



## Human Rights and Relationships In The Ideal City From The View Of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)\*</sup>

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
<p><b>Article type:</b> Research Article</p> <p><b>Article history:</b> Received: 12 July 2023 Received in revised form: 27 April 2024 Accepted: 05 May 2024 Published online: 22 September 2024</p> <p><b>Keywords:</b> <i>Human Relationships, Ideal City, Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>, Nahj al-Balāghah, Rights.</i></p>	<p>The ideal city is a benchmark for revealing the shortcomings and inadequacies of the current situation in order to criticize the established system and move towards the ideal situation. Ideal city is a title for a terrestrial society that has a way to a high horizon while solving current human concerns. Therefore, explaining this city with a purely secular outlook is not possible. Amir Mominan Imam Ali's <sup>(PBUH)</sup> opinions arise from two criteria: reason and Shariah, and from this point of view, we can look at the realities in the world, find many of the facts, and finally cure pain without expecting the negative consequences and damages of current views. The purpose of this study is to consider human relations, specifically social and economic relations, as one of the main three dimensions of the ideal city based on eight previously extracted bases. Therefore, by collecting data and analyzing their contents, we will examine the viewpoint of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup> on the characteristics of human relations in the ideal city. For this purpose, the research method is a combination of text and content analysis and meta-analysis methods. Finally, the features of each of the eight main principles in the ideal city, including Tawhīd and God-centeredness, justice, life, human dignity, security, original human freedom, order, and ownership in the social and economic relations of the city's residents, have been presented. This research is a step in the direction of compiling the theoretical foundations of the Islamic city and documenting the characteristics and attributes of the Islamic city based on the words of the infallible imams <sup>(PBUH)</sup>. The results show that the destination and goal of human communication is Divinity and Afterlifeism, and human rights are defined along with the divine rights and the protection of God's rights is done through the protection of people's rights.</p>

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## 1. Introduction

From the perspective of Islam, urban planning has been understood beyond mere material concepts, and it has implied all the Physical and spiritual factors and urban activities in order to achieve the Ideal points of the Physical and spiritual lives of the city residents (Esmaeilpour, & Soleimani, 2022: 53). The Ideal city is a title for an earthly community that, while solving the worldly concerns of humans, has a path to a long horizon and there is no obstacle for each person to reach happiness. The maximum amount of spiritual and material facilities in this city causes the tendency of most people towards God-centeredness (Gandomi, 2016: 6; Akbari Moltaq, 2012: 90).

Unfortunately, the contemporary materialistic culture of the West, due to the deprivation of the Divine Word and the Sunnah of the Imam's <sup>(PBUH)</sup>, has suffered a great deviation and misguidance in explaining the world and Human (Noghrehkar, & LabibZadeh, 2014: 95), and the effects of this deviation in Islamic societies are also Visible. This is why we have always needed, throughout history, to return to the pure sources of Islamic thought and an intellectual system that can be relied upon. The speech of the infallible imams <sup>(PBUH)</sup> originated from the two Source of reason and Sharia, and through this view, we can look at the realities in the world and our societies, recognize many truths, and finally find the cure for pain in them. Finally, it should be stated that referring to our principles will be more effective, efficient and valuable than any model and program (Mohtasham Amiri, 2013).

The three main questions of the current research are as follows:

- 1) What are the types of human relations and their characteristics that can be identified from the words of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>?
- 2) What are the types of human rights that can be identified from the words of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>?
- 3) What are the characteristics of the eight main bases of the ideal city in social and economic relations in the words of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>?

