

# **ISLAM – THE WAY OF LIFE**

Course Handouts

Islamic Classes For Youth  
Islamic Center Of Fremont, Fremont

## Table Of Contents

Islam- How Much Love Do You Have?.....	3
Muslim Identity and Being Proud To Be a Muslim .....	3
The Gift of Youth .....	3
Who is a True Friend? .....	4
Protecting Our Tongues .....	5
How To Deal With Our Elders .....	6
Educational Excellence in Islam and Struggles in Acquiring Knowledge.....	7
Character of a Muslim .....	8
Celebration of Muslim Festivals .....	9

## Islam- How Much Love Do You Have?

- Love For Allah:
- Love For Rasulullah (salallahu alaihi wa sallam):
- Love For Other Muslims:
- Love For the Knowledge of Islam

## Muslim Identity and Being Proud To Be a Muslim

- We are the Best Ummah
- We Have Been Granted the Greatest of All Messengers
- We Have Been Given the Best Book
- We Have the Best Way of Life
- Greatest Achievements and Contributions to Mankind

## The Gift of Youth

### ● The People of the Cave:

We relate to you their story with truth. They were indeed youths who believed in their Lord, and We increased them in guidance. [18:13]

### ● The Young Companions

Ali 10, Abdullah b. Umar, Abu Ubayda b. al-Jarrah 13, Uqba b. Amir 14, Jabir b. Abdullah and Zayd b. Harisa 15, Abdullah b. Mas'ud, Khabbab b. Arat and Zubayr b. Awwam 16, Talha b. Ubaydullah, Abdurrahman b. Auf, Arqam b. Abi'l-Arqam, Sa'd b. Abi Waqqas and Asma bint Abu Bakr 17, Muaz b. Jabal and Mus'ab b. Umayr 18, Abu Musa al-Ash'ari 19, Jafer b. Abu Talib 22, Osman b. Huwayris, Osman b Affan, Abu Hurayra and Umar 25-31 (**radhiAllahu Anhum Ajma`een**)

### ● Advice of Rasulullah (salallahu alaihi wa sallam): Value your youth before old age!

● Feet will not move on the Day of Judgment until asked about 5 things (one of them will be HOW DID YOU SPEND YOUR YOUTH?)

● He who serves the elderly in his youth will be looked after in old age.

- **One of the people under the shade of Allah's throne will be the pious youth.**

## **Who is a True Friend?**

### **EXAMPLE OF GOOD FRIEND/BAD FRIEND**

- The example of a good friend is like being in the company of a person who carries perfume.
- The example of a bad friend is like being in the company of that person who is a blacksmith.

### **STORY OF A BAD FRIEND**

- Uqbah ibn Abi Mu`et and Ubay ibn Khalaf
- People who went to destroy the Ka`bah.

### **STORY OF GOOD COMPANIONS**

- People of the cave and their dog.

### **SIGNS OF A GOOD FRIEND**

- Reminds you of Allah.
- Encourages you to do good.
- Stops you from bad things.
- Helps you in times of need

## Protecting Our Tongues

### **PUNISHMENT OF SPEAKING LIES**

- The Story of Musa (alaihi salaam) and Allah Ta`ala's advice :

**"O you who believe, do not behave as did those who harmed Musa, for Allah cleared him of what they said. And he was special in Allah's sight. O you who believe, fear Allah and speak words of goodness (what is proper)." (Surah Ahzaab; 69-70)**

- Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **"When a person lies, then such a bad smell comes from the mouth of a person that the angels run one mile away from him."** (Narrated by Tirmizi)

### **REWARDS OF SPEAKING THE TRUTH**

- Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **"The one who always tells the truth will be known as a "truthful one" to Allah. And the one who always tells lies will be known as a liar to Allah."** (Bukhari and Muslim)

- Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) was known as as-Sadiq and al-Ameen; the truthful one and the trustworthy.

- Story of Shaikh Abdul Qader Jaylani and the thieves.

