

Admiration of Imam Baqir(A.S.)

The learned, the scholars, the researchers, and the authors glorified Ima`m al-Ba`qir, peace be on him. They acknowledged his outstanding merits and his priority in knowledge to those other than him. They unanimously agreed that he was the greatest scholar whom the Islamic and the Arab world has ever known. The following are some of their words concerning him:

1. Ima`m al-Sa`diq

Ima`m Abu` 'Abd Allah al-Sa`diq, peace be on him said: "My father was then the best Mohammedan on the surface of the earth. ([Al-Bidaya wa al-Nihaya, vol. 9, p. 309](#)).

This means that Ima`m al-Ba`qir was then the best of all the Moslems in knowledge, devotion, conforming to the religion, and the like through which the Moslem person becomes high.

2. Mohammed b. al-Munkadir

Mohammed b. al-Munkadir was among those who were contemporary with Ima`m Zayn al-'Abidin and his son, Ima`m al-Ba`qir, peace be on him. He stated his impressions of him, saying: "I did not think that 'Ali b. al-Husayn would leave a successor similar to him in outstanding merits, abundant knowledge, clemency, etc. , till I saw his son, Mohammed. (Roudat al-Kafi. Words similar to these have been mentioned in al-Ithaf bi Hub al-Ashraf ([p. 53](#)) and in [Tahdhib al-Tahdhib, vol. 1, p. 352](#)).

3. Sodayf al-Makki

Sodayf al-Makki was among the companions of Ima`m Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir). He communicated with him. He was among those who admired and glorified him. He said: "I have never seen a Mohammedan similar to him. ([Al-Saduq, al-Amali, p. 297](#)).

4. Hisha`m b. 'Abd al-Malik

As for Hisha`m, he was among the most spiteful towards the Ima`m and among the most mortal enemies of his. Still, he acknowledge the high rank of the Ima`m and his great importance. Thus, he addressed him, saying: "O Mohammed, Quraysh will lead Arabs and non-Arabs as long as there are (persons) among them similar to you. ([Diya' al-Amilin, part 11 on the Life of Imam Mohammed al-Baqir](#)).

5. Al-Mansu`r al-Dawa`niqi

(At an assembly), Ima`m al-Ba`qir, peace be on him, talked about the Oa`im (the one who will undertake the office of the Ima`mate) of the family of Mohammed, may Allah bless him and his family, and the Mahdi (the rightly-guided one) of the this community. Al-Mansu`r al-Dawa`niqi was at the assembly. He was astonished at that. Thus, he told Sayf b. 'Umayr about what he had heard of the Ima`m, saying: "If all the people of the earth tell me (about that), I will not accept (it) from them. However, he is Mohammed b. 'Ali. ([Al-Ghazali, al-Fara'id, vol. 6, p. 143](#)).

These words indicate that he admired and glorified the Ima`m. If the people of the earth had told him about that, he would have not accepted (it) from them nor would he have believed them. However, the Ima`m told him about it. So, al-Mansu`r acknowledged that the Ima`m was superior to all the people in truthfulness and reliability.

6. Abd Allah b. 'Ata`

Abd Allah b. 'Ata talked about the admiration, glorification, and humbleness of the scholars for the Ima`m (al-Ba`qir), peace be on him. He said: "I have never seen the scholars with (a person) inferior to them. (However, I have seen them) with Abi Ja'far (al-Ba`qir), for they behaved humbly and modestly before him, knew his right and his knowledge, and learned from him.

Although al-Hakam b. 'Utayba was great and old, I saw him before al-Ba`qir to learn from him. He was like the boy before the teacher. (['Uyun al-Akhbar wa Funun al-Athar, p. 14](#). Similar words have been mentioned in [Hulyat al-Auliya' \(vol. 3, p. 186\)](#), [Shadhrat al-Dhahab \(vol. 1, p. 149\)](#), [Tariqh by b. 'Asakir \(vol. 51, p. 43\)](#), and [Mir'at al-Jinan \(vol. 1, p. 248\)](#).

