

Hajj Seminar - Spiritual Dimension



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- Much has been written on this subject already:
 - ✦ Imam Sajjad AS's conversation with Shibli
 - ✦ The Spiritual Aspects of Haj (from Qur'an and Sunnah) translated by Sheikh Abbas Jaffer
 - ✦ On-line Lectures - <http://hajjguide.org/>
 - ✦ Dr. Shariati's book – Hajj
 - ✦ Resources provided by HAC

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- **First: Completing one of our Divine Obligations**

○ *وَ لِلّٰهِ عَلَى النَّاسِ حِجُّ الْبَيْتِ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَ اِلَيْهِ سَبِيْلًا وَ مَنْ كَفَرَ فَاِنَّ اللّٰهَ غَنِيٌّ عَنِ الْعَالَمِيْنَ*

- *And it is the duty of mankind toward Allah to make pilgrimage to the House for those who can afford the journey to it and should anyone renege on his obligation, Allah is indeed without need of the creatures. 3:97*

- **Second: Understanding the Philosophy of Life**

- We are all guests of Allah SWT

- ✦ Imam as-Sadiq AS: “Those who perform the Hajj and the ‘Umrah are the guests of Allah. If they ask Him for something, He will grant it to them; if they call upon Him then He will answer them; if they intercede (for others), their intercession will be accepted; if they remain quiet, then He will begin to speak to them; for every dirham which they spend (in their trip to the Hajj), they will receive one million dirhams in return.”

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- **Third: Prepare, Prepare, Prepare!**
 - Read, study, ask, inquire, be excited!
 - Prepare a will – shows we are not afraid of death
 - Imam as-Sadiq AS: “A person who dies while proceeding towards Makkah or while returning back (from Makkah) will be protected from the great distress of the Day of Resurrection.”
 - Understand the spiritual significances of all that we will be doing:
 - ✦ Wearing of the Ihram; Looking at the Ka’aba; Tawaf, Sa’ee; Taqsir; Stoning of Shaitan...etc.

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- Detach yourself from this world
 - ✦ Do not worry about how much money you spent
 - Imam as-Sadiq AS: “I have not seen a single thing which makes a person free from want (financially secure) quicker, nor which is more effective in removing poverty, than continuously performing the Hajj (year after year).”
 - ✦ Do not concern yourself with eating and shopping over there!
 - Imam as-Sadiq AS “Hajj is of two types: Hajj for the sake of Allah and Hajj for the sake of people. A person who performs Hajj for Allah, surely his reward will be with Allah - Paradise; and a person who performs Hajj for people, surely his reward will be with people (to give him) on the Day of Resurrection.”
 - ✦ Study and Learn about the Ahlul Bayt AS who are buried there
 - Imam as-Sadiq AS – One who visits Husein AS while he knows his status, it is as though he has visited Allah SWT upon His Throne.
 - ✦ Fast and take out Ghusl before you leave!
 - Imam as-Sadiq AS: “...fast for 3 days and take out Ghusl before leaving...”

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Advice from our 6th Imam AS:

- When you intend to go on Hajj pilgrimage, empty your heart for sake of Allah, Glorified is He, of any preoccupation, which makes you unmindful of Him. Entrust all your affairs to the Creator and rely on Him for what you do and you do not. Submit yourself to the divine fate, decision, and destiny. Say farewell to the world, comfort, and people.
- Discharge what you owe others. Do not rely on your provision, means of transportation, friends, physical power, youth, and wealth, for Allah may turn all of them as your enemies so that you will know there is no power or option but with Allah without whose assistance no one can succeed.
- Then be prepared for Hajj like one who has no hope of returning home. Behave well with the co-travelers. Observe prayer timings and the traditions of the Holy Prophet (saw), perform what is your duty on courtesy, patience, tolerance, gratitude, compassion, generosity, and self-sacrifice all the time.
- Then purify yourself with the water of repentance, put on the garment of truthfulness, sincerity, humbleness, and modesty.

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- Get rid of whatever keeps you away from Allah's remembrance and obedience to Him.
- Say Labbayk to Allah with pure, flawless, and chaste heart while you have laid hold on the firmest handle.
- Circumambulate the throne with your heart among the angels in the same way as you circumambulate the House with other Muslims.
- Perform Harwala (fast pace); that is escape from carnal desires with all your power and strength.
- Come out of your ignorance and wrongdoings when leaving Mecca for Mina and never desire what is not lawful or you or not worthy of.
- Confess of your wrongdoings in Arafat, renew your covenant with Allah, Exalted is He, on His Oneness and approach Him.
- Fear Him in Muzdalifah and make your soul ascend to heaven by climbing up the mountain.
- Cut the throat of carnal desires and greed by offering animal sacrifice.
- Throw away lust, miserliness, meanness, and all blameworthy acts through Ramy al-Jamarat.

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- Do away with the internal and external flaws when shaving your head.
- Enter the sanctuary of Allah, Exalted is He, by ridding yourself of all desires when entering the Sacred Precinct.
- Visit the House in order to honor its Owner and to know His glory and magnanimity.
- Caress the Black Stone while you are content with what He has given you and you have become humble before His greatness.
- Say farewell to everything save Allah in the last circumambulation.
- Purify your soul and prepare for meeting Allah by staying in Safa.
- Be fair-minded and dissolve yourself in Allah's Attributes when you are in Marwa.
- Be firm on and faithful to the pledge you have given to Allah by which you have performed your Hajj until the Day of Judgment.

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- Be it known to you that what the reason Allah has made Hajj obligatory and has allocated it to Himself by saying, “... and pilgrimage to the House is incumbent upon men for the sake of Allah, upon every one who is able to undertake the journey to it. (The Holy Quran; 3:97),” and the Holy Prophet (saw) has devised its rites in this way, is to remind us of death, grave, being raised to life, and the Day of Judgment – Misbah ash-Sharia sec. 21