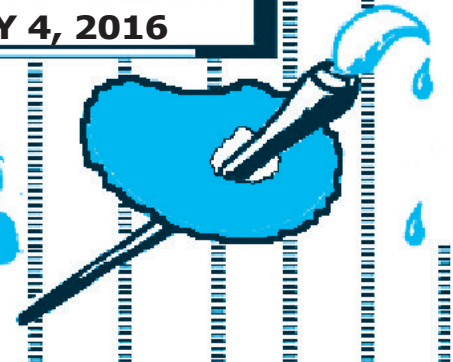


Children's Corner



Very Blessed Day

Salaam and heartiest congratulations to you all on a very blessed occasion. We are on the eve of that immortal day in history that changed the destiny of the world. Tomorrow we celebrate the anniversary of the descent from heaven of the first rays of Divine Revelation on the person who was indeed the Best of creation.

Yes, dear young friends, Mab'ath or Resurgence, as the day is known, is a time to reflect upon the realities of life and the purpose of creation.

It was on the 27th of Rajab that God Almighty formally entrusted Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) with the universal message of Islam, as the Last and Greatest of all messengers.

We in the Islamic Republic of Iran mark the day as a public holiday, with special programmes on the TV, through the radio, and in mosques and hussainiyas, in addition to private homes, where the faithful assemble to hear discourses on the virtue of Islam and how its monotheistic message transformed humanity.

Since the Mab'ath holiday is falling on Thursday this year, and the next day is the weekly public holiday, Friday, many in Iran have ample time to travel to the city of Mashhad in Khorasan for pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS). Others journey to Qom to pay their respects at the holy shrine of Hazrat Ma'souma (SA). Some who have time at their disposal are already in these two holy spots in Iran since Tuesday the 25th of Rajab, the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Musa Kazem (AS), the 7th Infallible Heir of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

Of course, the most fortunate are those who have flocked to Najaf in Iraq to felicitate the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS), in his shrine, since as a ten-year boy, Imam Ali (AS) was present on Jabal an-Noor (Mountain of Light) outside the Cave of Hera when his cousin Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) received the first ayahs of the Holy Qur'an from Archangel Gabriel with God's order to publicly declare his mission as the Mercy unto the whole creation.

Now we understand, why the faithful salute Imam Ali (AS) as well, on the day of Mab'ath, whether from near or from far. Like Moses (AS), who on being appointed prophet, requested God to make brother Aaron his assistance in the preaching of his mission, it was divinely decreed that the Seal of Messengers (SAWA) should be assisted by the young son of his dear uncle and guardian, Abu Taleb (AS).

The rest is history. Thanks to the efforts of these two cousins, Islam took roots in Mecca and Medina, despite the malicious plots of the pagan Arabs, before enlightening the rest of mankind.

Today when the descendants of the pagan Arabs of the past and of those infidels who had become Muslims in name only – not from the depth of their hearts – are terrorizing the Ummah by styling themselves Wahhabi, Salafi, and Takfiri, it is incumbent upon the true adherents of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) and Imam Ali (AS), to strive to defeat the sinister US-Zionist plots, in order to convey to the modern world, the real humanitarian image of Islam.

Goodbye and God bless you until we meet again next week.



RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. It's what light turns into in the night. What is it?
2. It's black and every time it speaks it says its name. What is it?
3. The negative hero in each story, what is it?
4. Once they sailed the sea, now they surf the web. Who are they?
5. It's a game played by serious people that takes place on a global scale. What is it?
6. This small creature kills even the largest one. What is it?

Answers to last week questions:

1. Reflection
2. Atlas
3. Q
4. War
5. Future
6. Kite

JOKES

A woman has lived in Russia for many years. One day a government official comes to her and tells her, "Miss, quite a while back there was an error by a surveyor. You actually live in Ukraine."
The woman replies, "Thank God! I don't think I could make it through one more Russian winter."

A man goes to the hospital with both of his ears burnt. The doctor asks him, "How did you manage this?"
The man replies, "Well I was ironing and received a phone call. I accidentally picked up the iron instead of the phone."

The doctor says, "That explains one ear."
He replies, "Well they called again!"

A man went to the store to buy 6 cans of Sprite. You can imagine how mad he was when he got home and discovered he had picked 7UP

Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS)

"For the steadfast, a misfortune is (only) one, while it is twofold for the impatient."

Send your jokes. Heard any jokes lately? Well, try and make us laugh too!

Don't hesitate! Mail it to us.

Kayhan International address: Ferdowsi St., Shahid

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Hard Work and Laziness

In a large house, lived a lazy Young Man. He woke up in the afternoon, ate his meals and then lay in bed again. He had a parrot named Polly. The parrot watched this lazy fellow and was puzzled by him.

One day, Polly asked the Young Man, "Don't you get tired of lying in bed all day and all night? The sun has been out hours ago, and people have finished half their day's work."

"Why are you so lazy?" The parrot asked, as it ruffled the feathers.

The Young Man yawned and answered, "Every morning, when I wake up, two friends whisper in my ears. One friend is Hard Work and the other Laziness."

"Hard Work says, Wake up! There are lots to do today. Time is passing by, don't waste it by sleeping. But Laziness says, Why the hurry to wake up? Sleep some more. Why should you work while there are others who work hard?"

The Young Man continued, "I listen patiently to both my friends. All my time passes like that and so I keep lying in bed for a long time."

Moral: Just talk does not help; we should get up and work.

