



GuidanceHub

PROSPECTUS
ISLAMIC
STUDIES

FOUNDATION 1

2022/23

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COURSE SYNOPSIS



This introductory year of beginners Islamic studies covers the essentials every Muslim must learn. Subjects include: Aqeedah (Beliefs), Fiqh (Legal Rulings), and Spirituality.

We aim to equip students with the obligatory knowledge needed to practice their faith with confidence. Developing the student's belief, understanding of the legal rules of worship and improving their practice of spirituality. This is done through a modern approach using integrated modules and with the assistance of the latest technological aids to improve the delivery and facilitate successful learning.

Our aim is to facilitate the study of Sacred Knowledge in a traditional way, giving students the opportunity to benefit from the company and instruction of teachers with a chain of transmission linking back to our noble Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. All the texts taught on this course have been distilled from the most authentic classical Islamic sources, as well as authoritative contemporary research.

On successful completion of the course students will receive an accredited certificate

COURSE CURRICULUM

SATURDAY 10.00 AM - 12.00 PM OR TUESDAY 7.30 PM - 9.30 PM

ISLAMIC STUDIES FOUNDATION LEVEL 1

This introductory year of beginners Islamic studies covers the essentials every Muslim must learn. Subjects include: Aqeedah (Beliefs), Fiqh (Legal Rulings) and Tasawwuf (Spirituality)

Course Summary

Course Timings

Sat 10.00 AM - 12.00 PM
Tue 7.30 PM - 9.30 PM

Exams

In-Class Quizzes
Optional Exams

Course Schedule

32 Weeks
2 hours per week

Course Fee

Per Year: £325
Over 10 Months: £32.50

Course Starts

Sat: 10 Sep 2022
Tue: 13 Sep 2022

Teachers

Shaykh Waseem Ahmed
Ustadh Sayyid Hamdani

Course Finishes

Sat: 17 June 2023
Tue: 20 June 2023

Course Delivery

On Campus:
Guidance Hub, Manchester

SCHEDULE

	LESSON 1	LESSON 2
	10.00 AM - 10.55 AM 07.30 PM - 08.25 PM	11.00 AM - 11.55 AM 08.30 PM - 09.25 PM
TERM 1	Half of Faith: Purification	I Believe: Faith
TERM 2	Fiqh of Prayer 1	The Devils Trap
TERM 3	Fiqh of Fasting & Zakat	Spiritual Beginnings
TERM 4	Prayer in Action	Connecting with the Qur'an

HALF OF FAITH: PURIFICATION

Allah, exalted is He, says: 'There are men who love to cleanse themselves; and God loves those who cleanse themselves;' and He, exalted is He, also says: 'God does not desire to make any impediment for you; but He desires to purify you'. And Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: 'Cleanliness is Half of Faith.'

You must take care of your outward and inward cleanliness, for the one who is completely clean becomes inwardly and in his spirit a spiritual angel, although in his body and outward form he remains a physical human being. The Messenger of God ﷺ, has said: 'Religion is based on cleanliness.' And: 'God is clean and likes cleanliness.'

HALF OF FAITH: PURIFICATION



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the importance of purification in Islam.
- Learn about the minor and major impurities.
- Understand the spiritual implications of ablution.

