***Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***Sr. Storiy: Islamic Studies***

**Part 2: Angels Names and Duties**

Part 2: ‘Angels Names and Duties**’** Test will be on Tuesday, February 9, 2015

The angels have names, but we know only the names of a few of them. We have to believe in the names reported in the Quran and Sunnah (prophetic teachings) texts, as a part of general belief in the angels. Among the names of angels that are known to us are:

* **(1) Jibreel and (2) Mikail**

"Say: Whoever is an enemy to Jibreel - for he brings down the (revelation) to your heart by Allah’s will, a confirmation of what went before, and guidance and glad tidings to those who believe -
Whoever is an enemy to Allah, and His angels and prophets, to Jibreel and Mikail - Lo! Allah is an enemy to those who reject faith." [2:97-98]

**Duties:**

-**Jibreel** is the angel who communicates with the prophets (saw)

-**Mikail** often depicted as the arch angel of mercy is responsible for birnging rain and thunder to earth.

-**Mikail** is also responsible for the rewards doled out to a good persons in this life.

* **(3) Israfil**

From Abu Salamah ibn ‘Abd al-Rahman ibn ‘Awf, who said: "I asked ‘Aishah, the Mother of the Believers, about what the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to start his prayer with when he got up to pray at night (qiyam al-layl). She said: ‘When he got up to pray at night, he would start his prayer (with the words): ‘O Allah, Lord of Jibreel, Mikail and Israfil, Creator of heaven and earth, Knower of the unseen and the seen, You are the Judge of the matters in which Your slaves differ; guide me with regard to disputed matters of truth by Your permission, for You guide whomever You will to the straight path.’" [Muslim].

**Duties:**

**-Israfil** is the angel responsible for signaling the coming of judgment day by blowing a horn and sending out a blast of truth.

-The blowing of the trumpet is described in many places in Quran.

-It is said that the first blow will destroy everything while the second blow will bring all human beings back to life again.

* **(4) Malik**

He is the Keeper of Hell, as Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): "They [the people in Hell] will cry: ‘O Malik! Would that your Lord put an end to us!’" [43:77]

**Duties:**

-**Malik responsible for hell.**

* **(5) Azriel {name itself never mentioned in quran. Instead it refers to Malaikat al-Maut, which translates directly as Angels of Death- not one angel-}**

**Duties:**

-Angel of death who along with his helpers is responsible for parting the soul of the human from the body.

-If the human was a bad person in life, the soul is ripped out very painfully.

But if the human was a righteous person, then the soul is separated like a ‘drop of water dripping from glass’

Note: The Angel of Death will look like a terrifying beast or demon for the souls of bad people and will look like ‘the most pleasant sight’ when he comes for the souls of good people.

* **(6) Munkar and (7) Nakeer**

From Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: "The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: ‘When the deceased is buried (or he said: when one of you is buried), there come to him two blue-black angels, one of whom is called Munkar and the other Nakeer. They ask him, ‘What did you used to say about this man?’ and he says what he used to say: ‘He is the slave and Messenger of Allah: I bear witness that there is no god except Allah and that Muhammad is the slave and Messenger of Allah. They say, ‘We knew beforehand that you used to say this.’ Then his grave will be widened for him to a size of seventy cubits by seventy cubits and it will be illuminated for him. Then they tell him, ‘Sleep.’ He says, ‘Go back to my family and tell them.’ They tell him, ‘Sleep like a bridegroom whom no-one will wake up except his most beloved,’ until Allah raises him up. If (the deceased) was a hypocrite, he says, ‘I heard the people saying something so I said something similar; I do not know.’ They say: ‘We knew beforehand that you used to say this.’ The earth will be told to squeeze him, so he will be crushed until his ribs are interlocked, and he will remain like that until Allah raises him up.’" [al-Tirmidhi].

**Duties:**

**Munkar and Nakeer** are the angels who interrogate a person in the grave about his good and bad deeds.

* **(8) Haroot and (9) Maroot**

Allah says (interpretation of the meaning):
". . . and such things as came down at Babylon to the angels Haroot and Maroot . . ." [2:102]
". . . and none can know the forces of your Lord, except He. And this is nothing other than a warning to mankind." [74:31]

**Duties:**

**Haroot and Maroot** were sent down to test the people at Babel or Babylon by performing deeds of magic.