

Written for children
By Sakina Hasan Askari

#### For my grandchildren

Muhammad Ali
Nur -Fatima
Sakina Zahra
Zahra
Aadil
Fatimah
Mehdi
And many more to come
InshaAllah

# This book is to help you learn about Imam Hasan (AS)

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### Introduction "

Imam Hasan (AS) is our second of twelve Imams. He is the first grandson of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW), and Hadhrat Khadija (AS). He is the eldest son of our first Imam Ali (AS) and Hadhrat Fatimah (AS), the only daughter of the Prophet of Islam. He is one of the holy 5 Panjatan and the 14 infallible Masoomeen.

No one was ever named Hasan before him. The Holy Prophet said he was named Hasan because it was through divine favour (ihsan) that the heavens

and earth stood. Hasan is derived from the word ihsan, which means to do good.

Being Allah's guardian (wali), he represents all the beautiful attributes of Allah. Imam Hasan was given divine knowledge and is, like all the Twelve Holy Imams, the mine of Allah's Knowledge. He is the guide who shows us the Right Path and was the most pious among the people of his time. He was always ready to establish justice and invited people to Allah's religion. He is the faithful trustee of Allah and was killed as a martyr.



Imam Hasan has many titles, which show his virtues. His kuniyat was Abu Muhammad. Some of his titles are:
Mujtaba(the Chosen one)
Kareem(the Generous)
Zaki(the Pure)
Taqui(the Pious)
Naseh(the Adviser)
Tayyib(the Generous)
Ameen(the Trusted)
Hadi(Rightly Guided)
Mahdi (Pure Guide)

He was very intelligent and a hadees says, "If intellect could be represented in human form

it would be al Hasan." The Holy Prophet loved him dearly and said "Whoever loves him has loved me. Whoever hates him has hated me."

Imam Hasan and Imam Husain together are the Abnaa'ana (our sons). Other titles for them are

Sibtayn (Prophet's sons).

Hasanayn (Hasan and Hussain)
Raihanatayn (fragrant flowers).

Shiblayn (Lions)

Sayyidu Shabaabi ahl il jannah, (Masters of the Youth of Paradise).

The Holy Prophet said, "They are **Imam** whether they sit or they stand."



The fragrance of Paradise was felt in the air. Imam Hasan (AS) was born on 15 Ramadhan 3 A.H. in Madinah. His mother Hadhrat Fatimah Zahra (AS) and father Imam Ali (AS) were very happy.

When he was born, Allah revealed to Jibraeel, "A son is born to Muhammad, therefore descend and give him my blessings and say "Surely Ali is to you as Haroon was to Moosa so give him (the newborn baby) the name of Haroon's son, Shabbar. "Jibraeel brought a

white silk scarf with the name embossed on it.

The holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) took Hasan in his arms, kissed and hugged him. Then he recited the azaan in the baby's right ear and iqama in his left ear. On the seventh day, he had the aqeeqa when his hair was shaven. Goats were sacrificed and money and the meat given to the midwife and the poor. There was great joy in the Prophet's household.



Imam Hasan grew up in Madinah. He was hardly one year old when his brother Imam Hussain was born. They loved each other very much. Soon they were blessed by the arrival of two loving sisters, Hadhrat Zainab and Hadhrat Umm Kulsoom.

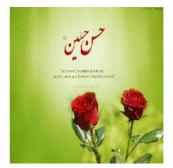
#### Loved by the Prophet

The holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) loved Imam Hasan very much. He would carry Imam Hasan (AS) on his shoulder and say "O Allah, I love him, so love him." When people praised how

wonderful a ride the baby had, the Prophet would say "You should rather say what a wonderful rider is on my shoulder."

When Imam Hasan entered the masjid as the Prophet was delivering his sermon, the Prophet would stop, get down from the pulpit, pick him up and continue his sermon. The people often heard him say "Hasan and Husain are the Masters of the

Youth of Paradise." He called them "my fragrant roses from this world."



#### Praised in the Quran

The Sura Dahr (76:1-31) was revealed in their praise, when Imam Hasan (AS) and his brother Imam Hussain (AS) joined their parents and Fizza to keep a fast for three days to fulfil a vow. They gave food to the orphan, the destitute and the captive, while remaining hungry themselves. This act of self denial was done with such a pure spirit that Allah himself praised the effort.

