

AT-TURATH ACADEMY OF QURAN

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Twelve Months of the Islamic Year and the Special Month of Muharram

A Story for Children

One sunny afternoon, a young boy named Yusuf sat beside his grandfather after Asr prayer.

“Grandpa,” Yusuf asked, “why do Muslims have different months from the calendar we use in school?”

Grandfather smiled and said, “That is because Muslims have a special calendar called the Islamic Calendar or Hijri Calendar. It follows the moon, and every Muslim should know its twelve months.”

Yusuf became excited. “Can you teach me all the months?”

“Of course!” said Grandpa.

The Twelve Months of the Islamic Year

Grandpa took a notebook and wrote:

1. **Muharram**
2. **Safar**
3. **Rabi' al-Awwal**
4. **Rabi' al-Thani**
5. **Jumada al-Ula**
6. **Jumada al-Akhirah**
7. **Rajab**
8. **Sha'ban**
9. **Ramadan**
10. **Shawwal**
11. **Dhul-Qa'dah**
12. **Dhul-Hijjah**

“Wow!” said Yusuf. “That's a lot of names!”

Grandpa laughed. “Just as you know January, February, and March, a Muslim should also know the Islamic months.”

Four Special Sacred Months

"Did you know," Grandpa continued, "that Allah made four months especially sacred?"

Yusuf shook his head. Grandpa said: "The sacred months are:"

- Muharram
- Rajab
- Dhul-Qa'dah
- Dhul-Hijjah

"During these months, Muslims should be even more careful to avoid sins and increase good deeds."

Yusuf nodded seriously. "So if someone is kind and obedient during these months, Allah rewards them greatly?"

"Exactly," said Grandpa.

The Arrival of Muharram

A few days later, the moon of Muharram appeared.

Yusuf ran to his grandfather. "Grandpa! Muharram has started!"

Grandpa smiled. "Do you know something amazing about Muharram?"

"What?"

"It is the first month of the Islamic year."

"So it's like our Islamic New Year?"

"Yes," said Grandpa.

Why Is Muharram Important?

Grandpa explained: "Muharram is one of the sacred months chosen by Allah. The Prophet ﷺ called it:"

"The Month of Allah — Muharram."

This shows its great honor and importance. Yusuf listened carefully.

The Story of Prophet Musa (AS)

"Grandpa, is there any special event in Muharram?"

"Yes," replied Grandpa. "Let me tell you a beautiful story."

Long ago, the cruel king Fir'awn (Pharaoh) ruled Egypt. He was arrogant and oppressed the believers.

Allah sent Prophet Musa (AS) to guide him. But Pharaoh refused.

One day Allah commanded Musa (AS) and the believers to leave Egypt. When they reached the sea, they became frightened. Behind them was Pharaoh's huge army. In front of them was the sea.

The believers cried: "We are trapped!"

But Prophet Musa (AS) said:

"No! My Lord is with me. He will guide me."

Allah then commanded Musa (AS) to strike the sea with his staff. Suddenly the sea split into giant pathways! The believers crossed safely.

When Pharaoh and his army followed, the sea closed over them and they drowned. Allah saved Musa (AS) and the believers.

The Day of Ashura

Grandpa continued: "The day Allah saved Musa (AS) was the 10th of Muharram, known as Ashura."

"When the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ came to Madinah, he found people fasting on this day."

"They said, 'This is the day Allah saved Musa (AS).'"

"The Prophet ﷺ said that Muslims have even more right to honor Musa (AS), so he fasted and encouraged Muslims to fast."

What Can Children Do in Muharram?

Yusuf asked, "I'm still young. What can I do?"

Grandpa replied:

1. **Learn the Islamic Months**

A Muslim should know the twelve Hijri months.

2. **Respect Sacred Times**

Avoid fighting, lying, hurting others, and disobeying parents.

3. **Increase Good Deeds**

Pray on time, read Qur'an, help family members, and be kind.

4. **Learn About the Prophets**

The story of Musa (AS) teaches us to trust Allah even in difficult times.

