

AQR unveils special programs for Islamic month of Safar

Under 'Iran of Imam Reza' slogan

ANNOUNCEMENT

The activities planned for the final 10 days of Safar, the second month of the Islamic lunar calendar, at Astan Quds Razavi (AQR) are organized into three sections: headquarters operations, cultural support, and artistic and educational programs. They aim to explain the teachings of Imam Reza (PBUH), promote practical adherence to the principle of Velayat-e Faqih, and improve services for pilgrims and residents.

According to the report, a content framework for the final 10 days of Safar has been prepared and communicated to the provincial executive bodies to ensure maximum coordination. Additionally, a special cultural headquarters for this period has commenced its operations. By forming specialized working groups in the fields of propagation, products, scientific-research, and media, this headquarters has taken responsibility for content production, audience analysis, and the integration of information dissemination. The establishment of a specific naming framework for the final 10 days of Safar was also implemented to maintain content and identity cohesion across all programs.

AQR to host Sunni scholars and intellectuals

A symposium for Sunni scholars and intellectuals centered on the theme of the Great Prophet (PBUH) is a key program organized to pursue the sacred axis of unity within the Islamic Ummah.

A collection of cultural and promotional items has been prepared for use in the city, at service tents (mukibs), and in accommodation centers. Furthermore, special cultural packages have been arranged for hotels, railways, and airports to ensure the thematic message of these days is conveyed from the moment pilgrims arrive in Mashhad, northeast Iran. The production of audio-visual packages and the design of exclusive posters for the final 10 days of Safar are among the other measures taken by this organization to strengthen the spiritual atmosphere of the service tents and accommodation centers.

The walkway of the late Ayat. Vaez Tabasi has been designed as the "Amin Narrative" cultural and artistic passage. This passage focuses on the perspective of the martyred Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution (may Allah sanctify his soul) regarding the concepts of Imam Reza (PBUH), pilgrimage, and the culture of service, representing his intellectual system through diverse artistic formats. In this section, in addition to explaining the three main concepts of service, pilgrimage, and Imamate, six historical figures related to the life and era of Imam Reza (PBUH) are introduced to the pilgrims.

The Qur'anic program package "Angels of Resistance" has recreated the image of the circle of chil-

dren surrounding the martyred Leader at the Dar al-Zikr area of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine. Additionally, three special publications titled "Minaret," "Naghareh Khaneh," and "Dar al-Zikr" have been produced for different age groups.

Six plays based on the gifts donated by the martyred Leader to the museum have been produced and will be performed at the Museum of the Leader's Gifts until late September. Furthermore, the long play "Footsteps of the Sun" in the Quds Hall and the documentary-film "Sayyid Khorasani" behind the Wali al-Asr Portico are among the other artistic programs of this period.

Additionally, the scientific-cultural program "Tireless Fighter" is being broadcast in eight parts as a combined dialogue format on Iran's national media, and the "Qur'anic Leader" exhibition is welcoming enthusiasts.

From public mourning to martyrdom night sermons

Concurrent with the arrival of the final 10 days of Safar and the heartbreaking passing of the Prophet of Love and Mercy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the martyrdom of his eldest grandson, Imam Hassan (PBUH), and the lonely martyrdom of the Prophet's kin, Imam Reza (PBUH), various promotional-cultural programs and mourning rituals are being held at the shrine to allow pilgrims to benefit from the blessings of visiting the Imam of Mercy.

'In Mourning of the Sun' ritual

Among these programs is the "In Mourning of the Sun" mourning ritual. Starting from the evening of Saturday, August 8, 2026 (corresponding to the 24th of Safar), for five consecutive nights following the evening congregational prayers in the Imam Khomeini Portico of the shrine, this event will host devotees of the Ahl al-Bayt.

'Razavi Sermon' ritual

The "Razavi Sermon" mourning and lamentation ritual is another program of the shrine during the final 10 days of Safar. This special program will commence from the evening of Sunday, August 9, 2026 (corresponding to the 25th of Safar), for five consecutive nights at 10:00 p.m. local time in the Grand Imam Khomeini Portico of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine, hosting pilgrims.

