

Merits of Husain discussed by the Spiritual Heads of Jews & Christians in the Syrian Court in 60 (AH)

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1. Torturous journey from Karbala to Syria:

Immediately after the Shahadah of Syed ash Shuhada, Abi Abdillah al Imam al Husain ibn Ali in Karbala, the Yazidian army ransacked and looted the tents of Ahl al Bait which now comprised the Syed'at-ladies of the house of Rasulullah(S). They were harassed and mercilessly tortured, and then taken to Kufa, where after a long and torturous journey through the various cities, towns and villages of Iraq the caravan of Ahl al Bait arrived at the outskirts of Damascus, where an explicit order was served to Umar bin S'ad, that the prisoners were to be stationed there, and prohibiting them not allowed to enter into the capital, until the preparations for the victory celebrations were completed. For three long days Ahl al Bait stayed at the gate of Damascus. According to "Malhuf", when Ahl al Bait entered Damascus, after three days, they saw a gala celebration. The public was forced to gather in the streets to hoot and curse at the now miserable condition of the Ahl al Bait. Singers were instructed to demonstrate their talent; prostitutes were directed to please the people on the streets. The Military Band was playing the victory tunes. Every where people teased and jeered the Ahl al Bait with clapping, hooting and stoning. Like monkeys they were dancing and merry making. Such were the arrangement, which was organized to welcome the prisoners, under the influence of the joy of so called victory of the Syrian Monarch. Surrounded by the dancing girls and the low class crowd of Damascus, Ahl al Bait were led toward the Palace of Yazid.

An announcement was made in Damascus:

"Those whose elders were killed by the sword of Ali should be ready to take revenge from the children of Ali. Daughters and daughters in laws of Ali have arrived".

As a result of this announcement, relatives and friends of those infernal, killed by Ali, came ready with stones to hit the Ahl al Bait. The caravan of Ahl al Bait was paraded from morning to evening to every nook and corner of Damascus, where people pelted them with stones which hurt and injured the Ahl al Bait. Syedah Sakinah asked her aunt Syedah Zainab:

"O aunt I saw rain in Madinah, what place is this where rain of stones are coming down on us"?

Zainab replied:

"Daughter this is not our grand-father's Madinah. It is the capital of Bani Umayyah, Damascus, where they are serving us with rewards of our grandfather's guidance towards Islam. 'O Daughter! After Karbala, Damascus is the second slaughter house for us".

When this caravan was passing through the street of Damascus, one cursed woman, Umme Hajjam was standing there with stones. She asked from the women prisoner: "Who are the daughters of Ali amongst you? I want to take revenge from them. Ali had killed my father and husband in the Ghazwah".

Syedah Ruqaiyah indicated towards Syedah Zainab and Syedah Kulsum and said: They are daughters of Ali and Fatimah, and I alone am the daughter of Ali. You can take your revenge from me.

Umme Hajjam targeted her head and hit the stone with full force. Blood gushed out from her head like a spring. The head of Syedi Abbas which was tied to the neck of a horse of a cursed person miraculously flew and kissed the head of his sister and said:

"O Wonderful! Sister you have proved you are my sister".

How can I explain the chain of tragic happenings, one after another?

"When the Ahl al Bait was brought as prisoners to Syria, tyrant Monarch was sitting on the second storey of his palace, at a place known as "Musharraaf Jeroon". After observing the dreadful condition of the 'Husaini Caravan', Yazid joyously recited the following verses:

- That caravan visible and on the peak of Jeroon, shining of the sun spread.
- Crow made a noise (as a bad omen), I said: whether you make noise or not, I have received my debt (took revenge from the Rasul).

