

A Student's Guide in the Pursuit of Knowledge

By Mufti Faraz Adam

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1st Edition



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Foreword

In the name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful.

Studying is like driving a car on a road. At times, the road is straight and at times, it has a curve, detour, speed bumps, red lights and even other challenges on the road.

The curves are not the end of the road. A driver will have to negotiate the road to continue driving until he reaches his destination. Similarly, students will have many curves, detours, speed bumps and red lights during their studies. All these challenges can be easily negotiated with guidance, supervision and co-operation.

Alhamdulillah, Mufti Faraz Adam (Sallamahu) has prepared a prospectus for studies that serves as an effective manual to guide students during their studies.

The manual coupled with your determination, hard work and guidance from your teachers and spiritual mentor will lead you to master the various sciences of Sharīah and motivate you to specialise (takhaṣṣuṣ) in one of these sciences.

This prospectus is necessary for the successful studies of every student. May Allah Ta`ālā accept the sacrifices of Mufti Faraz Adam (Sallamahu) and may his prospectus become a prospect for his eternal salvation. Ameen.

Shaykh al-Ḥadīth Mufti Ebrahim Desai Ḥafīzahumullah
Founder of Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah
Durban
South Africa

Introduction

In the name of Allah, the Most Benevolent and the Most Merciful. Allah's mercy and blessings be upon Muḥammad, the leader of all Prophets and guide for the whole of mankind.

Many young bright Muslims embark upon the path of learning sacred knowledge; however, due to a lack of structured guidance, they fail to capitalise and maximise on their potential and talent. Many students have no direction; whilst others do not see the opportunities that awaits them.

Therefore, with the help of Allah, I wrote this short prospectus for Darul Uloom Leicester and traditional institutes of knowledge to motivate and give students desire, drive, direction and discipline. I have made this more of a guide on how to study and what to study for a student of the *Dars Nizami* in a traditional Darul Uloom.

In the beginning of the book, there are advices and guidelines on studying. Thereafter, each year of the *Alimiyyah* course is covered in detail. Each book is discussed along with some commentaries. In the end, there is a section for post-graduate (*Takhaṣṣuṣ*) courses.

The books listed in the syllabus are according to the syllabus of Darul Uloom Leicester where I am currently serving. I have omitted some books from the syllabus that are supplementary books rather than core books.

Generally, I have relied upon the notes I made whilst formally studying, especially the lessons of my respected teacher Mufti Husain Kadodia sahib, who has been a true inspiration for many others and myself alike. May Allah continue to shower His infinite mercy upon him. In other places, I have written according to my feeble personal observations.

I also benefitted from a book called '*Dars Nizāmī kī Kitābain kis tarah parhayi Jaye*' written by Hadhrat Mufti Taqī 'Uthmani sahib *daamat barakatuhum*. I also used commentaries of *ḥadīth* written by the '*Ulamā*' of the subcontinent.

This is the first edition of this work and most definitely needs further reviewing and editing. If '*Ulamā*' feel something needs addressing, changing or improving, I will be humbled and appreciative of their valuable observations.

I must express my gratitude to my mentor Mufti Ebrahim Desai *daamat barakatuhum*, who is a living example of hard work and dedication and an inspiration for me. I remember the frequent nights he would spend in the Darul Iftaa at times until 1am in research, iftaa and helping the iftaa students.

I also thank my colleague and dear friend, Mufti Muntasir Zaman of the US, who has assisted me with his valuable observations and knowledgeable insight. May Allah keep him happy in both worlds. I would also like to thank Maulana Muhammad Qasim Manjra who sponsored the printing of this work.

I cannot thank or make enough *dū`ā*' for my parents and teachers at Darul Uloom Leicester, who have nurtured me throughout the years and have worked tirelessly for my success. May Allah protect them and shower His infinite mercy and blessings upon them all in both worlds. *Amīn*.

This work is from a student for the benefit of other students. It is nothing but an expression of love and well-wishing for those engaged in seeking *ilm*. Above all, it is a humble offering in the court of Allah. If anything written is correct and noteworthy, it is truly from Allah *Ta'ālā*. If anything is incorrect and inaccurate, it is surely from none but my evil self and *shayṭān*.

Faraz Adam

May 2015/Shā`bān 1436 AH

Motivational quotes

Read the following quotes frequently and engrave them into your heart and mind:

Today a reader, tomorrow a leader

The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra.

You don't always get what you wish for, you get what you work for

If you are determined enough and willing to pay the price, you can get it done

There is no substitute for hard work

Push yourself because no one else is going to do it for you.

There is no elevator to success; you have to take the stairs.

If you want something you've never had, then you've got to do something you've never done.

Dreams don't work unless you do

Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration

Success is the sum of all small efforts repeated day in and day out

The pain of discipline is far less than the pain of regret

Will it be easy? NO. Will it be worth it? YES!

Don't study until you get it right, Study until you can't get it wrong

It's not that I'm so smart; it's just that I stay with problems longer

A visionary sees light in dark.....

Etiquettes ('Ādāb) for a Tālib al-`ilm

Seeking `ilm is an `ibādah; hence, it must be performed with certain conditions and etiquettes for it to be accepted, fruitful and beneficial.

A student must keep in mind the following three branches of etiquettes to succeed:

- 1) Respect and honour of the teacher
- 2) Respect and honour of books
- 3) Respect and honour of `ilm in general

Below are just a few quotes and examples of respect and honour.

1) Respect and honour of the teacher

Every successful student of `ilm from the time of the Prophet ﷺ until today has always respected and honoured his teacher. You will not find an example of a successful student in history who disrespected and dishonoured his teacher. Shaykh `Awwāmah regards this practice as a legacy inherited from generation to generation (*mutawārath*).

Maulana Muḥammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī *rahimahullah* states,

“The Sunnah and known practice of Allah is that whoever does not respect his teachers will never ever (be given the *tawfīq* to) benefit from the knowledge he is acquiring.”

Imam Abū Ḥanīfah *rahimahullah* said,

“Since my teacher Ḥammād has passed away, I have made *d`uā`* for him and my parents after every *ṣalāh*. I have never ever stretched my legs in the direction of his house despite his house located seven streets away from mine.”

‘Ashhab *rahimahullah* states, “I saw Abū Ḥanīfah sit in front of Imām Mālik like a child sitting in front of his father.”

Maulana Ashraf Alī Thānawī *rahimahullah* said,

“Two practices are extremely poisonous and fatal for a student; first, reinterpreting (*ta`wīl*) one’s mistake when admonished by a teacher. Second, to raise objections on one’s teacher.”

2) Respect and honour of books

Imam al-Ḥalwānī *rahimahullah* said, “I have only gained knowledge by respecting knowledge; I have never touched a paper except in the state of purity.”

3) Respect and honour of `ilm in general

Imam al-Zarnūjī *rahimahullah* said,

“Nobody has reached a high status (and gained `ilm) except on account of respect. Nobody has been degraded and lowered except on account of being disrespectful.”

Sayyidunā `Alī *raḍiallahu `anhū* said, “When you study `ilm, protect your studies. Do not mix laughter and futility with your studies, or else the `ilm will leave your hearts.”

Imām Aḥmad *rahimahullah* once exclaimed,

“*Subḥanallah!* A person who studies `ilm, how can he not have any worship in the night?”

The schedule for a Tālib al-`ilm

A student must have a timetable to organise his time and to save himself from wasting time. Time is the greatest asset for a student. The following timetables are practical and extremely beneficial for anyone who wants to be successful:

Schedule for every student:

TIME	ACTIVITY
11pm – 4am	Sleep
4am – 6am	Tahajjud, dua and dhikr for 20 mins 1 ½ hours daily revision of books studied in the syllabus A student should revise 2 books a day giving 45 mins per book
6am- 7am	Look over the lessons to be taught today
7am-7.50am	Rest, breakfast and prepare for class
7.50-12pm	Class
12-12.15pm	Eat
12.15pm-1pm	sleep
1pm-1.30pm	Before <i>dhuhr</i> , memorise <i>ḥadīth</i> and do <i>tilāwah</i>
1.30pm-3.30pm	Class
3.30-4.30pm	Exercise and relax
4.30pm-4.45pm	Tea & prepare for <i>Murāja`ah</i>
4.45pm-8pm	<i>Murāja`ah</i> Review and discuss the lesson studied today of all books Complete reviewing all books in this time by dividing time for books
8pm-8.45pm	Eat and relax
8.45pm-11pm	Any leftover work Research Read extracurricular books

Note: I have not included *ṣalāh* times as they vary across the year.

Note: A student should reduce the hours he sleeps gradually rather than cutting down in one go. Every week, cut down 30 minutes until you reach your desired time. Gradual discipline is long lasting and healthier.

Elite student schedule:

Challenge yourselves to adjust to the following timetable. Those who want success have to pay the price. To gain, you have to undergo some pain. Remember, excuses are useless; results are priceless. You are on your own road to success. Do not let anyone get in your way of success. You do what you have to do. Tomorrow everyone will wish they were you.

TIME	ACTIVITY
11pm – 2am	Sleep
2am – 2.30am	<i>Tahajjud, du`ā` and dhikr</i> for 20 mins
2.30-4am	1 ½ hours daily revision of books studied in syllabus A student should revise 2 books a day giving 45 minutes per book
4-5.30am	Research and read different extracurricular works
5.30am-6.15am	Sleep
6.15-7.20am	Do <i>Muṭāla`ah</i> of lessons to be studied today
7.20-7.50am	Breakfast Prepare for class
7.50-12pm	Class
12-12.15pm	Eat
12.15pm-12.45pm	Personal needs and short rest
12.45pm-1.30pm	Before <i>dhuhr</i> , memorise <i>ḥadīth</i> and do <i>tilāwah</i>
1.30pm-3.30pm	Class
3.30-4.30pm	Exercise, rest or sleep
4.30pm-4.45pm	Tea & prepare for <i>Murāja`ah</i>
4.45pm-8pm	<i>Murāja`ah</i> Review and discuss the lesson studied today of all books Complete reviewing all books in this time by dividing time for books
8pm-8.45pm	Eat, relax and personal needs
8.45pm-11pm	Any leftover work Research Read extracurricular books

Reading books

A student must be a reader. Always carry a book wherever you go except when going to relieve yourself. Have a book at hand whilst eating too! Have a daily target of reading an x number of pages.

