

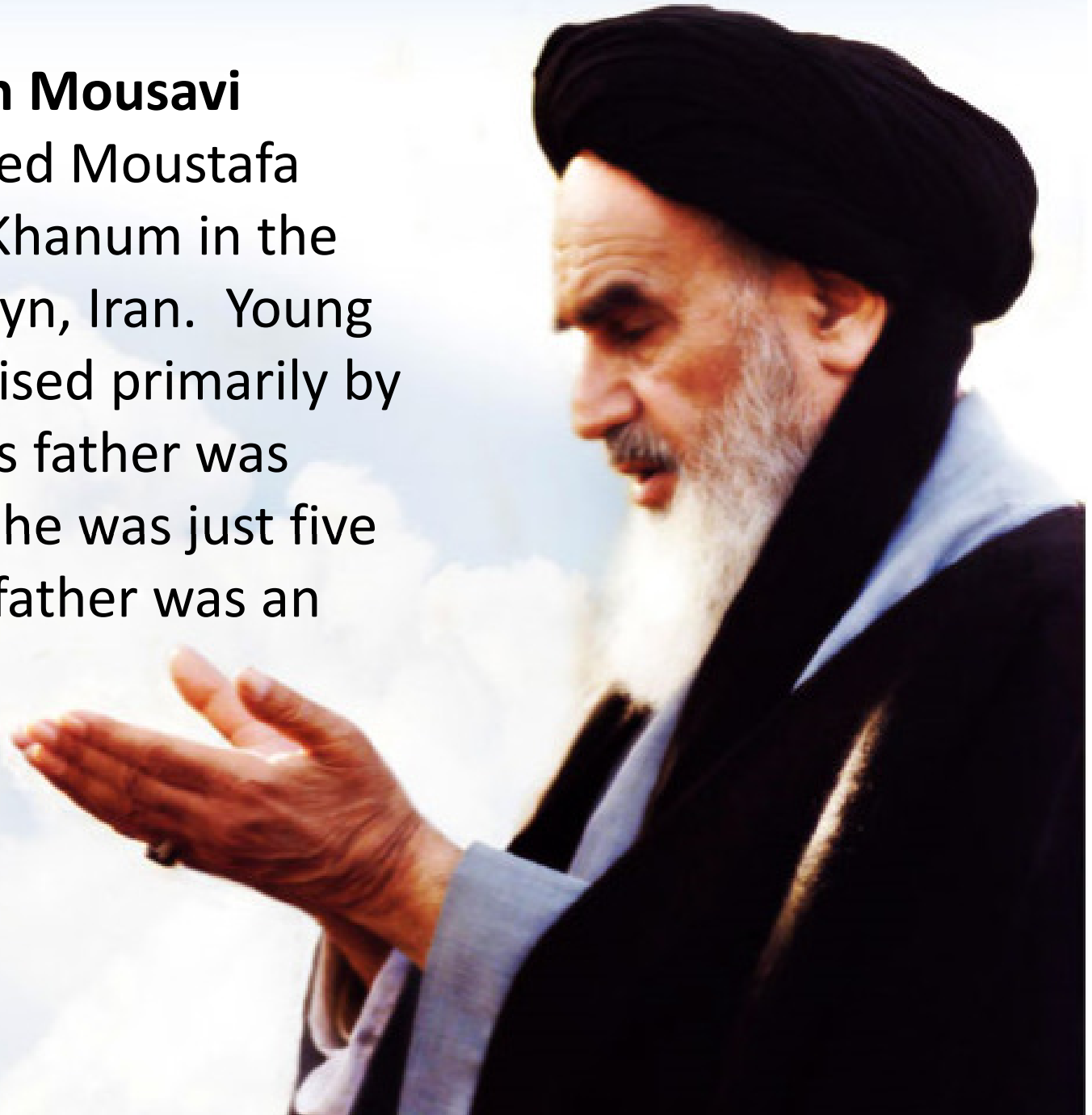
Imam Khomeini



Talking points...

- ❖ **Brief biography**
- ❖ **Recollection of Imam about prayers**

Born as **Ruhollah Mousavi Khomeini** to Sayed Moustafa Hindi and Agha Khanum in the village of Khomeyn, Iran. Young Khomeini was raised primarily by his mother, as his father was murdered when he was just five months old. His father was an alim too.



Imam was lively, he was outstanding in **sports** and his **studies**. He attended a religious school where he learnt Quran and soon became famous for memorising religious and classical poetry.

