

# The Quranic Tarbiyah Curriculum

Nurturing Iman and Ihsan



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### What Is Quranic Tarbiyah?



### لَقَدْ مَنَّ اللهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Indeed, Allah bestowed a favour on the believers when He raised in their midst a Messenger from among themselves — who recites to them His verses, purifies them, and teaches them the Book and wisdom, whereas before that they were clearly astray. (3:164)

#### Vision

Nurturing a Quranic generation who love and live the Quran.

#### **Mission**

Nurturing a generation who are guided by revelation, grounded in reality, and who carry forward the legacy of the Prophets (\*\*).





## **Aims & Objectives**

#### We want every educator and learner to:

1. Develop a deep awareness of Allah, love Him, and honour Him.

2. Recognise their purpose in life (i.e. 'ubūdiyyah: servitude), and worship Allah with başīrah (clear proof and certainty).

3. Constantly strive to strengthen their īmān and yaqīn (conviction).

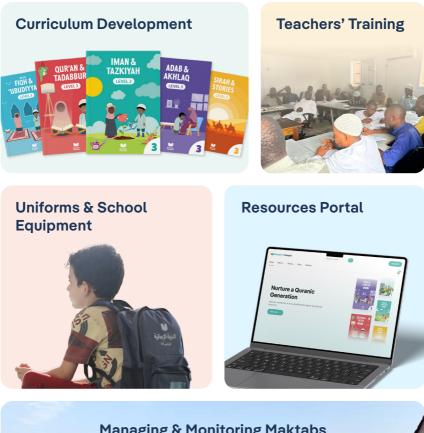
4. Love the Messenger 🎡, and embody his sunnah and character.

5. Become 'people of the Qur'ān' through reflecting and living by it.

6. Constantly strive to attain a pure heart (tazkiyah) and attain iḥsān.

- Know the legal rulings of all necessary aspects of life (fiqh) alongside their inner dimensions, in order to taste the sweetness of worship.
- Be confident in their dīn and feel deeply connected and proud of their heritage and history.
- Develop a love of lifelong learning and a passion to serve the din of Allah.
- Be well-equipped to deal with personal, local, and global challenges, and become beacons of justice and mercy for the entire world.

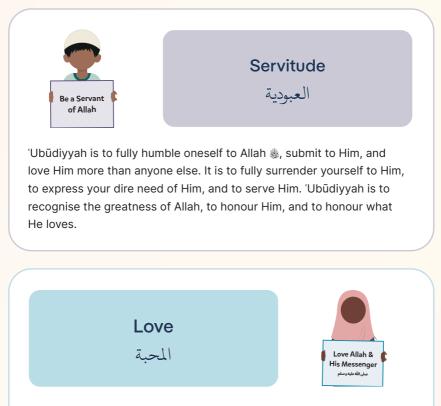
### What We Do





### Values

The Quranic Tarbiyah values are embedded throughout the curriculum, extra-curricular activities, and educational institutions.



Loving Allah is the essence of 'ubūdiyyah (servitude) and it is the basis of our īmān. It is the secret to experiencing bliss and contentment. Loving Allah leads us to loving what He loves, hating what He hates, loving His beloved Prophet , and loving our fellow believers.

## **Certainty** اليقين Believe &

Yaqīn is firm belief and certainty which leaves no room for doubts, leading the heart to be deeply at peace. It protects us from shahawāt (desires) and shubuhāt (doubts), both of which are ever increasing in today's world. It makes us carry on, even when we are shaken by life's trials and tribulations. Yaqīn makes us eager to worship Allah and to live for Him.



Ihsān is a multi-dimensional word which encompasses:

- Worshipping Allah 🎄 as though you can see Him.
- Excellence: this requires effort, discipline and perseverance.
- Kindness to all of Allah's creation.



