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Calendar

Special Occasions

- ❑ **Ramadhan 1 / Aug 22:**  
Iftar Program from 1st till Eid-ul-Fitr (contact Your Islamic Center for details)
- ❑ **Ramadhan 8 / Aug 29:**  
Death (Wafat):  
Abu Talib (AS) bin Abdul-Muttalib, 1 year before Hijrath
- ❑ **Ramadhan 10 / Aug 31:**  
Death (Wafat):  
Hazrat Khatijah (SA)
- ❑ **Ramadhan 14 / Sept 04:**  
Martyrdom (Shaadat):  
Hazrat Hamza (AS) - Battle of Uhud

Commentary from The Holy Qur'an

'Sura-I-Fateha' (Opening) (Revealed both at Mecca and also at Medina. Hence Macci and Madani and is called 'Sabe Mathani' i.e. The Seven Oft-repeated ones.)

SUMMARY

**In the name of God the Beneficent, the Merciful-God alone is the Lord Cherisher of the whole universe-All praise is due only to Him-He alone is The Master of The Day of Judgment or Reckoning-Worship is due only to God and to none else-help to be sought only from him for he alone can help-To pray always to be guided on the straight path or the Right Path, To love always the righteous and always be with them-To hate the wicked and always be away from them.**

This Sura contains the Quintessence of Qur'an. Hence it is also called 'Ummul-Quran' i.e. the Mother (or the Essence) of the Holy Qur'an. As no prayer can be completed without reciting this Sura, it can be called the 'Lord's Prayer' of the Muslims. Every verse of this Sura is so comprehensive in its meaning that it is said that the meaning of the Holy Qur'an as a whole has been synthesized in this Sura.



Bismillah-ir\_rehman-ir\_rahim at one place forms a part of another Chapter of the Qur'an, used in the course of it-used as the starting passage of the letter which Solomon sent to the Queen of Sheba. In the Sura-e-Fateha it has been used as the starting part of the Sura. When the Sura-e-Fateha has to be compulsorily used in every prayer there cannot be any meaning in reciting the compulsory sura of a prayer excluding some parts of its text and mere common sense is sufficient to say that any defective or incomplete prayer can never be acceptable. Hence the prayer in which Fateha is recited without Bismillah leading the Sura is null and void.

Once when the Holy Prophet was in the Mosque at Madina, a man came and offered prayers reciting Fateha immediately following 'Ao' zu-billah' omitting Bismillah. The Holy Prophet called him and said, "O man! You have rendered your prayer null and void by omitting Bismillah from Fateha. Do you know that Bismillah is the part of Sura-e-Fateha"(ad-Durr al-Manthoor as-Suyooti). One's common sense tells him that doubts created by a number of followers of the Prophet need not at all be considered in the light of clear decisions and the evidence of the practical life of The Leader himself (i.e. The Holy Prophet). Whatever be the argument of dissenting scholars, it has been unanimously established that the Holy Prophet always recited Fateha as it is in the Qur'an today and we all should, therefore, follow the Holy Prophet.

The actual meaning of Bismillah-ir-Rehman-ir-Rahim being 'I begin in the name of God, the Beneficent and the merciful' has significance in its effect. Firstly, it means the supplication of one who thus starts any good work. It means that the supplicant does the work in the name of or on behalf of God, and not for himself though his personal interest in the work exist but it is with the intention to serve the goodness in the work. Such an action on the part of the individual also means that he has dedicated his life and had interest therein to God, centering his own selfish interest also in service to goodness. It also implies the individual's belief in the truth that all strength to do any work whatsoever, lies only with God and with none else and he believes himself to be helpless. By invoking the Devine pleasure in calling to God in the name of his Beneficence and Mercy, the individual is praying to the All-Merciful to come to his aid in completing his undertaking successfully.

Thus, if any work is not started with Bismillah, it has the negative force also in it. The work, even if it is not evil in its nature, will at least invoke the Devine Authority to chastise the individual for his being self-centered and forgetting the Lord of strength and Grace through Whose help alone anything could ever be done.

