Muharram Workbook

Remember the thirst of KARBALA!
Muharram Workbook (Ages 7-9)

Children need to learn Islamic teachings in a way which takes into consideration the mind of a child. Learning about religion is sometimes taken as serious and even boring. In order to change that negative conception, educators and parents need to use more appealing methods to put the message of Islam across to the younger generation. This book has been designed with that purpose in mind, and we hope that both parents and educators will enjoy going through it.

For the parent

Our experience shows that no book or teacher can take the place of a parent when it comes to teaching children religious beliefs and practices. We urge that parents use this book as a tool in their efforts to help their children understand and appreciate Islam. The following points are suggested.

1. The activities in this book cater for young children, around the ages of 7-9. Some of these children may require a little help with some activities. Work together with your child through these pages to encourage an enthusiasm for learning and thinking about Islamic teachings. Rather than providing all the answers, help him/her to think and answer.

2. There are many aspects of Muharram which cannot be covered in a workbook like this. Please help your child learn more about the sacrifice at Karbala by narrating to him the stories of Karbala, encouraging him to participate in children’s programs during Muharram, and getting some of the children’s material available on Karbala. The story of Karbala holds great fascination for children, and it is a good way to inspire and boost the faith of children.

3. This workbook would be very useful for the children’s programs which take place in many communities during Muharram. We request that parents and teachers buy these books from us rather than photocopying pages, so that future production of such books continues to be possible. Please contact us regarding discounts for bulk copies.

Please continue to encourage your child to learn more about Islam. To instill an appreciation for religious beliefs and practices in a young mind is the most rewarding thing you can do for your child. The effects could last a lifetime.

Dhul-Qa’dah 1417
March 1997
A Name Chart

The chart below has some names of people who were present in Karbala. The description beside each name in the first chart is mixed up. Rewrite the descriptions beside the correct name in the second chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imam Husayn</th>
<th>son of Imam Hassan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bibi Zaynab</td>
<td>friend of Imam Husayn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habib Ibn Mazahir</td>
<td>Commander who came to Imam’s side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qasim</td>
<td>sister of Imam Husayn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurr</td>
<td>grandson of the Holy Prophet(s)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the following paragraphs, one sentence does not belong. It is out of place. Write that sentence on the space provided.

1. The Holy Prophet (s) loved his grandsons, Hasan (a) and Husayn (a) very much. Prophet Ibrahim (a) built the Ka`ba. The Holy Prophet (s) used to carry his grandsons on his back on the streets of Madinah.

2. Yazid called himself the Khalifa of the Muslims. Yazid wanted Imam Husayn (a) to accept him as the Khalifa. Imam `Ali (a) is buried in Najaf.

3. The Holy Prophet (s) was born in the year of the elephant. Imam Husayn (a) left Madinah for Makkah. From Makkah Imam Husayn (a) left for Kufa, but was forced to change his way to Karbala.

4. Imam Husayn (a) arrived at Karbala on the 2nd of Muharram. Bibi Aasiya is one of the four great women of Islam. Imam Husayn (a) came to Karbala with a small group of devoted friends and family.
Write a Title

Read each of the following paragraphs. Then write a suitable title for it.

1. ________________________________
Imam Husayn (a) and his family and friends arrived here on the 2nd of Muharram. This land is also known as Naynavah. It is now a place where many people go for ziyarat.

2. ________________________________
Imam called all his friends and relatives to his tent. He told them it was all right if they wanted to leave as they would otherwise be martyred the next day. He said he would not feel bad if they left, and he turned out the candle so they could leave in darkness.

3. ________________________________
Ali-Akbar recited the adhan in the morning. One by one the friends of Imam Husayn (a) were martyred. Then came the turn of his family members. By noon no-one was left from the male members of Imam’s family except his son Ali Zaynul Abedeen who was too sick to fight.

