

Imam Ali (AS): Manifestation of Freedom and Human Rights

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Freedom and human rights have had a high place in the thought of Imam Ali (a.s.). This subject originated in the the philosophy of the Qur'an that see man at the peak of greatness and originality. The Almighty God has honored man and made him a superior being ("Certainly We have honoured the Children of Adam, and carried them over land and sea, and provided them with all the good things, and preferred them with a complete preference over many of those We have created".Qur'an, Isra, 70) and placed a caliph on earth in such a way that even the angels were ordered to submit before him ("When your Lord said to the angels, 'Indeed I am going to set a viceroy on the earth'" And when We said to the angels, 'Prostrate before Adam", Qur'an Al-Baqarah, 30- 34). In Fact, Human in Quranic attitude is selective, which creates responsibility and this is the secret of humanity. Man is a valuable creature and a precious masterpiece among the creatures of the world, to the extent that somewhere in the Qur'an, after mentioning the various stages of God's creation, he congratulates himself ("So blessed is Allah, the best of creators", Qur'an Mominun, 14). The political society is composed of rulers and ruled. Political power has such facilities and tools by means of which the minority rulers can impose their will on the majority of the ruled by depriving them of their God-given freedom, so that the rulers, with the methods of authoritarian rule, domineering and humiliating the people and bring them to the yoke of slavery. On the other hand, in the absence of freedom in the atmosphere of terror and suffocation created by autocrats, intimidated and oppressed citizens trample on their dignity and freedom and become obedient and pure critics of such rulers. In the meantime, the examination of the political views, opinions and the leadership Sirah of Imam Ali (AS) clarify his emphasis on the necessity and mechanisms of protecting human freedom, and high dignity and confronting and fighting against tyranny.

In the political thought and the way of governance of Imam Ali (AS), inspired by the Quranic teachings and the prophetic Sirah, human is at

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the height of the greatness and dignity. Imam Ali (a.s.) especially during his reign, always worries that the dignity and freedom of self-determination that God has given to them are being violated by the government and the ruler. Therefore, Imam, in the position of action and opinion, dealt severely with any behavior and speech that took away this divine blessing. In his letters, sermons, and orders, Imam Ali (a.s.) on the one hand gave his officials due to the corruptive nature of power, protecting the honor and dignity of nobles, whether they are Muslims or non-Muslims, and even those who oppose them. Imam repeatedly emphasizes against any kind of exploitation, exclusion and humiliation of people, tyranny and domineering relationship and violation of citizens' rights. Imam Ali (a.s.) points out the strategic and fundamental point that the rulers do not have a position and role beyond the servants of the people. On the other hand, he reminds the people that they will never be subjugated and intimidated by the power and status of the rulers, and doing any action like flattering, and praising the rulers that is contrary to their freedom, self-respect, dignity, and God-given rights.