The starting of every chapter of Qur'an with the verse 'Bismillah' evidently is to first make the reader of the word of God, get conscious of his helplessness and dependence upon God and to realize his duty of obedience to the Lord. Besides, the Holy Name of God has wonderful efficacy which every religious-minded one knows.

**The Holy Qur'an By: S.V. Mir Ahmed Ali Pages 4, 5, 12 & 13**

- **Ramadhan 15 / Sept 05 :**  
Birthday (Wiladat):  
Imam Hassan (AS)
- **Ramadhan 17 / Sept 07:**  
Battle of Badar 2 A.H.
- **Ramadhan 18 / Sept 08:**  
Shab-e-Zarbat Imam Ali (AS) is  
fatally struck
- **Ramadhan 19 / Sept 09:**  
Amir-ul-Momineen Imam Ali  
(AS) injured during Fajr Prayers
- **Ramadhan 20 / Sept 10:**  
Night of Martyrdom of Imam Ali  
(AS)
- **Ramadhan 21 / Sept 11:**  
Martyrdom (Shadaat):  
Imam Ali (AS)
- **Ramadhan 22/ Sept 12:**  
Lailat-ul-Qadar
- **Ramadhan 28/ Sept 18:**  
Last Friday of Ramadhan  
Day of Quds
- **Shawaal 1/ Sept 20:**  
Eid-ul-Fitr (possible)
  
- **Shawaal 2 / Oct 1:**
- **Shawaal 8 / Oct 7:**  
Jannatul Baqi Graves  
Demolished - 1926 AD
- **Shawaal 9 / Oct 8:**  
Beginning of the Greater  
Occultation of Imam Al-Mehdi  
(ATF), 329 A.H./ 844 A.D.
- **Shawaal 17 / Oct 16:**  
Battle of Khandaq or Ahzab  
(Trench War) 5 A.H.
- **Shawwal 25/ Oct 24:**  
Martyrdom of Imam Jafar as-  
Sadiq (AS)
- **Dhul -Qa'dat 1/ Oct 30:**  
Death of Hadhrat Fatimah bint  
Asad (SA)
  
- **Dhul -Qa'dat 3/ November 1:**
- **Dhul -Qa'dat 11/ November 9:**  
Birthday of Imam Ali ar-Ridhaa  
(AS), 148 A.H. / 765 A.D.
- **Dhul -Qa'dat 29/ November 27:**  
  
Martyrdom of Imam Mohammad  
at- Taqi al-Jawad (AS), 220  
A.H. / 835 A.D.

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## *The Glorious Month of Ramadhan*

*Br. Syed A Sarim*

The holy month of Ramadhan enjoys a special importance in the Islamic calendar. As the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said: "It is Allah's Own month." It is the chief of all months and the most glorious one. As we already know, 'Fasting' is one of the important pillars of Islam and it is the very month of Ramadhan during which fasting has been made obligatory for all adults and sane Muslims. By fasting during Ramadhan, a Muslim besides discharging an obligation imposed upon him by Allah becomes entitled to great reward in the Hereafter. On the other hand, any lapse in the matter amounts to a great sin. Fasting is an article of worship, the knowledge about the performance or otherwise whereof rests only with Allah and the person concerned. Hence, it is Allah alone who will reward that person for it, on the Day of Judgment.



The blessings of Ramadhan are not limited to fasting alone, because the performance of all sorts of worship and good deeds during this month is also a source of great Divine favor. The revelation of the Holy Qur'an commenced during this very month and it is therefore the duty of every Muslim to read and try to understand the meaning of the Holy Qur'an and thereby gain an insight into the Divine secrets enshrined therein. It brings peace and illumination to the mind and imparts purity to the soul.

Ramadhan is the month of fasting, intensive prayer, sacrifice and Divine worship. Throughout this month a devout Muslim fasts during the day in the true sense of the word, that is, he had merely denies himself food and water, but as explained by the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.), exercises strict control over his tongue, eyes, ears, thoughts and deeds and does everything possible to seek the pleasure of Allah.

