

ZIARATS IN IRAQ –A Brief Guide for Visitors

I. NAJAF

1) Within the zarih (sanctum) are the graves of :

a) Imam Ali ibne abi Talib(a.s) (b) Prophet Nooh (a.s) (c) Prophet Adam (a.s)

(2) In the Sahan (courtyard) are the following:

(a) the grave of **Allama Hilli**(a.r): Originally from the village of Hilla at the outskirts of Najaf. He became a Mujtahid before he was baligh. He was one of the greatest “Ulema”

(b) The grave of **Muqaddas Ardabeli** (a.r). He once went to get water to perform wudhoo from a well. Instead of the water he drew a treasure. He put it back saying that he wanted water for wudhoo, not treasures. His name is Mullah Ahmed bin Mohamed.

(c) Prayer place of **Imam Zain ul abedeen**(a.s): This is the place where he (a.s)used to spend hours in prayers.

(d) The grave of Ayatollah Sayyed Abul Qasim **al- Khoei**(a.r): He used to teach here.

(3) Across the road from the rauza is the madressa of Shaykh Toosi(a.r), the founder of the hawza of najaf and the author of 2 of our 4 basic books of hadith (Al-istibsar and Tehdheebul ehkam). Shaykh is buried in his madressa.

(4) A little away from the Shrine is the grave of **Sayyed Muhsin al-Hakim**,our recent Marja

(5) **Wadi us Salam**

(a) Tomb of **Prophet Hud** (a.s) :The people of his time were very rich and due to their wealth they were very powerful, but worshipped idols. Prophet Hud(as) repeatedly warned them to give up worshipping the idols and to turn towards one God but they did not listen. Allah (swt) punished them and they were all killed except Prophet Hood A.S. and a few believers.

(b)Tomb of **Prophet Saleh** (a.s): He was sent to the people of Thamood. As a miracle, a she camel was made to come out of a mountain. The people were warned against killing her, but they killed her. Thus they were destroyed by fires and earthquakes

(c)Makam e Saheb ul Asr(a.f.t.s): It is said that Imam (a.f.t.s) visits this place.

(d) Makam e Imam Ja'far as Sadiq(a.s)

(e) Tomb of Shaheed Ayatullah Baqir as-Sadr(a.r). (martyred with sister Bintul Huda by Saddam)

(6) Tomb of Hazrat **Kumail bin Ziyad**(a.r) and Hazrat **Rushayd Hajari**(a.r):

Originally from Yemen, **Hazrat Kumail(a.r)** was a companion of Imam Ali (a.s). Imam Ali (a.s) taught him the famous dua e Kumail that is recited on every Friday eve. Imam had also told him that in end of times, his tomb will be surrounded by houses bearing ‘Antenna’, a sign of shaitan. When Hajjaj bin Yusuf Thaqafi started hunting down the companions and shia of Ali(a.s), Hazrat Kumail went into hiding. In order to flush him out, Hajjaj started persecuting the family and tribe of Hazrat Kumail. When Hazrat Kumail surrendered himself, Hajjaj had him beheaded.

Hazrat Rushayd (a.r) was a companion of Imam Ali (a.s). Imam Ali(a.s) had pointed out to him the palm tree on which he would be crucified. When Rushayd was arrested, he told Ubaidullah bin Ziyad that Imam had foretold that his(Rushayd’s) hands, feet & tongue would be cut. In order to prove Imam wrong, Ubaidullah ordered his hands and feet cut, while sparing his tongue. Thus when his hands and feet were cut and he was taken out of the palace, he started relating to the people the events which were to happen till Qayamat. Thus Ubaidullah was forced to have his tongue cut off.

(8) MASJID-E-HANNAANA: This Masjid is between Kufa and Najaf. It is said that when (a.s) ‘Janaza’ of Imam Ali(a.s) was being taken to Najaf, they passed near this Masjid. At that time the pillars of this Masjid inclined in respect.

It is narrated that Hannan used to be a Church. After Imam Hussain(a.s) was martyred, and the caravan of prisoners of Ahle bayt and holy heads of the shuhada passed by this church. The priest noticed that the face of Imam Hussein(a.s) was radiating noor. He requested to be allowed to keep the head for one night. The priest was moved with the reply and he immediately accepted Islam.