(1-"Tazkirah", Sibte Ibn Jauzi, p.148; 2- "History", Ibn al Qatafi; 31-"Nafs al Mahmum", p. 435)

The caravan of Ahl al Bait was mercilessly beaten by lashes by the Yazidi soldiers, from the gate of Damascus known as "Baab al Saat", until they reached to the Court of the cursed emperor of Syria. The enemies wanted them to cry loudly, as they were very patient during the long and torturous journey. It was the wish of the enemies that the cries of the Ahl al Bait should be heard by each and everyone in the court. This caravan reached at the door step of the Yazidian court in the evening. They spent the whole night in prison, in the open courtyard of the Palace. Next day they were presented in a very deplorable condition in the presence of the Syrian Monarch, who was busy in playing Chess. For hours he kept them waiting and would not even glance at the prisoners purposely. Imam Ali Zain ul Abideen, the sole male prisoner sent Lanah upon Chess and its player thrice precisely. The Ambassador of the Roman Empire asked Yazid as to who they were, as for hours you have not even cast a glance at them? The question of the foreign diplomat annoyed the Syrian Monarch who then paid attention towards the captives.

2. Ahl al Bait in the Court of Taghut of Syria:

When Ahl al Bait entered the Palace, they were directed to appear in the presence of the Emperor. The tyrant emperor of Syria, Yazid was seated in his ceremonial royal costume. The Head of Imam al Husain was formally presented to Yazid by Umar Ibn S'ad in a tray. The Syrian Monarch, with a cup of wine in one hand, joyously accepted the ultimate symbol of his so-called victory and commanded Umar S'ad to announce the names of the prisoners. Now Syedah Zainab was in the court of the Syrian Monarch. This Syrian court

was the same to Zainab, as Karbala was to Imam al Husain. In the court, the Syrian Monarch was seated along with seven hundred courtiers. The grandeur of the court was similar to the like of the Roman and the Byzantine Emperors. Seated on the throne with the support of pillows, Yazid was busy in shameful acts with concubines and over-powered with joy.

In this cursed court, children of Rasulullah (S) were standing as captives, fastened with ropes. Daughters of Nabi were without Hij'ab, bare-footed, in tattered clothes. Right before Ahl al Bait, Yazid insulted time and again the pious Head of Imam al Husain (on which Rasulullah kissed un-counted times), with his stick, maliciously recited couplets of Abdullah bin Zabari in a fit of fury and openly declared and exhibited the hatred and enmity of his family towards Islam and Rasulullah (S). Those people who in the present age have soft corners for Yazid should read these words very carefully, he repeated openly:

1. Perhaps the slain of Badar (The arch enemies of Islam killed by Ali and Hamzah) been alive today; they would have witnessed as to how the helpless children of Mohammad and their associates are caught up on the point of lances in distress.
2. All of them (dead relatives of Yazid) would have been glad to see this scene and out of glee would have raised the slogan (as similar which were raised in the court of Syria on the assassination of Ali and Imam Hasan) and they would have congratulated; O Yazid! Your muscles may remain strong and may never be weak.
3. We have slain the leader of Bani Hashim and taken revenge of the defeat of the Badar.
4. If I had not taken revenge from the progeny of Mohammad; I would not have been counted from the progeny of Atabah.
5. One Hashmi (Rasulullah) had defrauded the people and staged a drama to seize a kingdom. Otherwise there was no Nabi and nor a Wahi.

In this last couplet, Yazid exceeded all limits and openly committed, compound crime, upon which punishment of "Hadd" is liable on the ground of "Irtid'ad Anil Islam". He thereby explicitly proved and declared himself as a Murtad. Tyrant emperor of Syria was result of evil spirits. He confirmed and declared by his actions that in reality from Badar to Karbala the history is the same, Yazid also recited the sacrilegious verses. His wish of revenge for the deaths of his ancestors in the Badar, from the descendants of Muhammad explains the entire episode.

(1-"Al Sawaeq al Muharraqa", Ibn Hajar Makki, 2-"Wasilat-un-Naj'at", Molvi Mubin Farangi Mehli, Karachi).

3. Yazid insulted the Head of Imam al Husain:

Famous celebrated Sufi Hasan al Basri relates that famous Ashaab al Nabi(S), Abu Bariza al Aslami and Zaid bin Arqam were in the Court of Yazid. First Zaid bin Arqam warned Yazid to stop the heinous crime, as he was continuously hitting the face of Imam al Husain, with his stick, especially on his denture, but he didn't listen. Abu Bariza al Aslami could not control his patience and said: "Keep your stick away from Husain's head. Wallah! I have seen for years that Rasulullah (S) used to kiss the face of Husain. Be remembering! On the day of Qiyamah, Ubaidullah bin Ziyad Maloon would be your

helper, whereas the helper of Imam al Husain shall be Rasulullah (S)'. Then they stood up from their seats and left.

