

SAYYIDA ZAYNAB (PBUH)



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There is Zaynab the daughter that was a reflection of her father, Zaynab the wife for whom her husband Abdullah ibn Ja'fer said "Zaynab is the best of housewives", Zaynab the mother, Zaynab the teacher, Zaynab the community worker, Zaynab the upholder of truth and justice, Zaynab best known as Shareekatul Husayn (Husayn's partner), and then there is Zaynab the founder of the greatest university (Majlis Husayn).

She was born in Madina on the 5th of Jamad ul Awwal 5 AH. When she was born, the Prophet (pbuh) was not in Madina. When he returned he names her Zaynab as instructed by Allah through the angel Jibrail. He kissed her and said, "I enjoin you to honour this child for she resembles Khadija (pbuh)"

The name may also be a compound of two words - Zayn (beauty) and Ab (father)- thus the beauty (adornment) of her father which reflects the life of Zaynab perfectly. Some linguists say that it once meant a good looking and sweet smelling tree.

She is the ideal for all women in all their roles: daughter, wife, mother, community member, teacher.....She is an embodiment of moral features. Zaynab (pbuh) like her mother Fatima (pbuh) proves that a Muslim woman can hold on to her dignity while taking part in social activities and preserve her nobility as a Muslim.

Her involvement in social and political matters is evidence that in an Islamic society, women cannot remain indifferent and passive observers.

No words can describe her phenomenal legacy of the institution of the majalis of Imam Husayn (pbuh)

HER TITLES

FASIHA (Fluent)

BALIGHA (Eloquent)

A'LIMA GHAYR MUA'LLAMA
(She who has knowledge without being taught)

A'KILA (Intellectual)

ZAHIDA (Modest)

ABIDA (Devoted)

SADIQA (Truthful)

SHAREEEKATUL HUSAYN

Every revolution has two faces:

Sacrifice & Message - Imam Husayn (pbuh) accomplished the first part of the mission to reform the Umma and revive the values of the Prophet (pbuh) but the mission would not have been accomplished had there not been Zaynab to spread the Message.

Date	Age	Event
629 CE 5 AH		<p>Birth of Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) to Imam Ali (pbuh) & Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) on Thursday, 5th of Jamad-ul-Awwal in Madina. She is the first female from the progeny of the Prophet (pbuh). He was aware of the difficulties she would face with Husayn (pbuh) and shed tears when he first held her. He names her Zaynab saying, "I enjoin you to honour this child for she resembles Khadija (pbuh)"</p>
632 CE 11 AH	7 yrs	<p>Her grandfather dies On 28th Safar, her grandfather Rasulullah (pbuh) dies in the lap of her father Imam Ali (pbuh).</p>
632 CE 11 AH	7 yrs	<p>Her mum dies 75 days after her grandfather's demise; Zaynab (pbuh) suffers the loss of her mother Sayyida Fatima (pbuh) on 14 Jamad ul Awwal 11 AH.</p>

Date	Age	Event
638 CE 17 AH	12 yrs	<p>Marriage</p> <p>Proposals of marriage started coming for the hand of Zaynab (pbuh). She marries Abdullah ibn Ja'fer ibn Abu Talib known as Abul Masakeen (father of the poor) for his charitable nature and as Jawad (Generous). The mahr was 480 dirhams and to be allowed to accompany Imam Husayn (pbuh) whenever there was a need.</p> <p>The perfect wife</p> <p>Abdullah ibn Ja'fer said: "Zaynab is the best housewife"</p>
639 CE - 18 AH	14 yrs	<p>The awesome mum</p> <p>They were blessed with five sons and a daughter*. The sons were: Muhammad (Al Akber) 'Aun, Muhammad, 'Ali, 'Abbas and the daughter was Umm Kulthum. *Some narrations say they had 9 children</p>

Date	Age	Event
653 CE 33AH	27 yrs	Birth of Ali Akber (pbuh) to Imam Husayn (pbuh) and Umm Layla. Ali Akber is raised by Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh)
657 CE 36 AH	31 yrs	Martyrdom of her son Muhammad (al Akber) In the battle of Siffeen
		A'lima ghayr Mu'allama (she who has knowledge without being taught) She held classes for women in Madina and was titled the above by Imam Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) who heard her.
658 CE 37 AH	32 yrs	Moved to Kufa When Imam Ali (pbuh) moved to Kufa; Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) moved there with her family. In Kufa too, she held classes for women.
658 CE 38 AH	33 yrs	Birth of Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) To Imam Husayn (pbuh) and Sayyida Shahrbanu

