

Planting the Seed of Nahjul Balagha

Session 2- Holy Quran and Hadith in Nahjul Balagha



Words of Wisdom to Start the Class-

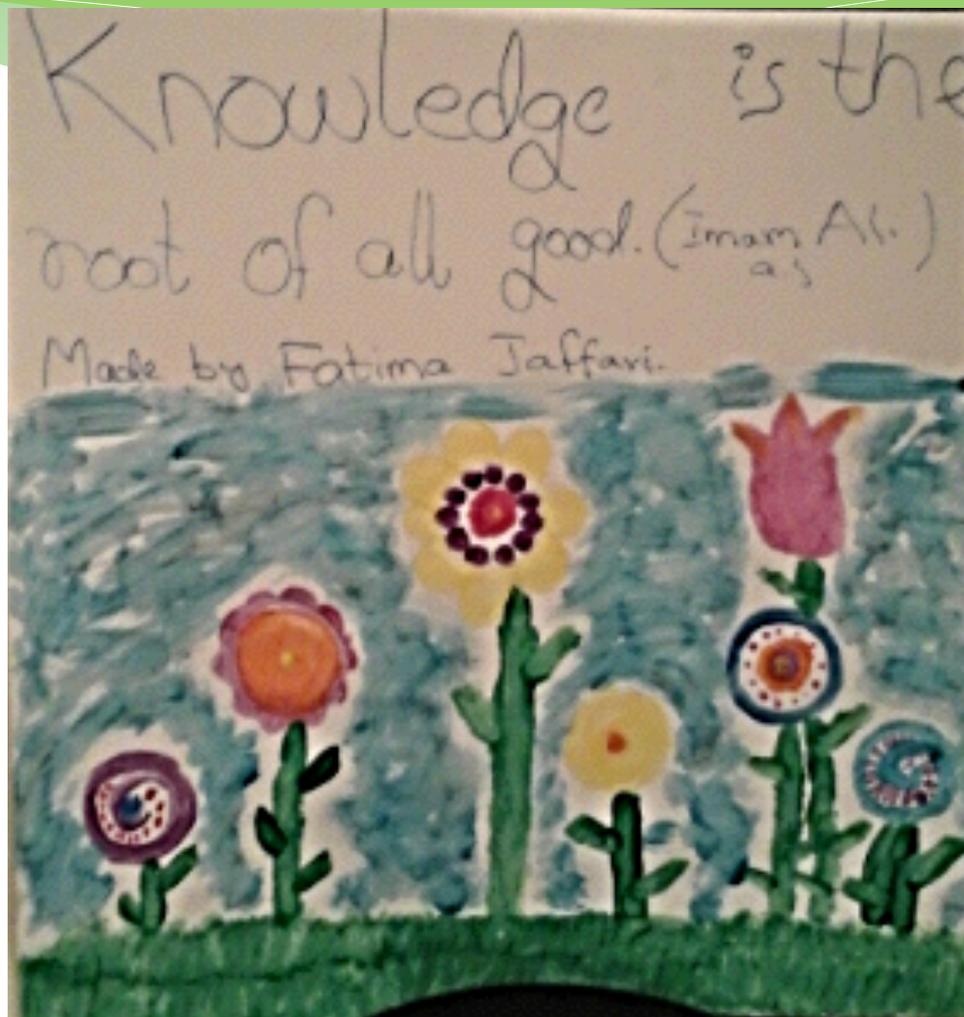
Hadith n. 38 from Nahjul Balagha

- * Amir al-mu'minin, peace be upon him, said to his son al- Hasan:
- * 38. وقال عليه السلام : لابنه الحسن عليه السلام :
- * O my son, **learn four things** and (a further) four things from me. **Nothing will harm you if you practise them.** That the richest of riches is intelligence; the biggest destitution is foolishness; the wildest wildness is vanity and the best achievement is goodness of the moral character.
- * destitution=poverty vanity=excessive pride