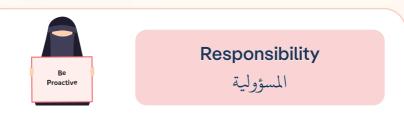


### Beautiful Character حسن الخلق

We try our best to embody the character of our beloved Prophet  $\circledast$  in all spheres of life. The Prophet  $\circledast$  said, "I was only sent to perfect good character" (Aḥmad). By following his example, we 'live', by the Qur'an as the character of the Prophet  $\circledast$  "was the Qur'an" (Muslim).



The believers are brothers, strong when they are united and supporting one another to do good. We are very fortunate to belong to the Ummah of the best of mankind <sup>(2)</sup>/<sub>(2)</sub> and we must try our utmost best to strengthen the Ummah. Despite differences in language, geography and skin colour, īmān unites us all.



We fulfil all of our responsibilities towards ourselves, our families and wider society with integrity and sincerity, recognising that we will be held accountable by Allah. The Messenger of Allah & said, "Indeed each of you is a shepherd and each of you is responsible for his flock" (Bukhārī).

## The Quranic Tarbiyah Curriculum

The Quranic Tarbiyah Curriculum is an iman-focused and Qur'ān-centred curriculum which aims to holistically enhance learners' spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical well-being. The curriculum aims to nurture īmān and Allah-consciousness through five subjects:



#### The QT Primary Curriculum

- Designed for children aged 5-11, structured across six levels of learning.
- Each level consists of five integrated textbook-workbooks, offering 25 lessons per book.
- Use the complete curriculum over the academic year, dedicating one day to each subject; or select individual lessons to compliment your existing curriculum, tailored to your learners' needs.
- A spiral curriculum where key topics and skill areas are revisited with increasing complexity over the years, effectively connecting prior learning to new concepts.

Note: The curriculum is currently a work in progress. Please visit our website for updates on available books and levels.

A curriculum for youth and adults is also planned for the near future, inshaAllah.

## Key Features of the QT Curriculum



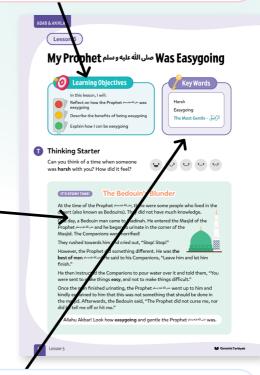
#### Adaptive teaching

The traffic light system and the levelled activities address the diverse needs of students while maintaining high expectations for all.



#### Stories

In line with Qur'ānic methodology, stories feature across the five subjects of the curriculum.





#### **Iman-Focused**

Imān is the central theme throughout the five subjects of the curriculum, ensuring it is embedded in the hearts and minds of learners. The Names of Allah are seamlessly integrated, fostering a strong connection with Allah .

#### Enjoyable

Fun activities, stories, and nashids make learning enjoyable and inspire love for Allah and His Messenger .





#### **Du'as and Adhkar**

Authentic du'as and adhkār are integrated and reinforced throughout the lessons, helping learners to meaningfully remember and invoke Allah.

#### Authentic

The content is based on authentic sources, and is verified and authenticated by scholars.

#### A ک (ع)

#### Arabic vocabulary from the Qur'ān & Sunnah

Key terminology from the Qur'ān and Sunnah is incorporated into lessons, enriching learners' Arabic vocabulary.



#### Qur'ān-Centred

When 'A'ishah , was asked to describe the character of our beloved Prophet Muhammad , she replied: "His character was the Qur'ān." Qur'ānic Tarbiyah aims to place the Qur'ān at the heart of the child's learning and life.





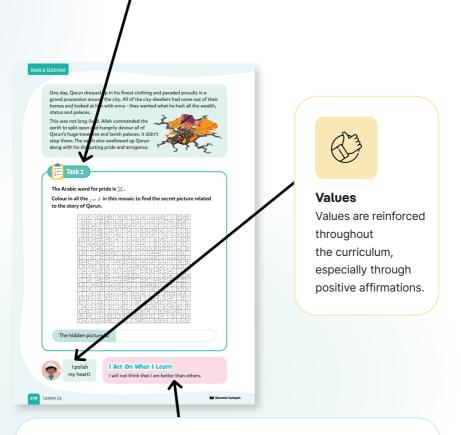
#### **Memorisation**

Memorising ayahs and short authentic hadiths is woven into the curriculum.



