



# Islamic

## School Syllabus

### MANUAL

LEVEL  
2

2017

## Book 2 (Year 2)



THEOLOGY

JURISPRUDENCE

SOCIAL-ISLAM

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Third Edition – 2017  
Book 2 of 2 (LEVEL 2)

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This work has been approved by Sheikh Mansour Leghaei and is loosely based around the eHawza ([www.eHawza.com](http://www.eHawza.com)). The lessons have been edited and checked for typographical and contextual errors to the best of available resources. Some errors may still be present. Islamic Syllabus does not take responsibility for the teaching of this content, teachers are advised to read widely and use the lessons provided as a foundation.

**Supporting resources can be found at [www.islamicsyllabus.com](http://www.islamicsyllabus.com)**

## **About Us**

This syllabus was written and compiled by a team of Islamic studies students and teachers. It was a combined effort from members of various Islamic centres around Australia and the wider global English-speaking Muslim community.

The work was generally supervised by Sheikh Mansour Leghaei, and is loosely based on the eHAWZA, an electronic English-language School of Islamic Theology ([www.ehawza.com](http://www.ehawza.com)).

The syllabus has been eight years in the making. However, it remains a work in progress and all suggestions, queries or corrections are welcome.

Please direct these to [info@islamicsyllabus.com](mailto:info@islamicsyllabus.com)

## ***Islamic Syllabus Timetable and Calendar\****

Week	Date	Islamic Date	Occasion	Main topic	Fiqh Topic
Term 1 -2017					
1	4th Feb	6th Jamadil Awwal	Ayyam Fatimiyyah	Imam Hassan (as)	Further Rules of Prayers
2	11th Feb	13th Jamadil Awwal		Imam Husain (as)	Congregational Prayers
3	18th Feb	20th Jamadil Awwal		Imam Sajjad (as)	Traveller's prayer
4	25th Feb	27th Jamadil Awwal		Imam Baqir (as)	Special Prayers
5	4th Mar	4th Jamadil Thani		Imam Sadiq (as)	Social Rules- Backbiting
6	11th Mar	11th Jamadil Thani		Imam Kadhim (as)	Social Rules- Suspiciousness
7	18th Mar	18th Jamadil Thani		Imam Redha (as)	Social Rules-Social Independence
8	25th Mar	25th Jamadil Thani	Birthday of Sayyida Fatima (as)	Imam Jawad (as)	Healthy Friendships 1
9	1st Apr	3rd Rajab	Martydom of Imam Hadi (as)	Imam Hadi (as)	Healthy Friendships 2
10	8th Apr	10th Rajab		Imam Askari (as)	Healthy Friendships 3
Term 2 -2017					
11	29th Apr	2nd Shabaan		Imam Mahdi 1 (AJTFS)	Being Sociable + Islamic Conversation
12	6th May	9th Shabaan		Imam Mahdi 2 (AJTFS)	Dealing with Our Enemies
13	13th May	16th Shabaan	Birthday of Imam Al-Mahdi (AJTFS)	Imam Mahdi 3 (AJTFS)	Goodness to neighbours + rules of hosting
14	20th May	23rd Shabaan		Prophet Adam (as)	Fasting 1: Intention, conditions
15	27th May	30th Shabaan		Prophet Nuh (as)	Fasting 2: Invalidators of fasting
16	3rd Jun	7th Ramadhan		Prophet Ibrahim (as) -1	Fasting 3: General rules of fasting
17	10th Jun	14th Ramadhan	Islamic Studies Exam	Prophet Ibrahim (as) -2	Fasting 4: Further Fasting Rules
	17th Jun	21st Ramadhan	Shahr Ramadhan Break		
	24th Jun	28th Ramadhan			
Term 3 - 2017					
18	22nd Jul	27th Shawwal		Prophet Yusuf (as) -1	Food and Drink 1
19	29th Jul	5th Dhul Qa'dah		Prophet Yusuf (as) -2	Food and Drink 2
20	5th Aug	12th Dhul Qa'dah		Prophet Musa (as) -1	Community Care
21	12th Aug	19th Dhul Qa'dah		Prophet Musa (as) -2	Community Service 1
22	19th Aug	26th Dhul Qa'dah		Prophet Musa (as) -3	Community Service 2 / Stealing
23	26th Aug	3rd Dhul Hijjah		Prophet Dawud (as)	Hajj
	2nd Sep	10th Dhul Hijjah	EID AL ADHA HOLIDAY		
24	9th Sep	17th Dhul Hijjah		Karbala 1	Hijab 1
25	16th Sep	24th Dhul Hijjah	Eid Mubahala	Karbala 2	Hijab 2
	23rd Sep	2nd Muharram	ASHURA PROGRAMS		
Term 4 - 2017					
26	14th Oct	24th Muharram		Ancient Prophets 1	Music
27	21st Oct	1st Safar		Ancient Prophets 2	Self-Praise (‘Ujb)
28	28th Oct	8th Safar		Prophet Sulayman (as)	Amr Bil Ma'roof/ Nahi Anil Munkar
29	4th Nov	15th Safar		Prophet Ayyoub (as)	Jihad
30	11th Nov	22nd Safar		Prophet Isa (as) 1	Animal Rights
31	18th Nov	29th Safar		Prophet Isa (as) 2	Islam and the Environment
32	25th Nov	7th Rabiul Awwal		Prophet Isa (as) 3	Transaction Laws 1
33	2nd Dec	14th Rabiul Awwal		Revision Lesson	Transaction Laws 2
	9th Dec	21st Rabiul Awwal	End of year examinations LEVEL 5 SYNOPTIC		
	16th Dec	28th Rabiul Awwal			

**\* This timetable is based on the NSW school timetable and is assuming classes are on Saturdays. Dates and times may vary in the year (Islamic Dates, events etc.) and based on location. Parents and teachers are advised to keep up to date with school announcements.**

# CONTENTS...

Level 2- Book 2 – 2017 Edition

Topic	Page
<b>Theology</b>	
Imam Hasan (as)	1
Imam Husain (as)	4
Karbala	6
Imam Sajjad (as)	11
Imam Baqir (as)	13
Imam Sadiq (as)	15
Imam Kadhim (as)	17
Imam Reda (as)	19
Imam Jawad (as)	21
Imam Hadi (as)	23
Imam Al Askari (as)	25
Imam Al Mahdi (AJTFS)	27
Prophet Adam (as)	32
Prophet Nuh (as)	34
Prophet Ibrahim (as)	37
Prophet Yusuf (as)	42
Ancient Prophets (as)	47
Prophet Musa (as)	53
Prophet Dawood (as)	58
Prophet Sulayman (as)	60
Prophet 'Isa (as)	63
Prophet Ayyoub (as)	68
Luqman (as)	72
<b>Jurisprudence of Worship</b>	
Further prayer rules	75
Invalidators of prayers	77
Congregational prayers	79
Travellers prayers	81
Special prayers	82
Fasting	85
Rules of food and drink	90
Hijab	93



Music and dancing	97
Charity	98
Hajj	101
Enjoining good and forbidding evil	103

Social Rules in Islam	
Backbiting	108
Islamic conversation	111
Being sociable	113
Neighbours and guests	116
Self-praise	118
Community Service	121
Social independence	125
Suspicion	128
Community care	130
Islam and the environment	133
Animal rights	135
Notes	137

# السلام عليك يا حسن المجتبي

IMAM AL-HASAN [A.S]

امام الحسن (ع)

## Objectives >>>

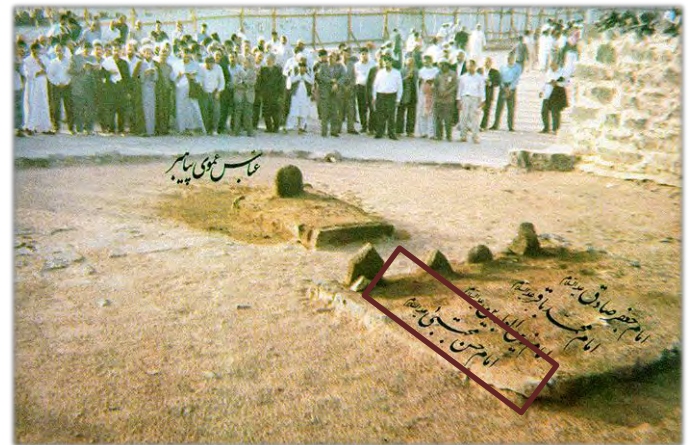
### Students should:

- Learn Imam Ḥasan's position among the Ahlul Bayt (as)
- Discuss the noble traits of Imam Ḥasan (as)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## Lesson 1: Imam Ḥasan



Janat-ul-Baqee' – Medina

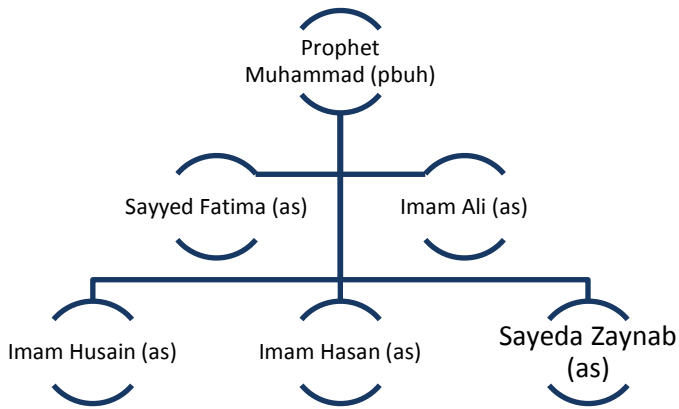
In this lesson, we will learn about the life of Imam Ḥasan (as) and hear some great stories from the life of this generous and kind Imam (as). Before that though, let us remind ourselves of the Ahlul Bayt family tree.

### THE AHLUL BAYT (AS)

Imam Ḥasan (as) was the oldest child of Imam 'Ali (as) and Sayyedah Fāṭimah (as). He was also the Prophet's first grandson.

Like the rest of the Ahlul Bayt, Imam Ḥasan (as) was a great person who always did good to others.

He was the leader of the Muslim community and he was a great example of how to treat the people around us well.



## IMAM HASAN WAS A VERY HELPFUL PERSON

Imam Hasan (as) always looked out for other people and tried to help as much as he could. One day, he was praying in the mosque, and while he was praying, he saw an old man in front of him trying to get up. Unfortunately, the old man had dropped his walking stick and it was too far for him to reach. Therefore, he was finding it very hard to stand up. The Imam (as), without breaking his prayer, walked over to the man, picked up the walking stick and gave it to him before finishing off his prayer. The old man was very grateful for this.

This shows that even when we are doing something as important as a mustahab prayer, we should look out for other people and see whether they need help. In fact, we should not wait for people to ask us for help. If we think someone might need help, we should go to them and politely offer to help them.

## IMAM HASAN CARED FOR ALL OF GOD'S CREATURES

One day, Imam Hasan (as) was eating some bread when a dog came and stood near him. The Imam (as) began to eat one piece of bread then cut off the next piece and give it to the dog. In this way, he shared his food with the dog. Soon, one of the Imam's companions came and said to the Imam: 'should I get

rid of this dog for you?' The Imam (as) said: 'no, I don't want to get rid of him. I am too shy to eat alone while another living creature is looking at me'.

This shows the amazing mercy of the Imam (as), as well as his generosity. He could not even bear to eat if there was a hungry animal nearby.

This also shows us that we must care for animals and never harm or hurt them for no good reason.



## **Class Activity 1: Role Play**

Get into groups of three and pick one of the above two stories to act out. The group with the best act will get a very good prize!

## **Class Activity 2: Colouring Activity**

Colour in the following picture! What do you think is happening in this picture. Your teacher will fill you in on the story after you've finished colouring in!



Teachers Note: Any of the following stories can fit the picture above. Teachers to please tell these stories once students have finished colouring in!

1. A person came to Imam Ḥasan (as) and said "poverty and bad luck is torturing me. You are a family of chastity, purity and infallibility. Get me saved from this cruel enemy?" Imam Ḥasan (as) called his servant and said, "How much money do we have available?" He replied "five thousand Dinār" He said, "Give all of this money to this man so that it may become the capital of his business and life and he may relieve himself off and get rid of poverty and neediness."

2. One day, Imam Ḥasan (as) went to the Holy Ka'bah. While he was busy praying he heard a man addressing his God and saying, "Oh God, I need ten thousand, and I ask You, O Merciful, to give me this blessing". The moment Imam Ḥasan (as) returned home, he sent his servant to give the man that

amount of money"

3. A poor and distressed man came to Imam Ḥasan (as) and recited a rhyme meaning thereby, "I am left over with nothing, not even a single dirham. You can perceive my condition fully well and know it. I have nothing left with me to sell except my honour. I know you are the purchaser and buyer of it." The Imam Hassan (as) at once called his servant and said, "Whatever money you have got with you, give it to this man."

The servant gave ten thousand Dirhams to him. Imam Ḥasan (as) asked the servant to make excuse as

well, because, he did not possess more than that amount to be given out to him. He advised him to take that money and use it for his livelihood.

## Review Questions

### Q1. Imam Ḥasan (as) was kind:

- To his followers only
- To all people
- To all people and even other living creatures



## IMAM HUSAIN [A.S]

## امام الحسين (ع)

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should understand:

- Understand that Imam Ḥusayn (as) was the youngest member of Ahlul Kisā'
- Realise the special affection he had from the Prophet (saw)
- Briefly discuss the tragedy of Karbala and its importance
- Discuss what it means to sacrifice one's time for Allah

## Imam Ḥusain (as)

Who remembers the members of Ahlul Kisā'? Think well!

That's right. They are:

- The Prophet (saw)
- Imam 'Ali (as)
- Sayyidah Fāṭima (as)
- Imam Ḥasan (as) and
- Imam Ḥusain (as)

Who is the youngest of these Ahlul Kisā'? Of course, Imam Ḥusain (as) is the youngest of Ahlul Bayt. What do you know about Imam Ḥusayn (as)?

In this lesson, we will learn about Imam Ḥusain (as)

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2



The Holy Shrine of Imam Husayn [as] in Karbala, Iraq

## THE PROPHET'S GRANDCHILD

When Prophet Muḥammad (saw) heard of the news of Imam Ḥusain's (as) birth, he went to Sayyedah Fāṭima's house and recited the adhān and iqāma in his ears. The Prophet named the baby Ḥusain as commanded by Allah (SWT). For seven years, Imam Ḥusain (as) grew up in the company of his grandfather. The Prophet played with his grandson and let him ride on his back. Imam Ḥusain (as) accompanied the Prophet to the mosque. The Prophet loved him so much that he used to say:

"Ḥusain (as) is from me and I am from Ḥusain (as)".

This means that Ḥusain is a part of the Prophet and the Prophet a part of Ḥusain

The Prophet (saw) also said:

"Ḥasan and Ḥusain are the leaders of the youths of Paradise."

## **THE TRAGEDY OF KARBALA**

During the time of Imam Ḥusayn (as) an evil man called Yazīd became the ruler. Yazīd called himself the leader of the Muslims, but this was a lie. He used to spend the money of the Muslims for his own personal pleasure. He would use it for things like drinking, gambling and wild parties. The poor were ignored and treated badly and the good people who stood up to Yazīd and his family were killed.

When Yazīd became ruler of the Muslims, he immediately demanded Imam Ḥusayn (as) to recognise him as the ruler and accept his leadership; but Imam Ḥusayn (as) was the true successor of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad (saw) and could not accept as a leader someone who was a drunkard and the killer of the innocents. Imam Ḥusayn could not allow an unjust person to be the leader.

Yazīd threatened to kill the Imam if he did not recognise him as the leader and so Imam Ḥusayn had to leave Medina. Many people from Kūfah, a city in Iraq had written letters to the Imam, asking him to come and save them from Yazīd and so Imam Husain left for Kūfah.

We will learn more about the Imam's journey in our next lessons.

The most important thing we will learn is that the Imam (as), as well as many of his family members and friends, sacrificed everything they had, including their lives, to save Islam. The most important lesson we learn from Imam Ḥusayn's life is that we should sacrifice for the sake of Allah (SWT).

### **WHO ELSE SACRIFICED HIS LIFE FOR ALLAH (SWT)?**

Beside Imam Ḥusayn (as), do you know of any other person who sacrificed greatly for the sake of Allah?

Bilāl Al Ḥabashi was from Abyssinia (Ethiopia). Umayyah, one of the enemies of the Holy Prophet, owned Bilāl. When Umayyah heard that Bilāl had become a Muslim, he was angry. So he began to torture Bilāl. He would whip him severely or put heavy rocks on the body of Bilāl while making him lie on hot sand. He was trying to force Bilāl to say that he worshipped other than God.

However, Bilāl still kept on saying: "I believe in One God, I believe in One God". Umayyah took red hot iron rods

and put them on Bilāl's legs. Days passed by and Bilāl's condition became bad. The Prophet eventually asked one of the companions to pay Umayyah to set Bilāl free, and eventually Bilāl was finally freed.

So you see, Bilāl suffered a lot for loving Allah and the Prophet (saw). The Prophet asked Imam 'Ali (as) to teach adhān to Bilāl. He had beautiful loud voice and thus he became the first reciter of adhān in Islam. He sacrificed a lot for Allah but today we remember him and respect and honour him because of his sacrifice.

### **OUR SACRIFICE FOR ALLAH (SWT)**

Any action that is done with the intention of pleasing Allah (SWT) instead of doing what would please us is a sacrifice for Allah (SWT) and Allah not only loves such an action but He also rewards us for it.

To sacrifice means to give up something that you like for the sake of someone else. To sacrifice your life for Allah (SWT) means to die in the cause of Allah. We can spend our time to do something for the love of Allah. Or we can spend our money to help the needy for the love of Allah (SWT). Just like Imam Ḥusayn (as) did when he sacrificed his life and family or when Bilāl endured torture and pain for the sake of Allah (SWT)

### **Class Activity**

Let us split up into small groups and each group can act out a scenario where a person makes a sacrifice for the sake of Allah.

### **Review Questions**

#### **Q1. The Prophet (saw)**

- Loved Imam Ḥusayn (as) very much and spent a lot of time with him
- Hardly spent time with Imam Ḥusayn (as) and did not mention that he loved him
- Never saw Imam Ḥusayn (as)

#### **Q2. The greatest lesson we learn from Imam Ḥusayn (as) is**

- How important it is to sacrifice for the sake of Allah (SWT)
- The importance of being generous
- The importance of being kind



## KARBALA

## کربلاء

### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

### Karbalā'

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should understand:

- Discuss the differences between Imam Ḥusayn (as) and Yazīd including
- Be introduced to a brief outline of Imam Ḥusayn (as) journey from Medina to Karbala
- Be able to recall part of the family tree of the Imam (as):
- Discuss the story of 'Abdullāh and how he died in Karbala

On the tenth day of Muḥarram in the year 61 AH, a cruel man and an enemy of Islam brutally killed our third Imam and his pure family. Who remembers the name of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Imam?

So, why did Yazīd kill Imam Ḥusayn (as)?

This is because Ḥusayn (as) refused to give his hand in allegiance to Yazīd. This means that Imam Ḥusayn (as) did not accept Yazīd as his leader or the leader of the Muslims.

Do you know why?

Because Yazīd was a very bad, sinful man who couldn't be trusted to lead people in the right Islamic manner. Therefore, Ḥusayn (as), to save Islam, was ready to sacrifice (give up) his life and the lives of his family for the sake of Islam.

If it wasn't for Ḥusayn (as) then we wouldn't know Islam as we know it today.

### IMAM ḤUSAYN (AS) VS. YAZID

So why wouldn't Imam Ḥusayn (as) accept Yazīd as a leader?

Let us see what kind of a person Yazīd was and compare it to the life & personality of Imam Ḥusayn (as). After reading the table below, you can discuss with your teacher who you think would be better to be a leader for Islam:

Imam Ḥusayn (as)	Yazīd (God's curse be upon him)
When Yazīd's men stopped Imam Ḥusayn (as) in a desert known as Karbala, Imam Ḥusayn (as) made sure that all the enemies and their horses had a drink of water.	On the other hand, Yazīd and his army stopped all water from reaching Imam Ḥusayn (as) camp for 3 whole days! For three days, Imam Ḥusayn (as), his women and his children including a young baby stayed thirsty.
Imam Ḥusayn (as) had a very pure lifestyle. He would stay up during the night to pray & would feed the poor.	Yazīd, however, led a very sinful lifestyle. He would drink alcohol and take poor people's money to use it on things like his palace.

So after looking at the table— do you think Yazīd could be a leader of Islam?

Of course not! Imam Ḥusayn (as) knew this and therefore he sacrificed *everything* he had to save our religion.

## Class Discussion

How can we make sure what Imam Ḥusayn (as) did does not go to waste? Discuss with your teacher ways that we can thank our Imam for saving our religion. For example, one way is to follow what he taught us in this world; for example, through his actions he taught us that we must help people in need however we can.

## HOW DID IMAM HUSAYN (AS) GET TO KARBALA?

Imam Ḥusayn (as) left his hometown of Medina with the intention to go to Mecca. When he was in Mecca, he heard that some of the enemies and the friends of Yazīd wanted to kill him. Imam Ḥusayn (as) did not want any blood to be shed in the Holy city of Mecca where the Ka'bah is, so he left before they could attack him.

Where did Imam Husayn (as) plan to go from there?



Imam Ḥusayn (as) planned that he would go to Kūfah where people were asking him to come and save them from Yazīd. Look at the map which shows the Imam's journey.

On his way there, a man named Ḥurr stopped Imam Ḥusayn (as). Ḥurr was from the army of Yazīd and he stopped Imam Ḥusayn (as) at a desert called 'Karbala'. He told Imam Ḥusayn (as) that they all must stay here and that they cannot go to Kūfah and nor can they go back to Medina.

It was in this deserted land, by the name of Karbala, that Imam Ḥusayn (as) and his pure family were slaughtered (killed) by the men of Yazīd. In our next lesson we will discuss what happened in Karbala.

## Class Activity: Find-a-Word

**KARBALA**  
**MUHARRAM**  
**HUSAYN**  
**ISLAM**  
**KUFA**  
**MECCA**  
**MADINA**

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

## Review Questions

**Q1. Why did Imam Ḥusayn (as) refuse to hand over leadership to Yazīd?**

- Because Imam Ḥusayn (as) wanted it all to himself
- Because Yazīd was not a good Muslim and so he can never be trusted to lead the Muslims
- None of the above

**Q2. Imam Ḥusayn (as) left Mecca**

- Because he wanted to go to Karbala
- Because he wanted to go to Kūfah
- Because he wanted to go back to Medina

## Lesson 2: Imam Ḥusayn & His Family

We know, Imam Ḥusayn (as) was the youngest member of the Ahlul Bayt and the only one of them that was still alive when the event of Karbala happened.

So, who from Imam Ḥusayn's (as) family was present in Karbala?

## ZAYNAB AND 'ABBAS

### ZAYNAB (AS)

Zaynab (as) was the sister of Imam Ḥusayn (as). She was the brave woman who took care of all the women and children of Imam Ḥusayn's (as) family after his martyrdom (death). Her shrine is in Shām. She passed on the message of the Imam after he was killed.

### 'ABBAS (AS)

'Abbas was the half-brother of Imam Ḥusayn (as); this means that they had the same father (Imam 'Ali) but different mothers. 'Abbas was very loyal to his Imam and brother and was always helping him and supporting him. On the day of 'Ashurā', 'Abbas did all he could to protect the Imam and his family, and ended up giving his life for the sake of his Imam and his religion.

He is buried in Karbala and he has a beautiful shrine which is visited by many people around the world.

## IMAM ḤUSAYN'S THREE SONS

Imam Ḥusayn had three sons who were present in Karbala:

### 'ALI AL-AKBAR

Ali-Akbar was the oldest son of Imam Ḥusayn (as); his mother's name was Layla. Ali al-Akbar looked exactly like the Prophet Muḥammad (saw). He fought bravely in Karbala and sacrificed his life. He is buried in Karbala next to his father, Imam Ḥusayn (as).



## IMAM AL-SAJJAD

Imam al-Sajjad (as) is our fourth Imam and also the son of Imam Ḥusayn (as). He was present in Karbala but he could not fight because he was very ill. He could not even walk out of bed. Despite his illness, the enemy tortured him and took him as a prisoner.

## ALI AL-ASGHAR

Ali al-Asghar was the youngest child and the baby of Imam Ḥusayn (as). His mother's name was Rabāb. He was the youngest martyr of Karbala and is buried next to his father, Imam Ḥusayn (as), in Karbala.

## IMAM ḤUSAYN'S DAUGHTER

### RUQAYYAH

Imam Ḥusayn (as) also had a daughter present in Karbala. Her name was Ruqayyah. We are not too sure of her age but we know she was very young. With all the other women & children, Ruqayyah was taken prisoner and treated badly. She died in Shām because of how badly she was treated.

## IMAM HUSAYN'S NEPHEW

### QĀSIM

Qāsim was the son of Imam Ḥasan (as) and the nephew of Imam Ḥusayn (as). He was present in Karbala and ready to fight for Imam Ḥusayn (as). Although very young, Qāsim was not afraid to die. When Imam Ḥusayn (as) asked him his understanding of death; Qāsim replied:

“Death is sweeter than honey”

He is also buried in Karbala along with the other martyrs of Karbala.



## THE STORY OF ALI AL-ASGHAR

The army of Yazād had stopped all water supplies from going to Imam Ḥusayn (as) and his family. Unfortunately, they had no mercy or pity and didn't even give any water to the young baby of the Imam.

So Imam Ḥusayn (as) took baby Ali to the enemy's camp and lifted him up high. He told the army of Yazīd that this was an innocent baby who could not harm them and was not their enemy. He asked why they would not give him water.

Some of the soldiers started to cry as they felt pity. However, the leader of the army asked an evil man by the name of Ḥarmala to kill this young baby. Ḥarmala shot an arrow into the neck of baby Ali. Ali began to bleed from his neck.

Imam Ḥusayn (as) put his hand on his baby's neck, collected the blood and threw it up to the heavens, saying:

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

“Surely we are Allah's and to Him we shall surely return” [2:156]

## THE DAY OF 'ASHURĀ'

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Muḥarram, the first month of the Islamic calendar, Imam Ḥusayn (as) and the family members we have talked about, faced an enemy of 30,000 people. The Imam had only 72 soldiers with him to face this huge enemy. By the end of the day, the enemy killed the Imam (as) as well as all of his soldiers.

We remember what happened on this day every year, because it reminds us about how important our religion is.

## Class Activity

Using the letters; find the names of the members of Imam Ḥusayn's family:

His Grandfather (Mother's Father):

*M A M U M H D A*

His Father:

*L A I*

His Mother:

*A F T M I A*

His Brother:

*A H S N A*

## Review Questions

**Q1. How many sons of Imam Husayn (as) were present in Karbala?**

- a. Four
- b. Six
- c. Three
- d. Only one

**Q2. Who was the youngest martyr of Karbala?**

- a. Imam Ḥusayn (as)
- b. Ali-Akbar
- c. Ali-Asghar



# السلام عليك يا زين العابدين و سيد الساجدين

IMAM AL-SAJJAD <sup>[AS]</sup>

امام السجاد (ع)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## THE AMAZING WORSHIP OF IMAM AL-SAJJĀD (AS)

During his childhood Imam al-Sajjād (as) once fell sick. His father, Imam Ḥusayn (as) showed affection towards him, and asked, “How are you feeling, my son? Is there anything you wish to have?”

This is what the Imam replied:

“O father! My only wish is from Allah (SWT) that He should place me among those with whom He is always pleased and satisfied.”

At that, his father hugged him and said:

“My son, your answer is similar to Prophet Ibrāhīm’s. When Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was thrown into the fire by Nimrud, Angel Jibra’īl asked Ibrāhīm (as) if he had any wish. To this Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) replied, “Indeed (I only ask for) my wish from Allah (SWT).”

Imam al-Sajjād (as) was famous for his amazing worship of Allah (SWT) throughout his life. He would spend a long time in prostration frequently. Some nights, he would pray one thousand rak’āt of prayer in one night.

## AL-SAJJĀD (AS)

A man once entered the Holy Mosque in Mecca after midnight and saw Imam al-Sajjād (as) in prostration (sajdah). He heard Imam (as) was repeating something. As he came closer, he heard the Imam AS saying:



### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Sajjād as our fourth Imam
- Discuss the meaning of the titles ‘al-Sajjād’ and ‘Zaynul ‘Abidīn’
- Discuss the rewards of prostrating to Allah (SWT)
- Discuss the benefits of worship briefly
- Learn a supplication from Saḥīfah al-Sajjādiyyah

## IMAM AL-SAJJĀD (AS)

Imam Ali ibn al-Ḥusayn (as) is our fourth Imam. He was the son of Imam Ḥusayn (as) and became the Imam after him. He has two famous titles:

- Zaynul ‘Abidīn
- Al-Sajjād

### FACTS ABOUT THE IMAM

- **The Imam’s Father:** Imam Ḥusayn (as)
- **The Imam’s Mother:** Lady Shaherbanoo, a princess from Iran (Persia)
- **Birth date:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sha’bān 38 AH in Medina
- **Died on:** 25<sup>th</sup> Muḥarram 94 AH (buried in Jannatul Baqī’ in Medina)



“O my Lord, your most humble servant is at your doorstep. A beggar is at your doorstep. A needy one is at your doorstep.”

The Imam (as) would frequently spend a long time in prostration, worshipping and begging Allah (SWT). This is why he received the title *Sajjād* (as)- meaning the one who prostrates (performs *sajdah*) often.

When we are in a state of prostration, we are closer to Allah than at any other time. Our Prophet (saw) recommended that we prolong our prostration. For this reason we are recommended to prostrate to Allah many times in each prayer. When we perform *sajdah*, we are surrounded by the blessings of Allah (SWT).

Imam ‘Ali (as) says:

“Nothing can bring about closeness to Allah (SWT) except prostrating and bowing a lot.”

### ZAYNUL ABIDĪN (AS)

Imam al-Sajjād (as) is also given the title of *Zaynul Abidīn*. This means ‘the best of the worshippers’. As we said earlier, the Imam (as) would spend a great amount of time in worship. He would sometimes spend the whole night praying, and he would still feel that he needed to do more. And when he was praying, nothing could distract from his prayer. He paid full attention to his prayer. In fact, Imam al-Bāqir (as) says:

“When my father stood up to pray, he was like a tree trunk, with no part of him moving except whatever the wind caused to move.”

### WORSHIP AND ITS BENEFITS

Worship can take many forms. Whenever we are doing anything to please Allah (SWT), this is considered worship.



A specific type of worship is to pray to Allah (SWT), perform *sajdah*, and make *du‘ā* to Allah (SWT).

If we worship Allah (SWT) frequently, we will gain a lot of benefits including:

- Closeness to Allah (SWT)
- Trust in Allah (SWT)
- Peace and calm in ourselves

### Class Activity: Discussion

Discuss further with your teacher the benefits of praying to Allah (SWT) frequently.

### AS SAḤĪFAH AL-SAJJĀDIYAH:

At the time of our fourth Imam (as), it was very difficult for the Imam (as) to teach Islam to the people. This was because Yazīd’s cruel men kept a close watch on the Imam’s movements. The Imam (as) decided that the best way to teach people Islam was through *du‘ā*. The Imam (as) would teach his companions many supplications, and these would be written and passed on by the companions. These *du‘ā*s were compiled into a book called *al-Saḥifah al-Sajjādiyah*, and we are lucky to have this book with us now. There are many beautiful *du‘ā*s in this book. Today, we will learn a small part of one of these *du‘ā*s:

“My Master, You are the Creator and I am the created, and who will have mercy on the Created except the Creator. My Master, You are the Giver and I am the asker, and who will have mercy on the asker except the Giver”<sup>ii</sup>

### Review Questions

**Q1. Imam al-Sajjād (as) is our:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Imam
- 6<sup>th</sup> Imam
- 4<sup>th</sup> Imam

**Q2. The Imam was given the title of al-Sajjād because:**

- He spent a lot of time in *sujūd*
- He was generous
- He was merciful

<sup>i</sup> References:

Al Islam.Org By Ahlul Bayt  
[www.Ezsoftech.Com/Stories](http://www.Ezsoftech.Com/Stories)  
[Islamicoccasions.Com](http://Islamicoccasions.Com)

Al Hujjat Madressa.Net  
Sahifah As Sajjadiyah

<sup>ii</sup> Sahifa Sajjadiyah, Dua 61

## IMAM AL-BAQIR<sup>[A.S]</sup>

### إمام الباقر (ع)

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be able to identify the name of the Imam (as) and relate its meaning
- Be able to identify the names of the parents of the Imam (as)
- Get a brief overview of a particular quality of the Imam (as)
- Be able to identify the place of burial of the Imam (as)
- Know the circumstances of the martyrdom of the Imam (as)

### Imam al-Bāqir (as)

Imam al-Bāqir (as) is the fifth Holy Imam. He was well known for his abundant knowledge and his excellence in preaching. The Holy Imam (as) was able to bring together the teachings of the Holy Prophet and his Ahlul Bayt in a very effective way that reached his community.

Imam al-Bāqir (as) was only nine years old when he was asked very difficult questions and was able to answer them. A very old man by the name of Jābir said to the Imam after meeting him:

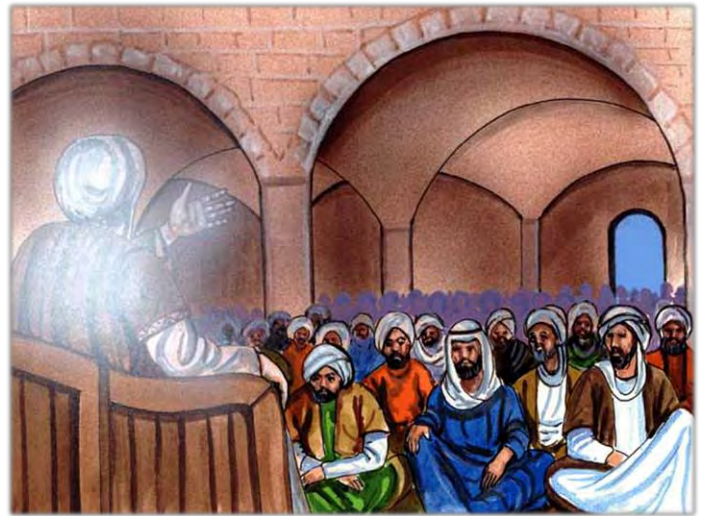
"Bāqir, you have been given wisdom while you are still a boy".

Imam al-Bāqir (as) talked very much about the importance of knowledge. He urged Muslims, like each and every one of us, to seek knowledge. Imam al-Bāqir (as) said:

"Try to learn knowledge because learning it is a good action and study is itself worship."

#### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

#### LEVEL 2



#### Class Activity:

Colour in the following pictures.



Imam Al-  
Baqir (as)

## IMAM AL-BĀQIR WORKING FOR THE SAKE OF GOD

The town of Medina was burning under the rays of the heat of the sun. The camels were under the shade of the palm branches sitting silently. In the town every being was under the shade and nobody was seen in the palm gardens except one man who was working and sweating from the heat and effort of the work.

At this moment another man was seen on the palm garden. This second man thought of himself as a very religious man. He was hunched over and had a tired-looking face. When he saw the first man working so hard under the sun, he wondered and said to himself: "This man is melting like a candle under the sun and he is not ready to stop hurting himself for his worldly greed. It is better to go to him and to teach him. Maybe he will learn."

As he got closer, this man recognised that the working man was Imam al-Bāqir (as) and said: "Oh this is strange. This man is al-Bāqir (as) and the leader of the Shi'ah faith. Why is he trying so hard to gain worldly wealth?"

He then goes even closer to the Imam (as), stands and then greets him. Imam al-Bāqir (as) answers his greeting. The man stopped for a while and said: 'should a great man like you be out in this heat working so hard just to gain money? Imagine if death came to you now, how would you meet Allah?'

Imam al-Bāqir (as) said:

"If my death comes to me at this very moment, I will meet Allah (SWT) in a state of worship. You think that worship means to only pray and supplicate? I am living in the world and I have to earn my livelihood. If I do not work I will need the help of some men like you and I have to stretch my hand and beg. I should fear the coming of my death when I am sinning and disobeying Allah (SWT). At this moment, when I am working under the order of Allah (SWT), I am trying not to be a burden on the shoulders of my fellow beings."

The questioner, struck with shame, said nothing and continued on his way. He then realised that the Imam (as) had taught him a very good lesson and he said: "Wonderful! I was thinking that I can teach him, but it was I who earned such valuable advice."

**Moral:** Worship is not only praying, it is anything that we do for the sake of Allah. This story also teaches us to depend on ourselves as much as we can instead of always asking people for help.



