

THE LOYAL ONES



Book 4

Sussein bin Rauh

Nawbakhti

ایسے ہوتے ہیں علی کے نوکر

ایسے ہوتے ہیں علی کے نوکر

*“Indeed these are what the followers of Ali
are like...”*

Prepared by 'ASR'

May Allah swt bless us with an opportunity to be a true
follower of our Imam (ajtf), Inshallah!!!

Introduction

- Upon the death of Abu Amri, eight individuals claimed to be his successor.
- The second deputy of our twelfth Imam had difficulty proving that he was the successor of Abu Amri.
- After living an arduous life, he passed away; his successor being Hussain bin Rauh Nawbakhti.



About

- Name : Hussain
- Agnomen : Abul Qasim
- Father's Name : Rauh
- Grandfather's Name : Abu Ja'far
- Family : Nawbakht
- He was known by the name Hussain b. Rauh al-Nawbakhti.
- His exact date of birth has not been recorded in books of history.
- He was among the companions of Imam Hasan Askari (as) and was a sincere supporter of the second deputy.
- He was the third deputy of Imam Mahdi (ajtf).
- His deputyship began in 305 AH and continued for 21 to 22 years.



Life History

- Abul Qasim succeeded Abu Jafar in deputyship of the twelfth Imam (ajtf).
- He was a loyal, pious and trustworthy person.
- Even before his appointment as deputy, Husain b. Rauh enjoyed the unequivocal confidence of the second deputy so much, that the latter divided the chiefs of the Imamia sects into various levels and grades, and appointed Hussain bin Rauh at the highest and the foremost group.
- He was the first amongst the chiefs who was permitted to directly meet him (2nd deputy).
- More than three years before Abu Jafar died, he started setting the grounds for Hussain bin Rauh.
- Muhammad b. Uthman took particular care in appointing Husain b. Rauh as his successor.
- He endorsed his deputyship while he was alone with him, at times in the assemblies of sincere Shias and at other times in front of his representatives.
- Many people thought that Jafar bin Muttayal would be the 3rd deputy.

- But Muhammad bin Uthman removed all doubts, and Hussain bin Rauh was accepted as the third deputy.
- In Muqtadir Abbas's reign, Hussain b. Rauh was highly respected by the ministers (Viziers).
- But he was subsequently arrested in the reign of Muqtadir.
- When a hostile man by the name of Hamid bin Abbas assumed the position of vizier, times became very difficult for shias.
- For about five years (306 AH - 311 AH), he lived in seclusion until the era of Hamid bin Abbas finished.
- Husain bin Rauh was imprisoned from the year 312 AH to 317 AH.
- He was appointed as deputy in 305 AH.
- After being the deputy for 21 or 22 years, he fell ill in the year 326Ah and passed away from this world.
- He was buried in Baghdad with elaborate funeral arrangements at Bazaar e Shorja, which is an important business center and a court of law.
- People go for ziyarat to his grave and obtain blessings therefrom.

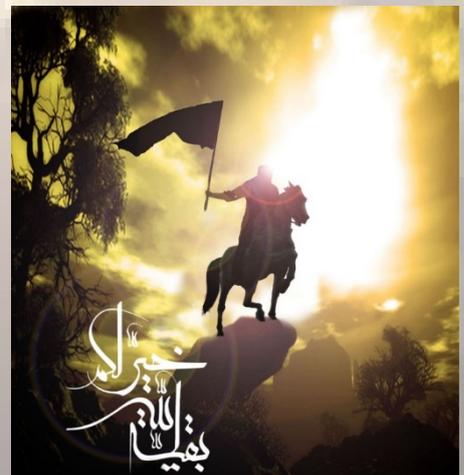
Personality Traits

1-Steadfastness:

- Hussain bin Rauh had a powerful determination on the path of truth and possessed great steadfastness and bravery.,
- Abu Sahl Nawbakhti narrates:
"If Abul Qasim had the Imam underneath his garment and even his flesh was being cut into pieces to make him reveal his whereabouts, he would not yield or reveal his presence to his foes."

