

## **If attending gatherings in Muharram is for Imam Hussain (as) and not Allah SWT, then how can this be rewarded (by Allah SWT)?**

### **Explaining the question:**

When a person cries for Imam Hussain (as), it's mainly due to emotions and feeling sad for the tragic incident of Karbala and in no way it's related to Allah SWT. By having this in mind, then how can anyone gain rewards (thawab) for crying and mourning for Imam Hussain (as) and attending such gatherings?

### **Answer:**

Firstly it must be mentioned that, having intention to get closer to Allah SWT (Qurbatan ilaAllah) is not a criteria for every rewarding act. In fact there are some acts which are rewarded by Allah SWT without the intention (of course without committing any haram act).

In the Holy Quran we read:

***"It is not for the townsfolk of Al-Madinah and for those around them of the wandering Arabs so stay behind the messenger of Allah and prefer their lives to his life. That is because neither thirst nor toil nor hunger afflicteth them in the way of Allah, nor step they any step that angereth the disbelievers, nor gain they from the enemy a gain, but a good deed is recorded for them therefor. Lo! Allah loseth not the wages of the good."***

(9:120)

One of the rewarding deeds which has been mentioned in the Holy Quran, and having the intention (Qurbat) is not a requirement, is attending places which anger the enemies of Islam. (Attending places and gatherings which make Muslims seem great in number, even if they aren't doing much).

In the army of Yazid (la), there were people who joined the army, not to kill Imam Hussain (as), rather they joined in so if the army was to receive some money, they could also have a share. These people did not shoot a single arrow towards Imam Hussain (as), nor did they use their swords, but they deserve divine punishment. This is because they joined the army of evil, made the army seem powerful, and they became the symbol of evil.

On the other hand, there are people who attend the gatherings of Imam Hussain (as), and since such gatherings are the symbols of standing against evil and oppression, they will be rewarded by Allah SWT.

Having said all this, it should also be mentioned that it is wrong to assume that mourning for Imam Hussain (as) has nothing to do with Allah SWT. In fact those who cry for Imam Hussain (as) do so from a religious perspective, otherwise they could have cried for the victims of other battles and wars such as the first and the second world wars and so on.

However attending such gatherings to mourn for Imam Hussain (as) is a sign of their love to the religion of Allah SWT.