## Facts about the Imam's Life

**Name:** Muḥammad al-Bāqir

When referring to the Imam's (as) name, al-Bāqir means the "Unveiler" of knowledge"

**Father:** Imam Zainul Abidīn (as)

**Mother:** Fatima bint Ḥasan (she was the daughter of Imam Ḥasan)

**Birthplace:** Medina

**Place of Burial:** Medina, Jannatul Baqī'

**Duration of Imamate:** 19 years

**Cause of Martyrdom:** Poisoned by the ruler of the time

## Homework Activity

Your homework for this week is to learn the names of first five Imams in order. There will be a star given to each student who can name all five imams correctly and in order. Make sure you come to class prepared! You also have to colour in the sheet with the names of the five imams which we will hand to you.





## IMAM AL-SADIQ<sup>[A.S]</sup>

### 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-Kadhdhāb, 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 can't 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

- 6<sup>th</sup> Imam
- 12<sup>th</sup> Imam
- 1<sup>st</sup> Imam

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

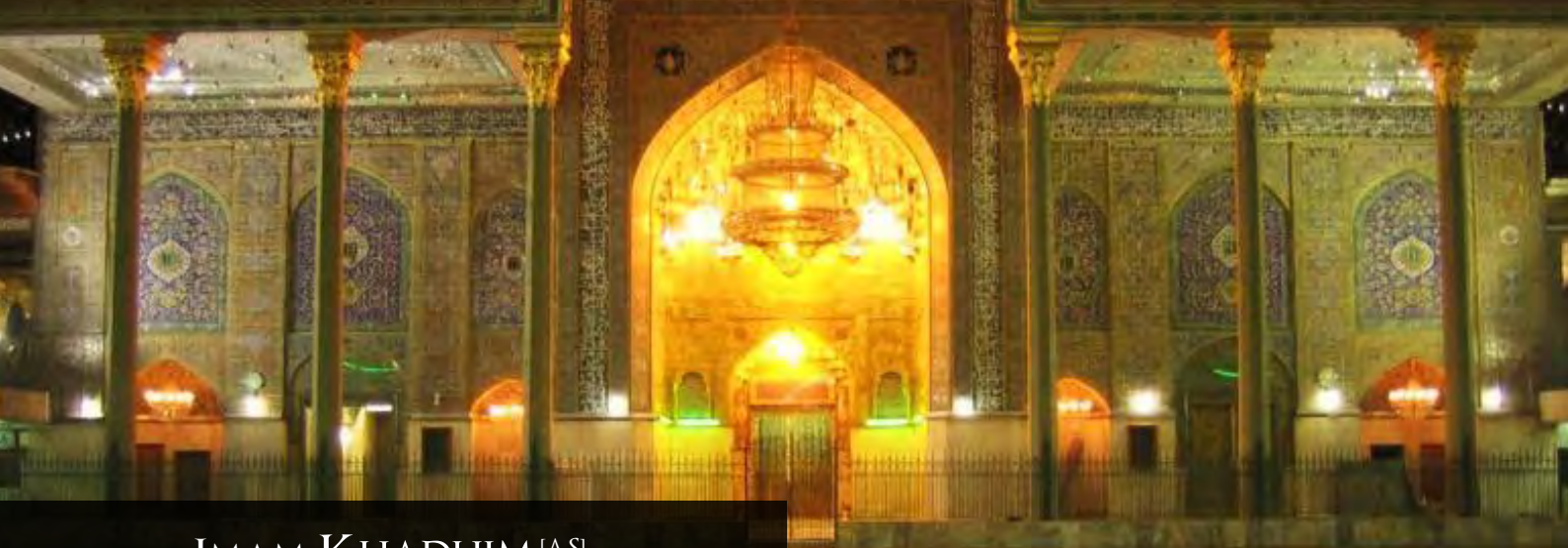
- Sleep all night
- Pray all night
- Cover his face and give food to poor people

### 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



IMAM KHADHIM <sup>[A.S.]</sup>

امام الكاظم (ع)

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Kāḍim (as) our seventh Imam
- Briefly learn the meaning of the title al-Kāḍim (as) the 'One who suppresses his anger'
- Be introduced to the Imam's forbearance
- Discuss the benefits of suppressing anger including avoiding harmful conflict

### Imam al-Kāḍim (as)

Imam al-Kāḍim (as) is our seventh Imam. He was the son of our sixth Imam – Imam al-Ṣādiq (as). He was born in a little town between Mecca and Medina. He became the Imam at the age of 25, but even at a very young age, he already showed signs of becoming an Imam.

The Imam (as) had a lean and thin body but a very strong and powerful soul. He used to put on rough clothes under his dress. He walked on foot, greeted the people, loved his family members and respected them. He always thought about the poor people who lived difficult lives. During the nights he would go and distribute food to the needy in such a way that no one would know it was him.

Imam was given the title of al-Kāḍim (as) which means "One who suppresses his anger". This is because he never showed his anger and always controlled it.

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

One of the friends of Imam said that the enemy used to feel shy in front of Imam because of his kind and nice behaviour. This was one of his main qualities, and so he got the title of al-Kāḍim (as).

### THE SUPPRESSION OF ANGER

Many times we angry in our day to day lives. Is it a good thing to get angry at people?

What would you do if your little brother took your toy without permission? Or if he accidentally broke it?

What about if mum told you to help her with the house work while you were playing your favourite game on PS3? Would you shout at her and tell her no, or would you give up your game and patiently go and help her?

It is very easy to get angry when someone does something that we are unhappy with, or someone frustrates us. But let us learn from the stories of our Imams, and how they would control their anger even when someone would constantly be rude and harmful to them.

There once lived a man in Medina, who whenever he saw the Imam (as) he would stop him and speak to him very rudely. The friends of Imam (as) would ask Imam to let them punish him. Imam would always say: "leave him alone and do not bother him."

A few days passed and there were no news about this rude man. The Imam (as) asked a few people about him and they said he has gone out of Medina towards his farm. The Imam (as) rode upon his horse and moved towards the farm.



When that man saw the Imam he shouted from a distance: "do not enter my field. I am an enemy of you and your family."

The Imam came near him, said salam to him, and asked about his health and well-being and said kindly to him, "How much have you spent in these farms?" He replied, "A hundred dinars." Then the Imam asked, "How much profit do you expect from it?" The man said, "Two hundred dinars." The Imam took out a bag containing three hundred dinars and gave it to him and said:

"Take this amount and keep it with you, so it may help you towards your farm."

This man who had been very rude to the Imam (as) for a long time did not expect such a response and was very much ashamed.

When the Imam (as) returned to Medina he said:

"Push the evil from yourself in this way."

This means:

- Protect yourself from evil by being good to others
- Remove the evil from your own self by being good to others

This is the very reason why Imam the (as) became known by the title of al-Kāḍim (as)- the one who suppresses his anger when disturbed and uneasy. He repaid evil with goodness so that he put his enemies to shame.

The Imam constantly used to show love and warm feelings to his family and relatives and used to encourage them to shake hands when they see each other, so that if there is any enmity between them, it would decrease.

## **BENEFITS OF SUPPRESSING ANGER**

Imam al-Kāḍim (as) would control and suppress his anger at all times, even when the enemy would purposely try to make him angry. He was always very patient with them like we saw in the story above. Let us discuss some of the benefits of controlling our anger.

- Even at this young age, sometimes we feel angry at school or at home if our parents do not listen to us. Does this mean we should shout back at them? No, of course not. They are our elders, and we need to respect them no matter how upset or angry we are. One of the main benefits of suppressing our anger is we become more patient. And the more patient we

are, the kinder we are towards people. And we know that when we are kind and nice to people, not only will they be happy, but Allah (SWT) becomes very pleased with us.

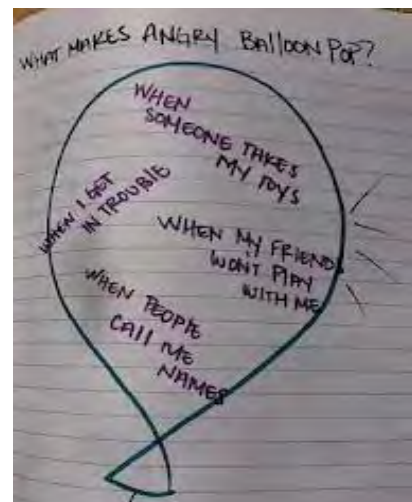
- Anger often leads to unnecessary fights. We often get upset and fight with our siblings or friends about small things which are not important. This often ends up in us or our siblings crying and being upset, getting in trouble with our parents and so on. If instead we control our anger, all these things would not happen.
- One who is always angry, is usually not liked by people. So if we want to be liked and have lots of friends, we should avoid becoming angry easily.

## **CLASS ACTIVITY**

Your teacher will give you an A4 size paper. You should:

- Draw a big balloon to fill the paper
- and in it write down the things that make you angry during their day
- Once you're done, let each one of the things out the balloon slowly by talking about it to your teacher

Look at the example below.



## **Review Questions**

**Q1. Al-Kāḍim (as) means one who:**

- a. is brave
- b. is generous
- c. control his anger

**Q2. When we get angry we should:**

- a. Shout and yell
- b. Let it out slowly by talking about it calmly



## IMAM AL-Reḍā (AS)

### امام الرضا (ع)

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Imam al-Reḍā (as) and learn some biographical facts about him
- Discuss the name al-Reḍā, and its meaning
- Discuss some of the miracles of the Imam (as)

### Imam al-Reḍā (as)

- **Name:** Imam 'Ali ibn Mūsā al-Reḍā (as)
- **Father:** Imam Mūsā al-Kāḍim (as)
- **Mother:** Lady Najmah
- **Birth date:** 11<sup>th</sup> Dhul Qa'dah 135 AH
- **Birthplace:** Medina
- **Place of burial:** Mash-had, Iran



#### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

#### LEVEL 2

Imam al-Reḍā (as) was born in Medina. His father, our seventh Imam, spent most of his later life in prison. Sometimes his father was imprisoned in Basra; at other times in dungeons of Baghdad. Imagine how our Imam (as) felt growing up away from his father; with pain in his heart, yet he remained pleased with Allah (SWT).

### AL-REDĀ (AS)

al-Reḍā (as) means be pleased or satisfied. Our Imam (as) received this title from Allah (SWT) because he was always pleased with whatever God gave him in his life, and God was always pleased with him.

The other reason the Imam (as) received this title was because he was good to everyone around him, and so everyone was pleased with him as well. 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 also very good to his guests and always made them feel welcome and pleased. One night a light in the lamp went out.

A guest went to light it, but the Imam (as) did not even let his guest do such a small thing. He re-lit the lamp himself and said:

"We are a family that do not let our guests tend on us."

Even the ruler of the time, al-Ma'mūn, who was an enemy of the Imam (as), could not help but respect the Imam and acknowledge his greatness. He would often admit that the Imam (as) was the most knowledgeable and best person. However, he was too proud and greedy to hand over leadership to Imam al-Reḍā (as).

### THE MIRACLES OF THE IMAM (AS)

The Imam (as) displayed many miracles in his life. Remember, a miracle is something amazing that a prophet or Imam performs that normally other people cannot do.

The Imam was travelling one day and was going through a jungle. He suddenly saw a hunter about to kill a deer. The deer was trying to escape, but when it saw the Imam (as), it jumped towards the Imam and stopped in front of him.

After a little while, the Imam (as) asked the hunter to free the deer, so she could go and feed her little baby deer who were hungry. The Imam told the hunter that once the deer had fed her little ones, she would come back. The hunter allowed the deer to go just because the Imam had told him to. He did not think the deer would come back at all.

However, the Imam (as) waited with the hunter until the deer returned with her young ones. The hunter was amazed on witnessing this miraculous event! He set the deer free as a mark of respect to the Imam (as).

This shows us that:

- Our Imams (as) had been given special knowledge from God to speak some other languages, even those of animals
- Our Imams (as) cared about everyone and everything, even wild animals.

Here is another miracle reported by a man named Abul Ṣalt, who was a very close companion of the Imam (as). Once the Imam was travelling again and he and his

companions reached a town at the time of the midday prayer. However, they could not find any water for Wūḍū'. Suddenly, the Imam (as) with his holy hands dug a little into the earth and a spring of water miraculously gushed out. This was another miracle that God allowed the Imam (as) to perform, to prove to people that he was the true Imam (as) sent by God.

### THE IMAM'S MARTYRDOM

Eventually, al-Ma'mūn, the tyrant leader of the time, became more and more scared of the Imam (as) as he saw how much people loved the Imam (as) and respected him. He ended up murdering the Imam (as) by feeding him poisoned grapes.

The Imam (as) became very ill and died on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Ṣafar. He was buried in Mash-had in Iran. Till today, there is a huge and very beautiful shrine to honour Imam al-Reḍā (as) and millions of people from around the world visit it every year.



### Review Questions

#### Q1. Which of the following is correct?

- a) Imam 'Ali al-Reḍā (as) was born in Mecca
- b) He was martyred in Mash-had

#### Q2. His title al-Reḍā (as) means:

- a) Blessed with wealth
- b) Always pleased with Allah (SWT)
- c) Prostrating a lot

#### Q3. What did the Imam (as) teach us? Tick the correct answers:

- a) Be loud and angry
- b) Treat all equally and share your food with all
- c) To show off and boast

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#### References:

Al islam.org  
Islamicoccasions.com

Q Fatima.com  
A brief history of the fourteen Infallible  
Hujjat –workshop.org/docsinfants\_ziyaraPlaces



**Objectives >>>****Students should:**

- Be introduced to Imam al-Jawād (as) our ninth Imam
- Briefly learn the meaning of the title al-Jawād as the 'One who is Generous'
- Understand the meaning of generosity
- Discuss the fact that generosity is a quality of the Ahlul Bayt
- Discuss the benefits of generosity including that it engenders good relations between people

**Imam al-Jawād (as)**

As we know in Islam we have 12 Holy Imams. The ninth Imam is named Imam Muḥammad al-Jawād (as). Imam al-Jawād (as) was also known as al Taqī. He was killed by the king of his time whose name was al-Mu'taṣim and is now buried in Iraq. Imam al-Jawād (as) became the Imam when he was only nine years old.

**AL JAWĀD**

Imam al-Jawād's (as) first name is Muḥammad, but he became known as al-Jawād (as) because he was very generous.

al-Jawād (as) means: 'One who is Generous'

**GENEROSITY**

When someone is generous it means that they help and give things away including their things, money and time to people in need and they do not want anything in return.

Example 1: If you had \$5 in your pocket and your friend asked you for \$2 because she forgot her lunch at home and you gave her all of your \$5 then you are being generous.

Example 2: If your cousin came over to your house and you were eating M&Ms and he asked you for some and you gave him half of the bag, you are being generous.

**Class Activity**

Brainstorm three other examples of generosity in class as a group.

**GENEROSITY IN THE LIVES OF AHLUL BAYT**

Although al-Jawād (as) name means one who is generous, it was not only he that was generous from the Ahlul Bayt. All of the Ahlul Bayt were generous. Our Holy Prophet and Imams helped very many people in their lives. Everyone knew that because they were all so generous, if anyone ever asked them for something they would never say no. Some of our Imams used to split all their belongings in half and give half to the poor and keep the other half. Other Imams would work very hard and instead of building bigger houses they would use the money they made to help people that were in need.

## THE IMAMS' GENEROSITY

As we learnt, all of our Imams were generous. When Imam 'Ali (as) was alive he knew that there were some people that lived nearby that were poor.

Imam 'Ali (as) really wanted to help them but did not want them to know that it was him who was helping them. Therefore he used to go out in the middle of the night, cover his face and take some food with him and leave it by the poor people so that when they woke up they would find food.

These people did not know that it was Imam 'Ali (as) until he died and they stopped receiving food at night.

This story shows us that Imam 'Ali (as) showed a very good example to the rest of the Imams about being generous.

Imam al-Jawād (as), like Imam 'Ali (as), was very generous to people in need as well. He used to also leave the house in the night time and cover his face to give food and money to the needy people without them knowing who he was. He also would never send someone away that needed something without helping them first.

Once a group of companions were robbed as they were returning from Ḥajj. All their things and money were stolen. They were now in a desperate situation. Imagine you are on a trip and all your things are stolen, including your money.

In this situation, the first idea these people had was to go to Imam al-Jawād's house. They knew that the Imam was so generous that he would not turn them down, especially in such a desperate situation.

When they reached him, as soon as they told him their story, he straight away gave them exactly the same amount of money which had been stolen from all of them.

The Imam was not only generous towards people. He was also kind to animals. He would tell his companions to leave left-overs of meals which they had eaten outdoors for wild animals, and left-overs of meals eaten at home for animals like cats.

## IMAM JAWĀD'S (AS) BELIEF IN ALLAH (SWT)

The generosity of the Imams (as) came from their very strong belief in Allah (SWT). Imam al-Jawād (as) believed in Allah (SWT) so much that even the king could not scare him.

One day when the Imam was only five years old, he was playing with his friends on the side of the road when the

king and his army were about to ride through. All the other boys ran away except Imam al-Jawād (as). He remained on the side of the road to wait for the king to pass by.

When the king arrived he looked at the little boy and said, "why didn't you run away?"

The Imam replied that "the road is wide enough and I have not done anything wrong". The king then asked about whom he was and the Imam introduced himself.

## WHY SHOULD WE BE GENEROUS?

Some people may ask 'why should I be generous?' They may not like to give their things or money away if they are not going to receive anything in return. However Allah (SWT) has told us that He loves people who are generous and help other people. Sometimes Allah (SWT) gives some people more than others so that they may help the needy, not so that we become richer.

When we are generous to people then not only does Allah (SWT) reward us in Heaven but He also rewards us in this world. Whenever you help and you feel happy in your heart that you helped someone, then Allah (SWT) gives you more. However if you do not like to help and you're not generous then Allah (SWT) will stop giving you more.

Also, when a person is generous, they are liked by others. This is obvious. When someone helps us, we like them. So if we help others, they will like us. This will build stronger relations with the people around us and help us make more close friends. People love those who are generous.

## Class Activity

Your teacher will provide you with drawing material. Draw three pictures of a person being generous to another person.

## Review Questions

**Q1. What does the title al-Jawād (as) mean?**

- a. Someone who is kind
- b. One who is Generous
- c. An Imam

**Q2. How old was Imam al-Jawād (as) when he became Imam?**

- a. 17 years
- b. 27 years
- c. 9 years

**Q3. What does being generous mean?**

- a. Listening to your parents
- b. Cleaning up after yourself
- c. Giving your things to people in need

## IMAM ALHADI (AS)

## 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-HĀDĪ (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



## IMAM AL-'ASKARI <sup>[AS]</sup>

## امام العسكري (ع)

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Biographical detail of Imam al-'Askari (as)
- The reason for the titles of al-'Askari and al-Zaki
- That the Imam (as) was kept under constant surveillance all the time
- Why we should fear none other than Allah (SWT)
- The importance and benefits of fearing God

### Imam al-'Askari (as)

Our 11<sup>th</sup> Imam is Imam Ḥasan al-'Askari (as). He was born in Medina. He is the son of Imam 'Ali al-Hādī, who we learnt about in our last lesson.

### THE TITLES OF THE IMAM (AS)

#### AL- 'ASKARI:

In Arabic, an army camp is called 'Askar. Our eleventh Imam (as) was given the title al-'Askari because for most of his life, he was forced to live in a military camp, so that the ruler of the time could supervise him closely.

From the time the Imam (as) was very young, he was put under house arrest away from his father. This was in a suburb called 'Askar, which was located in the city of Samarrā', in Iraq. This is one of the reasons why the Imam (as) was given the title al-'Askari.

Another reason why the eleventh Imam was called al-'Askari is said to be that once the king of the time lined up all his soldiers and took the Imam (as) to see them. He was trying to show him that he had control over this huge army- he was trying to scare the Imam (as). When this happened, the Imam (as) separated his two middle fingers and ask the king to look through them.

### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

The king looked and saw an army of angels, greater and more numerous than his army of men. The Imam (as) said that this army of angels was under his control. He showed the king that he did not fear him or his army.

#### AL-ZAKI

The Imam (as) was so pious and pure that he was called al-Zaki. From a young age, the Imam was conscious about pleasing Allah (SWT). He did not want to do anything that would displease Allah (SWT). The Caliph (king) sent musicians and women in the prison to distract the Imam (as). Instead of distracting the Imam (as), when the musicians and women saw the Imam praying, fasting and being so patient, they also became God-fearing and good Muslims.

### FEARING ALLAH

Once, our 11th Imam (as), who was still a child, was standing amongst children who were playing and having some fun by the side of a road. Bohlool, (a companion of the Ahlul Bayt) happened to pass by. He noticed that a beautiful child was standing alone and crying. He approached this child. He asked: "My dear, are you crying because you have no toys to play with? If you like I can bring some toys for you."

Imam Ḥasan al-'Askari replied:

"Do you think I'm crying for these toys? We are not created to play with toys and have fun; but to worship Allah (SWT)."

Bohlool asked the Imam (as) where he had learnt that from. The Imam said he had understood this from the

Qur'an. The Imam also spoke to Bohlool about death and the Hereafter.

Bohlool was very impressed with the answers and wisdom of the young Imam (as). Bohlool then asked the Imam (as) why he was so fearful and crying?

The Imam (as) replied:

"...I watch my mother every day when she sets a fire to the large twigs she uses the small ones first. I would not like the young children of this world to be used to light the fire of Hell."

Fearing Allah (SWT) is one of the best ways of avoiding sins and wrong things. Whenever we are tempted to do something wrong, we should remember the Power of Allah (SWT) and the punishments of the Hell Fire. Even though we love Allah (SWT) and have hope in Him, we should also fear Him, and this should help us stay away from doing the wrong thing and committing sins.

## FEARING ONLY ALLAH

Once when Imam Hasan al-'Askari(as) was a young child he fell into a well near their house. His father Imam 'Ali al-Naqi (as) was praying and didn't even notice the commotion around him of the ladies crying. When he finished praying and asked what had happened, he was told. He went towards the well. The water rose and all saw the 11th Imam sitting peacefully on the water and playing.

The above story proves that the Imam (as) was not afraid of anybody or anything else besides God. Despite being in such a dangerous situation at such a tender age, he was not scared because his faith in God was so strong. So we must remember that God is always protecting his creation (us). We need to trust Him fully.

Do you remember when Prophet Abraham (as) was being thrown into the fire? Was he afraid of the fire? Did he accept help from all the angels? When he said that he feared only God and wanted help from him, the fire became a cool garden for Prophet Abraham (as). Allah will protect us and help us no matter where we are. So we should fear no one other than God.

For this reason, we should never disobey God because we are scared of someone else. If we broke a vase while mum was out, we should not lie about it when she asks us. Even though we might be scared of getting into trouble, we should be more scared of Allah (SWT), who does not want us to lie. If we fear Allah and avoid lying, He will solve our problem for us and get us out of trouble.

Allah (SWT) has promised people who fear only Him that everything and everyone on Earth will fear those people. He has also promised those people who disobey Allah (SWT) and do not fear Him, that they will be hated by the creatures of Allah (SWT).

## THE IMAM'S FEARLESSNESS

Here is another event from the life of the Imam (as) that shows that he did not fear anyone but God. The king of the time wanted to embarrass the Imam and hurt him. One time, he ordered the Imam (as) to enter a cage of wild animals. He wanted to see how the Imam (as) would react.

Was the Imam (as) afraid to do this? Not at all. He knew that God would protect him. He went into the cage. People gathered around to see what would happen. Without any fear, the Imam (as) walked in, and started praying. Wow! The wild animals surrounded him; then they all prostrated before him. The people were astonished to see this, and the king was amazed and embarrassed.

The Imam (as) had shown no fear, and in return Allah (SWT) had made the creatures fear the Imam (as). As the followers of the Imam (as), we must try and adopt some of these qualities. We must train ourselves to only fear Allah, and nobody else. However dangerous a situation gets, our faith in Allah must be very strong.

To conclude, let's summarise:

1. Two titles of our 11<sup>th</sup> Imam (as) are:
  - a.
  - b.
2. Complete these sentences:

We should .....Allah (SWT)

Fear no one but .....

## Review Questions

**Q1. Our 11<sup>th</sup> Imam was given the title al-Zaki because:**

- a. He was fearful
- b. He was pious throughout his life
- c. He was generous

**Q2. We should:**

- a. Only fear Allah
- b. Fear Allah and powerful people
- c. Not fear Allah



## IMAM AL-MAHDI <sup>[AS]</sup>

### امام المهدي (ع)

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Introduce Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) as the 12<sup>th</sup> holy Imam
- Understand that the Imam is living, on Earth and that he is in hiding
- Understand that the Imam can see us, but we cannot see or recognise him
- Discuss the secret of the birth of the Imam (as) and that it was kept secret for fear for the Imam's life
- Discuss the fact that Imam al-Mahdi is the saviour for whom we are waiting
- Introduce the concept of al-Intiḍār
- Discuss that the best way to practice al-Intiḍār is to good deeds, which make our Imam happy, and to avoid sins
- Introduce the fact that the Imam looks over our actions at least once a week
- Discuss that part of al-Intiḍār is to build a relationship with our Imam, and to pray for his return and for his well-being
- Memorise du'ā' al-Faraj

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Lesson 1: Imam al-Mahdi (atfs)

Imam Muḥammad Al-Mahdi (atfs) is our 12<sup>th</sup> and last Imam. Here is his profile:

Name	Muḥammad
Title	al- Mahdi (The Guided One)
Father's name	Imam Ḥasan al-'Askari (as) – our 11 <sup>th</sup> Imam
Mother's Name	Narjis
Birthdate	15 <sup>th</sup> Sha'bān 255 AH in Samarrā'
Imamat	260 AH –the present time

### THE SECRET OF THE IMAM'S BIRTH

Imam al- Mahdi's birth had to be kept a secret because of fear for his life. The tyrant of that time, al-Mu'tamid was trying to prevent the birth of the Imam. Imam al-Mahdi was born in his father's home and Imam al-'Askari (as) made sure that his existence was not revealed to any of the tyrants. Imam al-'Askari (as) only told a few trusted and very close companions of the birth of the Imam (as) and advised them that Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) would be the next Imam after him.

### THE BEGINNING OF THE IMAMAT

When Imam al-'Askari (as) passed away, Imam al-Mahdi (atfs), who was only five years old at that time, came out to the people who were gathered. There were a small group of the followers of the Imam (as) who had gathered in his house to perform the funeral prayer. As the young Imam walked in, everyone turned to him and



all were mesmerised by the light emanating from his face. He went forward to lead the funeral prayer, and everyone stood up to pray behind him. The people were amazed as most of them had never ever seen the Imam (as).

News reached al-Mu'tamid, the unjust ruler of that time, that prayers were led by a young boy whose face lit up the gathering. al-Mu'tamid knew straight away that this was the Imam (atfs) and realised that his plans to prevent the birth of the last Imam had failed. He sent his soldiers directly to the house of the Imam (as), but by then the Imam (atfs) had already gone into hiding, and he could not be found.

From that day onward, for the next 69 years, the Imam (atfs) communicated to his followers through certain messengers. These messengers were the only ones who knew how to get in touch with the Imam or knew his whereabouts.

During this time, the Imam (atfs) was handling the affairs of Muslims and carrying out his duties at secret locations while he was in hiding. He would not be seen by his followers but he was still helping them through his special representatives.

After those first 69 years, the Imam (atfs) went into what is called the Major Occultation. During this time, the Imam (atfs) was in hiding and no longer had specific messengers to bring messages from him. Even though we cannot see the Imam (atfs) among us, this does not mean that he can't help us with our affairs or that he cannot see us. He can see us and knows of our actions; in fact, he lives amongst us but we just do not recognise him.

So, what's the point of having an Imam who is hiding and we can't see or talk to him?

Our Imam is like the sun behind the clouds. Just because the sun sometimes hides behind the clouds, it doesn't mean that there is no light during the day! And just like the sun behind the clouds still gives life and energy to everything on Earth, similarly the Imam helps and looks after all of us, even though he is in hiding. If we need to communicate with our Imam, we can talk to him from our hearts and he will be able to hear us and pray for us.

## Class Activity

Fill in the blanks:

- 1) Imam Mahdi's father's name is .....
- 2) The ..... occultation only lasted 69 years
- 3) Our Imam (atfs) is still in the ..... occultation
- 4) Imam Mahdi's mother's name is .....
- 5) Imam Mahdi was born on ..... (Birthdate) in ..... (Place of birth).

## Class Activity

Now that we have learnt about the life of all of the Imams, it is time to make sure that everyone knows the names of all the twelve Imams (as) in order. We will spend some time today revising the names of all of or twelve Imams (as).

## THE TWELVE IMAMS

1st Imam	Imam 'Ali (as)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Imam	Imam Ḥasan (as)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Imam	Imam Ḥusayn (as)
4 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam 'Ali Zainul 'Abidīn
5 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Muḥammad al Bāqir
6 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Ja'far al Ṣādiq
7 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Musa al Kāḍim
8 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam 'Ali al Riḍa
9 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Muḥammad al Jawād
10 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam 'Ali al Hādī
11 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Ḥasan al 'Askari
12 <sup>th</sup> Imam	Imam Muḥammad al Mahdi

## Review Questions

**Q1. How old was Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) when his father passed away?**

- a. 23 years old
- b. 5 years old
- c. 40 years old

**Q2. What is the date of the death of Imam al-Mahdi (atfs)?**

- a. 260 AH
- b. 328 AH
- c. He is still alive

**Q3. 'AL-MAHDI' means:**

- a. The one in occultation
- b. The awaited one
- c. The guided one

## Lesson 2: Awaiting the Imam (atfs)

As discussed in the previous lesson, Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) is in major occultation – this means he is in hiding. We do not know when exactly he will reappear but we do know that when he comes he will bring peace and justice to the world.

What does this mean?

This means that whatever wrong doings are happening in the world today; Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) will put a stop to it. For example, in Gaza innocent young children are being killed every single day; when Imam Mahdi (atfs) comes and establishes his government there will be no injustice and no killing of innocent people.

### WAITING FOR OUR IMAM (ATFS)?

As Shi'ah and followers of Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) we need to 'actively wait' for our Imam (atfs) – this is known as al-Intidār. Below is an example of when we 'actively wait' for someone:

If your parents went on a month-long trip and they were coming back home tomorrow; what would you do?

Yes that's right! You would prepare accordingly; you would make sure the house is clean, you would make food is ready for them; you would make sure you are free to go to the airport to receive them. You certainly

wouldn't be just waiting around idly and not do anything.

Similarly, while we are waiting for our Imam (atfs) to reappear, we must prepare for his arrival and reappearance such that when he comes, he is happy with us.

We also have to remember that the only thing stopping our Imam from reappearing is that we, his followers, are not ready for him. Once we are sufficiently ready, he will return and guide us to victory.

Some ways we can actively wait for the Imam (atfs) are:

- Do good deeds which make our Imam (atfs) happy. Can you think of any deeds which may make our Imam (atfs) happy?
- Stay away from those sins which would make Imam Mahdi (atfs) unhappy and break his heart. When we commit a sin, it breaks the Imam's heart. In fact, we have a narration that when we sin, it is like we are shooting an arrow at the heart of the Imam (atfs). When he comes, we don't him to be sad with us, do we?

### IMAM AL-MAHDI (ATFS) KNOWS US!

Just because we cannot see our Imam (atfs) or because he is in hiding, it does not mean he cannot see us. Our Imam (atfs) knows who we are and can see us; and if we ask him for help he will help us. He also prays for us and we should always pray for his safety too.

Every Friday night our Imam (atfs) looks over our book of deeds to see how we have been acting. When he opens your book next Friday night – what will he see? Will he be sad with you or happy that you have done lots and lots of good deeds?

### IMAM AL-MAHDI (ATFS) HELPS US!

Once, a scholar by the name of Ayatollah Najafi decided to go and visit a friend in another city. In order to get there, he had to cross a desert. On his way, he became lost and was wandering in the desert hopelessly. He became so tired and thirsty that he fainted.

Later, he woke up to find himself at his destination. He remembered a man with a bright face had come to save

him. This bright-faced man gave him water that quenched his thirst, but this water was so quenching and sweet that he had never tasted anything like it before. This man also guided him to the city he wanted to go.

Before leaving him, this man gave him eight pieces of advice. Two of these pieces of advice were:

- Recite the Qur'an regularly
- Respect your parents

Ayatollah Najafi realised later that this was Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) who had come to his rescue.

This story shows us that the Imam (as) is always watching what is happening to his followers, and will help them when they are in desperate situations. He also cares so much for them, that he would not leave them before advising them.

## Class Activity

Make a poster to remind you of deeds we should avoid and good deeds that we should carry out that would make Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) happy. Make sure to make it colourful and stick it up in your room after you are done; that way it will always remind you of the things you have to do while you wait for the Imam!

## Review Questions

### Q1. While waiting for Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) we should:

- Make sure a feast is ready for his arrival
- Iron our clothes
- Do good deeds and avoid sin

### Q2. Al-Intidār means:

- To actively wait for the Imam (atfs)
- The time when Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) will come
- Minor occultation

## Lesson 3: Knowing Imam al-Mahdi (atfs)

During the major occultation, while we are waiting for our Imam (atfs), it is important that we learn about him and build a relationship with him.

How can we do this?

Well, to be able to build a relationship with our Imam (atfs) we have to first be sure and believe that he is around. Once we believe that he is with us today, we can communicate with him and ask him for help. We can talk to our Imam (atfs) anytime we want and he can hear us and he will pray for us and look after us.

## IMAM AL-MAHDI (ATFS) LOOKS OUT FOR HIS FOLLOWERS

There have been many stories where Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) has helped people because either they called for him in time of need; or because they had built such a relationship with our holy Imam (atfs) that he looked out for them.

Below is a story which is an example of how our Imam (atfs) looks out for his followers.

There was a young man who was travelling on a coach to another town. He was sitting next to a sheikh. When it reached prayer time, the boy went to the driver and insisted the driver stop so that everyone could pray right on time. The driver said that they were about to reach a rest stop in an hour or so and they could pray there. The boy continued to insist, but the driver refused to stop. In the end, the boy asked to be let off the bus, in the middle of nowhere, so he could pray on time.

The driver eventually gave up and let the boy pray on the side of the road. When the boy entered the bus again, the sheikh asked him why he had insisted so much on praying on time. The boy told the following story.

One day, he was on another bus travelling to a very important examination. Suddenly, the bus broke down in the middle of the road, and they were stuck. He was desperate to reach this exam. So he prayed, from all his heart, for Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) to help him. He promised

that if he made it to his exam, he would never delay his prayer again.

Suddenly, a stranger appeared and helped repair the bus, and the boy resumed his journey and made it to his exam. He explained that since that day, he had never delayed his prayer, as this was a promise he had made to his present Imam (atfs).

## **PRAYING FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR IMAM (ATFS)**

Another very important duty we have as followers of Imam al-Mahdi (atfs) is to pray for the safety of Imam (atfs) and pray for him to reappear soon. The best prayer is to pray for the safety of the Imam (atfs); if we pray for the safety of our holy Imam (atfs), the Imam (atfs) will pray for us.

There is a special du'a', known as du'a', al-Faraj, which is recited for the safety of our holy Imam (atfs). For today's class activity, we will read and memorise this du'a'. For those of you who already know it, you can help your friends memorise it.

### **Class Activity- Memorisation**

اَللّٰهُمَّ كُنْ لِّوَلِيِّكَ الْحُجَّةِ بْنِ الْحَسَنِ صَلَواتُكَ  
عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى اَبائِهِ فِيْ هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ وَفِي كُلِّ سَاعَةٍ  
وَلِيًّا وَحَافِظًا وَقَائِدًا وَنَاصِرًا وَدَلِيْلًا وَعَيْنًا حَتّٰى  
تُسْكِنَهُ اَرْضَكَ طَوْعًا وَتُمَتِّعَهُ فِيْهَا طَوِيْلًا۔

O Allah, be, for Your representative, the Hujjah (proof), son of Al Hasan, Your

blessings be on him and his forefathers, in this hour and in every hour, a guardian, a

protector, a leader, a helper, a proof, and an assistor until You make him settle on the land

in obedience (to You), and cause him to live in it for a long time

## **Review Questions**

### **Q1. When we are in need:**

- a. We shouldn't ask the Imam – he is in hiding and won't be able to do anything
- b. We should ask God through the Imam because he is always there for us if we call upon him
- c. None of the above

### **Q2. It is our duty during major occultation to:**

- a. Make sure our Imam (atfs) eats well
- b. Make sure our Imam (atfs) has a nice home to stay in
- c. Pray for the safety of our Imam (atfs) and his quick reappearance



# السَّلَامُ عَلَى آدَمَ صَفْوَةِ اللَّهِ

## PROPHETS AND MESSENGERS:

### ADAM [A.S]

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Review basic facts about prophecy and prophets
- Be introduced to Prophet Adam (as) the first Prophet of Allah (SWT)
- Discuss briefly the story of the creation of Adam and Eve
- Review the importance of total obedience to God

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Prophet Ādam (as)

#### PROPHETS OF ALLAH

Prophecy or “Nubuwwa” is one of the five fundamentals of Islam. As Muslims, we believe that God sent us Prophets as role models to follow. Below are some of the characteristics of Prophets:

1) They are sent by God:

Prophets are chosen by God to reveal messages to us. They are sent to guide us and be our role models.

