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A Brief Introduction to the 14 Masoomeen a.s

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Our Last Prophet: Prophet Muhammad

(صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ)

Q1: What is the full name of our Last Prophet?

A: The full name of our Last Prophet is Hazrat Mohammad Mustafā s.a.w.w

Q2: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are al-Mustafa (The Chosen One), al-Amīn (The Trustworthy), and al-Sādiq (The Truthful).

Q3: Where and when was our Prophet s.a.w.w. born?

A: Our Prophet s.a.w.w. was born in Makkah al-Mukarramah on the 17th of Rabī' al-Awwal (Year of the Elephant, approx. 570 A.D.).

Q4: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: The name of his father was Hazrat Abdullah and the name of his mother was Hazrat Āmina

Q5: At what age did he officially begin his Prophethood (Nubuwwah)?

A: Our Prophet s.a.w.w. announced his prophethood at the age of forty (40), after receiving the first revelation in the Cave of Hira.

Q6: When and where did the Prophet s.a.w.w. pass away?

A: Our Prophet s.a.w.w. died on 28th Safar, 11 Hijri, in Madīna-e-Munawwarah.

Q7: Where is the auspicious tomb of our Prophet s.a.w.w. located?

A: The auspicious tomb of our Prophet s.a.w.w. is in al-Masjid an-Nabawī (Prophet's Mosque) in Madīna-e-Munawwarah.

Q8: What should we do when we hear or speak the name of our Prophet s.a.w.w.?

A: When we hear or call the name of our Prophet s.a.w.w., we should recite Salawāt (Durood): 'May God bestow peace on Mohammed and his progeny.'



Our First Imam: Imam Ali (عليه السلام)

(The Commander of the Faithful)

Q1: What is the full name of our First Imam?

A: His name is Ali ibn Abi Talib عليه السلام

Q2: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are Amīr al-Mu'minīn (Commander of the Faithful), al-Murtadā (The Chosen One), and Abu Turab (Father of Dust). He is also the father of al-Hasanayn (Imam Hasan and Imam Husayn).

Q3: Where and when was Imam Ali a.s born?

A: Our Imam a.s was born inside the Holy Kaaba in Mecca on 13th Rajab, approximately 30 years after the Year of the Elephant.

Q4: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: The name of his father was Hazrat Abu Talib a.s and the name of his mother was Hazrat Fatimah bint Asad سلام الله عليها.

Q5: What was his relationship with the Holy Prophet S.A.W.W.?

A: He was the Prophet's first cousin, and later became his son-in-law by marrying his daughter, Hazrat Fatimah al-Zahra s.a .

Q6: At what age and how was Imam Ali a.s martyred?

A: He was martyred at the age of 63 in Kufa on 21st Ramadhan 40 A.H., after being struck by the poisoned sword of an assassin, Ibn Muljam, during the Fajr prayer.

Q7: Where is the auspicious tomb of Imam Ali a.s located?

A: The holy shrine of our First Imam a.s is in Najaf al-Ashraf, Iraq.

Imam Ali a.s The Criterion

Q8: What is one of the most significant sayings (Hadith) of the Holy Prophet s.a.w.w regarding the love for Imam Ali a.s ?

A: The Holy Prophet a.s.w.w said: "O Ali! A believer will not but love you, and a hypocrite will not but hate you." (يا علي! لا يُحِبُّكَ إِلَّا مُؤْمِنٌ وَلَا يُبْغِضُكَ إِلَّا مُنَافِقٌ))

Q9: According to this Hadith, what is the sign of a true believer (Momin)?

A: The sign of a true believer is sincere love and affection for Imam Ali a.s.

Q10: What is the sign of a hypocrite (Munafiq)?

A: The sign of a hypocrite is hatred or enmity towards Imam Ali a.s.

Q11: What role does the love or hatred of Imam Ali a.s play?

A: The love or hatred of Imam Ali a.s serves as a Criterion (M'i'yār/Fariqah) to distinguish a true believer from a hypocrite.

Our Lady of Light: Hazrat Fatimah al-Zahra

The Leader of the Women of Paradise)

Q1: What is the full name of the Holy Prophet's daughter?

A: Her name is Fatimah bint Muhammad.

Q2: What are her most famous titles and epithets?

A: Her famous titles are al-Zahra (The Luminous/Radiant One), al-Siddiqa (The Truthful), al-Tahira (The Pure), and Sayyidatun Nisā al-'Ālamīn (Leader of the Women of the Worlds).

