

Exalted life of Lady Narjis Khatoon (S.A)

CHARACTERS:

Narrator: Nabah Khan

Narjis Khatoon: Ruqaiyya Khan

Holy Prophet: Ashfaq Abidi

11th Imam: Ali Akbar Falahati

10th Imam: Mehdi Akbarpour

Nabi Isa: Elyas Rasti

Syeda Fatema: Camillea Aghajan

Hakima Khatoon: Sareh Darian

Hadhrat Maryam: Aylia Abbas

Seller: Mostafa Hadi

Shamoon: Mustafa Thejeel

Bashar: Yusuf Yahfoufi

Imam Mahdi (baby voice): Mohammad Yahfoufi

NON-TALKING PARTS:

Imam Ali (AS): Ali Zambri

Prisoners of war: Hiba, Sakina, Elnaz, Sarah

Angels: Pargol, Amin A, Fatima Naqvi, Sura, Mobina, and Hossein D.

Buyer: Amir Abbas Akbarpour

(1) Intro - Al Ajjal

Scene 1: (Narjis Khatoon is sleeping)

Narrator: This is the life of the great lady Narjis Khatoon, the princess of Rome. Narjis Khatoon was the daughter of the Emperor of Rome. Her mother was from the descendants of Prophet Shamun, one of the closest companions and disciples of Prophet Isa (A.S).

At the age of 13, Narjis was supposed to get married to one of her Christian cousins, but Allah had other plans for her. By divine intervention, the wedding did not occur.

On that same night, Narjis had a miraculous dream (*Narjis sits up confused*) where Prophet Isa

accompanied by Prophet Shamoan gather in the palace of her grandfather. She watches with awe as she sees the bright lit faces gathering in the very spot where the wedding ceremony would have taken place. *(P Isa and Shamoan and disciplines enter as the narrator talks about them lining up)*

Narrator: Soon, The Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) (in emotional way), Imam Ali (A) and Imam Hassan Al-Askari enter the palace.

Holy Prophet enters slowly. Everyone greets one another

Prophet Isa: Peace be upon you Prophet Mohammad, the last messenger of my Lord, mercy to mankind

Prophet Shamoan: What an auspicious night this is in my household, I feel so blessed to be honored with your presence.

Holy Prophet: And peace be upon you too, Isa and Shamun. O' Ruhullah! I have come on behalf of my grandson *(raises hand toward Hassan al-Askari)*, Hassan al-Askari, with a marriage proposal for Narjis, the daughter of Shamoan

Prophet Isa: *(turns to Shamoan)* Shamoan, this is such a great honor! Through this marriage, you will be bonded with the holy family of Prophet Muhammad!

Prophet Shamoan: It is my honor to accept this proposal. *(Raises hands up in Du'a)* Thank you Allah for allowing this auspicious marriage to take place!

Prophet Isa *(Raises hands up in Du'a):* Indeed! All praise is for Allah who has made this union in the heavens!

Holy Prophet *(walk towards the minbar and sits on top):* All praise is for Allah, who has created and chosen spouses for us *(lifts hands to air)*

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ
يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

And from His signs is that He has created for you all spouses from among yourselves that you may find tranquility in them, and has placed between you love and mercy. Certainly in that are signs for people who ponder.

Everyone recites Salawat and exits and Narjis Khatoon lays back down.

Narjis Khatoon: *(wakes up from the dream, sits up and faces audience):* Was that a dream? Who was that luminous light? Did I see the final messenger of God? Was that the great Prophet I have read about in our scriptures? Is *HE* the one who has been prophesized to guide us to the truth? My soul feels lighter and elevated. My heart is throbbing with this strange feeling and the words of the final messenger are echoing in my heart. *(goes back to sleep)*

Narrator: Narjis Khatoon kept her dream to herself, as she was afraid. However, the dream had planted a seed in her which turned into a deep love for the Ahlul Bayt. Day by day, she grew more in love with the Holy Prophet (S) and Imam Hassan al-Askari (A) and yearned to meet the Imam. She soon lost her appetite, grew thin, and became very ill. Two weeks later, she has another dream, where Hadhrat Maryam and Syeda Fatima Zahra (A) come to visit her since she is sick.

Scene 2: (*Scene setting: Second dream of Narjis Khatoon, where she meets Hadhrat Fatema and Hadhrat Maryam*)

Narjis Khatoon is sleeping. Hadhrat Maryam enters and Narjis Khatoon sits up, watching the dream seated.

Narjis Khatoon: Peace and blessings be upon you oh mother of Isa, I am indeed honored to have you grace me with your presence.

Hadhrat Maryam: And peace and blessing upon you my dear child.

Hadhrat Fatema enters stage

Hadhrat Maryam: Peace be upon you O Lady of Light, Fatematu Zahra, Oh daughter of the final messenger and leader of the women of the world.

Hadhrat Maryam turns to Narjis Khatoon

Hadhrat Maryam: O Narjis, let me have the honor of introducing you to Syeda Fatematu Zahra, the Lady of Light, the daughter of the Final Prophet. She is also the holy mother of your husband Hasan.

Narjis Khatoon throws herself at her feet and then hugs Hadhrat Fatema, crying.

