



Imam al-Reḍā [A.S]

امام الرضا (ع)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 1

Imam al-Reḍā (as)

Today we will be learning about our 8th Imam. Here is a little profile on him:

Name: Imam 'Ali ibn Musa

Title: al-Reḍā

Father: Imam Musa Al-Kadhim

Mother: Lady Najmah

Birth date: 11th Dhul Qa'dah 135 AH

Birthplace: Medina

Place of burial: Mash-had, Iran

Imam al-Reḍā was given many titles during his life however the most common one that we know him by is al-Reḍā, which means the one who is pleased and always content.



Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Reḍā (as), our eighth Imam
- Discuss the meaning of his title
- Discuss stories and miracles from his life

AL-REDĀ

The Imam was given this title for a number of reasons:

- He was always pleased with whatever Allah (SWT) sent his way in life. He never complained or asked for things in his life to be different. He was forced by the ruler of the time to leave his hometown and travel far to live in a city where he had no family or friends. He faced many other difficulties in his life. However, he always knew that this is what God wanted for him, so he did not complain.
- Everyone was pleased with the Imam, whether they were his friends or enemies.

STORIES FROM THE LIFE OF THE IMAM

GENEROSITY

One year, while Imam al-Redā (as) was at Ḥajj he did something amazing. The Muslims were all gathered near the mountain of ‘Arafat. Among them were of course many poor people. The Imam (as) decided to give all of his wealth to the poor people. He gave all his money and his possessions to the poor people around him in ‘Arafat.

People were surprised at this, and one of them said to the Imam: “now you have nothing left for yourself”.

The Imam (as) replied him: “no, in fact, I am now richer than ever.”

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

He was very good to his servants and people who worked for him. He would never make them feel bad or make them feel like they were lower than him. He would sit and eat with them on the same table and would never sit higher than them. He would never get angry at them or

saying anything to hurt them. Therefore, they were always pleased with him.

One day, a person asked the Imam (as):

“Please pardon me...would not it be better if you lay a separate table-cloth for your servants?”

“Do not say that,” the Holy Imam (as) replied, "the Lord, the Blessed and High, is One, and all of us human beings are the children of Adam and Eve; and everyone shall be rewarded or punished according to his deeds.”

He was very considerate when treating his servants. He would not ask them to do anything if for example, they were sitting down to eat. When he had spare time, he would gather all of them and talk to them. He would praise them.¹

Class Activity: Find-a-word

X O V U E K I N D I A T A Q I
Z I A R U S I U X R M L R D L
V K N S U O R E N E G A R E Q
N B B A G K A Y Y A Q U M Z K
E E Y I M P N B G X U M F R T
X I L O P D O S O Y F T A N F
T Z W Q P M L B E M N R V M Z
Y E G D G W G Z Q V Z W Y M V
G T N F V R L A K Z P N H Q A
A K I M P O P Q B N V W T H O
Q Y R N M A N O Z M L F D B K
N W A V A F Y E I Q G I Y J A
S O C O K M C F R F R M S F S
T A H M Q Z U Q D W A X M R K
J N L P Q H T H Z T K J P P B

CARING
GENEROUS
HUMANITY
IMAM
IRAN
KIND
RIDHA

¹ <http://www.ezsoftech.com/stories/imamraza2.asp>