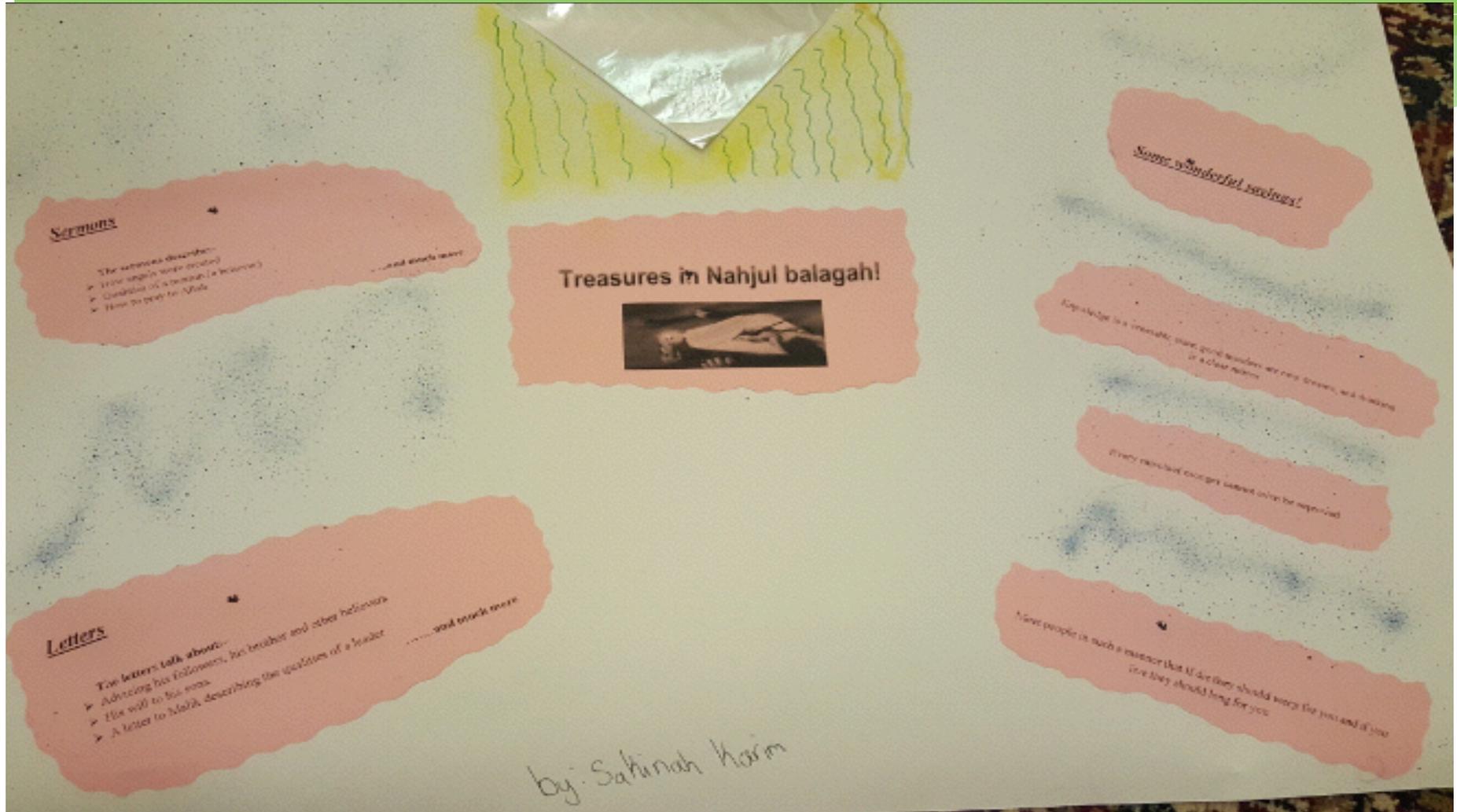
Reminder when Participating in the Chat

- * 1) Ensure you do not write any personal information in the chat box (involving your email address and phone number).
- * 2) Do not make fun of the responses of other students (show respect to everyone).
- * 3) Once the class has begun ensure all discussions relate only to the class (no private conversations with others).