### **HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM LIES**

- Think before you speak!
- Think about the harms of lies.
- Think about the benefits of telling the truth.
- Don't fear anyone but Allah.

## How To Deal With Our Elders

### Reward of respecting our elders

- It is narrated from Anas ibn Malik (radhiAllahu anhu) that Rasulullah (salallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“Any young man who respects and honors an elderly person (due to his old age) then Allah Ta`ala will appoint someone to respect and honor him when becomes old.”** (Narrated by Tirmizi; #2022)
- It is narrated from Thauban (radhiAllahu anhu) that Rasulullah (salallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“...Respecting one’s elders and relatives increases in life...”** (Narrated by Tirmizi, Ibn Majah, and Hakim)

### Harms of Disrespecting Our Elders

- Rasulullah (salallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“He who does not have mercy on our youth, and does not honor our elderly, and does not respect our scholars, he is not of us!”** (Narrated by Ahmad, Tabarani, and Hakim)

### What Goes Around, Comes Around!

- Story of the boy who takes his old father to the jungle to abandon him.
- Story of the disobedient son who yelled at his mother.

### How To Deal With Elders

- Story of Hasan and Husain (radhiAllahu anhuma) and their respect for the elderly man.

# Educational Excellence in Islam and Struggles in Acquiring Knowledge

## First Message to the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam)

- First verse which was revealed to the Messenger (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) was: *“Read! In the name of your Lord who created (every thing)...”* (Sura Alaq; 96:1)
- Also: Allah Ta`ala revealed: *“He is the One who raised amidst the unlettered people a messenger from among themselves who recites to them His verses, and purifies them, and teaches them the Book (Qur’an) and the Wisdom (Sunnah), while they were earlier in open error.”* (Surah al-Jumu`ah; 62:1)

## Struggles in Acquiring Knowledge

- **DOOR TO DOOR FOR THE SAKE OF KNOWLEDGE:** Ibn Abbas’s thirst for knowledge and the hardships he underwent.
- **JOURNEY OF 34 YEARS FOR THE SAKE OF KNOWLEDGE:** The great scholar: Baqee ibn Makhlad al-Andalusi (student of Imam Ahmad ibn Hambal) Underwent two journeys from Spain for the sake of knowledge; to Egypt, Syria, Arabia and Baghdad (This journey took 14 years). The other journey to these Islamic lands took 20 years.
- **IMAM BUKHARI’S SLEEPLESS NIGHTS FOR THE SAKE OF KNOWLEDGE ...**
- **EATING RAW FISH? IBN ABI HATIM’S STRUGGLE IN ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE...**
- **STORY OF IMAM ZAMAKHSHARI’S WOODEN LEG**

## Character of a Muslim

### ● Virtues of Good Character

The Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“The most beloved person to me and the most closest person to me on the Day of Judgment is the one with best character. And the most hated of you to me and furthest from me on the Day Judgment is the one with the most evil character.”** (Narrated by Tirmizi)

### ● What is Good Character?

1.) -Imam Tirmizi narrates from Abdullah ibn Mubarak that good character is:

1.) **طَلَاقَةُ الْوَجْهِ** : Smiling face.

2.) **بَدَلُ الْمَعْرُوفِ** : Doing goodness upon people.

3.) **كَفُّ الْأَذَى** : To withhold yourself from causing people harm.

2.) -Abdullah ibn Amr ibn al-Aas (radhiAllahu anhu) narrates that the Messenger was never obscene nor would he try to act obscene... There is no place for obscenity in Islam....

(Narrated by Bukhari and Muslim)

### ● Stories of Good and Bad Character

-The two people who went to Jannah and Jahannam due to good character and bad character.

-The good woman who tied up the cat... and the bad woman who gave water to the dog....



