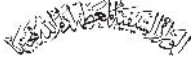


Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin Aqa (TUS) is the captain of the '*safinat unnajaat*,' the Ark of salvation and under his captaincy muminen sail forth towards the shores of heaven.

Rasulullah (SAW) compared his Ahle Bait to the safina of Nooh; those who board the ship are rescued and those who stay back drown. Aqa Maula (TUS) detailed the account of Nooh (AS) with his son, who, in spite of Nooh's entreaties, refused to board the safina and sought refuge on a mountain. A wave came in between, and Nooh's son perished.

Allah ordered Nooh to build the safina under his own eyes and with his '*wahye*.' People passing by would ridicule him. We find a direct parallel of this incident in Rasulullah's (SAW) era. When Rasulullah (SAW) invited the clan of Abdul Mutallib and asked them who would be his *wasi*, none came forward. Most were aware that becoming his *wasi* was a formidable task. Finally Rasulullah (SAW) called upon Maulana Ali (SA) who accepted. Appointing him as his *wasi*, Rasulullah (SAW) made his obedience obligatory on all. Abu lahab and his companions left, ridiculing Abu Talib, saying that his own son had been appointed above him.

The *Safina* of *Dawat* sails amidst waves that seem like mountains when they approach, but dissipate soon. Maula (TUS) enumerated how one giant wave after another lashed the *safina* of *Dawat* since the early history of Islam. No wave was bigger and more dangerous than that which struck the *safina* in Kerbala when in a span of hours Imam Husain (SA) along with his entire Ahle Bait were killed. Imam Husain's (SA) ship didn't drown in Kerbala, as some poets incorrectly express it. In fact, his son, Imam Ali Zainulabedeem (SA) survived the atrocities of the enemies. Since Imam Husain (SA) was sure about his *shahadat* in Kerbala, it made sense to send



his successor to a safe haven. Instead, Imam Husain (SA) brought him along to Kerbala and proved that Allah's will prevails over all.

During the seclusion of Imam, Maulatena Hurrat ul Maleka, with the order of the Imam, appointed the Dai as the captain of the ship and made incumbent on each to appoint a successor. The Dai calls mumineen towards *mohabbat* and *ikhlaas*, because it is love that secures everything and makes everything possible. Even in this world what works is love; it works where laws and rules fail.

The waaz ended with the *shahadat* of Imam Husain and the heart wrenching description of Maulatena Zainab's lamentation upon the dead body of Imam Husain (SA).