

سورة الرحمن



NASA picture depicts birth of a star, an abstract representation of Imam Aamir's statement describing the birth of Imam Tayyib "from the essence of prophecy, light brought forth from light."

Sijill
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سجیل

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Featured updates:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ أَحْصَيْنَاهُ فِي إِمَامٍ مُّبِينٍ*

(Surat Yaseen: 12)

And all things We have encompassed in a clear Imam.

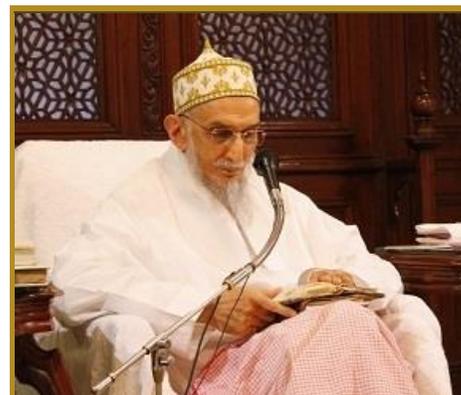
SIJILL ARTICLE: The Philosophy of Celebrating Milad of Imam-uz-zaman

The core of our faith is that in every age there is an Imam, a representative of Allah Ta'ala on earth, who guides mumineen to the Right Path, *Siraat-e-Mustaqeem*. Recognition and *ma'rifat* of this Imam is necessary for salvation and najaat. Rasulullah ^{SA} has said, "he who dies without knowing the Imam of his age, dies a death of ignorance (*jahiliyyat*)."
The first pillar of Islam is *walaayat*, which includes the recognition and obedience of the Imam-uz-zaman. The Qur'anic ayat

quoted above states that all things, all knowledge and the essence of creation, is encompassed in the Imam. Though the Imam is in seclusion, it is our firm belief that an Imam in the progeny of Mohammed and Ali is present on the face of this earth at all times. The Imam is the spiritual sun whose light shines in the night of seclusion through his Dai, the spiritual moon. As the physical moon reflects the light of the sun, the spiritual moon, the Dai, reflects the light of the spiritual sun, the Imam. The presence of the Dai is in itself a proof of the presence of the Imam. It is in Allah's wisdom that night follows day, and no sound person claims that the sun has ceased to exist when it sets every evening. It is also Allah's wisdom that the Imam enters the cave of seclusion during certain periods. Similarly, those with sound minds and beliefs do not doubt for a second that he is present though he is in seclusion. The celebration of the Milad of Imam-uz-zaman, the Imam of our age, on the 4th of Rabiul-Akhar is a day for us to



DAWAT HISTORY SERIES:
Sijill-ul-Bisharat – The Announcement of Imam Tayyib's ^{SA} Birth



NEWS & EVENTS:
Syedna ^{TUS} Regular Sabaq – 27th Rabiul Awwal 1436H

rejoice and remember the Imam to whom we pay allegiance and through whom we will achieve salvation and *najaat*. It is the day to remember and acknowledge that an Imam in flesh and blood graces the face of this earth this very day.

The reason it is celebrated on the 4th of Rabiul Akhar is that it is the day of the birth of the 21st Imam, Imam Tayyib ^{SA}. The 21st Imam was born in the time of *zuhoor* and he then entered into seclusion. When he entered into seclusion, his father Imam Aamir, the 20th Imam, appointed a Da'i to represent him and establish his Da'wat, at the hands of Maulatuna Hurratul Malika. The Da'wat during the time of the Imams' seclusion is known as the Da'wat of Imam Tayyib, *Tayyibi Da'wat*. Just as we address Imam-uz-zaman (the Imam of our age) as Tayyib al-Asr (Tayyib of our age) our *hudaat* made it a practice to celebrate the Milad of Imam-uz-zaman on the day of the Milad of Imam Tayyib the 21st Imam. Thus, 4th Rabiul Akhar is known as the Milad of Imam Tayyib and also the Milad of Tayyib-ul-Asr, Imam-uz-zaman.

