

Arbaeen offers for introducing Imam Hussein (AS) to the world and for laying the groundwork for the reappearance of the Imam Mahdi (AJ).

Furthermore, amidst the developments of the Era of The Imam Mahdi's Reappearance, people from across the globe will flock to Kufa to monitor the situation—for Kufa serves as the command headquarters of the Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his noble reappearance)—and justice- and freedom-seeking individuals from the farthest corners of the earth will gather there to reach his presence. Consequently, hospitality befitting His Holiness must be provided. Who is to host these people? The people of Iraq. And when should they practice for this? During Arbaeen.

Thus, during this magnificent event, the people of Iraq—through a spontaneous, grassroots initiative—extend unparalleled hospitality characterized

by excellence, dignity, and respect; this signifies preparation for a grand global reception and serves as a practice in hospitality for the era of the Reappearance of the Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his noble advent) and the welcoming of his companions.

We must also recognize that a prerequisite for the Imam's reappearance is the unity of the Muslims' hearts.

Regarding this, the Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his noble reappearance) states: "Had our Shi'as—may Allah grant them the success of obeying Him—united their hearts in fulfilling the covenant incumbent upon them, the blessing of meeting us would not have been delayed."²

Where else in the world have you seen the hearts of millions of Muslims united in a single place? "The love of Husayn unites us"—only the love of Husayn

(AS) can bring the hearts of Muslims together, and this serves as a prelude to the Reappearance of The Imam Mahdi.

Thus, the practice for the Reappearance is realized through Imam Husayn (AS). The entire world must come to know Husayn (AS) and join this throng of devotees each year, so that they may practice for The Imam Mahdi's Reappearance alongside him.

1- *Ilzam al-Nasib*, Vol. 2, p. 233

2- *Al-Ihtijaj*, Vol. 2, *Tawqi'* (Epistle) from The Imam Mahdi (AJ) to Sheikh Mufid, No. 360, p. 655



بنیاد و کمیسیون فرهنگی و تبلیغی



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A Practice for the Reappearance



At the onset of his uprising The Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his noble reappearance) will stand beside the Kaaba—between the *Rukn* (the Black Stone corner) and the *Maqam* (the Station of prophet Abraham)—and, introducing himself as the avenger of Imam Hussein’s (AS) blood, will proclaim:

“O people of the world! Know that I am the Imam al-Qa’im (the Rising Imam).”

“O people of the world! Know that I am the avenging sword.”

“O people of the world! Know that my grandfather, Husayn (AS), was martyred while thirsty.

O people of the world! Know that my grandfather, Husayn (AS), was cast upon the ground naked.

O people of the world! Know that my grandfather, Husayn (AS), was trampled upon out of malice.”¹

One might ask: What connection do the people of

the world have with Imam Husayn (AS) and the The Imam Mahdi?

Before addressing the question, it must be noted that the sacred figure of the Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his reappearance) is linked to Imam Hussein (AS) both by lineage and by a shared objective. Imam Hussein (AS) declared his goal to be the reformation of the Ummah of his grandfather, the Messenger of Allah (PBUH), as well as enjoining good and forbidding evil; similarly, the Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his reappearance) defines the purpose of his uprising as establishing justice and equity across the globe and the moral cultivation and reformation of humanity—the very same reformation for which Imam Hussein (AS) rose up.

In response to the question, it must be said: naturally, when an individual identifies himself by associating himself with a particular matter, that subject

is, in reality, already well-known to the audience. This manner in which God’s final Proof introduces himself upon his reappearance relies on a crucial prerequisite—namely, that Imam Hussein (AS) be known—and this recognition of Imam Hussein (AS) certainly requires a prior step: becoming globally known.

Many freedom seekers in the world have heard the name of Hussein bin Ali (AS) and have even made him the model for their movement. Although this is a very important and noteworthy issue, globalization will definitely not be achieved with this amount. Therefore, the first place that the human mind correctly understands is the great Arbaeen march, which was more or less held during the Baathist regime in Iraq, but after the fall of Saddam, this mourning was held very passionately on Arbaeen that year, and gradually Shiites from other

countries, including Iran and other Asian countries and even European countries, and Africans have established a significant presence there, and this population continues to grow year by year. This remarkable and unprecedented growth is undoubtedly one of the factors driving the global recognition of Imam Hussein (AS); despite the all-out efforts of hostile media to suppress news of this unique phenomenon and monumental event, it is becoming increasingly widespread across the globe, capturing the hearts of all free-spirited people worldwide. This path, forged by the footsteps of the pilgrims of Aba Abdillah al-Hussein (AS), will—God willing—gradually bring the arrogant powers of the world to their knees and pave the way for the establishment of a glorious Islamic civilization upon the reappearance of the Imam Mahdi. It is here that one realizes what an exceptional and unparalleled opportunity