

Amazing Stories from the Dawn-Breakers

Adapted by Jacqueline Mehrabi and illustrated by Malcolm Lee

(The story so far... Siyyid Kázim had sent Mullá Husayn, one of His most trusted disciples, on a special mission to Isfahán to tell a famous religious leader about the coming of the Promise One.)

Part 4

Mullá Husayn's Mission

By the time Mullá Husayn arrived in Isfahán he was tired and hungry, but he immediately went to where the religious leader was talking to his students. These students came from rich families and were dressed in fine clothes. Mullá Husayn was dressed in simple clothes and was covered in dust from his long journey, but he bravely walked into the room and stood before the religious leader.



“Listen, O Siyyid, to my words,” he boldly proclaimed.

The Siyyid looked at his young visitor in surprise. His students were angry at this scruffy person interrupting their teacher in the middle of his lecture. But there



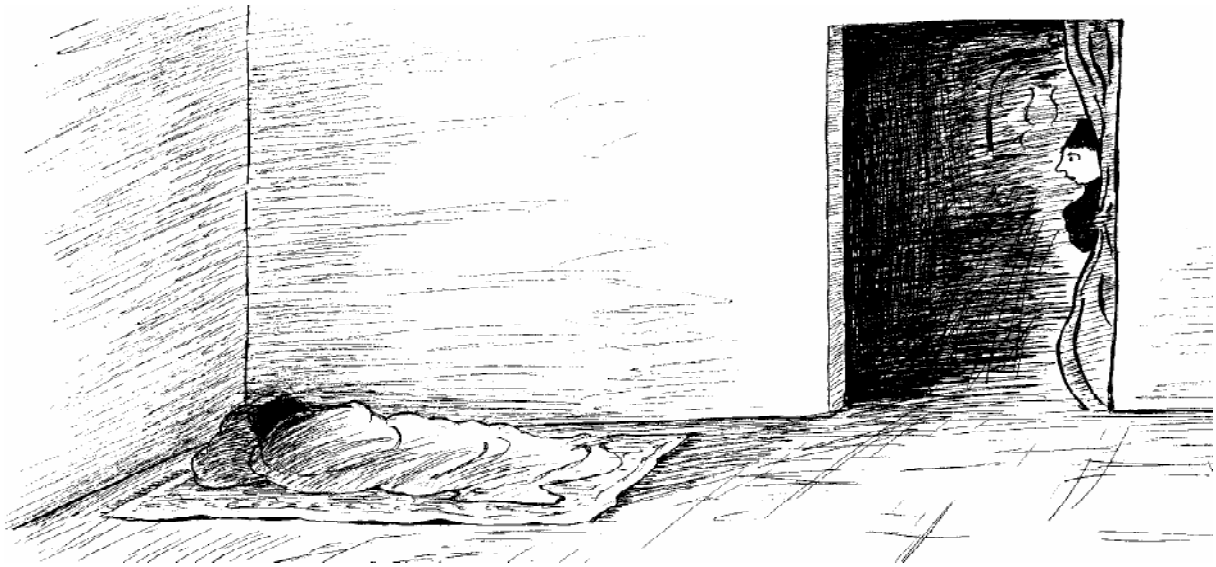
was something about the sincerity of Mullá Husayn that made the Siyyid finally agree to hear what he had to say.

Mullá Husayn explained so beautifully the teachings of Shaykh Ahmad and Siyyid Kázim that the Siyyid's eyes filled with tears. He wrote a letter praising the teachings of these two great men, and told Mullá Husayn that he could show the letter to everyone he met.

When Mullá Husayn left the room, the Siyyid told one of his servants to follow him to see where he was staying. Mullá Husayn walked through the streets of Isfahán until he came to an inn where travellers and poor

people stayed. The servant saw him go into a room which had nothing in it except a worn mat on the floor.

Mullá Husayn began to pray, thanking God for helping him to explain the teachings of Shaykh Ahmad and Siyyid Kázim to the important Siyyid. Then he lay down to sleep on the mat, with nothing to cover him except his cloak.



The servant returned to tell his master where Mullá Husayn was staying and how poor he was. The Siyyid sent the servant back to the inn with a gift of money for Mullá Husayn. But Mullá Husayn refused to accept it. He said that his greatest reward was the fact that the Siyyid had so fairly listened to him and believed what he had said.

Siyyid Kázim was delighted when he later received a letter from Mullá Husayn saying what had happened when he met the important religious leader. Siyyid Kázim sent a letter back to Mullá Husayn, praising him for being so successful in his mission.

Mullá Husayn treasured this tender and loving letter from his teacher. By the manner in which it was written, he knew that Siyyid Kázim was also saying goodbye and that they would never meet each other again in this world. He was right. By the time Mullá Husayn returned to Karbilá, Siyyid Kázim had died.

When Mullá Husayn was back in Karbilá, he comforted the other disciples, who were heart-broken because of the death of their teacher. They greatly admired Mullá Husayn because of his great knowledge and good character, and they said to him, "If you claim to be the Promised One, we will believe you and do whatever you tell us to do!"

"God forbid!" exclaimed Mullá Husayn. "You should never say such things!"

He knew the Promised One would be far, far greater than he could ever be. He asked them what Siyyid Kázim's last instructions had been. They said that Siyyid Kázim had told them to leave their homes and scatter far and wide to look for the Promised One.

"Why then, are you still here?" asked Mullá Husayn.

They made all kinds of excuses, so Mullá Husayn left them. He went to a place outside the town with his brother and nephew, where they spent forty days fasting and praying to God, asking Him to guide them to the Promised One.

At the end of the forty days, they felt guided to go to a seaside town of Búshihir, in the south of Persia. This is where the Báb had once lived for five years when He had worked for his uncle. Because of the prayers the Báb had said in that town, it felt very spiritual.

But Mullá Husayn felt that God wanted him to go on searching. It was as if a magnet was pulling him further north. So the three of them set off again, this time for the town of Shíráz.



(to be continued)