

TARIKH (History)

Lesson 1

The 12 Imāms & 14 Ma'sumeen

Allāh sent 124,000 messengers to teach us what is good and what is bad so that we can do what will make Allāh happy with us and we can go to Jannah and live there happily forever.

The last messenger is Rasulullāh (s). After Rasulullāh (s), Allāh gave us 12 Imāms and Sayyida Fatima az-Zahra ('a), the daughter of Rasulullāh (s), to guide us and teach us the Qur'ān and what is halāl (allowed) and harām (not allowed) in Islam.

The 12 Imāms and Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra ('a) are the family of Rasulullāh (s). They are called the Ahl al-Bayt ('a) of Rasulullāh (s). And all together they are called the 14 ma'sumeen ('a).

So the 14 fourteen ma'sumeen ('a) are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| ▪ Rasulullāh Muhammad (s) | 1 |
| ▪ Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra ('a) | 1 |
| ▪ And 12 Imāms | + 12 |
| | ----- |
| | = 14 |
| | ----- |

Now let us learn the names of the 12 Imāms.

Our 12 Imāms

- 1 Imām Ali (‘alayhi salām)
- 2 Imām Hasan (‘alayhi salām)
- 3 Imām Husayn (‘alayhi salām)
- 4 Imām Ali Zayn al-Abidin (‘alayhi salām)
- 5 Imām Muhammad al-Bāqir (‘alayhi salām)
- 6 Imām Ja’far as-Sādiq (‘alayhi salām)
- 7 Imām Musa al-Kādhim (‘alayhi salām)
- 8 Imām Ali ar-Ridā (‘alayhi salām)
- 9 Imām Muhammad al-Jawād (‘alayhi salām)
- 10 Imām Ali al-Hādi (‘alayhi salām)
- 11 Imām Hasan al-Askari (‘alayhi salām)
- 12 Imām Mahdi Sahib az-Zamān (‘ajjalallāhu dhuhurahu)**

+

Rasulullāh Muhammad (salallāhu ‘alayhi wa ālihi wa salām)

+

Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra (‘alayha salām)

=

14 Ma’sumeen (‘alayhim as-salām)!

Our Living Imām is the twelfth Imām
Imām Mahdi Sahib az-Zamān (‘ajjalallāhu dhuhurahu)
Whenever we remember his name, we should stand up and put our
hand on our head to show respect for him

Lesson 2

Exercises

Class Activity:

Listen to the nasheed 'There are 12 Imāms in Islam' on the Teacher's DVD. Then recite the nasheed with the words as given below until you have memorized it.

Poem

There are 12 Imāms in Islam

There are 12 Imāms
 There are 12 Imāms
 There are 12 Imāms in Islam x2

Imām Ali al-Murtada, Imām Hasan al-Mujtaba, Imām Husayn,
 alayhim as-salām

Imām Ali Zayn al-Abidin, Imām Muhammad al-Bāqir, Imām
 Ja'far as-Sādiq, alayhim as-salām

There are 12 Imāms
 There are 12 Imāms
 There are 12 Imāms in Islam x2

Imām Musa al-Kādhim, Imām Ali ar-Rida, Imām Muhammad al-
 Jawād, alayhim as-salām

Imām Ali al-Hādi, Imām Hasan al-Askari, Imām al-Mahdi,
 alayhim as-salām

He's our living Imām
He's our living Imām
He's our living Imām in Islam x2

There are 12 Imāms
There are 12 Imāms
There are 12 Imāms in Islam x2

Note to Teacher: Whenever students mention the name of a Nabi or Imām, insist that they follow it with “alayhis salām”. In the case of Rasulullāh (s), they must say “sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa ālihi” after his name and in the case of Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra (‘a), they should always say, “alayhas salām” after her mention.

Lesson 3

Nabí Ibráhím ('a)

Many years after the flood of Nabi Nuh ('a), people forgot the message of Islam and began worshipping idols again.

So Allāh sent Nabi Ibrāhím ('a) to guide the people. From the time he was a young child, Nabi Ibrahim ('a) never



worshipped any idol and always told the people not to bow before anything or anyone except Allāh.

Nabi Ibrāhím ('a) was very kind-hearted and polite and he loved Allāh very much. He was also very generous and loved to bring guests to his home and feed them. Allāh was so pleased with Nabi Ibrahim ('a) that He made him His best friend. A friend in Arabic is called 'Khalil'. So Nabi Ibrahim ('a) was called Khalilullāh, which means 'The Friend of Allāh'.

When Nabi Ibrāhím ('a) was growing up, his uncle Azar looked after him because his father was not alive. Azar was not a nice man. He used to make idols for people to worship. One day, when Nabi Ibrāhím ('a) was a young

boy, Azar told him to go and sell some idols in the market. But Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) only believed in Allāh and hated idols. So he tied a rope around the neck of some idols and dragged them through the dirt on the road to the market and he called out to the people, ‘Come and buy these useless idols who cannot do any good or harm to anyone. Come and buy these useless idols!’