It is vital to be an active reader and not merely a passive reader. Active reading means to read something consciously whilst trying to understand and evaluate what the book is telling you. Passive reading is just scrolling through words upon words without focus. Such reading is not an effective way to learn. A person may read a dozen books passively but will rarely gain.

To make your reading active, do the following:

- 1) Underline or highlight keywords.
- 2) Make annotations in the margins to summarise points.
- 3) After every half hour, put the book down and speak out what you have read.
- 4) Explain what you have read to someone else.

To really engage and befriend a book, do the following:

Before Reading

Before reading any book, be aware of the *manhaj* in *`Aqīdah* and *Fiqh* of the author. Likewise, know the author's expertise and his date of birth and death.

One must know why they are going to read the book and have a clear objective. What made you select the book? What is the main topic and theme of the book?

A student should browse through the contents to understand the layout and to know the route the author will take you upon.

Whilst reading

It is imperative to read the foreword and introduction of the book. This has all the important information regarding the author, his *manhaj*, style, symbols used in the book and other aspects related to the book that must be known to fully appreciate and benefit from the book.

Highlight important points and make marginal notes to encapsulate important discussions in a few words.

After every chapter or discussion, put the book down and think about what you just read. Speak out aloud what you just read and explain it to yourself. This will help in retention.

After reading

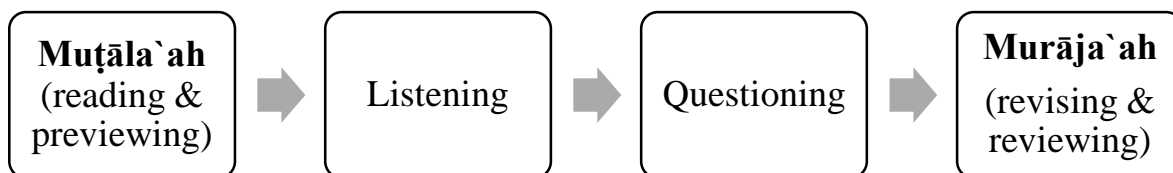
Have a spare book wherein you summarise every book you read in a few pages. After reading a couple of dozen books, you will have one book, which has encapsulated dozens of books. This will be priceless information. Revise this book every couple of weeks to keep the information from those books fresh in your mind.

Propagate and teach to others what you have read in the book. Discuss the contents of the books with others to spread *`ilm* and to retain that *`ilm* in your mind. Most importantly, practice upon what you have learnt to give a soul to the knowledge you acquired. Without practice, the knowledge is buried in the books just as a lifeless body buried in the Earth.

How to study

Many students fail to gain due to not having a process and methodology of studying. Successful studying is an art and a skill. Success in studies is a result of a strenuous process repeated daily. Being naturally gifted and clever definitely gives one an edge whilst studying; however, real success and depth in knowledge is a result of a relentless and uncompromising work ethic in a student. You have to desire *`ilm* so much that you give *`ilm* preference over food, sleep and comfort. Remember the words of Yaḥyā ibn Kathīr, “‘Ilm cannot be gained whilst the body is in its comfort zone.” *`Ilm* is gained when you push yourself into discomfort for *`ilm*. *`Ilm* is acquired when you step beyond the boundaries of mediocrity and normality.

Below is a process, which all students should adjust themselves to. If you practice on this process daily for every book, it is almost guaranteed with the permission of Allah Ta`ālā that you will understand and remember whichever book you have studied.



1) Muṭāla`ah (Previewing a text)

Read every line of the text to be studied and work out what the author is saying. If you don't understand something, put your head to it and try to figure it out. If you challenge your brain every time to unlock something difficult, your *Tafaqquh*, understanding and mind will develop.

Try your best not to ask others or use English/Urdu commentaries. **Work it out yourself.** Using a *Sharḥ* in English/Urdu is extremely poisonous and harmful during *Muṭāla`ah*. You are spoiling yourself. By using such commentaries, you are cheating none but yourself into thinking you worked it out. In reality, you were just spoon-fed.

2) Listening (attentively to the lecture of the teacher)

In the lecture, you should be all ears. Be sharp and attentive. Listen to every word spoken by the teacher. Any place which was difficult when doing *Muṭāla`ah* should be given extra attention in the lecture.

3) Questioning

Ask the teacher questions to enhance your understanding and to make sure you have understood the text correctly. If you feel you have understood incorrectly or differently, ask for clarification and discuss it with your teacher.

4) Murāja`ah (revising and reviewing)

Murāja`ah has four components:

a) Review individually

Look over the lesson yourself making sure you have correctly understood the text. Combine your understanding and your teacher's lecture to have a comprehensive and wholesome understanding.

b) Teach and discuss it with others

A brilliant way to solidify and sink the text into your mind is to explain it to others. Likewise, discussing the text and reasoning with it in a group increases understanding of the text. This will also enhance comprehension and increase retention.

c) Revise it every week

Revise the entire book at least once a week to keep the text and the understanding of that text in your mind.

d) Notes

Make notes of important terminologies and definitions in a clear, concise & colourful manner and memorise these notes.

Books

It is important that you purchase quality and *muḥaqqaq* (researched) editions of a book. Do not focus on the look and colours. Many *non-muḥaqqaq* prints have dozens of mistakes. Ask your teachers regarding which editions to purchase.

There are many books available on almost every topic and subject. If you want to purchase books, search online for the books. Also, contact different bookstores across the world.

Almost every book is available in PDF format. You can download the book and read it.

If you cannot find a book which you want to read but find a PDF, you can easily get it printed and bound.

Furthermore, a student must be familiar with books. Books are the arsenal of a student. A student must take out time daily/weekly to sit in the library and go through all the books in the library. Browse through every book; get to know the titles, authors and different works in different fields. This will prove to be extremely beneficial in future.

Year 1

By the end of the year, Insha'Allah with your constant efforts you will:

- Be able to read, understand and even speak some Arabic with confidence.
- Have a good understanding of Syntax (Nahw) and Morphology (Sarf)
- Be able to understand the translation of what is being recited in the Qur'ān to a certain degree

Subject	Nahw (Syntax)
Book	`ilm al-Nahw by Maulana Mushtāq Charthawī

Contents of the book:

`Ilm al-Nahw is a primer for Arabic grammar. The book follows the sequence of earlier *Nahw* works and simply states the rules without much elaboration. It covers the different types of nouns (*asmā'*) and particles (*hurūf*) without much discussion on verbs (*fi'l*).

What you will learn:

A student will be introduced to Arabic grammar from this Urdu text. You will learn the principles governing nouns and particles.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules and their usage.
- **Memorise all the rules.**
- Be able to cite an example for every rule.

It would be beneficial to prepare your own notes on the book to help memorise efficiently.

Supplementary books:

The following works are very beneficial for a first year student. It is not necessary to read them word-to-word. Rather, scan through each one and pick up new rules and explanations to enhance your understanding. The more books you go through, the more you will acquire and the more confident you will feel when engaging with an Arabic text.

- 1) Tashīl al-Nahw (an English book based on `ilm al-Nahw)
- 2) `Āsān Nahw by Mufti Sa`īd Pālanpūrī
- 3) Tashīl al-Nahw (Urdu) by Maulana Şiddīq Ahmad
- 4) Mushkil tarkībo awr unkā hal
- 5) Arbī Kā Mu`allim part 4 by Shaykh Abdus Sattār Khan sb
- 6) Lisān al-Qur`ān
- 7) Masā`il al-Nahw wa al-şarf (Urdu) by Maulana Muhammad Nūr Hussain Qasimi sb

Subject	Şarf (Morphology)
Book	`ilm al-Şarf by Maulana Mushtāq Charthawī

Contents of the book:

This basic text primarily covers all the discussions to do with verbs and their scales. There are chapters on transitive & intransitive verbs, positive & negative verbs, active & passive verbs, tenses, emphasising, the imperative and prohibitive verbs, derived nouns and a look at the different categories in morphology and their specific traits.

What you will learn:

`ilm al-Şarf focuses upon the composition of words and patterns related to the formation of words.

A student will learn the science of how to form the correct verb for different tenses and people in the Arabic language. A student will also learn the templates to certain types of nouns.

Finally, a student will learn the isolated characteristics and meanings (*Khāṣiyyāt*) of each category (*bāb*) of verbs.

Goals for this book:

- Memorise the 14 word forms (*ṣīgah*) for each *bāb*.
- **Memorise all the rules.**
- **Memorise** the *Khāṣiyyāt*.
- Be able to state the *şarf ṣaghīr* and *şarf kabīr* of every verb and scale.
- A student should practise his verbs to the extent he can recognise different verbs in any book and any sentence. Two excellent books to familiarise yourself and view the different scales and patterns of verbs are:
 - 1) Mu`jam Taşrīf al-Mar`ī li al-F`il al-Arabī (معجم التصريف المرئي للفعل العربي) and
 - 2) Mu`jam Abwāb al-Şarf.

