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MAZAAR OF GREAT SAHABI ATTACKED BY SHIA



Miraculously the qabr mubarak of Hazrat Talha ؓ who was martyred in the Battle of Jamal remains intact, surviving the bomb planted by shi'ite antagonists. This great companion of our Nabi ﷺ is one of ten (ashra mubashara) who was given the 'good news' and assurance of Paradise.

(For more see page 3)

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"O Mankind ! Eat of the lawful and good things from what is in the earth, and follow not the evil. Surely he is an open enemy to you (S2: V168)

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UTHMAAN IBN MADHUN

The First Muslim to be Buried in Jannatul Baqi

Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun captured the honour of being the first Muhaajir to die in AL- Madinah and the first Muslim to be buried in Jannatul-Baqii. He was the fourteenth Companion to accept Islam. Uthmaan was thus amongst those chosen ones who had the pleasure of witnessing the Prophet ﷺ's first teachings on Islam in seclusion.

Uthmaan and his son Saai'b were part of the first emigration to Abyssinia. There they encountered a well-established and deeply entrenched Christianity. The emigrants however held firmly to their religion. They occupied themselves in the worship of ALLAH and the study of the Quraan, and yearned for their return to Makkah to be side by side with their beloved Prophet ﷺ. One day the news had reached them that the Quraish had turned to Islam and submitted themselves to ALLAH. They were overcome with joy and rushed back to Makkah. However on arriving at the outskirts of Makkah they realized that they had been tricked. It was merely a trap that had been set to lure them back to into the hands of the Kuffaar.

For most of those who returned it meant that the torture and abuse would resume immediately. There were however a few who were protected under the guardianship of a high standing man. This was a sacred Arab Tradition that allowed the weak to own the right of protection and support due to his linkage with a high-ranking man. Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun was under the protection of Al-Waliid Ibn Al-Mughiirah. He was thus left safe and untouched. Yet wherever Uthmaan looked he saw his Muslim brothers being abused, humiliated and tortured. It was unbearable for him. It felt as though he was being deprived of the bliss of enduring abuse for the sake of ALLAH. He yearned to be part of that spirit of faith through which his brothers were beaming. Uthmaan decided to renounce Al-Waliid's patronage. He thanked Al-Waliid for his loyalty but asked him to withdraw his protection. Al-Waliid was confused and enquired as to whether someone had harassed him into this. Uthmaan replied: "No, but I'm fully satisfied with ALLAH'S protection and sanctuary and I do not want to resort to anyone but him." He asked Al-Waliid to hasten to the Kabah so that his withdrawal of protection could be announced in public.

As Uthmaan left the Mosque (Kabah) he heard Lubaid Ibn Rabi'ah reciting poetry. In one verse Lubaid declared that every blessing is transient. Uthmaan called him a liar and responded that the blessings of Paradise are eternal. A man of the Quraish retaliated and stated that he does not deserve any acknowledgement, as he was a fool who turned apostate. Uthmaan objected and a quarrel ensued. The man became violent and brutally punched Uthmaan in the eye. Al-Waliid who was still nearby cried out to Uthmaan with regret that he should have remained under his protection, and urged him to return under his protection. Uthmaan boldly answered: "On the contrary, my healthy eye yearns for the pain of my abused eye. I am under the protection of ALLAH, who is far more capable than you..." The abuse merely strengthened, purified and matured his faith.

Another remarkable side of Uthmaan emerged when he emigrated to Madinah. There he was free of torture and this allowed his piety to flourish. He had become a devout ascetic. It was as if his whole life, night and day were one blessed prayer aimed at the glorification of ALLAH. He gave up the world and wanted nothing of it. He wore coarse clothes and ate only coarse food. Uthmaan once heard the Prophet ﷺ say to His ﷺ Companions: "Would you like if you were rich enough to have as many garments as you like and as much food as you like? Would you like your upholstery to be as expensive as the cloths used in covering the Kabah?" They answered -'yes.' The Prophet ﷺ further remarked: "You will be wealthy, but you are today far better in your piety and devoutness than you will be when you are wealthy." This drove Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun further into asceticism.

The Prophet ﷺ loved Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun dearly. As his soul departed towards Jannah, his Beloved ﷺ was with him. He ﷺ kissed his forehead as tears ran from His ﷺ's mubaarak eyes. The face of Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun became wet with the mubaarak tears. The Prophet ﷺ bid farewell to him saying: "ALLAH bestow his mercy on you Abu As-Saa'id. You are now leaving life that was not able to seduce or mislead you." Thus he was buried as the first Muslim in Al-Jannatul Baqii.



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MY TRIP TO IRAQ

MOULANA SAYED YUSUF

Attending the actual Giyaarwee Shareef of Hazrat Ghousul Aazam Sheikh Sayed Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA) seemed like a dream, a lifelong one at that. When good fortune fell upon me and I was offered the opportunity to go to Baghdad last month my joy knew no bounds.

