Imam Ali (a.s.) In The Words of Mosnad Ahmad (part 2)

Hamid Yazdan-Parast

Islamic Reasearcher

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***Abstract**: Ahmad Hanbal placed Imam 'Ali among the caliphs of Rashidin and mentioned a set of Hadith about him. In his work, Ahmad quoted some narratives that many Sunni traditions refused to quote. Traditions such as the hadith of dignity, the hadith of Ghadir, a brotherhood between the Prophet and imam 'Ali, and Ali in Khaybar war. Ahmad ibn Hanbal said, for no one is there any more virtue than what has been said to imam 'Ali. After the demise of holy Prophet, 'Ali was going to be his successor to continue his path. But unfortunately and due to ignorance of people the course of history changed. The right of 'Ali for successorship was usurped. But his right and his great part in the history of Islam could not be kept hidden. Shia and non-Shia authors recorded Hadiths in his honor and greatness. Ahamd Hanbal is one of the authors who recorded hadiths about imam Ali which are very frequent. The hadiths include Ghadir event and other important historical scenes. In the present article, some hadiths regarding various saying about him are presented from*

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the book of Ahmad Hanbal. Similar to these narrations quoted by Ahmad are quoted in some Shia sources.

***Key words**: Ale-Muhammad, Ghadir Khum, Surah Bara'at*

Ale-Muhammad

- Abi 'Amid said, once we were sitting with the Prophet while a man came to us carrying a tray of dates. The holy Prophet said, what is this? Sadaqe or gift? "He answered, "Sadaqe" the holy Prophet said, put it in front of people." Hasan who was a child was sitting in front of the Prophet. He took a date and put it in his mouth. The holy Prophet put his finger in his mouth and took the date out. Then he said,

انا آل محمد لا تحل لنا الصدقه

Sadaqe is not allowed for us. (vol.3, p.490)

- Abu-Hurayreh said, I had heard from Abul-Qasim (a.s.) that someone brought him dates which were sadaqe. Then the holy Prophet put Hasan or Husain on his shoulder, the child mouth watered, looked at the date and tried to reach it. the holy Prophet turned the child's face and said,

القها يا بنى، اما شعرت ان آل محمد لا ياكلون الصدقه:

My little son. Drop it. Don't you know that Ale-Bayt of Muhammad does not eat sadaqe? (vol.2, pp.406, 467)

- Yazid ibn Hayyan Tamimi said, " Hasin ibn Seyre, 'Umar ibn Moslem and I went to Zayd ibn Arqam… he said, " one day the holy Prophet stood up by a water between Mecca and Medinah where was named Khum and delivered a speech for us, … and said:

انى تارک فیکم الثقلین: اولهما کتاب الله عزو جل .... و اهل بیتی. اذکرکم الله فی اهل بیتی، اذکرکم الله فی اهل بیتی:

I leave two precious things among you: the first one of them is the book of God… and my Ahlul-Bayt. About my Ahlul-Bayt remember God!

Hasin asked, "oh Zeid! Who are Ahlul-Bayt? Are his wives among his Ahlul-Bayt?" he answered, " ان نساء من اهل بیته،

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و لكن اهل بيته من حرم الصدقه بعده: definitely his wives are of his family but Ahlul-Bayt are those for whom Sadaqe is forbidden after him." He asked, "Who?" they said, "they are Ale 'Ali, Ale 'Aqil, Alw Jafar and Ale 'Abbas." He asked, "Are sadaqe haram for all of them?" he said, "yes." (vol.4, pp.366, 367)

Announcement of Surah Bara'at

- Hanash narrated from Ali may God be satisfied with him that when the ten verses of Bara'at Surah were sent down to the holy Prophet, Abu-Bakr may God be satisfied with him was called for and he was sent out to recite them to people. Then the holy Prophet called for me and said, "Find Abu-Bakr! Wherever you can find him get the text from him and took it to people of Mecca and read to them." I went away and found him in Juhfah and got the text from him. Abu-Bakr may God be satisfied with him returned to the holy Prophet and asked, "oh the holy Prophet of God! Has anything sent down about me?" he replied, " لا، ولكن جبريل جاءنى فقال لن يودى عنک الا انت او رجل منک: no , but Gabriel came and said, the message should be send by you or a man of you. (vol.1, p.151)

- Anas ibn Malik said, the holy Prophet sent Abu-Bakr Seddiq may God be satisfied with him with the surah Bera'at. When he reached Zul-Hifah, the holy Prophet said, لا يبلغها الا انا او رجل من اهل بيتى: no one recite it except me or a man of my family. So he sent 'Ali. (vol.3, p.212)

Ghadir Khum

- Bura' ibn 'Azeb said, we accompanied Prophet in a trip. When we stopped in Ghadir Khum, it was time for prayer. Azan for congregational prayer was given and for Prophet a shade was put up in the shadow of two trees. When they prayed, the holy Prophet took Ali's hand and said,

الستم تعلمون انى اولى بالمومنين من انفسهم: don't you know that I am more deserved on muslims than they themselves?