Devout supplications to Allah and repentance of one's sins during Ramadhan are the sources of Divine blessings and mercy. Some nights, among the last ten nights of Ramadhan, are called the 'Nights of Glory' (Laylatul Qadr). These are the 19th, 21st, and 23rd nights. Muslims keep awake during these nights and offer special prayers. Even among these nights, the 23rd enjoys excellence over all the others. It is accompanied by great blessings, and he usually grants the supplications made to Allah during this night.

The holy month of Ramadhan, besides being the month of worship and Divine blessings, carries a historical importance as well. As already mentioned above, the revelations of the Holy Qur'an commenced in this month. The epoch-making 'Battle of Badr' and the 'Conquest of Mecca' also took place during the holy month of Ramadhan. "Ramadhan", according to some traditions is one of Allah's names. This is why we can not say Ramadhan without making it clear that we are talking about the month, and therefore we should always say the month of Ramadhan. The Commander of the faithful Ali Ibn Abi Taleb (A.S.) said: Do not say Ramadhan, but say the month of Ramadhan. For you do not know what Ramadhan is. This same meaning was referred to by the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) in his speech during Shaaban: The month of Allah coming....Let us: Learn Islam with ambition, Observe Islam with sincerity, Practice Islam with discipline (Sunnah) & Spread Islam with truth and kindness.

#### **Laylat ul-qadr (19th, 21st & 23rd of Ramadhan):**

***On the Night of Power pray to God with all your heart and He will definitely answer all your prayers.***

***The Qur'an says: "Surely we revealed it (the Holy Qur'an) on the grand night. And what will make you comprehend what the grand night. The grand night is better than a thousand months. The angels and Gibreel descend in it by the permission of their Lord for every affair, Peace! It is till the break of the morning." (97:1-5)***



The Night of Power is full of blessings because the Eminent Qur'an descended in it. The Qur'an is peace by itself. It distinguishes between the good and evil and shows the path of eternal Peace and Bliss to all Mankind forever. This being so, the Night in which this Divine Book was sent down is worthy of great esteem. During this night, as explained in the verse quoted above, the Angels and the Heavenly spirit (Hazrat Gibreel Alai-his-Salam) descend. Their nearness to earth gives a spiritual luster to the hearts and souls of the believers. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) and the 12 Imams (A.S.) passed this night in prayer and worship of God.

Those who pass his night in Prayer, experience an unimaginable bliss, a deep feeling of great pleasure as a result of immense heavenly blessings in this night.

Recite the Holy Qur'an, seek Allah's forgiveness and pray for the good of this world as well as the hereafter.

## *Poem: Prophet Muhammad(saw). The Blessing to Mankind*

*Br. Aaqib Ahmed*

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Imam as-Sadiq (AS) has stated:

- Great array of shine illuminated the earth.
- Sparkles of light overcame the dark.
- The Holy Quran naturally flowed out his heart.
- Soul so perfect with heart so strong.
- He is our role model who shone our hearts with light.
- He had exceptional character. So unique and kind.
- Subhanallah our heart craves to be like him.
- Unlock your imagination with the illuminating key of success.
- Time is essence. He was super productive with time.
- Only one straight path leads to Jannah. The Siratal Mustaqeem.
- Recite Durood Shareef. Meet him in Jannah so work towards your dream.
- Shahada we keep close to our heart. The Quran we read.
- Making Sincere Dua. As his feet swelled. Begging for his Ummah to the Al-Might.
- Still we neglect prayer. Neglect Islam and neglect Juma.
- If he saw the Ummah today. What would he say? Would he mind?
- Why?
- Because it was watered with my tears. My soul craves for him. He's dead!
- Beautiful blessed and gifted since birth.
- Our Prophet set the standard. Set the mark.
- Nothing! Nor hardship could tear it apart.
- Sending Noor upon his Ummah. Removing the wrong.
- Provided Islam that was flawless and right.
- He gave oceans of wealth to charity even the blind.
- He provided wisdom during hardships when things were dim.
- Follow the Sunnah and strive towards your Islamic Potential. Eternal bless.
- He repented to Allah daily. O what a shining dime.
- He was the most compassionate of mankind. Most loving and the most Rahim.
- May Allah at our last breath make us die as a Shaheed.
- Our Prophet cried tears and tears during prayer at night.
- He was tortured. Spat on and deeply abused for his Ummah.
- He was an orphan. Our Beloved. The Blessing to Mankind
- Rose so blossomed. Rose so red.