In the event of the Kisa, we learn from Hadhrat Fatimah herself that Imam Hasan was the first to enter the Kisa with his grandfather. After greeting

his mother, he told her that he could sense the sweet fragrance of his grandfather Prophet Muhammad (SAW). When he approached the blanket and asked permission to enter, the Prophet allowed him to come and addressed him as "my son and the master of my fountain". When all the five of the Panjatan were gathered, Allah sent the Ayat e Tatheer (33:33) to declare their purity.



The Holy Prophet took Ali, Fatima, Hasan and Hussain with him to the field of **Mubahila** when the Christians from Najran were called for a challenge (3:61). Only the

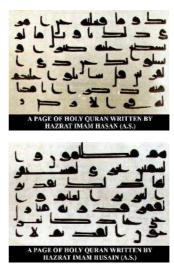


Truthful ones were to be taken along. The people realised that Allah had chosen the Panjatan for this honour and saved Islam through them. They are the

Qurba whose love is incumbent on believers (42:32).

From a very early age, Imam Hasan would repeat Quranic ayaat to his mother as soon as they were revealed to his grandfather. One day his father Imam Ali wanted to hear him repeat the ayat. He sat in seclusion waiting to listen. Imam Hasan came home, sat on his mother's lap and started reciting. But he felt a presence and stopped. "O mother" he said "I feel as if my father is watching me." Imam Ali came out and took his young son in his arms and kissed him proudly.

Once Imam
Hasan and his
younger
brother Imam
Husain came
to their
mother and
showed their
handwriting.



They wanted her to decide who was better. She looked at their work and both were perfect. She took out her necklace, which had seven beads and said "Whoever collects more beads will be the winner." As they each picked three each and were going to the last one, the seventh bead split in two.

#### Amr bil Maroof

Even from a young age, the young sons of Ali and Fatimah showed how to teach the rules of Islam and explain the creed in a beautiful manner. When they saw an old man performing the wudhu incorrectly, they went up to him and asked him if he would decide who of the two brother's wudhu was better

#### As the old man watched them



perform the wudhu in the same manner as each other, he realised his own error and thanked them for showing him the correct method. Imam Hasan and Imam Hussain showed us that Amr bil Maruf, enjoining the good, should be done politely and kindly.

During his childhood, Imam Hasan was a witness to the bravery of his father, when he defended Muslims in many battles. Ali was the hero of the Battles of Badr, Uhud, Khandaq, Khaiber and Hunayn. Imam Hasan saw how his grandfather Muhammad negotiated peace at Hudaibiya. He was present at

the conquest of Makkah when old enemies were spared if they accepted Islam. He saw his mother Fatimah being regarded with honour and respect by the Prophet himself.

After the final Hajj attended by thousands of Muslims, Imam Hasan saw his father Ali being named as successor to the Prophet at Ghadeer. The message of Islam was completed with the declaration of "Mun kunto Maulahu fa haza Aliyyun Maulahu." All those present were called to accept Ali as the successor (wasi) of the Prophet of Islam.

# How did life change for the children of Fatimah?

When Imam Hasan was about seven years old, his dear grandfather the holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) breathed his last. The year was 11 A.H. Madinah changed.

One day Imam Hasan saw Abu Bakr sitting on the Prophet's

pulpit. He went near and said, "Get down from my father's pulpit. This isn't your



place." Hearing this Abu Bakr came down. When some people complained to Imam Ali about Imam Hasan rebuking Abu Bakr, and blamed Imam Ali for it, the latter reminded them how close his grandsons were to the Prophet. He said "All of you, the people of Madinah, are witness that Hasan would pass by the ranks of men during salat and reach the Prophet of Allah. He would then climb upon his back in the state of sajda."

But, alas, people turned against the Holy Household and chose to forget their duty towards them. Imam Hasan was a witness to the terrible events

that followed. He saw that his father's rights were ignored. He saw that his mother was not allowed to weep for her father and had to go to Baqee to mourn. He found that her property of Fadak was denied to her and taken away. Fire was brought to the door.

# Loss of his dear mother Tragedy struck when he saw



that his mother was crushed between the wall and the door. She lost her unborn baby and fainted as she fell. She was attacked in her own house and he saw his father dragged away by his enemies. She fell ill and did not live for long.

