

REPORT OF QURAN APPRECIATION ACTIVITIES

Academic Year 2021-22

Alhamdulillah with the ease on Covid restrictions, we were able to resume onsite classes for Quran Appreciation. With safety measures in place, we had four courses run for the first time at the ALI Center, on 2535 Mackenzie Road W, Unit 210B, Maple, ON L6A 1C7.

Each class had the capacity of accommodating 20 students physically distanced. The center facilitated a comfortable classroom environment with teaching and activity supplies needed to smoothly run the QA courses. All the classes were well attended, and the parents were also quite satisfied. In addition to the onsite courses, QA continued to offer one online course for those in Europe and East Africa. Approximately over 70 students participated in the QA courses each term.

For the first time in the twelve-year history of Quran Appreciation classes, the QA admin team decided to dedicate March 2022 as the Teachers' Month as well as community building with the parents and other teachers worldwide. Highlighted below are the activities which were carefully planned and attended by the admin team, teachers both locally as well as abroad, parents and students.

1. Teacher Enhancement Workshops:

a) March 4th – A 3-hour workshop in-person at the A.L.I Center

Presenters:

- Sr Fatemah Meghji (online) – Topic: Guiding our children to the light of the Quran. Some of the things shared by the presenter:
 - A comprehensive list of English resources on the Quran
 - An introduction to the concept of Quran in the light of the Quran
 - Maintaining consistency for children in learning the Quran
- Sr Zainab Rasool (onsite) – Quran Appreciation Teaching Strategies
Included some practical hands-on activities for the teachers to engage in by modelling a typical classroom setting. These involved:
 - Group activities in a classroom
 - Brainstorming opportunities
 - How to teach so that the concept sticks in a child's mind.
 - Assignment Ideas

b) March 23rd – A 3-hour workshop Online Via Zoom

Presenters:

- Shaykh Fazleabbas Kanji (Qum) – Building a Relationship with the Quran (*Uns bā Qur'ān*)
 - The importance for teachers to befriend/build a strong connection with the Quran
 - Ways of gaining a better understanding of the Quran
- Sr Sakina Hassanali – Community Building
 - Strategies of building and maintaining a relationship with the students' families.
- Sh Hasanayn Kassamali – A wealth of Quranic Resources
 - Benefits of studying the Quran
 - List of Shi'a tafāsīr

2. Global Teachers' Workshop:

March 13th – Online 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm EST

- Presenters: QA Teachers Sukaina Jaffer-Fazel, Nasifa Remtula & Najma Dhala-Datoo to model how Quran Appreciation programs run followed by Q&A.
- Attended by approximately 100 Madrasah admin/teachers/parents worldwide.

3. QA Family Night:

March 25th – In person at Al Hussain Foundation (Markham)

- A 2-hour evening program attended by approximately 22 families of children enrolled in the QA Winter Term 2022 plus QA Admin. A total of about 80-85 people were in attendance
- Student/Admin presentations including experiences from long standing members from the student body and a skit presentation of the Quranic passage covered in the winter term.
- Family Kahoot Game highlighting QA activities and the term content
- Auctions of items related to the Quran led by Br Hussein Sajjad Hussein (Board member of ALI)
- Total fund raised \$1458

SAMPLES OF TESTIMONIALS RECEIVED FROM THE PARENTS

- September 22, 2022. Thank you for the email. It is lovely to know what they covered. Y really enjoyed the class. I'm happy he got to experience it and I think it will build a lifelong mindset that the Quran is approachable. Thanks again! Z. Valli
- June 16, 2021. I was thinking about you and this class and how it has benefited a Alhamdu lillāh. The continuity of these sessions has played a big role and I would always wish for A to have these sessions and continue building her relationship with the Holy Quran inshallah. I really appreciate your dedication and hard work in making these sessions so engaging and full of knowledge. Can't thank you enough. Jazakallāh Khair! A. Raza
- February 27, 2021. My name is G, I am F's mum. I just wanted to thank you for your great work. I know F can be a handful and I appreciated your patience. I really liked how you spoke with the children, always in a very straightforward, honest manner. When I was doing something near where F was having her class, I would always enjoy listening in, I am planning to move F to the next level for the next term, and I wish you all the best, With Du'ās, G.
- February 27, 2021. Jazakallāh have really enjoyed every moment of the learning. The best way to learn anything is to teach it and I have thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you and with Du'ās M Hassan (past teacher).
- February 19, 2021. Thank you so much for such detailed emails. I'm learning so much from these classes with I. May Allah swt reward you for your efforts. Z. Haider
- January 21, 2021. Thank you for teaching this class! L. is enjoying and learning a lot. S. Walji
- January 7, 2021. She loved the class today!!!! Which is very unusual for a zoom class... S. Kermalli
- Dec 4, 2020. "May Allah reward you for guiding my daughters to the Qur'an, deriving lessons from it, and being excellent role models for them. May Allah reward you abundantly in the dunya and akhirah. Ameen. Z. Bhalloo.

Admin/December 2022 – Jumādā I 1444