

# MUHARRAM AT A GLANCE

# 01 MUHARRAM

# at a glance

Week 1	Overview of the life of Imam Husayn (pbuh) using the 'circle'.
Week 2	Events of the day of 'Ashura.
Week 3	Overview of the life of Imam Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) and a story from his life.
Week 4	Brief overview of the Shuhada of Karbala (As many as possible).

# 01 MUHARRAM Week 1 & 2

#### IT'S ALL ABOUT MUHARRAM

Enforce the importance of the 10 days and the events of 'Ashura.

# EXTRACTS FROM A CONVERSATION OF IMAM RIDHA (PBUH) WITH RAYYAN IBN SHABEEB

"I went to see Imam Ridha on the first of Muharram. Imam said, 'O Son of Shabib! Are you fasting?'

I answered, 'No.'

Imam said, "Today is the day on which Zakariya prayed to his Rabb saying; 'There did Zakariyya pray to his Rabb; he said: My Lord! grant me from Thee good offspring; surely Thou art the Hearer of prayer. Then the angels called to him as he stood praying in the sanctuary: That Allah gives you the good news of Yahya verifying a Word from Allah, and honorable and chaste and a prophet from among the good ones." 3:38,39

Therefore, just as Allah fulfilled the duas of Zakariya, He will fulfill the duas of one who fasts on this day, and asks God for something.'

### Imam Ridha (pbuh) continued:

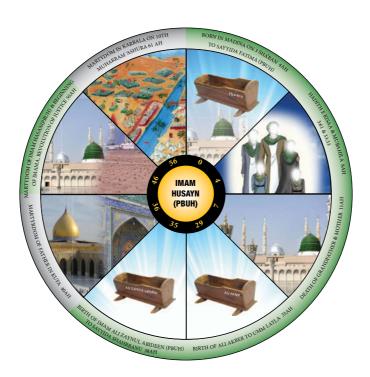
- "O Son of Shabib! Muharram is a month in which even the people of ignorance forbade bloodshed due to its sanctity. However, this nation did not honour the sanctity of the month nor their Prophet. They killed the Prophet's progeny and enslaved his family...
- O Son of Shabib! When you cry over the afflictions of Imam Husayn so that tears flow from your eyes onto your cheeks, Allah wil forgive all your sins, big or small, few or numerous.
- 3. O Son of Shabib! If you wish to be with us in Janna, then grieve in our sorrows and rejoice in our happiness. Remain attached to our love, for even if a person loves a stone, Allah shall resurrect him with it on the Day of Judgment."

### SOME ADDITIONAL AHADITH

Janna is written for the one who recites poetry about Imam Husayn which moves his heart and heart of others to cry.

Anyone who cries when the name of Imam Husayn is mentioned, even to the extent of a wing of a fly, is rewarded by Allah and the reward is nothing less than Janna.

"

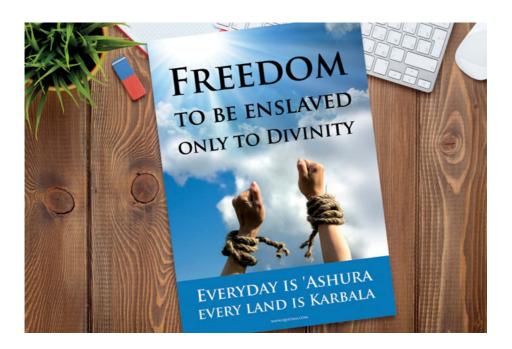


### **COMMEMORATION**

There are gatherings & processions where the story is retold and we are moved to express our emotions through tears and azadari.

The tears are not just primarily tears of grief; they are rather the tears that come when one suddenly perceives a great truth:

- The only way to achieve the title of being a human being is to be able to stand for truth, justice and righteousness even if it means sacrificing everything.
- 2. We re enforce our allegiance to the Prophet and his ahlulbayt.
- 3. We are reminded to continually say "Every day is 'Ashura and every place Karbala" which is to say that they must always be ready to stand up for what is right and true and know that there always will be Divine help.
- 4. It is a time to reflect on the detrimental effects of oppression and do something positive to assis those who are oppressed and in need.



## 01 MUHARRAM Week 3

#### SUGGESTED POST 'ASHURA DISCUSSION

Discuss all the aspects of the 10 days:

- 1. Manners in a majlis
- 2. Marthiyas
- 3. Mailis content
- 4. Husayn vs Yazid
- 5. Impact of the 10 days on their lives



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# SOME EXAMPLES OF TAKE HOME'S TO CARRY ON THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- Say As Salaamu 'alayka Yaa Abaa Abdillah every time they drink water.
- 2. To ensure traits like Arrogance, Bullying and Wastefulness are kept in check Yazid values.
- 3. To inculcate compassion, perseverance and opposing bullying Husaini values.
- 4. To continue attending the mosque build community spirit.
- 5. To pro actively do something for the refugees.



# 01 MUHARRAM Week 4

### **FOCUS ON IMAM SAJJAD (PBUH)**

THE THREE TASKS OF IMAM SAJJAD (pbuh) AFTER THE EVENTS OF 'ASHURA

Imam Sajjad (pbuh) had three difficult tasks:

- 1. To announce his Imama.
- 2. To bring the community together.
- 3. Guidance through the duas of Sahifa Sajjadiyya



# SAFAR AT A GLANCE

# 02 SAFAR at a glance

Week 1	An overview of the journey of the prisoners of the Ahlubayt from Karbala to Kufa to Damascus to Madina.  Wafat of Imam Hasan (pbuh)
Week 2	The role of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) in the establishment of the institution of majalis. Discuss the concept of majalis.
Week 3	Arba'een and a look at Ziyara 'Ashura & 'Arbaeen.
Week 4	A brief overview of the life of Rasulullah (pbuh) with stories from his life.

Discuss the journey of the prisoners of the Ahlulbayt from Karbala to Kufa to Damascus and back to Karbala.

KARBALA to KUFA - 50 miles - 1.5 DAYS TRAVEL KUFA TO DAMASCUS (Shaam) - 500 miles - 10 DAYS TRAVEL

- 1. Left Karbala on 11/12 Muharram
- Imam Husayn's blessed head sent ahead with Khuli on the day of 'Ashura
- 3. 8 Male captives (which included Imam Sajjad, Imam Baqir, & Hasan Muthanna)
- 4. 21 women captives (which included Sayyida Zaynab, Umm Kulthum, Sakina, Umm Farwa, Rabab, Fatima Kubra, & Fizza)
- 5. 29 captives in all paraded through the streets and victory declared against Imam Husayn (pbuh) who refused to give allegiance to Yazid.

Connect to the refugee crisis and our duty towards those who have no homes....

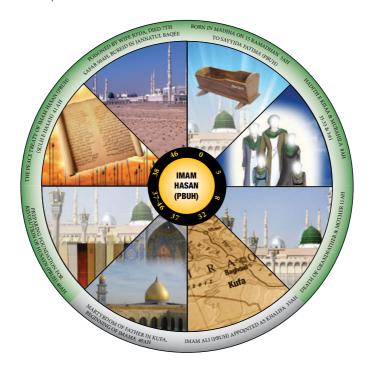


### FOCUS ON IMAM HASAN (PBUH)

Discuss the concept of role models.

What makes a person a celebrity?

