



Tabligh Newsletter

FOR NASIRAT AND STUDENT LAJNA

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“AS AHMADI MUSLIMS, NEVER FORGET WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU REPRESENT. BE AWARE THAT, AS YOU STRIVE TO FURTHER THE CAUSE OF AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY THROUGH TABLIGH (OUTREACH EFFORTS), THOSE WHO HEAR YOUR MESSAGE WILL ASK WHAT DISTINGUISHES THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ACCEPTED THE PROMISED MESSIAH (PEACE BE UPON HIM)? THEY WILL OBSERVE WHETHER YOU POSSESS TRUE LOVE FOR GOD ALMIGHTY AND WHETHER YOU MANIFEST THE HIGHEST MORALS AND VIRTUES IN EVERY SITUATION AND EVERY PLACE. THEY WILL QUERY WHETHER YOU REFLECT THOSE TEACHINGS THAT YOU INVITE OTHERS TOWARDS. IF THE ANSWER TO THESE QUESTIONS IS ‘NO’, THEN HOW CAN YOU, IN ALL SINCERITY, CALL OTHERS TOWARDS TRUE ISLAM?”

[Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba), 24 February 2024, Concluding address, Jalsa Salana Ghana]



How can we best convey to others the difference between Ahmadis and other Muslims?



Huzoor (aba) said the key difference between Ahmadi Muslims and other Muslims lies in the belief about the fulfilment of the prophecy of the Messiah and Mahdi. Ahmadis believe Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) of Qadian is the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, supported by various prophetic signs such as the eclipses of the Sun and Moon during Ramadan in 1894 and 1895 and advancements in transportation.

Unlike other Muslims who await the return of Hazrat Isa (Jesus), Huzoor (aba) said Ahmadis believe he has passed away and will not return, leading to their acceptance of the Promised Messiah's (as) claim. The Promised Messiah's (as) mission aligns with spreading Islam as per the Qur'an and the teachings of Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) without introducing a new Sharia and "without breaking the Seal of Prophethood."

Ahmadis believe Islam Ahmadiyyat will spread globally in a shorter time than Christianity's initial spread which took almost 300 years. Huzoor (aba) encouraged Ahmadis to explain these distinctions with clarity.

(Click on the link to Programme below. Answer starts at 1:30)

THIS WEEK WITH
HUZUR (ABA)

[**LINK TO PROGRAMME**](#)

29 NOVEMBER
2024

My Tabligh Experience

NAME: AISHA AHMAD

MAJLIS: CARDIFF

Growing up, I was deeply passionate about my beliefs, but I struggled with confidence and had difficulty articulating my thoughts. I often debated with friends at school but failed to convey my message effectively. At times, I was too shy to explain my beliefs at all. As I gained more knowledge, I began to overcome my shyness regarding Tabligh. However, my approach was often immature.

Despite this, I'm grateful because those early efforts taught me valuable lessons. One particularly impactful experience was with a Somali Sunni friend who stood out among my non-Ahmadi friends for her sincerity in faith- she inspired me as well. She was open and eager to learn about Ahmadiyyat. Her father even invited a Somali Ahmadi to their home to better understand our beliefs. Unfortunately, in my excitement, I became overly enthusiastic. I started buying her books and engaging in intense discussions with her, which eventually overwhelmed her. She expressed that she no longer wanted to discuss Ahmadiyyat, a decision I respected. While this may seem like a failed Tabligh attempt, it taught me the importance of silent Tabligh. Since then, I've taken a more subtle approach with her. I share updates about attending Jalsa or Jamaat work but avoid forcing discussions. Instead, I focus on small but meaningful acts, such as saying Salaam and encouraging her to pray on time.

When I started university, my passion for Tabligh continued to grow. For the first time, I was surrounded by people who knew almost nothing about Islam. This opened countless opportunities to share my faith. Each time I declined a handshake from a man, I explained why. When I paused group meetings to pray, it sparked discussions. My academic projects often centred around Islam and Ahmadiyyat, which even piqued the interest of my lecturers. I also had many conversations with a Sikh friend who was interested in converting to Islam. Now that I've graduated and moved to a new city, I face a new challenge: finding opportunities for Tabligh. At home, opportunities came naturally through friends and university colleagues. Here, I must actively seek them out, even if it means stepping out of my comfort zone.

