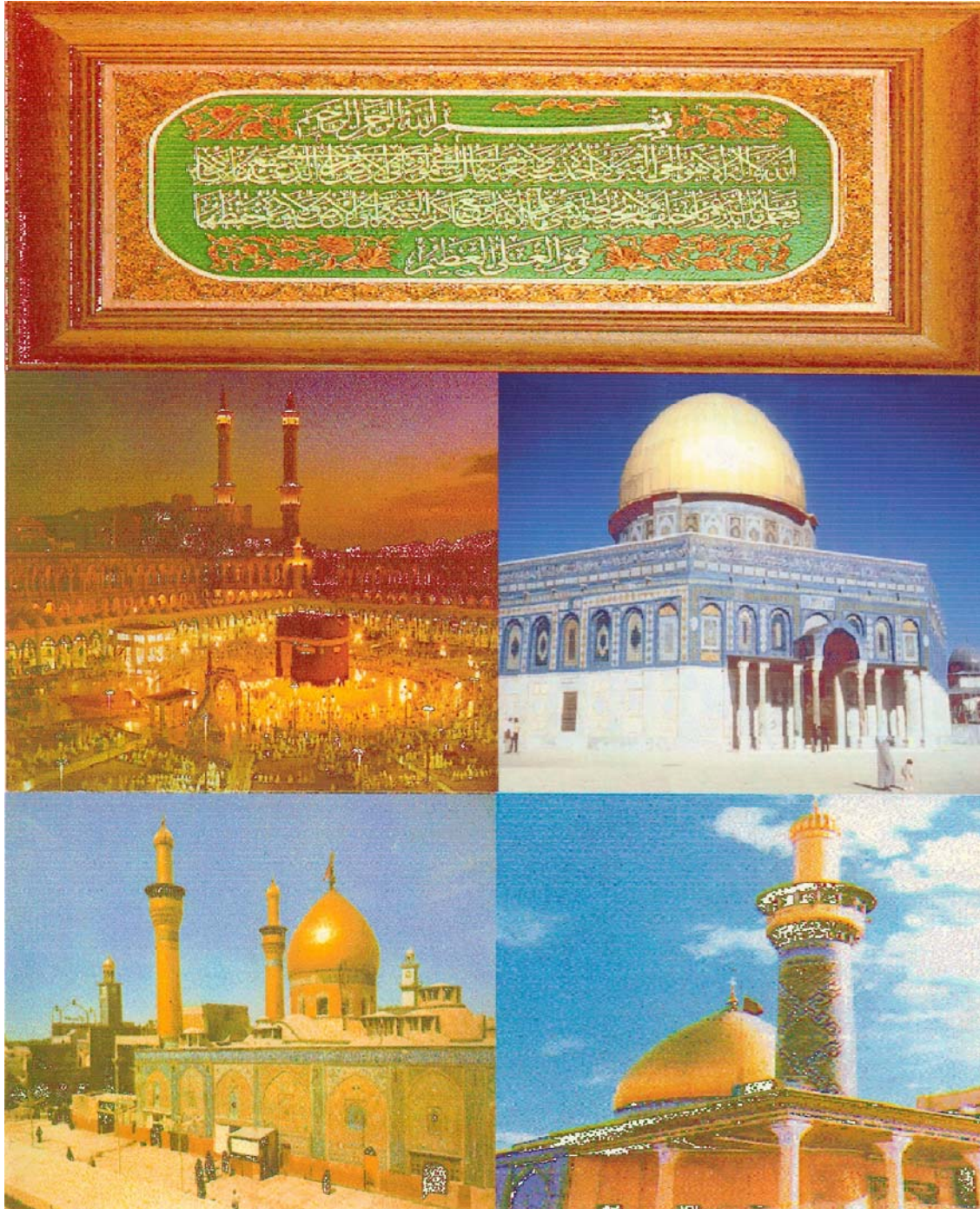


Madrasat Ahlul'Bait Islamic School

Grade 3 History



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Foreword

The material presented in this document is a result of an effort made by the personnel of the school of Ahlul'Bait of the Shia-Muslim Association of Bay Area Islamic Center at San Jose, California in cooperation with several schools of Ahlul'Bait at London-Stanmore, London-Hujjat, Vancouver, Minnesota and Toronto.

We, at San Jose, looked at material from London-Stanmore, London-Hujjat, Vancouver, Minnesota, Toronto and Irvine's Islamic institutions, as well as that available at various web-sites to compile age appropriate textbooks for use by our students. We thank the institutions that were kind enough to provide us with the electronic files of their curriculum. We used some of what they had and added to it what we felt was appropriate. We included more worksheets and pictures where deemed necessary. We also added some new topics that, we felt are important to the students.

We had two important goals in mind while working on this document. First, introduce the students to the important Islamic concepts and beliefs that are crucial for him/her to know. Second, expose the students to as many Quranic verses and sayings from Prophet Muhammad (p) and his Ahlul'Bait (a) as possible.

We thank Hujjatul Islam Maulana Nabi Raza Abidi for his spiritual guidance. We hope future efforts will continue taking place until reaching our goal of having a strong, rich and unified curriculum for the schools of Ahlul'Bait for all ages.

**Syllabus Committee
Madrasat Ahlul'Bait**

Preface

Now that the students have been introduced to the Islamic Calendar, some of the past prophets and the 14 Ma'sumeen (a), they will now cover history related themes so as to familiarize and enhance their understanding in these issues. Many of the themes will be covered in the Islamic months when these events have taken place. Eeds and another five lessons on Islamic holy cities are introduced. Lessons on Kerbalaa' continues in this grade

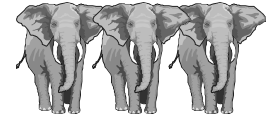
SECTION I: Islamic History

Chapter 1: Aamul Feel (The Year of the Elephant)

In 570 AD, the year of the birth of our Holy Prophet (p), a Christian governor called **Abraha** marched to **Makka to destroy the Holy Ka'aba**. He wanted to destroy the Ka'aba, because he wanted people to come and worship at a huge church he had built in Yemen.



Abraha's army also had elephants, which wasn't very common in Arabia. History calls this army "**Ashabul Fil**" or "**The People of the Elephant**".



When he reached Makka, he captured some camels belonging to the chief of Makka, Abdul Muttalib, the grandfather of the Holy Prophet (S). When Abdul Muttalib went to see him, Abraha thought he would ask him to spare the Holy Ka'aba. Instead, Abdul Muttalib asked for the camels to be returned.

Abraha laughed and said, "What! I have come to destroy your place of worship, and you are speaking of your camels!" Abdul Muttalib gave a famous reply, "**I am the owner of the camels, so I have come for them. The Ka'aba too has an Owner, Who will look after it**"

On his return, Abdul Muttalib ordered the people to leave Makka and go to the hills for safety. He then prayed to Allah to protect them and the Holy Ka'aba from any harm.

The next morning Abraha prepared to march towards Makka. All of a sudden, a flock of birds appeared from the side of the sea, holding tiny stones in their claws and beaks.

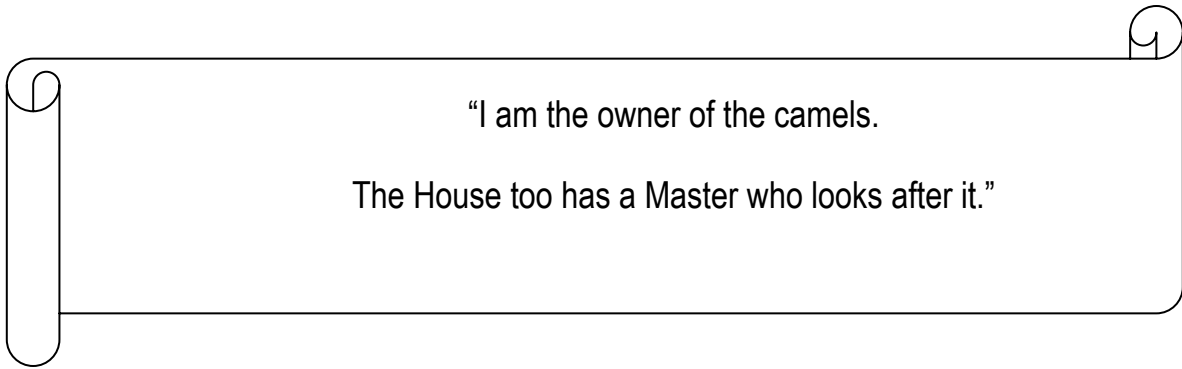


Each bird held three stones and they showered the stones on the army of Abraha in such a way that many men and elephants were soon dead. One of the stones hit Abraha on his head and he was so frightened that he ordered the remaining men in his army to retreat at once.



Many of his men died on the way back and Abraha himself died a painful death. This event is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an in Suratul Feel, Verses 1-5

1.1 Worksheet: Aamul Feel: (The Year of the Elephant):



1. Who said the above famous saying? _____

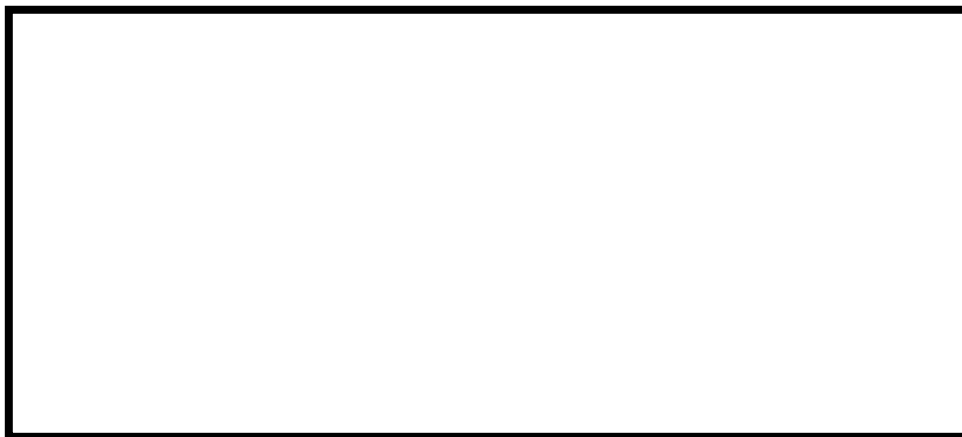
2. Which House was he talking about? _____

3. Draw this House:



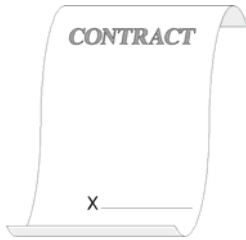
4. Who is the Master of this House? _____

5. Now draw what happened to Abraha's army of elephants.



Chapter 2: Bibi Khadija

Bibi Khadija was the first wife of Prophet Muhammad (p), and the mother of Bibi Fatimah (a).



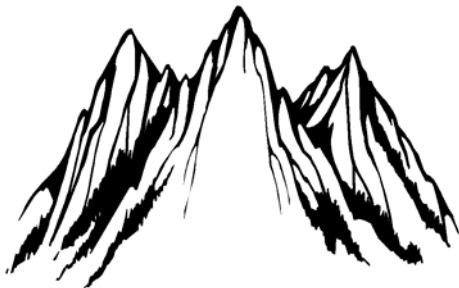
Her father was a wealthy trader. When her Bibi Khadija (a) continued his business of trade caravans to Syria and Yemen. Soon richest trader in Mecca and was known as "Mecca".



father died, sending she was the "Princess of

Prophet Muhammad (p) worked for Bibi Khadija, she liked his honesty and the way he treated people They soon they were married. At the time of their marriage the Holy Prophet (S) was 25 years old while Bibi Khadija (a) was 40 years of age.

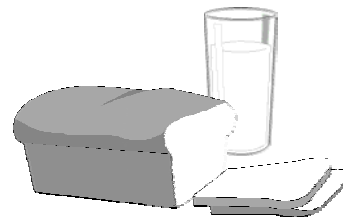
The Holy Prophet (S) and Bibi Khadija (a) were blessed with two boys. The first of whom was Qasim and the second Abdullah. Both boys died while still very young. This made the Holy Prophet (S) very sad and when his cousin Imam Ali (a) was born, he brought him up in his house as his own son.



The Holy Prophet (p) and Bibi Khadija then had a daughter, Bibi Fatimah (a).

Prophet Muhammad (p) used to spend a lot of time in a cave on Mount Hira near Makka. There, he would think about Allah and wonder at His creations.

Sometimes he would stay on Hira for many days at a time.



Bibi Khadija would regularly visit him, bringing food and water and making sure he was comfortable.

When Prophet Muhammad (p) was finally commanded by Allah to begin teaching Islam, Bibi Khadija was the first woman to accept his message and become a Muslim. She gave all her money to help spread Islam.

Bibi Khadija was married to the Holy Prophet (p) for many years before she died. She is buried in Makka.

