



## ALI Board and Team of Volunteers

### Board of Directors

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Sr. Tahera Kassamali



### Administrative Team & Volunteers

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Representative in Vancouver, BC: Sr Mumtaz Walji

([waljimumtaz@gmail.com](mailto:waljimumtaz@gmail.com))



## ALI Mission Statement

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The Academy for Learning Islam (A.L.I.) is a registered charity (BN 88712 9815 RR00001) committed to teaching and explaining the religious tenets, history and practices of Islam according to the Shī'ah Ithnā 'Asharī school of thought.

ALI aims to promote holistic growth of the individual. It provides practical religious inspiration that help to appreciate the beauty and practicality of Islam. Courses and activities cover religious and spiritual topics, nutrition and physical health, as well as emotional issues that play an important role in personal well-being and self-development. ALI also offers insights into the rich heritage of Islam through art courses and retreat activities.

Disclaimer: The Academy for Learning Islam (A.L.I.) carries out appropriate due diligence on personnel it engages to run its programs. However, it is not responsible for the veracity of the information or material presented by any instructor or volunteer working for ALI and eventually posted on our site.



## ALI Ongoing Projects

### ***Sahīfa Sajjādiyya* Project (SSP)**

The Academy aims to introduce this great heritage from the household of the Holy Prophet (s) to English speaking Mu'minīn. To see the progress of this project go to [www.academyofislam.com/sahifa](http://www.academyofislam.com/sahifa). We need volunteers to work on the following items:

1. Contact various scholars to get notes from their lectures on Du'ās from the *Sahīfa*.
2. Gather all audio and video lectures in English on the *Sahīfa*.
3. Gather abstracts on the *Sahīfa* from the book *Muslim Devotions* by Constance E. Padwick
4. Prepare a comprehensive list of all *sharh/tafāsīr* of the *Sahīfa* in Arabic, Farsi, Urdu and other languages.
5. Someone to take the lead in overseeing progress of this project.

### **Hadith Database Project (HDP)**

The objective of the Hadith Database Project (HDP) is to make Hadiths by the Holy Prophet (s) and his Ahlul Bayt (a) accessible to the English speaking community. Currently there are over 20,000 Hadiths stored on the database. The Hadith Database uses books which are popular with Shi'ī Muslims and relies on the compilers to verify the *sanad* and authenticity of the traditions.

The target audience for this project are Madrasah teachers, young speakers, and the community at large. The website can currently be accessed simply by using any computer/smart phone with an internet connection. There are plans to add additional books of Hadith such as *Nahjul Balāgha* of al-Radhī, *Tuhafal 'Uqūl* of al-Harrānī, *Al-Āmālī* of al-Mufīd, *Mishkātul Anwār* of al-Tabarsi and *al-Khisāl* of al-Sadūq. The team is looking for more volunteers from around the world who can offer their services working from home.

Please email [academyofislam@gmail.com](mailto:academyofislam@gmail.com) if you can assist in any one of the above two projects.



## ALI Fees Policy

### Please note our policy on Fees and Donations

- 1) No fees are charged for online courses and webinars. Participants are welcome to donate any amount via PayPal button on our website. Canadian residents will receive Tax Receipts for donations of \$20.00 and over.
- 2) Nominal fees are charged for onsite/in-class courses to cover rental and other incidental expenses.
- 3) All fees are payable on or before the first day of the course. We urge the participants to cooperate in this regard.
- 4) Please pay your fees through PayPal button on our website or by sending e-transfer to [academyofislam@gmail.com](mailto:academyofislam@gmail.com) with a question: 'What is the name of the 1<sup>st</sup> Imam (a)?' Answer: 'Ali'. Cash will not be accepted.
- 5) Anyone who cannot afford to pay all or part of the fees can still register and participate. Simply send an email to [academyofislam@gmail.com](mailto:academyofislam@gmail.com) asking for exemption and you will In-shāAllāh receive confirmation within 48 hours.



## VENUE for onsite classes

With the exception of Quranic Arabic classes which will be held in the Recreation Room in Crescent Village in Richmond Hill, all classes will be held at the Jaffari Community Center, 9000 Bathurst Street, Thornhill, ON L4J 8A7. Exact room numbers will be available from [aliout-reach@gmail.com](mailto:aliout-reach@gmail.com) one week before courses begin.