(9) MASJID-E-SAHLA

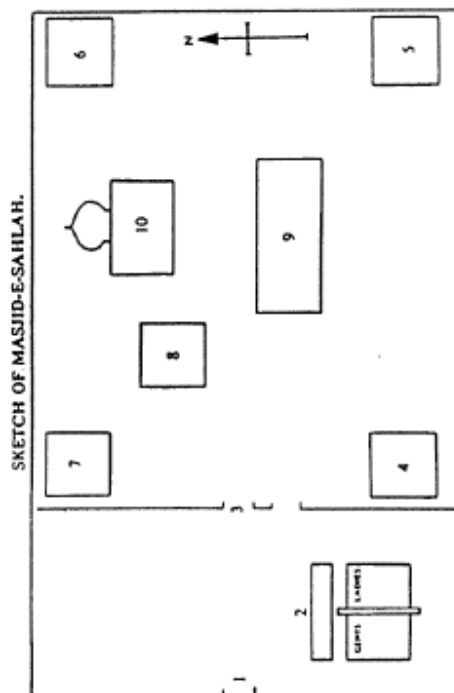
It is about 2 miles from Masjide Kufa. Riwayats show that every Prophet has recited salat here. After Masjide Kufa, this mosque has the greatest excellence. A 2 rakat salat is recommended between maghrib and Isha. Then ask for hajat and your sorrow will be relieved. The best time to visit it is on Wednesday eve, between maghrib and isha.

Salats and duas are to be recited at the following places.

- i Makam-e-Hazrat Ibrahim(a.s) – the place where Nabi ibraheem had made a stop.
- ii Makam-e-Hazrat Idris(a.s)
- iii Makam-e-Hazrat Khizr(a.s)
- iv Makam-e-Saleheen(a.s)
- v Middle of the mosque, also known as Makam-e-Imam Zainul Abedeen(a.s)
- vi Makam-e-Imam Hujjat(a.t.f.s)

SKETCH OF MASJID-E-SAHLA

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. - General entrance | 06. - Makam-e-Hazrat Idris A.S. |
| 2. - Place for Wadhu | 07. - Makam-e-Hazrat Khizer A.S. |
| 3. - Main entrance | 08. - Makam-e-Imam Zainul Abedeen A.S. |
| 4. - Makam-e-Saleheen | 09. - Makam-e-Imam Jaffer Sadiq A.S. |
| 5. - Makam-e-Hazrat Ibrahim A.S. | 10. - Makam-e-Imam Hujjat A.S. |



(10) Masjid e Sa'sa bin Sauhan(a.r): It is located at the southwest part of Masjid Sahla. A special companion of Ameerul mo'mineen, Imam had praised his oratory, calling him khatib e shahshah. Imam also praised him for simple living, still giving great assistance. Was present at the burial of Imam, and recited a majlis for Imam after the burial. Thus he was the first majlis reciter for Ameerul momineen, with an esteemed audience of Hasnayn (a.s). It is reported that Imam e Zamana has been seen at this mosque. It is believed that the head of Imam Hussein A.S. was kept here when the heads of the Shoahada and the prisoners were going from Kerbala to Damascus via Kufa.

(11) Masjid Zaid bin Sauhan(a.r):A special companion of Ameerul Mo'mineen, martyred in the battle of Jamal.

II. KARBALA

Kerbala-e-Moa'lla, is situated six miles from Baghdad.

(1) In the centre of the city is the sacred Rauza of **Imam Hussein(a.s)**. Within the blessed Zarih are the graves of Imam Hussein(a.s), his sons **Ali Akbar(a.s)** and **Ali Asgar(a.s)**. Under the Dome and just touching the Zaree of our Imam is a piece of red coloured stone where we are told that we should recite two rakaat salaah and ask for our Haajat which Inshallah will be fulfilled.

(b)The Zarih of **Ganj e shuhada** is in the same hall as the main zarih. It is said that janabe **Qasim**, s/o Imam Hasan(a.s) is also buried in Ganj e shuhada. Within the rauza are the graves of **Habib ibne Mazahir** and Hazrat **Ibraheem** bin Musa Kadhim (At one time he was the governor of Yemen. He was the grandfather of Sayed Murtaza A.R. and too was martyred by an Abbaside Caliph).

(c) Qatlagah: is the exact spot in the haram premises, where the Imam was beheaded.

(2) Rauza of **Hazrat Abbas(a.s)**. Under the Rauza of Hazrat Abbas A.S. there is a river running and is called Al-Qama. It is said that a King by the name of Al-Qama made a stop at Kerbala and became very sad. On enquiry, he learnt that this place is called Kerbala and one of the son's of Prophet Muhammad (SWT) and his family would be martyred here on the day of Ashura and they will be denied water of the river Euphrates or Furat. The king felt sorry and ordered that a canal be dug from the river Euphrates to the place where now stands the Rauza of Hazrat Abbas A.S.