## Quotes: Compilation of quotes from the late Ayatollah Muhammad Taqi Bahjat (r) about various political issues.

### The role of the United Nations in weakening poor countries:

If the disbelievers say such and overpower us we would say: 'The United Nations who claims to be after human rights does not support weak governments. They do not try to empower them or allow them to progress. If they speak the truth they would not have started the Second World War. They are not only opposed to religion; they are also opposed to the intellect. (Dar Mahzar-i Hazrat Ayatollah Bahjat, v.1, p.316)

Religious prohibitions are not only adultery, gambling, and alcohol. Sometimes a misplaced signature ends in the death of another person. This is much more



serious. We are not expected perform sins such as drinking alcohol on the streets because, in addition to not fearing Allah, this action is seen as insane and idiotic. Therefore, we do not perform it. British agents entered the room of Sayyid Muhammad Kazim Yazdi (r) to obtain a signature from him stating that the people should fight alongside the British against the Ottoman Empire. The warned him and threatened his life. Since, he did not speak English he put his hand to his neck to show: "If you cut my neck I would still not sign this." The agents saw that assassinating him would not have the effect of the signature and therefore they left him. (Ibid, v.1, p.319)

### **As long as the Quran is in the hands of Muslims:**

I heard that in a parliament session in France a representative picked up a Quran and said: "As long as this book is in the hands of Muslims we will not be able to rule over them." This is confirmed by the fact that 300 years ago one of the leaders of an Islamic faction stated in an agreement: "The Quran must be translated into a language other than Arabic."

Islamic governments must be in the hands of Muslims. The disbelievers do not want the Quran to be in the hands of the Muslims and to rule over Muslims. They want it to be how the present day Torah and Bible are in their own countries. They are trying to take out the verses of jihad and of cursing the disbelievers. The only verses that will remain are verses in regards to worship.

### **State of affairs:**

Can we healthily bring property to our homes while we do not care about the state of affairs of the Muslims and believers? Can we reach our goals without giving importance to the state of affairs of Muslims? (Ibid, v.1, p.30)

### **The role of superpowers and occupiers in ruling over Muslims:**

One of the plans of the disbelievers is to separate sons and daughters from their parents and to separate the people from the scholars. They plan to make the people think negatively about the scholars even by having people wear the clothes of scholars and perform actions of disobedience out in the open. They do not want the Quran to be given to people; rather they want to give a translation – a translation of the Quran that is not the Quran. They also want to separate the scholars from the principle sources – from the Quran, the traditions, spirituality, and other religious sources. We must think negatively about the disbelievers. (Muhiban va Dustan). We should be worried about the truth that they have, and even more so about the falsehood. The reason for this is that they use the truth as a method to hunt us. Allah, allow us to understand that it is better for our religiosity and world that we cling to the prophets and saints (a). Allow us to understand that separating from them is not in our interests. Allow us to understand that the disbelievers will take away our world after they take away our religion. (Dar Mahzar Ayatollah Bahjat, v.1, p.147)