Supplementary books:

- 1) Dictionary of Visual Conjugation of the Arabic Verb/ Mu`jam al-Taşrīf al-Mar`ī li al-F`il al-Arabī (معجم التصريف المرئي للفعل العربي) by Abū Fāris al-Daḥdāḥ
- 2) Mu`jam Abwāb al-şarf
- 3) From the Treasures of Arabic Morphology (من كنوز الصرف)
- 4) ‘Asān Khāsiyāt e Abwāb By Shaykh Saad Mushtaq Al Husairi
- 5) Tashīl al-Şarf (Urdu) by Maulana Şiddīq Ahmad
- 6) ‘Āsān Şarf by Mufti Sa`īd Pālanpūrī
- 7) Ta`rīb Abwāb al-şarf by Shaykh Khuda Baksh al-Multānī & Manzūr Shāh al-Mashwānī

Subject	Nahw (Syntax) / Şarf (Morphology)
Book	Arbī kā Mu`allim 1-4 by Shaykh Abd al-Sattār Khan

Contents of the book:

This is a simple and engaging book which teaches Arabic grammar with exercises. Four volumes are split into lessons. The first volume focuses on nouns whereas the second volume focuses on verbs and derived nouns. The third volume discusses the types of verbs and touches further upon nouns. The fourth volume has discussions on how to say the date and time in addition to a section on particles (*ḥurūf*) and other rules related to nouns.

What you will learn:

A student will be introduced to Arabic grammar from this Urdu text. A very basic but extremely beneficial work with rules simply defined and exercises for application.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules and their usage.
- **Memorise all the rules.**
- Practice the application of the rules in the exercises.

Subject	Arabic Literature
Book	Qiṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn / al-Qirā`ah al-Rāshidah by Shaykh Abul Hasan `Alī al-Nadwi (d.1420AH)

Contents of the books:

Qiṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn is a simple yet eloquently written work on the lives of the Prophets. There are five volumes covering the lives of selected Prophets.

Al-Qirā`ah al-Rāshidah is another book on literature penned to help beginners in the Arabic language learn the language. It contains various short anecdotes and stories.

What you will learn:

These books are studied so that the student can apply what he has learnt from Nahw and Ṣarf in order to analyse and correctly translate an Arabic sentence.

A student will be expected to research every single word in the text noting down the following:

For nouns (‘asmā’):

المرفوع \ المنصوب \ المجرور	المعرفة \ النكرة	مذكر \ مؤنث	واحد \ جمع	علامة الاسم	المعنى	اللفظ

For verbs (‘af`āl):

الحروف الأصلية	المعروف \ الجاهول	ماضي \ مضارع \ امر \ نهي	باب	علامة الفعل	المعنى	اللفظ

For particles (Hurūf):

A student should note down every *ḥarf* and its meaning.

Goals for this book:

- Successfully apply grammar rules and understand the text.
- Correctly translate a sentence understanding why you have translated in the manner you have. Be conscious of the translations caused by different rules of grammar.
- Analyse every single word as mentioned above in the charts.
- Use dictionaries to translate difficult words.

Supplementary books:

1) Miṣbāh al-Lughāt by Maulana Abdul Hafīz al-Nadwī
(مصباح اللغات)

A must have for every student. This dictionary has a beneficial foreword wherein the author discusses rules related to *ṣarf* and *awzān* (templates). This dictionary presents the different meanings produced due to the different links to a word.

Miṣbāh also contains the different meanings for the different types of *`ism* and *ḥarf* in terms of grammar which is very beneficial.

2) Al-Qāmūs al-Waḥīd by Maulana Waḥīd al-Zamān al-Qasimī
(القاموس الوحيد)

Similar to Miṣbāh al-Lughāt, this dictionary is well laid out and has various meanings of the word depending on the linking particles to the word.

The introduction of the dictionary has a very beneficial discussion on the history of dictionaries and introduces students to the major dictionaries.

3) Hans Wehr: A Dictionary of Modern Arabic

An Arabic-English dictionary, which has transliteration and multiple translations and meanings after an Arabic word. The words are arranged according to the Arabic root letters. This dictionary also points out to words commonly used in particular regions.

A student should study the introduction of this book to understand what the symbols refer to before using the dictionary.

Subject	Qirā`ah
Book	Rehbar-e-Tajwīd by Qārī Muḥammad Şiddīq Falāhī

Contents of the book:

A very easy and well-presented book in a question and answer format with relation to the rules of *Tajwīd*.

The book covers discussions such as *Makhārij*, *Şifāt* of letters, *Madd* and *Waqf*.

What you will learn:

A student will learn the laws related to *Tajwīd* and get a simple understanding of the qualities and attributes of the different letters.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules.
- **Memorise all the definitions and rules.**

Supplementary books:

1) A Gift for the Qārī by Qari Ismail Essack

A very beneficial book in the English language explaining everything covered in Urdu. Highly recommended to read.

Reading list for Year 1

Students should read all the books below by specifying time daily and a number of pages to read.

- 1) **The Value of Time by Shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
This is a translation of his famous work ‘Qīmat al-zaman `inda al-`Ulamā’’. This book is full of inspiration for students of `ilm on making the most out of their time.
- 2) **Muta`alah ki ahamiyyat by Maulana Rūhullah Naqshbandi**
A very enjoyable read full of advices, stories and quotes from the *Ulamā*’ on studying and maximising on one’s time.
- 3) **Maṭā` waqt awr Kārwanē `ilm by Shaykh Ibnul Hasan Abbasi**
A book written for students of `ilm with inspirational accounts of how `Ulamā’ of the past valued their time and how they preserved and loved studying.
- 4) **Aap Beeti by Hadhrat Maulana Muhammad Zakariyyā Kāndhlawī**
This is an autobiography of the Shaykh, which is full of lessons, advice and guidance for students of knowledge. A must read.
- 5) **Lost Islamic History by Firas al-Khateeb**
A short and enjoyable read on the history of the Islamic Empires with references to inventions and contributions made to the world by the Muslims.
- 6) **Fiqh al-Imam by Mufti Abdur Rahman ibn Yusuf Mangera**
A book discussing common differences found in the Ummah in relation to prayer. Some of the topics include: the distance to be kept between the feet in *Ṣalāh*, the position of the hands in prayer, reciting behind the imam, raising the hands, number of *rak`āt* in *tarāwīh* and combining the prayer.
- 7) **The Great Scholars of the Deoband Islamic Seminary by Mufti Muḥammad Taqi Uthmānī**

This work gives an insight into the lives of some of the most famous *Ulamā*’ of Deoband.
- 8) **Ta`līm al-Muta`allim ṭarīq al-Ta`allum by Imam al-Zarnūjī**
(تعليم المتعلم طريق التعلم)
A short treatise written especially for students teaching them how to pursue knowledge and the qualities needed whilst studying.
- 9) **Durūs al-Lughah al-Arabiyyah 3 volumes by Dr Abdul Rahīm**
(دروس اللغة العربية)
A very famous work teaching Arabic grammar in three parts. A student should study all three in the second half of the first year to improve his Arabic.

10) Al-ṭarīqah al-`aşriyyah by Dr Abd al-Razzāk

(الطريقة العصرية)

A two-volume work with many exercises to learn Arabic grammar.

11) Akābir Ulama Deoband by Hafiz Muhammad Shah Bukhari

A book contain short biographies of 158 luminaries from the *Ulamā'* of Deoband.

12) Taqlid ki shar`i haysiyat by Mufti Taqi Uthmānī

An important work discussing the stance of following a school in *Fiqh* and the different types of *Taqlid*.

13) The crown of a believer by Mufti Husain Kadodia

An amazing research, which is a collection of narrations and statements of *Ulamā'* concerning the Sunnah of the hat worn by Muslim males.

14) Minhāj al-`Ābidīn by Imām al-Ghazālī

(منهاج العابدين إلى جنة رب العالمين)

A beneficial book, which discusses spiritual rectification and worship. A student of the first year should study this book to increase Arabic understanding. The Dār al-Bashā'ir edition has *Tashkīl* to the text.

15) Shabe Barat Ki Haqiqat Maulana Fadhlur Rahmān al-`A`zamī

This research discusses the reality of the 15th of Shaban.

16) Jahaane Deeda by Mufti Taqi Uthmānī

A very interesting travelogue of this great scholar where he discusses his experiences and journeys to countries like Saudi Arabic, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Qatr, Turkey, China, Egypt, Algeria and other locations.

17) Al-Rasūl al-Mu`allim wa asālībuhū fī al-Ta`līm by Shaykh Abd al-Fattāh Abū Ghuddah

(الرسول المعلم وأساليبه في التعليم)

A lovely book discussing the different methods the Prophet ﷺ taught people. A student should read this after mid-year once he has a basic understanding of Arabic grammar.

18) Al-Taşawwuf wa al-Sulūk By Shaykh Zulfiqar Naqshbandi

(التصوف والسلوك)

A simple Arabic work very beneficial for first year students. It discusses what *taşawwuf* is, the evidences for *taşawwuf*, praiseworthy qualities and pledging allegiance for spiritual rectification.

Year 2

By the end of the year, Insha'Allah with your constant efforts you will:

- Be able to read, understand and even speak grammatically correct Arabic with confidence.
- Have a deep understanding of Syntax (*Nahw*) and Morphology (*Sarf*).
- Know the translation and simplified meanings of the last four Juz of the Qur`ān.
- Have a good understanding of the laws relating to worship.
- Have memorised a couple of hundred concise and comprehensive '*aḥādīth*.

Subject	Qur`ān Translation
Book	Qur`ān

What you will learn:

A student will learn the translation and brief commentary of 4 *juz* of the Qur`ān ranging from the 26th-30th *juz*.

A student will be introduced to the different chapters of the Qur`ān and learn the reasons and context of the verses mentioned in these chapters.