2) They are sinless

If your role model was one who sinned and committed bad deeds; would that make them a good role model? In the same way, it does not make sense at all if our Prophets were sinners but also our role models. Allah (SWT) only chooses the purest of people as guides; for this reason, all our prophets were sinless and pure and perfect role models for all Muslims.

#### PROPHET ADAM

Altogether, we have 124,000 Prophets in Islam. Our last prophet is Prophet Muḥammad (saw) and our first ever Prophet is Prophet Adam (as). Prophet Adam was the first ever human being to be created in this world. Before his creation, only angels and jinn existed.

Allah (SWT) wanted to create His best creation – the human being. The first of the human beings created was Prophet Adam. Due to the high status of a human being, Allah (SWT) asked all the angels to prostrate (do Sajdah) to Prophet Adam (as). All the angels prostrated together. Satan was also ordered to prostrate to Adam, but he refused.

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) narrates:

“And (remember) when We said to the angels: "Prostrate yourselves before Adam." And they prostrated except Iblis (Satan), he refused and was proud and was one of the disbelievers (disobedient to Allah)” [2:34]

### **WHY DID SATAN NOT PROSTRATE?**

Satan did not listen to the command of Allah (SWT) because he felt that he was better than Prophet Adam (as). Allah (SWT) tells us Satan's exact words in the Qur'an:

“(Allah) said: "What prevented you (O Iblis) that you did not prostrate, when I commanded you?" Iblis said: "I am better than him (Adam), You created me from fire, and him You created from clay” [7:12]

His arrogance led him to disobey the commands of Allah (SWT). Satan said to Allah (SWT) that he would not prostrate because he was created from fire and Adam was created from clay; and for that reason Satan thought he was better than Adam. Satan is guaranteed to be in hell for disobeying Allah (SWT)!

From that day, Satan made a promise to Allah (SWT) that he would mislead and misguide the children of Adam (which is us). Satan's goal is to make us disobey Allah (SWT) just like he did on that day. He is constantly whispering to us and trying to influence us to do things which Allah (SWT) has forbidden us from doing. For example, if there is your favourite movie coming on TV but it is prayer time, then Satan comes to you and makes you think 'you can pray later... it's okay, prayer will not be qadha until later...!' If a person listens to this, then they are obeying Satan and disobeying Allah (SWT).

### **SATAN TRICKS ADAM AND EVE**

When Allah (SWT) created Adam, he also created a wife for him. His wife's name was Eve (Hawwā'). Allah (SWT) allowed Adam and Eve to live in a beautiful and comfortable garden on Earth. He told them they were allowed to enjoy this entire garden and live in it happily. The only thing was that they were not allowed to eat from a certain tree.

Satan, who was now very jealous of Adam (as), wanted to trick Adam. So he went to Adam and Eve, and told them that if they ate from that forbidden tree, they would live

forever. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve believed him and ate from the tree.

Once they ate from the tree, Allah (SWT) became displeased with them. He kicked them out of that beautiful garden, and they had to live a hard life on Earth, working for their food and struggling always. However, Adam and Eve continued to ask Allah (SWT) to forgive. Prophet Adam did not stop repenting and crying until Allah (SWT) forgave his mistake and was pleased with him again.

### **OBEYING ALLAH (SWT)**

It is very important that we obey Allah (SWT) totally in our day to day lives. Allah (SWT) doesn't *need* us to obey Him. Rather, He wants us to obey him because it is good for us! This example may help you understand this better:

If you really love someone, for example your baby sister or baby brother, would you ever tell them to do anything which was bad for them? For example, would you ever tell your baby sister to take a knife and cut herself? You wouldn't because you know it is bad for her! At the same time, you would tell her to be careful and do things that are good for her because you love her and you only want what is best for her. Similarly, Allah (SWT) would *never* tell us to do anything that's bad for us; he only tells us to pray, fast or give charity because it is good for us! That is why we need to obey Him completely – it is for our own good! If we disobey him and listen to Satan's commands then we are only harming ourselves; nobody else!

### **Review Questions**

**Q1. We should obey Allah (SWT) because:**

- a) Whatever He tells us to do is bad for us
- b) Whatever He tells us to do is the wrong thing
- c) Whatever he tells us to do is the best thing for us

**Q2. Satan refused to prostrate (do sajdah) to Prophet Adam because:**

- a) He did not understand what Allah (SWT) wanted him to do
- b) He said he was better than Prophet Adam and therefore wouldn't prostrate
- c) He did not hear the command of Allah (SWT)

# السَّلَامُ عَلَى نُوحٍ نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

PROPHET NūH<sup>[A.S]</sup>

نبي الله نوح (ع)

## Objectives >>>

### Students should:

- Prophet Noah is one of the ūlūl ‘Azm prophets
- The story of Prophet Noah’s message
- Prophet Noah’s quality of perseverance on the right path (al Istiqāmah)
- The importance of perseverance

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## Prophet Nūḥ (Noah as)

Allah (SWT) sent many prophets to help guide the people to the right path. There were 124000 prophets sent to mankind. All of the prophets had different responsibilities. Some of them were sent to small communities, some of them to large communities and some of them to the entire world. Some prophets came with a book of Allah (SWT) like the Injil and the Qur’an, and others had no book. Therefore, it is easy to see that some prophets had a much bigger job to do compared to other prophets.

## ŪLŪL ‘AZM PROPHETS

Of all the prophets Allah (SWT) sent, five of them were given a greater job and therefore were called the ūlūl ‘Azm Prophets, meaning the prophets with a great role. These prophets were:

- Prophet Noah
- Prophet Abraham
- Prophet Moses
- Prophet Jesus
- Prophet Muḥammad (as)

## PROPHET NOAH

Prophet Noah (as) was living in a time when people around him were worshipping idols. These idols were like stones built into shapes by the people themselves. They would pray to them even though they built them and took care of them.

Prophet Noah was sent to these people to teach them that worshipping idols was wrong and that there was only One God, Allah (SWT), that takes care of everyone and answers our prayers.



## PROPHET NOAH AND HIS PATIENCE

The people of Noah were very stubborn. Prophet Noah had to preach and speak to them for a very long time. The Holy Qur'an says that he preached for 950 years. This means he lived a very, very long time.

Prophet Noah tried to help people in many ways. He spoke to people in public, in private, at night and in the day. However the people did not care about the prophet or Allah (SWT) so they would put their fingers in their ears so that they do not hear him.

## VERY FEW FOLLOWERS

Although Allah (SWT) gave Prophet Noah a long life to help the people believe in Allah (SWT) and change, only very few changed. Some say it was only 80 people that became believers.

However even though the people would not listen to Prophet Noah, he remained very patient and for 950 years did not ask Allah (SWT) to punish them.

Once it was clear that there were going to be no more believers, Allah (SWT) did not allow any more women to become pregnant and no more babies were born for 40 years.

## THE GREAT ARK OF NOAH

There came a time when Allah (SWT) wanted to prepare Prophet Noah for the punishment that He was going to send to the people. Allah (SWT) did not want Prophet Noah and the few believers with him to be affected by the punishment.

So Prophet Noah was ordered to build a very large ship, or ark. He began to do so even though people would laugh at him because he was building a ship where there was no water. But Prophet Noah was very patient and ignored them. He trusted in Allah (SWT) and knew that He was helping him.



Allah (SWT) ordered him to send all the believers as well as a pair of every animal on to the ship so that they would not suffer.

## ALLAH SENDS HIS PUNISHMENT

After so many years of inviting people to become believers, Allah (SWT) knew that there was no one else ~~that~~ who was going to stop worshipping idols; ~~therefore~~ and after 40 years of no one having babies, there were no more children. Everyone was old enough to be responsible for his or her actions. It was now that Allah (SWT) sent His punishment.



The sky began to rain and rain and rain. It rained so much that the entire area began to flood.

People were trying to run away from the water. Even Prophet Noah's son was trying to escape by going up ~~to~~ a mountain. Prophet Noah told him that no one can escape Allah's punishment ~~today~~ that day, but he ignored him. All the unbelievers and bad people were drowned. Only the believers in Allah (SWT) were saved on the ship.

## A NEW BEGINNING

After a while, the storm settled and the Earth swallowed up all the floodwater. The only people that remained were the believers in Allah (SWT), not those who did not listen to Allah (SWT) Prophet. This was a new beginning.



## **PATIENCE**

When we are going through something that makes us upset, or when we don't get what we want, it may be a test from Allah (SWT). This means that Allah (SWT) is checking to see if we really love Him or if we stop loving Him when He doesn't give us what we want.

It is very important that we thank Allah (SWT) when we are happy and also when we are sad. Just like Prophet Noah stayed patient for 950 years, we should learn from his story and try to remain patient for as long as Allah (SWT) gives us life.

The same way Allah (SWT) gave Prophet Noah a new and better life with good people, if we remain patient we too will be given a better life in this world and the hereafter.

### **Class activity:**

Circle the ūlūl 'Azm Prophets

Muhammad Noah  
ABRAHAM  
Moses JESUS  
Adam Ismail  
Harun Yahya

## **Review Questions**

**Q1. How many years did Prophet Noah preach to his people for?**

- a. 10
- b. 950
- c. 63

**Q2. What was Prophet Noah told to take with him onto the ship?**

- a. All the people around him
- b. All the animals in the world
- c. Only the believers and a pair of each type of animal

**Q3. Why did Allah (SWT) send a flood to the people of Noah?**

- a. Because they disbelieved in Allah and there were not going to be any more believers
- b. Because there was too much rain in the clouds
- c. Because Prophet Noah built a ship

# السَّلَامُ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلِ اللَّهِ

## PROPHET IBRAHIM<sup>[A.S]</sup>

نبي الله إبراهيم (ع)

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Prophet Ibrāhīm as one of the principal prophets
- Be introduced to Prophet Ibrāhīm's family
- Discuss the story of Prophet Ibrāhīm's youth
- Discuss Prophet Ibrāhīm's experiences with his uncle and his opposition to those who worshipped idols
- Discuss Prophet Ibrāhīm destroyed the idols
- Discuss the quality of courage and that it is rooted in not fearing anyone but God
- Be introduced to more stories from the life of Prophet Ibrahim including:
  - Taking Hajar and Ismail to Mecca
  - The command to sacrifice Ismail
- Discuss the quality of 'trust in God' (tawakkul) that Prophet Ibrahim exhibited throughout these trials.

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Lesson 1: Prophet Ibrāhīm's Youth

#### Class Activity: Revision

Choose a buddy and get ready for these questions:



Who was the first prophet Allah (SWT) sent down on earth?.....

Who is our last Prophet?  
.....

Which prophet had to cross River Nile? .....

Who built an ark to save his people from the flood?  
.....

Name the prophet who was commanded to build the Ka'bah in Mecca? .....

There are 124,000 prophets but Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) is one of the very important prophets. His name appears in the Qur'an many times. Muslims all over the world remember him especially at the time of 'Īdul Aḍḥā, during the month of Dhul Ḥajjah.

## **HIS FAMILY**

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) had a beautiful wife named Sara; but she did not have any children. So she asked Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) to marry Hājer, her maid servant. Thus the Prophet had two wives.

He prayed to Allah (SWT) to grant him children, which Allah (SWT) did. He was quite old when his wife, Hājer gave birth to Ismā'īl. Five years later, even his wife Sara miraculously gave birth to another boy, Isḥāq. Both these boys were prophets as well, and from their offspring came a great number of prophets as well.

## **PROPHET IBRĀHĪM'S YOUTH:**

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was born in the city of Ur. The king of that time was Namrud. He was proud and claimed he was God. An astrologer had told Namrud that there soon will be a prophet who would overthrow the ruler and invite people to Allah (SWT). Namrud ordered all men and women in the land to be separated so there would be no babies born. He thought he could change the will of Allah (SWT) .

As soon as Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was born, his mother hid him in a cave outside the town. When he was 13 years old, his mother felt it was safe to bring him into town then. His father had already died, so he was looked after by Āzar, his father's brother. Āzar was a famous sculptor who made idols out of stone. He gave Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) a job to sell these idols. On the first day of his job, he tied a rope around some idols and dragged them through the market-place. He then called out to the people.

“Come and buy these lifeless idols who can neither benefit nor harm anybody.”

The people of the town were furious and complained to Āzar. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) already believed in Allah (SWT) and hated idols. He purposely did a bad job, so Āzar stopped him from selling the idols anymore!

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) tried to reason out with his uncle.

“O my father! Do not worship Satan; he was disobedient to Allah.”

Āzar was angry. He said: "Do you turn against my gods, O Ibrāhīm? If you do not go away I will stone you. Get away from me."

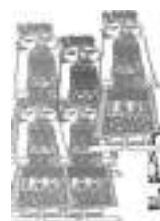
See how bold Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was? Āzar shouted at him yet he was polite but courageous. He did not feel helpless. He had trust in his Lord, Allah (SWT).

## **DESTROYING THE IDOLS**

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) continued to tell to his people not to worship statues. They said that they were doing what their ancestors had done all along.

One day when all the people were out of the town to celebrate a pagan festival, Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) went to the temple where the statues were kept. He broke all of them leaving only the biggest one. He then put the axe round the neck of the biggest one. When the people of the town returned, they saw the broken statues; they rushed towards Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) asking: "Who has done this to our Gods, Abraham? Did you do it?"

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) wanted them to realise how helplessness these statues were. "Ask your biggest idol," Ibrahim told them boldly. He showed no fear!



The people knew that their gods could not answer. They lowered their heads in shame and said: "You know very well that these (statues) don't speak" Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) replied:

"Why do you then worship them; they can neither help nor harm you?"

## IBRAHIM'S COURAGE

Did you see how brave Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was? He believed in Allah (SWT), and was not afraid stand up to his people when they were doing the wrong thing. He knew he was right and stood firm all alone against the stubborn disbelievers. He was afraid of nobody. He feared only God.

The people decided to get rid of him. They built a huge furnace and collected firewood for a month. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was placed in a catapult and flung into the fire. The fire was raging. Nobody could come near it, and Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was catapulted into it.

The angels came to help him. He said he did not need their help. He was not afraid, and was certain that if Allah (SWT) wanted him to stay alive, He would save him.

Allah (SWT) then ordered the fire:

"O fire! Be cool and safe for Ibrāhīm"

Namrud, who was watching from the top of his palace, saw that the fire had turned into a garden; he was astounded. He ordered Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) to leave his kingdom.

### Class Activity 1

In the following sentences, circle the correct word that completes the sentence

1. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) feared no one but (Namrud/ Āzar/ God)
2. He was alone yet he was (timid/ courageous/ rude) in telling the truth.
3. He (feared/trusted) Allah (SWT) to guide and help him.

### Class Activity 2

Match the name with the correct description

Sara	_____	mother of Ismā'il
Namrud	_____	mother of Ishāq
Hājer	_____	the sculptor
Āzar	_____	king of Babylon

## Review Questions

Q1. Āzar was Prophet Ibrāhīm's:

- a. Father
- b. Brother
- c. Uncle

## Lesson 2: Prophet Ibrāhīm's Trust in Allah (SWT)

### Class Activity: Pop Quiz

1. Name the older son of Prophet Ibrahim.
2. Who was the second son of Prophet Ibrāhīm (as)?
3. Who was the mother of Ismā'il?
4. Name the mother of Ishāq.
5. Who was the king at the time of Prophet Ibrāhīm (as)?
6. Who did the people then worship/ pray to?
7. Do you remember the name of Prophet Ibrāhīm's (as) uncle?
8. What was Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) forced to sell in his youth?

## LIFE IN MECCA

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was quite old when Ismā'il was born. He took his wife Hājer and her son (as) to Mecca. At the time, Mecca was an empty desert land, without much water or plantation. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was ordered to take them there by Allah (SWT).

Hājer was unsure why Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) had brought them to this place, and why he was leaving them there.

She asked him: "Ibrāhīm, did God order you to do so?" He said, "Yes". She then replied: "Then He will take care of us". Although Hājer was all alone in the desert, she had learnt from her husband to trust in Allah (SWT) and be patient.

Soon she was out of water and food and her son began to cry. She started to frantically look for some source of water or food. She started running between the two hills on either side of her, named Šafā and Marwah.

She ran in scorching heat from one hillock to another seven times until she got tired. She could not find any water in the hot dry valley.



Then a miracle occurred. Allah (SWT) inspired her son to scrape the earth with his feet, and suddenly a spring of water gushed out. This spring of water became known as Zamzam. Slowly, because of the presence of water, people began to move the area of Mecca in order to use this water. Within a few years, Hājer and Ismā'īl were surrounded by people and water and vegetation.

The spring of Zamzam exists till today. When people go to Ḥajj, they honour Hājer by walking between the hills of Ṣafā and Marwah, and they drink from the water of Zamzam.

## **THE COMMAND TO SACRIFICE ISMĀ'ĪL**

From time to time, Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) used to visit Hājer and his son. On one of his visits when his son had grown up and was able to help his father and be almost like a friend to him, Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) had a dream. He dreamt that he was killing his son by cutting his neck with a knife. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) often received Allah's commands in his dreams, but because he was being asked to actually kill his son, he wondered whether it was real. On the next two nights Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) saw the same dream again. Now he was sure it was the command of Allah (SWT).

He related the dream to his son. Imagine how Ismā'īl might have felt, being told that his father had been ordered to kill him. However, he too was a prophet and immediately said:

"O father! Do as you have been commanded. If Allah wills, you will find me from the patient ones." (37 : 102)

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) took a rope and a knife, and led his son into the desert. On the way, Satan appeared in the form of an old man, and tried to convince Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) that he was making a terrible mistake in killing his son. Three times Satan came, and each time Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) made him go away by throwing stones at him.

When they reached a place called Mina, Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) laid his son on the ground and tied his legs and hands. He blindfolded him with a handkerchief. He took the knife to sacrifice his son. As he went to use the knife, he found that it was not working. The knife, which he had just sharpened, was not causing any harm to his son at all. Suddenly, Allah (SWT) sent a sheep down from heaven.

He told Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) that he had already passed his test, and that now he could sacrifice this sheep in place of his son.

Till today, Muslims honour this sacrifice of Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) when they perform Ḥajj. They stone the pillars representing Satan for three days in a row, and they sacrifice an animal for the sake of Allah (SWT).



## **TRUST IN ALLAH (TAWAKKUL)**

Tawakkul is an Arabic word meaning 'trust in Allah'. One should have so much trust in Allah as to do whatever Allah (SWT) had ordered that person to do, and to know that Allah (SWT) will always be there to help and rescue that person.

It is not enough for us to say that we believe in Allah. He will test us according to our ability. These tests and trials make us stronger, and also distinguish evil people from good people.

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) had some very difficult tests in his life and he passed them to reach a very high position with Allah (SWT). The most difficult test was sacrificing his son.

## **PROPHET IBRĀHĪM'S TAWAKKUL**

Do you remember how graciously Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) argued with his uncle, a great idol worshipper? He was not rude or harsh. He was polite but firm; he respected his uncle and wanted to correct and guide his old man. At the same time, he did not fear his uncle, or in fact the whole town. He did what was right, and trusted in Allah (SWT) to protect him.

Think of the time when Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) was thrown into the flaming hot fire! He showed no fear! When he had left Hājer and his baby son alone in the desert, imagine how he would have felt then! But again, he showed complete trust in Allah (SWT).

Then imagine a lady in the desert with a small child and no sign of water, food or people! Hājer stayed behind and did not go after Prophet Ibrāhīm (as), knowing Allah (SWT) would look after her. She also displayed great level of trust in Allah (SWT), learning it from Prophet Ibrāhīm (as).

Finally, Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) had so much trust in Allah (SWT) that he was ready to sacrifice his son, the most beloved thing to him in this world.

## Class Activity

There are many āyāt in the Qur'an about tawakkul. Let's learn this one. When you are in a difficult situation or afraid, read this āyah and keep your trust in Allah (SWT), who will surely help you!



قُلْ حَسْبِيَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ يَتَوَكَّلُ الْمُتَوَكِّلُونَ

"Say: 'Sufficient is Allah for me. In Him trust those who put their trust'" [39:38]

## Class Activity 2

<sup>ii</sup>Let us act out the incident of Ibrahim taking his son for sacrifice! Your teacher will give each of you a role to play.

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### <sup>i</sup> Bibliography:

The Holy Qura'an  
SML lectures on Prophet Ibrahim  
Madressa .net.com  
SML lectures on Prophet Ibrahim

## Review Questions

**Q1. Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) left his family in:**

- a. Medina
- b. Ur
- c. Mecca

**Q2. The well which miraculously appeared for Hājer and Ismā'il is called:**

- a. Safa
- b. Marwah
- c. Zamzam

SML lectures on Tawakkul and Tafweed  
Q Fatema Radio – on Zul Hijjah  
Stories about the Prophets from the Qura'an

# نبي الله يوسف (ع)

## PROPHET YŪSUF [A.S]

### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

#### Lesson 1: Prophet Yūsuf

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Discuss the story of Prophet Yūsuf (as)
- Understand that jealousy is an evil thing
- Understand the negative effects of jealousy
- Discuss the importance of love and strong relationships among family members
- Discuss the importance of forgiving family members

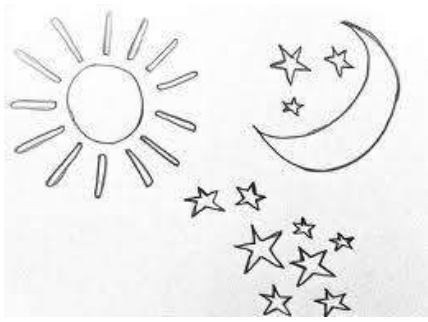
Prophet Yūsuf (as) was the eleventh son of Prophet Ya'qūb (as). He was different from his other brothers; not only because he was a prophet but because he was physically beautiful and had a wonderful, loving personality. Ya'qūb loved him dearly and the fact that Prophet Yūsuf's (as) mother did when he was young meant that Ya'qūb (as) showed even more affection to him. Yūsuf's brothers noticed this special affection that their father had toward him and became jealous of Prophet Yūsuf (as).

#### YŪSUF'S DREAM

When Prophet Yūsuf (as) was about 8 years old; he had a dream that eleven stars and the moon and the sun were doing sujūd in front of him. After Prophet Yūsuf (as) had this dream, he went to his father Ya'qūb and told him about the dream. Prophet Ya'qūb (as) told his dear son not to tell the story of this dream to his brothers as they may become even more jealous of him.

The Holy Qur'an describes this conversation:

"When Yūsuf (Joseph) said to his father: "O my father! Verily, I saw (in a dream) eleven stars and the sun and the moon, I saw them prostrating themselves to me." He (the father) said: "O my son! Relate not your vision to your brothers, lest they arrange a plot against you. Verily! Shaitan (Satan) is to man an open enemy" (12:5)



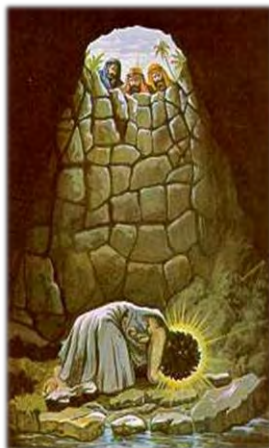
After this incident, the brothers could not take it anymore! Their father was showing a lot more love and compassion to their younger brother Yūsuf and they were starting to become very jealous of this.

They thought to themselves “we are older than Yūsuf and have helped dad so much with his work so we deserve this love more than Yusuf. Why then does he show so much love towards Yusuf and not us?”

These bad thoughts became so strong and affected them so much that the brothers got together and started plotting against Yūsuf. They all discussed the best way to get rid of Prophet Yūsuf (as). Some brothers suggested that they kill him; but others decided against it. Instead, they all agreed on throwing Prophet Yūsuf (as) into a deep well. Allah (SWT) narrates this in the Qur’an:

"Kill Yusuf (Joseph) or cast him out to some (other) land, so that the favour of your father may be given to you alone, and after that you will be righteous folk. One from among them said: "Kill not Yusuf (Joseph), but if you must do something, throw him down to the bottom of a well, he will be picked up by some caravan of travellers." (12: 9-10)

The next day, Prophet Ya’qūb reluctantly allowed the brothers to take Yūsuf with them to play. Yūsuf’s brothers threw him into the well and left him there. He, a young boy who was only eight years old, was left alone at the bottom of the well with no help in sight. We will find out later in the story of exactly how Yūsuf dealt with this situation, what happened to him and what the brothers told the father.



## **JEALOUSY AND ITS EVILS**

Sometimes we see that another person has something good, such as a new toy, new shoes, or a special skill. Jealousy is when we wish that that person did not have that thing. We may not necessarily want it for ourselves, but we wish that the other person loses it. This feeling of jealousy was what the brothers of Prophet Yūsuf (as) had. His brothers wanted their father to stop showing love and affection towards Yūsuf (as)!

Jealousy starts off as just a thought. However, if it is not stopped and a person keeps having jealous thoughts, or acting on them, it make a person do really terrible things.

### **WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO ARE JEALOUS?**

- *A jealous person will never enjoy this world or the hereafter; unless he repents.*

The brothers of Yūsuf did not enjoy having this feeling of jealousy so they thought if they got rid of Yusuf they would stop being jealous. However, we must remember that we must stop the thoughts of jealousy before it leads to the action! Imam ‘Ali (as) has said:

“The fruit of jealousy is the misery of this world and the hereafter”

- *Jealousy eats away all your good deeds*

Jealousy eats away all our good deeds and leads a person to sin. If we look at the brothers of Yūsuf, we see that they are sons of a prophet and the brothers of a prophet! If Jealousy hadn’t gotten to them, they would have been righteous people. However, jealousy got the best of them, led them to sin and ate away their faith, leading them to throw their younger brother into the well. Imam ‘Ali (as) has said:

“Jealousy consumes faith like the fire consumes wood”

- *Jealousy begins with bad thoughts and leads to bad action*

Jealousy was enough for Yūsuf’s brothers to kill Yūsuf as they had initially intended. Imam ‘Ali (as) has said:

“How capable jealousy is! And how just it is, that it starts off with its perpetrators (the jealous person) and ends up killing him!”



### The morals of this story?

So far in this lesson we have learnt that jealousy begins with one bad thought and can lead to terrible actions – just like Yūsuf’s brothers throwing him into a well.

Remember, it is *not* wrong to want something good that a person may have. The wrong thing is to wish for that other person to lose it.

The other main lesson we learnt is that if we do act on our jealous thoughts, we will not be any happier, and we will not end up getting what we actually wanted.



## Review Questions

### Q1. Prophet Yūsuf was the son of:

- a. Prophet Mūsā
- b. Prophet Muḥammad
- c. Prophet Ya’qūb

### Q2. Jealousy means to:

- a. not desire anything good
- b. desiring a blessing that someone else has
- c. not wanting someone else to have a blessing

### Q3. Imam ‘Ali (as) said that “Jealousy consumes faith like...”

- a. water extinguishes fire
- b. fire consumes wood
- c. a human consuming food

## Lesson 2: Life after the Well

We left the story of Prophet Yūsuf (as) with him having been thrown in the well and left alone by his brothers. The brothers went back and told the father that a wolf had attacked their little brother.



Soon though, a caravan of people passing by the well stopped to draw some water. They were surprised to see Prophet Yūsuf (as) come up holding the bucket. They took him with them as a slave back to Egypt, and there they sold him for a cheap price.

## PROPHET YŪSUF (AS) IN EGYPT

Prophet Yūsuf (as) arrived in Egypt at the slave market. The buyers were all attracted by him, because he was a very handsome young man. News of this amazing young man swept through the city. The ‘Aziz (Governor of Egypt), offered a price that none could match. He brought Prophet Yūsuf (as) home and had him work at home for him.

### IN PRISON

Sometimes it happens in life that a person is unfairly accused of a crime they did not commit. This is what happened to Prophet Yūsuf (as) when he grew up to be a young man. He was put into prison, even though he had not done anything wrong.

### RELEASE FROM PRISON

The Holy Qur'an says:

“The king dreamt that seven lean cows were eating seven fat ones and that there were seven green ears of corn and seven dry ones. He asked the nobles to tell him the meaning of his dream if they were able to. They replied, “It is a confused dream and we do not know the meaning of such dreams.” (12:43-44)

The king was very concerned about the meaning of his dream and even though his wise men thought over it seriously, they could not make sense of it. The king's dream became the way in which Prophet Yūsuf (as) was released from prison. There was a person working in the court of the king who had previously been in prison with Prophet Yūsuf (as). He remembered that Yūsuf (as) had the ability to interpret dreams, and he recommended to the king to call on Prophet Yūsuf (as) and ask him.

Yūsuf (as) interpreted the dream by the power given to him by Allah. He said: ‘For seven years the crops will produce abundant food-grain for the people of Egypt. After that there will be a famine for seven years during which all the food-grain lying in the storehouses will be

finished and people will starve. Therefore, the people should try to grow as much extra grain as possible so that they would have enough during the time of famine". On hearing this very reasonable and sensible interpretation of his dream, the king was delighted. He ordered that Prophet Yūsuf (as) be brought before him so he could make good use of his wisdom in solving his problems.

### IN THE ROYAL COURT

When the king met Prophet Yūsuf (as), he found him to be a very smart man. The king made him in charge of all the money and food and ordered everyone to obey him. During the first seven years, Prophet Yūsuf (as) supplied grain to the people according to their needs and stored the rest. However, due to his foresight and planning, when the seven years were over and the famine struck, the country did not face a shortage of food.

The famine had also extended to the lands of Palestine and Kan'an, where Prophet Ya'qūb (as) lived with his sons. One day he called them and ordered to go to Egypt and ask for supplies. Of course, they did not know what had happened to Prophet Yūsuf (as) since they threw him in the well.

### THE MEETING WITH THE BROTHERS

When his brothers arrived in Egypt, Prophet Yūsuf (as) was very pleased to see them. They did not recognise him at all because they did not expect that he was alive.

The brothers introduced themselves and told him about their father and mother. Prophet Yūsuf (as) was relieved to hear that Prophet Ya'qūb (AS) was alive, and he welcomed his brothers sincerely. He provided them with enough wheat for their needs and had their money put back in their bags secretly. He also asked them to bring their other brother the next time as proof that they were speaking the truth about their family.

As time went by, Prophet Ya'qūb's family were out of grain and were impatient to go back to Egypt to get more. However, they could not go back without Benjamin, who was the brother that was very close to Prophet Yūsuf (as). So they tried to convince their father to let him come with them. Prophet Ya'qūb (as) refused to let them take Benjamin, saying that they would do the same thing with

him as they did with Prophet Yūsuf (as). After repeated promises the brothers finally convinced him that they would sincerely look after Benjamin, so he let him accompany them to Egypt.

### THE PLAN TO DETAIN BENJAMIN

After Prophet Yūsuf's (as) brothers received the wheat they needed during their second trip, they began to prepare for their journey home. Meanwhile, according to the command of Allah, Prophet Yūsuf (as) put into action a plan to keep his full brother Benjamin with him. When the brothers returned to their father without Benjamin, he was extremely upset, and they were embarrassed. They swore to him that they had not caused Benjamin any harm, but that he had been kept back in Egypt. Their father ordered them to return immediately to Egypt to look for Benjamin. He had also never forgotten about Prophet Yūsuf (as), and in fact had become blind from how much he cried over him.

When the brothers came to Prophet Yūsuf (as) for a third time, he finally revealed his real identity to them.

The brothers were shocked, but soon they realised their mistakes, and how Allah (SWT) had favoured their pious brother over them. In turn, Prophet Yūsuf (as) immediately forgave them.

After getting his eyesight back and hearing the good news of his son, Prophet Ya'qūb (as) decided to proceed to Egypt immediately. Prophet Yūsuf (as) was delighted to meet his whole family and embraced his father and mother.



### MORALS FROM THE STORY

Some things we may learn from the life of Prophet Yūsuf (as) are:

- The belief in Allah makes a man's troubles easier for him to handle. Even though Prophet Yūsuf (as) was first forced into being a slave, and then later put into prison, he did not lose patience and remained strong.

- Patience in the face of hardship is the best of qualities and results in reward from Allah in this life and the hereafter.
- Above all, this story teaches us that we should forgive and forget the past. When Prophet Yūsuf's (as) brothers came to him in Egypt, they were in a bad condition and would have been helpless against his great power. If he had wished, Prophet Yūsuf (as) could have punished them for the cruel treatment they had given him. Instead he forgave their mistakes and treated them well.

## **FAMILY RELATIONS**

In our families we love, serve, teach, and learn from each other. We share our joys and our sorrows. Family ties may bring us difficult challenges, but they also give us strength and some of our greatest happiness.



While we cannot choose which family we are born into, we can choose each day to make our families stronger and happier.



- Family is a safety net
- Family brings about a sense of belonging and happiness
- Family nurtures and guides you in life

## **IMPORTANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Forgiving each other, even forgiving our enemies, is one of the most important Islamic teachings. However, it is important to forgive when it comes to our close family members.

In the Holy Qur'an Allah (SWT) has described the believers as:

“Those who avoid major sins and when they are angry they forgive.” (42:37).

## **Story**

There was a servant who owed a king a very large sum of money. He deserved to lose everything that he had to pay the debt, but the king had mercy on him and cancelled the debt.

But this same servant, who had had his debt forgiven, then went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him only a small amount of money. He grabbed him and began to choke him, saying, “Pay back what you owe me.” He demanded that the man be thrown into jail until he could repay him.

When the king heard what had happened, he was angry. He had the first servant put into jail himself. The lesson to be learned is that we need to have mercy and forgive each other, as God is merciful in forgiving us. When we have enmity or a grudge in our hearts, we are like the unforgiving servant. God has forgiven all of our sins and we need to readily forgive others too.



# وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ

37:181

## ANCIENT PROPHETS

### FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

### LEVEL 1

## Prophet Ṣaleḥ (as)

Allah (SWT) sent many prophets to help guide the people to the right path. There were 124 000 prophets sent to mankind. One of the Prophets was Prophet Ṣaleḥ (as), who lived a very long time ago.

### PROPHET ṢALEḤ

Prophet Ṣaleḥ (as) was sent to a small community of people called the tribe of Thamūd. The tribe of Thamūd used to live happily in the land of al-Ḥijr which was located between Syria and Ḥejaz. They were enjoying the green gardens, big springs and rivers, the productive land and beneficial animals of this country.



### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Discuss the story of Prophet Ṣaleḥ (as) in detail
- Discuss the main messages that Prophet Ṣaleḥ (as) delivered to his people
- Understand that we must respect the signs of Allah (SWT), and never show arrogance towards them
- Discuss the story of Prophet Hūd
- Discuss the lessons from the story of this prophet



However, these people used to worship idols such as statues made from wood. More and more people would get used to worshipping idols as their god. Because of this, Allah (SWT) sent Prophet Şaleḥ (as) to guide these people to the right path. Prophet Şaleḥ (as) was a good man from a noble and respectful family. He was well known for his knowledge and wisdom. One day, he addressed the whole tribe and said:

"O' my people! Worship the Almighty for he is the most kind and there is no God rather than him. It is He who has created you from the clay and made this land productive for you. Ask forgiveness from Him and repent to His greatness for He is so close to you and the only one that will respond to your prayers."