We offer thanks to Allah Ta'ala on this day that he has guided us to the recognition of the Imam of our through his Dai in our midst. Those with the eyes of *baseerat* and faith see the light of the Imam shining in him.

DAWAT HISTORY SERIES: *Sijill-ul-Bisharat – The Announcement of Imam Tayyib's* ^{SA} Birth

On 4th of Rabiul Aakhar 524H, the 21st Imam, Imam Tayyib Abul Qasim ^{SA} was born. The 20th Imam, Imam Aamir sent the good tidings (*bishaarat/bushra*) of the birth of his noble son to his Hujjat Maultuna Hurratul Malika in Yemen in an iconic *Sijill*(epistle/letter) which is

famously known as the *Sijill-ul-Bisharat* (the Epistle of Good Tidings). The 19th Dai Syedna Idris Imaduddin in his kitab *Uyun ul Akhbar* presents the text of the *Sijill*.

In the *Sijill*, Imam Aamir informs Maulatuna Hurratul Malika ^{AS} that he has been blessed with a son and successor whom, "Allah Ta'ala has brought forth from the essence of prophecy, light brought forth from light." This is a powerful image of one Imam coming after another from a unified source of light. On the occasion of Milad we are pleased to present a full translation of the *Sijill* by Shz. Dr. Tahera baisaheba including a preface to the *Sijill* in Syedna Taher Saifuddin's RA *Risaalat Daw'u Nooril Haqqil Mubeen* 1385H (pp. 58). This is an excerpt, the full document and English translation is presented on Fatemidawat.com.

God's blessings on me cannot be counted. They have no boundary and no limit, and minds cannot encompass them. For they are like clouds—each time a cloud pours down and moves away, another richly heavy cloud takes its place. They are like the sun, blazingly bright. Continuous, connected, unending. They are like the rain-clouds, coming one after the other, morning and evening.

Among the most sublime of these blessings in value, the greatest in eminence and distinction, and the loftiest in majesty and pride, is the gift which God has just given me: a pure son, righteous and pleasing, virtuous and God-fearing. (His birth) took place on the eve of Sunday, 4th of the month of Rabi ul Akhar in the (Hijri) year 524 (=March 1130 AD). The royal pulpits revel in the fragrance of his name, the hopes of



Bedouins and city dwellers alike stretch toward his gifts, darknesses are illumined by his brow's glow and his forehead's splendor, and the Fatimid empire's pearls of virtues and eminence are strung together in him. God has brought him forth from the essence of prophecy, light brought forth from light, giving him to me as a gift that strike sparks from delight's flint-stones. I have named him Tayyib, because of the pure fragrance, teeb, of his essence, and given him the filonymic, kunyat, Abu-l-Qasim, which is the kunyat of his grandfather, prophet of right guidance; for his substance, jawhar, has been brought forth from his substance.

I offer gratitude to God Most High for this great blessing, for He has made a brilliant star rise in the skies of my empire, a glowing light in the firmament of my majesty and loftiness. I offer gratitude in the hope that it will ensure the continuity of God's blessings and the steady rain of His gifts and kindnesses. I ask God to fulfill my dearest hopes in him, to keep the rope-chain of the Imamate's links unceasingly connected, one link after the other, as long as days are connected with nights. I ask God to make him a refuge for guidance-seekers, proof against nay-sayers, succor for the distressed, a rain-cloud for the drought-stricken, shelter for the fearful, and bliss for people of

perception—so that the world gains by his felicity the largest share and portion of bliss, and the Imamate smiles widely in happiness.

LEGAL UPDATES: Bombay High Court 19th January 2015

The Hon'ble Justice G. S. Patel has directed that the revised affidavits of documents and Statements of Admission and Denial of documents are to be completed and exchanged by 9th February, 2015 and the plaintiffs evidence affidavits will be filed by 4th of March, 2015. The Hon'ble Court has listed the suit for marking documents and cross-examination (trial stage) of the Plaintiff's witnesses for three consecutive days from the 18th till the 20th of March from 12 noon onwards.

