



**Young Muslims  
Personal and Collective Development Plan  
Version 2-b (extended)**

*If you have any difficulty implementing these syllabuses/syllabi or if you have any questions or concerns please contact the National Tarbiya Team by e-mailing them at: [Tarbiya@ymsite.com](mailto:Tarbiya@ymsite.com)*

**Note:** Young Muslims is always in the process of improving its systems and processes. It is the duty of its members to bring forward any suggestions, concerns or complaints that they may have.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الرَّكَتَبُ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ لِتُخْرِجَ النَّاسَ مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ  
إِلَى النُّورِ بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ

"Alif Laam Raa. A book which we have revealed to you (Muhammad) so that you may lead the people from out of the darkness and into the light by their Lord's leave to the path of the All-Mighty, the Praiseworthy." [Qur'an 14:1]

### Level 1

#### ➤ Purification of the Intellect & Actions

#### QURANIC STUDY

##### PERSONAL

- Each member in this Level should begin Recitation of Quran on a weekly basis (Arabic)
- Each member should begin to read Quran with explanation and commentary.

**Recommended Sections:** The Last Suras of Juz 'Amma (30<sup>th</sup> Part of the Qur'an)

##### **Suggested Method:**

- a. It is critical for the NNC to be involved in this process.
- b. NNC should set up a fixed time every week to encourage & evaluate the progress of the member.
- c. For all practical purposes, the NNC may want to have these "meetings" over the phone instead of in-person.
- d. If the member cannot read Arabic at all, then audio tapes of famous Quran reciters should be used.
- e. If there are several brothers that need instruction, it may be better to join a Quranic recitation class in the Masjid. Most masajids in the US have at least this type of service.

##### COLLECTIVE

- NNC must initiate the memorization of certain portions in the Quran.
- NNC should develop a weekly Quranic Discussion conceptually similar to the training method used by the Prophet Muhammad (saw).
  - a. First 6mos will be discussion on the Fundamental Principles of Islam
  - b. Second 6mos will have discussions centering on the actions and duties of a Muslim.

**Recommended Book:** *The Way to the Qur'an* by Khurram Murad

**Alternate Books:** *The Meaning of the Quran* by Sayyid Mawdudi

*The Message of the Quran* by Muhammad Asad

##### **Suggested Method:**

- a. Limit discussions to only a few Ayats to retain the attention of the members.
- b. NNC should conduct the initial weeks of the Quranic study and then rotate the assignments throughout the group.
- c. Quranic discussions should be RELATIVE and conducted in such a way that the members can apply them to DIRECT ACTION in their lives.
- d. NNC should use commentary of the Scholars to help in enriching the discussions in addition to preventing incorrect understanding of the Holy Quran.

#### STUDY OF HADITH

##### PERSONAL

- Each member should begin to read and memorize as many Ahadith as possible. (English & Arabic (if possible))

- Each member should be able to quote Hadith from the following categories:

1. Islamic Pillars
2. Manners/Conduct
3. Dhikr
4. Daily Life
5. Family Relations
6. Major Sins
7. Character Building
8. Brotherhood/Sisterhood
9. Jihad
10. Death

**Recommended Text:** *Forty Hadith* by Imam an-Nawwi

*Guidance from the Messenger* by Dr. Mazhar Kazi

**Alternate Texts:** *Riyadh as-Saliheen* (Gardens of the Righteous)  
Mishkat al-Masabih

**Suggested Method:**

- NNC should follow the similar method used for the Quranic study.
- Each member should be contacted by the NNC on a weekly basis to encourage & evaluate the process.

**COLLECTIVE**

- NNC should conduct Hadith-based discussions in the weekly meeting. This is the best way to help the members remember the famous Ahadith in Islam.
- The same topics that were mentioned in the Personal can be applied to the Collective section.

**ISLAMIC BELIEFS**

**PERSONAL**

**A. GENERAL OVERVIEW**

For the Level 1 Brothers, a General Overview of Islam is critical before further development. Such an overview will insh'Allah provide the members with a sound and clear conceptual understanding of the Islamic system and model.

- NNC should breakdown the chapters of the following books for personal reading:
- Each week, the member should evaluate how well the member understands the material.
- This evaluation can be done in several different ways: Please contact your Regional Coordinator for more information.
- CERTAIN portions of these books can be used in presentation to the weekly neighbornet.

**Recommended Books:**

*Towards Understanding Islam* by Sayyid Mawdudi

*Islam, Beliefs & Teachings* by Ghulam Sarwar

*The Rap is Live: Revolution by the Book* by Imam Jamil al-Amin

**B. IBAADAT (Worship)**

- NNC should encourage and facilitate each member to begin the Compulsory acts in Islam.
- This can be done on a gradual level, so NNC should not become easily offended or frustrated.
- The first action must be on the 5 Daily prayers. NNC should encourage the member to read as many as possibly, with emphasis on consistency.
- He should facilitate this process by taking him 1 or 2x a week to the Masjid or even praying with him at the home.

**Recommended Books:**

*A Guide to Prayers in Islam* by M. Saqib

*Let Us be Muslims* by Sayyid Mawdudi

### C. EVERYDAY LIFE

- Each member should start make small steps in acquainting himself with the major Do's and Don'ts in Islam
- Each member should begin to adopt the "ETIQUETTES" of a Muslim and Muslim way of life.

#### Recommended Books:

*The Lawful & Prohibited in Islam* by Yusuf al-Qardawi

*Etiquette's of Life* by Yusuf Islahi

*Everyday Fiqh* (v.1-2) by Yusuf Islahi

### BROTHERHOOD

#### PERSONAL

- The NNC must develop a personal relationship with every member of the neighborhood
- The members of the NN should know each other so well that they know each others strengths and weaknesses. They should work to help brothers absolve their weaknesses, and adopt each others strengths.

**Recommended Text:** *The Duties of Brotherhood in Islam* translated from the Ihya of Imam Ghazali by Muhtar Holland

#### Suggested Method:

- Each member should be visited by the NNC on at least a monthly basis

#### COLLECTIVE

- The NN should meet outside of the weekly gathering to play sports, and eat together
- The NNC can assign people as brothers to each other (similar to what the Prophet (S) did with the Muhajir and Ansar)

### SEERAH [Biography of Muhammad (saw)]

#### PERSONAL

- The model of the Holy Prophet is the best example for us as Muslims. Unfortunately, the Muslim youth have little or improper information concerning the Prophet and his life.