## *Teleconference: 4th Session with H.I. Molulana M. Ali Baig*

**Question:** What Qualities should we look for when choosing a spouse?

**Maulana Baig:** If a husband wishes to have a wife for her looks, all he will get is her looks. If a husband wishes to have a wife for her wealth, that's all he will get. Allah says that if a man marries a woman for either her wealth or her looks, those are the things which become forbidden for him in her. Knowing which kind of husband or which kind of wife is going to be good for us. We don't know. Maybe a good and obedient wife won't be good for me. Maybe because she is so nice, I will get spoiled by that. Maybe what makes me a good person is to have a wife who is going to challenge me and will make me more religious and mindful of Allah. This is why we ask Allah to make istikhara. Not the kind with the tasbeeh but that we say to Allah that this is the person that I am marrying and to please make this person the one to make me closer to you. It might happen in an adverse way. The husband might be bad, but because of this, I am becoming more religious or stronger. The fact is that we don't know what will help us or improve ourselves. What is going to help make ourselves strong when we are looking for wife and husband we are given broad attributes to look for.

**Question:** They say to look for taqwa in our spouse and there are so many degrees of taqwa so what should we be looking for?

**Maulana Baig:** The spouse's taqwa should be the same level as you. If you maintain hijab and carry out your obligations, you want to make sure that person who you are marrying is equal to you in iman and faith and taqwa, or higher than you. But you don't want someone who is lower than you are. For example if you pray and the other person only prays sometimes. Someone who does their obligations and knows what is right and won't do wrong is the least amount of taqwa they need. If it's a situation where 'at times' I do this or 'at times I do wrong'. If you find out after the marriage then it becomes problematic. These are issues you should look for beforehand. You have to really work on the person if you find out after and it becomes a long road.

**Question:** Normally people do not check the right things before the marriage, so how should we deal with that?







Arrogant. Close-minded. Immature. Disgusting. Unfortunately, these are sometimes the first words that come to mind when thinking about our college MSA's (Muslim Student Associations). Regardless of the numerous flaws some of the MSA's have, one flaw which is unable to be overlooked and ignored, especially by Shi'a students, is the lack of Sunni-Shi'a unity and acceptance within them. A lot of the times people discover this about their MSA when an idea to have a Karbala event or a Shia-Sunni unity event is rejected. Other times these feelings build up when we realize that every Jum'ah Khutbah is filled with hadiths and praise of the first three Caliphs and the name of Prophet (SAW), let alone the fourth Caliph are left unmentioned. Being one of the few MSA-active Shi'as on campus, I have been told many times by my own fellow Shi'a brothers and sisters to "not get my hopes up" or expect any change. A lot of the time, these statements are followed by "that's why I'm not really a part of MSA", and similar comments. This sense of frustration and hopelessness can be understandable at times, but does that justify being completely out of the loop and acting like those who are a part of the MSA are some other type of species which we are unable to communicate with? Although both Sunnis and Shi'as both need to do their respective part to achieve a needed unity on campus, it is important to begin with a focus on what our roles as Shi'a are, so that our brothers and sisters of the Ahle Sunnah can see we are willing to make attempts towards unity. This article will outline a few crucial actions which Shi'a students can do to promote better Shi'a understanding in a predominantly Sunni-run MSA:

1. Represent Islam; be the Muslim whose presence reminds other Muslims of Allah (swt). This is probably the most crucial step in promoting better understanding and acceptance between the two schools of thought. Being the minority whose history of persecution seems endless, it's almost inevitable that misconceptions and rumors are spread about our beliefs and practices, especially when most of the times we are not the ones providing the information about our faith. Because of this fact, some Sunnis, especially those who have never known a Shi'a, tend to have the impression that we are completely out of the folds of Islam and resemble nothing remotely close to a true Muslim (although unfortunately, some of us in fact confirm this belief through our actions). Disproving these sentiments by simply living life as a true Muslim is the easiest thing we can do to overcome this somewhat awkward issue, Insh'Allah.

2. Show them that you too, accept them as a Muslim. This can be accomplished in many ways, but we will focus on the example of Jamaat prayers. When it is time for Salat, kindly ask them if they would like to join you; this not only will unite you both on the basis of Salat, an important aspect of Islam, but it also opens the door to discussion and learning. A common issue that some of our Sunni brothers and sisters have is that they are unfamiliar with the way we pray and are not sure if they can pray behind us or vice versa. Instead of them going to a Sunni scholar or friend to learn about the Shi'a faith, praying together will ease tensions and make them feel comfortable in asking us questions directly which is always the best way to clear up misconceptions (assuming of course that the Shia's him/herself is knowledgeable).

