



FEZANA Age-Appropriate Lesson Plan

Subject Category (circle one): Religion/Ceremony History Prayer Gathas
Comparative Religion **Shahnameh**

Age Group (circle one): **PreK-K** Grades 1-3 Grades 4-5 Grades 6-8 Grades 9-12

Lesson # (if applicable): 5

Subject of the Lesson: King Tahmuras

Background Knowledge for the Teacher:

King Tahmuras was the son of King Hushang. He became king after King Hushang. Tahmuras was a wise king who liked to learn. While he was king, the people learned to spin and weave wool clothes and carpets.

King Tahmuras and his people had enemies called the Divs, who started to make trouble and were trying to invade their valley. Tahmuras collected his army and fought the Divs. He killed the leader of the Divs and captured the Divs. The Divs asked to be released and promised to leave Tahmuras' tribe alone and to teach them the art of writing. Tahmuras relented and let the Divs live. They taught Tahmuras' people the art of writing.

Lesson for students:

Teachers should begin the lesson by asking students what they remember about the second story in the Shahnameh. If students do not remember anything, review some key points about it. The teacher will use the information in the "Background Knowledge for the Teacher" section to go over the third story. After reading the story to the students, the students can work on the activities listed below.

Activity for Students:

After reading the story, the students can do one of the following activities:

- Try to recreate early writing in clay
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ulip0enrqkx8DHK2YLwINnQzGblGsnnOrEdYCQTK-lw/edit?usp=sharing> (Color a picture of early writing)

Sources:

Shahnameh: The Persian Book of Kings retold by Elizabeth Laird

Shahnameh: The Epic of the Kings by Abolqasem Ferdowsi (Translated by Reuben Levy)

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