The people were not happy with Prophet Şaleḥ (as) and they said to him:

"O Şaleḥ (as), you used to be a wise and logical man in this tribe and we thought we could depend on your wisdom at the time of terrible events and calamities. Now you are asking us to reject what our fathers used to worship"

Prophet Şaleḥ (as) replied:

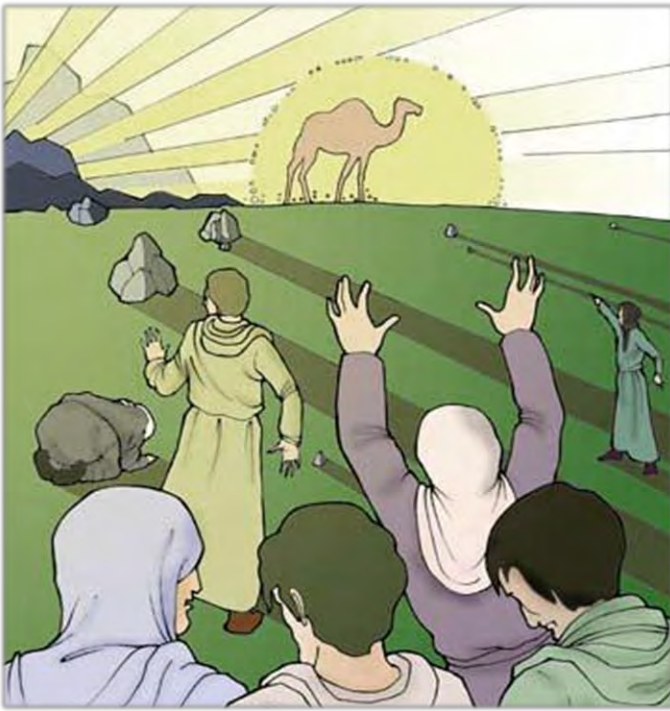
" You have to fear God. Accept my words and don't obey the idol worshippers, for they spread corruption on the earth and never do any good."

The People then said:

"You have lost your wisdom and sense of logic. You are a human being just as we are, aren't you? What advantage or superiority have you got over us that has made you wiser than us and enabled you to claim that you are a prophet appointed by God. If your words are true, bring us a sign or a miracle to prove the righteousness of your claim. "

So the people wanted Prophet Şaleḥ (as) to perform a miracle which would prove that he was a prophet of God.

At this point, Allah (SWT) gave permission to Prophet Şaleḥ (as) to perform a miracle. The people gathered to witness this miracle. To their amazement, a young camel suddenly appeared through a mountain.



Prophet Şaleḥ (as) then said to the people:

"You people! This is the camel of God which shall serve as a token of His presence and a miracle to prove the righteousness of my prophet-hood and invitation. So leave this camel on its own to graze in God's land and feed on the grass and vegetables. Don't do it any harm for otherwise a great torment will soon fall upon you."

But even after this miracle, most people still did not believe in Prophet Şaleḥ (as). Those who did not believe in what Prophet Şaleḥ (as) was saying to them, wanted to kill the camel, thinking they could destroy the miracle of God. They planned to do this a couple of times, but failed because they were afraid something harmful might happen to them. However one day, some young men were determined to kill the camel. While the camel was busy drinking water, they shot her by an arrow which hit her in the leg and caused her to fall down. Then they drew their swords, attacked and killed her.



When Prophet Şaleḥ (as) heard about this, he turned to the people and said :

"Enjoy your life in your houses for three days, for you will have a terrible death after these days. This is a certain and exact promise that will not be belied or delayed."

However, these ignorant people continued their usual life style by worshipping idols, and did not take the words of Prophet Ņaleî (as) seriously. They even decided to kill Prophet Ņaleî (as). However, Allah (SWT) completed His promise and sent a fierce punishment to them. A storm came which left them dead in their own houses. This was a due punishment for their arrogance and their attack against the signs of God.

The believing people survived and were able to enjoy a peaceful life and to worship Allah (SWT).

### Class Activity

We will watch a short cartoon narrating the story of Prophet Saleh together.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtXFLrTGRdE>

## Prophet Hūd (as)

Allah (SWT) sent many prophets to help guide the people to the right path. There were 124 000 prophets sent to mankind. Prophet Hūd (as) was one such Prophet that was sent to a particular community in order to remind them of Allah (SWT).

### PROPHET HŪD

The community he was sent to was called 'Ād. His main goal just like all the other Prophets was to teach the people about the one true God and to stay away from idol worshipping.

وَالِىَ عَادِ أَخَاهُمْ هُودًا قَالَ يَا قَوْمِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُم مِّنْ إِلَهِ غَيْرُهُ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

“To the 'Ād people, (We sent) Hūd, their brother. He said: O my people! Worship Allah! You have no other god but Him. Will you not be conscious of Allah?”

Let us take a look at the story of Prophet Hūd (as).

The people of Prophet Hūd (as) were noble believers who settled down in Arabia and lived pious lives. However as time went by, some of their children drifted away from the way of Allah (SWT).

They forgot the guidance of Allah and began worshipping idols and cheating each other.

One group of Prophet Hūd's (as) tribe was called 'Ād. Instead of Allah, the people of 'Ād worshipped idols-statues and other things which they had made with their own hands.

They believed that each idol fulfilled a different need. According to them, all the powers that really belonged to Allah (SWT) were divided among these many gods. They believed that their idols were giving them everything they needed.

The people of 'Ād were tall, handsome, and strong people. They were excellent architects and skilled engineers. They liked to build castles and magnificent buildings, and they planted beautiful gardens and orchards. But they didn't realize that their abilities and the natural resources around them were gifts from Allah

(SWT). In spite of all the blessings Allah (SWT) had given them, they denied His power.



These people would cheat when selling their goods in the markets, and would get the poor people to pay much more than the actual price, so that they would make more money. They were greedy and didn't care about the poor people among them.

Allah (SWT) chose one man from among them to be a Prophet. This man was named Prophet Hūd (as). He tried to teach the people of 'Ād that there is only one God and that everything is from Him.

Rain, shelter, food, water – all this belonged to Allah (SWT). Prophet Hūd (as) told them again and again to stop worshipping their idols.

He begged them to live according to Allah's (SWT) laws. He warned them about Allah's (SWT) punishment for those who disobeyed Him, and especially for those who worshipped false gods. He said to them:

"O my people! I am not asking for reward from you. I am simply sent by Lord of the worlds to warn you and call you back to the path of truth and goodness. If you ask for forgiveness from Allah (SWT) and change your ways, He will make you stronger than you are now. He will give you plenty of rain and He will accept you. You must not continue your evil ways."





Most of the people of 'Ād were not ready to listen to Prophet Hūd (as). They told him, "You're crazy! We know that we are not going to be punished and destroyed like the people of Prophet Noah."

However, Prophet Hūd (as) knew that Allah's (SWT) punishment would come to his people. After trying to convince them, he decided to leave the land with people who listened to his message and believed in Allah (SWT)

As soon as Prophet Hūd (as) left this village, a large cloud appeared in the sky. The people of 'Ād were very happy to see it, because they thought that it would bring rain to their desert land. Little did they know that Allah (SWT) was sending a terrible wind-storm through the clouds.



The clouds grew larger and larger as the wind howled louder and louder. The air was full of dust and sand. The wind blew so violently that the people ran into their big houses and beautiful castles to hide. But nothing could save them from the punishment of Allah (SWT). The storm raged for eight days and seven nights. Their houses were filled with sand and all the people were

destroyed. Then the wind blew all the sand back across the desert.

There was nothing left except the big empty houses of 'Ād which the people had proudly built but ended in a disaster.

وَأَتَّبِعُوا فِي هَذِهِ الدُّنْيَا لَعْنَةً وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَلَا إِنَّ عَادًا كَفَرُوا  
رَبَّهُمْ أَلَا بُعْدًا لِعَادٍ قَوْمِ هُودٍ

"And they were pursued by a Curse in this life,- and on the Day of Judgment. Ah! Behold! for 'Ād rejected their Lord and Cherisher! Ah! Behold! removed (from sight) were 'Ād the people of Hud!"

The only people from 'Ād who were saved from the storm were those who had left with Prophet Hūd (as). The children of these believers grew up to become good Muslims who believed in Allah (SWT) alone and lived honest lives.

Having learnt about the story of this noble Prophet, we can derive a few lessons for us to learn from. They are:

## WE SHOULD NOT BE ARROGANT

Many times we feel like things are going well in our life, and that we are too smart, too beautiful, or too strong to be hurt by anyone or anything. This is a type of arrogance.

Whenever a feeling like this comes, we should always remember that we are not stronger and mightier than the people of 'Ād, who built huge buildings and were strong and beautiful. Allah (SWT) destroyed them in eight short days even though they thought that no one and nothing can destroy them... not even Allah (SWT), but they were wrong.



## Class activity:

(See worksheet at end of lesson)

For today's activity, you will be given a sheet of paper which has a table of the seven days of the week. The title at the top is:

### I can be humble by:

Every day starting from tomorrow until your next class, write down one thing that you have done to show your humility. Humility is the opposite of arrogance. We show humility to Allah (SWT) by realising that He has Power over us, and that we must obey Him.

Some examples of being humble include:

- Praying
- Being kind to our parents and obeying them
- Being kind to our brothers and sisters

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

# السَّلَامُ عَلَى مُوسَى كَلِيمِ اللَّهِ

## PROPHET MUSA<sup>[A.S.]</sup>

نبي الله موسى (ع)

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Learn about the stories from the early life of Prophet Moses
- Learn about the struggles of Prophet Moses when he returned to Egypt
- Learn about the results of Prophet Moses' mission

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Prophet Mūsā (Moses (as))

The Ulul 'Azm prophets were five prophets whom Allah (SWT) gave bigger jobs to complete. Prophet Mūsā (as) was one of these prophets. In English we refer to Prophet Mūsā (as) as Moses. There are many interesting stories to learn about from the life of Prophet Mūsā (as) and therefore we will complete this topic over three lessons.

### HIS SECRET BIRTH

The first special thing about Prophet Mūsā's (as) life is his birth. At that time there was a ruler by the name of Pharaoh or Fir'awn. Pharaoh thought that he was a god because he was rich and powerful. He wanted everyone to obey him.

Pharaoh used to have people around him who claimed to be able to tell the future. One day he was told that there was going to be a boy who will be born and grow up to destroy Pharaoh and take his kingdom from him.

Pharaoh became very worried and asked his soldiers to kill any baby boy that was born so that none of them could grow up to ruin his position. Therefore all the baby boys were killed... Except one!

### DOWN THE RIVER HE WENT

Allah (SWT) kept Prophet Mūsā's (as) mother's pregnancy a secret. No one noticed that she was pregnant. She also gave birth to Prophet Mūsā (as) secretly. After she gave birth, Allah (SWT) made her put her baby into a flowing river so that the baby would not be taken and killed.

This was very hard for her but she really believed in Allah (SWT) and therefore she did what she needed to.

## **THE PLAN OF ALLAH (SWT)**

As baby Moses was flowing down the river in his cradle, it was not long until he was found. Pharaoh wanted to kill him but because Pharaoh's wife could not have any babies she begged Pharaoh to keep him and bring him up as their son.

They were going to raise him so they thought that he would not be the boy that would oppose the Pharaoh and therefore they kept him.

However baby Moses needed to drink milk and Pharaoh's wife could not breastfeed him. Therefore they asked if anyone could feed the baby. Baby Moses' sister heard this and told her mother. They quickly came to the palace of Pharaoh and told them that she could breastfeed the baby. Pharaoh and his wife had no idea that she was Prophet Moses' real mother. In this way Allah (SWT) reunited baby Moses and his mother, and saved Moses, just as he had promised his mother.

## **GROWING UP**

Although Prophet Mūsā (as) was raised in the palace of Pharaoh who had so much money and gold and would treat people very rudely, he grew up to be a very good man. He would not treat people in a mean way and was always disagreeing with the way the Pharaoh acted. When he got old enough Prophet Mūsā (as) left the palace.

## **THE SOLDIER**

One day, as Prophet Mūsā (as) was walking through the city, he saw one of the soldiers of Pharaoh bullying and abusing a man from the tribe of Prophet Mūsā (as). As Prophet Mūsā (as) went past, the man who was being bullied ask Prophet Mūsā (as) for help. Prophet Mūsā (as) came to help him and struck the soldier. He was only trying to stop the soldier from hurting this weak man, but when he struck the soldier, the soldier died.

Prophet Mūsā (as) realized that this was going to cause a lot of problems for himself and for his people. So he decided to run away from Egypt before he was killed.

## **THE TWO LADIES**

Prophet Mūsā (as) ran away from Egypt. He had to travel through a desert and very tough terrain. He kept running and running until tired and exhausted, he arrived near a water well and slept.

When he woke up, he realized he was in a place called Madyan. He noticed there were many people near a well allowing their sheep to drink water. He then noticed there were two ladies standing back and waiting for the men to finish to take their turn. Prophet Moses went over to them and offered his help. He watered the sheep and gave them back to the ladies. He then went back to his place and rested again.



The father of these two ladies was Prophet Shu'ayb, who we will learn more about in future years. The two ladies told their father what had happened. He asked them to go back to Prophet Mūsā (as) and invite him back to their home, so they could repay him.

Eventually, Prophet Mūsā (as) ended up marrying one of these two ladies, and worked for Prophet Shu'ayb for ten years.

## **RETURN TO EGYPT**

After the ten years were over, Prophet Mūsā (as) decided to go back to Egypt. He now had a family, and he had learnt from being with the older and more experienced Prophet Shu'ayb.

Prophet Mūsā (as) and his family had to pass through a desert again to get to Egypt. On their way, they got a little lost. Suddenly, Prophet Mūsā (as) saw a light and decided to go towards it to get some fire to warm his family.



As he got closer he noticed the fire was coming from a tree but was not burning the tree.

## **ALLAH (SWT) SPEAKS TO PROPHET MOSES**

When he reached the tree, he found that there was sound coming from the tree. Allah (SWT) was speaking to Prophet Mūsā (as) through the tree. The fact that Allah (SWT) spoke to Prophet Mūsā (as) does not mean that Allah (SWT) has a mouth to speak with. What Allah (SWT) did was to use one of His creatures (a tree) to send a message to Prophet Mūsā (as) in a miraculous way. He made sound come from that tree.

Allah (SWT) told Prophet Mūsā (as) that he had been chosen as a Prophet. His mission was to go Pharaoh and teach him about Allah (SWT) and urge him to submit to Allah. His other mission was to free his people from the oppression of Pharaoh and to take them back to their home land to live in peace and freedom.

## **Review Questions**

**Q1. Why did Prophet Moses' mum place him in the river?**

- a. Because she didn't want a baby
- b. Because Pharaoh was killing all the baby boys
- c. Because he wanted to swim

**Q2. Why did Prophet Moses fight the soldier?**

- a. He was hurting and abusing an innocent person
- b. He was very strong
- c. He hurt his mum

**Q3. How did Allah (SWT) communicate with Prophet Moses?**

- a. He wrote him a letter
- b. He sent the Qur'an
- c. Through a tree

## **Prophet Moses Returns to Egypt**

Prophet Mūsā (as) was ordered by Allah (SWT) to go back to Egypt. He was sent to talk to Pharaoh and stop him from treating the people of Bani Israel badly. Pharaoh had also reached the point now where he thought he was god.

Allah (SWT) asked Prophet Mūsā (as) to speak with him kindly first and try to change him with kind advice and words.

In turn, Prophet Mūsā (as) asked if his brother Hārūn (Aaron) could help him. Allah (SWT) allowed him to have the help of his brother, who was also a prophet.

## **MOSES' MIRACLES**

When they first met with Pharaoh, Prophet Mūsā (as) spoke with him about Allah (SWT) but Pharaoh did not believe. He acted arrogantly and tried to humiliate Moses and Aaron. Allah (SWT) had given Prophet Mūsā (as) two miracles to prove to everyone that he really was a prophet. He had a stick that he used to guide his sheep with. Allah (SWT) made this stick turn into a huge snake.

He also made his hand shine like a bright light when he placed it on his chest.

Therefore when Pharaoh didn't listen to Moses he threw his stick onto the ground and it turned into a huge snake as a sign to prove to him that Allah is the true God and that he gave him special powers. Pharaoh still didn't believe and said that Moses was only performing magic.

## **THE MAGICIANS**

Pharaoh wanted to challenge Prophet Mūsā (as) and prove to people that he was only performing magic and not a miracle. He set a day when everyone could come and watch the challenge between Prophet Mūsā (as) and the magicians who worked for Pharaoh.



Everyone in the land gathered eagerly to see what would happen. The magicians began. They used their illusions to make it look to people that their sticks had turned into snakes. The people were all amazed. Then it came to the turn of Prophet Mūsā (as). He also threw down his stick. It suddenly turned into a real live snake and ate all of the sticks of the magicians.

Everyone, even the magicians, were amazed by this. In fact, the magicians immediately realized that this was not magic, but a miracle from God. They straight away prostrated to Allah (SWT).

Yet Pharaoh still would not believe. In fact, this made Pharaoh even angrier and he now wanted to kill Prophet Mūsā (as). One of Pharaoh's relatives, who secretly believed in Prophet Mūsā (as), convinced Pharaoh not to kill Moses.

Even though the Pharaoh did not kill Prophet Mūsā (as), he began to treat the Bani Israel even worse than he did before.

## **THE PLAGUES**

Now that the Pharaoh and his people had ignored such amazing miracles of Allah (SWT), Allah began to send different types of problems to them. These problems were called the plagues. For one period of time, they all became ill with a terrible disease. Another time, locusts invaded everywhere and made their life very difficult. Each time, the Pharaoh and his people would come to Prophet Mūsā (as) and ask him to pray for them. They promised if this plague was removed, they would believe in Allah (SWT).

However, every time Prophet Mūsā (as) prayed for them and the plague was removed, they again went back to disbelieving in Allah (SWT) and treating the Bani Israel badly.

After giving the Pharaoh and his people so many changes, Allah (SWT) now ordered Prophet Mūsā (as) to take his people with him and leave Egypt.

## **Review Questions**

### **Q1 What was the miracle with Prophet Moses' hand?**

- a. It could turn into a snake
- b. It would shine brightly when he placed it on his chest
- c. He had two left hands

### **Q2. What happened when Prophet Mūsā (as) challenged the other magicians?**

- a. They all did the same trick
- b. He taught the magicians a new trick
- c. His stick turned into a snake and ate all the other sticks

## **Prophet Moses Completes His Mission**

### **PHARAOH'S WIFE**

Sometimes we may be around people that are not well behaved or who may do the wrong thing. They might even put pressure on us to do the wrong thing. However, this does not mean that we should act like them, and it is definitely not an excuse for us to do the wrong thing.

One of the best examples of this was the wife of Pharaoh, whose name was Āsiyah. Despite being the wife of such an evil person, she believed in Prophet Mūsā (as) and his message. She was not interested in the wealth and comfort that Pharaoh was providing for her. Instead, she simply wanted to get away from him and his evil ways, and to be in the presence of Allah (SWT).

She suffered a lot at the hands of Pharaoh. Eventually, she asked Allah (SWT) to save her from Pharaoh and to build for her a house in heaven.

Allah (SWT) answered her prayers. Pharaoh found out about her belief in Prophet Mūsā (as) and killed her. She never gave up her belief in Allah (SWT) and put up with the pain and torture until she died as a believer.

## **THE MAGICIANS BECOME BELIEVERS**

Pharaoh thought that Prophet Moses was just a magician and wanted to prove that his magicians can do the same tricks as him. Prophet Moses could throw down his stick and it would turn into a huge snake.

One day Pharaoh asked all the magicians to come and perform some magic and prove that Moses was just a magician. When they arrived they made some ropes or sticks look like snakes. Then Prophet Moses threw down his stick and it turned into a real snake and ate up all the other fake ones. When the magicians saw they immediately realised that Prophet Mūsā (as) was not a mere magician, and that this was a miracle from Allah (SWT). They straight away performed sujūd and showed their submission to Allah (SWT).

When Pharaoh saw this, he got very angry at them and threatened to kill them. They calmly told Pharaoh that they did not care about what he said, because he only had control of this world, and they were more worried about what would happen in the next world.

Pharaoh ended up killing the magicians, but this was one of the successes of Prophet Mūsā (as) and his mission.

## **CROSSING THE SEA**

Pharaoh and his family had been oppressing the tribe of Prophet Mūsā (as), the Bani Israel, for many years. Finally, Allah (SWT) ordered Prophet Mūsā (as) to take his people and leave Egypt, and to try to reach their homeland of Palestine and attain freedom.

So one night Prophet Mūsā (as) took his people and led them out of Egypt. As they fled, the army of Pharaoh followed them. After a while, Prophet Mūsā (as) and his people reached the big river called Nile. They were now stuck between a river and the army of Pharaoh. They thought that they were either going to drown or be killed by the army of Pharaoh.

Some people thought that Pharaoh was going to catch them but prophet Moses never gave up hope in Allah (SWT). He knew that Allah would send him a sign or some help to rescue them.

Allah (SWT) then ordered Moses to use his miraculous stick and strike it against the river. Suddenly, the river split and a crossing suddenly appeared. The Bani Israel were able to cross the river safely and got to the other side.

Pharaoh and his army saw this. Still, he did not believe and ordered his soldiers to try to use the same crossing to get to the other side. As Pharaoh and his soldiers tried to cross, the crossing that had miraculously appeared collapsed and the Pharaoh and his soldiers all drowned.

Allah (SWT) tells us that while the Pharaoh was drowning, he finally called out that he believed in Allah (SWT). However, it was too late- he had ignored too many signs and now he was going to die as an unbeliever and be punished in the Hereafter.

## **WHAT DO WE LEARN?**

Of all the prophets Allah (SWT) talks about Prophet Mūsā (as) the most in the Qur'an. This is because Allah (SWT) gave all the people around Prophet Mūsā (as) so many chances to submit to Him. Some of them chose to obey the signs of Allah, while others ignored them.

The main lesson we need to learn from all these stories from the life of Prophet Mūsā (as) is that we should never ignore the signs of Allah (SWT). When we see His signs, we should obey them and submit to them, before it is too late.

## **CLASS ACTIVITY**

Your teacher will help you form into groups. Your task is to act out the story of Prophet Mūsā (as) and his people crossing the River Nile.

## **Review Questions**

### **Q1. What was the name of Pharaoh's wife?**

- a. Zaynab
- b. Aminah
- c. Āsiyah

### **Q2. What did Prophet Mūsā (as) use to split the river in two?**

- a. His hand
- b. His stick
- c. All his followers

### **Q3. What should we do when we are going through something hard?**

- a. Give up and complain to Allah (SWT)
- b. Pray to Allah (SWT) and believe He will help us
- c. Tell our parents

# السَّلَامُ عَلَى دَاوُدَ نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

PROPHET DĀWŪD (DAVID)<sup>AS</sup>

نبي الله داود (ع)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

Level 2

## Prophet Dāwūd (David) (as)

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) says:

“O Dāwūd, surely We have placed you as a successor on Earth...” (38:26)

Prophet Dāwūd (as) was a prophet and a vicegerent of Allah (SWT) on Earth he was also the father of Prophet Solomon (as). Allah (SWT) revealed to Prophet Dāwūd (as) the book of al-Zabūr (Book of Psalms). He also gave Prophet Dāwūd (as) the ability to mould iron, an ability no one had the in past.

Later in his life, Prophet Dāwūd (as) also became a king and owned a great kingdom. However, he never forgot that all his virtues were from Allah (SWT) and always remained humble towards Him.

## THE STORY OF PROPHET DĀWŪD (AS) & GOLIATH

Prophet Dāwūd (as) was from a tribe called the Israelites. This was the same tribe that Prophet Moses (as) had rescued from the Pharaoh in Egypt. The Israelites now lived in the land of Palestine. However, they were constantly fighting with a group of disbelievers who were trying to remove them from their land. After a long period of living in fear from the disbelievers, the Israelites asked the Prophet of the time to appoint a leader for them who would give them victory against the disbelievers.

“...when they said to a Prophet of theirs, "Appoint for us a king and we will fight in Allah's Way." (2:246)

On the command of Allah (SWT), their Prophet appointed Ṭālūt as their king. When they heard who had

### Objectives:

Students should:

- Be introduced to Prophet Dāwūd (as) a prophet of Allah (SWT)
- Be introduced to some of the virtues of Prophet Dāwūd (as)
- Discuss the story of David and Goliath

been appointed, the Israelites were not happy that a poor and unknown man was now their king. They had wanted someone rich and famous.

However, Prophet Samuel informed them that Ṭālūt was chosen for his wisdom & knowledge and that he would lead them to victory.

“And their Prophet said to them, "Indeed Allah has appointed Ṭālūt as a king over you." They said, "How can he be a king over us when we are better fitted than him for the kingdom, and he has not been given enough wealth." He said: "Verily, Allah has chosen him above you and has increased him abundantly in knowledge and stature. And Allah grants His Kingdom to whom He wills. And Allah is All-Sufficient for His creatures' needs, All-Knower."(2:247)

Ṭālūt proved his knowledge and physical power to his people. Yet even then, most people still refused to help him or join his army. Only a small group went with him. Even for this small group, Allah (SWT) had another tough test waiting.

On the way to the battlefield, with the army thirsty and tired, they reached a river. Ṭālūt wanted to test his soldiers so he said to them: ‘whoever drinks more than a handful of water from the river must leave the army’. Most of the soldiers could not tolerate this. They drank water to their fill and they left the army.

Now, the army of the believers was so small, in comparison to the large army of the disbelievers. The important thing though was that this group had faith in Allah (SWT) .

“So when he (Ṭālūt) had crossed the river, he and those who believed with him, they said: We have today no power against Jālūt (the leader of the enemy) and his forces. Those who were sure that they would meet their Lord said: How often has a small party beaten a large army by Allah's permission, and Allah is with the patient.” (2:249)

By the time the army of Ṭālūt reached the battlefield, they had been joined by Prophet Dāwūd (as). Some narrations say that he was a young boy, who was not even there to fight. However, he showed his bravery and strength, and went to face the leader of the enemy Jālūt (Goliath). He fought Goliath and killed him, with the help of Allah (SWT).

After this, Prophet Dāwūd (as) became a leader for his people. Eventually, he became not only their Prophet, but also their king.

“...so they beat them by Allah's Leave and Dāwūd (as) killed Goliath, and Allah gave him the kingdom and Wisdom, and taught him of that which He willed”  
(2:251)

## LESSONS FROM THIS STORY

If you noticed during this story that on seeing Goliath and knowing how powerful he was the army of Israelites were scared to fight him. However, Prophet Dāwūd (as), who was so still so young had complete trust in Allah (SWT). He went forward to fight the scariest enemy, knowing that Allah (SWT) would help him. Of course, he succeeded.

The other lesson we learn is that Allah (SWT) helps those who remain patient and trust in Him. Such a small army defeated such a large and scary army because they had:

- Patience
- Faith in Allah (SWT)
- Trust in Allah SWT

If we have these three things in our life, then Allah (SWT) will always help us and guide us.

## ACTIVITY

Using the words in the box, fill in the blanks:

- 1) The Holy Book of \_\_\_\_\_ was revealed to Prophet Dāwūd (as).
- 2) The name of the strong man who was killed by Prophet Dāwūd (as) was \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Allah (SWT) gave Prophet Dāwūd (as) the ability to soften \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Prophet Dāwūd (as) was the father of Prophet \_\_\_\_\_.

Sulayman	Goliath	Iron	Zabur
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## Review Questions

**Q1) Why was the army of the Israelites too scared to fight the disbelievers?**

- a) Because their commander Goliath was a strong & powerful commander
- b) Because they were not prepared
- c) Because they didn't have enough weapons



# السَّلَامُ عَلَى سُلَيْمَانَ نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

## PROPHET SULAYMĀN(AS)

(ع) سليمان نبي الله

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Prophet SulaymĀn (as) as a sinless Prophet of Allah (SWT)
- Discuss the story of Prophet SulaymĀn (as) and the ants
- The story of Prophet SulaymĀn (as) and the people of Saba'

## FUNDEMENTALS OF ISLAM

## Level 2

### Prophet Sulaymān (a.s.)

Allah (SWT) sent 124,000 prophets in all to help and guide the people on the earth. Out of these the names of 25 Prophets are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an. One of these is Prophet Sulaymān (as).

### PROPHET SULAYMĀN (AS)

Allah (SWT) granted him the greatest kingdom that any King has ever ruled over. Like his father, Prophet Sulaymān (as) was well known for his strength, wisdom, judgement and devotion to Allah (SWT). He was also blessed with the ability to talk to insects, birds, animals, and Jinn. Even the wind would obey him.



Although powerful and rich, he never forgot or denied that all his gifts were from Allah (SWT). He never stopped thanking Allah (SWT) for His blessings!

### PROPHET SULAYMĀN AND THE ANTS

Once Prophet Sulaymān (as) was passing through a valley in which there were ants. The chief of the ants warned his fellow ants of the approaching army and advised them to quickly enter their homes (the holes) to avoid being crushed.



When Prophet Sulaymān (as) heard the warning of the chief of the ants, he smiled. He thanked Allah (SWT) because Allah had given him the blessing of being a prophet, and the special blessings of being to understand animals.

### RESPECT FOR ALL GOD'S CREATURES

One lesson that we can learn from this story is that we should *respect all creatures* of Allah (SWT), irrespective of their size or rank.

Prophet Sulaymān (as) did not consider the tiny ant as a useless or insignificant creature. An ant has a delicate but sturdy body! It lifts a grain so many times heavier than its body and carries it to its hole. It stores food for use in winter and rainy days.

All creatures of Allah (SWT) deserve care. We should be kind to animals, and look after plants and vegetation. Allah (SWT) has given us humans control over this world and so we are responsible for looking after all its creatures.

### PROPHET SULAYMĀN (AS) AND THE PEOPLE OF SABA'



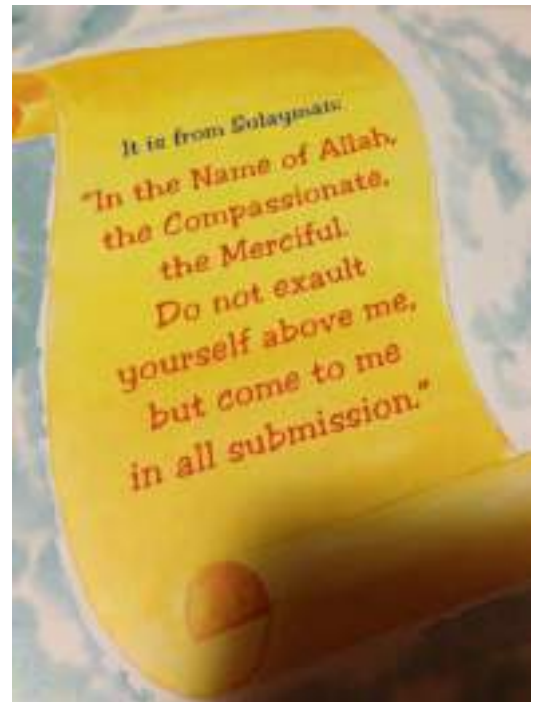
One day, Prophet Sulaymān (as) noticed his messenger bird, the hoopoe (*hudhud*) was missing.

A little later, the bird appeared and reported:

“Surely I found a woman ruling over them, and she has been given great blessings and a great kingdom. I found her and her people worshipping the sun instead of Allah (SWT)...” (27:23-24)

Prophet Sulaymān (as) sent a letter to the people of Saba' and their queen, inviting them to the worship of Allah (SWT). The letter read:

“In the name of Allah, the Kind and Merciful. Do not elevate yourself and come towards me submitting”  
(27:30-31)



When Queen Bilqīs received the letter, she consulted her ministers and decided to send Prophet Sulaymān (as) valuable gifts. Prophet Sulaymān (as) refused to accept the gifts.



The Prophet of Allah was not interested in these riches. (Allah SWT) had given him much blessings and unmatched wealth. The prophet was grieved. He aimed to invite the Queen and her people to the right path. He decided to show the Queen a miracle.

He invited her to his kingdom, and then he asked his ministers and companions to bring her throne from Saba' to the land of Prophet Sulaymān (as). One of the Jinn who was close to Prophet Sulaymān (as) offered to bring it so fast that Prophet Sulaymān (as) would not have

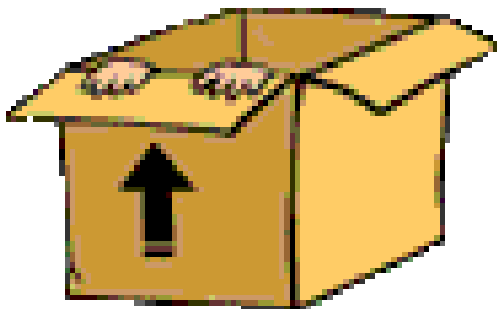
time to stand from his place. A human, who would be the next prophet after Prophet Sulaymān (as), offered to bring it before Prophet Sulaymān (as) even blinked.

When Bilqīs reached the land of Prophet Sulaymān (as), she was amazed at how her huge throne had come to this land so quickly.

Another miracle occurred soon after. The floor of the prophet's palace was made of slabs of polished glass that deceived the Queen's eyes. She saw water on the floor. So she tucked up her skirt. Prophet Sulaymān (as) explained that the water was underneath the glass! She realized the truth and understood the message of Prophet Sulaymān (as), because no person could create something like this at that time. Eventually, she submitted to Allah (SWT) and became a Muslim, worshipping only Allah (SWT).

## CLASS ACTIVITY:

Put in this box, all the good qualities that one should have:



Whinging	Shouting	Thanking Allah
Getting Angry	Greeting Young and Old	
Respecting All	Saying Thank You	
Laughing At Others	Doing Sajdah	Being Polite

## Review Questions

**Q1. Why was Prophet Sulaymān (as) able to avoid trampling the army of ants?**

- He was the youngest son of Prophet David (as)
- He was gifted with understanding the languages of insects, birds and all creatures
- He was a friend of the ants.

**Q2. Which bird was missing from the court of Prophet Sulaymān (as)?**

- The eagle
- The parrot
- The hoopoe (hudhud)

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# السَّلَامُ عَلَى عِيسَى نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

## PROPHET 'ĪSĀ [JESUS A.S.] AND OTHER STORIES

### نبي الله (ع) عيسى

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to Prophet 'Īsā (as)
- Be introduced to Maryam (as)
- Briefly discuss the story of birth of Prophet 'Īsā (as) and the miracles in his early life
- Discuss the main messages of Prophet 'Īsā (as)
- Briefly discuss the Injīl
- Briefly discuss the miracles of Prophet 'Īsā (as)
- Discuss the story of Prophet Yūnus (as)
- Discuss the lessons to be learnt from the story
- Memorise the words of remembrance of Prophet Yūnus (as)
- Learn the story of Ashābul Kahf as from the Holy Qur'an
- Briefly discuss the lessons from this story

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Lesson 1: Prophet 'Īsā (As)

As we have learnt before, Allah (SWT) sent every community a prophet, in order to teach them how to live the best possible lives, and how to best worship Allah (SWT).

Some of these prophets were Ulul Āzm prophets - special messengers of Allah (SWT) whose missions were greater than those of other prophets. One of these especially great prophets was Prophet 'Īsā (as). As Muslims, we believe in him as a prophet, and we honour not only him, but his mother, Maryam or Mary (as).

### MARYAM, THE MOTHER OF PROPHET 'ĪSĀ(AS)

Lady Maryam, the mother of Prophet 'Īsā (as) is one of the four best chosen women in Islam. She was pious, infallible, truthful and modest. A chapter (surah) of the Qur'an is named after her. She is the only lady whose name is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an. She is the one to whom angels spoke.



Her father 'Imran and her mother Hanna had already decided to give their unborn baby in the service of Allah. So when Maryam was born, in keeping her vow to Allah (SWT), Hanna gave away her daughter in Allah's service. Maryam lived her life in a place of worship and worked in it, and she spent her time in the worship of Allah (SWT). Because her father, Imran, had died by then, Prophet Zakariyyah was made Maryam's guardian.

While living in the mosque, Maryam (as) experienced many miracles. She would be visited by angels, who



would bring her the fruits of summer in winter, and the fruits of winter in summer. She always had plenty to eat and was looked after especially by Allah (SWT).

## **THE BIRTH OF PROPHET 'ISĀ**

One day, Maryam was visited by the angels who gave her some news: that she was about to have a son, who would be a prophet. However, Maryam was worried about this news. The angels comforted her by saying that Allah had willed this and so it would happen.

Maryam went away in a quiet place realising she was pregnant. When the time of childbirth approached, she was guided to a date-palm. She was asked not to grieve but drink water from the river and eat the dates from the palm tree. The Holy Qur'an narrates:

“Do not grieve; shake the date palm; eat and drink and be happy. If any people ask you, then tell them that you have made a silent fast.” (19:26)

Soon, Prophet 'Īsā (as) was born, and his mother took him back to her town. People began to annoy Maryam (as) and ask a lot of questions. Instead of answering them, she just pointed at the baby. They started to laugh at her, asking how a baby could answer them.

However, Prophet 'Īsā (as) had been given the miraculous power of speaking eloquently even as a baby.

“He said: Surely I am a servant of Allah; He has given me the Book and made me a prophet...” (19: 30)

From that time, people understood that this was a special person, sent by Allah (SWT) to guide them.