#### Inspires thinking and creativity

Activities, thinking starters, and discussion prompts are included to cultivate reflective critical thinking and creativity in students.



#### Action-Focused

Each lesson includes an 'I Act Upon What I Learn' section, making learning practical. Dedicated sections like 'Learning for a Life With Allah' (LLWA) encourage real-life application of knowledge.

## **Qur'an & Tadabbur**



#### **Topics Covered:**

- The virtues of the Qur'ān
- Tafsir of short Surahs and selected āyāt
- The manners of the People of the Qur'an
- The miracle & compilation of the Qur'an

- To love the Qur'an, honour it, and appreciate its greatness
- To recite it with tajwid and tartil, and commit it to memory
- To learn its meanings and to reflect on it (tadabbur)
- To act upon its teachings and to live by it
- To recognise the ultimate authority of the Qur'an
- To develop a Qur'ān-based worldview
- To strive to be among its people: Allah's chosen ones

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		Surah al-Ikhlas teaches me that	
		+ Allah is One. He has no partner.	
		🐈 We should only worship Allah.	
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## lman & Tazkiyah



#### **Topics Covered:**

- The 6 pillars of imān (inc. proofs of Allah's existence & Prophethood)
- The Names of Allah
- The actions and diseases of the heart

- To establish a strong connection with Allah by knowing and loving Him
- To develop strong iman which leads to 'amal ṣāliḥ
- To constantly strive to purify the heart from its diseases
- To aspire to ihsan by focusing on the actions of the heart
- To be confident in responding to common doubts and misconceptions
- To be certain of the ultimate authority of the Qur'an & Sunnah

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	Saying salam to	4				
	each other	5.				
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	Helping each other					
						_
	Following the	Progress Che	ck			
	Prophet's Sunnah					
		1. What does t	he word Umma	h mean?		

## Fiqh & Ubudiyyah



#### **Topics Covered:**

- The essential rulings
- The virtues of worship
- The inner dimensions of worship

- To understand the purpose of 'ubūdiyyah and the objectives behind specific acts of worship
- To know how to worship Allah correctly
- To differentiate between halal and haram
- To be inspired to worship by learning the virtues of specific actions
- To experience the sweetness of worship and iman by understanding the inner dimensions of worship
- To appreciate the beauty of Islam and its perfect laws

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Merganistiki Urigun hanaf tem Tana dangi tengat tem	Task 1 Which du'a do you say in ruku?

### The 5 Key Areas of the QT Curriculum

## Adab & Akhlaq



#### **Topics Covered:**

- The guidance of the Prophet 🎡 in everyday life
- Good manners and etiquettes
- The adhkār and their virtues
- Explanation of the adhkār

- To emulate his perfect example, encompassing both his character and acts of worship
- To fulfil the rights of Allah's creation and constantly strive for exemplary akhlāq
- To feel honour in the values of our dīn and recognise their universality and superiority
- To develop personal strength and live a holistically healthy lifestyle
- To deeply connect with Allah by memorising the adhkār and reflecting on their meanings and virtues

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### The 5 Key Areas of the QT Curriculum

## **Sirah & Stories**



#### **Topics Covered:**

- The stories of the Prophets 34
- The Prophetic Sirah
- The stories of the Companions 🚕
- Islamic History

- To strengthen īmān through the stories of the Prophets and the Companions 2000
- To draw practical life-lessons from their lives and adopt them as role models
- To be inspired to carry forward the legacy of the Prophets by sacrificing for and serving Allah's dīn
- To find honour in Islam and appreciate its incredible history

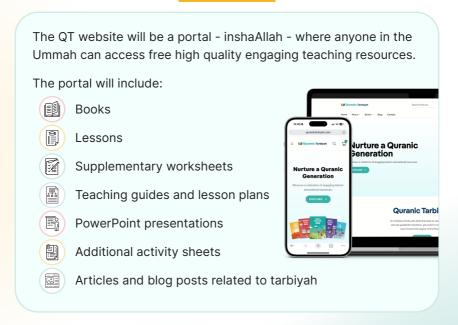
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## **Core Skills**

The following skills will be nurtured in learners through the curriculum and extra-curricular activities:



### **QT Website**



## Why Quranic Tarbiyah?

The Qur'ān is the eternal book of **guidance**. It is the manual that the Prophet used to raise and nurture the best of generations — a generation characterised by **unwavering iman**, a deep love for Allah and His Messenger, and the pursuit of iḥsān.

