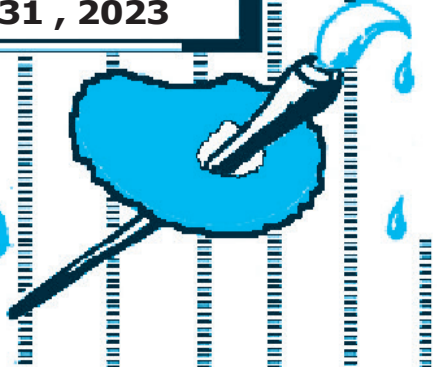


# Children's Corner



## Imam Reza (AS)

*"God punishes people for two sins in this world – injustice and ungratefulness towards parents."*

## Imam Reza (AS)

Congratulations to all of you on the birth anniversary of Imam Reza (AS). How are you today? How is everything going on? Hope you are enjoying the blessings of Allah in this blessed day.

Fortunate are the ones who happen to be in Mashhad this day, enjoying the spiritual atmosphere of the holy shrine of the 8th Imam. Mashhad is the rendezvous of the faithful this week. People from all over Iran flock to this city for paying homage to the 8th infallible successor of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

For your information, Imam Reza (AS) was the eight infallible successor of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) and son of Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS). The eight bright star of Imamate appeared on the horizons of the sky of Medina on 11th of Zil-Qa'adah, 148 A.H. and was named Ali and was called Abul Hasan. The Imam (AS) spend his 34 years of under the guardianship of his father, Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS), but during the last 7 years of his father's life (in which Imam Kazem (AS) spend in prison and died in the dungeons of Baghdad), the Imam (AS) used to guide and lead the Muslim Ummah. Imam Reza (AS) was 34 years old when he lost his father and the responsibilities of the Imamate devolved on him.

After Harun's death, his two sons, Amin and Ma'mun, divided the Abbasid Empire. But 4 years later, his half-brother, Ma'mun, the ruler of the Persian side of Abbasid Empire, killed Amin and proclaimed himself as the sole ruler. He realized that the majority of Persians favored the teachings of Ahl-ul-Bait and if somehow he could persuade the Imam Reza (AS) of the Ahl-ul-Bait in Medina to side with him, he could confirm his rule there. Once he felt secure on that side of the Empire, he would then rise against his brother and easily depose him. So the orders were send out for the Imam to leave his home in Medina and go to the Abbasid ruler in Merv (presently in Turkmenistan).

While Imam Reza was with Ma'mun in Merv, his Prime Minister Fazl b. Sahl arranged a debate on religions to which he invited the leaders of different sects, including Zoroastrians and Christians and Jews, that they might hear what the Imam of the Ahl-ul-Bait had to say to impress them of their spiritual abilities and excellences. It was in these discussions with leaders of other faiths that the Imam clarified the position of sinless ness of the Prophets and of the guided Imams. These debates were so successful that Ma'mun became fearful of the increasing influences of the Imam on the people as a whole.

Imam Reza (AS) died in the city of Tus (presently Mashhad) on 17th Safar 203 A.H. by the hands of Ma'mun. There is a famous hadith from Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) about Imam Reza (AS), who said: "A piece of me will be buried in the land of Khorasan. If a believer visits it, Allah, the Almighty, will make the Paradise obligatory to him, and his body will be prevented from (touching) the Fire."

Yes, dear friends, let us all join together and entrust our dear country, the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the only Infallible Heir of the Prophet who reposes in peace on Iranian soil, so that for the sake of Imam Reza (AS), God Almighty will protect us and our dear leaders from the plots of the enemies and the evil of the Great Satan (the US).



Ten-year old Farbod Naghikhani

## RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. I contain six letters, minus one and you got twelve. What am I?
2. Sometimes I fly as fast as the speed of light. Sometime I crawl as slow as a snail. Unknown until I am measured but you will certainly miss me when I'm gone. What am I?
3. I have roots nobody sees. I am taller than trees. Up, up I go but I never grow. What am I?
4. I am a ship that can be made to ride the greatest waves. I am not built by objects, but built by minds. What am I?
5. I have a mouth on my head and eat everything. What am I?
6. I do not have eyes but I once could see. I used to have thoughts but now I'm empty. What am I?

Answers to last week's edition:

1. Net
2. Piano
3. Star
4. Glove
5. Wind
6. Ice

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

Kid: (returning from his match in his floor) "Mom", can I have an apple?

Mom: Baby, you just ate one.

Kid: An apple a day keeps the doctor away and I just broke his window.

Wife: Do you want meal?

Husband: What are my choices?

Wife: Denial or acceptance.

Child: With report card in hand.

Mother: So what's your final grade?

Child: Underwater

Mother: what does that mean?

Child: Below C LEVEL (Sea.. you know..)



## The Donkey, the Fox, and the Lion



A Donkey and a Fox, having entered into a partnership together, went out into the forest to hunt.

They had not proceeded far, when they met a Lion.

The Fox approached the Lion and promised to contrive for him the capture of the Donkey, if he would pledge his word that his own life should be spared.

On his assuring him that he would not injure him, the Fox led the Donkey to a deep pit, and contrived that he should fall into it.

The Lion, seeing that the Donkey was secured, immediately clutched the Fox, and then attacked the Donkey at his leisure.

MORAL: "Traitors must expect treachery."