5. **Fast Ashura When Older**

When children become old enough, they can fast Ashura following the Sunnah.

Yusuf's Promise

That night Yusuf wrote in his diary:

*"I will learn the Islamic months.
I will remember that Muharram is a sacred month.
I will trust Allah like Prophet Musa (AS).
I will try to do more good deeds every day."*

Grandpa read it and smiled. "My dear Yusuf," he said, "a Muslim's year should begin with obedience to Allah. If the beginning is good, the rest of the year can be good too."

Yusuf looked at the moon shining in the sky and whispered:

"O Allah, make this new Islamic year a year of faith, kindness, and good deeds."

Moral of the Story

- ◆ Learn and remember the 12 Islamic months.
- ◆ Muharram is the first month of the Islamic year and one of the four sacred months.
- ◆ The Day of Ashura reminds us of Allah's help to Prophet Musa (AS).
- ◆ Trust Allah during difficulties.
- ◆ Start every new year with good deeds and obedience to Allah. ﷻ

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The Twelve Islamic Months & Muharram

Questions and Answers

Q1. What is the Islamic calendar called?

Answer: The Islamic calendar is called the Hijri Calendar.

Q2. How many months are there in the Islamic calendar?

Answer: There are twelve months in the Islamic calendar.

Q3. What is the first month of the Islamic year?

Answer: Muharram is the first month of the Islamic year.

Q4. Name the twelve Islamic months.

- 1. Muharram — 2. Safar — 3. Rabi' al-Awwal — 4. Rabi' al-Thani
- 5. Jumada al-Ula — 6. Jumada al-Akhirah — 7. Rajab — 8. Sha'ban
- 9. Ramadan — 10. Shawwal — 11. Dhul-Qa'dah — 12. Dhul-Hijjah

Q5. Which month is known as the Month of Allah?

Answer: Muharram is known as the Month of Allah.

Q6. How many sacred months are there in Islam?

Answer: There are four sacred months.

Q7. Name the four sacred months.

- Muharram, Rajab, Dhul-Qa'dah, and Dhul-Hijjah

Q8. Why is Muharram important?

Answer: Muharram is the first month of the Islamic year and one of the four sacred months.

Q9. What is the 10th day of Muharram called?

Answer: The 10th day of Muharram is called Ashura.

Q10. Which Prophet was saved by Allah on the Day of Ashura?

Answer: Allah saved Prophet Musa (AS) and the believers.

Q11. From whom did Allah save Prophet Musa (AS)?

Answer: Allah saved him from Pharaoh (Fir'awn) and his army.

Q12. What miracle did Allah perform for Prophet Musa (AS)?

Answer: Allah split the sea so that Musa (AS) and the believers could cross safely.

Q13. What happened to Pharaoh and his army?

Answer: They drowned in the sea.

Q14. What did Prophet Musa (AS) say when the believers became afraid?

Answer: He said: "Indeed, my Lord is with me; He will guide me."

Q15. What did Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم do on the Day of Ashura?

Answer: He fasted on that day and encouraged Muslims to fast.

Q16. What should Muslims do during Muharram?

Answer: They should increase good deeds, avoid sins, and remember Allah.

Q17. What can children do in Muharram?

Answer: Children can:

- Learn the Islamic months
- Read Qur'an
- Pray regularly
- Obey parents
- Be kind to others

Q18. What lesson do we learn from the story of Musa (AS)?

Answer: We learn to trust Allah in every situation.

Q19. Why should Muslims learn the Islamic months?

Answer: Because Islamic worship and important events are connected to the Hijri calendar.

Q20. What is the moral of this lesson?

Answer: A Muslim should learn the Islamic months, respect sacred times, trust Allah, and begin the new Islamic year with good deeds.

Bonus Challenge 🎮

Q: Can you say all 12 Islamic months in order without looking?

A:

Q: Which month comes after Muharram?

A: Safar

Q: Which month comes before Ramadan?

A: Sha'ban 🎮