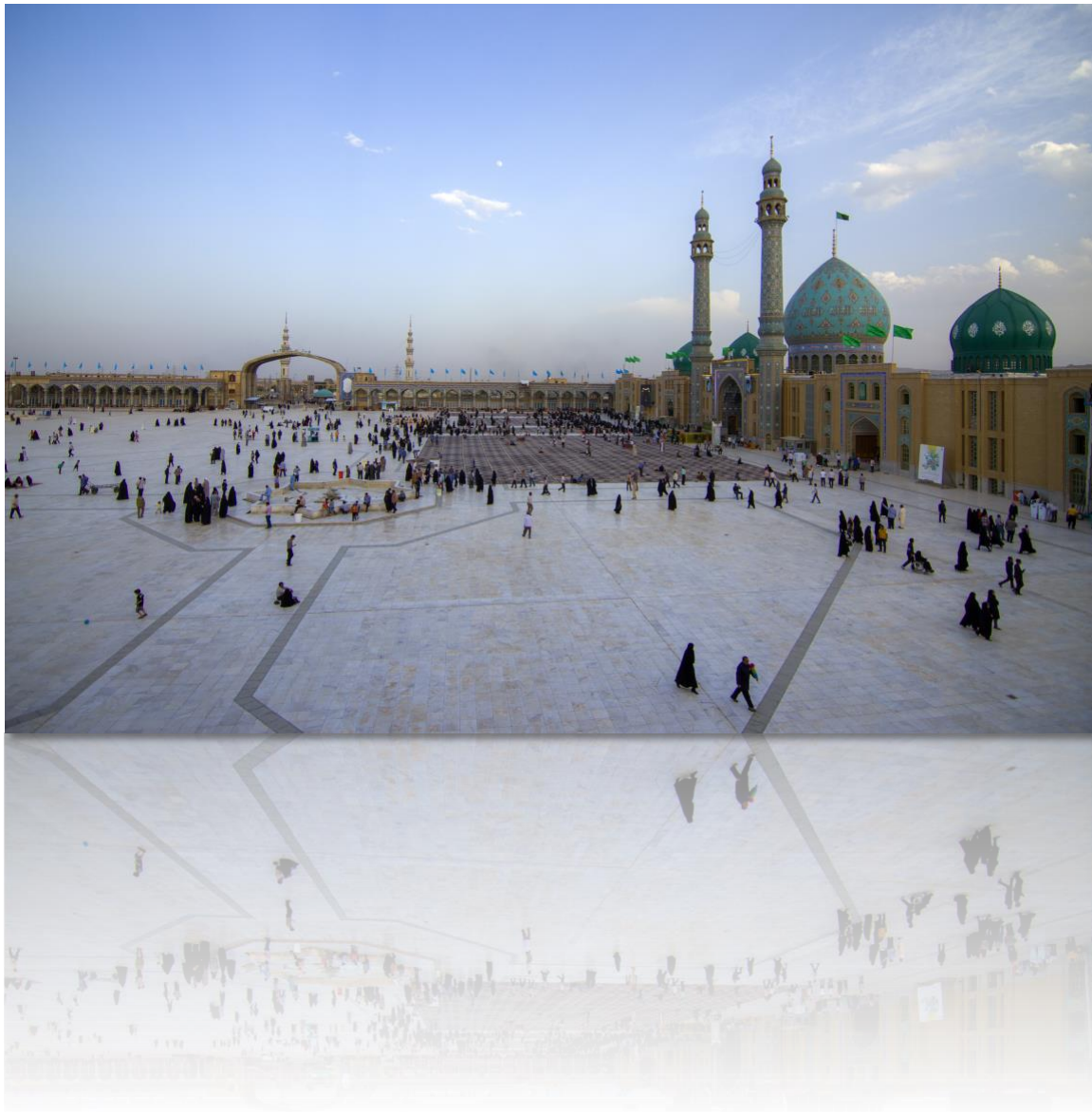


# In The Name Of Allah

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### Why Does Imam Reappear In Mecca?

Answer: Its main and real reason is not clear to us; but noticing some points makes Mecca a suitable place for the Reappearance:

1. Mecca and the Kaaba has been the Kiblah (praying direction) of Muslims and people, every day, notice that holy place many times and prostrate towards it.
2. The Kaaba and Mecca are holy places wherein honorable divine prophets from Adam (PBUH) to Muhammad (PBUH) have been presented by the order of Allah and have shown their submission in addition to performing pilgrimage.
3. Mecca is the birthplace of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the place where he was appointed to prophecy. Maybe the Reappearance of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) in Mecca shows that his Reappearance is the continuation of the movement of all divine prophets and His successors and it is aligned the prophethood of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and he wants to conclude centuries of effort and diligence of prophets and perform the religion of Truth by perfect establishment of justice in the world through his Reappearance.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The book of "Aftab mehr" (The sunshine of affection), Mahdavi questions and answers

## Does Imam Mahdi (PBUH) Reappear On The Day Of Friday?

Answer: First of all, the philosophy behind some matters is not clear for us and it may be clarified in the future;

Secondly, from Islam point of view, the day of Friday is an “Eid” (Celebration day) and has a great dignity. Therefore; it is understood that the Reappearance of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) which is the most important incident of the universe, will happen on the honorable day of Friday (The same as the birth day of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) which is Friday, too). The pilgrimage to visit him is highly recommended (Mostahab) on Fridays. It is narrated from Imam Sadiq (PBUH) that he said: “The Qa’im of Ahl Al-Bayt will rise on Friday.”

