Points to Ponder

Salaam dear young friends. Hope you are all fine. May God keep you in the best of health and grant success in your endeavours.

It is terribly hot here in Tehran with the Celsius touching 40 degrees this summer, while the southern parts of Iran have turned into torrid zones with temperatures reaching almost 50 degrees in some places like the south-western city of Ahvaz.

Of course, even in this scorching summer there are amazingly cool spots in the country, where we still find the climate of early spring, while some of the peaks, like Damavand – Iran's highest – are covered with snow.

Whether hot or cold, or for that matter rainy, it is the will of our Merciful Creator Who gave us life and the necessary climatic conditions to survive.

Well friends, today we are marking the anniversary of the historical Battle of Ohad and the lessons it continues to impart to the faithful all over the world. During this battle the pagan Arabs had imposed on the Muslims, Prophet Muhammad's (SAWA) brave uncle, Hazrat Hamza (AS), attained martyrdom.

His blessed body was mutilated by the progenitors of the modern day Takfiri terrorists, while his holy shrine was desecrated and demolished by the heretical Wahhabi cult in 1925.

Today we are also commemorating the passing away anniversary of Seyyed Abdul-Azim al-Hasani (AS), whose holy shrine in Rayy, now the southernmost suburb of the Iranian capital, is the holiest site in Tehran.

He was born in Medina and was the son of Abdullah, the son of Ali, the son of Hassan, the son of Zayd, the son of the Prophet's elder grandson, Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba (AS).

He was a companion (Sahabi) of four of the 12 Infallible Successors of the Prophet – Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS), Imam Ali ar-Reza (AS), Imam Muhammad at-Taqi (AS), and Imam Ali an-Naqi (AS).

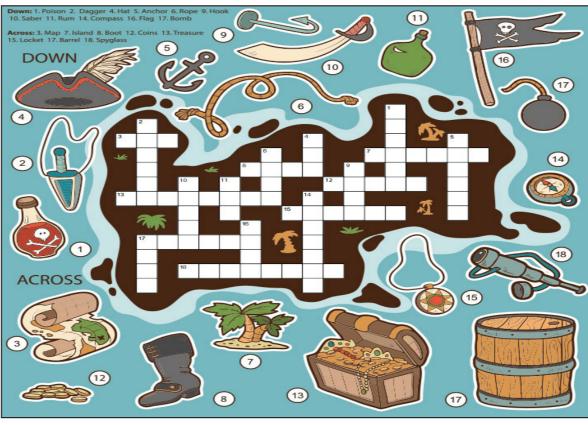
He migrated to Iran and settled in Rayy in order to familiarize people with the dynamic teachings of the Ahl al-Bayt and to instill in them the courage to resist the tyranny of the Abbasid caliphate.

He was a pious personality, a scholar of repute, and a trustworthy narrator of hadith, who in the first half of the 2nd century AH collected in book form many of the highly eloquent sermons of his illustrious ancestor, the Commander of the Faithful, Prophet Muhammad's (SAWA) 1st Infallible Heir, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS).

No wonder, according to a hadith, pilgrimage to his shrine is considered equivalent to pilgrimage to the holy shrine of the Martyr of Karbala, Imam Husain (AS).

Surely, many of you visited his shrine yesterday and the night before to pay homage to him and avail of the blessings of God.

Hope, you also remembered us in your supplications. Goodbye and God bless you.



JOKES

A woman walks into a bank and asks for a \$1,000 loan for a month long trip. The loan officer tells her "You are going to need some collateral if you want a loan."

The woman tells him "I'll leave my Rolls Royce, it's worth \$200,000." The bank accepts the security and laughs at her for leaving such an expensive car for such a small loan.

When she comes back from her trip she goes to the bank and repays her loan plus interest, coming to \$1,020. The bank manager smirks at her and asks "We know you are a millionaire, why would you get such a small loan and use such an expensive car for collateral?"

The woman looks at him and smiles "Where else can I park my car in the city for a month for only \$20?"

A man went to a job interview. The first thing they told him was "We are looking for somebody responsible."

The man replied "I'm just the man you're looking for. At my last job every time anything bad happened they told me I was responsible."

Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS)

"Violence against the servants -of Allah- is the worst provision for the Hereafter."

RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

- 1. I am one small little piece of paper, yet sometimes hold lots of value. I am all you need to get in to big events, but will cost you. I am an important part of travel. And if lost, you're not coming. What am I?
- 2. A hole in a pole. Though I fill a hole in white, I'm used more be the day and less by the night. What am I?
- 3. I start new then become old. Start clean but be one dirty. I usually start big then become little. What am I?
- 4. I can fall off a building and live, but in water I will die. What am I?
- 5. I am what bring things together. Without me everything you see would be a total mass or debris everywhere. What am I?
- 6. The thunder comes before the lightning, and the lightning comes before the cloud, the rain dries all the land it touches, wrapping the earth in a blood red shroud. What am I?

Answers to last week's questions:

- 1.
- Red Blood Cell Brain
- 3. Brain4. Bush
- 4. Bush5. Feather
 - Time

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 Shahcheraghi Alley,

Tehran.
Email:kayhanintl@yahoo.com

Goldfish Have Much Longer Memories Than You Think

Goldfish have memories that last several months, not a few seconds like many believe. Believe It or Not! Scientists say the popular pets can remember things that happened as long as five months ago. To prove this, researchers conducted a couple of studies that have concluded the fish are not as forgetful as many think...

In one study, scientists put a lever in a fish tank that doled out food. Eventually, the goldfish learned how to use it, and they specifically pressed the lever when they were hungry. The scientists were then able to train the fish one step further. The lever only dispensed food during a one-hour period. The goldfish figured it out and returned each day at the same time to get their snack. In another study, researchers played a specific sound when they fed the fish, teaching them to connect the sound with food. The scientists then released the fish into the wild. The fish came back to their original feeding spot five months later when they heard the sound.

