

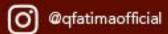
A LITERARY MARVEL



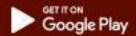
## **LESSON PLAN**







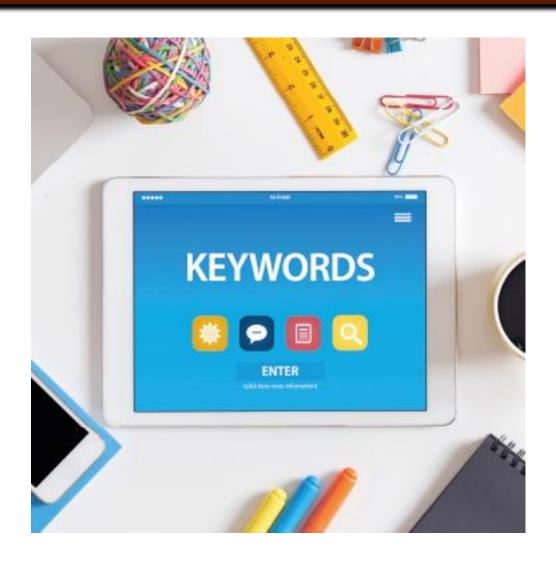






## **KEYWORDS**

- Glimpses
- Interview
- Orbit
- Devotion
- Diligence
- Eloquence
- Sermons
- Peak
- Mediate
- wrecked











## STUDY TIME

- 1. What is Nahjul Balagha?
- 2. What does it mean?
- 3. Who is the author?
- 4. How old is it?
- 5. Is it similar to Sahifa Sajjadiya?











## **ABOUT** THE AUTHOR

The perfect student of Rasulallah (pbuh).

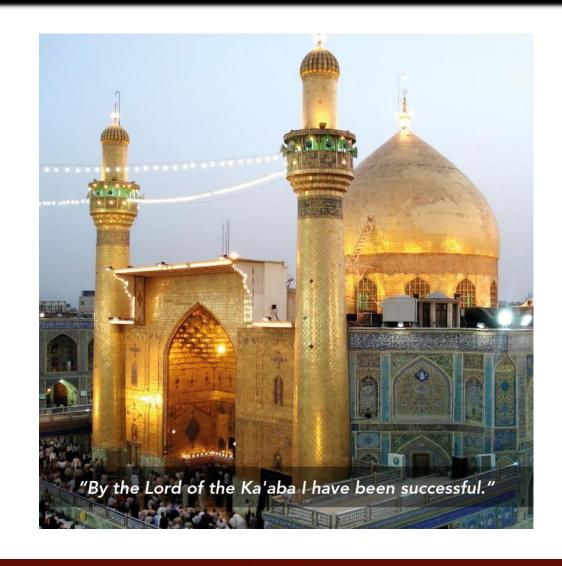
He was the most learned, pious, sincere, brave, eloquent speaker and orator.

He was a great politician because he hated diplomacy and loved truth and justice.

He had a very soft corner in his heart for the old, weak, disabled and poor.

A very valiant commander in the battlefield and a very humble servant of Allah in the Mihrab.

Write three lessons that you can learn and practice from the life of the author of Nahjul Balagha.





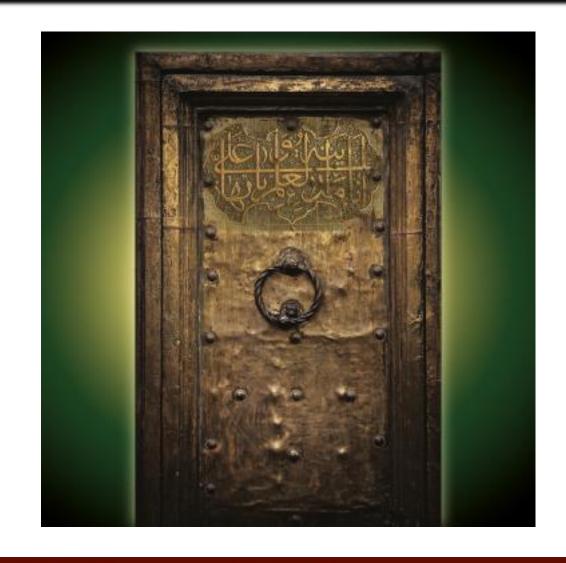






## WHAT THE PROPHET (PBUH) SAID ABOUT IMAM ALI (PBUH)

- 1. "I am the city of knowledge and Ali is Its gate". Write a couple of lines on your understanding of the above hadith of the Holy Prophet (pbuh).
- 2. Can you complete the following hadith: "Ali is with the Qur'an and..."
- 3. Who said this hadith?
- 4. What does it mean?







