



Level 8: Worship and Character

Course Description:

Allah the Most High, through his infinite mercy and wisdom has made the deen of Islam easy to learn and understand. This great blessing of Allah, can be appreciated by the student having a thorough understanding of the Pillars of Islam and the Pillars of Iman. It is important that the student recognize the primary difference between these sets of pillars: The Pillars of Islam focus on the apparent actions of a Muslim, i.e. his or her apparent deeds, while the Pillars of Imaan focus on the beliefs of a Muslim. In this subject, the student continues the study of the Pillars of Islam by being introduced to:

- A introduction to the science of hadeeth and its various scholars and classifications.
- The importance of Fasting in Ramadan and making hajj along with some basic relevant fiqh rulings.

This subject also presents to students the importance of living an Islamic lifestyle.

Required Course Materials:

Textbooks

Learning Islam 3 Islamic Services Foundation ISBN: 1-933301-11-2

A Note To Parents:

Often the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in the MCNJ Sunday School is the extent to which the student's family, especially parents, are able to:

- Serve as role models for their children by implementing Islamic teachings in the home.
- Create a home environment that encourages learning.
- Communicate high, yet reasonable, expectations for their children's achievement that communicate the importance of their Islamic education.
- Become involved in their children's education at school.

To live and practice Islam properly, learners must enjoy an Islamic environment around them. Parents, siblings, family members, friends, teachers, peers, TV, etc. are important elements of such environment. Home (especially parents) and school must cooperate to provide such an Islamic environment to help the student practice and live Islam. Please be engaged in your child's education at the school. It is your duty to teach your children Islam. We here at the school are only here to aid you in discharging this responsibility.

Grading Policies:

Grading Scale

Final grade will be based on the following scale:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A+	100-97	A	96-93	A-	90-92
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	67-69	D	63-66	D-	60-62

Areas of Assessment:

Final course grade will be based upon the following categories of assessments:

- Homework 20%
- Classroom Participation and Attendance 10%
- Two End Of Semester Examinations 70%

Academic Integrity

In addition to good academic performance, students should exhibit honesty and integrity. If there is any question that academic honesty and integrity are not honored, students may be required to redo assignments in the presence of an instructor-selected monitor. Proof of dishonesty, including plagiarism, will make students subject to disciplinary action. Please see the MCNJ School Guidelines for more information.

Course Outline:

The course outline for this subject is below. Parents will be notified by the school administration what units and chapters will be covered in the end-of-term examinations.

Unit C: Beautiful Worships: The Rules of Siyam and Hajj

This unit teaches students about fasting and Ramadan and covers:

- The benefits of fasting in Ramadan.
- Some basic fiqh rulings of fasting in Ramadan.
- The actions or statements that nullify one's fast in Ramadan.
- Other days of the year where fasting is highly recommended.

This unit also teaches students about performing hajj and discusses the following topics related to hajj:

- Describes the Prophet's last hajj, peace and blessings be upon him.
- Steps for performing hajj.
- The important spiritual benefits of performing hajj.

Chapter Name	Student Objectives
Chapter 1: Ramadan: A Month of Blessings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn what are Ramadan and Siyam.• Understand the special virtues of the month of Ramadan.• Know the importance and benefits of fasting.• Develop understanding and appreciation for the various levels of the Ramadan fasting and its benefits: spiritual, medical, psychological and social.• Know that there is a special gate into Paradise called Ar-Rayyan for those who fast.• Learn the meaning of the hadeeth about Ramadan and the verse from the Qur'an on the topic of fasting in this chapter.
Chapter 2: Ahkam-us-Siyam: The Rules of Fasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn and memorize the twelve months of the Islamic lunar year.• Understand how Ramadan starts and ends.• Learn the main rules of fasting in Islam.• Learn about the obligatory actions of fasting.• Learn about the recommended sunan or practices of fasting.• Learn and understand the verse and hadeeth in this chapter that state that there are 12 months in the Islamic calendar.• Understand the meaning of Hijri calendar.• Know the following vocabulary terms in terms of fasting: Fard, Wajib, Sunnah, Mustahabb, Haram

