

ḤADĪTH AL-KISĀ' (TRADITION OF THE CLOAK)

Shaykh `Abdullāh ibn Nūrullāh al-Baḥrānī has recorded in his book entitled `Awālim al-`Ulūm through an authentic chain of authority that Jābir ibn `Abdullāh al-Anṣārī said that he heard Fāṭimah the daughter of the Holy Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him and his Household, saying:

One day, my father the Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him and his Household, visited me, "Peace be upon you, O Fāṭimah!" he said.

"Peace be upon you, too." I answered.

"I can feel some fatigue in my body," he said to me, and I answered, "I pray Allah to protect you O father against fatigue."

"Fāṭimah," he ordered, "bring me the Yemeni cloak and cover me with it."

I brought him the Yemeni cloak and covered him with it. I then kept on looking at his face, which was glittering like a moon at the night of its fullness and perfection.

No more than a while passed when my son al-Ḥasan came in, "Peace be upon you, mother!" he greeted.

"Peace be upon you, too, O delight of my eye and fruit of my heart!" I replied.

"O mother," he said, "I can smell a pleasing scent as if it is the scent of my grandfather the Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him and his Household."

"Yes, it is," I answered, "Your grandfather is now under the cloak."

Al-Ḥasan moved towards the cloak and said, "Peace be upon you, O grandfather, Allah's Messenger. Will you allow me to be with you under this cloak?"

My father replied, "Peace be upon you too, my son and director of my Pond. I allow

دَخَلَ عَلَيَّ أَبِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ
وَأَلِهِ فِي بَعْضِ الْأَيَّامِ فَقَالَ: "السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا
فَاطِمَةُ." فَقُلْتُ: "عَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ." قَالَ: "إِنِّي
أَجِدُ فِي بَدَنِي ضَعْفًا." فَقُلْتُ لَهُ: "أُعِيدُكَ بِاللَّهِ،
يَا أَبَتَاهُ، مِنْ الضَّعْفِ." فَقَالَ: "يَا فَاطِمَةُ! أَتَتِينِي
بِالْكِسَاءِ الْيَمَانِيِّ فَعَطَّيْتَنِي بِهِ." فَأَتَيْتُهُ بِالْكِسَاءِ
الْيَمَانِيِّ فَعَطَّيْتُهُ بِهِ، وَصَرْتُ أَنْظُرُ إِلَيْهِ وَإِذَا
وَجْهُهُ يَتَلَأَلُ كَأَنَّهُ الْبَدْرُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ تَمَامِهِ وَكَمَالِهِ.

فَمَا كَانَتْ إِلَّا سَاعَةً وَإِذَا بِوَلَدِي الْحَسَنِ قَدْ
أَقْبَلَ، وَقَالَ: "السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أُمَّاهُ." فَقُلْتُ:
"وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ، يَا قُرَّةَ عَيْنِي وَثَمَرَةَ فُؤَادِي."
فَقَالَ: "يَا أُمَّاهُ! إِنِّي أَشَمُّ عِنْدَكَ رَائِحَةً طَيِّبَةً
كَأَنَّهَا رَائِحَةُ جَدِّي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ
وَأَلِهِ." فَقُلْتُ: "نَعَمْ! إِنَّ جَدَّكَ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ."
فَأَقْبَلَ الْحَسَنُ نَحْوَ الْكِسَاءِ، وَقَالَ: "السَّلَامُ
عَلَيْكَ يَا جَدَّاهُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! أَتَأْذَنُ لِي أَنْ
أَدْخُلَ مَعَكَ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ؟" فَقَالَ: "وَعَلَيْكَ
السَّلَامُ يَا وَلَدِي وَيَا صَاحِبَ حَوْضِي، قَدْ أَذِنْتُ

you.”

Al-Ḥasan then went under the cloak with his grandfather.

No more than another while passed before my son al-Ḥusayn came in, “Peace be upon you, mother!” he greeted.

“Peace be upon you too, O my son, delight of my eye, and fruit of my heart,” I replied.

“O Mother,” he said, “I can smell a pleasing scent as if it is the scent of my grandfather the Messenger of Allah.”

“Yes,” I answered, “Your grandfather and your bother are under the cloak.”

Al-Ḥusayn then approached towards the cloak and said, “Peace be upon you, O grandfather! Peace be upon you, O he whom Allah has chosen! Will you allow me to be with both of you under the cloak?”

My father replied, “Peace be upon you too, O my son and intercessor of my people. I allow you.”

Al-Ḥusayn then went with them under the cloak.

At the same time, Abu’l-Ḥasan `Alī ibn Abī-Ṭālib came in, “Peace be upon you, daughter of Allah’s Messenger,” he greeted.