They answered, yes. He said, الستم تعلمون انى اولى بكل مومن من نفسه: don't you know that I am more deserved on any faithful one than he himself?

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They said, yes. So he took Ali's hand and said,

من كنت مولاه فعلى مولاه. اللهم وال من والاه و عاد من عاداه: anyone whom I am his Molla, so 'Ali is him Molla. Oh God! Like anyone who likes him and be enemy with anyone who is his enemy!

After this, 'Umar went to see him and said, " هنيئا يا ابن ابى طالب! صبحت و امسيت مولى كل مومن و مومنه! Be sweet to you oh the son of Abu-Talib! You passed day and night while you become Molla of each faithful man and woman." (vol.4, p.281)

'Atiyyeh 'Aufi said, I told Zeid ibn Arqam, "a word is retold from you to me from 'Ali may God be satisfied with him in Ghadir Khum that I like to hear from you yourself." Then he continued, we were in Johfah that the holy Prophet while was holding 'Ali's arm, came out at noon and said, " يا ايها الناس، الستم تعلمون انى اولى بالمومنين من انفسهم؟ they answered, yes. He said,

فمن كنت مولاه، فعلى مولاه.

'Atiyeh said, I asked, did the holy Prophet say, اللهم وال من والاه و عاد من عاداه؟ Zeid said, I told you what I had heard. " (vol.4, p.368)

- Zeid ibn Arqam said, we settled in a valley named " Vadi Khum" while accompanying Prophet. He ordered us to pray. Then while he was made a shelter, he delivered a lecture for us and said, " اولستم تشهدون انى اولى بكل مومن من نفسه؟ orالستم تعلمون people said, true.

He continued, فمن كنت مولاه فان عليا مولاه. اللهم عاد من عاداه و وال من والاه (vol.4, p.372).

- Abu 'Abdullah said: I was with Zayd bin Arqam, a man who came from the farthest places, reached us and asked something. He answered, The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, الست اولى بالمومنين من انفسهم? They said, yes. He said:

- من كنت مولاه، فعى مولا (anyone whom I am his Molla, Ali is his Molla.). (v.4,p.372)

- Yazid ibn Hayan Tamimi said, Hasin ibn Sirah, 'Umar ibn Moslem and I went to Zayd bin Arqam and when we sat down, Hasin said: "O Zayd you have

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gained great blessing خير كثير : you saw the Prophet (peace be upon him), you heard his speech, you fought with him. And you prayed with him; oh Zayd! Truly you have gained great blessing. Now tell us about what you had heard from him. " Zayd said," O my nephew! By God, I am getting old and I have forgotten some of what I had heard from the Prophet. But listen to what I say, or you will make me trouble! One day the Prophet (peace be upon him) stood up beside the water between Mecca and Medina called "Khum" and delivered a speech to us,. He praised God in the best way and preached and then said,

- اما بعد، الا يا ايها الناس، انما انا بشر يوشك أن يأتينى رسول ربى عزوجل فأجيب، وانى تارك فيكم الثقلين : أولهما كتاب الله عزوجل، فيه الهدى و النور. فخذوا بكتاب الله تعالى و استمسكوا

- O people, The fact is not except this that I am a human being, and it is close the envoy of my beloved God reaches me and I accept his invitation. I leave two precious things among you: the first of them is the Book of God in which guidance and light are. Receive and grab the book of God Almighty.

Concerning the Book of God, he emphasized and said:

و اهل بيتى؛ اذكركم الله في أهل بيتى، اذكركم الله في اهل بيتى، اذكركم الله في اهل بيتى

Hasin asked, "Who are his Ahlul Bayt, oh Zayd? Aren't his wives among his Ahlul Bayt? He answered, " ان نسائه من أهل بيته، ولكن اهل بيته من حرم الصدقة بعد : definitely His wives are of his family, but Alul Bayt are those on whom charity is forbidden after him."

