

# RESURRECTION

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## المعاد

### Lesson 1: Resurrection

#### Objectives >>>

##### Students should understand:

- That after we die, we are brought back to life in another world called the Hereafter
- Some of the Arabic names for this day, explaining the meaning of each briefly:
  - yawmul qiyāmah
  - yawmul ḥashr
  - yawmul ḥisāb
  - yawmul dīn
- Paradise and some of the pleasures promised for people of paradise in the Qur'ān
- Hell, and some of the punishments promised for people of hell in the Qur'ān
- The kind of people that enter paradise and those who enter hell

In the previous lessons, we have learnt about Death and Barzakh. We know that once we die, our soul goes to the world of Barzakh where we are either punished or rewarded according to our actions in this world.

After the world of Barzakh, all creatures are brought back to life on the Day of Resurrection – *yawmul qiyāmah*. On this day, our souls will be joined to the same bodies we had in this world and we will stand before Allah (SWT) and be judged, and He will decide, according to His Justice and Mercy who will enter Paradise and who will enter Hell.

#### COMING BACK TO LIFE

Is it possible to come back to life after we have died and turned into dust? Well, we know that Allah created us from nothing, gave us bones and flesh, and made us into human beings. If He was able to create us from nothing the first time, then He is definitely able to bring us back to life after we die.

Allah (SWT) has given us many examples of how He brings things back to life after they have died. Most of these examples are in nature:

Have you ever seen trees in winter in a cold country? Their leaves fall off and the trees look dead and weak. A few months later, the same trees grow a great amount of leaves and they look green, beautiful and full of life.



Another example is the desert. Look at how the desert looks for most of the year. It is dry and red and looks lifeless and dead. Now look at the picture on the right. The desert blooms with wildflowers and looks yellow and green and full of life.



From this example, we can understand that Allah is able to give life to the dead because it is He Who created them in the beginning.

On the Resurrection Day, He will bring us back to life and we will have to face the results of our actions. The people who were good will enter heaven, and those who were evil will enter hell.

## Class Activity

Can you think of more examples of how Allah (SWT) brings this back to life? Your teacher will give you some paper and colouring pencils. Draw two pictures: one of something that is dead or dying and the other of that thing coming back to life. Make sure your picture has the title: 'Allah (SWT) brings the dead back to life'.

## Lesson 2: The Resurrection Day

In this lesson, we will learn more about the Resurrection and how Allah (SWT) brings us back to life.

### THE NAMES OF THE RESURRECTION DAY

There are a few names we can use for the day when we are all brought back to life. Each name tells us something about what will happen on that day. They are:

- **Yawmul Qiyámah:** which means the day of being raised from the graves
- **Yawmul ḥashr:** means the day of being brought back to life
- **Yawmul ḥisáb:** means the day of Accounting- this is because all of us have to stand before Allah (SWT) on that day and be asked about all of our actions
- **Yawmul dīn:** means the day when we get the true reward of our actions - people who were truly good for the sake of Allah gets amazing reward, while people who were purely evil enter Hell.

### THE ACCOUNTING ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT

As we explained earlier, on the Day of Judgment, we will stand before Allah (SWT) and be asked about all of our actions. Unfortunately, on that day, most of us will regret the fact that we did not do more good and did not use our time here better. We will wish we had taken more from this world to help us in the Hereafter. Let's listen to this story:

Once, a group of people were travelling on rocks at night. A voice came from the sky that whosoever picks up the rocks will regret and whosoever doesn't pick up the rocks will regret. Now, the people were confused. How can this be? Whether you pick up the rocks or not, you will regret it!

Anyway, some people picked up the rocks and some didn't. In the morning when they reached their homes, they saw that the rocks turned into diamonds. Now, those people who didn't pick up the rocks started regretting it, saying, "If only we had picked up some rocks." Those people who did pick some rocks also

started regretting saying, "Why didn't we pick up more rocks?" Both sides ended up regretting their actions.

We will feel the same on the Judgment day. What are the 'diamonds' that we can take with us for that day?