The following study will help to accomplish 3 things:

- a. Re-acquaint the Muslim youth to the Noble qualities of the Final Messenger of Allah.
- b. Enable the Muslim youth to understand and follow the example that was the Prophet Muhammad (saw).
- c. And as importantly enough, to prepare the Muslim youth in defending and promoting the Life and Message of Muhammad (saw) to society at large.

#### Recommended Books:

*Prophet Muhammad: The Infinite Light* by Fethullah Gulen

*The Life of Muhammad* by Taha al-Isma'il

#### Suggested Method:

- a. Each member should begin a self-paced study of the life of the Prophet.
- b. NNC should explain to the members that this study should be done not solely for the academic pursuit, but to sincerely learn about the greatest human being that ever lived.
- c. NNC should sit down with each member and prepare a study guide, using chapters in the recommend books or topics, whichever is easier.
- d. NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of his life. Particular attention should be given to historical events and important Islamic dates.

#### COLLECTIVE

- NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of Muhammad's (saw) life.
- A collective effort should be made to attend the Seerah Conferences that are held throughout the USA on his life as well as local Masjid sponsored events.
- The group as a whole should adopt Sunna's of the Holy Prophet.

**Recommended Books:**

*Prophet Muhammad: The Infinite Light* by Fethullah Gulen  
*The Life of Muhammad* by Taha al-Isma'il

**THE COMPANIONS OF THE PROPHET (SAW)****PERSONAL**

- The model given to us by the Holy Prophet's Companions has in it great guidance for us to live by. Unfortunately, the Muslim youth have yet to realize the role that these great men and women played in the course of not just Islamic but human history.

The following study will help to accomplish 3 things:

1. Re-acquaint the Muslim youth to the lives of these great personalities.
2. Enable the Muslim youth to take these personalities as role models in their lives today.
3. And equally important, to help the Muslim youth relate the common experiences of the companions to the youth of modern day society.

**Recommended Books:**

*Companions of the Prophet* by A.Wahid Hamid

**Suggested Method:**

- a. Each member should begin a self-paced study of the earliest companions.
- b. Each member should be able to relate the names with a brief description of some of the great companions.
- c. NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of the lives of the earlier companions. Particular attention should be given to historical events and important Islamic dates.

**COLLECTIVE**

- NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of the companions, with particular attention to the common difficulties faced by us.

**Recommended Book:**

*Companions of the Prophet* by A.Wahid Hamid

**DHIKR (Remembrance of Allah (SWT) & ISLAMIC SPIRITUALITY)**

Islam has made Dhikr the instrument towards self-purification. This development program will not be successful unless there is the use of Dhikr-ilallah (The remembrance of Allah) in our training.

**PERSONAL/COLLECTIVE**

- NNC should introduce the concept of Dhikr to each member.
  - NNC needs to make Dhikr a routine and constant part in the lives of the members.
  - The following are some of the methods found in the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (saw):
1. Making Nawaafil (non-compulsory prayers) on a constant basis.
  2. Fasting when it is not obligatory.
  3. Qiyam al-Layl (Spending one portion of the night in the worship of Allah (swt)).
  4. Brotherhood-building activities.

**Recommended Books:**

*In The Early Hours, Reflection on Spiritual and Self Development* by Khurram Murad  
*Remembrance and Prayer* by Muhammad al-Ghazali  
*Muslims Character* by Muhammad al-Ghazali

The section of Dhikr under the previously mentioned Hadith books.

**History of Islam**

Young Muslims desires that all its members should be familiar with the History of Islam. A good understanding of the past is necessary for preparation in the future. Insh'allah, the members will begin to develop and perfect their analytical & awareness faculties as they move forward in the PDP.

**PERSONAL**

- Each member will begin a self-paced reading on the history of Islam, starting from the Prophet Adam.

NOTE: NNC will assist members in breaking down the dates and events and it is being stressed that this is a self-paced reading.

- Each member should be able to relate back the major events of the past. NNC will assist where needed.

#### **COLLECTIVE**

- Group discussions on the major topics in Islamic History should routinely take place ONCE every month.
- Seminars or Presentations should be arranged to be held on various topics and events of Islamic history. Particular attention should be given to corresponding calendar dates.

#### **Recommended Books:**

*The Pious Caliphs* by Dr. Majid Ali Khan

#### **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

Young Muslims desires that all its members should be aware and up-to-date on the Current Events of our times. Insh'allah, the members will begin to develop and perfect their analytical & awareness faculties as they move forward in the PDP.

#### **PERSONAL**

- NNC should request that each member read one of the recommended newspapers on a daily basis.
- Each member should be able to have good understanding of the world and its events.
- NNC should provide background information to some of the on-going events in the world today including the following:
  1. The Palestinian oppression and the situation of Muslims worldwide.
  2. Major Islamic Events of the past and present such as:
    - The Jihad in Afghanistan
    - Islamic Revolution in Iran
    - Islamic Movement in Pakistan & India
    - Muslim Brotherhood of the Arab WorldAnd other such events....

#### **Recommended Reading:**

The New York Times  
Newsweek and/or Time Magazine  
The Message  
The American Muslim  
Impact  
Weekly Mirror International

#### **COLLECTIVE**

- NNC must assign and facilitate different presentations on Current affairs.
- Weekly discussions should take place on issues of Muslim and Societal concerns.
- Events should be organized with Qualified speakers speaking on pertinent topics.

#### **IX. Self-improvement & Empowerment**

It is important that as Muslims, we equip ourselves with the necessary and valuable skills that will make us resourceful human beings. Young Muslims feel that an important part of the responsibility of being the vanguards of the Islamic Movement in America involves training ones' self in all areas of self-improvement and essential skill-building.

The following will help each member of Young Muslims to begin establishing a strong skill base for use in all facets of their lives.

