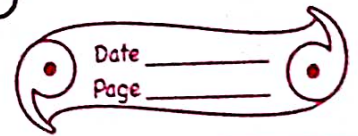


Eidgah, The Festival of EID



A) i) Describe the errands the villagers are busy with before going to the mosque.

The village is agog with excitement everyone is up early to go to the Eidgah mosque. One finds a button missing from his shirt and is hurrying to his neighbour's house for thread and needle. Another finds that the leather of his shoes has become hard and is running to the oil press for oil to grease it. They are dumping fodder before their oxen.

2) What are the things that tell us how poor Hamid is?

Hamid is poorly dressed, thin and famished-looking. Hamid has no shoes on his feet; the cap on his head is soiled and tattered its gold thread has turned black.

3) Why is Aameena worried about Hamid going to the fair all by himself?

Aameena is worried about Hamid going to the fair all by himself because Hamid is only four and the Eidgah is three miles away. Besides, he has no knowledge that she is also concerned about Hamid getting lost in the crowd.

4) How are the 'village rustics' different from the other people arriving in the town?

While others arrived in the town on tongas and motor cars wearing expensive dresses and perfumes, the village rustics were dressed in simple cloths and had come walking.

5) What do the people do after the prayer is over?

The people embrace and greet each other after the play is over. They also visit different stores and purchase sweets, toys and other items.

6) How does Hamid respond when his friends make fun of him for ~~buying~~ buying a pair of tongs?

Hamid bravely defends his choice of buying a pair of tongs by giving witty reasons that proved that his purchase is better than their toys.

7) Describe the fate befalls Noorey's lawyer.

Noorey's lawyer met an end befitting his grand status. He was waving a fan over his ~~toy~~ toy when it fell from the plank on which it was kept. It could have ~~been~~ been either the breeze ~~of~~ or the fan that was responsible for ~~this~~ this accident on falling to the ground,

the lawyer was reduced to dust.

8. How does Mahmood change his constable into a holy man? why does he have to make the change?

Mahmood changes his constable into a holy man by cutting its one leg to match the broken leg and making him sit in one place as if he was guarding the village. He is forced to do so when the constable slips and falls from its make shift palanquin and breaks its legs.

9. Give evidence from the story to prove that Hamid is ^{not} only thoughtful but also a very intelligent boy.

Hamid shows his intelligence at two places in the story: when he bargains with the shopkeeper and buys a pair of tongs with 3 pice and when he outwits other children in defending his ~~choice~~ choice of buying a pair of tongs.