The people looked at the dirty idols and were angry because Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) was disrespecting their gods. So they complained to Azar and Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) was not allowed to sell idols anymore. So he was very happy.

The people in the town of Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) did not like him because he was always speaking against the idols they worshipped.

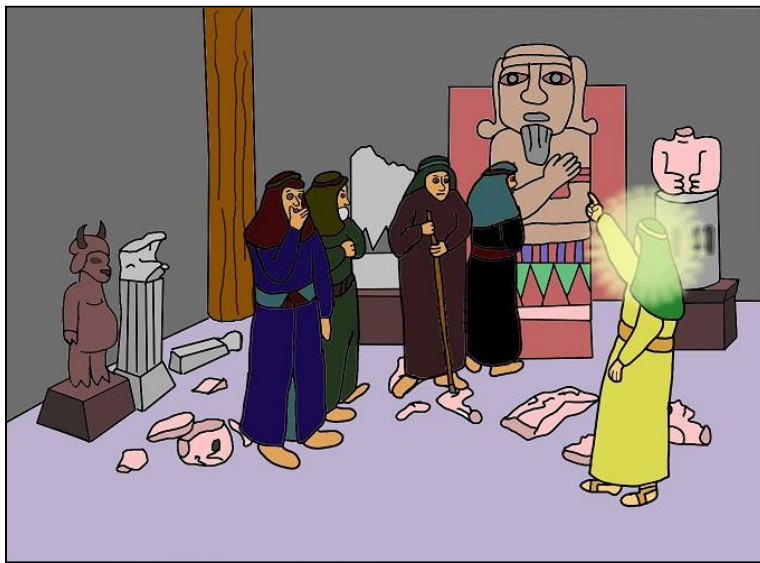


One day when all the people had gone out of the town to celebrate a festival, Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) went to the temple where

they kept all the statues. He broke all of them except the biggest one and he tied his axe around its neck.

When the people came back, they were shocked to see their gods broken into pieces. ‘Who broke our gods?’ they cried angrily. ‘It must be Ibrāhim!’ said one of them, ‘He is always speaking against our gods!’

‘Bring him here so we can question him!’ demanded the temple priest. And so the people caught Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) and brought him to the temple to question him.



‘Did you do this Ibrahīm?’ they demanded. And Nabi Ibrāhīm (‘a) pointed to the big idol with the axe around its neck and said, ‘Ask this

one. He has the axe!’

The people knew that the idols were just made of stone and could not speak or say anything. So they hung their heads down in shame and said, ‘You know the idols cannot speak or defend themselves.’

So Nabi Ibrahīm (‘a) asked them, ‘If you know all this then why do you pray to something made of stone and something that is so powerless and weak?’

Nabi Ibrahīm (‘a) laughed at them and asked them why they worshipped such gods who were so helpless and

could not even defend themselves? Even if a fly sat on the nose of their gods, they could not do anything! How foolish they were to call pieces of stones 'god' and to worship the sun and the moon and stars!

Now the people did not have an answer. But they were



very angry. So they went to King Namrud and asked him to punish Nabi Ibrāhim ('a). King Namrud decided to throw Nabi Ibrāhim ('a)

in a huge fire. He asked everyone to collect lots and lots of wood and they built a big pile of firewood. Then they lit it and it became a huge fire. And they began to shout, 'Burn Ibrahim! Kill him! So that our idol gods will be happy with us again!'

Nabi Ibrāhim ('a) tried to tell them to believe in Allāh and to worship Allāh only. Allāh created the world. He has power over everything. Allāh does not have a body. He is everywhere. He can hear and see everything we do and He can answer our prayers when we pray to Him.

But the people refused to listen to Nabi Ibrāhim ('a). As the bright flames leapt up into the air, Nabi Ibrahim ('a)

was not afraid. He knew Allāh was with him all the time and would protect him.

Finally the people put Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) in a huge catapult and threw him into the fire. As Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) flew in the air towards the fire, Allāh commanded the fire: ‘O fire! Be cool and safe for Ibrahim!’

Then a miracle happened. Instead of burning Nabi Ibrahim (‘a), the fire became cool and safe for him. And he came out without any harm. The people were amazed to see this and knew Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) was right and they were wrong.

What do we learn from this story? We learn that when we have true faith in Allāh, He will always protect us.

King Namrud then asked Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) to leave his country and never to come back. And so Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) left with his family including his wife Sarah, and his cousin Nabi Lut (‘a) and they went and lived in the land of Palestine.

Can you answer these questions?

1. When Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) was a young boy and his uncle told him to sell idols in the market, what did Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) do so he wouldn’t have to sell idols?

2. What did Nabi Ibrahim (‘a) reply when people asked him if he broke the idols?
3. How did King Namrud decide to punish Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a)?
4. What happened when Nabi Ibrāhim (‘a) was thrown in the hot fire?

