

Imam Muhammad Al Taqi (PBUH)



Year	Age	Event
10 Rajab 811 CE 195 AH		Born to Imam Ali Al Ridha and Sayyida Sabika (from the family of Maria Qibtiyya) Born when Imam Al Ridha was 45 years old – much waited child.
816 CE 200 AH	5 yrs	Imam Ali Al Ridha summoned to Marv (Iran) by Ma'mun Rashid.
820 CE 204 AH	9 yrs	Imam Ali Ar Ridha poisoned by Ma'mun Rashid and is buried in Mashhad, Iran.
820 -821 CE 204-205 AH	9-10 yrs	Teaches in Surba (suburb of Madina built by Imam Kadhim) and amazes the scholars
821 – 828 CE 205 AH	10-17 yrs	Imam is summoned to Baghdad by Ma'mun Rashid. His knowledge and bravery tested. Ma'mun offers his daughter Ummul Fadhl in marriage. Imam stays in Baghdad for some years and becomes a popular counsel for all.



Year	Age	Event
828 CE 212 AH	17 yrs	Ummul Fadhl complains to her father. Mamun attacks him in a drunken rage. Imam protected with Hirze Jawad (taught by Sayyida Fatima)
828 CE 212 AH	17 yrs	Imam marries Sumaanaa (from the progeny of Ammar Yaasir)
829 CE 213 AH	18 yrs	Birth of Imam Ali An Naqi to Sumaanaa in Surba (suburb of Madina).
820-836 CE 26-220 AH		Imam sets up the foundation of Ijtihad, a global network and social welfare.
834 CE 218 AH	23 yrs	Ma'mun Rashid dies and is succeeded by his brother Mu'tasam. He summons Imam to Baghdad. Imam leaves his son with his mother
836 CE 220 AH	25 yrs	Imam is poisoned by Mu'tasam instigated by Ummul Fadhl and is buried in Kadhmayn.



IMAM MUHAMMAD AT-TAQI (pbuh)

Name:	Muhammad bin Ali.
Titles:	At-Taqi, Al-Jawad.
Kuniyya:	Abu Ja'fer.
Father:	Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh)
Mother:	Sayyida Sabika (also known as Khaizarun).
Birth:	10th Rajab 195 AH Madina.
Death:	29th Dhulqa'da 220 AH Baghdad at the age 25 years.
Buried:	Kadhmayn.

He was the only son of Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh).

Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) was born when his father was 45 years old. Until then Imam Ali Ar-Ridha (pbuh) was constantly taunted that he had no children.

When the 9th Imam was born, a brother of Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) became angry because he would lose out in inheriting the Imam's property and in his jealousy spread a rumour that Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) was not the father. He was eventually proved wrong by a person who could tell parentage.



N.B: A similar sort of accusation was made on Mary Copt about Ibrahim during the Prophet's time.

The 9th Imam was 5 years old when his father was called to Baghdad by Mamun Rashid to be his 'heir apparent'. When Imam Ali Ridha (pbuh) was leaving he saw his son putting sand in his hair. He asked *why* and the young Imam replied that this was what an orphan did.

He became an Imam at the age of 9. Mamun Rashid thought that as all the rulers before him had fought with (oppressed) the Aimmah, and their schemes had backfired, he would try to buy (bribe) the Aimmah. He tried to make the 8th Imam his heir apparent and give him power and wealth but that too backfired.

He now tried to use power and wealth with the 9th Imam again but from a much younger age, thinking that he would be able to influence him.

His main purpose was to ensure that the 12th Imam (whom he knew would bring justice to the world) would be from his progeny and therefore intended to give his daughter Ummul Fadhl to the Imam for a wife.



Mamun still continued oppressing the family and followers of the Ahlulbayt.

He (Mamun) called the young Imam to Baghdad from Madina and offered his daughter. This infuriated his family (Banu Abbas). To prove to them the excellence of Imam even at a young age, he arranged a meeting between Imam and the most learned of men at that time - Yahya bin Athkam.

It was a big occasion with 900 other scholars present. Imam's discourse with Yahya proved his superiority in knowledge and bravery.

The Banu Abbas admitted defeat and Mamun took the opportunity to offer his daughter in marriage to Imam. Imam read his own Nikah (the khutba of which is used today) with the *Mahr* of 500 dirhams.