“Peace be upon you too, O Abu’l-Ḥasan and Commander of the Faithful,” I replied.

He then said, “Fāṭimah, I can smell a pleasing scent, as if it is the scent of my brother and cousin the Messenger of Allah.”

“Yes,” I answered, “He is there with your two sons under the cloak.”

`Alī moved towards the cloak and said,

لَكَ. “ فَدَخَلَ مَعَهُ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ.

فَمَا كَانَتْ إِلَّا سَاعَةً وَإِذَا بَوْلَدِي الْحُسَيْنِ قَدْ أَقْبَلَ، وَقَالَ: “ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أُمَّاهُ. “ فَقُلْتُ: “ وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا وَلَدِي وَيَا قُرَّةَ عَيْنِي وَثَمَرَةَ فُؤَادِي. “ فَقَالَ لِي: يَا أُمَّاهُ! إِنِّي أَشَمُّ عِنْدَكَ رَائِحَةً طَيِّبَةً، كَأَنَّهَا رَائِحَةُ جَدِّي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ. “ فَقُلْتُ: “ نَعَمْ! إِنَّ جَدَّكَ وَأَخَاكَ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ. “ فَدَنَا الْحُسَيْنُ نَحْوَ الْكِسَاءِ وَقَالَ: “ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا جَدَّاهُ! السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ اخْتَارَهُ اللَّهُ! أَتَأْذَنُ لِي أَنْ أَكُونَ مَعَكُمْ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ؟ “ فَقَالَ: “ وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا وَلَدِي وَيَا شَافِعَ أُمَّتِي! قَدْ أَذِنْتُ لَكَ. “ فَدَخَلَ مَعَهُمَا تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ.

فَأَقْبَلَ عِنْدَ ذَلِكَ أَبُو الْحَسَنِ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ وَقَالَ: “ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ. “ فَقُلْتُ: “ وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا أَبَا الْحَسَنِ وَيَا أَمِيرَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ. “ فَقَالَ: “ يَا فَاطِمَةُ! إِنِّي أَشَمُّ عِنْدَكَ رَائِحَةً طَيِّبَةً، كَأَنَّهَا رَائِحَةُ أَخِي وَأَبْنِ عَمِّي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ. “ فَقُلْتُ: “ نَعَمْ! هَا هُوَ مَعَ وَلَدَيْكَ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ. “ فَأَقْبَلَ عَلِيٌّ نَحْوَ

“Peace be upon you, O Allah’s Messenger!
Will you allow me to be with you under the
cloak?”

My father replied, “Peace be upon you too, O
brother, successor, vicegerent, and bearer of
my Pennon. I allow you.”

Alī thus went with them under the cloak.

I then came towards the cloak and said,
“Peace be upon you father, O Allah’s
Messenger. Will you allow me to be with you
under the cloak?”

My father replied, “Peace be upon you too,
my daughter and part of my flesh. I allow
you.”

I thus went with them under the cloak.

When all of us sat under the cloak, my father
the Messenger of Allah took hold of the two
edges of the cloak with one hand, pointed to
the sky with his right hand, and prayed, “O
Allah! These are my true household, my
unique people, and my kin. Their flesh is my
flesh, their blood is my blood, whatever
causes them pain causes me pain too, and
whatever saddens them saddens me too. I am
at war against whoever wages war against
them, at peace with whoever is at peace with
them, the enemy of whoever shows enmity
towards them, and I love whoever loves
them. They are part of me and I am part of
them.

Therefore (please) shower on me and them
Your blessings, benedictions, mercy,
forgiveness, and pleasure; remove from them

الْكِسَاءِ وَقَالَ: ”السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ!
أَتَأْذَنُ لِي أَنْ أَكُونَ مَعَكُمْ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ؟“ قَالَ
لَهُ: ”وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا أَخِي وَيَا وَصِيِّي
وَخَلِيفَتِي وَصَاحِبَ لِي وَائِي! قَدْ أَذِنْتُ لَكَ.“
فَدَخَلَ عَلَيَّ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ.

ثُمَّ أَتَيْتُ نَحْوَ الْكِسَاءِ وَقُلْتُ: ”السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ
يَا أَبَتَاهُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! أَتَأْذَنُ لِي أَنْ أَكُونَ مَعَكُمْ
تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ؟“ قَالَ: ”وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا بِنْتِي
وَيَا بَضْعَتِي! قَدْ أَذِنْتُ لَكَ.“ فَدَخَلْتُ تَحْتَ
الْكِسَاءِ.

