

Muharram Activity ideas

In the months of Muharram and Safar we commemorate the tragic massacre of the grandson of the Holy Prophet (s) in Karbala, and the treatment of his womenfolk and children after his death. Commemorating the tragedy of Karbala is a very important part of the Shiah faith, and a lot of lessons regarding beliefs and values can be derived from the tragedy. We urge school and Madrasah teachers to use this historical event to impart everyday lessons. The following are some ideas on what children can do during Muharram.

- 1) Story Writing: Write a short story relating to the tragedy of Karbala. It could be an illustrated story, a comic strip, a chapter book, ... etc

- 2) Poetry: Compose a short poem on one of the heroes of Karbala.

- 3) Journal Writing – sample topics: How does the story of Karbala most affect you? Which hero of Karbala do you most admire and why? Lessons we learn from Karbala. The concept of sacrifice as taught in Karbala. The youth of Karbala, their attitude and faith.

- 4) Political analysis: Where is Karbala happening today? Draw parallels to present day events around the world.

- 5) Leadership Analysis: Analyze leadership and the qualities of leaders that sway the masses. Compare the leaders during Karbala and leaders today.

- 6) Drama: Act out one of the scenes of the story of Karbala. Please ensure that the sanctity of the holy family is maintained when performing the drama. Most performances would have the face of the Imam covered.

- 7) Public Speaking: Discuss and enact the powerful speeches of Imam Husayn (a) and his sister Bibi Zaynab during the journey to and from Karbala.

- 8) Geography: Draw a map to show the journey of Imam Husayn (a) and his family from Saudi Arabia to Iraq, and the journey of his womenfolk and children back to Saudi Arabia.

- 9) Geography: Make a Geography guide with descriptions and pictures of each city that the holy family stopped at.