He added : "I saw al-Hakam with al-Ba`qir. He was like a helpless bird. ([Tahdhib al-Tahdhib, vol. 2, p. 133](#)).

We must mention a brief idea about al-Hakam b. 'Utayba to understand his scientific rank so that we are able to understand the vast sciences of Ima`m al-Ba`qir, peace be on him, and his high rank with the scholars. The narrators said : "Al-Hakam was among the greatest and

the most important scholars of his time. "Mujahid b. Ru`mi said: "I saw al-Hakam in the mosque of al-Khif.

The scholars of the people were around him. "Jarir reported on the authority of al-Mughira, who said: "When al-Hakam came to Medina, the people left the praying-place of the Prophet, may Allah bless him and his family , for him to pray at it. Ibn Sa'd said: "He was a reliable jurist and prominent scholar. He had many traditions."Al-Hakam had vast knowledge and a high rank.

Nevertheless he was like a powerless boy before Ima`m al-Ba`qir. Therefore, the Ima`m was the most knowledgeable of all the people of his time in all sciences. The Shi'a believe in this and produce it as evidence in support of his abundant sciences.

7. Ja`bir b. Yazid

Ja`bir b. Yazid al-Ju'fi was among the most famous Moslem scholars and among the greatest reporters of traditions. He was among those who studied under Ima`m Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir), peace be on him. He reported seventy thousand traditions on the authority of the Ima`m, as al-Dhahabi said. He was among those who knew the Ima`m's scientific position. Thus, when he narrated traditions on his authority, he said: "The trustee of the trustees and inheritor of the knowledge of prophets related to me.(Ibn Shar Ashub, al-Manaqib, vol. 4, 180).

8. Ja`bir b. 'Abd Allah

The great companion (of the Prophet), Ja`bir b. 'Abd Allah al-Ansa`ri was famous for following the members of the House (ahl al-Bayt), peace be on them. He loved them very much. It was he who sent the greetings of the Prophet, may Allah bless him and his family, to Ima`m Abu` Ja'far (al-Baqir), peace be on him, as we have already mentioned. He was among those who understood the high rank of the Ima`m, peace be on him. He glorified and respected the Ima`m from his childhood. When he addressed him, he said: "You are the son of the best of all the creatures. Your father is the Lord of the Youth of Heaven.(Bihar al-Anwar, vol. 11, p. 64).

9. Ibn Hajar al-Haythami

Shaha`b al-Din, Ahmed b. Hajar al-Haythami, said: "Abu` Ja'far, Mohammed, was called al-Ba`qir. The word al-Ba`qir was derived from baqara al-ard, meaning he splits open the ground and lights the hidden things in it. Thus, the Ima`m brought to light hidden things, such as the treasures of sciences, the facts of the rules, the maxims, and the good things.

He made them so clear that nobody misunderstands them except those with bad insight and corrupt interior. Concerning him it was said that he split open knowledge and collected it. He made famous his knowledge and raised it. His heart became clear. His knowledge and his deeds were honest. His soul became pure. His morals were noble. His times were spent in Allah's obedience. The tongues of describers fall short of depicting his marks in the positions of the gnostic. This quick talk is unable to encompass all his words on behavior and sciences.(Al-Sawa'iq al-Muhriqa, p. 120).

These words display some bright sides of the life of Ima`m Abi Ja'far (al-Ba`qir), peace be on him. Among them was that he brought to light the treasures of sciences and the facts of the rules, while the people were unable to do that. We will talk about that in the researches that follow.

10. Ibn Kuthayr

Abu` al-Fida`, al-Ha`fiz b. Kuthayr, wrote Ima`m al-Ba`qir's biography. Concerning him he said: "Al-Ba`qir was among the leading members of the next generation. He had a great rank. He was among the great figures of this community in knowledge, deeds, leadership, and honor. He was called al-Ba`qir, for he split open knowledge and concluded the rules. He remembered Allah. He was humble and patient. He was among the progeny of the Prophet. He was of a noble lineage. He was cognizant of the hearts. He wept very much. He refrained from arguments and quarrels.(Al-Bidaya wa al-Nihaya, vol. 9, p. 309).