After moving to my new city, I attended an interfaith council event where Ahmadis faced challenges being recognized as part of the Muslim community. When the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community sought to join the council, the non-Ahmadi Muslims refused to acknowledge us as Muslims, forcing us to join under the label of Ahmadis rather than Muslims. So, at the event, I mustered the courage to approach the non-Ahmadi participants. While one individual was distant, the rest of the women were kind and engaging. A Turkish Muslim woman, in particular, showed interest, asking questions about our beliefs regarding Hazrat Isa (as) and even exchanging contact information with me. Alhamdulillah.



My Tabligh Experience

**NAME: NUMANA AHMAD SHAHID
MAJLIS: WALSALL**



My experience began with a simple yet impactful act: a smile. This foundational gesture, echoing the example set by the Holy Prophet (saw) to greet people with a smile, reminded me of the power of non-verbal communication in fostering connections.

Recently, I attended a local interfaith gathering held at our mosque, where we greeted guests from diverse religious backgrounds with a welcoming smile which opened room for open communication.

As each person entered, their unique identities contributed to the vibrant atmosphere, all united under the common theme of 'Women's Voices for Peace.' To enhance engagement, we gathered at various tables, allowing for meaningful interactions. I had sat next to a woman who worked for a local company which helped to integrate minority groups in society. As we introduced ourselves, she shared valuable insights about her organisation's societal objectives.

This led to a conversation about the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and the vital roles women play within our organisation, supporting one another on local, regional, and national levels. When she asked about my involvement in the community, I described my work in the local student affairs department, established by Huzoor (aba) to aid students in various endeavours. I explained how our regional and national teams developed resources, conducted workshops, and created opportunities for students to enhance their CVs, skills, and overall experiences. She was amazed at how our community worked in such an organised manner.

As the event progressed, I was inspired by the diverse experiences, beliefs, and perspectives in the room. One woman spoke deeply about her journey towards finding her voice in the face of adversity and setbacks, emphasising the invaluable support she received from her mother. Her story illustrated how nurturing relationships provided her with purpose and identity, encouraging her to support other women to reclaim their lost voices. It was enlightening to witness the common threads connecting our different faiths. Discussions revealed that despite the diverse doctrines and rituals, we shared underlying principles of love, compassion, and service to others.

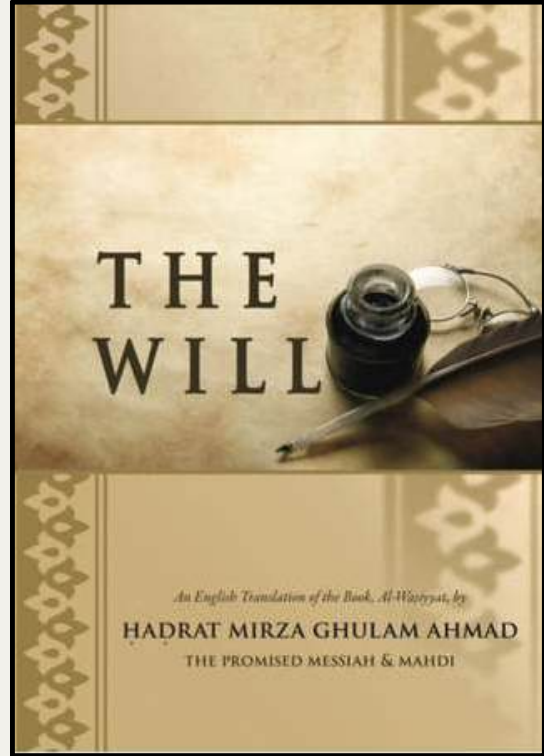
Leaving the gathering that evening, I was filled with a renewed sense of hope. It was uplifting to see so many individuals dedicated to fostering peace and understanding in a world often divided by differences. This experience cemented my belief that interfaith dialogue is not only valuable but essential for creating a more harmonious society.

