

# TIMELINE OF IMAM ALI IBN MUSA AL-RIDA (A)



**Father:**  
**Musa al-Kadhim (a)**

**Mother:**  
**Lady Najma or Tuktam**

**Period of Imamat:**  
**20 Years**

**Titles:**  
**Al-Sabir, al-Radi, al-Rida, al-Wafi, Abul Hasan.**



## 148-173AH

### 148 AH: Birth

- Imam Rida (a) was born on the **11th of Dhu l-Qa'da**, in the city of Medina. In other narrations, it is reported that he was born on 11th Dul Hijjah in the year 153 AH but **Al-Kulayni** reported Imam's (a) birthday in 148/765, which is agreed by most historians
- 15 days before Imam Rida (a)'s birth, his grandfather **Imam Jafar al Sadiq (a)** passed away.
- His (a) mother was a pious lady called **Najma or Tuktam** who was brought to Imam al-Kadhim (a) by **Lady Hamida**.



- Imam al-Kadhim (a) named her **Tahirah** after she gave birth to **Imam Rida (a)**. It has been said that Imam Rida's (a) mother was from Nubia.
- Imam Rida (a) was born during the rulership of Mansur al-Dawaniqi.

### 149-172 AH: (1 -24 years old) Abbasi Rulership

- Imam al-Kadhim (a) and his family remained under the surveillance of the different Abbasid rulers and faced many years in imprisonment during these 23 years.
- In **170 AH**, **Harun al Rasheed** came into power.
- Imam Rida (a) closely watched his father's stance on the politics of that time, who maintained a neutral approach in these years and did not take part in the uprisings against the Abbasid caliphs.

### 173 AH: (25 years old ) Birth of his sister

- His beloved sister Lady Fatimah al-Ma'suma was born in the month of Dhu l-Qa'da in the city of Medina.

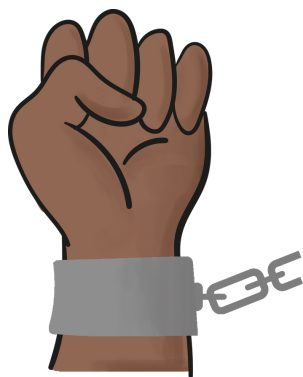


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**174-183AH** "I asked Imam al-Kadhim (a), 'who is imam after you?' He (a) pointed at his son Abu l-Hasan (a) [Imam Rida (a)] and said, 'this is your imam after me.'"

**-Dawud al-Raqqi (Companion of Imam al-Kadhim )**



**174-179 AH: (26- 31 years old )**

- Though Imam al-Kadhim (a) was in and out of prison, he made sure to introduce Imam Rida (a) to his close Shias from time to time.
- In the year 179 AH, Imam al-Kadhim (a) was summoned by Harun al Rasheed to Baghdad, where he was placed under house arrest.

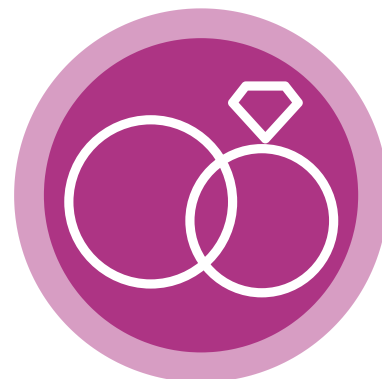
**183 AH: (35 years old)**

- On 25th Rajab, his father, Imam Musa al-Kadhim (a) passed away in Kadhimiyyah due to the poison given to him by Harun al Rasheed.
- He became the eighth Imam.
- The followers of his father divided into two groups:
  - Qat'iyya: Those who accepted him as 8th Imam, based on Imam al-Kadhim's (a) will and by observing Imam Rida's (a) evidences and display of knowledge on various topics.
  - Waqifids: Those who denied his Imamate.
- The Waqifids started a movement and rejected him.



**Year: Unknown (Marriage)**

- He got married to Lady Sabika, who was from the family of the Holy Prophet's (s) wife, Lady Maria.



