

THE SACRED MONTH OF MUHARRAM

Free information and worksheet pack

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WHAT IS Muharram?

Muharram is...

The first month of the hijri calendar

One of the four sacred months

A month with special virtues

What is the Hijri Calendar?

As Muslims we have our own calendar that is very important to us and our religion. It is a lunar calendar and is different to the solar calendar that is often used to date events.

Allah revealed this verse about the Islamic calendar

إِنَّ عِدَّةَ الشُّهُورِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حُرُمٌ

Verily, the number of months with Allâh is twelve months (in a year), so was it ordained by Allâh on the Day when He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are Sacred, (i.e. the 1st, the 7th, the 11th and the 12th months of the Islâmîc calendar).

Surah at-Towbah 9:36

THE Sacred Months

There are 4 sacred months

①	المُحَرَّم Muharram	⑦	رَجَب Rajab
2	صَفَر Safar	8	شَعْبَانَ Sha'baan
3	رَبِيعُ الْأَوَّلِ Ar-Rabee' al-Awwal	9	رَمَضَانَ Ramadhaan
4	رَبِيعُ الْآخِرِ Ar-Rabee' Ath-Thani	10	شَوَّالٍ Shawwaal
5	جُمَادَى الْأُولَى Jumaadaa Al-'Ulaa	⑪	ذُو الْقَعْدَةِ Thul-Qi'dah
6	جُمَادَى الْآخِرَةِ Jumaadaa al-Aakhirah	⑫	ذُو الْحِجَّةِ Thul-Hijjah

What makes them special and sacred?

Good deeds are worth more

The reward is greater for good deeds in these 4 months.

Bad acts are especially forbidden

We must not do bad deeds at any time but be extra careful during these months,

The Muslim army does not attack in these months

The Muslim state army does not plan to fight in these months but can defend itself when attacked.

VIRTUES of Muharram

The best fast after Ramadhaan

Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه said: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: “The best fast after Ramadhaan is in the month of Allah al-Muharram.” (Muslim 1982)

It contains the Day of Ashoorah

When the Messenger ﷺ arrived in Madeenah, he found the Jews fasting on this day of Ashoorah, so he said to them: “What is this fasting of yours?” They said: “It was the day Allaah gave victory to Moosa and his people and humiliated pharaoh and his people. Indeed, Moosaa fasted on this Day, so we also fast. So the Messenger ﷺ said: We have more right to (follow) Moosaa than you.” (Bukhari 4680)

On the authority of Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه that the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ fasted the day of Ashoorah, and he ordered for it to be fasted.’ (Bukhari 3942 and Muslim)

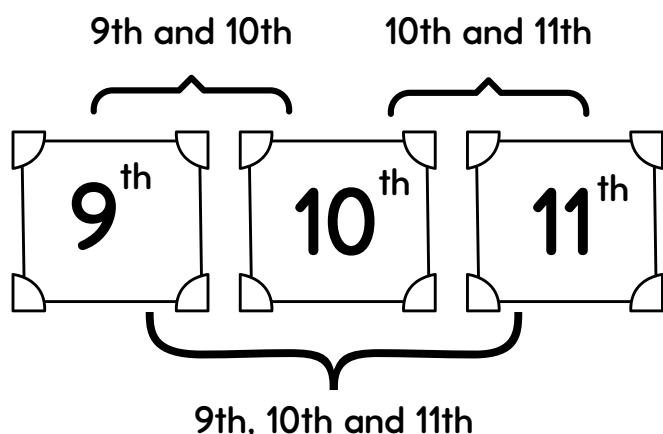
The sins from the previous year are expiated by fasting Ashoorah

The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ said: The fast of the day of Ashoorah, I hope [in anticipation of reward] from Allaah that it expiates [the sins of] the year which preceded it. (Muslim 2738)

HOW DO WE FAST

The Day of Ashoorah?