She died leaving her four young children behind. He and his brother Hussain suffered the loss of their mother, as did their younger sisters, Zainab and Umm Kulsoom.

Imam Hasan was very sad. When he saw her lifeless, he wept. He kissed her and cried, "O mother speak to me before

my spirit leaves my body." His brother Hussain was in tears, "O mother I am your son Hussain. Speak to me before my heart breaks and I die."

Imam Ali lifted his sons up and hugged them in deep sorrow. The angels wept to see these orphans weep. Life was hard without the loving presence of their mother.



# Life in Madinah

During the years that followed, Imam Hasan was taken care of by his father Imam Ali, who filled his mind with knowledge and his heart with the love of Allah. He was taught to dedicate his life to serve the message of Islam. He grew up to be strong in his faith and noble in his ways.

For the next twenty- five years Imam Hasan, like his father Imam Ali, stayed aloof from the affairs of the government. But whenever Islam was in danger, the Ahlebayt always

came to the rescue. They continued to teach and explain verses from the Quran and solved many problems. When delegations came looking for answers to questions of knowledge, it was only the Ahlebayt who could fulfil the need. Many a time Imam Hasan gave the answers to queries brought to Madinah.

Many lands were conquered and wealth poured into Madinah. The Ahlebayt aimed to teach the people to build a society, where prosperity is shared among all. Many companions did not know what to do and built

large houses for themselves with stables and servants.

Imam Ali and his family formed a Trust that was used to help those in need. Many new converts were helped. Every evening food was served to many who were not able to provide for themselves. For their own personal use, Imam Ali and his sons continued to live in a small house and eat very simple food.

#### His generosity

One day he saw a poor slave boy sharing his food with a hungry dog. The boy would eat a morsel and give a morsel to the dog.

When he was asked why, the slave replied, "I am ashamed of eating myself and not giving the dog anything." The Imam asked him to wait where he was, until he came back. He went to the master of the slave and not only freed the boy from slavery but gave him an orchard. Soon he returned and told the boy that



not only was he free but now the owner of the garden he had been working in.

#### His piety

Imam Hasan performed the Hajj twenty five times. Imam Zain-ul-abideen (AS) said about Imam Hasan, "Whenever he went for Hajj, he went on foot and sometimes even barefoot. When he stood for his prayers his limbs trembled before His Lord." While performing the wudhu, he would go pale.

#### Helping the poor and needy

He was extremely generous and gave away all his funds in the way of Allah. No one went away from his door empty handed. He sat down with the poorest of poor when they invited him to share food with them.

One day a stranger came to Madinah and when he was offered the same dried bread that Imam Ali was eating, found it too hard to chew. When he went to the tablespread of Imam Hasan, he started collecting morsels in a bag as he ate his food. Imam Hasan enquired "Brother you can eat as much as you like. Why are you collecting more?" The man said he had just seen someone

who was breaking bread that was very hard and dry and wanted to



take it to him. Imam Hasan smiled and said "Don't you know that he is my father who has always eaten so. He provides all this for others."

Even today, visitors still eat at the "Dastarqan" of Imam Hasan in the Masjid e Hasan in



Madinah.

# حن Brave in Battle "حت

#### How did he help his father?

Imam Hasan's role during the lifetime of his father shows his complete obedience to Imam Ali. When people accepted Imam Ali as the apparent Khalifa after twenty-five long years, Imam Hasan played a crucial role and supported him in every way. He would guide people and explain his father's views and opinion.

In the campaigns of the Battles of Jamal, Siffeen and Nahrwan that were forced on Imam Ali soon after he became Khalifa,

Imam Hasan took part fully. He never felt any fear and always supported the Truth.

Before the Battle of Basra, Imam Ali sent his son Imam Hasan and his companion Ammar Yasir to Koofa to recruit people to join forces. Imam Hasan delivered a sermon in the masjid e Koofa and managed to convince nearly 10,000 people to join him.

#### Battle of Basra

He was a standard bearer in the Battle of Basra (also called Jamal) leading the right wing of the army. Ayesha, the Prophet's widow, bore enmity to Imam Ali

and came on her camel to stir people to rebel against the Imam. She came out to the battlefield trying to encourage



people to fight against the Imam. Many Muslims kept coming before her camel and were getting killed. Imam Ali sent his son to fell the camel. This ended the Battle of the Camel. Ayesha still refused to leave but Imam Hasan was able

to persuade her to go back to Madinah.