فَلَمَّا أَكْتَمَلْنَا جَمِيعًا تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ، أَخَذَ أَبِي
رَسُولُ اللَّهِ بِطَرْفِي الْكِسَاءِ، وَأَوْمَأَ بِيَدِهِ الْيُمْنِي
إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَقَالَ: ”اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ هَؤُلَاءِ أَهْلُ بَيْتِي
وَخَاصَّتِي وَحَامَّتِي؛ لَحْمُهُمْ لَحْمِي، وَدَمُهُمْ
دَمِي، يُؤَلِّمُنِي مَا يُؤَلِّمُهُمْ، وَيَحْزُنُنِي مَا
يَحْزُنُهُمْ. أَنَا حَرْبٌ لِمَنْ حَارَبَهُمْ، وَسَلْمٌ لِمَنْ
سَالَمَهُمْ، وَعَدُوٌّ لِمَنْ عَادَاهُمْ، وَمُحِبٌّ لِمَنْ
أَحَبَّهُمْ. إِنَّهُمْ مِنِّي، وَأَنَا مِنْهُمْ،

فَأَجْعَلْ صَلَوَاتِكَ، وَبَرَكَاتِكَ، وَرَحْمَتِكَ،
وَعُفْرَانِكَ، وَرِضْوَانِكَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَيْهِمْ، وَأَذْهَبْ

filth and purify them with thorough purifying.”

Meanwhile, Allah the Almighty and All-majestic said, “O My angels and inhabitants of My heavens! Verily, I have not created any well-established sky, extended land, glowing moon, shining sun, revolving planet, flowing ocean, or moving on ark except for the love of these five (individuals) who are now under the cloak.”

Gabriel the Honest Archangel asked, “O my Lord! Who are those under the cloak?”

The Almighty and All-majestic Lord answered, “They are the household of Prophethood and the core of the Message. They are namely Fāṭimah, her father, her husband, and her sons.”

“O my Lord,” Gabriel asked, “Will You allow me to descend to the earth to be the sixth of them?”

Allah the Almighty and All-majestic said, “Yes, I allow you.”

Gabriel the Honest Archangel descended, “Peace be upon you, O Allah’s Messenger!” he greeted, “The Most High and All-high (Lord) conveys to you His greeting, expresses His special greeting and honoring to you, and says, ‘By My Almightyness and My Majesty I take this oath: I have not created any well-established sky, extended land, glowing moon, shining sun, revolving planet, flowing ocean, or moving on ark except for your sake and for your love.’ He has then allowed me to join you (under this cloak). Will you, O Allah’s Messenger, allow me?”

عَنْهُمْ الرَّجْسَ وَطَهَّرَهُمْ تَطْهِيراً.”

فَقَالَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ: “يَا مَلَائِكَتِي! وَيَا سُكَّانَ سَمَاوَاتِي! إِنِّي مَا خَلَقْتُ سَمَاءً مَبْنِيَّةً، وَلَا أَرْضاً مَدْحِيَّةً، وَلَا قَمَراً مُنيراً، وَلَا شَمْساً مُضِيئةً، وَلَا فَلَكَاً يَدُورُ، وَلَا بَحَراً يَجْرِي، وَلَا فَلَكَاً يَسْرِي إِلَّا فِي مَحَبَّةِ هَؤُلَاءِ الْخَمْسَةِ الَّذِينَ هُمْ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ.”

فَقَالَ الْأَمِينُ جِبْرَائِيلُ: “يَا رَبِّ! وَمَنْ تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ؟” فَقَالَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ: “هُمْ أَهْلُ بَيْتِ النَّبُوءَةِ، وَمَعْدِنُ الرَّسَالَةِ. هُمْ فَاطِمَةُ وَأَبُوهَا وَبَعْلُهَا وَبَنُوهَا.” فَقَالَ جِبْرَائِيلُ: “يَا رَبِّ! أَتَأْذَنُ لِي أَنْ أَهْبِطَ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ لِأَكُونَ مَعَهُمْ سَادِساً؟” فَقَالَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ: “نَعَمْ، قَدْ أَذِنْتُ لَكَ.” فَهَبَطَ الْأَمِينُ جِبْرَائِيلُ وَقَالَ: “السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! الْأَعْلَى يُقْرِئُكَ السَّلَامَ، وَيَخُصُّكَ بِالتَّحِيَّةِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ، وَيَقُولُ لَكَ: ‘وَعِزَّتِي وَجَلَالِي، إِنِّي مَا خَلَقْتُ سَمَاءً مَبْنِيَّةً، وَلَا أَرْضاً مَدْحِيَّةً، وَلَا قَمَراً مُنيراً، وَلَا شَمْساً مُضِيئةً، وَلَا فَلَكَاً يَدُورُ، وَلَا بَحَراً يَجْرِي، وَلَا فَلَكَاً يَسْرِي إِلَّا لِأَجْلِكُمْ وَمَحَبَّتِكُمْ.’ وَقَدْ أَذِنَ

Allah's Messenger said, "Peace be upon you, O trustee of Allah's Revelations. Yes, I allow you."