## **THE MESSAGES OF 'ISĀ (AS)**

### **BELIEVING IN ONE GOD**

Prophet 'Īsā (as) was sent by Allah (SWT) to the Jewish people, the Israelites. These were the people of Prophet Moses (as). They believed in God originally and worshipped him. However, later on they were influenced by other cultures and religions and left the path of worshipping Allah (SWT) correctly. They cared not for piety, charity or equality. Instead they scorned and laughed at the weak and poor. They were full of pride and did not love or fear Allah at all. Prophet 'Īsā's (as) main mission was to bring people back to the path of Truth and worshipping of One God.

### **TEACHING PEOPLE TO LIVE A SIMPLE LIFE**

One of the missions of Prophet 'Īsā (as) was to teach people to live a simple life. He himself lived very simply to set an example. He wore clothes made out of unwoven wool; he ate raw food from the plants...He was very patient and often had little to eat. He called himself a servant of Allah (SWT) devoting his time to the poor, common people.

### **NEWS OF THE COMING OF MUḤAMMAD (SAW)**

The final mission of Prophet 'Īsā (as) was to give the good news of the coming of Prophet Muḥammad (or Aḥmad) after him. Prophet 'Īsā (as) told his followers that Prophet Muḥammad (saw) would come after him to complete and perfect his message. Even in today's Bible, there are references to Prophet Muḥammad (saw).

## **MIRACLES OF PROPHET 'ISĀ**

A miracle is a sign from Allah given to his prophets. It is something that a prophet can do that no one else can do. Prophet 'Īsā (as) was given the power to perform many miracles by Allah (SWT).

- His first miracle was as a baby when he spoke from the cradle.
- In the time of Prophet 'Īsā (as), leprosy was an incurable disease; it was so bad that no one went close to a leper. There was no cure for this disease then. One day, a man came limping towards Prophet 'Īsā (as). Allah (SWT) granted Prophet 'Īsā (as) the power to heal people suffering from this terrible illness and other illnesses.
- Prophet 'Īsā (as) brought the dead back to life with the permission of Allah. He could even make a statue of something like a bird, and then blow into it and it would come to life. All this was done with the permission of Allah (SWT).

“...and you healed the blind and the leprosy by My permission; and when you brought forth the dead by My permission...” (5:110)
- Once, the students of Prophet 'Īsā (as) insisted that he ask Allah for a table spread of delicious food. Prophet 'Īsā (as) supplicated to Allah to send food

that will be a festival and a sign from the Lord to them. The angels brought down the food on a piece of material. People were astonished! Hundreds and hundreds of people ate from that food; but there was no sign of food diminishing.

“‘Isā, the son of Maryam, said: O Allah, our Lord! send down to us food from heaven which should be to us an ever-recurring happiness, to the first of us and to the last of us, and a sign from You...” (5:114)



## THE INJIL

Allah (SWT) also blessed Prophet ‘Isā (as) with a holy book, called the Injil. This book contained Allah’s (SWT) teachings for the people of the time. It taught them correct beliefs and rules of life.

Unfortunately, we do not have the original version of Injil with us today. After Prophet ‘Isā (as) was raised to heaven by Allah (SWT), the original form of this book was lost, and people began making their own books in place of it, which were not truly the word of God.

## Class Activity

1. Write down the names of the five **Ulul ‘Azm** Prophets:

Prophet N..... AS

Prophet Ib..... AS

Prophet Mu..... AS

Prophet Is..... AS

Prophet Muh..... AS

2. Match by drawing a line:

### Heavenly Books

### Prophets

Zabūr

Prophet ‘Isā (as)

Taurāt

Prophet Dāwūd (as)

Injeel

Prophet Muḥammad (as)

Qur’an

Prophet Moses (as)

## Lesson 2: Prophet Yūnus (as)

Each Prophet that Allah (SWT) sent to humans had a different challenge that they had to deal with. Prophet Yūnus (as) is one of these prophets. He is known as Prophet Jonah in English. He was sent to a group of people in a place called Nineveh that used to pray to idols. This meant that they would build a statue or something similar, then worship it, believing it had the power to change their lives.

Prophet Yūnus (as) tried over and over to teach the people that there was only *One* God and that He was Allah (SWT). However as much as he tried his people simply would not listen.

After trying for a long time Prophet Yūnus (as) decided to leave the people because he thought that soon Allah (SWT) would punish them.

Prophet Yūnus (as) left the city and not long after, dark clouds started rolling in. It appeared that a huge storm was going to take place.

The people of Nineveh started to get worried and realised that Prophet Yūnus (as) was right. However it was too late as he had already left.

They began to pray directly to Allah (SWT) and realised that their idols could not help. Because they prayed from the bottom of their hearts and realised that Allah (SWT) is the One True God, Allah (SWT) removed the dark clouds and nothing happened to them.

### PROPHET YŪNUS’ JOURNEY

Although the people of Nineveh had become believers, there were no mobile phones for anyone to call Prophet Yūnus (as) and ask him to return.

By now he was on board a boat sailing to another land. However something terrible happened. Huge waves appeared and the boat started to rock from side to side. The people realised that if they didn't do something the boat would sink.

They started throwing their entire luggage off. However the boat was still too heavy. They decided that someone had to get off the boat and jump into the ocean. They wrote the name of every person on a piece of paper and decided to have a ballot. The name that came out was Prophet Yūnus (as). However because these people knew he was a good man they decided to try again. Once again his name came out. On the third time the same thing happened and then Prophet Yūnus (as) realised that Allah (SWT) wanted him to get off the boat. He jumped into the ocean and a huge whale rose to the surface and swallowed him into its stomach.

### INSIDE THE WHALE

Whilst Prophet Yūnus (as) was inside the stomach of the whale, he realised that he had made a mistake by leaving his people without Allah's (SWT) permission.

He started to ask Allah (SWT) to forgive him and recited the following words

**"la ilāha illā anta subḥanaka innī  
kuntu min al ḍālimīn"**

(21:87)

"There is no god but You, glory be to You; surely I  
am of those who were unfair to themselves."

(21:87)

### Memorisation Activity:

Continue to repeat the above Qur'anic phrase until you memorise it. You can use this prayer when you have done something wrong and you want Allah (SWT) to forgive you.

### WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

Because Prophet Yūnus (as) prayed to Allah (SWT) sincerely, he was forgiven.



Allah (SWT) ordered the whale to remove Prophet Yūnus (as) from its stomach and place him on the shore. Allah (SWT) made the environment safe for Prophet Yūnus (as) and provided him with what he needed until he was healthy again to leave the seashore.

### GOING BACK HOME

Prophet Yūnus (as) eventually found his way back home and was surprised to see that people had changed and were now believers in Allah (SWT). He was very happy and together they prayed and thanked Allah (SWT) for his blessings.

### MORALS FROM THE STORY

Every prophet leaves us with great stories to learn from. Prophet Yūnus (as) taught us many things through his story. Circle the things that you think Prophet Yūnus (as) has taught us.

- a. To give people many chances
- b. To ask Allah for forgiveness if we make a mistake.
- c. To run away from people if they do not listen to us.
- d. To always believe that Allah (SWT) will help us.
- e. To swim inside the stomach of a whale.

### Review Questions

#### Q1. Why did Prophet Yūnus (as) leave Nineveh?

- a. People did not want to believe in Allah (SWT)
- b. He wanted to live somewhere nicer
- c. He went back home

#### Q2. Why did he come back to Nineveh?

- a. He missed his home
- b. People became believers
- c. He was sick

## Lesson 3: The Companions of the Cave

The 18<sup>th</sup> surah of the Holy Qur'an is called "Al-Kahf" meaning "The Cave". This surah tells us about a group of a group of young men who took shelter in a cave to hide away from an oppressive and tyrant ruler

"(Remember) when the young men fled for refuge (from their disbelieving folk) to the Cave, they said: "Our Lord! Bestow on us mercy from Yourself, and facilitate for us our affair in the right way!" (18:10)

The Roman emperor at that time was a fierce oppressor and the people of that time were idol worshippers who used to sin openly. During this time, anyone who believed in Allah (SWT) was punished and practising Islam seemed very difficult. In this city, a group of young men believed in Allah (SWT), but they were not allowed to practice their religion or to declare their beliefs. Therefore, they decided to leave the city and head to the mountains. They had no specific plan. They were simply leaving and hoping Allah (SWT) would look after them. Their faith was so strong that they left all their affairs to Allah (SWT) as mentioned in the above verse.

So they left the city and headed into the wilderness. After a while, they became tired, and decided to sleep in a cave. Here, a miracle happened. Allah (SWT) caused them to sleep for a very long time- for many years.

"Therefore we covered up their (sense of) hearing (causing them, to go in deep sleep), in the cave for a number of years" (18:11)

After a number of years, which is unknown to us, the men woke and asked each other how long they had been in the cave for. According to the Qur'an, one of the men replied that they had only been there for a day or part of a day. However, only Allah (SWT) knows how long they had been sleeping for.

They sent one person from their group to go back to the city to get them food and supplies. He went in to the city secretly. After a while, though, he realised everything had changed. The city looked completely different, and the people now all believed in Allah (SWT) and worshipped him.

After a while, the men realised that they had been sleeping for hundreds of years, and that in that time when they were asleep, Allah (SWT) had caused the city they lived in to change from a disbelieving city to one where people worshipped Allah (SWT).

## LESSONS FROM THE STORY

There are many lessons we can learn from the story of these faithful men:

**1)** God helps those who are pious and adhere to their religion, even if by a miracle. These men were not prophets or Imams; rather they were men who had strong faith and were willing to travel far and sacrifice all they had in order to practise their religion. Due to this strong faith and dedication they had to their religion, Allah (SWT) by a miracle helped. Therefore, if we stay true to our religion and stick to our Islamic principles, Allah (SWT) will help us in whatever we do.

**2)** God has power over all things – At the end of the day, the fierce and cruel Roman emperor who was a disbeliever did not have any power over the pious men. Allah (SWT) protected them. We therefore learn from this story that no status in this world can overpower Allah (SWT) – He has power over all things.

**3)** We never know what Allah (SWT) has in plan for us – The young men to left their town to go live elsewhere had no idea that Allah (SWT) will put them into deep sleep. In fact, when they woke they thought they had only been sleeping for a day. Therefore, whenever we plan for something we should always say In Sha'a Allah to acknowledge the fact that Allah (SWT) is the planner of everything and nothing will take place against his will.

## Class Activity: Role Play

Your teacher will split you into two groups. Each group will have roles, and we will act out a play showing what happened to the 'Companions of the Cave.'

## Review Questions

### Q1. al-Kahf means:

- a) The mountain
- b) The cave
- c) The village
- d) The town

### Q2. The men went out to the mountains because:

- a) They could not find jobs in the town
- b) They could not practice their belief in Allah (SWT) in the town
- c) They needed to leave because they were criminals
- d) They left the town to get married



# السَّلَامُ عَلَى نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ ايوب

## PROPHET AYYŪB (JOB <sup>AS</sup>)

### (ع) نبي الله ايوب

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Discuss the story of Prophet Ayyūb (as)
- Discuss the morals from the story of Prophet Ayyūb (as)
- Understand that we all face different tests in life
- Understand that we should not allow Satan to tempt us to do the wrong thing when we are going through difficulties
- Understand that calamities are always surrounded by blessings

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

## Level 2

### Prophet AYYŪB AS(JOB AS)

We have learnt about many Prophets who were sent by Allah ((SWT)) to guide mankind. One such Prophet was Prophet Ayyūb (as), who went through a lot of severe difficulties and pain but remained patient all the time.

Prophet Ayyūb (as) was the grandson of Prophet Abraham (as). He was not only a Prophet but had many other likeable virtues, patience being the foremost! In English, he is known as Job. There is a saying: “as patient as Job.”

#### PROPHET AYYŪB WAS WELL OFF

Prophet Ayyūb (as) was a prosperous man with many flocks of sheep, cultivated lands, wealth and children. But all these did not make him arrogant (proud).



Instead, he was all the time grateful to our Lord. He was generous and entertained the orphans and needy with meals; he treated his relations with kindness and generosity. Thus the Prophet was a humble man, with exalted position but firm faith in Allah (SWT).



Naturally, Satan, or Iblīs, did not like this. He (Satan) asked Allah's permission to test Prophet Ayyūb's (as)

patience. He destroyed all of the Prophet's wealth.... his

large farms, sheep and cattle too. Prophet Ayyūb (as) did not utter a single word of complaint; instead he thanked Allah (SWT) for having given him all the above gifts in the first place.

After some time, all of Prophet's children died. He was much shocked but he held fast to his faith in Allah. He neither sighed nor shed a tear. He prostrated before the Almighty. He said: "All my possessions and children were gifts from Allah. If He has taken these back, it is no use to lament over their loss."

A few years later, Prophet Ayyūb (as) contracted a terrible illness, which left him bed-ridden, and unable to leave the house. The only person who remained with him was his faithful and loyal wife. It is narrated that even then the Prophet (as) praised Allah.

Despite all this, Prophet Ayyūb (as) never complained about Allah (SWT). He did not even ask Allah (SWT) to change anything in his life. He was simply patient and please with what Allah (SWT) had tested him with.

Eventually, though, the disbeliever who lived at his time began to mock him. They would say to him: 'look what God has done to you'. This hurt him very deeply, because it was an attack on his faith. Therefore, he prayed to Allah (SWT) in a very polite and beautiful way, saying:

"O Allah, harm has really touched me, and you are the Most Merciful....." (21:83)

Allah (SWT) accepted his prayer and removed all his sufferings. Gradually his health, family and wealth all returned to him. The Prophet bowed down to Allah in thanks.

## MORALS FROM THE STORY

From this story we find many lessons that we can reflect upon to assess our relationship with Allah. This story especially should make us question if we worship Allah because of His blessings on us or out of our love for Him.

Prophet Ayyūb (as) was one of Allah's very sincere worshippers. He prayed to Allah (SWT) in good and bad times without a complaint! Allah tests us in many ways and we should, therefore, be steadfast in worshipping Him constantly - not thank Allah and praise Him only in happy times and complain and turn away from Him during difficulties.

## WE ALL HAVE OUR OWN TESTS

Read and ponder over this story. Ahmad and his family lived happily until his father's company closed down. His father, Mr. Jawad lost his job and had no income for a long time. He kept having faith in Allah (SWT) and assured the family to remember Allah regularly. He sold his big land and the family moved into a small apartment. Luckily, Ahmad's mother was a teacher, so she went back to teach with good salary while father managed the house and children.

Mr. Jawad also mowed neighbours' lawns and earned extra dollars for the family. He thanked Allah for these new sources of income. At dinner time, the whole family thanked Allah (SWT) for fresh warm food and a shelter over their head. They always gave away in charity for the less fortunate refugees and orphans. Until one day, Mr. Jawad was called for an interview. As he had been an honest worker, he had a good letter of recommendation. So out of many applicants, he was hired for a new job. That evening, the whole family prayed extra special to thank Allah (SWT)



## SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS

Remember when Prophet Ayyūb (as) lost his wealth, children and then health. He stayed patient, worshipped Allah and asked for HIS help.

Remember how Satan tempted Prophet Adam (as) to eat the prohibited fruit? Do you know the result of that? Both of them were asked to leave the beautiful gardens where they lived.

Think of the time when Prophet Abraham (as) left his wife Hājer with her young baby in the desert and without any water! He had said that he was leaving them in the care of Allah (SWT). His wife did not complain to her husband and neither did she break down and shout out at the Lord. She believed in Allah (SWT). The baby kicked the land with his heels and amazingly a fountain of water gushed out.

Till today, this spring of Zamzam has water that is considered holy by all the visitors to Mecca.



When Prophet Abraham (as) was taking his son, Ismā'il to sacrifice him, Satan tempted him about three times to give it up. But Prophet Abraham (as) stayed firm in obeying Allah's command. He threw stones at Satan and drove him away.

When we are in difficulty and going through a rough time, we should never lose hope. We must maintain our strong faith in Allah and keep asking for His Mercy. Otherwise, Iblis, the Satan, will tempt us towards the wrong direction.

People may shake our faith by making unkind remarks about our difficulties. Some may say that Allah has brought this on us to please our enemies. We will be told to give a break to our pleadings to Allah. These are temptations from Satan, and we should make sure never to listen to them.

## CALAMITIES SURROUNDED BY BLESSINGS



Let us listen to the simple story of Batool. Her mother fell sick badly. Her father was overseas on business. So poor Batool had to nurse the mother, help with house chores and also look after the baby brother. This left her with hardly any time for school work. Even then she did quite well in the tests. Sam, the student with the top grade was chosen to present his poem on the Grandparents' Day. Batool, being an excellent student otherwise, felt sad. Yet she prayed to Allah as usual and thanked Him. Her mother was getting better and father too was returning home

soon. She did not complain to anyone about her difficulties. In her heart, she accepted that Allah knows the best. This is how Allah (SWT) wanted it to happen. On the morning of Grandparents' Day, Sam did not turn up in the school. He had left for a vacation Straight away, the teacher called out Batool and asked her to read out her poem. Batool said aloud: "Alḥamdulillah!" With a quiet "Bismillāh" and a prayer in her heart, she presented her work with great eloquence in front of the visitors. Everyone applauded.

## Class Activity

Write under each Prophet's name why we remember him. Pick your answers from the box below:

a. Prophet Ayyūb (as)

.....

b. Prophet Noah AS

.....

c. Prophet Moses (as)

.....

d. Prophet Muḥammad (as)

.....

- saving the virtuous from the flood
- delivering the oppressed from the Pharaoh of Egypt
- establishing and spreading Islam
- for his patience and firm faith in Allah (SWT)

## Review Questions:

### 1. Prophet Ayyūb (as) lost his:

- a. farms and vineyards
- b. buildings and stables
- c. young and old children
- d. wealth, family and health

<sup>i</sup> BIBLIOGRAPHY:





# السَّلَامُ عَلَى لُقْمَانَ

LUQMĀN (AS)

لقمان (ع)

## Objectives >>>

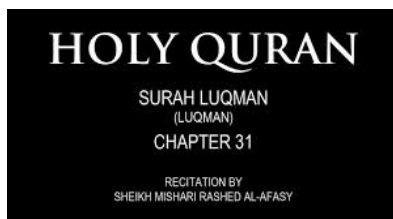
### Students should:

- Be introduced to Luqmān (as) as a wise man introduced to us in the Qur'an
- Discuss some of the advice Luqmān gave to his son

## Lesson 1

In this lesson, we will be learning about a wise man introduced to us in the Holy Qur'an. The name of this man is Luqmān (as). The Qur'an mentions some of the advice Luqmān (as) gives to his son, and we can learn lots of lesson from this advice.

Luqmān (as) observed everything but kept silent. He practised self-restraint – he did no foolish things or talk unnecessarily! Luqmān (as) firmly believed in Allah ((SWT)) and advised all not to associate anyone with Allah. For all his piety and good qualities, Allah ((SWT)) gifted Luqmān (as) with *wisdom*. Allah ((SWT)) has named a chapter of the Qur'an after this wise man.



## FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

Level 2

### GRATEFULNESS TO PARENTS

Luqmān (as) told his son:

“And We have enjoined on man (to be dutiful and good) to his parents” (31:14)

It is our parents who raise us, feed and clothe us, teach us manners and send us to school. We must not forget that as a baby we were weak, and very dependent on our parents for everything. Our mother carried us for nine difficult months. Then she went through so much pain and suffering to give birth to us. Then she spent sleepless nights and tiring days looking after us.

### ESTABLISH ṢALĀT (DAILY PRAYER)

Luqmān (as) advised his son to *establish prayer*. This means praying on time, and taking our prayer seriously.

"O my son! Establish the ṣalāt..." (31:17)

This is great advice because the daily prayer is the direct connection between a Muslim and his Creator, Allah (SWT). If we take it seriously, then it will keep us close to Allah (SWT) and protect us from mistakes.

What are the benefits of offering prayers?

- It strengthens our faith in Allah (SWT).
- It causes our sins to be forgiven.
- After praying, our du'ā will be answered.
- It helps us avoid committing sins



because we are always remembering Allah (SWT).

“Once the Holy prophet Muḥammad (saw) shook a dry branch of a tree and all of the leaves of the leaves fell off.

Then the Holy Prophet (saw) said: "The sins of those who pray, drop off as the leaves of this branch fell off."

## PATIENCE DURING AFFLICTIONS

“...and bear with patience whatever happens to you...”  
(31:17)

Sometimes, things happen in our life that are difficult. We might get sick, or our brother or sister might get sick. Our parents may lose their jobs, or something might happen to our house.

When things like this happen, we should not get angry, misbehave or give our parents a hard time. Instead, we should remember this is a test from Allah (SWT). The best way to pass the test is to stay calm and do the usual daily things we have to do. It is also important to keep thanking Allah (SWT) even in difficult times, because even then we are surrounding by His blessings.

### 1. Luqmān (as) advised his son:

- To establish is prayer- which means to pray on time and take prayer seriously
- To pray, but whenever he felt like it
- To not pray much

### 2. Luqmān (as) advised his son to:

- Be patient when difficult things happened in life
- Complain when difficult things happened in life
- Neither of the above

## LESSON 2

In this lesson, we will discuss more of the advice that Luqmān (as) gave his son.

### DO NOT ACT ARROGANTLY

“Do not turn away your face from men in pride or walk away arrogantly on the earth. Certainly, Allah does not like arrogant boasters.” (31:18)

Here, this wise man advises his son not to act arrogantly or proudly. Here are some examples of these things:

- We do not play with a particular boy because we think we are better than him
- We tell people that they are bad at something (e.g. handball) and that we are better
- We do not let other people talk in conversation and we always do the talking because we think we are smarter or better.
- Showing off our new clothes or shoes or toys by walking or acting in a certain way.

Satan, perhaps the most evil creature, became the way he is because of pride. He thought he was better than Prophet Adam (as) and refused to prostrate to him. Because of his pride and arrogance, he was cursed by Allah (SWT).



### DO NOT RAISE YOUR VOICE

Luqmān (as) advised his son not to raise his voice inappropriately. He advised him that the worse of sounds is the braying of a donkey, and advised him to keep his voice quiet and low so that he would not be acting like a donkey.

It is important for us to remember our manners, and not shout and yell for no reason. It is okay to shout or be loud when we are playing with our friends or brothers and sisters. Sometimes, though, we need to be quiet. When our parents ask us to be quiet, or when we are



in class, we shouldn't make too much noise.

## EVERY DEED MATTERS

Here is a story of a pious man and a shopkeeper.

There lived a pious man all by himself, who spent most of his time in praying, fasting and praising Allah. He was very happy with his spiritual progress. No wicked thoughts came to his mind and no evil temptations entered his heart.

One night, he had a disturbing dream. He saw that a shopkeeper in the town was far superior to him in spirituality.

In the morning, the pious man went in search of the shopkeeper. He found him busy with his customers, selling goods and collecting money with a cheerful face. The pious man sat in a corner of the shop and watched the shopkeeper carefully. "No signs of any spiritual life at all," he said to himself. His dream could not be true. But then he saw the shopkeeper disappear to pray. When he returned, he was again busy dealing with money matters. The shopkeeper noticed the pious man sitting in the corner and asked: "Would you like something, brother?"

"Oh! No! No!" said the pious man. "I don't want to buy anything, but I want to ask you a question." He then related his dream. "Well, that is very simple to explain," said the shopkeeper, "but you will have to do something for me before I answer your question."

"I will do anything for you," replied the pious man.

"All right! Take this saucer; there is some mercury in it. Go to the other end of the street and come back fast within half an hour. If the mercury falls out of the saucer, you will hear nothing from me. There you go now."



The pious man took the saucer and started running. The mercury nearly wobbled out of the saucer. He saved it just

in time, and slowed down. Then he remembered he had to return within half an hour, so he started walking at a fast pace. At long last he returned puffing and panting. "Here is your mercury, safe and sound," he told the shopkeeper. "Now tell me the true interpretation of my dream."

The shopkeeper looked at the pious man's weary condition and asked him: "Well, friend, how many times did you remember Allah while you were going from this end of the street to the other?" "Remember Allah!" exclaimed the pious man. "I did not remember Him at all. I was so worried about the mercury in the saucer."

"But I do remember Him all the time," said the shopkeeper. "When I am doing my business, I am fair, honest and kind to my customers. I never forget Allah (SWT) in my dealings with other people."

<sup>i</sup>We learn from this story that the small deeds of that shop-keeper, like being nice and fair to his customers, mattered so much in the eyes of Allah (SWT). When we are going about our days, we should remember this, and try to do as much good as we can.

## Review Questions

### 3. Luqmān (as) advised his son:

- a. To always speak loudly
- b. To not raise his voice inappropriately
- c. To talk a lot

### 4. Luqmān (as) advised his son to:

- a. Walk arrogantly so everyone would know he is smart
- b. To avoid being proud or arrogant
- c. To speak over people and show his wisdom that way

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## FURTHER PRAYER RULES

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- This lesson will be a revision lesson to reinforce some of the main rules of prayer in an interactive manner.

### Further Prayer Rules

#### PRAYER REVISION

Today we will be revising the rules of prayer, and reminding ourselves of how to pray.

Your teacher will watch each of you praying today, and give you tips on how to make sure you are praying correctly.

After doing this, we can complete the following activities.

#### Activity 1

Match up the following prayers with the correct rakāt number.

Fajr 4

Dhuhr 4

Asr 3

Maghrib 4

Isha 2

#### Activity 2

Match up the following times of day with the name of the prayer



\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer



\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer





\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer

### Activity 3

1. Who are we communicating with when we pray? A \_ \_ \_ \_
2. How many times a day has Allah asked us to pray? F \_ \_ \_
3. What are we facing when we are standing in the direction of the Qiblah? K \_ \_ \_ \_
4. What are we recommended to recite before we begin our prayers? A \_ \_ \_ \_
5. Our clothes must be T \_ \_ \_ \_ when we pray.

### Activity 4

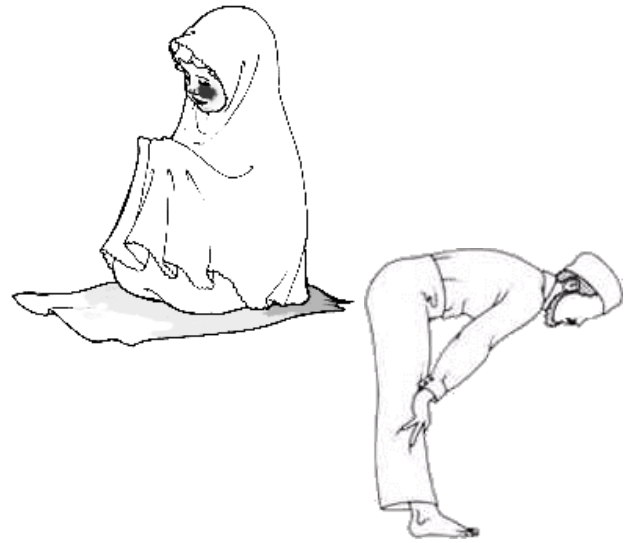
List the names of the five prayers to your teacher and then work on the find-a-word below.



ASR  
DHUHR  
FAJR  
ISHA  
MAGHRIB

### Activity 5

Which picture shows Rukū'? Circle it, then colour it in.



Which picture shows Sujūd? Circle it then colour it in.





# INVALIDATORS OF PRAYER

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

## مبطلات الصلاة

### Invalidators of Prayer

#### Activity: Pop Quiz

1. What do you do when it is time for prayer?
2. What is the special washing before prayer called?
3. What is the call for prayer named in Arabic?
4. How should you behave when the adhan is being recited?
5. What usually follows the adhan?



Who are we going to talk to in our prayer? To Allah (SWT). That is right. We are in clean clothes, we are in Wuḍū' and we have put some perfume on and are ready to offer prayer to Allah (SWT).

Now, there is one more thing. How would you feel if you were relating to your best friend something very special and then someone disturbed you? Or



Imagine, Mum is in the middle of a conversation with Dad, will you interrupt them? Of course not!

## **NOT INTERRUPTING PRAYER!**

It is very important not to interrupt our daily prayer. Will you go to answer a telephone call in the middle of prayer?



Should you run to answer the door bell in the first rak'ah of a prayer?

We should never interrupt prayer unnecessarily.

That is why it is a good idea to pray in a quiet place – a room without a TV or computer or lots of people walking in and out. Can you think of such a quiet place in your house?

## **INVALIDATORS OF PRAYER**

Let's perform a brainstorming activity. What do you think is inappropriate during prayer? ... Let's write everything we can think of on the board. Here is a list of the most important ones.

- Turning away from the Qiblah
- Speaking
- Laughing
- Crying for worldly things
- Eating, drinking, clapping, swinging during prayer, holding hands, nudging, chewing gum

All these things void our prayer and we are not allowed to do them during prayer.

## **Class Activity**

Put a cross on the things that will invalidate your prayer:



## **Review Questions**

**Q1. Which of the following is true?**

- a) It is ok to speak ordinary words during prayer
- b) It is okay to eat during prayer
- c) It is not okay to eat or speak ordinary words during prayer

**Q2. Which of the following is true?**

- a) It is okay to laugh during prayer
- b) It is okay to play with our phones during prayer
- c) It is not okay to laugh or play with our phones during prayer



# CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

## صلاة الجماعة

### Objectives >>>

#### *Students should:*

- Be introduced to the fact that congregational prayers is when we pray together and that there must be an imam to lead the prayer
- Be introduced to the benefits of following their parents in prayer at home and also joining the congregation at the mosque
- Be introduced to the rewards of congregational prayers

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

## Congregational Prayers

### Practical Activity

Students should arrive early to the centre or the mosque for the next four weeks in order to pray together with older students. The prayer should be led by one of the teachers while a few of the other teachers or teacher's aides should help the students understand the objectives in this lesson.

### INTRODUCTION

Ṣalātul Jamā'a or congregational prayer is when we pray as a group. We learnt how to pray in previous lessons and by now all of us should know how to pray alone. However, we are also allowed to pray together as a group. In fact, this has great rewards which we will talk about later.

We can pray our daily Wājib prayers together as a group, but we have to know some of the rules of praying together. In this lesson we will learn some of the rewards and rules of praying together.

### THE LEADER OF THE PRAYER

The first rule is that there must be someone to lead the prayer. This person is called the 'imam' of the group and we have to make sure that while we are praying we do not pray faster than him or slower than him. We have to try to keep just a little bit behind him. Once he goes into rukū', we should go



into rukū' right after him, and so on for Sujūd and all the other actions.

It's also important to remember that we need to stand behind the imam, and that we can't pray in front of him or beside him. If there is only one person praying behind the Imam, then they can stand to their right and a little bit behind them.



## LEARNING TO PRAY TOGETHER

The best way to learn how to pray the jamā'ah prayer is to:

- Join your parents and pray with them, it is a very good habit to pray together at home and you will also learn how to pray
- Join the jamā'ah prayer at the mosque: try to make sure you are at the mosque early so you can join the prayer and pray with everyone

## THE REWARDS OF PRAYING TOGETHER

Allah (SWT) wants Muslims to be very close to each other. He wants us to help each other, take care of each other, visit each other often and have good relationships with each other. To help us do this, Allah (SWT) has encouraged us to pray together, so that at least three times a day we meet at the mosque and see and greet each other. Also, by praying together, we encourage other people to pray and give them a chance to learn how to pray as well.

For these reasons, Allah (SWT) has told us that praying together has amazing rewards that we can hardly imagine. Imam al-Reḍa (as) says:

“One prayer prayed in jamāah (together) has as much rewards as two thousand prayers prayed alone”<sup>i</sup>

Also, the Prophet (saw) says:

"The rows of my followers in the congregational prayer on the earth are like the rows of angels in the sky"<sup>ii</sup>

So if you want to get a lot more rewards for your prayers and you want to reach the level of the angels, then make sure you try to attend the jamā'ah prayer and pray with other Muslims, even if this is only at home with your parents, brothers or sisters.

## Class Activity

Students should be split into groups of four. Each group should act out a scenario where a group of Muslims meet at the mosque and becomes friends through this meeting.

## Review Questions

### Q1. When praying:

- It is best to pray alone
- It is best to pray together
- Neither of the above

### Q2. When praying, we have to:

- Pray faster than the Imam
- Pray slower than the Imam
- Be just a bit behind the Imam in our actions

<sup>i</sup> Bihar-ul-Anwar, vol. 88, p. 4

<sup>ii</sup> Bihar-ul-Anwar, vol. 88, p. 6



## TRAVELLER'S PRAYER

### صلاة المسافر

#### Objectives >>>

##### Students should:

- Learn some of the etiquettes of travel in Islam
- Be introduced to the fact that when we travel under certain conditions, we must shorten our prayer

### Traveller's Prayer

In this lesson, we will learn about some of the things we as Muslims should do when we are travelling.

These recommendations are meant to make our lives easier and simpler when we travel, and to keep us and the people travelling with us comfortable.

#### Class Discussion

What do you think are some of the things we should do when we are travelling?

Your teacher will splint you into four groups, and each group should think of the following:

- 5 things to do before travelling
- 5 things to do while travelling, to help ourselves
- 5 things to do while travelling, to help others
- 5 things to do when coming back from a journey

Now that we have discussed this, let's look at some of the recommendations that our Prophet and Imams have given us.

#### JURISPRUDENCE

#### LEVEL 2

#### THE ETIQUETTE OF TRAVEL

The following have been recommended to us by the Ahlul Bayt (as)<sup>1</sup>:

- Asking Allah (SWT) to protect us and look after us during our journey
- Taking good quality food and provisions with us for our journey
- Sharing our provisions, like our food and water, with whoever is with us
- Avoiding arguments with our fellow travellers
- Being humorous and joking as much as we can without saying or doing ḥarām
- Making sure we have good manners
- Keeping the secrets of people that you travelled with after you part ways with them
- Making sure we travel with good people who will benefit us
- Remembering Allah (SWT) at every stage of our journey

#### SHORTENING THE PRAYER

Sometimes when we travel, we must shorten our prayer. This is a mercy from Allah (SWT). We call the shortened prayer 'qasr prayer'. We will learn some of these conditions of this prayer in future years.

#### WHICH PRAYERS ARE SHORTENED?

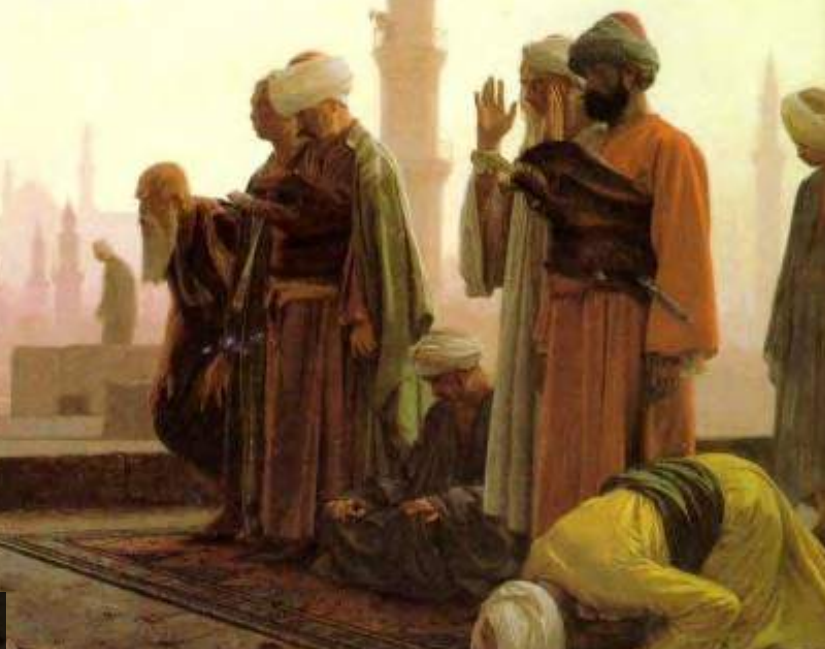
The following prayers are shortened when we travel:

- Ḍuhr prayer is shortened from 4 rak'āt to 2 rak'āt
- 'Aṣr prayer is shortened from 4 rak'āt to 2 rak'āt
- 'Ishā' prayer is shortened from 4 rak'āt to 2 rak'āt

The Fajr and Maghrib prayers remain the same.

<sup>1</sup> Biharul Anwar, Book of the Rules of Cleanliness and Perfume, Chapter 49





## SPECIAL PRAYERS

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

### ‘Īd Prayers

In this lesson, we will learn about ‘Īd and the ‘Īd prayer.

#### ‘ĪD IN ISLAM

‘Īd is the Islamic name for a day of celebration. There are a few days in the year that we celebrate because they are special occasions. The three ‘Īd that we celebrate are:

- ‘Īdul Fiṭr
- ‘Īdul Aḍḥā
- ‘Īdul Ghadīr

‘Īdul Fiṭr is the first day after the month of Ramaḍān. On this day, we celebrate the fact that we have fasted for a month and have come closer to Allah (SWT) through our fasting.