#### Moving to Koofa

In 36 A.H. Imam Ali decided to make Koofa the capital city. It was more central and suited to the changed conditions of the time. He moved there from Madinah and the Ahlebayt went with him. Imam Hasan also moved to Koofa with his father.

Within a year of moving to Koofa, Imam Ali had to counter Muawiya's rebellion. Muawiya had been the governor of Syria since the time of Umar who had appointed him. Imam Ali tried to convince Muawiya to stop him

from creating discord among Muslims. He refused to give up his plans and in the end, Imam Ali had to face Muawiya's army in battle at Siffeen.

#### Battle of Siffeen

The Battle of Siffeen took place near Raqqa, on the banks of the river Euphrates. Imam Hasan took an active and leading role as a commander in the battle. He was ready to give up his life to defend the true message of Islam.

Just as victory was close for Imam Ali, Muawiya adopted a trick. The Syrian army raised the Quran on spears and

shouted for surrender. The army clamoured for the battle to stop. They did not listen to Imam Ali's advice.

Later when people wrongly blamed Imam Ali for the outcome, Imam Hasan was sent to explain what had happened. He was able to clarify and analyse what had happened and how the verdict was based on opinion and not justice. The two men from both armies had judged according to their whims and not the Book of Allah.

#### Battle of Nahrwan

Next came the Battle of Nahrwan, when the Kharijites

rebelled against Imam Ali and refused to obey him. Imam Hasan supported his father and played a major role in the battle.

After the battle, Imam Hasan returned to Koofa with his father. But Imam Ali was not allowed to govern for long. A Kharijite, Ibn Muljim, struck Imam Ali's head with a poisoned sword. The Imam was attacked while he was leading the Fajr prayer in the masjid e Koofa. Imam Ali lived for only two days after the fatal attack on his head and died on 21 Ramadhan 40 A H



#### As the Imam and Khalifa

Tmam Ali announced Tmam Hasan to be the next Imam. He said "O my son, the Messenger of Allah ordered me to inform and hand over my books and weapons to you exactly as he told me his last will and gave me his books and weapons. He ordered me to order you to give them to your brother Hussain when death approaches you. "The line of 12 Imams continued through Imam Hussain. Imams are appointed by Allah.

Imam Ali then asked all his children, noblemen of the Shia



and his family to bear witness to his will.

Imam Hasan (AS) stood up and praised his father, and reminded people of his merits "This night a man has died who the first Muslims did not outrun with good deeds nor did the last ones catch up with him in pleasing acts."He wept as he recalled his father's divine qualities.

Introducing himself, Imam Hasan reminded people who he was: "I am the (grand) son of the one who brought the good news. I am the (grand) son of the warner. I am the (grand) son of the man who with Allah's permission, summoned the people to Allah.

I am the (grand) son of the light, which shone out to the world. I am of the House from whom Allah has sent away all rijs and purified thoroughly. I am from the House for whom Allah has required (mawadat) love in His Book When Allah the Most High said Say I do not ask you for any reward except love for my kin whoever earns good will increase good for himself. (33:33) The good is love for us, the House. "

Imam Hasan showed his close relationship to the Holy Prophet and referred to the Quranic verses of Purity and

love of Ahlebayt (Mawadat), made compulsory for believers.

Ibn Abbas stood up and said "People, this is the son of your Prophet, the successor of your Imam. So pledge allegiance to

him."People
rushed and
pledged their
allegiance to
Imam Hasan as
their Khalifa.



He was acknowledged as the ruler of Koofa and all the cities of the Iraq, Hejaz and Iran.

He took a pledge from the people that they that that they would support him in both war

and peace. He declared the Quran and Sunnah as the basis of the allegiance. He raised the salary of the soldiers to revive the morale of the Iraqi army. Koofa remained united.

The news soon spread. But Muawiya in Syria did not acknowledge the Imam. He celebrated the news that Imam Ali was killed but was angry to learn that Imam Hasan had been declared his successor. Having misguided a whole generation of men before, Muawiya now planned rebellion against Imam Hasan.



# Who was Muawiya?

Muawiya was the son of Abu Sufyan from the Bani Ummaya, who had long been an enemy of Islam and the Holy Prophet. They came under the banner of Islam only to save their own skin. Now they planned to destroy the fabric of Islam from within. Muawiya's intense malice and his lust for power and wealth guided his actions.

