

**MODULE 2****Class Title:** Surah An Nasr - Treasure Hunt**Aim of the lesson:** To understand key message of surah through an activity**Category:** Scripture**Lesson Format:** Activity based**Material needed:**

2 boxes (not too small and not too big) or anything that can serve as treasure for the two teams.

**What will you do in class:****Step 1:**

Divide the class into two groups. Ask each team to select its leader.

**Step 2:**

Explain the rules of the game (slides 2, 3). Emphasis that the winning team can celebrate their victory in whatever way they feel. (Give approximately 20 minutes to the game)

**Step 3:**

When the game is over and the victorious team has celebrated, ask everyone to sit down. Once they have settled down, ask the losing team how they feel? Then ask the victorious team how they feel? (Slide 4)

**Step 4:**

Once the feelings are shared, explain the concept and etiquettes of victory in Islam. (Slides 5-10)

**Step 5:**

After explaining the attitude of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), explain that this same attitude was replicated by a Muslim hero who came long after the Prophet (pbuh). So it is possible for common people to act according to the teachings of the *Deen* and *Sunnah*. (Slides 11-15)

## Transcription of class:

### MODULE 2

**Class Title:** Treasure Hunt Surah Nasr

**Aim of the lesson:**

**Category:**

**Lesson Format:** Activity

**Hand out:** in folder

Greeting to students) *Assalam alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh*  
(*Taooz*) *Aoodhubillahi min AsShaytanir Rajeem*  
(*Tasmiyah*) *Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem*  
(*Du'a*) *Rabbish rahli sadri wa yassirli amri wahlul uqdatum millisani yafqahu qawli*  
(Surah Ta-Ha 20: Verse 25-28)

Today we will, *insha 'Allah*, play a game. First we will divide the class into two teams (the teacher divides the class into teams).

Now each team must choose a leader. (The teams chooses a leader)

I have two boxes here which I will now give to both the teams. These are your treasure chests.

Each team has to try and get the other team's treasure chest and capture the leader or kill her. How will you kill her? This is very important. Your hands have to be used as swords. Please make sure that you don't actually kill anybody and do be very gentle. If any of you gets hit in the stomach by the opponent, you have to fall down as if you are dead. Is everyone clear on this?

Students reply – Yes.

The team that is the first to get the opponent's treasure and/ or kills/captures the leader is the winner. After the victory, the team that wins must celebrate. You can celebrate your victory in whatever way you want. You can shout slogans and cheer. Do you have a question? Are you now ready to begin the fight?

Student: Can we hide the treasure chest?

It is up to you as to how you want to protect your treasure. You can hide it or do whatever you want with it.

Okay, let the fight begin! (The fight starts)

All right, your time is running out, so you need to quickly decide upon your strategy and you have to start now. I am going to count up to ten.

One...two...three...four...five...six...seven...eight...nine...okay ...nine and a half...and that's a ten now. All right please. Time's up.

Students speaking- Hurray, we won!!! We are the champions!!! We are the greatest!!! The invincible!!! Hurray!!! (lots of laughter)

Okay, the fight is over and we have a group of winners, *Alhumdulillah* who are very happy and enjoying every minute of their victory. Now please settle down and let's analyse what we have experienced through this activity.

I would like the winners to share their feelings. So how do you feel?

Student 1: excited.

Student 2: better than them.

Teacher: you feel that you are better than them. Absolutely. What else?

Student: proud.

Teacher: okay. What else?

Student: powerful.

Alright, so victory feels good. And you feel powerful. Like someone said that you feel that you are better than the losers. And exhilarated. You know, it's exciting. You feel successful. And you want to celebrate. How do you normally celebrate success?

Student: go out with friends

Teacher: okay. But what happens in wars? Generally when people fight and they win a war, what do they do?

Student: shout slogans.

Student: torture prisoners.

Student: get war booty.

Teacher: yes. You are right. The game you just played, was it similar to fighting a war?