When the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ fasted the day of Ashoorah and commanded with fasting it, they said: "O Messenger of Allaah! It is indeed a day that is venerated by the Jews and the Christians." So the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ said: So when it is the following year, if Allaah wills, we shall fast the ninth day. He said: "So the following year did not come until the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ had died." Muslim



There are several ways of fasting the day of Ashoorah. Some have more reward than others.

The scholars have mentioned different ways of fasting Ashoorah. If you are fasting only 2 days, the 9th and 10th is best.

Best

9th, 10th and 11th

9th, 10th

10th and 11th

10th

What happened on THE DAY OF ASHOORAH?

In the month of Muharram Musa عليه السلام and his people were saved from Pharoah and his army. Allah سبحانه و تعالى had sent him with clear evidences and proofs that he was a Prophet but the Pharoah was arrogant and proud and claimed, "I am your lord, most high" [An-Naazi'aat:24]. Musa عليه السلام came to him with great signs and called him to tawhid, to the tawhid of the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth yet Pharoah arrogantly said, "And what is the Lord of the 'Alamin (mankind, jinns and all that exists)?" [Ash-Shu'ara:23].

Musa عليه السلام responded, "Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between them, if you seek to be convinced with certainty." [Ash-Shu'ara:24]. And so Pharoah mocked and dismissed Musa's statement عليه السلام by saying to those around, "Do you not hear (what he says)?" [Ash-Shu'ara:25]. So Musa عليه السلام reminded them and warned them further and said, "Your Lord and the Lord of your ancient fathers!" [Ash-Shu'ara:26]. Left speechless Pharoah then replied with a false claim, a lie, "Verily, your Messenger who has been sent to you is a madman!" [Ash-Shu'ara:27]. He continued to threaten Musa عليه السلام and said, "If you choose an ilah (god) other than me, I will certainly put you among the prisoners." [Ash-Shu'ara:29]. He tried to frighten Musa عليه السلام by mentioning his many prisoners.

What happened on THE DAY OF ASHOORAH?

However Musa عليه السلام continued to present the clear proofs until Pharoah said to him, "Have you come to drive us out of our land with your magic, O Musa (Moses)? "Then verily, we can produce magic the like thereof; so appoint a meeting between us and you, which neither we, nor you shall fail to keep, in an open wide place where both shall have a just and equal chance (and beholders could witness the competition)."[At-Taha: 57-58]

And when Pharoah came with his magicians Musa عليه السلام warned them and said, "Woe unto you! Invent not a lie against Allah, lest He should destroy you completely by a torment. And surely, he who invents a lie (against Allah) will fail miserably." [At-Taha: 61]. "Musa (Moses) said to them: "Throw what you are going to throw!" So they threw their ropes and their sticks, and said: "By the might of Fir'aun (Pharaoh), it is we who will certainly win!" Then Musa (Moses) threw his stick, and behold, it swallowed up all the falsehoods which they showed!" [Ash-Shu'ara: 43-45] And so the magicians repented and believed, "And the sorcerers fell down prostrate. Saying: "We believe in the Lord of the 'Alamin (mankind, jinns and all that exists)" [Ash-Shu'ara: 46-47].

What happened on THE DAY OF ASHOORAH?

Pharoah continued his actions and Allah stated, "So when they angered Us, We punished them, and drowned them all. And We made them a precedent (as a lesson for those coming after them), and an example to later generations" [Az-Zukhruf: 55-56]. Then Allah commanded Musa, "And indeed We inspired Musa (Moses) (saying): "Travel by night with Ibadi (My slaves) and strike a dry path for them in the sea, fearing neither to be overtaken [by Fir'aun (Pharaoh)] .[nor being afraid (of drowning in the sea)."[At-Taha: 77

So Musa عليه السلام and his people exited and Pharoah was in pursuit, until they arrived at the Red Sea, Pharoah behind them and the Sea in front of them and "the companions of Musa (Moses) said: "We are sure to be overtaken." [Ash-Shu'ara: 61]. Musa عليه السلام replied, "Nay, verily! With me is my Lord, He will guide me." [Ash-Shu'ara: 62] That was the eemaan and certainty of Musa عليه السلام. Allah inspired Musa عليه السلام to hit the Sea with his stick and it opened into 12 pathways and so they entered and crossed with the water holding like mountains as they walked upon the dry pathways.