3. Be active! There is nothing worse than being a Muslim who has no care for the Ummah. The Prophet (SAW) said it himself, "One who begins the day unconcerned with the affairs of Muslims is not a Muslim". Islam being a religion that requires its followers to abide by many social and political obligations emphasizes the importance of being an active member in society. Whether you're active in MSA by donating supplies, cleaning up the Jamaat area after Salat, or by planning and helping with an event, being active in a Muslim organization is very crucial! Also, don't think that this means you are limited to only what you have to offer MSA. If you feel a little uncomfortable joining some MSA events, then do your best to keep your brothers and sisters up-to-date on recent occurrences in the Muslim world. For example, this past year when millions of DVDs of "Obsession", a very Anti-Islamic and hatred-filled documentary, were distributed around the US, I printed out flyers and informed Muslims about the issue. The same can be done easily by other Muslim students on campuses all over the US.

4. Try to attend popular Sunni masjids in which many of the MSA students attend. For some reason, this idea hardly ever crosses the minds of many Shi'a students. What better way is there to bond with our brothers and sisters from school, than by attending the place they gain majority of their Islamic knowledge from? Not only does this show that you respect and accept them, but you are also opening the doors to better understanding. By attending their masjid and becoming apart of it, you become a natural part of their community and will have an easier time being accepted and seen as just any other Muslim on campus.

5. Find well-learned Sunni scholars to use as references for your Sunni friends. This is probably one of the most useful things any of us can do. Having a well-learned Sunni scholar as a reference for your Sunni friends regarding issues with history and fiqh can help to pass on the message of the Ahlul Bait (as) to them confidently. Just as sometimes we are skeptical about certain hadiths and narrations told to us by our Sunni friends, they feel the same about some of our hadiths and beliefs. By having a respected Sunni scholar who can verify your claims on prominent Shi'a narrations, for example, on the tragedy of Karbala, or the importance of the Ahlul Bait (as), it will prevent this skepticism from occurring and can encourage more curiosity.

Again, these were just a few ideas and tips for creating better Sunni-Shi'a relations on college campuses. Of course, with every situation comes different ways to solve and address this problem, but for the most-part, sticking to these neutral techniques will work for just about anyone, anywhere, Insh'Allah. The most important thing to keep in mind is that we attempt to do all of these things for the sake of Allah (swt) and His pleasure, not for our own worldly gains as that makes any struggle insincere in the eyes of Allah (swt).

## Poem: The Holy Month: Ramadhan

**Br. Aljinaun Al-Taqi**

For the sake of Allah, the Merciful, the most kind

As our ears prepare for a month of vacation  
Escaping, the whispers of Iblis  
A mercy from Allah, he's in jail  
Let's pace to the finish line in bliss

Let's warm up by fasting last 3 nights of Shaban  
Glory be Al-ghaffar who sent Ramadhan a mercy to mankind  
Here comes the new moon, are we ready?  
To endure: hunger; thirst; summers are longer so of course TIME

Iblis may be incarcerated, but his workers remain!  
11 months out the year they corrupt us like a virus  
So here is our chance, "fasting is prescribed to us as  
Those before us, so that we may become Pious"

Please Allah with out your guidance were hell bound  
May al-wudu & al-ghusl, remove sin like dirt in a shower  
A night of this month is better than a thousand months  
Bless us the reward of, Laylat ul-Qadr, the "Night of Power"

114 chapters have been divided into 30 equal parts for this purpose.  
Sawaab of complete recitation of the Holy Qur'an lets achieve!!!  
Ziyarats, duas, dhiker, salat-ul-layl lets get these blessings  
Restless and greedy, lets fill our Islamic bank accounts with deeds

Both human and jinn, in both the east and the west  
Allah says he loves the breath of one who holds fast  
So lets encourage our fellow Muslims and also muminah  
Push ourselves so even after EID our habits still lasts

Because after iblis is set free, is the month of sin  
He makes up for lost time, and our ways become Machiavellian  
The ways we evade, these devils striving to hold the rope  
Remember your Ahlul-Bayt, don't treat them as if they are alien

I wish all of you, an early "Ramadhan Mubarak"  
Also Allah willing an Eid Mubarak  
May Allah hasten the appearance of "Imam Mahdi (a.j.)



