



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

History and Development of the Shia

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Lesson: 32

Topic: al-Shaykh al-Saduq

- Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn 'Ali ibn al-Husayn ibn Musa ibn Babawayh al-Qummi known as Shaykh al-Saduq
- Al-Saduq, al-Kulayni, and al-Tusi are known as *al-Muhammadun al-Thalatha* (المحمّدون الثلاثة) who are the authors of the Four Books.

Al-Saduq:

Birth: 305 A.H.

Death: 381 A.H.

Born in: Qom

He died in: Rey (the city where Shah Abd al-Azim al-Hassani عليه السلام from the descendants of Imam al-Hassan عليه السلام, a narrator of hadith and student of Imam al-Jawad عليه السلام and Imam al-Hadi عليه السلام is buried.)

- Saduq's father, Ali ibn al-Husayn ibn Babawayh al-Qummi, belonged to a scholarly family. He was buried in Qom. He lived during the time of Imam al-Askari عليه السلام and then the Minor Occultation.
- Imam al-Askari wrote a letter to Saduq's father. He was the marja' or shaykh, faqih, and head of the people of Qom.

«الحمد لله رب العالمين والعاقبة للمتقين والجنة للموحدين والنار للملحدين ولا عدوان على الظالمين ولا اله الا الله أحسن الخالقين والصلاة على خير خلقه محمد وعترته الطاهرين

"Praise be to Allah the Lord of the worlds, and the end is for the righteous, the Paradise is for the monotheists, the Hell is for the atheists, and there should be no hostility except against oppressors, and there is no god, but Allah the best of creators, and blessing be on the best of His creation Muhammad and his pure progeny.

... و عليك بالصبر و انتظار الفرج فانّ النّبى ﷺ قال: افضل اعمال امتى انتظار الفرج، و لا تزال شيعتنا فى حزن حتى يظهر ولدى الذى بشر به النّبى ﷺ يَمَلأ الأرض قسطا و عدلا كما ملئت ظلما و جورا....



Wait for deliverance, for the Prophet said, 'The best deed of my nation is the waiting for deliverance.' Our Shi'a shall be still in sorrow until my son, whom the Prophet brought good news about, shall appear. He will fill the earth with justice and fairness after it has been filled with injustice and oppression.

فاصبر يا شيخى يا ابا الحسن على و أمر جميع شيعتى بالصبر فانّ الأرض لله يورثها من يشاء من عباده و العاقبة للمتقين و السلام عليك و على جميع شيعتنا و رحمه الله و بركاته و صلى الله على محمد و آله
O my Sheikh, be patient and order all my Shi'a to be patient; (The earth indeed belongs to Allah, and He gives its inheritance to whomever He wishes of His servants, and the outcome will favor the Godway). Peace, mercy, and blessings of Allah be on you and all our Shi'a, and Allah is sufficient for us; the best Protector is He, the best Patron, and the best Helper."

- The story of al-Saduq's birth through the Dua of Imam al-Mahdi عليه السلام as his father asked the deputy al-Husayn ibn Ruh to request the Imam عليه السلام to do dua for him (as narrated by Shaykh al-Tusi)
- Shaykh al-Saduq was often on travel. He lived in Qom for 20 years; then, he traveled to Rey, Mashhad, Neyshabur, and Baghdad.

Al-Saduq's age: over 70 (381 A.H.)

Buried in: Rey, near Shah Abd al-Azim.

- A story referring to Shaykh al-Saduq's grave in Shahr-e-Rey (in 1790) during Qajari king of Iran Fath Ali Shah (when his body was found sound and untouched when the city was hit with a flood)
- Al-Tusi describes al-Saduq as *Jalil al-qadr, faqih*, etc.
- Al-Najashi describes him as our Sheikh, faqih, and the head of the Shia in Khurasan; he quotes al-Tusi as labeling al-Saduq *Imad al-Din*.
- He was called Saduq. Saduq means truthful.

Some of Al-Saduq's students:

1. Shaykh al-Mufid

2. Al-Sharif al-Murtadha (author of many books)

- Al-Saduq wrote more than 300 books (many of which are gone)/ al-Tusi mentions 40 of them/ Al-Najashi mentions 200

Al-Saduq's most-known books:

1. *Man la Yahdhuruhu al-Faqih* (من لا يحضره الفقيه):
 - a. 5998 hadiths.



- b. Mainly on Fiqh
 - c. It includes ahkam as it was the method in Islamic Practical Laws books then.
 - d. He omits the chains of narrators.
- The reason he wrote the book: A Sayyid asked him to write a book on Fiqh (jurisprudence), the same method as *Man la Yahdhuru al-Tabib* (every man his own doctor.)

Differences between *al-Kafi* and *Man la Yahdhur*:

1. Al-Kafi is more general, including different subjects, while the latter is only Fiqh
2. Al-Kafi has mentioned the chain of narrators

2. *Al-Khisal*:

- a. Focuses on numbers
 - b. Mostly moralities
3. *Al-Tawhid*: 60 chapters about Tawhid
 4. *Ilal al-Sharai'a* (the causes of laws which mostly are the *hikmah* (wisdom) of ahkam)
 5. *Uyun Akhbar al-Ridha* (the narrations compiled from Imam al-Ridha عليه السلام)
 6. *Al-Amali* (compilation of his classes)
 7. *Kamal al-Din wa Tamam al-Ni'ma* (about Imam al-Mahdi عليه السلام)
 8. *Thawab al-A'mal wa 'iqab al-A'mal*