

Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS)

“One who is content with whatever God has destined for him is the wealthiest and needless person.”

Picture of Modesty, Piety, Magnanimity

Salaam dear young friends, and heartfelt condolences to you all on the doleful days.

Sure, 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 we speak about Imam Husain (AS), grief overcomes us. This is because of the Great Sacrifice he offered in Karbala beside the River Euphrates to save Islam, and in fact all humanitarian values.

These are the days 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 1, 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.

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

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

Dangerous Animals

K	P	P	K	H	C	O	B	R	A	P	P	P	C
P	A	C	Y	C	O	P	H	N	H	D	A	F	E
Y	A	D	R	T	D	N	B	R	O	F	A	O	E
B	C	A	P	D	H	S	O	H	H	B	L	E	L
O	S	H	P	Y	O	O	A	A	L	I	O	N	I
P	I	N	R	E	P	B	N	T	C	S	A	R	D
R	A	T	T	L	E	S	N	A	K	E	H	G	O
H	I	P	P	O	P	O	T	A	M	U	S	D	C
H	H	S	I	F	R	E	F	F	U	P	E	S	O
Y	S	M	N	L	E	O	P	A	R	D	O	T	R
E	A	B	M	A	M	K	C	A	L	B	T	U	C
N	D	H	N	A	L	L	I	G	A	T	O	R	F
A	L	I	T	O	P	O	L	A	R	B	E	A	R
S	C	O	R	P	I	O	N	S	H	A	R	K	U

- SHARK
- HIPPOPOTAMUS
- LEOPARD
- ALLIGATOR
- HYENA
- PYTHON
- PUFFER FISH
- RATTLESNAKE
- BLACK MAMBA
- CROCODILE
- LION
- SCORPION
- COBRA
- POLAR BEAR

RIDDLES

- Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.
1.

I have to be broken before I can be used. What am I?
2.

Used left or right, I get to travel over cobblestone or gravel. Used up, I vie for sweet success, used down, I cause men great duress. What am I?
3.

I can be thin but not fat; in your body but never on your placemat. I’m always better when I’m fresh, but you’ll never see me in the flesh. What am I?
4.

I am a word with 5 letters. Bold are the first; true are the second; playful are the third; clever are the fourth; forceful are the fifth. What am I?
5.

Face with a tree, skin like the sea. A great beast I am. Yet vermin frighten me. What am I?
6.

I am born in fear, raised in truth, and I come to my own in deed. When comes a time that I’m called forth, I come to serve the cause of need. What am I?

- Answers to last week’s edition:
1.

Parking Lot
2.

Temper
3.

Fruit
4.

Chicken
5.

Coconut
6.

Fork

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.

JOKES

The world’s first fully computerized airliner was ready for its maiden flight without pilots or crew. The plane taxied to the loading area automatically, its doors opened automatically, the steps came out automatically. The passengers boarded the plane and took their seats.

The steps retreated automatically, the doors closed, and the airplane taxied toward the runway.

“Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen,” a voice intoned.

“Welcome to the debut of the world’s first fully computerized airliner. Everything on this aircraft is run electronically. Just sit back and relax. Nothing can go wrong ... Nothing can go wrong...nothing can go wrong.... nothing can go wrong... nothing can go wrong...”

Teacher: “What is the purpose of having school?”

Student: Without school there wouldn’t be a reason for holidays and summer vacation.

A school kid asks his teacher: “Is it true that the law of gravity keeps us on Earth?”

The teacher replied: “Yes.”

The kid then asked: “What kept us before the law was passed?”

The Miser and His Gold

Once upon a time there was a Miser who used to hide his gold at the foot of a tree in his garden; but every week he used to go and dig it up and gloat over his gains.

A robber, who had noticed this, went and dug up the gold and decamped with it.

When the Miser next came to gloat over his treasures, he found nothing but the empty hole.

He tore his hair, and raised such an outcry that all the neighbours came around him, and he told them how he used to come and visit his gold. “Did you ever take any of it out?” asked one of them.

“Nay,” said he, “I only came to look at it.”

“Then come again and look at the hole,” said a neighbour; “it will do you just as much good.”

MORAL: “Wealth unused might as well not exist”