Q3: Where and when was she born?

A: She was born in Mecca on the 20th of Jamadi al-Thani, five years before the Holy Prophet's s.a.w.w migration to Medina.

Q4: What were the names of her father and mother?

A: Her father was the Holy Prophet, Hazrat Muhammad al-Mustafa and her mother was Hazrat Khadijah bint Khuwaylid.

Q5: Who was she married to, and what were the names of her famous children?

A: She was married to Imam Ali a.s Her children are the Second and Third Imams: Imam Hasan a.s and Imam Husayn a.s and her daughters Zainab a.s and Umm Kulthum a.s

Q6: How long did she live after the passing of her father, the Holy Prophet s.a.w.w?

A: She lived for a very short period after her father's passing, approximately 75 or 95 days.

Q7: Where is her burial place (tomb) believed to be?

A: Her exact burial place is unknown. It is widely believed to be either in Jannat al-Baqi', or inside her house (which is now part of the Prophet's Mosque), or in the area between the tomb and the pulpit of the Holy Prophet, known as al-Rawdah al-Shareefah.

Q8: What did the Holy Prophet s.a.w.w say about her?

A: The Holy Prophet s.a.w.w said: "Fatimah is a part of me; whoever pleases her has pleased me, and whoever angers her has angered me."

Ayyam-e-Fatimiya: Commemorating the Martyrdom of Hazrat Fatima Zahra (sa)

Ayyam-e-Fatimiya refers to the days when Muslims, especially Shia Muslims, observe and mourn the martyrdom of Lady Fatima Zahra (sa), the beloved daughter of Prophet Muhammad (saw). It is a period of deep sorrow and remembrance.

There are two reported dates for her martyrdom in different historical accounts: *13th of Jumada al-Awwal *3rd of Jumada al-Thani Due to the two reported dates, Majalis (mourning gatherings) are often held on and between the two dates, covering the entire period of Ayyam-e-Fatimiya.

Activities During Ayyam-e-Fatimiya: During this time, people hold gatherings and programs to reflect upon and remember her:

- ✓ Life Story
- ✓ Noble Character
- ✓ Patience and Resilience
- ✓ Difficulties she endured.

It is a time for mourning, reflection, and learning to implement her teachings in daily life.

Our Second Imam Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba

Q: What is the full name of our Second Imam?

A: His name is Hasan ibn Ali as

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Mujtaba (The Chosen One).

Q: Where and when was Imam Hasan as born?

A: He was born in Medina on the 15th of Ramadhan 3 A.H. (After Hijra).

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Imam Ali as and his mother was Hazrat Fatima Zahra sa.

Q: What was the significance of the peace treaty he signed?

A: He signed a difficult peace treaty with Mu'awiya to safeguard the lives of Muslims and preserve the foundations of Islam, thereby fulfilling a crucial duty of his Imamah.

Q: how was Imam Hassan a.s martyred?

A: He was martyred in Medina on 28th Safar 50 A.H. due to poison administered by his wife, Ja'da bint Ash'ath.

Q: Where is his auspicious tomb located?

A: His holy shrine is in the graveyard of Jannat al-Baqi' in Medina al-Munawwara.

Q: What is the full name of our Third Imam?

A: His name is Husayn ibn Ali as

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is Sayyid al-Shuhada (Leader of the Martyrs).

Q: Where and when was Imam Husayn as born?

A: He was born in Medina on the 3rd of Sha'bān 4 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Imam Ali as and his mother was Hazrat Fatima Zahra sa.

Q: What famous saying of the Prophet s.a.w.w is related to him and his brother?

A: The Prophet s.a.w.w said: "Hasan and Husayn are the masters of the youth of Paradise."

Q: Why is Imam Husayn as known as the Saviour of Islam?

A: He is known as such because he made the ultimate sacrifice in Karbala to reject oppression (zulm) and uphold the true principles of Islam against deviation.

Q: When and where was the tragedy of his martyrdom (Ashura) observed?

A: He was martyred in the plains of Karbala, Iraq, on 10th Muharram 61 A.H.

Q: Where is the auspicious tomb of Imam Husayn as located?

A: His holy shrine is in Karbala al-Mu'alla, Iraq.

Our Fourth Imam: Imam Ali Zayn al-Abidin as (The Ornament of the Worshippers)

Q: What is the full name of our Fourth Imam?

