Analysis of the Sentence "When the Rulers lie the Rain Stops..." in the Ḥadīth of Imam Riḍā (as)

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Abstract

Understanding the Ḥadīths of the infallible Imams (as), as the most important mission of the Ḥadīth scholars, is only possible through a comprehensive look at them and considering such matters as forming a Ḥadīth family, comparing with the Qurʾān, considering divine traditions, human experiences, and so on. Many of the epistemic errors and falls are due to the lack of a comprehensive look at the set of religious sources (Qurʾān, Ḥadīth and reason). This research with descriptive-analytic method, relying on library resources and human experiences, seeks to analyze the sentence "when the rulers lie the rain stops" in one of the narrations attributed to Imam Riḍā (as). This Ḥadīth, which is considered valid from chain transmitters aspect, identifies the lies of the rulers of the society as one of the causes of the non-rain.

This article seeks to answer the question of why so many people and beings who had no part in sin should be punished for the sin of a small group; can people be punished for the sin of others? Analyzing this narration by forming a Ḥadīth family and comparing it to the Qurʾān, gives the conclusion that everyone is only responsible for his own behavior and that no one's guilt is written on anyone else's. Therefore, if people suffer a hard livelihood due to the rulers' sin, it is because they did not perform their duty to the rulers and share in their unpleasant behavior by their approver silence.

Key words: Drought, Non-Rain, Liar rulers, People's Duty to Rulers.

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