The Prophet's uncle, Abu Talib also died in this year that has been named the **"Year of Grief"** or **"Aamul Huzn"** in Arabic.

While Bibi Khadija was alive, the Holy Prophet (p) did not marry another woman, and later said that she was the best of his wives.

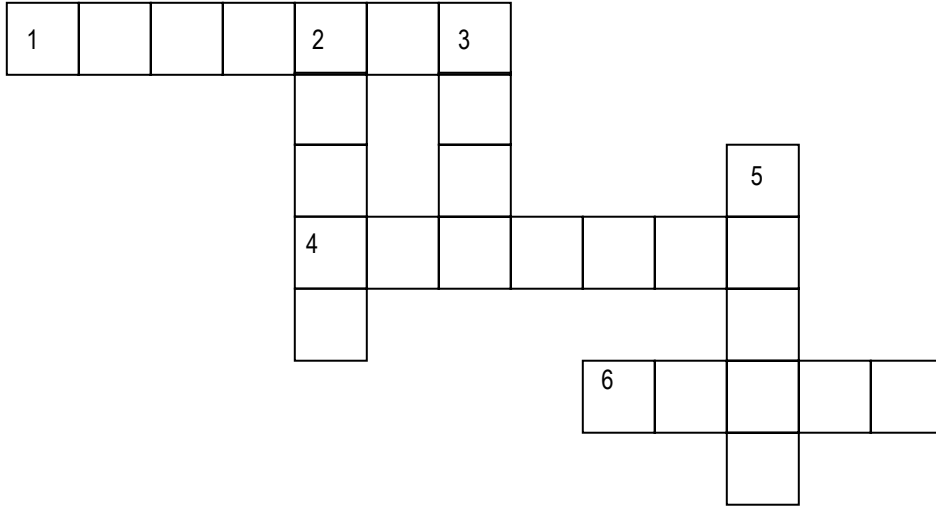
He also said that she was one of the 4 perfect women who had ever lived. The other three are:

- Bibi Asiya (wife of Firaun)
- Bibi Maryam (mother of Prophet Isa), and
- Bibi Fatimah (a)



2.1 Worksheet: Bibi Khadija

Crossword on Bibi Khadija:



ACROSS

1. The name of the daughter of Bibi Khadija.
2. The name of the wife of the Holy Prophet (p) who is known as one of the four perfect women in the world.
3. The name of the year in which Bibi Khadija died.

DOWN

4. The burial place of Bibi Khadija.
5. The name of the mountain where the Holy Prophet often went to meditate.
6. The name of one of her sons who died while still young.

Bibi Khadija was the richest trader in Mecca and was known as the _____

Chapter 3: Salman Al-Farsi (a.r.)

Salman was born in a small town in Persia (Iran) called Jiyye. His Persian name was Rozeba.

He was born into a Zoroastrian family (who worshipped fire although the sixth Imam has said that Salman never did *shirk*). Once he was sent out of his hometown by his father for an errand. He saw a church and heard voices. He went in and enquired and accepted the belief of one God and Prophet Isa (a) as a Prophet (At that time there was no trinity within Christianity). When he returned home and revealed to his father his acceptance of Christianity, his father was furious and punished him putting him in a dark dungeon.

Eventually freed by his Christian friends he joined a caravan and left Iran. When on the caravan he refused to eat dead animal meat and drink wine. The people of the caravan sold him to a Jew who made him work very hard. His master sold him to another Jew who lived in Quba (near Medina).

Salman was in search of the truth and the Prophet 'who was going to come (as he had learnt in Christianity). One day he overheard his master talking of the Prophet and heard that he (the Prophet) was on his way to Medina. When he heard of the Prophet's arrival in Quba Salman went to meet him. Salman had read of the signs of a Prophet -

- (i) Does not accept Sadaqa.
- (ii) Does not return gifts.
- (iii) Mark between shoulders.

Salman took dates as Sadaqa and noticed that the Prophet did not eat them. He also saw a cloud over the Prophet. .

When he visited Medina again he took dates as a gift and noticed that the Prophet accepted them. The third sign was apparent to him when he accompanied a funeral with the Prophet and saw the mark of Prophethood when the breeze moved the Prophet's cloak.

Salman accepted Islam and the Prophet's Prophethood.

One day the Prophet visited Salman who was ill. He prayed for him that Allah keep him far from all 'ills' (body & soul) till death. Therefore the name from there - Salman (Safety).

In Medina when the Prophet arranged *brotherhood*, Salman was made the brother of Abu Dharr Ghifari.

When Salman's Jewish master found that Salman had accepted Islam he did not like it and

was cruel to him. Salman wished to be a free man. For his freedom his master wanted 30-40 young date palms and 4oz of gold. He told the Prophet who requested the other Muslims to help. Soon with the help Salman was free.

Salman learnt as much as he could from the Prophet, at times spending whole nights with him. He learnt perfect Arabic and translated the Qur'an into Persian for his countrymen. Next to Imam Ali (a) there was none to match his bravery and knowledge.

The Prophet (P) called him:

"The first gift of Persia (Iran) to Islam".

It was Salman who advised the digging of the ditch around Medina in the battles of Khandaq. When the ditch was being dug both Ansars & Muhajirs claimed that Salman was one of them but the Prophet said:

"Salman is neither an Ansar nor a Muhajir but is one of us - the people of the house (Ahlulbayt)".

After the battle of Khandaq, the Muslims went to Taif where the people had enclosed themselves into walls. Salman taught the using of rocks in 'slings' to break the walls and Taif was won over.

The Prophet's death grieved Salman immensely and he cried continuously. He loved and served Imam Ali (a)

He was sent by one of the Khalifas for the conquest of Iran. With Imam Ali's permission he went and Iran was defeated. It was Salman who was entrusted to distribute the vast booty which was acquired from there.

With Imam Ali's permission Salman accepted the governership of Madaen.

Nearing his death he asked Asbagh bin Nubata (another companion) to take him to the cemetery of Madaen where he talked to a corpse about death. He told Asbagh that he was to die soon and recited *Kalima*.

Imam Ali (a) came from Medina to give ghusl and kafan to Salman and he was buried by Imam in Madaen.

3.1 Worksheet: Salman Al-Farsi

1. Salman Al-Farsi was born in a family that
 - a. Worshipped flowers
 - b. Worshipped idols (Buddhist)
 - c. Worshipped fire (Zoroastrian)
 - d. Worshipped only one God (Muslim)

2. Salman Al-Farsi later converted to
 - a. Christianity
 - b. Buddhism
 - c. Hinduism
 - d. Judaism

3. Which one according to Salman was NOT a sign of the Prophet
 - a. Does not accept Sadaqa
 - b. Do not return gifts
 - c. Mark between shoulders
 - d. Always wears expensive clothes

4. In Medina when the Prophet arranged brotherhood, Salman was made brother of
 - a. Ali ibn Abu Talib
 - b. Abu Dharr Ghifari
 - c. Ammar Yassir
 - d. Jabir Ibn Abdullah

5. The prophet said, "Salman is neither an ANSAR nor a MUHAJIR but is _____"
 - a. One of us (the people of the house, AHLULBAYT)
 - b. The best looking person in Medina
 - c. Man from Iran
 - d. One of the Meccan

6. In Imam Ali's period, Salman Al-Farsi was governor of _____
- a. San Jose
 - b. Mecca
 - c. Madaen
 - d. Taif
7. _____ came from Medina to give ghusl and kafan to Salman
- a. Prophet Muhammad (s)
 - b. Imam Ali (a)
 - c. Imam Hassan (a)
 - d. Abu Dharr Ghifari

Chapter 4: Adhan

Adhan is the call to Salaat. When someone hears the Adhan they know that the time for Salaat has set in.

There are 5 Salaat which are Wajib – we have to pray them. Each of these Salaat have a special time when they should be prayed.

The Adhan lets everyone know that it is that special time when they have to pray their Salaat.

Allah likes very much for us to say Adhan before we begin Salaat, even if it is not exactly when the time has set in.

When you were born each one of you had Adhan said in your right ear and Iqamah in your left ear.

If Adhan is being said you should say it with the person saying it, but softly.

4.1 The First Mu'adhim

The Prophet (s) was looking for a way to announce the time of salaa. After the masjid in Medina was built, people came to pray Salatul Jama'a regularly but were often late. To be able to find out the time for salaa they had to look at the sun. There were no clocks or watches at the time.

Lots of different ideas were put forward. Some people suggested a trumpet or a bell ... the Prophet (s) did not like any of these ideas.

It was then Jabrail came down with the Adhan chosen by Allah for the announcement of Salaa.

The Prophet (s) taught the Adhan to Imam Ali (a) and told him to teach it to Bilal.

Bilal was appointed for the duty of calling Adhan. He had a loud and clear voice.

Bilal was therefore the first Mu'adhim of Islam. Mu'adhim is one who calls out Adhan.

4.2 Worksheet: Adhan

Fill in the blanks.

1. _____ is the call to Salaat.
2. Wajib salats are _____ in number.
3. _____ was the first Muadhin of Islam.
4. Angel _____ -came down with the Adhan chosen by Allah for the announcement of salat.
5. _____ taught Adhan to Bilal.

Chapter 5: The Month of Rajab

Rajab is one of the four months declared sacred by Allah in the Holy Qur'an

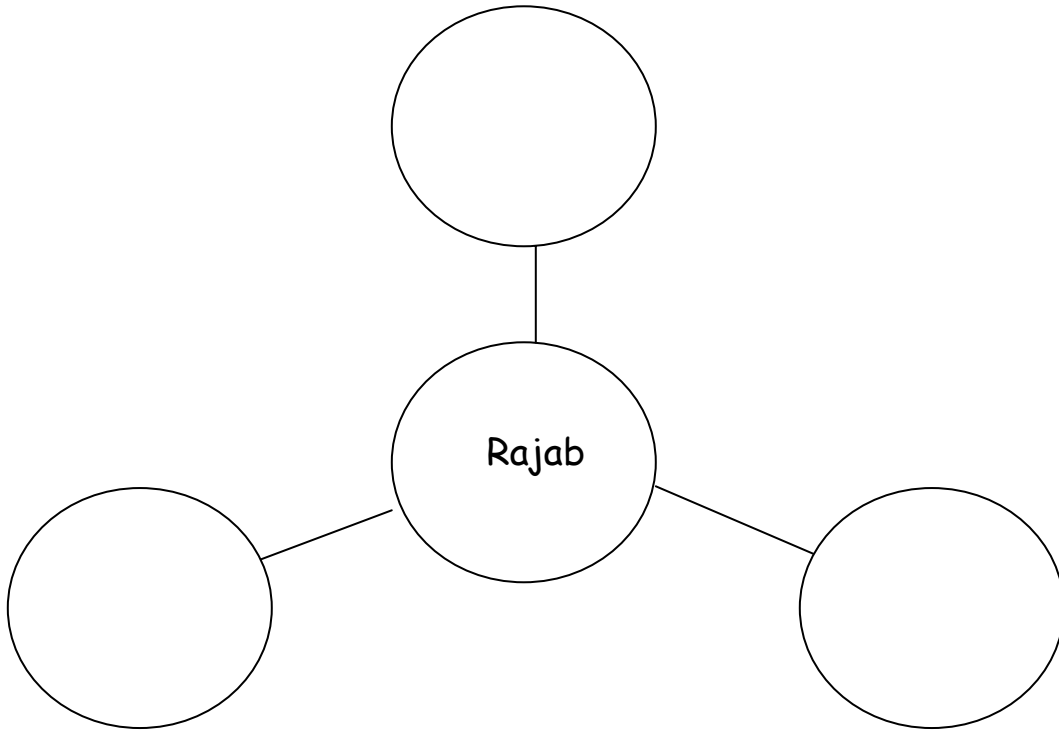
The Prophet Muhammad (s) is reported to have said that the month of Rajab is the month when Allah's mercy descends on His creation like gentle rain. He further said that it is the month of **Istighfar** – a month when one should seek forgiveness of sins.

It is highly recommended to fast in the month of Rajab. Recite Surah Al-Ikhlās at least 100 times (1000 or 10000 times will accrue more rewards) in the month of Rajab.

It is also said that there is a river in Janna called Rajab which is whiter than milk and sweeter than honey. The Prophet Muhammad (s) has said that he / she who fast in this month will drink from this river.

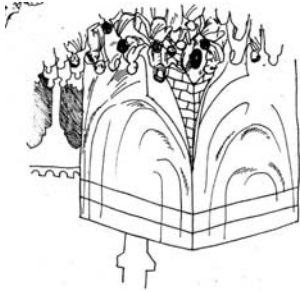
5.1 Worksheet: Month of Rajab

Write the recommended deeds for the month of Rajab in the circles:



Chapter 6: Eid-ul-Hajj

Eid ul-Haj is also known as Eid ul-Adha (Eid of Sacrifice).



