Arba‘ein is a Shiite observance marking the martyrdom of Muhammed’s [peace be upon him] grandson, Al-Husayn ibn Ali. Arba‘ein means “forty” in Arabic and the observance is held forty days after the Day of Ashura, on which Husayn is said to have been martyred in battle. Arba‘ein is traditionally observed as a pilgrimage to the Iraqi city of Karbala. This is one of the largest annual public gatherings in the world.