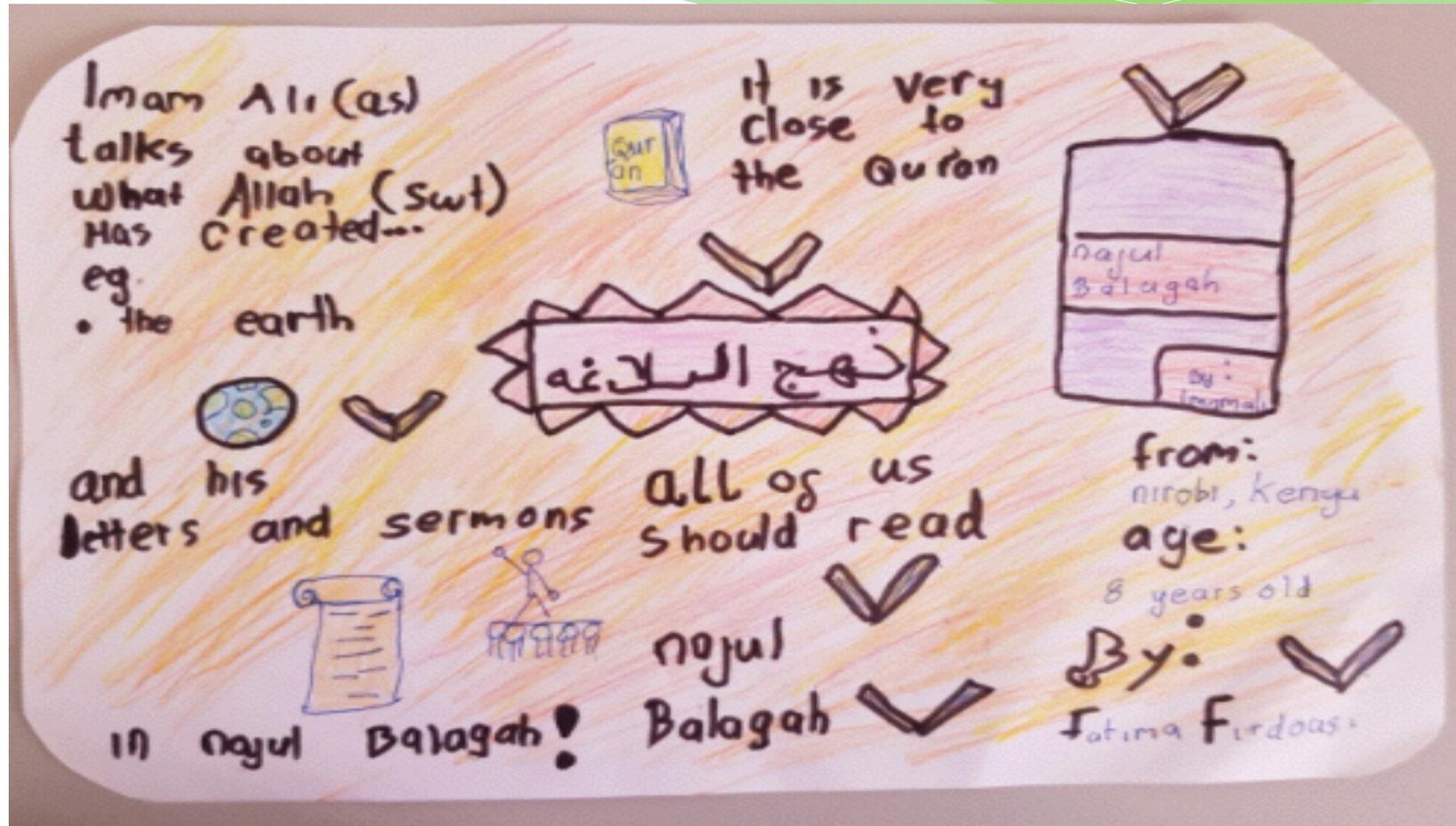
Beautiful Posters Created by Participants in the Course



