

SHIFA

T R U S T

The Traditional Halaqa
A Retreat for Traditional Learning

Information Pack
Traditional Halaqa 1433 AH
24th December 2011 - 31st December 2011

Halaqa 2B

Acquainting Our Students with Traditional Islamic Learning



In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most, Merciful.

Table of Contents

The Traditional Halaqa 1433/2011	3
Introduction	3
Mission Statement	3
Teachers	3
Shaykh Dr. Samir al-Nass	3
Ustad Tanweer Hussain	3
Imam Khalid Hussain.....	4
Course Programmes & Curriculum.....	4
Subject Breakdown	5
Foundation 1.....	5
Foundation 2.....	5
Exam Schedule.....	6
Proposed Timetable	8
Arrival and Registration.....	9
The Venue.....	9
Induction	9
Student Essentials	9
Accommodation.....	9
Brothers	9
Sisters.....	9
Special Facilities for Sisters	10
Student Commitments – What we need from you.....	10
General Advice	10
Course Contribution	11
Full Course:	11
Daily:	11
Queries.....	11
Childrens Policy	12
Official Sponsor	13

All Praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Universe, and Peace and Blessings be upon His final Prophet and Messenger Muhammad ﷺ and upon his family, and his companions and all those who follow his way until the Day of Judgement- Amin

The Traditional Halaqa 1433/2011

Introduction

Knowledge is said to be taken from the presence of scholars, not the pages of books. For this reason Shifa Trust is pleased to present the 22th in its series of Traditional Halaqa courses which bring Muslims in the West into contact with scholars who are living vessels of wisdom.

Mission Statement

We aim to provide access to obligatory sacred knowledge and an introduction in to additional religious sciences to English speaking Muslims who have limited access to teachers. This will be provided by teachers from the way of orthodox Islam.

Teachers

We are pleased and consider it a great blessing to have the following teachers with us:

Shaykh Dr. Samir al-Nass

Shaykh Samir was born in Damascus, Syria, where he studied in the College of Medicine of the University of Damascus. He went on to study in the United States where he qualified in eternal medicine.

The Shaykh has studied under some of the great 'ulama of Shaam and Saudi Arabia. He has ijazah in the ten styles of recitation of the narration of Shatibiyyah and Durra from Shaykh Muhammad Sukr. He received an ijazah in the ten styles of recitation of the narration of Tayyibah from the Egyptian Shaykh Ahmad Mustafa in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, who is a student of Shaykh Abd al-Aziz al-Zayyat of Egypt. He has ijazah in fiqh and 'aqida from the previous Mufti of Syria Shaykh Abu Yusr ibn 'Abidin, Shaykh Lutfi al-Fayumi, and Mufti Shaykh Adeeb al-kallas.

Shaykh Samir was honoured to study hadith in Makkah tul-mukarrama with the great Shaykh Yasin al-Fadani al-Makki, and Shaykh Dr. Nur ud-din Itar of Syria. He also has an ijazah in hadith from Shaykh Abd Allah Siraj ud-din from Syria.

Shaykh Samir is presently a teacher in the al-Fath al-Islami University in Damascus, teaching the Hanafi fiqh manual 'Al-Hidayah' in the Takhassus Shariah department and lecturing in the ten recitations of Quran in the Masters department. The Shaykh teaches tajweed on a daily basis in the blessed masjid of Shaykh Ibn 'Arabi, a post given to him by his Shaykh and father-in-law, one of the illustrious Shaykhs of Quran in Shaam; Shaykh Muhammad al-Sukr. Shaykh Samir has been teaching at various deen intensive courses in England and North America since 2000.

Ustad Tanweer Hussain

Ustad Tanweer studied the Islamic Sciences in Syria for 8 years with notable teachers such as: Shaykh Dr. Samir al-Nass, Shaykh Abdul-Razzaq al-Halabi, Shaykh Adeeb Kallas, Shaykh Muhammad al-Yaqoubi, and Shaykh Anas al-Hibri. Sidi Tanweer is a graduate of M'ahad al-Fath al-Islami.