## ALI Fall 2018 courses at a glance

Fall 2018: Onsite/In-class courses		
ALI 461, 464, 468 Q. Arabic I, II & III	Sept 8-Dec 22	M. Ardehali
ALI 462, 465 & 469: Farsi I, II, and III	Sept 15-Dec 22	M. Ardehali
ALI 466: Sahifa Sajjadiyya Du'a No. 6 ALI 470: Sahifa Sajjadiyya Du'a No. 7	Nov 10 & 17 Dec 1 & 8	H. Kassamali
ALI 467: Family Life in Islam	Nov 13-Dec 4	T. Kassamali
ALI 471: Mandala Art	Nov 13-Dec 4	S. Hassanali
Fall 2018: Online Courses and Webinars		
ALI 451: Preparation for Muharram	Sept 2	H. Kassamali
ALI 458: Arba'in Ziyarat	Oct 13	H. Kassamali
ALI 472: Hormone Balance	Nov 3	Anar Allidina
ALI 473a: Reviewing Quranic Suras ALI 473b: Reviewing Quranic Suras	Nov 5 - 26 Nov 6 - 27	H. Kassamali
ALI 474: Proving the Existence of God	Nov 20 & 27	J. Jaffer
ALI 475: Shī'ī Hadith Literature	Nov 10 & 17	Ali Imran
ALI 476 a & b: About God's mercy	Dec 11 & 18	T. Kassamali
Fall 2018: Quran Appreciation courses		
ALI 477: Ages 7-9	Sept 28-Dec 4	S. Fazal
ALI 478: Ages 10-12	Sept 28-Dec 4	N. Remtulla
ALI 479: Girls ages 13-16	Sept 28-Dec 4	N. Datto
ALI 480: Boys ages 13-16	Sept 25-Dec 11	Ali Kermali



## ALI Winter 2019 courses at a glance

Winter 2019: Onsite/In-class courses		
ALI 482, 487&490 Q Arabic IV, V & VI	Jan 12-May 4	M. Ardehali
ALI 483, 488 & 491 Farsi IV, V & VI	Jan 12-May 4	M. Ardehali
ALI 481: Sahifa Sajajdiyya Du'a 8 ALI 486: Sahifa Sajajdiyya Du'a 9	Jan 12 & 19 Feb 9 & 16	H. Kassamali
ALI 484: Islamic Art	Jan 14-Feb 4	Alina Juma
ALI 485: Family Life in Islam	Jan 22-Feb 12	T. Kassamali
ALI 489: Nahjul Balagha	Feb 27-Mar 6	H. Kassamali
Winter 2019: Online courses and Webinars		
ALI 492: Maintaining Healthy Mineral	Jan 12	F. Ajwani
ALI 493a: Reviewing Quranic Suras ALI 493b: Reviewing Quranic Suras	Jan 14-Feb 18 Jan 15 -Feb 19	H. Kassamali
ALI 494: Understanding Hijab	Jan 26	F. Meghji
ALI 495: Living Islam in the West	Feb 8-15	M. Bachoo
ALI 496a&b: About God's Mercy	Feb 26 & Mar 5	T. Kassamali
ALI 497: Ziyarat Webinar	Mar 2	H. Kassamali
ALI 498: Raising Children in the West	TBA	Abbas Jaffer
Winter 2019: Quran Appreciation courses		
ALI 499: Ages 7-9	Jan 18-Mar 29	S. Fazal
ALI 500: Ages 10-12	Jan 18-Mar 29	N. Remtulla
ALI 501: Girls ages 13-16	Jan 18-Mar 29	N. Datoo
ALI 501: Boys ages 13-16	Jan 15-Mar 26	Ali Kermali



## ALI Spring 2019 courses at a glance

<b>Spring 2019: Onsite/In-class courses</b>		
ALI 503: Sahīfa Sajjadiyya Du'ā 10	Apr 6-13	H. Kassamali
ALI 504: Family in Islam	Apr 9-30	T. Kassamali
ALI 505: Justice in Nahjul Balagha	Apr 17-24	H. Kassamali
ALI 506: Quranic Arabic VII	May 11-Jun 15	M. Ardehali
ALI 507: Farsi for Beginners VII	May 11-Jun 15	M. Ardehali
<b>Spring 2019: Online courses and Webinars</b>		
ALI 508: Marital Relationships	Apr 16-23	J. Jaffer
ALI 509: Fasting in Ramadan	Apr 27	Dr. Mithani
ALI 510: Understanding God's Mercy	Apr 24-May 2	T. Kassamali
<b>Spring 2019 – Quran Appreciation courses</b>		
ALI 511: Ages 7 – 9	Apr5-Jun21	S. Fazal
ALI 512: Ages 10 -12	Apr5-Jun21	N. Remtulla
ALI 513: Girls ages 13 – 16	Apr5-Jun21	N. Datoo
ALI 514: Boys ages 13 -16	Apr2-Jun18	Ali Kermali



## ALI Summer 2019 courses at a glance

Summer 2019: Hajj Webinars		
ALI 515: Preparations for Hajj	Jun 29	H. Kassamali
ALI 516: Hajj Rules for Ladies	Jun 29	T. Kassamali



## ALI 2019 Holiday programs at a glance

March Break Retreat	
Girls ages 9-12, Hidden Acres	Mar 13-15
Summer Day Camp	
Children ages 6-12, JCC	July 8-19







## Fall Term (Sept-Dec 2018) Onsite/In-class Courses

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### **ALI 461: Quranic Arabic – Part I**

This course is a progressive series of five-week classes to learn Quranic Arabic. The text is ‘Selections’ from *Access to Quranic Arabic* by AbdulWahid Hamid which consists of 110 passages from the Quran. These selections contain words that occur frequently in the Quran and illustrate points of Arabic grammar and structure. Discussion will also include understanding relevant Hadiths. By the end of these series of classes the learner will be able to get a good basic understanding of Arabic grammar and understand much of the Quran directly.

