



The Story of Kerbala:

Part 1: Introduction

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful ○

I swear by the mansions of the stars ○ And the promised day ○ And the bearer of witness and those against whom the witness is borne ○ Cursed be the makers of the pit ○ Of the fire (kept burning) with fuel ○ When they sat by it ○ And they were witnesses of what they did with the believers ○ And they did not take vengeance on them for aught except that they believed in Allah, the Mighty, the Praised ○ Whose is the kingdom of the heavens and the earth; and Allah is a Witness of all things ○ Surely (as for) those who persecute the believing men and the believing women, then do not repent, they shall have the chastisement of hell, and they shall have the chastisement of burning ○ Surely (as for) those who believe and do good, they shall have gardens beneath which rivers flow, that is the great achievement ○ Surely the might of your Lord is great ○ Surely He it is Who originates and reproduces ○ And He is the Forgiving, the Loving ○ Lord of the Throne, the Glorious ○ The great doer of what He will ○ Has not there come to you the story of the hosts ○ Of Firon and Samood? ○ Nay! those who disbelieve are in (the act of) giving the lie to the truth ○ And Allah encompasses them on every side ○ Nay! it is a glorious Quran ○ In a guarded tablet. ○

History is full of stories. Stories of adventure, stories of battle... stories that make you laugh and make you cry. There are a million stories and more, each sprung from a million stories. Yet, there are a few that stick in our minds and our hearts. There are some characters, some individuals whose struggles spark a recognition deep within us; who inspire a deep admiration and love, by the nobility of their words and deeds. People who stood up for what they believed in, no matter the cost. People who challenged the tyrants and oppressors. People who saw injustice, and acted against it... even if it meant their own demise.

There is one name which shines out above all others like a rising star. One story which is unparalleled in its beauty and tragedy, the characters unparalleled in their nobility and faith.

Just under 1400 years ago a man stood on the burning sands of the Arabian Desert. He had the blood of the Prophet (s) flowing through his veins, and the heart of Ali (a) in his depths. Since dawn, he and his followers had been engaged in a bloody and bitter battle. His small band of companions lay strewn about the sand dunes, decapitated, the rivers of their blood flowing, already making its way to immortality... the blood of his dear sons and nephews, his beloved brothers and friends. An army of thousands surrounded him, ready for his blood... he could hear his women and children screaming as his camp burned behind him, and he was powerless to go to their aid. He was all alone. Yet, he stood his ground.

He didn't surrender. He would only have to give one word to save himself and his loved ones. But instead, he stood for truth and justice, for Allah and Islam, and saved the world.

This is the story of Imam Hussein (a). Kerbala, 61 AH.

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6:164 Say: What! shall I seek a Lord other than Allah? And He is the Lord of all things; and no soul earns (evil) but against itself, and no bearer of burden shall bear the burden of another; then to your Lord is your return, so He will inform you of that in which you differed ○

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42:23 That is of which Allah gives the good news to His servants, (to) those who believe and do good deeds. Say: I do not ask of you any reward for it but love for my near relatives; and whoever earns good, We give him more of good therein; surely Allah is Forgiving, Grateful ○

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Habib Allah nabi Muhammad (s) is narrated to have said:

Hussein is from me, and I am from Hussein. Allah loves whoever loves Hussein. Hussein is a disciple of the disciples.

Rasoolullah (s) is narrated to have said, while carrying Hussein:

O Lord! I do love him, so love him.

Rasoolullah (s) is narrated to have said, concerning Hasan (as) and Hussein (as):

These are my two sons, whoever loves them loves me. And whoever dislikes them, he dislikes me.

Rasoolullah (s) took the arms of Hasan and Hussein and is narrated to have said:

Whoever loves these two and their father, he will certainly be with me on the Day of Judgement.

Rasoolullah (s) is narrated to have said:

Hasan and Hussein are my two sons. Whoever loves them, then he loves me. And whoever loves me, then Allah loves him. And whomsoever Allah loves, He will make them enter Paradise. And whoever dislikes them then dislikes me. And whoever dislikes me, then Allah dislikes him. And whomsoever Allah dislikes, He will throw him into hell, face downward.

33:33 And stay in your houses and do not display your finery like the displaying of the ignorance of yore; and keep up prayer, and pay the poor-rate, and obey Allah and His Apostle. Allah only desires to keep away the uncleanness from you, O people of the House! and to purify you a (thorough) purifying ○

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