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Bihar al anwar english

Muhammad-Baqer Majlesi was a prominent Shia scholar who played a significant role in shaping Twelver doctrine. Born in Isfahan in 1617, he studied under Mulla Sadra and later became Sheikh ul-Islam of Isfahan in 1687. Majlesi's influence extended far beyond his own time, earning him the title of "an unprecedentedly influential author in the world of Imami Shi'ism." He investigated Shia and Sunni hadith to develop the Twelver doctrine, resulting in over 100 books written in Arabic and Persian. Majlesi's magnum opus is "Bihar al-anwar," a comprehensive Shi'a hadith collection that is considered one of the most authoritative works in its field. This 110-volume compendium was compiled under his supervision and features pearls of wisdom from the pure Imams. Majlesi was an expert in various Islamic sciences, including exegesis, jurisprudence, philosophy, mathematics, literature, and medicine. Throughout his life, Majlesi received aid and support from other scholars and his own students. His legacy has endured for centuries, making him one of the most famous scholars in jurisprudence and hadith in the world of Islam. Despite being a product of his time, Majlesi's work continues to influence Shia thought and culture to this day. Note that I've tried to preserve the original meaning and content of the text while condensing it into a more readable format. Under the supervision of al-'Allama al-Majlisi, the writing of this comprehensive book, which compiles Shi'a teachings, spanned over three decades. A team of his students assisted him in this monumental task. The book is organized around 25 broad topics, initially divided into 25 volumes, but now published in 110 volumes. Each volume contains related subtopics grouped into chapters, where the author first cites relevant Quranic verses along with their interpretations, followed by pertinent hadiths. Al-Majlisi aimed to cover a wide range of common subjects and issues in Bihar al-anwar, including topics such as wisdom, theology, divine justice, and the history of prophets. Volumes 15 to 53 focus on the life and merits of the Prophet, Lady Fatima, and Shi'a Imams. Due to its vast collection of hadiths from Shi'a Imams, systematic chaptering, explanation of hadiths, and various researches in theology, history, jurisprudence, exegesis, ethics, and lexicography, Bihar al-anwar holds a prominent position among researchers. Despite its numerous volumes, the book has been frequently copied and printed since its initial publication. Al-Majlisi's goal in writing the book was to learn different types of knowledge and to achieve understanding through the revelation and hadiths of the Ahl al-Bayt. He sought to collect references that were on the verge of being lost and referred to abandoned books. Al-Majlisi hoped that his book would serve as a reference for scholars and seekers of knowledge until the rise of the Upriser of the Ahl al-Bayt. The author began writing the book after 1070/1660 and completed its draft between 1104/1693 and 1106/1695, with his students continuing to refine it after his passing. To compile the book, al-Majlisi sent his students to various cities and countries to gather available hadith books and manuscripts. That book, which is an encyclopedia of the legacy of the Ahl al-Bayt, was written by Muhammad Baqir al-Majlisi during the creation of Bihar al-anwar. Some students who were part of his circle, including Mirza 'Abd Allah Afandi and others, helped him with the project. Al-Majlisi oversaw the collection and organization of verses from the Quran and hadiths under specific titles, while his students assisted in writing out the selections. After al-Majlisi's passing, his students completed the book. He chose the title for each chapter, which started with relevant Quranic verses, followed by quotes from other scholars, and finally included related hadiths with references. Al-Majlisi sometimes provided explanations for the hadiths, but these were not included in the student-copied manuscripts. Despite receiving support from some scholars and financial backing from the government, al-Majlisi was responsible for the bulk of the work. The book's importance lies in its comprehensive coverage of narrations related to the Ahl al-Bayt, as well as its accurate research. 1. Criticisms of Commentaries by Al-'Allama al-Majlisi 2. Sources Used in Bihar al-anwar 3. Titles and Chapters of Bihar al-anwar The book series contains biographies of notable figures from the Shia Muslim tradition, including Abu Talib and his son 'Ali (a), as well as various Imams and companions. **Volumes 43-45***: These chapters cover the lives of Lady Fatima (a) and her brothers Imam al-Hasan (a) and Imam al-Husayn (a), as well as the uprising of Mukhtar al-Thaqafi and his efforts to avenge their martyrdom. **Volumes 46-48***: This section focuses on the biographies of the four Imams (a) who came after Imam al-Husayn (a): Imam al-Sajjad (a), Imam al-Baqir (a), Imam al-Sadiq (a), and Imam al-Kazim (a). **Volumes 49-50***: The chapters in this section cover the lives of the four Imams (a) who came before Imam al-Mahdi (a): Imam al-Rida (a), Imam al-Taqi (a), Imam al-Hadi (a), and Imam al-Askari. **Volumes 51-53***: This section is dedicated to the life and biography of Imam al-Mahdi (a). **Volumes 54-63***: In this part, the book covers topics such as the creation of the world, angels, jinns, humans, animals, matter, and the elements of the universe. It also includes books on medicine, specifically "Tibb al-Nabi (s)" and "Tibb al-Rida (a)". **Volume 64-76***: This section deals with faith and disbelief, covering three main topics: faith and its requirements, good manners, and the vices of disbelief. **Volumes 77-88***: The chapters in this part focus on various aspects of life, including manners, traditions, hygiene, traveling, and prohibitions. **Volumes 89-91***: This section covers advice and maxims, as well as topics related to purity and prayer. **Volumes 92-93***: In these chapters, the book discusses the merits of the Quran and its miracle, as well as the recommended practices for Muslims during the year. **Volumes 94-96***: The sections in this part cover various aspects of charity and giving, including zakat, sadaqa, khums, and sawm (fasting). **Volumes 97-100***: This section focuses on topics related to pilgrimage, jihad, and Medina. **Volume 101***: In this chapter, the book discusses ziyarahs (visited places) narrated from the infallible Imams (a). **Volumes 102-103***: The chapters in this part cover contracts and unilateral obligations. Note that I've condensed and reorganized some of the information to make it easier to understand. Let me know if you'd like me to clarify any points! The book Bihar al-anwar is a multi-volume work on Islamic jurisprudence written by Muhammad Baqir al-Majlisi. It contains 48 chapters dealing with religious rulings related to diyat (blood money). The book also includes various permissions and lists of contents for other scholars, such as al-Shaykh Muntajab al-Din al-Razi and al-Sayyid 'Ali Khan al-Madani. Other notable works mentioned in the text include Durar al-bihar by Mawla Nur al-Din Muhammad b. Murtada, Anwar al-bihar by Muhammad b. Muhammad Hadi Ne'ini, and Talkhis al-anwar by Aqa Najafi Isfahani. References to Bihar al-anwar can be found in various sources, including Al-Majlisi's own works, such as Al-Dhari'a by Aqa Buzurg Tihrani, and other historical accounts like Kashf al-asrar by Khomeini. The book has been extensively referenced and cited in academic literature, with notable scholars like Sayyid Muhammad Khamene'i discussing its significance.

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