

Picture of Patience and Piety

Salaam dear young friends. Hope you are all well by the grace of Almighty Lord. How are you today? How are your classes going on? As the schools and universities have shifted their courses online due to COVID-19 pandemic, we need to be more attentive while attending our online classes.

There will be lots of distraction and please try to concentrate on your studies and we wish all you best of luck for this new academic year.

Well, as you all know, we are in the month of Muharram and in the state of mourning for the heartrending tragedy of Ashura and its equally tragic aftermath, when the noble ladies and children of the household of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), were taken as captives to Kufa, and thence marched through circuitous routes to Damascus in Syria, but today our tears are for a tragedy that occurred 34 years later in Medina, though it could be called continuation of the sufferings of Karbala.

Yes, you have got it right. These days our lamentations are for Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS) - son and successor of Imam Husain (AS) – who as a 23-year sick bedridden youth survived the massacre of 10 Muharram 61 AH, but waged a different kind of jihad in its aftermath, and through his patient sufferings, coupled with eloquently moving sermons, made the mission of his father triumph forever.

In 95 AH (713 AD), the 4th Infallible Imam was martyred through poisoning by Waleed I, the self-styled caliph of the usurper Omayyad regime, after an eventful life during which, despite the torment he endured at the hands of Abdullah ibn Zubayr for ten years and the various Omayyads for the next twenty years, he bequeathed to humanity two immortal works.

These are indeed bezels of wisdom that continue to guide the seekers of truth. The first is his set of supplications in the Divine Court, titled "Sahifat-as Sajjadiyya" (Psalms of the Prophet's Household), while the second is the "Risalat-al-Hoqouq" (Treatise of Rights).

If the former contains almost all topics under the sun, including scientific issues and the weight of light (something unthinkable a millennium and three centuries ago), the later details even the most minute of rights, ranging from the rights of parents, children, neighbours, and the society to the rights of our own bodily organs upon us. For the information of the youngsters of Iran, the mother of Imam

Zain al-Abedin (AS) was the Persian princess, Shahrbano, the daughter of the last Sassanid Emperor, Yazdgerd III.

In view of his noble lineage from both sides, he was often called by his contemporary poets "Ibn al-Khiyaratayn" (Son of the Two Excellent Ones).

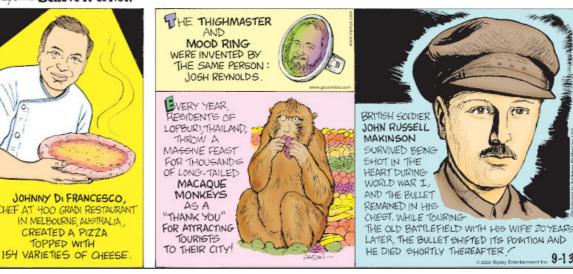
Yet he was the picture of modesty, piety, magnanimity, and clarity of vision, as borne out by incidents throughout his life.

Thus, dear friends, it is adherence to the path of these Infallible Personalities that ensures success in life and salvation in afterlife. Goodbye and God bless you, stay home and be safe until we meet again next week.

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Southeast Asia

Believe It or Not! Ripzey's-



JOKES

There were four teenagers who played hooky one morning.

Upon coming to class in the afternoon, they reported that their lateness was because their car got a flat tire.

That's fine the teacher said much to the student's relief.

But there was an oral test this morning which you boys have to make up, so please have a seat and take out a piece of paper.

"Now for the first question, which tire was flat!"

A biology teacher was teaching her class about the flow of blood in the body.

After the class lecture she asked the class the following: "Why is it that if I would turn upside down, my face would turn red since the blood would flow to my head, but when I stand upright my feet don't turn red?"

She was taken aback when a boy blurted out, "That's because your feet aren't empty!"

A man walked into the office in a school. "Excuse me," he said to the secretary "I would like to come to school; I want to learn to read and write."

"OK," the secretary responded in a bored voice, "just fill out this form."

The Town-Mouse and the Country-Mouse

A town-mouse paid a visit to his friend who lived in the countryside. The country-mouse was happy to see his friend. So he prepared a fine feast for him. The town-mouse looked at the fruit and the car of corn with hatred

"Is this how you live?" He asked, "Life in the country does not offer much."

He persuaded the country-mouse to accompany him to the town and see all the good things there.

So, the country-mouse packed all his belongings and off they went to the city. The country-mouse was really surprised to see the things there. But as soon as they settled down to enjoy a fine meal of cheese and fruit, a big cat leapt in through the window.

Seeing the cat, both the mice ran into their hole to save



RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. I am lighter than air but a hundred people cannot lift me. Careful, I am fragile. What am I?

2. I am the type of room you cannot enter or leave. Raise from the ground below. I could be poisonous or a delicious treat. What am I?

3. The more you take of me, the more you leave behind. What am I?

I go up and never 4. come down no matter how hard you wish. As I get higher, more wrinkles crawl on to the face. What am I?

5. I can be long or short. I can be grown or bought. I can be painted or left bare. My tip can be round or square. What am I?

6. I have a neck and no head, two arms but no hands. I'm with you to school, I'm with you to work. What am I?

Answers to last week's questions:

- 1. Screw
- 2. Water
- 3. Cloud
- 4. Potato
- 5. Fire

6. Pea

Send your jokes. Heard any jokes lately? Well, try and make

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themselves, so the cat ate up all the cheese and fruit. When the cat had gone away, the mice came out of their hole.

"I am going," Cried the country-mouse, "I like my simple fare in safety than this grand feast in such a danger.'

MORAL: Safety is the first importance.

us laugh too!

Don't hesitate! Mail it to us.

Kayhan International address:

Ferdowsi St., Shahid

Shahcheraghi Alley, Tehran.

Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS)

"One who is content with whatever God has destined for him is the most wealthy and needless person."

