In the battle of Şiffīn Amīr al-mu'minīn saw Imam al-Ḥasan proceeding rapidly to fight, then he said:

Hold back this young man on my behalf, lest he causes my ruin, because I am loath to send these two (meaning al-Ḥasan and al-Ḥusayn) towards death, lest the descending line of the Prophet - may Allāh bless him and his descendants - is cut away by their death.

As-Sayyid ar-Raḍī says: Amīr al-mu'minīn's words "amlikū 'annī hādha'l ghulām" (i.e. "Hold back this young man on my behalf") represents the highest and the most eloquent form of expression.

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