The Qur'ān transformed the hearts, minds, characters, and the entire lives of the Companions.

This transformation did not happen overnight. In fact, the Qur'ān was revealed over 23 years to allow the companions to understand, internalise, and shape their **character** according to its teachings. The Companions would learn ten verses from the Prophet , and not move on from them until they had grasped the **knowledge** and **actions** contained within them.

The Companions said: "We learned the Qur'ān, knowledge, and action all together."

This was the essence of Prophetic tarbiyah: a nurturing of minds and hearts that transformed knowledge into real-world application .

### Tarbiyah

noun

- 1. A gradual process of growth until the ideal form is achieved.
- 2. Education, upbringing, nurturing.



Sometimes, we focus on making our children memorise the Qur'an or perfect their tajwid, but then neglect to inspire and teach them the message and the meanings of the Qur'an. Al-Hasan al-Basrī (rahimahullāh) said, "Certainly, slaves and children recite the Qur'an and they have no knowledge of its meaning. They memorised its letters but neglected its commands, to the extent that one of them will say, "By Allah, I have recited the entire Qur'an without missing out on any letter." Yet, by Allah, he has missed out on all of it! For there is no effect of the Qur'an on his character and actions. By Allah, it is not about memorising its letters, and then neglecting its commands!"



The number of companions who memorised the Qur'ān was not vast, yet **they all lived and breathed its teachings.** Their primary concern was to put into practice what they had learned.

Quranic Tarbiyah is not limited to the transmission of knowledge; it includes nurturing the ideals and values within learners until they become embedded in their hearts and character. They do not just 'learn' the Qur'ān; they **'live'** the Qur'ān.

Quranic Tarbiyah is not limited to theoretical knowledge; it aims to develop **righteous believers** who submit to Allah and spread righteousness on the earth. "The Qur'ān was revealed to be acted upon, but people took its recitation as the action." - al-Fuḍayl b. 'Iyāḍ



### **Nurturing Iman**

The Qur'ān's methodology of nurturing the best generation emphasises īmān as the foundation of the dīn. During the 13 years in Makkah, the Prophet focused on **instilling īmān** in the hearts of the Companions. The Makkan sūrahs centred on three key themes: (1) the Oneness of Allah (2) Prophethood, and (3) the Hereafter. Very few legal rulings were revealed, and it wasn't until the Madinan period — more than 13 years after the first revelation — when fasting was obligated, intoxicants were prohibited, and other rulings regarding dress, financial dealings, and social conduct were revealed.

ʿĀ'ishah 🐗 said, "Indeed, the first verses to be revealed were from the shorter chapters at the end of the Qur'an, which mention Paradise and Hellfire. When the people were firmly established upon Islam, the verses of halāl and harām were revealed. If the first verse to be revealed had been 'do not drink wine.' they would have said, 'we will never stop drinking wine.' And if the first verse to be revealed had been 'do not commit adultery,' they would have said, 'we will never stop committing adultery." (Bukhārī).

Thus, it is vital that we instil in our children the knowledge, love and reverence of Allah and His Messenger ∰, and the centrality of the hereafter before teaching them the dos and don'ts of Islam. Once they know Allah — the Command Giver — the commands will become easy to follow.

Developing īmān is the most important form of tarbiyah (holistic training and development of the individual), and takes precedence over other forms of development.

Jundub b. 'Abdillāh & said, "We were with the Prophet and we were young boys, nearing puberty. We learnt īmān before we learnt the Qur'ān. Then we learnt the Qur'ān and increased our īmān through it" (Ibn Mājah).

