

Revisiting the Evolution of Twelver Shī'ism

Has modern mainstream belief been compromised
by Ghuluww (Ideological Exaggeration)?

The popular, current-day version of Twelver Imāmī Shī'ism is a departure from original Islam and the actual teachings of the Ahlul Bayt (as).

1. No Fixed Creed
Shī'ism does not possess a stable creedal system across 14 centuries.

2. Fringe Became Mainstream
Ideas once deemed dangerous extremism (Ghuluww) have emerged as orthodox doctrine.

3. The Somersault
What early scholars considered heresy is now a required belief to retain membership in the sect.

Candid Confessions from the Highest Orthodox Scholarship

Shaykh al-Māmaqānī

Most of what we believe now about the Ahlul Bayt... the early scholars used to call Ghuluww.

‘Allāmah al-Burujerdī

Acknowledges that classical scholars would consider certain modern obligatory beliefs as corrupt, Kufr, or Ghuluww.

Ayatullah al-Subḥānī

Admits that what the ancients saw as extremism is now among the core, essential, non-negotiable beliefs of the sect today.

The Consensus on Historical Deviation



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كليات في علم الرجال

وثانياً: إنَّ ابنَ أبي عمير لم يرو عنه إلا رواية واحدة ولا صلة لمضمونها بالأحكام، ولعله كان ملتزماً بأن لا يروي إلا عن ثقة فيما يمتُّ إلى الحكم الشرعي بصلة لا في الموضوعات الأخلاقية أو الزبورية كما هو مورد الحديث.

ثالثاً: إنَّه لم يرد في الفقيه توصيفه بالخضرمي فيحتمل كونه «صيد الله بن القاسم الحارثي» وهو وإن كان ضعيفاً حيث يصفه التجاشي بالضعف والغلز ويقول: «ضعيف غال»^{١١} لكنَّ ابنَ هذا من قوله في الخضرمي «تذاب» عندئذ يقوى أن يكون ضعفه لأجل غلوِّه في العقيدة لا لضعفه في لسانه، وقد عرفت أن التضعيف بين القدماء لأجل العقيدة لا يوجب سلب الوثوق عن الراوي، لأنَّ أكثر ما رآه القدماء غلوّاً أصبح في زماننا من الضروريات في دين الإمامية، فلاحظ.

هذا كله حول أسانيد ابن أبي عمير وحال النقوض التي جاءت في «معجم رجال الحديث» و«ستابغ الثقات» وفيرهما. غير أنَّ النقوض لا تنحصر فيما ذكر

...because most of what the *Qudamā'* (Classical Imāmī Shī'a scholars) saw as *Ghuluww* (extremism in belief) has become among the *Ḍarūriyyāt* (core, essential, non-negotiable, foundational beliefs) of the *Dīn* of the Imāmiyyah in our time, so take note of that."

— Ayatullah Shaykh Ja'far al-Subḥānī, *Kulliyāt fī 'Ilm al-Rijāl*

Practical Example: The Doctrine of *Tafwīd*

Tafwīd: The belief that Allah delegated the affairs of the universe (creating, sustaining, giving life/death) to the Imams.

The Classical View

Condemned universally as Ghuluww and Shirk. Classical scholars discredited any narrator who promoted this claim.

The Modern Reality

Fully normalized. Al-Māmaqānī admits that claiming Imams apportion the Rizq (sustenance) of the slaves is **not considered** as Ghuluww in contemporary times.

