

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



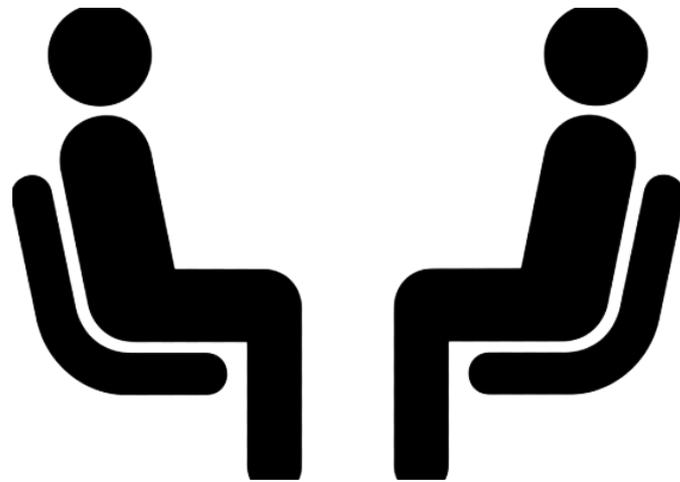
More About Najul Balagha

- 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.¹ 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.²

* What does sermon 8 of Nahjul Balagha talk about?

Test Your Knowledge

Fill in the following table:

Nahjul Balagha

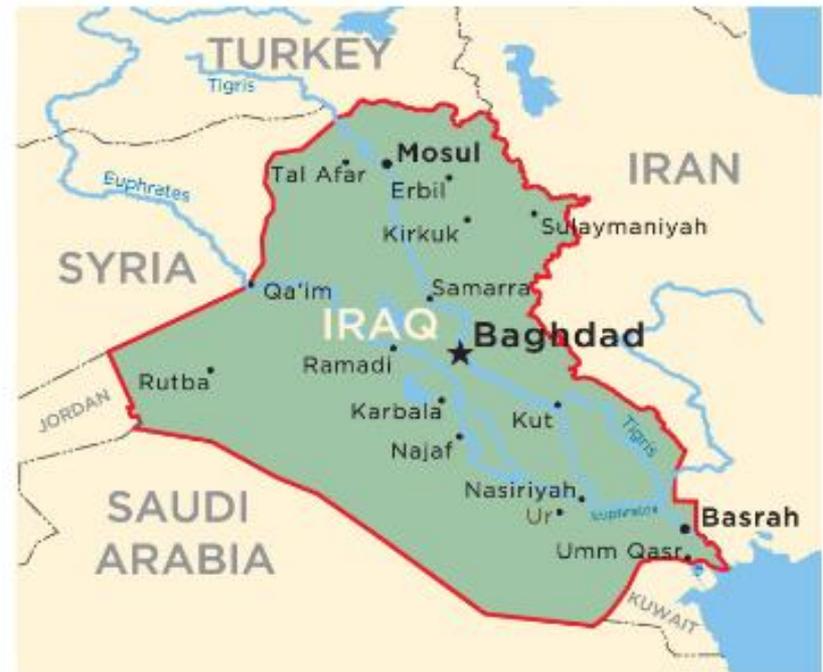
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In the Year	
In the city of	

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.

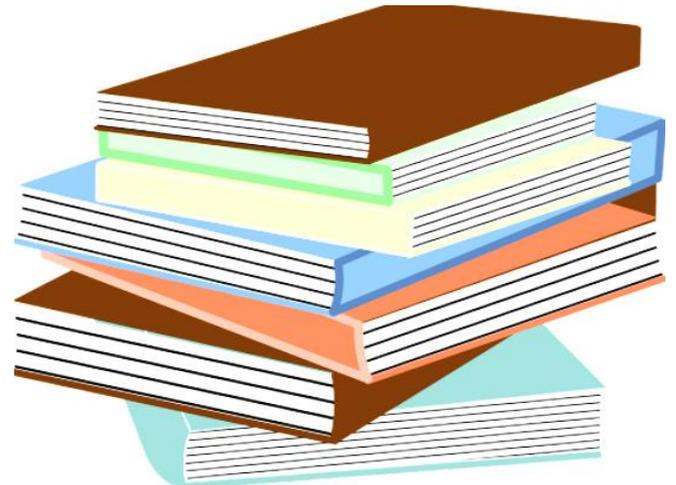
More About Sharif ar-Radhi

- * 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 7th Imam and his mother was a descendant of the 4th Imam
- * Sharif ar-Radhi attended many classes, lectures and religious gatherings and was respected by many people including Sunnis and non-Muslims