Date	Age	Event
		(she dies shortly after giving birth).
661 CE 40 AH	35 yrs	Her father dies Imam Ali (pbuh) is martyred in the mosque of Kufa on the 21 st of Ramadhan by Abdur Rahman ibn Muljim.
661 CE 40 AH	35 yrs	Return to Madina Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) and her family; accompany Imam Hasan & Husayn (pbuh) returning to Madina. Raising a family Educating the women of the community in Madina Supporting her brothers Imam Hasan (pbuh) & Imam Husayn (pbuh)
670 CE 50 AH	45 yrs	Martyrdom of Imam Hasan (pbuh) Imam Hasan poisoned by wife Jo'da as instigated by Muawiya. Imam Husayn (pbuh) assumes Imama.

Date	Age	Event
676 CE 20 Rajab 56 AH	51 yrs	Birth of Sakina (Ruqayya) to Imam Husayn (pbuh) and Umm Rabab.
677CE. 57 AH	52 yrs	Birth of Imam Muhammad Al-Baqir (pbuh) to Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) and Fatima Kubra (daughter of Imam Hasan (pbuh))
680 CE 28 Rajab 60 AH	55 yrs	Leaving Madina Imam Husayn (pbuh) refuses allegiance to Yazid and leaves Madina. Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) accompanies him with her sons Aun & Muhammad
10 October 680CE 10 Muharram 61 AH	55	Day of 'Ashura She sees her two sons- Aun & Muhammad killed and watches Imam Husayn (pbuh) being beheaded. Night of 'Ashura The tents are burnt and looted and the hijabs of the women taken away. She protects the women and children and takes

Date	Age	Event
		care of Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) who is ill.
680CE 11 Muharram 61 AH	55 yrs	<p>Taken as prisoners to Kufa Tied with chains round their necks, hands, and feet the women and children were put on camels without any saddles to go to Kufa (75 kms from Karbala – 1 day's journey)</p> <p>Arrival in Kufa It was the city where Zaynab (pbuh) and Umme Kulthum (pbuh) had once lived and were respected and loved. The palace of Ibn Ziyad was closed so they were made to camp outside the city</p>
680 CE 12 Muharram 61 AH	55 yrs	Zaynab (pbuh) addresses the people of Kufa and Ibn Ziyad

Date	Age	Event
680 CE 12 Muharram 61 AH	55 yrs	<p>Sent to Damascus (Shaam) A journey of 1200 km – 16-18 days travel. The prisoners were often beaten, given very little food and water. On arrival at Damascus, they were made to wait at the gates until Yazid had completed victory celebrations. Then herded like animals they were paraded through the streets and brought to his palace</p> <p>Zaynab (pbuh) addresses Yazid Imprisonment in Damascus</p>
680 CE 13 Safar 61 AH	55 yrs	<p>Ruqayya (Sakina) dies in prison and is buried there.</p>
680 CE Safar 61 AH	55 yrs	<p>Freed from prison First Majlis of Imam Husayn (pbuh) Zaynab (pbuh) requested a place where they could mourn the martyrs of Karbala. THIS WAS THE FIRST MAJLIS. The</p>

Date	Age	Event
		<p>women of Damascus and Zaynab (pbuh) narrated the events of Karbala.</p> <p>Yazid gave the prisoners a choice to stay in Damascus or return to Madina. They chose to return but via Karbala.</p>
<p>680 CE Safar 61 AH</p>	<p>55 yrs</p>	<p>Arrival in Karbala</p> <p>They found that the Prophet's (pbuh) companion Jabir ibn Abdullah Ansari was already there to pay his respects. Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) buried the heads of the martyrs in their own graves</p>
<p>680 CE Safar 61 AH</p>	<p>55 yrs</p>	<p>Return to Madina</p> <p>It was evening when they entered Madina. Zaynab (pbuh) had aged so much that even her husband could not recognise her at first.</p>
<p>681 CE 62 AH</p>	<p>57 yrs</p>	<p>Zaynab (pbuh) died soon after in the year 62 A.H. The exact date and place of her death is</p>