Narjis Khatoon: Peace be upon you oh Lady of light, may I complain to you, why is it that I still haven't had the pleasure of seeing your son?

Hadhrat Fatema: My dear Narjis, when you accept the truth and embrace Islam, you will be able to meet my son. Through declaring that "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah, and Ali is the chosen one of Allah" you will be able to earn Allah's pleasure, and He will provide the means for you to reach your Imam.

Narjis Khatoon (*stands in the middle of stage and raises hands to air*): Ashhadu an La Ilaha IIAllah, wa Ashhadu anna Muhammadur RasulAllah, Ashhadu anna Aliyun Waliyullah - I testify that there is no God except Allah, Muhammad is the messenger of Allah and Ali is the Chosen one of Allah.

Hadhrat Fatema: (*Hugs Narjis*): You will meet your husband Hasan al-Askari very soon inshAllah.

(while they are hugging, (2) MUNAJAAT - Mawla ya salli wa sallim.) Continue during curtain Close. Remove everything from stage and add cushions to center.

Narjis Khatoon and 11th Imam are present on stage, talking to each with gestures

Narrator: As promised by Syeda Fatema, from that day onwards, Narjis sees the 11th Imam in her dreams every night. On one night, the Imam informs her that her grandfather will soon be sending an army to fight the Muslims. He tells her that she should disguise herself by dressing like the women who help off the battlefield. Thereafter, she will be captured with these women, and in this way, she will be transferred from Rome to the Islamic territory. Finally, she will be brought to the Imam and will be blessed by becoming the mother of the Awaited Imam.

(As Narrator narrates, Narjis and 11th Imam meet in the middle of the stage and communicate with slow hand gestures.)

Meanwhile, in Medina, Imam al-Hadi makes preparations through his trusted companion Bashar to

unite Narjis Khatoon with Imam Hasan al-Askari.

Scene 3:

Bashar: Salaamun Alaykum my master, Imam al-Hadi, may my life be sacrificed for you. You wanted to see me?

10th Imam: Wa Alaykum assalaam Bashar, my trustworthy companion. Come, be seated. *(both have a seat)* I am trusting you with a very important mission.

Bashar: Labayk ya Imam, I am at your service. What is this mission?

10th Imam *(Hands him a scroll and bag):* This is a letter stamped with my seal, and this bag contains 220 dinars. Take this letter and this bag and go to the Euphrates river. When you get there, you will see some ships arriving, which are carrying prisoners of war. Find a man named Umar bin Yazid, who will be selling these prisoners. One of these prisoners will be wearing a thick silk robe and will not allow others to touch her. Others will offer a lot of money to buy her, but she will refuse all offers. At this time, offer her the letter, and she will then willingly come with you; please swiftly bring her back with great respect.

Bashar: Yes, my beloved Imam, I will try to accomplish this task to the best of my ability with the help of Allah. **kiss hand of tenth imam**

(3) Change of scene - Allahu Allah Plays Setup port scene

Narrator: Just as the 10th imam prophesized, Narjis stood out from all the other prisoners due to her strong piety and modesty.

Scene 4: Scene - At the Port

Buyer: I WANT TO BUY HER!

Seller: Oh prisoner of war, there is a man here who is prepared to pay me 300 dinars for you! Step forward so that he can see you, and I can finalize the sale.

Narjis: *(says to the seller to address other buyers):* No, no! Tell him that even if he is as rich as King Sulayman, I will never go with him!

Seller: *(starting to get angry)* Stop driving away all the buyers! I have to sell you soon! What is the solution?!

Narjis: My trust lies in Allah; when the time is right, Allah will send a righteous and trustworthy person to take me to my rightful destination.

Bashar *(enters the scene waving the letter toward the seller):* I have a letter from an honest and trustworthy person. Please hand this to her so that she can read it and then make up her mind according to this letter.

Narjis *(reads letter and presses letter against her chest, crying):* All praise is for Allah, who is the best of Planners! Please take me to my Imam!

Bashar *(turns to seller and hands money):* Here is 220 dinars. *(Turns to Narjis)* Follow me my lady.

Narjis Khatoon exits with Bashar.

Narrator: Bashar and Narjis Khatoon proceed towards Baghdad. As she heads towards the Imam's house, she is filled with excitement, and her face is brightened with joy.

(4) Curtains close - Labbaik VOP

Setup house scene again. Put baby and projector underneath the cushions on the center of the stage.

Narrator: Narjis Khatoon was taken to the home of Imam al-Hadi (A), where she was showered with love and affection. The Imam's sister, Hakima Khatoon, taught her about the principles of Islam. Soon after, she was married to Imam Hasan al-Askari in a holy ceremony. *(set up colorful lights on stage)*

Narrator: *(say this in a very beautiful way)* With this blessed marriage, the 12th and final flower in the garden of Imamatus would soon bloom.

Narrator: However, this joy and happiness soon faded not too long after, as Imam al-Hadi (A) was martyred by the evil caliph Mu'tamad, and Imam Hasan al-Askari (A) was put under house arrest. Mu'tamid ordered his men to keep a close watch on the Imam so that no child would be born who could overthrow him.