Instructor: Br. Mohammadreza Ardehali, Ph.D. in Quranic Hermeneutics.

Eligibility: All Muslims ages 16 and over.

Prerequisite: Can read the Quran & has basic knowledge of Arabic.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Sept 8- Oct 13, 2018; from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon (no class on Sept 22)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 462: Farsi for Beginners – Part I**

After Arabic, Farsi (or Persian) is the language of Islam from the 2<sup>nd</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> century up to the present time. This course helps you to start speaking and reading in Persian. Whether for travel or business, you will learn essential vocabularies and phrases to communicate in Farsi. By the end of this course, you will be able to understand short sentences and express your basic needs.

Instructor: Br. Mohammadreza Ardehali. Ph.D. in Quranic Hermeneutics.

**Eligibility:** All Muslims ages 16 and over.

**Pre-requisite:** Can read the Quran and has basic knowledge of Arabic.

**Schedule:** 4 Saturdays, Sept 15- Oct 13, 2018; from 2.15 pm – 3.45 pm (no class on Sept 22)

**Fees:** \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 464: Quranic Arabic – Part II**

Course information as in **ALI 461** above.

**Schedule:** 5 Saturdays, Oct 20 - Nov 17 from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

**Fees:** \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

**Venue:** Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 465: Farsi for Beginners – Part II**

Course information as in **ALI 462** above.

**Schedule:** 5 Saturdays, Oct 20 - Nov 17, 2018; from 2.15 pm – 3.45 pm

**Fees:** \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 466: Reviewing Du'a 6 from *Sahifa Sajjadiyya***

A study of some of the passages that the Imam (a) recited every morning and evening, the creation of Day and Night and the functions we need carry out in them

**Instructor:** Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

**Schedule:** 2 Saturdays, Nov 10 & 17, 2018, 10.30 am-12.00 noon

**Fees:** \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 467: The Family: A Divinely inspired institution (For women only)**

Islam promotes a family-centered society. This course will look at Islamic teachings on the importance of family, guidance to healthy family relationships, examples from history and case studies from today's society.

**Instructor:** Sr. Tahera Kassamali

**Schedule:** 4 Tuesdays, Nov.13-Dec.4, 2018 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon

**Fees:** \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 468: Quranic Arabic – Part III**

Course information as in ALI 461, above.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Nov 24 - Dec 22 from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 469: Farsi for Beginners – Part III**

Course information as in ALI 462 above.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Nov 24 - Dec 22 from 1.15 pm – 2.30 pm

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 470: Reviewing Du'a 7 from Sahifa Sajjadiyya**

A discussion of the Imam's supplication when facing worrisome tasks, when misfortunes descended or at the time of distress. We will look at how we can use these passages in everyday life.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Saturdays, Dec 1 & 8, 2018, 10.30 am-12.00 noon

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 471: Mandala Art**

Mandalas are a great way to express your creativity and a fun way to relax through art. Join us for mandala art classes as we guide you through the process and techniques of creating mandalas.

Instructor: Sr. Sakina Hassanali

Schedule: 4 Tuesdays, Nov.13-Dec.4, 8.30 – 10.00 pm.

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

**Have you downloaded our latest interactive App on  
*Tahajjud Salat – A Spiritual Ladder* from  
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tahajjud-salat/id479793001?mt=8>**



## Fall Term (Sept-Dec 2018) Online Courses and Webinars

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Note: The online classroom will open 10 minutes before the session begins. If you prefer to listen to the presentation without viewing the slides call 1-437-886-9122 and enter using PIN 037 7588#. All timings are for New York City. Please ensure to get corresponding timing for your local city/town.

### **ALI 451: Muharram 1440 Preparations**

This 90 minutes webinar will discuss three main aspects about the Muharram commemorations: (i) The mission of Imam al-Husayn *'alayhis salaam*, (ii) why Shi'i Muslims mourn the tragedy in a specific way and (iii) and universality of Husayni values gained from the events of Karbala.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: Sunday September 2, 2018 from 11 am to 12:30 pm NY time

### **ALI 458: Arba'een Ziyaarat**

This webinar will discuss the importance and etiquette of pilgrimage to Najaf, Karbala, Kazimayn and Samarra. The course will focus on connecting spiritually to the Imams who are visited and the main aadaab of Ziyarat. Practical issues such as Salāt in the airplane, performing wudhū made easy, and complete or shortened (qasr) prayers in Iraq will also be covered.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: Saturday Oct. 13, 2018; from 11.00 am - 12.30 pm

### **ALI 472: Hormone Balance**

Our hormones are crucial - the rising and falling levels of these chemical messengers control appetite, cravings, body fat storage, and more—making them key players in our weight loss successes and failures. In this webinar, we will discuss the main hormones

we need to pay attention to for successful weight loss. We will also be highlighting lifestyle hacks to make these hormones work in your favour.