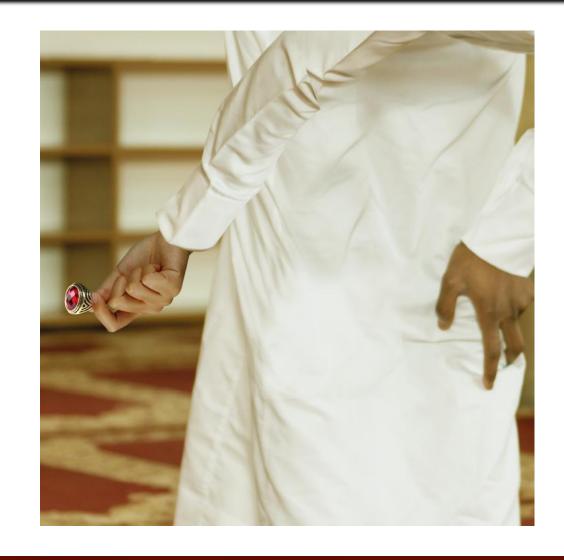




## **ALLAH SAYS ABOUT IMAM ALI (PBUH)**

Only Allah is your Vali and His Apostle and those who believe, those who keep up prayers and pay the poor-rate while they bow. (5:55)

- 1. Write the story supporting the above verse. Your story should cover who, what, when, where, why and how.
- 2. Illustrate the above verse to make it easy to memorize.









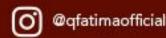


## **ALLAH SAYS ABOUT IMAM ALI (PBUH)**

And among man is he who sells himself to seek the pleasure of Allah; and Allah is affectionate to the servants. (2:207)

- 1. Who sold himself?
- 2. How and why?
- 3. Name the incident that supports the above verse.









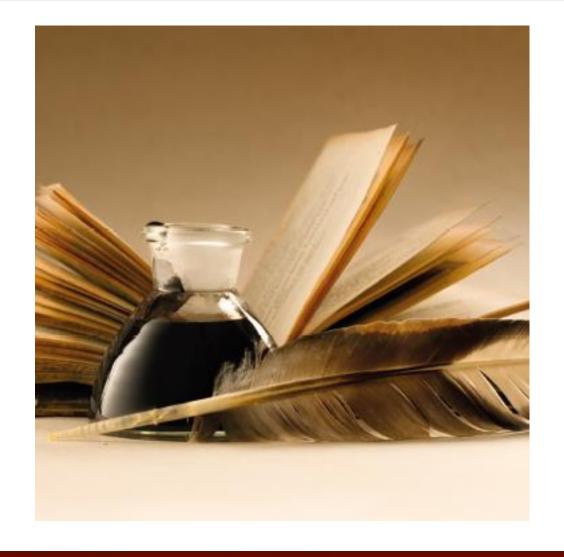


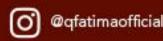
## **ABOUT** THE COMPILER

Before Nahjul Balagha the words of Imam Ali (pbuh) were in different books. Sayed Radhi compiled the words of Imam Ali (pbuh) into a book called Nahjul Balagha.

Sayed Radhi was educated under the careful supervision and care of Shaikh Mufeed.

In his early age he came across sayings, sermons and letters of Imam Ali (pbuh) scattered in various books and he decided to recollect them. To Sayed Radhi, this compilation was a sacred duty which he did with great devotion and diligence.









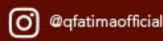


## **ABOUT** THE COMPILER

Sadly, Sayed Radhi died in Muharram 404 AH at the age of 45.

- 1. Who are the parents and brother of Sayyed Radhi?
- 2. Who was Sheikh Mufeed and what are his contributions to Islam.
- 3. What is the timeline between the words spoken by Imam Ali (pbuh), and they being preserved in the Nahjul Balagha?