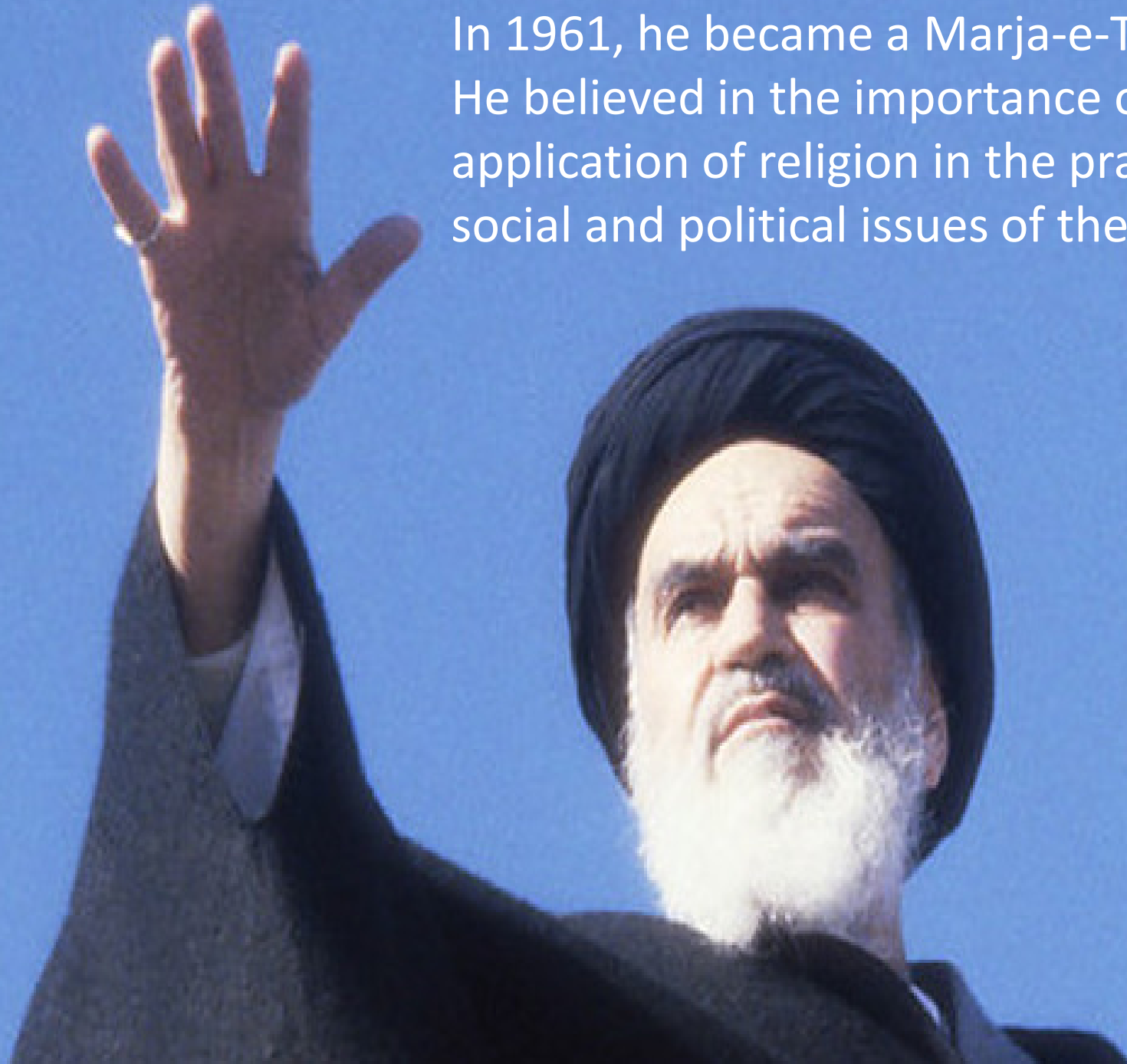


Imam went to Qom and it was there that he studied Islamic law, jurisprudence, philosophy, literature and poetry.

After completing his studies he began teaching in Qom.



In 1961, he became a Marja-e-Taqlid. He believed in the importance of application of religion in the practical, social and political issues of the day.



In 1962, he protested against the Shah of Iran. He organised the religious scholars and together with them, strongly opposed Shah and his plans. He was sent to prison in 1963 and then thrown out of the country (exile).



He was deported to **Turkey** where he lived for a year before moving his base to **Najaf**. In his **14 years of exile**, he reasoned on a theory called **wilayat-al-faqih**, which stated how a true Islamic state should be led by a capable and just jurist (faqih) in the absence of Imam Mahdi (a.s).



