



In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

## Lajna Ta'lim Lesson Plan Outline

Month: JULY 2018

Learning Objectives: To revise the Book Kashti e Nuh (Noah's Ark) by The Promised Messiah (AS)

Time	Activity and Comments	Resource
30 minutes	<p><b>Taken from lesson plan January 2017:</b></p> <p>Questions on Kashti e Nuh (Ark of Noah) (Pages 1-7)</p> <p>(The answers are taken direct from the book and not paraphrased.)</p> <p><b>Q1. Why did the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> praise the British government?</b> Gratitude is due to the eminent British government who, showing kindness to its subjects, has once again advised inoculation against the plague, and has undertaken the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of rupees for the welfare of the servants of God.</p> <p><b>Q2. Why does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> write that it is the duty of all subjects to take the inoculation?</b> Unfortunate are the subjects who reach such a degree of mistrust. There can be no doubt that until now inoculation is by far the best physical remedy that the government has found, and there is no denying that this remedy has proven to be effective. It is the duty of all subjects to make use of the means that are available to them so that they may relieve the government of the pain it feels for them.</p> <p><b>Q3. Why did the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> and his follower's decline to take the inoculation against plague?</b> This notwithstanding, we must say to this kind government with all due respect that had there not been a heavenly prohibition for us, we would have been the first among its subjects to be inoculated. The heavenly prohibition is that God in this age desires to show a heavenly sign of His mercy to mankind. Addressing me, He said: 'You and those who dwell within the four walls of your house; those who unconditionally follow you and are obedient to you, and who on account of true righteousness have become devoted to you, shall all be safeguarded against the plague. This will be a sign of God in the Latter Days so that He might demonstrate a distinction between people. But those who do not follow you completely are not of you. Be not anxious on their account.'</p> <p>And again: At this instance, let it be remembered that to seek treatment for the plague or other diseases is not a sin. In fact, it is recorded in a Hadith that there is no disease for which God has not created a remedy. However, I consider it a sin to throw doubt on this sign by recourse to inoculation, for it is a sign which God, for our sake, wishes to demonstrate</p>	



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clearly in the world. I dare not demean His true sign and His true promise by resorting to inoculation. If I did, I would be accountable for the sin of not believing in the promise that God has given to me. If I were to benefit from inoculation, then I should be grateful to the doctor who invented the vaccine, and not to God who promised me that He would protect everyone dwelling in this house.

**Q4. What promise did Allah the Almighty make to the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> regarding the plague and the Ahmadis?**

For as I have mentioned, God—who is the Lord of heaven and earth, and beyond whose knowledge and power there is nothing—revealed to me long ago that He would save everyone who lives inside the four walls of this house from death by the plague, provided he gives up all antagonism and enters into the allegiance of Bay'at <sup>1</sup> in all sincerity, submission and humility. He must not be arrogant, wilful, proud, heedless or vain towards God's commands and His Appointed One, and his conduct ought to be in conformity with my teachings. He has also told me that Qadian will be saved from such ravages of the plague that cause people to die like dogs and become mad with grief and confusion, and that generally the members of this community, however large in number, will be safe against the plague as compared to my opponents.

**Q5. What did the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> say regarding those members of the community who could be weak in their faith and practice?**

However, such of my followers may fall prey to the plague who do not fully abide by their pledge, or concerning whom there is some hidden reason in the knowledge of God.

**Q6. What did the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> say of an odd case of death that may happen within the community?**

It is possible that there may be the odd case in my community due to a weakness of faith or a lack of action or death at its appointed time or on account of other causes which are known to God. However, rare instances as these cannot constitute the general rule. Whenever a comparison is made, the majority is given precedence. The government has itself found after investigation that those who make use of the plague vaccine have a lower fatality rate than those who do not. Therefore, just as the occasional death does not diminish the value of the vaccination, similarly, if there are occasional instances of the plague in Qadian or a few members of this community die from the disease, the grandeur of this sign will not diminish.

**Q7. Why does God show miracles?**

His powers are infinite, but they are revealed to people in proportion to their belief. Those who are blessed with certainty and love, and sever all ties for Him, and have broken free from selfish habits, it is for their sake that miracles are shown.



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**Q8. When and in which book of the Promised Messiah (as) the prophecy regarding plague was recorded? Where else was the warning of the Plague given?**

Twenty years ago, a prophecy regarding this great affliction of the plague was recorded in my book *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyyah* and it was also promised therein that my community would be greatly blessed. See *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyyah* pages 518 and 519. Let it also be borne in mind that both the Holy Quran and even certain books of the Torah <sup>1</sup> foretell that plague will break out in the time of the Promised Messiah. In fact, the Messiah, peace be upon him, also spoke of this in the Gospel. It is impossible for the prophecies of the Messengers to be revoked.

