

## بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

## History and Development of the Shia

Teacher: Sayed Saleh al-Qazwini

Lesson: 32

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Topic: al-Shaykh al-Saduq

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- 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

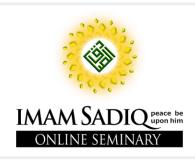
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He died in: Rey (the city where Shah Abd al-Azim al-Hassani from the descendants of Imam al-Hassan, a narrator of hadith and student of Imam al-Jawad and Imam al-Hadi is buried.)

- 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 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.
- «الحمدُ لله ربّ العالمين و العاقبة للمتّقين و الجنّة للموحدّين و النار للملحدين و لا عدوان على الظالمين و لا الله أحسن الخالقين و الصّلاة على خير خلقه محمد و عترته 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 النّبي قال: افضل اعمال امّتي انتظار الفرج، و لا تزال شيعتنا في حزن حتّى يظهر ولدى الّذي بشّر به النّبي أي يَملأ 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 السّلام عليك و على جميع شيعتنا و رحمه الله و بركاته و صلّى الله على محمّد 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 Godwary). 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 as his father asked the deputy al-Husayn ibn Ruh to request the Imam 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.) a m S a d i q . t v 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 لايحضره الفقيه):
  - a. 5998 hadiths.

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- b. Mainly on Figh
- 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 Figh (jurisprudence), the same method as *Man la Yahdhuruhu 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 Figh
- 2. Al-Kafi has mentioned the chain of narrators
- 2. Al-Khisal:
  - a. Focuses on numbers
- b. Mostly moralities
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- 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<sup>28</sup>)
- 6. *Al-Amali* (compilation of his classes)
- 7. Kamal al-Din wa Tamam al-Ni'ma (about Imam al-Mahdi
- 8. Thawab al-A'mal wa 'iqab al-A'mal

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