My Tabligh Experience

**NAME: ZAINAB NAWAZ
MAJLIS: SURBITON**

Tabligh is calling people towards Allah Almighty. Allah takes special care of those who are engaged in Tabligh and helps them in miraculous ways. For Tabligh work, it is important to be patient : “And if you will remain patient, then know that this is better for those who remain patient. (Holy Quran, 16 (Al-Nahl): 127).

One Day I had booked a painter/ decorator for my home. When she arrived, she saw a big picture in the lounge. She asked who is this person. I replied that this is Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah (as) and founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.



I explained the institution of Khilafat and mentioned that the Promised Messiah (as) wrote a book called “The Will”, in which he wrote that Allah had informed him that his time of death was close. He advised his followers not to grieve and to put their trust in God. He gave tidings of the Khilafat that would follow after him, which he said will last until the Last Day. He wrote that he was a manifestation of Allah’s power and after him there will be the second manifestation which will last forever (i.e., Khilafat). The Promised Messiah (as) after fulfilling his divine mission, passed away on May 26, 1908. I explained to my visitor that the next day Hazrat Maulana Nur-ud-Din was elected as Khalifatul Masih I (i.e., the first successor to the Promised Messiah (as)). He was a great scholar and physician; who had devoted his life for the service of the Promised Messiah (as) and his Community. I also explained about the second, third, fourth and fifth Khalifa and that Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) is the current leader of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

She was really interested about the Community and the institution of Khilafat. She mentioned that she is in search of peace. At the end of our conversation I gave her a prayer book written by Hafiz Muzaffar Ahmad as a gift. She was very happy and would love to visit our Mosque. She really loved the prayer book as well. A simple encounter brought a beautiful opportunity for Tabligh, Alhamdulillah.

My Tabligh Experience

NAME: NAYAB MANSOOR

MAJLIS: LEICESTER



On Saturday, 23rd November 2024, the Leicester Jama'at hosted a peace conference aimed at fostering understanding, unity, and mutual respect among several different cultures.

As part of the event, I decided to invite my friend Chloe, knowing her love for learning about different cultures and traditions. I approached Chloe by sending her an invitation a week before the event. I explained the purpose of the peace conference, highlighting how it aimed to bring people together from different backgrounds. I emphasised that it wasn't just a religious event but rather an opportunity to come together as a community.

In the days leading up to the conference, Chloe asked me several questions about what to expect, such as how she should dress and whether there were any specific protocols to follow. I appreciated her thoughtful approach and reassured her that she was welcome as she was. However, I explained a few basics, such as dressing modestly and removing shoes before entering the prayer area.

I also had the opportunity to show Chloe around the Mosque. She was fascinated by the layout of the mosque and the significance of different areas. Her curiosity about the practices of Islam sparked meaningful conversations, and I shared insights into my faith.

What stood out to Chloe the most was how genuinely welcoming and inclusive everyone was. She commented on how people were eager to listen, share, and learn from one another, creating an environment of mutual respect and love.

Looking back, inviting Chloe to the peace conference was a rewarding experience. It not only strengthened our friendship but also allowed her to gain a deeper understanding of my faith and community. For me, this experience was a powerful reminder of the essence of Tabligh and sharing the beauty and values of Islam.

My Tabligh Experience

NAME: AJLA TARIQ
MAJLIS: MILTON KEYNES

Sometimes as young Nasirat we might wonder from time to time how we can make an impact on the world and spread the message of Islam ourselves.

It can be as simple as helping a person in need which further strengthens the message of Islam that promotes kindness to others around you.

For me, it all started in an average lesson of R.E (religious education) with my Teacher. The lesson was about the different types of Muslims in the world, and what they believe in.

As Ahmadi Muslims, we know that there are 73 different sects of Muslims in the world! Except in the lesson my Teacher had told us that there were only 2: Sunni and Shia. Now if you were in this situation, what would you do? Would you let the Teacher continue feeding misinformation to the students, or would you speak up and spread your message?