‘Īdul Aḍḥā is a day of celebration for all Muslims, but especially for the Muslims who have gone to Ḥajj that year. The people at Ḥajj have to do certain acts of worship and when they have done them, they celebrate this on the day of ‘Īd. Again, it is a day to celebrate coming closer to Allah (SWT) by obeying Him.



#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be introduced to the ‘Īds of Islam
- Discuss the etiquette of ‘Īd
- Discuss the importance of ‘Īd prayer in congregation
- Explain that these prayers are done differently to the daily prayers

‘Īdul Ghadīr is the day when the Prophet (saw) announced to all of the Muslims that Imam ‘Ali (as) would be the leader of the Muslims after him. We celebrate this day because on this day Allah (SWT) gave us the biggest blessing, which was the blessing of being the followers of Imam ‘Ali (as).



## PREPARING FOR ‘ĪD

It is good to wear nice, new clean clothes for ‘Īd and to make our families and friends happy. It is also nice to wear perfume on the day of ‘Īd and make ourselves neat and tidy and look our best.

Just always remember that it is not good to waste, we have to try to always keep in mind the poor people during this time and make sure we also put some money or gifts aside for the poor and needy who cannot afford nice clothes or gifts in this time.

### **Class Activity- ‘Īd Cards**

Your teacher will give you drawing pencils, crayons and paper. Your job is to make an ‘Īd card for your mum and dad. Try to make it as beautiful as you can, and save them for ‘Īd day when you can give them to your parents to make them happy.



## **WHAT DO WE DO ON THE DAYS OF ‘ĪD?**

So what do we do to celebrate the days of ‘Īd?

Who can tell me what they do with their families on ‘Īd?

- Wake up early

- Have a shower for the day of ‘Īd
- Go to the ‘Īd prayer
- Visit family and friends
- Go out for a picnic or a barbeque and have fun

The day of ‘Īd is supposed to be a day where Muslims come closer to each other by meeting at the mosque and visiting each other. Remember though that the day of ‘Īd is not an excuse to do anything ḥarām. We can have fun without doing things that are ḥarām, and so we should be careful that even though we want to have fun during ‘Īd we should not commit any sins.

## **THE ‘ĪD PRAYER**



This is a special prayer that we pray on the days of Īdul Fiṭr and ‘Īdul Aḍḥā. It is done differently to the usual daily prayers we have learnt about, and you will learn how to pray this prayer when you get a little older.

It is really important to come to the mosque to pray this prayer with your Muslim friends. It is a great chance to see everyone on the day of ‘Īd, congratulate them, give them gifts and spend time with them. So the next time ‘Īd comes, make sure you are up bright and early, perform your Ghusl or shower for ‘Īd and come to the Eid prayer with a smile.



## SALĀTUL AYĀT

This is another special type of prayer.

*Ṣalātul ayāt* is a prayers which is obligatory to perform under following four situations:



- Solar eclipse
- Lunar eclipse
- Earthquake
- Heavy thunder or lightning, cyclone, or similar natural incidents if they cause fear

We will learn more about the rules of this prayer in future years.

### Review Questions

**Q1. On ‘Īd day, we are supposed to:**

- Not do anything ḥarām
- Visit family and friends and have fun
- Both of the above

**Q2. Which of the following is true?**

- There is a special prayer for the day of ‘Īd
- There is no special prayer for the day of ‘Īd
- We do not pray on ‘Īd day



# FASTING

## الصوم

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

### Fasting

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand the Importance of fasting as one of the major obligations in Islam
- Understand what it means to fast and benefits associated with including:
  - Social Benefits
  - Physical benefits
  - Spiritual benefits
- Be introduced to the following invalidators of fasting:
  - Eating
  - Drinking
  - Immersing the head in water
- Understand that whilst some actions do not break the fast, they should be avoided.
- Be informed of the rules of brushing the teeth while fasting.
- The fact that we start fasting and stop fasting based on sighting the moon
- The fact that if one cannot fast for any reason or break their fast they must make it up later
- The fact that sometimes it is forbidden to fast, like on the day of 'Īd
- The importance of not overeating and watching what you eat

Allah (SWT) has given us so many gifts in this world. We are lucky to have a family, spacious land and blue sky, clean water and fresh air all around us. To say thank you to Allah (SWT) we need to obey His commands. We are Muslims and we should show our obedience to God by praying and fasting.



### WHAT IS FASTING?

Fasting, or ṣawm, as it is called in Arabic language is to keep away completely from eating, drinking and some other things, from dawn till after sunset. We stop eating before dawn (before fajr prayer) till Maghreb time (a little after the sun has gone down).

When do we fast? Muslims fast in the Islamic month of Ramaḍan, which is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar.



## REMEMBERING THE POOR

When we are fasting and hungry, we remember the poor and those people who do not have enough to eat. Fasting makes us appreciate all that Allah (SWT) has given us. So how do we please Allah (SWT) even more? Always remember that there are poor children especially overseas who have nothing to break their fast with. A small amount of our pocket money could help those children. See how much we can help them during this month.



## HEALTHIER LIFE

Islam wants us to be healthy and strong. Fasting helps us to be healthy. Our meal times become regular as we have to eat our *suḥūr* and *ifṭār* at set times. We do not snack or eat in between and by *ifṭār* time we are really hungry and ready to have *ifṭār*.

## BASIC REWARDS OF FASTING

When we are fasting, we earn rewards throughout the day. Even if when we go to rest and sleep, each breath is counted as a reward for us because we are fasting for the sake of God. Other good actions like prayers, paying charity and being good to our parents earn us extra rewards when done during the month of Ramadan.

## SPECIAL DOORS OF PARADISE

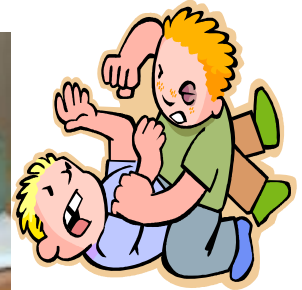
On the first night of the month of Ramaḍān, the doors of paradise are opened and they are left open till the end of the month. Therefore, ask Allah (SWT) not to close them for us. Moreover, Satan is chained and put behind bars. So, ask Allah (SWT) not to let him have power over us. The doors of hell are closed, so beg Allah (SWT) to keep them closed for us.

## SPECIAL ANGELS PRAY FOR US

When we fast, special angels pray for us during the month of Ramaḍān. They pray for our forgiveness and well-being.

## Class Activity

Put a cross against the thing we shouldn't do during the month of Ramaḍān. Put a tick against the things we should be doing more of during the month of Ramaḍān.



## Review Questions

**Q1. Muslims must fast in the month of:**

- Rajab
- Muḥarram
- Ramaḍān

**Q2. We fast from:**

- Afternoon to night
- Morning to afternoon
- Dawn to just after sunset



## Fasting II

Fasting is one of the most important duties in Islam. All the Prophets sent by Allah before Prophet Muḥammad (s) commanded their followers to fast and also taught them how to fast. Allah has given us so many blessings that we are not able to count them all; like praying and paying charity, fasting is a way in which we can show Allah (SWT) that we are thankful for everything He has given us.

In the previous lesson we spoke about how fasting makes us better Muslims and the many benefits we gain from fasting. In this lesson however, we will learn about some of the actions we should avoid while we are fasting.

### INVALIDATORS OF FASTING

There are a number of actions that God has forbidden us to do when we are fasting. If we do any of these things, we invalidate or spoil our fast and it won't be accepted. Therefore, from the time immediately before the time for Morning Prayer (ṣuḥur) till after sunset (iftār) in the Holy month of Ramadan, we must not do the following three things:

1. Eating
2. Drinking
3. Putting our entire head in water e.g. diving into a pool (this is called immersing the head)

However, if we do any of these things accidentally because we may have forgotten, our fast will still be okay.

### 3. Putting the head in water

#### 1. Eating

#### 2. Drinking

### ACTIONS THAT SHOULD BE AVOIDED

Besides the above things that we can't do while fasting, there are lots of things we should try our very best to avoid so that our fast will be accepted. These things do not spoil our fasting completely, but they make our reward for fasting much less.



One of the main body parts that we should pay attention to most is our tongue. We should always think before we speak. When we do speak, we should remember:

- Be kind and not hurt anyone's feelings
- Not to lie
- Not to backbite
- Not to swear

If we have nothing good to say, we should remember what Prophet Muḥammad (saw) says:

“If man is not able to say something useful, he should keep silent from bad words and his silence will keep him far from Allah's punishment and from the harm which might happen to him as a result of saying bad words.”

### Class Activity

Put a red cross on the actions that break our fast and a line across things that are better not to do. Put a tick against the next that we should do more of.



## BRUSHING THE TEETH WHILE FASTING

Allah (SWT) wants every Muslim to be clean, have a tidy appearance and smell nice. It is very recommended that we keep our mouth clean and smelling fresh during the Holy month of Ramadan and during any day we are fasting by brushing our teeth or using the miswāk.



Because we are not allowed to drink water or swallow any material while we are fasting, we must take extra care that we do not swallow any toothpaste or water while we are brushing or gargling.

## Review Questions

**Q1. If a person forgets that they are fasting during the month of Ramaḍān and drinks a little bit of water:**

- Their fast is spoilt and not accepted
- Their fast is still okay
- Their fast is half-accepted

**Q2. During the month of Ramaḍān:**

- We should not brush our teeth during the day
- We can brush our teeth but make sure we don't swallow anything
- We should only brush at night

## Fasting III

## Pop Quiz

- What "R" is the month of fasting?
- What "S" is the last meal before fajr?
- What "I" is the special meal to break the fast?
- What Holy book do we recite a lot during Ramadan?
- Would your fast be valid if you drank water by mistake?
- Āminah took a long nap after noon. Is her fast alright?
- Ali watched the news on TV before ifṭār. Is his fast valid?
- Hamid took a shower after school. Is his fast valid?
- Satan is chained during Ramaḍān. True or False

## SIGHTING OF THE MOON

The Islamic calendar is a lunar calendar. That means all Islamic months begin with the sighting of the new moon. When we know that the next day might be the first of the month of Ramaḍān, we should go outside and look at the sky, to see if we can see the new moon of the month of Ramadan. Also, at the end of the month, when we know the next day might be 'Īd day, we should go out and try to look for the new moon of the month of Shawwal.

## WHAT IF ONE IS NOT ABLE TO FAST DURING RAMADAN?

Allah is very kind and He does not desire hardship for any one. Therefore if someone is sick or travelling, then he is not allowed to fast during that day or those days. But remember, after the month of Ramadan, the sick or the traveller has to make up for the day or days he or she could not fast. This is called Qaḍā' fasting.

Men and women who are elderly and weak do not have to fast at all. They are exempted from fasting. They do not have to do Qaḍā' fasts either.

Similarly, a mother who is going to have a baby soon does not need to fast if fasting is harmful to her or her baby. However, she must fast Qaḍā' when she is able to later.

After fasting for 29 days or 30 days, we see the new moon for Shawwal. So the next day is 'Īdul Fitr. It is a day of prayers, thanksgiving and celebrations! We do not fast on this day. We are **not allowed** to fast on 'Īd day.



## WATCH WHAT YOU EAT!

When we are fasting, we have two main meals; suḥūr and ifṭār. Which one do we look forward to more? Of course the iftar! But we must take care what we eat or how much we eat at ifṭār. Let us look at the following class conversation to see why we shouldn't eat too much at ifṭār:

"What does that mean?" asked Zahra'.

“Break your fast with a date or salt. Then eat some chicken or meat and some vegies too. Taste a little of everything that is on table spread,” answered the teacher.

“What about puddings and ice-creams? I love sweets!” called out Fatima.

“Well, have the sweets too; but in small quantities.”

“Why should we not over eat or feed on sweets only? Can anyone tell me?” asked the teacher.

“I think it is not good for our hungry stomach to have so much food all at once.” said ‘Ali

“That is right, ‘Ali. Also we need to eat simple food. We do not want to upset our stomachs, do we? And remember to drink a lot of liquids” advised the teacher.

## Class Activity

**Phases of the Moon Project** –full month’s class activity. This activity is designed to get children involved and discover the phases of the moon

- Title: print out - **Phases of the Moon**
- Create a yellow full Moon. Also create a laminated background of blue (dark blue or black)
- Cut the moon into crescent slices (from left and then from right); 7 to 8 in all
- The last shape will look more like an oval, with 2 pointed ends.
- Laminate these 7-8 pieces.
- Start with the new moon; put the first silver crescent on the backdrop. (1<sup>st</sup> Ramaḍān)
- Add a slice every two days over the period of 2 weeks. (Use up all slices)
- Wow! The full moon by 15<sup>th</sup> Ramaḍān! This is the birthday of Imam Ḥasan.

- Start removing a slice over the next two weeks: children will notice the moon growing smaller
- Until, there is no moon to be seen. It is time for the new moon and Id?

## Class Activity: Ramadan Find-a Word

A	A	I	D	S	U	S
M	L	W	A	Q	I	S
O	I	M	T	U	J	U
O	A	W	E	R	E	H
N	H	A	S	A	N	O
F	K	S	P	N	B	O
S	I	F	T	A	A	R

Highlight the following words in the above Find-a-Word (use 8 different as colours)

Iftaar	Ali
Suhoor	dates
Quran	Moon
Hasan	Sawm

## Review Questions

**Q1. If a person is ill during the month of Ramaḍān and fasting would hurt them:**

- a. They must still fast
- b. They should not fast
- c. Neither of the above

**Q2. When the time for ifṭār comes:**

- a. We should eat as much as possible as quick as possible
- b. We should eat slowly and not over-fill our stomachs
- c. We should only drink water





# RULES OF FOOD AND DRINK

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

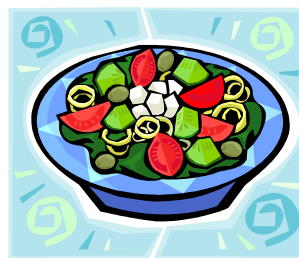
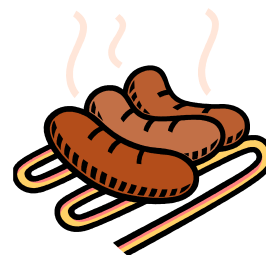
## Rules of Food and Drink

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- That Allah has blessed us with beautiful foods to enjoy, but at the same time He has asked us keep to some limits
- The importance of beginning with Bismillāh, and ending with Alḥamdulillāh
- The kinds of food we are allowed to eat, and the ones we should keep away from
- The difference between ḥarām and ḥalāl foods

Look at all the beautiful fruits, vegetables, water and the amazing sources of food that Allah (SWT) has blessed us with. Bananas, apples, mangoes, carrots, tomatoes, and all the yummy foods that mum cooks, where has it all come from? Surely, it is only Allah (SWT) who can create such beautiful blessings.



As much as we enjoy these bounties from Allah (SWT), there are some limits He has enforced. For example, He has told us to stay away from certain types of food like pork, ham, etc...because they may be harmful to us. He has also asked us to keep away from alcohol, because drinking that is also harmful to us and those around us. We must also eat only ḥalāl foods, and keep away from the ḥarām.



## ETIQUETTE OF EATING

It is very important that before we start eating, we do certain things:

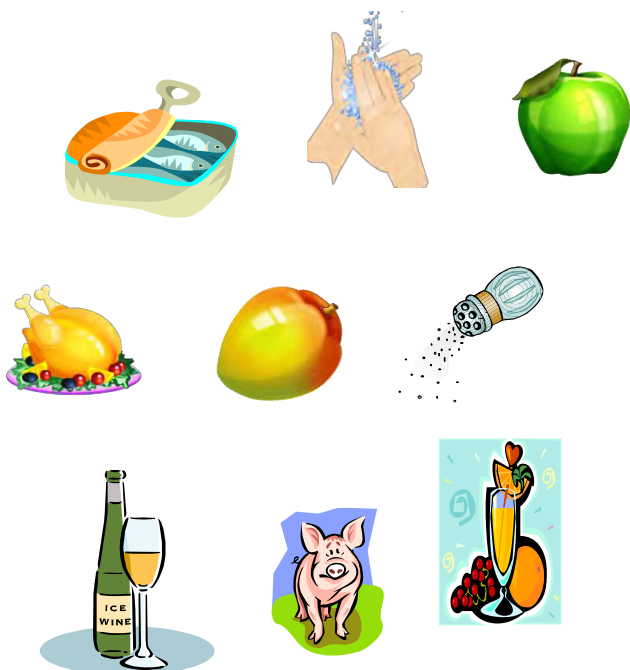
- Washing both hands
- Saying alḥamdulilāh before eating
- When we finish eating, to say Alḥamdulillāh

Bismillāhi Raḥmānil Raḥīm means: “I begin in the name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful”. We should start in the name of Allah, because He is the one who has provided and continues providing us with all the wonderful foods that we eat. Therefore every time we start eating we must say Bismillāh, to keep reminding ourselves that however much we may have worked to get this food on the table, its One and Only Provider is Allah (SWT).

Once we have finished eating, we should say Alḥamdulilāh, which means “Praise be to Allah”. We must thank Allah every time we finish any meal, for we know that it is because of Him that we have so much to eat and drink. We must always tell Allah we are thankful and grateful for all that He has blessed us with, and one of the important times to do this is after eating.

### Classwork

From the list below, cross out those things that we are not allowed to eat.



## Review Questions

### Q1. Before eating we should say:

- a. Alḥamdulillāh
- b. Bismillāh

### Q2. We say Bismillāh to:

- a. Remind ourselves that the blessings of food and drink is from Allah
- b. Show our gratefulness to Allah
- c. Both of the above

## Ḥalāl & Ḥarām Foods

Let us look at three different scenarios:

1. Imagine our life without food and water? What would happen to us?
2. Imagine if we were allowed to eat everything and anything that we see, for example fruits, any type of meat, sand, poisonous stuff, etc... what do you think would happen to us?
3. Imagine that we are allowed to eat most of the things around us, but are not allowed to eat a few things which are harmful to us?

Looking at the three examples above, let us take each one, and see how they affect us.

**The first one** –there is no food or water. Of course we would not be able to live very long, because our bodies would become weak, and eventually we would die.

**The Second one** – Having the freedom to eat anything and everything we see around us. Let us take soil for example. Soil is used mainly for plants to grow. It is not designed for humans to eat, and therefore eating it will cause harm to us. Things like pork, alcohol and the meat of other ḥarām animals are also harmful to us.

**The Third one** –we can eat everything except what Allah has asked us to stay away from. This is by far the best option, because Allah knows what is good for us, and what is not, and therefore abiding by His rules will keep us healthy and we will safeguard our religion.

## **HARAM AND HALAL**

What do these terms mean?

**Ḥarām** means something that Allah has told us not to do because it is harmful for us either in this world or in the Hereafter. Examples of those things that are ḥarām for us to eat are:

- Pork, ham or bacon (anything that comes from pigs)
- Drinking alcohol
- Non-ḥalāl meat and chicken

**Ḥalāl** means something that Allah has allowed us to freely do, because it will be good for us. Examples of those things that are Ḥalāl are:

- Beef, lamb and chicken which are killed according to the laws of Islam
- Most kinds of fish
- All kinds of fruit, vegetables, etc...

Now, what is the difference between Ḥalāl meat and non Ḥalāl meat? In Islam, Allah has showed us a way of how to slaughter an animal - a goat for example- in such a way that it causes less pain to it. It also needs to be done facing Qiblah, and the name of Allah has to be mentioned. If these things are carried out, then the meat of this goat becomes Ḥalāl, and we are allowed to eat it.

Before we buy anything from the school canteen or the shops, we must make sure that it is ḥalāl. We should always check with our parents and Muslim teachers if we are not sure of something.

### **Class Activity**

Your teacher will bring in some products that are common in canteens and super-markets and discuss which are ḥalāl and ḥarām.

## **Review Questions**

**Q1. Pork, ham and bacon are:**

- a. Ḥalāl
- b. Ḥarām

**Q2. Drinking alcohol:**

- a. Is not allowed at all in Islam
- b. Is okay to do

### **Class Activity**

Draw 5 things which are ḥalāl eat!

Draw 3 things which are ḥarām to eat!



# HIJAB

## الحجاب

### JURISPRUDENCE

### LEVEL 2

## MAḤRAM AND NON-MAḤRAM

In Islam, people are divided into two categories:

- Maḥram
- Non-maḥram

### MAḤRAM

If two people of the opposite gender are maḥram to one another, it means they do not need to observe Ḥijāb in front of one another, and they are like brother and sister in that they can touch, hug etc...



PEOPLE WHO ARE MAḤRAM FOR MEN	PEOPLE WHO ARE MAḤRAM FOR WOMEN
All men	All women
Mother	Father
Daughters	Sons
Wife	Husband
Aunts	Uncles
Nieces	Nephews
Step-daughters	Step-sons
Grandmothers, great-grandmothers etc...	Grandfathers, great-grandfathers etc...
Grand-daughters, great grand-daughters etc....	Grandsons, great grand-sons etc...
Wife's mother	Husband's father

## Rules of Ḥijāb

In previous lessons, we learnt about the concept of hijab and its importance in the individual's life as well as in the society we live in.

In this lesson we will look at what kind of clothes both men and women must wear and those that are recommended to wear, in order to protect each other's respect and dignity. This is because men and women often mix at work, at school or in society in general, and observing Hijab leads to less temptation and corruption.

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Know the categories of Maḥram and Non-Maḥram and the levels in the Maḥram category
- Know the wājib and mustaḥab dress for men
- Know the wājib and mustaḥab dress for women
- Know that lustful looks are Ḥarām for both men and women
- Limits of Interaction between Male & Female
- Limits of Online Interaction
- Things not allowed between Male & Female e.g Shaking Hands, Joking etc



## NON-MAḤRAM

If a person does not fall into any of the above categories, they are maḥram and it means that Ḥijāb must be observed with that person. This means that a man cannot touch or be in a private place with a woman if she is not in the above categories. Similarly, a woman must wear Ḥijāb in front of any man who is not in one of the above categories. You may have noticed that cousins are not one of the categories, meaning that once we reach the age of puberty, we must observe the rules of Ḥijāb with our cousins of the opposite gender.

We must also remember that although the above people are maḥram, one is not permitted to expose their private parts to them. We must also try to dress decently at all times even in front of our maḥram.

## DRESS FOR MEN

In Islam, men and women must dress and act in a certain way. In the Qurʾān, Allah (SWT) says with regard to men:

### Memorisation Activity

قُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَعْضُوا مِنْ أْبْصَارِهِمْ وَيَحْفَظُوا فُرُوجَهُمْ ذَلِكَ  
أَرَكِي لَهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ حَبِيرٌ بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ

“And say to the believing men that they should lower their gaze and guard their private parts: that will make for greater purity for them: And Allah is well acquainted with all that they do” (24:30)

- » The general rule here is that it is wājib for men to cover their private parts from everyone except in emergency situations. This applies to both maḥram and non-maḥram people except one’s lawful wife.
- » It is mustaḥab for men to cover the chest, the thighs and other parts that men usually cover from non-maḥram women who are in their presence. As for covering the other parts such as the head, face, and hands, it is not necessary.
- » Men should also not wear tight fitting clothes that will possibly cause the members of the opposite gender to look at them with lust.

## DRESS FOR WOMEN

### Memorisation Activity

وَقُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَعْضُضْنَ مِنْ أْبْصَارِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ  
وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَلْيَضْرِبْنَ بِخُمُرِهِنَّ  
عَلَى جُيُوبِهِنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ

“And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their private parts; that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what (must ordinarily) appear thereof; that they should draw their veils over their bosoms and not display their beauty...” (24:30)

- » The general rule is that it is wājib the entire body of a woman, with the exception of the face and hands up to the wrist, is covered from non-maḥram men. The clothes used must cover the shape and contours of the body as well. It is not enough to only cover the skin.
- » It is mustaḥab for women to wear clothing that will not attract the opposite gender...For example, wearing bright and attractive colours which will attract the opposite gender should be avoided.

In general, we should remember that both men and women should not wear clothing with the intention of tempting others or getting attention from the opposite gender.

## RULES OF LOOKING

In Islam, it is forbidden to look at the opposite gender with a lustful intention. This applies to both men and women, but especially to men.

The Holy Qurʾān specifically covers this issue for both men and women. The āyāt are referred to in the above section. Please ensure that you memorize them.

It is narrated from Imam Jaʿfar al-Ṣādiq (as):

“An evil glance is one of the poisonous arrows of Satan. Many of such glances becomes a cause of prolonged jealousy.”

It is also narrated that:

“Those who look at a non-maḥram woman with an evil intention and fill their eyes with this sight (that is they look for a long time) Allah will, on the day of Qiyāmah fill (pierce) their eyes with burning rods. They will continue in this way till Allah completes the hearing of the cases of all the people. Only after that will He order them to be thrown into Hell.”

This rule applies to women also. The Prophet (saw) said:

“The wrath of Allah is very severe upon the married woman who apart from her husband sees another non-maḥram man with a prolonged glance. When this woman does this, Allah the mighty invalidates all her good deeds and does not give her any rewards.”

It is important to remember that looking at a person of the opposite gender without any lustful intention is not ḥaram. However, a look with a lustful intention is a sin and can lead to many harmful effects to a person.

Therefore, when we are in an environment where there are members of the opposite gender, we should be careful about our looks and make sure that we are not 'looking with a bad intention.

## Discussion Scenario

1. Sabira, fully covered but wearing tight jeans and a tight shirt with a scarf and sandals, goes to her friend's birthday party where her family has invited her cousins, both male and female. Does she meet the requirements of the wājib Ḥijāb dress for women? What should Sabira be doing?

## Review Questions

**Q1. Which of the following is not maḥram to a woman?**

- a. Her male Cousin
- b. Her uncle
- c. Her great grandfather

**Q2. As part of Hijab, a woman must cover everything except:**

- a. Her feet up to the shins, her hands up to the wrists, and her face
- b. Her feet up the ankles, her hands up to the wrists, and her face
- c. Her hands up to the wrists, and her face

## Lesson 2: Social Ḥijāb

Ḥijāb is not merely covering our bod. Perhaps more importantly, Ḥijāb also includes the way we act, speak and interact with the opposite gender.

The covering of the head and body is the easiest part of all, Ḥijāb has a lot more to do with modesty and the way we present ourselves.

Ḥijāb is the way we talk, the way we walk; it is a way of life. It is in the inner morality that gives meaning to the external scarf.

## INTERACTION BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

Social interaction is an important aspect of our lives as we all need to communicate to get things done. Examples vary from workplace, to community centres, to schools etc... However, when it comes to interaction between men and women, Islam has specific rules. These rules are there to stop corruption and sins happening in our community and society.

### MEN SPEAKING TO WOMEN

Men can talk to women provided two conditions are met:

1. There is no lustful intention
2. Speaking does not lead to either of them committing a sin.

For example, a teacher at school may share his ideas with another female teacher. If he speaks appropriately and sticks to what is necessary, then there is nothing wrong with this.

### WOMEN SPEAKING TO MEN

Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an:

“Then be not soft in speech, lest he in whose heart is a disease should be moved with desire, but speak in an honourable manner” (33:32)

Women can talk to men if three conditions are met:

1. She has no lustful intention
2. The lady does not make her voice soft and attractive
3. There is no fear of falling into sin

For example: a female student may give a talk at school about a particular topic. As long as she speaks appropriately and speaks in her normal voice, there is nothing wrong with this.

In general, when it is necessary for men and women to interact, they should stick to what is necessary. They should avoid joking, entering into inappropriate conversation or becoming over familiar with one another. This also applies to young people. Once we reach the age of puberty, these rules apply to us as well.

In fact, whenever it is possible, we should avoid being around the opposite gender too much. The following story shows how careful the Ahlul Bayt (as) were about this issue.

Once a blind man asked for permission to enter Lady Fāṭimah's house but she kept a veil between them. The Messenger of Allah (saw) noticed her actions and asked: "Why did you keep a veil between you and him when he cannot see you?"

She (as) answered: "O Messenger of Allah, it is true that he cannot see me, but I can see him and he can smell my fragrance."

## ATTRACTING ATTENTION

It is ḥarām for a woman to show off in such a way that it will attract a strange man's attention. Therefore, to walk in a certain way, to 'flirt' or to speak in a certain way that attracts attention, is not allowed.

Similarly, it is not permissible for a boy to act in a way that draws attention to himself from the opposite gender.

## MIXED GATHERINGS

Islam discourages mixed gatherings. When families or friends gather, the best way is for the males to gather in one place or room, and for the females to gather in another place or room.

It is also important to remember the following points:

- A cousin of the opposite gender is not maḥram to us. For example, a 10 year old girl needs to wear Ḥijāb in front of her 15 year old boy cousin, and she must observe the social rules of Ḥijāb with him

- A brother-in-law or sister-in-law is not maḥram to us. This means a woman must wear Ḥijāb in front her husband's brother, and she must observe the rules of social Ḥijāb with him

## RULES OF TOUCHING

Men and women who are non maḥram are not allowed to have any physical contact at all. Therefore, shaking hands or giving a 'hi-5' to someone of the opposite gender is not allowed. Playing sport with the opposite gender, if it involves physical contact, is also not allowed.

## ONLINE INTERACTION

The same rules that apply to face-to-face interaction also apply to online interaction. So when we use Facebook, Twitter, email or chat rooms, we have to follow the same rules of social Ḥijāb that we discussed earlier. We have to make sure:

- To stick to what is necessary
- To avoid joking or being inappropriate in any way
- To avoid 'flirting'

Finally, it is very important to remember that there is no such thing as a 'friendship' between people of the opposite gender. Although we may think or claim we have innocent intentions and that we 'only want to be friends', these interactions often lead to sins and problems. Therefore, it is best to avoid them from the beginning. Whether it is face-to-face or online, we should limit our friends to people of the same gender, and not put ourselves in the way of temptation.

## Review Questions:

**Q1. In what way should a lady speak to a man when required?**

- a. In a rude manner
- b. With clear voice and to the point
- c. With jokes and fun

**Q2. With what intention should you use social media?**

- a. Due to boredom
- b. Because everyone is doing it
- c. For the intention of seeking nearness to Allah (SWT)



## MUSIC AND DANCING

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Know the brief reasons why music is Ḥarām
- Understand the things that make music Ḥarām
- Know the rules of dancing for men and women in brief



### Music and Dancing

Some music is allowed and it is okay for us to listen to it. Some children's songs (like the Wiggles or nursery rhymes) are okay to listen to. Doing 'dances' like the 'hokey pokey' is also okay, because this is not really dancing.

However, there is some music and dancing which is ḥarām.

#### WHY IS SOME MUSIC ḤARĀM?

When something is ḥarām, it means that we are not allowed to do it. For example, we are Muslims that are not allowed to listen to music & Allah (SWT) will not be pleased with us if we do things that are ḥarām.

Allah (SWT) will only make something ḥarām for us because it is not good for us. Listening to some types of music has a bad effect on us. Just like old rotten food is bad for our bodies, listening to ḥarām music is bad for our hearts and souls. It distracts us, does not let us think straight and can cause us to do certain bad things.

Our fifth Imam, Imam Muḥammad al-Bāqir (as) has said:

“Music is among the things for which Allah (SWT) has promised the fire (of Hell)”

This means that if we listen to music, which is not allowed (ḥarām) then we will displease Allah (SWT) and will be punished by going to the hellfire.

Sometimes when you are at school you may see your friends listening to music, singing songs and dancing; however you should not copy them if these are ḥarām songs and dancing. Always remember that if we do copy them then Allah (SWT) will not be happy with us. At other times, we may be watching TV when some music comes on. What should we do when this happens? We should immediately mute the TV as it is ḥarām to listen to it. We wouldn't want to displease Allah (SWT) by listening to it!

### DANCING

Remember that doing some movements like the 'hokey pokey' is not really dancing and is okay. But other types of dancing that is sometimes shown on TV being done by adults is ḥarām. This is because it is not respectful to our bodies. It may also lead us to commit sin.





# CHARITY

## الصدقة

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand that giving wealth as charity is highly encouraged in Islam
- Know that some types of charity are obligatory, these are called khums and zakāt
- Know that some types of charity are recommended, these are called ṣadaqah
- Understand that the wealth we have really belongs to Allah (SWT)
- Discuss the plight of poor and needy people around the world, and how their lives are different to ours
- Explore how they can help needy people

## JURISPRUDENCE

## LEVEL 2

### Charity in Islam

This world is full of people who are different in many ways. One of the ways in which we are all different is the amount of money that we do or do not have. People who do not have much money are referred to as poor. The important thing to understand is that the money and things that Allah (SWT) has given to us really belong to Him, and so if we use them in the right way, we would be able to help people who are poor improve their lives.

### TO ALLAH BELONGS EVERYTHING

We have learnt previously that Allah (SWT) created everything and that we all belong to Him. This is the same for our money and things. When Allah (SWT) gives us money through our work it does not mean that it is only for ourselves. Allah (SWT) sometimes gives us more than we need so that we may help others that do not have enough for their food, home, clothes etc...

There are different ways and reasons that we should give our money and things to the poor, these are:

- Khums
- Zakāt
- Ṣadaqah

### KHUMS AND ZAKĀT

In Islam Allah (SWT) has ordered us to share with people the things that we do not need. He has not forced us to give away our food and money. However if we have extra then we should give a part of what is extra to people who need them more than we do.

One of the rules that Allah (SWT) set is called Khums. Khums applies when we have earned more money than we needed for the year. This means that if our mum and dad have worked all year and bought food, clothes and paid for the bills of the house and they still have money left over, they need to remove a small part of that money and give it to the poorer people.

This helps us to make sure that we do not buy things that we do not need. For example, buying three pairs of black shoes instead of one, or too many toys that we never play with. It also means that people who are more needy of that money receive it, and can use for more important things like food, medicine and clothing.

If we kept all our money even though we did not need it we would become greedy and never help people.

Another form of giving money to the poor is called Zakāt. We will learn about this in later years.

### Activity:

Circle the picture that shows what someone may look like if they give Khums.



## SADAQAH

There are other ways that we can also give money to the poor. While these are not obligatory, they are very recommended. This means we do not *have* to do it but if we do Allah (SWT) will be very happy with us and reward us. Anytime that we feel someone may need some help, we can give them money, clothes, toys or food. Allah (SWT) loves people who help other people, even if it is with something very small. Therefore, we should never send someone away if they need our help. This type of charity is called ṣadaqah.



## WE DON'T ALL GO TO SCHOOL

Sometimes we wake up in the morning and we don't like what our mum has made for breakfast, then we complain about going to school and at lunch time, don't eat our lunch because we don't like what's on our sandwich. However one very important thing that we are forgetting is that not everyone is living the way we are.

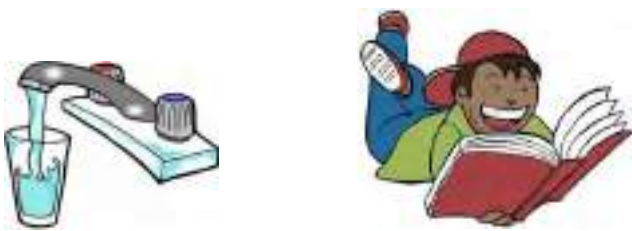
Imagine that you wake up in the morning and you do not need to go to school. This may sound exciting at first, but what if your parents then told you that you needed to go and work. You needed to carry heavy loads to far away places, you were treated very badly and you were never given a break. No lunch time or rest time.

This might sound like a story but there are many people in the world who live like this. They just need to work everyday for long hours to make a little bit of money to take care of their family. They don't know how to read or write because they never had the chance to go to school.

At lunch and dinner time, they have not much to eat so sometimes they eat a little and other times they don't eat at all. They don't have taps to drink from, rather they need to walk long distances to reach the nearest river and bring back the water. It is very important for us to remember people who are poor. Not only so that we can help them but also so that we do not forget how much Allah (SWT) has blessed us with.

## Class Activity

Which of the pictures below are things we should thank Allah (SWT) for? Circle them!



## GIVING AWAY FOR ALLAH (SWT)

The Holy Prophet Muḥammad (s) and his Ahlul Bayt (as) also gave us great examples of how to give to the poor. One day Imam Ḥasan (as) and Imam Ḥusayn (as) were very sick. Sayyedah Fāṭimah (as), their mother, could not bear to see her two young sons ill. She made a promise with Allah (SWT) that if her children got better, she would fast three days. As well as her, the whole family fasted.

On the first day when they were about to break their fast, there was a knock on the door. It was a poor man who was hungry and asking for some food. All the family gave up their bread to the man and broke their fast with only water.

On the next day, an orphan knocked at the door and was also hungry. Again the entire family gave up all of their food and only drank water.

On the third day there was another knock on the door and this time it was a prisoner who was hungry. The family gave away their food once again and said we are feeding you for Allah's (SWT) sake; we don't want anything from you in return.