#### **Personal/Collective**

#### **Recommended Books:**

*How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie  
*Individual Dawah* by Mustafa Mashoor

## ATTACHMENT 1

### The Quranic Syllabus One-Year course

Al-Hajj 22: 77-8	Life of Worship; Jihad, mission of Shahadah
Al-Tawbah 9:111-12	Pledge of Iman, life of worship
Al-Nisaa 4:131-7	Witnessing to justice, summons to Iman
Aal Imran 3:102-10	Purpose of Ummah
Al-Fath 48:8-11	Pledge to continue the Prophet's Mission
Al-Baqarah 2:40-6	Call to fulfill the pledge
Al-Muzzammil 73:1-10, 20	Building a relationship with Allah
Al-Israa 17:23-29	Individual and collective morality
Al-Nahl 16:1-11	Evidence for Tawhid, Risaalah, Aakhira
Al-Nahl 16:12-22	Evidence for Tawhid, Risaalah, Aakhira (2 <sup>nd</sup>
Part)	
Yunus 10:31-6	Evidence for Tawhid, guidance
Al-Hajj 22:1-7	Evidence for Aakhira
Qaaf 50:1-18	Evidence for Aakhira (2 <sup>nd</sup> Part)
Al-Mu'minun 23:99-118	Aakhira
Yaa Seen 36:50-65	Aakhira
Qaaf 50:19-35	Aakhira
Al-Zumar 39:53-66	Preparing for Aakhira
Al-Hashr 59:18-24	Preparing for Aakhira, Allah's attributes
Al-Hadid 57:1-7	Allah's attributes; summons to Iman and
infaaq	
<b>Al-Hadid 57:12-17</b>	<b>Iman and infaaq</b>
Al-Hadid 57:20-5	Present Life; infaaq, establishing justice
Al-Saff 61:9-14	Call to commit to the Prophet's Mission,
Iman, Jihad	
Al-'Ankaboot 29:1-11	Testing of Faith
Al-Anfaal 8:72-5	Iman, Hijarah, Jihad, Jamaa'
Al-Nisaa 4:95-100	Hijarah, Jihad
Al-Tawbah 9:19-24	Jihad, the highest act; sacrificing everything
Al-Tawbah 9:38-45	Jihad
Aal Imran 3:169-75	Dying in the way of Allah
Al-Baqarah 2:261-6	Infaaq fi Sabili'llah
Al-Baqarah 2:267-72	Infaaq fi Sabili'llah
Al-Anfaal 8:20-9	Collective life, obedience
Al-Nisaa 4:60-7	Collective life, obedience
Al-Noor 24:47-52, 62-4	Collective life; response and obedience
Al-Hujuraat 49:1-9	Collective life: relationship with leaders
Al-Mujaadalah 58:7-13	Collective life: rules and duties
Al-Hujuraat 49: 10-15	Collective life: Interpersonal Relations
Fussilat 41:30-6	Da'wah and required attributes
Al-Baqarah 2:150-63	Mission and its obligations
Aal Imran 3:185-92	Summary
Aal Imran 3:193-200	Summary

## ATTACHMENT 2

### Suggested Presentation Topics / Reference Guide

In order to more effectively study the concepts discussed in the suggested books of the Islamic Beliefs section in the personal development plan, this list of suggested presentation topics has been compiled along with the references in the books. These references are the page numbers of the books Towards Understanding Islam, Islam – Beliefs and Teachings, and Let Us Be Muslims. It is advised that these topics be discussed weekly by the neighborhood, one at a time. The coordinator should assign a member to present a topic from the list using the references given in about 15 minute's time.

#### Key:

TUI --- **Towards Understanding Islam**  
by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi

LBM --- **Let Us Be Muslims**  
by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi

IBT --- **Islam: Beliefs and Teachings**  
by Ghulam Sarwar

### III. Islamic Beliefs

#### A. GENERAL OVERVIEW

1. **The Meaning of Islam and Kufr**  
-- TUI 1-11, IBT 13-17, LBM 53-55
2. **The Blessing of Islam and the Obligation for his favor**  
-- TUI 11-18, LBM 47-48, 74-76
3. **What Does it Mean to be a Muslim?**  
-- LBM 48-52, 65-67
4. **The Reason for the Muslims' Disgrace and Humiliation**  
-- LBM 56-60
5. **The Meaning of Iman (Faith)**  
-- TUI 19-23, IBT 18
6. **Knowledge Of Allah and the Unknown**  
-- TUI 24-28
7. **Tawheed – Oneness of Allah**  
-- TUI 74-86, IBT 19-20
8. **The Effects of Tawheed on Human Life**  
-- TUI 86-91, IBT 21-23
9. **Belief in Angels**  
-- TUI 91-94, IBT 27-29
10. **Belief in the Books of Allah**  
-- TUI 94-98, IBT 29-31
11. **Belief in the Prophets of Allah**  
-- TUI 99-102, IBT 26-27
12. **Life After Death**  
-- TUI 102-113, IBT 36-39
13. **Al-Qadr**  
-- IBT 23-25
14. **The Quran**  
\* *Its Compilation...*