Chapter 3: Mubtilaat-us-Siyam: The Nullifiers of Fasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the main nullifiers of fasting. • Understand the wisdom behind easing the fasting rules on people with medical conditions. • Understand how a broken fast can be made up. • Learn some common actions that do not nullify the fast. • Learn some common actions that are discouraged while fasting. • Know the following vocabulary terms: Mubtilaat-us-Siyaam, Qadaa', Kaffarah, Fidyah
Chapter 4: Hajjat-ul-Wadaa': Prophet Muhammad's Farewell Pilgrimage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the preparations the Prophet made for his farewell hajj. • Learn about the rituals he performed prior to reaching Makkah. • Learn about the actions pilgrims cannot do while in the state of Ihram. • Understand the wisdom behind the requirement of Ihram. • Know how to say the talbiyah. • Know the following vocabulary terms: Hajjat-ul-Wadaa', Miqaat, Ihram, Talbiyah
Chapter 5: Hajjat-ul-Wadaa': Prophet Muhammad's Farewell Pilgrimage Cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the events of the Prophet Muhammad's Farewell Hajj. • Learn about the rituals of hajj. • Appreciate and value the spiritual importance of hajj. • Learn and appreciate the Prophet's final message to Arabs and to mankind. • Define the following vocabulary terms: Tawaf-ul-Qudoom, As-Safa, Al-Marwah, Sa'i, Mina, Arafaat, Al-Muzdalifah, Tawaf-ul-Ifadah, Tawaf-ul-Wadaa', Yawm-ut-Tarwiyah, Yawm-un-Nahr.

Unit E: As-Sunnah: The Other Divine Revelation

This unit introduces the student to the science of hadeeth collection by conveying to the students:

- The basics of the science of hadeeth.
- The major books of hadeeth.

Chapter Name	Student Objectives
Chapter 1: As-Sunnah: The Prophet's Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what the term Sunnah means and how it relates to the Qur'an. • Appreciate the importance of the Sunnah in Islam. • Receive a basic overview of the history of collecting and analyzing hadeeth. • Learn the basic terminology and methodology of the science of hadeeth. • Learn about the most important books of hadeeth along with their unique characteristics. • Acquire an introduction to the authors of the main books of hadeeth. • Acquire an understanding of the enormous amount of work and sacrifice that was put into preserving the hadeeth. • Learn and understand the hadeeth on obeying the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him.
Chapter 2: The Basics of Uloom-ul-Hadeeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the basic terms of Uloom-ul-Hadeeth. • Learn the basic classifications of Al-Hadeeth: Saheeh, Hasan, Da'eef and Mawdoo' • Develop awareness of the importance of Uloom-ul-Hadeeth. • Know the following vocabulary terms: Sanad, Asaneed, Saheeh, Matn, Rawi, Hasan, Da'eef, Mawdoo', Fiqh.
Chapter 3: The Recording of the Hadeeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the early attempts to write down hadeeth. • Acquire an overview of the history of hadeeth. • Recognize categories of hadeeth books and references. • Understand how careful the collectors of hadeeth were with accepting hadeeth from narrators by relating the example of Imam al-Bukhari and his rejection of a narration of a man who lied to an animal. • Know the following vocabulary terms: Thikr, Imam Malik, Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbali, Imam al Bukhari, Imam Muslim, Imam Abu Dawod, Imam At Tirmithi, Imam Ibn Majah, Imam An Nasaee.

Chapter 4: The Major Books of Hadeeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about and recognize the most prominent books of hadeeth. • Gain a basic overview of the major hadeeth collections. • Receive an introduction to the authors of the main books of hadeeth. • Know the following vocabulary terms: Saheeh, Sunan, Masnad, Al-Muwatta, Al-Bukhari, Saheeh Muslim, Musand of Imam Ahmed
Chapter 5: The Major Books of Hadeeth Cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about and recognize the Sunan books of hadeeth. • Receive an introduction to the authors of the main Sunan books of hadeeth. • Know the following terms: Sunan Abu Dawood, Sunan Al-Tirmithi, Sunan An-Nasa'ee, Sunan Ibn Majah

Unit F: Leading A Pure Lifestyle

This unit teaches students the importance of living an Islamic lifestyle via:

- An analysis of Surat-Hujuraat and the lessons that can be learned about how Muslims should treat each other.
- Dangerous lifestyles that are forbidden in Islam: Consuming alcoholic beverages, gambling and lottery, consuming haram meats and mental drugs.

Chapter Name	Student Objectives
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Chapter 1: Surat-ul-Hujuraat: The Rooms of the Prophet