Because of such a great deed Allah (SWT) spoke about them in the Holy Qur'an and used them as an example for us to learn from.

Therefore we should learn from Ahlul Bayt (as) and try our best to help others and give away our things to people that need them more than ourselves. We can do this by keeping a small money box in our room and place any spare money that we have inside it. Then once every year we can empty the tin and give the money away to some poor people.

However we should also do this without wanting anything back in return the same way that Sayyedah Faṭīma (as) had done.

## CLASS DISCUSSION

Discuss 3 ways that one can help to raise money for the poor.

## Review Questions

**Q1. Which type of charity is recommended?**

- a. Khums
- b. Zakat
- c. Ṣadaqah

**Q2. How many days did the Ahlul Bayt give away their food when they were fasting?**

- a. 7
- b. 3
- c. 1





# Hajj

الحج

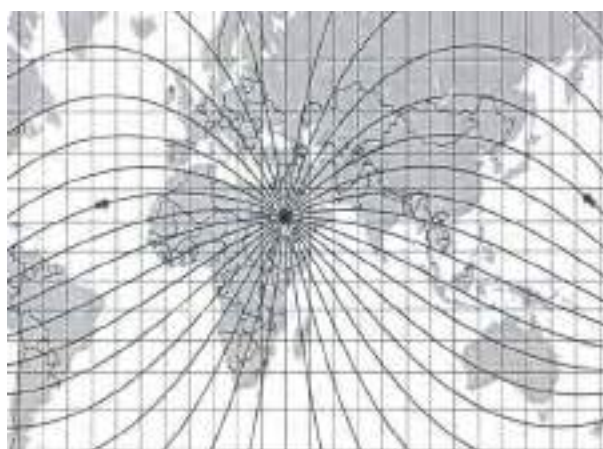
JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

## Objectives >>>

### Students should:

- Understand that Muslims must make the pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their adult life
- Know where Mecca and Medina are on a world map
- Be reminded of the story of Prophet Abraham (as)
- Understand that the 10<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijjah (as) is a day of 'īd for the Muslims
- Briefly discuss the major themes of Hajj
- Be introduced to Masjidul Haraam
- Be introduced to the Ka'bah



Australia is at the bottom right hand corner. Mecca and Medina are where all the lines direct to!

## What is Hajj?

Hajj is a pilgrimage or a religious journey to Mecca made in a specific time of the year, in a month called Dhul Hijjah. This is the last month of the Islamic calendar. Hajj is something that all Muslims must do- if they can afford it and are well enough to perform it.

When we visit Mecca to perform Hajj, it is also very recommended to visit Medina, where the grave of our Holy Prophet is.

Where are Mecca and Medina? Let us look at the world map and see.

## THE ORIGINS OF HAJJ

Let us travel back thousands of years to the time of Prophet Abraham (as). Prophet Abraham (as) and his second wife Hajar had a baby boy and they called him Ismā'īl. Long after he was born, Allah (SWT) ordered Prophet Abraham to take his wife and new born son to a desert. After the long journey, Prophet Abraham left his wife and son in the desert, leaving them in the trust of Allah (SWT).

After a few days in the hot desert, the food and water that Prophet Abraham had given Hajar and her son had run out, and the baby was now hungry and thirsty. Hajar was worried that her baby would die of hunger and thirst and so she searched everywhere for any source of water. From a distance, she saw a mirage (a shiny view that reflects and looks like water), and so she ran very quickly to go and get some water. When she reached, she realised it was only a reflection. From this point, she saw



another mirage on the opposite side, and so she frantically ran again towards it, again only to find it was a reflection. She saw this mirage 7 times, and she ran from one end to the other each time. By the end of this she was exhausted, and she sat down next to her thirsty son, feeling very alone and tired.

At this point a fountain of water gushed out from next to her son Ismā'īl. Hajar was very relieved and she knew Allah (SWT) was looking after them.

The points between which Hajar was running were two hills called Safa and Marwah. These are the same hills that we walk between when we go to perform Ḥajj today

Let us now look at how and why the Ka'aba was built.

During the time of Prophet Abraham, people were very ignorant about Islam, and they were not ready to believe the message Prophet Abraham had brought. For this reason, Allah (SWT) ordered Prophet Abraham to build a place of worship, where people from all over the world could come and worship the only and only Allah (SWT).

Prophet Abraham, with the help of his now grown-up son Prophet Ismā'īl, built the Ka'bah. The black stone which is found on one of the corners of the Ka'bah is a special stone from heaven.

Now that we know how the Ka'bah was built, and we know the history behind the Sa'y, let us take a brief look at what Muslims actually do at Ḥajj.

We will follow this journey in the form of a story.

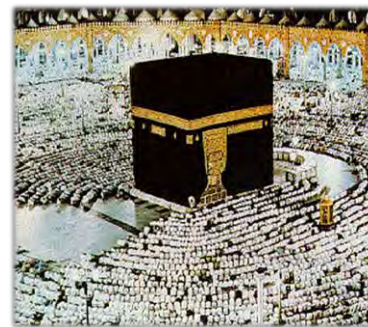
## A ḤAJJ JOURNEY

In the beginning of the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, Jawad and his father Ali set out for the ultimate journey to Ḥajj. They went to Medina first to visit the shrine of the Holy Prophet of Islam – Prophet Muḥammad (saw). They stayed in Medina for a few days, and daily paid visits to mosque of the Prophet and the graves of the Imams next to it.

They then set out for Mecca by bus. They stopped at a place called Mīqat where they put on their Ihṛām (the special clothes for Ḥajj). After putting on their Ihṛām, they set out for Mecca. On reaching Mecca, Jawad and his father Ali went straight to Masjidul Ḥarām (the Holy Mosque) which is the name of the mosque where the Ka'bah is situated. As they walked through the mosque, Jawad was getting very excited to see the Ka'bah.

After a couple minutes walking, there it was! Jawad was standing right in front of the Holy Ka'bah.

He was so happy that he had tears flowing down his eyes for he had always longed to see the Ka'bah.



Jawad and his dad set out to do ṭawāf, which is going round the Ka'bah seven times. When they finished the ṭawāf, they recited a short prayer, in the same place where Prophet Abraham used to recite his prayer thousands of years ago.

Then they set out to do their Sa'y, which is the walk between the mountains of Safah and Marwā (as discussed earlier).

There are other main parts of Ḥajj that will be discussed in future years. While in Mecca, Jawad and his father celebrated 'Īdul Aḍḥā, one of the three major celebrations in Islam.

When they returned to their hometown in Sydney, Jawad was asked one question by his friends, and his teachers. They asked him:

'What did you learn from this journey, and how can you briefly describe Ḥajj?'

He answered:

'Ḥajj is all about submitting oneself to Allah (SWT) completely, and obeying Him and trusting that He really is the One and Only God...I have learnt from Ḥajj that all Muslims are equal, whether rich or poor, fair or dark, short or tall. No one is superior in the eyes of Allah. When we walk around the Ka'bah, all of us are wearing the same outfit. Two white pieces of cloth to cover our body. Hence, in the eyes of Allah, we are all equal.

It is in Ḥajj where all the Muslims unite, and where brothers meet brothers, and sisters meet sisters.

### **Class Activity:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnLxEQOHxvY&list=PL091sJJ30-2-pXc\\_ElBk-4bdwCTtACsp6](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnLxEQOHxvY&list=PL091sJJ30-2-pXc_ElBk-4bdwCTtACsp6)

Watch this beautiful animated video clip on Ḥajj.

Your teacher will play it for you.



# ENJOINING GOOD AND FORBIDDING EVIL

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

## Introduction

A good society is made up of good people. Although all people are born good; there are times when people change and start to make bad decisions. If people do become bad, or do the wrong thing, we cannot ignore them. In fact it becomes our duty to help them become better. This will help everyone else remain good and not want to be bad like the other people.

## ENJOINING GOOD

When we decide to do something good we should not only think of ourselves. We should also think of asking other people to do the good action with us. This will help them also get rewards from Allah (SWT) and create a better environment with good people.

## CLEAN PLAYGROUND

One day Sarah was sitting in the playground at lunchtime and talking to her friend Amina. As they were talking Sarah noticed that there was much rubbish being blown around the playground. She had an idea.

She told Amina: “Hey Amina, can you see all the rubbish on the playground? How about we clean it all up to keep our school clean?”

Amina agreed and together they cleaned up the entire playground.



## Objectives >>>

### Students should:

- Understand the meaning of enjoining good and forbidding evil
- Understand the different ways of meeting these obligations
- Understand examples of enjoining good and forbidding evil from real life
- Understand some of the conditions of this obligation, including:
- Review the importance of listening to advice when it is given to us



This is an example of enjoining good. Sarah knew that she was going to do a good deed, therefore she asked her best friend to do it with her.

## **FORBIDDING EVIL**

There are times when we see someone doing the wrong thing. Usually most people ignore them and let them continue what they are doing.

However Allah (SWT) like us to help people become better. We should never pretend not to care and leave people to do bad things.

If we know that we can help someone then we should speak with them and tell them that what they are doing is wrong in a very polite way.

For example if you saw someone steal something from someone else's pencil case and you asked them kindly to stop that and put it back, that means you are forbidding evil.



## **CLASS ACTIVITY**

Discuss as a class how you would forbid evil in the following scenarios.

### **Scenario One**

Zac was sitting outside at lunchtime when he opened his lunch box and realised that his mother has made him a cheese sandwich. He tells you that he is going to throw it in the bin, what would you do?

### **Scenario Two**

You are playing with your friends when someone comes and asks if they may play with you. Your friends start teasing them and saying that they are not allowed and telling them to go away. What would you do?

## **WAYS OF ENJOINING GOOD AND FORBIDDING EVIL**

So far, we have spoken about enjoining good and forbidding evil with our words. However, there are other ways that we can stop people from doing the wrong thing and help them do the right thing.

### **THROUGH OUR ACTIONS**

Sometimes we may speak to someone many times and tell him or her to do something, however it may not work. This might be because we are not doing it ourselves. For example we can ask our brother/sister to clean up their room every day, but if our own room is not clean then they will probably not care about cleaning theirs.

However we can tell someone so much without even talking. Most of the time this works better. For example if we want our little brother or sister to pray, we do not need to always ask them, we can stand on the prayer mat every day and soon we will see that they will also stand next to us.

Also if we don't want them to do the wrong thing then we should never do it in front of them and therefore they will not learn the wrong actions.

### **THROUGH OUR THOUGHTS**

As well as our words and actions Allah (SWT) loves us to always do the right thing and hate the wrong thing even with our thoughts. This means that if we hear that someone did something bad and we cannot speak with them or change them then we should at least hate that action in our hearts.

For example if I hear that someone far away from me is treating a baby badly then my heart should be sad for that bad action.

## **Class activity**

In the following table place a G for good if you think it is a good way of enjoining good and an E for evil if you think it's a good way of forbidding evil.



SCENARIO	E/G
Sam is in the canteen line and notices that some students in year 6 are bullying someone in year 4. He kindly asks them to stop and tells them that they are hurting the boy's feelings.	
Farah is helping her mother make sandwiches for the poor people, she calls her friend Layla and asks her if she would like to help.	
Adam has been waking up ever morning and saying "al-Salāmu 'Alaykum" to his parents from when he was 4 years old. He is now 7 years old and his little brother is 4. His little brother also now wakes up and says "al-Salāmu 'Alaykum" to his parents.	
Ali's best friend Reza has a bad habit of lying. Ali tells him one day that if he continues to lie he is going to get into big trouble and that Allah (SWT) will not be proud of him. Reza decides to stop lying.	

## Review Questions

### 1. Why should someone forbid evil

- To be happy
- Because Allah (SWT) has asked us to do it as it will create a better community
- To be bossy

### 2. What are the three ways of enjoining good and forbidding evil?

- Actions, words, thoughts
- Actions, words, deeds
- Actions, thoughts, movements

## Lesson 2: Enjoin Good and Forbid Evil

In our previous lesson we spoke about:

- 'Enjoining Good' - *amr bil ma'ruf*
- 'Forbidding Evil' - *nahy 'anil munkar*

In this lesson we will talk about the different rules we need to follow when we want to help someone do something good or stop doing something bad.

### TALK TO YOURSELF FIRST

One of the most important things we need to think about before we tell someone else what to do or not do is to check with ourselves if we are doing the right thing. There is no point in me telling my best friend to do something if I am not doing it myself.

Read the following story then discuss as a class why one should not tell others to do something if they are not doing it themselves.

### NO CHOCOLATE CAKE

Nada had a little sister named Nancy. Nada knew that because she was older, she needed to be a good example and teach her the right things. However every morning when they woke up Nancy wanted a piece of chocolate cake for breakfast. Time and time again Nada would tell Nancy that it was unhealthy and that she had to have her breakfast cereal first.



After a while

Nancy started to listen to Nada.

However one day Nancy woke up and didn't find Nada in her bed. She went down stairs and to her surprise found

Nada hiding in the kitchen having chocolate cake before breakfast!!! Nancy screamed out "YOU LIAR, I will never listen to you again" and she stormed off. It took a very long time for Nancy to start listening to the advice of her older sister again.



## CLASS DISCUSSION

As a class discuss what Nada has done wrong and why it caused a problem!

### KNOW BEFORE YOU TEACH

One other very important point to remember when we are trying to tell other people what to do is to make sure that we know what we are talking about.

If we want to ask someone to stop bullying someone else we need to tell them why. Also, if we want to ask someone to help at the mosque we also need to explain why.

However if we are telling people what to do but we don't have a reason or we don't understand why, it will become difficult for them to listen to us as they will not see the point of doing what we ask them to.

### Class Activity

Match the column on the left to the reason for doing or not doing something on the right.

"Can you help me clean the mosque..."		"... because your teeth will become rotten"
"You should not bully her..."		"because it will make her happy"
"Don't eat so much lollies..."		"because it is important that we keep Allah's (SWT) house clean"
"Let's clean the house for mum..."		"... Allah (SWT) loves those who pray on time"
"It's time for prayer how about we go and pray..."		"... because you will hurt her feelings."

### SPEAK POLITELY

One of the most important things to remember when we are encouraging others to do good, or forbidding them from evil, is to speak to people politely. If we are asking someone to stop doing something but we speak to them

rudely or embarrass them in front of people they will not listen.

Allah (SWT) loves us to be kind to people and therefore we should speak with them when we are alone so that they are not embarrassed in front of others. We should be polite when we talk to them, and not use hurtful or abusive language.

Another important point is that when someone else may be correcting us we should not get upset. Instead we should know that because Allah (SWT) loves us so much He is sending someone to teach us how to become better human beings.

### HOW DID THE PROPHET HELP?

Our greatest teacher is the Holy Prophet (saw). Therefore whenever we want to do something we should look at and think of how the prophet would have done it by reading stories about his life.

At the time of the Holy Prophet (s) there was no Kit Kat, or Cadbury chocolate, usually people would eat dates as a sweet.



One day a mother came to the prophet to ask him to speak with her son and tell him to stop eating too much dates. The Prophet (saw) asked the man to return the following day with his son.

The next day the father came along with his son to see the Prophet (saw). When the Prophet (saw) saw the little boy he spoke with him and advised him that eating too many dates was not good for him.

The mother was puzzled as to why the Prophet (saw) hadn't just told him not to eat too many dates the first day. The Prophet (saw) replied by saying that yesterday he had eaten dates himself and therefore even if he did tell him, his instructions would not be as good because he had eaten dates himself. However the next day he purposely did not eat dates so that he could advise the little boy properly.

## Review Questions

**1. What does Amr bil Ma'ruf mean in English?**

- a. Forbidding what is evil
- b. Enjoining what is good
- c. Listening to your parents

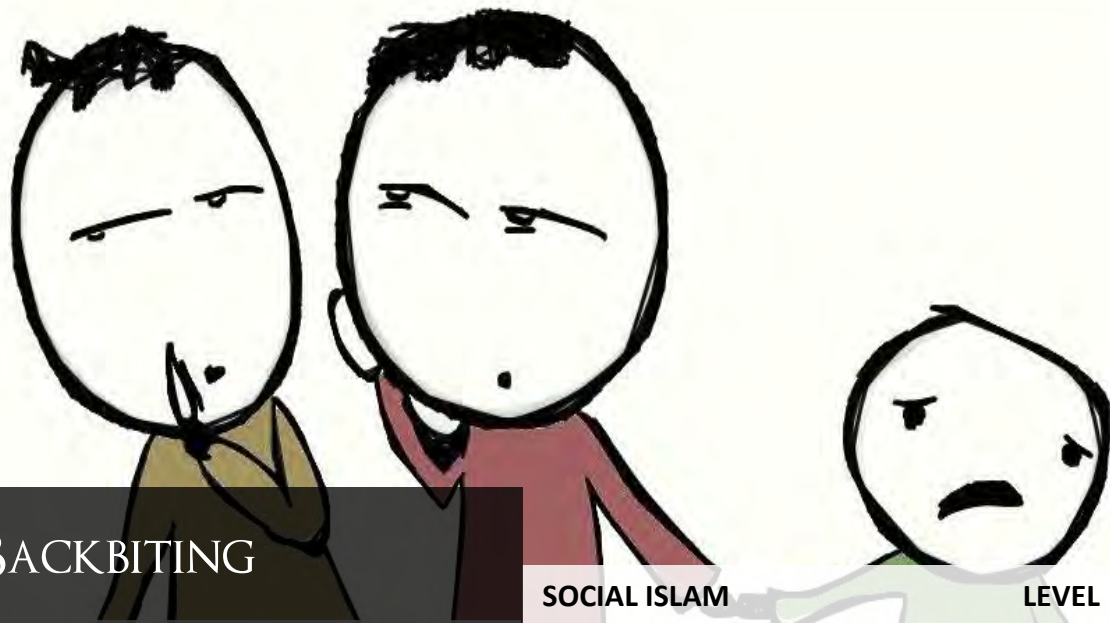
**2. Why did the Prophet (saw) ask the little boy to come back the next day?**

- d. To teach him a lesson
- e. To tell him a story
- f. Because he had eaten dates himself that day

**3. Who is the most important person to follow your instructions before you tell someone else?**

- a. Yourself
- b. Your best friend
- c. Your brother or sister





## BACKBITING

SOCIAL ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## الغيبة

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand what it means to backbite
- Be able to recognise backbiting
- Understand that backbiting is forbidden in Islam
- Know basic tips on avoiding backbiting

## Backbiting



### WHAT IS BACKBITING?

Backbiting is when a person talks about someone when they are not there. When we talk about people behind their backs it hurts their feelings and this can break up friendships and make people not like each other. It's a good idea to think about what we say before we say it. We should think – "If someone were to say this about me, how would I feel?" If you think they would feel good then say it! But if you would feel bad if someone were to say the same things about you, then don't say it!

## WHY DO PEOPLE BACKBITE?



Some people commit backbiting because they wish to draw others' attention. They imagine that by backbiting they would impress other people or have more friends. This is wrong, and instead often people dislike a person who always talks about others in a negative way.



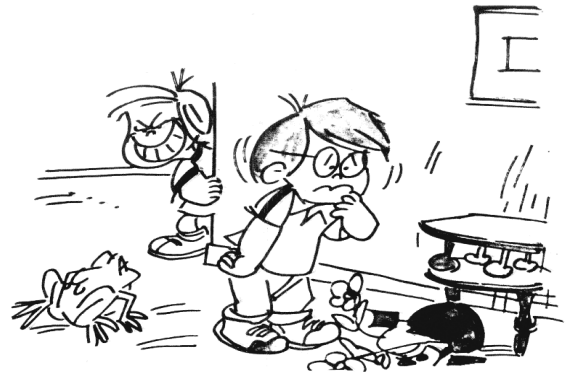
Some people commit backbiting to show off that they are better than others. They want to show others as bad, so that they themselves appear better. This is also wrong, and we end up looking bad because of our backbiting.



Some people commit backbiting to harm others, and this is another terrible action that we should

definitely avoid.

## **BACKBITING (GHĪBAH) IS FORBIDDEN**



Talking about someone without them knowing is not allowed in Islam. It is hurtful and causes people not to trust each other.

When we talk badly about someone behind their back, not only does it hurt the other person, but it also hurts us. When we talk badly about someone else, we also lose our good deeds- we spoil the good things we've done.

Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq (as) says:

“*Ghībah* is *Ḥarām* for all Muslims and there is no doubt that *Ghībah* destroys good deeds like fire destroys wood.”

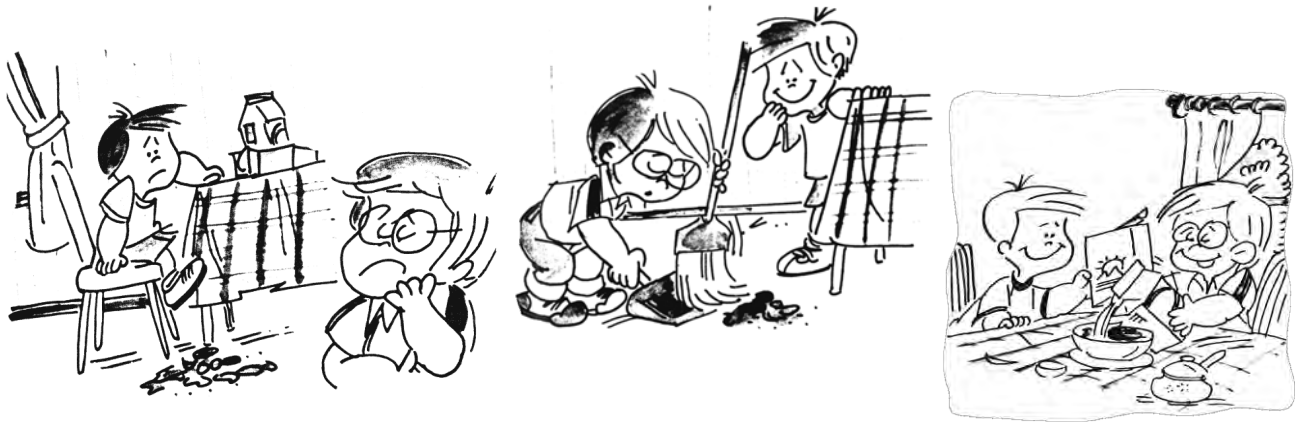
## **HOW TO AVOID BACKBITING**

To know it that whether you should tell a thing to others or not we must firstly question ourselves

- Is this informing for the sake of helping another person? In this case there is nothing wrong.
- Does informing aim at harming that person? In this case do not do it.

Lets look at an example of how we should react to backbiting:

Oh! Husain's breakfast fell down upon the floor! I don't know whether to inform my mum about it or not ...



Instead of telling tales to his mum, Hassan helped Husain clean up so that his mum would not get upset! So remember, treat others how you would like to be treated

## Class activity

Talk about what everyone learnt today and then split into even groups and prepare skits. Teacher can give instructions on what students will be acting out (have a few different ideas written down to tell each group to act out, such as the one in this lesson). Teachers can also act out a mini skit for students, to help understand what backbiting is.

## Homework

On a poster paper divided into 8 sections create a cartoon like story with people and voice bubbles about backbiting. Be creative and ask for help from your parents and elder brothers and sisters! Make this a family learning and awareness project! Backbiting affects us all, let's talk about how to keep it out of our families!





## ISLAMIC CONVERSATION

SOCIAL ISLAM

LEVEL 2

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand the Islamic etiquette for greetings
- Understand that Islam encourages us to greet people amicably
- Understand that Islam encourages humour in conversation
- Know the limits we have to keep when making jokes

### Islamic Conversation

Before we start this topic, let us look at a scenario. Let's say you were invited to a friend's house, and when you rang the bell, your friend's brother opened the door, and did not even look at you, let alone greet you. How would you feel?

How would you feel if you came in to class today, and the teacher didn't greet or smile at anyone in the class?

How about, when your mum picks you up from school, and she does not look at you, hug you or greet you. How would you feel then?

I am sure most of us here would not be happy with any of the situations mentioned above. In fact, we would be upset.

We as Muslims have been taught by our beautiful prophets and Imams how to greet people when we come across them. When we see someone regardless of their religion, age, race, etc, we should greet them in a friendly manner by:

- Making eye contact
- Smiling
- Exchanging words of greeting

If we come across a Muslim person,

- Our greeting should be: **Asalaamu 'Alaykum** which means **Peace be upon you**, and the reply should be – **Wa 'Alaykum Assalaam** which means, **And peace be upon you too**.

Those people who do not say 'salaam' to their fellow Muslims are considered selfish by Allah (SWT). We definitely do not want to be among that group.

## **HUMOUR IN ISLAM**



What is humour? It basically means being funny . Does Islam encourage humour? Yes, absolutely. Humour in Islam is considered a good thing. Our Holy Prophet (saw), was a humorous person himself, and liked humour in others as well. There is nothing wrong in telling jokes and being funny as long as one does not cross the limits.

What are the limits?

- Hurting other people's feeling or offending them (for e.g. with racist jokes, making fun of their family, etc...)
- Lying- the Prophet (saw) said:

"I would joke but only tell the truth"

- Becoming a clown and never being able to be serious. This will lead to that person being silly in the eyes of others.

## **RIDDLES ☺**

- 1) Why is 6 afraid of 7? (answer – because 7 8 9 – seven ate nine)
- 2) Why was the man running around his bed? (answer - because he wanted to catch up on his sleep)
- 3) What has four legs but can't walk? (answer – a chair)



## BEING SOCIABLE

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand what it means to have a friend
- Understand that Islam encourages friendship
- Understand that some characteristics make it hard for a person to make friends
- Understand that a good friend is one who is there in times of need

## Being Sociable

When Mum came to collect Ahmed from his Nursery school, she asked, “Why are you sad Ahmed, my dear?”

Ahmed hugged his Mum and sobbed, “I did not have any one to play with!”

“Oh dear, that’s not good. Did you smile at anyone? Did you try talking to anybody?” asked Mum.

Do you remember your first day at school? Did you have any friends on your first day?

Can you explain what it means to have a friend or be friends with someone?

## SOCIAL ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

In previous years, we learnt a little about friendship. We also learnt some rules about how to greet each other as Muslims, and how to speak with one another.

Today, we will learn more about friends and friendship in Islam.



### WHO IS A FRIEND?

Is a friend:

- Someone who will say salām to you, greet you and smile at you?
- Someone who shares his food and toys with you?
- Someone who sits with you during the break while you eat your lunch?
- Someone who helps you stand up when you fall down?
- Someone who supports you and holds your hand when you are feeling sad?

In place of a friend, what other names can you use...a mate, partner, buddy, or companion?

We humans are social creatures by nature; that means we always need company and friends. We need to interact with others. We want to talk, discuss and share ideas with others.





## ISLAM ENCOURAGES FRIENDSHIP

In Islam, socializing with other people and especially Muslims is highly encouraged. We should not isolate ourselves from the people around us, because it can make us feel lonely. That is why it is a good practice to attend the mosque. At the mosque, we can pray in a group, we can meet new people and make good friends, and we can socialise with other children our age.



In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) has told the Prophet that He has brought about fondness in the hearts of the fellow people, especially believers. Our Imams have always advised us to 'meet with one another and visit one another'.

In fact the Imams (as) say that:

“When you get together (especially where religion is being discussed), the angels surround you.”



## HOW TO MAKE AND KEEP FRIENDS

To be able to love Allah (SWT), you have to love his creation – your family, your friends, your neighbours and all humanity, as well as other creatures like your pets and plants. Part of this is to make and keep as many friends as we can, and to not do things that would drive people away from us.

There are certain characteristics or habits that can drive away people or even friends away from us. To help make friends and maintain friendships, we can do the following things:

- greet people
- meet them with a smile and a cheerful face
- Treat them kindly
- Share our good things with them
- Compliment them when they do something good
- Being polite to them

If a person is:

- Unkind
- always frowning
- selfish
- or rude

It might cause people to turn away from them and not become their friends.

There is a saying: 'Kind words and good deeds may cost you nothing but they are priceless in their value.'

Another thing that can cause people to not be friends with us is if we pick on their mistakes, especially if we go and tell others about that person's mistakes. Instead of worrying about other people and what they are doing, we should worry about ourselves, and not pick on others' mistakes too much.



## THE TWO FRIENDS AND THE BEAR

A man was travelling together with his friend through a forest. He felt safe because he and his friend could fight whatever danger might come in their way. As they were crossing through the woods, a bear suddenly appeared. One of the men ran straight up a tree and hid himself in the foliage. The other man stood still, shocked and then fell to the ground, pretending to be dead. He had heard that bears do not eat dead creatures. The wild beast immediately ran up to him, eager to seize her victim.

With her curved bear claws, she lifted the wretched man up off the ground. Since the man's limbs had grown stiff and frozen with fear, the bear concluded that he was nothing but a rotting corpse. Thus, despite being hungry, the bear abandoned the man and walked away towards her den.



The two men gradually began to calm down and started their conversation again. The man who had run up the tree, asked his companion, 'Tell me, my friend, what did that bear say to you while you were lying there shaking?'

The other man replied: 'Certainly, she gave me some very important advice; especially one that I cannot forget: Do not make friends with a person who will leave you and not help you in times of danger when you need him.'

One of the most important things in a friend is that they are there when we need them. So if our friends need our help, we should be there to help them. And if we need help, a good friend will be there to help us.

## Class Activity

Make a circle with your fellow classmates and let's sing the following poem:

### Poem 1:

*A smile is cheer from you to me,  
The cost is nothing it's given for free.  
They console the weary and gladden the sad.  
And can make someone happy when they are mad.*

### Poem 2:

*I had a box of crayons,  
All shiny, straight and new.  
I lent a friend one crayon,  
And--oops--it broke in two.  
My friend said she was sorry,  
But I said "I don't care,  
'cause now we both can colour  
with one crayon--we can share!"*

## Class Activity

Form a group of two with a partner. Choose which of the words below are qualities of a good friend and circle them.

<i>Stingy</i>	<i>Selfish</i>	<i>Kind</i>
	<i>Proud</i>	<i>Cheerful</i>
<i>Polite</i>	<i>Caring</i>	<i>Rude</i>
	<i>Generous</i>	<i>Reliable</i>
<i>Coward</i>	<i>Telling tales</i>	<i>Smiling</i>
	<i>Loyal</i>	<i>Grumpy</i>

## Review Questions

### Q1. A good friend:

- Is one who is there when we need their help
- Is one who is there when we don't need help

### Q3. Which of the following qualities make a good friend?

- Being angry
- Being bossy
- Being selfish
- Being caring and kind



# NEIGHBOURS AND GUESTS

SOCIAL ISLAM

LEVEL 2

*Students should understand:*

- The importance of goodness to neighbours
- The ways of being good to neighbours, most importantly not harming them
- That Islam encourages us to have guests and to be good hosts

## NEIGHBOURS AND HOSTING

In previous years, we learnt about the importance of being good neighbours. We learnt that Islam emphasises this obligation and urges to never harm our neighbours. We are encouraged to be as good to our neighbours as possible. We also learnt that our neighbours are not only our next door neighbours, but 40 houses counting in each direction from our home.

We also learnt that we must be good to all our neighbours, whether Muslim or not.

Another point we touched on previously is that Islam encourages us to improve relations with our family and friends by inviting people to our home and hosting them. In this lesson, we will talk about some issues related to being good hosts.

## A GOOD HOST

Let us start this lesson by looking at a scenario.

Abbas and his family have been invited to their cousin's house. Abbas has a cousin Ali, and they are good friends. When they enter, Ali's parents greet them all very nicely and welcome them. Abbas then wants to play with Ali, but Ali has been up in his room the whole day playing his favourite Playstation game. With permission from his aunty, Abbas goes up to Ali's room and says Salām and asks if he can play with him. Ali is so engrossed in his





game that he does not even bother to look up. Abbas asks him again if he can play, and this time Ali angrily screams 'NO', and tells Abbas that he wants to play on his own!

Abbas calmly walks out of the room. It is now time for dinner, and the whole family is seated at the table. Ali's mother calls him to eat a few times, and finally Ali yells from his room – I'M NOT HUNGRY!!

Now, let us look at Ali's attitude.

What do you think he has done wrong?

- 1) He was not present to greet his cousins when they came.
- 2) He did not respond the Salām from Abbas
- 3) He yelled at Abbas and was very rude
- 4) He did not sit with the family to eat and screamed at his mum.

Islam is a beautiful religion and encourages us greatly to have guests. Guests bring blessings into our homes. It is also encouraged to accept an invitation from our fellow brothers and sisters.

When we invite guests into our homes, our parents are usually preparing for the meal, and they make sure the house is nice and tidy. What sort of things can you do to help your mum and dad?

- 1) Help clean whether vacuuming, clearing out your room, etc...
- 2) Dress up appropriately
- 3) Greet the guests with Salām and a smile on the face and welcome them nicely
- 4) Sit at the dinner table with the family
- 5) Help clean up after the guests leave
- 6) If you have friends/cousins your age, take them to your room and share your toys and games.

As much as it is recommended to have guests over at home, we should be careful of whom we invite. Islam discourages us from inviting people of bad character, for example those who drink alcohol, listen to music, etc... We should stay away from people like this.

Similarly, if we are invited to a dinner or a birthday party from people who commit sin openly, we should refuse such an invitation. This is because Satan hangs around people of this sort, and spending time with them can be harmful for us.

While having guests and being generous towards them is recommended in Islam, we should keep in mind not to overdo it by:

- 1) Wasting – Often a lot of food remains from gatherings. We should use the same food for the next day and NOT throw it.
- 2) We should be extravagant. Keep things simple. Do not go over board by spending on expensive cutlery, etc.
- 3) We should not put ourselves in any difficulty. Try and limit the food we keep for our guests. More food means more difficulty in preparing and this also results in more waste.

## Class Activity

List 5 things that you would like to experience when you go to a friend's place for dinner.

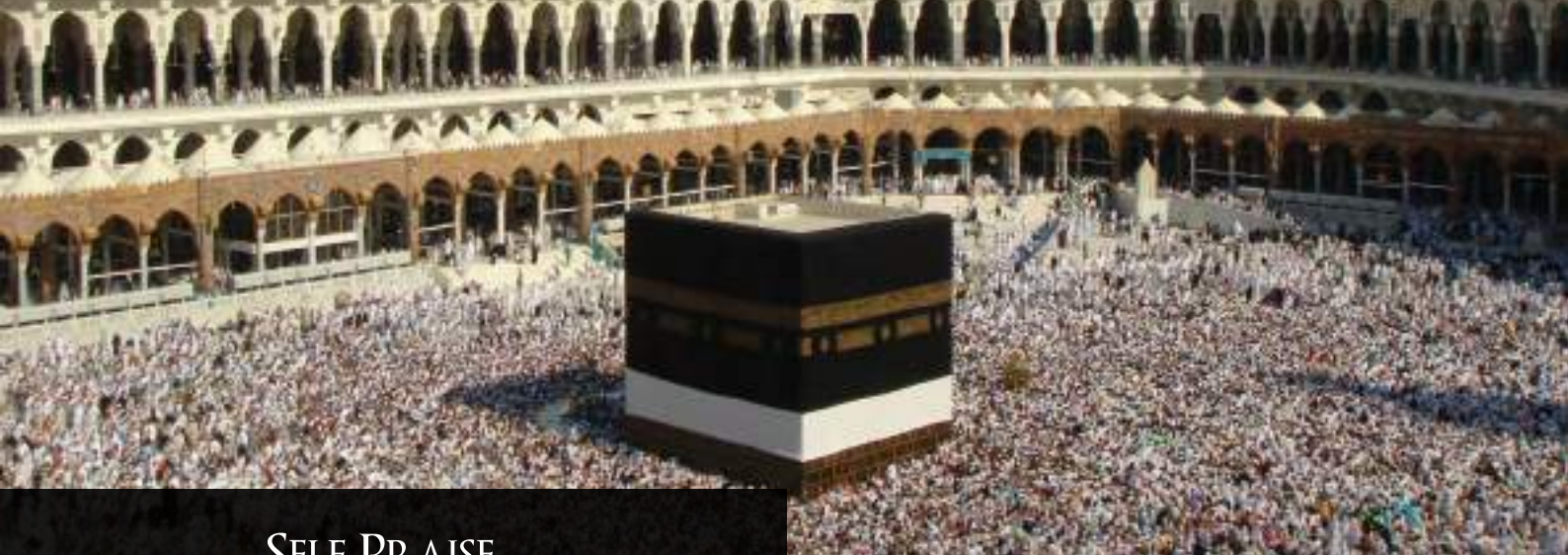
## Review Questions

### Q1. When visiting guests, we should:

- a. Greet them with a Salām
- b. Enter and rush through the door.
- c. Smile and walk in

### Q2. When we invite people to our home, it is better to:

- a. Waste food
- b. Keep things simple
- c. Go overboard with decorating the house



## SELF PRAISE

## العجب

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Be reminded that all talents and gifts are from Allah (SWT)
- Know that praising oneself is a consequence of pride and is a big sin
- Understand that the feeling superior to others is not a desirable trait
- Understand the negative social consequences of self-pride

## SOCIAL ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Self-Praise

### Class Scenario

The teacher entered the classroom and started giving out the test results. The test had been really difficult. “Hayder has scored full marks,” she said, “20 out of 20. Well done, Hayder!”