- 1. Suggest that we make Imam Hasan (pbuh) a celebrity... Come up with a list of interesting facts that they would like to know about him.
- 2. He was an awesome 'big brother' not only to Imam Husayn but also to Muhammad (son of Abu Bakr whose mum Asma married Imam Ali (pbuh) and to the 4 sons of Ummulbanin (mother of Abbas).
- 3. He was the image of the Prophet in looks and character
- It was from the progeny of his son Hasan Muthanna (Hasan the second) that the family of Tabatabai comes. (Tafseer of Qur'an - Al Mizan written by Syed Tabatabai)
- 5. His generosity was phenomenal
- 6. His recitation of the Qur'an stopped people in the streets so much so that traffic built up...



# FOCUS ON THE JOURNEY OF THE AHLULBAYT AS PRISONERS FROM KARBALA TO KUFA TO DAMASCUS.

KARBALA TO KUFA - 50 miles (1 day) KUFA TO DAMASCUS - 500 MILES (16 days)

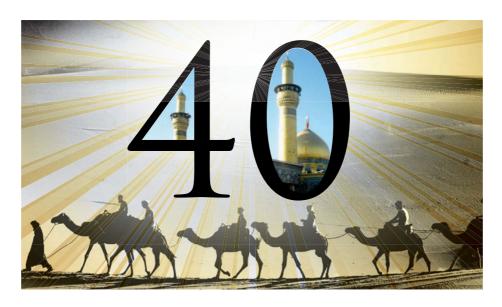
- Point out on the map the cities of Karbala, Kufa and Damascus, Aleppo (Halab), Mosul, Balbeck, Tikrit...
- They arrived at the gates of Kufa on the night of the 12th of Muharram.
- Mention the sermon of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) which she gave to the Kufians.
   It was her words that established the majalis of Imam Husayn (pbuh) and thus these 10 days called Ashre Zaynabiyya.
- From Kufa sent to Damascus. At that time two main routes existed from Kufa to Damascus.
- The army took the longer route so there would be least resistance. Prisoners walked barefoot on the hot sand.
- Talk about the journey of the refugees from Syria today to Europe. How we can help practically and with dua.
- Talk about SAYYIDA SAKINA in preparation for the commemoration of her wafat.



### FOCUS ON THE ARBA'EEN OF IMAM HUSAYN (pbuh)

Reasons of why we commemorate Arba'een include:

- 1. "The heavens wept over Imam Husayn (pbuh) for forty mornings, rising red and setting red" Imam Muhamed al-Baqir (pbuh) "The earth mourns the death of a believer for forty mornings." Rasulullah (pbuh)
- 2. The journey of the prisoners from Karbala to Kufa to Shaam and back to Karbala took 40 days:
- 3. Left Karbala on 11th Muharram 61 AH
- 4. Arrived in Kufa of 12th 19th Muharram
- 5. Left Damascus on 1st 10th Safar 61AH
- 6. Arrived in Karbala on 20th Safar (Arbaeen) 61AH
- 7. Imam Hasan Al-Askery (pbuh) has said: The signs of a believer are five:
  - · Performing fifty-one rakats of salaa daily
  - Reciting Ziyara of Arba'een of Imam Husayn (pbuh)
  - · Wearing a ring in the right hand
  - Placing the forehead on dust [during sajda], and Saying "Bismillah al-rahman al-rahim" aloud in salaa."



The focus is on the WAFAT OF RASULULLAH (pbuh) AND IMAM RIDHA (pbuh) AND UNDERSTANDING LEGACIES

LOOKING AT THEIR LEGACIES
RASULULLAH - A WAY OF LIFE - THE QUR'AN & THE AHLULBAYT
IMAM RIDHA - LIVING IT AS A COUNTRY - IRAN

### **LEAVING A LEGACY (Baaqiyaatus Saalihaat)**

**QURANIC VERSES** 

"Wealth and children are an ornament of the life of the world. But perpetuating good deeds (Baaqiyaatus Saalihaat) are better with your Lord for reward, and best as the foundation of hope."18:46

"And Allah increases in guidance those who go aright; and perpetuating good deeds (baaqiyaatus Saalihaat) are with your Lord best in recompense and best in yielding fruit" 19:76

What is a legacy? Why leave a legacy? How do you leave a legacy? Live your legacy



### **LEGACY**

#### 1. WHAT IS A LEGACY?

It is that which is inextricably linked with your mere mention. In essence it is how you wish to be remembered. I AM WHAT REMAINS OF ME Imagine your funeral—no matter what your age. Your family and friends have gathered to honour your life. But what do you leave behind? Beyond the contents of your last will and testament, what part of you remains on Earth even after you've passed away?

A legacy is that which you create to benefit future generations – something you may not even see in your lifetime. Leaving the world a better place than the way you found it.

#### 2. WHY LEAVE A LEGACY?

Qur'an gives 3 reasons:

- Guaranteed return
- Guaranteed fulfillment of hope (no wishful thinking)
- Guaranteed expansion, life... (Immortality)

# 3. WHAT IS THE CATALYST THAT WILL AWAKEN ONE TO LEAVE A LEGACY?

The Prophet (pbuh) was asked, "Who are the most intelligent of the believers?"

He said "Those who remember death a lot and prepare for it?"

### **LEGACY**

An ideal moment to look at the challenge of teaching about the Prophet (pbuh) whose wafat and wiladat both fall in this term which will ensure that the students are able to formulate their legacy by knowing enough of this awesome personality to emulate him....

A challenge but then someone's got to change the world.

Here are a few trivia questions....
What does Muhammad mean?
And what about Ahmed?
Why does he have both these names?

Who is a Rasul? (Since in our declaration of faith we say Muhammadur Rasulullah). Simple translations of messenger is not accepted.

What was the significance of Hijra?

The Qur'an in 3:31 and 33:21 - the formulae to reach one's full potential lies in the 'ittibaa' of the Prophet (pbuh). What does ittibaa mean as opposed to Itaa'a (obedience)?

What are the three qualities in his character that earned him the titles As Sadig, Al Ameen and Rahmatul Iil Aalemeen?)

# RABI UL AWWAL AT A GLANCE

# 03 RABI UL AWWAL

# at a glance

Week 1	A brief overview of the life of Rasulullah (pbuh) with stories from his life.
Week 2	Focus on the birthday celebration of Rasulullah (pbuh) & Imam Ja'fer As Sadiq (pbuh).
Week 3	Overview of the life of Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) and a story from his life.
Week 4	Timeline from Rasulullah (pbuh) to Imam Ja'fer As Sadiq (pbuh).

# 03 RABI UL AWWAL Week 1

Continue with the focus on Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and discuss Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh).

A brief overview of the life of Rasulullah (pbuh) focusing on his sunna – way of life (practicalities)



## 03 RABI UL AWWAL Week 2

Focus should be on emphasising that he was the most awesome man that walked the earth. The Encyclopaedia Britannica calls him the most successful of all religious personalities of the world.

#### The three characteristics that made him awesome are:

- Honesty
- Trustworthiness
- Kindness

#### **HONESTY**

- Telling the truth
- Not take what is not ours. If we have done something dishonest, we own up to it.
- We tell the truth even when it is hard to do. When you tell the truth people will respect you, and you will feel better about yourself.
- I might not like what you have to tell me, and there might be a consequence, but I will respect you for telling the truth.

#### **TRUSTWORTHINESS**

Qualities of a trustworthy person:

- Following rules
- Always keeping a promise
- Never being mean
- Never taking things that don't belong to us
- Talk to them about how they feel if someone is mean to them, or is not honest with them. Ask them how they feel when someone does this to them or how they feel about that person.