He asked, " Who are they?" "Are they family of 'Ali, family of 'Aqil, family of Ja'far and family of 'Abbas?" He asked. "Is charity forbidden for them?"

He answered, "yes." (v.4,pp.366,367)

'Ali bin Rabi'ah said: I saw Zayd bin Arqam, and I asked, "Did you hear from the Prophet (peace be upon him) saying, "" انى تارک فيكم الثقلين؟ ?" He said, "Yes." (v.4,p.371)

- Zayd bin Thabet said: The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

-اني تارك فيكم خليفتين : كتاب الله حبل ممدود ما بين السماء و الارض (او: مابين السماء إلى الأرض

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) عترتی اهل بیتی و انهما لن یفترقا حتی یردا علی الحوض

I leave two successors among you: The Book of God which is an extended rope between heaven and earth. (or he said: from heaven to the earth) and my ‘Itrah, my Ahlul Bayt. And these two never break up from each other until they reach me in Kuthar pond. (vol.5,p.182)

- Zayd bin Thabet said: The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

-اني تارك فيكم خليفتين : كتاب الله و اهل بيتی و انهما لن يفترقا حتی يردا علی الحوض جميعا

I leave two successors among you: The Book of God and my Ahlul-Bayt and these two never break apart until they reach me in Kuthar pond. (vol.5, p.190)

* Abu Sa’id Khudri said, “The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

I leave two great things among you, one of which is greater than the other. : The Book of God, which is a string drawn from heaven to earth, and my Ahlul Bayt. And these two never break up until they reach me in Kuthar pond. (vol.3, p. 14)

- Abu Sa’id Khudri said, “The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

I'm close to being called in, and I leave two great things among you: the book of God and my Itrah (my Ahlul Bayt). The book of God is a rope stretching from heaven to earth and my Itrah, My Ahlul Bayt. And verily, the wise God of knowledge hath informed me that these two shall never depart, till they come unto me in the pond; mind how you behave them in my absence. (vol.3, p.17)

* Abu Sa’id Khudri said, “The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

- I leave among you two precious things, one of which is greater than the other, the Book of God which is drawn from heaven to the earth, and my ‘Itrah. These two never break up until they reach me in the Hauz. (vol.3, p.26)

* Abu Sa’id Khudri said, The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

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Definitely I left a thing among you to grab, so you will never be misled after me; two precious things which one of them is greater than the other: The Book of God which is an extended rope from heaven to earth and my Itrah, my Alul Bayt. Be aware that these two will never separate until they reach me in the Hauz.(vol.3, p.59)

* Ibn ‘Abbas said: The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

من كنت مولاه، فان مولاه علی

- Whoever I am his Molla, surely Ali is also his Molla. (vol.1,p.231)

Eid to perfect religion

* Tariq Ibn Shahab said, A Jewish man came to ‘Umar (may God be satisfied with him) and said: 'O Amir of the Believers, you (Muslims) read a verse from your book that if it was sent down to us, we would have celebrated that.

He asked, "Which verse?" He said, "This verse that God says: اليوم اكملت لكم دينكم و اتممت عليكم نعمتی: ***Today I have perfected your religion and my blessings are upon you***." (Ma’ede, 3) ’Umar said, “ by God! I knew the day and time that this verse was revealed to the Prophet (peace be upon him): the evening of Arafah on Friday. " (vol.1, pp.28,39)

To witness the event of Ghadir

* Abi al-Tafil said, " ‘Ali (may God be satisfied with him) gathered people in Rahabah and attested them," Every Muslim man who heard on the day of Ghadir what the Prophet said stand up." Thirty people stood up. Abu Na’im said, “Many people stood up and testified that while The Prophet was holding Ali's hand said,

اتعلمون اني اولی بالمؤمنين من انفسهم؟

They said, "Yes, O Prophet of God."

He said, “من كنت مولاه، فهذا مولاه. اللهم وال من والاه و عاد من عاداه”

- Whoever I am his molla, then this man is his molla. God, love his friend and be enemy to his enemy!