NEWS & EVENTS: Syedna^{TUS} Regular Sabaq – 27th Rabiul Awwal 1436H

Syedna Khuzaima Qutbuddin^{TUS} delivered the fourth Sabaq for Mumineen at Darus Sakina on Saturday the 27th of Rabiul Awwal. In the Sabaq Syedna^{TUS} showered pearls of wisdom on all the present and enriched their souls with spiritual sustenance.

Syedna^{TUS} began the Sabaq with an explanation of Rasulullah's^{SA} Hadith in which he likened different hearts to different fruits. A heart with faith (*imaan*) but without knowledge (*'ilm*) is like a date (*tamr*), for it had good taste but no fragrance. Second, a heart with neither knowledge nor faith is like a colocynth (*hanzal*- plant of the gourd family), for it has a bad taste and a foul smell. Third, a heart with knowledge but no faith is like a myrtle (*aas*), it exudes a fragrance but when you taste it, it is extremely bitter. Fourth, a heart with both knowledge and faith is like citrus fruit (*utruijjat*), a fruit that is both fragrant and tasty. Syedna^{TUS}

explained the nuances and depth of this Hadith.

Syedna^{TUS} continued bayaan he began in the earlier sabaq on the Tawil and signification of the namaz, particularly the five *fareezat* prayers.

Towards the end of the Sabaq Syedna^{TUS} explained a saying by the fourth Imam, Imam Mohammed-ul-Baqir^{SA}. On one occasion, Imam Mohammed-ul-Baqir addressed a gathering of his followers who had come to meet him. He told them that, "you have come here in my presence, and I urge you to convey my counsel to other mumineen when you meet them. First, I urge you to always maintain *taqwa*, a comprehensive term that denotes maintaining the fear of Allah, remembering that He is all knowing, and dedicating time to His *'ibaadat*. Second, those of you who are rich should take care of those who are poor and in difficulty. Third, those who are healthy should go and enquire about the health of those who are unwell. Fourth, those who are alive should attend the *janaza* of those who have passed away. They should visit and aid the family they have left behind in any way possible." Syedna added that our society, mumineen's society, should be such that we empathize with one another and care for each other. The Imam^{SA} concluded, "if you practice what I have advised you to then you will give life to our cause" (*hamara amar ne zinda karso*). Baqir Imam^{SA} then bestowed *doa*, "May Allah Ta'ala shower His *rehmaton* those who gives life our cause." The Imam then advised them that you always to "good deeds" (*amal saleh*). Syedna added that it is vital to keep this in our mind, to have a mindset geared towards good deeds: praying *namaz*, Qur'an, living by Shri'at, good character. Baqir Imam SA then firmly said, "you will not enjoy/receive the

virtues and blessings of our *walaayat* and *mohabbat* without piety and hard work/endeavor." Syedna TUS added that, "in this age where people are very time conscious, I always say that the time you spend for the recitation of Qur'an, for namaz, for going to the Masjid and for good deeds, that is the best investment of your time."

Mumineen present offered Shukur in Hazrat Imamiyya for the *barakat* of the *'ilm* of Aale Mohammed SA and for the energizing their *hidayat* and guidance. May Allah Ta'ala grant the longest life to Aqamaula^{TUS} to continue to bestow us with this *ne'mat* and may He give us the *tawfeeq* and strength to live according to Syedna's counsel.

