

# Planting the Seed of Nahjul Balagha

Session 1- Introduction to Nahjul  
Balagha



# Introduction

- \* Just like how a seed needs the right elements to grow, the seed of Najul Balagha also needs the right elements to grow in your heart:
- \* **Soil:** You will need to have the love of Imam Ali (a) in your heart.
- \* **Sun:** You will need the desire of seeking knowledge
- \* **Fertilizer:** You will need to seek the help of Allah in acquiring knowledge about Najul Balagha



# Thinking Time!

\* What is Nahjul Balagha?

Is there anything that you already know about Nahjul Balagha?



# What is Nahjul Balagha?

- A collection of sermons, letters and sayings of Imam Ali (a) dealing with different religious topics as well as how to be pious and prepare for the Hereafter
- A Masterpiece of Islamic literature (second to Holy Qur'an and words of the Holy Prophet (s))
- Imam Ali (a) was an eloquent speaker



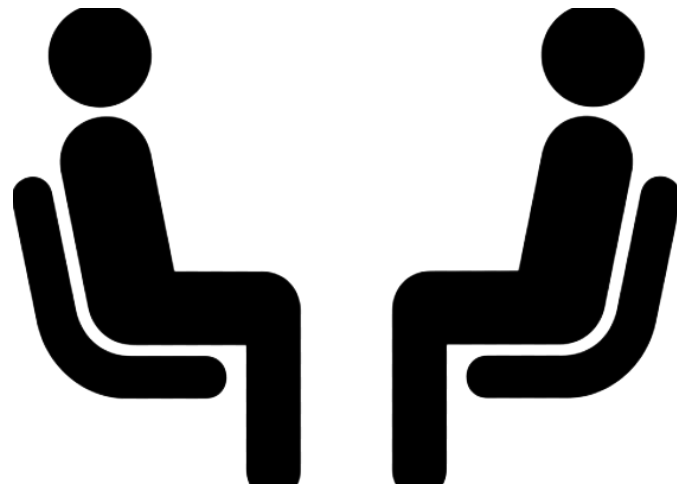
# More About Najul Balagha

- Before Najul Balagha the words of Imam Ali (a) were in different books
- Sharif ar-Radhi compiled the words of Imam (a) into a book called Najul Balagha- the Peak of Eloquence
- Sharif ar-Radhi lived in Baghdad, Iraq (a center of Islamic learning) and compiled the book four centuries after Hijrat
- He was a student of Shaykh al-Mufid



# Discussion Question

- \* If you were given the opportunity to ask an expert 3 questions about Nahjul Balagha what 3 questions would you ask them?



# A Closer Look at Nahjul Balagha

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NAHJUL BALAGHA PART 1, THE  
SERMONS

**Sermon 8: He claims that he  
swore allegiance ...** -

• Alternative Sources for Sermon 8

Sermon 9: They thundered ... -

• Alternative Sources for Sermon 9

Sermon 10: Satan has collected  
his group... -

• Alternative Sources for Sermon 10

## Sermon 8: He claims that he swore allegiance ...

*Said about az-Zubayr at a time for which it was appropriate*

ومن كلام له (عليه السلام)

يعني به الزبير في حال اقتضت ذلك

[ويدعوه للدخول في البيعة ثانية]

He claims that he swore allegiance to me with his hand but did not swear with his heart.<sup>1</sup> So he does admit allegiance. As regards his claiming it otherwise than with his heart he should come forward with a clear argument for it. Otherwise, he should return to wherefrom he has gone out.<sup>2</sup>

\* What does sermon 8 of Nahjul Balagha talk about?

# Test Your Knowledge

Fill in the following table:

## Nahjul Balagha

Compiled By	
In the Year	
In the city of	



# Group Work!

- \* For this activity you may work in group of 2 or 3.
- \* Write a short story on Nahjul Balagha. The story could be about a child who becomes familiar with Nahjul Balagha, a teacher who teaches about it, a scholar who talks about it, etc. The general theme of the story should be Nahjul Balagha.

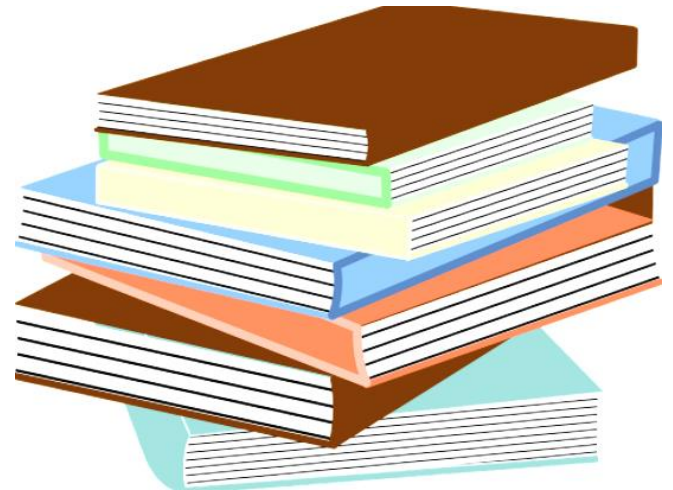
# More About Sharif ar-Radhi

- \* He was a very pious Shia scholar and Sayyid born in the year 359 A.H and his full name used to be Muhammad bin Husayn
- \* His parents were Saddat (descendants of the Holy Prophet)
- \* His father was a descendant of the 7<sup>th</sup> Imam and his mother was a descendant of the 4<sup>th</sup> Imam
- \* Sharif ar-Radhi attended many classes, lectures and religious gatherings and was respected by many people including Sunnis and non-Muslims