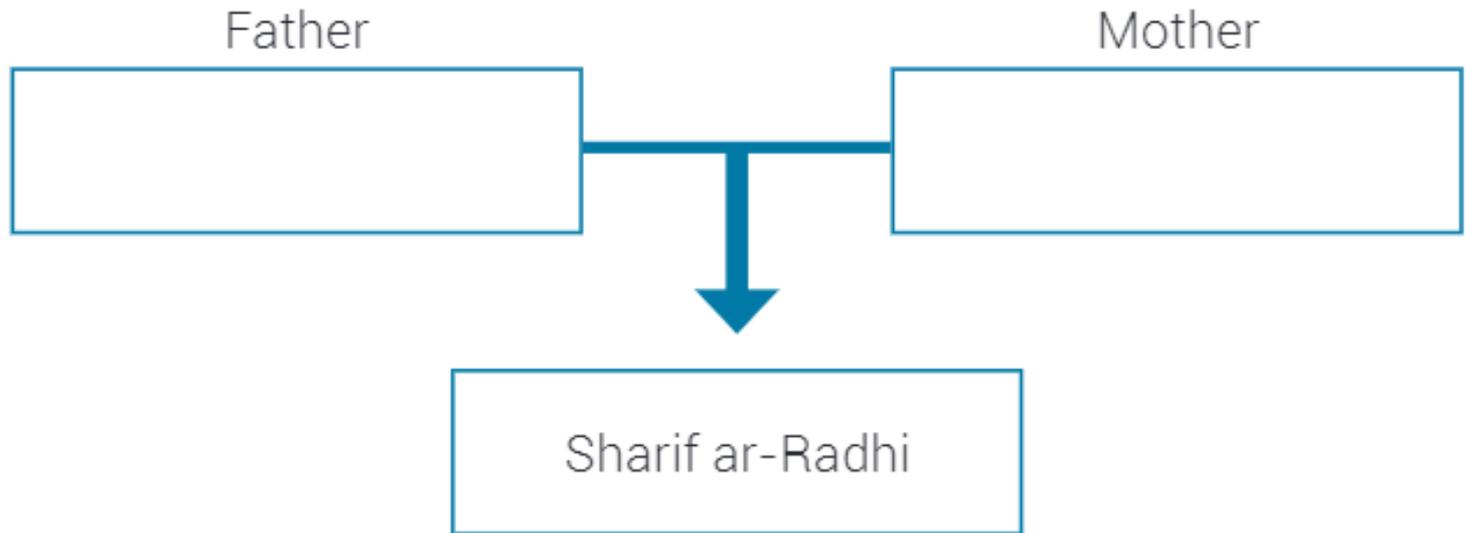
Think About It!

- * 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:



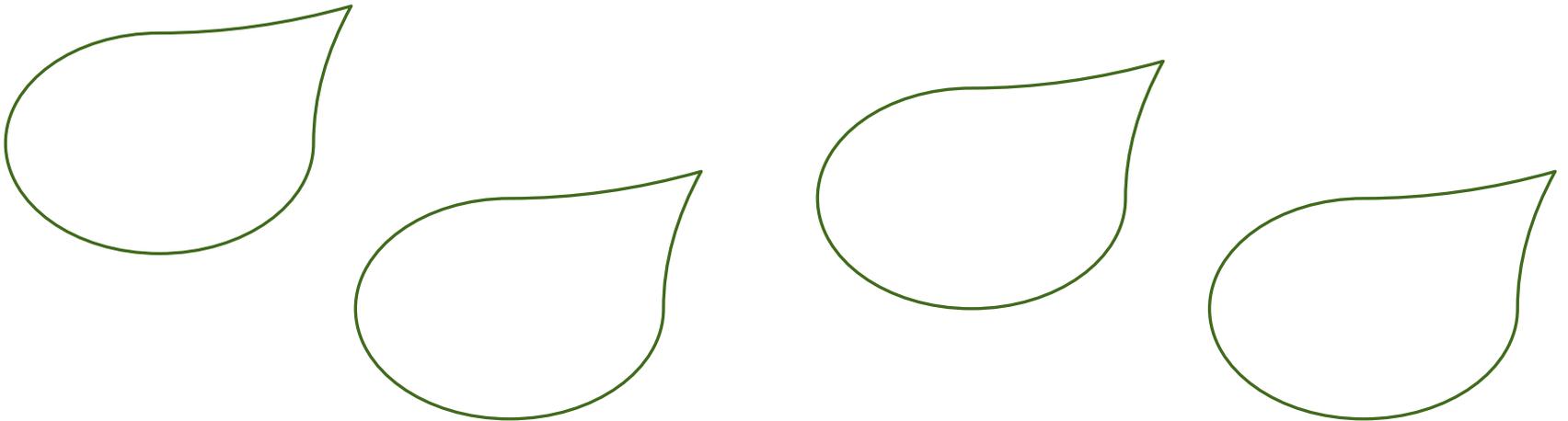
2) What qualities made Sharif ar-Radhi so successful?

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.