4. ________________________________
After the death of the martyrs of Karbala, the soldiers of Yazid came to loot the tents of Imam Husayn (a). They set fire to the tents. They robbed the women of their hijabs and whatever little possessions they had. They showed no kindness to the family of Imam Husayn (a).


Across

2. The mother of Ali-Asghar and Sakina.

4. The governor of Kufa was Ibn ________.

Down

1. ____ bin Aqeel was sent to find out if the letters inviting Imam Husayn (a) were really true.

2. Imam Husayn(a) left Madinah in the month of ________.

3. The brother of Imam Husayn(a) who also died in Karbala.
Color a Hadith

Color and learn the following Hadith of the Holy Prophet(s)

Hasan and Husayn are the leaders of the youths of Paradise
Where are they?

Where are the following activities taking place? Read each paragraph carefully and then choose a city from the ones given below.

1. Waleed calls Imam Husayn (a) to his court. Imam comes with some of his friends and relatives. Waleed says that Yazid has ordered to take the oath of allegiance from Imam. Imam refuses to give the oath.
   CITY ____________________________

2. Muslim bin Aqeel is at the mosque. He asks the people if they will support Imam Husayn (a) if he comes to their city. He reminds them of the thousands of letters they wrote to invite the Imam to come to them. The people say they will welcome the Imam if he comes to them.
   CITY ____________________________

3. Imam and his family arrive here on the 2nd of Muharram. They camp at the shore of the river Euphrates. He calls the owners of the land, a tribe called the Banu Asad. He asks them to bury them after their martyrdom.
   CITY ____________________________

4. After Karbala the women of Imam's family and Imam 'Ali Zaynul Abideen are taken to the court of Yazid. They are forced to enter the court, even though the ladies do not have their hijabs. It is very difficult time for the holy family. They have to stand in front of Yazid and listen to him boasting about his evil deeds.
   CITY ____________________________

   Madinah  Makkah  Damascus
   Kufa  Karbala
Each of the following paragraphs describes a person in Karbala. Read the sentences and then choose the correct name for that person from the box below.

1. He had been a friend of Imam Husayn (a) since they were children. Imam loved him very much and sent him a letter to tell him he was going to Karbala. Imam was very happy when he left Kufa and came to Karbala to fight with Imam.
   His name is ___________________

2. He was the son of Imam `Ali (a) and Ummul Baneen. He was very devoted to Imam Husayn (a). He was so brave that even the enemies were afraid of him.
   His name is ___________________

3. He was a commander in the army of Yazid. On the night of `Ashura he could not bear to hear the cries of the young children in Imam Husayn’s tents. He asked himself how he could fight the grandson of the Holy Prophet (s). He went over to Imam’s side and died for Islam.
   His name is ___________________

4. He was the son of Imam Husayn(a) and Shehrbaanu. He was too sick to fight on the day of `Ashura. After Karbala he was tied in chains and forced to walk on the hot sand of the desert. He always remembered his father when he saw water.
   His name is ___________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ali-akbar</th>
<th>Ali Zaynul Abideen</th>
<th>Hurr</th>
<th>Abbas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qasim</td>
<td>Habib</td>
<td>Burayr</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Journey of Imam Husayn(a)

In the map below, draw the route of Imam Husayn(a)'s journey to Karbala. Then answer the questions below.

1. In which month did Imam Husayn(a) leave Madinah?
   a) Ramadhan   b) Rajab   c) Muharram

2. Why was Imam Husayn (a) forced to leave Makkah?
   a) It was too hot there.
   b) Yazid’s army was waiting for him at Karbala.
   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 secret word

Every year in Muharram, Shias remember the tragedy of Karbala. They listen to Majlises on Imam Husayn(a), weep for him and do matam. These actions of remembering the tragedy of Karbala have a special name. Do you know the name? It is from the Urdu and Farsi languages, but is used by most people for the process of mourning during Muharram.

To find out the word, fill in the following puzzle. The secret word is in gray.
Who said that?