(3) Tilla –e Zainabiya: This is a small hillock facing the Rauza of Imam Hussein A.S. and it is from this hill that she witnessed the fight of her beloved brother

(4) Khaimagah; This is just behind Tille-Zainabia. Here all the tents of Imam Hussein A.S., his family and companions were pitched.

(5) Kafil Abbas: Kafil Abbas means the arm of Hazrat Abbas A.S. There were two spots near by outside the haram of Hazrat Abbas(a.s). One was destroyed during the Persian Gulf war and the second one is still there.

(6) Maqame Fizza: where Bibi fizza had summomned a lion.

(7) Maqame Jinn: where Ja'far, the head jinn was waiting with an army to help Imam.

(8) the place where Imam Hussain (a.s) held a **meeting** with Umar bin Saad

(9) Makame Ali akber: the place where Ali akber (a.s) was martyred

(10) **Makame Ali Asghar**; the place where Ali Asgar was martyred while in the arms of Imam Hussain(a.s)

(11) Makame **Ameerul Mo'mineen**: a place where Imam Ali (as) had come.

(12) Makame **Sahibuzzaman** & place where Imam Hussain had stopped prior to entering Karbala.

(13) Garden of **6th Imam**: the place where 6th Imam used to reside when he visited Karbala.

OUTSIDE OF KARBALA

(1) Hazrat **Hurr**(a.s): His tomb is 3 miles away from the city of Karbala.

(2) Rauza of **Aun ibne Ali Ibne Abi talib**.(some people say this is the rauza of the son of Janabe Zainab binte Ali(s.a)

(3) Rauza of **Mohammad and Ibraheem**: the two sons of Hazrat Muslim Bin Aqeel(a.s).They are buried in the Musayyab area.

III. KUFA

(1) **Masjide Kufa**: It is said that a thousand Prophets have performed Salaat here. In the same complex are graves of Janabe Muslim bin Aqeel(a.s) and Janabe Hani bin Urwah(a.r)(Hazrat Muslim A.S. stayed at Hani's House when he arrived in Kufa) and Janabe Mukhtar Thaqafi

(Namaze talabil Hawaej at Masjide Koofa: 2 rakat: Hamd,4 Quls, Nasr, Qadr, A'ala. After salam recite tasbihe Zahra, ask for hajat).

Salats and duas are recited at the following places:-

i. Baab e feel: It is the back door, better to enter from here.

ii. 4th pillar: Makam e Hazrat Ibrahim(a.s):

iii. Makam e Dakkatul(platform) Qadha: (Court of Imam Ali (a.s), where he conducted his daily court.

iv bayt u tasht: It is related that while a girl was bathing, a leech entered her womb. It sucked her blood and became so fat that people suspected this unmarried girl to be pregnant. When the case was brought before Imam Ali (as), he instructed her to sit a large bowl (tasht) of black mud. Smelling the mud, the leech came out of the girl's womb. Our 6th Imam used to recite 2 rakat salat at bayt u tasht.

v. Makame Risalat Ma'ab: in the middle of the masjid. Also called dakkatul Me'raj – the place where the Prophet(s.a.w.a) recited 2 rakat salat, during the Me'raj trip

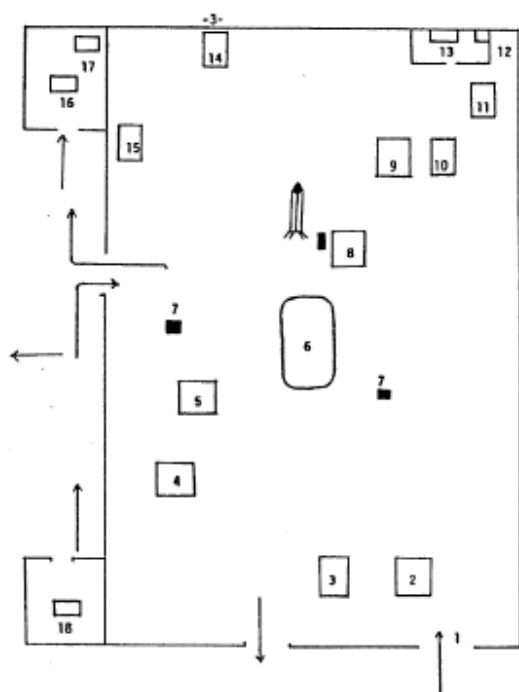
vi: 7th pillar: A place of great excellence. This is makame Ameerul momineen where Imam Ali (as) used to pray ,60,000+ angels descend every night, such that no angel comes twice+ the place where Janabe Adam was inspired to do tawbah+ place of worship of Nabi Ibraheem (a.s).