He now resides in Oxfordshire, where he teaches at Shifa School, Shifa Evening School, and at the Sacred Sciences Programme. Ustad Tanweer is an Executive Director of the Shifa Trust.

Imam Khalid Hussain

Imam Khalid Hussain, memorised the Qur'an at the age of 14, In Anjuman Ghousia Ashrafia In his hometown- Leicester [UK]. Along with Hifz he also studied Arabic, Aqida, Hanafi Fiqh & the Urdu language. In his pursuit of knowledge he went to his roots Zanzibar [East Africa]. It is here where he took private studies in Uloom particularly relating to the Ba 'Alawi minhaaj in East Africa. He studied extensive Seerah texts Including Mawlid Barzanji and the Mawlid Al- Habshi. He is well known both in the UK, USA, East Africa, Middle East and Asia for his love of Mawlid and Nasheeds. He is widely known in the UK for his brilliant Mawlid gatherings, Duff playing techniques and good relations with the youth. Imam Khalid has appeared on TV on several channels including Takbeer TV, Peace TV, and Islam Channel. Shaykh Khalid became the Imam and Khateeb at the Masjid Tajdar- E- Madina in Leicester in 2004, but started as an mudaris and advisor to the local community at the age of 22. Shaykh Khalid Hussain, has lectured in many Universities across England on The Life of Prophet Muhammad [Peace be upon him]. A man full of wisdom Shaykh Khalid Hussain's 'laid back' style, wit & humour is gathering him huge numbers of followers across England, In his short time back he has changed the lives of many.

Course Programmes & Curriculum

The course operates on the basis of a two tier system: Foundation 1 and Foundation 2.

The Foundation 1 class is aimed at those students who are relatively new to studying sacred knowledge and need to learn the essential elements of knowledge which are obligatory on all Muslims.

The Foundation 2 class is for those students who have studied the obligatory knowledge and want to build on what they have learnt. It provides an introduction into more advanced learning.

The curriculum is stretched over a four Halaqa cycle, though in each Halaqa a new module will be started and finished. This allows students to join and complete the syllabus at any stage.

Halaqa Number	Foundation 1	Foundation 2	Common (Both classes)
1a July 2012 To August 2012	1. Fiqh 1: Purity & Prayer 2. Theology	1. Fiqh 1: Marriage & Miscellaneous 2. Legal Theory	1. Prophetic Biography 2. Q&A
1b December 2010 To January 2011	1. Fiqh 2: Fasting Zakat and Hajj 2. Prophetic Qualities 1	1. Fiqh 2: Financial Contracts 2. Quranic Sciences	1. Prophetic Biography 2. Q&A
2a July 2011 To August 2011	1. Prophetic Qualities 2 2. Spirituality 1: Beginning of Guidance	1. Quranic Themes 1 2. Hadith Theory	1. Prophetic Biography 2. Q&A
2b December 2011 To January 2012	1. Prophetic Qualities 3 2. Spirituality 2: Beginning of Guidance	1. Quranic Themes 2 2. Forty Hadith	1. Prophetic Biography 2. Q&A

Course texts

We provide the course text for the Halaqa at which you attend. In some instances we will ask you to purchase your own texts for particular modules.

Subject Breakdown

Foundation 1

Theology

The student will be taught the text of Jawhara Tawhid by which the teacher will expose the student to the beliefs of orthodox Muslims. The student will understand the ideas of divinity, prophethood and the unseen.

Fiqh 1

Initially, the teacher will introduce the concept of the four orthodox schools of jurisprudence and will touch upon the idea of following (*taqlid*). The student will be taught using the Hanafi Fiqh Manual by which the teacher will ensure that the student understands the rules of purity and prayer.

Fiqh 2

The student will be taught the Hanafi Fiqh Manual by which the teacher will ensure that the student understands the rules of fast, zakat and pilgrimage.