Match each famous saying to the person who said it.
(Please note that the sayings are not the exact words)

1. It is my great desire to be killed, live again, and again put to death. This may be repeated a thousand times if the tragedy is removed from you and your family.

   Imam Husayn (a), when he was told he would be killed, if he refused to give the oath to Yazid.

2. Am I not the grandson of your Prophet? Tell me why you want to kill me?

   Zuhayr bin Qayn, on the night of `Ashura, when Imam told them they could leave Karbala if they wanted to.

3. Death in the way of Islam is sweeter to me than honey.

   Imam Husayn (a), to the army of Yazid on the day of `Ashura.

4. To die is better than a life of humiliation.

   Qasim, son of Imam Hasan (a), when he asked for permission to fight on the day of `Ashura.
What do you think?

Read the sentences below. Each paragraph gives you an idea about something. Read the paragraph and then write what you think.

1. Qasim, the young son of Imam Hasan (a) asked his uncle to let him fight on the day of `Ashura. He was not afraid of death. He said that death was sweeter than honey.
I think that Qasim __________________________

2. Imam Husayn (a) asked permission from the soldiers of Yazid for one night before the day of `Ashura. He said the soldiers should leave them alone that night. He wanted to spend the night in worship of Allah as it was their last night in this world. The whole night was spent in prayers and tasbih.
I think that Imam Husayn (a) __________________________

3. The brave Muslims of Karbala showed us how important the daily prayers are. Even on the day of `Ashura, when the soldiers of Yazid were waiting to fight them, they prayed the Dhuhr prayers behind their Imam. Imam Husayn (a) even prayed the `Asr prayers just before he died although he was greatly hurt.
I think that prayers are __________________________

4. The young children of Karbala taught us how to be brave and strong for Islam. Allah loves those who are strong and not afraid to follow the truth. A true Muslim is a very strong person and will always follow Islam no matter what people think or do.
I think __________________________
Hurr Ibn Yazid al-Riyahi

The sentences in the story below are not in order. Put the correct number beside each sentence and then re-write the story in the second box.

1. Hurr asked Imam to forgive him and accept him on his side.
2. On the 10th of Muharram Hurr left the army of Yazid and went over to the camps of Imam Husayn (a).
3. Hurr had met Imam Husayn (a) while Imam was on his way to Kufa, and he had stopped Imam from going to Kufa. Instead Imam had to go towards Karbala.
4. Hurr Ibn Yazid al-Riyahi was a commander in the army of Yazid.
5. Hurr was among the first people to die on the side of Imam Husayn (a).
Some Companions of Imam Husayn(a)

The boxes below contain information on two of the companions of Imam Husayn(a) who were martyred in Karbala. However, the person writing them has made many mistakes in spelling and grammar. Rewrite the information correctly on the space provided.

Wahab bin Abdullah

Wahab was a young man who was had just get married and was returning to her home. Passing through Karbala, he find the camp of Imam Husayn (a). When Wahab’s mother hearing of the battle, she told her son to fought on the side of Imam Husayn (a). He was martyrs by the enemies.

Jawn, the Abyssinian slave

Jawn was an slave who were bought by Imam Ali(a) and gives to AbuDharr Gaffari, the companion of the Prophet(s). When AbuDharr dead, he returned to the house of Imam Ali(a). He wis very old of Karbala, but was eager to fight. He told Imam Husayn(a) he would likes his black blood to mixes with the blood of othre Shuhada.
Brave Mothers of Karbala

In Karbala, there were some very brave mothers. They encouraged their sons to fight and die for Islam. They were ready to sacrifice their children for Islam. The wall below is dedicated to those mothers. Use the letters in the bricks at the top to make the names of five brave mothers in Karbala. Learn their names. On a separate piece of paper write the names of the mothers with the names of the sons they sacrificed.

\[ \begin{array}{cccc}
W & F & R & Z \\
\_ubab & \_ainab & & \\
Umm \_arwa & & Umm \_ayla & \\
Umm \_ahab & & & \\
\end{array} \]
The sons of Imam Husayn (a)

Imam Husayn (a) had three sons in Karbala. Their names are given below. Besides each name of Imam's sons there are a few words which describe him. Use those words to write a few sentences about each of Imam's sons.