1 The occurrence of the plague in the time of the Promised Messiah is recorded in the following books of the Bible:

*Zachariah 14:12, the Gospel of Matthew 24:8 and Revelations 22:8.*

**Q9. Whom had God Almighty promised to deliver from the affliction of plague?**

In addition to this, God Almighty has emphatically declared that He will deliver from the affliction of the plague those sincere inhabitants of my home who are not arrogant before Him and His Appointed One. In relative comparison to others, God will grant this community a special favour.

**Q10. What does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> say regarding those who may differ in theological beliefs?**

For calamities are not sent upon anyone in the world because of theological differences. Such matters will be decided in the hereafter.

**Taken from lesson plan February 2017:**

Questions on Kashti e Nuh (Ark of Noah) (Pages 7-29)

(The answers are taken direct from the book and not paraphrased.)

**Q1. Why did the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> say that it was necessary for him to eschew any human contingencies?**

..... It is necessary for me to eschew any human contingencies, lest our enemies attribute this divine sign to other agencies.

**Q2. What examples does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> give to prove that if members of the community were to suffer from plague then their affiliation could not be attributed to diminish divine sign?**

No one should labour under the illusion that if a rare death occurs on account of the plague within my community, this would vitiate the greatness and stature of this sign. In old times, Moses and Joshua, and ultimately our Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, were commanded to slay



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with the sword those who first raised the sword against them and who shed the blood of hundreds. Furthermore, this was a sign from the Prophets, after which a grand victory was achieved. Yet, despite this, in the field of battle the truthful too were slain by the swords of the wrongdoers, but very few. Such a loss was not significant enough to spoil the grandeur of this sign. Accordingly, if on the rare occasion, some members from among my community were to contract the plague, owing to the reasons already specified, their affliction shall in no way diminish this divine sign.

**Q3. What would be the outcome of this divine sign?**

Indeed, as a result of this divine sign, the plague will cause this community to grow manifold and enjoy a level of success so unprecedented that it will be heralded with great astonishment. If God does not manifest some distinction between this community and others according to the prophecy, then the opponents, who have hitherto suffered one defeat after another, as I have written in my book *Nuzul-ul-Masih*, will be justified in proclaiming me a liar. Thus far, they have only managed to heap a curse upon themselves by rejecting me.

**Q4. What was the prophecy regarding Abdullah Atham and how was it fulfilled?**

For example, they raised an ongoing hue and cry that Atham <sup>1</sup> had not died within the fifteen month period, even though the prophecy was clearly worded that if he returned to the truth then he will not perish within the fifteen months.

<sup>1</sup> Abdullah Atham was a retired civil servant and a prominent Christian polemicist who famously debated with the Promised Messiahas on the truth of Christianity and Islam. The debate lasted from 22 May to 5 June 1893. [Publisher]

And it so happened that during the very course of our debate, he recanted from referring to the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, as the antichrist before seventy respectable men. Not only this, but in the subsequent fifteen months, his silence and fear testified to his contrition. The grounds to this prophecy was that he had referred to the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, as the antichrist and so his repentance benefited him only to the extent that he did not die within fifteen months, but he did ultimately perish. This was because the prophecy stated that whosoever out of the two of us was false in his beliefs would be the first to die. Therefore, he passed away before me.

**Q5. What does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> say regarding the unseen matters that God had revealed to him?**

Similarly, other matters of the unseen that God has revealed to me which have come to pass at their appropriate time, number no less than ten thousand. By way of example, I have recorded only a hundred and fifty such



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signs in my book *Nuzul-ul-Masih*, which is to be published and I have complemented this with supporting evidence and witnesses. All of my prophecies have been fulfilled, or in the case of those prophecies which consist of two parts, at least one part has come true so far. Even if a person were to strive all his life in the hope of finding a prophecy that was uttered from my mouth, about which one could assert that it has remained unfulfilled, he will not be able to find a single one.

**Q6. What reason does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> give for Allah the Almighty to make Himself manifest to the world?**

This will come to pass because the earth has been corrupted and people have lost faith in the Creator of the heavens and the earth. They pay lip service to Him but their hearts are estranged from Him. That is why God has declared that now He will create a new heaven and a new earth. This means that the earth has perished, that is, the hearts of the people of earth have so hardened as if they are dead. The face of God has become hidden from them and heavenly signs of the past were all reduced to myth and legend. Thus, God has decreed to create a new heaven and a new earth.

**Q7. What is the New Heaven and the new Earth that God has decreed to create?**

What is this new heaven? And what is this new earth? A new earth means those pure hearts that God is preparing with His own hand, which will be manifested by Him and through whom God will be manifested. A new heaven means those signs which are being shown by His command at the hand of His servant. It is a pity, however, that the world has opposed this new manifestation of God. They have nothing in hand but tales; their God is spawned by their own fancies. Their hearts are crooked, their resolve is weary and their eyes are veiled. Other nations have lost the true God themselves, let alone those who have deified the offspring of men.

