

Children's Corner



All Roads Lead to Karbala

Salaam dear young friends. We are here with our weekly chat. Autumn has started in Iran, and with it, the chilling of the air and the falling of the leaves.

Few days back on Friday, the 5th of Safar, we commemorated the martyrdom anniversary of the less-than-4-year old daughter of Imam Husain (AS), the Martyr of Karbala.

She was Hazrat Ruqaiyya (SA), who in the aftermath of the tragedy of Karbala and forced march of the noble captives towards Damascus in Syria, she suffered the pains of the arduous journey, often through hot desert terrain, during which she was subjected to scolding and whipping by the Omayyad ruffians.

In Damascus, she was mocked in front of the whole court by the Godless Yazid as he blasphemously hit with his cane the severed head of her noble father that was placed in a tray.

The Prophet's family was confined to the ruins of a dilapidated edifice, where her wailing in the night disturbed the tyrant's sleep and forced him to send the head of Imam Husain (AS) in a bid to calm her down.

At the sight of her father's head, little Ruqayya (SA) rushed and took it in her lap, and placing her own head upon it, recounted the pains, sufferings, and tortures she had endured for the past 25 days since the fateful day of Ashura (Muharram 10). She suddenly became motionless as her soul flew to the ethereal heavens. Her brother, Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) laid her to rest in the ruins.

Today, her resting place has been transformed into a spacious shrine in the heart of the Syrian capital, and pilgrims of all ages, especially children, stream in to pay their respects to her and beseech God Almighty for their lawful and legal needs.

Well friends, are any of you going to Karbala?

Perhaps some of you have already departed, since Arba'een or the traditional 40th day of commemoration for the Chief of Martyrs, Imam Husain (AS), is due on Saturday, October 19 in Iraq.

Daily, tens of thousands of Iranians will be crossing the border, after having obtained the necessary documents. This year over two million Iranian Muslims will be among the 22-million plus pilgrims expected in Karbala for the Arba'een. Many are marching on foot, especially from Najaf after visiting the shrine of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS).

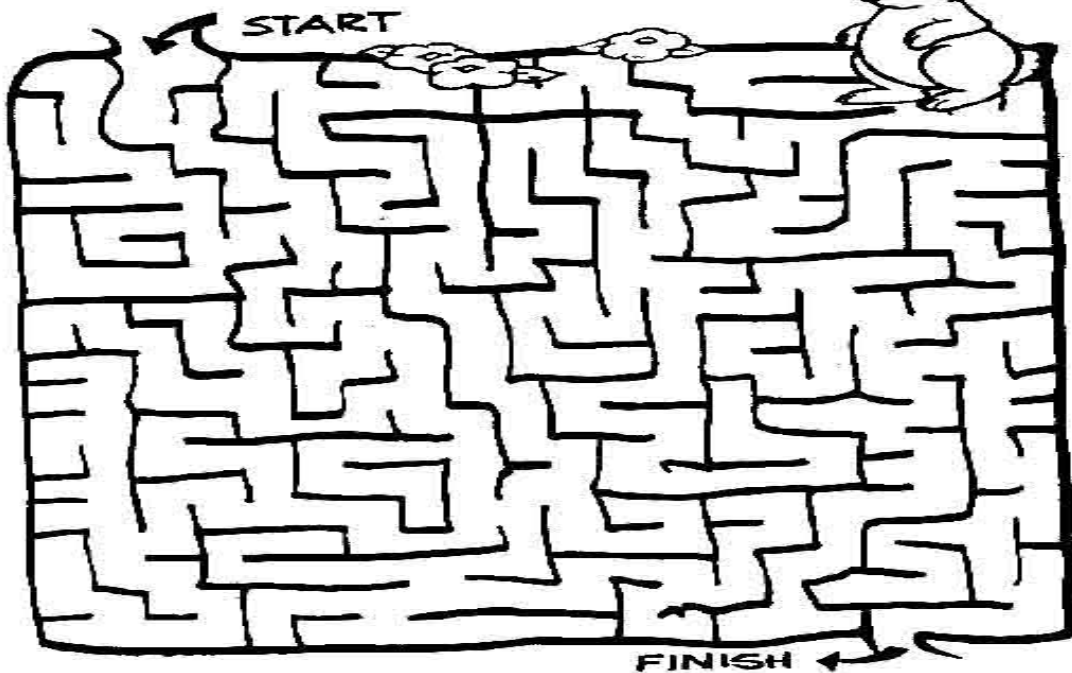
It is the world's greatest annual gathering, and despite the threats from the terrorists and their Godless masters, the number of pilgrims are increasing, in a grand display of devotion to the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), who was tragically martyred by those shamelessly claiming to be not just Muslims but the followers of the self-styled caliph.

May God curse them eternally in the hottest place in Hell, and cast into the Inferno the present day Yazidis, such as the Takfiri terrorists, and the ungodly regimes the killings of the innocent.

Insha Allah (God Willing) the end is near for the enemies of humanity, and the day will soon come for the freedom of Shaikh Ibraheem Zakzaky and thousands of others languishing without any offence in the dungeons of Nigeria, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and other places. Amen

God bless you and goodbye.

Will you help this bunny find his way?



JOKES

A woman goes to a shoe store and wants to buy some alligator shoes, but becomes angry when she sees the price. She storms out of the store saying, "I'm going to catch an alligator and get my own pair of shoes!" The shopkeeper laughs as he watches her leave.

Later as the shopkeeper is driving home, he sees the woman in a swamp on the side of the road. A 10-foot alligator is swimming right at her but she swiftly knocks the alligator out. She drags it onto some grass where there are a dozen other knocked out alligators. She flips it over and yells, "Ah! This one's barefoot too!"

Two women are standing on opposite sides of a river. One yells to the other, "How did you get to the other side!"

The other one reply; "Don't ask me, you're the one on the other side."

John asked his friend, "How's everything?"

His friend replied, "I'm just happy to be breathing."

John said, "You should have bigger aspirations bro."

Imam Husain (AS)

"Some people worship God coveting His rewards. This is worship of merchants and some people worship God, fearing His punishments. This is worship of slaves. Some people worship God, thanking His blessings. This is worship of the free superior persons."

RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. Found at the back of the book. What am I?
2. Hide me from your parents if you have done badly academically this year. What am I?
3. I mean goodbye for South Americans. What am I?
4. I am longer than a decade and shorter than a millennium. What am I?
5. I help you carry your books. What am I?
6. You need thousands of me to create a digital image. What am I?

Answers to last week's questions:

1. Kiss
2. Popeye
3. Pancakes
4. Hiss
5. Fetch
6. Chicken

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.

Are Houseflies Really Only Abuzz for 24 Hours?



If you've ever had a fly buzzing around your home — and who hasn't? — you know how frustrating this can feel. Fly swatter in hand, you rip your house apart attempting to get at the annoying insect who manages to stay just out of reach. At least you can rest secure in the knowledge that it'll be dead within 24 hours. Right?

Rumor has it that houseflies (*Musca domestica*) are a very short-lived pest in the common household, but it turns out these little insects have more than a mere 24 hours to eke out their lives, steal a little food, and pass on their genes to the next generation of maggots. According to entomologists, houseflies live for upwards of 20 to 25 days. What's more, in some instances, they've been documented to live for up to 30 to 60 days!

Ripley's Believe It or Not!

