

Hazrat Mahdi (as) will have the Prophet Musa's (as) staff and the Prophet Sulayman's (as) ring

... HE WILL HAVE THE STAFF OF MUSA AND THE RING OF SULAYMAN. ...Allah will keep him hidden from sight until He wills. Then he will appear and fill the Earth with justice, in the same way it was formerly filled with oppression.

(Bihar Al-Anwar, Vol. 52, p. 32; Ithbat Al-Hudat, Vol. 6, p. 19)

One of the major signs of the coming of Hazrat Mahdi (as) is the finding of the Ark of the Covenant. According to both holy scripture and historical records, the Ark is in Antioch [in Turkey]. In the hadith, our Prophet (saas) tells us that Hazrat Mahdi (as) will find the Ark of the Covenant.



The Ark of the Covenant is referred to in the Qur'an in the story of Talut:

Their Prophet said to them, "The sign of his kingship is that the Ark will come to you, containing serenity from your Lord and certain relics left by the families of Musa and Harun. It will be borne by angels. There is a sign for you in that if you are believers..."(Surat al-Baqara, 248)

This ark is the Ark of the Covenant, which contains the holy relics referred to as one of the signs of Talut's dominion. The Ark of the Covenant in question is a chest containing holy relics including, according to unanimous accounts, **the staff of Musa, the tablets of the Torah and the staff and turban of Harun.**



As revealed in the Qur'an, the Ark of the Covenant is a symbol of Talut's dominion and will also, according to accounts, be one of the signs of Hazrat Mahdi's (as) assuming the Muslims' spiritual leadership by bringing Islamic moral values to prevail. Some of our Prophet's (saas) hadith regarding "Hazrat Mahdi (as) finding the Ark of the Covenant containing holy relics" are as follows:

"The reason he is called Hazrat Mahdi (as) is that he shows the way to a hidden thing. **HE WILL BRING FORTH THE ARK (HOLY RELICS CHEST) IN A PLACE KNOWN AS ANTIOCH.**"

(Suyuti, Al-Hawi li al-Fatawa, II. 82)

"He is called Hazrat Mahdi (as) because he is the key to something nobody knows. **HE WILL BRING THE ARK OF THE COVENANT FORTH FROM THE CAVE OF ANTIOCH. "**

(Naim Ibn Hammad, Kitab Al-Fitan)

"HE [HAZRAT MAHDI (AS)] WILL BRING FORTH THE ARK OF THE COVENANT FROM THE CAVE OF ANTAKYA."

(Naim Ibn Hammad, Kitab Al-Fitan)

"HAZRAT MAHDI (AS) WILL BRING THE ARK OF THE COVENANT OUT OF THE CAVE OF ANTIOCH."

(Al-Qawl al-Mukhtasar fi Alamat al-Mahdi al- Muntadhar, 54)

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