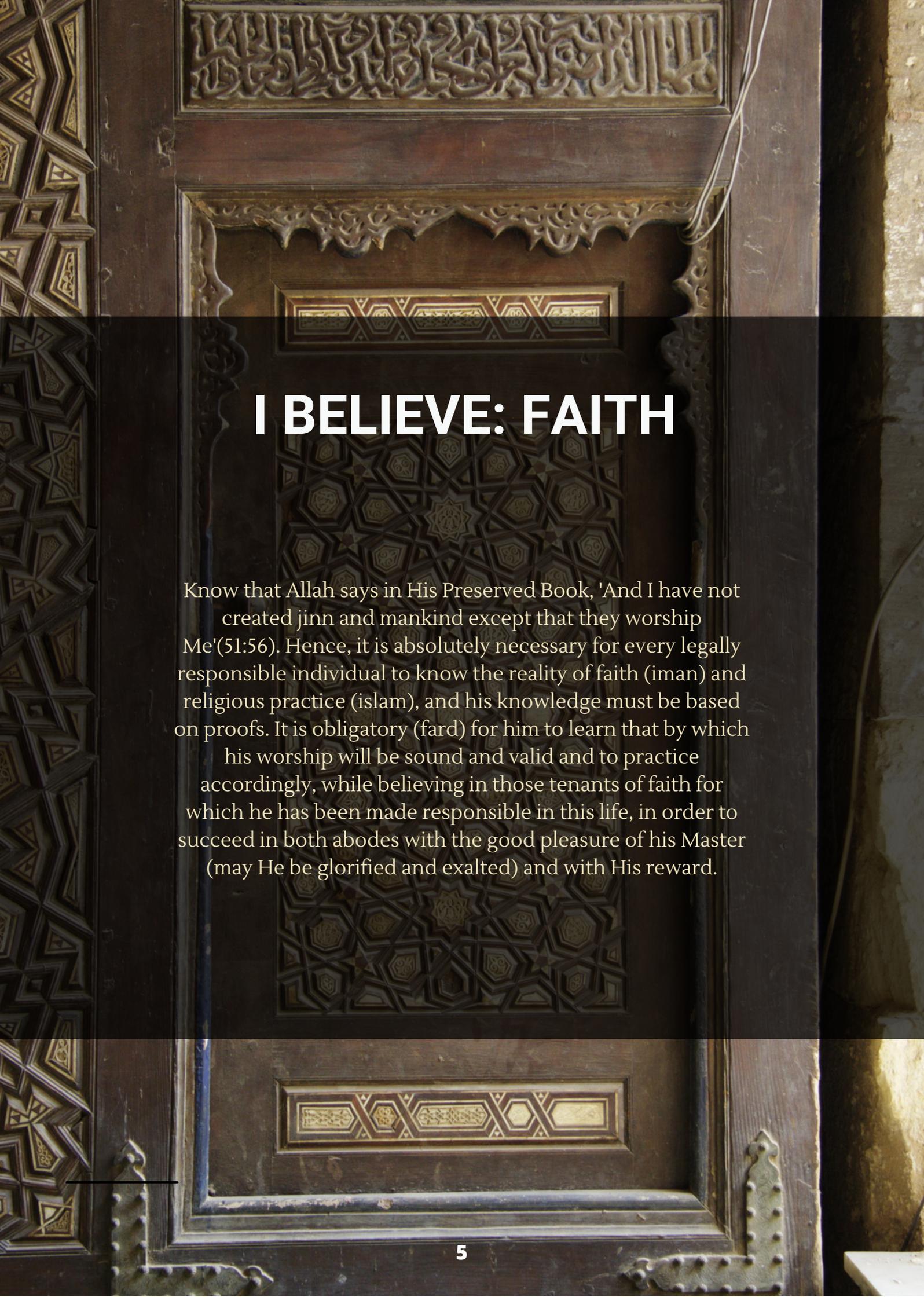
WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- The core fundamentals for ablution to be valid.
- The Sunna method of ablution and bathing.
- How to avoid common mistakes pertaining to purification.

The key to prayer is correct purification and ablution.

This module aims to teach the correct etiquettes of purification based on the Prophetic teachings. It is compulsory upon every Muslim to practice the correct method of ablution (wudu) and bathing (ghusl), otherwise prayers become invalid.

This Module will cover the foundations of ritual ablution, dry ablution, bathing, the different types of impurities and how to correctly cleanse them, as well as rules of purification for female-specific issues such as menstruation and post-natal bleeding.



