



Chapter 4: Pearls of Guidance and Personalities of Islam

Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After reading this unit, students will be able to:

- Explain the ancestry and the blessed birth of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Sketch the childhood of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Write the teachings of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Explain the excellence and greatness of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Describe the religious services of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

Ancestry: The complete name of Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is Hussain bin Ali bin Abi Talib bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim. His father is Hazrat Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ کَرْمَانَةُ اللَّهِ وَجْهَهُ The Loin of God, and Hazrat Fatima Zahra بَنْتُ مُحَمَّدٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا bint Prophet Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is his mother. He is *Hashmi* from both of his parents and owns high excellence in status. His surname is 'Abu Abdullah', and his titles are; "رَبِيعَةُ الْبَرِّ" and "سَيِّدُ الشَّهَادَاءِ" and "سَيِّدُ شَيَّابِ أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ". At the same time, he is also remembered as 'Shaheed e Karbala' in the Muslim *Ummah*.

The Blessed Birth: Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was born in the early dates of Sha'bān in 3 or 4 A.H. at the home of Hazrat Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ کَرْمَانَةُ اللَّهِ وَجْهَهُ and Hazrat Fatima Az-Zahra رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا in Madinah. Imam Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ both strongly resembled the Prophet Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

At the birth of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ , the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ read Azaan in the right ear and Iqamat in the left. Then, on

the seventh day, he named him, ‘Hussain’. In addition, he slaughtered two sheep in his *Aqeeqa*. His head was shaved, and his hair was buried. Silver equivalent to the weight of the hair was given to charity.

The Childhood: Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ spent his childhood under the patronage of the Last Prophet Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, mother – Hazrat Fatima Zahra رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and father – Hazrat Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. His grandfather passed away when he was only six years old, and Imam Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was seven years old. Unfortunately, this grievance was not over, and his mother – Sayyida Fatima Az-Zahra رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا – the leader of all women in Paradise, also passed away just after a few months.

These two little kids used to mount on the back of the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ during prostration when he offered prayer. Prophet Muhammad خَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would prostrate for long, but never forbade them.

Likewise his brother Imam Hussain, spent his childhood with his parents and the Prophet Muhammad at home. All companions of the Holy Prophet خَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَاصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to respect him and loved him very much.

Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was highly genius and possessed a very high moral character. The following event reflects his distinguished morale; once, he along with his brother Imam Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was in a masjid. He saw that one man was offering ablution inappropriately. So he said to him, “Uncle! We are young. We are offering ablution. Please indicate if we make any mistake.” After he saw their ablution, that man realized that these youngsters offered ablution correctly. However, his ablution was incorrect. (Bihar al-anwar, Imam Majlisi, V. 43, pg. 319)



Education: Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ acquired his early education from the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and his parents. He learnt the meanings and exegesis of the Holy Quran from his parents in particular.

After the mother's death, Hazrat Ali رَكْرَمَ اللَّهُ وَجْهَهُ brought up his two sons so excellently that they will remain role model till the doomsday.

Excellence and Greatness: The most outstanding excellence of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is the birth in the house of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ What can be the higher greatness than this that his maternal grandfather was Prophet Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, and his maternal grandmother was Hazrat Khadija al Kubra رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا, his paternal grandfather was Hazrat Abu Talib bin Abdul Muttalib, his paternal grandmother was Fatima bint Asad رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا, father Hazrat Ali رَكْرَمَ اللَّهُ وَجْهَهُ – the Loin of God, mother Hazrat Fatima رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا – the leader of the women in Paradise and brother, Imam Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. The Holy Prophet ﷺ narrated several hadiths in his excellence.

The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهٖ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said that Hazrat Fatima رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا is the leader of all women in Paradise, and Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ are the leaders of all youngsters in Paradise. (Tirmizi: 3781)

مَنْ أَحَبَ الْخَسَنَ وَالْحُسَيْنَ فَقَدْ أَحَبَنِي، وَمَنْ أَبْغَضَهُمَا فَقَدْ أَبْغَضَنِي

"Anyone who loves Al-Hassan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and Al-Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ has indeed loved me, and anyone who hates them has indeed hated me." (Ibn-e-Majah: 143)



One the Holy Prophet ﷺ along with companions, was going to a feat. He saw Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه in the street of Madinah. The Holy Prophet ﷺ moved forward and stretched his hand to hold him. He moved here and there; however, the Holy Prophet ﷺ held him finally and kissing his forehead, he said:

”**حُسَيْنٌ مِّنِّي وَأَنَا مِنْ حُسَيْنٍ، أَحَبَّ اللَّهَ مَنْ أَحَبَّ حُسَيْنًا، حُسَيْنٌ سَبُطٌ مِّنَ الْأَسْبَاطِ**“ -

”Hussain رضي الله عنه is from me, and I am from Hussain رضي الله عنه. Allah loves whoever loves Hussain رضي الله عنه, Hussain رضي الله عنه is one of my grandsons.” (Ibn-e-Majah: 144)

When the Holy Prophet ﷺ fell ill in his last days in the mortal world, Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها and her two sons came to attend upon him, and she said, “O father! Please bestow something to my sons.” Then the Holy Prophet ﷺ said,

أَمَّا الْحَسَنُ فَلَهُ هَيْبَتُ وَسُودَدُ وَأَمَّا الْحُسَيْنُ فَلَهُ جُرْأَةً وَجُودُ

”We bestowed our awe and leadership to Hassan رضي الله عنه and valour and generosity to Hussain رضي الله عنه“ (Muajam Kabeer Tabarani:8/185)

To love Imam Hassan رضي الله عنه and Hussain رضي الله عنه is to love the Holy Prophet ﷺ, and to keep spite against them is to have spite with the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

Religious Services and Characteristics: Hazrat Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه rendered remarkable services for the spread of Islam and in the propagation of the Holy Quran and Sunnah. A large number of people used to gather around him when he delivered sermons on



Quran and Hadith. People would listen to him with complete attention without any movement as if birds were on their heads.

In addition, the people of Madinah would come to Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه to learn the Quranic verses and traditions of the Holy Prophet صل الله علية وآله وآصحابه وسلم. They used to consult him for various *Shariah* issues as well. Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه was a person of high moral and chaste character. He was an embodiment of piety, valour, generosity and devout prayers. He performed twenty-five pilgrimages during his life. The entire life of Hazrat Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه was a sign of praiseworthy high morals and excellent character.

Marriage and Offspring: Hazrat Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه had four wives. Following is the detail of his offspring:

Wife	Offspring
Hazrat Laila bint Abi Murrah رضي الله عنها	Hazrat Ali Akbar رضي الله عنه (who was martyred in Karbala)
Hazrat Salama (Shehrbano) رضي الله عنها	Hazrat Ali (who is famous a Zain ul Abidien) Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها
Hazrat Qadhaya رضي الله عنها	Hazrat Jafar رضي الله عنه
Hazrat Rubab bin Imrael-Qais رضي الله عنها	Hazrat Abdullah رضي الله عنه , Hazrat Ali Asghar رضي الله عنه (who was martyred in Karbala), Hazrat Sakina رضي الله عنها (who was present with Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه in Karbala)



Refusal to the pledge of Yazeed and Event of Karbala: As Yazeed seized the power, the governor of Madinahh Munawwarah, Walid bin Uqbah called upon Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ for the pledge of Yazeed, but he refused and left for Makkah. Imam رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ stayed in Makkah for four months. Meanwhile, the people of Kufa sent him letters and asked him to come to Kufa so that they could pledge allegiance to him. They wrote that there was no leader except Imam رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ beside him. They informed him that in the government of Yazeed, Islamic values and commandments have been violated. Thus, Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ sent his paternal cousin, Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ to Kufa to know the situation and the conditions there. Yazeed was informed about the arrival of Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ in Kufa. He deposed the governor of Kufa, Hazrat Noman bin Bashir رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and appointed a new governor, Ubaidullah bin Ziyad. He further ordered to kill the ambassador of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ or make him a captive.

Meanwhile, Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ had reported to Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ that the people of Kufa had pledged allegiance to him and asked him to come to Kufa. Ibne Ziyad got Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ martyred. While Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and his family left Makkah to Kufa on 8th Zilhaj, 60 A.H. After a tiresome travelling of twenty-four days, he arrived at Karbala on 6th Muharram, 61 A.H. The commander of Yazeed's Army, Umar bin Saad insisted Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ to pledge for Yazeed. This communication continued from the 2nd Muharram till the 10th Muharram. However, Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ clearly denied the pledge of Yazeed and refused to bow down to the falsehood. At last, a battle between truth and falsehood occurred on 10th Muharram,



61 A.H., in which Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was martyred along with his family and devotees in a state of hunger and thirst. Thus, in this way, Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ stood firm to uphold Deen-e-Islam and the superiority of Truth. With his great sacrifice, he set an example for the whole Muslim *Ummah*.