-- IBT 32-36

\* *Our Duty Towards It...*

-- LBM 61-64

### **15. The Shahada**

\* *The Meaning of the Kalima...*

-- LBM 69-74

\* *The Difference Between Kalima Tayyibah and Kalima Khabithah*

-- LBM 77-84

\* *The Purpose of The Kalimah*

-- LBM 85-90

### **16. How Man is Lead Astray**

-- LBM 93-101

### **17. Signs Of Hypocrisy**

-- LBM 103-106

### **18. Examples of Obedience to Allah and the Way to Allah's Pleasure**

-- LBM 106-110

### **19. The Quality of True Muslims and the Completeness of their Islam**

-- LBM 111-118

## **B. IBAADAT (WORSHIP)**

### **1. Obedience to Allah**

-- LBM 119-124

### **2. Meaning of Ibadah**

-- LBM 135-141

### **3. Acts Of Worship**

-- TUI 114-117, IBT 40-42

### **4. Prayer...**

\* *Its Benefits*

-- TUI 117-120, IBT 42-45, LBM 145-151

\* *Method of Prayer (What to recite)*

-- IBT 45-61, LBM 153-164

\* *Congregational Prayer and its Benefits*

-- LBM 165-171

\* *Imamat*

-- LBM 171-174

\* *Why Salah Has Become Ineffective*

-- LBM 175-180

\* *Selected Duas and Quran Ayahs*

-- IBT 64-74

### **5. Fasting**

-- TUI 120-121, IBT 76-78, LBM 183-188

\* *The Purpose and Benefits Of Fasting*

-- LBM 189-194

### **6. Zakat**

-- TUI 121-123, IBT 74-76, LBM 197-205

\* *How Nearness to Allah is Achieved Through Zakat*

-- LBM 207-210

- \* *Qualities of Hizbullah*  
-- LBM 210-215
- \* *Zakat in Collective Life*  
-- LBM 217-222
- \* *Infaq fee Sabeelillah*  
-- LBM 223-226
- \* *Modes of Spending in the Way of Allah*  
-- LBM 226-230
- \* *Special Injunctions for Zakat*  
-- LBM 231-239
- 7. Hajj**  
-- TUI 123-124, IBT 78-81
- \* *Origin of Hajj*  
-- LBM 243-252
- \* *History of Hajj*  
-- LBM 253-262
- \* *Benefits Of Hajj*  
-- LBM 263-271
- \* *Universality of Hajj*  
-- LBM 273-282
- 8. Jihad – Defense Of Islam**  
-- TUI 124-125, IBT 81-83
- \* *Its Comprehensiveness*  
-- LBM 285-293
- \* *Importance Of Jihad*  
-- LBM 295-303

### **C. EVERYDAY LIFE**

- 1. The Distinction Between Deen and Shariah**  
-- TUI 126-130, IBT 161-163, LBM 125-134
- 2. The Shariah and it's significance**  
-- TUI 131-135, LBM 125-134
- 3. The Rights and Obligations under the Shariah**  
-- TUI 135-136, IBT 196-198
- 4. The Rights of Allah**  
-- TUI 136-140, IBT 186-188
- 5. The Rights of the Self**  
-- TUI 140-142
- 6. The Rights of Others**  
-- TUI 142-153, IBT 188-191
- 7. The Rights of All Creatures**  
-- TUI 153-154
- 8. The Universal and Eternal Law of Shariah**  
-- TUI 154-157
- 9. The Political System Of Islam**  
-- IBT 173-180
- 10. The Qualities of a Muslim and His Virtues**  
-- IBT 191-194; 198-201

**11. What the Muslim Avoids and Vices**

-- IBT 194-196; 201-202

**12. Family Life in Islam**

-- IBT 165-172

**Attachment 3**

**PDP level 1 Plan for New Neighbornets**

**Tips for New Coordinators and new Neighbornets**

Analyze the PDP and decide whether it would fit the attendees' level of knowledge and understanding. Only the first Sub-level has organized week-by-week Quranic and hadith assignments. After the first sublevel it is the responsibility of the NNC to organize the suggested verses in level of importance to the topic.

The same goes with the Hadith. The hadith book "40 hadith by Imam Nawawi" is only a suggested book. This is a simple and small collection of the hadith. If the NNC prefers another book that may have a central focus (i.e. Etiquette, spirituality, methodology, everyday life etc.) that would also be appropriate. The NNC decides all these important aspects of the NN.

Be sure to have review sessions, so that the members will be able to remember the knowledge that the acquired so that they may implement what they learn in their daily lives.

Practice your speaking skills. Aside from the NN being a training of leadership and knowledge. It is also the training of propagating the message. So be uplifting in your speech and motivate the members to work for Allah.

It is also important to assign individual members responsibilities (i.e. presentations, tafseer, hadith etc) this will promote participation of the general members and would leave plenty of room for discussions. This is also training for the other members. Do not over load yourself with all the tarbiyah sections of the neighbornet. By assigning presentations, the neighbornet will become more productive and at the same time the NNC will be less burdened.

**Tafseer-** It is important for the presenter of tafseer to do research with official tafaseer of the specific verses. It is preferred to use multiple sources to get the deeper meaning behind the verses. It is good to focus on the main points, so the members could remember them easier and they could implement them inshallah.

**Hadith-** See above tips. If the NNC decides to use random hadith, it is better to keep the hadith related to the main focus/theme of the specific NN. The NNC could possible assign numerous members to make presentations depending upon the focus of the halaqa and the time involved.

**Main book-** It is best for the NNC and the core individuals to read the book and prepare the material before the day of the NN. This will give them time to focus on certain points within the reading material. Supplying books to all NN members is unnecessary. However, it is preferred that the members get their own copy of the book in order to develop their own level of tarbiyah. This may also increase NN discussion.

**Current Events-** Discuss the recent issues of the Muslim Ummah. This is good to promote positive discussion as well as informing the members of the status of the Ummah. Use this to further motivate the members to work towards lifting ourselves from the problems we are facing.

**Nasiha-** Leave the members with a simple piece of advice that they should focus on during week. (I.e. Salat on time, wudhu, character, schooling, free mixing, tahajud, reading the Quran etc.) This is a good time for connecting with the brothers.

**Structure of the Neighbornet**

<b>Quranic Tafseer</b>	<b>20 min</b>
<b>Hadith</b>	<b>20 min</b>
<b>Book Study</b>	<b>45 min</b>
<b>Current Events</b>	<b>10 min</b>
<b>Nasiha</b>	<b>5 min</b>
<b>Total time:</b>	<b>1 hr 40 min</b>

## **Sub-Level A**

Recommended tafaseer: Towards understanding the Quran by Mawdudi, In the Shade of the Quran by Syed Qutb, and a Thematic Commentary on the Quran by Muhammad Al-Ghazali

### **Islamic Beliefs**

Book= Towards Understanding Islam by Maulana Mawdudi

Hadith book= 40 hadith by Imam Nabawi

#### **Week 1**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Ikhlāas

Hadith: Number one of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Intro and Chapter 1 "The meaning of Islam"

#### **Week 2**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Nahl 1-11

Hadith: Number two of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 2 "Faith and Obedience"

#### **Week 3**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Nahl 12-22

Hadith: Number Three of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 3 "The Prophet hood"

#### **Week 4**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yunus 10:31-33

Hadith: Number Four of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 4 "Articles of Faith"