I BELIEVE: FAITH

Know that Allah says in His Preserved Book, 'And I have not created jinn and mankind except that they worship Me'(51:56). Hence, it is absolutely necessary for every legally responsible individual to know the reality of faith (iman) and religious practice (islam), and his knowledge must be based on proofs. It is obligatory (fard) for him to learn that by which his worship will be sound and valid and to practice accordingly, while believing in those tenants of faith for which he has been made responsible in this life, in order to succeed in both abodes with the good pleasure of his Master (may He be glorified and exalted) and with His reward.

I BELIEVE: FAITH



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the core beliefs of Islam
- Identify beliefs which lead to disbelief
- Understand the nature of free-will and destiny

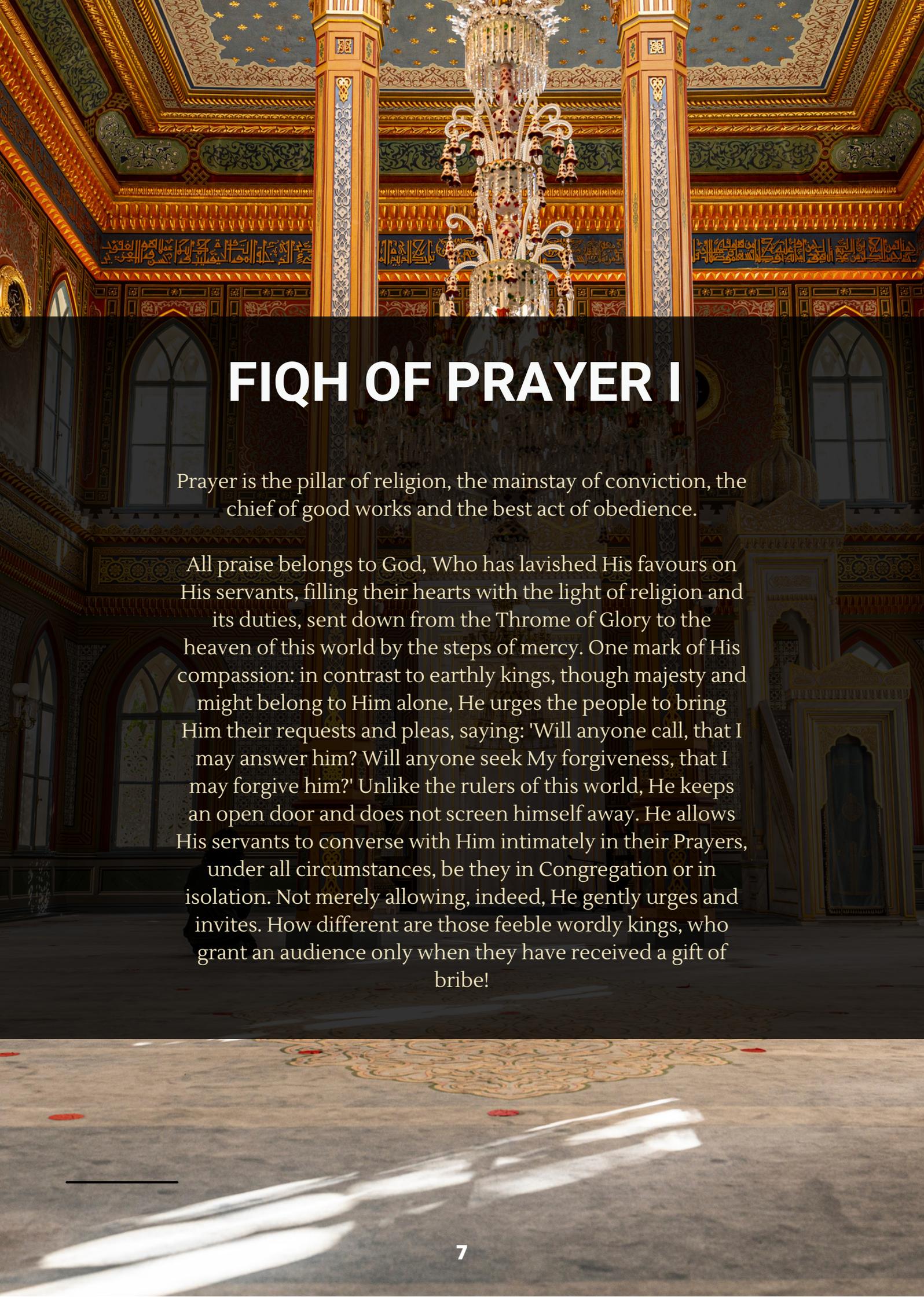
WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- Attributes of Allah based in the Qur'ān and Sunnah
- The existence and reality of angels
- About the Day of Judgement and the intercession of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)