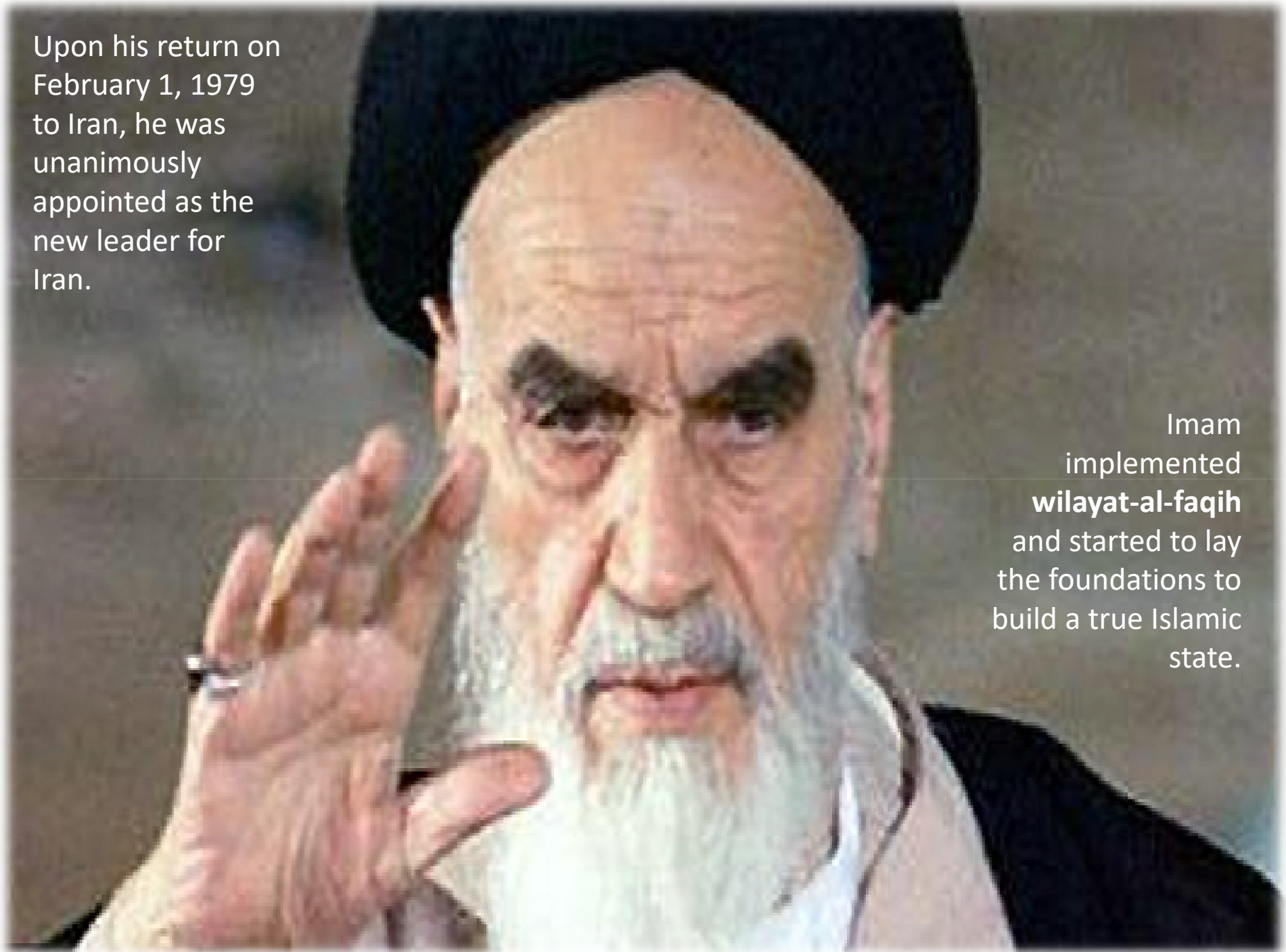
Imam's growing popularity in Iraq and Iran forced the Iraqi government to deport him to Paris in France. Meanwhile, the mass protest against the Iranian government eventually caused the Shah to flee the country.

Therefore is the founder of the **Islamic Republic of Iran** and the leader of the **1979 Iranian Revolution** which saw the overthrow of the King of Iran (Shah)



Upon his return on February 1, 1979 to Iran, he was unanimously appointed as the new leader for Iran.

Imam implemented **wilayat-al-faqih** and started to lay the foundations to build a true Islamic state.



Iran-Iraq war lasted 8 years.
During his time, Iran-Iraq war
lasted 8 years.