Resting Place: The shrine of Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه is located in 'Karbala', a famous city in Iraq. It is his last resting place.

Exercise

(A) Write down detailed answers of the following questions.

- a. What did the Holy Prophet ﷺ say about the greatness of Hazrat Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه?
 - b. What do you know about the event of Karbala? Write down a brief note on it.

(B) Write down brief answers of the following questions.

- a. Describe the ancestry of Hazrat Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه.
 - b. How did Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه correct the ablution of a man?

(C) Mark on correct answers of the following questions:

- i. The last resting place of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is:

 - a. Kufa
 - b. Basra
 - c. Karbala
 - d. Madinahh Munawwara

ii. Yazeed replaced the governor of Kufa with:

 - a. Ubaidullah bin Ziyad رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - c. Walid bin Utba رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - b. Muslim bin Aqeel رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - d. Nauman bin Bashir رَغِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

iii. The martyrdom of Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ occurred in 61 A.H.

 - a. 10 Muharram
 - c. 15 Shaban
 - b. 12 Rabi al-awwal
 - d. 10 Shawwal

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completion of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Describe the birth and ancestry of Hazrat Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Explain the characteristics, morals and greatness of Hazrat Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- Write down the religious struggle and services of Hazrat Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

Name and Ancestry: Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is known in Islamic history with his surname, ‘Abu Ubaidah’. Nevertheless, his name was Amir bin Abdullah bin Jarrah bin Hilal. He belonged to ‘Banu Fehr’, a branch of the Quraish. Nevertheless, his mother, who accepted Islam, belonged to the Banu Harith tribe. His father was killed in the Battle of Badr as an infidel. Because of the grace of Islam, he disliked adding the name of his unfaithful father to his name. With respect to his grandfather, he was referred to as Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah.

Birth: The family of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was from Makkah, where he was born in the house of Abdullah bin Jarrah Fehri after 11 years of *Aam ul Feel*. He was brought up in Makkah.

Acceptance of Islam: Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was 29 years old when the Holy Prophet ﷺ announced his prophet-hood. Despite the free environment of Makkah and the excitement of youth, when the message of Islam was brought to him by Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ he readily accepted Islam. He is ranked among the early converts after the first eight people.

Characteristics and Excellence: Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ possessed an excellent moral character. He was overwhelmed with



the fear of Allah. His nature had the immense devotion and humbleness. Valour and bravery were his inherited gifts. He would wear simple dresses and eat mere meals. He had the honour of leading the Muslim army and headship of Syria. Nevertheless, these positions did not affect his piety and simplicity. During the caliphate of Hazrat Umar رضي الله عنه, he was the leader of the Muslim army in the expedition of Syria and Palestine. Once Ameer ul Momineen, Hazrat Umar Farooq رضي الله عنه came to his camp. He found nothing except a sword and his armour (shield). Looking at this, he said, "(O Abu Ubaidah!) Keep some needful things with you." He replied, يَا مَيْرَالسُّوْمَنِينَ

—“O Ameer ul Momineen! Our existing condition (of simplicity) will lead us to luxurious living very soon.” (Musannaf Abdul Razzaq, Book Al-Jamey, Zuhd Sahaba, 11/311)

After the second conquest of Palestine, when Hazrat Umar رضي الله عنه came to Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه in the land of Palestine for a meal, he presented some pieces of dry bread dipped in water, which he was eating himself. At that time, Hazrat Umar رضي الله عنه said, “Everyone changed after coming to Syria, except Abu Ubaidah! It is only you who sustained his disposition yet. But, all praise be to Allah; still, there are some people whom (despite high position and status) wealth and treasures do not tempt.” (Sunan Abi Dawood, Kitab al-Zuhd, Hadith 115)

Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah's height was tall and thin, and his body was weak. His face was an index of weakness and simplicity. However, with his high moral character, he rendered such services to Islam that still his name is counted among the greatest military commanders of Islam.