Goals for this book:

- Learn the translation in English and Urdu of all the words mentioned in these chapters.
- Remember the commentary and causes of revelations of the different verses. A student **must not** read too much *Tafsīr* at this stage. He should focus on the translation and understanding the simple meaning. *Tafsīr* is in the 5th year.
- Understand the context of verses.

Commentaries & related works to use for Qur`ān:

1) Ma`āriful Qur`ān by Mufti Muhammad Shafi (d.1396AH)

A student should read the entire Ma`ariful Quran covering the chapters studied. It explains the background of the verses, brings *Fiqh* related discussions under verses related to law and has other beneficial material.

2) Quran Made Easy by Mufti Afzal Hoosen Elias

Very good for English translation. It is very helpful in understanding each ayah and giving a wholesome meaning of an `āyah. It has words in brackets which help in understanding the flow of the `āyah and will also highlight pronouns. It also gives you a summary of the entire *sūrah* before starting a *sūrah*.

3) Al-Mufradāt fī gharīb al-Qur`ān by al-Rāghib al-`Asfahānī (d.502AH)

A very beneficial dictionary of the words of the Qur`ān explaining what the root letters actually mean and shows how and why they are used in the Qur`ān.

Subject	Hadith
Book	Zād al-Ṭālibīn by Maulana Muḥammad Ḃāshiq Ḃilāhī (d.1420AH)

Contents of the book:

This short collection of *ḥadīth* was compiled from Mishkāt al-Maṣābīh. The ‘*aḥādīth* are divided into chapters according to the grammatical composition of the *ḥadīth*.

What you will learn:

The purpose of this book is to apply the grammatical rules learned to understand and correctly translate simple Arabic sentences.

A student should focus on being able to produce the correct translation based on his understanding of Syntax and Morphology.

A student will:

- Study different types of sentences found in the *Aḥādīth* and break down the sentence and analyse the grammatical composition (*Tarkīb & Ṭrāb*) of each word.
- Correctly translate Arabic sentences.
- Learn translations and simplified meanings of the ‘*Aḥādīth* in Urdu and English.

Goals for this book:

- Be able to translate each hadith knowing how and why that translation is coming based on Arabic Grammar.
- Know the Urdu and English translation for every single *Hadīth*.
- A student **must not** spend time reading deep commentaries of *Hadīth*. That is in the final years. This is only for building your understanding of Arabic.
- Memorise all the ‘*aḥādīth*.

Memorise the ‘*aḥādīth* systematically in your mind. Memorisation is easier when it is systematic. There are many methods to memorise information. It is advisable to read on ‘how to memorise’. Google ‘how to memorise’ and there will be a lot information on how to process, register, index and synchronise information into your mind systematically.

Subject	Fiqh
Book	Nūr al-`Īdāh wa Najāt al-`Arwāh by al-Shurunbulālī (d.1069AH)

Contents of the book:

This is a simple yet comprehensive text focused on the *Fiqh* of worship. The author does not discuss evidences; rather he discusses the pre-requisites and conditions related to each chapter and the *furū' masā'il* in depth.

Al-Shurunbulālī did not complete *Nūr al-`Īdāh*; instead, he only wrote to *Kitāb al-Sawm*. Thereafter, he wrote *Imdād al-Fattāh*, a commentary on *Nūr al-`Īdāh*. He made an abridgement of *Imdād al-Fattāh* and titled it *Marāqī al-Falāh*. In *Marāqī*, he added the chapters of *Zakāt* and *Hajj*.

The current prints of *Nūr al-`Īdāh* have incorporated the chapters of *Zakāt* and *Hajj* from *Marāqī al-Falāh*.

What you will learn:

A student will learn *Masā'il* and laws related to worship namely *Tahārah*, *Ṣalāh*, *Ṣawm*, *Zakāt* & *Hajj*.

A student should focus on applying his understanding of Syntax (*Nahw*) and Morphology (*Sarf*) to understand what each text is saying.

A student should work himself to correctly translate and understand the text based on the rules of Arabic grammar.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the Case (*I'rāb*) of each word and form a correct translation.
- Understand every single *'Ibārah* (text) and the context of each *`Ibārah*.
- Remember the main principles and rulings of each chapters
- Be able to discuss each chapter and relay the *Masā'il* to others.

Commentaries & related works to use for *Nūr al-`Īdāh*:

- 1) **Al-`Iṣbāḥ `alā *Nūr al-`Īdāh* by Maulana Muhammad Ṭ zāz `Ali (d.1374AH)**
(الإصباح على نور الإيضاح)

Usually printed with most Indian editions of *Nūr al-`Īdāh*, it is a brief but very beneficial commentary elaborating on vague portions of the text. The author has relied heavily upon *Marāqī al-Falāh* and *Hāshiyah al-Tahtāwī* and at times on *al-Baḥr al-Rā'iq*.

- 2) **Imdād al-Fattāh Sharh *Nūr al-`Īdāh* (إمداد الفتاح شرح نور الإيضاح)**

This is a commentary by al-Shurunbulālī himself. He focuses on bringing evidences frequently and quotes many *Fuqahā`* whilst elaborating on the text. He also adds

words before and after the text to complement the meaning and giving the text smoothness and flow.

3) Hāshiyah al-Tahtāwī 'alā Marāqī al-Falāḥ (حاشية الطحاوي على مراقي الفلاح)

A very detailed work, which focuses more on *Fiqh*. There are many deep discussions related to the *mas`alah* as well as mention of the preferred opinions. He quotes the earlier *Fuqahā`* and mentions their opinions. Evidences are rarely discussed. This is good to use to understand a text or *mas`alah* in depth with all its clauses and conditions.

Supplementary books:

**1) Al-Fiqh al-Ḥanafī Fī Thawbihi al-Jadīd by Abdul Majīd Ṭahmāz
(الفقه الحنفي في ثوبه الجديد)**

An excellent work wherein the contemporary author writes in a very easy and friendly manner. He relies upon the great works like al-Hidāyah, Hāshiyah Ibn `Abidīn and Badā'i al-Ṣanā'i`. He discusses evidences of the *Masā'il*. At times, he also makes references to contemporary issues. A very good work that simplifies the technicalities of the abovementioned works.

**2) Al-Khulāsah al-Bahiyyah Fī Madhab al-Hanafiyyah by Sayyid Ḥusain Abd al-Raḥmān al-Banjāwī
(الخلاصة البهية في مذهب الحنفية)**

A very basic book giving the main details and principles of each chapter. Very good for a quick overview of the chapter.

**3) Al-Kāfī Fī al-Fiqh al-Ḥanafī by Shaykh Wahbī Sulaymān al-Ghawjī
(الكافي في الفقه الحنفي)**

A contemporary work which is detailed and yet user-friendly. A good reference tool.

Subject	Nahw (Syntax)
Book	Hidāyah al-Naḥw

Contents of the book:

Hidāyah al-Naḥw is an Arabic book written in the sequence of the famous book in *Nahw* called ‘al-Kāfiyah’. It covers the different types of nouns (*asmā*) and particles (*hurūf*) in depth without much discussion on verbs (*fi*l). There is not much reference to the difference of opinions of the grammarians; rather, it is a simple work with the listing of rules.

What you will learn:

A student will learn Arabic grammar in more detail from an Arabic text. You will cover discussions related to Nouns (*asmā*), verbs (*af`āl*) and particles (*hurūf*) in much more depth.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules and their usage.
- **Memorise all the rules.**

It would be beneficial to prepare your own notes on the book to help memorise efficiently.

Supplementary books for *Naḥw*:

1) Jāmi` al-Durūs al-Arabiyyah By Muṣṭafā al-Galāyīnī (d.1364AH)

(جامع الدروس العربية)

Arguably, one of the best contemporary works, this book should be one of the first points of reference a student should look at for more information on a rule of grammar. There are many additional rules and beneficial points mentioned in this work.

2) Al-Nahw al-Qur`ānī Qawā'id wa Shawāhid by Dr Jamīl

(النحو القرآني قواعد وشواهد)

A very simple and easy to read unique work which uses verses of the Qur`ān as examples most of the time. The author refers to differences of opinions of the grammarians often; however, it is to the point and brief.

This book has additional and very beneficial rules not covered in Hidāyah al-Naḥw. Every student must read and study this book.

3) Al-Minhāj fī al-Qawā'id wa-al-'i'rāb by Muhammad al-Anṭākī
(المنهاج في القواعد والإعراب)

This book teaches students *Tarkīb* more than rules of *Nahw*.

Every chapter begins with a brief discussion on a rule of grammar followed by dozens of examples of *Tarkīb* and *'rāb*.

A very beneficial work to ensure a student is getting *Tarkīb* correct and that he is understanding and correctly applying his knowledge of *Nahw*.

4) Al-Nahw al-Wāḍiḥ by By `Alī al-Jārim & Mustafā al-Amīn
(النحو الواضح)

Simply laid out and easy to read. The author usually quotes examples at the start of every chapter and then explains the rule. He then mentions principles to do with that chapter.

At the end of each discussion, there are exercises for students to complete. He thereafter shows *Tarkīb* of sentences.

5) Al-Nahw al-Wāfī by `Abbās Hasan (d.1398AH)
(النحو الوافي)

Another beneficial work by a contemporary. The book has been split into '*Masā'il*' under which he discusses different rules of Arabic.

He discusses differences of opinions referring back to the classical scholars of *Nahw*. He cites examples from the Qur`ān also.

He has added footnotes with intricate discussions for those who want more detail on something mentioned in the text.

Subject	Şarf (Morphology)
Book	Kitāb al-Şarf by Ḥāfiẓ Abd al-Raḥmān Amritsarī

Contents of the book:

This book discusses verbs in depth followed by short discussions on derived nouns, nouns, particles and templates for plurals.

