

"O my Lord, increase me in knowledge"
(Holy Qur'an, 20:115)



TA'LIM SYLLABUS

(December 2020 & January 2021 – 1 Term)

LAJNA IMA'ILLAH MAURITIUS

CONTENTS

Lajna Ima'illah Pledge	2
Salutation & Abbreviations	3
Introduction to the Ta'lim Syllabus	4- 5
Syllabus Term 1 – December 2020 & January 2021	6 -18

LAJNA IMA'ILLAH PLEDGE

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah. He is the One and has no partner. And I bear witness that Muhammad (saw) is His servant and His Messenger.

I affirm that I shall always be ready to sacrifice my life, property, time and children for the cause of faith and nation. I shall always adhere to truth and shall always be prepared to make every sacrifice for the perpetuation of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat.

Insha 'Allah

SALUTATION & ABBREVIATIONS

Lajna members are advised to recite the full salutations when reading the syllabus. The following abbreviations have been used in the syllabus.

SA An abbreviation for *Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam* meaning, May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, is written after the name of the Holy Prophet^{sa}

AS An abbreviation for *Alaihissalam* meaning, May peace be upon him /her is written after the name of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa} and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa}

RA An abbreviation for *Radiallahu anhu/anha/anhum*, meaning, May Allah be pleased with him/her/them, is written after the names of Companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and Companions of the Promised Messiah^{as}

RH An abbreviation for *Rahimullah*, meaning, May Allah have mercy upon him, is written after the names of deceased pious Muslims who are not Companions.

NB. Whilst every effort has been made to be consistent in the use of spellings/salutations in this syllabus; readers may come across some which are written differently. Such as (saw) for (SA) and Hadhrat/Hudur for Hazrat/Huzoor. This is because some references and books have been quoted in the syllabus which were published before these were standardised.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TA'LIM SYLLABUS

A Programme of Study for the period December 2020 and January 2021 has been put together for you. Below are some guidelines which will help you to follow the syllabus. All the components of the syllabus are essential and should be learnt and followed.

BASIC COMPONENTS

1. The Holy Qur'an – We will Insha'Allah start by learning small portions of the Holy Qur'an. We will study Surah Al-Baqarah verses 256 and 257 for this period. We will read the prescribed verse with translation and commentary. This will enhance our understanding of the Holy Qur'an. Please note that the English commentary is taken from "The Holy Qur'an - Arabic Text with English Translation & Short Commentary" by Mirza Ghulam Farid

2. Salat – We will be studying extracts from "Remembrance of Allah" by Hazrat Khalifatul Massih II (ra) and learn from the advice given by Huzur to improve one's Salat. In addition, Lajnas are also encouraged to regularly check their pronunciation and translation of Salat and to learn if necessary, as this will infuse more meaning and delight into one's worship.

3. Attributes of Allah the Almighty – We have chosen fifteen Attributes of Allah the Almighty that Lajnas should become familiar with and also know their meanings. Please remember that this is only the very basic requirement and we should all aspire to excel in our religious knowledge by learning more Attributes.

4. Hadith – A Hadith has been selected with commentary taken from the 'Forty Gems of Beauty' by Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmed Sahib (ra). Please read the Hadith and reflect on what the Holy Prophet (saw) meant when he spoke words recorded in the Hadith.

5. Malfuzat – We have selected a small portion of Malfuzat to be studied and reflected for this term.

6. Duah to memorise – Please try to memorise the Duah and also learn their meaning. The prayers chosen are from the Holy Quran.

7. Books of the Promised Messiah (as) – We will read "Barkaatud Dua" or "Blessings of Prayers" for the year 2020 - 2021.

May Allah the Almighty enable us to benefit from our religious studies and enhance our religious knowledge. Ameen.