Excellence and Greatness: The most excellent greatness of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رضي الله عنه is the glad tiding of paradise by the Holy Prophet ﷺ that he gave to ten distinguished companions in a



gathering. Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is one of them. These companions are known as 'The Ten Blessed Companions'.

Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ participated in the battle of Badr. The *Badri* companions (those who participated in the battle of Badr) are ranked highest among all the companions. The Holy Quran also praises them. Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ first migrated to Abyssinia. Later, he migrated to Madinahh. Thus, he had the honour of migrating twice for the sake of Allah.

In the 9th year after Hijrah, when some Christians came from Najran – a town in Yemen, for a debate, but surrendered and agreed to pay Jizya, they requested the Holy Prophet ﷺ, "O Prophet of Allah! We will pay whatever Jizya you would fix upon us. Please send us a trustworthy person. On this, the Holy Prophet ﷺ held the hand of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and said:

هَذَا أَمِينٌ هُنْدِ الْأُمَّةِ -

"He is trustworthy of this Ummah." (Sahih Al-Bukhari, 4380)

Religious Struggle and Services: As Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ took the lead in believing, similarly, he faced the difficulties and hardships on the path of truth. He stood firm on all occasions and struggled for the propagation of Islam. The history of Islam is filled with his efforts and services.

When the Holy Prophet ﷺ declared Madinah as an Islamic state and Jihad was made obligatory in 2nd A.H. to strengthen the defence of Madinah Munawwara, Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ fully participated in all battles. In 3 A.H., during the battle of Uhud, when the blessed face of the Holy Prophet ﷺ was wounded by an attack of infidels, the steel chains of armour were embedded in the body. Hazrat Abu



Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ brought them out with his teeth, and his two teeth broke up. Looking at the leadership qualities of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ divided the Muslim army into four battalions at the conquest of Makkah and appointed him as the leader of a battalion.

Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ was included among the close advisors of both caliphs; Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ and Hazrat Umar Farooq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. When Hazrat Abu Bakr sent him to Syria as a leader of an expedition, he conquered Humuz, Syria and Jerusalem. In 16th A.H., 637 A.D, the Roman emperors agreed to surrender Jerusalem before Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. Likewise, during the caliphate of Umar Farooq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, Muslims got complete control of Jerusalem, and the titles of 'Conqueror of Syria and Jerusalem' were conferred to Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ.

Death and Burial: During that period, the Muslim cantonment area was in 'Amwas', which was in the suburbs of Palestine. Then, all of a sudden, a plague epidemic broke out. With the suggestion of Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, Hazrat Umar رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ shifted the Muslim army to 'Jabiah', a town in an area of 'Jolan' near Damascus. Nevertheless, the epidemic's effects had spread so vastly that thousands of Muslim soldiers were martyred, including Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. He died in 18 A.H. at the age of 59. His last resting place is in the 'Deer ula', a city west of Jordon. A small mosque is also constructed here.



Exercise

(A) Write down brief answers of the following questions:

- i. Give an introduction to the family of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه .
 - ii. When was Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه born? Why did he attach his name with his grandfather?
 - iii. Why is he called ‘Ameen ul Ummah’?
 - iv. Which event occurred in the battle of Saif ul Bahr for the help of Muslims?
 - v. Write down an example of the simple lifestyle of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه .

(B) Mark on correct answers of the following questions:

- i. The name of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه was:

 - a) Abdullah
 - b) Umar
 - c) Imran
 - d) Amir

ii. “Ameen of the Ummah” is the title of:

 - a) Hazrat Anus رضي الله عنه
 - b) Hazrat Umer رضي الله عنه
 - c) Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه
 - d) Hazrat Osama رضي الله عنه

iii. Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah رضي الله عنه migrated to two places:

 - a) Abyssinia and Madinah
 - b) Makkah and Madinah
 - c) Syria and Palestine
 - d) Taif and Madinah

iv. The cause of Hazrat Abu Ubaidah’s death was:

 - a) Martyrdom
 - b) Epidemic
 - c) Fever
 - d) Heart attack

Instructions for the Teachers:

Teachers should introduce students to the present situation of *Bait ul Muqaddas*. Also, hold a discussion with students on the same topic.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completion of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain the life history of Jabir bin Hayyan
- Describe the scientific achievements and books of Jabir bin Hayyan

Introduction: Jabir bin Hayyan is one of the Muslim Scientists. He is remembered in Chemistry as 'The Father of Chemistry'. Besides chemistry, he had proficiency in Astronomy, medicine, geometry, philosophy, logic, politics and literature.