#### **KINDNESS**

- When you feel like shouting at someone, use a gentle voice instead.
- Say "Please" and "Thank You" (Jazakallah).
- Help a family member with a chore.
- Listening to others when they want to talk.
- Take time to play with your siblings and friends.
- Forgive
- Ignore other people's annoying habits.

# 03 RABI UL AWWAL Week 3 & 4

### FOCUS ON IMAM SADIQ (pbuh)

A look at the phenomenal contribution to a wide spectrum of subjects from Chemistry and Medicine to Tafseer and Fiqh by Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh).



# RABI UL AKHER AT A GLANCE

# 04 RABI UL AKHER

# at a glance

Week 1	Historical time line from Imam Sadiq (pbuh) to Imam Hasan Al -Askery (pbuh).
Week 2	Overview of the life of Imam Hasan AI - Askery (pbuh) and the famous hadith of qualities of a mu'min.
Week 3	An overview of the preparation for the 'ghayba' of the 12th Imam- focusing on the 9th, 10th and 11th Imams.
Week 4	Awesome Muslim women.

## 04 RABI UL AKHER Week 1

The idea is to make the Prophet (pbuh) in their minds a cool celebrity whom they 'want' to copy. Whenever Imam Ali (pbuh) said anything he would say "I heard the Prophet say".

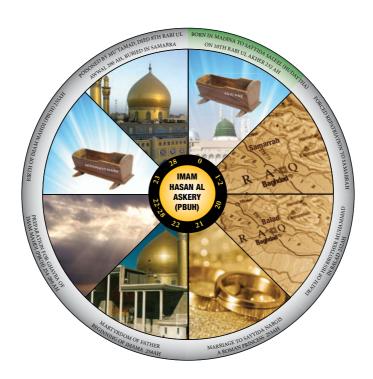
Continue with healthy eating and maybe this time looking at foods in the Qur'an from QWords with the Arabic names.

- On the vision board look at the balance between healthy eating and exercise. Swimming, archery, etc... were all sports encouraged by the Ma'sumeen.
- Talk of the importance of exercise in their lives.
- Go over the names of the Ma'sumeen explaining that all ahadith (from any Imam) are all attributed to the Prophet (pbuh). He was their source.



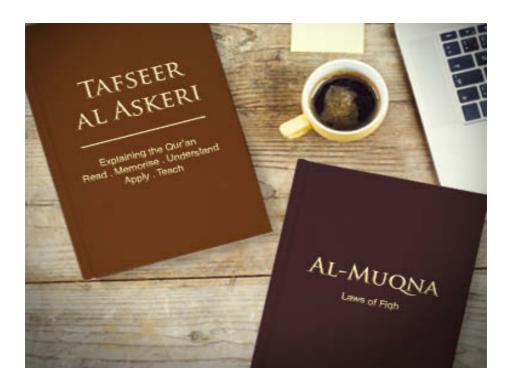
## FOCUS ON HASAN AL ASKERY (PBUH)

- With the circle of his life first start with his Mum and Dad Imam Ali Naqi (pbuh) also known as Imam Al Hadi. His mum was from Egypt and her name was Saleel. His dad was 16 when he was born. He has 3 brothers and 1 sister.
- When he was 1 they were forced to to travel 1100 miles to Samarrah from Madina. Show the distance on the map. No planes, cars, or trains but on camel....



### FOCUS ON HASAN AL ASKERY (PBUH)

- In Samarrah they live under house arrest. Police everywhere spying on them because everyone knew of the coming of Imam Mahdi (pbuh) who would bring justice to the world.
- He helps his father build an organisation where people could help each other and where if they couldn't meet Imam their questions could be answered. (You could explain tagleed here)
- At 21 he marries a Roman princess called Narjis who becomes a Muslim.
- At 22 his father dies
- At 23 Imam Mahdi (pbuh) is born.
- He writes two major books Tafseer Al Askery (Explanation of the Qur'an) and Al Muqna' (A book answering questions on Fiqh). Also meets people whenever he can....
- He is poisoned and dies when he is 28.



## 04 RABI UL AKHER Week 2

Middle of the month; talk about the full moon and phases of the moon. The 13th, 14th & 15th of the lunar months are known as Ayyamul Biydh (Lighted days). On the vision board relate it to how we grow old from infant to child to youth (full moon) and then middle age, old age....

Talk of the incident in the life of the Prophet (pbuh) when he split the moon (Suratul Qamar). This can lead to talking about miracles given to Prophets to prove their Prophet hood.

A photo from NASA using Apollo 10 and Apollo 11 shows a clear indication (a line) that the Moon was split in past.

This miracle of the Prophet (pbuh) is mentioned in the beginning of Suratul Qamar [54:1]

'The Hour has drawn near, and the moon has been split..."

The Makkans asked the Prophet to show them a miracle, so he showed them the splitting of the moon)? The challenge was to split the moon in to two pieces when it is full.

As was related by Adbullah ibn Mas'ud, while they were in Mina one night, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) split the moon into two by a gesture of his index finger. The two parts had separated and receded so far apart from each other that to the on-lookers one part had appeared on one side of the mountain and the other on the other side of it. Then in an instant the two had joined again. Then, the Prophet (pbuh) turned to us and said: 'Be witnesses!'

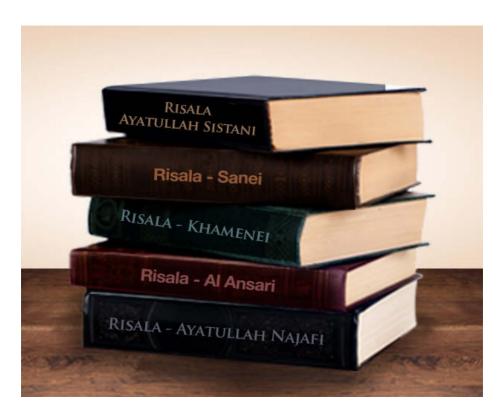


## 04 RABI UL AKHER Week 3 & 4

Discuss the concept of litijad and the role of the Ulema, with a focus on:

- Importance of knowledge
- Amr bil Ma'ruf & Nahyi anil Munkar
- Qur'an
- Ahadith
- Time management
- Closeness to Allah & Ma'sumeen

The aim is to make the students understand the importance of mujtahideen.



# JAMAD UL AWWAL AT A GLANCE

# 05 JAMAD UL AWWAL

# at a glance

Week 1	Birth of Sayyida Zaynab with a focus on her life.
Week 2	The role of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) in Karbala and thereafter in the court of Yazid.
Week 3	Salient points from Sayyida Zaynab's (pbuh) address to Yazid.
Week 4	Ayyame Fatimiyya – An overview of the life of Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) with a focus on the tasbee of Sayyida and Hadith Kisaa.

## 05 JAMAD UL AWWAL Week 1

Introduce the concept of how the Prophet (pbuh) taught that boys and girls were equal in the eyes of God. The best person was the one who was the most God conscious (always knew that Allah was watching). Refer ava 49:13

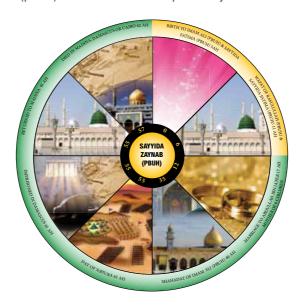
Discuss the concept of majlis, it's benefits and the manner when attending a majlis.