#### **Week 5**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yunus 10:34-36

Hadith: Number Five of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 5 "Prayer and Worship"

#### **Week 6**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:1-4

Hadith: Number Six of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 6 "Din and Shariah"

#### **Week 7**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:5-7

Hadith: Number 7 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 7 "The principles of Shariah"

New book: Let us be Muslims by Mawdudi

#### **Week 8**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hajj 77-78

Hadith: Number 8 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 1 "Iman"

#### **Week 9**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Tawbah 9:111-112

Hadith: Number 9 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 2 "Islam"

#### **Week 10**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:102-104

Hadith: Number 10 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 3 "Salah"

#### **Week 11**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:105-107

Hadith: Number 11 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 4 "Fasting"

#### **Week 12**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:108-110

Hadith: Number 12 of "Forty Hadith"

Book: Chapter 5 “Zakat”

**Week 13**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Baqarah 2:40-43

Hadith: Number 13 of “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 6 “Hajj”

**Week 14**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Baqarah 2:44-46

Hadith: Number 14 of “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 7 “Jihad”

**Quranic Study**

Book=Way to the Quran by Khuram Murad

Hadith=“Forty hadith” by imam Nawawi

**Week 15**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Muzzamil 73:1-10

Hadith: Number 15 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Intro and Chapter 1 “The Journey of Life”

**Week 16**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:12-14

Hadith: Number 16 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 2 “Basic Prerequisites”

**Week 17**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:15-17

Hadith: Number 17 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 3 “Participation of the Inner self”

**Week 18**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Zumar 39:53-66

Hadith: Number 18 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 4 “Rules of Reading”

**Week 19**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hashr 59:18-24

Hadith: Number 19 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 5 part A: Study and Understanding→General Principles

**Week 20**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hajj 22:1-7

Hadith: Number 20 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 5 part B: Understand as a living reality→ END of chapter

**Week 21**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yasin 36:50-57

Hadith: Number 21 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 6 “Collective Study”

**Week 22**

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yasin 36: 58-65

Hadith: Number 22 in “Forty Hadith”

Book: Chapter 7 “Living the Quran”

**Sub Level B**

**DHIKR**

**Choices of Books in PDP**

**Continue Weekly “forty hadiths”**

**Quranic Verses**

Hashr 59: 18-24

Al-Hadid 57:20-25

Al-Saff 61:9-14

Muzammil 73:20

Qaaf 50:1-18

Qaaf 50:19-35

**Seerah of Muhammad (S)**

Quranic Verses

Al nisaah 4:131-137

Al- Fath 48:8-11

Fussilat 41:30-36

Baqarah 2:150-156

Al-Anfaal 8:20-29

Al-Nisaa 4:60-67

Muminun 23:99-118

**Every Day Life**

**Recommended book, Lawful and Prohibited in Islam (see official PDP)**

**Quranic Verses**

Noor 24:47-52

Noor 24:62-64

Al-Hujarat 49:1-9

Al-Hujarat 49:10-15

Al-Israa 17:23-29

**Companions of the Prophet**

**Quran Verses**

Al-Ankaboot 29:1-11

Al-Anfaal 8:72-75

Al-Nisaa 4:95-100

Al-Tawbah 9:19-24

Al-Tawbah 9:38-45

Al' Imran 3:169-175

**Sublevel C**

**History of Islam**

**Quran Verses**

Al-Baqarah 2:261-266

Al-Baqarah 2:267-272

Al' Imran 3:185-192

Al' Imran 3:193-200

**Self Improvement**

**Quranic Verses**

**Any Necessary verses or shifted verses.**

NOTE: Any necessary changes in verses or books are decided by the Neighbornet Coordinator. This is a rough sketch of the syllabus. The verses were organized to the best of our ability to fit the topic being discussed.

# Young Muslims Self Development Guide

- a list of books all YM members must read on an individual basis.

## Literature Study

- Islamic Beliefs
  - General Overview
    - *Towards Understanding Islam* by Sayyid Mawdudi (1)
    - *Islam, Beliefs & Teachings* by Ghulam Sarwar (1)
    - *The Fundamentals of Tawheed (Islamic Monotheism)* by Bilal Philips (chapters 1&2 only) (1)
    - *The Rap is Live: Revolution by the Book* by Imam Jamil al-Amin (1)
    - *The Islamic Way of Life* by Sayyid Mawdudi (2)
    - *The Message of the Teachings* by Hasan Al-Banna (2)
  - Ibadaat
    - *A Guide to Prayers in Islam* by M. Saqib (1)
    - *Let Us be Muslims* by Sayyid Mawdudi (1)
  - Everyday Life
    - *The Lawful & Prohibited in Islam* by Yusuf al-Qardawi (1)
    - *Muslims Character* by Muhammad al-Ghazali (1)
    - *Etiquette's of Life* by Yusuf Islahi (1)
    - *Everyday Fiqh* (v.1-2) by Yusuf Islahi (1)
    - *Fiqh Us Sunnah* by Sayyid Saabiq (2)
- Quran
  - *The Meaning of the Quran* by Sayyid Mawdudi (1)
  - *The Way to the Qur'an* by Khurram Murad (1)
  - *Easy Tajweed* by Kaleemullah Husaini (1)
  - *An Easy Way to the Understanding of the Qur'an* by Dr. Hasanuddin Ahmed
  - *A Thematic Commentary on the Qur'an* by Shaikh Muhammad al Ghazali (2)
  - *Ulum al Qur'an* by Ahmad von Denffer (2)
- Hadith
  - *Guidance from the Messenger* by Dr. Mazhar Kazi (1)
  - *Forty Hadith* by Imam an-Nawwi (1)
  - *Commentary on the Forty Hadith of Al-Nawawi* by Jamaal al-Din M. Zarabozo (2)
  - *Riyadh as-Saliheen* w/ commentary (1)
- Brotherhood
  - *The Duties of Brotherhood in Islam translated from the Ihya of Imam Ghazali* by Muhtar Holland (1)
- Seerah
  - *Prophet Muhammad: The Infinite Light* by Fethullah Gulen (1)
  - *The Life of Muhammad* by Taha al-Isma'il (1)
  - *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources* by Martin Lings (1)
  - *Mekkan Crucible* by Zakaria Bashir (1)
  - *Sunshine at Medina* by Zakaria Bashir (1)
  - *Ar-Raheeq Al-Makhtum (The Sealed Nectar)* by Saif-ur -Rahman al-Mubarakpuri (2)
  - *Fiqh Us Seerah* by Muhammad Ghazali (2)
  - *Muhammad : Man and Prophet* by Adil M Salahi (2)
- Companions of the Prophet
  - *Companions of the Prophet* by A.Wahid Hamid
- History of Islam
  - *The Pious Caliphs* by Dr. Majid Ali Khan (1)
  - *History of Islam Vol 1&2* by Masud-ul-Hasan (2)
- Islamic Spirituality & Dhikr
  - *In The Early Hours, Reflection on Spiritual and Self Development* by Khurram Murad (1)
  - *Remembrance and Prayer* by Muhammad al-Ghazali (1)
  - *Selected Prayers* by Jamal Badawi (1)