Name and Ancestry : His full name is Jabir bin Hayyan bin Abdullah Kufi, his title is 'Sufi', and his surname is 'Abu Musa'. His ancestors belonged to Khurasan and Tous. He was born in the tribe Azd, 102 A.H. Due to these associations, he used to write 'Kufi', 'Azdi', 'Tousi' or 'Sufi' with his name on all his books. He is famous in Europe as 'Gaber'.

Life history: The father of Jabir bin Hayyan belonged to Syria. However, he migrated to Tous due to adverse political and economic conditions. Hayyan bin Abdullah used to trade perfume (*itr*). Thus, as he came to Tous, he started his perfume shop.

Jabir was born a few months after opening the perfume shop. Hence, he acquired his early education under the supervision of his father in Tous. As he used to get free from his institution, he would come to the perfume shop with his father. First, he used to observe and ask about the things there. Later, he started to help his father in the business. Simultaneously, his interest developed in *itr*, fragrances and the herbs, plants and flowers that produce fragrances. He would get information from his father, observe the objects, work out experiments and retain their quality and outcome in mind. Looking at the son's interest, Hayyan would also provide him with books and information. Furthermore, he would tell him about the old philosophers.

After the father's death, Jabir bin Hayyan recalled his father's will and focused on education with a new passion. Hazrat Imam Jafar

Sadiq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ is prominent among his teachers. His father said, "Work hard extensively. One day you will be among the big Scientists." He recalled his father's words and involved himself in acquiring knowledge of Physics, Mathematics and other subjects. When he got 30 years old, he migrated to 'Kufa' with his family.

Scientific Achievements: Jabir bin Hayyan did lots of experiments in medicine and metalwork. He discovered many new inventions and outlined principles of chemistry which are considered authentic till today. He invented an instrument, 'Qura Anbiq' to extract the essence of herbs and flowers by heating. Today, this instrument is known as 'Quranfil'.

He invented sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, carbonate Aarmenic sulphide, the method of making hair colour, calcination of metal and the method of iron varnishing. He was the first chemist who divided matter into three categories; plants, animals and minerals. He further divided minerals into three types: minerals that evaporate, melt in the fire, and erupt on heating.

Based on previous studies and experiments, he invented a lot in medicine, pharmacy and metalwork, which were never discovered before. He invented a liquid with elements of different metals and chemical reactions, which was burning things. It was named 'Tezab'(acid) from 'Tez aab'. This way, a new branch of science, 'Chemistry', was founded.

Books of Jabir bin Hayyan: Jabir bin Hayyan is counted among those who wrote many books. The total number of his booklets and books is more than 232. According to a statement, he compiled more than 500 books, most of which have been lost and not extant. The books of Jabir bin Hayyan were translated from Arabic to Latin and from Latin to English. Europe approached these books and was introduced to Chemistry.

Among his books, 'Aidah', 'Al-Khawas al-Kabir, and 'Al-Meezan' are about Chemistry. (Great Scholars of Chemistry, Jabir bin Hayyan, pg. 20). His other books are about astronomy, physics, geometry, philosophy, logic and politics.



Exercise

(A) Write down detailed answers of the following questions.

- i. Describe the services of Jabir bin Hayyan in Chemistry.
- ii. What do you know about the books of Jabir bin Hayyan?

(B) Write down brief answers of the following questions.

- i. What do you know about the family and place of birth of Jabir bin Hayyan?
- ii. What was the business of Jabir bin Hayyan's father?
- iii. How did Jabir bin Hayyan arrive in Baghdad, and how did people welcome him?
- iv. What are the famous inventions of Jabir bin Hayyan?
- v. Write down the names of Jabir bin Hayyan's books which are related to chemistry.

(C) Mark on correct answers of the following questions:

- i. The name of Jabir bin Hayyan's grandfather was:
a) Ubaidullah b) Abdul Rehman c) Abdullah
- ii. The name of Jabir bin Hayyan's tribe was:
a) Quraish b) Siddiqui c) Azd
- iii. The business of Jabir bin Hayyan's father was:
a) Manufacturing of leather
b) Perfumes
c) Selling woods
- iv. The famous invention of Jabir bin Hayyan is:
a) Computer b) Bulb c) Acid
- v. To extract essence, he invented:
a) Bottle b) Qura Anbiq c) Pitcher

Instructions for the Teachers:

Teachers should guide students about the literature of Jabir bin Hayyan in detail.

