

### **SUGGESTED TEACHING SCHEDULE**

These are sample lessons that may help the teacher plan her lesson.

If there is a Wiladat or Wafat in the week to come there must be a mention of that Ma'sum and a little talk on him/her. Explain the terms Wiladat and Wafat at the outset.

Explain how Wiladat is sometimes called KHUSHALI (coming from the Urdu and Farsi words Khushi - meaning happy and Haali - meaning occasion).

A summary of the occasions for each month with a suggested topic schedule is given at the outset, which can be incorporated with the lessons. Topics from other strategies should be incorporated within the Q Calendar schedule to provide a rounded cross-curricular lesson.

The sections on history will have to be varied according to the dates and therefore need not be in the sequence in the lessons.

In the month of Ramadhan or Muharram mention more about the occasions in the month. Special modules are prepared for these months.

If homework is given it must be backed by a small note to the parents for at this age children may forget and then get very distressed about it the following lesson. A 'message' book is advisable serving communication between parent and teacher.

#### **For Every Lesson**

1. Greet with As-Salaamu 'Alaykum and encourage the children to reply putting emphasis on the (n) in Alaykum.
2. Begin with Bismillah... loudly and correctly encouraging the children to say it.
3. Recite Suratul Fatiha and Ikhlas.(Each day paying attention to a particular makharij and rule of tajweed)
4. Write the Islamic date on the board. The children may not know it but if this practise is continued every day they will get used to it.
5. End with Ziyara of the Ma'sumeen.

**Q CALENDAR SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN**

Muharram	Week 1	Overview of the life of Imam Husayn (pbuh) using the 'circle' and timeline.
	Week 2	Events of the day of 'Ashura focusing on the concept that freedom comes from standing for the truth
	Week 3	Overview of the life of Imam Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) and his lifework of upholding the message of Karbala through establishing the institution of Majalis with Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh)
	Week 4	Brief overview of the Shuhada of Karbala (As many as possible)
Safar	Week 1	An overview of the journey of the prisoners of the Ahlubayt from Karbala to Kufa to Damascus to Madina
	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 Rasulallah (pbuh) focusing on his legacy
Rabi ul Awwal	Week 1	A brief overview of the life of Rasulallah (pbuh) focusing on his sunna – way of life (practicalities)
	Week 2	Focus on the birthday celebration of Rasulallah (pbuh) & Imam Ja'fer As Sadiq (pbuh)
	Week 3	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).
	Week 4	Timeline from Rasulallah (pbuh) to Imam Ja'fer As Sadiq (pbuh) looking particularly at the different schools of thought.
Rabi ul Akher	Week 1	A brief overview of the different schools of thought.
	Week 2	The 28 years of the life of Imam Hasan Askery (pbuh) and his legacy. He set up an economic and educational support network and authored a Tafseer of the Qur'an and a book answering Fiqh questions.
	Week 3	Historical timeline from Imam Sadiq (pbuh) to Imam Hasan Al Askery (pbuh).
	Week 4	The change of outlook for the Aamma from the school of Imam Sadiq (pbuh) in Masjidun Nabi to the imprisonment of Imam Hasan Al Askery (pbuh)
Jamad ul Awwal	Week 1	A look at the role of women in Islam and the birth of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) with a focus on her life A look at some of the awesome women mentioned in the Qur'an
	Week 2	The role of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) in Karbala and thereafter in the court of Yazid. A look at some of the awesome women mentioned in the Qur'an