A: His name is Ali ibn Husayn as.

Q: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are Zayn al-Abidin (The Ornament of the Worshippers) and al-Sajjad (The One Who Prostrates Continuously).

Q: Where and when was Imam Zayn al-Abidin as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 5th Sha'bān 38 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was the Third Imam, Hazrat Imam Husayn as and his mother was Hazrat Shaharbānū sa.

Q: What was his role in the Tragedy of Karbala?

A: He was the only surviving male member of Imam Husayn's immediate family at Karbala, as he was severely ill. His survival ensured the continuity of the Imamate and he became the spokesperson for the captives after Ashura.

Q: What is his famous compilation of supplications (Dua's) known as?

A: His famous book of prayers and spiritual teachings is known as al-Sahifah al-Sajjadiyyah (The Psalms of Islam).

Q: Where was Imam Zayn al-Abidin as martyred ?

A: He was martyred in Medina on 25th Muharram 95 A.H. due to poison administered by the Umayyad ruler.

Q: Where is his auspicious tomb located?

A: His holy shrine is in the graveyard of Jannat al-Baqi' in Medina al-Munawwara.



Our Fifth Imam: Imam Muhammad al-Baqir as (The Splitter of Knowledge)

Q: What is the full name of our Fifth Imam?

A: His name is Muhammad ibn Ali as.

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Baqir (The Splitter/Expounder of Knowledge), due to his vast knowledge and establishment of the first theological and juridical schools.

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Baqir as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 1st Rajab 57 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was the Fifth Imam, Hazrat Imam zaynul abideen as and his mother was Hazrat Fatima bint Imam Hassan sa.

Q: What is unique about his lineage among the Imams?

A: He is the only Imam whose lineage goes back to the Holy Prophet s.a.w.w through both his father and his mother, as his father was Imam Zayn al-Abidin as and his mother was the daughter of Imam Hasan as.

Q: Did he witness the Tragedy of Karbala?

A: Yes, he was present in Karbala as a young child (around three or four years old) and witnessed the events alongside his father, Imam Zayn al-Abidin as.

Q: What was the main focus of his Imamat?

A: His era marked the beginning of the flourishing of Shia jurisprudence and sciences. He spent his time teaching and nurturing scholars, which paved the way for the vast school of his son, Imam al-Sadiq as.

Q: Where was Imam al-Baqir as Martyred, and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Medina around 7th Dhu al-Hijjah 114 A.H. His holy shrine is in the graveyard of Jannat al-Baqi', alongside his father and grandfather.

Our Sixth Imam: Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq as (The Truthful)

Q: What is the full name of our Sixth Imam?

A: His name is Ja'far ibn Muhammad as.

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Sadiq (The Truthful), due to his profound honesty and truthfulness.

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Sadiq as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 17th Rabi' al-Awwal 83 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Baqir as and his mother was Hazrat Umme Farwa sa.

Q: What was the main characteristic of his era?

A: His era coincided with the collapse of the Umayyad dynasty and the rise of the Abbasid dynasty. This political instability provided a golden opportunity for the expansion of knowledge and teachings of the Ahlul Bayt.

Q: How influential was his school of thought (Madrasa)?

A: He is the founder and intellectual giant of the Shia school of thought (Fiqh), which is why the Shia are sometimes called Ja'fari. His lectures attracted thousands of students and scholars, including the founders of other major Sunni schools, like Malik ibn Anas and Abu Hanifa.

Q: What famous scientific knowledge did he teach?

A: He taught various sciences, including Islamic jurisprudence (Fiqh), theology (Kalam), and even chemistry, with his famous student being the father of chemistry, Jabir ibn Hayyan.

Q: Where was Imam al-Sadiq as martyred, and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Medina on 25th Shawwal 148 A.H. due to poison. His holy shrine is in the graveyard of Jannat al-Baqi', alongside his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Our Seventh Imam: Imam Musa al-Kazim as (The Patient/Restrainer of Anger)

Q: What is the full name of our Seventh Imam?

A: His name is Musa ibn Ja'far as.

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Kazim (The Patient/Restrainer of Anger), earned due to his extreme patience and forbearance despite the continuous persecution he faced.

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Kazim as born?

A: He was born in al-Abwā' (a place between Mecca and Medina) in 128 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Sadiq as and his mother was Hazrat Hameeda barbariyya sa.

Q: What was the political environment during his Imamat?