Ibn Kuthayr talked about the vast sciences of the Ima`m. (He also talked about) his worship, his patience, his much weeping because of his fear of Allah, and his refraining from the argument and the disputes. Because of these qualities, the scholars admired and glorified the Ima`m, peace be on him.

11. 'Abd al-Hamid al-Hanbali

'Abd al-Hamid b. al-'Ima`d al-Hanbali wrote the Ima`m's biography. He said: "Al-Ba`qir was among the jurists of Medina. He was called al-Ba`qir because he widely split open knowledge. He was among the Twelve Ima`ms according to the faith of the Ima`mi (Shi'a). (Shadharat al-Dhahab).

12. Al-Nabaha`ni

Shaykh Yousif b. Isma`il al-Nabaha`ni said: "Mohammed al-Ba`qir b. 'Ali, Zayn al-'Abidin, b. al-Husayn was one of the Ima`ms of our masters, the noble members of the House (ahl al-Bayt), and was among the prominent scholars.

([Jami' Karamat al-Alawiya', voll 1, p. 97](#)).

13. Al-Qirma`ni

Ahmed b. Yousif Al-Qirma`ni wrote the Ima`m's biography. He said: "He was called al-Ba`qir, for he split open knowledge. He was, out of (all) his brothers, the successor and testamentary trustee of his father. He undertook (the office of) the Ima`mate after him. None of the sons of al-Hasan and al-Husayn showed the same ability in knowledge of religion, the laws, the knowledge of the Koran, the ways of life, and the techniques of literature, as Abi Ja'far (al-Ba`qir) did. The surviving Companions (of the Prophet) and the leading members of the next generation reported the principal features of religion on his authority.([Akhbar al-Diwal, p. 111](#)).

14. Al-Dhahabi

In many of his books, al-Dhahabi has written the Ima`m's biography. However, he was irregular in some of his words, which are as follows:

A. He said: "Al-Ba`qir was the best of the Ha`shimites at his time in outstanding merit, knowledge, and righteousness.([Tadhib al-Kamal, 3/Q4/262 \(manuscript\)](#)).

B. He said : "Al-Ba`qir was the lord of the Ha`shimites of his time. He was known as al-Ba`qir, for he split open knowledge. Thus, he knew its hidden origin.([Tadhkirat al-Huffaz, vol. 1, 124](#)).

C. He said : "Al-Ba`qir was among those who had knowledge, deeds, righteousness, honor, trust, and sedateness. He was appropriate for the succession (to authority). He was among the Twelve Ima`ms whom the Ima`mi Shi'a respect and in whose infallibility and knowledge in all religion they believe.

Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir) was a qualified Ima`m. He recited Allah's Book. He was of great importance. However, he was not the same level with b. Kuthayr in the Koran, nor was he the same level with Abi al-Zanna`d and Rai'a in jurisprudence, nor was he the same level with Qatta`da and b. Shaha`b in memorizing and knowing the traditions.([Siyar A'Iam al-Nubala', vol, 4, p. 241](#)).

Al-Dhahabi deviated from the truth when he preferred b. Kuthayr, Abi al-Zannad, Rai'a, Qatta`da, and b. Shaha`b to the Ima`m. Indeed these eminent men are not compared with his students, such as Zarara b. A'yun, Mohammed b. Moslem, and Ja`bir b. Yazid al-Ju'fi.

This is because knowledge and outstanding merits which have been reported on their authority are much more than those which have been reported on the authority of Qatta`da and his group. The Ima`m (al-Ba`qir) debated with Qatta`da and defeated him. However, al-Dhahabi was narrow-minded. He bore malice and hatred against the family of the Prophet, may Allah bless him and his family, and their followers. He has mentioned that in many of his researches. How wonderful what has been said concerning him is!

You are today called al-Dhahabi.