It takes place on the 10th of Dhulhijja, and marks the end of Haj of Muslims to Makka.

This Eid honours the sacrifice of Prophet Ismail by his father, Prophet Ibrahim.

One day, Prophet Ibrahim dreamt that he was sacrificing his young son, Prophet Ismail. This day is called Yawme Tarwiyah which means, the Day of Dream.



Prophet Ibrahim often received Allah's his dreams, but because he was being asked his son, he wondered whether it was real.



the First

commands in to actually kill

He had the same dream the next day, and was now sure it was a true command. So, the 9th of Zilhaj is known as Yawme Arafaat, which means the Day of Knowledge

So, Prophet Ibrahim took his son into the desert.

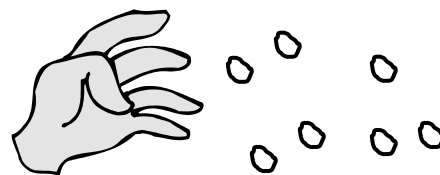


On the way, Shaitan, disguised as an old man, convince Prophet Ibrahim that he was making a mistake in killing his son.



tried to terrible

Three times Shaitan came, and each time Prophet Ibrahim made him go away by throwing seven small stones at him.





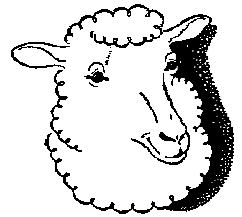
When they reached Mina, Prophet Ibrahim laid his son on the ground and took a knife.



Prophet Ismail saw how upset his father was, and asked him to blindfold himself so that he would not have to see his son die.

Prophet Ibrahim did as his son requested, and then cut the throat of his son.

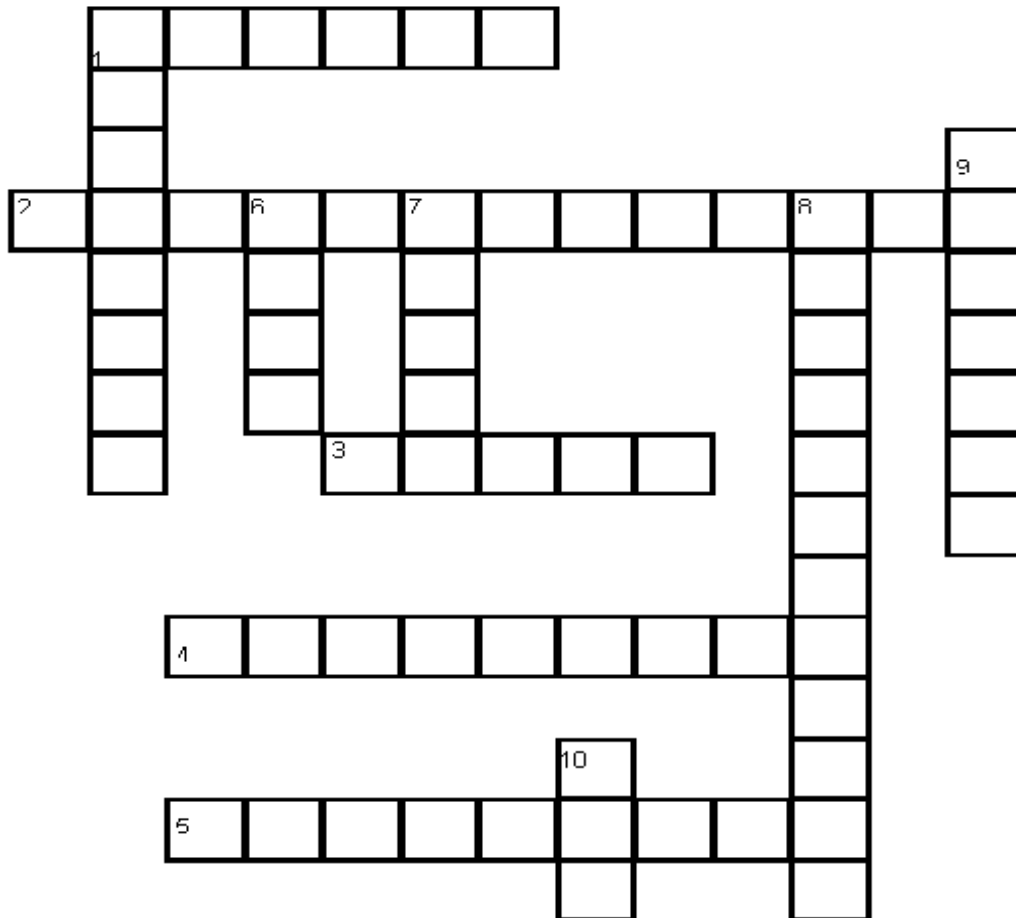
But when he removed the blindfold, he was surprised to see that he had slaughtered a male sheep instead, and that his son was standing safe beside him.



Allah was so pleased with Prophet Ibrahim that he has made this sacrifice of a sheep wajib for all Muslims as the last stage of Haj.

6.1 Worksheet: Eid ul-Hajj

Crossword on Eid ul-Haj.



ACROSS

1. The Prophet who was taken to be sacrificed on Eid ul-haj.
2. The day of the first dream - in Arabic.
3. What was found sacrificed in place of the Prophet.
4. The name of the month in which Eid ul-haj occurs.
5. The other name given to Eid ul-haj.

DOWN

6. The father of the Prophet who was taken to be sacrificed.
7. The place where the sacrifice took place
8. Which day in the month does Eid ul-haj occur
9. The day of Knowledge - in Arabic
10. Who tried to mislead the Prophet on his way to sacrifice.
11. What does this Eid mark the end of?

Chapter 7: Eid-e-Ghadeer

On the 18th of Zilhaj , Allah commanded Prophet Muhammad (p) in the Qur'an to stop at a place called Ghadeer-e-Khum (the pond of Khum).



A friend of the Prophet
the people to gather

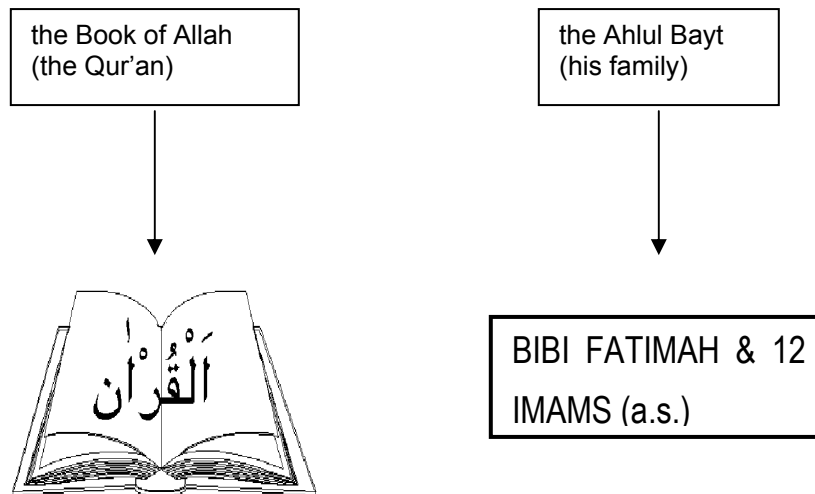
The Holy Prophet (p) led



called all
around.

the Salaat.

Then, he stood so that all the people could see him. He told everyone that when he died, he would leave behind two special things:



The Prophet (p) explained that if the people follow **BOTH** the Qur'an **AND** the Ahlul Bayt, Allah will always be happy with them.

But if the people follow only the Qur'an, and don't listen to the Ahlul Bayt, then Allah will **NOT** be happy with them.

Then Prophet Muhammad (p) held up Imam Ali (a) hand, showing him to all the people, and said whoever considered the Prophet (p) their leader must also consider Imam Ali (a) their leader.



Then, he prayed to Allah to love those people who love Imam Ali (a), and hate those who do not love him.

Allah then said that the religion of Islam had been completed that day.

This day is known as Eid-e-Ghadeer.

7.1 Worksheet: Eid-e-Ghadeer

Write the meaning of the following ayat, then learn it.

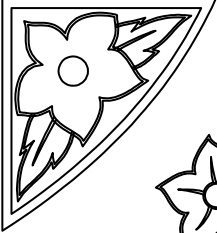
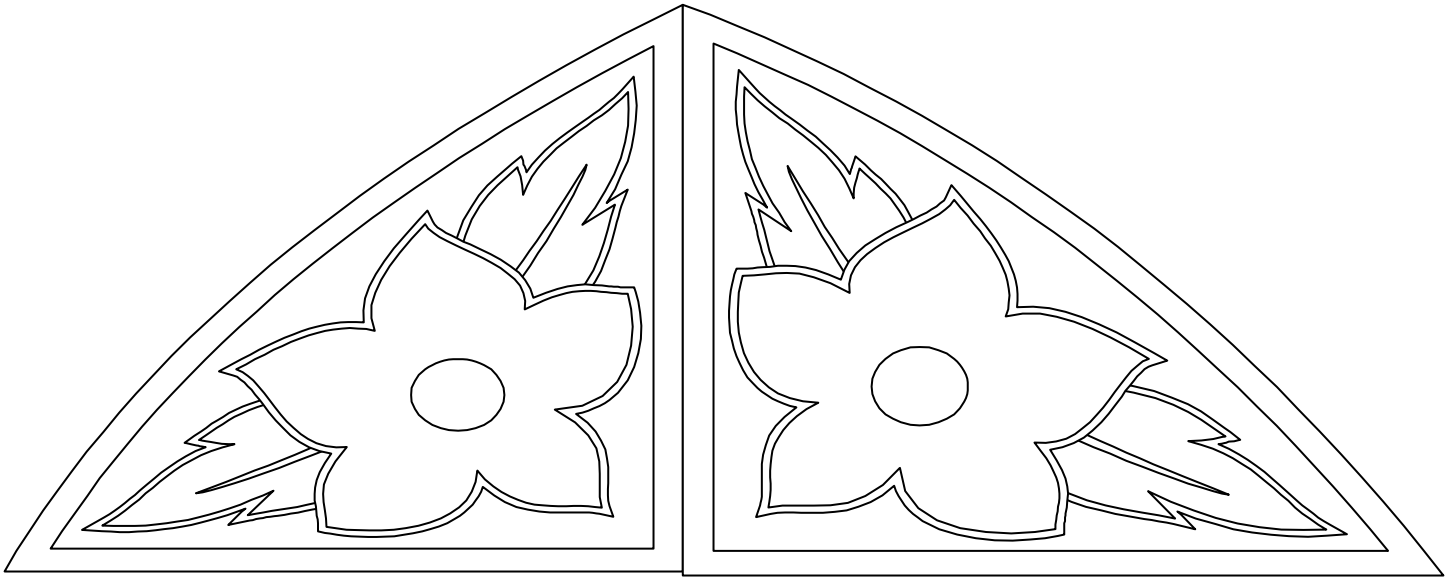
مَنْ كُنْتُ مَوْلَاهُ فَهَذَا عَلِيٌّ مَوْلَاهُ

It means:

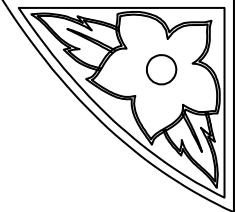
Write what 2 things the Holy Prophet (p) said he was leaving behind.

1. _____

2. _____



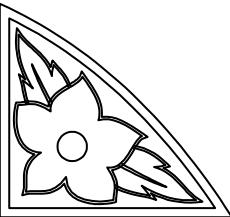
"Man Kuntu



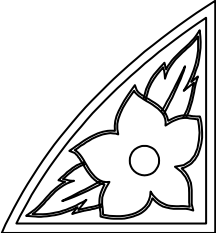
Mawlahu,

fa Hadha

Aliyyun Mawlah"



"Of whomsoever I am the Master (Mawla),
this Ali is also his Master"





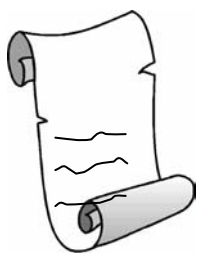
"Man Kuntu Mawlahu,

fa Hadha

Aliyyun Mawlah"

"Of whomsoever I am the Master (Mawla), this Ali is also his Master"

Chapter 8: Eid-e-Mubahila



The Holy Prophet (p) had sent letters to many different countries inviting them to Islam. One letter was sent to the Christians of Najran.

The Christians wanted to meet the Holy Prophet (p)



When they arrived in Medina, the Holy Prophet (p) was sad to see them dressed in silk and gold, and he ignored them.

Imam Ali (a) asked them to change into simple clothes, and the Holy Prophet (p) was then happy to see them.

They talked, but the Christians would not listen to the Prophet (p).

They believed in Prophet Isa as the son of God, because he had no father.



Allah sent down a verse from Sura Aali Imran, saying that if they called Prophet Isa the son of God (as he has no father), then they should also call Prophet Adam the same, because he was born without a father **or** mother.



