

Khutbah al Shiqshiqiyyah

Ameerul Momineen

Ali ibn Abi Talib asws



Beware! I swear by Allah, the son of Abu Quhafah (la) (Abu Bakr la) dressed himself , using whatever means necessary, with the cloak of caliphate even though he knew the caliphate revolved around My station. I am the river of fortune from which knowledge and inspiration flow and no one can even imagine to be able to reach My elevated station.

Regardless of this, I left aside the caliphate and did not seek it. Should I without any followers attempt to seize the caliphate or should I patiently wait through the immense darkness of adversity until the old grow weak and the young become old and the momin suffered immense hardships until he stood before Allah. Therefore, I remained patient even though it was like an arrow in the eyes and a hand upon the throat. I watched the usurpation of My inheritance until the first one left this world and handed over the caliphate to ibn al Khattab la (umar la).

Then Ameerul Momineen (asws) quoted from al-A'sha's poetry.

My days are now passed on the camel's back while there were days of peace when I enjoyed the company of Jabir's brother Hayyan.

It is indeed a strange occurrence that while alive he desired to be relieved of the burden of caliphate. However, before he departed this world, he graciously tied its rope to the second one. There is no question these two kept its reins strictly for themselves. This one arrogantly kept the reins of caliphate tightly in his grip. Mistakes bound plentiful as did the excuses. He held the reins like one who is sitting up a wild camel. If he pulled the reins too tightly then the camel's nostrils would be slit, but if he loosened his grip, then he would be thrown from the saddle. I swear by Allah, the people became entangled in sinfulness, depravity, immorality, and unrighteousness.

Regardless I remained patient throughout his long and unrelenting trial until he departed this world and place the caliphate amongst a group of which he included Me. Even though there was no doubt in My supremacy in the matter of successorship. However, once again they considered themselves superior and Me as their equal. Out of jealousy and spite one from amongst them turned against and so inclined the others to do the same. Some out of spite and some out of kinship. Then the third of these three rose up defiantly. Along with him, the children of his grandfather (Bani Ummayah la) also rose up devouring the wealth of Allah like a camel devours the fresh green of spring. He did so until his arrogancy brought him down and his hold on the reins of the caliphate was severed.

Then, the people rushed towards Me from all sides. In such a way that Hasan (as) and Hussain (as) were to be trampled and My cloak was torn from all sides. They gathered around Me the way a flock of sheep gathers around their shepherd. Only then did I take up the reins of government. However one side separated themselves and another became disobedient while the remaining began acting unlawfully as if they had not heard the word of Allah saying:

As for the abode of the hereafter, We assign it to those who seek not oppression in the earth nor corruption and the end is good for those who guard against evil (28:83)

I swear by Allah, they had heard it and understood it, but the world appeared shiny before their eyes and its adornments enticed them. Behold! I swear by Him who caused the seed to grow and created man, if the people had not come to Me and if Allah had not vowed the learned would not ignore the atrocities of the oppressor nor the despair of the oppressed, then I would have cast aside the reins of

the caliphate and would have treated the last one as I did the first one. Then you would have realized this world of yours holds no value before Me.

When Ameerul Momineen (asws) reached this point, a man from Iraq arrived and handed a letter to Ameerul Momineen (asws). Ameerul Momineen (asws) stopped speaking and began to read the letter. When He finished, ibn Abbas (ra) said, "O'Ameerul Momineen (asws)! I wish You would continue Your speech from the point where You stopped." Ameerul Momineen (asws) said, "Alas! O'ibn Abbas (ra)! This sermon had its own time and that time has now passed and will not come again."

Ibn Abbas (ra) said, "I swear by Allah, I have never regretted anything the way I regretted not being able to listen to the entire sermon of Moula (asws)."

Najul Israr pg 188-191