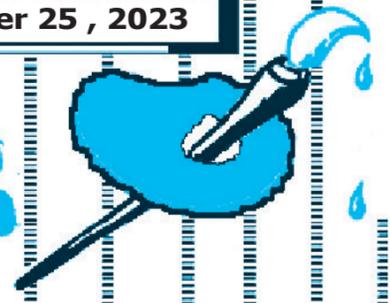


Children's Corner



Imam Hasan Askari (AS)

"Let no secure livelihood make you too busy to perform an obligatory deed."

Mixed Message

Salaam dear young friends. Our message this week is a mixed one – of congratulations and condolences. We felicitate you because yesterday was the 8th of Rabi al-Akher, the birth anniversary of an Infallible Imam. We console you because tomorrow is the 10th of the same month, the martyrdom anniversary of an Innocent Lady.

Our sincere salutations to these two peerless persons whose teachings remain beacons of light for the seekers of truth and whose holy shrines are always flocked with the faithful from different parts of the world.

Both were young and in the prime of their youth when they were forced to leave the world as martyrs. Today, while the terrorists who caused their physical death are burning in the eternal fire of hell, these direct descendants of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) continue to provide succour to all those monotheists who reverently bow at their threshold and seek blessings of God through their intercession.

Yes, friends, if yesterday was the birthday of the Prophet's Penultimate Successor, Imam Hasan al-Askari (AS), the father of the Lord of the Age, Imam Mahdi (AS) – may God expedite his reappearance and establishment of the global government of peace, prosperity and justice – tomorrow will be the martyrdom anniversary of our Innocent Lady of Qom, Hazrat Fatema al-Ma'sumah (SA), the sister of Imam Reza (AS) and the daughter of Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS).

Imam Askari (AS) spent most of his brief life of 28 years under imprisonment or house arrest, since as the penultimate of the Twelve Infallible Heirs foretold by the Prophet, he was kept under constant watch by the tyrannical Abbasid regime, which fearful of the appearance of the Promised Saviour of mankind, Imam Mahdi (AS), tried every trick to deprive him of having any issue.

But the terrorist regime failed, as miserably as the Pharaoh had failed to prevent the birth of Prophet Moses by ordering the massacre of all newborn males. The 12th Imam was born in secrecy and raised in the privacy of the cellar, with only the closest associates knowing of his birth.

Thus, Imam Askari (AS), during his 6-year imamate never missed an opportunity to promote the pure and pristine teachings of Islam to awaken minds, enlighten hearts, cleanse consciences, uplift spirits, and purify souls. He saved many a person from errors, sins, deviation and self-destruction including the famous philosopher, al-Kindi, who would have fallen into the abyss of disbelief, if the 11th Imam through a disciple had not instilled in his heart the flawless wisdom of God's Revealed Word, the holy Qur'an.

So friends, let us turn towards Samarra in Iraq, where the father and the grandfather of the Imam of the Age, rest in peace in the golden-domed shrine – that was twice the target of dastardly terrorists – to salute the Chosen of God and to supplicate to God for forgiveness of all our faults.

Good bye, and see you next week.

Ice Cream Flavors

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

- COCONUT
- STRAWBERRY
- VANILLA
- FUDGE
- ROCKY ROAD
- COOKIE DOUGH
- NEOPOLITAN
- COTTON CANDY
- HOKEY POKEY
- CHOCOLATE
- MOOSE TRACKS
- GREEN TEA
- TIGER TAIL
- PECAN
- REESES
- BANANA

RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. I begin your sentences. What am I? Capital
2. I am a shiny metal sheet that covers BBQ food. What am I? Aluminum
3. Deposit red liquid in me. What am I? Blood Bank
4. I don't forget! What am I? Elephant
5. Things here are usually tagged with red stickers. What am I? Clearance
6. I am a small paradise surrounded by dryness and heat. What am I? Oasis

Answers to last week's edition:

1. Library
2. Fragile
3. Audience
4. Paperclip
5. Kite
6. Candy Cane

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

A blind man walks into a restaurant with his dog which has keen eyes. He immediately yanks the dog and starts to spin him in the air like a lasso.

The waiter freaks out, "What are you doing?!?"

The blind man replies calmly, "Oh, just having a look around."

A cowboy strolls into town on his horse "Fireball" and goes straight to the saloon. He drinks a few beverages for a few hours, never moving except to take another one. When he's done he gets up and walks out of the saloon.

He immediately runs back in and yells, "Alright! Who took Fireball?" But nobody makes a noise.

He continues, "Okay, I'm gonna give y'all to the count of three then we're gonna have a repeat of what happened back in '71."

"ONE!" He pauses and nobody moves a muscle.

"TWO!" Everybody braces for impending doom.

"Here it comes... THR..."

He is interrupted by a man in the saloon, "Wait! It was just a joke mister. Your horse is right out back..."

By the way, what'd you do in '71?"

The cowboy looks him dead in the eye and says, "I had to walk home."

The Wind and the Sun

The Wind and the Sun were disputing which was the stronger.

Suddenly they saw a traveller coming down the road, and the Sun said: "I see a way to decide our dispute. Whichever of us can cause that traveller to take off his cloak shall be regarded as the stronger. You begin."

So the Sun retired behind a cloud, and the Wind began to blow as hard as it could upon the traveller.

But the harder he blew the more closely did the traveller wrap his cloak round him, till at last the Wind had to give up in despair.

Then the Sun came out and shone in all his glory upon the traveller, who soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on.

MORAL: "Kindness effects more than severity"



RIPLEY'S Believe It or Not!

SOME HUMMINGBIRDS USE SPIDER SILK TO HELP "GLUE" THE NESTS THEY BUILD TOGETHER.

THESE WORK GREAT! THANKS, HUMANS!

BIRDS ARE STEALING ANTI-AVIAN SPIKES AND USING THEM TO BUILD THEIR NESTS TO KEEP OTHER BIRDS AWAY!

MALE AND FEMALE AFRICAN PENGUINS LOOK ALMOST IDENTICAL, AND DNA TESTS ARE OFTEN NEEDED TO TELL THEM APART.

CASTARO

I APPRECIATE THE LITTLE JOYS OF LIFE

AND THE BIG JOYS, TOO!

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JIM DAVIS 10-24