Ali
Zaynul Abideen
Sick
4th Imam
Chains
Prison

Ali-Akbar
Young
Holy
Prophet(s)
Brave
Fought

Ali-Asghar
Baby
Cradle
Thirst
Arrow
Abbas Ibn Ali

Hadrat Abbas is the son of Imam Ali (a) and Ummul Baneen. Imam Ali (a) married Ummul Baneen after the death of Bibi Fatima (a). She bore him four sons, Abbas, Uthman, Jafar, and Abdullah. All four brothers were martyred in Karbala. From childhood, H. Abbas was very devoted to his older brother, Imam Husayn (a).

In Karbala, H. Abbas was the standard bearer of Imam’s army. That is why he is known as Abbas Alamdar, the one who held the Flag. He is also known as Qamare Bani Hashim, or the moon of the Banu Hashim. H. Abbas was very handsome and brave, and was thus known as the moon of the family. He went to get water for his niece Sakina, and is thus also known as Saqqae Sakina.

On the day of Ashura, Imam did not want H. Abbas to go and fight. But H. Abbas could not bear to see the thirst of his niece Sakina. So he asked for permission to fetch some water. He took his Mashk, or water-bag, and went to the river. The enemies were very afraid of him, for they knew of his bravery. H. Abbas filled his mashk with water and turned towards the tents.

The enemies did not want him to take water to the tents. They followed him, throwing spears and arrows at him. His right arm was cut off, and then his left. Finally an arrow pierced the Mashk and water spilled out of it. H. Abbas fell to the ground and called for Imam Husayn (a)’s help.
1. Who were the parents of H. Abbas?
   Father __________________________
   Mother __________________________

2. Who was the niece for whom H. Abbas went to fetch water?
   __________________________

3. H. Abbas had three other brothers who died with him in Karbala. Do you know their names?
   __________________________ , __________________________ and __________________________

4. H. Abbas had many titles. Write two of them together with the meanings
   __________________________
   __________________________

5. Where is H. Abbas buried?
   __________________________?
The Night of Ashura

Imam Husayn (a) and his friends and family passed the night of `Ashura in prayer and worship. They had asked the soldiers of Yazid for one night before the battle began. They knew that for many of them it was the last night in this world. The mothers talked to their sons and told them to be brave on the next day. It would be the most difficult day of their lives.

Around midnight Imam Husayn(a) called all the men (except for Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen who was too sick) to his tent. He told them that the next day he and all those who were with him would be killed. The enemies were only after him, so the others were free to leave if they wished. You may go away from Karbala, he told them, I would not mind at all. Because he knew some of them would be shy to leave the tent, he blew out the candle. Anyone who wanted to leave could do so in darkness, without anyone seeing him.

No-one left the tent. When Imam lit the candle again, he saw that many of his friends and relatives were weeping. "We will never leave you" they told him. "Even if we had to die many times over, we would still stay with you." They asked him what they would tell his grandfather, the Holy Prophet (s) if they left him all alone in the middle of so many enemies.

Imam wept at the devotion of his friends and family. He told them they were the best companions anyone could have, and he promised them a great reward from Allah.
1. Yazid’s army was eager to attack Imam Husayn (a) and his small group. Why didn’t they start on the 9th of Muharram, even though the order to fight had already come?

2. Imagine a conversation which may have taken place between a mother and her son on the night of ‘Ashura. What would they have said?

Mother: ____________________________

Son: ______________________________

3. What do you think the following people were thinking of on that night?

Imam Husayn(a) ____________________________

_______________________________

Bibi Zaynab ____________________________

_______________________________

3. In the boxes below, draw two tents. In one draw a candle which has been put out. In the other draw a candle which is lit.

