

Teacher's Guide

# Muharram Booklet

1441/2019



الحسين مصباح الهدى وغيتة النجاة

## Teacher's Guide

### Muharram Booklet 2019- Islamic Center of Zahra

Below is a brief reference for each of the Activity/Discussions included in the Muharram 2019 booklet. Please keep these points in mind as you conduct the activity and guide the discussion amongst your students. You may introduce these points by using stories from Karbala, asking critical thinking questions, or sharing other anecdotes. As much as possible, let the students discuss amongst themselves and come to these conclusions on their own.

#### Supplies Needed:

- Blocks (one per student)
- Scissors
- Design Scissors (<https://www.michaels.com/decorative-scissors-tub-craft-smart/10336178.html>)
- Jar or Bowl
- Glue Sticks
- Markers/crayons/colored pencils
- Construction Paper
- Notebook paper
- Dry erase markers
- Yellow and red dye
- Clear cup
- Water

#### 1. Loyalty (Lesson one, page: 3)

a. **Purpose of the Activity:** To show the strength we have when we are loyal towards a shared cause.

b. **Discussion Points:**

- i. Guide students to draw a parallel to Karbala- Yazid tried to bribe people to turn them away from their loyalty to Imam Hussain (as) in hopes that this would weaken Imam Hussain's position and help Yazid maintain power. However, because Imam Hussain was on the side of the truth (Haqq), Allah (swt) elevated the legacy of the Imam and his loyal followers.
- ii. In reference to the hadith, talk about how truth and loyalty go hand in hand. Talk about true loyalty being on the side of the truth, not just protecting blindly or for personal gain.
- iii. Talk about how if everyone who pledge support in their letters to Imam Hussain (as) had remained loyal, they would have had more power

against Yazid than they realized. We should never underestimate the collective power that we have to stand against modern day oppressors

**2. Respect (Lesson two, page: 5)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to have the students model good akhlaq when interacting each other.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Discuss the importance of respecting others and how important it is to treat others with respect in our day to day actions
- ii. Discuss the way that the several companions respected Imam Hussain (as)- by asking for permission before going to battle for example, etc.
- iii. In reference to the hadith, emphasize how important it is to treat others in a way that we would like to be treated.

**3. Truth: (Lesson three, page: 7)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to show how messages can change over time based on people's perceptions/actions, but that this does not change reality (truth)

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about how being Muslim guides us to always be on the side of the truth- it is the most important criteria in everything that we do
- ii. The people of Kufa knew that Imam Hussain (as) was the true leader of Islam, but they became tempted/scared by worldly issues.
- iii. Imam Hussain emphasized in his last sermon before the battle of Karbala that anyone from Yazid's army could join him and be forgiven for being on Yazid's side. They were encouraged to embrace the side of the truth even though they had been wrong. This anecdote supports the hadith mentioned in the discussion.

**4. Forgiveness: (Lesson four, Page: 9)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to show the students through acting out the scenario the importance of being fair and asking for forgiveness when we are wrong.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. In reference to the hadith, the importance of forgiving others should also be emphasized.
- ii. Discuss how Allah (swt) is the most forgiving and even forgave Hurr right before the battle of Karbala for joining Imam Hussain (as)

**5. Bravery: (Lesson five, Page: 11)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to show the students through the questions what values they should strive to exemplify within themselves.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about how students can find strength and bravery by seeking help from Allah (swt)
- ii. Talk about different examples of bravery from Imam Hussain (as) and his companions at Karbala.
- iii. In reference to the hadith, discuss the level of bravery that Imam Hussain and his companions must have had to endure the injustices of Yazid's army but still control their anger. A great example of this is Hazrat Abbas' bravery when trying to get water for the children.

**6. Piety: (Lesson six, page 13)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to emphasize the importance of surrounding ourselves with good influences/pious people in order to become pious ourselves.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about what students can do to build their character and becomes more pious
- ii. Talk about examples from Karbala that exemplify piety (Hadrath Qasim is one example) and how these people should be motivation for us to always strive to becomes more pious.
- iii. In reference to the hadith, talk about how we can become pious by focusing on being truthful, trustworthy, and reliable
- iv. We can make small goals or actions to help us becomes more righteous over time (for example, making a commitment to ourselves to stop one of our bad habits)

**7. Justice: (Lesson seven, page: 15)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to show that it is important to be just and fair in all of our actions.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about injustices happening in the world today so that students can acknowledge that we need justice restored in modern times just like the people at the time of Imam Hussain (as) did
- ii. Draw a parallel to Karbala and modern times- Imam Hussain was the rightful leader and was seeking to restore justice and Imam Mahdi (as) is our rightful leader and will restore justice once he reappears.
- iii. Emphasize the importance of always standing up for justice so that we can be amongst the true followers of our Imam
- iv. In reference to the hadith, talk about how part of being just is wanting for others what we would want for ourselves. Alhamdulillah we are all very blessed, but we are not deserving of more than anyone else

**8. Sacrifice: (Lesson eight, page 17)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to encourage the students to sacrifice some of what they have for the greater good and to model how important it is to give towards the needs of others.

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about how we should make sacrifices for things that are important to us- that our actions reflect more loudly than just our words. If something is important, we should be willing to give our time and resources towards it
- ii. Imam Hussain (as) brought the women and children with him to Karbala as an example. It shows how the cause of Islam and justice was worth giving up the most important things from this world.
- iii. In reference to the hadith, great sacrifices show how strong ones faith is. Imam Hussain (as) and his companions showed everyone that their faith was so strong that they were willing to give up everything that had, including the lives of their families and themselves.

**9. Compassion: (Lesson nine, page: 19)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to have the students model compassion in day to day situations that they may encounter. Encourage students to act compassionately in these situations and others as they encounter them in real life.

**b. Discussion Points:**

- i. Talk about how feeling for someone is good, but we need to show our compassion through our actions
- ii. Discuss examples of compassion from Karbala like Imam Hussain gave water to Hurr's army before Karbala, or Imam kept guiding the army of Yazid to find the truth...  
On the other side, Yazid's army did not have any mercy and compassion, they even kept the little children of Imam Hussain thirsty for 3 days.
- iii. In reference to the hadith, emphasize the importance of showing mercy, forgiving, and accepting apologies

**10. Dedication: (Lesson ten, page: 21)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to be more mindful of what is important to us and how our values as Muslims impact many of the things we are dedicated to.

**b. Discussion Points:**

- i. Emphasize the importance of dedicating ourselves to Allah (swt)
- ii. We can build our level of dedication by having good intentions and by always seeking help from Allah

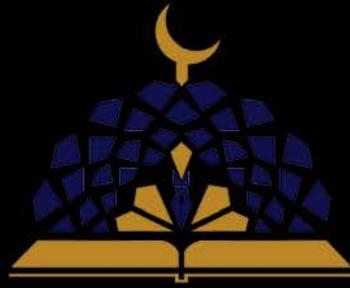
- iii. In reference to the hadith, emphasize the honor given to people that are devoted to Allah – encourage students to dedicate themselves to Allah so that they can be an example for everyone around them

**11. Patience: (Lesson eleven, page: 23)**

**a. Purpose of the Activity:** The purpose of the activity is to show the importance of being patient. Most things take time and it takes patience to see results

**b. Discussion Points**

- i. Talk about the importance of developing patience for our character
- ii. Many times it is hard to be patient, but if we have Tawakkul (trust in Allah), it will help us be more patient
- iii. In reference to the hadith, patience is important for becoming more wise and building good character and Allah (swt) rewards the ones who are patient in their struggles



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