Special mourning ceremony for women

A special mourning ceremony has also been arranged for female pilgrims and residents during these days. Held under the title "Mourning Prophethood and Guardianship," the ceremony will welcome female pilgrims and residents every day until the end of Safar in two sessions: at 10:20 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. local time in the Najma Khatun Portico of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine.

The mourning ceremony includes various sections, including



Children prepare to read the Holy Qur'an as part of the Qur'anic program "Angels of Resistance" held at the Dar al-Zikr area of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine on August 9, 2026.

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Mourning ceremonies for non-Iranian pilgrims

Special mourning ceremonies for non-Iranian pilgrims during the final 10 days of Safar will be held in two sections for Arabic-speaking and Urdu-speaking pilgrims. The special program for Arabic-speaking pilgrims will welcome visitors from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates in two daily sessions: after the noon and afternoon prayers in the Dar al-Marhama Portico, and after the sunset and night prayers in the Ghadir Portico of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine. The Ghadir Portico of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine will also host Urdu-speaking pilgrims from India and Pakistan during the final 10 days of Safar. Mourning ceremonies will be held every night after the sunset and night prayers. The "Gathering of Arabic-Speaking Women," scheduled for 5 p.m.

lectures and presentations on religious teachings, recitation of prose pieces by adolescent girls, religious poetry, lamentation recitations, and expressions of grief for the Prophet Muhammad's household.

Children's mourning ceremony at Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine

The "Children's Hussainiyeh" special program, aimed at promoting the teachings of the household of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), is another event planned for the mourning days of the final 10 days of Safar.

During the ceremony, religious concepts, including the conduct of the family of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the etiquette of pilgrimage, are taught to children aged three to 10 through poetry, tales, stories, puppet shows, and other child-oriented activities in a child-friendly environment.



A poster of the martyred Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei alongside one of his poems is seen in a square in the holy city of Mashhad, northeastern Iran, on August 9, 2026.

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local time on Wednesday, August 12, and a poetry evening for Urdu-speaking pilgrims, scheduled for Sunday, August 9, after the sunset and night prayers in the Ghadir Portico, are among the main programs for non-Iranian pilgrims at Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine during the final 10 days of Safar.

'Hussainiyeh of the Shrine' program

One of the most popular programs during the final 10 days of Safar is the establishment of a Hussainiyeh representing the entire Islamic Republic of Iran at Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine. The Hussainiyeh will be set up in the Quds Courtyard of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine, where mourning groups from across the country will gather to mourn and express their devotion to the sacred presence of the family of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The Hussainiyeh will welcome religious mourning groups from the provinces of Mazandaran, Hamedan, Sistan and Baluchestan, Golestan, Isfahan, Khorasan Razavi, North Khorasan, South Khorasan, Hormozgan, East Azarbaijan, Bandar Abbas, and other areas in three daily sessions: from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., and from 11 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. local time.

'Threshold of devotion' program

During the final 10 days of Safar, a special program titled "Threshold of Devotion," a mourning gathering for various social groups and pilgrimage delegations, will be held every day from 7:30 p.m. local time in the Dar al-Hedayah Portico of the Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine from August 9 to 13.

Series of religious Q&A sessions

During the mourning days of the final 10 days of Safar, pilgrims and residents of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine can attend a series of religious question-and-answer (Q&A) sessions every day at 7:40 p.m. local time in the Islamic Republic Courtyard of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine. The sessions will address various religious, social, cultural, and pilgrimage-related topics in the presence of religious instructors and experts.

Qur'anic programs at Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine

Holding Qur'anic gatherings is another program planned for the final 10 days of Safar. One such event is the "Razavi Qur'an Recitation Forum," which will welcome pilgrims every day at 5 p.m. local time in the Imam Khomeini Portico of Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine. The Dar al-Hojjah Portico of the Imam Reza (PBUH) Shrine will also host the Razavi Qur'an Recitation Forum every night after the sunset and night prayers, with the participation of international Qur'an reciters and memorizers. A special Qur'anic gathering for adolescents will be held every day