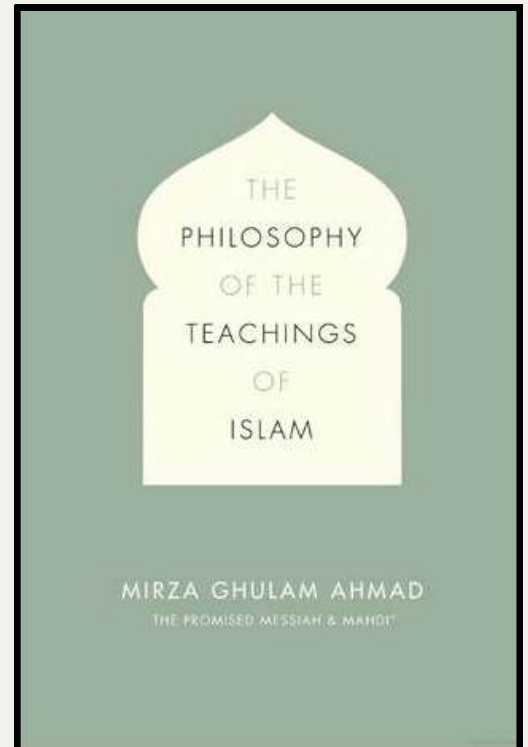
For many, this might be a very difficult and daunting thing, but you need to remember that before you speak up, you need to have such a strong sense of identity and faith in God Almighty that you WANT to spread the peaceful message of Islam. You need to know your values, sense of self and your boundaries so that wherever you go and whoever decides to question your faith, you are certain and confident of what to answer.

The moment my Teacher had said that there were only 2 types of Muslims, I instantly raised my hand and corrected him. You might be lucky and have a Teacher like I did and decide to ask more about it and have no objections. But if you have a Teacher that completely shuts down the topic, the point is that the idea has been planted into not only the Teacher's mind, but the students around you.

My teacher asked if I was from one of the 70+ sects, and that was when I had given him the book: The Philosophy Of The Teaching Of Islam. I highly recommend reading this, it's one of the steps to further strengthen your faith and understanding of our blessed religion.

Simple small actions like this can change the mind of someone. It's like the saying 'if you save one person you save the world' same goes for changing people's mindset and perspective on things.

I pray and hope that all of us can Inshallah spread the message of Islam to the corners of the Earth for the betterment of humanity. Ameen.



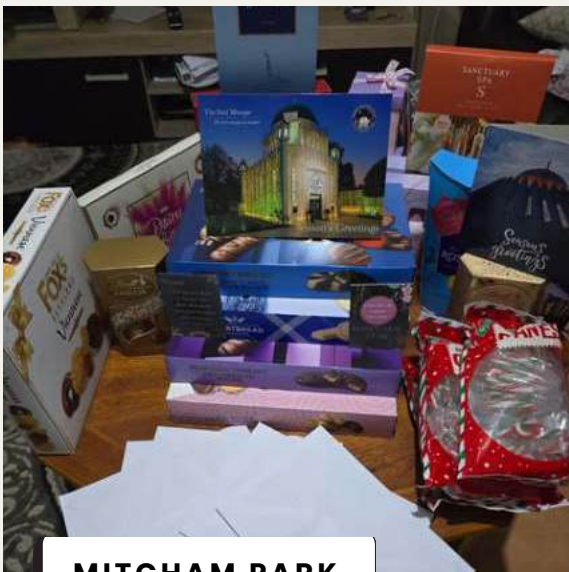
Tabligh Activities



FARNHAM



Nasirat members from Farnham helped to prepare and deliver beautifully designed Hampers to residents of the Farnham Mills Nursing Home.



MITCHAM PARK



New Year Gifts and Cards were prepared for Teachers and the Reception Team at local schools, as well as for Colleagues and Neighbours.

Tabligh Activities



BEXLEY & GREENWICH



Nasirat and Student Lajna helped to prepare and deliver Care packages and hampers to the Woodford House Care Home.