Date	Age	Event
		not clear. The places given are either Shaam (Damascus) , Madina or Cairo although more popularly she is thought to be buried in Damascus

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF KUFA

Dressed up and to the sound of music the people poured into the streets of Kufa not really knowing the truth. When the caravan of prisoners entered and some people recognised that these were the household of the Prophet (pbuh) they started crying and looking down with shame. When the prisoners reached the main 'bazaar' there were so many people that it was difficult for the caravan to move to the palace of Ibn Ziyad.

Here Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) lifted her hand bidding them to be quiet. It is said that even the horses stopped neighing. In a piercing and confident clear voice she said:

"Praise be to Allah and His blessings be sent on my grandfather Muhammad and his pure Ahlulbayt.

O people of Kufa! O you who are deceptive and disloyal! Do you shed tears?

May your tears never dry up and your loud crying never end...

You are like the woman that unravels to bits the rope that she has firmly spun.

You make false promises which bear no truthfulness at all...

You are like the plants that grow on filth and yet are green...

Certainly evil is that which your souls have sent before you. Allah is displeased with you and in punishment shall you live.
Are you crying and wailing?

Indeed By Allah! Cry endlessly and laugh but a little for your deed was so disgraceful that you will never be able to compensate for it.

How can you wash away the crime of murdering the grandson of the seal of the Prophets, the essence of the message, the lord of the youth of paradise;.....the refuge to whom you turned to

during troubles; Your master who defended the Prophet's traditions.....

What an awful sin you committed!

Away with you! There will be no forgiveness...
Don't make light of the delay in punishment...
Most surely Allah is watching."

People wept; those who were in celebrating mood were now looking down shamed by the truth in her speech. Although she was a prisoner tied she spoke with confidence so much so that a person who couldn't see who was speaking, thought it was the voice of Imam Ali (pbuh).

ADDRESS TO IBN ZIYAD

At the government palace of Ibn Ziyad; Zaynab (pbuh) remembered the time when her father Imam Ali (pbuh) used to sit there. Although she was tied up and her face covered with her hair she walked in with dignity and confidence. Ibn Ziyad was excited and pleased as he sat with Imam Husayn's (pbuh) head in front of him. As the prisoners entered he said addressing Zaynab (pbuh):

"Praise be to Allah who disgraced you, killed your men and exposed the lies of your claim"

Immediately Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) said:

"It was Allah's wish that they should be martyred and they died bravely. If this was your heart's desire than you must indeed be content today.....

But you have killed those whom the Holy Prophet (pbuh) sat on his knee when they were children and whose play filled him with joy.....

soon you will stand with them before Allah and they will demand justice. Beware the day of judgement."

Ibn Ziyad tried to change the conversation. He diverted his attention to Imam Ali Zaynul Abideen (pbuh) threatening to kill him. Imam replied "You threaten me with death? Do you not know that martyrdom is our inheritance and merit?"

ADDRESS TO YAZID IN DAMASCUS

The prisoners were led into the court of Yazid. Imam Husayn's head was brought to him on a golden tray. He hit Imam's teeth with his stick saying:

"My ancestors who were killed at Badr have been avenged today. Now it is clear that Bani Hashim had staged a play to gain power and there was never any divine revelation."

Zaynab (pbuh) with confidence replied:

"All praise be to Allah, the Lord of the world and blessings on my grandfather, the chief of divine Prophets.

O Yazid! Indeed Allah has said:

'Evil was the end of those who did evil, because they mocked and rejected the signs of Allah '

Qur'an 30:10

O Yazid!

Do you believe that you have made our life miserable and our existence impossible?

That we are powerless persons just because we are standing in front of you tied and that you have gained power over us?

Do you believe that we have been disgraced and that you instead have been honoured by Allah? That your position is safe and secure now that your crooked affairs are smoothed out, and that you are the master of this country and the ruler of our government?

