

SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (AS)

سيّدة فاطمة (ع)

Objectives >>>

Students should understand:

- Be introduced to Sayyidah Fāṭimah, along with a family tree including her closest relatives
- Be introduced to her name, Fāṭimah and her title Al Zahrā' and their meanings in brief
- . Discuss a story from her life related to chastity
- Discuss a story from her life showing her compassion and generosity
- Discuss the title of al-Şiddīqah and its meaning
- Discuss the importance of goodness to parents
- Learning the consequences of goodness to parents and the consequences of not being good to parents
- Discuss how Sayyidah Fatimah treated her parents

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

Lesson 1: Fāṭimah's (as) Chastity

Review Quiz

- 1. How many members of Ahlul Kisā' are there?
- 2. Can you name them?
- 3. Where did you hear about them?
- 4. Can you name the only lady amongst them?

Now that we have remembered who the Ahlul Kisā' or Ahlul Bayt are, let us recall how Allah (SWT) introduced them through the Angel Gabriel. Allah (SWT) said:

'...They are

- Fātimah
- Her father (who is.....?)
- Her husband (who is.....?)
- Her two sons (who are.....?)

Who did Allah(SWT) give special respect and honour to? Yes, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (as). The story of the Kisā shows that Sayyidah Fāṭimah was a great personality, who is a role model for all of us. She has such beautiful manners and good qualities that we all admire her and choose to follow her. She is our guide and our leader.

In today's lesson, let's draw the family tree of Sayyidah Fātimah

AL ZAHRĀ'

Sayyidah Fāṭimah has many titles. One of the famous ones is her title of Al Zahrā', which means glowing or shining. One of our Imams has explained why she was given this title:

"When Sayyidah Fāṭimah prayed, she glowed for the heaven just the way the stars shine for the people on the earth."



SAYYIDAH FĀŢIMAH'S CHASTITY

One day Prophet Muḥammad (saw) was sitting in the house of his daughter Sayyidah Fāṭimah when they heard a knock on the door. The housemaid came to Prophet Muḥammad (saw) and said: "Oh! Prophet of Allah (saw) your companion Abdullah ibn Ummi Maktām (who was blind) has come to visit you."

Prophet Muḥammad (saw) immediately told the housemaid to let him in. In the meantime Sayyidah Fāṭimah got up to go to another room. Prophet Muḥammad questioned her, "Oh my dear, why are you going in?"

Sayyidah Fāṭimah (as) replied, "Since your companion is coming, I'm going in to observe my Ḥijāb". The Prophet answered: "My dear, this companion of mine is blind and cannot see you". Sayyidah Fāṭimah replied:

"Oh my father, he cannot see me, but I can see him.

So I must go in."

So what do we learn from this story? We learn that one of the most important things for a girl or a woman is to observe her Ḥijāb. Sayyidah Fāṭimah

would even do this when a blind man was around, so imagine how careful she was around men who could see.

We should start thinking about wearing Ḥijāb, so that when we come to the age to wear a scarf, we are ready to follow the example of our role model Sayyidah Fātimah and observe the best Ḥijāb.



HER GENEROSITY

Sayyidah Fāṭimah was a very caring and generous lady. This was another important characteristic that she had. Let us listen to a story that shows just how amazingly generous she was:

Sayyidah Fāṭimah always wore ordinary clothes and hardly spent any money on things like clothes. Close to her wedding night, the Prophet (saw) bought her a new dress to wear for that night.

However, the night before the wedding, a poor girl knocked at Sayyidah Fāṭimah's door and asked if she had any clothes to give as charity.

Sayyidah Fāṭimah thought of giving away her old patchy dress. Then she paused. She remembered the verse of the Qur'ān which says that to be a really good person you must give away what you love. So she went and got her new wedding dress and gave it to this girl. The next day, she turned up to her wedding in her ordinary dress, and explained to her father what had happened.

Would we be able to make a sacrifice like that?

Would we give away a new doll or new ball or new game to someone who needed it more than us? Would we give away our 'Īd clothes to a poor person the night before' Īd?

Class Activity: Role Play

Split the class into two groups. Each group should play out the story above.

Review Questions

Q1. When she gave charity, Sayyidah Fāṭimah would give:

- a. Her old things that she did not want
- b. The things she actually loved
- c. A very small amount

Q2. Al Zahrā' means:

- a. Generous
- b. Glowing or shining
- c. Good and pious

Lesson 2: Sayyidah Fāṭimah (as) and her Parents

Class Activity

Teacher to prepare in advance sashes with various titles of Sayyidah Fāṭimah on cloth or paper. Put a sash on/around each girl's/boys neck.

Teacher: Sayyidah Fāṭimah was given many titles of honour from Allah (SWT) and the Prophet (saw). Some of them are:

- Fātimah
- Al Zahrā'
- Al Siddigah
- Al Zakiyah
- Al Ţāhirah
- Al Batūl
- Al Ḥaniyah
- Al Manṣūrah
- Al Kauthar

• Al Mardiyah

As you call out each name, the child with that name sash comes in front of the class and stand. Then the class read aloud all the names in chorus.

