

## Imam AlHadi [A.S]

### امام الهادي (ع)

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Hādi (as) our tenth Imam
- Briefly learn the meaning of the title al-Hādi, which means 'The Guide'
- Understand that in order to be guided, one must be able to accept advice
- Discuss the issue of taking advice, and its benefits

### Imam al-Hādi (as)

Do you remember how many Imams we have?

That's right! We have 12 Imams altogether. Our Imams were leaders; they came after the prophets to make sure that the message of Islam stays alive. All our Imams were special in their own way; in this lesson we are going to learn about one such Imam. His name was Imam al-Hādi (as) and he was our 10<sup>th</sup> Imam. Here are some facts about his life:

#### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

#### LEVEL 2

Name	'Ali
Title	al-Naqi (The Pure) & al-Hādi (The Guide)
Name of Father	Imam Muāammad al-Jawād (as)
Name of Mother	Sammanah
Birthdate	15 <sup>th</sup> Dhil Hajj 212 AH in Medina
Martyrdom (date of his death)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rajab 254 AH
Buried	Samarrā', Iraq

### MIRACLES OF IMAM AL-HĀDI (AS)

Imam al-Hādi (as) took his position as an Imam when he was only 8 years old. Unfortunately, we do not know much about this Imam because either the historians of that time were not allowed to write about him or they just never took interest in writing about this great personality.

Anyway, we do have a few records of some of the miracles of the Imam (as):

- 1) When the Abbasid king would call Imam al-Hādi (as) to his palace; he would ask his servants to open the curtains for him out of respect. One day, he decided he would not do this because of advice from his ministers. The king wanted to humiliate the Imam (as). However, once the Imam arrived at the palace, strong winds blew open all the curtains and the Imam walked in with great honour! The same thing happened when the Imam left.

2) During the life of Imam al-Hādi (as), there was a woman who claimed to be Zaynab (as), the daughter of Imam ‘Ali (as). The king asked Imam al-Hādi (as) how he could prove her wrong; so the Imam asked her to enter a cage full of lions. If she was truly a member of the Ahlul Bayt, then the lions would not attack her and she would be safe. She refused and asked the Imam (as) to enter the cage instead. Imam al-Hādi (as) did so and instead of attacking him, the lions were extremely friendly and loving towards the Imam (as).

### **AL-HADI = THE GUIDE**

Imam al-Hādi (as) was a guide for the people of his time; and those who would come after him. He often highlighted the importance of referring to the Qur’an as a main reference. He also mentored and taught the people about the status of all the other Imams before him.

However, can **everybody** be guided?

No they can’t! Do you know why?

To be able to be guided and fully benefit from the Imams we must be able to accept advice from them. We must not only accept advice from our Imams; but also learn to listen to our elders, parents, teachers and our brothers & sisters.

For example, if your mum advises us to study and do your school work on time, we should listen to her. She only advises and tells us because she loves us and wants only the best for us. She also is wiser and older than us and knows what is good for us. For these reasons, we must listen and take advice from people who have our best interests at heart (such as our parents and teachers).

This is exactly what all our Imams used to do; they used to guide and advise people. However, only some people used to listen to them; they were the people who realised the status and the knowledge of the Imam. It was these people who were successfully guided and will go to heaven!

What will happen to people who don’t take advice?

During the time of the Prophet Muḥammad (saw), there were many battles; where the Prophet (SAW) along with

his companions had to fight the enemies of Islam. One of these battles was the battle of ‘Uḥud’.

During this battle, the prophet (saw) advised and ordered some of the Muslims to stay on a mountain; he gave them the duty of protecting any surprising attacks from the back. He said to them:

“Protect us from the back. Don’t leave your places when you see us collecting booty (valuables gained from war) or when we are killed.”

After having said this, the Prophet (saw) went to fight. The Muslims were fighting the enemies and were winning the battle. For this reason, the Muslims on the mountain saw their fellow Muslim brothers collecting their war booty and forgot the order of the Prophet (saw) and left their places!

As they left the mountain, the leader of the enemies began to attack the Muslims from the back! The Muslims who were on the mountain could not defend themselves against this surprise attack; and a lot of them were killed. The Muslims were left in chaos.

#### Moral of the Story:

We should always follow orders and listen to the advice of those people who are wiser and more knowledgeable than us, they often know something we do not.

### **Class Activity: Role play**

Your teacher will divide you into two groups. Group 1 will act out a scenario where a person takes advice and benefits from it. Group 2 will act out a scenario where a person does not take advice and suffers because of it. Your teacher will help you to come up with scenarios.

### **Review Questions**

**Q1. The father of Imam al-Hādi (as) is:**

- Prophet Muḥammad (saw)
- Imam ‘Ali (as)
- Imam Muḥammad al-Jawād (as)

**Q2. ‘Al-Hādi’ means:**

- The guide
- The kind one
- The leader