However, Allah states in the Qur'an,

يُرِيدُونَ أَن يُطْفِئُوا نُورَ اللَّهِ بِأَفْوَاهِهِمْ وَيَأْبَى اللَّهُ إِلَّا أَن يُوَسِّمَهُ نُورُهُ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْكَافِرُونَ

"They desire to put out the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah will perfect His Light, though the unbelievers may dislike it."

Scene 5:

Narrator: The night that we have been waiting for has finally arrived. Hakima Khatoon is visiting the house of the 11th Imam.

Hakima Khatoon: My dear nephew Hassan, it is time for me to leave now, as it is getting late.

11th Imam: My dear aunt Hakima Khatoon, please stay the night with us for tonight, my son, the Hujjah, the proof of Almighty Allah, will be born.

Hakima Khatoon: How is this possible?! Who will give birth to this child? I have not seen any signs of pregnancy in your wife Narjis Khatoon.

11th Imam: As my father once said to you, the birth of my son is indeed a matter of great secrecy, but none other than Narjis shall give birth to the final Light in the household of my Grandmother Fatema. At dawn, the signs of pregnancy will appear in Narjis because she is like the mother of Musa, who never showed any sign of pregnancy. Please take care of her.

Lady Hakima nods and 11th Imam leaves the stage.

Narjis Khatoon walks in

Hakima Khatoon: Sit down, my daughter. Your husband just gave me the good news that your son will be born tonight!

Narjis Khatoon: How can this be, oh aunt? I do not feel or show any signs of this!

Hakima Khatoon: My dear, you are like the mother of Prophet Musa, whose birth is hidden from the people due to fear of the evil ruler. This is the will of Allah, as he wishes to protect you and your son. Come, let's pray to Allah to grant us His Mercy!

Hakima Khatoon and Narjis Khatoon start prayers. After a while, Hakima Khatoon appears restless waiting for the birth to happen. Imam Hasan al-Askari (A) walks in.

Hakima Khatoon (*stands up and walks around looking restless*): Oh my nephew, it is almost morning, the Hujjah has not arrived yet.

11th Imam: Have no doubt, oh aunt. By the will of Allah, the child shall be born soon!

Hakima Khatoon returns to Narjis Khatoon who appears to be in distress

Hakima Khatoon: What is the matter, my dear? Are you feeling alright?!

Narjis Khatoon: My dear Aunt, I feel very strange. I think the arrival of this child is near.

11th Imam (*says from other side of stage*): My dear Aunt, recite Suratul Qadr!

Hadhrat Hakima Khatoon kneels down in the middle of the stage,

(5) Soft sound playing - Labbaik. *The Angels now enter the stage and encircle Narjis Khatoon.*
Pause 15 seconds

HK: Bismillah...

Narrator: As Hakima Khatoon recites the verses of Surah Al-Qadr (*HK starts reciting Surah al-Qadr*), she suddenly hears the baby from inside Narjis's womb begin to recite the same Surah along with her!

Imam Mahdi recites Surah Qadr in a baby voice

Hakima Khatoon seems frightened looking around and runs towards 11th Imam!

Hakima Khatoon: Who is that reciting along with me?!

11th Imam: Do not be surprised, my dear Aunt! This is a miracle of Allah; He has blessed the Imams with wisdom, even as infants.

(6) (As light from birth is on, play Labbaik)

Hakima Khatoon sits on the floor besides the angels, raise their hands towards the sky, and starts praying. Bright white light to symbolize birth of Imam. BIG Pause - 30 Seconds

Narrator: The awaited savior of Allah, Imam al-Mahdi, finally enters this earth in the state of sajdah, reciting the following verse:

Imam Mahdi (baby voice):

"Ja'al haq wa zahaqal baatil innal baatila kana zahooqa - justice has arrived and falsehood has vanished, for surely falsehood is a vanishing thing." O Allah Almighty! Please fulfill Your promise for me and help me carry out my duty! Make my steps constant and firm, and allow me to spread Your

Justice and Equality all over the World!

Angels leave stage. Hadrath Fatima (Chamillea) enter stage and stand next to 11th Imam (Ali Akbar) and read the following as he holds the baby.

وَلِيُمْكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَى لَهُمْ وَ لِيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ

He will surely establish for them their religion, which He has preferred for them and He will surely substitute their fear with security, [for] they worship Me, not associating anything with Me. And whoever disbelieves after that is amongst the transgressors.

After last line is read. Nasheed "Ya Mehdi" plays.

Students all enter stage as the Nasheed plays. Girls in front, boys in back. Raise hands and recite "Dua Faraj"

End of Play

Play Scene:

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Scenes: (Narjis Khaton's Room) Set up like her room. We need: Canopy, mattress, and 4 cushions.

4th Scene: (10th Imam's room) Need two cushions in center, mattress, a bag of coins (hidden under cushions) and a scroll (also hidden under cushions)

5th: (Port Scene) Need: boat, water, and chains for prisoners

6th Scene: (House of 11th Imam): Mattress and cushions set up in middle, projector and baby hidden under mattress. Baby needs to be cover in a white swaddle with a green headband.