

The Tarbiyat Nau Mubai'at
Department presents

Q&A

Sister Zahra Ali is a Nau Mubai'a who volunteers with Voice Of Islam. The Tarbiyat Nau Mubai'at Department interviewed sister Zahra to find out what it is like volunteering behind the scenes.

Question One

Please share with the readers what VOI is and how you got involved in volunteering with them

VOI (Voice of Islam) is a radio show produced and broadcasted all by volunteers that discusses everyday topics such as current events, social issues, and personal experiences, and explores them from an Islamic perspective. The aim is to make conversations about Islam relatable and practical, helping listeners understand how faith can be applied in daily life. The show also encourages open discussion, learning, and positive engagement within the wider community. All of the work is carried out remotely making it accessible to volunteers from different locations. I got involved with volunteering at Voice of Islam through the new converts group chat, where a message was shared about volunteering opportunities. At the time I was already looking for ways to give back to the community but hadn't been able to find anything suitable. When I saw the poster and the different positions available I felt the roles aligned well with my interests and my desire to contribute. I then reached out to the relevant people to enquire about the positions, and that's how my volunteering journey with VOI began.

Question Two

Please explain what your official role is in VOI and share what it involves

My official role at Voice of Islam is an Administrative Assistant and it involves working behind the scenes to support the team. I focus on updating the databases daily with new guest information and ensuring all show details are accurate and up to date. I also create weekly topic proposal documents for Huzoor (aba) and the Head of the Breakfast Show, Jonathan Butterworth sb, to review the content planned for upcoming shows. In addition to this I help compile and organise show material for presenters, particularly for programmes linked to specific dates and step in to support team members from other departments whenever required to ensure smooth coordination across the radio station.

Question Three

Can you share a memorable experience from your time volunteering?

One of my most memorable experiences while volunteering at Voice of Islam was knowing that the documents I had worked on were going to be read by Huzoor (aba). It was a humbling and rewarding moment as it made me realise that my work was trusted and valued. That experience gave me a strong sense of purpose and motivation encouraging me to continue putting my best effort into my role.

Question Four

What skills have you developed or improved through volunteering there?

Through volunteering I have developed a stronger sense of amanah (trust) and responsibility by handling important information with care and consistency. The role has also taught me sabr (patience), particularly when some of my work depends on input from others and timelines may change. I have improved my organisational and time management skills through daily tasks and regular deadlines, as well as my attention to detail. The role has also helped me practise ihsan (excellence) by doing my work to the best of my ability even behind the scenes.

Question Five

Have you faced any challenges in your role, and how did you overcome them?

One of the challenges I faced in my role especially at the beginning was learning and managing the different tasks I was responsible for. I overcame this by creating a structured routine which helped me stay organised and manage my time more effectively. There was always strong support available from the team whenever I needed guidance or clarification, which made the learning process much smoother.

Question Six

How do you think Voice of Islam Radio benefits the community?

Voice of Islam benefits the community by discussing everyday issues through an Islamic perspective in a way that is relevant and easy to understand. It involves people from different backgrounds and gives them the opportunity to learn about what Islam truly teaches beyond common misconceptions. By encouraging open conversation, education and positive engagement, VOI helps build understanding, strengthen community ties and promote respectful dialogue within society.

Question Seven

And finally, what advice would you give to someone who is considering volunteering in VOI?

If you are considering volunteering at Voice of Islam, I would genuinely say go for it. It is a meaningful way to give back to the community and your work is actively used allowing you to see the impact of your efforts in real time. Service (khidmat) is a very important part of faith and is seen as a form of worship when done with sincerity. Even work carried out behind the scenes and from home holds great value as serving others is a responsibility and a way to grow spiritually and personally.

Alongside this there is always strong support within the team especially when learning new tasks and there is plenty of room for growth and progression. Volunteering at VOI allows you to develop new skills, gain confidence and contribute to something meaningful while being part of a supportive environment.