

ب. وفي حديثه (عليه السلام) : هَذَا الْخَطِيبُ الشَّحْشَحُ.

II. A tradition of Amīr al-mu'minīn, peace be upon him, says: He is a versatile speaker. [1]

قال السيد الرضي: يريد: الماهر بالخطبة الماضي فيها، وكل ماض في كلام أو سير فهو شحشح، والشحشح في غير هذا الموضع: البخيل الممسك.

as-Sayyid ar-Raḍī says: “shahshah” means one expert and free in speech, and every one who is free in speech or walking is called “shahshah”, while in another sense this word means a miserly and niggardly person.

Footnote :

[1] The reference by the versatile speaker is to Ṣa‘ṣa‘ah ibn Sūhān al-‘Abdī who was among the chief companions of Amīr al-mu'minīn. This saying throws light on the greatness of his speaking quality and the force of his utterances. In this connection, Ibn Abi'l-Ḥadīd has written :

It is enough for Ṣa‘ṣa‘ah’s greatness that a personality like ‘Alī, peace be upon him, has praised him for versatility and eloquence of speech. (Sharḥ Nahj al-balāghah, vol. 19, p. 106)