Dress code for men and
women was introduced,
Western movies and alcohol,
were banned.
Education was reformed.

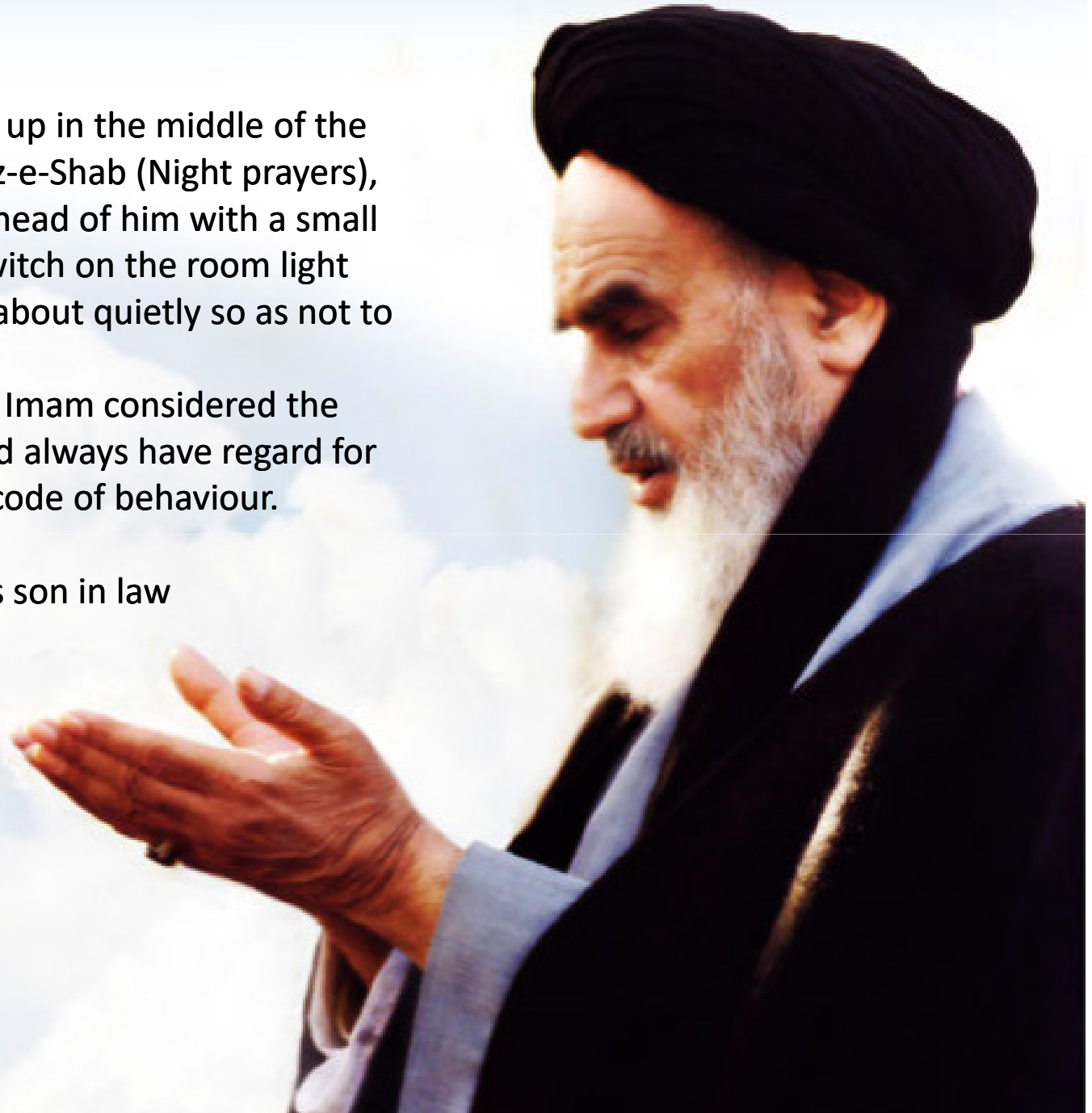


Carefully

When Imam would wake up in the middle of the night to recite the Namaz-e-Shab (Night prayers), he would light the way ahead of him with a small torch. He would never switch on the room light and would always move about quietly so as not to wake anyone else.

Such was the extent that Imam considered the rights of others. He would always have regard for Islamic laws and Islamic code of behaviour.