SAYYIDAH FĀTIMAH: THE TRUTHFUL

As you noticed from the last activity, one of the titles of Sayyidah Fāṭimah is al-Ṣiddiqah. This has two meanings:

- one who never tells lies and always says the truth
- one whose actions match her words, so that she does what she says

'Ā'ishah, a wife of the Prophet (saw) said:

"I have never seen anyone as truthful as the Prophet (saw) except Fātimah"

We should do our best to be truthful and never tell lies, especially to our parents. This is the best way to show that Sayyidah Fātimah is really our role model.

GOODNESS TO PARENTS

Look at which our Imams teach us about the importance of our parents:

"The pleasure of parents is the pleasure of Allah and the displeasure of parents is the displeasure of Allah (SWT)".

What does this mean? Why do you think we should respect and love our parents?

Do you know how long your mother carried you in her womb and fed you on her milk? When you were a baby, who looked after you in the night and changed your clothes and fed you? Who cared for you when you were sick? Who sends you to school? Who buys you clothes and food? Parents sacrifice everything for their children and expect very little in return. We should be thankful to them and not ignore or disobey them.

So, are you good to your parents?

How many of you pretend not to hear Mum when she needs/ calls you?

You all are watching cricket on the TV. How many of you run to make Dad a cup of tea when he returns from work and asks for it?

Listen to this story. Jamil was a young and strong boy. He always went to a nearby park in the afternoon to play with his ball. Last Friday afternoon, as he was

about to open the door to leave when his Mum said: "Jamil dear, I have a very bad headache. Can you please look after your baby sister while I rest for a few minutes?"

"No Mum. I have to go. You always let me go to the park after school.

So I have to go. I'll mind the baby when I return." Saying this, he slammed the door. BANG!

Poor Mum! She sat down on the carpet playing with the baby until the little girl fell asleep. "Now I can rest," thought Mum.

Suddenly, the doorbell rang, who could it be? Mum walked to the door, opened it and what did she see? Jamil was there sobbing away. His knee was grazed and bleeding. His right elbow was hurting too. There was sand and dirt all over his legs.

"What happened to you my son?" cried out Mum. She opened her arms and hugged her boy." What happened my dear?" she asked again.

Jamil started sobbing loudly now. Mum put him on the chair in the foyer. She ran to the kitchen and brought him a glass of water. "Here Jamil. Take this and you will feel better."

Jamil drank the water. He stopped crying. "Now tell me child! Did anyone push you? Who hurt you?" asked Mum.

Jamil kept looking down. Then he got off the chair and cried out loudly. "Mum, I'm sorry for not listening to you. I'm sorry for not minding the baby."

"But what happened to you?" asked Mum.

"As I was running in the park, I tripped over a big, rugged stone. I fell down." He screamed even louder seeing a thin line of blood trailing down his leg.

Mum rushed in and brought the First Aid kit. She

cleaned Jamil's leg with Dettol, put some cream on the torn skin and then bandaged the knee. She wiped the boy's face with a wet towel and carried him to his bed. She helped him to change into his pyjamas.

"Rest here, my son."

Class Discussion

How do you think Jamil felt?

Jamil was a sensible boy and he felt bad. He was sorry he had not obeyed his Mum. He had not been kind to his Mum. In spite of his disobedience, his Mum had treated him gently, cleaned his knee and not shouted at him. She had been loving; as usual.

"I'll always be good to you, Mum; I'll always listen to you, Mum" he called out. Mum patted his shoulder and covered Jamil with a sheet and let him rest.

"Surely Allah (SWT) likes children who are good to their parents" whispered Mum.

Was Mum happy with Jamil? Had she forgiven him? What do you think?

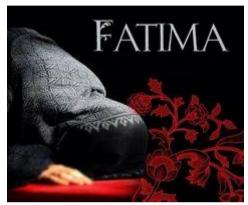
SAYYIDAH FātIMAH AND HER FATHER

Sayyidah Fāṭimah immensely loved her father and he loved her, too. After the death of her mother, she always looked after the comfort of her father when he came home. The streets and of Mecca were full of those who teased, insulted and tortured the Prophet (saw). Whenever the Prophet returned home in the injured condition, she would wash the blood off his face. She dressed his wounds and talked to him sweetly.

UMMU ABIHA (THE MOTHER OF HER FATHER)

Prophet Muḥammad (saw) gave Sayyidah Fāṭimah this title because she loved him, cared for him and looked after him just like a mother does for her child. When only six, Sayyidah Fāṭimah had lost her own mother, Sayyidah Khadijah. The Prophet had also lost a great wife as well as the support of his uncle Abu Ṭālib when they both died in the same year. Sayyidah Fāṭimah, at a young age, supported her father; when the enemies threw stones at him, she

cleaned him, washed him and comforted him tenderly. The Prophet called her Ummu Abiha —The mother of her father.



ⁱ Bibiliography / References: SayyidahFatema; Ezosoftech,com stories Islamicoccasions.com(First Infallible)

Class Discussion

Let us do a simple test.

Is Allah (SWT) happy with you?

If you want to know whether Allah (SWT) is happy with you

Ask your parents if they are happy with you!!!i

Review Questions:

Q1. Al Siddigah means:

- a. The one who always tells the truth
- b. The one who is very kind
- c. The one who is very generous

Q2. If we want Allah to be pleased and happy with us, we have to please our:

- a. Friends
- b. Teachers
- c. Parents

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