Shabneez Khodabux

Serving as Secretary Ta'lim Lajna, Mauritius

Overview of Ta'lim Syllabus – Term 1

December 2020 & January 2021

Components	Details																
1. Holy Qur'an	Al-Baqarah – Verses 256 & 257																
2. Salat	Extracts from 'Remembrance of Allah' by Hazrat Khalifatul Massih II (ra)																
3. Attributes of Allah The Almighty	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Al-Rahman</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Al-Jabbaar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ar -Rahim</td> <td>Al-Mutakabbir</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maaliki-yaumiddeen</td> <td>Al-Khaaliq</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Al-Malik</td> <td>Al-Baari'u</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Al-Quddoos</td> <td>Al-Mussawwir</td> </tr> <tr> <td>As-Salaam</td> <td>Al-Ghaffaar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Al-Mu'min</td> <td>Al-Qahhaar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Al-Azeez</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Al-Rahman	Al-Jabbaar	Ar -Rahim	Al-Mutakabbir	Maaliki-yaumiddeen	Al-Khaaliq	Al-Malik	Al-Baari'u	Al-Quddoos	Al-Mussawwir	As-Salaam	Al-Ghaffaar	Al-Mu'min	Al-Qahhaar	Al-Azeez	
Al-Rahman	Al-Jabbaar																
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As-Salaam	Al-Ghaffaar																
Al-Mu'min	Al-Qahhaar																
Al-Azeez																	
4. Hadith	Hadith No 1 – Six Articles of Faith																
5. Malfoozat	Extracts from Volume 7																
6. Prayers to Memorise	O our Lord, pour forth steadfastness, upon us and make our steps firm, and help us against the disbelieving people. (2:251)																
7. Book of Promised Messiah (as)	'Barakatud Dua' or 'Blessings of Prayers' – First 15 pages																

1. Holy Qur'an

AL-Baqarah – Verse 256

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ ۚ لَا
 تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ ۚ لَهٗ مَا فِي
 السَّمٰوٰتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ ۚ مَنْ ذَا
 الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ ۚ يَعْلَمُ مَا
 بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ ۚ وَلَا
 يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا شَاءَ
 وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْأَرْضَ ۚ
 وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا ۚ وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ
 الْعَظِيمُ ﴿٢٥٦﴾

Translation:

256. Allāh—there is no god save Him, ^cthe Living, the Self-Subsisting and All-Sustaining. Slumber seizes Him not, nor sleep. To Him belongs whatsoever is in the heavens and whatsoever is in the earth. ^dWho is he that dare intercede with Him save by His permission? ^eHe knows what is before them and what is behind them; and they encompass nothing of His knowledge³¹⁸ except what He pleases. His knowledge extends over the heavens and the earth; and the care of them wearies Him not; and He is the High, the Great.

Commentary:

318. *Kursiyy* means, a throne, a chair, butress of a wall; knowledge; dominion and power (Aqrab); *Karāsī* is plural, meaning, men of learning. The verse beautifully describes the Unity of God and His great attributes. The Holy Prophet is reported to have said that *Āyatul-Kursiyy* is the loftiest verse of the Qur'ān (Muslim).

AL-BAQARAH – VERSE 257

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ ۗ قَدْ
 تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ ۗ فَمَنْ
 يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَ يُؤْمِنُ
 بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ
 الْوُثْقَىٰ * لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا ۗ وَ
 (اللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ) (٢٥٧)

TRANSLATION:

257. ^aThere is no compulsion³¹⁹ in religion. Surely, the right way has become distinct from error; so whosoever refuses to be led by those who transgress,³²⁰ and believes in Allāh, ^bhas surely grasped a strong handle which knows no breaking. And Allāh is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.

Commentary:

319. The injunction (embodied in the preceding verses) to make special sacrifices in the cause of religion and to fight the enemies of Islām was likely to give rise to the misunderstanding that Allāh desired Muslims to use force for propagating their religion. This verse removes that misunderstanding and not only forbids Muslims in most emphatic words to use force for converting non-Muslims to Islām, but also gives reasons why force should not be used for this purpose. It is because truth stands out distinct from error, so there has remained no justification for using force. Islām is manifest Truth.