The Christians did not have an answer to this, but they still argued because they did not want to say they were wrong.

Allah ordered the Holy Prophet (p) to do "Mubahila" with the Christians.

Mubahila means to curse one another.

The next day, on the 24th of Zilhaj, the Holy Prophet (p) came out for Mubahila with Imam Hasan (a), Imam Husain (a), Bibi Fatimah (a) and Imam Ali (a).

The Christians, on seeing the shining faces of the Panjatan began to tremble and shake.

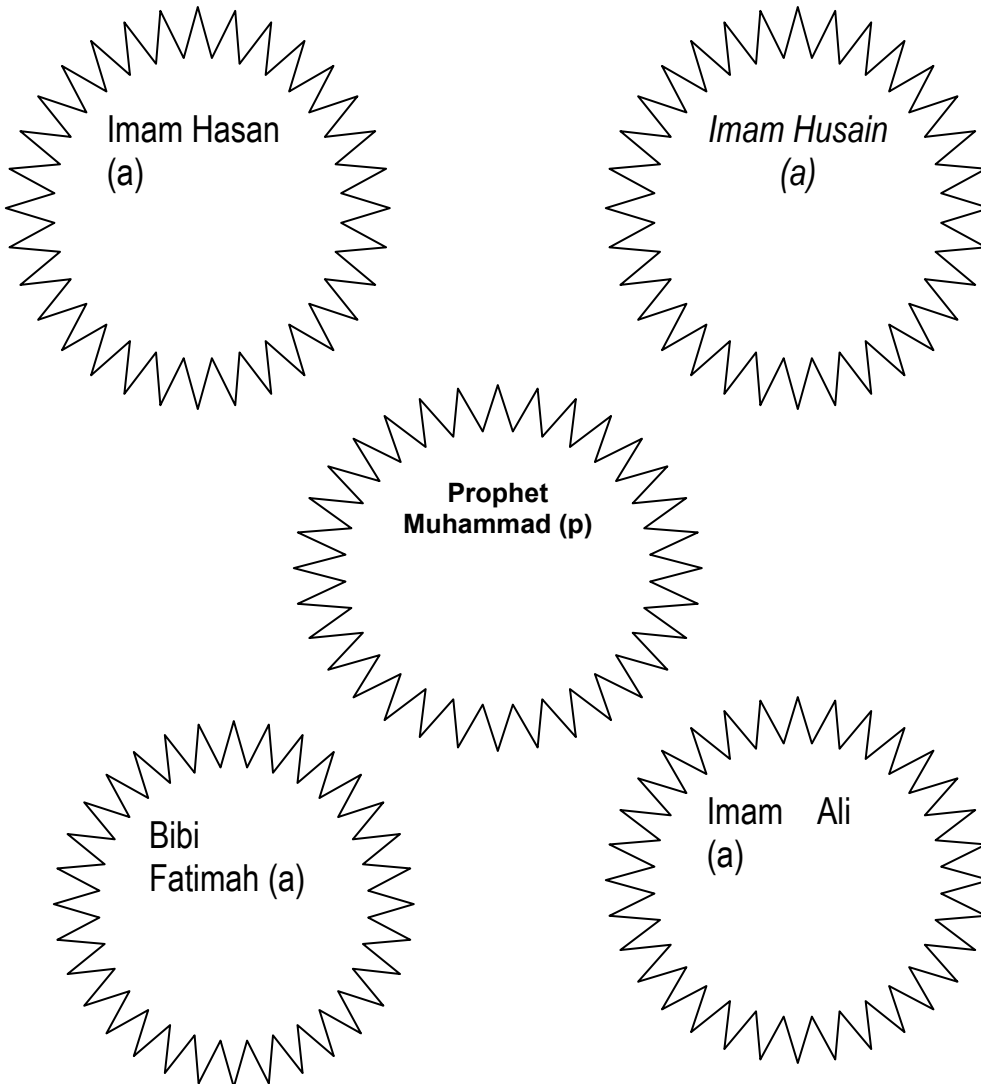
They backed away and realised that they had failed.

8.1 Worksheet: Eid-e-Mubahila

On what date did Mubahila occur?

Mubahila occurred on: _____

For the challenge of Mubahila, the Holy Prophet (p) came out with the following people. Why and who did they represent?



Chapter 9: Bibi Maryam

The story of Sayyida Maryam (a) and that of her blessed son Prophet Isa (a) has been recorded in the Holy Quran in Sura al-Maryam. Sayyida Maryam (a) was the daughter of Imran. She was from the descendants of Prophet Dawood (a). Just before Sayyida Maryam (a) was born, her mother prayed to Allah to grant her a child whom she would dedicate to the service of the Holy Mosque in Baytul Maqaddas. Her prayer was granted and although she had expected to have a son, she kept her promise and delivered Sayyida Maryam (a) to the trustees of Baytul Maqaddas. They decided that Prophet Zakariya (a) would bring up the child.

When Sayyida Maryam (a) was a young girl, Prophet Zakariya (a) built her a special house where she lived and worshipped. When he went to visit her he found that she always had food. Prophet Zakariya (a) asked her where the food came from and she said that it came from the Mercy of Allah, Who always provides for the ones He loves. Even when she was a child, Sayyida Maryam (a) spent all her time in the ibadah (worship) of Allah, and was very close to Allah. She was the first woman to live and worship in the Baytul Muqaddas, and her story shows us that gender is not important in the presence of Allah; what is important is taqwa, or our relationship with Allah. Allah was so happy with Sayyida Maryam (a) that she is mentioned by Prophet Muhammad (p) as one of the four women of paradise.

One day while she was doing her ibada, Sayyida Maryam (a) was startled to see a young man suddenly appear before her. She was scared but the man said, "Do not be frightened, I am the angel Jabrail and have brought to you the glad news that Almighty Allah is soon going to bless you with a son. He will be great in the world and hereafter and will speak while still in his cradle." Angel Jabrail (a) also said. "Allah has power over all things."

After the angel had left Prophet Isa (a) came in this world. Sayyida Maryam (a) was worried about how she would explain a baby without a father to the people. Quran says:

Do not grieve; your Lord has caused a stream (to flow) from beneath you. And shake towards you the trunk of the palm tree, it will drop on you fresh ripe dates. Then eat and drink ...
Surah Maryan 19:24,26

She returned to Baytul Muqaddas with baby Isa (a) in her arms. The Jews who saw her were surprised and began to accuse her saying that she had acted in a shameful manner while her parents had not been immoral people. She did not reply, but merely pointed at her baby. The people of the town looked at her with suspicion. The Qur'an says:

But she pointed unto him. They said, "How can we speak to one who is a child in the cradle?" He (Isa) said, "Verily I am a servant of Allah. He has given me a Book and

made me a Prophet. And He has made me blessed wherever I am and He has enjoined on me prayer and Zakat for as long as I live. And (to be) dutiful to my mother and He has not made me insolent ...” Sura Maryam 19:29-31

The emperor Herodotus, learnt about the miraculous birth of Prophet Isa (a) and was immediately concerned about the threat to his power and plotted to kill Prophet Isa (a). However, Sayyida Maryam (a) learnt of the danger to her son and she left with him for Egypt.

Prophet Isa (a) lived in Egypt with his mother until he was 30 years old. The Injeel was revealed to him and he returned to Baytul Muqaddas. He was granted the miracles of curing the sick and raising the dead to life.

9.1 Worksheet: Bibi Maryam

Answer the following questions:

1. Why did Sayyida Maryam (a) live in the Baytul Muqaddas?

2. What did Sayyida Maryam (a) tell Prophet Zakariya (a) about the food she had?

3. Why do you think God chose Sayyida Maryam (a) to be one of the four women of paradise ?

4. What are the names of the three other women of paradise ? _____

Chapter 10: Islamic holy cities in Saudi Arabia



Map of Arabia

10.1 Mecca al-Mukarramah

- The Holy Ka'aba. The House of Allah and the birth place of Imam Ali b. Abi Taalib [a]
- Hajar al-Aswad (The Black Stone)
- Maqam Ibrahim
- Hijr Ismail. This was the location of the house of Prophet Ismael [a]. He and his mother are buried here.
- Well of Zamzam
- Hatwim. According to the book "*Adabul Haramain*", this is the place between the door of the Ka'aba and Hajar al-Aswad. It is called Hatwim "the smasher" because it smashes major and minor sins of one who seeks forgiveness here.
- Mount Safa
- Mount Marwa

10.1.1 Jannat al-Mualla (Cemetery in Mecca)

- It is the 2nd holiest graveyard after Baqi. Those buried here include:
- Qasim: son of the Holy Prophet (s.)
- Abd Manaf: Great, great-grandfather of the Holy Prophet [s]

- Grave of Hashim: Great-grandfather of the Holy Prophet [s]
- Grave of Abdul Muttalib: Grandfather of the Holy Prophet [s]
- Grave of Amina: Mother of the Holy Prophet [s]
- Grave of Abu Talib: Father of First Imam Ali [a]
- Grave of Khadija: First wife of the Holy Prophet [s] and mother of Sayyida Fatima [a]
- Jabal Nur. The mount on which the Cave of Hira is found
- Cave (*ghar*) of Hira
- Cave of Thaur
The cave where the Holy Prophet [s] hid from his enemies when migrating to Medina
- Birth Place of the Holy Prophet [s]

10.2 Medina al-Munawwarah

10.2.1 Masjid al-Nabawi

- Shrine of Holy Prophet of Islam, peace be upon him & his Household
- Grave of Sayyida Fatima al-Zahra [a]. Daughter of the Prophet [s] and wife of Imam Ali [a]. According to some historians she is buried in Jannatul Baqi
- Room (*hujra*) of Sayyida Fatima al-Zahra, peace be upon her
- Pulpit (*minbar*) of the Holy Prophet [s]
- Prayer niche (*mihrab*) of the Holy Prophet [s]
- The door (*bab*) of Archangel Jibrail [a]
- *Maqam* of Archangel Jibrail [a]

10.2.2 Jannatul Baqi

- Graves of Imam Hasan (2nd Imam), Imam Zaynul Abidin (4th Imam), Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (5th Imam), and Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq (6th Imam), peace be upon them
- Grave of Sayyida Fatima [a]. Daughter of the Prophet [s] and wife of Imam Ali [a]. Location of her grave is unknown. According to some historians she was buried in her own room (now inside Masjid Nabawi) next to the Holy Prophet [s]'s *darih*
- Grave of Fatima bint. Asad [a]: Mother of Imam Ali [a]
- Grave of Ja'far al-Tayyar [a] - brother of Imam Ali, peace be upon him.
- Grave of Ibrahim [a]: son of the Holy Prophet [s]

10.2.3 Masjid Quba:

First mosque of Islam

10.2.4 Masjid Qiblatayn (i.e. the mosque of two *qiblas*)

The mosque where the Holy Prophet [s] was commanded to change his *qibla* from Masjid al-Aqsa (Jerusalem) to the Holy Ka'aba (Mecca)

10.3 Arafat

10.3.1 Jabal Rahmah

10.3.2 Masjid Numrah

10.4 Mina

The Three Jamaraat:

1. Jamaraat al-Ula,
2. Jamaraat al-Wusta, and
3. Jamaraat al-Uqba

Chapter 11: The Islamic holy cities in Iraq



11.1 Najaf

Pilgrimage sites

1 Mausoleum of 1st Imam Ali b. Abi Taalib (a.s)

There are 3 graves in one *darih*:

- Grave of Imam Ali [a]
- Grave of Prophet Adam [a] - 1st prophet and man on earth
- Grave of Prophet Nuh [a]

2 Wadi-us Salaam

- Tomb of Prophet Hud [a]
- Tomb of Prophet Saleh [a]
- Maqam of Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq [a]
- Maqam of Saheb al-Asr, Imam Al-Mahdi [a]
- Mosalla of Imam Ali Zayn al-Abidin [a]

3 **Tomb of Hadrat Kumayl** - companion of Imam Ali [a]

4 **Tomb of Rashid Hijri** - companion of Imam Ali [a]

5 **Masjid Hannana**

This mosque is between Kufa and Najaf. The significance of this mosque is that when Imam Hasan [a] and Imam Husayn [a] were carrying the *janaza* of Imam Ali [a] from Kufa to Najaf, they passed near this mosque, and as they were passing, the pillars of the mosque inclined towards Imam Ali [a] as if paying its last respects.

6 **Grave of Sayyid al-Khui**

Grand-mujtahid (*marja'*) to 450 million Muslims since 1970 (d. 8th August 1992)

11.2 Kufa

Pilgrimage sites

1

Chapter 12: Masjid Kufa

- Mehrab-e-Ibadat. The place where Imam Ali [a] was martyred
- Mausoleum of Muslim ibn Aqil [a], cousin and ambassador of Imam Husayn [a] to Kufa
- Mausoleum of Hani ibn Urwa, companion of Imam Husayn [a]
- Mosalla of several prophets.