(1-“Hay’at al Imam al Husain”, Al Farshi, p.500, Qum, Iran; 2-Tabari,p. 267,vol. 6;3- “Sawaiq Muharriqah”, p. 97;4-“Al Badayat wal Nihayat”,Ibn Kasir, vol. 8,p. 192).

4. Ambassador of the Roman Empire Embraces Islam:

Hisham bin Mohammad has narrated that the sacred Head of Imam al Husain was brought before Yazid in his court, on 16th Rabi ul Awwal 61(A.H), in Damascus and it was presented to him in a gold plate, covered by cloth. The Roman Ambassador was also watching this heart breaking treatment along with several courtiers and other diplomats. He inquired from Yazid as to whose head it was in the gold plate? The Syrian Monarch unsuccessfully tried to avoid answering the question, and said that it was none of his concern. The Ambassador said, when I will return to Rome; my Emperor will ask for details of the journey. I must know the reason of this jubilant event, so that I may inform to my Emperor, and he may also join your joy. Yazid informed him that it was the Head of Imam al Husain. The Roman Ambassador again asked who Husain was. The Syrian Monarch replied that he was the son of Fatimah. The Roman Ambassador again asked who Fatimah was. The Syrian Monarch replied that she was the daughter of Mohammad. The Roman Ambassador then clarified further, By Mohammad you mean your Rasul? The Syrian Monarch replied in the affirmative. Then the Roman Ambassador asked who Husain’s father was? Syrian Monarch replied that Husain’s father was Ali ibn Abi Talib.

The Roman Ambassador at once said: “O Yazid! Great sorrow upon you and your faith. My and your faith may not be the same, but curse upon you. Do you know that I am a direct descendent of Dawood(A.S), and between him and me the chain of relationship is very long, but still Christians pay me due respect. They use the dust of my shoes as eyeliner of medicinal value, and you sitting here have killed the one, whose relation with your Rasul was direct? He further narrated a historical event, of which he was an eye witness. He said, once I passed through the ‘Dead Sea’ and entered into a large city, which was a famous place of trading of Camphor, Amber, Ruby and Aloes-wood. There were many Churches and among them, in one Church we have preserved the only Hoof of Essa’s Donkey, on which it is said that he rode for some time. Although we are not sure, and it is yet to be confirmed that it was his donkey, yet the Christians come as Pilgrims and pay great respect to that hoof of the donkey. When we pay so much respect to the Hoof of Essa’s donkey, you knowingly killed brutally the son of your Rasul.

“O Yazid! May Allah not bestow upon you and your affairs His benedictions”. The Syrian Monarch become furious, and thought it was better to kill him otherwise he would defame us in his country, and then instructed for his execution. When he heard the order of his execution, he told Yazid, Yesterday I saw Rasulullah (S) in my dream. He gave me tidings of the Jannah, I was amazed after hearing this glad tiding, and with your action the meaning of this dream has now become clear. He recited the Kalemah al Shahdah

and embraced Islam. He took the sacred head of Moula Husain, kissed it and pressed it to his chest, and cried on Husain till his execution. By the order of the Syrian Monarch he was beheaded. In another account, it is narrated that the attendants present in the court clearly heard from the Head of Imam al Husain the following Ayah:

“La Hawla Wala Quwata ‘illa Billah”

(1-“Bih’ar ul Anw’ar”, vol.45, p.141-142, Qum; 2-“Al Malhuf”, p.169-173;3- “Maqatal al Husain”, Muqram, p.355;3-“Sawaiq Muharriqah”, ibn Hajar Makki).

5. Yazid & “Jasliq”:

“Jasliq” is the official designation of the Spiritual Head of the Armenians. The Headquarter of the Armenians is in Lebanon. He was very old, and was present of Yazid when the sacred head of Imam al Husain was bought into the court. He asked O Khalifah! Who is he? Yazid informed him that it is the head of Husain ibn Ali whose mother was Fatimah, daughter of Rasulallah(S). “Jasliq” asked for which crime have you killed him. The Syrian Monarch replied that the people of Iraq tried to appoint him as their ruler, so my governor Ubaidullah bin Ziyad killed him and sent his head to me.