Agha Bourujardi - Imam's son in law



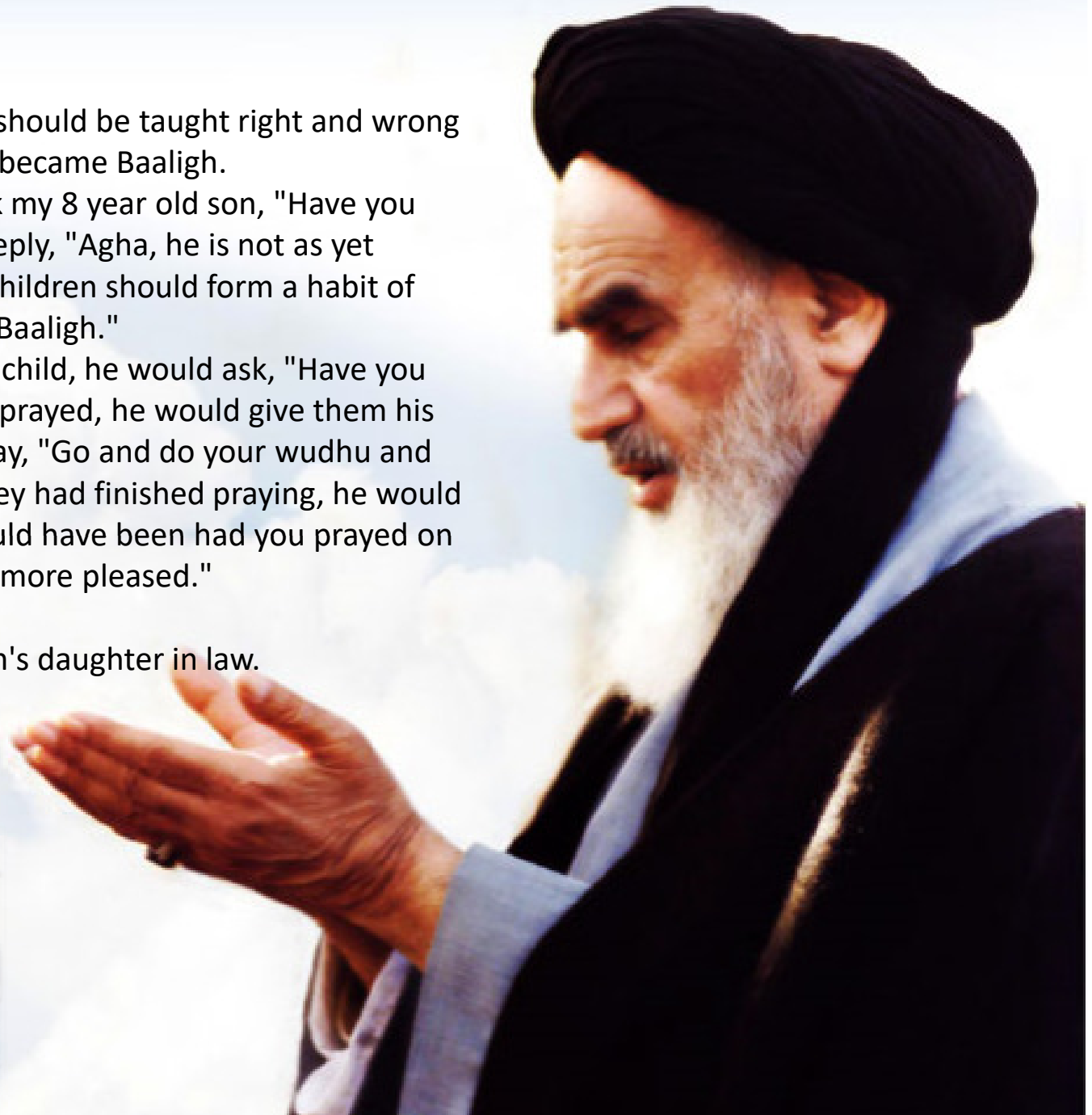
Paternal Concern

Imam believed that children should be taught right and wrong and Islamic laws before they became Baaligh.

Occasionally Imam would ask my 8 year old son, "Have you said your prayers?" I would reply, "Agha, he is not as yet Baaligh." Imam would say, "Children should form a habit of praying before they become Baaligh."

Each time Imam would see a child, he would ask, "Have you prayed?" If the child had not prayed, he would give them his own prayer mat and would say, "Go and do your wudhu and quickly say prayers." After they had finished praying, he would say, "How much better it would have been had you prayed on time. Allah would have been more pleased."