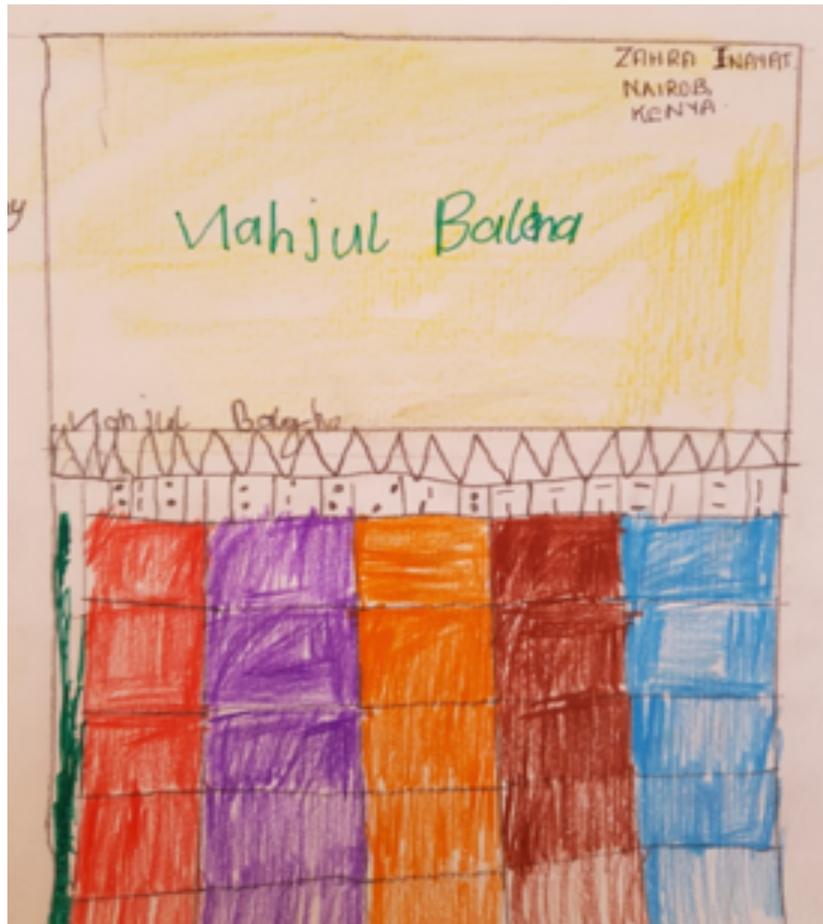
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Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Hadith 333

- * **Description of a believer:**
- * Amir al-mu'minin, peace be upon him, said describing a believer: A believer has a **cheerful face**, a **sorrowful heart**, a very broad chest (**full of generosity**), and a very **humble heart**. He **hates high position** and **dislikes renown**. His **grief is long**, his **courage is far-reaching**, his **silence is much** and, his time is occupied. He is **grateful**, **enduring**, **buried in his thoughts**, **sparing in his friendship (with others)**, of **bright demeanour** and of **soft temperament**. He is **stronger than stone** but **humbler than a slave**.

Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Saying 8

- * "Man is truly a wonderful creature, he sees through layers of fat, he hears through a bone, he speaks through a lump of flesh."
- * Description Given by Student:
- * I think this is an interesting quote of Imam Ali because a lot of people think science and religion are different, but right hear it clearly says an Imam of Islam knows about "advanced science"

Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Letter Imam Ali (AS) wrote to Muawiyah

- * “Fear Allah regarding what you have amassed and find out your true right therein, and turn to understand for what you will not be excused on the grounds of ignorance. Certainly, for (following the path of) obedience there are clear signs, shining ways, straight highways and a fixed aim.”
- * Description Given by Student:
- * I found this very interesting because he is saying you should fear Allah.
- * -When referring to fearing of Allah SWT it refers to the fear of displeasing him when we do bad actions.

Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Sermon 143 and 160

Position of the Ahlul-Bayt, Sermon 143

Where are those who falsely and unjustly claimed that they are deeply versed in knowledge, as against us, although Allah raised us in position and kept them down, bestowed upon us knowledge, but deprived them and entered us, but kept them out. With us guidance is to be sought and blindness is to be changed into brightness. Surely Imam will be from the Quraysh. They have been planted in this line through Hashim. It would not suit others nor would others be suitable as heads of affairs.

Drawing Lessons From This World, Sermon 160

I trust in Allah, the trust of bending towards him and I seek His guidance for the way that leads to His paradise and takes to the place of his pleasure. I advise you, O creatures of Allah, to exercise fear of Allah and to obey him because it is salvation tomorrow and deliverance forever. He warned and did so thoroughly. He persuaded and did so fully. He described this world, its cutting away from you, its decay and its shifting. Therefore, keep aloof from its attractions because very little of it will accompany you. This house is the closest to the displeasure of Allah and the remotest from the pleasure of Allah.

Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Sermon 185

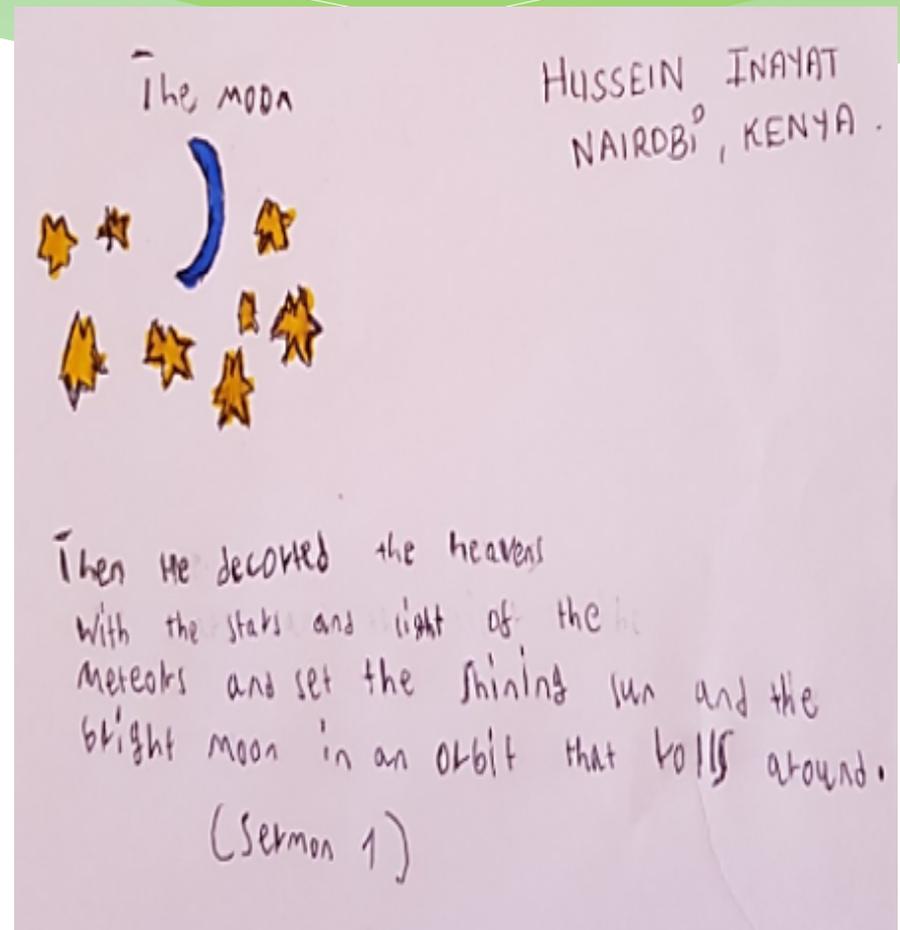
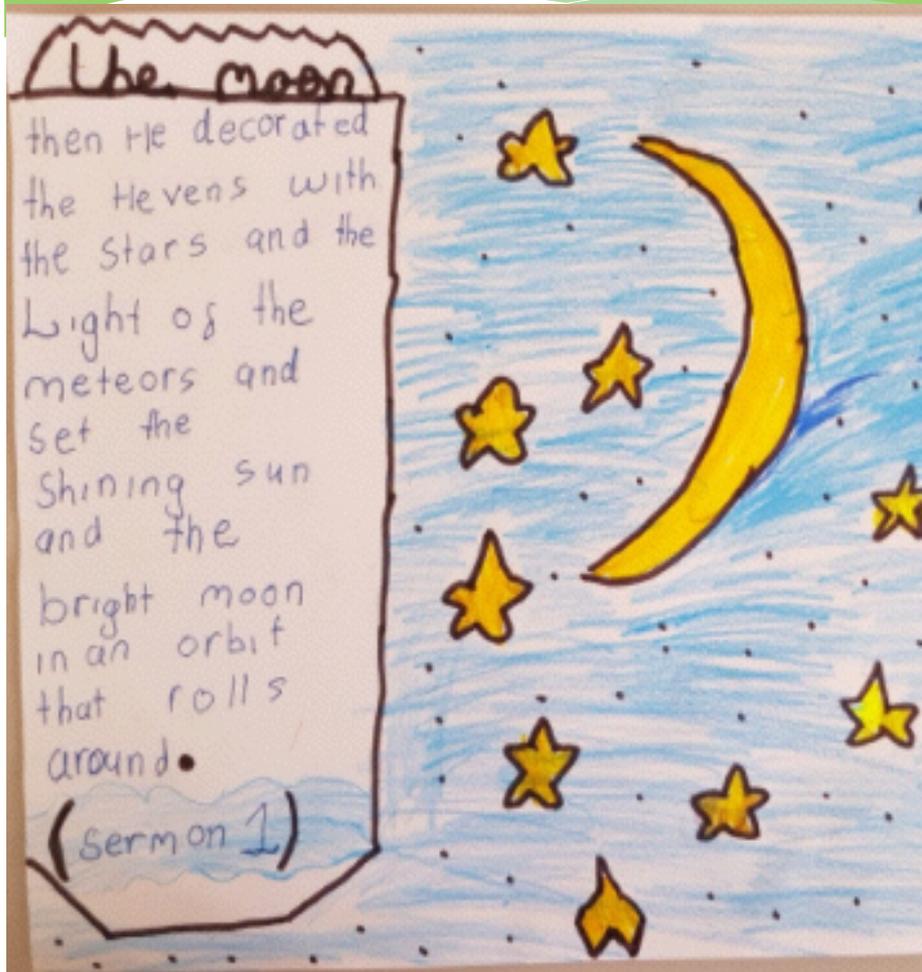
THE ANT