To be a Muslim, a person must accept core Islamic doctrines. These doctrines include beliefs about Allah, the angels, the divine books, the prophets, the day of resurrection, and destiny.

It is incumbent to study these fundamental beliefs to understand the context behind each principle and to strengthen one's faith in Islam.

This module will equip students with foundational knowledge to understand the attributes of Allah, the Islamic belief about scriptures such as the Bible and Torah, the difference between the Qur'ān al-Kareem and previously revealed books, the difference between a Messenger and a Prophet and why they were sent.



FIQH OF PRAYER I

Prayer is the pillar of religion, the mainstay of conviction, the chief of good works and the best act of obedience.

All praise belongs to God, Who has lavished His favours on His servants, filling their hearts with the light of religion and its duties, sent down from the Throne of Glory to the heaven of this world by the steps of mercy. One mark of His compassion: in contrast to earthly kings, though majesty and might belong to Him alone, He urges the people to bring Him their requests and pleas, saying: 'Will anyone call, that I may answer him? Will anyone seek My forgiveness, that I may forgive him?' Unlike the rulers of this world, He keeps an open door and does not screen himself away. He allows His servants to converse with Him intimately in their Prayers, under all circumstances, be they in Congregation or in isolation. Not merely allowing, indeed, He gently urges and invites. How different are those feeble wordly kings, who grant an audience only when they have received a gift of bribe!



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the significance of Prayer
- Learn about the pre-requisites of prayer
- Differentiate between Fard, Sunnah and Wajib acts of the Prayer

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- The Prophetic method of praying
- Etiquettes of Prayer
- Firm understanding of matters relating to the Prayer

Prayer, or Salah as it is called in Arabic, is the means for human beings to communicate and connect with Allah Almighty. It is, in the words of the Prophet ﷺ, what distinguishes a believer from a non-believer.

Muslims have been instructed to pray as the Prophet ﷺ prayed, it is therefore obligatory upon every Muslim to know the rulings of Salah. This module teaches the essentials of prayer, its etiquettes and methods based on the Qur'ān and Hadith, nullifiers of prayer, actions preceding to the prayer and the spiritual implications of Prayer.

THE DEVILS TRAP

The lights and darkness of the heart are due to two different causes. The cause of the thought prompting to good is called 'an angel', and the cause of thought inciting evil is called 'Satan'. Moreover, the grace through which the heart is ready to receive the inspiration of good is called 'success', and the motive through which the heart is ready to receive Satan's insinuation is called 'allurement and God's desertion'.

An angel is a being that Allah, exalted is He, has created, and whose mission is to emanate good, communicate knowledge, unveil the truth, promise goodness and enjoin that which is right. Allah, exalted is He, created this being and made this his job. Satan is, on the other hand, a created being whose mission is completely the opposite; namely, he promises evil, enjoins indecency, scares people with poverty when they are about to spend of their wealth and so forth.

THE DEVILS TRAP

UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the different levels of sinning and their spiritual ramifications
- Describe the fundamental ways for purifying the heart
- Define the different types of ego

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- The pillars of repentance
- Difference between desires of the ego and whispers of Satan
- Assess yourself and use a muhasaba (accountability) plan to support your spiritual growth

Allah is with you, but you choose to distance yourself from Him through the veils of sin. The more you sin, the further away you become from Allah. Muslims have been informed directly in the Qur'an al-Kareem that Shaytan (Satan) is a direct enemy, and to seek refuge with Allah from Shaytan.