Wait! Wait! Have you forgotten what Allah says: 'Do you think that We give respite to the evildoers and unbelievers for any good that they have done? Surely we give them time so that they may increase their evil deeds and it will lead them to degrading punishment '- **Quran 3:178**

.....Is this your justice that the women of your house be in hijab whilst we, the daughters of the Prophet (pbuh) be imprisoned and paraded from place to place unveiled? Your men have taken us from town to town where all sorts of peoplehave been looking at us; rich or poor, young or old, honourable ones

and those of disrepute; all gaze at us from far and near, and we have no one to come to our aid...

O Yazid !Whatever you have done proves your arrogance against Allah and your denial of His Prophet (pbuh) and of the Holy Book and the Sunnah (teachings) of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) sent down to him (the Prophet (pbuh)) by Allah. Your deeds should not cause amazement because one whose ancestors chewed the livers of the martyrs (i.e. Hamza's liver was chewed by Yazid's grandmother), and whose flesh grew up on virtuous people.....

It is but natural that the descendants of such persons should be most prominent amongst the Arabs in unbelief, sinfulness, cruelty ...and cause conflicts and act against God and His Prophet..... Remember that the evil deeds and sinful actions that you have committed are the result of unbelief & old grudge (vengeance) you bear because of your ancestors who were killed in Badr.

...You deny the Prophet (pbuh) and with pride and joy announce from the roofs 'I, Yazid, have slaughtered and butchered the sons of the

Prophet and imprisoned his family members.'

O Yazid! You are striking the lips of Abu Abdullah, Al-Husayn (pbuh) with a cane. Do you not know that these are the lips and the teeth that were constantly kissed by the Prophet (pbuh) and yet your face reflects pleasure?

O Yazid! if you thought over what you have done you yourself would surely wish your arms to be paralysed and severed from your elbow and you would wish that your parents had not given birth to you because you would know that Allah is angry with you and the Prophet is now your enemy.....

O Yazid! Remember that you have cut your own skin and flesh to pieces.....

O Yazid! Do not feel joyous on killing the Prophet's family for Allah has said:

'Think not that those who are killed in Allah's way are dead; nay! They are alive rejoicing in what Allah has given them out of His grace..' -

Qur'an 3:169,170.

Those who have made you the head of state and burdened the muslims with your leadership will soon find out what awaits them. The end of all tyrants is agony.

O Yazid! I speak about the severe punishment that lies in store for you not for the sake that you might regret and repent at what you did because that though would be a fantasy..... Your heart has hardened....you are one of those whose hearts is the nest of the devil in which he lays his evil eggs; indeed your character is one such ugly creation of the devil ...

One wonders how virtuous people , sons of Prophets, their successors should be butchered by ...evildoers and sinners ...We feel grieved to think of their sacred and pure bodies lying on the sands of the burning desert, abandoned without burial.

O Yazid! If you consider our defeat as your achievement then you will have to pay its price. Allah commits no injustice to His servants. Only in Him do we put our trust and faith. He alone will

deliver us and in Him alone do we seek safety and with Him do our hopes rest.

I swear by God who sent upon our household His Book & Prophet hood that you will never get our status. You will never be able to destroy our status or extinguish our light, nor will you be able to wipe out your shame and dishonor... your word now is weak and your days are numbered....

All Praise is for Allah who appoints a peaceful place for His friends and grants them success in their aims, and thereafter calls them back to His mercy, and pleasure...

We pray to Allah to avenge usSurely He is Kind & Merciful to His creatures.

The sermon of Zaynab (pbuh) changed the atmosphere in Yazid's court. He was taken aback by her courage and her eloquence. All he could say was:

"These persons have gone through so many hardships and they seem to be afraid of nothing ...not even death."

