

## Imam Hasan A.S. and the peace treaty with Muawiyah

An act of courage and foresight that saved Islam.

We commemorate the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Hasan A.S. on the 28<sup>th</sup> of month of Safar. Imam Hasan S/O Imam Ali A.S. assumed the leadership of Muslim Ummah after the assassination of his father, who was the ruler and Khalifa. However, Muawiyah ibn abu Sufyan challenged him and declared himself the Khalifa in Syria and prepared to invade Madinah. Imam Hasan assessed the situation and found that Muslims were not supporting him and even the commander of his army defected to join Muawiyah along with him a contingent of soldiers.

Fighting Muawiyah would have resulted in a blood bath of Muslims, loss of members of the family of the prophet (P) and loss of many Banu Hashim supporters in Madinah. Even safety of the city of Madinah was endangered. The very existence of the true faith of his grandfather was at stake. He therefore chose to sign a peace treaty with Muawiyah, which gave temporal power to Muawiyah but ensured peace and safety to Muslims, the family of the prophet, and allowed Imam Hasan to continue to teach and guide the Muslims the true tenets of Islam.

His actions were criticized by many Muslims of his time and they faulted him for signing the peace treaty.

Imam Hasan's action was, in fact, an act of courage, foresight and a means of safeguarding the religion of Islam.

### **What is courage?**

A scholar defined courage as "doing what is right at the given time and situation." it may be waging war or restraining from going to war. Speaking the truth, even to a tyrant ruler or choosing not to confront.

Imam Ali A.S., who did not demand his right of khilafah with sword, was an act of courage which saved Islam. That was the need of that time. For over 20 years he kept a low profile and stayed out of public life as much as possible.

Imam Hasan's act of courage was to prevent war and sign the peace treaty to save Islam.

Imam Husain's refusal to submit to Yazid was an act of his courage that saved Islam

If Imam Hasan A.S. were in Karbala in the situation of Imam Husain A.S. and faced Yazid, he would have taken the same stand as Imam Husain A.S. did.

The common denominator in the actions of all the Imams was to do what was right in their respective times to safeguard the deen of Allah, Islam. In every instance that meant sacrificing everything, including their lives.

Just imagine where the religion of Islam would be without the guidance and sacrifices of our Imams! Let us appreciate and thank the Imams from the family of the Prophet for what they did to bring us the pure religion of Islam and saved us from the clutches of Satan and his misguidance.

The true measure of gratitude for our Imams for their sacrifices would be to gain knowledge of their teachings and incorporate them in our lives.

Allahumma Salli Alaa Muhammadin wa Aali Muhammad.

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December 14, 2015