2

Chapter 13: House of Imam Ali, peace be upon him

3 **Masjid Sahla.**

13.1 Kerbala

Pilgrimage sites

1 **Mausoleum of 3rd Imam al-Husayn (as)**

There are 3 graves in one *darih*:

- Grave of Imam Husayn [a]
- Grave of Ali Akbar, son of Imam Husayn [a]
- Grave of Ali Asgher, son of Imam Husayn [a]

2 **Mausoleum of Hadrat Abbas b. Ali [a]:** Brother and Standard-bearer of Imam Husayn (as)

3 **Grave of Habib ibn Madhaheer (as)** friend of Imam Husayn(as)

4 **Ganj-e-Shohada** - graves of the rest of the martyrs of Kerbala

5 **Qatl-ghah**

6 **Grave of Ibrahim son of 7th Imam Musa al-Kadhim (as)**

7 **Til-e-Zaynabiya (as)**

8 **Khaimaghah**

11 **Mausoleum of Hur** (companion of Imam Husayn [a] in Kerbala) - 3 miles from Kerbala

13.2 Kadhmayn

Pilgrimage sites

1 **Mausoleum of 7th and 9th Imams, Imam Musa al-Kadhim and Imam Muhammad al-Jawad (as)**

13.3 Samarra

Pilgrimage sites

1 Mausoleum of 10th and 11th Imams, Imam Ali al-Naqi and Imam Hasan al-Askari (as)

The main *darih* has four graves:

- Grave of 10th Imam Ali al-Naqi (as)
- Grave of 11th Imam Hasan al-Askari (as)
- Grave of Sayyida Halima Khatoon [a] daughter of Imam Ali al-Naqi [a] and sister of Imam Hasan al-Askari [a]
- Grave of Sayyida Nargis Khatoon [a], mother of the 12th Imam Al-Mahdi, peace be upon him

2 Cellar (*sardab*) of 12th Imam Al-Mahdi (as) where he was last seen. Also called *Maqam Ghaybat* (i.e. the place of occultation)

Chapter 14: Islamic holy cities in Iran



14.1 Mashad al-Muqaddas

Pilgrimage sites

- 1 Mausoleum of 8th Imam Ali b. Musa al-Rida, (AS)

14.2 Qum

Pilgrimage sites

- 1 Mausoleum of Fatima bint Musa [a]

Daughter of 7th Imam [a]. Well-known as Masooma Qum

- 2 Masjid Imam Hasan al-Askari(as).

Near the mausoleum of Masooma Qum

- 3 Masjid Jamkaran

Built in 393 AH under orders of the 12th Imam [a]. This is outside Qum

Chapter 15: Islamic holy cities in Syria



15.1 Damascus

Pilgrimage sites

1 Tomb of Bibi Zainab (as)

Daughter of Imam Ali [a] and Sayyida Fatima al-Zahra [a]

2 Bab Saghir (also called "*Goristan-e-Ghariban*")

This is a street with cemeteries on either side of the road

- Tomb of Bibi Ruqayya [a]: daughter of Imam Husayn [a]
- Tomb of Bibi Umm Kulthum [a]: sister of Imam Husayn
- Tomb of the Prophet's [s] wives (ummahatul mu'minin): Umm Salma and Umm Habiba
- Tomb of Bibi Fidha, the maid of Sayyida Fatima (the Prophet's daughter), [a]
- Tomb of Fatima Sughra bint Imam Husayn [a]
- Maqam Ra's Shuhada. The burial place of the heads of the martyrs of Kerbala. Also called "*ganj-e-sarha-e-shuhada-e-Kerbala*"

3 **15.2 Prison**

This place can be reached by walking through Souk Hamidiyya (i.e. the Hamidiyya bazaar)

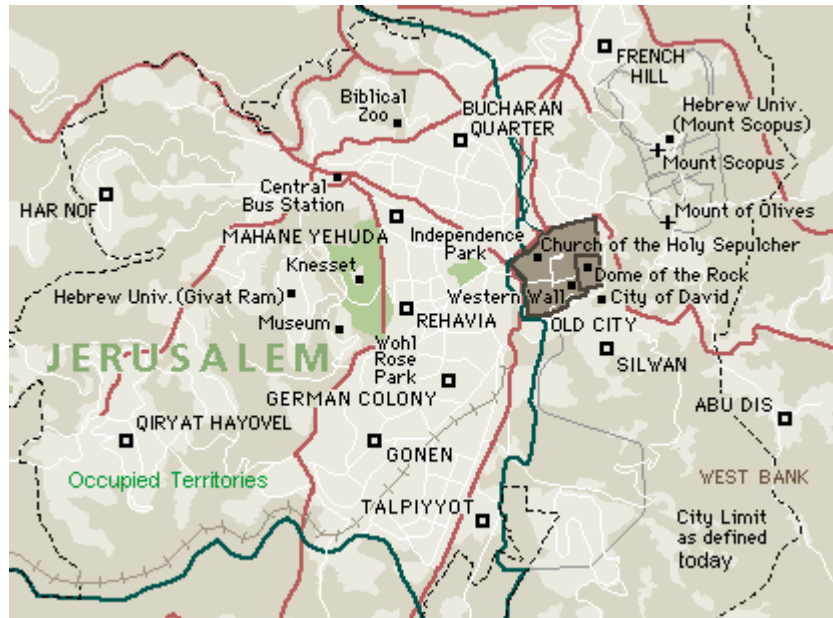
- Mausoleum of Sakina [a]: daughter of Imam Husayn [a]
- Prison of Ahlul Bayt [a]
- Pulpit (*minbar*) of Imam Zaynul Abideen [a]
- Niche (*mihrab*) where Imam Zaynul Abideen [a] used to say his prayers
- Place where Imam Zaynul Abideen [a] prayed when he went to take the head of Imam Husayn [a]

4 **Umayyad Mosque (Jaami al-Amawi)**

This is a walking distance from the Prison:

- The Pulpit from which Imam Zaynul Abidin [a] delivered a sermon before Yazid
- Grave of Prophet Yahya [a] son of Prophet Zakariya [a]
- Place where the head of Imam Husayn [a] was kept in Yazid's treasury

Chapter 16: Baitul Muqaddas



Pilgrimage sites

1 Masjid al-Aqsa (Dome of the Rock)

Prayer-niche (*mihrab*) of Imam Ali, peace be upon him
Room of Maryam, mother of Prophet Isa, peace be upon them
Room in which there are the mosallas of forty prophets

2 Masjid Sakhra

Sakhratullah: reported hillock from where Prophet Muhammad [s] ascended (*me'raj*)
Mosalla of nine prophets
The tongue of the stone that replied Prophet Muhammad [s]
Mosallas of Prophet Dawood [a], Prophet Sulaiman [a], Prophet Ibrahim [a], Prophet Muhammad [s], and Archangel Jibrail [a]

3 Tomb of Bibi Maryam [a], the mother of Prophet Isa [a]

4 The Cave of Prophets (*ghar al-anbiya*): between Jerusalem and Damascus

5 According to the book "*Umra and Ziyarat*", tomb of Prophet Uzair [a] - between Jerusalem and Damascus. (Isn't he supposed to be one of the four prophets still alive?)

6 Tomb of Prophet Musa [a]: 10 miles from Jerusalem

Historic sites

- 1 Court room of Prophet Sulaiman [a]**
- 2 Stable made by Prophet Sulaiman [a] - now closed**
- 3 Well of Rooh - now closed**

Hebron - Khalil al-Rahman

Pilgrimage sites

- 1 Tomb of Prophet Ibrahim, peace be upon him.**
- 2 Tomb of Sarah, wife of Prophet Ibrahim and mother of Prophet Ishaq, peace be upon them.**
- 3 Tomb of Prophet Ishaq, son of Prophet Ibrahim, peace be upon them.**
- 4 Tomb of Rifka, wife of Prophet Ishaq, peace be upon them.**
- 5 Tomb of Prophet Ya'qub, son of Prophet Ishaq, peace be upon them.**
- 6 Tomb of Lanika, wife of Prophet Ya'qub, peace be upon them.**
- 7 Tomb of Prophet Yusuf, son of Prophet Ya'qub, peace be upon them.**

Chapter 17: Ashaabul Kahf - The People of the Cave

Do you not think that the people of the Cave and of the Inscription (Raqeem) were of Our wonderful signs? When the youths sought refuge in the cave they prayed, "Lord grant us mercy and help us to get out of this trouble in a righteous way." We sealed their ears for a number of years. Then We roused them to see which of the party had the correct account of the duration of their sleep. We tell you this story for a genuine purpose. They were young people who believed in their Lord and We gave them further guidance. We strengthened their hearts when they stood up (against the idol-worshippers) and said "Our Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth. We shall never worship anyone other than Him, lest we commit blasphemy.

Holy Quran: Kahf, 18 : 9 - 14

Afsoos was a famous city that once flourished on the West Coast of Asia Minor. It was part of the Roman Empire and the king was a kind and just ruler. During his reign, there was peace and prosperity. When he died, there was a division amongst the people as to who should rule. While they had no leader, **Dacius**, a neighboring king, invaded their land and annexed it to his kingdom. He ruled them from 249 A.D. to 251 A.D. Dacius was a violent persecutor of the faithful Christians who lived at the time.



Six (or seven) young men stood up for their beliefs and had to leave the town to escape the cruel king. On their way, they met a shepherd who gave them some water to drink. When they told him about their intention of finding a secluded place to worship Allah in peace, he joined them with his dog. The shepherd led them to a fertile valley, through which they came upon a mountain and entered a cave called **Kahf**. Meanwhile, Dacius followed the fugitives, determined to make an example of them. When they heard the sounds of pursuit get closer, the men prayed to Allah to rescue them from the merciless king. Soon afterwards the young men were overcome with a deep sleep and the dog sat outside the cave. The king reached the spot and sent in his minister to bring the men out. The minister was a faithful believer in Prophet Isa (a). When he when he saw the young men sleeping, he came out and reported that they had all died of fright. This news pleased the king, who ordered that the cave be shut. A stone tablet, with the name of the men and the date of the event inscribed on it, was put at the entrance of the cave. This is why these people have been referred to as those of the Cave and the Inscription in the Holy Qur'an, which says:

They will say, "They were three, the fourth of them was their dog", and (others) say, "Five, the sixth of them was their dog", guessing about the unknown; and (others) say, "Seven and the eighth of them was their dog." Say (O Muhammad), "My Lord knows best their number... Kahf, 18 : 22 (Part)

Allah caused the young men to sleep for about 180 years before they woke up. When they consulted one another it seemed to them that they had slept for a day or even less. They were all starving so they decided that one of them would go into town and secretly purchase some food and bring it back. They prayed to Allah to first open the entrance to the cave. This prayer was granted and they emerged from the cave. The sight that greeted them amazed them. The entire landscape had changed. Little did they know that Dacius was long dead and this was the time of the reign of the kind Christian king Theodosius I, who ruled from 408 A.D. to 450 A.D.



The man who went to the town to get food saw that everything was different. The houses did not look right and people were dressed in strange clothes. He looked about in amazement, wondering if he was dreaming. At length, he approached a baker and asked for some bread. The baker was surprised to see the oddly dressed young man who spoke an ancient language and was offering him outdated money.

He asked him whether he had discovered the coins in some treasure. The young man replied, "No, this is the money I made after selling my dates the day before yesterday." The baker did not believe this tale and took the man to the king. When the young man told his story, the king informed him that Dacius was long dead and he then asked to be shown the cave and its inhabitants. Just before they reached the mountain, the young men told the king and his courtiers, "Let me inform my comrades of the situation so that they are not alarmed by your presence."

When he entered the cave and told the rest about his experiences, they were worried that it might be a trick and that they would be arrested. Therefore, they prayed to Allah to restore them to their original condition. Their prayer was granted and they were again overcome with a

deep sleep. After a while the king approached the cave and found the men and their dog asleep. The sight made him believe their story and he decided to build a mosque at the spot in respect of the miracle that had occurred at this place.

The Holy Qur'an says:

And they stayed in the Cave three hundred years and add nine (more). Kahf, 18:25

17.1 Worksheet: People of the Cave - Ashaabul Kahf

Fill in the blanks:

1. _____ was a famous city in Asia and was part of the Roman Empire
2. _____ was the cruel King who persecuted Christians at the time.
3. The shepherd joined Ashaabul Kahf with his _____.
4. Ashaabul Kahf slept for _____ years before they woke up for the first time.