It is therefore necessary to learn the tricks of the devil, to know about him and take practical steps to not be led astray.

This module analysis textual sources from the Qur'an al-Kareem and Hadith relating to the seven deadly sins and the seven major veils, the root causes for sinning and how to treat them, the criterion for repentance and how to implement them.

FIQH OF FASTING

Of all pillars of Islam, the fast has the peculiar characteristic of being related to Allah, exalted is He. The Prophet relates from his Lord, exalted is He, that He said: 'Every good deed is rewarded from ten times to seven hundred times, except fasting: it is Mine, and I reward for it.' However, the merit of fasting is sufficiently explained by the saying of Allah's Messenger ﷺ: 'By Him in whose hand is my soul! The mouth's odour of the fasting person is more wholesome in Allah's sight than the scent of musk. Allah, glorious and majestic is He, says: 'The fasting person leaves his desire, food and drink but for My sake; fasting is therefore Mine and I reward for it.'

FIQH OF FASTING



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand core rulings relating to fasting.
- Cover contemporary questions in relation to fasting.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- The different types of fasts
- The physiological and spiritual effects of fasting

Zakat (charity) and Sawm (fasting) are both pillars of Islam. With exceptions, it is mandatory upon every Muslim to fast during the month of Ramadan and donate a required amount to charity.

Fasting is made obligatory to build empathy for the less fortunate people. It is also an effective means to build a strong relationship with Allah Almighty through an increase in Taqwa (God-consciousness). This unit will detail core rulings pertaining to fasting, explore modern issues facing Muslims in Ramadan and cover the spiritual levels of fasting and how to achieve them.

FIQH OF ZAKAT

Allah, exalted is He, established zakat as one of the foundations of the religion of Islam, and He often refers to it after mentioning the prayer, which is the highest manifestation of the religion. Allah, exalted is He, says: 'And perform the prayer, and pay the zakat. And Allah's Messenger ﷺ, said: 'Islam is built on five pillars: to testify that there is no deity except Allah and that Muhammad is His Messenger ﷺ, to establish the prayer, to pay zakat...

Allah, exalted is He, also warns of a severe punishment for those who neglect to pay zakat. He, exalted is He, says:

'Those who treasure up gold and silver, and do not expand them in the way of God- give them the good tidings of a painful chastisement,' meaning that expending in the way of Allah is to pay the due of zakat.

FIQH OF ZAKAT



UNIT AIMS:

