

In The Name Of Allah

1001 Facts About Imam Mahdi



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Initial Events After The Reappearance

After the martyrdom of the pure soul (which is inevitable sign of the Reappearance) within a small amount of time, Imam Mahdi (PBUH) reappears in the appearance of a young man wearing the sacred dress of the prophet (PBUH) and holding his flag in his hand. He leans to the wall of the Kaaba and sing the song of the Reappearance between Rukn and Maqam. And after praising and extolling Allah and saluting the prophet and his progeny, he says:

“O people! We ask for help from the almighty Allah and whoever in the world who hears and answers our call.” Then he introduces himself and his ancestors and says: “Pay attention to Allah about observing our rights. Do not abandon us in establishing the justice and fighting oppression, and help us so that Allah may help you.”¹

¹ Al-Ghayba al-Nu'mani, ch. 14, v. 67, p. 394

The Place Of Imam Mahdi's (PBUH) Governance

Mafdhal asked Imam Sadiq (PBUH): “Sayyedi! Where will Imam Mahdi’s (PBUH) house be and where will the believers gather?” He said: “His government will be in Kufa and the place of his rule will be the Great Mosque of Kufa. The treasury and the place to distribute the trophies is Al-Sahla Mosque, and his private place for tranquility is where the white sands of Najaf exist.”²

One day, Imam Sadiq (PBUH) prayed in an area behind Kufa and told his faithful companion, Aban ibn Taghlib: “Here is where the house of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) will be.”³

Imam Baqir (PBUH) was asked: “After Mecca and Medina, what holy place is the superior of all?” He answered: “It is Kufa.” Then, after mentioning the characteristics of Kufa, he said: “God’s justice will appear there and Imam Mahdi (PBUH) and his followers who bring justice after him will also settle there.”⁴

² Bihar al-Anwar, vol. 53, p. 11

³ Usul al-Kafi, vol. 4, p. 571

⁴ Tahdhib al-Ahkam (by Shaykh Tusi), vol. 6, p. 31

The Swear Of Allegiance, This Time After The Reappearance...

One of the earliest actions taken by Imam Mahdi (PBUH) is to ask his companions to pledge allegiance to him. These allegiances, take place in Masjid al-Haram, between Rukn and Maqam. Also, it has been narrated that the first one to pledge allegiance to Imam Mahdi (PBUH) is the Archangel Gabriel.

Imam Baqir (PBUH) said, “...Then the first one to pledge allegiance to him is Gabriel. Afterwards, the 313 people will pledge allegiance to him...”⁵

⁵ Al-Ghayba al-Nu'mani, p. 314

The Resident Place Of Imam Mahdi (PBUH)

Imam Sadiq (PBUH) said to his loyal companion Abu Basir:

“O Aba Muhammad! As if I see Imam Mahdi (PBUH) and his family settling in Sahla Mosque with my own eyes.” Abu Basir said: “Will his permanent resident place be Sahla Mosque?” Imam said: “Yes.”⁶

⁶ Bihar al-Anwar, v. 97, p. 435, Hadith 3

The Period Of Disappearance Of Imam Mahdi (PBUH)

The life of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) can be divided into four periods: “the disappearance”, “the Minor Occultation”, “the Major Occultation” and “the period after the Reappearance”. The period of his disappearance started from his birth (255 A.H.) and lasted until the martyrdom of Imam Hassan Askari (PBUH) (260 A.H.).

Imam Hassan Askari (PBUH) was responsible for two important and sensitive duties: One was protecting his child from the harm of Abbasid Caliphs and the other was proving his existence and declaring his Imamate as the twelfth Imam. He fulfilled both of his responsibilities in the best way. However, due to severe security situation held by the Abbasids, only a few of Imam Hassan Askari’s (PBUH) helpers and sincere friends knew about the birth of Imam Mahdi (PBUH).

Mu’awiyah ibn Hakim, Mohammad ibn Uthman ‘Amari and Mohammad ibn Ayyub said: “We, forty of Shias, came to Imam Hassan Askari (PBUH). He showed us his child and said: “He is your Imam after me and my successor, obey him and do not go away from him that you be perished and your religion be ruined. Also, you should know that you won’t see him after this day.” ”⁷

⁷ Kamal al-Din and Tamam al-Nimeh, p. 435

The Remarkable Answer Of The Important Center Of Wahhabism

When a Sunni Muslim (from Kenya) asked about Imam Mahdi, the time and place of his Reappearance and other Mahdavi questions, “Muslim World League”, the religious center of Wahhabism in Saudi Arabia answered as follow:

« “Mahdi, Muhamamd ibn Abdullah Hassani, is Alavi and Fatemi (from the descendants of Imam Ali (PBUH) and Lady Fatima (PBUH)) and he is the awaited promised Mahdi. His Reappearance is concurrent with Apocalypse... He will reappear from the west and people will gather in Holy Mecca, Hijaz, pledges allegiance to him between Rukn and Maqam...