# Celebration of Muslim Festivals

## Celebrating the Two Eids

It is narrated by Nasa'i and Ibn Hibban that when the Messenger (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) came to Madina he saw the non-Muslims holding some festivities. So the Messenger (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: "**Allah Ta`ala has given you something better than this, and that is the two eids; Eidul Fitr and Eidul-Adha...**"

### 1.) *Eidul-Adha* (a.k.a. the *Feast of Sacrifice* or *Day of Sacrifice*)

- **When is it celebrated?** The first day of this celebration is held on the 10th day of Dhul-Hijjah, which is the last month of the Muslim year.
- **Why is it celebrated?** The celebration of *Eidul-Adha* is in commemoration of the command given by Allah to the Prophet Ibrahim (alaihis salaam) to sacrifice his first born son Ismaeel to Him. The fulfillment of this noble command of Allah by Ibrahim signifies his faith in Allah and his complete submission to His Creator.
- **Its activities:**
  - The days of *Eidul-Adha* are days of remembrance in which the *takbiraatut-tashriq* are read from the 9th-13<sup>th</sup> of Dhul-Hijjah.
  - We remember the sacrifice of Ibrahim (alaihis salam) and how he fulfilled Allah's commands.
  - Those Muslims who can afford to do so, will sacrifice an animal; camel, cow, goat or sheep.
  - The poor and needy in society are also remembered by showing them sympathy and consolation by distribution of the qurbaani meat.
  - Muslims wear their nicest clothing and attend Salatul-Eid (Eid Prayer) in the morning. This is followed by a short sermon, after which everyone shows happiness and festivity. Next, people visit each other's homes and partake in festive meals with special dishes, beverages, and desserts. Children receive gifts and sweets on this happy occasion.

- In addition, *Eidul-Adha* is a time when Muslims pray for forgiveness from Allah and strength of faith. They, in turn, forgive others, releasing any feelings of enmity or ill feeling towards others.

## 2.) *Eidul-Fitr* (a.k.a. the *Feast of breaking fast* or ending of Ramadhan)

- **When and why is it celebrated?** The day of this celebration is on the first of Shawwal (10<sup>th</sup> month of the Islamic calendar). It is celebrated after the completion of fasting the month of Ramadhan in thankfulness to Allah for allowing us to complete the fast of this blessed month

## 3.) *Walimah* (the wedding feast)

Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“One should have a *walimah* (wedding invitation/feast) after marriage, even if it might be a single sheep.”** (Bukhari and Muslim)

The Prophet of Allah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) also said: **“The best *walimah* is the one to which the poor and needy are invited, and the worst *walimah* is the one to which the rich are invited and the poor and need are neglected.”** (Bukhari and Muslim)

## 4.) *Aqeeqah* (the feast for birth of a child)

Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: **“Anyone who has a child born for him, and he wants to give thanks by way of sacrifice, then let him sacrifice two sheep for a boy and one sheep for a girl.”** (Abu Daud and Nasa`i)

- It is preferable to do the aqeeqah on the 7<sup>th</sup> day after birth. **(Abu Daud)**
- One should give the child an appropriate, Islamic name. **(Reported by Razeen as mentioned in Mishkat)**
- The head of the child should be shaved and sadaqah should be given equal to the weight of the hair shaved off. **(Tirmizi)**
- The child should be taken to the righteous scholars or pious elders to get blessings and duas from them. **(Muslim)**
- The *tahneek* of the child should be made by that pious person. The sunnah of *tahneek* is done by chewing a piece of date and then putting it in the mouth of that child. **(Bukhari and Muslim)**

## 5.) Celebrating the Completion or Memorization of Qur`an

Allah Ta`ala says:

Say, "With the grace of Allah and with His mercy (this book which has been revealed). *So they should rejoice in it.* It is much better than that (wealth) which they accumulate." (Surah Yunus; verse #58)

- It has been narrated from many companions of the Prophet (salallahu alaihi wa sallam) such as **Umar ibn al-Khattab, Sa`d bin Abi Waqqas, Abdur Rahman ibn Auf, Salim Maula Huzaifa** and others that on completion of memorization they would slaughter a number of camels and have a feast in celebration and rejoice of completing the Qur`an.

(Imam Suyuti has mentioned this in *al-Itqaan fee Uloomil Qur`an*)