Instructor: Sr. Anar Allidina

Schedule: Saturday Nov 3, 2018, from 11.00 am - 12.00 noon.

### **ALI 473: Reviewing Quranic Suras**

Many Muslims find it difficult to study the Holy Quran, its contents and the rich literature of Quranic tafsīr. These weekly online sessions will review various Quranic suras. Sessions will include essential info on the sura, simple meaning of Quranic verses, historical context, and relevant Hadiths on the verses.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule:

ALI 473a: Four Mondays Nov 5 - 26; 8.30 - 9.30 pm NY time

ALI 473b: Four Tuesdays Nov 6 - 27; 11.00 - 12.00 noon NY time

### **ALI 474: Theology - Proving the Existence of God**

The most important aspect of our faith is to believe in Allah (swt) without any doubts or ambiguities. This course will help in providing proofs of His existence that will not only strengthen our faith but will produce better servitude in InshāAllāh.

Instructor: Sh. Jaffer H. Jaffer

Schedule: Two Tuesdays, Nov 20 & 27; 8:30 - 9:30 pm NY time

### **ALI 475: An Overview of Shi'i Hadith Literature**

The Hadīth literature forms one of the most significant bodies of knowledge and guides much of our religious worldview today. In this brief overview, we will look at some of the primary and tertiary sources of Shī'ī Hadīth and as well as the biographies of the authors who compiled them. The lessons will conclude with details regarding books of Hadith that are available in English today.

Instructor: Syed Ali Imran

Schedule: 2 Saturdays, Nov 10 & 17; 10.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon NY time

## **ALI 476: Understanding God's Mercy: Human Creation (For women only)**

Divine mercy is central to the spiritual journey of the human being. This course will look at understanding God's mercy behind creation and His plan for human success. Based on articles on the subject by Dr. Mohammed Ali Shomali.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Tuesdays, Dec 11 & 18, 2018

ALI 476a: 9.30 am – 10.30 am NY time

ALI 476b: 8.30 pm – 9.30 pm NY time



### **Resources on ALI website**

Go to <https://www.academyofislam.com/sahifa/> to access 7 articles on *Sahifa Sajjadiyya* – a book of supplication by Imam Ali Zaynul 'Abidin (a) and the Arabic text of 68 supplications with side by side two English translations by Sayyid Ahmad Muhani and Dr William Chittick with audio recitations by Hajj Maytham al-Kazim



## Fall Term (Sept-Dec 2018) Quran Appreciation courses for children

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All children's courses will be held at Jaffari Community Center are a joint effort between ISIJ of Toronto and ALI.

Quran Appreciation offers:

- Child friendly Quran Learning
- Reading Arabic text with simple translation and exercises
- Studying the context and stories of the passage under discussion
- Memorizing select verses of the Quran
- Learning relevant Hadiths on the Quranic passage
- Fun and engaging activities on the Quran

Courses will be offered for all three terms at JCC:

Term 1 - Fall 2018: 12 weeks – Fees payable \$60.00

Term 2 - Winter 2019: 10 weeks – Fees payable \$50.00

Term 3 - Spring 2019: 6 weeks; Fees payable \$30.00 and 7 weeks for Boys ages 13-16 years; Fees payable \$35.00

Fees are adjusted according to the number of weeks. All fees are payable either thru PayPal or e-transfer to [academyofislam@gmail.com](mailto:academyofislam@gmail.com). Cash will not be accepted.



## Fall Term (Sept-Dec 2018) Quran Appreciation courses for Children

### **ALI 477: Quran Appreciation, ages 7-9 years**

Instructor: Sr. Sukaina Jaffer Fazal

Schedule: Fridays, Sept 28 – Dec 14, 2018;  
from 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Fees: \$60 payable on or before the first day  
of the course.

### **ALI 478: Quran Appreciation, ages 10-12 years**

Instructor: Sr. Nasifa Remtulla

Schedule: Fridays, Sept 28 – Dec 14, 2018;  
from 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Fees: \$60 payable on or before the first day  
of the course.



### **ALI 479: Quran Appreciation, girls ages 13-16 years**

Instructor: Sr. Najma Datoo

Schedule: Fridays, Sept 28 – Dec 14, 2018; from 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Fees: \$60 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 480: Quran Appreciation, boys ages 13-16 years**

Instructor: Br. Amin Kermali

Schedule: Tuesdays, Sept 25- Dec 11, 2018 7.15 - 8.15 pm. (Timings  
will be adjusted for salât)

Fees: \$60 payable on or before the first day of the course.





## Winter Term (Jan-Mar 2019) Onsite/In-class courses

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### **ALI 481: Reviewing Du'a 8 from Sahifa Sajjadiyya**

We often seek refuge in Allah 'azza wa-jall from blameworthy acts. The course will look at the beautiful passages from Imam al-Sajjad (a) whereby he took refuge in God from hateful things, bad moral qualities and blameworthy acts.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Saturdays, Jan 12 & 19, 2019, 10.30 am – 12.00 noon

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 482: Quranic Arabic – Part IV**

Course information as in ALI 461 in the Fall term

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Jan 12-Feb 9; from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 483: Farsi for Beginners – Part IV**

Course information as in ALI 462 in the Fall term.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Jan 12-Feb 9, 2019; from 1.15 pm – 2.30 pm.