Spirituality 1

The student will be taught the text of Beginning of Guidance by which the teacher will introduce the student to purity of intention, spiritual approaches to worship and sins of the limbs. The sections on legal acts of worship, such as ablution, ritual bath and dry ablution do not need to be repeated as they will be covered in Fiqh 1.

Spirituality 2

The student will be taught the text of Beginning of Guidance by which the teacher will teach the student diseases of the heart and etiquettes.

Prophetic Qualities 1

The student will be taught the text of Shama'il of Imam Tirmidhi, from Section 1 (The Physical Stature of the Messenger of Allah) to Section 19 (The Walking of the Messenger of Allah).

Prophetic Qualities 2

The student will be taught the text of Shama'il of Imam Tirmidhi, from Section 20 (The taqannu of the Messenger of Allah) to Section 38 (The Speech of the Messenger of Allah on Night Time Conversation).

Prophetic Qualities 3

The student will be taught the text of Shama'il of Imam Tirmidhi, from Section 39 (The Description of the Sleep of the Messenger of Allah) to Section 56 (The Vision of the Messenger of Allah in Sleep).

Foundation 2

Fiqh 1

The student will be taught the Hanafi Fiqh Manual by which the teacher will ensure that the student understands the rules of marriage, oaths and the lawful and prohibited.

Fiqh 2

The student will be taught the text of Hanafi Fiqh Manual by which the teacher will ensure that the student understands the rules of financial contracts and will be introduced to some basic principles in the rules of inheritance.

Hadith Theory

The student will be given a general introduction into key concepts of hadith theory based around the work of Shaykh Abdullah Siraj Din, Sharh Bayquniyya. He will be given a background to the history and development of hadith, as well as key books of hadith. He will also be taught different categories of hadith.

Legal Theory

The student will be given a general introduction into key concepts of legal theory, particularly focussing on the Hanafi School. This will be based around different works, particularly the text of Manar. He will be taught the key agreed upon sources and disagreed upon sources. He will also be introduced into the main areas of disagreement with the other schools of legal theory.

Qur'anic Sciences

The student will be given a general introduction into key areas of Qur'anic science. This will be based around the work of Shaykh Nur Din 'Itr, Qur'anic Sciences. He will be exposed to the Qur'an, its compilation, its variant recitations, its miraculous nature, and other key areas.

Quranic Themes 1

The student will be taught the first fifteen sections of the Qur'an and given an overview of its meanings.

Quranic Themes 2

The student will be taught the last fifteen sections of the Qur'an and given an overview of its meanings.

Fourty Hadith

The student will be taught the meanings of the fourty hadith as recorded by Imam Nawawi.

Common

Themes from the Prophetic Biography

The student is introduced to key ideas and ways of understanding the biography of the Prophet. Four keys areas will be selected which will be taught in each course over the two year cycle.

Q&A

These sessions will offer an opportunity to ask questions on any topic.

Exam Schedule

Foundation 1

Entry requirements

None

Modular Tests

Each Halaqa will have 2 modular tests. Each modular test has a pass mark of 75%.

Tests will be administered on the last day of the Halaqa.

Certificates will be issued for each test passed.

Certificates will be signed by the subject teacher and Shaykh Samir.

Foundation 2

Entry requirements

Must pass the test at induction. Pass mark is 75%. The test is to be based on the subject matter being taught at Foundation 1 at that specific Halaqa.

Modular Tests

Each Halaqa will have 2 modular tests. Each modular test has a pass mark of 75%.

Tests will be administered on the last day of the Halaqa.

Certificates will be issued for each test passed.

Certificates will be signed by the subject teacher and Shaykh Samir.

End of Halaqa Cycle Test

Once a student has passed all modular tests in foundation 2, a final test will be initiated, based upon all subject matter taught at all Halaqat. Pass mark is 75%.