Talk about how we can see this in Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh).

- She was the perfect student of her mother Sayyida Fatima (pbuh).
- The best daughter, wife, mother, community worker, teacher, upholder of justice...
- She was the one who laid the foundation of majlis. (May mean a gathering but in this respect a gathering where Imam Husayn (pbuh) is remembered).

### **Activity**

A practical one in which each student has to say one or more sentences about Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) or about the concept of majlis.



# 05 JAMAD UL AWWAL Week 2 & 3

A look at the lives of some of the women mentioned in the Qur'an.

Discussing lessons that can be applied to daily life.

HAWWA ZAYNAB (PBUH) ZAYNAB (PB

# 05 JAMAD UL AWWAL Week 2 & 3

### **SAYYIDA FATIMA (PBUH)**

Introduce Sayyida with a focus on three things, which can remain a thread for all the lessons on her life:

- 1. She is an ideal (perfect example) to follow
- 2. She is the link between Prophet hood and Imama
- 3. Tasbee of Sayyida Fatima (pbuh)

Start with her wafat and emphasise how she achieved so much in her short life. Talk of how valuable time is and to make use of it in the best possible way. Write down the things that Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) achieved in her life:

- Daughter
- Wife
- Mother
- Teacher
- · Community member
- Upholder of justice

Discuss the aspect of her being the link between Nabuwwa and Imama.



# JAMAD UL AKHER AT A GLANCE

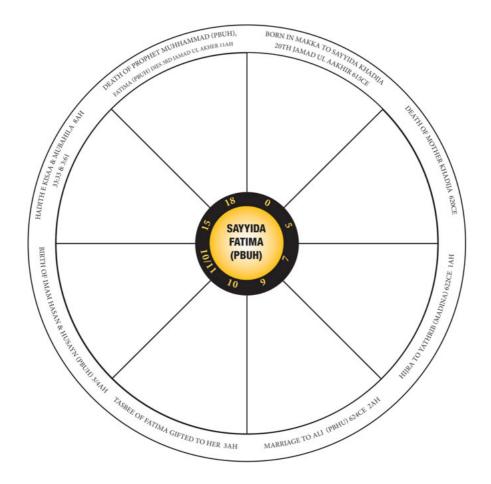
# 06 JAMAD UL AKHER at a glance

Week 1	Salient points from the address of Sayyida Fatima Zahra (pbuh).
Week 2	Celebration on the birth of Sayyida Fatima Zahra (pbuh) with a mention of her being the link being Nabuwwa and Imama.
Week 3	A focus on the role of Sayyida Fatima Zahra (pbuh) as a daughter, wife, mother, community member, teacher, mentor.
Week 4	Introduce the month of Rajab - 10 occasions in this month – 4 sad and 6 happy. Discuss the Rajab dua.

Continuing with the different roles of Sayyida Fatima, ask the students to list the roles in their life...

e.g. daughter/son, student, friend, grandson/daughter, nephew/niece, community member, global humanity member......

Using a circle divided into 7-8 segments fill in the different aspects (some examples listed below) from her timeline asking the students to illustrate them as you talk about each one (this will take two weeks).



In preparation for the wiladat of Sayyida Fatima talk about birthdays. Do the students know the Islamic Date of their birthday?

Introduce the importance of a name... Sometimes we are named after an important person, sometimes because of what the name means or it may be a name that means a lot to the family....

Talk about parents, siblings, grandparent, etc. The importance of 'sile raham'. Talk about the birth of Sayyida Fatima (pbuh). Her family tree, the meaning of her name and titles...

What would they want to be titled as?

How would they like to celebrate the wiladat and of Sayyida next week? What is her legacy?



#### **BIRTHDAY OF SAYYIDA FATIMA (PBUH)**

The country we live in celebrates Mothers Day on a specified Sunday in March. The early history of Mother's Day dates back to Persians, Greeks, and Romans. However, the recent History of Mother's Day is from England where a Mothering Sunday is observed. This is celebrated on 4th Sunday of Lent and is an annual celebration to pay honor to Virgin Mary.

In Iran Mother's day is the 20th of Jamadul Aakhir to coincide with the birthday of Sayyida.

Although every day is Mother's day it's a good idea to use the opportunity of the birth of Sayyida Fatima to stress the importance of a Mother.

This conversation can be continued next week as well...

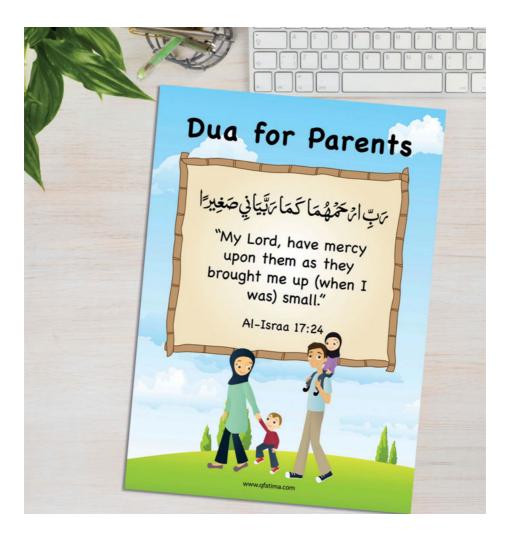
A person asked: "O' Prophet! Towards whom should I exhibit goodness and kindness?" The Prophet replied: "Towards your mother." The man then asked: "And after that towards whom?" The Prophet again said: "Your Mother." He asked again: "And then?" Once again, he replied: "Your mother." For the fourth time the man asked: "And then?" This time he said: "(Then towards) Your father." Biharul Anwar, Volume 74, Page 49

A person came to the Prophet (pbuh) and said: 'O' Prophet of Allah! I have committed every known evil act. Is there a chance that I may be forgiven?' The Prophet asked him: 'Are any of your parents still alive?' The man replied: 'My father.' He said to him: 'Go and be good and kind to him.' When he left, the Prophet said: 'If only his mother had been alive.'" Biharul Anwar, Volume 74, Page 82

NOTE: Before starting the lesson, if you have any children in your class who are without a mother that you make reference throughout the lesson to anyone who plays the mother's role - such as step mums, foster mums, grandmothers, aunts, and even single parent dads.

#### **DISCUSS**

What is a mother? What does a mother do? What makes a mother special? Ask the children to each tell you what they love most about their mother. What do mother's do? Prompt a discussion about the importance of a mother's role within the family. Try to ensure that all of the children have some input.



Talk about the coming month of Rajab and it's awesomeness.

Encourage the recitation of Tahleel (laa Ilaha illallah), Suratul Ikhlas and istighfaar throughout the month. Go over the concept of One God and its repetition in the tashahhud of every salaa.



### IMAM MUHAMMAD AL BAQIR (PBUH)

Go through the events of the month focusing on the birthday of Imam Muhammad Baqir (pbuh).

- He was known as AL BAQIR (one who expounds) In simple terms one who explains things to make it easy, just like a teacher. Talk of the importance of understanding things and asking questions.
- 2. It was Imam Baqir (pbuh) who introduced the concept of the Muslims having their own. \*currency. He suggested a coin with Laa Ilaha Illallah on one side and Muhammadur Rasulullah on the other...

\*The Byzantine emperor was threatening to withdraw the dominant Byzantine currency, thus sabotaging the Muslim economy unless concessions were made by the Muslims, (which were unacceptable). The currency in the Muslim was predominantly the Byzantine currency. Abdul Malik the Khalifa asked Imam Muhammad Al Baqir (pbuh) to solve the crisis (the currency problem facing the nation). He advised to stop dealing with the Byzantine currency, and produce Muslim currency (coins) instead, inscribing La Ilaaha Illa Allah on one side and Muhammadur Rasul Allah on the other. To stamp the edge of the coin with the date and locality, and to have special scales to weigh the gold currency pieces.



# RAJAB AT A GLANCE

# 07 RAJAB at a glance

Week 1	Overview of the life of Imam Muhammad Al-Baqir (pbuh) and a story from his life.
Week 2	Imam Musa Al Kadhim (pbuh) was born in Safar and Safar is a sad month we celebrate his birthday on the 7th of the 7th month as he is the 7th Imam. Overview of the life of Imam Musa Al-Kadhim (pbuh) and a story from his life.
Week 3	Celebration of the birth of Imam Ali (pbuh). List his qualities and how he was the most perfect student of Rasulullah (pbuh). Discuss the concept of Imama.
Week 4	Me'raj/ Yawmul Be'that – Relate to Qur'anic ayaat – Suratu Bani Israil 17:1, and 1st five ayaat of Suratul 'Alaq.  Order of Salaa and it's importance, concept of the closer to Allah, the more the opening of the perceptions of the nafs  Importance of the months of Rajab, Sha'ban and the month of Ramadhan.

## 07 RAJAB Week 1

Emphasise the importance of the month of Rajab and the recitation of Tahleel (Laa Ilaha Illallah) and Suratul Ikhlas.

Introduce Imam Musa Kadhim (pbuh) as the 7th Imam. Talk of the 7 days of the week, 7 heavens, 7 layers of the earth, and go through the months and identify Rajab as the 7th month. Because Imam was born in Safar and Safar is a sad month we celebrate his birthday on the 7th of the 7th month, as he is the 7th Imam.

Mention how Imam despite being imprisoned taught by developing a network (use Facebook as an example of explaining a network). The idea being that the message reaches as many people as possible.

#### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

On the map of the world, ask students to mark places where they know people and connect with lines showing how a network is established. Discuss how they could share what they learn in workshop with their network.



## 07 RAJAB Week 2

- Discuss the wiladat of Imam Ali (pbuh) and a brief look at his life maybe dividing his life in three phases.
- 2. The first phase was 23 years of struggle for the establishment of an Islamic System with the Prophet (pbuh). The second phase was 25 years to preserve Islamic Unity.
- 3. The final phase of 5 years was the struggle to establish Social Justice. Maybe one anecdote/ aspect which they can remember aya 5:55 "Indeed, your wali is only Allah and His messenger and those who believe those who establish salaa and pay the zakaa whilst in rukoo."

(\*The incident is appended below for information). We asked the students to illustrate the aya - one of them was very well done - she drew a ring with 5:55 on the stone. Within the circle of the ring she drew a stick figure in rukoo. The illustration was simple but effective.

\*Abu Dharr Ghifari says that one day he was praying with the Prophet (pbuh) in Masjidun Nabi when a beggar came to the masjid. Everyone was praying and no one responded to his pleas for help. The beggar raised his hands and said: "O Allah! Bear witness that I came to Your Prophet's masjid and no one gave me anything."

Imam Ali (pbuh) was in rukoo. He stretched his hand towards the beggar and pointed out his little finger on which was a ring. The beggar came forward and took the ring.

The Prophet (pbuh) raised his face towards the heavens in dua: "Ya Rabbi! My brother - Prophet Musa (pbuh) begged to You to expand for him his breast, make his work easy for him and loosen the knot on his tongue so that people might understand him, and to appoint from amongst his relations his brother as his wazir and to strengthen his back with Harun and to make Harun his partner in work. (Suratu Taha 20:25-30).

"O Allah! You said to Musa: 'We will strengthen your arm with your brother...'
O Allah! I am Muhammad... Expand my breast for me, make my work easy for me and from my family appoint my brother Ali as my wazir. Strengthen my back with him."

The Prophet (pbuh) had not yet finished his dua when Jibrail brought the above aya of the Qur'an.

## IMAM ALI (PBUH) TIMELINE

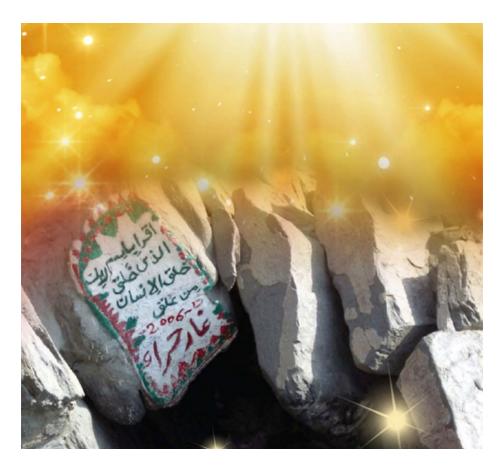


## 07 RAJAB Week 3

Introduce the 27th of Rajab as being an awesome date for two occasions:

- 1. Be'that
- 2. Mi'raj

Focus on Be'that today. Relate the story of how the Prophet was meditating in the cave of Hira when the angel Jibrail comes and says IQRA' – Explain IQRA' being Read, Memorise, Understand, Apply & Teach. This was the first revelation of the Qur'an. Talk about the basic details of the Qur'an – number of Suwer, Ajzaa, etc.....

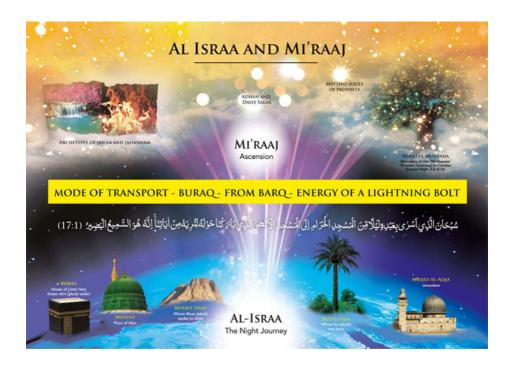


## 07 RAJAB Week 4

Introduce the 27th of Rajab as being an awesome date for two occasions: 1.Be'that 2.Mi'raj

Focus on Mi'raj and the awesome journey of Rasulullah from the Ka'ba to the heavens and back via Mt Sinai, Bethlehem & Jeruselam. Refer to it as ISRAA and Sura 17 of the Qur'an being the night journey to the heavens. If time permits discuss Buraq as a mode of transport, which travelled faster than the speed of light (avoid images...)

See attached link for book by Mulla Fadhil Kashani. http://www.al-islam.org/al-miraj/



# SHA'BAN AT A GLANCE

# 08 SHA'BAN at a glance

Week 1	Wiladats of Syyedush Shuhada (pbuh), Hazrat Abbas (pbuh), and Imam Zaynul Aabideen (pbuh) – Concept of shahadat, loyalty, and 4th Imam's tableegh through majlis, ibada, and Sahifatus Sajjadiyya. Explain concept of celebrating wiladat.
Week 2	Shab e Bara'a, Wiladat of Imam Al-Asr (pbuh) – Communication with him – Areeza, Dua Importance of Shabe Bara'a – reflecting on who I am? Where do I want to go? How do I get there? Contempation on Suratu Yaseen.
Week 3	Imam e Zamana (pbuh) - Responsibilities during ghayba.
Week 4	Preparation for the month of Ramadhan – Sermon of the Prophet (pbuh).

