



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

History and Development of the Shia

Teacher: Sayed Saleh al-Qazwini

Lesson: 41

Topic: The History of the Post-Akhbarism Era

During Akhbarism Era, there was a division inside the community. After Akhbaris, the Usuli method became a lot stronger.

Some differences between *Akhbaris* and *Usulis*:

1. *Akhbaris* say everything is Haram until it proven Halal, while *Usulis* say the opposite.
2. *Akhbaris* say tobacco is Haram because there is no hadith, while *Usulis* say it is Halal.

- Before *Akhbari* Era, scholars used to rely on the Four Books. However, during *Akhbarism*, they compiled the Four Books into one like *Wasail al-Shia*, *al-Wafi* by al-Faydh al-Khashani (d. 1091 A.H.), *Bihar al-Anwar*, *Awalim al-Ulum* (by Abd Allah al-Bahrani), etc.

3. The difference in the books of *tafsir* (from hadith-based *tafsir* until al-Sharif al-Radi's death, like *Tasfir Ali ibn Ibrahim al-Qommi* to analytical approach like *al-Tibyan* by Shaykh al-Tusi)

- During the *Akhbarism Era*, once again, hadith-based *tafsir* came up, e.g., *Al-Burhan fi Tafsir al-Quran* by Sayyid al-Bahrani and *Nur al-Thaqalayn* by al-Huwayzi.
- In the Post-Akhbarism Era, there was a huge development in producing encyclopedias mainly focused on *Usul*.

Great *Usuli* books written after Akhbarism Era:

- *Qawanin al-usul* by Mirza al-Qommi
- *Al-Hashiya ala al-Ma'alim* by Sheikh Muhammad-Taqi al-Isfahani
- *Al-Dhawabit* by Sayyid Ibrahim al-Qazwini
- *Isharat al-usul* by al-Kalbasi

Great fiqh encyclopedias written in the post-Akhbarism Era:

- *Mu'tamad al-Shia fi Ahkam al-Sharia* by Sheikh Mahdi al-Naraq



- *Mustanad al-Shia fi Ahkam al-Sharia* by Sheikh Ahmad al-Naraq
- *Jawahir al-Kalam* by Sheikh Muhammad-Hasan al-Najafi

Sheikh Murtadha al-Ansari:

One of Shia history's most significant figures and scholars, especially in the post-Akhbarism era. His books are Hawza textbooks. One must study his books to reach *ijtihad*.

Sheikh al-Ansari's birthday: 1214 A.H.

Birthplace: Dezful, Iran

Schools: Karbala, Kadhimiya, Najaf, Isfahan, Kashan, Mashhad

Back to Najaf: 1246 A.H.

Two famous scholars and grand Marja's then in Najaf:

- Sheikh Ja'far Kashif al-Ghita (d. 1254)
- Sahib al-Jawahir (d.1266)

After Sahib al-Jawahir's death, *marja'iyah* (authority) came to Sheikh al-Ansari.

Death: 1281 A.H.

Buried in: Shrine of Amir al-Muminin عليه السلام

Among Sheikh al-Ansari's contributions:

1. Kitab al-Makasib; in fiqh (transactions)
2. Fara'id al-Usul (known as al-Rasa'il): in Usul

It is said that over 315 mujtahids were his students among those who have been very influential.

Some of Sheikh al-Ansari's students:

- Sayyid Hossein Kuhkamari
- Mirza al-Shirazi (Sayyid al-Mujaddid)
- Mirza Abu al-Qasim al-Nuri al-Tehrani
- Sheikh Muhammad-Hasan al-Ashtiyani
- Sheikh Muhammad-Reza al-Hamedani
- Sayyid Muhammad-Kazem al-Tabatabai al-Yazdi
- Akhund al-Khurasani
- Mirza Muhammad-Hussayn al-Naini (teacher of Sayyid al-Khoei)