2-Supporting the truth:

- Hussain bin Rauh Nawabakhti was a companion of the 11th Imam, a great supporter of Abu Jafar (2nd deputy) and was the 3rd deputy of the 12th Imam.
- His status was very well deserved.



3-Knowledgeable:

Muhammad b. Ibrahim b. Ishaq Talaqi asked the questions of Ali b. Esa Qasri to Hussain b. Rauh that whether Imam Hussain was Wali (appointee) of Allah? And whether his killer was enemy of Allah? Hussain b. Rauh replied in the affirmative.

Then he was asked whether Allah allows His enemy to overpower His appointee? After receiving the replies, Muhammad b. Ibrahim fell in doubt as he could not digest this subtle point. The next day when he went in the presence of Husain b. Rauh, before he could utter anything, Husain b. Rauh exclaimed: 'O Muhammad b. Ibrahim! It would have been better had I fallen from the sky and became a morsel for birds than advance my views concerning Allah's Religion. Whatever I had replied, its source was the Proof of Allah and I myself heard this from him.'

Husain b. Rauh's discussion with Muhammad b. Ibrahim on Allah's Enemy and His Wali can be summarised in a simple manner. Allah does not converse with the people openly like we do.

Rather, He converses through the Prophets (as), who are mortals. He bestows miracles upon them, which are beyond all

others in their respective nations. Despite evident miracles, few people from their nations testified to their claims, while others rejected them outright. So, sometimes Prophets (as) overpower the enemies and sometimes they were vanquished and confronted with calamities.

If Allah made the Prophets (as) defeat all their adversaries in all matters, then the people would have taken them as Gods; and patience, calamities and examination would have no meaning and purpose.

Hence, Allah has conferred characteristics on these mortals that they should be patient at all times be it in comfort or difficulties. In times of ease and triumph (over the enemy) they should thank Allah. They should be humble in all situations and abstain from rebellion and disobedience. In this way, people may understand that Allah is the Creator and in all affairs, He has purpose and wisdom.



4-Patience:

- He spent five years in imprisonment.
- There was also another period of hardships for shias at the time when a hostile ruler was appointed as vizier.
- Hussain bin Rauh was forced to live in seclusion for about five years.



5-Miracles:

Husain b. Ali Babawayah (brother of Shaikh Saduq) narrates:

'Some people from the city of Qum (in 311 AH), prepared to go for Hajj. At that time the Qaraamatah used to attack the Hajjis. My father (Ali b. Babawayah) wrote a letter to Shaikh Abul Qasim Husain b. Rauh Nawbakhti to present it to Imam az-Zaman (ajtf), and seek permission for Hajj that year. Imam az-Zaman (ajtf) ordered him not to go for Hajj. My father wrote another letter saying that the Hajj was obligatory and whether it is permissible to stay away from it? Imam (ajtf) replied: 'If you cannot avoid it, then travel with the last caravan.'

As my father left for Hajj with the last caravan, he was saved while the people with the earlier caravan were killed



6 – Dissimulation (Taqiyya):