The third point to note is that the happening of “the Reappearance on the day of Friday” is not a definite and unchangeable matter.<sup>2 3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Bihar al-Anwar, volume 52, page 279

<sup>3</sup> Mahdi Mo’oud, page 106

## What Is The Role Of Iranians In The Reappearance Era?

Answer: It is understood from the narrations that a number of Imam Mahdi's army are Iranians and they are called "the advocates of Salman the Persian, the people of Rey, the people of the East of the Earth, the people of Khurasan, the treasures of Taleqan, the helpers of the black flags, the Qom's people, the red-faced people, the people of Persia and so on.

Imam Baqir (PBUH) says about this matter: "Armies with black flags who have risen from Khurasan, will come to Kufa and pledge allegiance to Imam Mahdi (PBUH) when he reappears in the city of Mecca."

And he also said: "The helpers of the Qa'im are 313 persons and are the children of non-Arabs."<sup>4 5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Al-Fitan, Ibn Hammad, p. 85

<sup>5</sup> Al-Ghayba al-Nu'mani, p. 315

### Is Almsgiving For Imam Mahdi Right?

Yes, the enthusiasts of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) can do good deeds (Mostahab deeds) on his behalf, especially on behalf of him or for his well-being. This is one of the beautiful displays of love and sincerity to Imam Mahdi (PBUH).

Sayyed ibn Tawus, a great Shia scholar, writes: “Put almsgiving on behalf of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) prior to almsgiving for yourself and your loved ones. Prioritize praying for His Holiness over yours. In whatever good deed, which represents the tribute to him, His Holiness should be taken the precedence. This causes Imam Mahdi (PBUH) to pay attention to you and be merciful towards you.”<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Kashf al-Muhja, p.152

## Why Did Imams Also Long To See Imam Mahdi (PBUH)?

All Prophets and Imams tried to materialize the religion and attempted perseveringly in this way and sacrificed their own wealth and life and they were so eager to see salvation of people that they even deprived themselves from tranquility. Considering the divine enunciations, they had seen the materialization of this wish, in the promised Imam Mahdi's hands. This is why, they longed for that ultimate wish and invited people to await for it.

Imam Sadiq (PBUH) says: "If I were in his era, I would serve him all my life".

Sadir Sirafi says: "One day Mofadhal, Abu Basir, Aban ibn-Taghlab and I entered in Imam Sadiq's home. We saw him sitting on ground and putting a wool cloak on while crying like a mother with a burnt heart who has lost his child. Sorrow and sadness were all over his face, tears dropping on his cheeks. He was whispering: "O Sayyedi! Your Occultation has stolen sleep from my eyes and taken tranquility away from my heart and tied my sorrow to eternity..."<sup>7 8</sup>

All Imams have dropped awaiting tears in longing to see Imam Mahdi (PBUH). The eagerness which has been seen in our innocent Imams, is the enlightener of the way which not only Shias but also all humans must step in this way for well-being and happiness.

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<sup>7</sup> Bihar al-Anwar, v. 51, p. 148; Mekyal al-Makarem, v. 1, p. 137

<sup>8</sup> ibid, p. 258, Hadith 12; Bihar al-Anwar, v. 51, p. 219

## Does Imam Mahdi (PBUH) Distribute The Properties Of The Rich, Despite Their Inner Will, Among The Poor At The Time Of His Reappearance?

Answer: Imam Mahdi's (God accelerate (the time of) his Reappearance) main goal is to administer justice and to eradicate oppression. Consequently, such a thing is an attribution of injustice to him and definitely, this is not true. Rather, he will return Haram (illegal) properties and things which have been taken unjustly from their owners to them.

Another point to make is that because of the intellectual and spiritual development, people will hasten to help the poor and needy ones. And even perhaps, one who owns several houses will willingly accommodate others in them, just like what happened when Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) arrived [in Medina] and Ansar (The Helpers) accommodated Muhajirin (The Emigrants) in their homes.



## What Does Imam Mahdi (PBUH) Do During The Occultation?

Answer: During the Major Occultation, duties and responsibilities of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) are very critical and important. Although, he does not run a government, but he observes all incidents and acts upon them. His long life is being spent in the obedience to Allah.

In addition to his individual tasks and duties, based on many narrations he does whatever is best to do such as guiding people, helping believers to overcome the enemies, solving the problems and difficulties, healing the illnesses, guiding misled people, instructing prayers, providing pecuniary aid for the poor, helping people in problems and ... .

