrated that he once asked Imam Sadiq (a.s): "What is the proper way for us to treat and associate with our tribes and people who are not Shiites?" Imam Sadiq (a.s) replied: "Look at the way your leaders lived and follow them as examples. Treat others as they did. I swear by God that your leaders visit the ill, attend burial ceremonies, witness for or against them, and return the things with which they have been entrusted."

314- Sabit Mola Al-i-Hurayz narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Controlling your anger for your enemies when they are in power is a part of concealing faith, and is a means of protecting you from calamities in this world. Arguing with and swearing at the enemy without concealing faith is a form of abandoning God's orders. Therefore treat the people with caution so that your enemies cannot get control of you due to their animosity towards you."

315- Zayd al-Shuh'ham quoted upon the authority of Imam Sadiq (a.s): "O' Zayd! Be patient with your enemies since you can never fight with those rebelling against God except by obeying Him. God will keep his believing servants away from evil, as you separate a strange female camel that does not belong to you from your male camels. O' Zayd! God has chosen and has established Islam. Therefore treat the people gently and with kindness."

316- Ali ibn Yaqtayn narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) said: "Order your companions to watch their tongues, abandon their animosity towards religion, and strive in worshipping God. Tell them to say their obligatory prayers well whenever they prepare to say their prayers. Tell them to completely perform each part of the prayer in bowing down and prostrating, and not think about worldly affairs. I have heard Imam Sadiq (a.s) say that the Angel of Death looks at every believer's face at the time he says his obligatory prayers."

317- Abi Muhammad al-Vabeshi narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "If there is a bad omen in anything, it is in the tongue. Watch what you say just as you guard your properties. Avoid your selfish desires just as you avoid your enemies. For a man, nothing is more lethal than following his selfish desires and the results of what he says."

318- Abi Ubaydeh narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) said: "I advise you to avoid liars and those who are always fighting with each other since they have abandoned what they have been ordered to do. O' Abi Ubaydeh! Treat the people according to their own manners, and try to treat them better than they treat you. We do not consider one to be intelligent unless he knows how to talk with others. He then recited: "But surely thou will know them by the tone of their speech." (The Holy Quran: Muhammad 47:30)

319- Anbasat ibn Musab narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Associate with the people since in their view the love for Imam Ali (a.s) and the Blessed Fatima (a.s) has no benefit for you, and nothing is worse in their mind than mentioning the names of Ali and Fatima."

320- Marazaem said that he was appointed by Imam Sadiq (a.s) to deliver a letter. He said that once he left, the Imam (a.s) called him and said: "Marazaem. Let there be nothing but good acts between you and the people, even if they swear at me."

321- Imam Kazim (a.s) quoted on the authority of his father (a.s) on the authority of his grandfather (a.s): "Imam Zayn al-Abedin (a.s) took the hands of his son (being my grandfather) and said: O' my son! Do whatever good deeds anyone asks you to do. If he is a good man, a good deed has been done. And if he is not, at least you have performed your duty. If a man swears at you, and then apologizes, accept his apologies."

322- Abi Bakr al-Hazr said that his brother called Alghameh told Imam Baqir (a.s): "Abu Bakr used to say that the people fought with each other concerning the Blessed Ali (a.s)." Imam Baqir (a.s) told him: "I know your personality is such that if you hear someone swear at Imam Ali (a.s) you will chop off his nose if you can, won't you?" He said: "Yes, I will." Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "No. You should not do that. I heard someone swearing at my grandfather Ali. I hid myself from him until he finished swearing. Then I went towards him and shook hands with him."

323- Muavieh ibn Vahaeb narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Act justly and avoid what is not useful for you. Avoid your enemies. Avoid your friends- whatever tribe they belong to- unless they are trustworthy. No one is really trustworthy unless he fears God. Do not associate with evil-doers, and do not inform them of your secrets. Consult those who fear their Lord regarding your affairs."

324- Sa'dan ibn Muslim narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) said: "Tell the truth even if this will cause your destruction, since this is how you will be saved. Abandon the wrong even if your freedom depends upon it, since the wrong will result in your destruction."

325- Ja'far ibn Kulayb narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Fear God, and be friends with each other. Go to visit each other and your relatives. Be kind and merciful to each other. Be good brothers for each other."

326- Abi Ubaydeh quoted on the authority of his father that Imam Kazim (a.s) quoted on the authority of God's Prophet (a.s): "I guarantee a home in Heaven for anyone who treats the people well, abstains from lying whether it be jokingly or serious; and abandons quarrelling,

even if he is right."

327- Imam Kazim (a.s) quoted on the authority of God's Prophet (a.s): "Good behavior will strengthen friendships, a warm welcome will eliminate animosity, and charity will speed up the arrival of your daily bread. If you believe that what you give in charity will be granted to you again, your soul will become generous through giving charity. Avoid preventing what is right while spending similarly on what is wrong."

328- Abi Hamzeh al-Somali narrated that Imam Zayn al-Abedin (a.s) said: "O' children of Adam! As long as you use your soul as an advisor to you, you are worried about being accountable for your deeds, and fear of God covers you up as your clothes do, and sorrow covers you up as your underclothes do, you will be prosperous. O' Children of Adam! You will die, and will be resurrected and brought in the court of God where you will be questioned. Therefore prepare yourselves to answer."

