



Academy for Learning Islam

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Term	Course Type	Number	Location
Spring 2018	Onsite	ALI 453	Seniors Lounge JCC

Course Title: Asceticism in Nahjul Balagha

Duration: Four weeks, April 3-24, 2018

Timings: Tuesday mornings, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Course Description

Based on the book *Glimpses from Nahjul Balagha* by Āyatullāh Mutahhari, this course will look at the topics of Taqwa, Zuhd, the World and Freedom as discussed in Nahjul Balagha. Students will read from the text and discuss in class.

Course Objectives

- ❖ Learn about the correct perspective of life in Islam
 - ❖ Understand the meanings of Taqwa and Zuhd
 - ❖ Discuss ways of being detached from the world
 - ❖ Recognize what freedom means for believers
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Course Topics

Session 1 - Understanding Taqwa

Defining Taqwa, different meanings of Taqwa, Taqwa as immunity, Reciprocal relationship with Taqwa

Session 2 - Zuhd and Piety

Essence of Zuhd, Zuhd and Monasticism, Spirituality and worship

Session 3 - The world and worldliness

Renunciation in Nahjul Balagha, the world that is condemned, Relation between man and the world

Session 4 - Freedom and Bondage

Losing the self, Discovering the self, worship and freedom, reconciling the world and the Hereafter