

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

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

## Footnote:

[1] The reference by the versatile speaker is to Ṣaʻṣaʻah ibn Sūḥān al-ʻAbdī 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 Abiʾl-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)

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