

Yawm

On 10 Muharram 61 A.H./October 10, 680 A.D. Imam Husayn was killed in a battle with Yazid at Karbala in the month of Muharram. This event is commemorated during the first ten days of this month, known as *Ashura*. Imam Husayn's life and death are evoked in special poems of remembrance that have been composed to highlight key themes such as justice, devotion, and courage in the face of oppression. Recitations of these poems, accompanied by music, have also developed into a special genre.



Al-Ahad (Day One)	Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Al-Thaitha (Day Three)	Al-Arba'a (Day Four)	Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Al-Jum'a (Day of	Al-Sabt (Day of
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Gathering) Fri	Rest) Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Chandraat			
			Jan 9,2008	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18	Jan 19
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2
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26	27	28	29	30		
Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5	Feb 6	Feb 7		
				Compile	d by Nimira Dewii (nimira@shaw oa)



Hasan-i Sabbah arrived in Cairo in Safar 471 A.H./August 1078 A.D., where he spent a few years training as *dai*. Upon returning to Iran as chief *dai* of his home province, Hasan travelled extensively in service of the *dawa*. He acquired the castle of Alamut, marking the foundation of the Nizari Ismaili state, which lasted for some 166 years.

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Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One)	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three)	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four)	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering)	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest)
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Chandraat	2
					Feb 8, 2008	Feb 9
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Feb 10	Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14	Feb 15	Feb 16
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28	Feb 29	Mar 1
24	25	26	27	28	29	
Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5	Mar 6	Mar 7	



Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was born on 12th Rabi al-awwal in Mecca. His father died before he was born. His mother and grandfather both died before he had turned eight. His uncle, Hazrat Abu Talib, became his guardian. He trained Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in the family business, eventually taking him on trading missions along the caravan routes. As his experience grew, he took on greater responsibility and earned a reputation for being an able businessman and a trustworthy and honest member of one of Mecca's leading families. By the age of twenty five, he was approached to manage the caravans and business of a widow, Khadija. Her trust and reliance in him grew into admiration and affection, and they married.

Azim A. Nanji "The Prophet, the Revelation, and the Founding of Islam," *The Muslim Almanac* (Detroit: Gale Research Inc. 1996)

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One)	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three)	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four)	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering)	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest)
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Chandraat 1
						Mar 8, 2008
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Mar 9	Mar 10	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 15
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Milad al-Nabi		Navruz	
Mar 16	Mar 17	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20	Mar 21	Mar 22
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Mar 23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5



The Fatimid Caliph-Imam al-Muizz died in Cairo in Rabi II 365 A.H./December 975 A.D. at the age of forty four years, after an Imamat of twenty two years. During his reign, Imam al-Muizz founded the city of Cairo and made it the capital of the Fatimid empire. Under the reign of Imam al-Muizz and his successors, Cairo rapidly grew into a centre of Islamic scholarship, sciences, art, and culture, in addition to playing a prominent role in international trade and commerce. Among the arts, the cultivation of poetry was especially encouraged by the Fatimids.

Farhad Daftary, *The Ismailis Their history and doctrines* (Cambridge University Press, 1990)

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Four) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
Chandraat	2	3	4	5	6	7
Apr 6, 2008	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11	Apr 12
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
. Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Apr 20	Apr 21	Apr 22	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	Apr 26
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Apr 27	Apr 28	Apr 29	Apr 30	May 1	May 2	May 3
29	30					
May 4	May 5					



The Fatimid General, Jawhar. laid the foundation of al-Azhar in Cairo in Jumada I 359 A.H./ April 970 A.D. Founded initially as the main mosque of a new capital city of Cairo, al-Azhar became a fully integrated mosque-university during the early period of Shi'i Fatimid Ismaili rule. At its height, the curriculum taught at al-Azhar and related institutions in Cairo included the study and interpretation of the Holy Our'an, law, metaphysics, philosophy, the natural sciences, and poetry and literature. In succeeding centuries, when Fatimid rule was replaced Sunni dynasties, the function of al-Azhar changed and it became a prestigious centre for the study of religious sciences and law. Such an institution came to be known as a madrasa.