### 08 SHA'BAN Week 1

Discuss the three wiladats - Maybe one hadith narrated by each when we think of them. e.g. IMAM HUSAYN (pbuh)

"Do not begin a conversation without first saying Salaam to the person you are talking to."

#### Here we discuss the following points:

- 1. Initiating salaam is Mustahab reply is Wajib
- 2. The thawaab for the Mustahabaat is 99, for the waajibaat it is 1 Reply to Salaam is Wajib even whilst praying Salaa (In other words you-cannot insult a Muslim using Allah as an excuse)

#### IMAM ALI ZAYNUL AABEDEEN (pbuh)

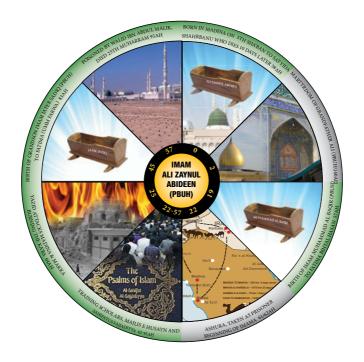
"DO not complain of the Merciful to the Merciless"

Start the topic of Salatul Jama'a using the following sub sections:

- 1. Importance of Salatul Jama'a Worldly benefits and spiritual benefits
- 2. Imam of Salatul Jama'a
- 3. Responsibilities of a Ma'moon
- 4. Arrangement
- 5. How and when to join (at various positions)
- 6. Connections
- 7. Emergencies
- 8. Praying Salatul Jama'a with Ahlus Sunna and in Makka & Madina



## IMAM ALI ZAYNUL ABIDEEN (PBUH) TIMELINE

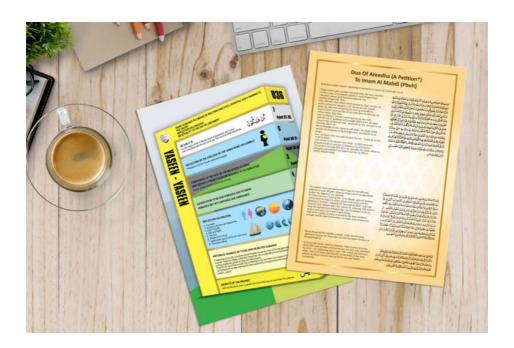


## 08 SHA'BAN Week 2

Merits of Laylatul Bara'a and focus on the life of Imam Al Mahdi (pbuh) Communication with him – Areeza, Dua...

Laylatul Bara'a – reflecting on who I am? Where do I want to go? How do I get there?

Contempation on Suratu Yaseen...



## IMAM MUHAMMAD AL-MAHDI (PBUH) TIMELINE



## 08 SHA'BAN Week 3

Ghayba – Discuss how the sun behind clouds benefits creation:

- Discuss the 4 naaibs their roles and character (maybe letter of Imam to Muhammad bin Uthman on his father's wafat.
- Instill the cnocept that his presence is real just like the presence of Prophet Yusuf (buh) in front of his brothers although they did not recognise him.
- Discuss concept of Intizhar (waiting) preparation for zuhur.
- Discuss how a kind word, a pound to charity, a few more minutes in contemplation about who am I? Where am I going? And where do I wish to go? Do I know my Imam? Or maybe more important do I want to know my Imam? Are all part of preparation.



## 08 SHA'BAN Week 4

Preparation for the month of Ramadhan – Sermon of the Prophet (pbuh) in detail...

http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Sermon\_of\_the\_Prophet.pdf



# MONTH OF RAMADHAN AT A GLANCE

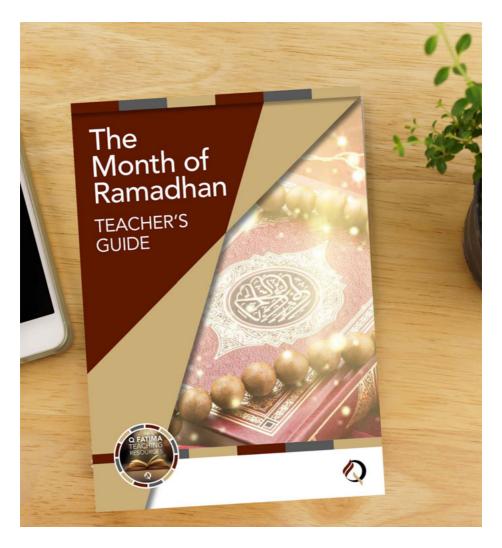
## 09 MONTH OF RAMADHAN

## at a glance

Week 1	Masails of Fasting Sayyida Khadija (pbuh)
Week 2	Imam Hasan (pbuh) Battle of Badr Preparation for Laylatul Qadr
Week 3	Shahadat of Imam Ali (pbuh) Laylatul Qadr
Week 4	Jumua'tul widaa Eid ul Fitr

## 09 MONTH OF RAMADHAN Separate Lesson Plans

http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Month\_of\_Ramadhan\_ Teachers\_Guide.pdf



## SHAWWAL AT A GALNCE

# 10 SHAWWAL at a glance

Week 1	<ul> <li>The three months of Shawwal, Dhulqa'da and Dhulhijja known as Ash'harul Hajj.</li> <li>Discuss Ramadhan and what they gained from the month. Did they make any resolutions?</li> </ul>
Week 2	Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) Meaning of the word Eid & ref in Qur'an 5:114 Discuss festivals and celebrations birthdays – wiladat of Ma'sumeen
Week 3	Take the students through the preparation for Hajj to the journey and rituals using Infants Hajj workbook
Week 4	Discussing practical steps to ensure the preparations are done.  History of Makka – All aspects of the Ka'ba:  First built by Prophet Adam (pbuh) – first person to do tawaf  Destroyed in the flood of Nuh (pbuh)  Rebuilt by P. Ibrahim & Ismail (pbuh)  Placing of Hajarul Aswad by the Prophet (pbuh)

Discuss the month of Ramadhan and what each one gained from the month. Did they make any resolutions? Are they going to keep up the good habits and keep away from the bad habits?

Introduce the term EID (pl. A'YAAD). Mention the weekly Eid of Friday and the other 4 which are all in Ash harul Hajj (the three months of Shawwal, Dhulqa'da & Dhulhijja).

- 1. Eid ul Fitr
- 2. Eid ul Hajj (Adha)
- Eid ul Ghadeer
- 4. Eid ul Mubahila

#### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Ask each student to list 5 goals to be achieved this term (before the month of Muharram).



The three months of Shawwal, Dhulqa'da and Dhulhijja known as Ash'harul Hajj. Take the students through the preparation for Hajj to the journey and philosophy using the Hajj Journal. Start by looking at the list of preparations focusing on correct recitation of Qur'an, salaa, khums update, and writing of a will. Make a list to tick off.