He sent spies to Iraq, specially Koofa and Basra, to incite people against Imam Hasan. He

used threats and bribes to make people support him.

Imam Hasan wrote to Muawiya advising him to "Desist from falsehood and further revolt and pay allegiance to me like the masses have done. As you are well aware that I am entitled to Khilafat much more than you in the eyes of the Almighty Allah. So you should fear Him and abandon revolt. Do not shed the blood of Muslims."

Muawiya had no scruples and his aim was to create discord and widen differences. He wanted to destroy the unity of Muslims

and incited people to mischief and rioting. Unable to force the grandson of the Prophet to resign, Muawiya decided to attack Iraq with a huge army of 60,000 men.

# Preparing for War

Imam Hasan did not want to begin the war but realised that he has to face the challenge of Muawiya's invading forces. He urgently ordered all his governors to prepare for war. People were asked to assemble in the main masjid of Koofa. Imam Hasan delivered a powerful sermon exhorting people to prepare for jihad. He

said "You should all join the army" and reminded them, "We are that party of Allah that is always successful. We are the two most valuable things that the Holy Prophet left after him. Therefore O people, submit to me as submission to us is the submission to Allah and the Holy Prophet."

When he finished speaking, there was silence and people went quiet. They were tired of war. Only a few devoted companions of the Imam were ready to support him.

Altogether Imam Hasan had 20,000 soldiers against more than 60000 Syrian soldiers with Muawiya. But even within his smaller army, there were different groups of men.

- There were Shias who were devoted to him and ready to sacrifice everything.
- There were those that followed their tribal leader who could be bribed by Muawiya.
- There were self seekers who were interested mainly in the war booty.
- There were the Kharijites who were Imam Ali's enemies but had joined

Imam Hasan (AS) to fight against Muawiya.

 Then there were people who did not belong to any group; but they could not be trusted.

With such a mixed group of soldiers in his army, Imam Hasan had to fight a war that was imposed on him.

The Imam went with a small army towards a place called Nakhaila. He camped there for ten days, waiting for more men to join him, but very few did. As Muawiya advanced, the Imam sent 12,000 men under his cousin, Ubaidullah ibn Abbas, towards the northern border of

Iraq with detailed directions. The Imam's war tactics were defensive. His success depended on the vanguard brigade. Ubaidullah ibn Abbas advanced towards Maskin and faced the Syrian army, which attacked them and forced them to retreat.

# Muawiya's Tactics

Muawiya realised that Imam Hasan was serious about an armed struggle. So he started to plan cunning tactics. He sent several false messages saying that Imam Hasan (AS) was offering peace. Muawiya then tried to bribe the Imam's commanders and was able to

bribe Ubaidullah, who left the Imam taking 8000 soldiers with him.

Muawiya then started a campaign of propaganda and rumour. Qais continued to fight the Syrians with great courage and ability, but was worried about the welfare of Imam Hasan, who was at Madain.

Muawiya sent a delegation to Madain, intent on creating more discord in the Imam's army. They spread false rumours that the Imam had agreed to stop the battle and that Qais had been killed. The army panicked

and started to run. There was confusion everywhere.

The Kharijites at this moment took advantage and attacked the camp of the Imam himself. Imam Hasan immediately stood up saying "Verily there is no power and strength except Allah", drew his sword and rode his horse.

While he was passing through, a man ambushed and attacked the Imam with a dagger. The injury was severe as the dagger went through to the bone. The wound on his thigh caused heavy blood loss. His devoted Shias took him to the governor's house,

where physicians attended to his wound.

While the Imam was recovering there was more betrayal as more soldiers from his army joined Muawiya. Some were even ready to hand him over. The Iraqi army lost their will to fight.

Imam Hasan (AS) called his officers and leaders and said to them, "O men of Iraq, what action remains that you have not taken against me! By Allah you have not done this for the first time but on a day in Siffeen you had forced my father to accept arbitration."

Then Imam Hasan gave a sermon to the people: "By Allah neither had we any doubt about fighting the Syrians nor remorse because it was we who had fought the Syrians with confidence and humility. When you were marching to Siffeen your religion had dominated your worldly feelings; but today the worldly benefits are uppermost in your mind. So if you decide to fight till death, then we will again attack Muawiya till he returns to the Right Path. But if you choose worldly life then we will accept his offer and get protection for you."