ANNOUNCEMENT & AMAL DETAILS: Milad Imam-uz-zaman^{SA}

Syedna Khuzaima Qutbuddin^{TUS} will preside over Milad Imam-uz-zaman^{SA} Khushi Majlis on Saturday, 4th Rabiul Aakhar 1436H (24th January 2015) at 4.00PM at Darus Sakina, Thane. Syedna^{TUS} will do bayaan and zikar of Taysyib Imam^{SA} in the Majlis. Majlis will be followed by Maghrib Isha Namaaz and Khushi Jaman. In Bakersfield Shz. Taher bhaisaheb will preside over Milad Khushi Majlis on eve of Milad Imam-uz-zaman^{SA}, 4mi raat of Rabiul Aakhar (Friday, 23rd January 2015) at 5.45PM PST (Saturday 24th January 7.15AM IST). The Majlis will be broadcast live and will be available for replay using [this link](#).

Mas'uls (Coordinators) in each town will inform local mumineen about their respective Majlis programs. In towns where coordinators are listed, please contact them directly for further details.

Mumineen in other towns and cities should take barakaat on this auspicious

occasion.

Mumineen should recite qasida composed by Syedna Taher Saifuddin RA Milaad Maulanal-Imamit-Tayyibi (PDF of text on [website](#)) and take part in the Majlis in Bakersfield through the link provided above.

FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE MONTHLY SABAQ

SERIES: Part 2 – Introduction –The Meaning & Purpose of Shari’at

Last week the second part in the series ‘From the Cradle to the Grave’ was

presented. In the 16 minute video, Shz Taher Bhaisaheb addresses the meaning and purpose of the Shari’at of Islam, Shari’at Mohammadiyya. Through the sabaq he raises and answers pertinent questions. Part 2 (16 min) of the sabaq series is now available for viewing on Fatemidawat.com. Part 3 will be available next week inshaallah.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Saturday Bethak

As earlier stated in the philosophy of

Da’wat and the Guiding Principles, access to the Dai is available for all mumineen, not just a select few. Following the end of Ashara Mubarak, bethak audience with Syedna Qutbuddin are once again scheduled every Saturday (starting Saturday 23rd Muharram/ 15th November). Bethak is at 6.30pm at Darus Sakina, Thane after Imamat Namaz. Mumineen are invited for Salawat Jaman.

This Newsletter

This newsletter will inshaallah be published every Friday. It will include the latest news and instructions from Syedna Qutbuddin’s office and will be published in Dawat-ni-zaban and Gujarati. It will also highlight the latest updates on fatemidawat.com. Please register to receive the newsletter regularly at info@fatemidawat.com

Sijill is an Arabic word which literally means official letter. It was a term often used in the Fatimid chancery. The name is inspired by the most auspicious letter ‘Sijill-ul-Bisharat’.

Updates this week

- SIJILL ARTICLE: *The Philosophy of Celebrating Milad of Imam-uz-Zaman*^{SA}
- DAWAT HISTORY SERIES: *Sijill-ul-Bisharat – The Announcement of Imam Tayyib’s*^{SA} *Birth*
- LEGAL UPDATES: *Bombay High Court 19th January 2015*
- ANNOUNCEMENT & AMAL DETAILS: *Milad Imam-uz-zaman*^{SA}
- FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE MONTHLY SABAQ SERIES: *Part 2 – Introduction –The Meaning & Purpose of Shari’at*
- ANNOUNCEMENT: *Saturday Bethak*

Upcoming updates

- Ikhwanus Safa Article Series – 4th Installment
- Women in Islam Series: *The Experience of a Muslim Woman - Part 2*
- QJSP: *First Higher Education Scholarships Details*
- Syedna^{TUS} Ashara Waaz Highlights
- Shz Taher bhaisaheb monthly sabaq broadcast
- Matrimonial Forum and Nikah
- Quran recitation with commentary analysis (regular).
- Hikayaat: Morals & Fables from Dawat Kitaabs
- Fatemi Madrasa new material
- Fatemi Dawat Architecture – Galleries and Presentations
- Fatimid Literature Article Series
- Q&A series on pertinent issues: Shari’a compliant finance, qasar namaz.

If you have any suggestions for updates and content please email info@fatemidawat.com

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