Lesson 4

Exercises

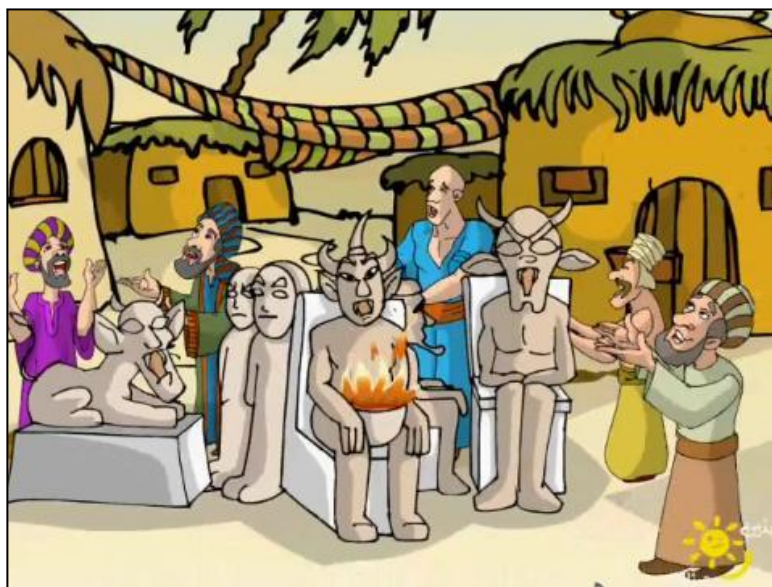
This page has been left blank intentionally as a placeholder for activities.
Please see the accompanying Workbook for Exercises and Activity Sheets

Lesson 5

Nabí Yunus (‘a)

A very long time ago, in the city of Nineveh (in Iraq) Allāh sent a Nabi called Yunus to guide the people there.

The people of Nineveh were very rich and had



everything they needed in life so they refused to listen to Nabi Yunus (‘a). He told them to worship Allāh only and not to disobey Allāh but they would not listen to

him. Instead of worshipping Allāh they used to worship idols and offer sacrifices to them and pray to the idols.

Finally, when they refused to change, Allāh told Nabi Yunus (‘a) that He would send a punishment on the people of Nineveh. Nabi Yunus (‘a) warned his people about it but they just laughed at him. So Nabi Yunus (‘a) left them and went out to another place where ships sailed to far away lands. Nabi Yunus (‘a) got on one of the ships and decided to go somewhere far away.

But Allāh did not want Nabi Yunus (‘a) to leave his people and go away. So as soon as the ship got out to

the seas, there was a terrible storm. Strong winds blew and huge waves began hitting the ship and everyone was afraid they would drown.

Nabi Yunus ('a) realized the storm was because Allāh did not want him to leave Nineveh. So he told the people in the ship to throw him into the sea and the storm would pass away and they would be saved.

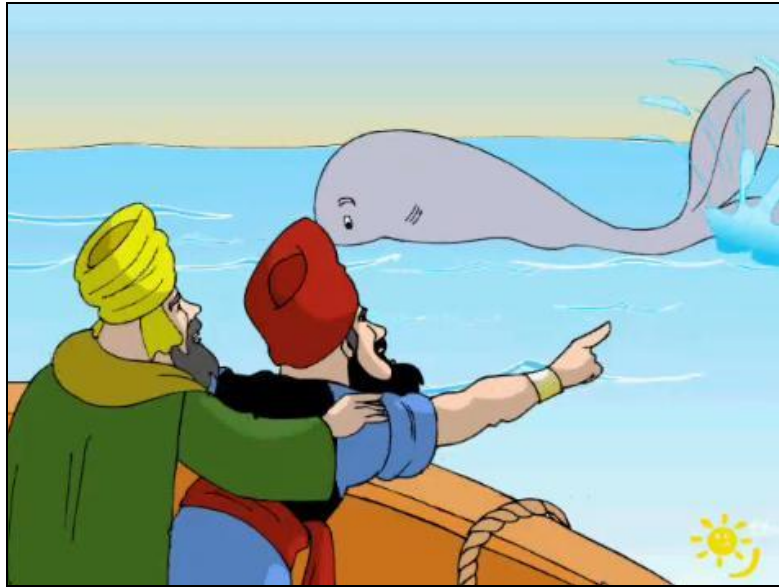


At first the people refused but finally they were so scared of the storm that they agreed. And so Nabi Yunus ('a) was tossed into the raging sea. As soon as he fell

into the sea, a big fish, like a whale, came up and swallowed Nabi Yunus ('a) alive.