Q SCHOOL – LESSON PLANS FOR AGE 12 TO 14 YEARS – YEAR 7 to 9

	Week 3	Salient points from Sayyida Zaynab’s (pbuh) address to Yazid. A look at some of the awesome women mentioned in the Qur’an
	Week 4	Ayyame Fatimiyya – An overview of the life of Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) with a focus on the tasbeeh of Sayyida and Hadith Kisaa.
Jamad ul Akher	Week 1	Salient points from the address of Sayyida Fatima Zahra (pbuh) on Fadak A look at some of the awesome women mentioned in the Qur’an
	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
Rajab	Week 1	Imam Muhammad Al-Baqir (pbuh). He was known as AL BAQIR (one who expounds) – In simple terms one who explains things to make it easy like a teacher. 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.. <i>*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.</i> <i>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 Ilaha 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 to make sure accurate worth</i>
	Week 2	.Imam Musa Al Kadhim (pbuh) was born in Safar and Safar is a sad month we celebrate his birthday on the 7 <sup>th</sup> of the 7 <sup>th</sup> month as he is the 7 <sup>th</sup> Imam. Mention how Imam despite being imprisoned did 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.
	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	<b>Me’raj/Yawmul Be’that</b> – Relate to Qur’anic ayaat – Suratu Bani Israil 17:1, and 1 <sup>st</sup> 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.
Sha’ban	Week 1	<b>Wiladats of Syyedush Shuhada (pbuh), Hazrat Abbas (pbuh), and Imam Zaynul Aabideen (pbuh)</b> – Concept of shahadat, loyalty, and 4 <sup>th</sup> Imam’s tableegh through majlis, ibada, and Sahifatus Sajjadiyya.

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		Explain concept of celebrating wiladat.....
	Week 2	<b>Shab e Bara'a, Wiladat of Imam Al-'Asr (pbuh)</b> – 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? Contemparation on Suratu Yaseen...
	Week 3	Imam e Zamana (pbuh) - Resposibilites during ghayba.
	Week 4	Preparation for the month of Ramadhan – Sermon of the Prophet (pbuh) in detail...
Ramadhan	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
Shawwal	Week 1	The three months of Shawwal, Dhulqa'da and Dhulhijja known as Ash'harul Hajj.  Discuss Ramadhan and what they 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? Discuss Qadha Sawm Discuss Eid ul Fitr & Eid salaa
	Week 2	Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) <b>6</b> 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 philosophy using the Hajj Journal. Encourage memorisation of the ayat 2:196-201. 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
	Week 4	Continue with preparations – looking at each one and discussing practical steps to ensure they are done. History of Makka – All aspects of the Ka'ba <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First built by Prophet Adam (pbuh) – first person to do tawaf</li> <li>• Destroyed in the flood of Nuh (pbuh)</li> <li>• Rebuilt by P. Ibrahim &amp; Ismail (pbuh)</li> <li>• Placing of Hajarul Aswad by the Prophet (pbuh)</li> </ul>
Dhulqa'da	Week 1	Knowing about the personalities that are buried in Makka and Madina – making a list and learning about them Introduce Talbiyya and continue with memorisation of ayat of Qur'an

Q SCHOOL – LESSON PLANS FOR AGE 12 TO 14 YEARS – YEAR 7 to 9

		connected to Hajj. Discuss story of Sayyida Hajra when left on her own with the baby and Sa'ee
	Week 2	Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) <b>8</b> Discuss title of gharibul ghuraba (only ma'sum buried out of Makka, Madina, Iraq). Our responsibilities towards refugees and the homeless
	Week 3	History of Madina and life of Rasulullah (pbuh), Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) and Aamma buried in Baqee (history of Baqee) Discuss of concept of Hajj Talk about Arafat, Muzdalifa & Mina. In Arafat we have to think of all our enemies - Lying, being rude, shouting... In Muzdalifa we pick up the pebbles as weapons to hit at our enemies that we have now recognised. Ask them to make a list of 'their own' enemies* that they would like to attack. *Ensure they have the right concept. In Mina we hit the jamarat but we are really hitting at the enemies within us. If there is time explain the concept of Ihram.
	Week 4	Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) <b>9</b> Journey to Hajj – Follow diaries of those who are going (maybe on Coej site?) Look at diaries from previous years. Dahwul Ardh – celebration of “Earth Day”. Discuss responsibilities to the environment, e.g. wastage, recycling ...
Dhulhijja	Week 1	Virtual Hajj trip Imam Muhammad Baqir (pbuh) <b>5</b>
	Week 2	Imam Ali Naqi (pbuh) <b>10</b> Focus on the Hajj and the importance of the day of 'Arafat – knowing oneself Eid ul Hajj Discuss sacrifice (aya 3:92) & Eid salaa
	Week 3	Eid Ghadeer – memorisation of aya 5:67 and the sermon of the Prophet (pbuh) at Ghadeer. - 'Man kuntu mawlahu fahazha aliiyun mawlahu'. Explain that the Prophet (pbuh) built ISLAM to perfection just like the builders built the centre. The Aamma 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. Discuss Imama, Dua Nudba & Eid Salaa
	Week 4	Eid Mubahila – Link with Hadith Kisaa 3:61 Prophet Isa (pbuh) Look at Christian Muslim relations