Fees: \$40, pay thru PayPal button on our website.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill.

### **ALI 484: Islamic Art**

In this course students will complete their very own works of Islamic Art. In the first class we will briefly discuss Islamic art and then move into creating our own pieces. Participants will be given

the choice of using Arabic or English calligraphy. The goal is to provide hands-on painting time to students. This is a beginner level course and no previous painting experience is needed.

Instructor: Sr. Alina Juma

Schedule: 4 Mondays, Jan.14 – Feb 4, 2019, 8.30 - 10.30 pm

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 485: The Family: A Formation ground for Personalities (for women only)**

A driving factor behind formation of personalities is the family environment. This course will look at Islamic teachings on personality formation, the role of the family, examples from history and case studies from today's society.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali

Schedule: 4 Tuesdays, Jan 22-Feb 12, 2019, 10.30 am - 12.00 noon

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 486: Reviewing Du'a 9 from Sahifa Sajjaiyya**

Pleading God for forgiveness is a daily practice of many Muslims. In this Du'a, we will look at the Imam's supplication in which he used to fervently ask for Divine forgiveness and pardon.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Saturdays, Feb 9 & 16, 2019, 10.30 am – 12.00 noon

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 487: Quranic Arabic – Part V**

Course information as in ALI 461 in the Fall term

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Feb 16 - Mar 23, 2019, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon (no class on Mar 16, 2019)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 488: Farsi for Beginners – Part V**

Course information as in ALI 462 in the Fall term.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Feb 16 - Mar 23, 2019; from 1.15 pm – 2.30 pm (no class on Mar 16, 2019)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 489: Signs of a pious believer in *Nahjul Balagha***

In sermon 87 of *Nahjul Balagha* Imam Ali (a) enumerates the qualities of a pious believers (*mutaqqīn*) and the characteristics of the wicked (*fussaq*). This course will look our beliefs and attitude in the mirror of these qualities.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Wednesdays, Feb 27 & Mar 6, 8.30 – 10.00 pm

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 490: Quranic Arabic – Part VI**

Course information as in ALI 461 in the Fall term

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Mar 30-May 4, 2019, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon (no class on Apr 20, 2019)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

### **ALI 491: Farsi for Beginners – Part VI**

Course information as in ALI 462 in the Fall term.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, Mar 30-May 4, 2019; from 2.15 pm – 3.45 pm (no class on Apr 20, 2019)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Resources on ALI website
Go to <a href="https://hadith.academyofislam.com/">https://hadith.academyofislam.com/</a> to search a Hadith from renowned Shi'i Islamic sources from a database of over 33,000 Hadiths.



## Winter Term (Jan-Mar 2019) Online Courses and Webinars

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Note: The online classroom will InshāAllāh open 10 minutes before the session begins. If you prefer only to listen to the presentation without viewing the slides then call 1-437-886-9122 and enter using PIN 037 7588#

### **ALI 492: Maintaining Healthy Mineral Levels**

Learn about the most important minerals for women's health. Manage your energy levels, bone health and chronic disease risk factors by understanding the types of foods that will give your body the minerals it needs at different stages in life. Learn about the benefits and risks of taking supplements.

Instructor: Sr. Fatim Ajwani

Schedule: Saturday Jan 12, 2019, 11.00 am – 12 noon NY time

### **ALI 493: Review of Quranic Suras**

These weekly online sessions will review various Quranic sūras. Sessions will include essential info on the sūra, simple meaning of Quranic verses, historical context, and relevant Hadiths on the verses.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule:

- a) ALI 493a: Mondays, Jan 14-Feb 18, 2019, 8.30 - 9.30 pm NY time
- b) ALI 493b: Tuesdays Jan 15 -Feb 19; 11.00 am - 12.00 noon NY time

### **ALI 494: Understanding Hijab (for women)**

In this two-hour webinar, we hope to explore the answers to a few common questions on hijab including: 1. What is the textual and Qur'anic evidence for the obligation of hijab? 2. Why do women need to cover more than men? 3. What is the philosophy of *hijab*? 4.

In the modern day *muhajibahs* stand out in society. Does this mitigate the purpose of *hijab*? 5. What should I do if someone I know decides to take off the hijab?

Instructor: Sr. Fatemah Meghji

Schedule: Saturday, Jan 26, 2019, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm NY time.

### **ALI 495: Living Islam in the West**

As we start the 21st century, the Muslim community finds itself challenged externally and internally in maintaining its ideological and communal integrity. This course will broadly look at some of the challenges faced by the Western Muslim community in the 21st century, seek to understand its causes and propose some ways of overcoming them.