Student: yes. We also fought and captured prisoners and stuff.

You capture prisoners. Okay. How many people from the losing team fell dead? Quite a few. And what about the winners, did you lose any people in your team? No, you didn't. So today, we are going to discuss 'what are the Islamic etiquettes of victory.'

Can anybody tell me what was the greatest victory in the history of Islam during the time of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)?

Student: going to heaven.

Teacher: going to heaven is on a personal level and that is in the future, *insha'Allah*. But I am referring to Islamic history.

Student: The conquest of Makkah

The conquest of Makkah, *Masha'Allah*. So you see the conquest of Makkah was the greatest victory in Islamic history. Does anybody know anything about it? I am sure you all must have done it in your school. Can we quickly have a recap of what happened on that day?

- ⦿ Rasool Allah (pbuh) entered the city with great humility.
- ⦿ He was riding his camel and his head was bowed and he was reciting *Astaghfar* and praising Allah (swt).
- ⦿ There was no bloodshed. No killing, no torture.
- ⦿ When Rasool Allah (pbuh) conquered Makkah, he (pbuh) announced a general amnesty for all the people

Now I will *insha'Allah* play *Surah Nasr* (110) for you.

[Arabic recitation of *Surah Nasr*]

I am sure you all know *Surah Nasr*?

Students: yes

Okay. The reason why I chose this *Surah*, is that this surah teaches us the etiquettes of victory. The first verse talks about the conquest of Makkah. This was an important event. Imagine this was the birth place of Rasool Allah (pbuh). This was the place where he had grown up. The people there used to love him and called him *Sadiq* and *Ameen*. Then the Quran was revealed to him and everything changed.

The same people now abused and harassed him. He was now called the 'mad man', *naozubillah*. The tortures and atrocities of the *Kuffar* got so severe that Prophet (pbuh) was finally ordered by Allah (swt) to leave the city and go live in Madinah. Imagine that after 8 years of exile, Prophet (pbuh) returned with a huge army of almost 10,000 men and the Makkans submitted without a fight. This was a great victory for the Muslims and especially for Prophet (pbuh).

He was able to conquer his worst enemies with the help of Allah (swt) and he did this in a peaceful way. Now having witnessed this behaviour by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), most of the Makkans embraced Islam and that became the reason why even the small towns and villages around Makkah accepted Islam.

This is referred to in *ayah 2* of *Surah Nasr*.

There are some very significant & specific features of this *Surah*. I am going to briefly explain them to you.

In *Surah Nasr*, Allah (swt) tells us, in the first half of verse 3, how we should behave when we meet any kind of success. This half says, "So glorify the Praises of your Lord, and ask for His Forgiveness, i.e. do *istaghfaar*". But why should we praise Allah and why should we do *istaghfaar*?

Can anybody guess? You have just succeeded at something, so that means you must have worked hard. Isn't that so? Then why do we need to praise Allah and do *astaghfaar*? Any answers? Make a wild guess.

Student: so that it doesn't go to our head.

So that it doesn't go to our head! *MashaAllah*, yes, that's the reason. You see that whenever we do some work, chances are that unconsciously we make some mistakes and should do *astaghfar* for them and sometimes we also feel too good about our work and we tend to feel proud because it goes to our head. So that is the reason why we should praise Allah, not ourselves because we could not have achieved anything without Allah's (swt) permission.

That is the reason why when the Prophet of Allah (pbuh) conquered Makkah, he entered it with great humility. He was riding his she camel which he always used, his head was bowed and he was constantly reciting the *astaghfar*. He was also praising Allah (swt).

Now, there was one thing about the Conquest of Makkah that had never happened before in history. Can anyone tell what it was?

Students: there was no bloodshed.

Absolutely, there was no bloodshed. This is a very important aspect to understand as this is unheard of in wars. We have all seen the recent wars e.g., the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. All these wars have had a lot of bloodshed, casualties etc. Prophet (pbuh) was given a very tough time by his tribe.