COLLIERS WOOD



Colliers Wood Majlis designed beautiful Hamper Baskets and gifts, including Jamaat Seasons Greetings Cards and delivered them to Merton Professional (Carer, Nurses and Podiatrist) as well as gifting them to Teachers and neighbours.

Tabligh Activities



BAITUL EHSAN

An interactive and engaging Islamic Art and Calligraphy exhibition was held for guests by Baitul Ehsan Majlis.



SWANSEA

Swansea Majlis prepared a gift hamper for Swansea Women's Aid Charity which included care items as well as Jama'at literature.



WALSALL

Student Lajna helped organise a Fundraising Stall at the Local Grammar School to raise funds for the school, and also at the Local Primary school to raise funds for families in need.

Tabligh Activities



RAYNES PARK



Students in Raynes Park Majlis helped organise a Winter Fair stall at West Wimbledon Primary School, serving plenty of delicious traditional food as well as distributing Jumaat leaflets.



GLASGOW NORTH

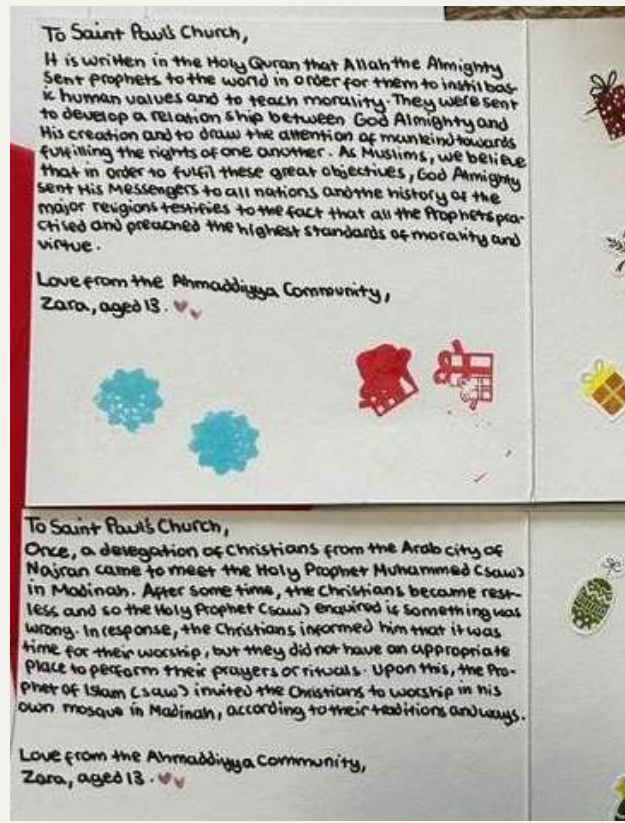


On 1 February Glasgow North marked World Hijab Day with an engaging and informative event. A beautifully set-up stall featured educational leaflets and posters, helping to raise awareness about the significance of the hijab. The initiative aimed to foster understanding, encourage open discussions, and celebrate the values of modesty and choice.

Tabligh Activities



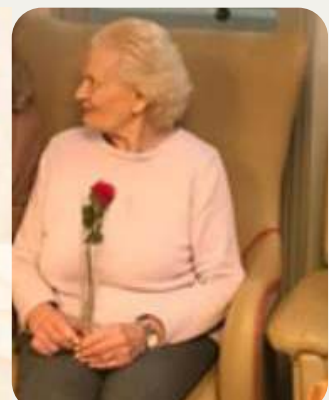
WIMBLEDON PARK



Wimbledon Park Majlis held a Tabligh event. They were joined by members of St Pauls Church. Student Iajna held a book stall, which also displayed some beautiful calligraphy done by them. Handwritten cards were gifted to the guests.



RICHMOND PARK



Lajna & Nasirat visited a local Residential Home for the Elderly with gifts and individual roses for residents. Nasirat interacted with the elderly and even recited a Nazm for them. Richmond Park Majlis also hosted Cultural Day at a Local primary school. Various Islamic and cultural artefacts were displayed allowing children from Key stage 1 to learn about Islam.