Hold a discussion on the services of Muslim Scientists in Science.



LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completion of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Write about the birth and early life of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ
- Explain the educational and spiritual attachments of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ
- Describe the literary, spiritual and military services of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

Introduction: Sindh is known as a region of knowledge, literature, peace and tranquillity because it has always been fortunate to have distinguished personalities. So many saints and devout personalities were born here. Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ is one of them.

His complete name is Syed Muhammad Rashid bin Muhammad Imam Shah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, his title is ‘Raudhe Dhahni’ (the one who owns a shrine), and his surname is Yaseen. He is the forebear of the famous Syed clan, “Rashidi”. After 36 generations, his ancestry reaches Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ bin Ameer ul Momineen, Hazrat Ali رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ .

The ancestor of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid’s clan was Hazrat Syed Ali Makki رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, who migrated from his town for the propagation of Islam and became a resident of ‘Lak Aari’ near Seewistan (Sehwan), a city of Sindh. Because of this, the clan got famous as ‘Lakyari’.

The father of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, Hazrat Syed Muhammad Baqa Shah Shaheed رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, was a devout saint and a scholar par excellence of his time. He was the offspring of Hazrat Shah Sadr رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, a famous saint of Lakyari Syed clan.

The Blessed Birth: Hazrat Peer Muhammad Rashid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was born in Ramadan at a village, Raheem Dino Kalhoro near Khairpur



Mir's in 1171 A.D. It is said that during Ramadan, this infant child had a habit of drinking milk at the time of Sehri. And like other fasting persons, he would not drink milk throughout the day. However, at the time of Maghrib, he used to go to his mother for milk. Due to this practice, he got famous 'Roza Dhahni' – the one who fasts. Later on, associating with his shrine, he got famous as 'Raudhe Dhahni' – the saint of a shrine.

The Period of Childhood: Hazrat Peer Syed Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was an obedient child of a pious father. Its reflection was apparent in his early life. He spent his childhood in the lap of a mother who used to recite the Holy Quran and refer Almighty Allah extensively. Instead of playing with other kids or doing some frivolous activities, he spent most of his time in the spiritual and pious home environment. Hence, he was inclined toward spirituality and acquiring knowledge from the early years of life. He was under the supervision of his parents at home till he reached the age to seek education outside.

Education: Hazrat Syed Muhammad Baqa رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ had set a particular time for the education of his offspring. He began to give early education to Syed Muhammad Rashid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ and his siblings at home. From the initial stage, he would say to his offspring:

"My son! We are giving you this outer knowledge not to gain worldly desires and titles of a Justice and a Scholar. Instead, its purpose is to know *Shariah* and obedience to Sunnah, which is the key to success in both worlds."

Besides his father, Hazrat Muhammad Rashid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ acquired knowledge from Hafiz Zain Uddin Mahaisr رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ and Mian Muhammad Akram Ghumro رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ. For further education, he was sent to the famous saint of Shikarpur, Shah Faqeerullah Alavi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, who was an exclusive student of Makhdoom Muhammad Hashim Thatvi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ.

Once his father, Syed Muhammad Baqa رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, came to the seminary, he happened to know that instead of the typical meal given to all students, his son was given a special meal exclusively.

Having seen this, he said: "Knowledge cannot be acquired at a place where broth is provided with bread." Thus, he sent Hazrat Muhammad Rashid رحمۃ اللہ علیہ along with his brother Syed Ali Murtaza رحمۃ اللہ علیہ for admission in the seminary of Mukhdoom Yar Muhammad Siddiqui رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, a famous scholar of Kotri Muhammad Kabeer – a city of district Nowshehro Firoz. After acquiring education from here, he was sent to 'Aarija village' near Larkana to a great teacher, Hazrat Moulana Muhammad Aarijo رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. From here, he received the degree of completion.