What happened on THE DAY OF ASHOORAH?

Pharoah upon seeing that quickly chased them however when he entered the sea the mountains of water collapsed upon him, "And We took the Children of Israel across the sea, and Fir'aun (Pharaoh) with his hosts followed them in oppression and enmity, till when drowning overtook him, he said: "I believe that La ilaha illa (Huwa): (none has the right to be worshipped but) He," in Whom the Children of Israel believe, and I am one of the Muslims (those who submit to Allah's Will)." So it was said to him, "Now (you believe) while you refused to believe before and you were one of the Mufsidun (evil-doers, corrupts, etc.). So this day We shall deliver your (dead) body (out from the sea) that you may be a sign to those who come after you! And verily, many among mankind are heedless of Our Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs , revelations, etc.)" [Yunus: 90-92]

عاشوراء

TRUE OR FALSE?

Colour the true statements green and the false statements red.

Muharram is one of the 4 sacred months

The Islamic Calendar is a solar calendar

Muharram is the 12th month

Allah saved Musa's people from Firawn on Ashoorah

The Christians fast on the 10th Muharram

It is better to fast the day before or the day after with the day of Ashoorah.

The best fast after Ramadan is in Muharram

Fasting Ashoorah expiates sins of the past year

THE 10 FACTS

Ashoorah Challenge

Write down 10 short facts you have learnt about the Day of Ashoorah and the month of Muharram.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

A-MAZE-ING FACTS

about The Month of Muharram

It is a sacred month

True →

False →

It is the second month of the Hijri calendar

True →

False →

The Day of Ashoorah is the 10th of Muharram

True →

False →

Firawn accepted Musa's message from Allah

True →

False →

The magicians believed in Allah when they saw the signs

True →

False →

The sea parted for Musa's people on the Day of Ashoorah

True →

False →

Muharram is the best month to fast after Ramadan

True →

False →

There are 3 sacred months

True →

False →

THE PROPHET MUSA

موسى

عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

His brother was called

He was also a

Who was Musa عليه السلام sent to call to Islam?

What happened to the sea when Musa عليه السلام reached it with his people?

When the magicians were shown Musa's great signs from Allah they...

laughed.

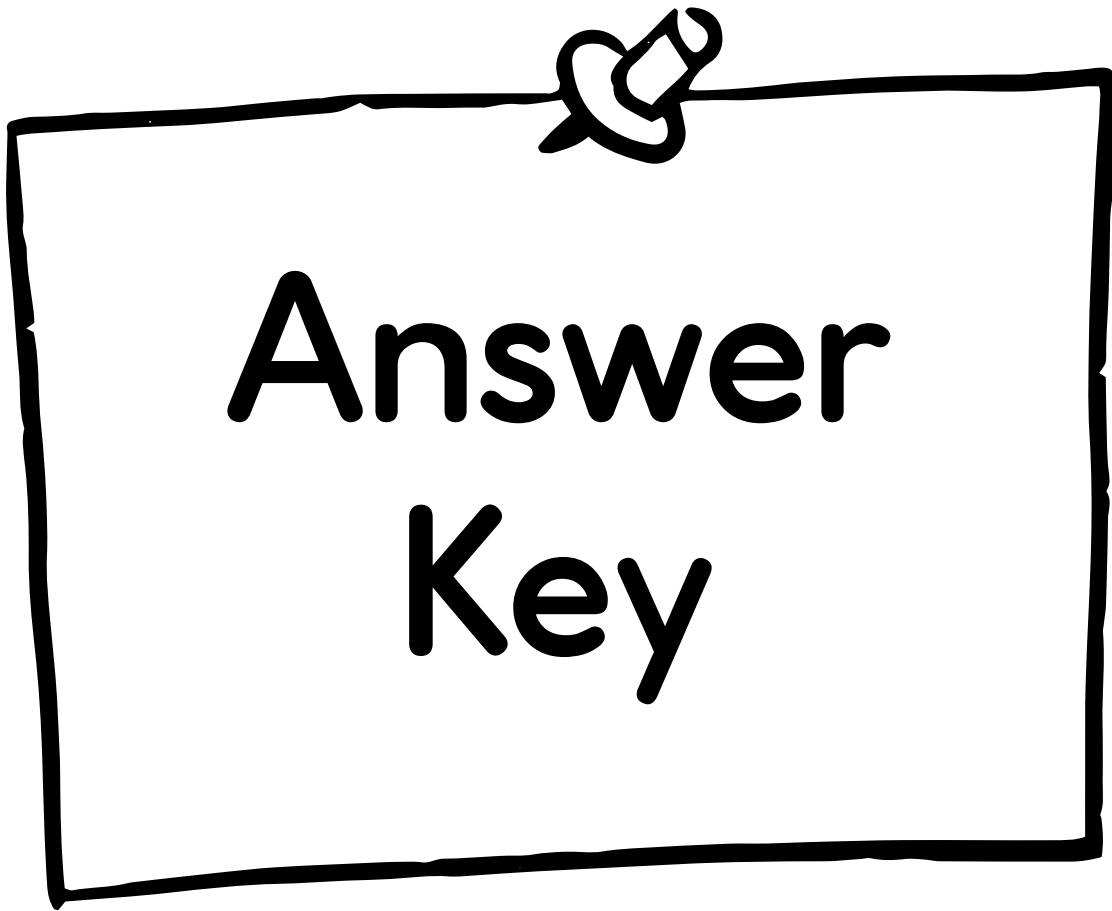
believed in Allah.