A: His Imamat was during the height of the Abbasid Caliphate's power, specifically under the ruthless rule of the Caliphs al-Mahdi, al-Hadi, and Harun al-Rashid. This led to extreme restrictions and surveillance on the Imam.

Q: What is he most renowned for during his time?

A: He is renowned for his prolonged periods of imprisonment under Harun al-Rashid. He spent many years in various dungeons, where he maintained his devotion and worship.

Q: What is a famous saying or teaching attributed to him?

A: He taught: "Try to divide your time into four parts: A part for supplicating to God, a part for earning a living, a part for mixing with brethren and trustworthy friends, and a part for enjoying lawful pleasure."

Q: Where was Imam al-Kazim as Martyred, and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in the prison of Baghdad on 25th Rajab 183 A.H. due to poison. His holy shrine is in al-Kazimiyya, Iraq, which is a joint shrine with his grandson, Imam Muhammad al-Taqi as.



Our Eighth Imam: Imam Ali al-Rida as (The Pleasing One)

Q: What is the full name of our Eighth Imam?

A: His name is Ali ibn Musa as.

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Rida (The Pleasing One), because he was pleasing to both God and His Prophet s.a.w.w and was accepted by friends and foes alike.

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Rida as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 11th Dhu al-Qa'dah 148 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Musa Kazim as and his mother was Hazrat Najma Khatoon sa.

Q: What unique political event defined his Imamate?

A: The Abbasid Caliph al-Ma'mun unexpectedly summoned him from Medina to Marw (in modern-day Turkmenistan/Iran) and appointed him as his Crown Prince (Wali al-Ahd), a position the Imam as reluctantly accepted under duress, but on the condition that he would not interfere in state affairs.

Q: What were the famous sessions held in Marw?

A: Al-Ma'mun organized major debate sessions between Imam al-Rida as and scholars of various religions and sects (such as Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians). The Imam's as profound intellectual dominance in these debates further established the truth of the Ahlul Bayt's as teachings.

Q: What advice did he give about travelling for knowledge?

A: He is quoted as saying: "God shows mercy to a person who keeps alive our Command (Amr)." When asked how, he replied: "He learns our knowledge and teaches it to others."

Q: Where was Imam al-Rida as Martyred, and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Tus (modern-day Mashhad), Iran, on 17th Safar 203 A.H. due to poison administered by al-Ma'mun. His holy shrine in Mashhad al-Muqaddas is one of the largest pilgrimage centers today.

Our Ninth Imam: Imam Muhammad al-Taqi as (The Pious/The Generous)

Q: What is the full name of our Ninth Imam?

A: His name is Muhammad ibn Ali as.

Q: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are al-Taqi (The Pious) and al-Jawad (The Generous).

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Taqi as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 10th Rajab 195 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Ali Raza as and his mother was Hazrat Sabeeka khatoon sa.

Q: What is unique about his Imamat?

A: He assumed the responsibilities of the Imamat at a very young age (around 8 years old) after the martyrdom of his father, Imam al-Rida as. This demonstrated that spiritual leadership (Imamat) is based on Divine selection and wisdom, not physical age.

Q: Who forced him to relocate from Medina, and why?

A: The Abbasid Caliph al-Ma'mun forced him to move to Baghdad and married him to his daughter, Umm al-Fadl. This was a political strategy by the Caliph to keep the young Imam under close watch and control the influence of the Ahlul Bayt.

Q: What were his famous characteristics and teachings?

A: He was known for his profound wisdom, generosity (Jawad), and his ability to answer complex legal and theological questions posed by scholars, often exposing the ignorance of his opponents.

Q: Where was Imam al-Taqi as martyred and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Baghdad on 29th Dhu al-Qa'dah 220 A.H. due to poison administered by his wife, Umm al-Fadl, on the orders of the Caliph Mu'tasim. His holy shrine is in al-Kazimiyya, Iraq, alongside his grandfather, Imam Musa al-Kazim as.

Our Tenth Imam: Imam Ali al-Naqi as

(The Pure/The Guide)

Q: What is the full name of our Tenth Imam?

A: His name is Ali ibn Muhammad as.

Q: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are al-Naqi (The Pure) and al-Hadi (The Guide).

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Hadi as born?

A: He was born in Suryā (a village near Medina) on 15th Dhu al-Hijjah 212 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Muhammad Taqi as and his mother was Hazrat Samana khatoon sa.

Q: What is significant about the start of his Imamatus?