Instructor: Sh. Murtaza Bachoo

Schedule: 2 Fridays, Feb 8 -15, 2019, 8.30 – 10.00 pm NY time

### **ALI 496: Understanding God's Mercy: Life in the world (for women)**

Divine mercy is central to the spiritual journey of the human being. This course will look at understanding God's mercy behind life of this world, from the wisdom in creation to the natural system established for human life. Based on articles on the subject by Dr. Mohammed Ali Shomali.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali

Schedule: Two Tuesdays Feb 26 & Mar 5, 2019

ALI 496a: From 11 am – 12 noon NY time

ALI 496b: From 8:30 – 9:30 pm NY time

### **ALI 497: Ziyarat 1440 AH Webinar**

This webinar will discuss the importance and etiquette of pilgrimage to Karbala, Kazimayn, Mashhad, Najaf, Qum & Samarra. The course will focus on connecting spiritually to the Imams who are visited and the main aadaab of Ziyarat. Practical issues such as Salat in the airplane, performing wudhu made easy, and complete or shortened (qasr) prayers in Iraq will also be covered.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: Saturday Mar 2, 2019; from 11.00 am - 12.30 pm

### **ALI 498: Raising children in the West**

This webinar will discuss the challenges of raising children in the Western society while still maintaining Islamic principles.

Instructor: Sh. Abbas Jaffer

Schedule: TBA



## **Winter Term (Jan - Mar 2019)**

### **Quran Appreciation courses for children**

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All children's courses will be held at Jaffari Community Center and are a joint effort between ISIJ of Toronto and ALI.

See page No. 16 for more info on Quran Appreciation courses

### **ALI 499: Quran Appreciation, ages 7-9 years**

Instructor: Sr. Sukaina Jaffer-Fazal

Schedule: 10 Fridays, Jan 18 - Mar 29, 2019, 4.30 - 5.30 pm (with no classes during March break)

Fees: \$50 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### **ALI 500: Quran Appreciation, ages 10-12 years**

Instructor: Sr. Nasifa Remtulla

Schedule: 10 Fridays, Jan 18 - Mar 29, 2019, 4.30 - 5.30 pm (with no classes during March break)

Fees: \$50 payable on or before the first day of the course.

## **ALI 501: Quran Appreciation, girls ages 13-16 years**

Instructor: Sr. Najma Datoo

Schedule: 10 Fridays, Jan 18 - Mar 29, 2019, 4.30 - 5.30 pm (with no classes during March break)

Fees: \$50 payable on or before the first day of the course.

## **ALI 502: Quran Appreciation, boys ages 13-16 years**

Instructor: Br. Amin Kermali

Schedule: 10 Tuesdays, Jan. 15-Mar 26, 2019, 7.15 -8.15 pm (with no classes during March break)

Fees: \$50 payable on or before the first day of the course.

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## **Winter Term (Jan - Mar 2019) Spiritual Retreat**

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### **ALI Retreat 022**

Ages: Girls 9-12 years

Dates: March 13-15, 2019

Venue: Hidden Acres, Camp Mennonite, New Hamburg ON

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## Spring Term (Apr-Jun 2019) Onsite Courses/In-class courses

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### ALI 503: Reviewing Du'a 10 from Sahifa Sajjadiyya

Beginning with marvels of the Almighty of creating nights and days, this Du'a teaches us different functions we need to carry out in them. This is a Du'ā which teaches how to supplicate regularly to the Creator in a comprehensive way.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Saturdays, Apr 6 & 13, 2019, 10.30 am – 12.00 noon

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### ALI 504: The Family and Social change

The institution of the family is undergoing a lot of change in society. This course will look at some of the changes, Islam's stance on these changes and strategies to help keep the Muslim family ideals secure. We will also look at examples from history and case studies from today's society.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali

Schedule: 4 Tuesdays, Apr 9-30, 2019, 10.30 am - 12.00 noon

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### ALI 505: Justice in *Nahjul Balagha*

Justice is a universal value and Amīrul Mu'minīn (a) has highlighted it at several places in his utterances. In this course we will look at two articles, 'Justice, a Supreme Value' and 'Indifference to Justice' by Shahid Murtadhā Mutahharī in his work *Glimpses of Nahjul Balagha*.

Instructor: Sh. Hasanayn Kassamali

Schedule: 2 Wednesdays, Apr 17 & 24, 2019, 8:30 – 10:00 pm

Fees: \$25 payable on or before the first day of the course.



## ALI 506: Quranic Arabic – Part VII

Course information as in ALI 461 in the Fall term

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, May 11-June 15, 2019; from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon and in Ramadan from 2.00 - 3.30 p.m. (no class on Jun 8)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room, Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1J1

## ALI 507: Farsi for Beginners – Part VII

Course information as in ALI 462 in the Fall term.

Schedule: 5 Saturdays, May 11-June 15, 2019; from 2.15 pm – 3.45 pm (no class on Jun 8)

Fees: \$40 payable on or before the first day of the course.

Venue: Recreation room on the ground floor at Crescent Village, 138 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill.