When Musa's people were being chased he was...

sure Allah would help them.

afraid they would die.

What characteristic of Musa عليه السلام do you most want to copy?



Answer Key

TRUE OR FALSE?

Colour the true statements green and the false statements red.

Muharram is one of the 4 sacred months

The Islamic Calendar is a solar calendar

Muharram is the 12th month

Allah saved Musa's people from Firawn on Ashoorah

The Christians fast on the 10th Muharram

It is better to fast the day before or the day after with the day of Ashoorah.

The best fast after Ramadan is in Muharram

Fasting Ashoorah expiates sins of the past year

A-MAZE-ING FACTS

about The Month of Muharram

The maze contains the following facts and their corresponding paths:

- Path 1 (Orange):** Starts at "It is a sacred month", goes to "True".
- Path 2 (Green):** Starts at "The Day of Ashoorah is the 10th of Muharram", goes to "True".
- Path 3 (Blue):** Starts at "The magicians believed in Allah when they saw the signs", goes to "True".
- Path 4 (Purple):** Starts at "The sea parted for Musa's people on the Day of Ashoorah", goes to "True".
- Path 5 (Pink):** Starts at "Muharram is the best month to fast after Ramadan", goes to "True".
- Path 6 (Red):** Starts at "There are 3 sacred months", goes to "True".
- Path 7 (Orange):** Starts at "It is the second month of the Hijri calendar", goes to "False".
- Path 8 (Green):** Starts at "Firawn accepted Musa's message from Allah", goes to "False".
- Path 9 (Blue):** Starts at "The Day of Ashoorah is the 10th of Muharram", goes to "False".
- Path 10 (Purple):** Starts at "The magicians believed in Allah when they saw the signs", goes to "False".
- Path 11 (Pink):** Starts at "Muharram is the best month to fast after Ramadan", goes to "False".
- Path 12 (Red):** Starts at "There are 3 sacred months", goes to "False".

THE PROPHET MUSA

موسى

عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

His brother was called

Harun

He was also a

prophet

Who was Musa عليه السلام sent to call to Islam?

Firawn

What happened to the sea when Musa عليه السلام reached it with his people?

It opened into 12 pathways.

When the magicians were shown Musa's great signs from Allah they...

laughed.

believed in Allah.

When Musa's people were being chased he was...

sure Allah would help them.

afraid they would die.

What characteristic of Musa عليه السلام do you most want to copy?