**Q8. What was the state of the Muslims at that time?**

Look at the state of the Muslims; how far detached from God they are. They are bitter opponents of the truth, and are like sworn enemies of the path of righteousness. For example, there is the Nadwat-ul-Ulama, who claim to represent Islam, or the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam *Lahore*, who take the wealth of Muslims in the name of Islam. Are these people well-wishers of Islam? Are they supporters of the right path? Are they aware of the tribulations that have smothered Islam and are they cognizant of the methods of revival employed by God? I truthfully declare that if I had not come, their claims to

support Islam might have been acceptable to some extent. But now these people stand accused by God Himself; for despite claiming to be supportive, they were the first to deny the star of heaven when it emerged.

Now what answer will they give to God who has sent me precisely at the appointed time? Alas, they are completely heedless. The sun has almost reached its zenith, but by their reckoning it is still night. God's fountain



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gushes forth but they continue to lament in their wastelands. A river of His heavenly knowledge flows before them but they are completely oblivious to it. His signs continue to become manifest but they remain utterly unmindful of them. In fact, not only are they unmindful but they harbour hostility towards the community of God. So these are their efforts for the sake of assisting, propagating and teaching Islam!

**Q9. Will the rejection of these people halt the true will of God? How did God testify the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> ?**

Certainly not! Instead, God's prophecy, Allah has decreed: "Most surely I will prevail, I and My Messengers". (Surah *Al-Mujadalah*, 58:22)], will soon be fulfilled. Ten years ago today, God testified in favour of His servant by causing the sun and the moon to eclipse in Ramadan. He caused the luminary of day and the luminary of night to bear testimony in my favour and thus manifested two signs. Similarly, in fulfilment of the prophecies of the Prophets, He also showed two earthly signs:

(1) You read the first of these in the Holy Qur'an as stated: "And when the she-camels, ten-month pregnant, are abandoned. ( *Surah At-Takwir*, 81:5)" Then, in the Hadith as you read:" The she-camels shall be abandoned and shall not be used." For the fulfilment of this a railway in the land of Hejaz i.e. between Mecca and Medina is being constructed.

(2) The second sign is the plague, as God Almighty says: "There is not a township but We shall destroy it before the Day of Resurrection, or punish it... ( *Surah Bani Isra'il*, 17:59)."

So, God introduced the railway in the land and also sent the plague so that the heaven and earth may bear witness.

**Q10. The Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> says "do not war with God". What would be the consequence of this?**

.....as to war with Him will be sheer folly. In the past, when God decreed to make Adam a Khalifah, the angels put forth their plea. But was God held back by their submission? Now when He has raised the second Adam, He has declared: that, "I decreed to raise a *Khalifah* and have thus decided to raise this Adam. Can anyone halt the will of God? So why do you present this worthless conjecture and not tread the path of certainty? Do not put yourself to trial and know for certain that there is no one who can frustrate the will of God. Such disputes are against the path of righteousness.

**Q11. What advise does the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> give to those who have any doubts in his claim?**

But, should anyone be prey to doubt, there is another method. On the basis of God's revelation, I have received glad tiding that the group of individuals who pay heed to my words will be saved from the punishment of the plague and this has been published.

Similarly, other people who possess heartfelt concern for the welfare of their people should also secure the good news from God Almighty that their



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co-religionists will be protected from the plague. Then, they too ought to publish this prophecy so that the public knows that they enjoy God's support. In fact, this too is a wonderful opportunity for the Christians who ever proclaim that salvation lies with the Messiah. Surely, in these days of peril, they too are obliged to deliver their fellow Christians from the plague. So, of all these denominations, the one whom God heeds the most will have to be considered as accepted by Him.

**Q12. What word of warning and challenge does the Promised Messiah as offer to other faith denominations?**

Now, God has given everyone the opportunity to cease unnecessary indulgence in debates on earth and instead show the level of their acceptance so that they can be saved from the plague and their own truth may become evident as well. This is particularly true for the Christian clergy who have declared the Messiah son of Mary to be the saviour of the world and the hereafter. If they truly believe the Son of Mary to be the Lord of this world and the next, then they are entitled to witness a manifestation of salvation through his atonement. This will also ease the problems of the eminent government. In order to save their people and deliver them from the plague, the various denominations present in British India, who consider themselves true in their faith, ought to repair to their God whom they believe in, or any other being whom they deem worthy of worship besides God, and call on Him to save these afflicted souls. And they ought to attain a firm promise from their God and publish it in the form of announcements just as I have published this announcement. Not only is such a course wholly in the interest of all creation, but will also help establish the truth of their particular faith and shall also provide assistance to the government. What more does the administration desire than the deliverance of its people from the plague, by any means possible?