Baghdad Shareef! Thursday 6th February 2014. 1:00 pm – A deserted airport, as though our plane was the only one that landed there. Entering the immigration building was where we saw other pilgrims from the U.K waiting for entry approval. We joined the queue and after a short while we were approved for entry into the city (Baghdad Shareef).

After refreshing at the hotel we proceeded to the mazaar complex of Shaikh Sayed Abdul Qadir Jilani and performed Maghrib salaah in the Masjid. Then we were ready to enter and present ourselves with salutation at the roza Mubarak of the great saint of Baghdad – a euphoric feeling! I could not believe that I had made it, to really be at the doorstep of this great saint. It felt like standing at the door of a king, and that here the distribution of whatever you desire is granted.

The mazaar shareef closed for Esha salaah, as with every salaah. Adjacent to the mazaar is the Masjid. After the esha salaah, the khatm-e qadria, zikr and the recitation of verses from qasida-e-ghosia takes place followed by salaatu salaam accompanied by the beating of the duff (drums). What a moment! Ecstatic and spiritually uplifting!

By now the pangs of hunger were starting to set in. We then moved towards the langar khana (dining/kitchen hall). Here also the feeling is so different, the atmosphere filled with a spiritual presence. Meals are not served on the table at specific times – but whenever anybody feels hungry. The rich, the poor, aalim, layman, durwesh, all stand in the queue to fill his plate without bias or any discrimination. In fact, I saw some of the ulema trying to serve the guests of Hazrat Ghous Paak by bringing tea and cold drinks for them. They were even assisting in clearing up after the meal. Meals are served from after Zohar salaah till late at night.

Friday 7th February.

We spent almost the entire day at the darbaar shareef. The feeling of salaatul Jumuaah was also unique – especially the recitation of the salaatu salaam after the salaah- with the beating of the duffs. And all this in the masjid. So electrifying!

Saturday, 8th February 2014.

We moved into the city. Holy places Baghdad was famous for. Ziyaarat of mazaaraats in and around Baghdad Shareef. This was really the karam of Ghous Paak. My intention was only to attend the Giyaarwee Shareef and maybe one or two other mazaars. Not realising just how rich with sufi legends is Iraq. Names and personalities about whom we had listened in awe, were right here in this sacred city of Baghdad!

Amongst those we visited were;

2. Hazrat Imam Moosa Kazim 3. Imam Abu Yusuf – student of Imam Abu Hanifa 4. Hazrat Imam Abu Hanifa 5. Hazrat Bishar Haafi 6. Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli – Khalifa of Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi. 7. Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi 8. Hazrat Sirri Sakti – Peer of Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi 9. Hazrat Yusha bin Noon ؑ 10. Hazrat Bahlol Dana 11. Hazrat Habib Ajmi- Khalifa of Hazrat Imam Basri

Sunday, 9th February 2014

12. Hazrat Salman Farsi 13. Sahaba Hazrat Abu Huzaifa bin Yamaan 14. Tabi'ee Hazrat Abdullah ibn Jabir Ansari – re-buried after 90 years 15. Hazrat Imam Tahir – grandson of Imam Zainulabideen 16. Hazrat Imam Ghazali 17. Hazrat Omar Soharwardi 8. Hazrat Maroof Karkhi – Peer of Hazrat Sirri Sakti

Tuesday, 11 February 2014

19. Hazrat Ayob ؑ & the spring of water that cured his ailment in Hilla 20. Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel 21. Hazrat Urwa bin Hani 22. House of Hazrat Ali & rooms of Imam Hassan & Imam Hussain in Kufa 23. Hazrat Ali & the largest Qabrastaan in the world wherein are the Qabrs of Hazrat Hud and Hazrat Saleh ؑ in Najf 24. Hazrat Imam Hussain, his brother Hazrat Abbas & 70 other Shuhadaa of Karbala

Wednesday, 12 February 2014 – Basra

25. Hazrat Imam Hassan Basri – Khalifa of Hazrat Ali, his mother was a servant of Umme Salma, the wife of Hazrat Muhammad ؐ 26. Hazrat Muhammad ibn Sireen – a great historian & a master of interpretations of dreams. 27. Hazrat Talha bin Ubaidullah- Sahaba amongst Ashara Mubashara- Shias bombed the Mazaar but the Qabr is still intact- became Shaheed in the battle of Jamal.

This was the highlight of the entire trip. To witness this karamat of the mazaar of the sahaba.

Friday, 14 February 2014 – Other Mazaars in Hazrat Ghous Paak (R.A)'s complex

28. Hazrat Shaikh Sayed Abdul Jabbar Jilani – son of Ghous Paak 29. Hazrat Sayed Shaikh Saleh – son of Ghous Paak 30. Hazrat Shaikh Zahiruddin Naqeebul Ashraf 31. Hazrat Shaikh Abdur Rahman Jilani (mazaar entrance) 32. Hazrat Muhammad Ulfi Abdal (outside main gate) – the thief who came to steal from Ghous Paak's house & made him Abdaal instantly. 33. Hazrat Muhammad Idrees bin Abdul Ghamra Hindi Al Refae – Mazaar in water where couples take Mannat to have children

Back home now, these visions fill my mind and feels like a lifelong inspiration to draw from whenever the ebbs of spirituality may set in. I thank Allah for blessing me with the chance to stand in front of these holy sites. I pray for the same in favour of anyone who entertains such a desire. Aameen!