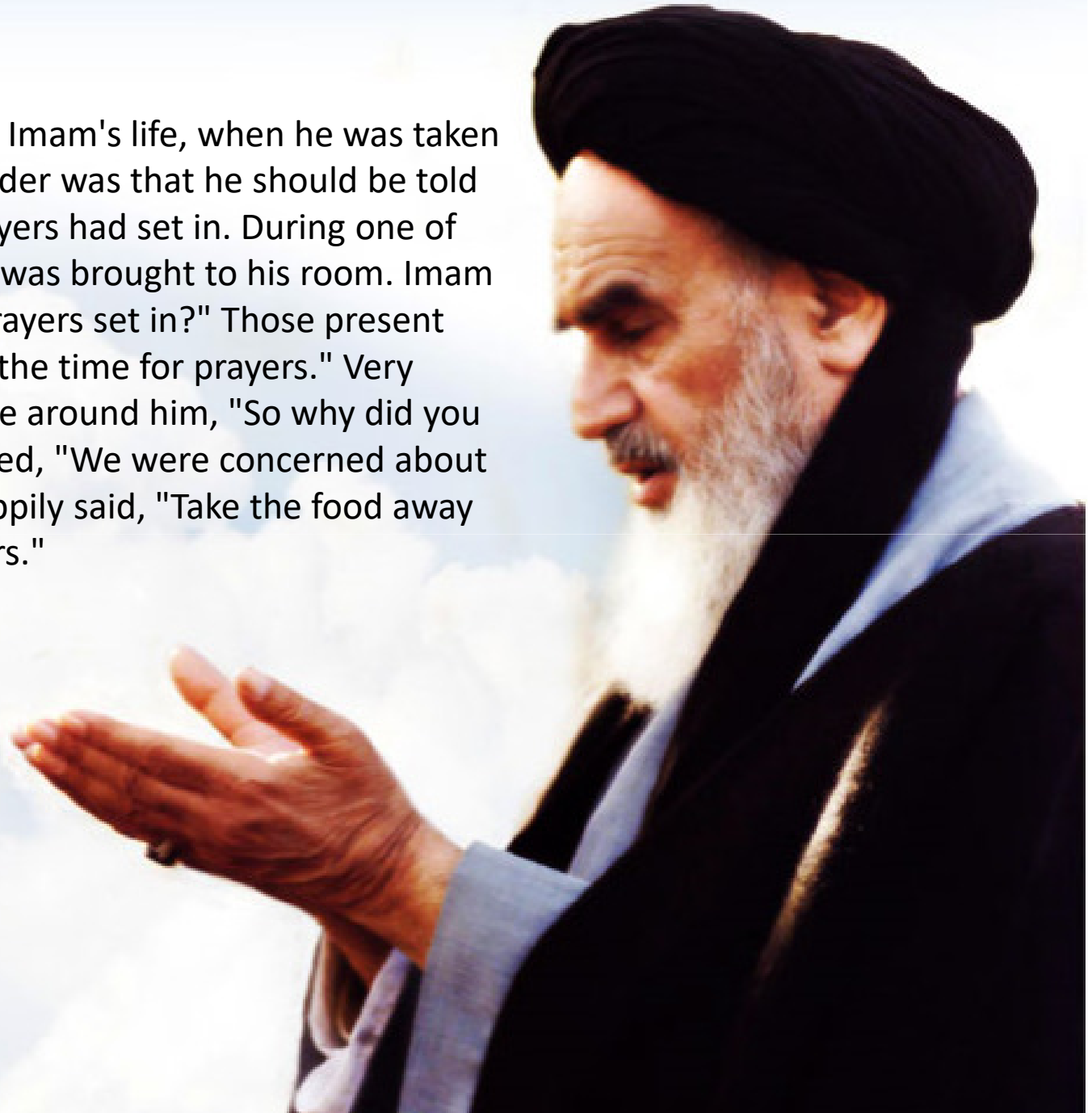
Mrs Fatema Tabatabai - Imam's daughter in law.



Prayers in the Hospital

In the last few days of the Imam's life, when he was taken to the hospital, his first order was that he should be told whenever the time of prayers had set in. During one of those days, a tray of food was brought to his room. Imam asked, "Has the time of prayers set in?" Those present replied, "Yes, it is already the time for prayers." Very sternly, Imam said to those around him, "So why did you not wake me?" They replied, "We were concerned about your health." Imam unhappily said, "Take the food away until I have said my prayers."

