

Question 9

Mention briefly about what has been recorded about the life of Imam Mahdi (a.s.).

Reply:

Name: M-H-M-D

Famous Titles: Mahdi, Mau'ood, Wali- al-Asr, Sahebuz Zamaan, Qa'im, Muntazar, Hujjatullah, Muntaqim, etc.

Kuniyyat: Abul Qasim, Abu Abdillah.

Names of Parents: Imam Hasan al-Askari (a.s.) and Janab Narjis Khatoon (s.a.w.a.).

Time and place of Birth: Born in Samarra, a city in Iraq, on 15th of Shabaan in the year 255 A.H. Till the age of five, he lived an obscure life under the care of his father.

The Minor Occultation: After the martyrdom of Imam Hasan al-Askari (a.s.), he assumed the responsibilities of Imamat. Immediately thereafter in 260 A.H., with the permission of the Almighty, the Minor Occultation started. This lasted for sixty nine years till 329 A.H. In this period there were four special representatives who played the role of intermediaries between him and the people.

The Major Occultation: It commenced in the year 329 A.H. With this, the period of special representation ended and the era of general representation began. The major occultation will continue so long as Allah desires. Allah will make him reappear to fill this world with justice whenever He so desires.

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