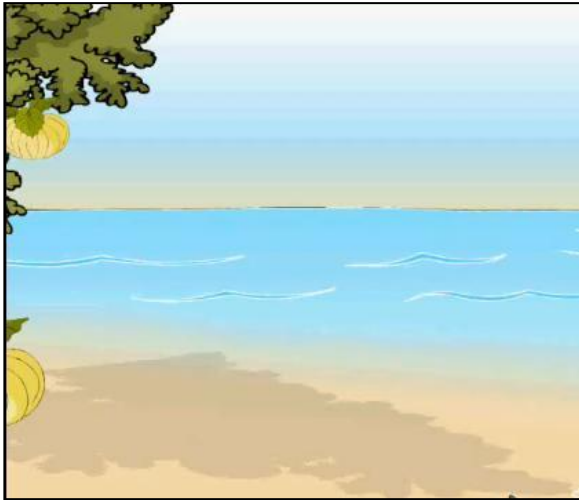
Nabi Yunus ('a) did not drown or die but he was inside the belly of the fish! And it was dark and lonely inside the fish. Nabi Yunus ('a) now began praying to Allāh to save him. Day and night he prayed to Allāh saying, '*lā ilāha illa anta subhanaka inni kuntu min adh-dhālimeen*'. Allāh loved the tasbih of Nabi Yunus ('a) very much. The big fish went near the seashore and threw Nabi Yunus ('a) out and left him on the beach.

Whenever we are in trouble, we can also recite this tasbih again and again and Allāh will help us. (Can you memorize the Tasbih Yunusiyya?)



In the meantime, while Nabi Yunus (‘a) was gone, the people of Nineveh saw some dark and black clouds coming towards them and they knew it was the punishment that Allāh had promised to send them. They were all scared and decided to say sorry to Allāh and to ask Him to forgive them. So all the men and women and children went out of their homes and gathered together under the open sky and began praying to Allāh. *‘Astaghfirullah Rabbi wa atubu ilayh!’* they cried out, asking Allāh for forgiveness.

Allāh is very kind and loving. Because the people were really sorry, Allāh forgave them. The black clouds went away and the people were very happy. But they were still very sad because Nabi Yunus (‘a) had left them.



When Nabi Yunus ('a) came out of the belly of the fish, he was very tired, weak and sick. So he just sat on the beach helplessly. Allāh made a tree grow near him that gave him shade and some delicious fruits to make

him strong and healthy again.

Finally Nabi Yunus ('a) was strong enough to walk again and he decided to go back to Nineveh and to his people. When the people saw Nabi Yunus ('a) they could not believe their eyes. They were so happy!

Nabi Yunus ('a) told them about his miracle and how a big fish had swallowed him and how Allāh saved him. And the people told Nabi Yunus ('a) how Allāh had saved them



from punishment because they had asked Him for forgiveness. They all thanked Allāh for His kindness and His love. 'Thank you Allāh!' they all said.

And from then on, they all listened to whatever Nabi Yunus (‘a) told them to do. They all believed in Allāh and worshipped Him and they decided never to sin and disobey Allāh again.

We learn from the story of Nabi Yunus (‘a) and from the people of Nineveh that we should never lose hope in Allāh’s mercy. Even if we are in the dark belly of a fish under the sea or we see black clouds of danger, if we ask Allāh for help even at the last moment, He will always help us because He loves us very, very much!

Lesson 6

Rasulullāh (s)

The Final Messenger of Allāh
Sayyiduna Muhammad bin Abd Allāh al-Mustafa
sallAllāhu ‘alayhi wa ālihi wa sallam

Rasulullāh (s) is the last messenger of Allāh. He was born in Makkah on 17th Rabi ul Awwal in the Year of the Elephant (Amul Feel) 570 CE. His father is Hadrat Abd Allāh bin Abd al-Muttalib and his mother is Sayyida Amina bint Wahab.



When Rasulullāh (s) was born, many strange things happened in Arabia. The idols fell down and the fire temples broke into pieces.



Rasulullāh (s)'s father died before he was born so Rasulullāh (s) was born an orphan. His grandfather Hadrat Abd al-Muttalib, who was the leader of Makkah, took care of him and loved him very much. In Makkah, when children were born, they used to have a nanny who would take them to the desert and look after them there for two years. The

people who live in the desert are called Bedouins. The Bedouins always wanted to look after children so they could get gifts and rewards but they never wanted to look after orphans who were poor and had no father to pay for them.

A Bedouin woman named Halima came to Makkah looking for a child to take care of. Allāh chose Halima to look after Rasulullāh (s). As soon as Halima saw Rasulullāh (s), she fell in love with the baby orphan and decided she would look after him.

Halima was so happy to have Rasulullāh (s) with her in the desert for two years. After two years, she was sad because it was now time for Rasulullāh (s) to return to his mother in Makkah. So she asked his grandfather Abdul Muttalib if he can stay with her longer. Abdul Muttalib agreed and Halima was very happy.



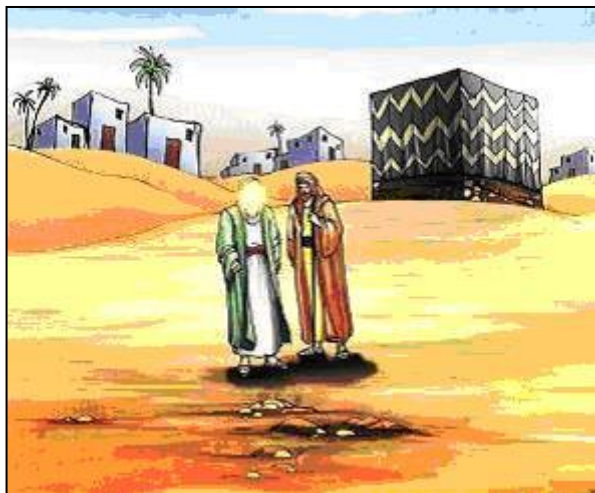
One day, when Rasulullāh (s) was a young boy, Halima put on new clothes on him and tied a special amulet

around his neck. ‘What is this?’ asked Rasulullāh. ‘This is to protect you from evil,’ said Halima. But Rasulullāh (s) knew the amulet had the names of idols in it. So he took it out and refused to wear it. ‘I am already protected by Allāh,’ he said to his nanny Halima.