The people of Makkah had been really mean to him. They had thrown him out of his own city. In spite of that, the Prophet of Allah (pbuh) was very generous and merciful with these people. In this is a very important lesson for all of us. And we must appreciate the fact that he did not allow any of his personal grudges to dictate him.

He entered on his great enemies asking for their forgiveness from Allah (swt) and without desiring bloodshed. Only a true prophet could have done that.

So, now let's relate this to our daily lives. What do you think are the successes in our life? Are there any chances of us becoming successful? What are the things you can succeed in? What are the possibilities?

Student: getting good grades.

Teacher: *Masha'Allah*, yes. What else do you think that you might succeed in?

Student: winning inter class matches.

Teacher: yes, very true. What else?

Student: following Islam.

*Masha'Allah*, that's a very good answer. We Muslims believe all success is from Allah (swt). All goodness is from Him. You cannot win a game, you cannot win anything until Allah

(swt) wills it so. That is the reason why we have to praise Allah (swt) for our success. And that is the reason why we need to do *astaghfar* as well because we might have made mistakes.

Let's take the example of this class. *Alhamdulillah* I have done my preparation, my whole slide show is here but there is something wrong with the laptop, with the slide show. It keeps turning on and off. This is something that is probably not in my control. But the thing is that whether my preparation is complete or no. What is more important is whether I have really put in all my effort.

The result is something that is in Allah (swt) Hands. It is not in my hands. I have to make sure that I have put in all my effort in preparation for the class. That's all that is there in my hands. Once I start the class; how it will go, will the projector work or not, will there be electricity during my class? This is not in my control.

Now let's go back to the conquest of Makkah. There was no bloodshed and when Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) conquered Makkah, he announced a general amnesty for all people. Everyone was told that they were free. No one would be harmed or killed. At the time when the Prophet of Allah (pbuh) entered Makkah there were at least 300 idols in the Kaabah. So the first thing that the Prophet of Allah (pbuh) did was to clean the Kaaba of all the idols and pictures that were in it.

And there is a *hadith* which is narrated by Ali (ra); he said that " Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and I we reached the Kaaba. The Prophet of Allah (pbuh) asked me to sit down and he mounted my shoulders.

You see there was an idol which was quite high). And Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) wanted to break it but he could not do so standing up. He asked Ali (ra) to bend so that he could stand on him and pull that idol down. When he climbed on top of him he realized that Ali (ra) was feeling weak and found it difficult to get up. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) bent down and asked Ali (ra) to stand on him. So Ali (ra) stood up on Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Can you see the humility? He is a leader and he's bending down for Ali (ra), who was his companion. So, Ali (ra) stood on him and the Prophet of Allah (pbuh) who was very fit, stood up. Thus Ali (ra) was able to reach that idol on top and he picked that up. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) asked him to break it, so he threw it down and it broke into pieces. (Ibn Katheer: Al Bidayah wan Nahayah and Seerah Ibn Hishaam)

So we see the humility of Rasul Allah (saw) and he had the same attitude with everyone. And while all this was happening, Rasul Allah (saw) was continuously reciting a verse of the Qur'an: Which is:

"The truth has come and the falsehood has vanished, surely falsehood is a vanishing (thing)."  
(*Surah Al- Isra* 17:81)

The Prophet of Allah (pbuh) was very focused. He knew that whatever he was doing was all for Allah (swt). He wasn't doing it for personal glory nor for people's approval! All the Makkans who knew him from way back, gathered around the Kaaba and wanted to hear what he was going to say.

So, when he came out he said; ‘O people of Makkah! You are all aware of the laws of battle and the punishment for breach of agreement.’

The Makkans had broken their agreements with the Muslims many times.

He said; ‘Now that you have been subdued, Muslims have the right to put you all to death or enslave you.’ That was the norm of what the victors would generally do; they either put the enemy to death or make them slaves.