320. *Ṭāghūt* is one who exceeds proper bounds; the Devil; such persons as turn others from the right path; all idols. The word is used both as singular and plural (2:258 & 4:61).

2. Salat

Taken from:

“Remembrance of Allah”

By: Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad ra Khalifatul
Massih II

What is Zikr-i-Ilahi, or Remembrance of Allah?

Zikr, an Arabic word, means remembrance. When used for Allah, it refers to the ways of remembering Allah: Keeping His attributes in mind, reciting them again and again, affirming them with eagerness and sincerity, and reflecting upon His Omnipotence and Power.

Importance of the Subject

How important is Zikr-i-Ilahi? To put it briefly, it is vital and of great importance. I do not call it great simply as a manner of speech, but because of Allah Himself has called it so. Allah the Most High says in the Holy Qur'an:

وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ...

...and remembrance of Allah indeed is the greatest virtue... (29:46)

That is, remembrance of Allah is higher in status than all other acts of worship. The statement that this subject is vital and important is therefore not mine; it is a pronouncement of Allah Himself.

Why is Zikr-i-Ilahi Necessary?

If the subject is of such great importance, Islam would obviously place constant emphasis upon it. This is indeed the case. We find frequent reminders about it in the Holy Qur'an, for example,

وَاذْكُرْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ بُكْرَةً وَأَصِيلًا *^{صلى عليه}

And remember the name of thy Lord during the morning as well as the evening. (76:26)

Similarly there is a Hadith in which the Holy Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) says, when people gather together for the remembrance of Allah they are surrounded by angels and are covered by mercy from their Lord.

3. Attributes of Allah

Original Arabic	Transliteration	Meaning in English
الرَّحْمَنُ	ar-Rahman	The Gracious
الرَّحِيمُ	ar-Raheem	The Merciful
مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ	Maaliki Yaum-id-Deen	Master of the Day of Judgement
الْمَلِكُ	al-Malik	The Sovereign
الْقُدُّوسُ	al- Quddoos	The Holy One

السَّلَامُ	as-Salaam	The Source of Peace
الْمُؤْمِنُ	al-Mu'min	The Bestower of Security
الْمُهَيِّمِ	al-Muhaimin	The Protector
الْعَزِيزُ	al-Azeez	The Mighty
الْجَبَّارُ	al-Jabbaar	The Reformer, The Subduer
الْمُتَكَبِّرُ	al-Mutakabbir	The Exalted
الْخَالِقُ	al-Khaaliq	The Creator
الْبَارِئُ	al-Baari'u	The Maker

الْمُصَوِّرُ	al-Musawwir	The Fashioner
الْغَفَّارُ	al-Ghaffaar	The Great Forgiver
الْقَهَّارُ	al-Qahhaar	The Most Supreme

(Transliteration and translation taken from: Basics of Religious Education, Fifth Edition)

4. Hadith

HADITH NUMBER 1

Six Articles of faith

عَنْ عُمَرَ بْنِ الْخَطَّابِ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الْإِيمَانُ أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ
الْآخِرِ وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْقَدْرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ (مسلم)

Narrated by Ḥaḍrat 'Umar bin al-Khaṭṭāb, (Allāh be pleased with him): Said the Holy Prophet (peace of Allāh be on him and His blessings): “The requirements of Faith are that thou should believe in Allāh and in His Angels and in His Books and in His Prophets and in the Last Day, i.e., the Day of Requital, and that thou should also believe in Allāh’s determination of good and in His determination of evil.”

