

[Mourning of Muharram](#)

Muharram is the first month of the Islamic calendar. The first ten days are marked by Bohras to commemorate the martyrdom of [Husayn ibn Ali](#), the grandson of Muhammad.^[51]

Dawoodi Bohra begin mourning from the second eve of Muharram and continue with discourses during the day and majlises each night which climax with the day of 'Aashura' on the 10th of Muharram. This is the day on which Husain and his family and 72 of his companions and family were killed by the army of [Yazid I](#) at the [Battle of Karbala](#) on his orders. The surviving members of Husain's family and those of his followers were taken captive, marched to Damascus, and imprisoned there.

Thousands of Dawoodi Bohras flock from around the world to hear the discourses offered by the *Da'i al-Mutlaq* usually in a different place each year.

The event takes place in every Bohra community worldwide along the same lines in terms of time and duration. Selected discourses by the Syedna are broadcast live from wherever he happens to be that year. It is Syedna's express instruction that Bohras set aside this time of the year to focus solely on the commemoration by taking the requisite time off from their work, businesses and institutes of education well beforehand.