

Children's Corner



The Liberating Message of Imam Husain (AS)

Salaam dear young friends, and heartfelt condolences to you all on the start of the mourning month of Muharram.

It is the month that refreshes faith as the faithful commemorate history's most heart-wrenching tragedy that took place in Karbala in what is now Iraq in 61 AH (680 AD), when the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), chose to court martyrdom in unequal combat, rather than yield to the forces of evil which had usurped the political power of the Islamic state.

Every year, the devotees of Imam Husain (AS) all over the world revive the memories of the epic of Ashura (Muharram 10) by adorning black clothes – as a sign of respect for the martyrs – and holding discourses, on not just the Battle of Karbala but on the entire teachings of Islam.

These discourses last throughout Muharram and the next month of Safar. Besides highlighting the virtues of the Ahl al-Bayt or Blessed Household of the Prophet, in the light of the holy Qur'an and Hadith, these gatherings where people of all age groups including children, youngsters, and the aged are present, refer to a wide variety of ethical issues, in addition to the tragic description of the scenes of the oppression of the orphaned children.

Muharram and Karbala thus interact with the conscience of the young and old to make them aware of such issues as justice, generosity, forgiveness, kindness, magnanimity, patience, methods of education, proper distribution of wealth, equal opportunities for all sections of the community and the country, building of sound and healthy families, respect for parents, the rights of children, as well as national resolve and international coordination to combat social ills, such as drugs, illicit relations, cultural decadence, and terrorism.

Imam Husain (AS) indeed salvaged Islam, humanity, and all humanitarian values. The blood of martyrs does not flow in vain. All mankind is certainly indebted to the sacrifices offered in Karbala by men of faith in their nineties to the infant 6-month old Ali Asghar (AS).

Then we have the exemplary valour of Hazrat Abbas (AS), the standard bearer of Karbala, who despite having taken control of the banks of the River Euphrates, refused to drink even a single drop of water in the state of acute thirst, because his brother Imam Husain (AS) and the whole encampment, including small children were thirsty.

Karbala is also the saga of the teenage heroism of Qassem ibn Imam Hasan (AS) and the prime of youth of Ali Akbar, who was the carbon copy of his great-grandfather, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

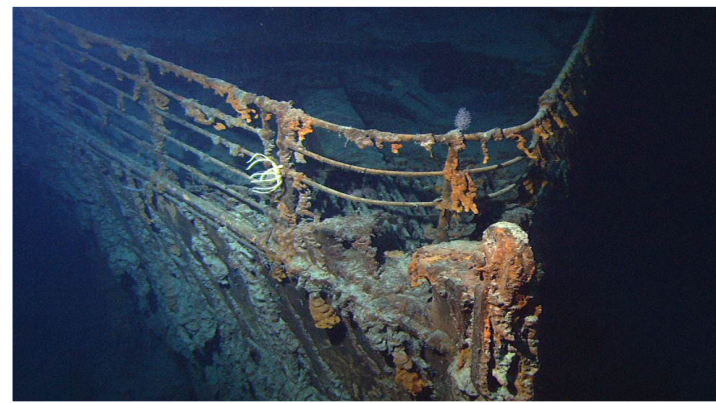
Without the least doubt, it is faith in the ideals of the Martyrs of Karbala that have made Iran the centre of learning of the genuine teachings of Islam, which no superpower can dent despite the intricacy of its plots.

The Sunken Remains of the Titanic

One-hundred-and-seven years after sinking to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, the remains of the Titanic continue to rapidly disintegrate into the sea. A team of ocean explorers recently revisited the wreck for the first time in 14 years and found that some of the wreck's most iconic features are withering away to nothing.

Some of these scenes include the officers' quarters on the ship's starboard side, the captain's bathtub, and the staterooms.

In its prime, the Titanic carried 2,224 passengers and crew before hitting an iceberg the night of April 14, 1912.



JOKES

Teacher: Tell the class what book you read.

Student: Black Beauty.

Teacher: And tell the class what it was about.

Student: It was about 120 pages.

Son: Dad, I'm tired of doing homework.

Father: Now, son, hard work never killed anyone.

Son: I know, but I don't want to be the first!

Tommy dropped out of school and his buddy asked: "Why?"

"I got discouraged, that's all. I flunked every subject except geography."

"Every subject except geography? How do you explain that?"

"I didn't take geography!"

Teacher: So your dog ate your homework?

Student: Yes, teacher.

Teacher: And where is your dog right now?

Student: He's at the vet. He doesn't like math any more than I do.

Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS)

"Unfortunate is he who cannot gain a few sincere friends during his life and more unfortunate is the one who has gained them and then lost them (through his deeds)."

RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. I am a candy that looks like a shepherd's staff. What am I? Candy Cane
2. I begin your sentences. What am I? Capital
3. I am a shiny metal sheet that covers BBQ food. What am I? Aluminum
4. Deposit red liquid in me. What am I? Blood Bank
5. I don't forget! What am I? Elephant
6. Things here are usually tagged with red stickers. What am I? Clearance

Answers to last week's questions:

1. **Spine**
2. **Library**
3. **Fragile**
4. **Audience**
5. **Paperclip**
6. **Kite**

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

I ♥



I ♥



I ♥



Ripley's Believe It or Not!



THE SMALLEST MEASUREMENT OF TIME IS KNOWN AS **PLANCK TIME** — IT TAKES ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND TRILLION PLANCK TIMES TO BLINK YOUR EYE ONCE!



BABIES

ARE BORN WITHOUT SOLIDIFIED KNEECAPS. THEY HAVE A SOFT CARTILAGE PATELLA UNTIL ABOUT 3 YEARS OLD!

NUTMEG

IS A HALLUCINOGEN WHEN CONSUMED IN PORTIONS LARGER THAN TWO TEASPOONS!