vii 5th pillar: Makame Jibraeel, and the place of worship of Nabi Ibraheem (a.s)

viii: 3rd pillar: makame 4th Imam .ix: Babul Faraj: makame Nooh . It is said that Nabi Nooh's ark stood in this place.ix: Mehrab e Imam Ali(as)(place where he used to lead prayers& where he was struck with the sword xi: dakkat(platform) Imam Sadiq (a.s) xii: Suffa of Ameerul Momineen:

SKETCH OF MASJID-E-KUFA

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. - Main entrance | 10. - Makam-e-Jibra'e'l A.S. |
| 2. - Makam-e-Hazrat Ibrahim A.S. | 11. - Makam-e-Imam jaffer Sadiq A.S. |
| 3. - Makam-e-Hazrat Khizer A.S. | 12. - Makam-e-Imam Zainul Abedeen A.S. |
| 4. - Place of Miracle | 13. - Makam-e-Hazrat Nooh A.S.. |
| 5. - Court of Hazrat Imam Ali A.S. | 14. - Shahadat Place of Imam Ali A.S. |
| 6. - Well of Hazrat Nooh A.S. | 15. - Night prayers place of Imam Ali A.S. |
| 7. - Entrance to the well | 16. - Rauza of Hazrat Muslim Bin Aqil A.S.. |
| 8. - Makam-e-Hazrat Muhammad A.S. | 17. - Mazaar of Hazrat Mukhtar A.R. |
| 9. - Makam-e-Hazrat Adam A.S. | 18. - Mazaar of Hazrat Hani ibne Urwa A.R. |



(2) Rauza of **Khadija binte Imam Ali**(a.s) in Kufa: the sister of Janabe Abbas(a.s). It is across the road

(3) On the way to Imam's house from masjid kufa are the foundations of **Darul Amara**(the palace the governors of kufa). It was demolished on the orders of Abdul Malik bin Marwan. When Abdul Malik was seated on the throne, the head of Mo'sab bin Zubair(s/o Zubair of the Zubair-Talha pair) was brought before him, in a plate. Seeing this a man in the court said: I saw that Ubaidullah bin ziyad was seated here and the head of Imam Hussain (a.s) was brought before him, then Mukhtar was seated here and the head of Ubaidullah was brought before him, then Mo'sab bin Zubair was seated here and the head of Mukhtar was brought before him, Now u are seated here and Mo'sab's head is before u. Hearing this Abdulmalik got so scared that he ordered the Darul Amara to be demolished.

(4) Behind Masjid-e-Kufa is **Bayt Ali**(a.s). Inside the house there is a place where Imam Ali (a.s). lay on his deathbed in the presence of his family members. There is also a room where it is said that Imam Ali a.s was given Ghusl, and a well from which water for his ghushl is supposed to have come.

(5) Rauza of **Maitham e Tammar**: He was a Persian and a close companion & business partner(running a date shop) of Imam Ali A.S. Imam had showed him the palm tree on which he would be hanged, thus he took special care of the tree. He and Mukhtar Thaqafi were imprisoned together .He told Mukhtar: U will be set free and will avenge the blood of Imam Hussain (a.s) and kill those who will kill us.

It is said that a wealthy businessman came to Najaf with his son who had blood cancer. He visited Imam Ali's(a.s)rauza in Najaf and pledged that if his son is cured then he will get any kind of work to be done at the Imam'sRauza. With the blessings of Allah (SWT) and the dua of Imam Ali (a.s), his son recovered completely. So he asked the Mutavallis if there is any work that has to be done or completed at the Imam.s Rauza. At night the Mutavalli dreamt that Imam Ali told him that do not do any work in my Rauza, but instead, build the Rauza of Maytham's properly because it is in very bad shape. So the work was done on Maytham's Rauza.

IV. KADHMAIN

It is a twin city of Baghdad and just a bridge between them separates these two cities.

