

Chapter Two

Quality of knowledge its virtue and the virtue of the scholars

Tradition 2.1

Muhammad ibn al-Hassan has narrated from Ali ibn Muhammad from Sahl ibn Ziyad from Muhammad ibn 'Isa from 'Ubaudallah al-Dihqan from Durust al-Wasiti from Ibrahim ibn 'Abd al-Hamid from abu al-Hassan Musa^{a.s} who has said the following:

"Once the Holy Prophet^{s.a.w.w} entered the Mosque and found a group of people gathered around a man. He asked, "who is he?" It was said that he was a 'allamah'. Prophet^{s.a.w.w} then enquired, "What does that mean?" They replied that he is the most learned man about the genealogy, the chronology, and the history of the pre-Islamic days of darkness and the poetry of Arabs. Prophet^{s.a.w.w} said, for this kind of knowledge there is no harm in not learning it or benefit in acquiring it. 'The holy Prophet^{s.a.w.w} then explained those people that "Knowledge consists of only three kinds: A strong sign, a justly enjoined obligation and an established tradition. Other then these are of the extra achievements."

Tradition 2.2 H 45, Ch. 2, h 2

Muhammad ibn Yahya has narrated from Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn 'Isa from Muhammad ibn Khalid from abu al-Bakhtari from Abu 'Abdallah^{as} who has said the following:

"The scholars are the heirs of the prophets because the prophets did not leave any Dirham or Dinar, (units of money) as their legacy. What they left was certain pieces of their statements. Those who acquired a fraction of the knowledge of their statements, certainly have accumulated a large share. However, you must be very careful, when acquiring such knowledge, and judge the teachers of this knowledge. Among us (the Ahlul Bayt^{as}, family of the holy Prophet^{s.a.w.w}) after every one there comes a just person (masoom^{as}) who removes (and exposes) the forgeries of the exaggerators from it

(Knowledge), the infiltrated materials of the fallacious ones and the interpretations of the ignorant ones."

Tradition 2.3 H 46, Ch. 2, h 3

Al-Hassan ibn Muhammad has narrated from Mu'alla ibn Muhammad from al-Hassan ibn Ali al-Washsha' from Hammad ibn 'Uthman from **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** who has said the following:

"When Allah^{swt} wants to bless a person He gives him good understanding of religion."

Tradition 2.4 H 47, Ch. 2, h 4

Muhammad ibn 'Isma'il has narrated from Fadl ibn Shadhan from Hammad ibn 'Isa from Rab'i ibn 'Abdallah from a man from **Abu Ja'far^{as}** who has said the following:

"The entirety of excellence and perfection in (knowledge) is; (a), good understanding of religion, (b) exercise of patience in affliction and (c) setting up of means of living."

Tradition 2.5 H 48, Ch. 2, h 5

Muhammad ibn Yahya has narrated from Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn 'Isa from Muhammad ibn Sinan from 'Isma'il ibn Jabir from **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** who has said the following:

"The scholars are trust worthy people, the pious ones are the strongholds and the successors (of the holy Prophet^{saww}) are the leaders (Masomeen^{as})." In another Hadith it is said, **"The scholars are the light houses, the pious people are the strongholds and the successors (of the holy Prophet^{saww}) are the leaders (Masomeen^{as})."**

Tradition 2.6 H 49, Ch. 2, h 6

Ahmad ibn Idris has narrated from Muhammad ibn Hassa'n from Idris ibn al-Hassan from abu Ishaq al-Kindi from Bashir al-Dahhan from **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** who has said the following:

"O Bashir, there is nothing good in those of our people who do not acquire (Fiqh) good understand of religion. If one of them does not has a good understanding of the religion he would need to ask from those who oppose us. When he would do so, they will lead him into their straying ways in a manner that he would not even realize."

Tradition 2.7 H 50, Ch. 2, h 7

Ali ibn Muhammad has narrated from Sahl ibn Ziyad from al-Nawfali from al-Sakuni from **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** who has narrated from his ancestors from the Holy Prophet (s.a.), who has said the following:

"There is nothing good in life except for two kinds of people: the one who listen and acts accordingly and the one who listens carefully and remembers it by heart."

Tradition 2.8 H 51, Ch. 2, h 8

Ali ibn Ibrahim has narrated from his father from ibn abu 'Umayr and Muhammad ibn Yahya from Ahmad ibn Muhammad from ibn abu 'Umayr from Sayf ibn 'Umayr from abu Hamza from **Abu Ja'far^{as}** who has said the following:

"A scholar who benefits from his knowledge (by practising it) is better than seventy thousand worshippers."

Tradition 2.9 H 52, Ch. 2, h 9

Al-Hassan ibn Muhammad has narrated from Ahmad ibn Ishaq from Sa'dan ibn Muslim from Mu'awiya ibn 'Ammar who has said the following:

"I asked (Imam) Abu 'Abdallah^{as}, "There is a man who recounts your Hadith and spreads them among people and helps your followers to correct their beliefs. In comparison, there is a worshipper among your followers who does not narrate your Hadith. Who is better than the other one?" The Imam^{as} replied, "The one who narrates our Hadith and helps our followers in correcting their beliefs, is better than seventy thousand worshippers."

All praise belongs to Allah^{swt} May Allah^{swt} send peace and blessings upon Hazrat Muhammad^{saww} and his holy progeny.