

Responsibility 86: Respecting Places Related to the Imam Part 2

We are also obliged to show respect and reverence to Masjid as-Sahlah and to perform the special acts of worship in that place. 1

As for the sanctity and greatness of this Masjid, it has numerous characteristics which other Masajid do not have – for example, it was the original house of Prophets Ibrahim and Idris ؑ, and was also a place that the great man of Allah, al-Khiṣr frequented. It is also a place where Imam al-Mahdi (ajtf) occasionally resides.

Imam Ja'far b. Muhammad as-Sadiq (as) has stated that:

كَأَنِّي أَرَى نُزُولَ الْقَائِمِ فِي مَسْجِدِ السَّهْلَةِ بِأَهْلِهِ وَ عِيَالِهِ. قُلْتُ يُكُونُ مَنْزَلُهُ جُعِلَتْ
فِدَاكَ؟ قَالَ نَعَمْ. كَانَ فِيهِ مَنْزِلُ إِدْرِيسَ وَ كَانَ مَنْزِلَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلِ الرَّحْمَنِ وَ مَا
بَعَثَ اللَّهُ نَبِيًّا إِلَّا وَ قَدْ صَلَّى فِيهِ وَ فِيهِ مَسْكَنُ الْخَضِرِ وَ الْمُقِيمُ فِيهِ كَالْمُقِيمِ فِي
فُسْطَاطِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ وَ مَا مِنْ مُؤْمِنٍ وَ لَا مُؤْمِنَةٍ إِلَّا وَ قَلْبُهُ يَحْنُ إِلَيْهِ وَ فِيهِ صَخْرَةٌ
فِيهَا صُورَةٌ كُلِّ نَبِيٍّ وَ مَا صَلَّى فِيهِ أَحَدٌ فَدَعَا اللَّهَ بِنِيَّةٍ صَادِقَةٍ إِلَّا صَرَفَهُ اللَّهُ
بِقَضَاءِ حَاجَتِهِ وَ مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ اسْتَجَارَهُ إِلَّا أَجَارَهُ اللَّهُ مِمَّا يَخَافُ. قُلْتُ هَذَا لَهُوَ
الْفَضْلُ، قَالَ نَزِيدُكَ؟ قُلْتُ نَعَمْ، قَالَ هُوَ مِنَ الْبِقَاعِ الَّتِي أَحَبَّ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُدْعَى فِيهَا وَ
مَا مِنْ يَوْمٍ وَ لَا لَيْلَةٍ إِلَّا وَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ تَزُورُ هَذَا الْمَسْجِدَ يَعْبُدُونَ اللَّهَ فِيهِ أَمَا إِنِّي لَوْ
كُنْتُ بِالْقُرْبِ مِنْكُمْ مَا صَلَّيْتُ صَلَاةً إِلَّا فِيهِ يَا أَبَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَ مَا لَمْ أَصِفْ أَكْثَرَ.
قُلْتُ جُعِلَتْ فِدَاكَ لَا يَزَالُ الْقَائِمُ فِيهِ أَبَدًا؟ قَالَ نَعَمْ. قُلْتُ فَمِنْ بَعْدِهِ؟ قَالَ هَكَذَا مِنْ
بَعْدِهِ إِلَى انْقِضَاءِ الْخَلْقِ

“It is as if I see the descending of al-Qa`im (ajtf) in Masjid al-Sahlah, accompanied by his family and close relatives family.’ (The companion said) I asked: ‘May Allah accept me as ransom for you! Will it be his dwelling place?’ The Imam stated: ‘Yes, it will be. It was the dwelling place of Prophet Idris and Prophet Ibrahim, the intimate friend of the all-Merciful and Allah did not send any prophet but that he offered prayers in it (Masjid al-Sahlah).

It was also the house of al-Khiṣr. He who resides in it is like one who resides in the tent of Allah’s Messenger. The hearts of true believing men and women yearn for it (Masjid al-Sahlah). In it there is a rock which has the pictures of all the Prophets.

Nobody prays there and supplicates to Almighty Allah with a sincere intention but that his needs are fulfilled by Almighty Allah; and nobody takes it as a shelter but that he is protected by Almighty Allah against whatever he fears.’ I said: ‘This is indeed an excellent virtue.’

The Imam said: ‘Should I tell you more?’ The companion replied: ‘Yes.’ The Imam continued: ‘It is one of the places where Almighty Allah likes to be called upon. There is no day or night when the Angels are not frequenting this Masjid to worship to Almighty Allah. Verily, if I were to live near you, I would not offer a single prayer anywhere else. O’ Abu Muhammad! There is more than what I have just said.’

I asked: ‘May Allah ransom me for you! Will al-Qa`im (ajtf) reside in that place for all time?’ The Imam replied: ‘Yes, he will.’ The companion then asked: ‘Will those who come after him reside in the same place?’ The Imam replied to the man: ‘Yes, they will up until the end of creation.’”²

1. Mafatih al-Jinan, sec. 6: “the greatness and actions to be performed in Masjid al-Sahlah.’

2. Biharul Anwar, vol. 100, pg. 436, section 7, no. 7

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