A: He assumed the Imamatus at a very young age (around 8 years old) after the martyrdom of his father, Imam al-Jawad as. He also holds the distinction of having the longest period of Imamatus among the Imams, spanning 34 years.

Q: Which city is highly associated with his Imamatus?

A: The Abbasid Caliph al-Mutawakkil forced him to move from Medina to Sāmarra (Iraq), which was the military capital of the Abbasids at that time. He spent the last twenty years of his life there under surveillance.

Q: What famous work of Ziyarah (salutation) is attributed to him?

A: The Ziyarat Jami'a Kabira is attributed to him. It is a profound text that articulates the lofty status and theological position of the Imams of Ahlul Bayt as.

Q: Where was Imam al-Hadi as Martyred and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Sāmarra, Iraq, on 3rd Rajab 254 A.H. due to poison administered by the Caliph al-Mu'tazz. His holy shrine is in Sāmarra, which he shares with his son, Imam Hasan al-Askari as.

Our Eleventh Imam: Imam Hasan al-Askari as (The Military Resident)

Q: What is the full name of our Eleventh Imam?

A: His name is Hasan ibn Ali as.

Q: What is his most famous title?

A: His most famous title is al-Askari (The Military Resident), as he was forced to live in the Abbasid military camp city of Sāmarra, Iraq, under strict surveillance.

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Askari as born?

A: He was born in Medina al-Munawwara on 8th Rabi' al-Thani 232 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Ali Naqi as and his mother was Hazrat Hadeesa khatoon sa.

Q: What characterized the political environment during his Imamat?

A: His period was one of the most restrictive for the Imams. He was kept almost continuously under house arrest in Sāmarra to prevent his followers from meeting him, especially due to the Abbasids' knowledge of traditions predicting the birth of the Twelfth Imam from his lineage.

Q: What was his primary method of communication with his followers?

A: Due to the extreme restrictions, he communicated with his followers through a sophisticated network of trusted agents and representatives (Wukalā') who carried messages, funds, and religious instructions.

Q: What is his most significant contribution to the chain of Imamat?

A: His greatest contribution was being the father of the Twelfth and Final Imam, Hazrat Imam al-Mahdi as. He took great precautions to keep the birth of his son secret from the Abbasid authorities.

Q: Where was Imam al-Askari as Martyred and where is he buried?

A: He was martyred in Sāmarra, Iraq, on 8th Rabi' al-Awwal 260 A.H. due to poison administered by the Caliph al-Mu'tamid. His holy shrine is in Sāmarra, alongside his father, Imam Ali al-Hadi as.

Our Twelfth and Final Imam: Imam Muhammad al-Mahdi (The Awaited/The Guided One)

Q: What is the full name of our Twelfth Imam?

A: His name is Muhammad ibn al-Hasan as.

Q: What are his most famous titles?

A: His most famous titles are al-Mahdi (The Guided One), al-Qa'im (The Riser), al-Hujjah (The Proof of God), and Sahib al-Zaman (Master of the Age).

Q: Where and when was Imam al-Mahdi as born?

A: He was born in Sāmarra, Iraq, on 15th Sha'bān 255 A.H.

Q: What were the names of his father and mother?

A: His father was Hazrat Imam Hassan Askari as and his mother was Hazrat Narjis khatoon sa.

Q: What is the unique state associated with him in the current era?

A: He is currently in a state of Ghaybah (Occultation or Concealment).

Ghaybah Sughra (Minor Occultation): Lasted about 70 years (260 A.H. - 329 A.H.).

Ghaybah Kubra (Major Occultation): Began in 329 A.H. and continues to this day.

Q: What is the purpose of the Occultation (Ghaybah)?

A: The primary purpose is to protect the Imam from the oppression of tyrants and to allow him to reappear at the divinely appointed time when the world is fully prepared for global justice.

Q: What is his mission upon Reappearance (Zuhūr)?

A: Upon his reappearance, his mission will be to fill the earth with justice and equity as it will have been filled with oppression and tyranny, thereby fulfilling the ultimate Divine promise.

Q: What is the duty of the believers during the Major Occultation?

A: The duty of believers includes patiently awaiting his return (Intizār al-Faraj), practicing piety and virtue, praying for his safety, and preparing themselves for his cause.

Q: Where will Imam al-Mahdi as reappear?

A: He will reappear at the Holy Kaaba in Mecca al-Mukarramah, and his final gathering place will be Kufa, Iraq.

Thank You