The Prophet (pbuh) announced general forgiveness for all at the time of conquest of Makkah. This was the mercy of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). There was a prominent Quraishite who represented his people, who said; ‘We speak good and think good. You are an honourable brother and an honourable nephew who has power over us.’

Thus, this man said that we know that you have power over us, you have conquered us and so now it is up to you as to what you would do to us. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) replied that I will do the same thing as my brother Joseph did, there is no sin upon you today, may Allah (swt) forgive you, He is the most Compassionate, most Merciful. Such was the amazing personality of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). No wonder that most of the Makkans accepted Islam there and then. (Ibn Katheer: Al Bidayah wan Nahayah and Seerah Ibn Hishaam)

There is one more person who *Alhamdulillah* was able to do what Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) did. And he came long after the Prophet of Allah (pbuh). Does anybody know who that was? He was a Muslim warrior who did something very similar. Any idea? Any guesses?

He was one of the world’s greatest warriors. He was born in Tekrith. Tekrith is a small town near Iraq. He was born in 1138 CE when his father Ameer Najmuddin was the ruler of Tekrith.

So he was from a well to do family and was a very noble and intelligent person. He was peace loving. Since his father was a ruler, he was aware of what battles meant but he was never inclined towards fighting. Can anyone guess now? His name was Salahuddin Ayubi.

Salahuddin was ordered to go to Egypt with his uncle, who was an official there. After his uncle’s death he became the Commander and *Wazeer* of Egypt. Salahuddin Ayubi never lived in the palace that was meant for him although he was the *wazeer*. He opted to live in a small house near the *mosque* since his palace was far away from the *mosque*. He had a great love for Islam and he is the one who fought the Crusaders. Does anyone know who defeated the crusaders?

It was Salahuddin Ayubi. Later when the Caliph Al Aziz, died Salahuddin became the ruler of Egypt. In order to spread the word of Allah (swt), Salahuddin would go and fight other countries. When Salahuddin took over Damascus the people opened the gates of the city to him and greeted him warmly because of his reputation. He was very kind and generous wherever he went. He made a lot of reforms so the people were really open to him in spite of him conquering their land.

They would open their gates to him. In 1187 CE, Salahuddin conquered Jerusalem and thousands of Crusaders were arrested. However when the prisoners mothers, sisters and

wives appealed to Salahuddin he released them. Many Crusaders were ransomed. What is ransom? A fine to be paid for the freedom of the prisoners.

A lot of people didn't have any money for the ransom, so Salahuddin himself paid for a lot of people and he provided transport for them as well. He didn't allow massacre nor looting and pardoned all the citizens and the civilians living there.

Salahahuddin paid for 10,000 poor people and his brother paid for 7,000. In former times most of the cities used to be walled and they would have lots of gates for security. One of the gates was specifically for the poor to go through so that nobody on that gate would ask them if they had any money or not?

So people who wanted to go they could leave without paying anything. But that was something that was done...yes some check was done just to make sure that only the poor leave through that gate and the rich had to pay. Then on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> *Rajab*, Salahuddin entered Jerusalem and replicated the tradition of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and the first thing that he did was to go straight to the mosque, that is, Masjid e Aqsa. He went there and cleaned it and for the first time in more than 80 years the people of Jerusalem heard the *aqaan* from the Al Aqsa mosque.

So, this was one Muslim leader who actually followed the footsteps of Rasul Allah (saw). We need to understand that this is something that we all can do. There is always something from the *Sunnah* that each one of us can implement in our lives.

Please it is time to realize that Islam and the *Sunnah* are not impractical things. They have everything to do with our lives. *Alhamdulillah* whatever the *deen* preaches, it is for our own benefit. Does anybody have any questions? Is there anything else that you would like to ask?

Alright, that's all for today.

(Du'a for end of a gathering) *Subhana Rabbika Rabbul Izzati 'amma yasifun wa salamun 'alal mursaleen, walhamdulillah Rabbil 'alameen*

(Parting salutation to students) *Assalam alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh*