

Chapter Four

Reward for the Scholars and those who Seek Knowledge

Tradition 4.1 H 57, Ch. 4, h 1

Muhammad ibn al-Hassan and Ali ibn Muhammad has narrated from Sahl ibn Ziyad and Muhammad ibn Yahya from Ahmad ibn Muhammad, all from Ja'far ibn Muhammad al-Ash'ari from 'Abdullah ibn Maymun al-Qaddah and Ali ibn Ibrahim from his father from Hammad ibn 'Isa from al-Qaddah from **Abu 'Abdallah^{a.s}** who has said the following:

"The holy Prophet^{s.a.w.w} has said, 'If one sets out on a journey to seek knowledge Allah^{swt} will lead him to the way that would take him to paradise. The angels will stretch their wings for the pleasure of the seeker of knowledge and all that is in the heavens and earth even the whales in the oceans will ask forgiveness for him (from Allah^{swt}). The excellence of the scholar over other people is like that of the moon over the stars during a full-moon night. The scholars are the heirs of the prophets. The prophets did not leave any Dirham or Dinar (wealth) as their legacy but they did leave knowledge as their legacy. Whoever acquires a share from such legacy has gained a very large share.'"

Tradition 4.2 H 58, Ch. 4, h 2

Muhammad ibn Yahya has narrated from Ahmad ibn Muhammad from al-Hassan ibn Mahbub from Jamil ibn Salih from Muhammad ibn Muslim from **Ja'far^{as}** who has said the following:

"Those of you who teach will have the same reward as those who learn in addition to his higher position over the student. Learn knowledge from those who have the knowledge and teach it to your brethren just as the scholars had taught you."

Tradition 4.3 H 59, Ch. 4, h 3

Ali ibn Ibrahim has narrated from Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Barqi from Ali ibn al-Hakam from Ali ibn abu Hamza from abu Basir from **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** who has said the following:

"Whoever teaches something good he will receive a reward for each time his student would practice the aquired knowledge." Abu Basir narrates, "I asked the Imam^{as}, 'Would this be applied to the student if he would teach other people?' The Imam^{as} replied, "Yes, it will apply to him even if all people would teach it (after learning from him)." I then asked, 'Would it apply to him if he would have died?' The Imam^{as} responded, "Yes, even after his death".

Tradition 4.4 H 60, Ch. 4, h 4

Through the same chain of narrator it is narrated from Muhammad ibn 'Abd al-Hamid from al-'Ala' ibn Razin from abu 'Ubayda al-Hadhaha' from **Abu Ja'far^{as}** who has said the following:

"Whoever teaches a subject of guidance he will receive a reward equal to the rewards of those who would practice such guidance without any reduction in the rewards of the later ones. Whoever would introduce a subject of misguidance he will suffer equal to the sufferings (of the followers) for each time it is practiced without any reduction in the sufferings of whoever would have acted upon the misguided path."

Tradition 4.5 H 61, Ch. 4, h 5

Al-Husayn ibn Muhammad has narrated from Ali ibn Muhammad ibn Sa'd *in a marfu' manner* from abu Hamza from **Ali ibn al-Hussain^{as}** who has said the following:

"If only people knew how much reward there is for seeking knowledge, they would have sought it even if they would have had to shed their blood for it or dive in large waves.

Allah^{swt}, the Blessed and Most High, revealed to Daniel^{as} saying, 'The most hated among my creatures are the ignorant ones who disrespect the scholars and do not follow them. The Most beloved to Me, in My servants, are the pious ones who work hard to become entitled for greater rewards, who always stay close to the scholars, follow the fore-bearing people and accept (the advise of) people of wisdom.'

Tradition 4.6 H 62, Ch. 4, h 6

Ali ibn Ibrahim has narrated from his father from al-Qasim ibn Muhammad from Sulayman ibn Dawud al-Minqari from Hafs ibn Ghiyath who has said that **Abu 'Abdallah^{as}** said the following:

"Whoever acquires knowledge and practises what he has learned and teaches it to others, for the sake of Allah^{swt}, he will be called a great personality by the angels of heavens. It will be said there: 'He learned for the sake of Allah^{swt}, practiced it for the sake of Allah^{swt} and taught it for the sake of Allah^{swt}.'"

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