329- Ibrahim ibn Umar narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) said: "Whoever does not evaluate what his soul has done each day is not our follower. He should ask God for an increase in his good deeds, and should repent and ask for God's forgiveness if he has done any bad deeds."

330- Ali ibn Zayd quoted on the authority of his father that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "If there live one hundred thousand people in one town and you are not the most pious one of them, then you are not one of my followers."

331- Muhammad ibn Umar ibn Hanzaleh narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "One who is only verbally in agreement with us, but is opposed to our deeds and words is not one of our followers. Shiites are those who not only agree with us in words, but they also accept our writings and follow us in what they do. They are our true followers."

332- al-Mufaz'zil narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "It does not suffice to just say that you are our followers. You must accept our decrees and guard them, as God has protected them, and you must honor them as God has honored them, and act accordingly as God has ordered."

333- Soma'at narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Do not overestimate your good deeds, and do not underestimate your minor sins, since they accumulate and become a lot. Fear God and be just even in private. Rush to obey God. Be honest. Return any property to its owner, since this is beneficial for you. Do not act oppressively. Do not engage in what is not allowed, as this is harmful for you."

334- Abi Basir narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Avoid sins that you consider to be minor since they too will be questioned about and not ignored. Never say that I will commit this sin and ask for God's forgiveness later, since God the Almighty said: "And We record that which they send before and that which they leave behind, and of all things have We taken account in a clear Book (of evidence)." [The Holy Quran: Ya-Sin 36:12]

335- Ibn Ya'qub narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Let not the people make you forget about yourself since you, not they, will get the results of your own deeds. Do not let your time be wasted, since there is an angel with you who is watching over you. Do not underestimate your minor good deeds, since you will be pleased to see their results in the future. Do not underestimate your minor bad deeds either since you will be upset to see their results in the Hereafter. Perform good deeds since I have not seen anything more desirable than them and know of nothing that is better than good deeds to compensate for previous sins, as God the Almighty said: "For those things that are good remove those that are evil; be that the word of remembrance to those who remember (their Lord)." [The Holy Quran: Hud 11:114]

336- Sama'at said that Imam Sadiq (a.s) asked him: "Why do you hurt the Prophet of God (a.s)?" He replied: "May I be your devoted servant! How do we hurt him?" Then Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Do you not know that he gets informed of your deed, and he gets upset if he sees a sinful act. Then do not hurt the Prophet of God (a.s)."

337- Anbase ibn Masab said that he once asked Imam Sadiq (a.s) for some advice. Then Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Prepare your provisions and equipment<sup>1</sup> and be your own advisor. Do not ask others to send someone to improve your behavior."

338- Abdullah ibn His'san narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "When you go to bed, remember what you ate during the day that was bad, and what you have done during the day, and remember your resurrection."

339- Imam Kazim (a.s) quoted on the authority his father on the authority of God's Prophet (a.s): "O' Children of Adam! Beware not to ignore your own sins when you consider other people's sins. Also beware not to forget God's blessings given to you when you consider the blessings that God has granted to other people. Do not disappoint other people about God's Mercy while you yourself hope to benefit from His Mercy."

340- Sabit narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) quoted upon the authority of God's Prophet (a.s): "The fastest rewards granted for good deeds are related to treating the people with gentleness, and the fastest punishments that are sent are for oppression. It is bad enough for one to be picky about things which others do but to ignore them when done by himself, or blame others for doing what he cannot abandon himself, or uselessly hurt his companions."

341- Abi Basir narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "There is no one who performs a good deed in private, and God does not make the result of his good deed apparent shortly later on. Also there is no one who commits an evil act in private, and God does not make the results of his bad deed apparent after some time."

342- Hisham ibn Salim narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) told Hamran: "Always consider the situation of those who are lower than you are (in position), not those who are higher up than

you are. This will improve your state of contentment and pleasure with what your share of daily bread is, and will also make you deserve an increase in your daily bread by God. Also beware that a little amount of constant work done with certitude is nobler near God than a lot of constant work done without certitude. Also beware that no form of piety is better than abandoning divinely forbidden acts, and abandoning gossip and the hurting of Muslims. No form of association is sweeter than one with kindness and good temper. No wealth is more useful than being content with having the minimum living needs. No ignorance is more bitter than conceit."

343- Hassan ibn Ziyad narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "When the following verse was revealed: "Nor strain thine eyes in longing for the things We have given for enjoyment to parties of them, the splendor of the life of this world." [The Holy Quran: Ta-Ha 20:131], the Prophet thought for a while, and then raised his head and said: "O' Servants of God! Whoever is not pacified with God's consolation will die while he has been constantly wishing for worldly matters. Whoever keeps an eye on what others have will constantly feel sad about (not having their wealth), and his heart ache will not be remedied. And whoever does not recognize God's blessings that are granted to him other than things to eat and wear will have a short life and an upcoming punishment."

344- Abdullah ibn San'an narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Among the signs of certitude we can mention not to please the people by raising God's anger; not to praise the people for the daily bread which God has granted to us; and not to blame the people for what God Has not granted to us. No greedy person's avarice can attract him more daily bread than his own share. And no one's displeasure can block anyone else's share of the daily bread. If anyone of you tries to escape from his daily bread as you do from your death, the daily bread will find him, just as death will."