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One)	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Yawm Al-Thaitha (Day Three)	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four)	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering)	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest)
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Chandraat	2	3	4	5
		May 6, 2008	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31
27	28	29				
Jun 1	Jun 2	Jun 3			d by Nimira Daviji	



Nasir-i Khusraw returned to his home in Khurasan, in Iran in Jumada II 444 A.H.,/October 1052 A.D. after a seven-year journey, having stayed for three years in the Fatimid capital of Cairo. In his book Safarnama (Travelogue) he describes in detail the splendour of the Fatimid capital with its royal palaces, gardens, and shops as well as the wealth of Egypt. The record of his seven-year journey in Safarnama continues to be scrutinized for clues it offers about the history, politics, archaeology, customs, traditions, and the society of the region and time. The Safarnama was often used in European universities as the first reading book in Persian for its easy style.



	Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One)	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three)	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four)	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering)	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest)
	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3	4
l				Chandraat			
				Jun 4, 2008	Jun 5	Jun 6	Jun 7
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Jun 8	Jun 9	Jun 10	Jun 11	Jun 12	Jun 13	Jun 14
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Jun 15	Jun 16	Jun 17	Jun 18	Jun 19	Jun 20	Jun 21
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Jun 22	Jun 23	Jun 24	Jun 25	Jun 26	Jun 27	Jun 28
	26	27	28				
	Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1			_	
L					Compile	d by Nimira Dewii (nimira@chayy ca)



In the story of Meraj, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is taken on a night journey from the precinct of the bayt al-haram (the sacred house i.e. the Kaba) to the bayt al -muqaddas (the house of sanctity). From there, he is taken up through the seven heavens and is greeted by, and in effect validated by the previous Prophets who now occupy those heavens (Adam, Joseph, Aaron, Moses, Abraham, and Jesus). At the culmination, he sees the lote tree of the furthest boundary, the divine throne, the "house of life" (al-bayt al-mamur – the celestial counterpart to the Kaba), and receives the divinely ordained prayers for his community.

Michael A. Sells "Early Muslim Spirituality and Mysticism," *The Muslim Almanac* ed. Azim A. Nanji (Detroit: Gale Research Inc., 1996)

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
			Chandraat	2	3	4
			Jul 2, 2008	Jul 3	Jul 4	Jul 5
5	6	7	8	9	10 51 st Imamat	11
Jul 6	Jul 7	Jul 8	Jul 9	Jul 10	Day	Jul 12
12	13 Yawm-e-Ali	14	15	16	17	18
Jul 13	July 14	Jul 15	Jul 16	Jul 17	Jul 18	Jul 19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Jul 20	Jul 21	Jul 22	Jul 23	Jul 24	Jul 25	Jul 26
26	27 Meraj	28	29	30	31	
Jul 27	Jul 28	Jul 29	Jul 30	Jul 31	Aug 1	



In Shaban 439 A.H/February 1048 A.D., al-Mu'ayyad fi'l-Din al -Shirazi, an outstanding Ismaili scholar, was granted an audience with Imam al-Mustansir bi'llah in Cairo, Egypt. During the 5th/11th century, he spent most of his life serving the Caliph-Imam Mustansir billah (r. 427-487/1036-1094) as a dai eventually attaining the highest rank of chief dai in the Fatimid dawa. He authored 800 lectures for delivery to the assembly gathered at the Fatimid palace every Thursdays, and 60 qasidas in praise of Caliph-Imams al-Zahir and al-Mustansir bi'llah.

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Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaitha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
						1
						Chandraat
						Aug 2, 2008
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8	Aug 9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14	Aug 15	Aug 16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29
Aug 24/31	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30



The "Night of Power" (Laylat al-Qadr) is commonly regarded as the night on which the revelation of the Holy Qur'an was delivered to the Prophet. Leaving the busy streets of Mecca, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) often went to a cave on Mount Hira to contemplate. One day, he had a profound experience that included a vision and a voice. The message delivered to him was:

"Recite! In the name of your Lord who has created a human being from a clot of blood. Recite! For your Lord is generous, teaching by the pen, teaching humanity what it does not yet know" (Sura 96)

This event is believed to be the first revelation and marks the beginning of the process, resulting in the collected scripture, the Holy Qur'an, twenty two years later.