Proposed Timetable

(Subject to Change)

Time	Foundation 1	Foundation 2
0715	Fajr followed by Surah Yaseen & Tajweed	
0900	Breakfast	
1000	Beginning of Guidance Imam Khalid	Quranic Themes Shaykh Samir
1115	Break	
1130	Hanafi Fiqh Shaykh Samir	
1245	Dhur	
1315	Lunch followed by Rest / Revision	
1445	Asr & Hizb al Bahr	
1500	Prophetic Qualities Shaykh Samir	Forty Hadith Ustad Tanveer
1600	Maghrib & Ratib al-Haddad	
1630	Prophetic Qualities Shaykh Samir	Forty Hadith Ustad Tanveer
1730	Break	
1740	Prophetic Biography Shaykh Samir	
1830	Dinner	
1915	Isha	
1945	Contemporary Issue / Guest Speaker followed by Q&A	
2100	Close	

Arrival and Registration

The Venue

Faizan-e-Madina Masjid,
169-173 Gladstone Street,
Peterborough,
PE1 2BP

Residents should aim to arrive by **12pm**, **non-residents at 2.30pm** on the 24th of December. Once you enter please register at the registration desk. Brothers should register at the first floor of the Masjid, sisters should register at the ladies entrance of the Masjid.

Induction

Insha'Allah, Induction will take place at **after Asr (3pm)** in the Masjid. The timetable, student commitments and any other issues will be clarified. Please bring this information document with you. **Attendance to this session is essential.**

Student Essentials

All participating students are required to bring the following items:

1. Printed copy of the Qur'an (English/Arabic if possible)
2. Note pads and stationery
3. Changes of clothes, towels and general toiletries (enough to last 7 days). The highest standards of personal hygiene must be maintained. Please bring some warm clothing, as weather conditions are variable.
4. Sleeping bag / blankets / pillows. No bedding will be provided by the organisers.
5. Any required medication (please inform organisers if you are currently on medication, in case of complications).
6. Alarm Clock

Accommodation

The accommodation is of a basic standard, and will be shared with other students. This should provide a good opportunity to fulfil many Sunnahs such as sacrifice, patience and compassion. If you would like private accommodation, the venue has many bed and breakfast hotels in the vicinity.

We regret that we are unable to provide accommodation for families. If you wish to arrange your own accommodation, we will be more than happy to refer local hotels to you.

Brothers

Brothers will be sleeping on the floor in the Masjid. Wudu facilities will be close to hand. Access to showers will be available. No bedding will be provided, please bring a suitable sleeping bag.

Sisters

The sisters will be accommodated in the madrassa building on the Masjid premises. Wudhu and shower facilities are located in the building and students will be provided air beds to sleep on though you will be required to bring your own bedding.

Please note that there are 21 residential places available for sisters which will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Special Facilities for Sisters

Sisters unable to enter the main Masjid area will be able to continue their studies in a room adjoining the area. All lessons held in the Masjid will be delivered via a live television link to this room.

Student Commitments – What we need from you

- To take responsibility for your studies, including the completing of any set work to an exemplary standard and to the prescribed timescale.
- To attend all lessons punctually as indicated by the timetable provided.
- To inform one of the members of the Traditional Halaqa team if you are genuinely unable to attend any of the timetabled lessons, using the procedures prescribed to you.
- To respect the individual rights of all the teachers, staff and other students.
- To act in a way that respects the environment and safeguards the health and safety of oneself and others, including abiding by the regulations and policies set by the Traditional Halaqa team and the host party.
- There must be no mobile phones taken into lessons.
- There is a no smoking policy which you must adhere to.
- Students must not venture into those parts of the building that are off limit.
- Please ensure all the facilities you use are kept clean e.g. dining areas and sleeping areas.
- Lesson times and meal times are to be strictly adhered to.
- Before distributing promotional material (of any nature), please ensure permission from the Halaqa team has been granted.
- To take part in a rota of serving your fellow students food.

Students will be expected to follow a code of practice that will be conducive to creating and maintaining a healthy and vibrant learning environment, showing consideration and patience towards all other participants.

