

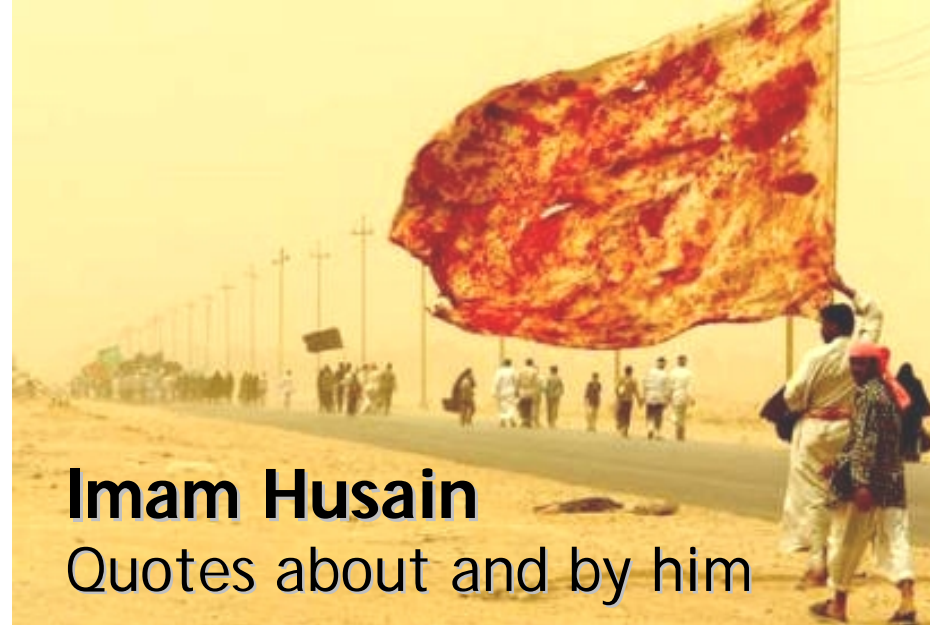


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## Imam Husain

### Quotes about and by him

#### What renowned persons have said about Imam Husain

**Thomas Carlyle** (*Scottish historian and essayist*): "The best lesson which we get from the tragedy of Cerebella is that Husain and his companions were rigid believers in God. They illustrated that the numerical superiority does not count when it comes to the truth and the falsehood. The victory of Husain, despite his minority, marvels me!"

**Edward Gibbon** (*English historian and member of parliament*): "In a distant age and climate, the tragic scene of the death of Hosein will awaken the sympathy of the coldest reader." (*The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, London, 1911, volume 5, p. 391-392)

**Mahatma Gandhi** (*Indian political and spiritual leader*): "I learnt from Hussein how to achieve victory while being oppressed."

**Charles Dickens** (*English novelist*): "If Husain had fought to quench his worldly desires...then I do not understand why his sister, wife, and children accompanied him. It stands to reason therefore, that he sacrificed purely for Islam."

**Edward G. Brown** (*Professor at the University of Cambridge*): "...a reminder of that blood-stained field of Karbala, where the grandson of the Apostle of God fell, at length, tortured by thirst, and surround by the bodies of his murdered kinsmen, has been at anytime since then, sufficient to evoke, even in the most lukewarm and the heedless, the deepest emotion, the most frantic grief, and an exaltation of spirit before which pain, danger, and death shrink to unconsidered trifles." (*A Literary History of Persia, London, 1919, p.227*)

**Sir William Muir** (*Scottish orientalist*): "The tragedy of Karbala decided not only the fate of the Caliphate, but also of Mohammadan kingdoms long after the Caliphate had waned and disappeared." (*Annals of the Early Caliphate, London, 1883, p.441-442*)

**Ignaz Goldziher** (*Hungarian orientalist*): "...Weeping and lamentation over the evils and persecutions suffered by the 'Alid family, and mourning for its martyrs: these are things from which loyal supporters of the cause cannot cease. 'More touching than the tears of the Shi'is' has even become an Arabic proverb." (*Introduction to Islamic Theology and Law, Princeton, 1981, p.179*)

**Dr. K. Sheldrake**: "Of that gallant band, male and female knew that the enemy forces around were implacable, and were not only ready to fight, but to kill. Denied even water for the children, they remained parched under the burning sun and scorching sands, yet not one faltered for a moment. Husain marched with his little company, not to glory, not to power of wealth, but to a supreme sacrifice, and every member bravely faced the greatest odds without flinching."

**Antoine Bara** (*Lebanese writer*): "No battle in the modern and past history of mankind has earned more sympathy and admiration as well as provided more lessons than the martyrdom of Husayn in the battle of Karbala." (*Husayn in Christian Ideology*)

## Immortal words by Imam Husain

"O God, what did he find who lost you, and what did he lose who found you?"

"Some people worship God to gain His gifts; this is the worship of the merchants. Some worship Him to avoid His punishment; this is the worship of the slaves. Some worship Him solely to show gratitude towards Him; this is the worship of the free!"

"Death with dignity is better than life with humiliation."

"God forbid that I should set my hand to the resignation of my right after a slavish manner. I have recourse to God from every tyrant that doth not believe in the day of account."

"O son, beware of wronging one who does not have a supporter other than Allah."

"Favors should be like the heavy rain that covers the pious as well as the sinful."

*On his way to Karbala*, "This world has changed and its good has turned tail. Nothing has remained from it except a thing that is as scanty as the leftover of a cup and a mean life that is like a noxious grazing. Have you not noticed that the right is ignored and the evil is not forbidden...People are certainly the slaves of this world; religion is but a slaver on their tongues. They turn it wherever their livelihood demands. If they are examined by misfortunes, the truly religious ones will be but a few."