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## 184-192AH

**184-192 AH: (36-44 years old) Strengthening the religion**

- Imam Rida (a) was still living in Medina while maintaining a strong circle of followers.
- Muhammad ibn Ja'far ibn Muhammad, brother of Imam al-Sadiq (a), revolted against Harun Rasheed in Medina.
- Harun ordered his military commander Isa Jaludi to go on war with him to suppress the uprising.



- After the victory, Isa Jaludi attacked the houses of the Alawites and looted their property.
- When Jaludi attacked Imam Rida's (a) house, Imam (a) took the women to one of the rooms and guarded them. As Jaludi was determined to collect the valuables by entering the house, Imam (a) didn't grant him the permission to do so. After much debate, he (a) collected the jewelry and handed it over to Jaludi. His (a) resistance protected the daughters of the Prophet (s) from getting harmed and insulted.

## 193-198AH

**193 AH: (45 years old) Death of Harun al Rasheed**

- Death of the Abbasid ruler, Harun Rasheed.
- Amin, son of Harun Rasheed, became the next Abbasid caliph.
- In the following years, Amin and his brother Ma'mun fought for the rulership.



**195 AH: (47 years old) Becoming a father**

- Imam Rida (a)'s wife, Lady Sabika, gave birth to **Imam Muhammad al-Jawad (al-Taqi) (a)**.

**198 AH: (50 years old)**

- Ma'mun defeated his brother Amin and ruled over the entire Abbasid empire.



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## 200-203AH

### 200 AH: (52 years old) Journey to Khorasan

- Imam Rida (a) was summoned by Ma'mun.
- During his migration, as he was entering the city of Neyshabour, he narrated a famous hadith which is known as hadith of golden chain, due to its reference leading back to Rasulullah (s) :



*"Allah (swt) has said: ' The kalimatu Laa ilaaha illallah (the saying that there's no god but Allah) is My fortress. Whoever chants it, enters My fortress; and whoever enters My fortress shall be safe from My punishment". The Imam (a) then paused for a moment and continued, "There are few conditions entitling entrance to the fortress and I am one of its conditions."*

### 201 AH : (53 years old) Crown Prince Position

- Ma'mun, tried to prove his political legitimacy and hence forced and threatened Imam (a) to become the crown prince. He (a) accepted the position and set some conditions as he said:



*"So, I accept only if I do not give command and do not prohibit, I neither give Fatwa, nor do I judge, I neither assign anyone to any task, nor do I change anything's position." - Imam Rida (a) to Ma'mun*

### 202 AH : (54 years old)

- **Al-Tabari** and **Al-Suyuti** reported that Ma'mun's daughter, Umm Habib was married to Imam Rida (a) by Ma'mun's orders .
- The main reason for this marriage was to gain further closeness to the Imam (a).

### 203 AH: (55 years old) Martydom

- He passed away during the month of Safar in the city of **Tūs, Khorasan** after being poisoned by Ma'mun and was buried in the city of **Mashhad**.



# TIMELINE OF IMAM ALI IBN MUSA AL-RIDA (A)



## Golden words of Imam al-Rida(a)

*"Your brother, Ali b. Musa, is the knowledgeable among the progeny of the Prophet (s)."*

**- Imam al-Kadhim (a) to his children.**

Along with the mastery on various sciences, Imam Ali al Rida (a) was famous for providing his tips for the maintainability of healthy and spiritual life style. Some of his wise words are shared below:



- Vinegar is amongst the best edible substance. The house which carries vinegar would never see poverty.



- Honey carries cure. One should never reject the gift of honey.



- Red lentil was the meal of at least 70 Prophets. It softens the heart and helps in the production of tears.



- One should never consume hot food and wait for it cool down. Also the meal should always be eaten from the corner of the plate.



- The consumption of olive oil protects the person from the evils of satan, for a period of 40 days.



- Recitation of the Holy Quran, consumption of honey and milk increase the intellect.



Sources: Al-Islam.org, wikishia, kisakids, Kitab Al Irshad by Sheikh Al Mufid, Naqoosh e Ismat by Allama Zeeshan

Jawwadi, <http://safinah-al-nejat.ir/article-1-48-fa.pdf>