Hujjatul Islam Jamaaraani

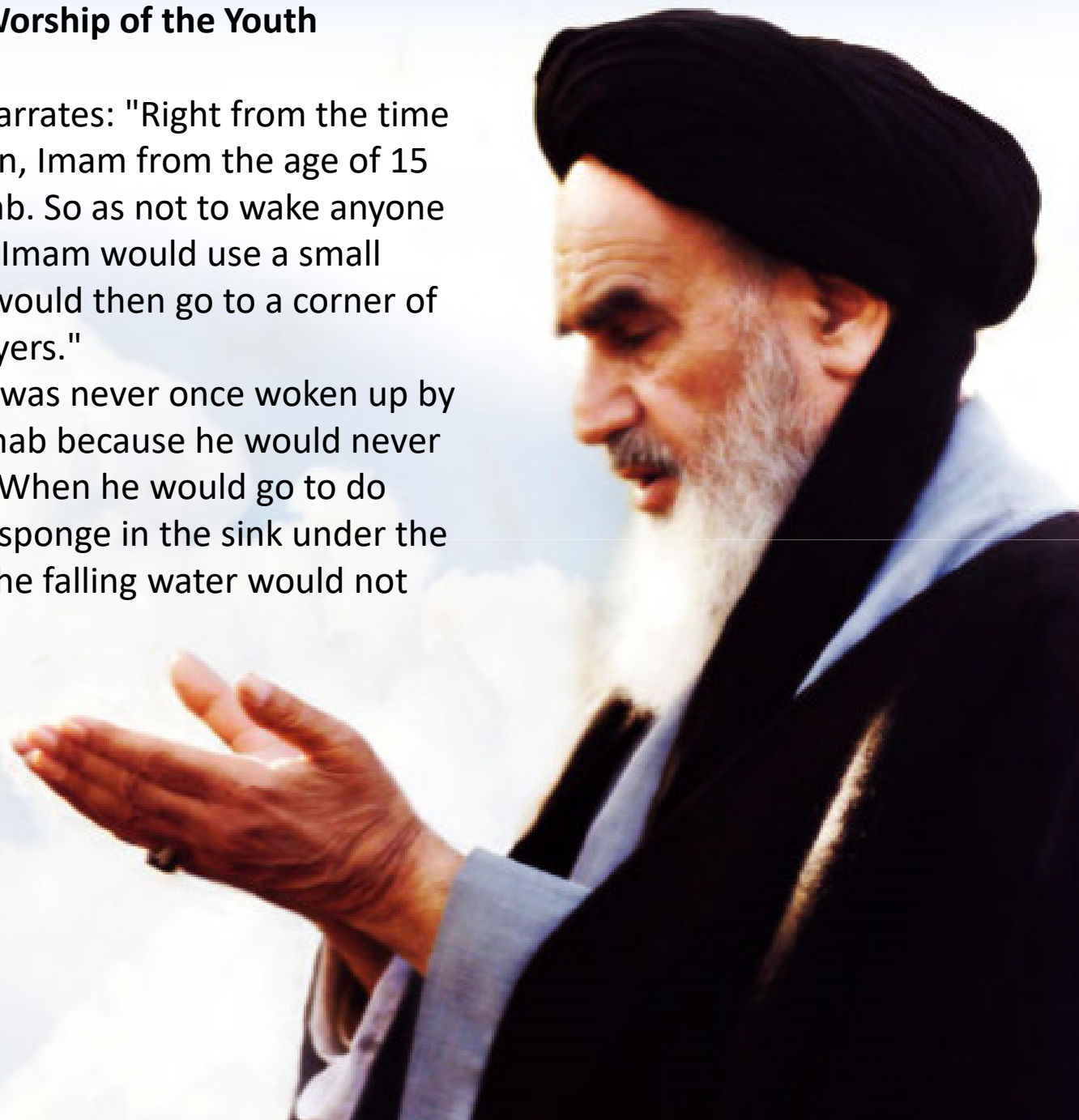


Allah Takes Pride in the Worship of the Youth

One of Imam's relatives narrates: "Right from the time we used to live in Khomein, Imam from the age of 15 would recite Namaz-e-shab. So as not to wake anyone else at that time of night, Imam would use a small lamp to light his way. He would then go to a corner of the house and say his prayers."

Imam's wife would say, "I was never once woken up by Imam praying Namaz-e-Shab because he would never switch on the room light. When he would go to do wudhu, he would place a sponge in the sink under the tap so that the sound of the falling water would not wake me."