(Muslim)

Explanatory Notes:

The above tradition carries a definition of faith which, as expounded in the teaching of Islām, consists of six fundamental articles of faith:

1. Belief in Allāh Who, as the Creator and Master of the world, is the central theme of all faith and religion. It should be remembered that, in Arabic, the word Allāh is not applied to any being other than the One God, and it denotes a being free from all defects and drawbacks, possessing all the best attributes, having all knowledge and all powers.
2. Belief in angels, who are an invisible but extremely important creation of God. Angels operate the working of the universe under Divine Command and supervise the God-created chain of causes. They also act as media of communication between God and His Prophets.
3. Belief in Books revealed by God through which the world comes to know of the Divine Purpose. The last and everlasting of these books is the Holy Qur’ān which has superseded all the earlier laws that were of a periodic and racial character and henceforth, there is no law, till the Last Day, except the Qur’ān.
4. Belief in the Prophets of God to whom were revealed, from time to time, inspired books and who acquainted the world with the purpose of God, by personal example. Prophets appeared among every people, but of Divine messengers, the last law-giving prophet, the Master Prophet, is the Prophet Muḥammad (peace and blessings of Allāh be on him), who was raised in Arabia 1400 years back, and is the pride of the progeny of Adam, and topmost of the prophets.

5. Belief in the Last Day, which must inevitably follow death, when every individual will be requited for the good or bad deeds he performed in this life.

6. Belief in the orderly existence of good and evil which is operating in the world, in the form of a Divine law. It means, in other words, believing that the law of nature and the law of religion (Sharīat) are both divinely-devised laws and God alone is the Founder and Guardian of this material and spiritual universe. He it is Who has laid down the principle for everything, whether of a physical or a spiritual nature, that certain actions lead to good results while certain other actions yield evil consequences as a matter of course. And above all, God holds supreme power over the laws He has created. Under certain circumstances, therefore, He brings about phenomenal changes in these laws, for the sake of His prophets and saints. Such changes, however, always form exceptions to these laws and never run counter to His known ways or promises or attributes. The phenomenon of miracles belongs to the category of these exceptional Laws.

5. Malfoozat

Godly People

I say it repeatedly that you should try to win the pleasure of God, for, if God is kind to you the whole world will be kind and if He is annoyed, nobody can avail you anything. When His wrath descends none in the world will show kindness to you even though you may try to deceive the people in various ways – by making use of rosary or dyeing your clothes yellow or green; the people will take it to be a mean thing.

Even if the world is deceived for a few days, the glamour will go and the people will be disillusioned. But he who comes from God, the world will not succeed in its plans of opposition, however great the opposition. The people may call him names and curse him but a time will come when the world will turn to him and will openly admit his truthfulness. I tell you the truth that for whoever God is, the world also becomes his.

Of course it is quite true that those who come from God are in the beginning opposed by the people and they are troubled and stumbling blocks placed in their way.

Never a messenger or a prophet has come to the world who was not put to hardships. Every one of them has been called a cheat, fraudulent and a business (i.e. his claim is nothing short of exploiting the people and a means of extracting money from them). But despite the fact that millions of people wanted to shoot arrows at them, threw stones at them, abused them, they did not care a fig for all this. There was nothing that could stand in their way. They continued reciting the word of God to the people. They continued delivering the message which they had brought from God and they did not leave any stone unturned to see their message reach their people. The trials and tribulations which they were meted out by their people (who did not believe in them) did not make them slack rather it added to their speed till the time came when God made their difficulties easy and the opponents began to realise the truth of the matter. At that time the opponents came to them and fell at their feet and admitted openly that their claim was based on truth.

The hearts are in the hands of God and whenever He will, He changes them.

(Malfoozat Vol. 7, pg. 196-197)

6. Prayers to memorise

For Steadfastness and Allah's Help

رَبَّنَا أَفْرِغْ عَلَيْنَا صَبْرًا وَ ثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَنَا وَ
 انصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ ۝

Translation:

O our Lord, pour forth steadfastness upon us and make our steps firm, and help us against the disbelieving people. (2:251)

7. Book of the Promised Messiah

“Barkatud-Dua” or Blessings of Prayer – First 15 pages.