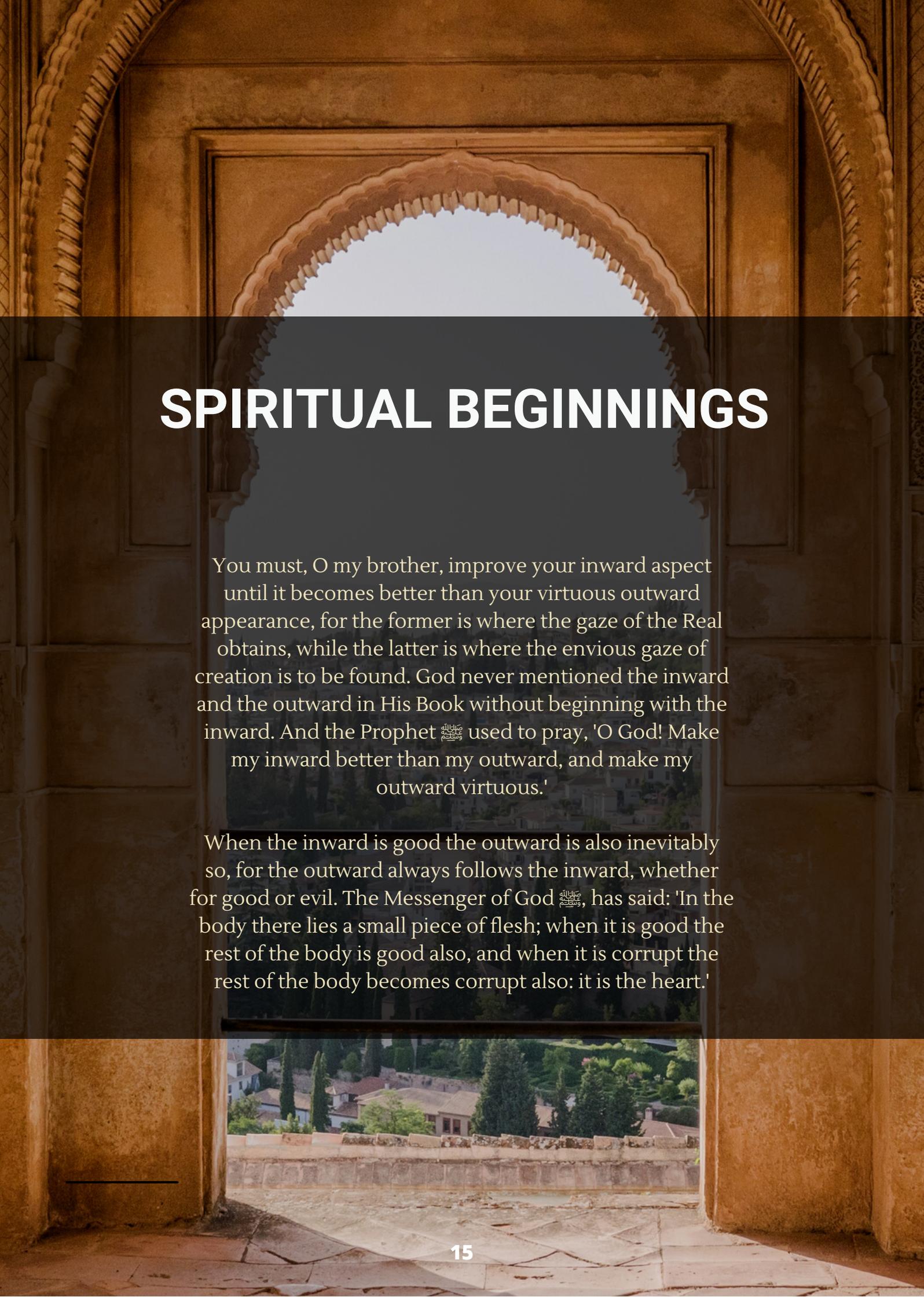
- Understand the obligations of zakat and the conditions which necessitate it.
- Identify the different recipients of zakat.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- How to calculate Zakat
- The spiritual benefits of giving zakat

Zakat (charity) and Sawm (fasting) are both pillars of Islam. With exceptions, it is mandatory upon every Muslim to fast during the month of Ramadan and donate a required amount to charity.

Zakat is a humanitarian device given to us by Allah Almighty by which we can help the poor and needy. Classical textbooks explained zakat for their respective eras, but the financial and zakat related issues facing Muslims in the 21st century are very different to those of the past. This unit will define the conditions which necessitate zakat, the spiritual reasonings and benefits of giving zakat and answer questions relating to the modern era.



SPIRITUAL BEGINNINGS

You must, O my brother, improve your inward aspect until it becomes better than your virtuous outward appearance, for the former is where the gaze of the Real obtains, while the latter is where the envious gaze of creation is to be found. God never mentioned the inward and the outward in His Book without beginning with the inward. And the Prophet ﷺ used to pray, 'O God! Make my inward better than my outward, and make my outward virtuous.'

When the inward is good the outward is also inevitably so, for the outward always follows the inward, whether for good or evil. The Messenger of God ﷺ, has said: 'In the body there lies a small piece of flesh; when it is good the rest of the body is good also, and when it is corrupt the rest of the body becomes corrupt also: it is the heart.'