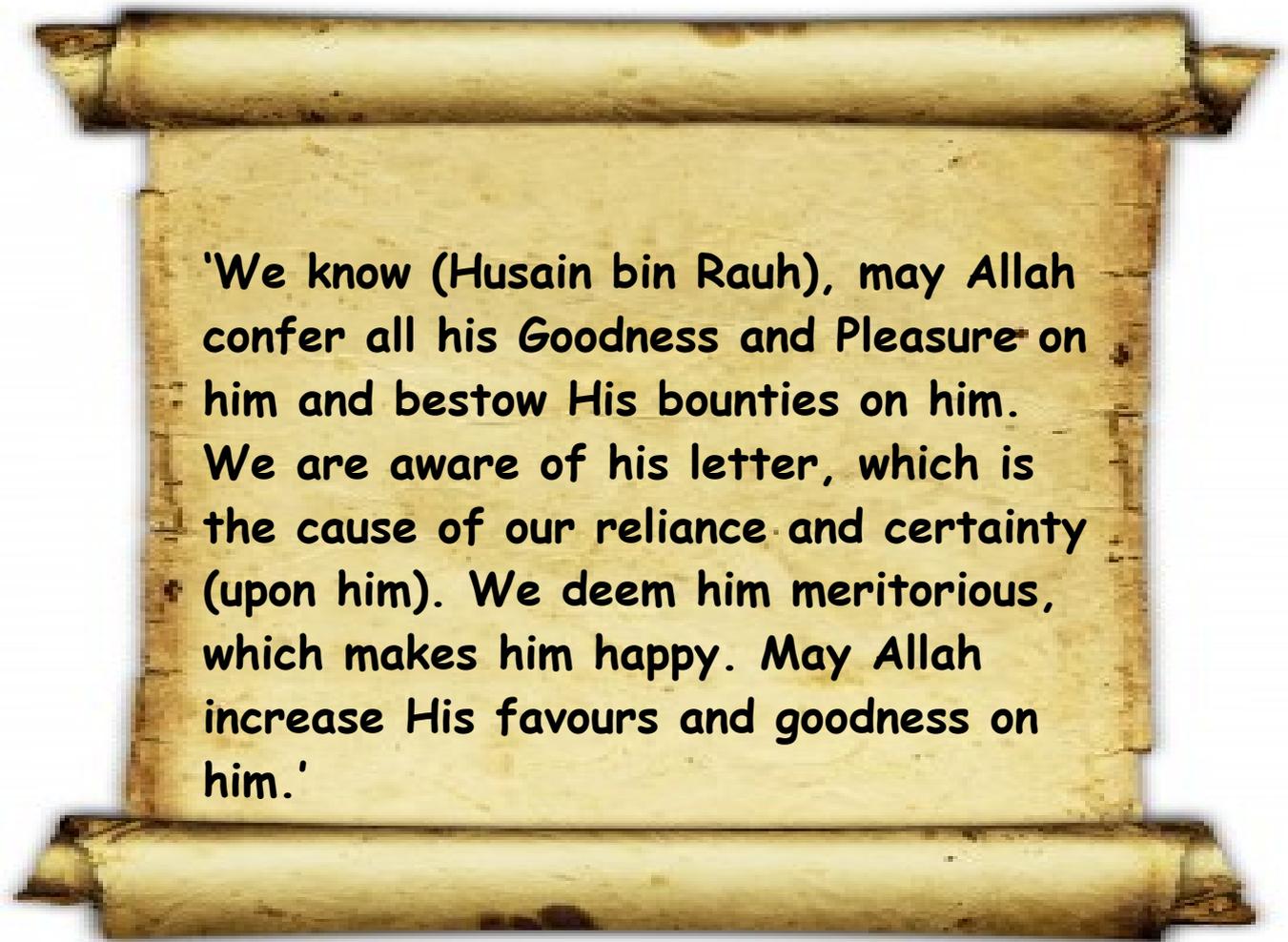
- Hussein Bin Rauh was living in a time when the society was full of hatred and malice towards the family of the Messenger of Allah (pbuh).
- He was compelled to secure his life so that he may continue to fulfill the great duty and heavy responsibility of the deputyship of the Imam of the time.
- Therefore he used to practice dissimulation.
- According to al-Tusi, Ibn Ruh was so cautious that he even discharged his servant because he had cursed Mu'awiya. Perhaps he took this step to avoid the danger posed by the vizier, Hamid b. al'Abbas (306-311), who was well-known for his hatred of Shiites generally.
- Taqiyya means concealing or disguising one's beliefs, convictions, ideas, feelings, opinions, or strategies at a time of eminent danger, to save oneself from physical or mental injury.



Letter

Abul Abbas b. Nuh states that Muhammad b. Nafees wrote a letter from Ahwaz. I read the very first tawqee concerning Husain b. Rauh from Imam az-Zaman (ajtf).

In it was written:



'We know (Husain bin Rauh), may Allah confer all his Goodness and Pleasure on him and bestow His bounties on him. We are aware of his letter, which is the cause of our reliance and certainty (upon him). We deem him meritorious, which makes him happy. May Allah increase His favours and goodness on him.'

This tawqee reached Husain b. Rauh on Sunday, 6th of Shawaal Shawwal, 305 AH.

