Contrast between Imamate and Caliphate in the Sermon of Imam Sajjād (as) in the Yazid Assembly

Mohammad Hossein Jamalzadeh¹

Received: June 13, 2023 Accepted: August 16, 2023

Abstract

The sermon of Imam Sajjād (as) in the Yazid Assembly is considered one of the sermons that was delivered in a special time and place. The analysis of this sermon shows that it left immediate and long-term social effects. The problem of this research is that "what are the levels of analysis of Imam Sajjād's speech in the Yazid Assembly and what works can be mentioned in each of these levels?" For this purpose, using discourse analysis method, library data collection and using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis framework, the following results were obtained: At the level of description, this sermon is expressive and has the characteristics of speech, such as body language, interaction with the audience, and momentary reaction. Also, Imam Sajjād (as) has restored the nation's historical memory by using linguistic eloguence and semantic depth. At the level of interpretation, the relationships that produced the discourse include the two groups of followers of the Imamate and followers of the Caliphate, and intertextual relationships are also formed in these two groups. At the explanation level, this sermon and other actions of the Imamate system have caused changes in social structures in such a way that the influence of the Umayyad caliphate system is decreasing day by day and people have turned away from the official authority of the caliphate and court scholars in learning religious teachings and are inclined towards Imam Sajjād (as) and the discourse of Imamate. Also, the discursive confrontation between the Imamate system and the Caliphate system has been maintained and promoted in the form of confrontation, and therefore, the Umayyad caliphate system has been pushed to a position of passivity and withdrawal from domination, influence and distortion in the Islamic society.

Keywords: Imam Sajjād (as), Discourse Analysis, Sermon of Imam Sajjād (as), Imamate, Shiʿa.

1. PhD student of Muslim Social Science, University of Tehran: jamalzadeh@ut.ac.ir