What you will learn:

A student will build upon his understanding and knowledge of *ʿilm al-Şarf*. A student will cover the rules related to *Şarf* with more detail.

In addition, a student will be introduced to the different *Awzān* (templates) used in the Arabic language.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules and their usage.
- **Memorise all the definitions and rules.**
- **Memorise** the *Awzān*.
- Be able to state the *şarf şaghīr* and *şarf kabīr* of every verb and scale.

Supplementary books:

- 1) *ʿIlm al-şīghah* by Mufti ʿInāyat Ahmad
- 2) *ʿIrshād al-Şarf Bi al-Lughah al-ʿArabiyyah* by Manẓūr Shāh

Subject	Arabic Literature
Book	Qiṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn / al-Qirā`ah al-Rāshidah part 2

Contents of the books:

Qiṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn is a simple yet eloquently written work on the lives of the Prophets. There are five volumes covering the lives of selected Prophets.

Al-Qirā`ah al-Rāshidah is another book on literature penned to help beginners in the Arabic language learn the language. It contains various short anecdotes.

What you will learn:

A student will study Arabic literature. A student will build upon his comprehension and understanding of the Arabic language.

A student will be expected to research every single word in the text noting down the following:

For Nouns (*'asmā'*):

الحروف الأصلية	المرفوع \ المنصوب \ المرجور	منصرف \ غير منصرف (سبب)	المعرب \ المبني	جامد \ مصدر \ مشتق	المعرفة \ النكرة	مذكر \ مؤنث	واحد \ جمع	علامة الاسم	المعنى	اللفظ

For verbs (*'af āl'*):

الحروف الأصلية	المعرب \ المبني	متعدي \ لازم	المعروف \ المجهول	هفت أقسام	صيغة	ماضي \ مضارع \ امر \ نهي	باب	علامة الفعل	المعنى	اللفظ

For particles (*Ḥurūf*):

A student should note down every *ḥarf* and its meaning.

Goals for this book:

- Successfully apply grammar rules and understand the text.
- Analyse every single word as mentioned above in the charts.
- Use dictionaries to translate difficult words.

Related books to use for Qaṣas al-Nabiyyīn and al-Qirā`ah al-Rāshidah:

1) Miṣbāh al-Lughāt by Maulana Abdul Hafīz al-Nadwī

(مصباح اللغات)

A must have for every student. This dictionary has a beneficial foreword wherein the author discusses rules related to *ṣarf* and *awzān* (templates). This dictionary presents the different meanings produced due to the different links to a word.

Miṣbāh also contains the different meanings for the different types of *`ism* and *harf* in terms of grammar which is very beneficial.

2) Al-Qāmūs al-Waḥīd by Maulana Waḥīd al-Zamān al-Qasimī

(القاموس الوحيد)

Similar to Miṣbāh al-Lughāt, this dictionary is well laid out and has various meanings of a word depending on the linking particles to a word.

The introduction of the dictionary has a very beneficial discussion on the history of dictionaries and introduces students to the major dictionaries.

3) Hans Wehr: A Dictionary of Modern Arabic

An Arabic-English dictionary, which has transliteration and multiple translations and meanings after an Arabic word. The words are arranged according to the Arabic root letters. This dictionary also points out to dialect words, which are commonly used in one country more than others.

A student should study the introduction of this book to understand what the symbols refer to before using the dictionary.

Subject	Qirā`ah
Book	Tashīl al-Tajwīd by Qārī Şiddīq Bāndwī

Contents of the book:

A simplified book on the rules of *Tajwīd*. The book is divided into easy and understandable sections covering *Makhārij*, *Şifāt* of letters, *Madd* and *Waqf*.

What you will learn:

A student will learn the laws related to *Tajwīd* and get a simple understanding of the qualities and attributes of different letters.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the rules.
- **Memorise all the definitions and rules**

Reading list for Year 2

Students should read all the books below by specifying time daily and a number of pages to read.

- 1) **Qīmat al-Zaman `inda al-`Ulamā'** by Shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah
(قيمة الزمن عند العلماء)
A beautiful book encouraging the importance of time and illustrating how the `Ulamā' tried their best not to waste even a second.
- 2) **Differences of the Imams by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī**
This book highlights the reasons why there are differences in *Fiqh* by analysing the factors in the times of the Prophet ﷺ, the time of the *Ṣaḥābah* and *Tabi'īn*.
- 3) **Min Adab al-`islām by Shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
(من أدب الإسلام)
An excellent and short treatise expounding upon the different etiquettes and manners a person should have with relation to different people and scenarios.
- 4) **`Ulamā' al-ṣaḥābah by Shaykh Aḥmad Khalīl**
(علماء الصحابة)
This book discusses the lives and of those *Ṣaḥābah* who were engrossed in knowledge. A lovely and insightful work.
- 5) **Talbīs Iblīs by Ibn al-Jawzī**
(تلبيس إبليس)
A rare and eye-opening work discussing how *shayṭān* attacks different people in different and subtle ways without them even knowing and realising that they are caught in a trap of *shayṭān*.
- 6) **Malfūzāt Faqīhul Ummah of Mufti Maḥmūdul Hasan**
This is a collection of anecdotes and quotes of the great Mufti and scholar. There is a lot of knowledge in this work.
- 7) **Nur wa Bashr by Maulana Sarfaraz Khan Safdar**
A comprehensive rebuttal of those who claim the Prophet ﷺ was literally light and not human. It proves the real stance of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*.
- 8) **Shakhsiyyāt wa Kutub by Shaykh Abul Ḥasan `Alī al-Nadwī**
(شخصيات وكتب)
A lovely work which discusses luminaries who lived in his era followed by books he read and loved or wrote forewords for.

9) Rak`āt-e-Tarāwīh (Available in Rasa'il A`zamī) by Shaykh Ḥabībūr Raḥmān al-A`zamī

A research on whether *Tarāwīh* is 20 or 8 *Rak'āt*. Students should look how he presented his research and arguments.

10) Al-Tibyān fī `ādāb ḥamalāt al-Qur`ān by Imām al-Nawawī

(التبيان في آداب حملة القرآن)

A book discussing the virtues of the Qur`ān, the reciter of the Qur`ān and the etiquettes pertaining to the Qur`ān.

11) Adyaan batilah awr sirate mustaqeem by Mufti Muhammad Naeem

An interesting book introducing the different deviant sects that exist.

12) Al-Qawl al-Badrī fī al-ṣalāh alā al-Ḥabīb al-Shafī` by al-Sakhāwī

(القول البديع في الصلاة على الحبيب الشفيع)

A book on the virtues of reciting *ṣalawāt* with stories of the pious on the effects of reciting *ṣalawāt*.

13) Sahih Aur Munasib Masafat Qasar by Maulana Fadhlur Raḥmān al-`A`zamī

A *Fiqh* research on the correct distance which qualifies a person to perform *qaṣr* prayer. A student should gauge how the shaykh does research and how he presents it.

14) Eidgah Ki Sunniyat by Maulana Fadhlur Raḥmān al-`A`zamī

This discusses the issue of performing *ṭd ṣalāh* in an open field.

15) Fiqh islāmī – Tadwīn wa Ta`āruf by Mufti Khalid Saifullah

A nice introduction to *Fiqh* and the *madhāhib* of *Fiqh*. A nice and simple work to introduce one to *Fiqh*.

16) Ashraful Jawab by Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi

This book discusses logical reasoning for many laws of the *Sharī`ah*. An amazing and insightful work.

17) Tarājim Sittah min Fuqahā' al-`ālam al-`islāmī Fī al-Qarn al-Rābi` al-`Ashar by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah

(تراجم ستة من فقهاء العالم الإسلامي في القرن الرابع عشر)

A biography of six famous and great *Ulamā'* of the 14th Century of *Hijrah*.

Year 3

By the end of the year, Inshā`Allah after your efforts you will know:

- The translation & commentary of almost half of the Qur`ān.
- The translation of approx. 2,000 *Ahādīth* and have memorised 200 Ahādīth at least.
- Sharī`ah Law in depth covering laws related to Finance, the Penal System, Judiciary, Personal Laws and more.
- How *masā`il* were commonly deduced from the Qur`ān and *Ahādīth* by the *Mujtahidūn*.

Subject	Qur`ān Translation
Book	Qur`ān

What you will learn:

A student will learn the translation and brief commentary of 13 *juz* of the Qur`ān ranging from the 1st – 13th.

A student will be introduced to the different chapters of the Qur`ān and learn the reasons and context of the verses mentioned in these chapters.

Goals for this book:

- Learn the translation in English and Urdu of all the words mentioned in these chapters.
- Remember the commentary and causes of revelations of the different verses.
- Understand the context of verses.

Commentaries & related works to use for Qur`ān:

1) Ma`āriful Quran by Mufti Muhammad Shafi

A student should read the entire Ma`ariful Quran covering the chapters studied. It explains the background of the verses, brings *Fiqh* related discussions under verses related to law and has other beneficial material.

2) Quran Made Easy by Mufti Afzal Hoosen Elias

Very good for English translation. It is very helpful in understanding each ayah and giving a wholesome meaning of an ‘*āyah*. It has words in brackets which help you understand the flow of the ‘*āyah* and will also highlight pronouns. It is also gives you a summary of the entire surah before starting a surah.

3) Al-Mufradāt fī gharīb al-Qur`ān by al-Rāghib al-`Asfahānī

A very beneficial dictionary of the words of the Qur`ān explaining what the root letters actually mean and shows how and why they are used in the Qur`ān.