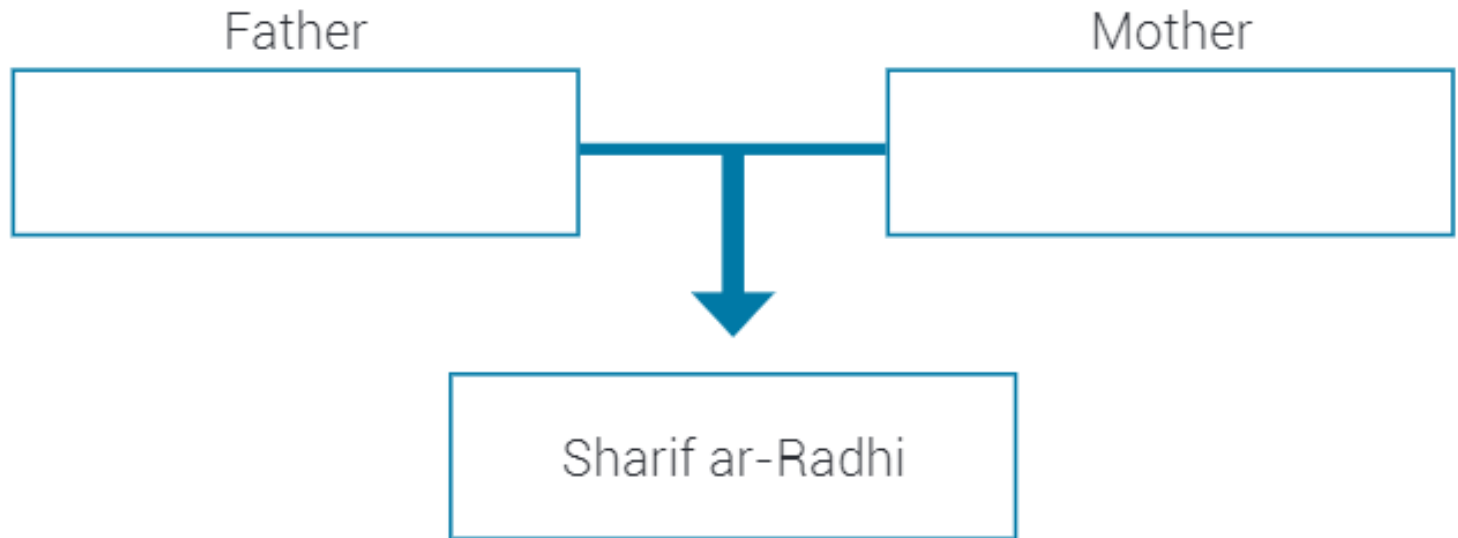
# Think About It!

- \* Sharif ar-Radhi worked hard to learn and acquire wisdom. What are some ways I can seek knowledge in my life?



# Test Your Knowledge

1) Fill in the following:



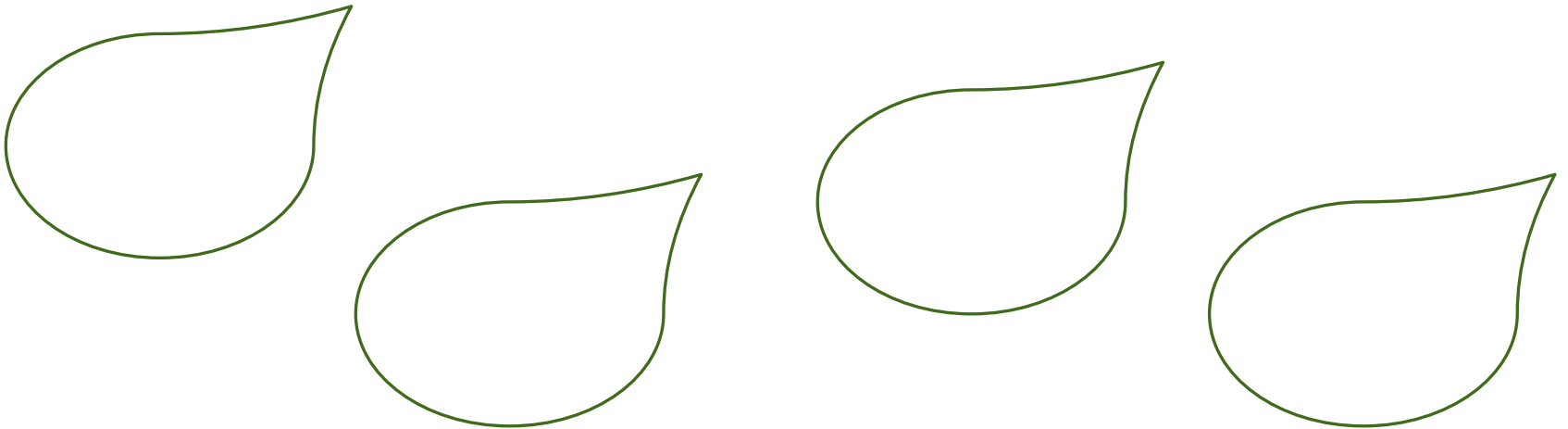
2) What qualities made Sharif ar-Radhi so successful?

# Time to Be Creative

- \* If you had to inform people about Nahjul Balagha, how would you best do it in a poster? Create an eye catching poster on Nahjul Balagha that will attract people and encourage them to read its contents.

# Planting Time!

- \* Using the template, trace three of the leaves of the leaves and on each leaf write one new fact that you learned about Nahjul Balagha.



# Preparing the Tree for the Blossom

- \* The leaves you create will be added to your tree of knowledge about Nahjul Balagha. The more leaves that get added to your tree, the better your tree will look.

