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Q: 321 ? Title: Is the punishment of the grave a reality?

Question

One of my friends said that there is no such thing as azaabe qabr, and that such things go against the Quran and there is no authentic Hadith related to azaabe qabr. Could you kindly narrate a few if any?

Answer

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

As-sal?mu ?alaykum wa-rahmatull?hi wa-barak?tuh.

It is the belief (*aq?dah*) of the *Ahle-Sunnah-wal-Jam??h* that the punishment in the grave is a reality which is proven from the Quran and

Ah?dith

. Hereunder are some references.

Verses from the Qur?n:

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1. ?And they will be exposed to the fire day and night. Then, on the day the hour will rise (day of judgement), it shall be said to the Angels: Cast the people of the Pharaoh into the severest punishment!?

(40:46)

Commentary:

? Tabarani narrates from Sayyiduna Ibn Abbas (Allah be pleased with him) that he said: ?Once on Friday the Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him & give him peace) gave a sermon

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And then he said:

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Allah has disgraced the hypocrites in the world and that is the first punishment and the second punishment will be in the grave?

[\[3\]](#)

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3. ?If only you could see when the wrongdoers are in the throes of death and the Angels are stretching out their hands saying ?Bring forth your souls! This day you shall be recompensed with the torment of disgrace because of what you used to say about Allah other than the truth. And you grew arrogant against his signs!?

(6:93)

Commentary:

2. Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* said: "The grave is a garden from the gardens of Paradise or a pit from the pits of Hell?"

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3. H?ni? the freed slave of Hadhrat Utm?n *radhiallahu anhu* narrates that when Hadhrat Uthm?n ibn Aff?n would stand in front of a grave, he would cry until his beard would become moist. It was once said to him. You mention Heaven and Hell and you don?t cry yet you cry from this? He replied "Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* said "Verily the grave is the first hurdle from the hurdles of the Hereafter. If one succeeds in it, then what is to come after it will be easier for him. However, if does not succeed in it, then what is to come after it will be harder for him."

He also said that Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* said: "I have not seen a sight except that the grave is more horrific than it."

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4. ?Sa?d *radhiallahu anhu* used to teach his children the following words like how a teacher teaches children to write. He used to say ?Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* used to seek Allah?s refuge from these things after every Sal?h.? ?Oh Allah, I seek your protection from cowardice and I seek your protection from that I am sent forth to a feeble age and I seek refuge in you from the trials of the world and I seek refuge in you from the punishment of the grave.?

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5. Aisha *radhiallahu anha* narrates that a Jewess came to her and mentioned the punishment of the grave and said ?May Allah protect you from the punishment of the grave.? So Hadhrat Aisha *radhiallahu anha* asked Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* about the punishment of the grave and Rasulullah

sallallahu alaihi wasallam

said 'There is a punishment of the grave'. Aisha

radhiallahu anha

says that I never saw Rasulullah

sallallahu alaihi wasallam

pray a Salâh after that instance except that he sought refuge from the punishment of the grave.

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6. Ibn Abbâs *radhiallahu anhu* narrates that once Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wasallam* passed by two graves and said 'Verily both of them are getting punished albeit not from a major sin.' Then he said 'This one used to be a tale bearer and this one did not safeguard himself from his urine.'

Above are only a few *Ahâdith*. There are numerous other narrations in the other books. [\[10\]](#)

Consensus of the *Aslûf* (pious predecessors)

Our illustrious, wise sincere predecessors also accepted, believed in and preached the reality of the punishment of the grave. Below are just a few quotes:

عن أبي هريرة عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم قال: من لم يؤمن بالبعث، فليس منا. [11]

1. And we believe in the punishment of the Grave for the people who deserve it. Imam Abu Hanifa said: Whosoever denies the punishment of the grave, then he is from the perishing group. *ahmiyyah* J

عن أبي هريرة عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم قال: من لم يؤمن بالبعث، فليس منا. [12]

2. And the punishment of the grave is for the disbelievers and for some of the disobedient believers.

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3. ؟And the constriction of the grave and the punishment of the grave for all of the disbelievers. And for some of the disobedient believers it is a true possibility.؟

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4. Imam Qurtubi states: ؟Belief in the punishment of the grave and its trials is obligatory and affirming it is incumbent.؟

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5. Murwadhi says: Abu Abdillah (Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal) told us: ؟The punishment of the grave is Haq and none deny it except a person who is deviated and one who deviates.؟

. He says:

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?The narrations with regards to the punishment of the grave have reached the level of certainty (*taw?tur*). They have been reported by a group of Companions (Allah be pleased with them all)?,

(Pg.119. D?rul Madani)

The punishment of the grave has been so clearly proven that the the four main *Fuqah?* (Imam Abu-Hanifa, Sh?fi, Ahmad, M?lik *rahmatullahi alaihim*), all the *Muhaddith?n* and *Asl?f* are all unanimous on the fact that the punishment of the grave is a reality and they all believe in it. These are the people who were given the true understanding of the Qur?n and *Ah?dith*.

And Allah Ta'ala Knows Best

Checked and Approved by,
Mufti Ebrahim Desai.
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