**SHAHEED (by Idrees Saleem)**

**Performer’s Intro:** The next *matam* (chant) is called *Shaheed* – *Shaheed* is an Arabic work for martyr or sacrifice. And it speaks a lot to his (Imam Husayn’s) death, but also speaking to the contemporary situation in Trinidad and Tobago.

**CHORUS:**

*Shaheed, Shaheed Husaynu Ya Shaheed*

(Martyr, Martyr, Husayn, O Martyr)

We place you right ahead of our wants and our needs (X 4)

**VERSE 1:**

Husayn! Your story met us here in Trinidad

Inheritors of slavery the history we had

Husayn! The center of my heart I feel a stab

Zahra please collect all of the tears from our rags

Husayn! I’ll shout your name for everyone to hear

I wish I could relieve you from the pain you had to bear

Husayn! We’re here because it’s what we want to do

Remember those who died in Palmiste just to honor you

**CHORUS:**

*Shaheed, Shaheed Husaynu Ya Shaheed*

(Martyr, Martyr, Husayn, O Martyr)

We place you right ahead of our wants and our needs (X 4)

**VERSE 2:**

Husayn! Your death it really hurt me to the bone

Because there was no one to help you when you were alone

Husayn! At least our people here we get to cry

Husayn you couldn’t cry because your tears already dried

Husayn! You know we’re all unworthy little slaves

Unworthy of the greatest human sacrifice you made

Husayn! We love you more than we love ourselves

Curse of Allah be on Yazid – send them all to hell

**CHORUS:**

*Shaheed, Shaheed Husaynu Ya Shaheed*

(Martyr, Martyr, Husayn, O Martyr)

We place you right ahead of our wants and our needs (X 4)

**VERSE 3:**

Husayn! These people were in fear before they died

And they were *Ahlul Bayt* you know so who the hell am I

Husayn! Even though our sacrifice is small

We beating our chests because we answering the call

Husayn! I look at all my women here today

I don’t know what I’d do if they were treated in that way

Husayn! I’m selfish and I’m greedy and I’m flawed

Without *tawassul* (intercession) Ya Husayn I cannot face my Lord!

**CHORUS:**

*Shaheed, Shaheed Husaynu Ya Shaheed*

(Martyr, Martyr, Husayn, O Martyr)

We place you right ahead of our wants and our needs (X 4)

**VERSE 4:**

Husayn! The chief of all the Youth of Paradise

Put space in our graves when our graves are very tight

Husayn! Peace be unto you the most oppressed

And Abbas, Ali Akbar and Zaynab and all the rest

Husayn! We bury our children everyday

And end to all this hate and all this war is what we pray

Husayn! For Palestine and Syria and all

In Trinidad and Tobago we are answering the call

**CHORUS:**

*Shaheed, Shaheed Husaynu Ya Shaheed*

(Martyr, Martyr, Husayn, O Martyr)

We place you right ahead of our wants and our needs (X 4)

Ya Husayn! (Oh Husayn!)