Subject	Hadith
Book	Riyāḍ al-Saliḥīn by Imam al-Nawawī (d.676AH)

Content of the Book:

Riyāḍ al-Ṣāliḥīn has approximately 2,000 ‘*Ahādīth* on etiquettes, virtues and prohibited actions. It comprises of authentic, sound, comprehensive and generally concise narrations commonly narrated.

What you will learn:

- The Islamic etiquettes, praiseworthy qualities to have in oneself and many prohibited actions all from the Qur’ān and ‘*Ahādīth*.
- Translations and simplified meanings of the ‘*Ahādīth*.

Goals for this book:

- Know the Urdu and English translation for every single *Hadīth*.
- Memorise as many ‘*Ahādīth* as possible.

A way to memorise the ‘*Ahādīth* is to purchase the pocket size Riyāḍ al-ṣāliḥīn and highlight all the short ‘*Ahādīth* you can memorise.

Memorise the ‘*Ahādīth* systematically in your mind.

Commentaries & related works to use for Riyāḍ al-ṣāliḥīn:

- 1) **Al-Fawā’id al-Mutra`ah al-ḥiyāḍ fī sharḥ kitāb al-Riyāḍ by Ibn Kamāl Bāshā al-Ḥanafī (d.940AH)**
(الفوائد المترعة الحياض في شرح كتاب الرياض)
A recently published work by the great *Ḥanafī* scholar Ibn Kamāl Bāshā.
- 2) **Dalīl al-Fāliḥīn by Ibn `Allān (d.1057AH)**
(دليل الفالحين)
A comprehensive commentary of the ‘*Ahādīth* in Riyāḍ al-ṣāliḥīn. The author breaks the ‘*Ahādīth* down and discusses the *Nahw* of the *ḥadīth* as well as explaining the *hadīth* further. The author was a famous *Shāfi`ī* scholar who was also a master in *Tazkiyah*, hence he discusses issues of *`ilm al-Tazkiyah* often.
- 3) **Nuzhat al-Muttaqīn by a number of scholars**
(نزهة المتقين)
A very short and concise commentary which defines difficult words in the text and mentions a few *fawā`id* (benefits) and lessons gained from the ‘*Ahādīth*.

4) Rawḍat al-ṣāliḥīn by Shaykh Muhammad Husain Siddīqī

(روضۃ الصالحین)

Although it is an Urdu commentary, the author touches upon selected portions of each hadith with some very beneficial commentary. He also reconciles between apparent contradictions.

One of the outstanding features of this book is that the author in a paragraph or two gives a concise yet comprehensive overview of the narrator of the ‘*Aḥādīth*. He does this for every *Ṣahābī* narrating the *ḥadīth*.

A student must read, learn and memorise the short biographies of the *Ṣahābah*.

Subject	Fiqh
Book	Mukhtaṣar al-Qudūrī by Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad al-Qudūrī (d.428AH)

Contents of the book:

Mukhtasar al-Qudūrī is commonly referred to as ‘al-Kitāb’ by the *Fuqahā’*.

One of the most famous and accepted works in the Hanafī school, al-Mukhtasar of Imam Qudūrī *rahimahullah* is widely taught across the Indian sub-continent, Pakistan, South Africa, UK, US and many other parts of the world.

Imam Qudūrī *rahimahullah* mentioned all the pertinent *Masā’il* in this compendium. Such *Masā’il* are mentioned which are common and come under a principle. He refrains from mentioning those *Masā’il* which rarely transpire.

The opinions of all three Imams; Imam Abū Hanīfah, Imam Abū Yūsuf and Imam Muḥammad are commonly mentioned. Imam Qudūrī rarely mentions the *muftā bihī* (preferred opinion). Many *Masā’il* are quoted in examples and scenarios.

Mukhtaṣar al-Qudūrī covers:

- 1) Worshipping laws – such as *Ṭahārah*, *Ṣalāh*, *Ṣawm*, *Zakāt* & *Ḥajj*.
- 2) Financial laws – such as trading, leasing, partnerships, silent partnerships, safekeeping, agency, debt transfers, guarantees and more.
- 3) Military & Policing Laws – such as war, civil order etc.
- 4) Judicial Laws – such as laws for judges, witnesses & testimonies.
- 5) Penal laws – covering the various capital & corporal punishments.
- 6) Personal Laws – such as marriage, divorce, monetary maintenance, inheritance etc.

What you will learn:

A student will learn *Shari`ah* law codified and deduced by the *Hanafī* school of *Fiqh*. A student will finish this book having a sound understanding of the above laws.

Goals for this book:

- Understand every single ‘*Ibārah* (text) and the context of each ‘*Ibārah*.
- Remember the main principles and rulings of each chapter.
- Be able to discuss each chapter and the main differences of opinions among the *Hanafī Mujtahidūn* in the various chapters.

Commentaries & related works to use for Mukhtasar al-Qudūrī:

1) Ta`līq of Maulana Ghulam Mustafā al-Sindhi

These footnotes usually come with the Dar ibn Kathīr print. Very beneficial & to the point footnotes complementing the text to a give a wholesome meaning of the text.

2) Al-Lubab Fī Sharh al-Kitāb by al-Maydānī (d.1298AH)

(اللباب في شرح الكتاب)

A complete commentary explaining every text broken down. At times there are some additional points mentioned after a *Mas`alah* as well as other conditions of a *Mas`alah* not mentioned in the text of al-Qudūrī.

3) Al-Jawharah al-Nayyirah by al-Haddādī (d.800AH)

(الجوهرة النيرة)

This is a summarised version of another commentary ‘al-Sirāj al-Wahhāj’ by the author himself on Mukhtaṣar al-Qudūrī.

Al-Jawharah covers only selected texts and brilliantly explains them in more detail. A student can use this if he does not understand a text after reading al-Lubāb.

4) Al-Tarjih wa al-Taṣḥīḥ `alā Mukhtaṣar al-Qudūrī by Qāsim Ibn Quṭlūbgā (d.879AH)

(الترجيح والتصحيح على مختصر القدوري)

A work on al-Qudūrī highlighting the preferred opinions where there are different opinions stated in al-Qudūrī. A very useful book to have and look at whenever there is a difference of opinion mentioned in al-Qudūrī as one will know the preferred stance on the issue.

Supplementary books:

1) Sharh al-Wiqāyah by `Ubaidullah al-Mahbūbī (d.747AH)

(شرح الوقاية)

A simplified text compared to al-Hidāyah. It does not have all the *Masā`il* discussed in al-Hidāyah. However, those *Masa`il* which are discussed are explained in an easy manner. A student should look at the commentary `Umdat al-Ri`āyah by Maulana Abdul Hayy al-Laknawī to understand a *Mas`alah*.

2) Al-Khulāsah al-Bahiyyah Fī Madhab al-Hanafiyyah by Sayyid Ḥusain Abd al-Raḥmān al-Banjāwī

(الخلاصة البهية في مذهب الحنفية)

A very basic book giving the main details and principles of each chapter. Very good for a quick overview of the chapter.

3) Al-Fiqh al-Hanafī Fī Thawbihi al-Jadīd by Abdul Majīd Ṭahmāz

(الفقه الحنفي في ثوبه الجديد)

An excellent work where the contemporary author writes in a very easy and friendly manner. He relies upon the great works like al-Hidāyah, Ḥāshiyah Ibn `Abidīn and Badā`i al-Ṣanā`i`. He discusses evidences and also contemporary *Masā`il* at times. A very good work which simplifies the technicalities of the abovementioned works.

Subject	‘Uṣūl al-Fiqh
Book	‘Uṣūl al-Shāshī

Contents of the book:

‘Uṣūl al-Shāshī is a famous work in ‘*Usūl al-Fiqh*. ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh* is the science which demonstrates the different methodologies the *Mujtahidūn Fuqahā*’ used to codify the laws of *Sharī`ah*.

The main topics discussed are the four agreed sources of evidence, namely, the Qur`ān, *Sunnah*, ‘*Ijmā`* (scholarly consensus) and *Qiyās* (Juristic analogy).

What you will learn:

A student will be introduced to how different texts and words indicate different meanings and how laws are extracted from such texts and meanings.

One will have a better understanding of how *Masā`il* were deduced from the Qur`ān and ‘*Ahādith*.

Goals for this book:

- Understand exactly what is meant by each terminology.
- Understand the application of the terminology in the examples.
- Make notes of just the ‘*Usūl* terminologies on a different piece of paper and memorise that.

Commentaries & related works to use for Usūl al-Shāshī:

1) Hāshiyah of your print.

2) Kitāb al-Khamsīn ...Dirāsatan wa Tahqīqan by Khalid ibn Abdul Hādī
(كتاب الخمسين دراسة وتحقیقاً)

A *Tahqīq* in the form of footnotes recently completed by a student of the Qassim University in Saudi Arabia. It explains difficult portions of the text and also gives references to other major works in the *Hanafī* school where more information can be found on that topic.

A very beneficial work to use whilst studying. Currently, only a PDF version is available, you may get it printed and bound.

3) Mu`īn al-‘Uṣūl by Mufti Sa`īd Pālanpūrī
(معین الأصول)

This is a short and simple book in Arabic with Urdū translation and commentary in the footnotes. A recommended book to introduce oneself to the whole subject of ‘Uṣūl al-Fiqh.

A student should read this before any work to get an idea of what is discussed in *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh*.

4) Al-Mūjaz fī Uṣūl al-Fiqh by Shaykh Muḥammad `Ubaydullah al-`As`adī

(الموجز في أصول الفقه)

An extremely beneficial book for a beginner in *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh*. The book is well laid out and very easy to understand. It covers all the discussions commonly discussed in the major *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh* works and simplifies them. A must read whilst studying *Uṣūl al-Shāshi*.