Mahdi, is the last caliphate of 12 caliphates whom prophet has mentioned and this has been brought in Sunni references. Hadiths concerning Imam Mahdi is narrated by many of companions of prophet; such as: Uthman ibn Affan, Ali ibn Abi-Talib, Talhah ibn Ubaydullah , Abd ar-Rahman ibn Awf, Abd Allah ibn Abbas, Ammar Yasir, Abd Allah ibn Masoud, Abu Sa’id Khudri, Thawban and ...

Some Islamic scholars have written special books about Mahdi, among them: Abu Nu’aym, Ibn Hajar, Shukani, Edris Iraqi... Some of these grand scholars have specified that the hadiths about Imam Mahdi are successive and cannot be denied...

It is only Ibn Khaldun who says Mahdavi hadiths are fabricated and have no basis...

Therefore, believing in the Reappearance of Mahdi is obligated to all Muslims and the Sunni Sect believe in it, and nobody would deny it but unknowing ignorant people and heretics.”⁸

⁸ The quarterly of “Entezar Moud” (Expecting the Promised), no. 23 p. 142

As Bright As The Day Light

Many Sunni scholars have affirmed that belief in the promised Imam Mahdi (PBUH) is unison of Muslims. Even some believe that those, who do not believe in Imam Mahdi's (PBUH) rise, are infidels (Kafir) and they have also narrated some hadiths about it.

Even some of these scholars believe that the one who does not believe in Imam Mahdi (PBUH) should be definitely killed or some say that he/she should be punished and corrected, so he accepts the right God's path.^{9 10 11}

⁹ Yanabi'al-Mawwadda, page 447

¹⁰ Majala al-Tamadan al-Islamiyah, number 2, page 643

¹¹ Al-Qol al-Mukhtaser fi Alamaat Mahdi al-Muntazir, page 262

The Treaty

From the very beginning of the Reappearance

Imam Mahdi (PBUH) get his special 313 companions commit that they should:

Never steal; never commit adultery; never punish anybody unfairly and illegally; never cuss a Muslim; never ruin someone's reputation; never kill anybody without a trial and illegally; never embezzle an orphan's money & property; never store gold, silver; wheat and barley; never testify something that you're not sure about; never demolish a mosque; never drink inebriant drinks; never wear silk, never block other's passage; never be homosexual; stay satisfied with little; order for good deeds; support purity; consider soil as your pillow; stay ready for Jihad in God`s path...¹²

The interesting fact is that Imam Mahdi (PBUH) himself finally signs these commitments.

(However; there are some scholars who believe that the authenticity of this narration is under question)

A Question? In your point of view; considering that these people are especial people, why does the Imam take such commitments from them?

¹² Monthakhab Al-Athar/page 469

The Peacock Of The People Of Paradise

It is told about Imam Mahdi (PBUH):

“Imam Mahdi (PBUH) is the peacock of the people of paradise; His face is as shiny as the moon and it seems he is wearing clothes made by light.”¹³

We read in a part of Ahd prayers:

اللهم ارنى الطلعه الرشيديه و الغره الحميده و اكحل ناظرى بنظره منى اليه.

Meaning: “O Allah show me that valor mien and shiny praiseworthy forehead and apply the kohl of his visit to my eyes by a glance.”

¹³ Munataha al-Amaal, v. 2, p. 481

The Dignity Of The Night Of 15th Of Shaban

Imam Sadiq (PBUH) said: “No baby is born on the same night when our Qa’im (Imam Mahdi) (PBUH) was born, unless he/she will be a true believer. If he/she is born in the non-Muslim countries, God will guide him/her towards faith for the sake of of Imam Mahdi’s blessing (PBUH).”¹⁴

According to some narrations, the night of 15th of Shaban is the same Qadr night in which the aliment and lifespan are ordained. Some narrations say that the 15th of Shaban is the Imams’ night and the Qadr night belongs to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

One of the dignities of this night is that it is one of those special nights to salute Imam Hussein’s (PBUH) shrine as hundred thousand prophets make a pilgrimage to Imam Hussein’s (PBUH) shrine on this night. The special prayer of this night is two-rak’at prayer that in each rak’at, you should recite sura Al-Fatiha once and then recite 100 times sura Al-Ikhlās.¹⁵

¹⁴ Tozih al-Maqased, Sheikh Baha’i, page 532

¹⁵ Bihar al-Anwar, volume 51, page 322

Imamate In Childhood

Imam Mahdi (PBUH) achieved Imamate and attained this great responsibility when he was 5 years old. So now, was this issue exceptional or normal?

In belief of us, the Shias, prophecy and imamate in young ages has other example too. For example in Quran in 12th and 29th verses of Surah Maryam (Mary), Jesus' (PBUH) and Yahya's (PBUH) prophethood in young ages are mentioned. This shows that in the heritage of divine messengers, the subject of leadership in childhood is not and has not been a newly appeared phenomenon. Also among Ahl Al-Bayt, Imam Jawad (PBUH) and Imam Hadi (PBUT) had attained Imamate in childhood as well.

The source of all these problems is that we have compared Imam with others and do not believe in any special privilege for him. We should not compare Imam with other ordinary people and apply their rules on him. From the beginning, Imam has been under Allah's special attention and his wisdom has become complete, so he would be able to lead the others towards perfection.