## Peace ...

**Sis. Rabab Jaffery**

Peace - the oft-repeated concept that echoes in all minds. What does 'peace' mean to us? A feeling of endless security, an immunity from myriad of life's problems, and contentedness with oneself and close knitted affection from those that matter. Theoretically, we can create the most beautiful definitions of the word 'peace'; the question is how much of it can be brought to reality from a daily life perspective?

Majority of the time, peace is an independent variable: your peace and tranquility is maneuvered by your own very hands. If we possess a tendency to blame external factors (people, material life etc) for dictating our life's happiness, then everlasting peace may hardly be an attainable concept for us.

We are all in constant pursuit of the prolonged everlasting peace and happiness in life. Ever wondered why people persist in sinfulness? On closer examination, we will find that most sinful behavior comes about from the longing for peace of mind: music, drugs, alcohol, tranquilizers, anti-depressants are all approached for this reason. Moreover most illnesses are actually stress-related: diabetes, hypertension, heart problems, etc.

Peace of mind also has its own types: there is true and pure tranquility, but there is also a fake one. To make it simple, let's just say that not everything that gives us happiness, gives us actual peace of mind. That which might give us momentary happiness can fling us into the deep dark hole of guilt, frustration, and a worse form of dissatisfaction in the future. If we need everlasting and unwavering peace in our lives, our first step should be to make a clear distinction between the real source of peace, and the delusional artificial sources. As believers, one thing we can be sure of is that the Holy Quran can definitely help us make this distinction. The Quran gives us a formula to live by:

"Surely in Allah's remembrance do the hearts find peace." (13:28)

How intricately simple is this formula for peace! Remembrance of Allah works like a key to several locks, because with true remembrance of Allah several different things happen at the same time. First of all, we stay away from all other artificial sources of happiness also known as sinful behavior.



Secondly, we allow ourselves to enter into a state of tawakkul – a positive reassurance that whatever happens to us is always for our own benefit whether it is spiritual or material. Henceforth, worldly and material troubles cannot rob us of our peace of mind, because we have embarked into a stage which has been described by Imam Ali (as) as follows:

"A true believer has no worry except about his failure to fulfill his duties to the Lord."

The Quran's prescription relieves us from meaningless worries, and gives us a simple formula to true happiness and peace. Knowing this, it should be of little surprise for us to recall how pleased and content Meesum at-Thammar was to get ruthlessly crucified by the enemies, or even to imagine the day of Ashura on which Imam Hussain (as) and his close companions (according to a narration by our fourth Imam) became happier and more tranquil as the time of martyrdom approached them. They are a manifestation of the peace of mind the Quran and Ahlulbayt constantly speak about, and they are the ones who enjoy the promised everlasting peace that we all yearn for.

As long as we live within the limits prescribed to us by our Lord, nothing disturbs our peace. With this solution in mind, we are no longer confused wanderers that stumble along their paths. We have chosen to trust our Creator who is our everlasting source of peace. The Quran promises the believers:

He it is Who sent down tranquility into the hearts of the believers that they might have more of faith added to their faith-- and Allah's are the hosts of the heavens and the earth, and Allah is Knowing, Wise. [48:4]