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Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One)	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two)	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three)	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five)	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest)
Sun	Mon	Tue		Thu		Sat
	Chandraat	2	3	4	5	6
	Sep 1, 2008	Sep 2	Sep 3	Sep 4	Sep 5	Sep 6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sep 7	Sep 8	Sep 9	Sep 10	Sep 11	Sep 12	Sep 13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sep 14	Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19	Sep 20
21	22	23 Laylat al-qadr	24	25	26	27
Sep 21	Sep 22	Sep 23	Sep 24	Sep 25	Sep 26	Sep 27
28	29					
Sep 28	Sep 29				Illan Nimina Danii (



Imam Rukn al-Din Khurshah surrendered Alamut to the Mongols in Shawwal 654 A.H./December 1256 A.D. This marked the end of the Nizari Ismaili state of Persia that had been founded over 160 years earlier. The first five centuries after the fall of Alamut comprise the most obscure phase in Nizari history. For at least two centuries, the Nizaris did not have direct access to the Imams, who were living discreetly in various parts of Persia. In order to avoid persecution, the Nizaris sought refuge under the mantle of Sufism. The Nizaris had, since the time of Hasan-i Sabbah, adopted Persian in preference to Arabic as their religious language. This commonality of language as well as the esoteric nature of the Ismaili tariqa facilitated the Ismaili-Sufi relationship.

	Yawm Al-Ahad (Day one) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
s			Chandraat	2 Eid al-Fitr	3	4	5
			Sep 30, 2008	Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4
s =	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7	Oct 8	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Oct 12	Oct 13	Oct 14	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Oct 19	Oct 20	Oct 21	Oct 22	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25
	27	28	29	30			
	Oct 26	Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29			



The castle of Alamut was surrendered to the Mongols at the end of Dhu'l-Qa'da 654 A.H./December 1256 A.D.

In 483/1090, the Persian Ismailis under the leadership of Hasan-i Sabbah acquired the castle of Alamut, situated in a remote and mountainous area of northern Iran. Over the next 150 years, the Ismailis acquired more than 200 fortresses in Persia (Iran) and Syria with settlements in surrounding towns and villages, thus establishing their own autonomous states in these regions.

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaltha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
				Chandraat	2	3
				Oct 30, 2008	Oct 31	Nov 1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Nov 2	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5	Nov 6	Nov 7	Nov 8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nov 9	Nov 10	Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22
25	26	27	28	29		
Nov 23	Nov 24	Nov 25	Nov 26	Nov 27		



On 18 Dhu'l-Hijja 10 A.H./16 March 643 A.D., when returning from his pilgrimage, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) stopped at Ghadir Khumm, between Mecca and Medina, to make an announcement to the pilgrims who had accompanied him. Taking Ali by the hand, he uttered the famous sentence man kuntu mawlahu fa-Ali mawlahu (He of whom I am the patron, Ali is also the patron), which, according to the Shi'a, made Ali his successor. The Shi'a believe that the Prophet had received the designation, nominating Ali as the Imam of the Muslims after his own death, through divine revelation. This event continues to be celebrated as one of the most important Shi'a festivals.

Farhad Daftary, *The Ismailis Their history and doctrines* (Cambridge University Press, 1990)

Yawm Al-Ahad (Day One) Sun	Yawm Al-Ithnain (Day Two) Mon	Yawm Al-Thaitha (Day Three) Tue	Yawm Al-Arba'a (Day Four) Wed	Yawm Al-Khamis (Day Five) Thu	Yawm Al-Jum'a (Day of Gathering) Fri	Yawm Al-Sabt (Day of Rest) Sat
					(1 Chandraat	2
					Nov 28, 2008	Nov 29
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6
10	11 Eid al-Adha	12	13	14	15	16 Hazar Imam's 72 nd Birthday
Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 13
17	18 Eid-e-Ghadir	19	20	21	22	23
Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27