

## Getting an Answer from the Imam<sup>-ajfi</sup>

One can get answers to his questions from the Divine Imam who is in occultation, see for example some Ahadith:

يَج، الخرائج و الجرائح رُوِيَ عَنِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ الْفَرَجِ قَالَ: قَالَ لِي عَلِيُّ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ ع إِذَا أُرِدْتَ أَنْ تَسْأَلَ مَسْأَلَةً فَاتَّبِعْهَا وَ صَعِ الْكِتَابَ تَحْتَ مُصَلَّاتِكَ وَ دَعُهُ سَاعَةً ثُمَّ أَخْرِجْهُ وَ انْظُرْ قَالَ فَفَعَلْتُ فَوَجَدْتُ جَوَابَ مَا سَأَلْتُ عَنْهُ مُوقَّعاً فِيهِ.

(The book) 'Al-Kharaij Wa Al-Jaraih' – It is reported from Muhammad Bin Al-Faraj who said,

'Ali<sup>-asws</sup> Bin Muhammad<sup>-asws</sup> said to me: 'Whenever you want to ask a question, then write it and place the letter underneath your praying-mat and leave it for a while. Then extract it and look'. He said, 'I did it, and I found the answer to what I had asked about, having been written in it'.<sup>1</sup>

أَقُولُ، رَوَى السَّيِّدُ بْنُ طَاوُوسٍ فِي كَشْفِ الْمَحْجَةِ بِإِسْنَادِهِ مِنْ كِتَابِ الرَّسَائِلِ لِلْكَلَيْنِيِّ عَمَّنْ سَمَّاهُ قَالَ: كَتَبْتُ إِلَى أَبِي الْحَسَنِ ع أَنَّ الرَّجُلَ يُحِبُّ أَنْ يُفْضِيَ إِلَى إِمَامِهِ مَا يُحِبُّ أَنْ يُفْضِيَ إِلَى رَبِّهِ

I (Majlisi) am saying, 'It is reported by the Seyyid Bin Tawoos in 'Kashf al Mahajja', by his chain from 'Kitab Al Rasail' of Al Kulayni, from the one whom he named, he said,

'I wrote to Abu Al-Hassan<sup>-asws</sup>, 'The man loves to pour out (his heart) to his Imam<sup>-asws</sup> what he loves to pour out to his Lord<sup>-azwj</sup>'.

قَالَ فَكَتَبَ إِنْ كَانَ لَكَ حَاجَةٌ فَحَرِّكْ شَفَتَيْكَ فَإِنَّ الْجَوَابَ يَأْتِيكَ.

He (the narrator) said, 'He<sup>-asws</sup> wrote: 'If there was a need for you, then move your lips, and the answer will come to you'.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bihar Al Anwaar – V 50, The book of History – Ali Bin Muhammad<sup>asws</sup>, Ch 3 H 41

<sup>2</sup> Bihar Al Anwaar – V 50, The book of History – Ali Bin Muhammad<sup>asws</sup>, Ch 3 H 42