He then added: "God Has made comfort and convenience subject to and conditional upon certitude, contentment and pleasure (with His divinely determined destiny), and has established sadness and sorrow in doubt and anger due to His Justice and Equity."

345- Sa'd ibn Khalaf narrated that Imam Kazim (a.s) said: "Obligatory prayers are as sweet smelling as a freshly cut branch of a green tree when they are performed on time. One picks from a tree when it is fresh, pure and good smelling. Therefore I advise you to perform your prayers on time."

346- Ibn Abi Ya'fur narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Whenever you want to perform your obligatory prayers, perform them on time, and do it like one who is doing his last prayer and is worried that he will not be able to pray again. Turn your eyes to the location of your prostration. You would perform your prayers well when you know who is on your right side and on your left side. Know that you are praying in the presence of One who sees you but you cannot see Him."

347- Ala ibn Salih narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Treat the people justly, and help them with your property. Be pleased for them with what you are pleased with for yourself. Remember God often."

348- Abi Hamzeh narrated that Imam Sajjad (a.s) said: "The dearest of you near God is the one whose deeds are the best. Those of you who are more inclined towards God will get more rewards from God. Those of you who fear God the most will be freed from divine punishment sooner. And the noblest one of you near God is the most pious one."

349- Abi al-Samet al-Kholani narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said that once he was with his father and they were passing by some Shiites who were in between the grave and the pulpit. He asked his father if they were his followers. His father asked him where they were. When he told him where they were, his father suggested to go and talk to them. Then they went to see the people and his father greeted them and said: "I like your good smell and your breath. Please help me with your piety and struggle in worshipping since there is no other way to reach God. I swear by God that you have the same religion that I have, my fathers, and my grandfather had, i.e. the religion of Abraham, Ishmael and Issac."

350- Zavareh said that he was accompanying Imam Baqir (a.s) once when they were escorting the body of a dead person in a funeral procession. A man called Ata was also escorting in the funeral procession. A woman started crying and Ata asked her if she would calm down or not. He said that he would quit following the procession if she did not stop crying. Ata left the funeral ceremony since that woman did not calm down. Zavareh informed the Imam (a.s) that Ata left. The Imam (a.s) asked the reason. He said it was because of a woman crying. Ata asked if she would calm down lest he would leave. The woman did not calm down and Ata left the funeral procession. Zavareh informed the Imam (a.s) that Ata had left. The Imam (a.s) said: "Let's continue. We cannot quit doing what is right because we see something that is wrong is being done. If so, we have not done what Muslims should do." After Imam Baqir (a.s) performed the prayers over the body of the dead man, the family of the dead man thanked him and asked him to return because it was hard for him to continue walking. However, the Imam (a.s) did not agree to return. Then Zavareh asked the Imam (a.s): "Why did you not return even though they gave permission?" Imam Baqir (a.s) replied: "Let's continue. We did not come here with their permission, and do not need their permission to return. This is done for its divine reward, and God will only reward us for as much as we do."

351- Abi Basir narrated that Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "A man went to see the Prophet (a.s) and said: O' Muhammad! What do you invite the people to?" The Prophet (a.s) said: "My followers and I knowingly invite the people to God. I invite you to One who will remove your difficulties from you when you call Him during times of hardship, or sorrow; One who will provide for your needs when you get poor, and will guide you safely out of the desert should

you get lost there.” The man said: O’ Muhammad! Please give me some advice.” The Prophet (a.s) said: “Do not get angry.”

He asked for more advice. The Prophet (a.s) said: “Like for others what you like for yourself.” He asked for more advice. The Prophet (a.s) said: “Do not swear at people, since then they will become your enemies.” He asked for more advice. The Prophet (a.s) said: “Do not abandon doing good deeds for those who need you.” He asked for more advice. The Prophet (a.s) said: “Love the people so that they love you. Serve some water for your brethren to drink. Treat them with kindness and good temper. Do not be impatient since then you will lose this world and the Hereafter. Put on proper trousers and do not unbutton your shirts since this is a form of haughtiness, and God does not like a haughty person.”

352- Abi Basir narrated that Imam Baqir (a.s) said: “A believer will be in prosperity and will benefit from having hope of God’s Mercy and Kindness unless he rushes and loses hope and stops his supplications.” They asked him how he would rush. He replied: “Whenever he says he prayed from such and such a date and did not see God answer his prayer.”

353- Al-Hassan ibn Salih narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: “Whoever performs ablution properly, and performs two units of prayers, and after completing his bowing down and prostration sits down and praises God, and sends blessings on the Prophet (a.s), and then asks God what he wants, has indeed requested the good from the proper source. Whoever requests the good from its proper source will not be sorry.”

354- Habib narrated that Imam Baqir (a.s) said: “God the Almighty has established the angels as guards for plants on the Earth such as fruit trees and palm trees. There are no fruit trees or palm trees for which there is no appointed guardian angel when it is about to bear fruit. If there were no guardian angels with them to protect them, then the insects and the wild animals would destroy the tree. That is why the Prophet of God (a.s) has ordered his followers not to build a toilet under fruit or palm trees, since their appointed guarding angels reside there. He also said that the fruit or palm trees that have produced fruits are respectable like the people, because the angels are present there.”

355- Abdullah ibn Sanan said: I asked Imam Sadiq (a.s) about the judges who get their wages from the kings. He replied: That is unlawful.”