So, Gabriel joined us under the cloak. He thus said to my father, "Allah has revealed to you saying, 'Allah only desires to keep away the uncleanness from you, O people of the House, and to purify you a thorough purifying.'"

`Alī then said to my father, "O Allah's Messenger! Please tell me; what is the value of this gathering of us under this cloak in the sight of Allah?"

The Prophet, peace be upon him and his Household, said, "I swear this by Him Who has sent me with the truth as Prophet and chosen me, as holding communion, to convey the Message; whenever the tale of this gathering of us is mentioned in an assembly of the people of the earth in which a group of our adherents and lover are present, the (divine) mercy shall certainly be poured down on them and the angels shall certainly surround them, asking forgiveness for them until they depart."

`Alī, peace be upon him, commented, "Then, by Allah I swear it; we have won. So have our adherents. I swear it by the Lord of the Ka`bah."

"O `Alī!" my father Allah's Messenger, peace be upon him and his Household, added, "I swear this by Him Who has sent me with the truth as Prophet and chosen me, as holding communion, to convey the Message; whenever the tale of this gathering of us is mentioned in an assembly of

لِي أَنْ أَدْخُلَ مَعَكُمْ، فَهَلْ تَأْذَنُ لِي يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ؟" فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ: "وَعَلَيْكَ السَّلَامُ يَا أَمِينَ وَحْيِ اللَّهِ. نَعَمْ، قَدْ أَذِنْتُ لَكَ."

فَدَخَلَ جَبْرَائِيلُ مَعَنَا تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ، فَقَالَ لِأَبِي: "إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ أَوْحَى إِلَيْكُمْ يَقُولُ: «إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيُذْهِبَ عَنْكُمُ الرِّجْسَ أَهْلَ الْبَيْتِ وَيُطَهِّرَكُمْ تَطْهِيرًا.»"

فَقَالَ عَلِيُّ لِأَبِي: "يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! أَخْبِرْنِي، مَا لَجُلُوسِنَا هَذَا تَحْتَ الْكِسَاءِ مِنَ الْفَضْلِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ؟" فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ: "وَالَّذِي بَعَثَنِي بِالْحَقِّ نَبِيًّا وَأَصْطَفَانِي بِالرِّسَالَةِ نَجِيًّا، مَا ذُكِرَ خَبْرُنَا هَذَا فِي مَحْفَلٍ مِنْ مَحَافِلِ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ، وَفِيهِ جَمْعٌ مِنْ شِيَعَتِنَا وَمُحِبِّينَا، إِلَّا وَتَزَلَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ الرَّحْمَةُ، وَحَفَّتْ بِهِمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ، وَأَسْتَغْفَرْتَ لَهُمْ، إِلَى أَنْ يَتَفَرَّقُوا."

فَقَالَ عَلِيُّ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: "إِذَا وَاللَّهِ فُزْنَا، وَفَازَ شِيَعَتُنَا، وَرَبُّ الْكَعْبَةِ."

فَقَالَ أَبِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ: "يَا عَلِيُّ! وَالَّذِي بَعَثَنِي بِالْحَقِّ نَبِيًّا وَأَصْطَفَانِي بِالرِّسَالَةِ نَجِيًّا، مَا ذُكِرَ خَبْرُنَا هَذَا فِي مَحْفَلٍ

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the people of the earth in which a group of our adherents and lover are present and among them there is a distressed one, Almighty Allah shall certainly release him from distress, or there is among them an aggrieved one, Almighty Allah shall certainly relieve him from grief, or there is among them one who needs a request to be granted, Almighty Allah shall certainly grant him his request.”

`Alī, peace be upon him, said, “Then, we have won and attained pleasure. I swear it by Allah. So have our adherents; they have won and attained pleasure in this world and in the Hereafter. I swear it by the Lord of the Ka`bah.”

مِن مَّحَافِلِ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ، وَفِيهِ جَمْعٌ مِّنْ
شِيَعَتِنَا وَمُحِبِّينَا، وَفِيهِمْ مَهْمُومٌ إِلَّا وَفَرَّجَ اللَّهُ
هَمَّهُ، وَلَا مَغْمُومٌ إِلَّا وَكَشَفَ اللَّهُ غَمَّهُ، وَلَا
طَالِبٌ حَاجَةً إِلَّا وَقَضَى اللَّهُ حَاجَتَهُ.“
فَقَالَ عَلِيٌّ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: ”إِذَا وَاللَّهِ فُزْنَا
وَسُعِدْنَا، وَكَذَلِكَ شِيَعَتُنَا فَازُوا وَسُعِدُوا فِي
الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ، وَرَبُّ الْكَعْبَةِ.“