SPIRITUAL BEGINNINGS



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the causes and cures to spiritual diseases
- Understand the spiritual importance of character development
- Identify between praiseworthy and blameworthy traits

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- The stages of the journey to Allah
- Skills to self-evaluate own character
- Practical steps to build a strong relationship with Allah

Self-discovery and spiritual growth are key elements of the Islamic tradition. Our purpose on Earth is to ultimately move on to the next realm in the grave, and then beyond through the resurrection and return to our Creator, Allah.

As part of that journey, it is incumbent upon Muslims to reform and embody the best of characteristics, otherwise the journey to Allah can be obstructed. This unit explores the inner traits of a human, the spiritual significance of character development, the barriers preventing one from obtaining these qualities and how to overcome them.



PRAYER IN ACTION

Have reverence and an attentive heart when you pray. Perfect your standing, intone the Qur'an and meditate on it, perfect your bowing, prostration, and all the other essential acts. Be careful also to observe those sunnas and good manners which are indicated in the law, and avoid anything that may either impair the prayer or just prevent it from being perfect. If you conform to this your prayer will emerge white and glowing, and it will say: 'May God safeguard you as you have safeguarded me!' Otherwise it will come out black and dark, and will say: 'May God ruin you as you have ruined me!' The Prophet ﷺ has said, 'Only that of which the believer is conscious during his prayer is credited to him.'

PRAYER IN ACTION



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand the purpose and rules relating to the congregational prayer
- Learn how to perform the various types of Salah's
- Learn about the different types of Sujud and when to perform

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- How extenuating circumstances can affect the Prayer
- The different types of Prayers, based on the Qur'ān and Hadith
- Improved understanding and connection to own prayer

Praying together is a key part of a healthy Islamic society. Congregational prayer was attended by men, women, and children at the time of the Prophet

ﷺ

This unit expands to cover the different types of prayers which exist in Islam and how to perform them, the rulings of prayer in different circumstances, and rules concerning forgetfulness and mistakes in Salah.

CONNECTING WITH THE QUR'ĀN

Know that great merit attaches to reciting the Qur'an, and an influence in illuminating the heart. The Messenger of God, has said: 'The best of my nation's devotions is the recitation of the Qur'an.' And Ali, may God ennoble his face, has said: 'The one who recites the Qur'an while standing in prayer receives one hundred rewards for each letter; the one who recites it outside the prayer but in a state of ritual purity receives twenty-five rewards for each letter; and the one who recites it without ritual purity receives ten rewards for each letter.'

Qur'an is the ocean wherefrom the jewels of knowledge and the treasures of understanding are extracted. Any believer who is granted the way to understand it, his Opening(fath) becomes permanent, his light complete, his knowledge vast, and he never tires of reading it night and day for he has found therein his goal and his purpose.

CONNECTING WITH THE QUR'ĀN



UNIT AIMS:

- Understand and explain key concepts
- Explore the stylistic features
- Learn the spiritual benefits of the Qur'ān al-Kareem and the chapters covered

Allah Almighty encourages us to contemplate and explore His Book. Having a connection with Qur'ān al-Kareem is the first step to building a connection with Allah Almighty. This special unit has been carefully designed to provide a tafseer (exegesis) exploring the Qur'ān al-Kareem's deeper meaning and guidance.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- Learn the significant meanings behind the revelation of each chapter
- Understand and apply key lessons
- Build a stronger attachment to the Qur'ān al-Kareem

Although it is not possible to explore the entire Qur'ān in sufficient depth in a short period of time, this course will provide you with a unique insight into the most commonly recited chapters, including: Al-Fatihah, Al-Ikhlās, Al-Falaq and Al-Naas; thus, becoming a strong foundation for any future Qur'ān studies.

CONTACT US

REGISTER



To register for the course, please visit our website for full details

www.guidancehub.org/isnad-f1

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