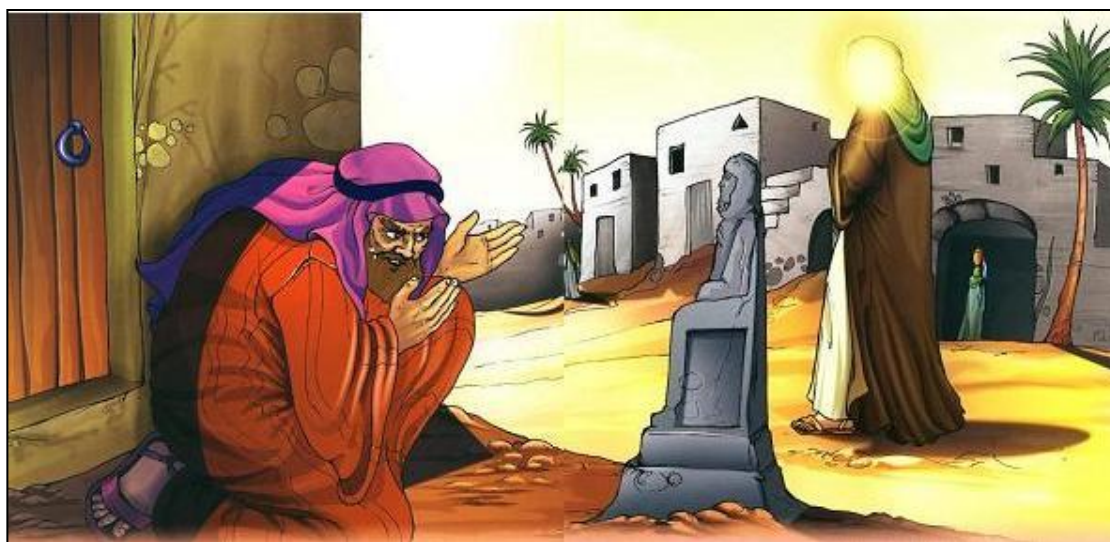
When Rasulullāh (s) was six years old, his mother died too. His grandfather Hadrat Abdul Muttalib continued to look after Rasulullāh (s) and he could see that his grandson was very special and had a bright light shining from his face all the time.

After two years, when Rasulullāh (s) was eight years old, his grandfather Abdul Muttalib died. Before he died, Abdul Muttalib asked one of his sons, Hadrat Abu Talib (the father of Imām Ali (‘a)) to look after Rasulullāh (s).

And so Rasulullāh (s) moved to the house of Hadrat Abu Talib and began living with him. Hadrat Abu Talib and his wife Sayyida Fatima bint al-Asad were very poor but they loved Rasulullāh (s) more than even their own children. Sometimes when there was very little food in the house, they would feed Rasulullāh (s) first and then their own children. And so Rasulullāh (s) never felt like he was an orphan.



When Rasulullāh (s) grew up to be a young man, even though the people of Makkah worshipped idols and did many bad things, they knew Rasulullāh (s) was different. They used to call him 'As-Sādiq' which means 'The truthful one' and 'Al-Amin' which means 'The trustworthy'. This is because Rasulullāh (s) never said a lie and everyone always trusted him.



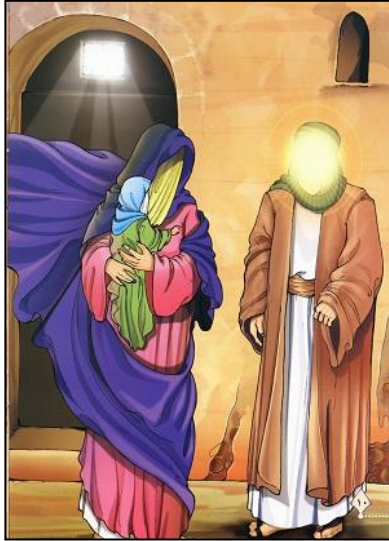
Rasulullāh (s) always protected the weak and loved to help the poor and he never worshipped idols like others.

His Marriage

When Rasulullāh (s) was over twenty years old, he used to go to Syria for business using the camels of Sayyida Khadija ('a) and when he was twenty-five years old he married Sayyida Khadija ('a).



Sayyida Khadija (‘a) was the best wife Rasulullāh (s) ever had. She was kind, generous, and the first woman to believe in the message of her husband Rasulullāh (s) and to support him when others were refusing to believe and support Rasulullāh (s).