**SUGGESTED TEACHING SCHEDULE – Q CALENDAR – GREGORIAN CALENDAR**

<p>February</p>	<p><b>ST. VALENTINE’S DAY</b>                  Discuss the 14th of February which in this country is Valentine's Day ♥.                  This was originally commemorating early Christian martyrs, many of whom were called Saint Valentine. It then became a day when people expressed their love to their loved ones.                  Associate with kindness and one aspect of kindness is to acknowledge those who are kind to us.                  Introduce the dua:                  “Rabbirhamhuma kamaa rabbaayaani sagheera”                  (Rabb show mercy (kindness) to both my parents as they were kind to me when I was little”                  Encourage it’s recitation in Qunoot stressing the importance of kindness to parents and acknowledging their kindness at all times...                  Relate stories of the Prophet’s kindness and his title in the Quran as RAHMATUL LIL AALEMEEN</p>
<p>March</p>	<p><b>MOTHER’S DAY</b>                  The country we live in celebrates Mothers Day on a Sunday in mid to late 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.</p>
<p>June</p>	<p><b>FATHER’S DAY</b>                  Emphasise the importance of respect to a father and the rights of a father as taught by Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) in Risalatul Huquq</p>
<p>October</p>	<p><b>HALLOWEEN (Holy Evening)</b>                  Discuss the 31st of October, which in this country is Halloween. It is thought to have originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off roaming ghosts.                  In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honour all saints and martyrs; the holiday, All Saints’ Day, incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows’ Eve and later Halloween.                  Discussion on religion vs tradition and honouring of saints and martyrs as we do in our calendar events.</p>
<p>December</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b>                  Talk about the birth of Prophet Isa (pbuh), according to the Qur’an</p>

### CROSS CURRICULAR SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN INCORPORATING Q CALENDAR

- At the start of every lesson – Islamic date & salaa times on the board
- Start the lesson with recitation of a sura (preferably the sura currently being taught in Qur'an Appreciation Lesson)

At the start of the year:

- Introduce yourself, timetable, class rules and housekeeping

At the start of each term

- Ask students to make a note of the focuses of the term.

### MUHARRAM – WEEKS 1 & 2

#### ITS ALL ABOUT MUHARRAM

I suggest we re enforce the importance of the 10 days and ensure that the students are able to connect Ghadeer with the events of 'Ashura...

#### EXTRACTS FROM A CONVERSATION OF IMAM RIDHA 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,

هُنَالِكَ دَعَا زَكَرِيَّا رَبَّهُ قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

There did Zakariyya pray to his Rabb; he said: My Lord! grant me from Thee good offspring; surely Thou art the Hearer of prayer.

وَهُوَ قَائِمٌ يُصَلِّي فِي الْمِحْرَابِ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يُبَشِّرُكَ بِيحْيَى مُصَدِّقًا بِكَلِمَةٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ فَنَادَتْهُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ

وَسَيِّدًا وَحَصُورًا وَنَبِيًّا مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ

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 fulfil the duas of one who fasts on this day, and asks God for something.'