Examining the ideal city of Islam in a comprehensive way from the point of view of the Imams <sup>(PBUH)</sup> is one of the new trends among researchers of the Islamic city. Molaei (2023), in a research article entitled "Definition the Principles and Laws of Islamic Urbanism Based on Unchangeable Rules" explores five issues: the right of God, the right of the soul, the right of people, the rights of creation and moral laws as the constants of the Islamic city. Raisi (2018) in his book, titled "Architecture and Urban Planning According to The Islamic Lifestyle (From the Description of The Ideal Situation to The Analysis of The Current Situation)" explored the structure and physical system of the city from the words of Holy Prophet <sup>(PBUH)</sup> And Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>. Naghizadeh (2015) in his book *Alavi City (An Ideal City That Can Be Realized in The World)* has mentioned the topics of intellectual foundations, factors guiding human cognition and action, human rights and relationships, and nature and living environment from the view of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>. Also, Ghobadi (2014) in research titled "Characteristics of The City from The Perspective of Nahj Al-Balagha" tried to re-examine the characteristics of the city in four cultural, social, managerial and physical dimensions by referring to the book "Nahj al-Balagha" and its interpretations.

## 2. Methodology

In this research, by collecting the data in a library form and describing and analyzing its content, it will first be investigated, and then the view of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup> will be discussed regarding the characteristics of the ideal city. Finally, this research seeks to extract the principles governing human Relations as a part of the framework of the ideal Islamic city. For this purpose, the research method is a combination of qualitative content analysis and meta-analysis methods. In this regard, the researcher will also directly collect the required data by referring to the words of the infallible Imam <sup>(PBUH)</sup> and will also need to refer to the

interpretations, books and articles of other researchers related to the subject, which are the results of data collection by other researchers.

### 3. Findings

In the current research, based on the results of our previous research, which led to the extraction of three issues of sources, foundations and goals of the ideal city and finally the macro theory of urban planning, from among the three dimensions of human intellectual foundations, human Relations and physical dimensions in the ideal city, we focused on the subject of human relations, specifically the social and economic relations of the city dwellers. In this regard, Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup>'s point of view regarding the types of relationships and human rights was discussed. As we find four general relationships for humans can be imagined from Imam <sup>(PBUH)</sup>'s point of view, which include the relation with the Creator, the relation with oneself, the relation with others and relation with nature, and man should adjust those relationships correctly under the divine teachings. These different relationships between humans and the universe explain and define rights for the parties, which should be taken into account in the attitude towards human relationships. In Imam's words, rights can be divided into three general categories: the right of God, the right of Human, and the right of creation (nature). Then, the social and economic relations of the people of the city were discussed and the features of the eight main principles of Tawhīd and God-centeredness, justice, life, human dignity, security, human freedom, order, and ownership, specifically in these relations from the words of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup> were expressed.

### 4. Conclusion

Words of the infallible imams <sup>(PBUH)</sup>, as ones who speak the language of science and religion, can provide us with many subtleties and details and help us recognize the points and characteristics of the Ideal city, which is not only the ideal of the past; but also, the ideal of the present. This can help us achieve ideal urban planning and the Ideal city.

The results of the research show that the ideal city is defined not only in the physical dimensions, but also in the intellectual dimensions of a person and his behavioral aspects. In other words, the importance of human growth in building an Ideal city is undeniable. First, man is considered a creation, that the purpose of creating and building a city is to respond to his needs in his evolutionary path. Second, man is made up of many distinct fields, has different relations with the universe, and has different rights and duties, and neglecting each of them in human relations can disrupt the balance of human life and ultimately the emergence of the Ideal city. The ideal city from the view of Imam Ali <sup>(PBUH)</sup> in the dimension of human relations is based on the belief in the afterlife and God-centeredness, the need to pay attention to the divine identity of humans, the priority of humans and their relationships over the physical aspects, The need to provide the necessary conditions for good living, the need to pay attention to both material and intellectual needs, And the need to pay attention to duties and responsibilities.

Finally, it can be said that the problems of today's cities cannot be solved through the ideas that created them; in fact, the problem cannot be solved with the problem-causing issue itself. In this regard, this research specifically suggests that human Relations as one of the three dimensions of an Ideal city from the perspective of infallible Imams <sup>(PBUH)</sup> has been taken into consideration by city planners. In this regard, the type of attitude toward human nature, his relations with the universe, the rights and duties resulting from this, and finally the impact of these on the physical environment in urban planning research, which currently generally originates from non-Islamic sources, should be reviewed based on the teachings of Islam.

Achieving these teachings can inspire change toward creating societies full of justice, human dignity, spiritual life, etc.

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