Nurturing īmān should be a primary goal of learning the Qur'ān, taking precedence over the quantity of verses memorised, in line with the Prophetic methodology.

#### The Essence of Iman

The key focus in the tarbiyah (nurturing) of our children should be

to ensure that the essence of īmān is deeply ingrained in their hearts. Iman is not something that is inspired once; rather, it must be continuously renewed and strengthened. This is particularly crucial in our times, when we face an onslaught of trials such as atheism, secularism, liberalism, and materialism.

> How can we increase our children's confidence in addressing modern ideologies and actively

demonstrating the superiority of Islam?

We should equip our children with the intellectual tools to develop yaqīn in Allah, the truth of Islam, and the Prophethood of Muhammad , enabling them to worship Allah with başīrah (clear proofs and insight). We do not want them to be 'blind' or 'cultural' followers of the dīn but rather to be certain that we have compelling proof for all our beliefs. This should be complemented with deep spiritual nourishment (tazkiyah and iḥsān), ensuring that knowledge is not merely factual but takes root in the heart. This is achieved by focusing on the heart and infusing external acts of worship with the inner 'actions of the heart', resulting in experiencing the sweetness of īmān.

Īmān has a sweetness: once you taste it, you will never be satisfied with a substitute. Our responsibility as educators is to facilitate this journey enabling our students to experience the sweetness of īmān and worship.

When īmān is not firm in the heart, the heart will gradually collapse when faced with trials and temptations. Doubts can easily creep into the heart and, if not addressed, may lead one to eventually lose their īmān. **Thus, nurturing hearts to experience the sweetness of īmān serves as a strong protection against doubts.** 



## Fiqh & 'Ubudiyyah

The **Qur'anic methodology of presenting the laws of fiqh** is truly remarkable. The rules are not presented in a 'dry' or purely legalistic manner. Instead, they are interwoven with constant reminders of Allah, His Names, and the hereafter. Consequently, the āyāt containing legal rulings in the Qur'ān feature Allah's Names the most. For instance, Surah at-Talaq contains rulings about divorce, yet the verses are imbued with reminders of īmān, knowing Allah, trusting Him, and servitude ('ubūdiyyah) to Him.

Thus, it is important that we teach fiqh with the aim of **strengthening learners' īmān, ma'rifah, and connection to Allah.** 

## The Sweetness of Iman and Worship

How can we, as educators, prevent ritual acts of worship from becoming **'hollow'** or merely a set of **'dry rules'** for our learners?

In addition to learning the outer rulings, we should also teach the **inner meanings and 'secrets' of the acts of worship** (known as the *asrār/ maqāşid* of the *ībādāt*). These can be introduced in a simplified manner, with more detailed aspects taught as children grow older, inshāAllah. While the 'how' of worship is very important, the '**why'** is also equally crucial.

Just as we want children to know how to pray şalāh, we also want them to understand **why** they are praying, so they genuinely love to pray şalāh. Throughout a child's education, the love of Allah, the beauty of Islam, and the inner states of the heart should be nurtured continuously. This allows the child to experience the sweetness of īmān and worship, thereby building a strong connection with Allah .

"You may find a person who fasts, prays, does dhikr and recites Qur'ān abundantly, but nothing from their actions reaches their heart: no fear, no hope, no love, no conviction in Allah and no happiness with Him." - Ibn al-Qayyim &



### Sirah & Stories

One of the powerful ways the Qur'an nurtured the Prophet 🏶 and the Companions 🦇 was through the stories of the Prophets. The Qur'an describes their worship, servitude to Allah, their da'wah efforts, the challenges they faced from their people, and their steadfastness, Allah 🏶 says, "And We relate to you (O Prophet) the stories of the Messengers so that We strengthen your heart with them..." (11:120).

The incredible stories strengthened the īmān of the Prophet , gave him the courage to persevere through immense challenges, and reassured him that he was following the same path as the Prophets before him. The Sahābah internalised this message and continued with the Prophetic mission, spreading Islam across the world while sacrificing their wealth and lives along the way.