The Modern Normalization of Extremism

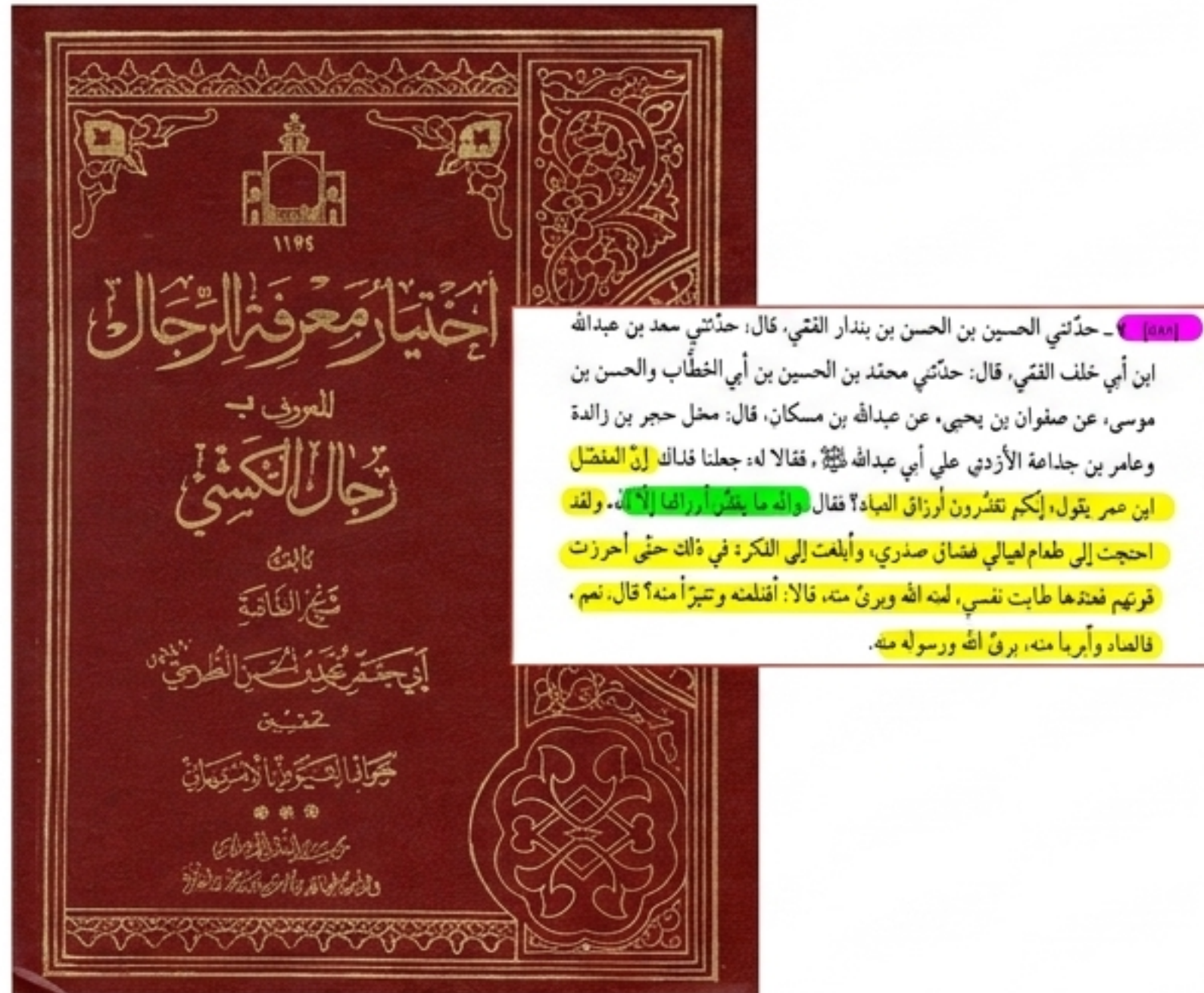
“Whoever has this belief, please raise your hand and tell me... that they have received Rizq (sustenance), Zindagi (life), Daulat (wealth), and Shuhrat (fame) from Maula Husain!”

Event: 'The Heart of Hope', Dar-es-Salaam.

The Reaction: Mass acceptance from the audience. Zero protest or correction from attending scholars and community leaders.

The Imams Vehemently Rejected These Claims

When told that al-Mufaḍḍal claims the Imams apportion the sustenance of the slaves...



By Allah – None allots/apportions our Arzāq except Allah...

May Allah Send La‘nah (curses) on him, and disassociate from him... so you two also curse him and disassociate from him.