**DUA RECITED BY SAYYIDA ZAYNAB (PBUH)
AFTER SALATUL LAYL AS TAUGHT BY HER
FATHER IMAM ALI (PBUH)**

Sayyida Zaynab (pbuh) used to recite this dua
taught by her father Imam Ali (pbuh) after Salatul
Layl

Recite 7x for 7 days to alleviate difficulty

وَ كَمْ لِلَّهِ مِنْ لُطْفٍ خَفِيٍّ
يَدُقُّ خَفَاءً عَنْ فَهْمِ الزَّكِيِّ
وَ كَمْ يُسِرُّ آتِي مِنْ بَعْدِ عُسْرِ
فَفَرَّجَ كُرْبَةَ الْقَلْبِ الشَّجِيِّ
وَ كَمْ أَمْرٍ تَسَاءَلَتْ بِهِ صَبَاحًا
وَ تَأْتِيكَ الْمَسْرَّةُ بِالْعَشِيِّ

إِذَا صَاقَتْ بِكَ الْأَحْوَالُ يَوْمًا

فَتَعْنُقْ بِالْوَاحِدِ الْفَرْدِ الْعَلِيِّ

تَوَسَّلْ بِالنَّبِيِّ فِكُلِّ خَطْبٍ

يَهُونُ إِذَا تَوَسَّلَ بِالنَّبِيِّ

وَلَا تَجْزَعُ إِذَا مَاتَ خَطْبٌ

فَكَمْ لِلَّهِ مِنْ لُطْفٍ خَفِيٍّ

And how many bounties of Allah are concealed.
Whose understanding is above the Heavens and
the Earth.

And so many comforts have come after the
troubles.

By which the sorrow from the sorrowful hearts'
problems.

So many things, which brings grief in the morning
but by evening it turns into joy.

If any time the situation troubles you, then put
your trust on the Lord, the One, the Unique.

Take the help of the Prophet because all the problems by his intercession become easy. Whenever big calamities befall you do not become restless, as many of Allah's action are concealed.

**ZIYARA OF SAYYIDA ZAYNAB (PBUH)
VERBAL SALUTATION**

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ مُحَمَّدٍ الْمُصْطَفَى

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ وَلِيِّ اللَّهِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ عَلِيِّ الْمُرْتَضَى سَيِّدِ أَوْصِيَاءِ وَ

الصِّدِّيقِينَ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا بِنْتَ فَاطِمَةَ الزَّهْرَاءِ سَيِّدَةِ نِسَاءِ

العَالَمِينَ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أُخْتَ الْحُسَيْنِ وَالْحُسَيْنِ سَيِّدِي شَبَابِ

أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا السَّيِّدَةُ الزُّكِّيَّةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّتُ

هَا الدَّاعِيَةُ الْحَقِيَّةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا التَّقِيَّةُ النَّقِيَّةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الرَّاحِيَّةُ الْمَرْضِيَّةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْعَالِمَةُ الْغَيْرُ الْمُعَلَّمَةِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْفَهِيْمَةُ الْغَيْرُ الْمُفَهَّمَةِ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَضْلُومَةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَهْمُومَةُ

أَسْلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الصِّدِّيقَةُ

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيَّتُهَا الْمَكْرُوبَةُ

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيَّتُهَا الْمَأْسُورَةُ

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيَّتُهَا الصَّاحِبَةُ الْمُصِيبَةِ الْعُظْمَى

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا زَيْنَبَ الْكُبْرَى

وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Peace be on you, o daughter of the Messenger of Allah

Peace be on you, o daughter of the Prophet of Allah

Peace be on you, o daughter of Muhammad Al Mustafa

Peace be with you, o daughter of the wali of Allah

Peace be with you, o daughter of Ali Al Murtadha, the master of the vicegerents and the truthful ones

Peace be on you, o daughter of Fatimatuz Zahra, leader of the women of the world

Peace be on you, o sister of Hasan and Husayn,
the leaders of the youth of the dwellers of
paradise

Peace be on you, o pure lady

Peace be on you, o one called welcomingly (unto
Allah)

Peace be on you, o one who is pure and pious

Peace on you, o one who is pleased (with Allah)
and is pleased (in the sight of Allah)

Peace be on you, o one who is a scholar who has
not been taught

Peace be on you, o one who understands without
being made to understand

Peace be on you, o one who is oppressed

Peace be on you, o one who is grieved

Peace be on you, o one who is truthful

Peace be on you, o one who is afflicted (with
calamities)

Peace be with you, o one who was made a captive

Peace be on you, o one who is the bearer of the
greatest tragedy

Peace be on you, o Zaynab Al-Kubra

May the mercy and blessing of Allah be with you.