This name was derived from dhiha`b al-'aql (madness)

not from al-dhahab (gold).

15. Mohammed b. Abi Bakr

Mohammed b. Abi Bakr, known as b. Hamma`d Dakkin died 700 A. H. , said: "Our master Ima`m Mohammed, son of Ima`m Zayn al-'Abidin, peace be on him, showed an outstanding merit in knowledge, asceticism, and righteousness. He was of noble reputation and great importance. None of the sons of al-Hasan and al-Husayn, peace be on them, showed the same ability in the knowledge of religion, traditions, the sunna, the knowledge of the Koran, the life of the Prophet, and the techniques of literature, as Abu` Ja'far showed. The scholars of religion, the surviving Companions (of the Prophet), the leading members of the next generation, and the heads of the jurists of the Moslems reported on his authority. By virtue of his outstanding merit he became a signpost (of knowledge) to his family. Proverbs were coined about him and reports and verses were written to describe him.([Roudat al-A'yan fi Mashahir Akhbar al-Zaman](#)).

16. Mohammed al-Jazri

Mohammed b. Mohammed al-Jazri said: "Abu` Ja'far, Mohammed b. 'Ali b. al-Husayn b. 'Ali b. Abi Ta`lib, was called al-Ba`qir, for he split open knowledge. Thus, he knew its apparent and hidden (origins). He was the best of the Ha`shimites in knowledge, outstanding merit, and tradition.([Ghayat al-Nihaya fi Tabaqat al-Qurra', vol. 2, p. 202](#)).

17. Kama`l al-Din al-Sha`fi'i

Kama`l al-Din al-Sha`fi'i said: "He was the one who split open knowledge (al-baqir) and gathered it. Then he made it famous. His heart was clear. His act was honest. His soul was pure. His morals were noble. His times were spent in Allah's obedience. His foot was steady at the place of devotion. The features of closeness (to Allah) and the purity of kindness appeared on him. Thus, virtues competed with each other for him, and qualities were noble through him.([Matalib al-Sa'ul fi Manaqib Al-al-Rasul](#)).

18. Idris al-Qarashi

Idris al-Qarashi said: "Mohammed b. 'Ali (al-Ba`qir) was the first to get the honor of the two origins, and the birth of al-Hasan and al-Husayn came together for him. He grew up on the virtue, purity, leadership, mastership, and knowledge. He followed the behavior of his pure grandfathers. He moved through the degrees of virtues and went deeply into high glorious deeds.

19. Jama`l al-Din

Jama`l al-Din, Yousif b. Taghari Bardi al-Ata`baki, said: "Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir) b. 'Ali, Zayn al-'Abidin, b. al-Husayan, b. 'Ali b. Abi Ta`lib was the Lord of the Ha`shimites at his time. He was among the Twelve Ima`ms in whose infallibility the Rafida ([the Shi'ites believe](#). ([Al-Nijum al-Zahira, vol. 1, p. 273](#)).

20. Mohammed al-Sabba`n

Mohammed al-Sabba`n said: "As for Mohammed al-Ba`qir, he was the owner of sciences and was the brother of the details and the pleasant things. His miracles appeared. His hints in behavior were many. He was called al-Ba`qir, for he split open knowledge. Thus, he knew its hidden origin.([Is'af al-Raghibin, p. 316](#)).

21. Ibn Abi al-Haddid

'Abd al-Hamid b. Abi al-Haddid said: "Mohammed b. 'Ali al-Ba`qir was the Lord of the Jurists of Hija`z (Saudi Arabia). The people learned jurisprudence from him and his son, Ja'far. He was called al-Ba`qir. Allah's Apostle nicknamed him so while he was not created yet. He (Allah's Apostle) announced good news to him. He promised Ja`bir to see him.([Ibn Abi al-Haddid, Sharh](#)).