Imam Ridha continued:

1. "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...
2. O Son of Shabib! When you cry over the afflictions of Imam Husayn so that tears flow from your eyes onto your cheeks, Allah will 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

1. "Janna is written for the one who recites poetry about Imam Husayn which moves his heart and

heart of others to cry.

2. 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 -

1. 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 assist those who are oppressed and in need.

### **MUHARRAM – WEEK 3**

#### **SUGGESTED POST 'ASHURA DISCUSSION**

Discuss all the aspects of the 10 days:

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

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

1. Say Assamu '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.

### **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.

Introduce the Sahifa by mentioning the Duas of Makarimul Akhlaq & Tawba recited on Laylatul Qadr.

#### **SAFAR – WEEK 1**

Discuss the journey of the prisoners of the Ahlul Bayt 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
2. 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?

Suggest that we make Imam Hasan a celebrity... Come up with a list of interesting facts that they would like to know about him, e.g.

1. 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) and to the 4 sons of Ummulbanin (mother of Abbas).
2. He was the image of the Prophet in looks and character
3. 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)
4. His generosity was phenomenal
5. His recitation of the Qur'an stopped people in the streets so much so that traffic built up...

#### **SAFAR – WEEK 2**

##### **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) twchich 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.

### **SAFAR – WEEK 3**

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

Four 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)

2. "The earth mourns the death of a believer for forty mornings."  
Rasulullah (pbuh)

3. The journey of the prisoners from Karbala to Kufa to Shaam and back to Karbala took 40 days:

Left Karbala on 11th Muharram 61 AH

Arrived in Kufa of 12th – 19th Muharram

Left Damascus on 1st - 10th Safar 61AH

Arrived in Karbala on 20th Safar (Arbaeen) 61AH

4. 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."

### **SAFAR – WEEK 4**

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)**

##### **QUR'ANIC 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

### **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?"

Steve Jobs:

"Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life. Because almost everything - all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure - these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart."

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice." "Stay hungry, stay foolish."

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 Sadiq, Al Ameen and Rahmatul lil Aalemeen?)

### **RABI UL AWWAL WEEK 1**

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

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

### **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.

### **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 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 IMAM HASAN AL ASKERY**

\* With the circle of his life first start with his Mum and Dad – Imam Ali Naqi 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 travel 1100 miles to Samarra from Madina. Show the distance on the map. No planes, cars, or trains but on camel....

\* In Samarra they live under house arrest. Police everywhere spying on them because everyone knew of the coming of Imam Mahdi 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 taqleed 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.

### **SUGGESTED ACTIVITY**

1. Draw a spider's web and write down all the people we need to help us eg. Family, teachers, doctors, bankers, dentists, shop keepers, ulema, volunteers etc..... Explain how Imam Hasan Al Askery helped to organise a network, which would help people especially when they were in need.
2. Could also do a card to Imam Mahdi (pbuh) on the birthday of his father.
3. Could focus on some of the 10 signs of a Mu'min from Imam.

### **RABI UL AKHER WEEK 2**

Middle of the month; talk about the full moon and phases of the moon.

The 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> 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 Abdullah 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!’

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=rHaigjw21n0&feature=related>

### **SUGGESTED ACTIVITY**

Draw a moon with a line in the middle like in the pictures of the moon. Write 54:1 on it to remind them of the sura, which mentions the incident....

### **RABI UL AKHER WEEK 3 & 4**

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

- i) Importance of knowledge
- ii) Amr bil Ma’ruf & Nahyi anil Munkar
- iii) Qur’an
- iv) Ahadith
- v) Time management
- vi) Closeness to Allah & Ma’sumeen.