Hearing this, the people shouted "Life Life". Imam Hasan saw that the people did not obey or help him and that his army was no longer ready to fight Muawiya, so he accepted the peace offer.



Muawiya handed a blank paper with his seal and sent a



message to Imam
Hasan saying that
the Imam could
name any
conditions. The
Imam prepared
the terms, which

#### were as follows:

- Muawiya will act according to the Holy Book of Allah, the Sunnah of the Prophet
- 2. Muawiya will have no right to nominate anyone after

him and Khilafat will return to Hasan after him.

- 3. The life, property and honour of the people will be safe throughout Syria, Iraq, Hejaz and Yemen.
- 4. The companions and Shias of Imam Ali (AS) will be protected and their lives, honour and property will remain safe.
- 5. Muawiya will not cause any harm to Imam Hasan, his brother Hussain and anyone from the family of the Prophet

6. Cursing and abuse of Imam Ali will be stopped

The terms of the treaty show that the first condition was the ideal goal of the Imam. The second condition taok away Muawiya 's right of nominating anyone after him. The third condition would restore peace and protect the people from oppression. The fourth would give Shias complete protection. The fifth would prevent conspiracy against the family of the Prophet. The next move was to stop the abuse of Imam Ali.

The Imam explained his reasons for entering into the treaty

with Muawiya: "I have kept the welfare of the Muslim Ummah in view. My action is for your benefit and it would safeguard you." Had he not entered the treaty there would have been mass killings.

# Muawiya breaks the terms

Muawiya had accepted all the conditions but had no intention of keeping to the agreed terms. Soon after signing the treaty he declared: "All of these conditions are under my foot. And from now on I will not fulfil anything." He boasted that he had taken what he had taken from both Imam Ali and Imam Hasan."

In reply the Imam said "O you who mention Ali, I am Hasan and Ali is my father. You are Muawiya and your father was Saqr. My mother was Fatimah and your mother was Hind. My grandfather was the Apostle of Allah and your grandfather was Harb. My grandmother was



Khadija and your grandmother was Futayla. May Allah curse him who tries to reduce our reputation and diminish our nobility, who does evil against

our antiquity and yet who has been ahead of us in unbelief and hypocrisy."

### A strategic decision

The Peace Treaty, like the Treaty of Hudaibiya, was a strategic decision, which removed the veil from Muawiya's face and showed everyone that he was a hypocrite. It became apparent that Muawiya had usurped the authority though he had no known merit in religion. Muawiya's true aims were exposed.

The Imam explained that a Khalifa is one who abides by the

Sunnah of the Prophet and makes obedience to Allah his way of life. "One who oppresses people and chooses the pleasures of this world is not a Khalif but a monarch." People were now able to distinguish between Khilafat and monarchy.

Imam Hasan followed the example of his grandfather Prophet Muhammad (SAW) who had made peace with the Meccans at Hudaibiya. He copied his father Ali who had showed patience when he was denied his rights. Imam Hasan, like them, supported the Truth, not to win victory for himself but to protect Islam.

Our fourth Imam describes the Peace Treaty as "better than what the sun shines upon." Imam Hasan said "I am an Imam appointed by Allah" and himself compared it to the greater wisdom of Prophet Khizr who had knowledge of the future. Imam Hasan set the stage for Karbala.

# Return to Madinah

# A quiet but active life

Imam Hasan and his brother Imam Husain with the Holy household moved back to Madinah, the city of their grandfather. His house became the centre for people to learn about the true teachings of Islam. He continued to educate, enlighten, interpret and explain the Commandments of Allah.

The Imam was a mirror of his grandfather's good qualities and explained Islamic rulings. He educated the people to follow noble traits and revived the

Sunnah of the Prophet. He was kind to the poor and deprived and gave shelter to the widows and the orphans.

# Imam's patience and virtue

Muawiya continued to spread false rumours about the Imam and the family of the Prophet. When a man from Syria visited Madinah, he saw a man whose beauty astonished him. But when he learned that it was Hasan ibn Ali, he started shouting abuse at the Imam, "Curse be upon you and your father"

Imam Hasan didn't say anything rude. He greeted him cordially

and asked him kindly if he needed anything. "I see you are a stranger in town. Should you need a ride, we will provide you with one. Should you have any needs, we will fulfil them for you. If you need any help, we will help you."