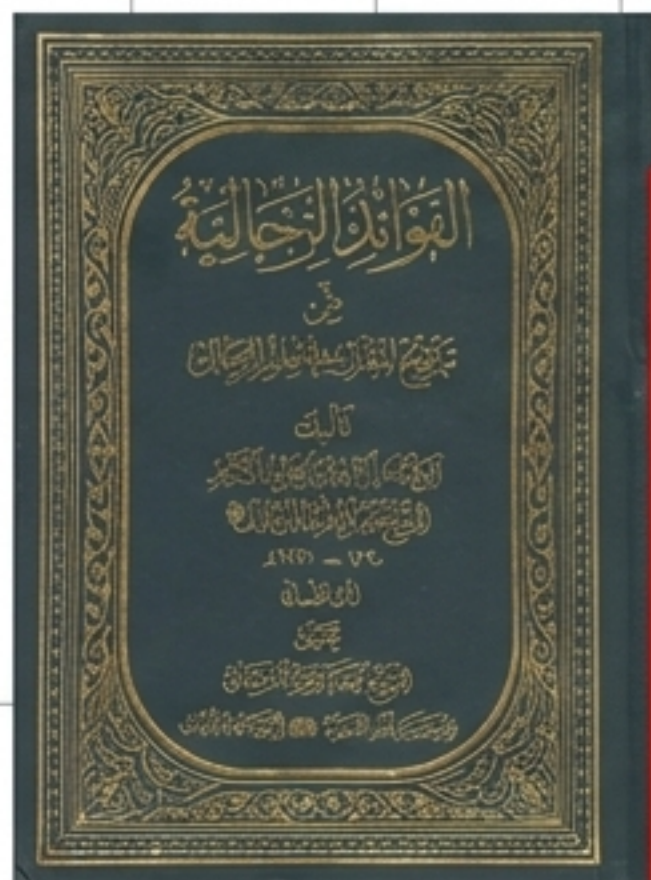
— Imam Ja‘far al-Şādiq (as)
[Rijāl al-Kashshī]

The Taqiyyah Defense: How Modern Scholars Justify the Contradiction

Premise: The Imams actually possess Divine powers (Tafwid).

The Threat: Satan tries to misguide followers into deifying them because of these powers.

The Justification: Therefore, the Imams actively lied (Taqiyyah), denied their own powers, and cursed their supporters to create a buffer zone protecting Allah's sanctity.



The Theological Flaw in the Taqiyyah Defense

	QURANIC PROPHETS	THE 'TAQIYYAH' NARRATIVE
Possessed Divine Miracles/Powers?	Prophet Sulaymān & 'Īsā (as): Yes (Healed blind, raised dead, language of birds).	The Imams: Supposedly Yes .
Did they hide them from their followers?	No. Publicly announced them as a manifest grace from Allah (Qur'ān 27:16, 03:49), even knowing people might deify them.	Yes. Routinely lied, denied them, and cursed those who attributed these powers to them.

Denying God-given gifts out of fear of being deified has never been a Divine policy. The Imams were telling the truth.

How to Detect and Remove *Ghuluww*

The True Definition

Ghuluww is claiming anything about the Imams (as) which they do not claim about themselves.



The Ultimate Filter (Imam 'Alī al-Riḍā's Rule):
Do not accept in our name anything that goes against the Qur'an... because **al-Mughīrah bin Sa'īd** (May Allah Curse him) **added (fabricated) Ahādīth** to the books of the companions of my father which my father had not narrated.

The Logical Crossroad

Option A (The Modern Sectarian Narrative)

Accept the Imams as Divinely Appointed Guides who routinely lied about their mandate, deceived their followers, and cursed their own supporters due to Taqiyyah.

Option B (The Authentic Reality)

Accept the Imams as '*Ulamā' Abrār*' (erudite, pious, truthful scholars) who never lied, truthfully denied claims of Divinity and Divine Imamate, and faithfully transmitted the Islam of the Prophet.

The Vision: A Return to Authentic Islam

✗] The Divinity of the Imams (as).

✗] The attribution of Divine Attributes, Powers (Tafwīd), or Prophethood to them.

✗] The claim of Divine Imāmah (which the Imams themselves explicitly denied).

✓] The application of the Qur'ānic criterion of 'Ilm (certain knowledge) to filter all Hadith and beliefs.

✓] The original, uncompromised Islam of the Prophet (s), his Ahlul Bayt, and his noble companions in Madīnah.

The texts survive. The admissions are documented.

It is time to discard the fabrications of the Ghulāt and return to the uncompromised Islam of the Qur'ān and the Sunnah.

Read the full evidence and research at [Al-Islaah](#).