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

### **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 aya 49:13

*O humankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Aware.*

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)

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

### **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.

### **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.

[http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/woocommerce\\_uploads/2017/07/the\\_most\\_awesome\\_women.pdf](http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/woocommerce_uploads/2017/07/the_most_awesome_women.pdf)

#### **JAMAD UL AWWAL WEEK 4**

##### **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. Tasbeeh 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 WEEK 1**

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)

#### **JAMAD UL AKHER WEEK 2**

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?

#### **JAMAD UL AKHER WEEK 3**

BIRTHDAY OF SAYYIDA FATIMA (pbuh)

1. 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 Mothers day is the 20th of Jamadul Akhir 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.

#### **JAMAD UL AKHER WEEK 4**

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

Encourage the recitation of Tahleel (Iaa 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.

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

1. 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 WEEK 1**

Emphasise the importance of the month of Rajab and the recitation of Tahleel (Laa Ilaaha 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 d 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.

### **RAJAB WEEK 2**

Discuss the wiladat of Imam Ali (pbuh) and a brief look at his life - maybe dividing his life in three phases -

1. The first phase was 23 years of struggle for the establishment of an Islamic System with the Prophet (pbuh)
2. 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.

### **RAJAB WEEK 3**

Introduce the 27<sup>th</sup> 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... ..

### **RAJAB WEEK 4**

Introduce the 27<sup>th</sup> of Rajab as being an awesome date for two occasions:

3. Be'that
4. 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 & Jerusalem. 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 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:

- a) Initiating salaam is Mustahab - reply is Wajib
- b) The thawaab for the Mustahabaat is 99, for the waajibaat it is 1
- c) 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"

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

- i) Importance of Salatul Jama'a - Worldly benefits and spiritual benefits
- iii) Imam of Salatul Jama'a

- iii) Responsibilities of a Ma'moon
- iv) Arrangement
- v) How and when to join (at various positions)
- vi) Connections
- vii) Emergencies
- viii) Praying Salatul Jama'a with Ahlus Sunna and in Makka & Madina

### **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?  
Contemplation on Suratu Yaseen...

### **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 concept that his presence is real just like the presence of P Yusuf (A.S.) 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.

### **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](http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Sermon_of_the_Prophet.pdf)

### **MONTH OF RAMADHAN – SEPARATE LESSON PLANS**

[http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Month\\_of\\_Ramadhan\\_Teachers\\_Guide.pdf](http://qfatima.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Month_of_Ramadhan_Teachers_Guide.pdf)

### **SHAWWAL WEEK 1**

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).

- i) Eid ul Fitr
- ii) Eid ul Hajj (Adha)
- iii) Eid ul Ghadeer
- iv) Eid ul Mubahila

### **SUGGESTED ACTIVITY**

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

### **SHAWWAL WEEK 2**

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)"

### **SHAWWAL WEEK 3**

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

### **SHAWWAL WEEK 4**

History of Makka – All aspects of the Ka'ba

### **DHULQA'DA WEEK 1**

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

### **DHULQA'DA WEEK 2**

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 than just a name....

### **DHULQA'DA WEEK 3**

History of Madina and life of Rasulullah (pbuh), Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) and Aamma buried in Baqee (history of Baqee)

### **DHULQA'DA WEEK 4**

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 – WEEKS 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...

Q SCHOOL – LESSON PLANS FOR AGE 12 TO 14 YEARS – YEAR 7 to 9

3. 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 is 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.

## PREPARATION FOR THE DAY OF 'ARAFAT

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

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

'Arafat is called 'Arafat 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, 'Arafat is their opportunity. In days there is no bigger day than Arafat 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 your 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 'Arafat as your foundation for the list.....

Imam Husayn in Dua 'Arafat 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

### **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."

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-**

1. I was created with a goal – to reach my full potential (to recognise the awesomeness of HIS creation and thus HIM)
2. 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
4. Life long support announced (Hadith Thaqaalayn) 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....

## **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

### **FOCUS POINTS**

1. 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?"
3. 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

Ibtihaal - In a disagreement to let Allah deal with the opposite person.