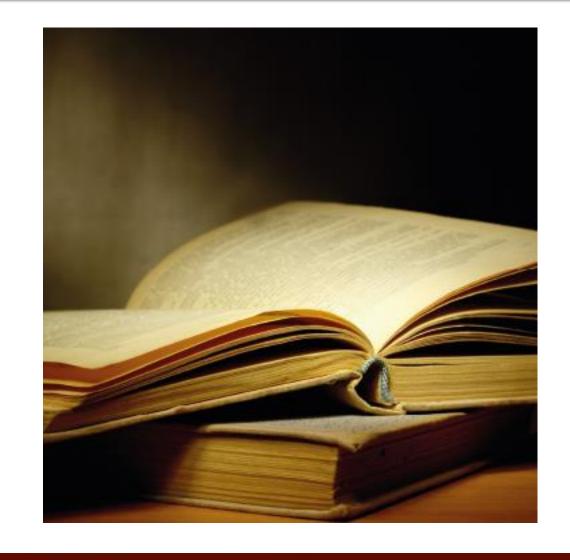


## **INTRODUCTION TO NAHJUL BALAGHA**

Nahjul Balagha consists of: Sermons, Letter and Sayings.

With your friend look at the copy of Nahjul Balagha and discuss the following questions:

- 1. How many sermons, letters and sayings are there in the Nahjul Balagha?
- 2. What is a sermon?
- 3. Name 2 great ladies in history who have given sermons and where were these given?
- 4. Most of the letters in the Nahjul Balagha are addressed to whom?
- 5. How are the letters of Imam Ali (pbuh) in the Nahjul Balagha different from the letters that you write to your friends?











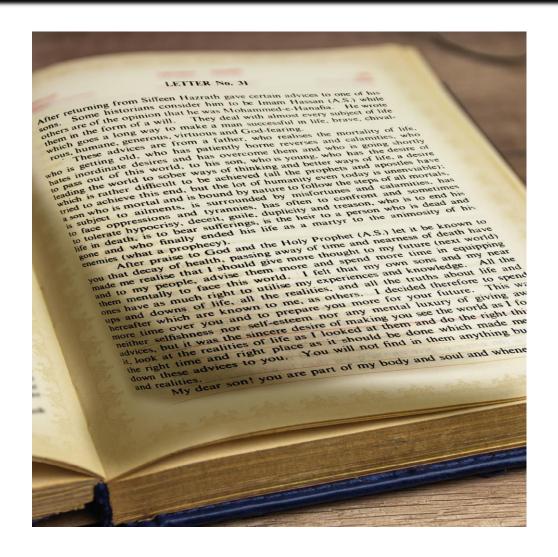
# GLIMPSES INTO Nahjul Balagha



## LETTER NO: 31

My first and foremost advice to you, my son! Is to fear Allah. Be His obedient servant. Keep His thoughts always fresh in your mind. Be attached to and carefully guard the rope which connects you with Him...

- In the above paragraph, how many advices does Imam Ali (pbuh) give to his son Imam Hassan (pbuh)?
- What does "to fear Allah" mean?
  - A. To shake like a leaf
  - B. To stay indoors and lock the doors.
  - C. To read Duas of protection.
  - D. To be God conscience.
  - E. None of the above.







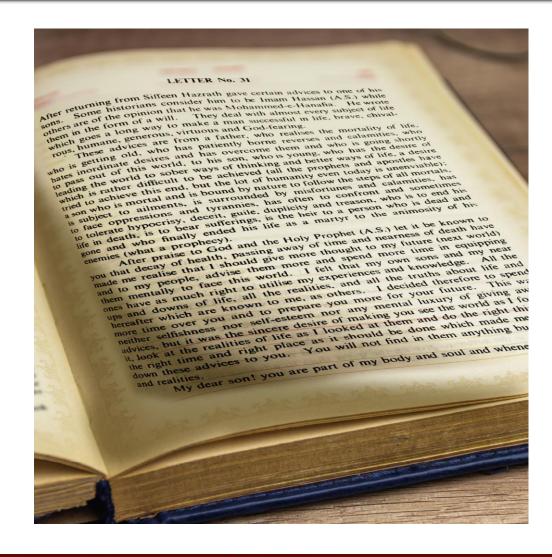


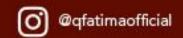




## **LETTER NO: 31**

- 3. In school who are we obedient to and how do we show this? Write 2 ways in which we can be an obedient servant of Allah.
- 4. What products/things do we keep fresh and how do we do it? How can we keep the thoughts of Allah fresh in our mind?
- 5. What are the functions of a rope? What is "the rope" that connects us to Allah which we need to attach to?











## QUR'AN AND NAHJUL BALAGHA

.... Look at the past people, see the ruined cities, the wrecked palaces and decaying signs ... Then mediate over their activities over what they had done when they were alive and in power...and how they were brought to an end. Where are they now, what have they actually gained ....