Abi al-Tafil said, "I came out, as if there was something in my heart," I saw Zayd

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ibn Argham and said, "I heard from Ali that so and so." He said, "It's not strange! I myself heard the Prophet said this. " (vol.4, p.370)

- Abi al-Tafil said, Ali (may God be satisfied with him) gathered people in Rahabah and then said, "I swear every Muslim man who heard the Prophet's saying on the day of Ghadir by God stand up." Thirty people stood up. Abu Na'im said, "Many people stood up and testified that the Prophet told people while he was taking Ali's hand," Do you know that I have more right on believers than themselves? "They said," Yes, O Prophet of God. "
He continued,

I came out and there was something inside me. I saw Zayd ibn Arqam and said, "I have heard from Ali so and so." He said, "Do not deny that I myself heard from the Prophet who said so." (vol.4, p.370)

* Sa'id ibn Wahab said: 'Ali asked people to testify; five or six of the companions of the Prophet (peace be upon him) stood up and testified that he had said: من كنت مولاه، فعلی مولاه.

* Riyah ibn Harth said, A group came to Ali in Rahabah and said, " Hello to you, our Ruler (molana)!' Ali (a.s.) said, "how am I your Molla while you are from Arab tribe[1]?" they said, "we heard the Prophet (peace be upon him) said on Ghadir day:

- من كنت مولاه، فان هذا مولاه

Whoever I am his Molla, this man is also his Molla.

Riyah said, When this group left, I went after them and asked, "Who are these?" They said: "Some of the Ansar, and Abu Ayyub Ansari is also with them." (vol.5, p.419)

[1] The Mawaliyan were a class between freemen and slaves, referring to people who had somehow joined the Muslims like Muslims in conquered areas. Because the Arabs were Muslim, naturally, they were not regarded as Mawali, so they could not consider anyone as their molla. Ali's question is due to this matter.

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* Walid ‘Abasi said, I went to ‘Abdul Rahman bin Abi Leili. He said: I saw Ali (may God be satisfied with him) saying in Rahabah, "I swear to God that man who had heard what the Prophet said on the day of Ghadir stand up." Twelve men stood up and said: We saw and heard when Prophet had hold up Ali’s hand and said:

اللهم وال من والاه وعاد من عاداه و انصر من نصره و اخذل من خذله

- O God, love whoever loves him, and be enemy of whoever is his enemy; and help whoever helps him, and leave alone whosoever leave him helpless.

But other three men did not stand up, and Ali was cursed them and the cursed came true for them. (vol.1, p. 119)

Ali and Christ

1- Rabi'ah ibn Najez narrated from Ali ibn Abi Talib (may God be satisfied with him) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) called me and said:

ان فيك من عيسى مثلا : ابغضته يهود حتى بهتوا امه واحبته النصارى حتى انزلوه بالمنزله الذي ليس به

- There is in you an example of Jesus: the Jews had such enmity with him that they slandered his mother, and the Christians loved him so much that reached him to a place which was not for him.

Then Ali said,

يهلك في رجلا محب مفرط يقرظني يما ليس فى و مبغض يحمله شنانى على ان يبهتنى

“Devastated is the extreme lover of me as he praised me for something which is not in me, and also the enemy that lied about me.”(vol.1, p.160)

In another narration from this Rabi'ah ibn Najez, in the remark of the Prophet instead of بالمنزله "has" بالمنزل "and in the following of Ali's statement has:

الا اني لست بنبى و لا يوحى إلى، ولكني اعمل بكتاب الله و سنة نبيه صلى الله عليه و سلم ما استطعت . فما امرتكم من طاعة الله فحق عليكم طاعتى فيما احببتم و كرهتم

" (be aware) that I am not a prophet and I do not receive revelation, but as far as I can, I follow the Book of God and the tradition of His Prophet. So whenever I

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command you to obey God, it is up to you to obey me in what you love or in what you dislike. "(vol.1, p.160)

Demise of Prophet Muhammad

- Ibn 'Abbas said, “The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) was at Aisha's house in the illness that led to his death; and his holiness said, " ادعوا لي عليا call Ali to me." Aisha' said, “ ندعوا لك ابابكر” (we call Abu Bakr to you.) he said, “ call”. Hafse said, “ Oh the Prophet! We call ‘Umar.” He said, “call him”. Umme Fadl said, we call ‘Abbas.” He said, “ call him.” When all gathered, he looked up but did not see Ali, so he remained silent. ‘Ummar said, " leave Prophet," (vol.1, p.356)

- Sa’id bin Jabir said, "Ibn ‘Abbas said," Thursday and what a Thursday! Then he wept and his tears flowed and fell to the ground. We said, "Which Thursday?" He said, "The Prophet's disease was worsened so he said,

انتوني اكتب لكم كتابة لاتضلوا بعده ابدا

Bring me a piece of paper so I write you something so that you will never be misled.

