

# Madrasa Tajweedul Quran

140 - 142 Garstang Road Fulwood Preston PR2 8NA

3<sup>rd</sup> Muharram 1432

9<sup>th</sup> December 2010

## Part 1

### Muharram - The first Islamic month

1. Muharram is the FIRST Islamic month.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> of Muharram was on Tues 7<sup>th</sup> December.
3. The Islamic year is 1432 (like it is 2010 now).
4. The Islamic calendar is known as the "Hijrah calendar". This is because our calendar **starts** from the time our Prophet Mohammed ﷺ left Makkah to go to Madinah. This is called migration, and the Arabic word for migration is Hijrah.
5. The Islamic year is written as "1432 A.H.". **A.H. means** "after Hijrah". You see this on calendars.
6. Muharram is one of the four months of the year in which fighting is prohibited. The other months are Dhul Qa'da, Dhul Hijjah and Rajab.
7. Muharram is a very virtuous month. It is known as "**Allah's month**". There is even more reward for keeping fasts and worshipping Allah in this month.
8. Muharram is also known as "Al-Muharram-ul-Haraam".
9. Our prophet ﷺ has said: "The best of fasts besides the fast of Ramadhan are the fasts of Muharram" (Muslim).

## Part 2

### ASHOORA

1. Ashoora is an Arabic word, and it means ten or tenth. The tenth day of Muharram is called 'Yaum -ul-Ashoorah,' meaning, 'the tenth day'.
2. Many hundreds of years ago, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Muharram Allah gave Musa ﷺ and his people freedom from Pharaoh. To mark (and celebrate) this, the Jews used to keep a fast (Roza) on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Muharram. Our prophet ﷺ also kept this fast, and advised us to keep this fast as well. However he told us to keep a fast on **either** the 9<sup>th</sup> AND 10<sup>th</sup> **or** 10<sup>th</sup> AND 11<sup>th</sup> of Muharram.
3. This fast is known as the **Fast of Ashoora**". Before the fasts of Ramadhan, the fast of Ashoora was Fardh (compulsory).
4. It has been reported in Tabarani and Baihaqi (Hadith books) that "one who spends generously on his family on the day of Ashoora, Allah will increase his provision for the whole year". Hence one should be more generous on this day upon ones family and dependants.

5. The day of Ashoora is also the day when Imam Hussein عليه السلام (grandson of our prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم) was martyred. It is important to note that the significance of Ashoora was there BEFORE the martyrdom of Imam Hussein عليه السلام. Some Muslims mark this martyrdom as being a significant part of "Muharram and the day of Ashoora", however this is incorrect. Imam Hussein عليه السلام was martyred after the demise of our prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, and as Islam was completed and perfected in our prophet's lifetime, an event such as the martyrdom of Imam Hussein عليه السلام that occurred after 30+ years of his demise cannot be used to mark the month of Muharram.
  
6. It is also important to note that in Islam we do not celebrate martyrdoms nor does Islam allow "obsessive mourning", hence we will not do things such as crying and wailing (as some people do).

### Part 3

Discuss with your class what resolutions can be made for the New Year.

### Part 4

Conclusion and Q & A.

Updated: 09/12/10