For example we can point the survival of Shia and its leadership organization and scientific and missionary institutions and activities of the religious seminaries and also the survival of the Islamic revolution in the today's world when all the world has united against Shia, which were not succeeded and achieved but with the help of Imam Mahdi (PBUH). Just exactly the way Imam told Shaykh Mufid: "We always have you in mind."<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Kamal al-Din, v. 1

### What Were The Duties Of Imam Mahdi's (PBUH) Deputies?

Answer: It is very important to note that during the time of Imam Mahdi's minor Occultation, The Four Deputies of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) (so called Nawab-e Arba'a) had very significant roles and duties in different fields. For example:

- 1- To eliminate all doubts and uncertainty about the existence of Imam Mahdi (PBUH).
- 2- To protect Imam Mahdi's life by hiding his name and place.
- 3- To organize and supervise the delegation organization.
- 4- To answer the religious questions and ideological confusions.
- 5- To receive and distribute Imam Mahdi's property.
- 6- To combat with the pretending false delegates of Imam Mahdi and Babism and to disclose their false claims.
- 7- To make people ready to accept major Occultation.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Read more; in the precious book, named "History of the era of the Occultation", written by PourSayed Aqa'ei.

## Is Imam Mahdi (PBUH) Going To Be Martyred Or He Passes Away?

The narrations about this subject vary:

Imam Hassan Modjtaba (PBUH) says, “We- Imams are definitely either poisoned or martyred”<sup>11</sup>.

Artah says, “I was informed that Imam Mahdi (PBUH) lives for forty years. Then, he passes away a natural death in his bed”<sup>12</sup>.

The book of Elzam al-Naseb (by Yazdi Haeri) describes how the Imam is martyred: “When the year 70 finishes and his death approaches, a woman named Sa’eedeh from “Bani Tamim” tribe martyrs him. Having beard like men is her distinguishing characteristic. From a roof top, she throws a stone at the Imam while he is passing by and martyrs him”.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Bihar al-Anwar, vol.27

<sup>12</sup> the book of Fetan by Naim ibn Hammad, p.99

<sup>13</sup> Other sources for further reading: Simay-e Aftab (face of sunshine) by Taheri, Mo’ud Shenasi (The Study on the Savior) by Ali Asghar Rezvani, Bamdad-e Bashariyat (the dawn of humanity) by Tabasi, Ayande-ye Jahan (the future of the world) by Berenjian

## Is There Any Way To Test Those Who Claim To Be In Relation With Imam Mahdi (PBUH)?

If you encountered a person or persons who have even one of these characteristics, they are certainly lying:

1- Claiming to be in relation with Imam Mahdi (PBUH) on their own will. 2- Claiming to have special representation from Imam Mahdi (PBUH). 3- Inviting people to issues contrary to the Quran and Sunnah of Ahl al-Bayt which you must ask for guidance of religious scholars. 4- Having the intention of exaction and blackmailing.

To complete the response, pay attention to this event:

One of the claimers of being in relation with Imam Mahdi (PBUH) called one of the high officials of Iran during Imam Khomeini's era and said: "I have a message from Imam Mahdi (PBUH) for Imam Khomeini that I need to deliver it myself." Apparently that official believed him and told Imam Khomeini about him. Imam answered: "Tell him I am conscience blind (I don't accept anything without proof). If he is in relation with Imam Mahdi (PBUH), he should answer these questions first, then he can deliver the message: 1- I love something, what is it? 2- I've lost something, where is it? 3- What is the relation between the created and eternal?"

But the claimer wrote a letter full of insults instead of answering his question, saying why Imam has asked Imam Mahdi's (PBUH) representative for a proof of his claim! And Imam sent the letter to be read in the meeting of the heads of the three branches of the government (so the false claimers would be defamed).<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Porsesh-ha wa pasokh-ha e daneshjui (Students' questions and answers), issue 28, p. 101

## We Have Heard About A Lot Of Signs And Symptoms In Relation With The Reappearance. What Is Our Duty, In This Regard?

- 1- Since some of the Reappearance signs have yet to happen, it does not mean, denial of the necessity to await for the Reappearance within every day and night. Because according to the narrations, we should await for the Reappearance day and night continuously. There is also a narration saying that God will determine the matter of the Reappearance merely during one night, so we should always be ready.
- 2- Some of signs are definite and some are indefinite. So; by witnessing the signs and specially the indefinite signs, we should not expect that the Reappearance is going to happen immediately.
- 3- Some signs will happen as a miracle, for example; the celestial voice. So; since they do not match with the normal life and the natural reasons, they must not be denied.
- 4- The definite signs are “the Yamani Rise, the Sufyani rebellion, Khasf in Bayda, the heavenly blast, the murder of an innocent person” which must happen prior to the Reappearance. Therefore, there will be no Reappearance before these definite signs.
- 5- We should understand this point that what makes the Reappearance happen is not the signs. The signs only narrate, what is happening. But the real thing is the conditions of the Reappearance which will set up the ground for it and will make it happen.