22. Shaykh al-Mufid

Shaykh al-Mufid said: "Al-Ba`qir Mohammed b. 'Ali b. al-Husayn, peace be on them, was out of (all) his brothers, the successor of his father, 'Ali b. al-Husayn, his testamentary trustee, and the one who undertook the office of Ima`m after him. He surpassed all of them through his outstanding merit in traditional knowledge, asceticism, and leadership.

He was the most renowned of them, the one among them who was most esteemed by both non-Shi'a and Shi'a, and the most able of them. None of the sons of al-Hasan and al-Husayn, peace be on them, showed the same ability in knowledge of religion, traditions, the sunna, the knowledge of the Koran, the life of the Prophet, and the techniques of literature, as Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir) showed.

The surviving Companions (of the Prophet), the leading members of the next generation, and the leaders of the Moslem jurists reported the principal features of religion on his authority. By virtue of his outstanding merit he became a signpost (of knowledge) to his family. Proverbs were coined about him and reports and verses were written to describe him.([Al-Mufid, al-Irshad, p. 293](#)).

23. Abu` al-Hasan al-Tabrisi

Shaykh Abu` al-Hasan al-Tabrisi said: "Indeed al-Ba`qir has become famous in the world, for he surpassed the creatures in knowledge, asceticism, and honor. None of the (grand) sons of the Apostle, may Allah bless him and his family, showed the same ability in the knowledge of the Koran, the traditions, the life of the Prophet, sciences, wise sayings, and literature, as he showed.

The great surviving Companions (of the Prophet), the leading members of the next generation, and the jurists of the Moslems visited him frequently. The reporters of the traditions narrated that Allah's Apostle, may Allah bless him and his family, called him Ba`qir al-'Ilm (the one who splits open knowledge).([Alam al-Wara bi Alam al-Huda, p. 268](#)).

24. Ta`jj al-Din

Ta`jj al-Din b. Mohammed, the head of Aleppo, said: "Abu` Ja'far, Ba`qir al-'Ilm (the one who splits open knowledge), was the first for whom the birth of al-Hasan and al-Husayn came together. He had vast knowledge and plentiful clemency. Many traditions and abundant

knowledge were reported on his authority.([Ghayat al-Ikhtisar, p. 401](#)).

25. Mahmu`d b. Whayb

Mahmu`d b. Whayb al-Baghdadi said: "His name al-Ba`qir was derived from baqara al-ard, meaning split open the ground and brought to light its hidden things. Thus, he brought to light the hidden things of the treasures of sciences, the facts of legal precepts and wisdom, and the pleasant things. He made them so clear that nobody misunderstands them except those with bad insight and corrupt interior.

Concerning him, it was said that he split open knowledge and gathered it. He made famous his knowledge and raised it. Thus, his heart was clear. His knowledge and his deed were honest. His soul was pure. His morals were noble. His times were full of Allah's obedience. So, describers' tongues fall short of depicting his marks in the positions of the gnostic. ([Jawhart al-Kamal fi Madh al-Sada al-A'lam, p. 132](#)).

26. 'Abba`s al-Makki

Sayyid 'Abba`s b. 'Ali al-Makki said: "Al-Ba`qir is among the Twelve Ima`ms with the Ima`mi (Shi'a). He was a great scholar. He was called al-Ba`qir, for he widely split open knowledge. ([Nazhat al-Jalis, vol. 2, p. 36](#)).

27. Sayyid Ka`zim al-Yama`ni

Sayyid Ka`zim al-Yama`ni said: "Ima`m al-Ba`qir was the second grandson (of the Prophet) and the Fifth Infallible Ima`m in the opinion of those who believe in that. (He was) the fourth pious one in the opinion of all Moslem legal scholars. It was he who was given the kunya of Abu` Ja'far. ([Al-Nafha al-'Anbariya](#)).

28. Ibn Taymiya

Ibn Taymiya said: "Mohammed al-Ba`qir was the greatest of all the people in asceticism and worship. The prostration (in prayer) split open his forehead. He was the most knowledgeable of the people of his time. Allah's Apostle, may Allah bless him and his family, named him al-Ba`qir. ([Minhajj al-Sunna, vol. 2, pp. 114-115](#)).

