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BEING YOUR BEST IN THE BEST OF TIMES

No one would ever refuse a gift especially one that is bestowed by a compassionate and generous giver. Right now, Allah, Most High is presenting us with a profound gift - 10 days that are considered the best in His eyes and where we have the opportunity to earn immense reward. These are the first 10 days of Dhul Hijjah. Have we prepared ourselves to receive this enormous divine favor?

These days are so special that Prophet (saw) said "There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days." The people asked, "Not even jihaad for the sake of Allaah?" He said, "Not even jihaad for the sake of Allaah, except in the case of a man who went out to fight giving himself and his wealth up for the cause, and came back with nothing." (Reported by Bukhari)

These first 10 days of Dhul Hijjah are a time when we should be rushing to excel in all forms of worship and righteous deeds. It is the perfect time for greater connection with our Lord by reading the Quran, praying, qiyam, doing dhikr, and fasting. It is the perfect time for greater connections with our loved ones and communities by giving charity, serving those in need, maintaining our ties of kinship and enjoining what is good. It is also the perfect time for self-evaluation and improvement by seeking forgiveness, letting go of bad habits and making a commitment to be better Muslims.

Let us rush forward towards goodness. Let us not waste a single moment without seeking to please our Lord. Let us show our gratitude to the Bestower of this gift by giving our best in these best of days. May Allah accept from all of us.

The Prophet (SAW) said, "There are no days greater in the sight of Allah and in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Him than these ten days, so during this time recite a great deal of Tahleel, Takbeer and Tahmeed."
(Reported in Ahmad)



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DR SALAH AL-SAWY: HAJJ LECTURES 3 AND 4

Dr Salah Al-Sawy, may Allah preserve him, has been continuing with his Arabic lectures on the blessed journey of Hajj. You can watch part 3 and 4 of the lectures below.



محاضرة الدكتور صلاح الصاوي - رحلة الحج (٣) حجة النبي صلى الله عليه وعلى آله وصحبه وسلم



محاضرة الدكتور صلاح الصاوي - رحلة الحج (٤) حجة النبي صلى الله عليه وعلى آله وصحبه وسلم

WELCOME DR MUTHANNA ALKHALDI

We are delighted to welcome **Dr Muthanna AlKhalidi** to our teaching team. Dr Muthanna brings with him more than 20 years of Arabic Language expertise and will be teaching our **Arabic I** course in the Fall inshaAllah.

Dr Muthanna earned his PhD in Quranic Arabic Linguistics from the University of Baghdad. He has a Masters in Classical Arabic Syntax and a Bachelors degree in Arabic Language Studies. Currently the CEO and founder of the Texas Arabic Academy, he has shared his passion for Arabic with students in diverse settings and institutions, and he developed a comprehensive curriculum to teach Classical Arabic to Non-Arabic speakers.

Dr Muthanna was a resident scholar at the Bayyinah Institute, and has also taught at Houston Community College, Rice University, Guidance College, Al-Huda University among others. Instructing beginner to advanced levels, some of his courses include Classical Arabic, Reflection of Surah Yusuf, and Rules of Understanding the Language of the Quran.



Photo Credit: Texas Arabic Academy

Dr Muthanna explains his teaching philosophy below. We ask Allah to bless all his efforts and look forward to having him as part of Mishkah.

Dr Muthanna's Teaching Philosophy

Strong teaching of students in the classroom is at the core of an outstanding department. Ultimately, the greatest products of any educational institution are informed and productive graduates. Therefore, a school should expect excellence in teaching from faculty at all levels. I am committed to continually

improving my own teaching while encouraging the highest caliber teaching from other faculty.

For Arabic speaking students, I start with simple basic interaction with any new subject and through this beginning, I can know the real level for my students, For non-Arabic speaking students, although there are many curricula for teaching Arabic, I found some of them difficult to use by students. The problem that I noticed was that the curricula were geared to teach Arabic to non-native speakers living in Arab countries such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and others. Hence, here in the U.S. we must have focused and intense curricula without the length and complication of curricula designed for students actually living in the Arab countries. This way students can become motivated to interact with the lesson. Such methods could be complemented by more practice of speaking the language in the class as well as in-class presentations by the students.

With respect to my teaching, I always build a tie between the spoken language and grammar. Then, I gradually add complexity as students' level increases. Next, I build on speaking Arabic inside the class keeping the class interesting. Furthermore, I make comparison between Arabic and English so that the students do not feel they are learning a completely strange language. I depend on a structured class plan that motivates students to complete their work. I believe that the teaching methodology is as important as the curriculum itself.

Each department should strive for excellence in all areas of teaching, research, and service relevant to its mission. The goal should be to achieve excellence, which is largely a function of the people in the department and the resources available to them.

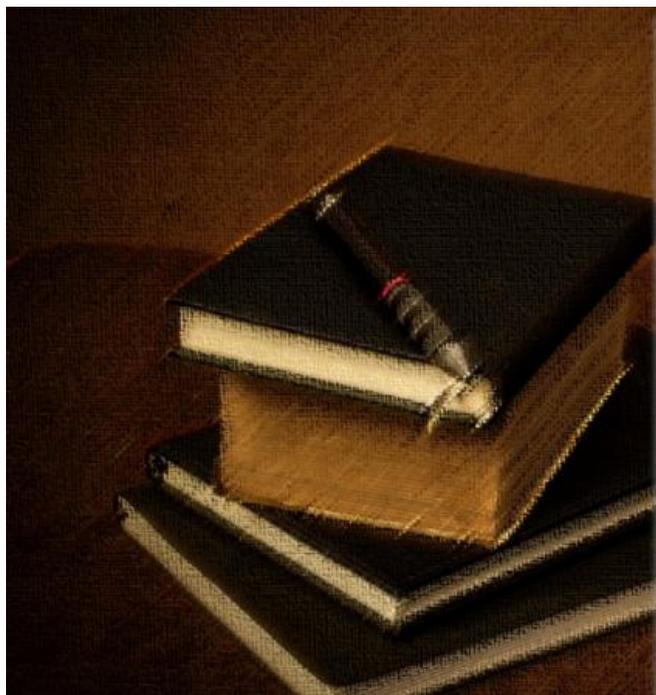
FALL REGISTRATION IS HERE.

FALL SEMESTER is now open. Check out our [CLASS SCHEDULE](#) to see all the enlightening courses being offered.

You can also get more details about each course and the instructor on our [COURSE CATALOGUE](#).

The Fall Session will begin on Sept 14th inshaAllah. If you are a new student, you can [start your application now](#).

We ask Allah to facilitate the path of knowledge for all those who seek it.



**FALL 2019
REGISTRATION
BEGINS AUGUST 1st**

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2019

Fall Registration Begins	August 1
Fall Semester Begins	September 14

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