- Internalize the ideal of applying knowledge of Qur'an and Sunnah.
- Understand the reason for the revelation of verses 1-5.
- Learn that one should consult the Qur'an and the Sunnah, and by extension the scholars before taking decisions or forming opinions.
- Acquire the etiquette of speaking to elders in a polite tone.
- Acquire the etiquette of seeking permission to visit others and enter their homes or living space.
- Understand the story about the two visitors to Madinah and Omar Ibn-ul-Khataab.
- Understand the importance of avoiding rushing to judgment against others without proper verification.
- Understand the importance of obeying the authority of righteous leaders.
- Learn what is Nameemah and become inspired to avoid falling in this evil attitude.
- Understand how verse 6 of this surah is related to the science of hadeeth that was covered in Unit E.
- Understand the reason for revelation of verses 6-8.
- Understand the dua on asking Allah to make us love our belief and make it beautiful in our hearts, and make us hate kufr, fusooq and sin. And that he make us among those who are on the right path. If possible, memorize this dua.
- Know the following vocabulary terms: Fasiq, Nameemah, Nammam.
- Understand the ideal of brotherhood and sisterhood in Islam.
- Understand the importance of keeping peace among Muslims and avoiding disputes and conflicts.
- Learn what should happen when Muslims fight each other.
- Understand the reason for the revelation of verses 9-10.
- Understand the ahadeeth related to brotherhood in this chapter.
- Understand the hadeeth in this chapter about the severity of cursing a Muslim and fighting him.
- Understand the importance of rushing to seek forgiveness of those that you have harmed.
- Understand how Al-Hasan Ibn Ali Ibn Abi Talib reconciled between two big groups of disputing Muslims.
- Understand the hadeeth about the delay of the forgiveness of two disputing Muslims until they reconcile.
- Define the following vocabulary terms: Ukhuwwah, Sulh.
- Learn the types of behavior a Muslim is prohibited to do towards other Muslims.
- Become inspired to abandon bad attitudes toward other Muslim brothers and sisters.
- Explain the lessons learned from the dispute between Abu Tharr Al-Ghifari and Bilal Ibn Rabah.
- Understand the reason for the revelation of verses 11-13.
- Define the following vocabulary terms: Soo-Thann, Gheebah, Tajassus.
- Understand the hadeeth about how a Muslim should behave if a fellow Muslim is being humiliated before him.
- Understand the hadeeth about the rights that Muslims have upon each other.
- Understand the concept of unity of mankind as espoused in this surah.
- Learn the importance of having a sincere heart and embracing Islam wholeheartedly.
- Understand the difference between Islam and Iman and their relationship.
- Understand the reason for the revelation of verses 14-18 of this surah.
- Understand that Iman must be proved through good actions.
- Understand the code of conduct presented in Surat-ul-Asr.

Chapter 2: Dangerous Lifestyles:
Alcoholic Beverages: The Mother
of All Evils

- Learn that alcoholic beverages are harmful and therefore are haram.
- Learn why alcohol, khamr, is considered the mother of all evils.
- Understand how intoxicants destroy human societies.
- Become more motivated to warn others against the devastating effects of intoxication.
- Understand the hadeeth that states that every intoxicant is khamr and the punishment for one who becomes addicted to it.
- Understand the hadeeth of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, where he states that any substance that causes intoxication in large quantities is forbidden to consume even in small quantities.
- Understand the hadeeth that states that all parties involved in the business of alcohol are cursed by Allah.
- Understand the Qur'anic verses related to the prohibition of alcohol.
- Define khamr.

Chapter 3: Dangerous Lifestyles
II: Pork and Other Haram Meats

- Learn that pork and all pork products are haram or forbidden to eat.
- Understand the reasons behind the prohibition of pork.
- Understand that Allah made good wholesome food permissible to eat.
- Recognize the gifts of all the halal and tayyib food and drink that Allah has gifted humankind.
- Recognize the term khabeeth which means the evil practice and harmful foods which Allah has prohibited.
- Define khinzeer.
- Understand the verses where Allah states that he has made all that is in the heavens and earth available to us.
- Understand the verses that describe the types of food that are not permissible to consume.
- Understand the hadeeth that describes the two types of dead animals and blood that are permissible for us to consume.

Chapter 4: Dangerous Lifestyles
III: Gambling and Lottery

- Understand what is gambling.
- Learn about the various types of gambling.
- Recognize the harms caused by gambling.
- Name modern types of gambling.
- Understand that free raffles are not gambling and therefore are not forbidden.
- Understand what a Muslim should do if they win money by gambling before realizing that it is not permissible.
- Know the vocabulary terms: Maysir, Qimaar, Rihaan

Chapter 5: Dangerous Lifestyles
IV: Mental Drugs

- Learn about things that waste time and energy.
- Realize that games and entertainment can be addictive and act as mental drugs.
- Understand that mental drugs also distract people from worship, studying and other serious things in life.
- Understand the hadeeth of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, where he states the things that each of us will be questioned about on the Day of Judgment.
- Understand the importance of self-discipline and being responsible to the most important priorities: school, family responsibilities, work, giving service to others.
- Understand that having fun in a way that helps relieve stress, create happiness, health and a sense of well being is encouraged.