Ibn Taymiya mentioned the tradition which Ja`bir reported. However, he refrained from what he said. He denied that the Prophet, may Allah bless him and his family, nicknamed (Mohammed) al-Ba`qir. He said: "(This tradition) has no origin with the people of knowledge. Rather, it is among the fabricated traditions. ([Minhajj al-Sunna, vol. 2, pp. 123](#)).

Surely, b. Taymiya bore malice and hatred against the members of the House (ahl al-Bayt), peace be on them, and their followers. He ascribed all stories and fables to them. Indeed Allah, knowledge, and history will punish him for that. Perhaps the greatest punishment that has afflicted him is that all historians mistrust all his writings.

29. Al-Shaykhani

'Abd al-Qa`dir al-Shaykhani said: "Mohammed al-Ba`qir was the most famous of all the people of his time, the most perfect of them in outstanding merits, and the greatest of them in nobility. None showed at his time the same ability in the knowledge of religion, traditions, the knowledge of the Koran, the life of the Prophet, and the techniques of literature, as he showed.

([Al-Sirat al-Sawi, p. 194](#)).

30. Al-Majlisi

Shaykh al-Majlisi said: "None of the sons of al-Hasan and al-Husayn showed the same ability in sciences, the interpretation (of the Koran), theology, religious opinions, the lawful, and the unlawful, as he (al-Ba`qir) showed. The surviving Companions (of the Prophet), the leading members of the next generation, and the leaders of the Moslem jurists reported the principal features of religion on his authority.

Among the Companions (of the Prophet) was Ja`bir b. 'Abd Allah al-Ansa`ri. Among the leading members of the next generation were Ja`bir b. Yazid al-Ju'fi, and Kaysan al-Sakhtya`ni, the leader of the Sufis. Among the jurists were b. al-Muba`rak, al-Zuhri, al-Awza'i, Abi Hanifa, Ma`lik, al-Sha`fi'i, Zyya`d b. al-Mundhir, and al-Nahdi. Among the authors were al-Tabari, al-Bala`dhari, and al-Kha`tib, in their books called 'Ta`rikh'. (The principal features of religion have been also reported on his authority in various books, such as:) al-Muwatti', Sharaf al-Mustafa`, al-Ibana, Hulyat al-Awliya', al- Sinan by Abi Da`uwd, al-Musnad by Abi Hanifa, al-Targhib by al-Asfaha`ni, al-Basit by al-Wa`hidi, al-Tafsir by al-'Ayya`shi, (al-Tafsir) by al-Zumakhshari, and Ma'rifat al-Usu'l by al-Sama'a`ni. They said:' Mohammed b. 'Ali. ' Perhaps they said:' Mohammed al-Ba`qir. ([Bihar al-Anwar,vol. 11, p. 84](#)).

The speech of al-Majlisi refers to the scientific aspect of the character of the great Ima`m,

who encompassed all the sciences. Thus, the Moslem scholars studied jurisprudence, history, interpretation (of the Koran), and the techniques of maxims and literature under him. This played an important role in developing Islamic thought.

31. Al-Nawawi

Al-Nawawi said: "(Mohammed) al-Ba`qir was a leading member of the next generation. He was a skillful Ima`m. (The Moslem scholars) have unanimously agreed on his greatness. He was numbered among the jurists and Ima`ms of Medina.([Tahdhib al-Lughat wa al-Asma'](#), vol. 1, p. 87).

32. Abu` Zar'a

Abu Zar'a said: "Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir) was among the greatest scholars. ([A'yan al-Shi'a](#), Q1/4/485).

33. Ibn 'Anba

Jama`l al-Din, Ahmed b. 'Ali b. al-Husayn b. al-Muhanna` b. 'Anba, said: "Mohammed al-Ba`qir had vast knowledge and plentiful clemency. His great position is more famous than calling (someone's) attention to it.([Umdat al-Talib](#), vol. 2, p. 29).

