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148 AH in Madinah, His father was Imam Müsä al-Kāzim (a) and his mother was Bībī Najma.

When Imam Müsä al-Käzim saw his son, he said, "O Najma! Blessed are you for the miraculous offs Allah granted you." Then, he recited Adhan into his right ear and Igama into his left ear; He asked for some Euphrates water and

touched the baby's palate with it (for blessing). The new-born child was named Ali by his holy father and he was divinely entitled Ridhā. After the birth, Imam al-Kāzim gave Bībī Najma the title Tāhira, meaning pure.

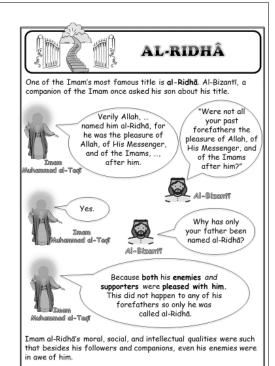
Imam al-Ridhā was born one month after the death of his Imam al-Ridhā was born one month after the death of the grandfather, Imam Ja'far al-Sādiq (a). He was brought up grandfather, Imam Ja'far al-Sādiq (a). He was brought up in Madīnah under the care and direction of his father.

The Imam was known for his excellent social conduct. He would give charity in the dark of the night. He would never speak harshly, interrupt someone talking, or reject someone who had a request. He was respectful and not even stretch his feet or lean on a support when others were present. He never laughed loud, rather he smiled. Before eating he would take a bowl and pick out the best part of the meal to put it in the bowl. He would then give the bowl to the poor. His social conduct showed his noble and gentle personality.

Food for Thought:

Which of the Imam's characteristics would you like to follow?









Imam al-Ridhā gave great importance to **praying on time** as it is

One day, Imam al-Ridhā set out on a journey with his companion Ibrāhīm b. Mūsā to meet some other companions. Ibrāhīm narrates that on their way it was time for salah. The Imam told him to give the call to prayer (Adhan).





It is not a good idea to postpone prayer for no valid reason. You should always try your best to pray right

Love for Allah filled the Imam's heart. He was obedient to Allah and loved to worship Him. He would often stand up in worship at night when everyone else was sleeping. He spent a great amount of time in supplication during his personal prayer (Qum@t).

Although Qunūt is optional (mustahab) in prayer, the Imam emphasized its importance. He said:

Qualit is an obligatory sunnah in all the daily prayers.

To prolong the Qunūt is recommended. Abu Dhar asked Prophet Muhammad: Which prayer is better? The Prophet replied: The prayer whose Qundt is longer. Anyone who lengthens his Qundt will have comfort on the Day of Resurrection.

Food for thought:

What are some Du'ās you recite in Qunūt?



IN TRANSIT



Along the way. Imam al-Ridhā was received by people in every city with great honor and respect. People hur<u>ried to</u> greet him, to get the blessing of kissing his hands, and to serve him. They asked the Imam questions they had about Islam and he answered everyone. This journey was an opportunity for the Muslims to Imams in person!

From Basra, the Imam crossed over the Shatt-al-Arab and reached the Persian soil heading towards the town of Qum. Imam spent the month of Muharram in Qum where he established the rituals of Majalis to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam al-Husayn



After spending the Month of Muharram in Qum, the Imam roceeded towards the northern part of Persia crossing the Alburz mountains to the town of Marv

Many stories are recorded of the Imam meeting people along the way and blessing them. He was so intimate with the Quran that all his sayings and replies to people's questions were of a Quranic nature. He would prestrate after his morning



prayers and stay in prostration until sunrise. He would perform a 1,000 rak'as of prayers in his free time. He would fast a lot, never neglecting the 3-days-a-month fasting. He would recite salawat often in his prayers and at other times

During his long journey, Imam reached an area clos to Mashhad. An impression of his feet were left there and it is now called "Qadamgah". Pilgrims visiting his shrine in Mashhad also visit Qadamgah