[Diagram of two boxes, one with a candle that is put out, and the other with a candle that is lit.]
The Day of `Ashura

Ashura is a very sad day. Shiahs all over the world remember the tragedy of Karbala and mourn for Imam Husayn(a). They perform special A`maal on this day. Here are some things you should remember on this day.

1. Please remember not to __________ on this sad day.

Wear simple black clothes and go to the majlis of `Ashura.

Do not ______________ or have fun on this day.

2. It is Mustahab to keep a Faqa (like a half-fast) on this day.

If you can, please stay away from __________

and __________ until `Asr.

3. Recite the following as many times as possible.

اللهُمَّ صْلِ اَلْحَمْدَ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَ الَّذِينَ مُحَمَّدُ

O Allah, bless Muhammad and his family

يَا لِيْتَنِي كُنتُ مَعْكَ فَأَقَوْرُ مَعْكُمْ

If only I had been with you and had achieved a great success

اللهُمَّ إنَّ قُتْلَةَ الْحُسَيْنِ وَ أَوْلَادُهُ وَ أَصْحَابُهُ

O Allah, curse those who killed Husayn, his children, and his friends
The children of Karbala

In Karbala there were some very brave children. They were not afraid of the enemies and were very eager to fight. They had to bear a lot of hardship.

In the wordsearch below find the names of 5 children who were present in Karbala.

QRSTOISGHE
ALIASGHHER
SEKNWROCD
IHABONDEM
MUHAMMADI
ANIKAASPOL
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 Karbala.

2. Water was not allowed into the tents of Imam Husayn (a) from the ______ th of Muharram.

3. Ashura is the ______ th day of Muharram.

4. The tragedy of Karbala took place in ______ A.H.

5. Imam Husayn (a) had ______ faithful friends who died with him in Karbala.

[Numbers]

10  61  54  72  7
The sentences in the paragraphs below are not in the correct order. Number the sentences 1, 2, 3, and 4 to show the correct order.

___ H. Abbas asked permission to fetch water for the children.
___ The enemies came after him and cut off his right and left hands.
___ He reached the river, filled his water bag and left to return to the tents.
___ H. Abbas was the commander of Imam Husayn(a)'s army.

___ Both of them died in Karbala.
___ Bibi Zaynab (a) had brought two sons to Karbala, Awn and Muhammad.
___ Imam Husayn (a) did not want to let them fight, but Bibi Zaynab told him it was her wish that they go and fight.
___ On the night of `Ashura she told them to be brave the next day.

___ Sakina, the daughter of Imam Husayn (a) died in Damascus.
___ The women and children were kept for a long time in the prison of Damascus.
___ On the 11th off Muharram the ladies and family of Imam Husayn (a) were taken as prisoners.
___ They were tied onto the backs of camels and taken to the courts of Kufa and Damascus.
The people of Karbala had a lot of faith. They went through many difficulties for the sake of Islam. They were not afraid of anything, not even death. Their faith must been very strong indeed!

Some things that Allah wants you to do needs very strong faith. If you could weigh faith, how much do you think would be needed for the following actions?

1. Praying on time
2. Fasting in Ramadhan
3. Staying away from Haram food
4. Not listening to music
5. Wearing Hijab (for girls)

In each of the weighing scales below, weigh one action from the list above. On one side put the number of the action you are weighing. On the other side put the amount of faith needed for that action. You can put your numbers between 1-10 Kg, with most difficult action needing 10Kg of faith.
Jumbled Words

Each of the following squares has a word which is jumbled. Unscramble the letters to get a word which means the same as the sentence above it. Color each frame in a different color. On a separate piece of paper, make a sentence with each of the words.

Beating on the chest in sadness for Imam Husayn

A T M M A

A sad chant said while beating the chest

W H A N A

A gathering where Allah and the Masumeen are remembered.

J S M A I L

A Symbol of the standard of Imam Husayn(a)'s army.