Tabligh events and opportunities – useful dates

February 2025

- 17 Random Acts of Kindness day
- 20 UN World Day of Social Justice
- 23 Tabligh Knowledge Day (Darul Barakaat Mosque, Birmingham)

March 2025

- 1 Tabligh Webinar – Women’s Rights & Equality in Islam
- 2–30 Ramadan
- 6 World Book Day
- 8 UN International Women’s Day
- 15 The Big Iftar (Baitul Futuh Mosque)
- 31 Eid ul Fitr





Spotlight on: Library Exhibitions

This year, **World Book Day falls on 6 March 2025**. This presents a valuable opportunity to share books about Islam with your school/college as well as your Tabligh contacts!

You may also wish to approach local libraries and explore opportunities for book exhibitions. Read on to learn more about arranging library exhibitions!

HOW DO I ARRANGE IT?

- Identify libraries local to you:
<https://www.gov.uk/local-library-services>
- Contact your local library and offer to set up an exhibition
- Tell them about yourself, discuss possible themes and take some sample material with you.
- Discuss duration, timings of exhibition
- Discuss whether Lajna/Nasirat are allowed to be present at the stand

HOW DO I SET IT UP?

- Identify where in the Library the exhibition will be - is it a prominent location?
- Find out what materials/equipment the Library can provide, eg poster stands, exhibition boards, leaflet stands.
- Display posters, pull up banners and literature. Have relevant books and leaflets available for visitors to take away with them.
- If the library allows, having Lajna present at the stand is beneficial –if the Library does not allow this, do leave a guest book for questions and feedback.

WHAT IF MY LIBRARY DOESN'T ALLOW FAITH EXHIBITIONS?

- Suggest topics relevant to different faiths, such as peace, inspirational women, the importance of charity or environmental protection.
- Exhibitions on such topics will allow you to also portray the teachings of Islam.

ARE THERE PARTICULAR TIMES WHEN I SHOULD BE HOLDING EXHIBITIONS?

- Libraries may be more willing to allow exhibitions at particular times of year:
 - During Interfaith week
 - International Day of Peace
 - Islam Awareness Week

AFTER THE EXHIBITION:

- Keep in touch with the Library and leave your contact details with them, offering to arrange future exhibitions should they allow.
- Check Visitors book for comments/suggestions/feedback/questions.
- Make a note of any points to improve for future exhibitions.
- Keep your materials safe and do share ideas/helpful tips with other Majalis in your region! You may also wish to write a short piece about your exhibition and share it with the local newspaper!

Tabligh Opportunities during Ramadan

Ramadan is a month of spiritual reflection and community outreach, offering unique opportunities for Tabligh. Below are some suggestions for Tabligh initiatives you can get involved in during this blessed month!



SCHOOL TALKS

Organise a school/college talk to explain the practice and importance of Ramadan for Muslims. You can find pre-prepared presentations on the Understanding Islam website designed especially for schools: (www.understanding-islam.co.uk).

There may also be opportunities to host events at University.

INVITE FRIENDS FOR IFTAR

During Ramadan, share Iftar with your friends and neighbours so that they too can partake in the blessings of this holy month.

Don't forget to invite your Tabligh contacts to Big Iftar events taking place in your local Mosque!



ACTS OF KINDNESS

Showing kindness and honouring the rights of others is integral to Islam. Throughout the year and particularly during Ramadan, we should make special efforts to help those in need. You can engage in Silent Tabligh by donating to Food Banks, visiting a Home for the Elderly or delivering a care package to a Women's Shelter.



Fasting in other Faiths

Islam is not the only religion which prescribes fasting to its followers. The Holy Qur'an says, 'fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you.' [2:184]. Here, the Holy Qur'an is referring to those religions which preceded Islam.



CHRISTIANITY

Christians practise a forty day fast known as Lent. In the Roman Catholic Church, it is believed that fasting during Lent will bring Christians closer to Jesus (as) and develop a deeper understanding of his sacrifices. Fasting is not only giving up food or drink, but it involves practising self-control.