“Jasliq” said to Yazid:

“When I was young I had a chance to visit Madinah. Hearing about Rasulallah(S) I was eager to meet him, and thought it wise to present him with a gift. I consulted with Ash’ab and appeared before Rasulallah(S) with two pieces of Musk and Ambergris, in his presence. Rasulallah (S) was at that time in the house of his wife Umme Salama. When I saw him first, I was blinded by the Noor flowing out from him. My first sight of him created in me love, inspiration and affection. He asked me, my name. I replied: my name is Abd al Shams. He instructed, I now give you the name Abd al Wahab, and would accept your gift, only, if you embrace Islam. Hearing his wish, I looked upon His face. The sign of divinity was visible, which indicated His sacred status. The prediction of Essa (A.S) was found in him, as he declared:

“I give you tidings of a Rasul, who will come after me, his name will be Ahmad”.

Thus I found all the signs and tidings visible in him and willingly entered into the fold of Islam. As long as I stayed in Madinah, I regularly appeared in the court of Rasulallah (S). One day I was with Rasulallah (S) at the house of Umme Salama, Imam Hasan and Imam al Husain arrived. Rasulallah (S) opened his arms and took both of them in his lap and continuously kissed upon their lips and cheeks”.

At that time he declared in very clear terms:

“Your murderers and their helpers both remain far away from Allah’s Rahmat”.

Literal meaning of the word “Lanah” carries the opposite meaning of Rehmah. People of hostile faith should understand that this Dua of Rasulallah(S) is to continue till the Qiyamah. And it is a warning for all those who have soft corner for Yazid. In fact, they are Yazid’s helpers by deeds and creeds. L’annah of Allah upon all those who ignore the divine status of Husain ibn Ali. Nawfal ibn Abu Furat said:

"I was with 'Umar ibn 'Abd al 'Aziz and a man said: 'Amir al Muminin, Yazid the son of Mu'awiyah said: 'Khalifah Umar remarked: 'Did you say Yazid, Amir al Muminin?' And he ordered this person to be lashed twenty times.

(1-"Tehzib", 2-"Shuzrat al Zahab", 3-"Lisaan al Mizaan",4-"Al Sawaiq al Muharriqah",5-"Tarikh al Khulafa",6-"Yanabi al Muwaddat").

"Jasliq" narrated another event:

"One day Rasulullah (S) instructed both of them, "Do write something, the one whose handwriting would be better than the other, he will get success". Both of them came with their calligraphy, Rasulullah (S) directed them to go towards their father; he will decide the matter as whose calligraphy is superior. Ali did not give his judgment and instructed them to go to their mother, Fatimah, for the decision. Syedah Fatimah broke her necklace, made of pearls, which she wore at that time. She threw the pearls on the floor and declared that the one, who will gather more pearls in number, will be successful. The total pearls were seven, each Imam gathered three, and only one pearl remained left. They were in search of it, when suddenly Jibrael (A.S) came under divine instruction, and divided the pearl in to two. Both of them took half piece of the pearl. Allah declared both of them equal in status. O Yazid! This event took place inside the house and I was waiting outside, but I heard this event from Syedna Salman al Farsi. O Yazid! In fact I am a Muslim, but I did not disclose my religion. Now tell me, Yazid, when Allah did not like to hurt the feelings of Hasan and Husain, you knowingly killed Husain, Lanah of Allah upon the murderer of Husain".

"Jasliq" further informed him as follows:

"I saw in my dream a painful cry. I saw that a person of resplendent face was coming down from the sky along with others. I asked as to who were they? Someone replied, this is Rasulullah(S), and Malaek is offering condolences of Husain to him".

Afterwards, "Jasliq" said to Yazid:

Lanah of Allah upon you. Remove this head right now, or otherwise Allah will send his wrath upon you".