Dog

Afsoos

Dacius

180

D N W N A M I R J P T R Y J D
 L Z N E E F K D W R I K K M Z
 J A J E L X 5 Y F K y F G K X
 0 M Q R C G Y 0 Y L P Q 0 Q F
 C A B Z E V A C 0 X E U D I M
 R I M Q 0 F D E A 5 A U 5 C E
 D X C 5 I H H U 0 L W L 0 A T
 K C K Z Q R D A L Z L X D G E
 L Q H M M V F A K Q R Q Y I E
 5 H T R B D H W U T Z P V D T
 W M Z T 5 H E H K I T M I R Y
 N G Y N L Q v V N W L E C P K
 E M K D E T U 5 5 Q 0 K W T X
 T B 5 R E R X T C C V R L U W
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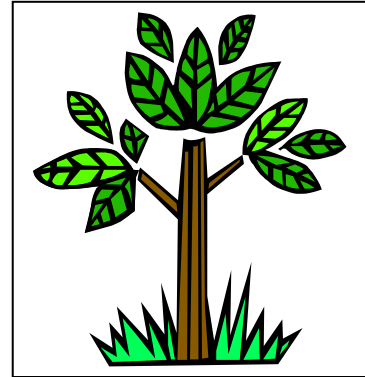
AFSOOS
DOG
KITMIR

ALLAH
DUA
RAQEEM

CAVE
KAHF
SLEEP

Chapter 18: The people of Raas

The people of Ras lived between Azerbaijan and Armenia on the bank of the river Ras during the time just after Prophet Sulayman (a). They lived in twelve towns situated along the river. The largest of these towns was Isfandar where the king, Tarqooz, lived. Tarqooz was a descendant of the cruel king Namrud who had ruled at the time of Prophet Ibrahim (a).



The people of Ras worshipped the "Sanobar". This was a huge pine tree that had been originally planted at Isfandar by Yafas, son of Prophet Nuh (a), after the great flood. There was a spring at the foot of the pine tree and nobody was allowed to drink from it because it was considered to be the life blood of the god.

The people of Ras cultivated the lands around the river and Allah blessed them with a pleasant climate and a life of comfort. In spite of this, they were unmindful of His favours and thoughtlessly turned to the pine tree for their needs. Twigs from the great tree would be taken to homes and also worshipped. During the days of festival, animal flesh would be burnt and offered to the tree as sacrifices.

To educate and guide these ignorant people, Allah sent to them His Prophet. Although the name of the Prophet is not mentioned in history, we do know that he was from the descendants of Yahuda, son of Prophet Ya'qub (a).

The Prophet tried to bring the people to their senses by pointing out the error of their ways. He taught them about the blessings and bounties of Allah and warned them not to worship anything besides Him. However, in spite of his continuous efforts, the people turned a deaf ear to the Prophet's words and carried on worshipping their pine tree.

On the day of their festival the Prophet sadly watched the people prepare for the ceremonies. As he observed the dedication and enthusiasm with which they were preparing to glorify their tree, he invoked Allah to dry up the tree so that the people may realize the absurdity of their worship.

The prayer was granted by Allah and the shocked people watched their pine tree wither and begin to die before their eyes. However, instead of learning a lesson, they decided that their god was annoyed at the interference of the Prophet and resolved to sacrifice him to appease their god.

The people of Ras seized the Prophet and threw him into a large pit. Thereafter, they covered the pit and thus buried him alive. For some time the cries of the Prophet were heard but then there was quiet as his soul departed this world. The people turned to their tree to see if it had recovered. Instead, they noticed the signs of Divine Punishment.

Suddenly, the Wrath of Allah broke over the whole tribe. A red blast of wind swept through them and destroyed the entire population.

All that was left at the end was a black cloud which hung over the entire region, plunging it into darkness. Thus, the people of Ras faded into obscurity, providing posterity with a valuable lesson.

The Holy Qur'an mentions them in the following verses:

And the (tribes of) Aad and Thamud and the inhabitants of Ras, and generations between them in a great number. And to each of them We gave examples (lessons, warnings) and We destroyed every one (of them) with an utter extermination. (Quran 25:38,39)

...The people of Nuh and the dwellers of Ras, Thamud, Aad, Fir'aun and the brethren of Lut and the dwellers of the Forest and the people of Thubba' had all rejected the Prophets. Thus My promise (of their doom) was proved true. (Quran 50:12-14)

18.1 Worksheet: People of Raas

1. Where did the people of Ras live?

2. Who did the people of Ras worshipped?

3. What happened to the prophet whom Allah had sent to guide the people of Ras?

SECTION II: Special Occasions

Chapter 19: Friends of Imam Hussein (a)

Although Imam Hussein's (a) was very small compared to the army of Yazid, he had many brave friends in Kerbala who loved him as their Imam, and who sacrificed their lives in the cause of Islam on the Day of Ashura. The following are the stories of five of his friends whose names are not commonly mentioned.

19.1 Hur bin Yazid ar-Riyaahi

He was one of the important people of Kufa, and was a respected officer in the army of Ubaidullah ibne Ziyad. He had been ordered to keep Imam Hussein (a) away from Kufa, and it was Hur who had diverted (turned) Imam (a) to Kerbala.

Hur had never expected that the situation in Kerbala would become so serious. He had thought that the people might listen to the message of Imam Hussein (a) and had not thought that they would harm him. On the night of Ashura he approached Amr ibne Sa'ad, the commander-in-chief of the forces, and asked him if the battle would definitely go ahead. Amr replied that the governor of Kufa, Ubaidullah, would not listen to any reason and was keen to kill Imam Hussein (a).

That night Hur paced in his tent, hearing the sounds of worship from the camp of Imam Hussein (a). He was unable to sleep because he realized that by taking part in the killing of Imam Hussein (a), he would commit a crime that would surely earn him Hell. On the morning of Ashura, he waited for the armies to gather. Muhajir bin Aws saw him trembling with emotion and asked, "What is the matter with you. I have never seen you act like this before. If I was asked who is the bravest warrior from Kufans. I would certainly mention you."

Hur replied, "I see myself between Hell and Heaven. By God, I will not choose anything but Heaven, even if I am cut to pieces and burnt." Saying this, he turned his horse and galloped to the side of Imam Hussein's (a) camp.

Hur approached Imam Hussein (a) and begged his forgiveness. Such was Imam Hussein's (a) character that he said, "I forgive you and God will also forgive you." Hur asked to be allowed to sacrifice himself first since it was he who had first resisted him. Hur was one of the first martyrs to be killed on the Day of Ashura from the army of Imam Hussein (a),

19.2 Muslim bin 'Awsaja al-Asadi

Muslim was one of the greatest supporters of Imam Hussein (a). At the time of his martyrdom he was a very old man and had even seen the Holy Prophet (s). He used to pray the midnight prayers (Salat al-Layl) regularly. He was an expert horseman who had fought well in previous wars. He was well known and respected throughout Arabia.

On the night before the day of Ashura, Imam Hussein (a) gathered all his friends in a tent. He told them that the enemy, the army of Yazid, hated him but didn't want to kill the rest of his companions. He turned to his companions and said "I have not known any companion who is more faithful and devout than you, nor have I known any family who is more considerate, affectionate, favorable, and amiable than my family... and I permit all of you to go away freely while I validate this for you. I lift you from you the responsibility of the allegiance and oath (which you have sworn at my hands)." Then Imam said that the night was dark and no one would see them if his friends wanted to leave but were embarrassed. When Imam said this Muslim bin Awsaja stood up and said "How can we leave you? On the day of Judgement when we are in the presence of God, what excuse will we give to explain why we left our Imam alone on the battlefield? No, by God! I will pierce this sword into the heart of the enemies and if I have no weapon I will attack them with stones. By God! Even if I know that I shall be killed and then made to rise again and then killed and burnt and my ashes be scattered around, and this shall happen seventy times, even then I will never leave you until I am killed in your obedience."

The next day on the day of Ashura Muslim bin Awsaja was one of the first to be killed in the way of Islam.

19.3 Abu Thumaama al-Sa'idi

He was a horseman and had fought at the side of Imam Ali (a) in every war. He had actively supported Muslim bin Aqeel in Kufa. On the day of Ashura he had expressed his desire to pray behind Imam Hussein (a) on that last time. Imam Hussein (a) had blessed him for remembering the prayers at such a dangerous time and had said that, on the Day of Judgement, Abu Thumaama would be in the special group of those who are mindful of their prayers. Abu Thumaama was killed in the fight that broke out when he requested the enemy to give them time to pray.

19.4 Sa'id bin Abdallah al-Hanafi

Since fighting had not been suspended, Imam Hussein (a) and his companions prayed the specially shortened form of the daily prayer called Salaatul Khawf. While he led the prayer, Imam Hussein (a) was shielded from the enemy arrows by Sa'id bin Abdallah al-Hanafi and Zuhayr bin Qayn.

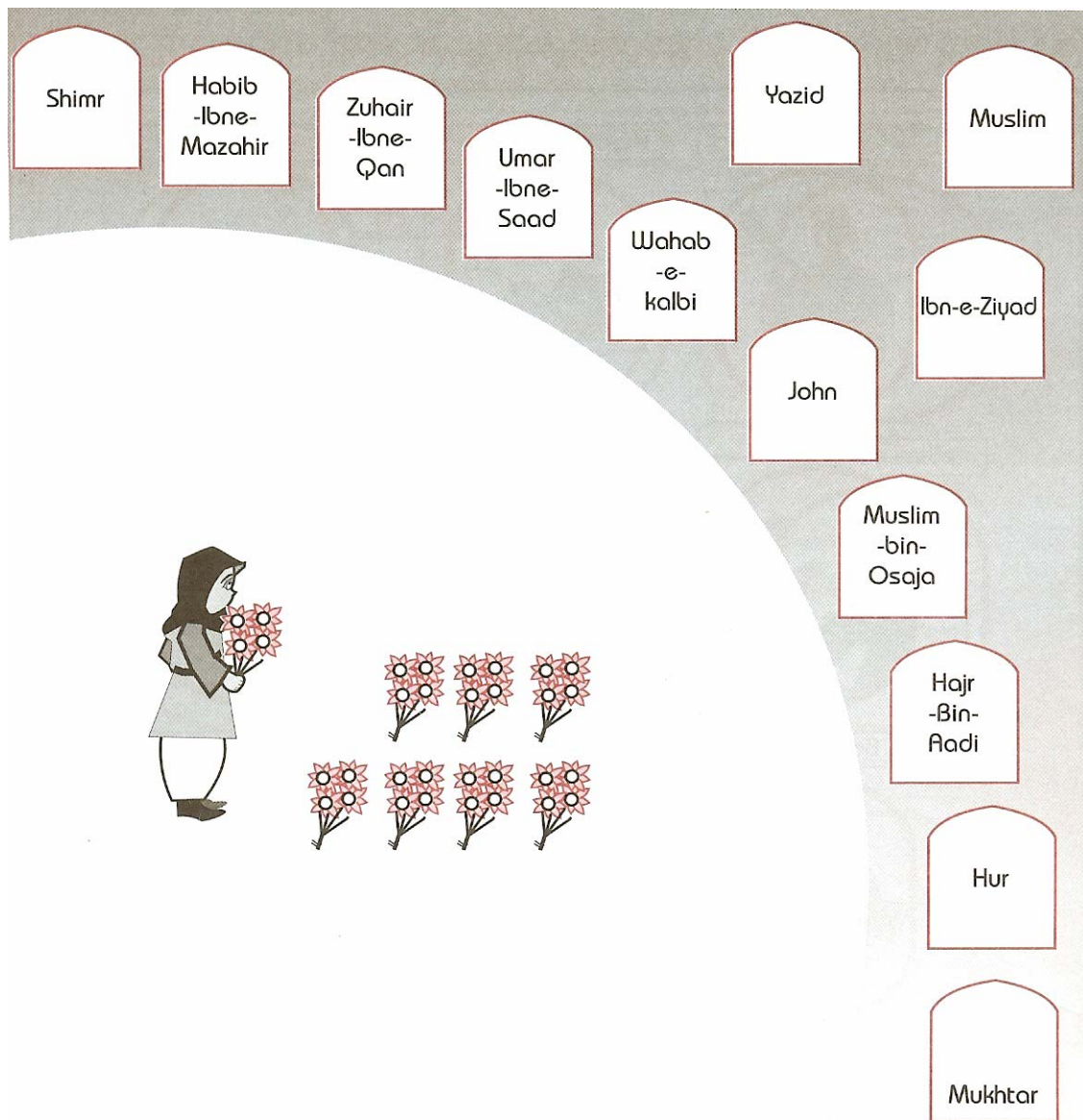
Sa'id was a prominent Shia from Kufa and was known for his bravery and devotion to prayers. On the day of Ashura he stood in front of Imam Hussein (a) and his men while they prayed. Just as the prayers finished, he fell down dead with 13 arrows in his body.

19.5 Zuhayr bin Qayn bin Qays al-Bajali

He was an experienced warrior who had originally disagreed with the views of Imam Ali (a) regarding the revenge of the murder of Uthman, the third Caliph. But on his way back from Hajj, he met Imam Hussein (a) at Zarud and their discussion made him convert completely to the cause of Imam Hussein (a). He commanded the right wing of the army and fought bravely in the initial stages of the battle. At the time of prayers he also stood guard and was grievously wounded by arrows. When he saw that the enemy had reached dangerously close, he made his final charge and fell fighting.