JUDAISM

Fasting is an important tradition for Jewish people. In the Jewish calendar there are many fast days. Fast days commemorate key historical events. The fasting during Yom Kippur is believed to hold great significance for Jewish people. This is because Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the year. Jewish people fast as a way to express their dedication to their faith and ask for forgiveness from God.



HINDUISM

For Hindus, fasting is a moral and spiritual way of purifying their mind and body. Hindus fast several times throughout the year to bring them closer to God and to honour the cycle of life known as the samskara. Not only is fasting a way to cut out certain foods, it is also considered to be an act of worship.



Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Ramadan



At what age does fasting become compulsory for Muslims?

“Fasting becomes compulsory upon you when you have fully matured. If you are a student and you are sitting for your exams and you are 13, 14 or 15 years of age, then you should not fast. If you are able to bear them, then fasting at the age of 15 or 16 is also fine.

However, usually it is at the age of 17 or 18 that fasting becomes compulsory. One should definitely start fasting thereafter. If you are really fond of it, you can try out one, two, three or four fasts at the age of eight or ten. However, that would not be compulsory.

Ramadan for students is that you should definitely wake up during Ramadan, eat sehri, make all the arrangements, offer two or four nawafil before that, offer the [obligatory] prayers regularly and recite the Holy Quran regularly.”

[Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) Gulshan-e-Waqf-e-Nau, 12 October 2013]

What is the essence of Fasting in Ramadan?

“The essence of Fasting is not merely staying hungry and thirsty; rather its reality and its impact can only be gained through experience.

It is human nature that the less one eats, the more one’s spirit is purified and thus his capacity for [spiritual] visions increases. The will of God is to decrease one kind of sustenance and to increase the other.

A person who is fasting should always be mindful that he is not just required to stay hungry. On the contrary, he should remain engaged in the remembrance of God so that he can cut asunder ties of worldly desires and amusements and is wholly devoted to God.

Hence, the significance of fasting is this alone that man gives up one kind of sustenance which only nourishes the body and attains the other kind of sustenance which is a source of comfort and gratification for the soul.”

[Promised Messiah (as), Malfuzat Vol. 5, (Rabwah: NazaratIsha’at Rabwah Pakistan), 102]



Your Tabligh challenge!

The blessed month of Ramadan is a time to strengthen our bond with Allah Almighty and to make special efforts in the service of others. It also offers many opportunities for Tabligh, some of which have been highlighted on page 15 of this Newsletter.

For this month's challenge, we would like you to send us a short 'Ramadan Report' to tell us about the Tabligh initiatives you were able to get involved in.

Don't forget, being kind and helpful, addressing others with a smile and cheerful demeanour and caring for those in need are all forms of silent Tabligh!

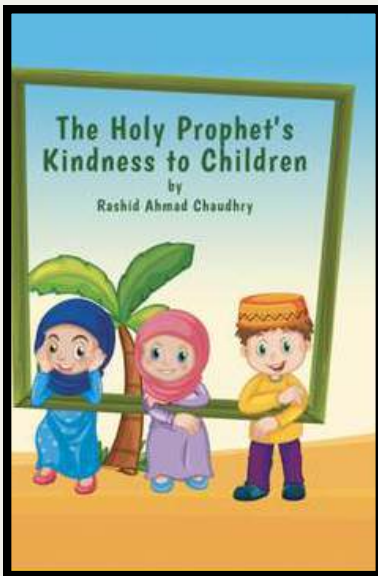
We look forward to receiving and publishing your reports in our next Tabligh Newsletter!