Letter: 31











## QUR'AN AND NAHJUL BALAGHA

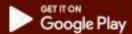
In your Qur'an look up the nations of the past from Suratul Fajr (89:6-14)

- Who is Aad?
- Who are the people of Iraam?
- What are they famous for?
- Who are the people of Thamood?
- What did they do?
- Who is Firawn?
- What brought about their downfall?
- What lessons can we learn from the above advice of Imam Ali (pbuh)?









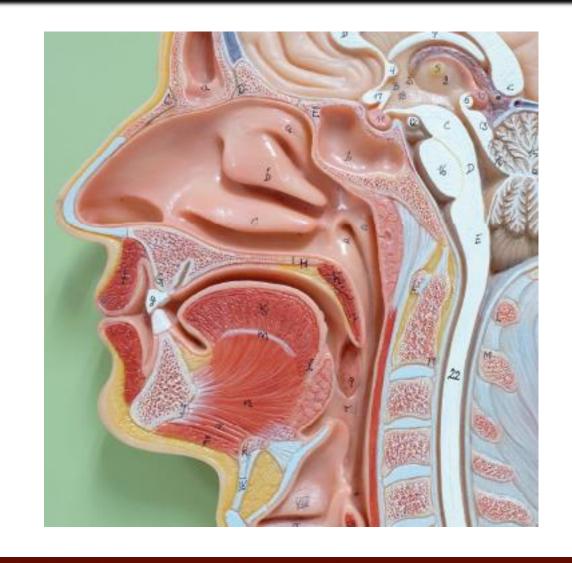


## THE HUMAN BEING IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

"Man is truly a wonderful creature, he sees through layers of fat, he hears through a bone, he speaks through a lump of flesh."

Imam Ali (pbuh)

- 1. How do our eyes sit in their sockets without being damaged?
- 2. Do we really hear through a bone? Check out the 3 small bones inside the middle ear?
- 3. Besides tasting name 3 other functions of the tongue.











## THE HUMAN BEING IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

Did you know the Aborigine have the best vision.

- 1. Who are the Aborigine?
- 2. Where do they live?
- 3. Why do you think they have the best vision?









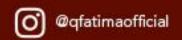


## THE UNIVERSE IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

...Then He decorated the Heavens, with the stars and the light of the meteors, and set the shining sun and the bright moon, in an orbit that rolls around...

Sermon 1











## THE UNIVERSE IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

Throughout history people have looked to the sky and wondered what's out there.

- What is a star?
- 2. Which is the closest star to the earth?
- 3. Is our moon the only moon in the universe?
- 4. What is an orbit?
- 5. Write a page on What would life be on another planet?







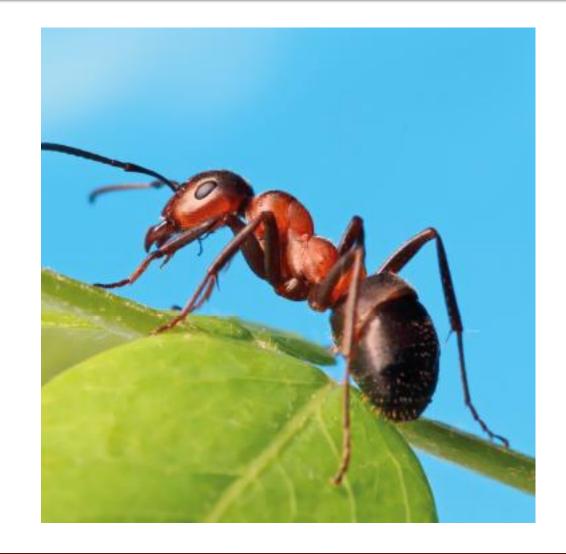


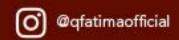


## **CREATURES** IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

...Look at the ant with its small body and delicate form. It can hardly be seen in the corner of the eye... It carries the grain to its hole ...It collects during the summer for its winter....Allah the Kind does not forget it, does not deprive it, even though it may be in a dry stone or a fixed rock....

Sermon 184











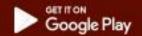
## CREATURES IN NAHJUL BALAGHA

- 1. Which 4 names of Allah can you find in the above sermon?
- 2. Look at the ant carefully and write down the different parts that are found on its head and their functions.
- 3. The ant collects food in summer for the winter. Name two other animals that do the same.
- 4. Do you find the ant fascinating?
- 5. Make a bookmark of an ant and write down few amazing facts about the ant.