5) Taysīr `Uṣūl al-Fiqh by Maulana Muḥammad `Anwar al-Badakhshānī

(تيسير أصول الفقه)

A simple and easy text written in Arabic discussing subjects not found easily in other books. It is short and to the point. It has a beneficial section on the different approaches to *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh* – something not discussed in other works so often.

6) Al-Wajīz Fī `Uṣūl al-Fiqh by Dr Wahbah al-Zuhaylī

(الوجيز في أصول الفقه)

This is another short and beneficial work in *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh*. It is more of a summary and compressed version of the author's prolific work *'Uṣūl al-Fiqh al-Islāmī'*. A good work to use as a reference to see what the other *Fuqahā'* say.

Subject	Arabic Literature
Book	Qiṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn Part 5

Contents of the book:

Part five of the famous series by Maulana Abul Ḥasan ‘Alī al-Nadwī contains the *Sīrah* of the Prophet ﷺ in an easy and simplified manner.

What you will learn:

The *Sīrah* of the Prophet ﷺ will be studied. A student will further build his comprehension and understanding of the Arabic language by studying this short treatise.

Goals for this book:

- Successfully apply the grammar rules and understand the text.
- See how Arabic is written.
- Use dictionaries to translate difficult words.
- Learn the major events of each year in *Sīrah*.

Subject	Qirā`ah
Book	Fawā`id Makkiyyah by Qari Abdur Raḥmān Makkī

Contents of the book:

This is a higher-level book in *Tajwīd*, which contains many beneficial points that are not found in other books so easily.

What you will learn:

A student will get an in depth understanding of *Tajwīd* and will gain many beneficial points whilst studying this work.

Goals for this book:

- Understand what the author is discussing and explaining.
- Memorise all the rules and definitions.

Supplementary books:

- 1) **Lam`āt Shamsiyyah** by Qārī Muḥammad Yūsuf
- 2) **Ta`liqāt Mālikiyyah Sharḥ Fawā`id Makkiyyah**
- 3) **Fath al-Rahmān Sharḥ Khulāsah al-Bayān** by Qārī Muḥammad Siddīq Falāhī

Reading list for Year 3

- 1) **Al-`Ulama al-`uzzāb by shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
(العلماء العزاب الذين آثروا العلم على الزواج)
This book discusses the lives of those `Ulamā' who sacrificed everything including marriage in pursuit of knowledge. A very inspirational and gripping read.
- 2) **Ma`ālim Irshādiyyah by Shaykh Muhammad Awwāmah**
(معالم إرشادية لصناعة طالب العلم)
A must read book which is more of a guide to success for a student of knowledge. It is full of advices and guidelines for a student. It is as if the author is seated in front of you and explaining each point to you with love and affection.
- 3) **Risālah al-Mustarshidīn by al-Muḥasibī with taḥqīq of shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
(رسالة المسترشدين)
A book full of benefit and spiritual advice for a seeker. The footnotes by Shaykh Abdul Fattāh contain gems and research on many issues students commonly question. It has a discussion on *bay`ah* and *taṣawwuf* well worth reading.
- 4) **Manāqib al-`Imām `Abī Ḥanīfah wa Ṣāhibayhi by Imām al-Dhahabī with taḥqīq of shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
(مناقب الإمام أبي حنيفة وصاحبيه)
A short discussion on the lives and remarkable attributes of the three great scholars in *Ḥanaḥī Fiqh* written by the master Imam al-Dhahabī.
- 5) **The Legal Ruling on Slaughtered Animals by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmāni**
A research on the laws of slaughtering animals with contemporary issues discussed.
- 6) **Jawāhirul Fiqh part 1 and 2 by Mufti Muḥammad Shafi Uthmāni**
A collection of researches. Volume 1 discusses *Takfīr*, *Bid`ah* and abortion. Volume 2 discusses *Taqīd*, discussions on Qur`ān and its text, *Qunūt Nāzilah*, the direction of *Qiblah* and other issues.
- 7) **Fiqhi Maqālāt part 1 and 2 by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmāni**
A collection of researches in *Fiqh*. The first volume discusses issues to do with Islamic Banking and Finance. Volume 2 discusses Islamic Finance, voting, the issue of eating crows, wiping on cotton socks, *sajdah sahw*, *nafl Jamā`ah* in *Ramadhān*, the rulings of *khula`* in marriage.
- 8) **Kalimāt Fī Kashf Abāṭil wa iftirā`āt by shaykh Abdul Fattāh Abū Ghuddah**
(كلمات في كشف أباطيل وافتراءات)
Shaykh Abdul Fattāh responses to false allegations made against him by Shaykh Albani and his followers. A must read to understand the reality of many academic dishonesties in the world today.

9) Bidāyah al-Hidāyah by al-Ghazālī

(بداية الهداية)

A lovely book on spiritual rectification. He discusses obedience and etiquettes in the first chapter. The second chapter is devoted to abstaining from sins. An important work to read written by a master in the science of spiritual rectification.

10) ‘Umdat al-Athāth fī Ḥukm al-Ṭalaqāt al-Thalāth by Maulana Sarfraz Khan Safdar

(عمدة الأثاث في حكم الطلقات الثلاث)

This work establishes from the Qur’ān, ‘*Aḥādīth* and verdicts of the majority of the great Imāms of this Ummah that three *ṭalaqs* issued by a husband result in three *ṭalāqs* and not one.

11) Adillah-e-kāmilah by Shaykhul Hind Maulana Mahmūdul Ḥasan

Ten questions posed by *ghayr muqallidīn* and their in depth answers. Ten issues are discussed in detail: Raising of the hands in *Ṣalāh*, ‘*Āmīn* aloud, where the hands should be tied, recitation of *sūrah al-fātiḥah* in *Ṣalāh*, the beginning time of *Aṣr*, ‘*Imān*, the judgement of a *Qāḍī* and the purity of water.

12) Al-Madkhal ilā Dirāsāt al-Hadīth al-Nabawī al-Sharīf by Shaykh Abul Ḥasan `Alī al-Nadwī

(المدخل إلى دراسات الحديث النبوي الشريف)

A short introduction to the science of *ḥadīth* and biographies of the famous *Muḥaddithūn*.

13) Al-Madkhal ‘ilā al-Dirāsāt al-Qur’āniyyah by Shaykh Abul Ḥasan `Alī al-Nadwī

(المدخل إلى الدراسات القرآنية)

A short work discussing the miraculous nature of the Qur’ān and ways in which a person can benefit from the Qur’ān.

14) Al-Madkhal ‘ilā Dirāsāt al-Madhāhib al-Fiqhiyyah by Shaykh `Alī Jumu`ah

(المدخل إلى دراسة المذاهب الفقهية)

A short and beneficial introduction to each *Madhhab* in *Fiqh*. It discusses the main personalities, books and formation of the *Madhhab*.

15) Sood Par Tareekhi Faisla by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī

An in-depth look at interest. A must read to understand the reality of interest and its stance in *Sharī`ah*.

16) Islam awr siyasi nazriyyat by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī

A rare book which discusses different political systems and the Islamic system. It has other beneficial discussions also such as defining *Dār al-`Islam* and *Dār al-Ḥarb*.

Year 4

By the end of the year, Insha'Allah with your constant efforts you will:

- Know the translation and simple *tafsīr* of the entire Qur'ān.
- Have a deep understanding of the *Hanafi* School.
- Know the different types of Ḥadīth as well as the factors, which makes a *Ḥadīth* authentic or weak.
- Have memorised and understood the different terminologies to do with Arabic rhetoric (*Balāghah*)

Subject	Qur`ān Translation
Book	Qur`ān Juz 14-26

What you will learn:

A student will learn the translation and brief commentary of the remaining ‘*ajzā*’ of the Qur`ān ranging from the 14th-26th.

A student will be introduced to the different chapters of the Qur`ān and learn the reasons and context of the verses mentioned in these chapters.

Goals for this book:

- Learn the translation in English and Urdu of all the words mentioned in these chapters.
- Remember the commentary and causes of revelations of the different verses.
- Understand the context of verses.

Commentaries & related works to use for Qur`ān:

1) Ma`āriful Quran by Mufti Muhammad Shafi

A student should read the entire Ma`ariful Quran covering the chapters studied. It explains the background of the verses, brings *Fiqh* related discussions under verses related to law and has other beneficial material.

2) Quran Made Easy by Mufti Afzal Hoosen Elias

Very good for English translation. It is very helpful in understanding each ‘*āyah*’ and giving a wholesome meaning of an ‘*āyah*’. It has words in brackets which help you understand the flow of the ayah and will also highlight pronouns.

It is also gives you a summary of the entire surah before starting a surah.

3) Al-Mufradāt fī gharīb al-Qur`ān by al-Rāghib al-`Asfahānī

A very beneficial dictionary of the words of the Qur`ān explaining what the root letters actually mean and shows how and why they are used in the Qur`ān.

Subject	Fiqh
Book	<p style="text-align: center;">Al-Hidayah Sharh Bidāyah al-Mubtadī Part 1 & 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Burhān al-Dīn al-Marghinānī (d.593AH)</p>

Contents of the book:

The masterpiece al-Hidāyah is studied across the globe in the traditional *Madāris*. Imam al-Marghīnānī desired there be a book discussing the topics of *Fiqh* in detail and yet be small. He came to the conclusion that Mukhtasar al-Qudūrī is one of the best books in terms of narrating the *Masā'il* and al-Jāmi' al-Saghīr is a book everyone is desirous of memorising. Therefore, instead of writing a new manual, he combined the two in one and called it Bidāyah al-Mubtadī. He thereafter compiled a commentary on Bidāyah al-Mubtadī in 80 volumes and called it Kifāyah al-Muntahī. Due to its extreme size, he compressed the commentary and titled the abridged work al-Hidāyah.