34. 'Ali b.'Isa al-Arbali

The minister, 'Ali b. 'Isa al-Arbali, talked about the high behavior of Abu` Ja'far (al-Ba`qir), peace be on him. Then he ended his talk, saying: "Indeed al-Ba`qir's virtues are too many to count, and his outstanding merits are too high to encompass. When his glorious deed are numbered, glorious and laudable deeds prostrate themselves before them. That is because his honor surpassed the limit and reached the end.

His great rank overcame security and reached the highest degree. His place in knowledge and act raised a thousand banners for him. How many a mark of righteousness, an expression of leadership, a sign of generosity, enthusiasm, noble rank, high lineage, glorious origin, purity of mother and father he had. He learned liberality and purity through the strongest means. If he competed with the sky for highness, he would be higher than it. If he wanted the stars in their zenith, he would attain them.([Kashf al-Ghumma](#), vol. 2, p. 363).

35. Ahmed Fahmi

Shaykh Ahmed Fahmi said : "Ima`m al-Ba`qir is the fifth Ima`m with the Ima`mi (Shi'a). He , may Allah be blessed with him, was the most truthful of all the people, the best of them in splendor, and the most wonderful of them in language.([Imam Zayn al-'Abidin](#), p. 18).

36. Farid Wajdi

Farid Wajdi said: "Al-Ba`qir was a noble scholar and great lord. He was called al-Ba`qir because he split open knowledge widely.([Wajdi, Da'rat al-Ma'ari](#), vol. 3, p. 563).

37. Abu` Zahrah

Shaykh Abu` Zahrah said : "His (Ima`m Zayn al-'Abidin's) son, Mohammed (al-Ba`qir), was his heir in leading knowledge and obtaining guidance. So the scholars from all the Islamic countries came to him. All those who visited Medina went to Mohammed al-Ba`qir's house to learn from him.([Al-Imam al-Sadiq](#), p. 22).

38. Al-Talmasa`ni

Al-Talmasa`ni said: "Mohammed b. 'Ali b. al-Husayn b. Abi Ta`lib was Ima`m Ja'far al-Sa`diq's father. He was called al-Ba`qir because he went deeply into knowledge. He was a just, reliable member of the next generation and famous Imam.([Al-Khafaji, Sharh al-Shafa](#), vol. 1, p. 292).

39. 'Abd al-Qa`dir al-Halabi

Abd al-Qa`dir al-Halabi said : "Al-Ba`qir was the first 'Alid who was between two 'Alids. He was a member of the next generation with a great rank. He was a skillful Ima`m. (The Moslem scholars) have unanimously agreed on his Ima`mate and his greatness. (They) numbered him as one of the jurists and Ima`ms of Medina.([Al-Hadith al-Mufahhas 'an Sharaf Nasl al-Imam 'Ali](#), p. 139).

These are some of the words which the great scholars and researchers made concerning Ima`m al-Ba`qir. They have recorded their admiration for the character of the Ima`m. They have also revealed some dimensions of his bright life. Among them are the following:

1. Ima`m al-Ba`qir surpassed all the scholars of his time in knowledge and outstanding merits. No one was similar to him in scientific abilities and talents. He surpassed in outstanding merit and knowledge his brothers, the children of his uncles, and all the

children of the Prophetic family who were the source of light and awareness in the earth.

2. The scholars of his time lowered themselves before him. They recognized his high scientific rank and his high authority for the Islamic world.

3. Ima`m al-Ba`qir had vast knowledge not only in Islamic jurisprudence but also in all sciences, such as theology, philosophy, interpretation (of the Koran), history, maxims, and literature. With that he became the bright signpost of Islamic sciences.

4. He brought to light the hidden origins of some sciences, which the people did not know.

5. He was the first pioneer of the scientific movement of his time. Thus, the scholars quoted from his pure knowledge. The researchers, the authors, and the writers took from his vast sciences.

6. He conformed to religion very much. He was very pious and feared Allah to the extent that he became one of the Ima`ms of the pious and the repentant.