“Wow! That’s great!” cried out all the children. They clapped.

Hayder stood up and said, “Thank you teacher.” Then he added, “al ḥamdu lillāh”.

“Well done, Hayder!”. The teacher continued:

All our talents are gifts from Allah(SWT). So let’s all say:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

“All praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of the worlds.”

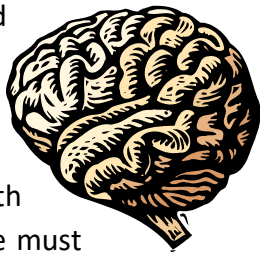
### GIFTS FROM ALLAH (SWT)

It is Allah (SWT) who has gifted us with eyes to enjoy the blue skies, sunshine, green trees, beautiful birds and creatures! We have a nose to smell flowers and a tongue to taste all the yummy foods and also be able to talk. Our ears enable us to hear and our five senses help us observe and feel our surroundings. We have a body with bones, muscles and flesh to move and work. All these are gifts from Allah(SWT). Above all, He has given us a brain to command all our thinking and actions.

All our talents and gifts are from Allah(SWT). We should say thank you to Him all the time—many

times each day! It is Allah (SWT) who has provided us with parents, siblings and friends. He has showered us with so many gifts that we simply cannot count His blessings!

It is natural to feel happy and excited when someone praises our work, or admires our performance and ability. There is nothing wrong with feeling good about this, but we must always remember to thank Allah(SWT) in our heart. It is He who gave us the intelligence and the physical ability to enjoy this talent. We should never think we deserved it or earned it, and we should definitely never act arrogantly.



## **WHAT IS PRIDE?**

Pride is something that makes a person think highly of themselves. It is when a person thinks they are better than others around themselves, and that they have something others do not.

## **PRIDE IS A SIN**

Satan spent thousands of years worshipping Allah (SWT). He was so good that he was allowed to be close to Allah (SWT), among the angels. When Allah(SWT) made Adam (as) and told all in the heaven to prostrate to Adam (as), they all prostrated, except Satan. He refused. He said proudly that he was better than Adam (as) because he had been made from fire and Adam (as) was made from clay.

Satan sinned because of his pride. He considered himself better than Adam (as) and had disobeyed Allah's command. This was the first ever sin committed due to pride. Because of this, Satan was not only thrown out of heaven but he will go to hell and burn there forever!

Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an

“And when we said to the angels ‘Prostrate, they all prostrated except Iblis. He refused and was rude with pride; and so he became one of the unbelievers.”

## **BOASTING**

Praising ourselves or boasting is a result of pride. Sometimes, because we are proud of a certain talent we think we might have, or a good action we have performed, we cannot help but talk about it to others. We say things like: ‘I’m so good at this!’, or ‘look what I have!’ or ‘I’m better than everyone at this’ or ‘I’m the best looking!’ All these statements are examples of boasting or being praising oneself.

When a person praises themselves, it has a couple of bad effects

- It increases their pride
- It spoils their actions. If they had done something good like prayed an extra prayer, once they praise themselves, Allah (SWT) reduces or takes away the reward for that good action.
- It makes them low in the eyes of Allah because Allah (SWT) does not like those who boast
- It makes people around them not like them. No one likes a boaster. Rather, people like those who are humble

## **A Story**

One day, Prophet Muḥammad was sitting with his companions when a poor man in tattered clothes walked in. He saw an empty spot and sat there. It so happened that this spot was next to a rich man. When the rich man saw this person sit next to him, he gathered his clothes, pulled them up and created a distance between himself and the poor man. It seemed the rich man was feeling uneasy. The prophet noticed this and asked the rich man as to why he acted in such a manner. Did he think that by touching the poor man, he would lose his wealth?

The rich man apologised, and offered to share half his wealth with the poor man he had insulted. The poor man refused the offer. He said:



“I fear the wealth I am offered, may make me also proud. I may become arrogant and belittle my Muslim brothers in the same way this rich man has treated me today.”

The poor man was wise. He did not wish to be in a position that might make him proud or arrogant. He earned the respect of all those who were present there.

## **OVERCOMING PRIDE**

If we do ever feel proud, there are a few things to help us beat this feeling:

- If we are proud of things we are good at, we should also remember that there are some things we are not good at, and so we should not feel too proud
- If we are proud of something good we have done, we should not forget that we have also done bad things, and so we should not feel too proud
- If we feel we are better than someone at something, we should remember that they might be better than us at other things, so we should not act like we are better than them
- If after all this, we still feel proud, we should make sure not to act on it. This means we should not:
  - Act arrogantly towards anyone
  - Praise ourselves
  - Put others down

## **Review Questions**

### **Q1. We can overcome pride by:**

- a. Praising ourselves more
- b. Criticising others
- c. Remembering some of our bad actions

### **Q2. Praising ourselves or boasting is a result of:**

- a. Pride
- b. Humbleness
- c. Self-confidence

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# COMMUNITY SERVICE

SOCIAL ISLAM

LEVEL 2

## Objectives >>>

### Students should:

- Discuss examples from the lives of the Ahlul Bayt and the prophets demonstrating how they helped others who were in need
- Understand the importance of helping other people
- Discuss different ways of helping others
- Discuss the benefits of helping others to our own lives

## Community Service

Allah (SWT) has created us as social beings; we mingle with one another and live as neighbours and friends. In doing so, we learn to care and share for one another. This is natural. Allah (SWT) created in us that feeling of caring for and helping our community members who may be in need of something in their lives.

### EXAMPLES FROM THE LIVES OF THE AHLUL BAYT (AS)

The Ahlul Bayt (as) have taught that helping others when they are in need is one of the most important things a Muslim must practice.

Prophet Muḥammad (saw) was a teacher who practiced all this, always adhering to one consistent personal trait: that of compassion. If he did not see a friend for more than three days, he would call on him, if he crossed by a child, he would smile and initiate a greeting, if he sat with a group of companions, he would be sure to spread even his gaze among them equally, so that all felt respected and honoured.

His community became accustomed to his compassion. A woman sent her son to ask Prophet Muḥammad for charity, instructing him that if the prophet, as was often the case, had nothing to give due to his own poverty, the boy should ask for the very shirt that the prophet was wearing. True enough, Prophet Muḥammad closed his door, removed his shirt, and passed it to the boy from behind his door. He then could not even go out for a few days because he did not even have a shirt.

Another time, the Prophet (saw) sent Imam 'Ali, his cousin, his only son-in-law and his closest companion and trustee, to buy him a shirt. Imam 'Ali returned with a shirt that cost 12 dirhams. The Prophet wanted something less expensive, so he took 'Ali with him to the market. He exchanged the shirt for one that cost 4 dirhams, and he was walking back home with a spare 8 dirham. He soon met a poor man whose own shirt was tattered and ruined, so he gifted him 4 dirham to buy a shirt for himself. He then came across a young girl who was a maid working for a wealthy family. She was crying as she had lost the 4 dirhams she was given to buy groceries. He replaced her 4 dirham with the last of his money, but she continued to cry, saying that she had been sitting here crying for a long time, and she would be punished for being late. So he volunteered to accompany her home to ward off any punishment. He knocked on the door and greeted the owners of the house, thrice before any reply came. They, so honoured by his visit, did not punish the young girl, and in fact, freed her from her position altogether. When the Prophet asked why they waited for his third greeting to answer, they said: 'we wanted to hear the sweetness of your voice three times'.

## **HELPING OTHERS**

Why is it important to help people? Why is it an obligation to look after the needy? Why is it necessary to care for our neighbours, relatives and friends, especially if they are not well-off?

Allah (SWT) has showered us with so many blessings that we cannot even count them. Fresh air, sunshine, water and beautiful skies and vegetation around us are all free. We are blessed with eyes, ears, a nose, limbs and a mind. Imagine if any of us had a leg missing! Or if you lost your eyesight! For all these gifts, we must thank Allah (SWT). He is not in need of any material things but He would be very pleased if we did favours to the creatures of Allah (SWT), our fellow human beings.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> Imam, Imam al-Kāḍim (as) relates:

“He who makes a Muslim believer happy, then, he has initially pleased Allah (SWT); secondly, the Prophet (saw) and thirdly the Ahlul(as).”

Meeting the needs of others is therefore a great obligation in Islam. Serving Allah's creation is service to Allah. These acts of kindness, favours and charity please Allah (SWT) just as much as praying and fasting.

Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq (as) says that when we are busy helping our fellow believers, Allah (SWT) will be looking after our needs.

## **Class Activity:**

How can we serve our community? In what ways can we help our people? Form groups of 2-3 students and discuss some ways of helping?

Some simple forms of community service include:

- Cleaning the local mosque or Islamic centre
  - Let's discuss how we can go about cleaning our Centre. Let the main organizers know that you wish to help. Let them guide you.
  - Place all rubbish or bits of paper in the bins provided.
  - Put away the copies of the Qur'an and other books neatly.
  - Ask the organisers if you can help to water the plants and pull out the weeds in the garden
- Helping with the Programs at the mosque or Islamic centre
  - Recite a du'ā'
  - Recite a part of the Holy Qur'an
  - Prepare a talk or recite a poem
  - Help with distributing the food or preparing it
- Fundraisers for Islamic causes
  - Help at the stalls
  - Donate a little of your own pocket money
  - Tell others about it and ask them to donate

## **Class Activity: Posters**

Now that we have learnt some things about “**Community Service**”, let's prepare a poster with colourful pictures to remind us on why and how to help people.

Some of you can make a poster about “**Keeping the Centre clean**”. Make it attractive.

## **Review Questions**

**Q1. When you have done a service to a Muslim, you have pleased:**

- a. Allah (SWT)
- b. Yourself and your parents



- c. The Prophet (saw)
- d. Allah (SWT), the Prophet (saw), and the Ahlul Bayt (as)

**Q2. Which of the following are considered acts of service?**

- a. Running errands for a sick neighbour
- b. Tasting a cookie from your Mum's jar
- c. Smiling at a stranger at the Centre
- d. Be the first to say greetings to old and young

## Lesson 2: Helping However We can

In the last lesson, we learnt about some forms of community service; and we saw how our holy Prophet Muḥammad (saw) helped people whenever he could.

### IMAM 'ALI (AS) AND THE STRANGER

Tired and exhausted with the water-skin on her back, a widow was gasping and walking towards her house. On her way, an unknown man approached her. He took the water-skin from her and placed it on his back. When she reached her house, the door opened and the eager children saw their mother entering the house with a stranger. He placed the water-skin on the ground and said: "Well, it seems you don't have anyone to fetch water for you; how come you are so forlorn?"

"My husband was a soldier; Imam 'Ali sent him to fight; he was killed on the frontier. Now I am alone with these small children."

The Imam said no more. Bowing down his head he went away. But the thought of the helpless widow and orphans remained in his mind. He could hardly sleep that night. Early in the morning he picked up a basket; put some meat, flour and dates in it; went straight to the widow's house and knocked the door. "Who are you?" she asked.

"I am the man who carried your water bag yesterday. Now I have brought some food for the children," said the Imam (as).

She opened the door. Entering the house he said: "I wish to help you. Either let me knead the flour and bake the bread or allow me to look after the children."

"Very well! I can do the job of kneading and cooking better than you. You take care of the children till I finish cooking," answered the woman.

She went to knead the flour. Immediately he grilled some meat, which he had brought and fed the children saying to each child while putting morsel in his mouth: "My son, forgive 'Ali if he has failed in his duty towards you."

When the dough was ready, she called: "Gentleman! Light fire in the oven". The Imam started a fire in the oven. When flames rose up, he brought his face near the fire and said, "Taste the heat of fire. It is the punishment for those who fail in their duty towards orphans and widows."



By chance, a woman from the neighbouring house came in. She called out to the widow: "This is Amīrul Mu'minīn, Imam 'Ali (as). And you are making him do chores! Shame on you!"

The widow ran to the Imam (as) and apologised. But Imam 'Ali (as) was very kind and said that he had wanted to serve her.

### DIFFERENT WAYS OF HELPING

If we please others, Allah will make sure we too are pleased. Therefore, we are required to help our fellow beings with our money, time and effort. Consider that the needy person is giving us an opportunity to serve Allah (SWT); so act quickly in a secret and humble way, without belittling the needy person.

Make it a habit to socialise with people of all backgrounds in the community. This way you will meet with those who may not have as much as you and your family do. You will realise who are the ones deserving help.

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) says:

"Spend out of what we have provided you with, both secretly and openly, before there arrives the Day when there will be no bargaining."

### HELPING WITH MONEY

- *Lending of money is a loan to Allah himself.*



- If a friend forgot his lunch money or cannot afford lunch, share your pocket money with them so you can both eat.
- Make a collection at the centre or mosque to donate some money orphan or poor children in a country in need – Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan or other parts of the World.
- For your next birthday party, request your friends and relatives *not* to give you a gift. Instead, ask them to donate an amount on your behalf to a charity.
- Make ‘one simple meal a month’ at home. Instead of a rich 3- course meal, eat a very simple meal with the family. The amount saved should be donated to ‘Ramaḍan Ifṭār Basket’ for a needy family overseas.
- Your family can sponsor a student, whose family cannot afford to send them to school, to continue their education. This gives that person the opportunity to make a better life for themselves in the future.

## HELPING WITH OUR TIME

- Pray for the needy and troubled Muslims everywhere around the world
- Spend your time to do chores for the sick or elderly in the neighbourhood.
- Visit the sick. Bring a smile on a sad face with a flower or small gift.
- If you love to write or make a power point presentation about collections for charity, then do so. Obtain permission to present it after a programme at your community Centre. Put this information on a website - community Newsletter, or put it online so more people know about it.

## HELPING WITH OUR EFFORT

- Sweep a courtyard or water the plants for your parents or grandparents.

- Watering / weeding the garden at the community Centre.
- Help to sweep the corridor or vacuum the hall at the centre or Islamic school.
- Tidy the shelves in the hall

## BENEFITS OF HELPING

“Who will lend to God a goodly loan so that He will multiply it for him many times over?” (2:245)

- Caring for others will give you joy and happiness. It will give you a very nice feeling within yourself which you cannot get from anything else.
- Relieving someone’s problem brings you more rewards than fasting and prayers.
- When we engage in community service, we often learn new life skills, and these can help us in the future.
- Those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah will find their rewards secure with their Lord. They have no fear and grief. On the Judgment Day, Allah (SWT) will not only give them back what they gave to charity, but will multiply for them many times over.
- There is a special dwelling in paradise called “the House of Happiness” which is reserved for those who bring happiness to the orphans of the believers

## Review Questions

**Q1. When we donate something for the sake of Allah (SWT):**

- a. We have lost that thing
- b. That thing will be given back to us
- c. That thing will be given back to us, and multiplied many times over

**Q2. Helping others:**

- a. Is tiring and painful
- b. Can often bring lots of happiness to our lives
- c. Is less important than looking after ourselves

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- ✓ Zakat of your position



## SOCIAL INDEPENDENCE

### SOCIAL ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

#### Objectives >>>

##### *Students should:*

- Understand that Islam encourages us to be independent in our personal and social needs, where possible
- Discuss some examples of independence in personal and social needs
- Understand that when it comes to Allah (SWT), we should ask Him for all our needs
- Understand that sometimes, especially when we are young, we do NEED help and in such cases we shouldn't be stubborn
- Discuss the best people to ask for help

### Being Independent

Most of the time, when we want to do something and someone else is around we ask him or her for a favour. For example if I wanted the remote control and my sister was sitting next to me I will ask her: "can you please pass me the remote". Or if we needed something from another room and someone stood up to get something else we will quickly ask them to 'do us a favour' and bring what we need.

#### Class Activity:

In the table below draw or write 5 things that you usually ask people to do for you e.g. "Get me a tissue". If you think you can do this on your own tick the box.




	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have ticked most of the boxes you will see that most of the time we do not need other people's help—rather we are just lazy and like to rely on others.

In Islam Allah (SWT) likes us to be independent. Being independent means that we do our own jobs and don't always ask others to do them for us.

### Story: Let's Hide

There were once three friends, Alex, Peter and Ali. They met each other when they were in year 2 and were now in year 4. They used to do everything together, go to school, play soccer and go to each other's houses.

However as they got older they realised that Alex was starting to become quite lazy. He would always ask his friends to do almost everything for him. Get my bag, do my homework, get my ball, pass me a drink, change the channel...and so on.



After a while both Peter and Ali started to get bothered by Alex. They felt that every time they were together they would have to act like slaves for him and always do him favours.

So one day Ali and Peter spoke over the phone and came up with a plan to hide from Alex the next day at school so that he would not ask them to do anything for him.

They managed to hide up until lunch time. It was then that Alex noticed they were ignoring him. He came up to his friends and asked why they were doing this? They told him that they were getting annoyed by always having to do things for him that he could do himself.

He then apologised for being lazy and promised that he would only ask for help if he really needed it.

They played together for the rest of lunch time.

We can learn from this story that people, even our best friends, will get very annoyed from us if we are always asking them for favours and we may then lose our friends or they may not like to play with us.



### DON'T BE STUBBORN

It is important to know that being independent does not mean that we should be stubborn and NEVER ask for help. In fact there will be many times when we need help and we should ask people who are able to help us. For example if I want to get a spoon for my yoghurt, I can very easily go to the kitchen and get one myself, so if I ask someone else to do it for me I am being lazy. However if I want to do my homework and the task is too difficult for me I *should* ask for help and not try for hours to do it on my own.

## WHEN WE REALLY NEED HELP

One of the times that we really need help from someone who is older than us, like a parent or teacher, is if we are being bullied. Being bullied is never nice it can leave someone very sad for a very long time, sometimes even years.

People may bully others physically by hurting them or emotionally by calling them names or saying mean things about them to others. Either way bullying is unacceptable.

If this happens to you, it is very important that you tell an adult so that the bully can be spoken to and made to stop. Allah (SWT) likes when we ask for such help because we are stopping someone from doing bad things to others.

## THINGS I CAN DO

Below is a list of the normal activities we do every day. Circle Y for YES if you can do this on your own or H for HELP if you will need help.

Wake up and make my bed	Y	H
Brush my teeth	Y	H
Prepare breakfast	Y	H
Eat breakfast	Y	H
Get dressed	Y	H
Drive to school	Y	H
Do my classwork	Y	H
Pack my things	Y	H

You will see that we can be independent for most of the activities in our day, however especially while we are young we will always need help with some things.

## THE BEST PEOPLE TO ASK FOR HELP

There are many people that we can always ask help from, but it is important that the people we ask will know how to help us. The best people to always ask help from are:

- Parents, parents, parents
- Teachers
- Older siblings
- Grandparents
- Uncles/aunts

## THE ONLY ONE TO ASK FOR EVERYTHING

Although we have said that we should not ask *people* for many favours, it is very different with Allah (SWT). In fact we should ask Allah (SWT) for everything. This is because it is Allah (SWT) who gives us everything.

Therefore no matter how small what you want is, e.g. a new pencil, we should tell Allah (SWT) that we want it and ask Him to help us get it.

There is also no favour too big for Allah (SWT). Even if we want something to happen that we really don't think is possible we should still ask Allah (SWT). If He knows it is good for us He will let it happen, if not then it won't.


## Review Questions

### Q1. Why did Ali and Peter hide from Alex?

- Because he was rude
- Because he would not listen to them
- Because he was lazy

### Q2. When should we ask for someone's help?

- At any time
- Only when we cannot do it ourselves
- Never



## سوء الظن

## SUSPICION

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand what it means to assume something
- Understand how assumptions can become negative
- Understand that Allah does not like those who think negatively

### Suspicion

To assume something is to think something about someone without knowing the truth. For example, if you see someone who is not fasting in the month of Ramaḍān, what thoughts will you get? You may think something like 'oh no its Ramaḍān and Abdul's not fasting; he is such a bad boy'. But you do not know the *real* reason why he is not fasting; it may be because he is ill and cannot fast.

So, it is never good to assume or think bad about others when we do not know the truth. Here is a story about the Clever Fisherman and King Parviz which may help you to understand why you shouldn't assume or think badly about anyone:

### THE CLEVER FISHERMAN AND KING PARVIZ

As King Parviz and Queen Shirin were sitting in their palace one day, a fisherman who was selling beautiful fish was brought in front of them.

### SOCIAL ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

King Parviz decided to buy a fish and gave the fisherman 4000 dirham for it.

The fisherman was overjoyed. He thanked King Parviz and left.

Queen Shirin turned to her husband in anger and scolded him for paying so much for a fish. King Parviz let her have her say but said that the fish was purchased and that there was nothing that could be done about it.

However, the Queen Shirin was adamant and insisted that the fisherman be brought back.

"We will ask the fisherman about the gender of the fish," she said. "If he answers that it is female, we will say that we wanted a male fish and if his response is that it is male, we will say that we wanted a female fish! Either way, we will be able to return the fish and have our money back."

So the poor fisherman was called back and was asked the question.

Fortunately, he was clever enough not to be caught out. Fisherman replied, "This fish is unique in the sense that it is neutral i.e., it's neither male nor female."

King Parviz was so impressed by the ingenuity of the man that he ordered a further 4000 dirham to be paid to him. The fisherman thanked the King again but as he was about to leave with the heavy bag of money, one of the coins fell onto the floor. The fisherman immediately bent down to look for the coin. Queen Shirin was already upset that the fisherman had been given 8000 dirham.

"Look how miserly this man is!" Queen Shirin exclaimed. "One coin has fallen out of his bag full of money and he searches for it instead of leaving it for some other poor servant to find."



The fisherman heard this remark and said, "O Queen, it is not out of miserliness that I search for the coin but rather because it had the picture of generous King Parviz on it. I would not tolerate anyone to cause dishonour to the King Parviz by treading on the coin."



King Parviz was so flattered with this response that he immediately called for another 4000 dirham to be given to the fisherman. When Queen Shirin saw all this, she thought it was better to hold her tongue and let the fisherman go with the 12000 dirham before the King decided to increase the amount again.

**Moral of the Story:** We learnt that in this story that Queen Shirin was very quick to judge and assume that the fisherman was being greedy and inconsiderate when he was picking up the coin he had dropped; when in fact he was doing it out of respect to the king.

### WHY AVOID NEGATIVE SUSPICION?

You may wonder why is it so bad to assume bad things about other people; because sometimes what you are thinking could be true. Well, Allah (SWT) answers this question in the Holy Qur'an:

"O you who believe, avoid most assumption, because some assumption is evil..." (49:12)

In this āyah of the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) is telling us that we should avoid assuming things altogether because most of the things we think about people are bad consequences. Having negative assumptions about people can cause friendships and relationships to break down, can hurt people's feelings and can cause to get upset when there was no need to be so.

We can try and understand this by using an example: you promised to meet your friend at a certain place. Just before you left, you fell ill and could not even get out of

bed. Your friend spent a long time waiting at the park for you, but you did not show up. He assumes that you forgot and that you did not care about him. The next time he sees you, he comes up to you and very angrily says that he is not your friend anymore. You get upset that he is acting like this, and decide not to talk to him either. The friendship can break down simply because one person had a negative assumption about another, without knowing the truth.

This is why Allah (SWT) does not like it when we think bad things about other people as it breaks up communities, friendships and families. Whenever we think something bad about someone; it is a whispering (waswasa) from Satan; so we should ignore it. If we ignore it, then we have beaten Satan.

### MORALS

So from this lesson we have learnt:

- 1) Never to think negatively about anyone.
- 2) Always to think positively about people
- 3) Thinking negatively & assuming leads to broken families and friendships.
- 4) Allah (SWT) does not like it when we think badly of anyone.
- 5) These bad thoughts are from Satan and should be ignored!

### Activity - Role Play

Your teacher will give each of you a role to play. You can act out the story of King Paviz and the fisherman.



## COMMUNITY CARE

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Learn some of the etiquettes of looking out for the ill, including
- Understand some of the etiquettes of looking after the elderly

## WHAT IS A COMMUNITY?

A community is a group of people that gather in one place. For example, we here at the Islamic Centre, make a community. Another example is that of a particular neighbourhood forming one community.

It is important to live in a community, because Islam is a social religion, and it encourages us to socialise with different people of different ages. When we come together as a community, we tend to meet people of different ages, different countries, and sometimes different religions.

In Islam, one of the most important factors of living in a community is to care for people who are ill. Illness is something that comes from Allah (SWT) hence it is not a bad thing. Many times, we look at illness as something harmful to us, but in reality it is a blessing, because Allah (SWT) rewards one who is ill because of his helpless condition.

In Islam, we are very much encouraged to look out for the ill. It is highly recommended to go and visit a patient.

### Social Rules

### LEVEL 2

Regardless of whether the patient is related to us or not, there is a lot of reward in visiting the sick. Here are a few of the etiquettes of visiting the ill:

- Before visiting the patient, call and inform them of your visit especially if they are at home.
- One should always take something small with them such as flowers, fruits, etc.
- Keep the visits short. Do not sit for too long because this may be inconveniencing the patient.
- Smile and speak good words to the patient. Do not argue or get upset in front of the patient
- Before leaving, pray for the patient's quick recovery.



Being sick for long periods of times can affect a person's mental health as well especially if he or she is elderly. That is why we are encouraged to visit them regularly and speak to them kindly, and give them encouraging words.

## LOOKING AFTER THE ELDERLY

Most of us have grandparents, or uncles and aunties who may be elderly. Another important part of our social life is caring for the elderly. How do we do this?

- Show them respect – Speak to them gently and politely. Regardless of whether you come across a Muslim or a non-Muslim elderly person, the same respect should be given to both. If you are seated on a train, and an elderly person walks in, you should immediately stand up and offer your seat.
- Serve them – Help them with their meals, medicines, drinks, etc...This does not only apply to our family members at home, but also at any Islamic Centre where the elderly may need help with things such as walking, sitting, etc...
- Spend time with them – Old people love the company of younger children, and they enjoy it when someone sits and talks to them. It is our duty to keep them company, and entertain them be it by talking, playing or even just sitting with them.



## A BEAUTIFUL STORY - GRANDPA'S TABLE:

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and he walked with much difficulty. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the

floor. When he tried to hold a glass of milk, it would spill on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor." So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old grandchild watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family.

And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth stained.

A simple story, but a powerful message. Elderly people are sent in to our lives as blessings for us. If we look after them well, Allah (SWT) will in turn look after us.



## Classwork

On the board, let us write down 5 other ways we can show kindness to the elderly and the sick in our community.



## Activity/homework

Each one of us should do at least one kind thing for an elderly person this week. Come back and tell the class next week what you managed to do.

## Review Questions

### Q1. When visiting the sick we should:

- a. Stay for a long while and talk a lot
- b. Take for them a gift and stay a short time
- c. Go only when they are extremely unwell

### Q2. When we speak to older people we must:

- a. Try to show respect and kindness to them
- b. Laugh at them because they do not understand how to use an Ipad
- c. Yawn and act bored when we listen to their stories.



## ISLAM & THE ENVIRONMENT

### SOCIAL ISLAM

### LEVEL 2

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Discuss the meaning of environment and some of its benefits
- Discuss the importance of the environment in Islam
- Discuss some ways we can help the environment

### What is the Environment?

Our environment includes all the things around us, including the air, water, trees, plants and animals. You may have heard from school and other places about the importance of taking care of our environment. This is also an important concept in Islam. In this lesson, we will discuss some of the ways we can help the environment and the importance of the environment in Islam.

#### THE BENEFITS OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

Can you imagine what would happen if the grass was black? What if the clouds were red and the sky green? Everything in our environment is made of peaceful colours so that when we are feeling down or depressed we can go out and appreciate nature and this will lift our mood.

This is one benefit of our peaceful and harmonious environment that Allah (SWT) has made for us.

Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an:

“And whatsoever He has created for you on this earth of varying colours. Verily! In this is a sign for people who remember” (16:13)

The above verse highlights another benefit of the environment, plant and animal life. Let's look at the trees as an example.

Humans produce & breathe out carbon dioxide. This is a gas which makes air dirty. Trees 'breathe in' this gas and 'clean it' before sending it back out to the environment as clean oxygen, which we can then use again. Without the trees doing this, we would suffocate and get sick from all the carbon dioxide. If That is why we should not cut down trees and should in fact take care of them – it is all for our own safety and wellbeing.

#### ISLAM AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Taking care of the environment is our duty as Muslims. It has been commanded to us by Prophets and also by Allah (SWT) in the Qur'an. The following examples show the importance of the environment in Islam:

- The first thing that Prophet Şaleh (as) told his people was “He it is created you on the Earth and is expecting you to develop it”. This tells us that it is our responsibility, as ordered by our prophets, to develop the environment and take care of it.
- After becoming Caliph, Imam 'Ali (as) in his first sermon said:

“O Slaves of God, be dutiful to God, in the matter of the slaves of God and the lands of God. You will be interrogated even about the pieces of earth and the beasts”.

Once again Imam ‘Ali (as) highlights the importance of taking care of the environment and tells us that it our responsibility and we will be questioned about it.

## **WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN HELP THE ENVIRONMENT**

### **Don’t waste food**

In the Qur’an Allah (SWT) says:

“...and eat and drink but waste not by extravagance...”  
(7:31)

Wasting food is disliked by Allah (SWT) and is highly discouraged in Islam for many reasons; one of these reasons may be because of the harm it brings to the environment.

#### ***How does wasting food harm the environment?***

Producing food requires the use of large amounts of energy. This results in a lot of pollution. Pollution is when a substance has a harmful or poisonous effect on the environment. For example, the smoke that comes out of a factory producing food has harmful effects on the environment such as people inhaling poisonous chemicals. Smoke is a type of air pollution. Wasting food means more food has to be produced, which means more smoke and more pollution.

### **Don’t waste electricity!**

When we leave the light on or forget to switch off the power-point at home –we are wasting electricity. When electricity is produced (being used) energy is being used as well which causes pollution – this harms the environment. As good Muslims, we are responsible for taking care of the environment and we can do that by switching off the lights and power-points every time we are not using them.

### **Caring for Plants & Animals**

As part of caring for the environment, we must remember that we also need to make sure that we make conditions comfortable for other living creatures around

us. If someone came to our home and made a mess and spoilt all your things – we wouldn’t like that all. In the same way, we live with other living things such as plants and animals and we need to make sure that we can live in harmony with them.

Some ways we can care for plants is to water them so that they can grow and don’t step on them when we go outside. Also, we can care for the plants by not cutting down trees. We should also care for any animals who are in need. We should take care of a bird with a broken wing, or a hungry cat. We should not do this alone- we need to call our parents or another adult to help us.

## **Practical Activity**

Materials you will need:

- 1) A3 Paper
- 2) Textas/Colour pencils

Design a poster for someone who wants to be a good Muslim by caring for the environment. Draw pictures to help them understand ways they can improve their lifestyle to care for the environment: for example switching off the light when leaving a room or not throwing away food. The poster should be colourful and should be easy to understand. Ask your teacher for any help.

## **Review Questions**

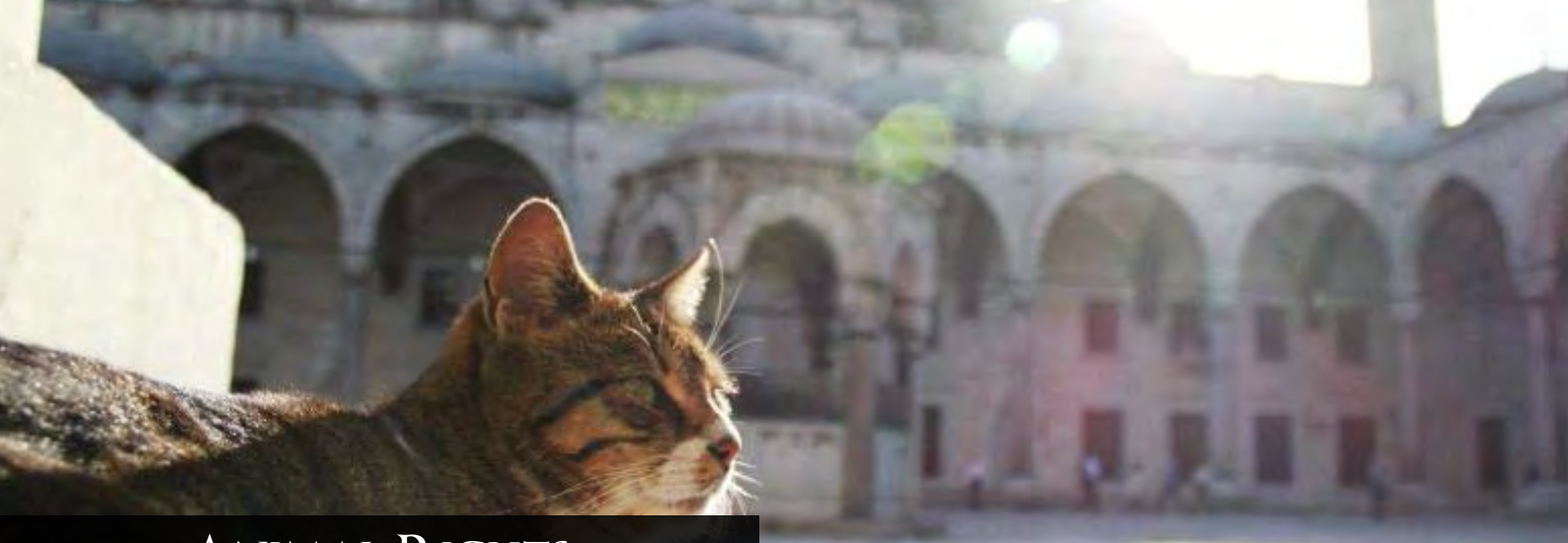
### **Q1. Our environment is:**

- a) Our bedroom at home
- b) The air, water, trees, plants and animals around us
- c) The whole solar system

### **Q2. The benefits of our environment are:**

- a) The colours of the sky and grass lift our mood and keep us happy
- b) The environment has no benefit at all
- c) None of the above





## ANIMAL RIGHTS

## حقوق الحيوان

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- That Islam has rules and rights related to animals and their welfare
- That while we can use animals for their proper use, we are not allowed to torture or hurt animals
- That Islam encourages us to take care of animals
- That we are not allowed to have dogs as pets

## SOCIAL ISLAM

## LEVEL 2

### Caring for Animals

Our religion, Islam, has guidelines for us with regards to everything. It teaches us how we should behave when it comes to dealing with other people and also how we should treat and take care of our world and environment. This includes the rights of animals.

Animals are a creation of Allah (SWT) and therefore need to be treated in a certain way. Unfortunately, some people abuse animals by throwing rocks at them, poking them with sticks, or even buying them as pets and then not taking care of them.

The Qur'an mentions that animals were created to assist humans in their life. Centuries ago, people would use animals for transportation and nowadays we use animals for food. For example we slaughter chickens and cows for our food. Islam allows this, and this is part of the

circle of life. However, we are not allowed to kill or hurt an animal for no good reason. So hunting for fun, or hitting an animal for amusement, are not allowed.

### TAKING CARE OF ANIMALS

If we have an animal or a pet at home that we cannot eat or do not want to use it as food, then it is our responsibility to take care of the animal. Taking care of an animal means doing the following:

1) Food – we must make sure that we are giving our pet enough food to meet their dietary requirements. We should make sure we are not over feeding them as in some cases this could kill the pet.

2) Drink – we need to ensure that there is always clean water for our pet. Furthermore, that water must be available for them to drink whenever they require.

3) Suitable Accommodation: It is our responsibility to ensure that our pet has got comfortable place to live and sleep in.

4) Medication: These days all pets need to have vaccinations to avoid them getting any sort of disease. It is our duty as good Muslims to make sure that our pet has the necessary vet care as well.

There is an important rule to remember when it comes to pets. In Islam we are not allowed to have dogs as pets because they are unclean animals. This does not mean that we can hurt or harm dogs. It just means that we cannot keep them as pets or let them enter our house.

## Review Questions

### Q1. We are allowed to use animals for:

- a. Playing a game with our friends to see who can aim the stone at the dog
- b. A proper use e.g. eating or transportation
- c. To see which animal is the strongest by sitting on them

### Q2. We are not allowed to have dogs as pets because:

- a. They are Najis
- b. They could bite us
- c. They can be scary sometimes







Lined area for writing notes or homework.