## **DISCUSSION TIME**

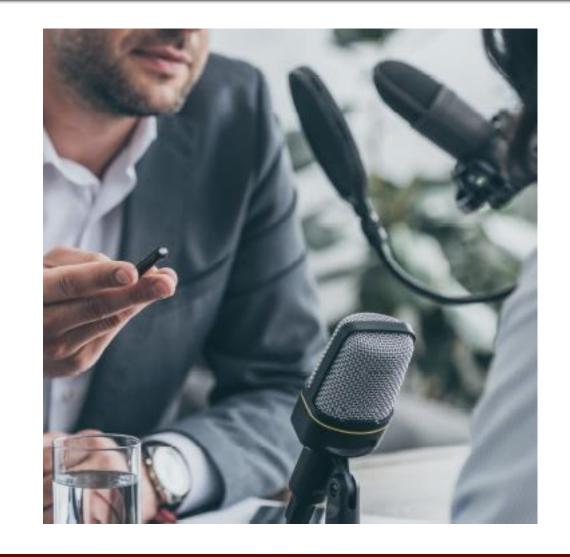
You have been given the opportunity to interview an expert of Nahjul Balagha.

 Write down the questions that you would ask him/ her.

You have been invited on a children's show and have been asked to talk about Nahjul Balagha.

- Express your feelings on receiving the above invitation.
- In your talk how will you make Nahjul Balagha "fun and hands on to learn and practice"

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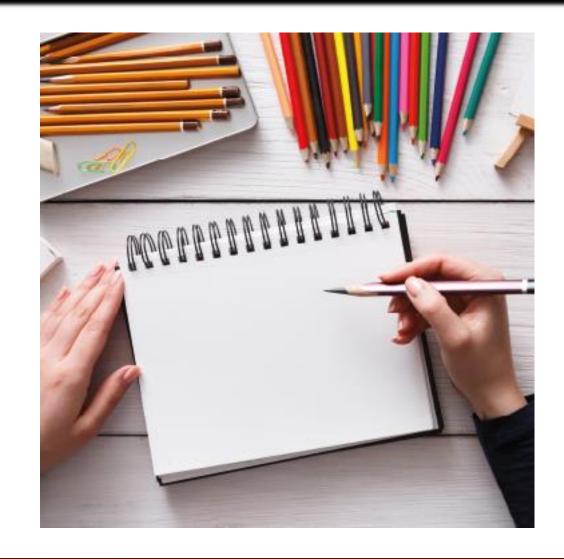




## **SAY** IT WITH PICTURES

Task: Below are extracts from some of the sermons in Nahjul Balagha. Choose any TWO and illustrate them.

- ...among them is the peacock in its creation, which Allah has created in the finest harmony and arranged its hues in the best composition, with wings well tacked together and a long trailing tail.
  Sermon: 165
- As you do, so you will be done by; as you sow, so you will reap. Sermon: 151
- Do not be afraid to follow the right path even if there are less people there. Sermon:199
- Behold! The example of the household of Muhammad (pbuh) is like the stars of the heaven;
  when one star sets another one rises. Sermon:100







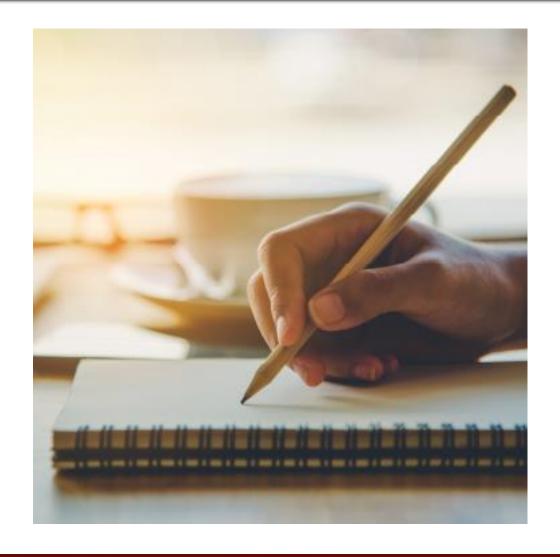


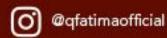


## **ASSESSMENT**

#### Write down:

- 2 things that you found interesting and why?
- 3 things that you learnt from today's lesson.
- 1 thing that you want to know about.











#### THE WAY FORWARD...

Planting the seed of Nahjul Balagha

Now that you have gone through some of the letters, sermons and saying of Imam Ali (pbuh) in the Nahjul Balagha you can now design your own folder, or make a scrap book and illustrate your best sayings or words from Nahjul Balagha, and write a few lines about your illustrations.

If you prefer, you can create eye catching posters on Nahjul Balagha that would attract your family and friends and encourage them to read this awesome book – a literary marvel!