Imam wrote a letter to Mamun that he would also give Ummul Fadhl *Mahr* from the wealth of Aakhira. This was in the form of 10 duas which were for fulfilling any *hajat* (desires), thus his title Al-Jawad (the generous one).



Imam lived for a year in Baghdad with Ummul Fadhl. She was very disobedient to Imam. When she found out that Imam had another wife (from the progeny of Ammar-e-Yasir) and that there were children, including Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh), she became jealous and angry, realising that her father's plan had failed.

She complained to her father who also realised that his plan, to keep the 12th Imam in his progeny, had failed. He was enraged, and in his rage, he drank heavily and went to the 9th Imam's house and attacked Imam with a sword.

Both Ummul Fadhl and a servant saw the attack and believed Imam was dead. Mamun on waking next morning realised the consequences of his attack and was thinking about arranging the disposal of Imam's body when he saw Imam alive and without a scratch on him. He was confused and asked Imam, who showed him an amulet which is called *Hirze Jawad*. Imam told him it was from his grandmother, Sayyida Fatima Zahra (pbuh), and it kept the wearer safe from all except the angel of death. Mamun asked Imam for it and Imam gave him one.



Now Mamun was scared and tried a new tactic. He tried to deviate Imam by sending him beautiful girls and musicians. When he realised nothing was working, he let Imam return to Madina.

Imam used this time to prepare the masails of *Taqleed* and *Ijtihad* in preparation for the 12th Imam, knowing that both the 10th and the 11th Imam would spend most of their lives in prison.

He also prepared the people of Madina, by teaching true Islam, knowing that this would be the last time they would be able to receive guidance directly from an Imam for a long time.

Ummul Fadhl continuously complained about Imam to her father who sent her letters back.

Mamun died in 218 AH and was succeeded by his brother Mu'tasam Billah. He openly announced that all Shias were not Muslims. He said it was wajib for people to kill & prosecute Shias and to destroy property belonging to Shias. Whoever did so would not be prosecuted.

Ummul Fadhl now started complaining to her uncle who was sympathetic to her. Mu'tasam called Imam



to Baghdad. He asked Imam to pass judgement of how to punish a thief. Imam said only fingers could be cut as the palms were for Allah (as in Qur'an - it is one of the wajib parts to touch the ground during sajda). As this decision was contrary to the decision of the other 'Ulema' it strengthened the position of the Shias. The other 'Ulema' complained to Mu'tasam.

With instigation from both the 'Ulema' and Ummul Fadhl, Mu'tasam sent poison which Ummul Fadhl put in Imam's drink and gave it to him.

Imam died on 29th Dhulqa'da at the age of 25 years and is buried near his grandfather in Kadhmayn (the 10th Imam gave him *ghusl* and *kafan*).

It is he who prepared and wrote books for the masails of Ijtihad and Taqleed which were essential to prepare believers for the *ghaiba* of the 12th Imam.



Hirz Imam Al Jawad

يا نور يا برهان يا مبين يا منير، يا ربّ
اكفنى الشرور، وافات الدهور، و اسالك
النّجاة يوم ينفخ فى الصّور

Did you know?

That all Sayyids known as Razavi are actually Taqawi. Imam Ridha (pbuh) had only one son - Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) and so his offspring should have been called Taqawi.

However, as he was alone in Iran and died in Tus the descendants of his son Imam Muhammad Taqi (pbuh) were called Razavi in his remembrance.

Some of Imam's sayings

When asked about who the angels were- Imam replied, *"They are the energies of God that regulate the Universe."*

The one who conceals the (way of) prosperity and progress from you, has shown enmity to you.

The lapse of time uncovers hidden secrets.



Forbearance is the dress of a scholar, so do not get yourself undressed of it.

The one who acts without knowledge, destroys and ruins more than he rectifies.

Whoever has three things will never regret:

- 1) Refraining from haste
- 2) Consulting (with others)
- 3) And depending upon God when making decisions

Take patience as your pillow, hug poverty, discard lusts, oppose your desires and know that you are seen by God, so look at how you are.

Three things bring a human being nearer Divinity:

- 1) Increase in seeking forgiveness
- 2) Gentleness
- 3) Increased charity giving



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