

IMAM AL-SADIQ^{LA.SI}

امام الصادق (ع)

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Şādiq as our sixth Imam
- Understand that al-Şādiq means 'the Truthful'
- Be introduced to humility as one of the characteristics of the Imam
- Understand arrogance as the opposite of humility
- Understand that the benefits of humility

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

Imam al-Şādiq(as)

In Islam we have twelve Imams (leaders) who continued to teach us what Prophet Muḥammad (saw) taught us after he passed away so that we don't forget. Every Imam was the best person alive at his time and that is why Allah (SWT) chose them to be the leaders of the people. The Imams had great knowledge of everything, including maths, science and lots of other things. One of the Imams that opened a university because he was so knowledgeable was our sixth Imam, Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq (as).

AL-ŞĀDIQ (AS)

al-Şādiq (as) means the truthful one in Arabic. Imam Ja'far was also called al-Şādiq (as) because he always spoke the truth and never lied. Another reason is because later on a man whose name was also Ja'far wanted people to believe that he was an Imam when he was not actually an Imam. This lying person became known as Jafar al-Kadhhab, which means Ja'far the Liar.

BEING HUMBLE

Being humble means that a person should not think or act like they are better than other people. A person who is humble does the following things:

- Keeps their good actions secret
- Respects other people

Part of being humble is that when we do something good, we do not boast or brag about it and we do not start to think we are better than other people. For example if you give half of your lunch to your friend at school because they are hungry and you never tell anyone then you are

being humble. But if you share your lunch then boast about it to other friends this is not being humble.

IMAM ṢĀDIQ'S HUMILITY

Imam al-Ṣādiq (as), like the Prophet and all the Imams, was very humble. He would do so many good deeds without telling anyone. Sometimes he would even do good deeds in the middle of the night so that no one knows who he is.

In the darkness of some nights Imam al-Ṣādiq (as) would cover his face and take warm food to the poor people that lived around him. He covered his face so that people would not know who he was and he could remain humble. This shows us that all the work he did, was only for Allah (SWT) to see and not for the people to think he was a good person.

These poor people only found out who he was after the Imam died and they stopped receiving food.

HUMILITY THROUGH ACTIONS

It is not easy to be humble. Usually when we do a good thing we want people to know about what we have done. For example if we help our brothers or sisters pack up, we want our parents to know, or if we get an award at school we cant wait to tell everyone.

CLASS ACTIVITY

Circle the words that describe someone who is humble:

KIND **Rude** **Selfish**
Mean **Generous** **Gentle**
Greedy **sharing** **helpful**

ARROGANCE

Now that we know humility is not acting or thinking that we are better than others, we should know that the opposite of humility is arrogance.

Arrogance is when someone thinks that they are better than others and also acts in this way. For example if someone has nicer shoes than their friend and they show off because they know their friend cannot have the same, they are being arrogant.

When someone is arrogant they think that they are better than others in their actions and their words. They will always have something bad to say about people. It is better to stay away from people like this so that we do not become the same. A person who is arrogant does the following things:

- Show off
- Boast and brag
- Tease others and put them down

BENEFITS OF HUMILITY

There are many people in the world that are humble and many that are arrogant. Allah (SWT) has given us the choice to be whatever we want, but He has also told us which one is right and which one is wrong. Allah (SWT) does not love those who are arrogant, but He does love those who are humble. It is important to always think of what Allah (SWT) wants for us in our lives because He created us and knows what is best for us and what will make us happy.

Nobody likes to be friends with people who are arrogant, so it is important that we try our best to be humble so that people want to be our friends and play with us. When we are humble people enjoy spending time with us and want to be our friends.

Review Questions

Q1. Imam al-Ṣādiq is our

- 6th Imam
- 12th Imam
- 1st Imam

Q2. What did Imam al-Ṣādiq do in the nights?

- Sleep all night
- Pray all night
- Cover his face and give food to poor people

Q3. What is an example of being humble?

- Eating all your food alone
- Telling everyone when you help someone
- Helping someone and not telling anyone about it

Q4. What is the opposite of humility?

- Rudeness
- Arrogance
- Kindness