#### On Shiite's Position Near God and their Rights

356- In Rauzat al-Vaezeen it is narrated that Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: “There are seven rights for any believer that are incumbent upon other believers to honor. All seven are obligatory. If you do not honor any of these rights, you have left the domain of divine friendship, and God’s obedience.” He was asked what these seven rights were. He replied: “The simplest right is that you should like for them what you like for yourself, and dislike for them what you dislike for yourself. The second right is that you must assist them in fulfilling their needs, please them and not oppose what they say. The third right is that you must use your soul, wealth, tongue, hands and feet to assist them. The fourth right is that you must be like their eyes, their guide, their mirror, and their clothing. The sixth right is that if you have a wife and a servant, and your brother does not, you must send your servant to his house to wash his clothes, prepare his food and make ready his bed. These are all established duties between you and him. The seventh right is that you must accept his oath and his invitation. You must attend his burial ceremonies. You should go to visit him if he gets ill, and make all efforts to fulfill his needs. You should not let him beg you for help, but immediately fulfill his needs. Once you do this, you have tied his friendship and yours together, and have tied your friendship to the Almighty God’s friendship.”

357- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: “A believer should have eight traits:

(1) He should maintain his dignity when calamities befall him, (2) he should be patient when he is in trouble, (3) he should be grateful when he has plenty of blessings, (4) he should be content with his share of God-given daily bread, (5) he should not be oppressive with his enemies, (6) he should not be a burden on his friends, (7) he should use his body (to perform his duties), and (8) the people should be safe from him. Knowledge is like a believer’s friend, patience is like his prime minister, and perseverance is like the head of his army. Kindness is like his brother, and gentleness is like his father.”

358- God’s Prophet (a.s) said: “God the Almighty has made seven rights for each believer incumbent upon any other believer: “(1) He must honor him in his view. (2) He must love him wholeheartedly. (3) He must help him. (4) He should consider gossiping behind him to be divinely forbidden. (5) He should visit him when he gets ill. (6) He should attend and escort his funeral procession. (7) He should only speak good of him after his death.”

359- The Prophet (a.s) said: “A believer is one who gets upset when someone commits a sin, and gets happy when someone performs a good deed.”

360- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: “Providing for the needs of a believer is better than one thousand fully-accepted pilgrimages, freeing a thousand slaves for God’s sake, and donating one thousand fully-equipped horses in the way of God.” He also said: “Whoever sees his friend involved in an evil act and can but does not instruct him to stop doing so is treacherous to his friend. Whoever does not stop associating with a fool will soon become like him.”

361- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: “There are always four problems that a believer faces: (1) A neighbor to bother him; (2) A Satan to try to deviate him; (3) A hypocrite to always follow him, and (4) A jealous believer.” The Imam (a.s) was asked: “A jealous believer?” He replied: “A jealous believer is the worst problem he is faced with.” He was asked how. Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: Because a jealous believer will say bad things about him, and others will believe him.

362- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "God will not punish the people of a town in which there are one hundred believers. God will not punish the people of a village in which there are fifty believers. God will not punish the people of a small village in which there are ten believers. God will not even punish the people of a small village in which there is just one believer."

363- It has been narrated that God's Prophet (a.s) faced the Ka'ba and said: "Bravo to this house. What has increased your status and your respect in the sight of God? I swear to God that a believer is more respected in God's sight than you are since God has only forbidden one thing regarding you, but has forbidden three things regarding a believer: taking his property, shedding his blood, and having being suspicion about him."

364- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whoever disturbs a believer has disturbed me, and whoever bothers me has bothered God the Almighty. And whoever bothers God is damned by the Torah, the Gospel, the Book of the Psalms of David, and the Quran."

365- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "The similitude of a believer is like that of the nearby-stationed angel. A believer's respect near God is very high. He is even nobler to Him than the nearby-stationed angel. Nothing is more loved by God than a repenting man or woman. A believer is as well known in the heavens above as a man is known to his wife and children."

366- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Our Shiites are three groups of people: real friends of ours who are really from us; those who use us and their association with us to preserve their honor; and those who use us to earn a living. Whoever uses us to earn a living shall become poor."

367- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Our followers will be tested in three situations: On how they guard their prayers; and on how they guard the secrets of our followers from our enemies; and on how they use their wealth and property to help their (religious) brethren."

368- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "O' Ali! Give good tidings of ten traits to your helpers and followers:

- 1- Being born legitimately
- 2- Good belief in God
- 3- The Almighty God's love for them
- 4- Ease and comfort in their grave
- 5- A bright light illuminating their path when they want to pass the road to the Hereafter
- 6- Elimination of poverty from their sight and their hearts
- 7- God's animosity with their enemies
- 8- Immunity from leprosy
- 9- Shedding of sins and the wickedness
- 10- They shall be with me in Heaven, and I shall be with them."

369- Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "Ali's followers look pale, slim, and thirsty. Their lips are dry. Their color is changing. Their face is yellow. At night they sleep on the ground, and prostrate on dirt. They prostrate a lot, shed tears and pray often. The people are happy but they are sad."

370- Imam Baqir (a.s) said that God's Prophet (a.s) was asked about the believers. He said: "Believers will get happy whenever they perform a good deed, and ask for God's forgiveness whenever they do a wicked act. They will be grateful whenever they are granted something. They will be patient when they are in trouble, and will forgive whenever they are angry."

371- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "Even if I hit a believer's nose with my sword in order to make him my enemy, he will not become my enemy. Also even if I bestow the whole universe to a hypocrite to make him like me, he will not like me. This is because of God's words that were expressed by the illiterate Prophet: O' Ali! No believer will ever become your enemy, and no hypocrite will ever become your friend."

372- Imam Sajjad (a.s) said: "Whenever our leader comes to rule the world, God will remove all illnesses from our followers. God will turn their hearts into a piece of iron, and God will strengthen each one of them to be as strong as forty men. They shall be the rulers on the Earth, and will be the outstanding people."

373- God's Prophet (a.s) told Ali (a.s): "O' Ali! Your followers will be prosperous on the Resurrection Day. Whoever insults one of your followers has indeed insulted you. Whoever insults you, has indeed insulted me. God will take whoever insults me into the Fire of Hell." Then he added: "Indeed what a severe punishment! O' Ali! You are from me, and I am from you. Your spirit is from my spirit, and your constitution is of my constitution. Your followers are also built from our excess constitution. Whoever likes them really likes us, and whoever hates them really hates us. Whoever is their enemy is really our enemy, and whoever treats them with kindness has really treated us with kindness. O' Ali! All your followers' sins as well as all their flaws have been forgiven. O' Ali! Give your followers the good tidings that I will intercede on their behalf when I am raised up in the position of Mahmood<sup>1</sup>. O' Ali! Know that your followers are the followers of God, your helpers are the helpers of God, your friends are the friends of God, and your party is the party of God. Whoever is your friend is prosperous, and whoever is your enemy is ill-fortuned. O' Ali! You have a treasure in Heaven, and are the owner of Heaven."

374- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "On the Resurrection Day, God the Almighty will resurrect some people with shining faces, sitting on shining couches, and dressed in light in the shade of the Throne. They are in the position of the Prophets, even though they are not Prophets. They are in the ranks of the martyrs, even though they are not of the martyrs." A man asked: "O' Prophet of God! Am I one of them?" He replied: "No." Another man asked: "O' Prophet of God! Am I one of them?" He replied: "No." Then the people asked: "O' Prophet of God! Then who are they?" The Prophet (a.s) then placed his hand over (Imam) Ali's (a.s)

head and said: "This man and his followers."

375- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Do not disrespect the poor followers of Ali and his children, since each one of them can intercede on behalf of two large tribes such as the Rabia and the Mezz tribes."

376- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "There are many people who look dirty, with wrinkled hair, and worn-out clothing who go to beg at the doors of houses, but can get whatever they need if they ask God."

377- Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "Whenever any of our followers stands up to pray, angels whose number equals our enemies' numbers shall stand to pray behind him, and they will pray for him until he finishes praying."

378- Jabir narrated: "One day I was with the Prophet (a.s). Then suddenly he turned his face towards Ali ibn Abi Talib (a.s) and said: 'O' Father of Hassan! Do you want me to give you glad tidings?" (Imam) Ali (a.s) said: "Yes, O' Prophet of God!" The Prophet (a.s) continued: "God the Almighty informed me through Gabriel that He granted seven things to your lovers and your followers. They will have: 1- gentle treatment at the time of death, 2- a companion at times of fear, 3- light at times of darkness, 4- security at the time of Resurrection, 5- justice at the time of Reckoning, 6- permission to pass through the passage (to Heaven), 7- entry to Heaven before other people, with the light (of their faith) shining in front of them and on their right side."

379- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whoever loves us- the members of the Holy Household- will praise God for the first blessing." He was asked: "What is the first blessing?" He replied: "Being born legitimately. And no one can love us unless he is born legitimately."

380- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "No one can realize true faith unless he likes me more than himself, and likes my family more than his own family and likes my children more than his own children, and likes my essence more than his own."

381- Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "Whoever lives and experiences the good feeling of our love in his heart should thank God for the first blessing." He was asked: "What do you mean by the first blessing?" He replied: "I mean being born legitimately."

382- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whomever God has bestowed with the love of the Imams (a.s) from my Household has received the prosperity of this world and the Hereafter. He should have no doubt that he will go to Heaven. There are twenty properties in the love for my Household: ten for this world and ten for the Hereafter. The ten for this world are: abstinence; eagerness to acquire knowledge; piety in religion; inclination to worship; repentance before death; pleasure with staying up at night (for praying or supplications); not being envious of what other people own; abiding by what is divinely right and wrong; dislike of this world; and generosity. And the ten for the Hereafter are: there is no reckoning for him; his deeds will not be measured; his record of deeds will be given to his right hand (implying that he is saved); freedom from the Fire of Hell will be prescribed for him; his face will be white; he will be wearing Heavenly garments; he will be given the right to intercede on behalf of one hundred members of his family; God the Almighty will look upon him with His Mercy; he will be wearing a crown - one of the Heavenly crowns; and he will enter Heaven without any reckoning. Then blessed be those who love the members of my Household."

383- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Treat the hypocrites by verbally advising them. Be truly sincere with the believers. If you are in the company of a Jew, be a good companion for him."

384- Salman Farsi said that his friend- God's Prophet (a.s) advised him to do the following acts, and stressed that he never abandon them: 1- Always consider the situation of those in a lower position, not those who are in a higher position. 2- Love the poor people and get close to them. 3- Tell the truth, even though it may be bitter. 4- Visit your kin even if they reject you. 5- Never ask the people for anything. 6- Always rely on God, and remember Him by saying: "There is no strength nor power but in, or by means of, God the High, the Great." This is one of the treasures of Heaven."

385- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Properly associating with people is a sign of being born legitimately."

386- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "The one most loved by God is the one who is honest in his speech, guards his prayers, and guards what is made incumbent upon him by God, and is trustworthy."

387- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "The best of you are the most generous ones, and the worst of you are the most greedy ones. Helping your brothers and assisting them to fulfill their needs is one of the good deeds, and it will defeat Satan, and cause you to remain secure from the Fires of Hell, and enter the gardens of Heaven." He added: "O' Jamil! Please narrate this for your best companions." Jamil asked: "O' May I be your devoted servant! Who are my best companions?" Imam Sadiq (a.s) replied: "They are those who treat their brothers with kindness during times of ease and hardship." He then added: "O' Jamil! This is easy to do for a rich man, but God has praised the ones who do not have much wealth and said:

"But give them preference over themselves, even though poverty was their (own lot). And those saved from the covetousness of their own souls, -they are the ones that achieve prosperity." [The Holy Quran: Hashr 59:9]

388- Imam Sadiq (a.s) was asked: "What are the minimum rights of one believer over his (believing) brother?" He said: "He should give a higher priority to his brother's urgent needs than his own needs."

389- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Seek nearness to God by sympathizing with your brothers."

390- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "A believer's respect and honor is much more than that of the (Holy House of) Ka'ba."

391- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "There are certain limits to friendship. Whoever does not fall within those limits should not be considered to be a perfect friend, and whoever does not have anything that falls within those limits should not be ascribed anything related to friendship. The conditions for friendship are:

1- A friend should not hide anything from you, and be the same person to you in private that he is in public; 2- He should consider your beauty as his own, and your ugliness as his own; 3- Wealth and position should not change him; 4- He should not withhold from you what he has power over, and 5- He should not abandon you during times of hardship."

392- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "The damned Satan says that there are five types of people which he cannot deceive, but he has full control over others. The first type consists of those who sincerely take refuge in God and rely on Him in all their affairs. The second type consists of those who say the praises of their Lord often in daytime and at night. The third type are those who like for their believing brothers whatever they like for themselves. The fourth type consists of those who do not lose their calmness at times of calamities. The fifth type are those who are content with what God has given them and do not grieve about their share of daily bread."

393- Imam Baqir (a.s) said: "Love your Muslim brother, and like for him what you like for yourself, and dislike for him what you dislike for yourself. Ask him for help if you need anything, and fulfill his needs if he ever asks you for help. Do not hide from him any good things, as he does not do likewise. Be his supporter just as he is your supporter. When he is not present, support him in his absence until he returns, then go to see him when he returns. Honor him and respect him since you are from him and he is from you. If he blames you do not leave him, and let him express what bothers him, and he gets relieved. Praise God the Almighty when he receives some good things, and help and support him when he suffers from a calamity."

394- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "If a rich believer humiliates his believing brother while he can help him, God will humiliate him in this world and the Hereafter."

395- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Whoever says something about his believing brother with the intention of belittling him and damaging his honor and respect in the eyes of the people, God the Almighty will force him away from God's friendship, and push him into the domain of friendship with Satan."

396- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whoever loves us will be gathered together with us on the Resurrection Day, and whoever loves a stone, for example, will be gathered together with that stone in the Hereafter."

397- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "The best way to stick with Islam is to love for God's sake, to hate for God's sake, to give charity for God's sake, and to forbid (the wrong) for God's sake."

398- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "I swear by the One who sent down the Chapter "Ikhlas" and the Holy Quran that whoever associates with those who seek faults in us, or praises our enemies, or establishes ties with those who have cut off their ties with us, or stays away from our associates, or is friendly with our enemies, or is the enemy of our friends, is indeed an infidel."

399- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "I swear by the Lord who has control over my life that you shall not enter Heaven unless you believe. You will not believe unless you love each other. Do you want me to tell you what to do to help you love each other? Establish saying: "Salaam" (peace, greetings, hello) as the official way to greet each other." He added: "God will damn the people whenever they do not apply their knowledge, and just pay superficial attention to knowledge, and just like each other when speaking- and hate each other in their hearts, and break up family ties. Then God will make them deaf and blind."

400- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Extensive joking will destroy your honor. Extensive laughter will destroy your faith, and extensive lying will destroy your credibility."

401- Imam Sadiq (a.s) was asked: "How can we recognize those who will be saved?" He replied: "Whoever whose acts and words are in agreement with each other will be saved. And whoever says one thing, but acts differently has a shaky and unstable religion."

402- God's Prophet (a.s) said that God the Almighty said: "I am the Lord. There is no one else but Me to be worshipped. I created the rulers, and possess control of their hearts in My hands. I shall establish kind rulers over people who obey Me, and establish mean rulers over people who disobey Me.

Beware and do not waste your time swearing at the rulers. Return to God in repentance so that God changes the state of the rulers' hearts and makes them be kind to you."

403- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whoever does not have an inner guide in his heart, and an inner force which would hinder his soul, and does not have a guiding companion will be overcome by his enemy."

404- God's Prophet (a.s) said that God the Almighty said: "I shall not leave alone anyone who obeys Me, and will leave alone anyone who disobeys Me, and will not worry about in which land he will perish."

405- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Knowledge is useful if you use it rather than abide by your selfish (carnal) desires. Satan will run away from the shadow of anyone who overcomes his selfish desires. God the Almighty told the Prophet David (a.s): "It is forbidden to establish anyone who possesses knowledge but loves lustfulness as the leader of the pious people."

406- Imam Reza (a.s) said: "One cannot be a true believer unless he possesses the following three traits - one from his Lord, one from his Prophet and one from his Imam. The one from his Lord is guarding secrets as God the Almighty said: "He (alone) knows the Unseen, nor does He make anyone acquainted with his Mysteries, except an Apostle whom He has chosen." [The Holy Quran: Jinn 72:25-26]



But the one from the Prophet is kind treatment with people, as God has ordered the Prophet to treat the people with kindness and patience and said: "Hold to forgiveness; command what is right; but turn away from the ignorant." [The Holy Quran: Araf 7:199]

And the one from the Imams (a.s) is patience and perseverance during times of hardship and calamities."

407- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Do not blame your believing brother during times of hardship. God might have Mercy upon him, and send down hardships upon you."

408- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "Do not allocate most of your time for your family and children, since if they are from God's friends. God will not forget His friends, and if they are from the enemies of God, why should you worry about and work so hard for the enemies of God."

409- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "Pious people can be recognized through the following signs: honesty in speech, trustworthiness, keeping their promises, minimal jealousy and sorrow, associating with relatives, being kind with the weak ones, minimal sexual intercourse with women, doing good deeds, having a good temper, having patience, and putting to use the knowledge that aids them to get nearer to God: "For those who believe and work righteousness, is (every) blessedness, and a beautiful place of (final) return." [The Holy Quran: Ra'd 13:29]

"Tooba"<sup>1</sup> is the name of a Heavenly tree which is rooted in the Prophet's (a.s) house. There are branches of this tree in the homes of the believers. These branches will yield whatever you desire. The branches are so extensive that if someone races under them with a fast riding horse for even one hundred years, he will not leave the shade of this branch. If a crow starts from the base of the tree and tries to fly towards the top, it can never reach there until it gets old. So beware, and try to attain this boundless blessing. Indeed a believer is busy doing his work, and the people are safe from him. When the night comes, he will fall prostrate in God's worship. He will ask God who has created him to save him from the Fire of Hell. So beware and try to be this way."

410- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "The best of God's worshippers are the ones who perform the obligatory acts, and the most abstinent people are the ones who abstain from the forbidden acts. The most God-fearing man is the one who always tells the truth, whether it be in his favor or against him. The most pious people are the ones who avoid quarrelling, even if they are right. The most hard-working people are the ones who quit committing sins. The noblest people are the most pious ones. The greatest people are the ones who do not interfere in what is not related to them. The most prosperous people are the ones who associate with noble people."

411- God's Prophet (a.s) told (his grandson Imam) Hassan, the son of Ali (a.s): "Perform what is divinely obligatory so that you may be one of the most God-fearing persons. Be content with God's pre-determined destiny so that you may be one of the needless people. Stay away from the divinely forbidden acts so that you may be one of the most pious persons. Treat your neighbors kindly so that you may be one of the believers, and be kind with your companions so that you may be one of the Muslims."

412- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Improving the life of the world of this nation depends on abstinence and divine certitude. Destroying the Hereafter of this nation is dependent upon jealousy and desires."

413- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "I am mostly worried about my nation following their selfish desires and having extensive desires. Selfish desires will hinder them from following what is right, and having extensive desires will make them forget the Hereafter."

414- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whenever you see a man who is abstinent, try to approach him since he has attained wisdom."

415- It has been narrated that Osamat ibn Zayd bought a maid<sup>1</sup> for one hundred Dinars to be paid off in one month. When the Prophet of God (a.s) heard this, he was amazed and said: "Are you not surprised that Osamat has made a one month deal? He has high aspirations. I swear by the One who possesses control over my life that I never open my eyes without thinking that I will die before I can close them again. I never look up without thinking that I will die before I can lower my eyes to look down. Whenever I pick up a bite to eat, I never think that I can manage to eat it since I might die." He then added: "O' Children of Adam! Prepare yourselves for death if you are wise. I swear by the Lord who possesses the control over my life: "All that hath been promised unto you will come to pass: Nor can ye frustrate it (in the least bit)." [The Holy Quran: An'am 6:134]

416- Imam Reza (a.s) said: "Whoever sees a poor person and greets him in a manner different from when he greets a rich man will visit God on the Resurrection Day while God is angry with him."

417- It has been narrated that a man went to see God's Prophet (a.s) and said: "O' Prophet of God! I swear by God that I like you for God's sake." The Prophet (a.s) told him: "If you really like me, get ready to put on the garment of poverty, since poverty will approach those who truly love me faster than a flood approaches its destination."

418- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Always consider the situation of the people who are in an inferior position than you are, not those who are in a better position than you are. This way you will be more grateful for what God has given to you."

419- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "God will keep whomever he loves hungry in this world." He was asked: "O' Prophet of God! Will God keep him hungry?" He replied: "Yes. He will not be able to get anything to eat even though there is an abundance of food and food is cheap."

420- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Do not let your hearts die by eating and drinking too much, since the hearts are similar to farms that will get ruined from too much water."

421- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "True faith is bare. Its dress is shame, its ornament is keeping one's promise, its manliness is doing good deeds, and its pillar is piety. Everything has a foundation. The foundation of Islam is the love for us- members of the Holy Household."

422- God's Prophet (a.s) was asked if a believer might become afraid. He said yes. He was asked if a believer might become jealous. He said yes. But when he was asked if a believer might become a liar he said no.

423- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Promise me to do the following six things, then I will promise you that you will go to Heaven. Do not lie when you quote something. Do not ever break your promise. Return what you are entrusted with. Do not look at what is forbidden to see. Guard your honor. Do not bother the people physically or verbally."

424- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Please be our ornaments, and not the source of shame for us. Talk properly with the people. Do not let your tongue slip, and do not boast or swear."

425- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "Whenever you gossip behind a believer's back and accuse him of what is not true about him, the sincerity between you and him will be lost, and one who gossips will dwell in the Fire (of Hell) forever. What a terrible punishment!"

426- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "One who thinks that he is legitimately born, but eats the people's flesh through gossiping is a liar."

427- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "Avoid gossiping since it is meat for the stew for the dogs of the Fire (of Hell)."

428- Ameer al-Momineen (a.s) said: "Gossiping is exposing the fault of your believing brother which God has hidden. Accusing is associating a false thing with him."

429- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "There shall be some ignorant folks, and corrupt readers (of the Quran) at the end of time."

430- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "My nation may experience serious trouble if they practice fifteen things." He was asked: "O' Prophet of God! What are these?" He said: "when the following happens: The nation's capital is controlled by a few special people; People do not honor what they are entrusted with; They consider the payment of the alms tax as a form of loss; Men obey their wives, and disobey their mothers; People are kind with their friends, but they hurt their fathers; People drink wine or alcoholic beverages; People wear silk clothes; People play musical instruments and hire singers; People respect each other due to fear; The worst people in the society run the affairs of the people; People damn those who lived before them; The mosques get filled with loud (forbidden) sounds. In this situation you can expect red winds, disruption of the earth, and drastic change in the people."

431- Imam Sadiq (a.s) quoted on the authority of God's Prophet (a.s): "Whoever possesses at least one or all of the following traits shaade of God's Throne on the day in which there is no other shade but His: He treats others as he expects to be treated. He does not do anything unless he evaluates himself whether this will please God or raise His anger. He does not blame his Muslim brother for what he has not corrected in himself. Whoever tries to improve himself will never have a chance to seek out the flaws of other people, because once he improves himself and corrects one flaw, he will discover another one in himself."

432- God's Prophet (a.s) said: "When you go to bed at night evaluate what you have earned during the day and what you have eaten. Remember that you will die and you will be resurrected."

433- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Ali's followers are slender and their lips are extremely dry due to being thirsty. The people consider them to be abstinent."

434- Imam Sadiq (a.s) said: "Do not consider the people's praying and fasting since they are accustomed to doing these, and will get worried if they quit. But consider if they are honest in their speech and trustworthy."

435- In Al-Ikhlās it is narrated that Abi Ja'far ibn Babuay quoted on the authority of Am'mar ibn al-Ahvas that Imam Sadiq (a.s) was asked: "There are people among us who believe in the caliphate of Ameer al-Momineen (a.s), and consider him to be superior to all people, but do not believe in your nobility as we do. Should we be friends with them?" Imam Sadiq (a.s) replied: "Yes, absolutely. Is it not true that God has things that the Prophet of God does not have? Is it not true that the Prophet of God has things that that we do not have? Is it not true that we have things that you do not have? Is it not true that you have things that others do not have? God the Almighty has partitioned Islam into seven parts, and has distributed these among the people. These are perseverance, honesty, certitude, contentment, loyalty, knowledge and patience. Whoever possesses all seven has perfect faith and is strong. He gave some people just one, some just two, some just three, some just four, some just five, some just six, and some all seven of these. Therefore you should not expect one who has only been given one part of the faith to be responsible for two parts. You cannot burden one who has been granted only two parts of the faith with what you would ask from those who have three parts of faith. And so on. If you expect too much of them, they will be over-burdened and might turn away from religion. Instead you should be patient and treat them with kindness, and make things easy for them. Now I will cite an example for you. There was a Muslim man with an infidel neighbor who was his friend. The man wished to help his friend become a Muslim. He kept trying to show him how nice Islam was, and insisted on his becoming a Muslim. Finally he managed, and the man accepted Islam. The next morning the man went his neighbor's house, and asked him to accompany him to the morning congregation prayer. They went there and when the prayer ended he told the new Muslim man to sit down and recite the Quran until sunrise. They stayed there, and continued until sunrise. Then he told him it was nice to fast that day and study the Quran until noon. He agreed. After the noon and afternoon prayers, he suggested to the new Muslim man to stay there until dawn, do their prayers in the mosque and then go home at night. He agreed."

**They did their night prayer, got up and went home. The next morning the man went to his neighbor's house again and asked him to go to the mosque. The man said: "Leave me alone. This religion is too difficult. I cannot stand it." Therefore you should learn and not pressure the people. Do you know that the rule of the Ummayad clan was based upon force, the sword and oppression? But we rule the people's hearts with patience, kindness, concealing of faith, good association, piety, and struggling. Try to attract the people to your religion."**

**Source:**Mishkat al-Anwar Fi Ghurar al-Akhbar