

*The Manners of Ali (as),  
The Commander of the Faithful*

Ibn Hatam al-Ameli

**Abstract:** *The present article is a selection of the manners and characteristics of Amir al-Mo'meneen Ali (as) which have been narrated from one of his companions: Habbat ibn Jovain al-Orani. The narration has been mentioned by ibn Hatam al-Ameli in al-Dor al-Nazim<sup>1</sup>:*

**Keywords:** *Ali, Manners, ethics*

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<sup>1</sup> Ibn Hatam al-Ameli, *Al-Dor Al-Nazim fi Manaqib Al-A'eema Al-lahamim*, p.236, some parts of the narration have been omitted.

Translator:Mina Oskouei

## 12. *Safinah*, No.8

- ❖ His happiness was apparent in his face and his sorrow was buried in his heart.
- ❖ He was the most patient and the best at controlling his desires.
- ❖ He had no grudge and no envy.
- ❖ He was neither aggressive (while speaking) nor said rude words.
- ❖ He wasn't on the lookout for other peoples shortcomings and did not back-bite.
- ❖ He disliked gossiping.
- ❖ He had great sorrows and deep sadness's.
- ❖ He was decent and always had God in mind.
- ❖ He was patient and thankful and (was so high) that no one could understand his great character.
- ❖ He was satisfied (with the fact) that he was needy.
- ❖ He was good-tempered and generous to all.
- ❖ He had great tolerance and was not abusive.
- ❖ If he laughed he did not surpass the limits of decency.
- ❖ When he became angry he would not rush.
- ❖ His laughter was only a smile, his questions were for learning and his references were for understanding.
- ❖ His knowledge was much, his patience was great and his kindnesses were numerous.
- ❖ He was not ungenerous; he did not become weary and did not make fun of anyone.
- ❖ He did not deviate from the truth in judgment and did not oppose his knowledge.
- ❖ Accompanying him was sweeter than honey.

- ❖ He was neither greedy nor violent.
- ❖ He donated without turning to extravagancy.
- ❖ He was just while angry.
- ❖ If you accompanied him he was a sincere friend.
- ❖ His love was pure and he was loyal to his vows and fulfilled his promises.
- ❖ He was satisfied with God and disobeyed his desires.
- ❖ He did not harm those who hurt him.
- ❖ He did not interfere with the things which were not related to him.
- ❖ He had great merits and honesty.
- ❖ He ate very little and in benefiting from the world, he was satisfied with the least of it.
- ❖ He had no wickedness and his blessings were extreme.
- ❖ If he was asked to give something away, he donated it.
- ❖ If he was offended, he forgave.
- ❖ If he was abandoned, he rejoined.
- ❖ He shared his knowledge with people.
- ❖ He welcomed God's tests with the same extent that others were afraid of them.
- ❖ He always ordered to (obey) the truth and spoke likewise.
- ❖ He sped on the path of Allah.
- ❖ He knew himself and suppressed his internal desires.
- ❖ He was the helper of God ('s religion), the supporter of the faithful and the shelter of the Muslims.
- ❖ He hurried in whatever related to God.
- ❖ Greed did not influence his heart.

#### 14. *Safinah*, No.8

- ❖ Nothing prevented him from implementing God's orders.
- ❖ He always invited people toward God and did what was right.
- ❖ He was very wise and sensible.
- ❖ He didn't swear and was not foolish.
- ❖ He took distance from the evil-doers.
- ❖ He was the companion of truth, He sped to help the weak and he aided the suppressed.
- ❖ He did not reveal what was hidden and he did not expose the secrets.
- ❖ He protested little.
- ❖ If he saw goodness he would speak of it and if he saw badness he would not reveal it.
- ❖ He accepted the excuses of others.
- ❖ He accepted advice and assisted the incapable.
- ❖ He had good thoughts about other people.
- ❖ Because of Allah, he loved with understanding and knowledge.
- ❖ Because of Allah, he cut (bad) relationships with prudence and (good) excuse.
- ❖ Accompanying him brought happiness.
- ❖ Knowledge and wisdom had made him pure; like fire which purifies iron.
- ❖ He was a reminder for the learned and a teacher for the ignorant.
- ❖ He regarded all efforts more praiseworthy than his own and every soul more pure than his own.
- ❖ He had knowledge of the unknown (*elm al-ghaib*) and was occupied with sorrow.

- ❖ He did not bow except for God.
- ❖ He loved God and made great effort to satisfy Him.
- ❖ Did not take revenge out of his own desire.
- ❖ He accompanied the poor, supported the righteous, helped the foreigners, he was like a father for orphans and like a husband for the widows.
- ❖ His heart was filled with the lights of guidance.
- ❖ Difficult deeds were easy at his hand.
- ❖ He was the light of darkness.
- ❖ Knowledge was the fruit of his heart.

***Yes! I swear to God, these were the manners of Ali (as).***