Rasulullāh (s) and Sayyida Khadija (‘a) had a daughter. She was Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra (‘a), the only daughter of Rasulullāh (s) and the leader of all the women in the world.

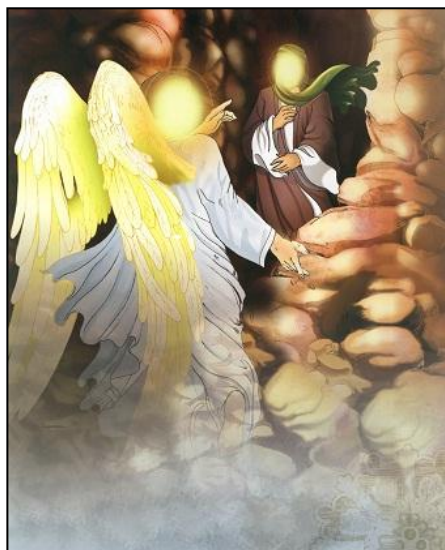
Rasulullāh (s) loved his wife Sayyida Khadija (‘a) and his daughter Sayyida Fātima az-Zahra (‘a) very much.

Mab’ath

Rasulullāh (s) used to love sitting in the Cave of Hira on a mountain outside Makkah where he used to pray to Allāh all day.

When Rasulullāh (s) was forty years old, the angel Jibrāil (‘a) came to him and started reciting the Qur’ān to him. The angel Jibrāil (‘a) told Rasulullāh (s) to now start telling people to stop worshipping idols and to worship Allāh only.

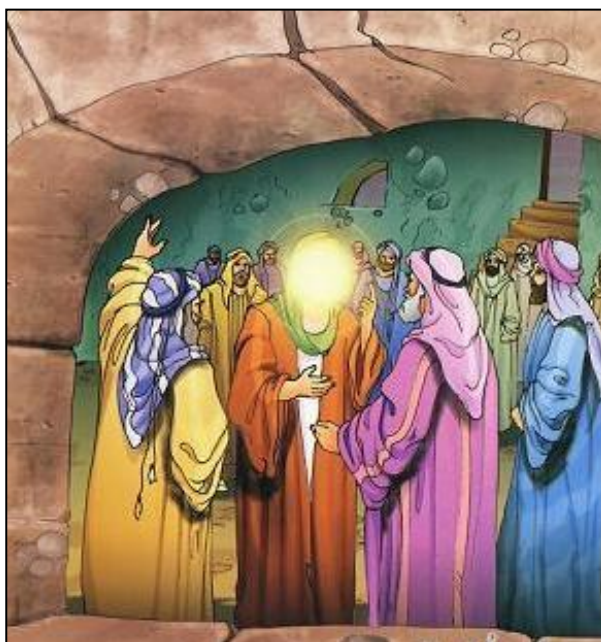
This was on the 27th of Rajab in the year 610 CE and it is known as the Mab'ath.



Mab'ath means the day when Rasulullāh (s) started preaching and inviting people to become Muslims.

From the day of Mab'ath, Rasulullāh (s) continued teaching Islam and the Qur'ān to people, for 23 years until he passed away.

At first Rasulullāh (s) only told some people and preached secretly to his family members. A small group of people would gather together in a house and learn about Islam. Sayyida Khadija ('a) was the first woman to believe in Rasulullāh (s) and his message from Allāh. Imām Ali ('a) was only 13 years old but he was the first man to accept and support the message of Rasulullāh (s).



After three years, when many poor people were attracted to Islam, Allāh sent the angel Jibrāil ('a) to tell

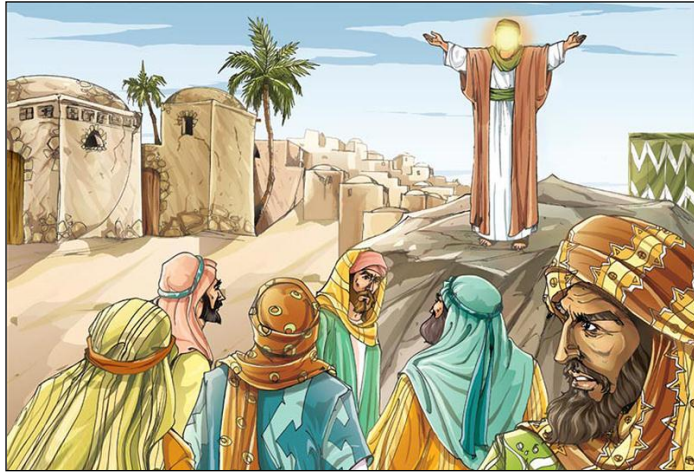
Rasulullāh (s) that it was now time to announce the message of Islam in public.

So Rasulullāh (s) went out in the streets and began calling out to everyone, 'There is no god except Allāh. And I am the messenger of Allāh!'