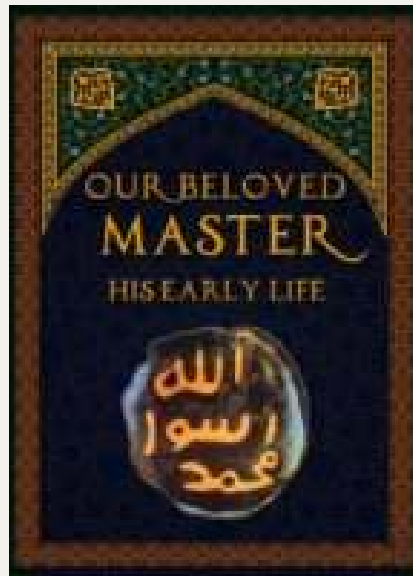
Useful Tabligh Resources- Literature

Knowledge about our faith is an essential tool for effective Tabligh. The blessed month of Ramadan is a valuable time to strengthen our knowledge about Islam Ahmadiyyat. As well as studying the Holy Qur'an, we should try and spend time reading Jama'at literature.

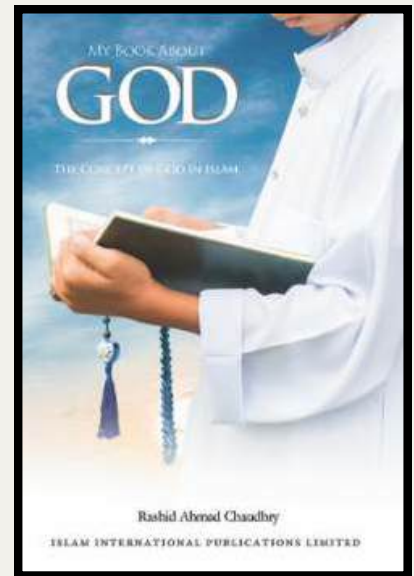
Below are some suggestions for your Ramadan Reading!



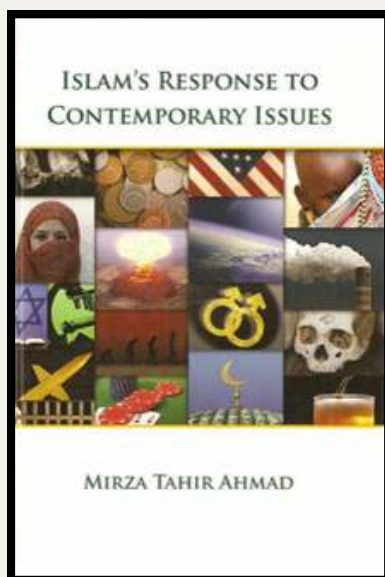
<https://files.alislam.cloud/pdf/Holy-Prophet-Kindness-to-Children.pdf>



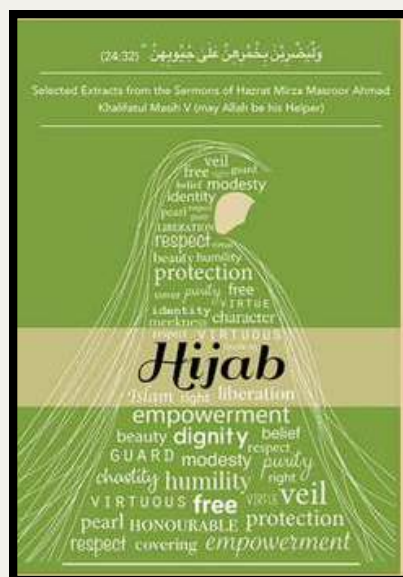
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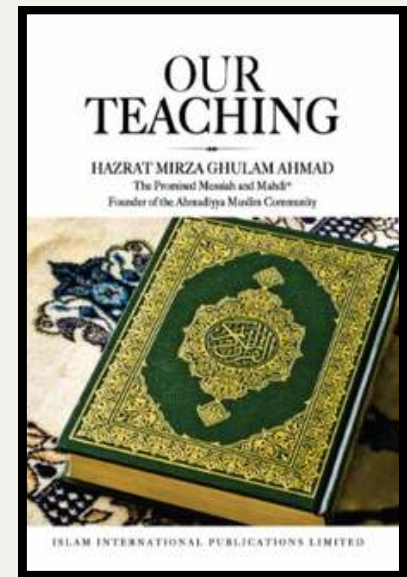
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