Martyrdom

- Hussain bin Rauh passed away on 18th Shaban Wednesday, 326 AH.
- He was a deputy for 21 to 22 years.
- His grave is situated in Baghdad in Nawbakhtia.
- However, the place is now known as Suq Al-Attaareen.



His Activities

- There is evidence that the ten appointees of the second *Saf'ir* continued their activities under al-Nawbakhti.
- Among these people were Ja'far b. Ahmad b. Matil, Abu Abd Allah al-Katib, al-Hasan al-Wajna', Muhammad b. Humam, 'Isma'il b. Ishaq al-Nawbakhti, Ahmad b. Matil, Muhammad al-Aswad, and al-Madd'im.
- Two other names also appear in this list in Baghdad: al-Shalmaghani and Ahmad b. Ibrahim al-Nawbakhti.
- Some reports reveal that because of the persecution of the Imamites which had been carried out by the caliphs al-Mu'tadid and al-Muktafi and their attempts to arrest the Imam, he changed his place of residence from Samarra to the Hijaz.
- This situation naturally led to difficulties as regards the methods of communication between him and his comrades.
- Ibn Ruh was highly esteemed by the 'Abbasid court during the time of the caliph of al-Muqtadir (295-320/907-932). This can be attributed to the influence of Ibn Ruh's family, Banu Nawbakht, in the 'Abbasid administration, an influence which had begun

during the time of the caliph al-Mansur (d.158/774) and lasted until the time of al-Muqtadir. Ibn Ruh himself participated in the Abbasid administration. According to al-Jahshayari, he was at one point in charge of the personal domain of the caliph (*Diwan al-Diya al-Khasya*).

- Despite Ibn Ruh's great influence, he seems to have been put in a critical situation by the militant activities of the other Shiites, particularly the Qaramita.
- These were used by his rivals as a pretext to cause his arrest.
- In 311/923 a caravan of Baghdadi pilgrims, including some relatives of the caliph al-Muqtadir, were attacked and captured by the Qaramita, an act which caused the people of Baghdad to be very upset.
- He was- succeeded by Abu al-Hasan 'Ali b. Muhammad al-Sammari.



Quote about his status

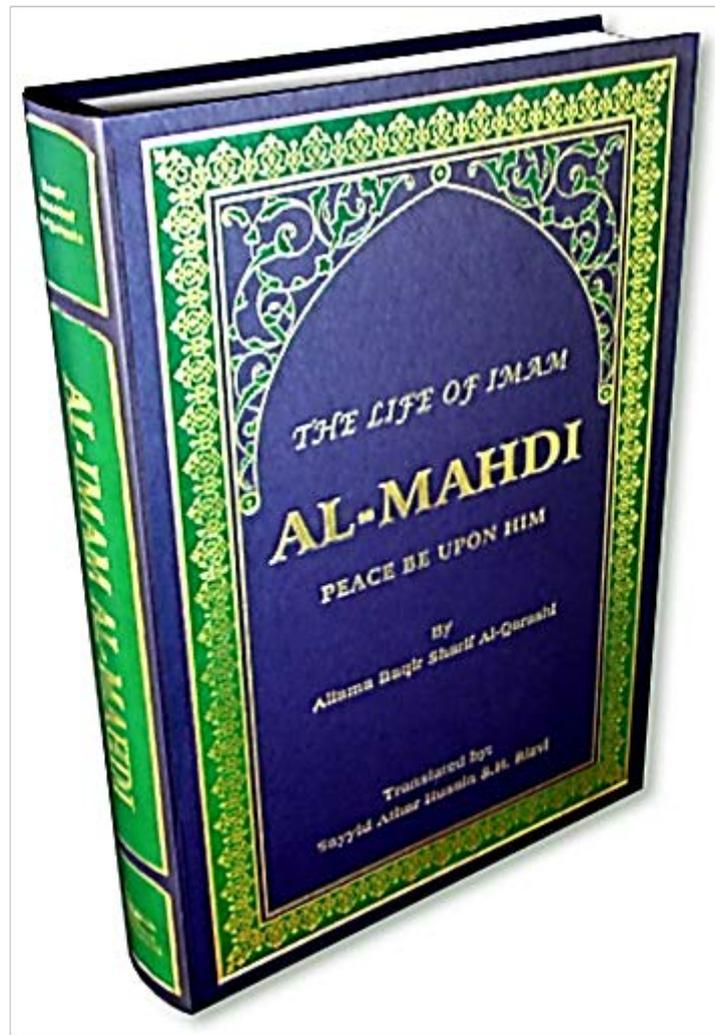
The 2nd deputy of our 12th Imam (ajtf) , said,

“If the incident of death befalls me, the command is with Abul Qasim Hussain bin Rauh Nawabakhti. I have been ordered to place him in my position after me. Refer to him and rely on him in your affairs.”