Spiritual Attachments and Excellence: Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudah Dhahni رحمۃ اللہ علیہ received the primary spiritual training from his father, Hazrat Muhammad Baqa Shah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, in the chain of Naqshbandiya and then in Qadriya. Hazrat Syed Muhammad Baqa shah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ was the disciple of Abdul Qadir Khamis Jilani رحمۃ اللہ علیہ of Jhang, Punjab, in the chain of Qadriya. And in the chain of Naqshbandiya, he was a disciple of Makhdoom Muhammad Ismail Piryaloi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. Thus, at the age of 27, he was nominated as the successor of his father, Hazrat Muhammad Baqa Shah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. After that, he rendered his services in the propagation of *Shariah*, spirituality, remembrance of Allah and spread of Sunnah.

Literary, Spiritual and military services: Hazrat Muhammad Rashid رحمۃ اللہ علیہ was excellent in spirituality and proficient in Tafseer, Hadith, jurisprudence, Sufism, History, Linguistics and other branches of knowledge. Moreover, he was very fond of Persian and Arabic languages. His interest in reading was so high that he always held some book in hand for reading. He also had a substantial personal library as well. To develop people's interest in reading, he would say, "Whoever buys an expensive book, knowledge would not end from his progeny." Hazrat Muhammad Rashid رحمۃ اللہ علیہ always guided people and invited them toward religion. He would engage himself in literary works in his leisure time. 'Jama al-Jawami'-a Persian dictionary in four thick volumes, 'Aadab al Murideen', 'Maktoobat', 'Shrah Asma ul Husna' and



'Jamiu Sindhi kalam' are his famous books. Besides this, his disciples compiled collections of his speeches, quotes, discourse and life details in, 'Malfoozat Sharif Peer Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رحمة الله عليه', 'Majma al fiyuzaat' and 'Sohbat nama'.

Besides his scholarly benevolence, the spiritual compassions of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رحمة الله عليه benefited thousands of people. Having been the successor of his father, he travelled to Punjab, Kuch Bhooch, Rajhistan Gujrat, Kathiyawar and Balochistan and benefited people with knowledge and spiritual excellence. Furthermore, he also put forward his services in eliminating polytheism and innovations in Islam. It is a fact that as Hazrat Mujaddid Ali Thani رحمة الله عليه and Shah Waliullah Muhaddis Dehlvi رحمة الله عليه endeavoured and took a stand against polytheistic practices and innovations, promoted the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and illuminated the hearts of people with the love of companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ, similarly, Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رحمة الله عليه performed the same duty in Sindh. His offspring (Peeran Pagara and Peeran Jhando) and disciples performed an active role in the propagation of his teachings and spiritual chain, whose impact exists until today.

Death: The great religious leader passed away in the 1st Shaban, 1234 A.H. at the age of 63. He was buried in Dargah Sharif Village, Raheem Dino Khiloro. Later, in 1250, due to a storm in river Sindh, he was shifted to Peer Jo Goth, Kingri, district Khairpur Mir's. His shrine and monastery are situated.

Exercise

(A) Write down detailed answers of the following:

- i. Write down the literary and spiritual services of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رحمة الله عليه
- ii. Why was Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رحمة الله عليه given the title of 'Raudhe Dhahni'?

(B) Write down brief answers of the following:

- i. Describe the ancestry of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ
- ii. From where did Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ got his early education?

(C) Mark on correct answers of the following questions:

- i. The ancestry of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ reaches:
 - a) Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - b) Hazrat Abbas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - c) Hazrat Imam Hussain رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
 - d) Hazrat Hamza رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ
- ii. His village, Raheem Dino Khiloro is situated:
 - a) Shikarpur
 - b) Sukkur
 - c) Khairpur Mir's
 - d) Nawabshah
- iii. The book consisting life and teachings of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ is:
 - a) *Sindhi Kalam*
 - b) *Toufa tus Saalikeen*
 - c) *Jama al-Jawamei'*
 - d) *Malfuzat Sharif*
- iv. He migrated from his country for the propagation of Islam and had a residence in:
 - a) Sehwan
 - b) Lakiyaari
 - c) Aamri
 - d) Mehar

Instructions for the Teachers:

Teachers should explain the services of Hazrat Muhammad Rashid Raudhe Dhahni رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, especially:

- i. The role of ‘the Hur movement’ for freedom of the country.
- ii. The establishment of a seminary, ‘Darul Rushd’ in Peer Jhando and the setup of a Library.
- iii. The reasons for the replacement of the name of this clan with ‘Pagara’ and ‘Peer Jhando’.