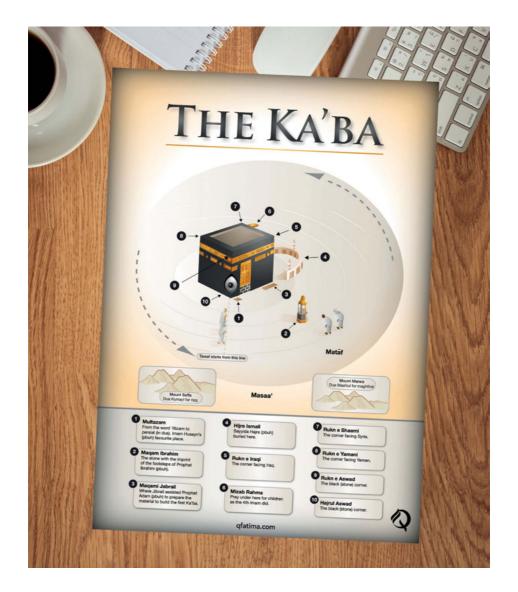
For the wafat of Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) mention his last words as an admonition as said to Abu Baseer (one of the companions of Imam) when he went to the house of Imam to give his condolences to the family after Imam had died. Imam's wife - Sayyida Umme Hameeda said that Imam said: "Those who take salaa lightly will not get our shafa'a (intercession)".



Continue with the preparations for Hajj – looking at each one and discussing practical steps to ensure they are done.



History of Makka - All aspects of the Ka'ba



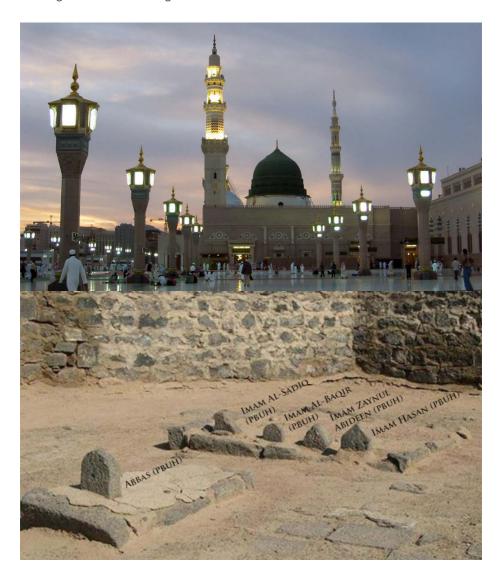
## DHULQA'DA AT A GLANCE

## 11 DHULQA'DA

## at a glance

Week 1	<ul> <li>Knowing about the personalities that are buried in Makka and Madina – making a list and learning about them.</li> <li>Introduce Talbiyya and continue with memorisation of ayat of Qur'an connected to Hajj.</li> <li>Discuss story of Sayyida Hajra when left on her own with the baby and Sa'ee</li> </ul>
Week 2	Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) 8
Week 3	<ul> <li>History of Madina and life of Rasulullah (pbuh), Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) and Aimma buried in Baqee (history of Baqee)</li> <li>Discuss of concept of Hajj. Talk about Arafat, Muzdalifa &amp; Mina.</li> </ul>
Week 4	<ul> <li>Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) 9</li> <li>Dahwul Ardh – celebration of "Earth Day". Discuss responsibilities to the environment, e.g. wastage, recycling.</li> </ul>

Knowing about the personalities that are buried in Makka and Madina – making a list and learning about them.



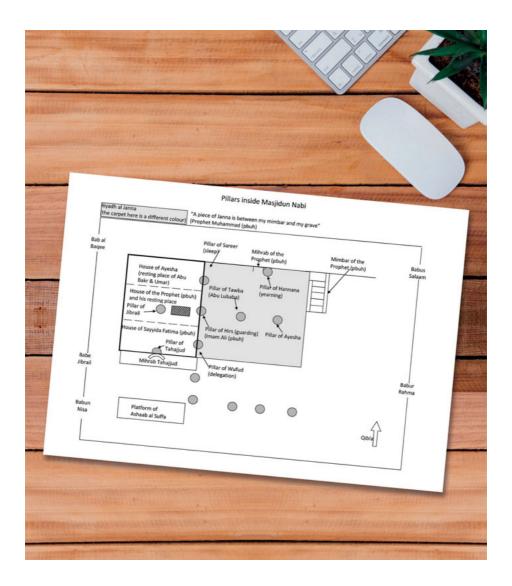
Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) 8

Discuss title of gharibul ghuraba (only ma'sum buried out of Makka, Madina, Iraq.

Pick one incident, narration from the life of Imam Ar-Ridha (pbuh) in preparation for his wiladat in the week to come. When we go for a birthday celebration we have a general idea of our host/hostess. Use this to encourage the students to have some idea of the Ma'sum whose wiladat/ wafat they attend. They must know more then just a name....



A look at the floor plan of Masjidun Nabi.



Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) 9

Journey to Hajj – Follow diaries of those who are going (maybe on Coej site?) Look at diaries from previous years.



# DHULHIJJA AT A GLANCE

# 12 DHULHIJJA

# at a glance

Week 1	<ul><li>Virtual Hajj trip</li><li>Imam Muhammad Baqir (pbuh) 5</li></ul>
Week 2	<ul> <li>Imam Ali Naqi (pbuh) 10</li> <li>Focus on the Hajj and the importance of the day of 'Arafa – knowing oneself</li> <li>Eid ul Hajj</li> <li>Discuss sacrifice (aya 3:92) &amp; Eid salaa</li> </ul>
Week 3	Eid Ghadeer – memorisation of aya 5:67 and the sermon of the Prophet (pbuh) at Ghadeer. 'Man kuntu mawlahu fahazha aliyyun mawlahu'. Explain that the Prophet (pbuh) built ISLAM to perfection just like the builders built the centre. The Aimma are like caretakers of ISLAM who look after it making sure it remains pure, just like we have to look after the centre to keep it going.
Week 4	<ul> <li>Eid Mubahila – Link with Hadith Kisaa 3:61</li> <li>Prophet Isa (pbuh)</li> <li>Look at Christian Muslim relations</li> </ul>

# 12 DHULHIJJA Week 1 & 2

- 1. Introduce the month of Dhulhijja as the month of Hajj and 3 A'yaad Eid ul Hajj, Ghadeer & Mubahila.
- 2. Discuss the two important days of 'Arafa & Eid ul Hajj. With 'Arafa talk about the concept of knowing oneself. Ask the students to describe themselves Physically, mentally, emotionally & spiritually. (Be careful that there is no negativity and every description has a positive spin on it). It can be as simple as E.g. I am a Khoja Shia Ithna asheri Muslim who has warm brown eyes, loves football and coming to Workshop... The idea is to make the students think about who they really are... and then who they want to be...
- Inspire them to want to reach the stars provided they are willing to work for it... the day of 'Arafa is for such aspirations especially between Zhuhr & Maghrib.
- 4. With Eid ul Hajj discuss how Eid in celebrated maybe showing them pictures of what happens in Hajj the sacrificing of an animal, the shaving of heads etc...
- 5. Discuss Eid Salaa... if time permits.
- 6. The 15th of Dhulhijja sees the birthday of Imam Ali Al Naqi (Al Haadi). Discuss his title of Al Haadi and how he revived the mosque of the Prophet into being a university of learning just as it was at the time of Imam Sadiq. Besides arranging the coming of Sayyida Nargis and her subsequent nikah to Imam Askery, he spent his life setting up networks of representatives for the economic and educational well-being of the community in preparation for the ghayba of Imam Mahdi (pbuh).



# IMAM ALI AL-NAQI (PBUH) TIMELINE



## PREPARATION FOR THE DAY OF 'ARAFA

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "The Hajj is 'Arafa - because of the abundance of God's Rahma and forgiveness of every sin on that day....."