Look at the ant,
With its small body,
And delicate form,
See how it crawls on the earth,
And leaps at its livelihood,
It carries the grain to the hole,
And stores it in its storage,
It collects during the summer for the winter,
And during strength for the time of its weakness!

{ sermon 185 }

- * Another sermon found interesting by a participant involves sermon #96 which talks about the Holy Prophet (PBUH)

Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Section from Sermon 1



Taking a Closer Look at the Jewels in Nahjul Balagha-Section from Sermon 1



THE MOON

Then he decorated the Heavens,
With the stars and the light of the meteors,
And set the shining sun and the bright moon,
In an orbit that rolls around!

{ Sermon 1 }

When we think of the creation of the moon, what and some of the thoughts that come in our mind?



Optional Nahjul Balagha Exploration Task- Sermon 1

- * Along with the creation of the moon, there are other creations of Allah (SWT) that are described in sermon 1 of Nahjul Balagha. What other creations are described in this sermon?

Revisiting a Commonly Asked Question from Last Week's Discussion:
“Why did Muhammad bin Husayn change his name to Sharif ar-Radhi?”

- * Muhammad bin Husayn was his real name
- * Sharif ar Radhi was the title given to him
- * The title 'al-Sharif' was a common title used for those who were descendants of the Prophet (PBUH) from both the maternal and paternal sides (now commonly used for al-Sharif is al-Sayyid)

Thinking Time!

*
*
What kinds of ahadiths do I think are in Nahjul Balagha?

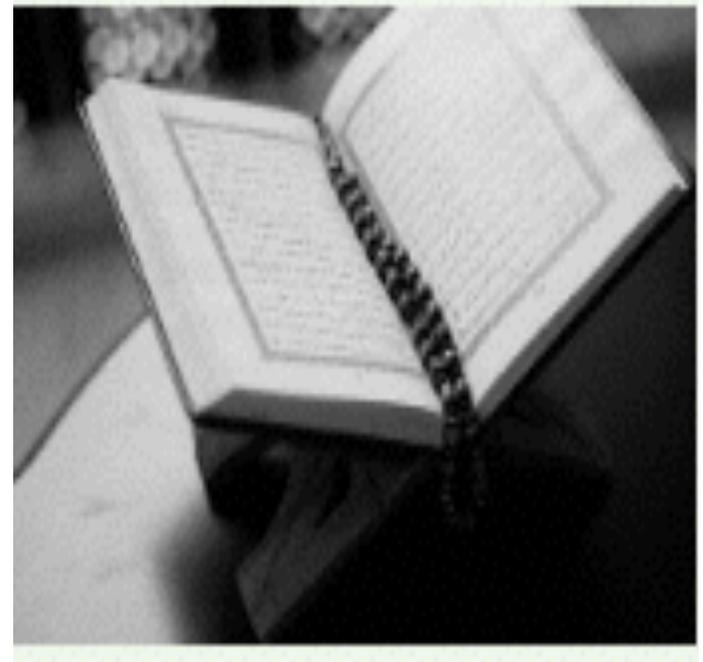
How can Nahjul Balagha be linked to the Quran?



Reminders: Ensure you show respect to the posts of others, and post messages relate to the session. Also do not post any personal details in the chat box (i.e your email and your phone number).

Holy Qur'an in Nahjul Balagha

- Imam Ali (a) spoke about the Qur'an and often quoted from it
- Holy Prophet had said about Imam Ali (a), "Ali is with the Qur'an and the Qur'an is with 'Ali'. They will not separate until they reach the fountain (of Kauthar) on the Day of Judgement"
- Imam Ali (a) was known as the Qur'an an'Natiq (the Qur'an that speaks)



Khutba (sermon 176) -Referring to the Holy Qur'an

- In khutba (sermon) no. 176 he says:

- “It contains a cure for the biggest diseases namely unbelief, hypocrisy, revolt and misguidance”

What do I understand from the khutba?

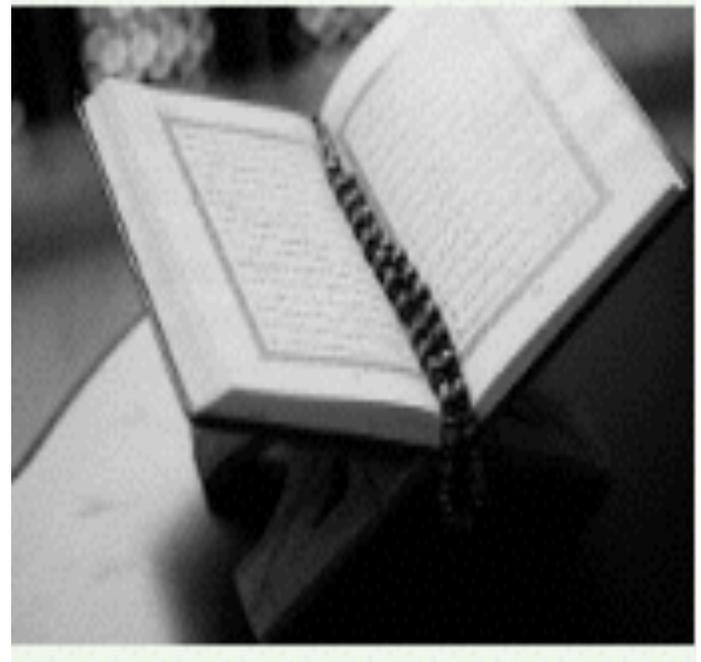
- Reference to Surat Yūnus, No. 10, Ayat 57

- يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ مَوْعِظَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ وَشِفَاءٌ لِمَا فِي الصُّدُورِ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

O mankind, There has certainly come to you an advice from your Lord, and a cure for what is in the chests, and a guidance, and a mercy for the believers.