Imam Hasan showed that his manners were like the good manners of his grandfather. Hearing this, the man felt ashamed and started to apologise saying, "You are indeed Allah's Hujjat. Your excellent manners have made me admire you. I will never leave you and always serve you, Master".

People learned good morals from the Imam. They also gained deep knowledge and a great number of scholars learned from him. He created awareness among the ummah about the Rights of the holy Ahlulbayt. The falsehood of Muawiya was exposed and showed people how the Ummayad were not fit to rule. The movement of Imam Hasan gained strength.

Muawiya visited Yathrib and was jealous, when he saw how people loved and admired the Imam. He summoned the Imam to Damascus.

The generous son of Fatimah Muawiya called the Imam to his court when he was distributing gifts to everyone. He wanted to boast about his wealth and show the people that he was the one who was giving the Imam expensive gifts.

When the Imam came, Muawiya said "O the son of the Prophet. You came last hoping that nothing was left for me to give you and then you would tell people I was a miser." He called his treasurer and asked him to find out the total value of gifts distributed that day and bring its equal value. He gave the amount to Imam Hasan saying

"This is the gift from me, the son of Hind.

Muawiya wanted to show off how rich he was. As the Imam got ready to leave, one of Muawiya's servants brought the

Imam's shoes to him out of respect. The Imam, as a way of thanking the servant, gave



him all the gifts that Muawiya had given him, to the servant.

Then he turned to Muawiya saying, "This is the gift from me, the son of Fatimah."

Muawiya increased his hostile policy towards the Imam and hunted down the Shias and killed them. He resorted to terror, making them homeless, cutting off their income and tearing down and burning their houses.

Money was handed to tribal leaders to bring them under control. Righteous and noble men were put in prison and disgraced. Imam Ali was cursed from the pulpits as a ritual. False traditions praising the Umayyads were invented and linked to the Prophet. This played a vital role in misguiding people.



During the ten years of his Imamat, Imam Hasan lived in conditions of extreme hardship with no security even in his own house. Imam Hasan, the fragrant flower of the Prophet, was a thorn in the heart of Muawiya, who was determined to kill him.

Breaking every term of the treaty Muawiya now wanted to make Yazeed his successor. But with Imam Hasan alive, he could not. He therefore planned to murder Imam Hasan through poison.

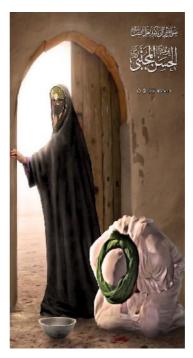


More than five attempts were made to poison Imam Hasan. When the

effects of the poison would show, the Imam would go to his grandfather's grave of his grandfather's grave, and pray for shifa (healing). Finally Muawiya sent a very strong poison to Joda, the wicked wife of the Imam, with a promise of 100,000 dirhams, if she gave it to Imam Hasan. It was the 28th of Safar, 50 A. H. The Imam was forty-seven years old. Joda betrayed the Imam and added the poison to his water.

As soon as the Imam drank the

water he felt immense pain and was sick. He began to vomit blood and pieces of his liver fell into the bowl. He said to her "it is a pity that you have been very



unfaithful. But remember, the purpose for which you have done this you would never achieve".

He called for his brother Hussain and told him: "I have been given poison three times before; but never like this time. I will die on this day. My brother, I am leaving you and meeting my Lord. I have been given poison to drink, and have spewed my liver into the basin. I am aware of the person who poisoned me. I will oppose him before Allah, the Great and Almighty."

Then he said: "I leave my family and children in your care." He hugged his son Qasim and his other children, soon to be orphaned. He left behind fifteen children, both male and

female. His wife Umm Farwa wept to see him in such pain. Turning to his brothers, Imam Hasan continued, "Bury me with my grandfather, the Apostle of Allah, for I am worthier of him and his family, (than others). If they prevent you from doing so, then do not shed your blood even into the cupping-glass in (carrying out) my command, and bury me near my grandmother Fatimah bint Asad in Bagee.

He then gave Imam Hussain (AS) his heirlooms and the things, which Imam Ali(AS) had passed down to him. He said, "Hussain ibn Ali will be the Imam after my death and after my

soul has departed from my body."