They disputed and it is not proper to dispute in front of the Prophet. They said, "What is it for? Is it delirium? ” They started to deny him. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: Leave me, what I am in is better than what you call me to!" then he gave three pieces of advice: “ run away polytheists from Arab Peninsula and give prize to delegation committees as I gave…”

Sa’id ibn Habir did not mention the third one and I do not know was it on purpose or forgetfulness! (vol.1, p.222)

Tavus said, “Ibn ‘Abbas said: when the Prophet (peace be upon him) was about die, said:

- انتونى بكتف اكتب لكم فيه كتاب لا يختلف منكم رجلان بعدى

Bring me an animal shoulder to write you a letter that, after me, the even the two of you do not reach disagreement.

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The present group disputed until a woman said, "Woe to you, the Prophet's will!" (vol.1, p.293)

- ‘Ubaydullah bin ‘Abdullah narrated from Ibn ‘Abbas that: When the Prophet (peace be upon him) was near to death said:

هلم اكتب لكم كتابا لن تضلوا بعده

Come to me to write to you a letter that will never go astray afterwards.

There were men including ‘Umar ibn Khattab at home. ‘Umar said,

“The pain and illness are overcoming the Prophet, and the Qur'an is with you ... The Book of God is sufficient for us. " The people in the house disputed with each other. Some of them said," do not Let the Prophet write something for you "or they said," "Get close, so the Prophet writes to you" and some said what ‘Umar said. As their controversy and their disagreement and sadness of the Prophet increased, he said,

قوموا عنى

“ Get up from my side."

Ibn 'Abbas said: " The real calamity, all the calamity was that this dispute falls between the Prophet and the scripture he wanted to write to them.” (vol.1, pp.324, 326)

- Sa’id ibn Jabir said, "Ibn 'Abbas said," Thursday and what Thursday! Then the tears flowed like pearls on the cheeks; the Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

انتوني باللوح و الدواة او الكتف، أكتب لكم كتابا لاتضلوا بعده ابدا

- Bring me a pen and a scapegoat to write to you so that you will never be misled.

'They said, “Prophet Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah, is saying delirium.” (vol.1, p.355)

Ibn 'Abbas said: In the early caliphate of ‘Umar, I went to him ... we talked about Ali. ‘Umar asked:
Is there anything left in his heart of the caliphate? "I said," Yes," Does he think the Prophet, peace be upon him, had gave it to him?" I said, "Yes, and I also

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ask my father about his claim.” My father said, “he is right." "’Umar said,

“The point Prophet (peace be upon him) had an unfinished remark about ‘Ali did not prove anything and did not provide any proof. Of course, Prophet meditated on his work and wanted to assert Ali (for successorship), but I prevented him out of my fear from sedition and saving Islam. As Prophet understood that I knew what he meant, he did not continue, and God does not do anything except what He is predestined! "(Encyclopedia of Amir al-Momenin, vol. 6, p.383)

Last Visitor of the Prophet

* Umme Salameh said:

والذي احلف به، ان كان على لاقرب الناس عهدا برسول الله صلى الله عليه و سلم

By the One whom I swear to, among the people the one who had the last visit of the Prophet was Ali. The Prophet repeatedly said: does Ali come? And I suppose he was sent out for something. He finally came and we knew the Prophet had something to do with him. We left the room and sat by the door, and I was the closest to them. Ali leaned over him and leaned to his right and the Prophet told him the secret. Then the Prophet died on the same day; so he had the last meeting with the Prophet among the people. (vol.6, p.300)

Ablution of the Prophet

* Ibn 'Abbas said: People gathered to give the Prophet (peace be upon him) Ablution, and inside the house there was no one except the Prophet's family, i.e. ‘Abbas, ‘Ali, Fazl and Qatham, the sons of ‘Abbas, ‘Usameh bin Zayd and Saleh, the Prophet. Ous bin Khuli Ansari, who was from Badriyon (Badr battle), called ‘Ali from behind the door, saying, "O ‘Ali, we swear you to God that you consider our part for (giving ablution to) the Prophet." ‘Ali told him, come in.” He went inside. ‘Ali leaned the Prophet on his chest while he was dressed, and ‘Abbas, Fazl, and Qatham helping Ali and were flanking him. Usamah and Saleh poured water and ‘Ali washed him. (vol.1, p.260)

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