Meanings of the Holy Qur'an

- The Holy Qur'an has an outer meaning (Dhahir of the Qur'an)
- It also has an inner meaning (batin of the Qur'an)
- Lots of depth in the meaning of the Qur'an (explanation of the Qur'an as taught by the Masumeen (a) can be found in tafsir)
- Imam has explained that the Qur'an was not created for one time only and it is deep for all people until the Day of Judgement



Discussion Question

- * What is one goal that I can create for myself for strengthening my relationship with the Holy Qur'an?



Hadith in Najul Balagha

- Hadith are the words of the Holy Prophet (s) and the Masumeen (a) that were narrated by those who heard them and later written down for Muslims to benefit from it
- Hadith are like pearls, precious and valuable whoever follows it will get good in this world and in the Hereafter
- The third part of Najul Balagha contains short Ahadith (plural of Hadith)



Examples of Hadith in Najul Balagha

1

Meet people in such a way that if you die they should weep over you and if you live they should long for your company.

2

The doer of good is better than good and the doer of evil is worse than the evil.

3

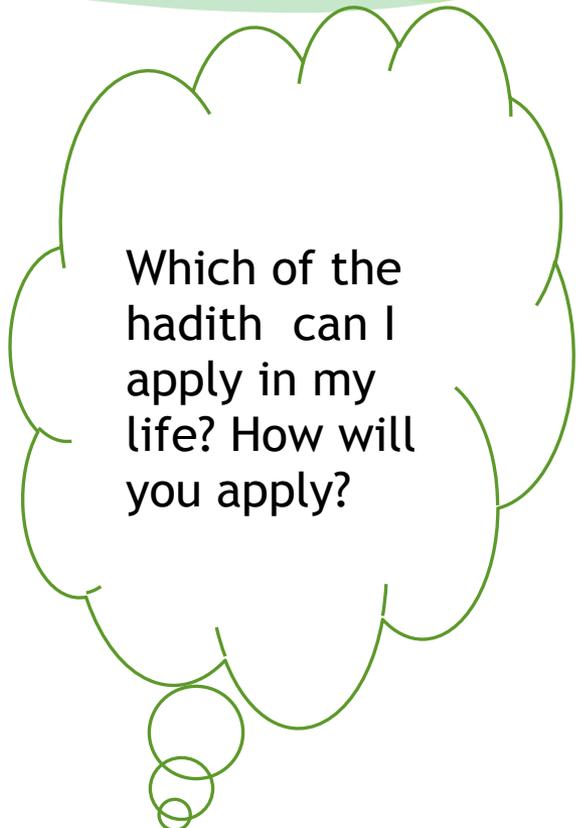
The sin that displeases you is liked better by Allah than the good deed that makes you proud.

4

Contentment is wealth that does not decrease.

5

The people of the world are like travelers who are being carried while they sleep.



Which of the hadith can I apply in my life? How will you apply?

Summary of Optional Mini Assignments

- * 1) Leaf Scavenger Hunt #2
- * 2) Exploring Nahjul Balagha-What other creations of Allah (SWT) are described in sermon 1?
- * 3) Create a bookmark (that you can use when you read the Qur'an) that with words and pictures that can inspire you to strengthen your relationship with the Holy Qur'an **OR** Select one of the hadiths that you learned about in the lesson and illustrate and write how you can apply the hadith in your life.
- * Optional Assignments can be emailed to: fatima.siddiqa@hotmail.com (Along with the name of the student)