

Abstract

The subject of the study is the images of Al-Hussein bin Ali bin Abi Talib according to Ibn Kathir in his book *The Beginning and the End*. In this topic, it deals with three very important elements: both Al-Hussein bin Ali, the immortal martyr, and Ibn Kathir, the author, who gained scholarly fame that, made him a focus. The book of the beginning and the end, which is one of the most important things written by Ibn Kathir, was also an important source for the ancients and the moderns.

Our hypothesis was based on the following question: How did Ibn Kathir think of Hussein bin Ali in light of his sectarian affiliation, political belief, and regional affiliation?

The dissertation was built on five chapters, preceded by an introduction that introduced the topic and demonstrated its importance, purpose, and design, the difficulties it encountered, and the source material that helped strengthen the foundations of the study, followed by the first chapter, which answered several methodological questions whose answers constituted proof of the study's hypothesis and was formulated without their necessity for the study, the most important of which is, What are the most important milestones in the biography of Hussein bin Ali? Who is Ibn Kathir, what was the nature of his era, and what was his scientific, political, and sectarian identity? What importance does his book, *The Beginning and the End*, occupy in the Islamic historical library?

As for the second chapter, its answers were limited to two main questions: What is the nature of the biography that Ibn Kathir wrote about Hussein before and after the Hussein revolution? How did Ibn Kathir view the Hussein revolution? While the work of the third chapter was limited to answering a main question consisting

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of two parts: What is the picture drawn by Ibn Kathir of the Iraqis and the Umayyads in the events of the Hasani revolution? As for the fourth chapter of the dissertation, his work was to answer: What method did Ibn Kathir follow when he recorded the events and events of the Hussein biograpy? The rest of the fifth chapter was focused on clarifying the nature of the sectarian orientation of the narrators of the events of the Hussein biograpy, and the position of the two Islamic parties towards them in terms of criticism and modification. The study concluded with a summary of what was stated in the study and the most important results it reached.

In accordance with that vision, our study has summarized the picture drawn by Ibn Kathir in particular and in the following form: condemnation of Hussein bin Ali and those who stood with him in his revolution, both Iraqis and non-Iraqis, and this condemnation extends to everyone who took Hussein and his revolution as their slogan throughout history. This is on the one hand, and on the other hand, it gives legitimacy to the Umayyad rule, and every rule that came after the Umayyads contradicts the approach of Hussein bin Ali or is threatened by the Hussein revolution and its slogans.

In general, our study wanted to clarify the nature of manipulation in the true image of symbols and men of Islamic history, its events and facts, when the writer falls captive to his political inclinations, sectarian whims, and regional affiliations. In brief, the study wanted to say to everyone who reads Islamic history, whether it was written by Sunnis or Shiites, to be careful, because there is great manipulation in the true picture of the events and facts that took place?

In any case, the study, in tracing the images transmitted by Ibn Kathir regarding the subject studied, concluded several results, the most important of which are:

- 1- It became clear from all of this that Ibn Kathir had ignored the historical truth about Hussein bin Ali, as a result of his falling under the influence of his political inclinations and sectarian whims, and thus he had shown audacity in hypocrisy, which made him one of the most prominent preachers of the sultans of that time and par excellence.

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- 2- Ibn Kathir had excessively and deliberately belittled the importance of Hussein bin Ali as a person and a revolution, in order to raise the status of the Umayyad authority and give it false legitimacy. In return, Hussein and his companions appear to be people outside of legitimacy and deserving of the fate they met. He failed miserably in achieving this goal, as was revealed by the contradictions into which he fell.
- 3- In presenting his evidence and justifications and defending those he supported, he was repeating the same Umayyad administration style despite the large time gap between them, for example the style of algebra. He presented evidence of his success, in order to make the reasons behind them, with no human involvement in them, so as to cleanse the Umayyad arena of blood. Al-Hussein, and this same method was previously used by the Umayyad administration with its opponents, as well as the issue of distributing the crime to more than one person so that rights are lost, which is what it used in the killing of Al-Hussein. This is the same method that the Umayyads used with the Noble Messenger, and also the killer crying over his victim according to the example that says (crocodile tears); Because crocodiles shed tears as they devour their prey, and this is what was reflected in a display of pictures of Yazid, with Athar wailing over Hussein and grieving over his death, while he was the one responsible for that?! This is the same method that Muawiyah used with Hajr bin Adi and his group.

Translators

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**"The Portrayal of Imam Hussein, Peace Be Upon Him, in *al-Bidāya wa-l-Nihāya* by
Ibn Kathir (d. 774 AH)"**

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