19.6 Worksheet: Friends of Imam Hussein (a)

The friends and companions of Imam Hussain (a) helped him to save Islam by offering their lives. Fatemah wishes to present bouquet to them. Please help Fatemah and color the names of companions of Imam Hussain (a) in red.



P X J K S I Z Z P A W W N Y R
 I R R U I T M N B D S A H Z G
 G F C R Z X U U R A C H 0 B 0
 I D L L U C T V E Y I A J V Z
 A A B I S H F E E N A B M M T
 I V E L A Z D U ,wC D R D P T
 H T W M B A Z W A H S B U V P
 J A A L A L I H E 0 M M F B Y
 S M B J V R Z F R I I U I R T
 A E 0 I F U A Y M P L L D U A
 L T D M B N A N E B S J H V I
 A F R E Q H H C M G U X A N Z
 G J Q R U P P J J B M T U S M
 L C X Z U H L I H P Z I N H F
 H B V 0 S T W D Y H U Z U U N

Find the following names

AABIS
 HABIB
 JOHN
 SAEED

ABUTHAMAMA
 HILAL
 MUSLIM
 SHA WZAB

BURAYR
 HURR
 NAFE
 WAHAB

Questions:

1. Write a story of one of the friends of Imam Hussein (a) who died in Kerbala in your own words. Why is he special? What do we learn from his story?

2. Salat (prayers) is mentioned many times by the friends of Imam Hussein (a). What do we know about the feeling for Salat? What does this teach us about Salaat?

Chapter 20: The Tragedy of Kerbala: Sons of Muslim bin Aqeel (a)

Imam Hussain (a) sent his cousin Muslim bin Aqeel (a) to Kufa as his emissary. Muslim (a) had taken with him his two sons Muhammad and Ibraheem. After Muslim (a) was killed; Muhammad and Ibraheem were also arrested and put into a dungeon. It is said that Muhammad was just eight years old and Ibraheem was ten years old.

On the 20th of Dul-Hajj in 60 Hajrah, when the jailer came to give the children their evening meal, he saw them saying their prayers. The jailer waited. When the boys had finished their prayers, he asked them who they were. When the jailer learnt that they were the sons of Muslim bin Aqeel (a) and the grandsons of Imam Ali (a), he let them escape. The children came out of the prison. It was a dark night. Their first thought was to go to Imam Hussain (a) and warn him not to go to Kufa. Everywhere they went, they found the roads blocked by Ibne Ziyad soldiers. It was impossible to get out of Kufa. Now it was almost day-break. Where could these two young boys go?

They found themselves by the side of the river Euphrates. They drank some water from the river and then went up a tree to hide for the day. Just then a woman came to the river to get water. She saw the two young boys and asked them who they were. Ibraheem said, "We are two orphans, could you please leave us alone and not tell anyone that you have seen us?" The woman asked them to accompany her to her mistress who would help them.

The woman's mistress was a kind lady. After talking to the boys for a while she realized who they were. She gave them food and said to them, "You can spend the day here and I will try to help you. Unfortunately my husband Harith is working for Ibne Ziyad. He is out at the moment. You can rest in the spare room but make no noise otherwise when he comes back, he will find out you are here".

The children said their prayers and went to sleep. In the evening Muhammad woke up and started crying. Ibraheem asked him why he was crying. Muhammad said "I saw our father in my dream. He was calling out for us". Ibraheem said, "Brother, be patient, I also saw our father in my dream beckoning us to him". They both started weeping. Harith, who had come back, heard the children crying. He opened the door and asked the children who they were. On learning they were sons of Muslim bin Aqeel (a), he tied both the boys to a pillar. Harith's wife tried to stop him, but he beat her up. Harith wanted to collect the reward which Ibne Ziyad had offered to anyone capturing the children.

The children spent the whole night tied to the pillar. In the morning Harith dragged them to the river bank. He took out his sword. Ibraheem asked him, "Harith, are you going to kill us?" Harith said, "Yes!" Ibraheem said, "In that case give us time to finish our morning prayers". The two boys said their prayers. They raised their hands and cried out "Inna Lillaah Wa Inna Ilay-hi Rajeeoon! O Allah we are coming to you. Give our mother courage when she hears of our death and judge between us and our killers!!" The sword came down! There were splashes in the water. Two young bodies were seen floating away in the waters of the river Euphrates.

20.1 Worksheet: Martyrdom of sons of Muslim bin Aqeel (a)

Choose the correct answer:

1. Muslim bin Aqeel (a) was the cousin of _____
 - a. Prophet Muhammad (s)
 - b. Imam Hussain (a)
 - c. Imam Ali (a)

2. Muslim bin Aqeel (a) was killed in _____
 - a. Kerbala
 - b. Medina
 - c. Kufa

3. The two sons of Muslim bin Aqeel (a) were _____
 - a. Hasan and Hussain (a)
 - b. Musa and Haroon (a)
 - c. Muhammad and Ibraheem (a)

4. _____ wanted to collect the reward which Ibne Ziyad had offered to anyone capturing the children.
 - a. Shimr
 - b. Harith
 - c. Yazid

5. Sons of Muslim bin Aqeel(a) were martyred near river_____
 - a. Nile
 - b. Euphrates
 - c. Tigris

Chapter 21: Events after the Day of Ashura

Not content with spilling the innocent blood of Imam Hussain (a) and his companions, Umr ibne Sa'ad, the commander of Yazid's army, ordered the horses to be run over the bodies of the martyrs.

Yazid's soldiers marched into the camp of Imam Husain (a) where they looted the tents and snatched from the women their ornaments and even their hijabs from their heads.

Not satisfied with this, the enemy set fire to the tents.

On 12th Muharram, when the Umayyad forces left Kerbala, the people of the tribe of Bani Asad from the nearby village came down and buried the bodies of Imam Husain (a) and his companions on the spot where they were murdered.

21.1 The Journey to Damascus

The commander of Yazid's army, Umr ibne Sa'ad decided that the captives should be led through Kufa to Damascus to the court of Yazid. Umr ibne Sa'ad marched directly on to Damascus to inform Yazid about the events of Kerbala, and to obtain his promised reward.

Seventy two heads were raised on the points of the lances, each of them held by one soldier followed by women of the Prophet's family on camels.

Some soldiers were appointed to bind the ladies and children. They tied ropes and chains around their hands and feet. They ladies were put on camels with no saddles. Imam Zainul Abideen (a) was heavily chained and made to walk on foot, despite his weakened condition.

Finally the caravans go underway for Kufa. Within few hours, the caravan reached the outskirts of Kufa. Shimr decided to send a messenger to inform the governor, Ubaidullah ibne Ziyad, of their arrival. The messenger returned, saying that all preparations have been made, and the captives should be marched through the main streets of the town.

Finally the caravan reached the court of the governor. Bibi Zainab (a) related the status of the Holy Prophet (s) and his Holy Ahlul Bayt (a).

- She reminded the governor of the teachings of Islam about the considerations to be given to prisoners, especially women and children.
- She warned him about the temporary nature of his victory and the doom that he and his evil master Yazid would soon face.

- She began to tell the assembled people about the inhuman crimes committed against Imam Hussain (a) and his companions

Ubaidullah realized at once that the situation could get out of hand. The speech of Bibi Zainab (a) could cause an uprising against him if he did not act quickly. He ordered his men to get rid of the companion of the Holy Prophet (s) and told Shimr and Khooli to get the captives out of Kufa immediately.

21.2 The Journey from Kufa to Damascus

The caravan of the captive families of Imam Hussain (a) and his companions was led by Shimr through the deserts of Iraq and Syria, from Kufa to Damascus (Sham).

Throughout the journey people noted with wonder that the lips of the severed head of Imam Hussain (a) kept on reciting verses from the holy Quran. The following verse was clearly heard by the people.

Do you think that the people of the Cave and of the Inscription were of Our wonderful miracles? Sura-e-Kahf 18:9

The captives finally reached Damascus. On reaching the city gates, the caravan was halted and Yazid was informed of their arrival and his permission was sought to bring the captives into his court.

21.3 The Court of Yazid

As the caravan was paraded through the streets, the people of Damascus saw the captives and were moved by their pitiable condition. The children were crying with hunger and thirst, many onlookers threw them dried dates as alms. *Bibi Zainab (a) and Bibi Umme Kulthum (a) asked the hungry children not to eat these dates as it was Haraam for them. They requested the people not to throw them food as Sadqah, because the Holy Prophet (S) had forbidden his family to eat sadqa.*

Finally, the prisoners arrived at the court of Yazid. After a wait of one full hour under the scorching sun, the orders came from Yazid to admit the captives into the court. As they entered they saw that the Yazid sat on an elevated gold throne while his courtiers and foreign ambassadors sat on gilded chairs around him. Yazid was already quite drunk.

Umr ibne Sa'ad introduced the Ahlul Bayt to him.

Bibi Zainaib (a) and Imam Zain ul Abedeen (a) gave historical sermons; Yazid would up the session, deciding to imprison the captives in the dark dungeons of the fort of Damascus.

Imam Zain ul Abedeen (a) and the women from the House of Prophet remained in the prison in Damascus for over a year.

By these cruelties, the Muslims were made to see how wicked the Umayyads are. People began to show love towards the prisoners, and cursed Yazid. It became necessary for Yazid to free them or else his rulership was in danger.

It is important to note that Yazid did not free Imam Hussain's family from prison out of kindness. It is not true also to think that Yazid was sorry for what he did to the family of the Holy Prophet (s).

21.4 Worksheet: Events after the Day of Ashura

Answer the following questions.

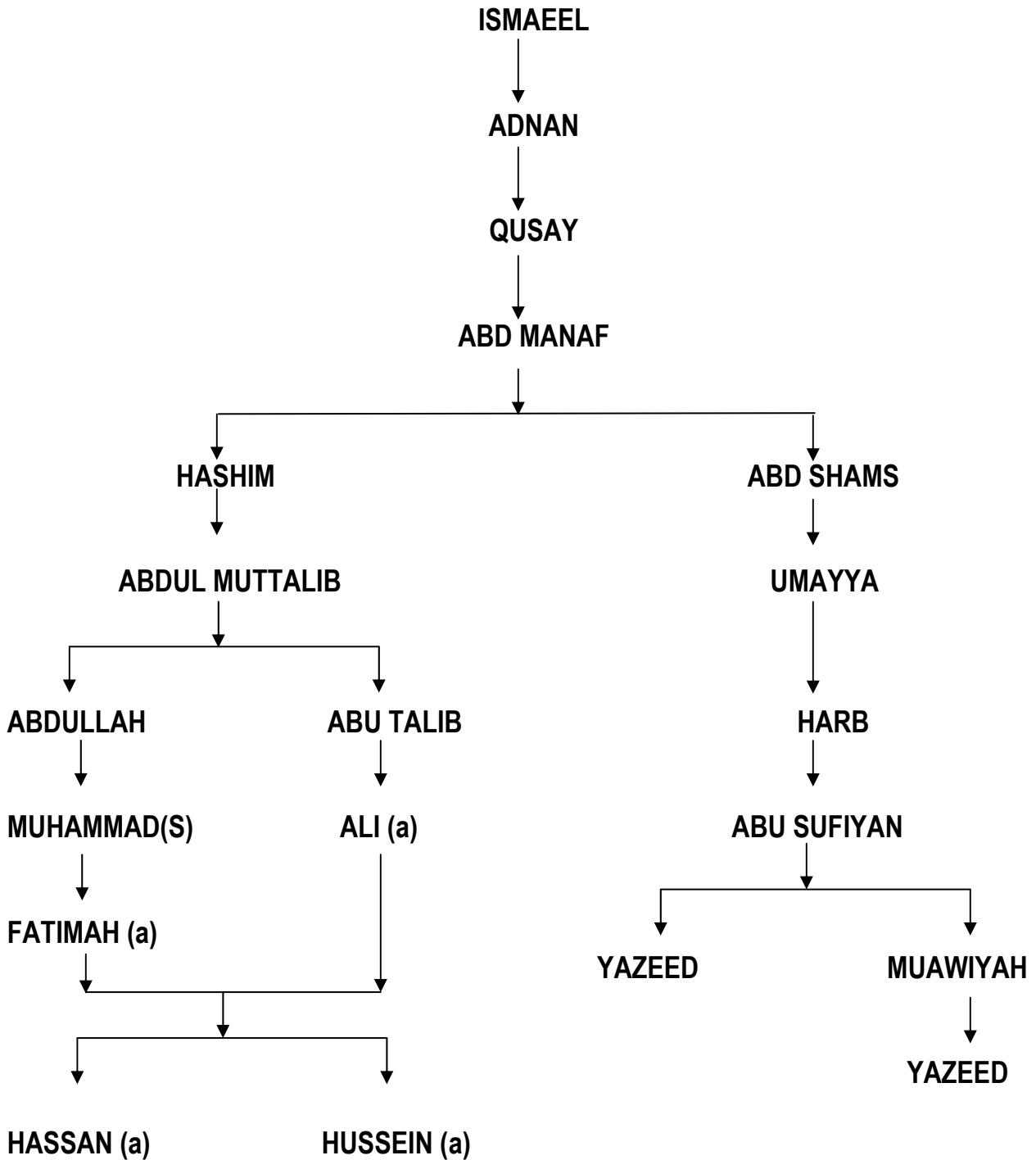
1. Briefly describe Imam Zain ul Abideen (a) and Ahlul bait journey to Damascus.