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## Spring Term (Apr -Jun 2018) Online Courses and Webinars

### ALI 508: Marital Relationship in a Materialistic Society

The health of one's marital life is vital in obtaining satisfaction in all other areas of life; including but not limited to one's relationship with God and one's societal obligations. In this short-course we will discuss ways to strengthen the relationship between a husband and a wife, in lieu of the challenges that this materialistic society produces.

Instructor: Sh. Jaffer H. Jaffer

Schedule: 2 Tuesdays, April 16 & 23; from 8:30 – 9:30 pm NY time.

## **ALI 509: Ramadan: The Physical, Ethical & Spiritual Fast**

As we approach the Month of Ramadhan, it is important to appreciate the many levels of fasting. The physical fast, the ethical fast and the spiritual fast. This webinar will discuss the different levels of fasting and pay special attention towards the effect that fasting may have on the physical, ethical and spiritual health of the individual.

Instructor: Dr. Akber Mithani

Schedule: Saturday April 27, 2019 from 12 noon – 1pm NY time

## **ALI 510: Understanding God's Mercy: Support for human success (for women)**

Divine mercy is central to the spiritual journey of the human being. This course will look at understanding God's mercy behind the support provided for the human being so he can be successful in both the worlds. Based on articles on the subject by Dr. Mohammed Ali Shomali.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali

Schedule:

ALI 510a: 2 Wednesdays Apr 24 & May 1; 9 – 10 pm NY time

ALI 510b: 2 Thursdays Apr 25 & May 2, 11 am - 12 noon NY time





## Spring term (Apr - Jun 2018) Quran Appreciation courses for children

All children's courses will be held at Jaffari Community Center and are a joint effort between ISIJ of Toronto and ALI.

See page No. 16 for more info on Quran Appreciation courses

### ALI 511: Quran Appreciation, ages 7-9 years

Instructor: Sr. Sukaina Jaffer-Fazal

Schedule: 6 Fridays Apr 5, 12, 26, May 3, Jun 14 & 21; 4.15-5.15 pm

Fees: \$30 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### ALI 512: Quran Appreciation, ages 10-12 years

Instructor: Sr. Nasifa Remtulla

Schedule: 6 Fridays Apr 5, 12, 26, May 3, Jun 14 & 21; 4.15-5.15 pm

Fees: \$30 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### ALI 513: Quran Appreciation, girls ages 13-16 years

Instructor: Sr. Najma Datto

Schedule: 6 Fridays Apr 5, 12, 26, May 3, Jun 14 & 21; 4.15-5.15 pm

Fees: \$30 payable on or before the first day of the course.

### ALI 514: Quran Appreciation, boys ages 13-16 years

Instructor: Br. Amin Kermali

Schedule: 7 Tuesdays Apr 2-30, June 11-18, 2019, 7.15 - 8.15 pm

Fees: \$35 payable on or before the first day of the course.



## Summer Term (Jul-Aug 2019) Hajj 1440 webinars

### ALI 515: Preparations for Hajj

The webinar will assist in preparing for Ziyārat to Madinah, Umrah Tamattu and Hajj Tamattu. The webinar will cover a few spiritual aspects and some fiqhi rules pertaining to Hajj trip. The presentation will be followed by Q & A session.

Schedule: Saturday June 29, 2019 10.30 am – 11.45 am NY time.

Instructor: Hasanayn Kassamali

### ALI 516: Hajj Rules for Ladies

The webinar will cover important Islamic rules relating to women going for Hajj.

Schedule: Saturday June 29, 2019, 12.00 noon - 1.00 pm NY time.

Instructor: Sr. Tahera Kassamali



## Summer Term (Jul-Aug 2019) Summer Day camp

Two week summer day camp

Daily Quranic themes, crafts, sports, activities and more.

Dates: Week 1: July 8-12 Week 2: Jul 15-19

More details to be released closer to the time.



### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Quranic Appreciation Classes in four groups for children ages 7 – 16 years were arranged for a total of 30 weeks on Tuesday or Fridays in three semesters. Courses were arranged at JCC in Thornhill, ON. Due to low registration classes in Brampton, ON were discontinued.

Weekly Understanding Quran sessions were conducted on Saturdays from Sept - May before Zuhr prayers. In the month of Ramadan (May & Jun) the classes were held in the afternoon. Quranic concepts, words and terminologies were taught along with basic of Arabic grammar and structure. The instructor was Agha Mohamadreza Ardehali who is finalizing his PhD on Quran Tafsīr at U of T.

Nine onsite courses were conducted at Jaffari Community Center in Thornhill & two at Masumeen Islamic Center in Brampton. Due to low registration at MIC, the *Sahifa* course in April 2018 was cancelled. Topics covered were: Theology & Worship in Nahjul Balagha, Spiritual Counsel in Nahjul Balagha, Asceticism in Nahjul Balagha, Acts of Worship in Nahjul Balagha in 3 parts, Brief Explanation of Du‘ās 4 & 5 from *Sahīfa Sajjādiyya*, Islamic Art in 2 parts, Developing Critical Thinking Skills in Children.

