



Academy for Learning Islam

Course Number: ALI 300

Title: Knowing God through the Whispered Prayers

Duration: Four weeks, April 7-28, 2015

Timings: Tuesday mornings, 11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Course Description

Dhikr is the remembrance of Allah. The true meaning of Dhikr is often hidden under layers of ritual and formal forms of Dhikr. Through a discussion of the Whispered Prayer of the Rememberers (No. 13) of the Sahifa Sajjadiyya, this course will examine the various aspects of Dhikr.

Objectives

- ❖ Increase appreciation of the value of Dhikr of Allah
 - ❖ Understand various types of Dhikr
 - ❖ Learn Quranic verses and hadith on Dhikr
 - ❖ Make Dhikr of Allah more effective in change and self- progress
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Topics

Week 1: Introduction: Definition and types of Dhikr. Verses and Hadith on Dhikr. Insignificance of the self.

Readings: First paragraph of the Whispered prayer of the Rememberers (no.13)
Excerpts from *Self Building* by Aytaullah Ibrahim Amini (#1)

Week 2: The inspiration to do Dhikr. A natural need of the human being.

Readings: Second paragraph of the Whispered prayer of the Rememberers (no.13)
Excerpts from *Self Building* by Aytaullah Ibrahim Amini (#2)

Week 3: Effects of Dhikr on the human being. Seeking forgiveness of seeking pleasure other than Dhikr.

Readings: Third paragraph of the Whispered prayer of the Rememberers (no.13)
Excerpts from *Self Building* by Aytaullah Ibrahim Amini (#3)

Week 4: Allah's promise to those who do Dhikr.

Readings: Fourth paragraph of the Whispered prayer of the Rememberers (no.13)
Excerpts from *Self Building* by Aytaullah Ibrahim Amini (#4)

Assignment (Optional)

Choose one of the following:

- 1) Choose two or more of the verses and hadith on Dhikr and write a small essay on them.
- 2) How can dhikr change the way you lead life? Write about five life changing effects of Dhikr.
- 3) Research and write about a scholar who remembered Allah often.