- *Al-Ma'thurat* (Supplications), by Imam Hassan Al-Banna. (2)
- Contemporary/Current Affairs
  - *The Autobiography of Malcom X* by Malcom X (1)
  - *Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television* by Jerry Mander (1)
  - *Amusing Ourselves to Death* by Neil Postman (1)
  - *Islam, the West and the Challenges of Modernity* by Tariq Ramadan (2)
  - *To be a European Muslim* by Tariq Ramadan (2)
  - *A People's History of the United States: 1492 to Present* by Howard Zinn (2)
  - *Downsize This* by Michael Moore (1)
  - *Stupid White Men* by Michael Moore (1)
  - *Manufacturing Consent* by Noam Chomsky (1)
  - *American Jihad: Islam After Malcolm X* by Steven Barboza (2)
- Self Improvement & Empowerment
  - *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie (1)
  - *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu
  - *Leadership: An Islamic Perspective* by Rafik Beekun, Jamal Badawi
- Dawah
  - *Individual Dawah* by Mustafa Mashoor (1)
  - *How to tell others about Islam* by Yahya Emerick (1)
  - *Struggling to Surrender* by Jeffery Lang (1)
  - *Dawah Among non-Muslims in the West* by Khurram Murad (2)
  - *Witnesses Unto Mankind* by Sayyid Mawdudi (2)
- Islamic Revival
  - *A Short History of Islamic Revivalist Movement* by Sayyid Mawdudi (2)
  - *Toward a sound awakening* by Yusuf al-Qaradawi
- Islamic Movement
  - *To be a Muslim* (Part B only) by Fathi Yakan (2)
  - *Islamic Movement- Dynamics of Values, Power and Change* by Sayyid Mawdudi (2)
  - *Priorities of the Islamic Movement in the Coming Phase* by Yusuf al Qaradawi (2)
  - *Milestones* by Syed Qutb (2)
- The Islamic Worker
  - *Guidelines for Islamic Workers* by Sayyid Mawdudi (1)
  - *A training guide for Islamic Workers* by Hisham Talib (1)
  - *Commitment* by Shamim Siddiqui (2)
  - *The Ethics of Disagreement in Islam* by Taha Jabir al `Alwani
  - *Passages of Truth (Mamarat al-Haqq)* by Ra'ed Abdel-Hadi
  - *Return of the Pharoah* by Zainab Ghazaly

The Vast Majority of these books are available at <http://www.ymofmd.com/books>



## **A Thematic Approach to the PDP – Version 1**

This outline was created as an aid to be used when brainstorming and planning for neighbornet meetings. The topics and subtopics are relatively broad and do not necessarily represent one neighbornet or any specific number of neighbornets. This is for the coordinator and his team to decide. There are major topics and other topics, and when planning for one particular neighbornet meeting – a mix of both is recommended. However, it is also recommended for coordinators not to follow one strict format when planning for neighbornets, and continuously modify the structure of the meeting while using creative approaches to keep interest and attention levels high.

The approximate time to cover the given topic can be more or less than the estimated time given.

See <http://www.ymofmd.com/pdp.htm> for the PDP, links to books, and other PDP attachments. Use this document alongside other PDP attachments when planning.

### **Major Topics:**

- 1) Tauhid (~ 3 meetings)
  - a. 3 Parts of Tauhid
  - b. Allah's place in our lives
- 2) Tazkiya (~3 meetings)
  - a. Self-improvement & development
  - b. Relationship with Allah & others
  - c. Dhikr & Spirituality
- 3) Risalah (~ 5 meetings)
  - a. Make connection to Tauhid
  - b. Responsibilities of the Prophets
  - c. Lives of the Prophets
  - d. Allah's own words in his books
  - e. Introduction to Seerah
- 4) Aakhirah (~ 6 meetings)
  - a. Death and the grave
  - b. Day of Judgement
  - c. Heaven and Hell
  - d. Accountability, Accountability, Accountability
- 5) Seerah of the Prophet(S) (~ 8 meetings)
  - a. Emphasis on major events

- b. Emphasis on challenges and preparing for them
  - c. Qualities of the Prophet
  - d. The mission of the Prophet and our mission and responsibility
- 6) Companions of the Prophet(S)

\* Use the related Quranic Syllabus ayahs alongside the chosen topics.

**Other Topics:**

- 1) Brotherhood (~ 4 meetings)
- 2) The Quran (~ 4 meetings)
- 3) Current Events
- 4) History of Islam
  - a. Revivalists of Islam
- 5) Everyday Life
- 6) Manners/Conduct
- 7) Acts of worship
- 8) Character building
- 9) Major Sins
  - a. Staying away from and punishments
- 10) Family Relations
- 11) Gender Relations

# Young Muslims National Study Circle System

## *Background*

Br. Salman Ali, the first National Coordinator of Young Muslims, created a very dynamic and flexible syllabus as a guide for NeighborNet Coordinators in the mid 90's. This syllabus came to be known as the PDP or Personal Development Plan. Over time it became obvious that no one set curriculum would be able to cater to the diverse needs of all of our NeighborNets, and YM members who all varied in their Islamic knowledge and understanding. Even the PDP was criticized because it starts with level 1. One brother once commented at a NeighborNet Coordinators Conference saying: "We have brothers who are at level 0, because they aren't ready for this level 1". On the other hand there were those YM members who were ready for levels 2, 3, 4 and 5. Young Muslims' leadership reached an understanding that the PDP would be implemented, but it would not be strictly enforced. Another problem which arose was that we never knew what level our members were on, because of the manner in which each coordinator approached the PDP. Some were intense in their approach and others barely had one.