This was not easy because Makkah was full of idols and the rich people of Makkah loved to worship and bow before the idols. So they began to oppose Rasulullāh (s) and to try and stop him. But Hadrat Abu Talib, who was the leader of Makkah and the uncle of Rasulullāh (s) always protected him. No one dared to harm Rasulullāh (s) directly as long as Hadrat Abu Talib was there to protect his nephew, the Messenger of Allāh.

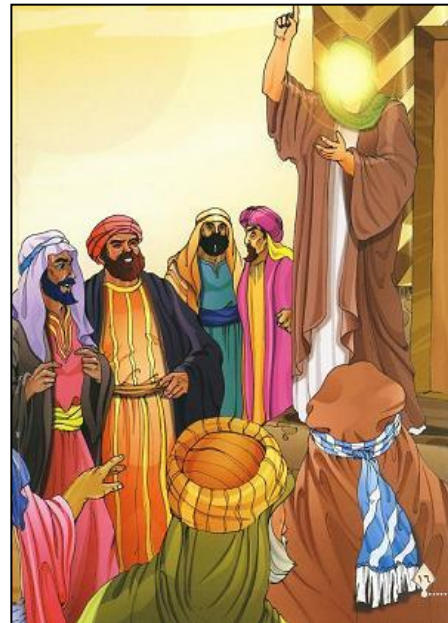
Some of the rich men of Makkah were Abu Jahl and Abu



Sufyan. They came to Hadrat Abu Talib and told him that if Rasulullāh (s) would stop telling people about Islam, they would give him a lot of money.

When Hadrat Abu Talib (a) told Rasulullāh (s) what they had said, Rasulullāh (s) replied, ‘Even if they put the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left hand I will still not stop calling people to Islam!’

Hadrat Abu Talib was very happy to hear this and he said to Rasulullāh (s), ‘Go then, my dear nephew, and preach the message of Allāh. I will always support you and no one can touch you or harm you as long as I am alive.’ This made Rasulullāh (s) very happy and he went out and began telling people about the Qur’ān and about Allāh in the streets of Makkah and near the Ka’bah.



Some people believed in him and some people laughed at Rasulullāh (s) but he never stopped telling them to worship Allāh and to become Muslims.

Hijrah

After some years, Hadrat Abu Talib (‘a) passed away. The new Quraysh leaders of Makkah like Abu Jahl and Abu Sufyan were very happy because they thought they could now easily get rid of Rasulullāh (s).

One night, on the 16th of Rabi ul Awwal 622 CE, they got forty strong men to surround Rasulullāh (s)’s house and planned to kill him early morning. The angel Jibrail (‘a) came to Rasulullāh (s) and told him to leave Makkah the same night and head towards Madina.

Rasulullāh (s) asked Imām Ali (‘a) to sleep in his bed and pretend to be him so that no one would know he had left; and so Imām Ali (‘a) slept in place of Rasulullāh (s)



to save his life. Just before Rasulullāh (s) stepped out of his home, Allāh made all the enemies waiting outside to feel drowsy and they fell asleep.

When they woke up in the morning, they rushed into house but only found Imām Ali (‘a) sleeping and Rasulullāh (s) was nowhere to be found! In the meantime, Rasulullāh (s) was already out of Makkah and walking towards Madina.

The night when Rasulullāh (s) left Makkah and went to Madina is called the night of Hijrah. Muslims start their calendar from that year.

The city of Madina was called Yathrib before. After Rasulullāh (s) came there, the people welcomed him and were very happy. They became Muslims and they changed the name of their city from Yathrib to Madinat an-Nabi (The City of the Prophet) or in short 'Madina'.



All the people of Madina came out to welcome Rasulullāh (s) and they began to sing:

Tala'a al-Badru 'alayna min thaniyyat al-wadā'a
Wajabat ash-shukru 'alayna ma dā'a lillāhi dā'a
Ayyuhal mab'uthu feena ji'ta bil amril mutā'a
Ji'ta nawwartal madina marhaban ya khayra dā'a.

This poem was to welcome Rasulullāh to their city and to thank Allāh for sending His Messenger to their city. You can listen to this nasheed on the Teacher's DVD.

The people of Madina used to fight a lot amongst themselves. But after Rasulullāh (s)'s arrival they all became friends and lived together happily. They built a big masjid together that is still standing today and is called Masjid an-Nabawi (The Prophet's Mosque).

After living in Madina for 10 years, hundreds of thousands of people became Muslims and Rasulullāh (s) went to Makkah for Hajj. Even in the city of Makkah all became Muslims. Rasulullāh (s), Imām Ali ('a) and all the Muslims broke all the idols around the Ka'bah and everyone worshipped Allāh only.

Then the angel Jibrāil ('a) came to Rasulullāh (s) and told him that he would be leaving the world soon. So Rasulullāh (s) gathered thousands of Muslims together and told them he would be leaving them and returning to Allāh very soon. The Muslims were very sad to hear that. But Rasulullāh (s) raised the hand of Imām Ali ('a) and told them that after he was gone, they should follow Imām Ali ('a) and Imām Ali ('a) would be their master after him. Rasulullāh (s) also said to the people:

I am leaving behind two things: the Qur'ān and my
family, the Ahl al-Bayt ('a).