- Praying on time, instead of delaying prayers so that we can play or watch TV
- Being good to our parents, instead of being lazy and naughty
- Respecting our teachers, even if we feel like chatting in class
- Learning the Qur'ān, even if it might be difficult and take a lot of effort

All these things take effort to do and sometimes they are hard. However, we should always try to make sacrifices in this life so that we can enjoy our life in the Hereafter. The harder we work here and the more effort we put in, the easier the Day of Judgment will be.

## Review Questions

### Q1. On the Resurrection Day:

- a. God will bring all humans back to life
- b. God will bring all creatures back to life
- c. No one will be brought back to life

### Q2. Another name for the yawmul qiyāmah is yawmul ḥashr. What does this name mean?

- a. The day when people are brought back to life
- b. The day when people get their rewards
- c. The day when people are asked about all their actions

## Lesson 3: Paradise (al-Jannah) and Hell (Jahannam)

In our last lesson, we learnt that we are all brought back to life and are rewarded or punished according to our actions. In this lesson, we will see that good people get rewarded with paradise, which is full of pleasures and reward, and evil people are punished in hell, which is full of pain and punishment.

### PARADISE

We will briefly discuss Heaven or Paradise and the pleasures that Allah has promised the people of Paradise. Paradise is the place where people who

believed in Allah (SWT) and did good deeds will live forever.

Let us look at how the Holy Qur'ān describes Paradise:

- It is larger than the skies and the earth
- It has rivers of sweet milk and rivers of sweet honey and other delicious drinks
- It is full of beautiful gardens, with fruit that never runs out
- The people of paradise live in wonderful houses which are comfortable
- The clothes of the people of paradise will be made of luxurious green silk, and they will have bracelets of gold and silver
- There is peace there at all times and everyone is happy
- The people of paradise have access to whatever they wish

The pleasures of paradise are so great that we cannot even imagine them. We can only think of what they might be, but we can never truly know how wonderful they are.

### HOPING FOR PARADISE

We have to make sure that we always have the greatest hope in Allah that He would grant us paradise. Even when we do something wrong or bad, we have to ask for forgiveness and really believe that Allah (SWT) will forgive us. The Imams (as) have told us that even if we found out that only one person would enter paradise, we would have to hope that that one person would be us. We should never give up hope in Allah (SWT) rescuing and forgiving us.

### HELL

Hell is a frightening place where Allah (SWT) punishes people for their evil deeds. The people who enter Hell are those who did not believe in Allah (SWT) and who did evil things on purpose.

Some people who believed in Allah but did some evil deeds will enter Hell to be punished for a period of time and then be taken out of Hell and be allowed to enter Paradise. However, people who denied the truth about Allah (SWT) and who did great evil deeds will remain in Hell forever. Hell is a terrible place, and we should

always be fearful of ending up there, even if it is for only one day.

This is how the Holy Qur'ān describes Hell:

- The people of Hell will be bound with long chains and cast into a blazing fire; far worse than any fire in this world. This fire will blaze forever, guarded by angels. No one will be able to escape.
- The food of the people of Hell will be made of zaqqūm tree oil (a cursed tree growing in Hell's lowest depths); their drink will be boiling water. The food and drink will not satisfy them and they will remain hungry and in pain all the time.
- The people of Hell will beg to be let out but this will not happen.
- Allah will keep them alive and suffering, and whenever their skins are burned away, they will be replaced by another to be burned afresh.

## FEAR OF HELL

We should always fear the possibility that we will be punished in Hell. Our Imams (as) have told us that even if we found out only one person would ever go to Hell, we should fear that that person would be us. We should never say: 'I am not going to Hell because I did such a good thing...' This is because we do not know if our actions were accepted or if we did them sincerely.

So, just like we should have great hope in Allah at all times we should also always have fear of Allah in our hearts and work hard to make sure we do not end up in Hell.

## Class Activity

Divide the class into groups of 2. Provide them with manilla paper, colours, etc. One group should draw things that they would do in this world, so that they could go to heaven. The other group should draw things that if they do, they would go to hell. The best and neatest drawing will be put up on the notice board, and a small gift can be awarded to the students.

## Review Questions

### Q1. Which people end up in Paradise?

- a. People who believed in God
- b. People who did good deeds
- c. People who believed in God and did good deeds

### Q2. Paradise is:

- a. A small garden
- b. Larger than the earth and skies
- c. As big as Australia