## *NeighborNets Vs. Study Circles*

A NeighborNet is a group of Young Muslims members who are usually situated in the same neighborhood. A NeighborNet meets up at least once a week. In their gatherings the members learn all the basic fundamentals of Islam, share their problems, seek guidance, and simply enjoy an Islamic environment with their peers. A NeighborNet is the most basic part of YM thus it must be open for anyone to join at any given time. To accommodate attendees and future attendees the NeighborNet must run at a very general level. So someone who joins does not feel like a student who has entered a class in the middle of the semester. The NeighborNet serves as a recruiting ground for the future coordinators, and active members. The members who have potential are spotted (by the coordinator and his core team), and are given increased assignments and are asked to play new roles in the NeighborNet. The NeighborNet serves as a training ground for these YM members. They are asked to do presentations, make contacts, bring in new members, help resolve conflicts and eventually become NeighborNet coordinators.

Since the NeighborNets are ran at a very general level this poses a challenge. How can those members who are forever focusing on the fundamentals of Islam on a weekly basis (to cater to the needs of those around them) possibly receive a higher level of Tarbiyah that is required by not only Young Muslims, but also by themselves? It is impossible for them to do so in a NeighborNet because of the current structure and understanding of how a NeighborNet works and should be run. Therefore a new type of gathering was developed where the coordinators, core team members, and others who have the desire to gain knowledge on a deeper level can do so in a study circle where others who are as serious as them are gathered. In a NeighborNet it is not essential for its attendees to necessarily do any reading at all. All that is required of a NeighborNet attendee is regular attendance and some degree of participation. The study circle on the other hand mandates not only mandatory reading by every attendee, but also requires a higher level of discipline, and an increased level of participation. Every study circle attendee must carefully read the assigned material beforehand and come to the study circle ready to discuss his points of interest, confusion, and analysis of his reading. Through discussion the group should clarify any misconceptions, come to conclusions about the material presented by the author, and capitalize on the presence of the Murabbi by extracting extra material from their knowledge base which would supplement the assigned readings.

To avoid the randomness experienced with the PDP (at the NeighborNet level due to the various levels of the NeighborNet's attendees) the study circle syllabus is not made to be flexible per say (unlike the PDP the books used, and the sequence they are used in are not up to the discretion of the moderator or study circle attendees), it is rather something concrete which must be strictly adopted and implemented. Conceptual and ideological matters which must be understood by all members of YM are covered in the books which are included in the syllabus. A deeper look is taken into subjects such as World Views, Introduction to Sharia'ah, Islam as a complete system of life, prerequisites to approaching the Qur'an, the Seerah of Prophet Muhammad (S), being witnesses unto mankind (the purpose and duty of the Muslim Ummah), and foundational and methodological issues in regards to the Islamic Movement. In the PDP

books were recommended and suggested, but there was no strict enforcement of the usage of those books. Nor was there a system in place to determine if the attendees of a NeighborNet had any uniform basic understanding of YM's goals and objectives as a 'movement oriented' group, and what that meant for them as members of YM. Therefore specific (trusted) books had to be selected which would help mold the understanding of YM members. In the NeighborNets attendees vary from all levels so the topics of discussion remain general. But in the Study Circle the levels in which attendees would be placed (based on competency) had to be created. In this manner we would be able to determine who stands where, and what they need next. Since the study circle is a training ground for active YM members accompanying segments must be incorporated into the study circle gatherings which would train them to be better workers. Based upon what is needed or is lacking the most. Matters such as Speaking skills, Khutbah delivery, Qur'anic Recitation (with Tajweed), Qur'anic Memorization, and Dua memorization should be focused on.

#### *The proper usage of a Murabbi (Teacher/Guide)*

A Murabbi or teacher is needed in all of our study circles to ensure that the proper conclusions are come to, and that the concepts presented are not misunderstood. The murabbis should also bring extra flavor to the points of discussion by providing additional substance which goes beyond what is in the text. A murabbi must not violate the structure of the study circle by turning it into a class. The study circle is meant to be discussion based, and murabbis are needed to enrich those discussions. A murabbi should allow ample time to the study circle attendees to debate with one another, and come to conclusions based on their reading. The murabbi should step in when he finds that errors are being made, and are not being corrected by the attendees themselves. They should also add extra substance to any conclusions which are come to. If a question posed by a study circle attendee is not adequately being responded to, then the murabbi should offer points of clarification. The Murabbi should encourage discussion, and should be allowed to lead the discussion (by directing attendees to offer their viewpoints then have others criticize and have the attendee defend his viewpoint). He should also make sure that all attendees are doing their reading, and should assess if they are absorbing what is required of them from their readings. The murabbi must be approved of by the YM National Tarbiyah Department. (Because issues of ideology will come up all throughout the implementation of the study circle system, not any sheikh, or imam can become a YM murabbi).

#### *The Rules of Study Circle*

A Study Circle Attendee must:

1. Attend the study circle on a weekly basis
  - a. The attendee should be removed from the study circle if he has more than 2 unexcused absences (permission for missing a study circle meeting coupled with acceptance of that excuse must be sought by the assigned moderator of the study circle)
2. Completely read any assigned material
  - a. If a study circle attendee continually does not read the assigned material he should be removed from the study circle (winging it should not be tolerated)
3. Come prepared with points of discussion
  - a. The moderator of the study circle, and the murbbai must make sure that all attendees are participating and are comprehending the text based upon the points they bring up. No study circle attendee should be allowed to become a spectator, rather than a participant.
4. Remain a consistent member of a NeighborNet
  - a. Our grassroots effort takes place in the NeighborNets, hence, every member except for those who have been given an assignment, which requires the person to either overlook multiple NeighborNets or travel frequently, must be consistent members of a NeighborNet. The study circle should not be used as a means to merely fulfill intellectual pursuit. Only active and consistent members of YM NeighborNets should be allowed to join a study circle.