16 online courses/webinars were conducted on Topical Tafsir of the Quran Relationship with Allah ‘azza wa-jall, Family Relationships, and Social Relationships; Nahjul Balagha for Children; Preparation for Arba’in Ziyarat & Ziyarat to Iraq during Spring break; Other online sessions on diverse topics by outside scholars and seminary students included: Divine Justice, Science & Religion, Intro to

Logic, Morality in Religion, and Islamic Theory of E-ethics Managing Blood Pressure; Preparations for Hajj 1439AH and Hajj Rules for Ladies; and on Healthy living: Striving for a Healthy Microbiome for Optimal Health, Understanding and Coping with Depression.

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

One Spiritual Retreat and one Day Camp were conducted during the academic year 2017-2018. Spiritual counseling to Muslim patients at a local hospital and financial support to educational institutions were also provided. When requested, the Religious Administrator conducted services at Jaffari Community Center filling-in for its resident alim.

Girls Retreat for ages 9-12, held at Hidden Acres, New Hamburg ON during March 2018 break. The Theme was 'Rock Solid - Being a strong Muslim'. A total of 23 girls participated.

Summer Day Camp for children ages 6 to 11 years which included crafts, woodwork, sewing, yoga and obstacle course at Jaffari Community Center in Thornhill, ON. Parents could register their children for only one week from July 9 -13 or for two weeks from July 9 - 20, 2018. Over 70 students participated in the camp.

Quran Appreciation Course outline, teachers' instructions and lessons were shared with Madrasahs in Allentown, Orlando and Vancouver. The teachers from these madrasahs were also invited to join periodical conference calls with teachers in the Greater Toronto Area.

Visits to Mackenzie Health Hospital in Richmond Hill, ON continued on weekly basis on Fridays after prayers to give spiritual counselling, recitation of passages from the Quran and recommended supplications and to be besides a dying Muslim when requested by family members.

The Council of Canadian Imams (CCI) gather on the second Monday of calendar month at Muslim centers and masjids in Greater Toronto Area. The Council claims to represent all Muslims irrespective of their sects or denominations. It is important that Imams and speakers from Shi'ah Islamic Centers should also participate in CCI's meetings and events. ALI Religious Administrator attends the Council meetings occasionally to represent Shi'i Islamic viewpoints.

Alhamdu lillāh this year the Academy was able to offer financial support to following educational organizations: Al-Hadi School, Scarborough, Al-Mustafa Academy, Surrey, Ali Islamic Mission, Mississauga, Islamic Publishing House, Kitchener, and Wali ul-Asr Learning Institute, Caledon.

The Academy was able to facilitate payment for editing the PhD thesis of one of its instructors.

## **PUBLICATIONS & DISTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES**

*Knowing the Ma'sumin: Imam Husayn (a)* workbook– 1,000 copies were printed for sale in North America, Europe & East Africa.

*Knowing the Ma'sumin: Imam Zaynul 'Abidin (a)* workbook– 1,400 copies were printed for local & overseas sale.

*Knowing the Ma'sūmīn: Imam Ali (a)* – 1000 copies of third slightly revised version of this workbook was printed.

*Knowing the Ma'sumin: Bibi Fatima (a)* – 1000 copies of the fifth edition was printed.

*Knowing the Ma'sumin: Imam Hasan (a)* – 1000 copies of the second slightly revised edition was printed.

*Knowing the Ma'sūmīn: Imam Muhammad al-Bāqir (a)* – 1000 copies of the new publication was printed in April 2018.

*Tahajjud Salat: The Spiritual Ladder* – revised and enhanced version of our 2009 work *Tahajjud Salat*. 500 copies were printed in June and another 1,000 copies in August 2018. Hajj Assistance Committee bought 250 copies for pilgrims and the Islamic Education of the

World Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Ashari Communities took 500 copies for distribution in Africa, Asia & Britain. On Laylatul Qadr fully interactive App on Tahajjud Salat was released for iPhone users.

In May 2018 digital copies of the first two workbooks on *Knowing the Ma'sumin: Bibi Fatima (a)* and *Knowing the Ma'sumin: Imam Ali (a)* were posted online for sale at [www.payhip.com](http://www.payhip.com). In the following month, the pdf formats of the remaining four workbooks on Imam Hasan (a), Imam Husayn (a), Imam Ali Zaynul 'Abidin (a) and Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a) were posted for online sale. On account of steep shipping charges, parents living in Africa, Europe and Australia could not buy the printed copies of our workbook. Posting digital copies online will make it easier and affordable to download select pages from the workbook in line with the ages of children. We are thankful to Shaykh Saleem Bhimji of Islamic Publishing House for informing us of this good facility.



## Friday Prayers at Mackenzie Health Hospital

In August 2018, we were informed that the distance of the above Hospital from Jaffari Community Center was less than three *far-sakh* (about 5.5 km). Therefore, the Academy asked Sunni brethren to continue leading the Friday prayers at the hospital as it was permissible in their fiqh to hold another Friday prayers closer to the main function at An-Nadwa Islamic Center.