Imam Hussain was very sad as he watched his brother leave him forever. He wept but Imam Hasan reminded him that he would suffer even more tragedy. "La Yauma ka-yaumeka ya Ababdillah. There is no day like your day, ya Aba abdillah."

### His progeny

On the day of Ashoor, four of Imam Hasan's sons took part in the battle with Imam Hussain. His son Qasim fought bravely against Yazid's army, but was trampled under the hooves of horses. His son Abu Bakr was

martyred in Karbala. His son Abdullah was the last Hashimi youth who rushed out from the tent to defend his uncle Imam Hussain Hasan ibn Hasan (known as Hasan Muthanna) fought gallantly and was severely injured. He was taken wounded from the battlefield to Koofa and later returned to Madinah. One of Imam Hasan's daughters Fatimah was married to our fourth Imam Zain-ul-Abideen (AS) and became the mother of the fifth Imam Muhammad Bagir (AS).

Many members of Imam Hasan's progeny were killed by Mansoor the Abbasid ruler.

# Burial in Bagee "

Imam Hasan, the symbol of peace, passed away leaving his children and family in deep mourning. With great sadness, Imam Hussain arranged for his brother Imam Hasan's burial and offered the funeral prayers.

But when the funeral procession was being taken towards the Holy Prophet's grave, it was stopped. Marwan supported by Aisha would not allow it. She mounted a mule and came to support the Banu Umayya.

Arrows rained down on the coffin.

Many people gathered together with Imam Hussain (AS) and said to him: "Leave us with the children of Marwan. By Allah(SWT), they are, with us, nothing but an itching of the head."

Imam Hussain (AS) said: `By Allah (SWT), if there had been no injunction to me from Imam Hasan (AS) to prevent bloodshed and that I should not even pour blood into a cupping-glass in (carrying out) his command, you would have known how the swords of Allah (SWT)

would have taken their toll from you."

Nearly 70 arrows were pulled



out from the coffin. Imam Hasan (AS) then was buried in Baqee beside his grandmother Fatimah bint-e-Asad (AS).

Alas, the Wahhabis destroyed his grave, when the tombs of the Holy Ahlebayt in Jannat ul Baqee were razed to the ground in 1925.





Teach your knowledge to others and try to learn the knowledge of others. Whoever loves the material world, the fear of the hereafter goes out from his heart. Treat others similar to the way you would like them to treat you. I wonder at the person who is careful about what goes in his stomach but not careful about what goes into his intellect. Verily the best of the best is the best manners. There is no day like your day ya Abaabdillah.

## Salams yaImam "

Salam O the son of the Prophet Salam O son of Ali the Commander of the Faithful Salam O son of Fatimah Salam O the Light of Allah Salam O the Beloved of Allah Salam O Trustee of Allah Salam O the Path of Allah Salam O supporter of the Religion of Allah Salam O pure master Salam Abu Muhammad Hasan son of Ali Allah's mercy and blessings be on you



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HASAN HUSSAIN MUHAMMAD ALI FATIMAH ZAINAB KUSOOM KHADIJA MADINAH KOOFA ZAKI MUJTABA NASEH MUBAHILA TATHEER FIZZA QASIM ABDULLAH UMM FARWA MUAWIYA AISHA HARB SAQR SIFEEN JAMAL NAHRWAN

## حن Lessons we learn

Imam Hasan was kind even to those who were rude to him.

He was always hospitable and provided food for the poor.

He faced his enemies bravely and was ready to stand up for the Truth.

He was ready to make peace to prevent bloodshed of the Muslims.

The Imam spread knowledge and trained people along the Right Path.

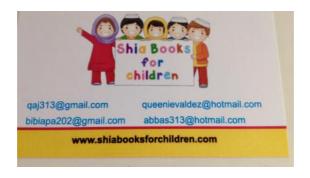
He made decisions for the greater benefit of Islam, rather than his own personal gain.



How was Imam Hasan related to the Prophet? Who are his parents? When and where was he born? Name 3 of his titles Name 2 verses where Allah praises him in the Quran. How did his life change after the Prophet? How did he help the poor? How do we know he was brave? Why was Muawiya jealous? What was the Peace Treaty? Who poisoned Imam Hasan? Why was he buried in Bagee?

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