#### *Standardized Phases and Testing System*

The Study circle is broken into phases so that at each interval testing for competence can take place. Like with any serious institutionalized curriculum, standardized testing must be set in place so the attendees of

the gatherings can prove their worth. Passing these tests would allow the continuation of study circle attendees to move from one phase to the next. These tests are currently under development (as of February 21, 2003). The tests will include a combination of multiple choice questions, essay questions, oral presentations and defense of a thesis delivered in front of a panel of respectable murabbis and other knowledgeable people. The durations on the study circle syllabus are merely suggested. A study circle can move faster as long as they thoroughly discuss the material presented in the books. Remember that the tests for each phase will check to see if the proper conclusions were come to. These conclusions are not necessarily always clearly spelled out in the text.

### *Conclusion*

Currently (as of February 21, 2003) only three phases have been created. It is the goal of the Tarbiyah team to continue to enhance this system, and add extra phases to it. The future phases are under development, and suggestions for titles of books are needed. Topics such as Seerah should be explored deeper and deeper with every few phases. The inclusion of any book can be questioned by any YM member, but a proper critique and request for removal/replacement of a book should come from individuals, or groups who have previously read the book in question in a study circle format/environment (reading a book individually, and studying and dissecting a book in a group setting with the help of a murabbi are two totally different things). Though any and all feedback is appreciated and is necessary. We can only properly refine each phase when multiple study circles of each phase are completed and critiqued. So please play your role, and contact me if there are any questions. Surveys to obtain feedback for each existing phase should also be created.

Young Muslims is always in the process of improving its systems and processes. It is the duty of its members to bring forward any suggestions, concerns or complaints that they may have.

Azeem Khan  
-YM Tarbiyah Department Chair 02-03

# Study Circle Phase and Book List

Phase 1

(12 Meetings)

<u>Book</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Islam The Natural Way by AbdulWahid Hamid  (Chapters 1 and 2)	The concept of "worldview" and the source and importance of knowledge.	4 Meetings
<b>The Islamic Way of Life</b> by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi	General understanding of Islam as a complete way of life. How the moral, economic, social, justice, spritual, etc. aspects of life work as one unit and not in a compartmentalized view.	8 Meetings

Phase 2

(34 Meetings)

<u>Book</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Duration</u>
<b>Way to the Qur'an</b> by Khurram Murad	Learning the physical, emotional, moral, and spiritual prerequisites to get the most out of the Qur'an.	10 Meetings
The Makkan Crucible By Zakaria Bashier	(Seerah, Makkan Period) Understand the struggle of the Prophet (SAW) in the Makkan period. Highlight contemporary points of interest.	12 Meetings

**Sunshine at Madina**  
By Zakaria Bashier

(Seerah, Madina Period)  
Understand the struggle  
of the Prophet (SAW) in  
the Madina period.  
Highlight contemporary  
points of interest.

12  
Meetings

### ***Phase 3***

#### **Book**

#### **Purpose**

#### **Duration**

**Witnesses Unto  
Mankind**  
By Sayyid Abul A'la  
Mawdudi

The purpose and duty of  
the Muslim Ummah to the  
rest of humanity.

**8 Meetings**

**Milestones**  
By Syed Qut'b

Basic key foundations  
needed for the revival of  
Islam, collectively as  
well as individually.

**To Be a Muslim**  
By Fathi Yakun

Characteristics needed by  
both the individual and  
the movement in order to  
function properly and  
with strength to fulfill  
the aspirations of the  
Islamic Movement.



Young Muslims, a pioneering national youth organization is proud to introduce a new and exciting venture, the Young Muslims Learning Foundation. This project is designed to further the work of Young Muslims in enriching the lives of Muslim youth in North America by educating their minds and affecting their hearts, by providing them with sound knowledge of Islamic shariah. Most Muslim youth get their Islamic knowledge from lectures, tapes, MSA meetings and the weekly khutba. There are very few institutes and programs in North America that can provide quality Islamic education for Muslims, and even those can be costly with very limited space. The bottom line is that most youth are left out. Young Muslims Learning Foundation seeks to change all that, YMLF would provide serious Islamic education to youth across North America at their convenience.

YMLF is seeking the full time services of an Islamic Scholar, to be dedicated to the service and education of the youth who enroll in our classes. This experience will take learning beyond the setting of the weekly halaqa, or lecture, and bring it into a formal classroom. Local YM (Young Muslims) chapters will host classes in major cities and states such as New York, New Jersey, Chicago, Houston, California and Toronto. Now your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews can learn how to better themselves and their communities through professionalism and excellence. With added features like Internet broadcasting, YMLF will bring these classes to you, all but eliminating the hefty travel costs that are usually incurred when attending quality Islamic courses. The YMLF goal is to start with a two-year program, with a curriculum that will cover Aqeeda, Arabic, Fiqh, Quranic studies, Hadith studies, and the contemporary issues Muslims are faced with today.

This program cannot happen without your help. In order for YMLF to launch, at least \$40,000 must be raised to cover the costs of the program. This cost includes facilities, and the most crucial element of a course like this, a qualified teacher. Please help us achieve our goal of training a capable and intelligent generation of Muslim Youth.

The leading candidate who we are looking to employ as our full time teacher is Sheikh Ibrahim Negr. The following is a brief profile of his credentials:

**Sheik Ibrahim Negr:**

- ❖ Hafiz,
- ❖ graduated #4 in the nation from al-azhar high school (Egypt).
- ❖ Finished Ijaza in Islamic Studies from Al Azhar in 1995 as class Valedictorian.
- ❖ Visiting scholar and researcher (1996) in Harvard law school Islamic Legal Studies program.
- ❖ Visiting researcher at the school of Islamic and social sciences in 1997.
- ❖ PhD in comparative religious studies from the American College of Theology, MN in 1999.
- ❖ Imam and director of the Islamic Center of South Shore, Li, NY.
- ❖ Assistant professor of Arabic and Islamic studies @ St. Johns University, Queens, NY.
- ❖ Editor of The Mirror International, an Islamic paper based in NY.

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