Rasulullāh (s) told the Muslims that if they hold on to the Qur'ān and the Ahl al-Bayt ('a) then they will always follow the right path and they will go to Jannah. But if they leave the Qur'ān and the Ahl al-Bayt ('a) then they will follow the wrong path.

On 28th Safar, 11 years after Hijrah, Rasulullāh (s) passed away and was buried in Madina near his masjid. He was 63 years old.

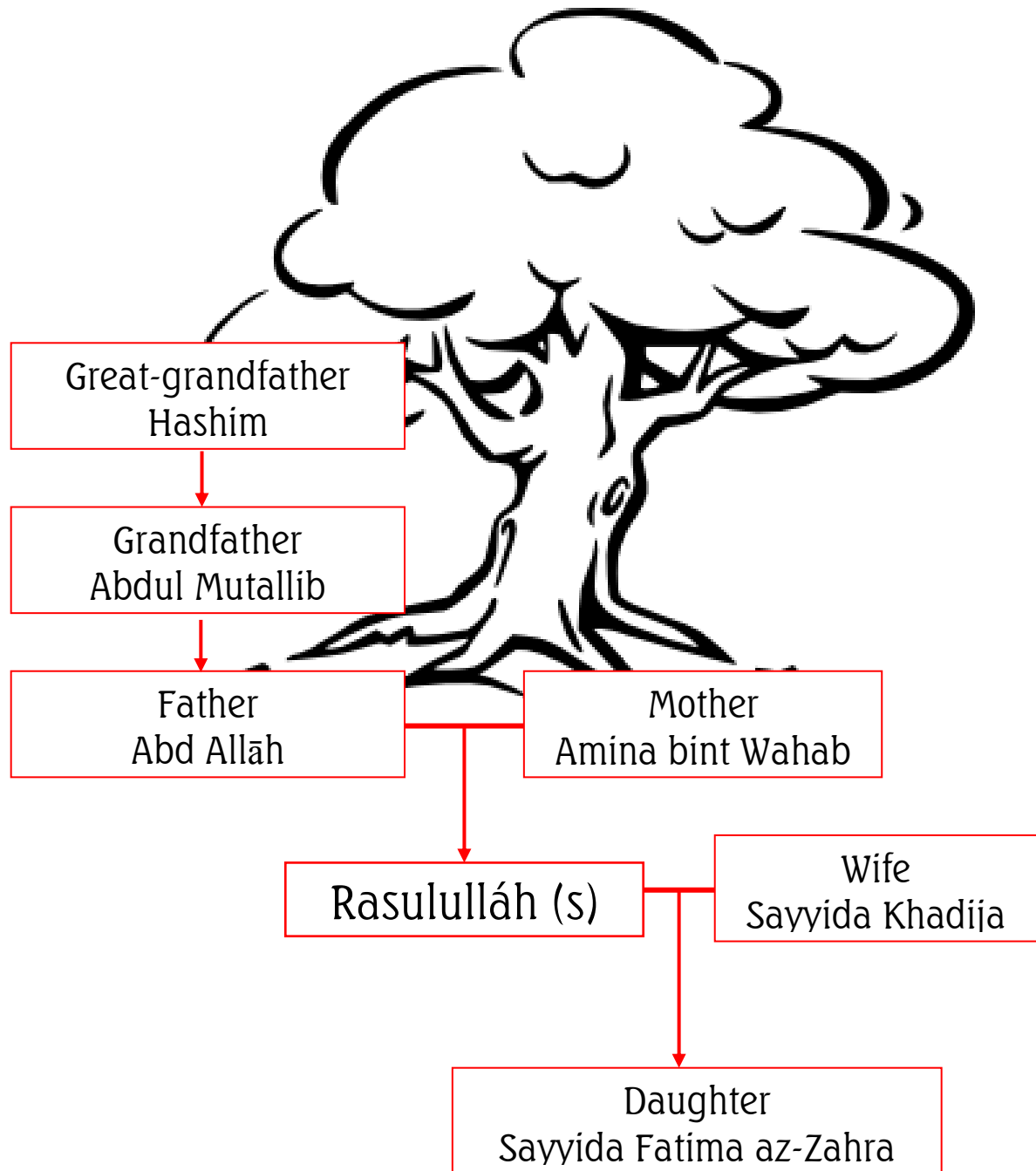
Do you remember Hadith as-Safina from Book 1?

**Hadith as-Safina
(Hadith of the Ark)**

Rasulullāh (s) said:

“My Ahl al-Bayt ('a) is like the ark of Nabi Nuh ('a). Anyone who joins it will be saved. Anyone who refuses to join it will drown.”

Rasulullāh (s)'s Family Tree



Wilādah : Makkah, 17th Rabi ul Awwal, 570 CE
Shahādah : Madina, 28th Safar 632 CE (11 AH)

Lesson 7

Exercises

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Please see the accompanying Workbook for Exercises and Activity Sheets