Thus the day of 'Arafa wherever you are is the most important aspect of the month of Dhilhijja.

'Arafa is called 'Arafa because it is the day of "ma'rifa", it is the day of knowing your Rabb and recognizing Him. The hadith, "Whoever recognizes himself, recognizes his Creator" is narrated for this day.

A hadith says "Those who weren't able to achieve their purpose and goal in Laylatul Qadr or those who weren't forgiven on that day, 'Arafa is their opportunity. In days there is no bigger day than Arafa and in Nights there is no greater night than Laylatul Qadr!"

The real valuable moments are between Dhuhr & Maghrib. Take some time out and lay out yor plans of how you will reach your full potential......

Make the longest dua list you have ever made.... Allah tells Prophet Musa (pbuh) "Ask for the salt in your dough the laces for your shoes...."

Use Dua 'Al 'Arafa as your foundation for the list.....



# **DUA 'ARAFA**

Imam Husayn in Dua 'Arafa makes us realise that:

- 1. We as human beings are incredibly powerful and intricate creations capable of reaching divinity.
- 2. Realisation comes by looking within the quietest aspects of one's being.
- 3. Life will always throw a curve ball at us to keep us alert and awake.
- 4. The mind can hide from the truth and create all sorts of fabricated illusions about what Truth is, without really surrendering to what is here now.
- 5. Deep down the ego knows that it is not real, and that one day it will die but you don't have to wait...you can transcend the ego now....
- 6. The keys to reaching one's full potential lie in SHUKR (Thankfulness)

The thread through the whole dua is SHUKR.

'If you are thankful, surely I will increase for you"(Qur'an 14:7)

Prophet Dawud (David) said: "O Lord! How can I thank You, for my thankfulness is a blessing which itself requires thanksgiving!" God revealed to him: "O Dawud, when you have known that every blessing that you enjoy is from Me, you have thanked Me." Shukr therefore is manifesting His blessings through word, deed and intention.....

### Bottom line

Give out of yourself as much as possible....

"You will never achieve your full potential of goodness unless you give out of what you love the most" 3:92



# 12 DHULHIJJA Week 3

This lesson should focus totally on Eid ul Ghadeer. The last 20 minutes of the lesson to be a party in celebration.

### **EID UL GHADEER**

Invariably this is the most important Eid, which identifies who we are. The story of Ghadeer must be ingrained in the students as the story of Christmas is for Christianity....

The important aspects are highlighted below and emphasis on the ayaat of Qur'an is important. Maybe to know the numbers 5:67 & 5:3 every time they think of Ghadeer...



# KEY EXTRACTS FROM THE SERMON OF GHADEER KHUM

"It seems the time approached when I shall be called away (by Allah) and I shall answer that call. I am leaving for you two precious things and if you hold on to them both, you will never go astray after me. They are the Book of Allah and my Progeny, which is my Ahlul Bayt. The two shall never separate from each other until they come to me by the Pool (of Kawthar)."

This is known as HADITH THAQALAYN (The narration of the two weighty (important) things). Then he continued holding up the hand of Imam Ali (pbuh): "For whoever I am his Leader (mawla), 'Ali is his Leader (mawla)." The Prophet (pbuh) continued: "O' God, love those who love him, and be hostile to those who are hostile to him."

As soon as he finished aya 5:3 was revealed: "Today I have perfected your religion and completed my favour upon you, and I was satisfied that Islam be your religion." The Prophet (pbuh) then asked everyone to pay allegiance to Imam Ali (pbuh). Amongst them was Hazrat Umar bin Khattab who said: "Well done Ibn Abi Talib! Today you became the Leader (mawla) of all believing men and women."

# KEY EXTRACTS FROM THE SERMON OF GHADEER KHUM

The meaning of the words RELIGION, ISLAM & FAVOUR as in Aya 5:3 "This day I have perfected your religion and completed my favour upon you, and chosen for you Islam as your religion."

#### **RELIGION**

Religion (deen) is your life transaction. It is that which you have exchanged your life for. In other words it is that which drives you to do what you do.

#### **ISLAM**

Peace with God, Submission to God is the general translation... In essence it is submission to Divinity, which is perfection. This in turn means you persist in driving towards what you perceive is perfection... Allah says in Hadith Qudsi; "I am what you believe Me to be." The higher you aim, the more barriers you break.

# **FAVOUR (BLESSING)**

Ni'ma, Baraka & Hasanaat are all words that mean a favour or blessing from God. However, Ni'ma refers to a specific blessing and is only called a Ni'ma (sometimes referred to as ne'mat by Urdu, Gujarati speakers) when the recipient is intelligent enough to recognise it as a favour... SO here He is saying what He says in 14:34 "And He gives you of all that you ask Him; and if you count Allah's favours, you will not be able to number them......"

## A SIMPLISTIC TAKE ON EID UL GHADEER

- I was created with a goal to reach my full potential (to recognise the awesomeness of HIS creation and thus HIM)
- Instruction manual (The Qur'an) downloaded from the server in the sky through an awesome flawless man (Rasulullah) who has the password and showed how to live as a perfect human being (Yaseen is the name of the Prophet which means O Perfect Human Being)
- 3. Needed life long support & guidance that was flawless as well so HE said announce the company (the Ahlul Bayt) to the world on Ghadeer 5:67
- Life long support announced (Hadith Thaqalayn) and its CEO (Ali) and accepted by those present on behalf of themselves and those who would come after them. Divine confirmation 5:3
- 5. Some decided to switch companies and are still suffering from power outages, error messages and well just about everything....
- 6. I for one rejoice at the wisdom of my parents and teachers to have taught me to stick to this company THE AHLULBAYT and thus the awesomeness of GHADEER....



# 12 DHULHIJJA Week 4

# EID AL MUBAHILA - (9 AH) A year before Eid ul Ghadeer

Continuing with the concept of Imama - introduce the aya of Mubahila - 3:61 by first telling the story of Mubahila...

"To those that argue with you after the knowledge you have received say: Come, let us get together our sons and your sons, our women and your women, ourselves and yourselves. We will pray together and call down the withdrawal of mercy (a'na) of Allah on those who lie." 3:61



# EID AL MUBAHILA

#### **FOCUS POINTS**

- The group from Najran were staying as guests of the Prophet in Masjid un Nabi. Even though they disagreed with him, they were still looked after.
- 2. Who to take was answered the night before in the event of the Kisaa. Point out how Jibrail knew each of the individuals under the Kisaa but when they were under the Kisaa together he couldn't identify them as the combined energy was overwhelming... Thus the question to divinity - "Who is under the Kisaa?"
- Also the revelation of 33:33 Allah intends to keep away from you all impurity, O Ahlulbayt, and to purify you with [extensive] purification. The word is to keep away - not remove (remove signifies there was something impure there).
- 4. The Prophet identified in Mubahila that he and Imam Ali were from the same nafs... (Soul mates in Divine language).

#### **ACTIVITIES SUGGESTIONS**

The event of Mubahila is an event that confirms the wilaya of Imam Ali a year before Ghadeer - the word anfusanaa (our selves) denotes Imam being the 'nafs' of Rasulullah. Encourage memorisation of ayaat 3:61 and 33:33

Whenever they hear Hadith Al Kisaa - Mubahila should come up. Explain the word la'na (a dua asking God to withdraw His mercy).

The word Mubahila comes from Abhala - to leave someone alone lbtihaal - In a disagreement to let Allah deal with the opposite person.