THE DESTRUCTION OF NAMROD

Namrood's destruction was at hand. Allah Ta'ala had given him enough time to reform. But he imagined he had himself to thank for the respite he had been granted. He had become more and more cruel and unjust. His despotism knew no bounds. He summoned Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) and said to him, "Tell your Allah that I neither fear Him nor need Him! Go tell Him that the whole world is in awe of me. All people are obedient to my command. If He is the God of heaven, I am God of the earth. Where are His armies? If the sky fell on my troops, they could hold it up with their lances. Tell Him I challenge Him to a battle. He has no say on earth. The whole earth belongs to me; it is my kingdom!"

The answer was revealed to Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam): "Let him come to such and such a place, where I shall do battle with him!" The venerable Ibrahim Khaleelullah (Alaihis Salaam) passed the news to Namrood.

On the day appointed, the brigades and regiments assembled on the battlefield, forming themselves in ranks. The Glorified and Exalted Rabb gave His army of mosquitoes their orders, and then sent these humble creatures into action against the proud and stubborn unbeliever who claimed to be deity. The skies turned black as Namrood's horde stood ready for battle. When the order was given, the host of mosquitoes hurled themselves in their hundreds of millions against the army of the enemy of Allah. They filled the soldiers' mouths, eyes and ears, biting with a vengeance. When the cavalry horses met the mosquitoes' onslaught, they started to bolt in all directions, unseating their riders as they fled. In the space of half an hour, destruction had overtaken Namrood's army, more than a hundred thousand strong.

Namrood himself left the battlefield, taking refuge in one of his castles. He thought he had saved his life by stopping up all doors and windows. In spite of the great miracle he had witnessed, he could not bring himself to repent and accept the Oneness of Allah Ta'ala. How could he do so, without overcoming his arrogance and pride? The scoundrel was wilfully obstinate in his disbelief.

One lame mosquito, with a damaged wing, had been unable to obey the Divine Command to attack this stubborn infidel. It now addresses itself to Allah Ta'ala, saying, "Oh Allah, what a sinful and luckless creature I must be, that You should deprive me of my share in this battle. If only my leg and my wing had been sound, I would have done my bit in fighting this enemy of Yours!" Almighty Allah, Lord of the worlds, then gave it the command, "Go now! You destroy that accursed one!"

The lame mosquito made its way, limping to the castle where Namrood was hiding. Getting in through a keyhole, it went and settled on Namrood's knee. There it rested, recovering from its exhaustion. Namrood spotted the insect and tried to kill it, but the mosquito settled on his other knee. As it rested there, it seemed to say, "You once told the venerable Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) that you had the power of life and death. You sought to prove it by killing one man and letting another go free. Come, what is stopping you from killing me now?"

Namrood could not kill the insect, no matter how hard he

tried. Allah Ta'ala was demonstrating his weakness to him, as if to say, "Unless I will it, you cannot kill! When you killed men by My will, you imagined that you had granted them death. Look, you are a nonentity. You used the kingdom I gave you as a pretext for disobeying Me. You are nothing! What has become of the arrogance of yours? Where are your armies? Where is your divinity? Look, you have been conquered by that humble creature of Mine, the mosquito. You have been disgraced!"

For all his efforts Namrood still could not kill the mosquito, which now went up inside his nose.

Once upon a time, Namrood had wanted to burn Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) in the fire, but in that he had also failed. The fire would not burn. Fire is only the secondary cause, the Real Cause being Almighty Allah.

The mosquito started eating the membrane of Namrood's brain. The tyrant beat his head from rock to rock. Now he had really begun to feel the pain of his defeat. He had felt no sympathy for the hundred thousand soldiers he had left on the battlefield, nor for their bereaved parents. His only thought had been to save his filthy skin and rotten soul by running to hide in his castle; but hiding could not save him from the dreaded claws of death.

How many lives he had slaughtered, how many houses he had destroyed, how many brains he had dashed out. Now he was dashing his own head against the rocks and walls; now he was suffering himself the pain he had inflicted on others. Those people who oppress others should take heed of Namrood's condition and remember that Allah Ta'ala will give you enough time and respite, but the day His Wrath befalls you then there is no escape.

Namrood appointed salaried officials to hit him on the head with mallets. The blows gave him a brief respite, since they interrupted the insect's work. As soon as the mosquito began eating his brain once more, he would cry, "Help! Hit me!" He would get angry with those who did not hit him hard enough, while he increased the salaries of those who were hard hitters.

The so called 'God of the earth' was being beaten by his own servants. One day, one of these servants wielded the mallet too hard, and Namrood's evil soul departed. They laid his filthy corpse in the pit of hell which was his grave.

[Compiled from Irshad: Wisdom of a Sufi Master by Shaikh Muzaffer Al Jerrahi]

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