#### **Nurturing Iman Through** Sirah

One of the most important means of nurturing īmān in our children is through the sīrah of Muhammad , the lives of the Prophets, and the Companions 🧠. Studying their lives with deep reflection should inspire learners to adopt them as their role models.

In an era where many have lost their sense of identity and feel confused. reconnecting our youth with their heritage and history is essential.

Studying sīrah and history will help them discover what made the first generations of Islam the best. and explore how they established the greatest civilisation in human history. It should instil a sense of honour in their dīn and connect them to something far greater than themselves: the Ummah of Muhammad 🎡

-Ď.

How can we inspire our youth to carry forward the legacy of the Prophets and make sacrifices for the establishment of Allah's dīn?

Studying the sīrah is an essential prerequisite for understanding the Qur'an. Reflecting on lessons from the sīrah, gaining a deep understanding (figh as-sīrah), and making connections to Qur'anic verses will allow us to appreciate how the Prophet 🏶 and his Companions embodied the Qur'an.

## Adab & Akhlaq

The goal of Quranic Tarbiyah is to nurture children to **'live**' the Qur'ān.The Prophet  $\stackrel{\circ}{\Rightarrow}$  did not merely teach his companions how to recite the Qur'ān beautifully — rather, **'his character was the Qur'ān'** and he nurtured exemplary character in his Companions, both young and old.

Thus, alongside teaching our children to recite the Qur'ān, it is vital that we teach them how to embody its teachings and instil in them excellent akhlāq. One of the most powerful means of achieving this is by **learning from and reflecting on the Prophetic example.** This will also deepen their love and īmān in him

Learners should be inspired to adopt the Prophet <sup>(2)</sup>/<sub>(2)</sub> as their role model, emulating his Sunnah in every aspect of their lives. This includes how he ate, drank, interacted with others, prayed, remembered Allah, and worked hard to establish Allah's dīn.

#### **Contemporary Challenges**

Today, morality is perceived as relative. Values and morals are shifting rapidly, causing havoc for our collective well-being. Both children and adults are constantly bombarded with values that are immoral, ego-centric and have led to the disintegration of our families and communities. To counteract these influences, it is vital that we proactively fill our hearts and minds with the love of Allah and the **Prophetic way of 'being'**. We must inspire our children to appreciate the

## importance of being **anchored by divine guidance.**



How can we help learners realise how fortunate we are to have the best moral compass?

Children should be taught not only how to treat Allah's creation but also how to have 'adab' with Allah. This is especially important in an era where secularism, atheism, and materialism are aggressively promoted globally.



## **Quranic Tarbiyah - How it Started**

### 2020

#### Establishing the first madrasah

Ummah Welfare Trust identifies a pressing need for Islamic education in Sierra Leone and establishes madrasahs and halaqat to teach children by the help of Allah.

### 2022

#### Impact & growth

To ensure the quality of education, weekly training and tarbiyah sessions begin for teachers and imams.

### 2024

### The Quranic Tarbiyah website is launched

Realising that the challenge of children and adults losing iman is not limited to Sierra Leone, quranictarbiyah.com is launched to benefit the Ummah worldwide.



### 2021

#### Expansion & teacher recruitment

A temporary curriculum is developed to provide foundational Islamic education. The program gains traction and demand increases from neighbouring areas.

### 2023

#### A new curriculum is developed

Recognising the need for a curriculum that nurtures children's iman while maintaining engagement, the Quranic Tarbiyah (QT) curriculum is introduced.



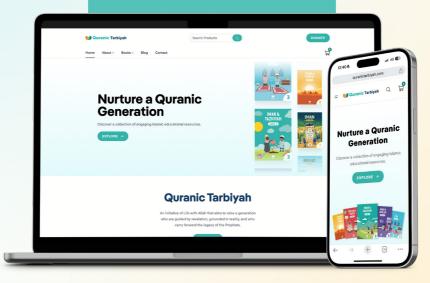


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