2. Why did Ubaidullah ibne Ziyad feared that Bibi Zainab's (a) sermon could cause uprising against him?

3. What was the impact of Imam Zain ul Abideen(a) and Bibi Zainab(a)'s sermons in the court of Yazid?

Chapter 22: Understanding Kerbala

22.1 Prophet Muhammad's (s) Family Tree



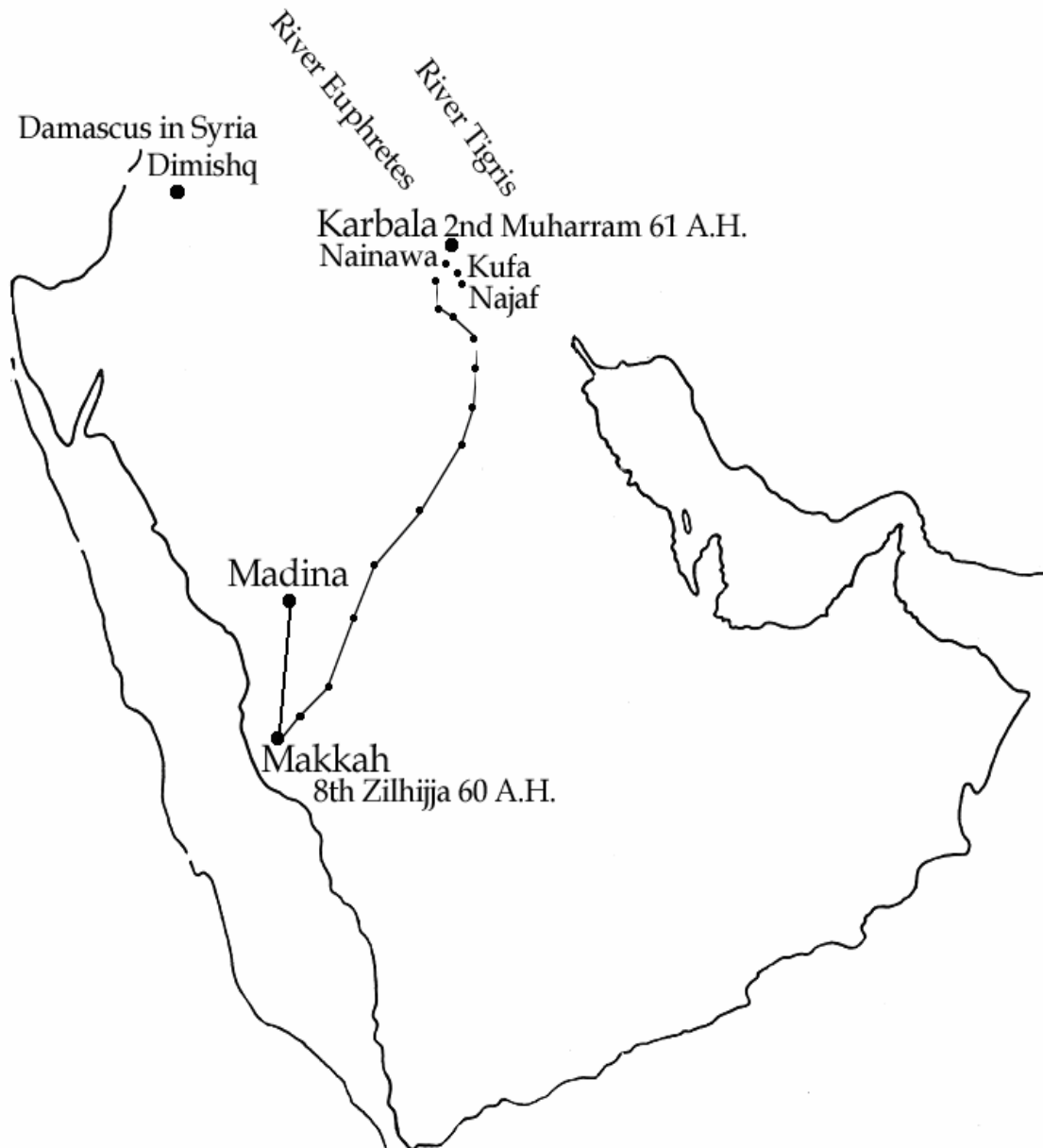
Overview of the life of Imam Hussein (as)

Imam Hussein (a) born	Prophet Mohammed (s) very happy; names him Hussein and calls him his son.
Imam Hussein (a) 7 years old.	Prophet Mohammed (s) dies. Rightful successor is Imam Ali (a). Abu bakr becomes khalifa (against our Prophet's will) for 3 years.
Imam Hussein (a) 10 years old.	Umar becomes 2nd khalifa. He makes Yazeed, then his brother Muawiyah, governor of Syria. Umar rules for 10 years
Imam Hussein (a) 20 years old	Othman becomes khalifa. Him and Muawiyah (governor of Syria) cause a lot of trouble. Othman starts to downfall and asks for Imam Ali's (a) help. Imam helps him. Othman rules for 12 years.
Imam Hussein (a) 32 years old	Imam Ali (a) becomes khalifa. He puts conditions--he will rule only in islamic way and all governors should swear loyalty. Muawiyah does not swear loyalty.
Imam Hussein (a) 37 years old	Imam Ali (a) is martyred. Imam Hassan (a) becomes khalifa. Muawiyah and Ziyad continue to cause problems. Imam Hassan (a) makes a peace treaty with Muawiyah. Muawiyah breaks treaty; nominates his son Yazeed as his successor.
Imam Hussein (a) 47 years	Imam Hassan (a) is poisoned to death.
Imam Hussein (a) 57 years old (60 AH)	Muawiyah dies and now Yazeed is in power. He is immoral, unjust, and cruel. He wants total control. He asks 'bayat' form Imam Hussein (a). Imam refuses and travels to Mecca. The people of Kufa write to him. They want him to be their leader. Imam sends his cousin Muslim bin Aqeel to Kufa. Muslim writes to Imam that Kufa is supportive to islam. Imam starts his journey to Kufa. Yazeed finds out what's happening through his spies in Kufa. He quickly sends Ubaydallah Ziyad. Ubaydallah then becomes governor of Kufa and terrorizes all that support Imam Hussein (a).
On 9 Zilhaj 60 AH	Ubaydallah carries out Yazeed's orders and gets Muslim killed.
After 9 Zilhaj (60 AH)	Imam hears of Muslim's death in the middle of his journey to Kufa. He stops over in Kufa and finds the atmosphere very different now. He decides to move on to Kербala. At Nainawa, Hurr and his army receive an order from Ubaydallah to stop Imam Hussein (a).
Imam Hussein (a) 58 years old (2nd Muharram 61 AH)	Imam Hussein (a) arrives in Kербala.

22.2 Maps of the Middle East



22.3 Route of Imam Hussein (a)



22.4 Events at Kerbala

2 – 9 Muharram 61 AH

Muharram date	Event
2nd	+ arrives at Kerbala + camp positioned by Hurr at Alqama
3rd	+ Umar Saad arrives with army unit + More army units arrive
7th	+ Ubaydallah ordered to cut off water supply + Shimr Ziljawshan arrives
9th	+ assault starts; postponed + Imam talks to his group + Both sides prepare for the next day

22.5 ASHURA Day

FRIDAY 10 MUHARRAM 61 AH

(FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 680 AD)

Dawn

+ Fajr prayers led by Imam

Early morning

+ Imam's speech to Yazeed's army
+ Kufian's speech to Yazeed's army
+ Hurr, others change sides
+ Umar-e- Saad shoots first arrow
+ Battle begins
+ Shaheed's 1 to 12

Late morning

+ First general attack
+ Shaheed's 13 to 62
+ Imam's camp attacked
+ Shaheed's 63 and 64

After noon

+ Prayer's time, battle not suspended
Imam shielded during prayers
+ Shaheed's 65 to 82
+ Imam's family Shaheed's: 93 to 111

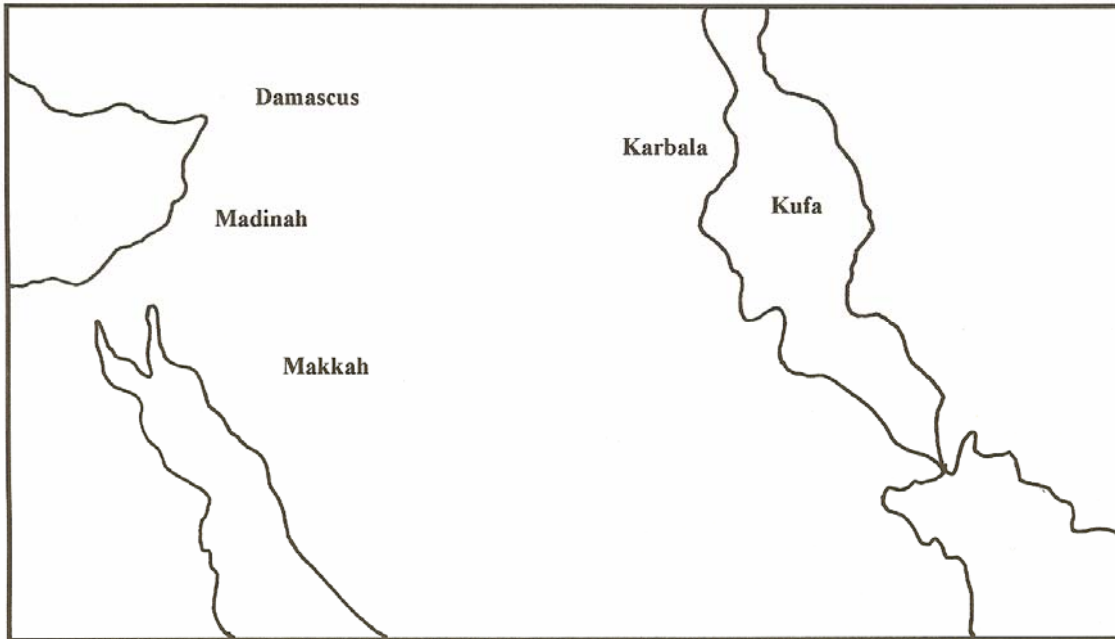
Early evening

+ heads cut off from bodies
+ Imam's camp looted, set on fire

22.6 Worksheet: Understanding Kerbala

Journey of Imam Hussein (a):

In the map below, draw the route of Imam's journey to Kerbala. Then answer the questions below



1. In which month did Imam Husayn(a) leave Medina?

- a) Ramadhan b) Rajab c) Muharram

2. Why was Imam Husayn (a) forced to leave Mecca?

- a) It was too hot there.
b) Yazid's army was waiting for him at Kerbala.
c) Yazid had sent men as Hajis to kill Imam Husayn(a) during Hajj.

3. The people of Kufa wrote many letters to Imam inviting him to go there.

Who did Imam send there first?

- a) His cousin Muslim bin Aqeel.
b) His son Ali-Akbar
c) His brother Abbas.

4. Imam was stopped from entering Kufa by the soldiers of Yazid. Who was the leader of those soldiers?

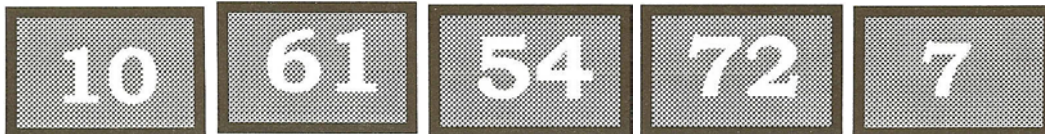
- a) Amr Saad.
b) Ibn Ziyad.
c) Hurr



Find the Correct Numbers:

Put the correct number beside each of the following sentences. You may choose from the numbers at the bottom.

1. _____ people were martyred in Kerbala.
2. Water was not allowed into the tents of Imam Hussain (a) from the _____ th of Muharram
3. Ashura is the _____ th day of Muharram.
4. Tragedy of Kerbala took place in _____ A. H.
5. Imam Hussein (a) had _____ faithful friends who died with him in Kerbala.



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Please remember in your prayers, all the people involved in this project.