

The Sun dawned on a new day, the day of *Ashura*, carrying grief and sorrow. The steady cadence of *matam* increased, reaching its climax when Imam Husain's (SA) *aashiq*, Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin (TUS) recreated the *sajda* of Kerbala; a sight which mumineen, in thousands, traversed the globe to behold.

Imam Husain's (SA) *zikr* is perennial. Though the *shahadat* occurred fourteen centuries ago, it was known since the beginning of time. Each prophet had visited Kerbala, mourned Imam Husain (SA) and cursed his slayer. Maulana Ali (SA), while returning from the battle of *Siffeen*, stopped at Kerbala and mourned Imam Husain (SA). Maulana Ali (SA) marked the spot where Husain would be martyred. A man who was present there buried a bone to preserve the spot. After Imam Husain's (SA) *shahadat*, he went to confirm and found Husain's body lying at the very spot where he had buried the bone. Today, Aqa Maula (TUS) narrated the *shahadat* with such intensity of grief and sorrow that mumineen witnessed the events of Kerbala unfolding before their very eyes.

Imam Husain's (SA) *matam* will be even greater on the day of Qayamat, when Maulatana Fatema (SA), beholding the sight of Husain's body without his head, will utter a desperate cry and the entire presence will perform Imam Husain's (SA) *matam*. The *zikr* of Imam Husain (SA) is timeless. The past, present and the future revolve around it.

Mumineen are blessed with the opportunity to sit at Maula's (TUS) feet on this auspicious day. With tears and *matam*, they wash away the sins of their past. All three types of sins: those occurring between Allah and a mumin; those between Awliyaullah and a mumin; and those sins committed between mumineen, will be forgiven with the *shafa'at* and the intercession of Awliyaullah. Ultimately a mumin would be cleansed of all his sins.

Deriving the *barakaat* of Aqa Maula's (TUS) *dua mubarak* on this day, they also secure their future. Praying for their posterity, Aqa Maula (TUS) said, "Your children will grow up to be doctors, engineers, architects, lawyers, judges, teachers or businessmen. Some will graduate from Al-Jamea and serve as an Aamil or a Moallim. All will serve the Dawat in their own capacities." Thus Aqa Maula's (TUS) prayers have secured the *deen*, *duniya* and *akherat* of generations to come.

A mumin's past is redeemed, his present cannot be any better and his future will be even greater if he preserves the *barakaat* gained in these days by eschewing from all kinds of sins and adhering to the obedience of his Maula unconditionally. Moreover, he will be counted among the *Shohada* as Allah says in Quran, "Those who believe in Allah and his Rasul are the truthful and the *shohada*."

Filling their hearts, souls and minds with the ilm of Ale Mohammed (SA) and their destinies with the invaluable treasures of the *dua mubarak* of Dai-Zaman, mumineen will return to their respective places, as is aptly described by the *ayat* of this year, "Then, they returned with the *nemaat* and *fazl* of Allah."