## Allamah as-Sayyed Arif Husain al-Husaini Biography

*Courtesy of: Muslimcongress.org*



Allamah as-Sayyed Arif Husain al-Husaini was born in a small village Parachanaar Kurram Agency (close to Peshawar) on 16 November 1946. He went to Najaf in 1967 for higher studies. His teachers at Najaf included Ayatollah Mortazvi and Ayatollah Shaheed Madni two great Mujtahiddin at that time. After a short span of time Shaheed was considered to be one of the great Ulamas in Najaf. Allamah was a great lover and student of Imam Khomayni [ra]. Allamah Arif Husain Husaini participated in all lectures of the Imam at Najaf. Finally in 1973, Shaheed was exiled by oppressive dictatorial western puppet Iraqi government of the evil Saddam, because of his revolutionary activities. In 1974 he went to the haram of Ahl ul-Bayt a.s., the Holy city of Qum, for further studies. Shah's police and intelligence strictly observe this Shaheed's activities and was finally exiled from Iran.

After the death of Mufti Jafar Husain on August 29 1983 , Allamah Arif Husain al-Husaini (r) was selected as a Quaid /leader of of Muslims of Pakistan. At that time he was only 37 years-old. Shaheed al-Husaini (r) was an extremely brave leader, so the then dictator Zia-ul-Haq (al-maloon) got no chance to oppress the Ithna Asheri community on the demand of the west, who got scared of a second Iran style popular per Islamic revolution in the making. 21st Zul-Hijjah, 5th August 1988 was recorded as a tragic day---and celebration for the Zionists--- when Quaid of the Muslims of Pakistan and chief of then Tehrik-e-Jaffaria Pakistan (TJP) was brutally murdered on the order of the dictator Zia ul Haq, upon foreign orders. Imam Khomayni's message on his Martyrdom reads: "I stress (emphasize) you to keep the thoughts of this Shaheed personality (Allamah al-Husaini) alive".

### **Wiladat & Family:**

Allama Arif Hussaini was born in a small village Parachanaar Kurram Agency (Peshawar) on 16 November 1946. His father name was Syed Fazal Husain a renowned religious personality of the area. Syed Fazel had two sons Shaheeed Arif Husain and Sayed Aaqil Hussain Al-Hussaini Allamah Arif Husain al-Husaini (r) got married in 1973. At that time he was 26. He had seven children, 5 sons and 2 daughters.

### **Shaheed al-Husani in Qum:**

In 1974 Allama went to Qum for further studies. Allamah learnt philosophy, jurisprudence, Fiqh, Asool and Kalam from Ustad Shaheed Mortaza Motahari, Ayatollah Makarim Shirazi, Ayatollah Mohsin Haram Panahi, Ayatollah Wahid Khorasani, Ayatollah Jawad Tabrizi and Ayatollah Kazim Hairi. Shaheed al-Husaini continued to support Imam Khomayni in Iran. Shah's police and agencies strictly observe Shaheedal-Husaini's activities and was finally exiled from Iran.

### **Leadership:**

After the death of Allamah Mufti Jafar Husain on August 29 1983, Allamah Arif Husain was selected as a Quaid of Muslims Pakistan. At that time he was only 37 years-old. It did not take too much time for people to say, "QUAID KE FURMAN PER JAN BHI QURBAN HEY". Shaheeed al-Husaini was a brave leader, so the dictator at that time Zia-ul-Haq (m) got no chance to oppress the Shia community. Allamah was a leader who ruled over hearts of millions of Pakistani Muslims.

### **Martyrdom:**

In the history of Ithna Asheri Community, 5th August 1988 was recorded as tragic day when Quaid/leader of the Muslims of Pakistan and chief of Tehrik-e-Jaffaria Pakistan (TJP) was brutally murdered at Madrasah Jamia Maa'rif Islamiyah in Peshwar by an order of the dictator Zia ul Haq. Quaid was

going for morning prayers, when armed terrorists attacked him in.

And the true lover of Ahlulbayt, a true follower of Quran, a righteous Alim.....left all Shias alone in full of grief and sorrow.

***"O! Soul that art at rest!-Return to your Lord, well-pleased (with him), well-pleasing (Him),-So enter among My servants,- And enter into My Garden.- In the Name of Allah,the Beneficent, the Merciful". (al-Quran)***