The Syrian Monarch rebuked him, and said, are you here to convey your false and dreadful nightmare. He ordered his solders to arrest him. His solders chained his hands and feet and put him at the feet of Yazid, who ordered them to beat him mercilessly, which they did. "Jasliq" turned his face towards the Head of Imam al Husain and said loudly:

"O Aba Abdillah! Be witness in the presence of your grandfather Rasulullah(S) I am believer of Tawhid and Mohammad is slave of Allah and His Rasul".

Listening to this declaration of Islam, Syrian Monarch was very much angered and issued instructions to kill him. "Jasliq" said:

"O Yazid! I do not fear death. I am seeing that Rasulullah(S) is here, and the shirt and crown of Noor is in his hand. He is saying to me, there is no distance in between you and me. Take this shirt and crown of Noor and wear it, and say goodbye to the world. You will accompany me in the Jannah.

(1- "Maqatal", Abi Mikhnaf", p. 40; 2-"Madinat al Majiz", p. 299,vol.3, Fazilat No. 54,Mussasat al Marif al Islamiyah, Qum, Iran, Syed Hashim al Behrani;3- "Bih'ar al Anw'ar", vol. 45, p. 189).

6. Yazid & "R'as al Jalut":

"R'as al Jalut" is an official designation of "Exilarch", among the Jews. The origin of this dignity is not known, but the princely post was hereditary in a family that traced its descent from the Royal Davidic Line. It was recognized by the state and carried with it certain definite prerogatives. In Arabian Peninsula, the Exilarch was treated with great pomp and honour. "R'as al Jalut" was also present in the Court of Yazid at the time. When the sacred Head of Imam al Husain was brought and placed before the Syrian Monarch in a tray, he saw Yazid continuously insult the head of Moula Husain by hitting his stick. He asked as whose head it was? He was told that it was the Head of Imam al Husain, son of the daughter of Rasul, Fatimah.

"R'as al Jalut" addressed the Syrian Monarch as follows:

"Be alert O Yazid! In between me and Dawood (A.S) there is a seventy generations long gap, yet the Jews pay me due respect and regard. They never fix their date of marriage without my consultation. They use the dust of my feet as benediction. Shame upon you that you have killed the son of your Nabi, although in between Husain and Mohammad there is only a single generation gap (that is Fatimah). Allah sends Lanah upon you".

The Syrian Monarch was angered and said if he had not heard this Hadith:

"The one who killed those, for whom the Agreement of Protection, and non-Muslim minority, I will fight with him on the day of Qiyamah"

But I will not spare you upon what you have uttered. "R'as al Jalut" said: "what a funny reply you have given. Rasulullah (S) will inquire from you on the murder of people, to whom protection is provided by the Agreement and member of minority, but will he neglect the murderer of his Son"? Then "R'as al Jaloot" turned his face towards the sacred Head of Imam al Husain and loudly submitted:

"Assal'amu Aleka Ya Aba Abdillah! O Moula Husain! Upon you my Sal'am, be witness on this I recite the Kalemah and bear witness on the Tawhid of Allah and also bear witness that Mohammad is His Rasul. For Shaf'at, recommend me in the presence of your grandfather-Rasulullah(S)".

On hearing this Syrian Monarch said: you have left the fold of Agreement, and have opted out from the Jew faith, thus your murder is compulsory upon me. As per his order, he was also killed. He got the status of Shahadah.

(1-"Bih'ar ul Anw'ar", vol.45, p.141, Qum 2-"Maqatal", Abi Mikhnaf", p.139;3- "Malhuf", Syed Ibn Taus;4- "Tarjumat al Imam al Husain Min Tabaq'at Ibn S'ad", p. 88, Iran).

7. Question from Justice loving class:

Here, I want the learned readers to realize the lofty status of Imam al Husain for whom the Qur'an bears witness (Ayah Tathir, Ayah Mubahila, Ayah Qurba, Ayah Hal Ata) and the Ahl al Bait, on whom the tyrant emperor of Syria, Yazid inflicted the most inhuman and cruelest crimes for the sake of worldly power and greed. L'anah of Allah on those who love and support Yazid and ignore the divine status of grandson of Rasulullah(S),

Husain ibn Ali. *The Ahl al Bait are the guidance to the people to follow 'Right Path' which Allah has prescribed for us and for which Moula Husain and the Ahl al Bait sacrificed their lives.*

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