Mrs Naeemeh Ashraqi –
Imam's grand daughter

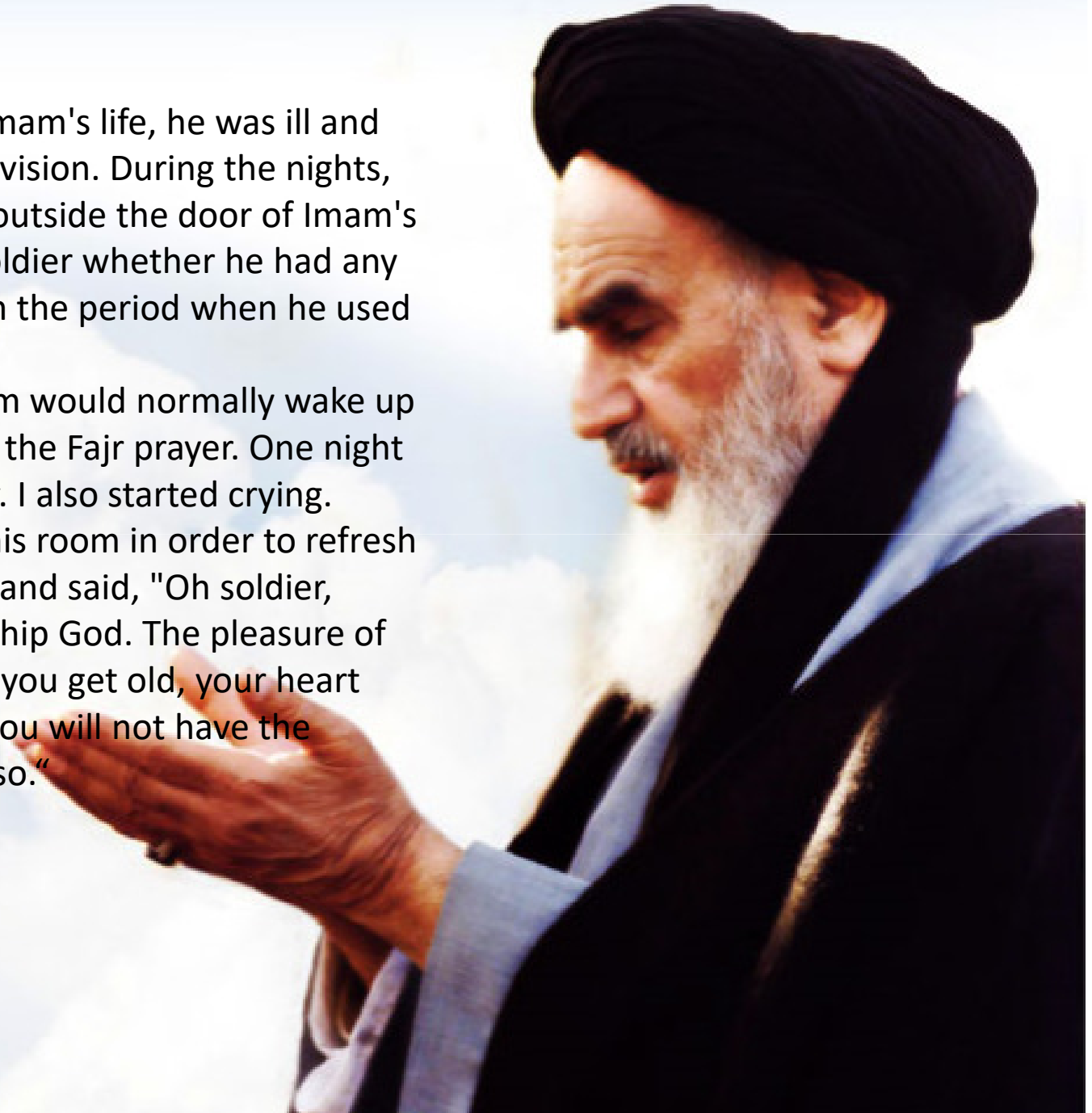


The Lover's Weeping

During the last month of Imam's life, he was ill and in need of increased supervision. During the nights, a soldier would sleep just outside the door of Imam's room. Once I asked that soldier whether he had any recollections of Imam from the period when he used to watch over him.

The soldier narrates: "Imam would normally wake up 2 hours before the time of the Fajr prayer. One night I heard Imam crying loudly. I also started crying. When Imam came out of his room in order to refresh his wudhu, he noticed me and said, "Oh soldier, value your youth and worship God. The pleasure of worship is in youth. When you get old, your heart will want to worship, but you will not have the health and strength to do so."

Ayatollah Tawassuli



Care with the Use of Water

I had on a number of occasions seen Imam doing wudhu. In between each of the actions of wudhu, Imam would close the tap for fear of wasting water. Only when it was necessary, would he open the tap. Many of us do not take care not to waste water. Whereas when Imam wanted to do wudhu, he took a lot of care to make sure water was not wasted.

Agha Mahmood Bouroujardi-Imam's son in law