References

- 1- Special deputies by 'Association of Imam Mahdi"
(www.al-islam.org)
- 2- Imam Mahdi by Alama Baqir shareef al Qarashi.
- 3- Book of occultation by Abu Jafar Muhammad bin al-Hasan al-Tusi.



The Loyal Ones

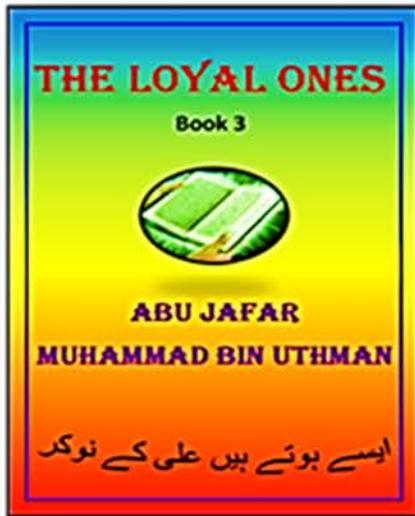
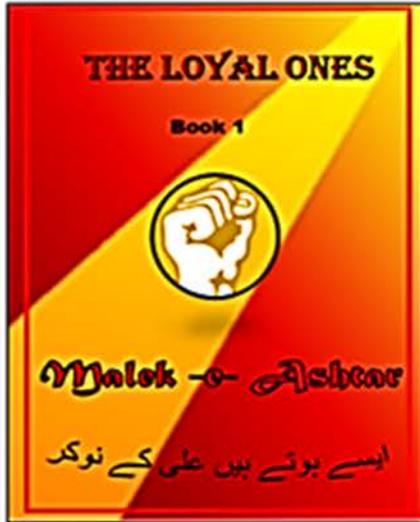
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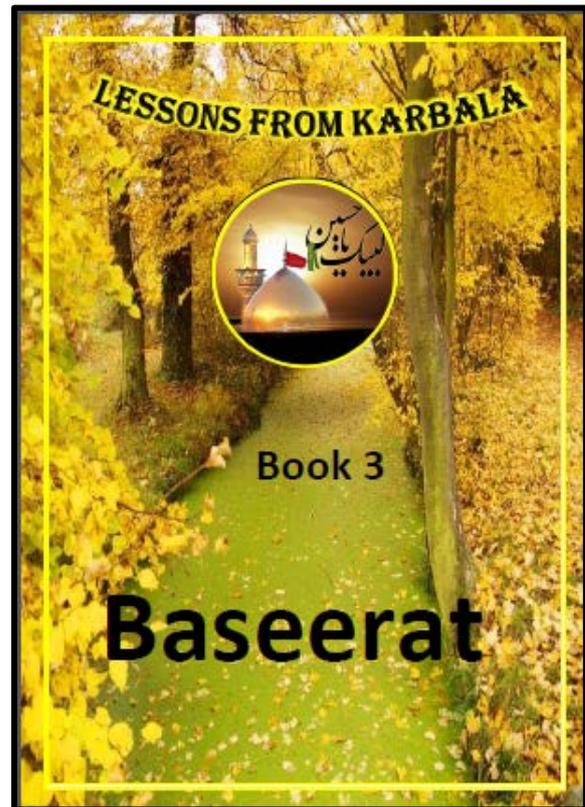
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The Messengers:

- 1) Superhero or Superhuman
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- 3) Are there more like me?
- 4) Little things...Big Impact!
- 5) Peek a Boo! I know you!
- 6) Respite after spite
- 7) Sugar-coated evil