General Advice

- On arrival be sure to provide your family with the emergency contact number (07984162001), the address of the venue and be sure to call them to notify them of your safe arrival.
- Try not to break ones daily routine.
- Remember Allah (Subhana Wa Ta'alla) often and hold your tongue in humility.
- Keep the company of those above you in the Deen and Knowledge.
- Try not to waste time - the course is for a short period of time and there is a lot of work involved.
- Respect all teachers, organisers, the host party and all students.
- Try to revise the day's work before you go to sleep.
- Remember - ask people who know if you do not.
- Report any concerns, criticisms and comments to any member of the Traditional Halaqa team.
- Be in class early, at least by 5 minutes.
- If the class starts late, revise previous notes - use your time productively.
- Use the night to rest and recover.
- The privacy of Shayukh and organisers of the event must be respected at all times.
- Park your cars in the assigned areas.
- Overlook any perceived shortcomings.

Course Contribution

Unfortunately the cost of arranging the course is substantial; therefore we have to ask for a contribution. We have endeavoured to keep this contribution as minimal as possible. The contributions are as follows:

Full Course:

Non-Residential Student - £70 (this includes meals and course materials)

Residential Student - £150 (this includes accommodation, meals, and course materials)

To exact full benefit from the course we advise students to attend the whole course. However, we understand this won't be possible for everybody. Hence we have arranged for daily contributions as follows:

Daily:

Non-Residential Student - £15 (this includes meals)

Residential Student - £30 (this includes accommodation & meals)

Some concessions are available for those who genuinely cannot afford the contribution.

Queries

Telephone: Brothers 07984 162 001 | Sisters 07888 688 994

Email: info@traditionalhalqa.org

Website: www.traditionalhalqa.org

Please let us know if you have any further questions or concerns. We can be contacted via the above means.

We ask Allah, Exalted is He, to give us success in this life and the next. May He bless the effort of all the believers and unite their hearts in love of Him.

Wa ma tawfiqi illa billah!

And there is no success but from Allah!

Childrens Policy

1. Purpose:

1.1 This document outlines the regulations for children attending the Halaqa. The regulations have been put in place in order to keep children safe, to ensure disturbance is kept to a minimum, and to maintain a conducive learning environment.

2. Definitions:

In this document:-

2.1 Child(ren) means under 16 years old.

2.2 Adult means over 18 years old.

2.3 Guardian means the adult responsible for a child.

3. Facilities:

3.3 We would like to stress that the venue of the Halaqa, lacks the facilities to cater for children adequately. However we will endeavour to make the facilities as comfortable as possible.

4. General regulations:

4.1 Children will only be allowed to attend the Halaqa, if they are accompanied by an adult.

4.2 Children aged above 9 years old must be accompanied by an adult of the same gender.

4.3 If the adult is not the parent of the child, then the parent(s) should be informed by the adult that he/she will be responsible for the child at the Halaqa (not the Halaqa staff).

5. Regulations for 11-15 year olds:

5.1 11-15 year olds will be treated as normal students and be expected to participate in lessons.

5.2 They must not walk in and out of lessons.

5.3 They must adhere to the code of conduct outlined in the student information pack.

5.4 If they find the course tiring, they may miss lessons, but this must be discussed with the Halaqa staff.

5.5 They have to be accompanied by their guardian at all times.

5.6 The guardian is responsible for the above being adhered to.

6. Regulations for under 11 year olds:

6.1 Under 11 year olds must be accompanied by guardians at all times.

6.2 If they become noisy, we would request that the parents kindly take them outside the classroom, so as not to disturb other students.

6.3 Children may not play outside unaccompanied.

6.4 All efforts should be made in order to reduce disturbance.

6.5 The guardian is responsible for the above being adhered to.

7. Course Contribution:

7.1 11-15 year olds are required to pay the full contribution outlined in the student information pack.

7.2 5-10 year olds are required to pay half of the contribution outlined in the student information pack.

7.3 Under 5 year olds are free.

Official Sponsor



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