(1) Rauza of Kadhmain which houses

(a) The blessed graves of Imam **Musa bin Kadhim**(a.s) & Imam **Muhammad Taqi** (a.s)

(b) Tomb of **Shaykh Mufeed**: His real name is Muhammad bin Numan. Even our 12th Imam(atfs) addressed him in the name of 'Mufeed'. The marsia written on his grave is the one recited by the 12th Imam when Shaykh Mufeed died.

(c)Tomb of **Khwaja Nasiruddin toosi**(a.r): It is narrated that our 12th Imam atfs taught him Dua-e-Tawassul in a dream.

(2)Tomb of **Sayyed Murtadha**: he was a student of Sheikh Mufeed(a.r), & was given the title of Alam-ul-huda(the flag of guidance) by Imam Ali (a.s)

(3)Tomb of **Sayyed Razi** (a.r): He is the compiler of Nahj ul Balagha. He too was the student of Sheikh Mufeed A.R.

(4) Tomb of Sayyed **Ismail Safruddin**(a.r) :He too was a great scholar and wrote many books.

V. SAMARRAH /Balad

Samarrah used to be the capital of Iraq and is situated on the banks of river Tigris. The old city has, however, turned into ruins. The new city is located around the Rauza that contains four tombs.

Tomb of Imam Ali Naqi(as) He is our 10th Imam and he was the one that completed the rules of Taqlid to prepare believers for the occultation of 12th Imam.

Tomb of **Imam Hassan Askari(as)**

Bibi Hakima Khatoon. She taught Bibi Nargis Khatun A.S. about the rules of religion. She was present when the 12th Imam was born. When our 11th Imam was put in jail, Bibi Hakima Khatun A.S.

used to answer all the masael, which the Shia Umah used to ask her. She was a very learned and pious lady.

Bibi Nargis Khatoon. She was a princess from Roman who became a Muslim after seeing Bibi Fatema Zehra A.S. and the Holy Prophet (SAW) in her dream. She was the mother of our 12th Imam Mahdi A.S.

Makam Ghaibat of 12th Imam(sirdab)

This is in the basement of the house of the 11th Imam A.S. where the shrine now stands. The entrance has been opened from the courtyard. It is said that this was the house of Bibi Nargis and our 12th Imam was last seen here.

Syed Muhammed Ibne Imam Ali Naqi (as) He was the son of Imam Ali Naqi A.S. the place where his Rauza is used to be the cemetery of Shias. During the time of Hajjaj bin Yusuf thousands of shias were imprisoned here and when they died were buried there. No Shia was allowed to leave the area and because of the torment thousands of them died.

This Rauza is very famous for couples who come to make a Nadr (wish) that they be blessed with a child. It is in Balad a small village near samarrah

VI. BAGHDAD

MASJID-E-BORATHA This Masjid is between Khademain and Baghdad and it is a very famous Masjid.

It is narrated that this was a church before at the time of Imam Ali A.S. and when the Imam A.S. returned from the battle of Naherawan, the Christian priest invited our Imam to rest here, which he did for three days.

During his stay he saw the people of the church go out very far to fetch water and Imam Ali A.S. asked the priest why he does not dig a well in the church compound? The priest replied, that they tried but got salt water. Imam Ali A.S. just hit the ground with his heel and water gushed out which was cold and sweet. There is a black stone at this miracle place. Also there is a white stone with Ayat-tul-Kursi written on it.

Tomb of Uthman Bin Saeed. He was the first Chief Deputy of our 12th Imam A.S. who used to be in contact with him. He was also a close companion of our 10th and 11th Imam A.S.

Tomb of Mohammed Bin Uthman. He was the son of Hazrat Uthman Bin Saeed

Tomb of Husayn Bin Rooh. He was the third deputy of our 12th Imam A.S.

Tomb of Ali Bin Mohammed. He was the fourth and the last of the deputies of our 12th Imam A.S. He received a letter (Tauqih) from our Imam telling him that there would be no more deputies after his death. & Ulema were to be consulted.

Tomb of Qamber. During the time of Imam Ali A.S. he was a slave and the Imam bought him and freed him.

Tomb of Muhammed Yakub Al Kulayni :He was a famous narrator of hadiths of the Prophet of Allah (SAW) and the Imams.

References: Mafatih al Jinan , Nafasul Mahmoom(shaykh Abbas Qummi), Hadiyatuz zaereen,
Hajj.org | Ziaraat.org | Ziaraat.Com

More Details/Audio /Info at: Duas.org | Islamic-laws.com/Ulema.htm | Eternal-Investment.org | al-islam.org | Ziaraat.Com