# What similarities are there between Hazrat Mahdi (AS) and Dhul Qarnayn (he who has two horns)?

The Group of Mahdavism

The inquirer: Hamid

Response:

First of all, it seems necessary to enumerate Dhul Qarnayn's features in order to shed light on his similarities to the Imam of the Time (AS).

## He ruled all over the world.

**إِنَّا مَكَّنَّا لَهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَآتَيْنَاهُ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ سَبَبًا**

The Cave: 84

Truly, we established him securely on earth, and endowed him with right means to achieve anything [that he might set out to achieve].

Based on numerous narratives, Hazrat Mahdi (AS) will rule all over the world.

**فروي أن جميع ملوك الدنيا كلها أربعة : مؤمنان وكافران ، فالمؤمنان سليمان بن داود وإسكندر (ذي القرنين) ، والكافران نمروذ وبختنصر ، وسيملكها من هذه الأمة خامس لقوله تعالى : " ليظهره على الدين كله " [ التوبة : 33 ] وهو المهدي**

Tafsir Qurtabi, vol. 11, p. 47.

In some narratives, it appears that there have been four kings who ruled over the whole world - two believers and two disbelievers. The believing kings were Sulaiman and Dhul-Qarnain while the disbelieving ones were Nimrod (Namrud) and Nebuchadnezzar (Bukht Nassar). But a fifth person is going

to rule all over the world in order to, as stated by God, give superiority to this religion over other ones. And he is Mahdi.

Sakhawi who is a prominent Sunni scholar has quoted Ka'b al-Ahbar as saying,

**إني لأجد المهدي مكتوبا في أسفار الأنبياء ما في حكمه ظلم ولا عيب . يملك الدنيا كما ملك ذو القرنين ، وسليمان بن داود عليهما السلام. .**

**القناعة فيما يحسن الإحاطة به من أشراط الساعة ص 56 چاپ مكتبة القرآن قاهرة**

I can see Mahdi's name in all books brought down by prophets. No shortcoming or a bit of oppression will be found in his government. He will dominate the whole world just like the way Sulaiman and Dhul-Qarnain did.

## Hidden means had been granted to Him

The same verse mentioned above (The cave: 84) refers to this point as well. The hidden means will assist the Imam of the Time (AS).

## He visited all spots of the earth.

**عن أمير المؤمنين علي بن أبي طالب ( عليه السلام ) في قصة المهدي قال : ويتوجه إلى الآفاق فلا تبقى مدينة وطأها ذو القرنين إلا دخلها وأصلحها**

Al-Zam al-Nasib, vol. 2, p. 261.

Amir al-Momenin 'Ali Ibn Abi Talib (AS) has been quoted to have made the following comment regarding Mahdi (AS),

"He will head to all four corners of the world. He will visit any town Dhul Qarnayn had visited. No town will remain unvisited and deprived from his reforms."

Initially, he had a lengthy concealment before his reappearance.

**يا أحمد بن إسحاق مثله في هذه الأمة مثل الخضر عليه السلام ، ومثله مثل ذي القرنين ، والله ليغيبن غيبة لا ينجو فيها من الهلكة إلا من ثبته الله عز وجل على القول بإمامته ووفقه [ فيها ] للدعاء بتعجيل فرجه.**

Mu'jam Ahadith al-Imam al-Mahdi, vol. 4, p. 267.

O Ahmad Ibn Ishaq, his story is like those of Khidr (AS) and Dhul Qarnayn to this community. I swear by God that he will have a concealment in which there will be no immunity for anyone except for the one who is steadfast in his faith in his Imamat and the one whom God has given the fortune of praying to Him to hasten his appearance.

He lived a long life.

**وأنبأنا أبو الفضائل وأبو تراب قالا نا أبو بكر أنا أبو الحسن أنا عثمان وأحمد قالا أنا الحسن أنا إسماعيل قال وأنا إسحاق عن عبد الله بن زياد بن سمعان قال بلغني ع ن بعض مؤمني أهل الكتاب أن ذا القرنين عاش ثلاثة آلاف سنة**

Tarikh Madina Damishq, vol. 17, p. 361

A group of believers informed us that Dhul Qarnayn lived a three-thousand-long life.

Tathkirat al-Khawas Sibt Ibn al-Jowzi, p. 364 quoted from Sheikh Hussein Kurani's Adab 'Asr al-Ghaybat, p. 25.

And also according to the Torah, Dhul Qarnayn lived for as long as three thousand years. But Muslims believe that his life was one thousand five hundred years long.

All points mentioned above simply reveal the similarities between Hazrat Hujjat Aba Salih (May God Hasten His Appearance) and Dhul Qarnayn.

Good Luck

The Group Responsible for Answers to Doubts

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