M A A L

Visiting the graves of the Holy Masumeen(a)

Y A Z R T I A

A water bottle carried by H. Abbas to fetch water

H M A S K
A Class Discussion

The Grade four class in Madrasah is having a discussion on the tragedy of Karbala. Each of the students wants to speak as they have learnt a lot about Karbala. However some of them do not say the right things. Circle the names of the students who make a mistake.

Teacher: Do you know what led to the tragedy of Karbala?

Salim: Well, after the death of Abu Sufyan, his son Yazid said he was the leader of the Muslims.

Hasan: Yazid wanted all the Muslims to give him an oath of allegiance, accepting him as their leader.

Abida: Imam Husayn (a) refused to give him that oath.

Sabira: Yazid was a good Muslim but Imam Husayn (a) was the rightful leader of the Muslims.

Ali: Waleed the governor of Kufa called Imam Husayn (a) and asked him to give the oath, but Imam refused.

Farhana: Waleed then ordered the Imam to go to Karbala to fight the soldiers of Yazid.

Muhammad: Imam Husayn (a) prepared his army and went from Madinah to Karbala.
Use the clues in the sentences below to help you understand the meaning of the word in bold. Put a tick beside the correct meaning.

1. Each of the young boys at Karbala wanted to become a Shaheed. To be a shaheed is a great honour. A shaheed is:
   ___ One who fights for Islam
   ___ One who dies in the way of Islam.
   ___ One who prays all the five daily prayers.

2. Yazid called himself the Khalifa of the Muslims. He wanted all the Muslims to accept him and give him an oath of allegiance. A Khalifa is:
   ___ A leader of the Muslims after the Holy Prophet (s)
   ___ A person who leads the prayers in the Mosque.
   ___ A commander of the Muslim army.

3. Imam Husayn (a) asked his family to have sabr after the day of ‘Ashura. He told them they would be greatly troubled by the soldiers of Yazid. He asked them not to curse the soldiers or say anything in anger. Sabr is:
   ___ Not saying anything.
   ___ Being patient at the time of difficulty.
   ___ Hating people with all your heart.

4. The soldiers of Yazid’s army took away the hijab of the women of Imam’s family after ‘Ashura. The women and girls covered their faces with their hair. Hijab is:
   ___ A dress for women.
   ___ Jewels and pins which women put in their hair.
   ___ A covering for women which covers their hair and body.
A Shaheed

A shaheed, or a martyr, gives up his life for Islam. He or she has a great position with God. The Holy Qur’an says:

وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَموَاتًا بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ عَنَّدَ رَبِّهِمْ يُؤْتَيْنَانَ

And do not think that those who are killed in Allah’s way are dead; Nay, they are alive, being provided sustenance with their Lord (3:168)

Throughout the history of Islam, there have been many Shuhada (plural of Shaheed). Shahadat started with the early Muslims who gave up their life to help spread Islam. Many Muslims were also martyred during the battles fought with the disbelievers. Upto the present age, many Muslims throughout the world give their lives for Islam. In the chart below, fill in each square with three names of Shuhadah who belong to that category. You can choose from the plaque below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shuhada during the time of the Prophet (s)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shuhada of Karbala</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuhada of this century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Martyrs in the way of God**

Syed Baqir al-Sadr, Hamza,
Habib Ibn Mazahir, Ammar,
Burayr Hamdani,
Murtadha Mutahhari, Sumayya
Jawn, Bint al- Huda
Secret Message

In the first week of Muharram a Muslim company releases the following seven balloons. The balloons have a secret message. Unscramble the words in each balloon to find the message.

1. MMMIA
2. YNHAUS
3. VEGA
4. IHS
5. ELIF
6. OFR
7. SLMAI

---

1
2
3
4
5
6
7

29
A Secret Code

Use the code below to find out a Hadith of the sixth Imam (a) about Karbala. On a separate piece of paper, write what you understand from the Hadith. How does it apply to you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
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