Al-Hidāyah is an excellent book to refer to for the logical reasoning of a *Mas'alah*. Imam al-Marghīnānī's speciality is to endorse *Masā'il* by textual and logical evidence. He expertly breaks down the proofs and reasoning of the other schools of *Fiqh*.

He often quotes the view of Imam Abū Hanīfah, Imam Abū Yūsuf and Imam Muhammad without explicitly quoting the preferred opinion of the *Fuqahā'*. However, he does have principles showing which opinion he favours. He does mention *Tarjīh* at times.

Al-Hidāyah part one covers the laws of worship; namely, *Ṭahārah*, *Ṣalāh*, *Zakāt*, *Ṣawm* & *Ḥajj*.

Al-Hidāyah part two covers personal laws such as *Nikāh*, *Talāq*, *Radhā'ah* as well as International Relational Laws & a portion of Penal Laws.

What you will learn:

A student will learn the different opinions of the Imams of the *Ḥanafī Madhhab* and the textual and logical proofs behind the opinions. A student will learn the strengths of the opinions of the *Ḥanafī Madhhab* and the answers to other opinions.

Goals for this book:

- Understand every single '*Ibārah* (text) and the context of each '*Ibārah*.
- Understand the logical arguments and thought process presented.
- See how the author constructs, deconstructs and reconstructs different arguments.
- Look out for different terminologies referring to the *Ḥanafī Madhhab*.
- Be able to discuss each chapter and the main differences of opinions among the *Ḥanafī Mujtahidūn* in the various chapters.
- Gain a '*Fiqh* sense' and be able to think like the *Fuqahā'*.

Commentaries & related works to use for al-Hidāyah:

1) Hashiyah of your print

2) Al-Bināyah by Badr al-Dīn al-`Aynī (d.855AH)

(البنایة فی شرح الهدایة)

Al-Bināyah is a complete commentary of al-Hidāyah. You will find explanations and clarifications all of the text. Imam al-`Aynī also brings more evidences and proofs for the *Masā'il* as well as many other *Masā'il*.

Al-Bināyah is the ideal work to use by a student along with the *Hāshiyah* of Maulana Abdul Hayy al-Laknawī *rahimahullah*.

3) Fath al-Qadīr by Kamāl al-Dīn ibn al-Humām (d.861AH)

(فتح القدير)

This is a more technical commentary which does not discuss every line and text as al-Bināyah. This commentary discusses the evidences in much more detail and also touches upon '*Uṣūl al-Fiqh*'. Ibn al-Humām does present isolated opinions in the *Madhhab* and therefore a student must not solely rely on what is stated in here without checking elsewhere.

4) al-`Ināyah by Imam Akam al-Dīn al-Bābartī (d.786AH)

(العناية)

al-`Ināyah does not explain every text of al-Hidāyah. Instead, it has commentary on selected portions of the text. It has brief explanations to a *Mas'alah* and not really so intricate and deep like al-Bināyah. Al-`Ināyah is beneficial for those who do not want a lengthy commentary.

5) Naṣb al-Rāyah by Jamāl al-Dīn al-Zayla`ī (d.762AH) with taḥqīq of Shaykh Muḥammad `Awwāmah

A masterpiece which focuses on *Takhrīj* of the evidences quoted in al-Hidāyah. It discusses the evidences of the *Hanafī* school as well as other schools. The author meticulously discusses the chains of narration as well as narrators. He first mentions the *ḥadīth* cited in al-Hidāyah. He thereafter, mentions the *Takhrīj* of that narration with the different chains. That is followed by other '*Aḥādīth*' and '*āthār*' which support the primary *ḥadīth*. If it is a *Mas'alah* where there is a difference of opinion among the *Fuqahā'*, Imām Zayla`ī discusses the evidences of the other *Fuqahā'* and their *Takhrīj*.

A must read for a student whilst studying al-Hidāyah and studying *Ḥadīth* in general. A student must read the *Dirāsah* in the beginning by Shaykh Muḥammad Awwāmah.

Supplementary books one may use to understand Masā`il:

1) **Sharh al-Wiqāyah by `Ubaidullah al-Mahbūbī (d.747AH) #** (شرح الوقاية)

A simplified text compared to al-Hidāyah. It does not have all the *Masā`il* discussed in al-Hidāyah. However, those *Masa`il* which are discussed are explained in an easy manner. A student should look at the commentary `Umdat al-Ri`āyah by Maulana Abdul Hayy al-Laknawī to understand a *Mas`alah*.

2) **Badā`i al-Şanā`i by al-Kāsānī (d.587AH)** (بدائع الصنائع في ترتيب الشرائع)

This book explains *Fiqh* principles very well. In addition, al-Kāsānī focuses on the evidences of the *Mas`alah*. He mentions the evidences of the other schools of *Fiqh*, mainly the *Shafi`ī* school.

3) **Al-Fiqh al-Hanafī Fī Thawbihi al-Jadīd by Abdul Majīd Ṭahmāz** (الفقه الحنفي في ثوبه الجديد)

An excellent work where the contemporary author writes in a very easy and friendly manner. He relies upon the great works like al-Hidāyah, Ḥāshiyah Ibn `Abidīn and Badā`i al-Şanā`i`. He discusses evidences and contemporary *Masā`il* at times. A very good work which simplifies the technicalities of the abovementioned works.

Subject	Balaghah
Book	Durūs al-Balāghah

What you will learn:

The purpose of this book is to understand how Arabic words are used in different places for different meanings and purposes. *Balāghah* will make you realise the beauty of the Arabic language and will give you the ability to understand and appreciate the Qur`ān in a totally different manner.

A student will study three subjects:

- 1) *‘Ilm al-Ma`ānī* (The Science of Meanings) – Focuses on how a certain word can have different meanings in different scenarios. Also looks at how the presence, absence & place of a word in a sentence can influence the meaning.
- 2) *‘Ilm al-Bayān* (The Science of Metaphor) – Focuses on similes (*tashbīh*), metaphors (*majāz*) and metonymy (*Kināyah*)
- 3) *‘Ilm al-Badī`* (The Science of Eloquence) - Focuses on how one beautifies his speech and uses certain words and patterns in speech to increase eloquence.

Goals for this book:

- Understand every terminology.
- **Memorise** all terminologies and definitions.
- Be able to recognise and identify rhetoric in the Qur`ān and *Ahādīth*.

Commentaries & related works to use for Durūs al-Balāghah:

1) **Shumūs al-Barā`ah**

(شموس البراعة)

The commentary on most prints of Durūs al-Balāghah. It explains the examples and expounds well on vague words in the text.

Supplementary books:

1) **Jawāhir al-Balaghah by Ahmad al-Hāshimī**

(جواهر البلاغة)

A simple work on *Balaghah* studied by many beginners in the Arab world. Very similar to Durūs al-Balāghah. One may look at this to help understand a certain terminology or definition.

2) **Al-Balāghah al-Wāḍiḥah By `Alī al-Jārim & Muṣṭafā al-Amīn**
(البلاغة الواضحة)

A book split into principles which has many examples and exercises. One may use this to test his application and understanding of the rules.

Subject	`Uṣūl al-Fiqh
Book	Nūr al-Anwār Sharh al-Manār by Mulla Jīwan (d.1130AH)

Contents of the book:

This book is a commentary of the famous text al-Manār. Nūr al-‘Anwār is a detailed commentary of al-Manār which elaborates on the text frequently explaining it with other supplementary discussions along the way.

What you will learn:

The purpose of this book is to deepen your understanding of `Uṣūl al-Fiqh. A student will learn about the different categories and terminologies covered in ‘Uṣūl al-Shāshi in much more depth.

One will have a better understanding of how *Masā’il* were deduced from the Qur`ān and ‘*Ahādīth*.

Goals for this book:

- Focus on the ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh* in the book and learn the additional points regarding each `Uṣūl terminology.
- Make notes of just the ‘*Usūl* terminologies on a different piece of paper and memorise that.
- Understand the different terminologies and their application.

Commentaries & related works to use for Nūr al-Anwār:

1) **Hāshiyah of your print**

2) **Kashful Asrār fī Sharh al-Manār by al-Nasafī (d.710AH)**

(كشف الأسرار في شرح المنار)

This is the commentary by the author of al-Manār himself. He explains the text of al-Manār, discusses the difference of opinion among the ‘*Ulamā*’ of ‘*Usūl* and at times mentions evidences.

3) **Tashīl al-Wusūl `ilā `ilm al-Usūl by Shaykh Muhammad al-Mahallāwī al-Ḥanafī**

(تسهيل الوصول إلى علم الأصول)

Described by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī daamat barakatuhum as one of the best works in `Uṣūl al-Fiqh, it covers the opinions of different *Fuqahā*’, detailed discussions on subjects not commonly discussed and answers objections on the *Ḥanafī* `Usūl in length.

4) **Usūl al-Fiqh al-Islāmī by Dr Wahbah Zuhayli**
(أصول الفقه الإسلامي)

A very detailed work covering all the different opinions among the `Ulamā' of `Usūl. The text is easy to read and understand. Many examples are discussed. This book will help a student understand the different terminologies very easily. A must read whilst studying.

Subject	Mustalah al-Hadīth
Book	Nuzhat al-Nazar by Ḥāfiẓ ibn Ḥajar (d.852AH)

Contents of the book:

This is a commentary of the short text Nukhbat al-Fikar by the author himself. This book briefly discusses the different types of *ḥadīth* in terms of the number of narrators, strength of narrators and many other issues. It also discusses the different ‘*āḥadīth*’ in terms of grading – ranging from authentic to fabricated narrations.

What you will learn:

The purpose of this book is to introduce students to *Hadīth* terminologies. A student will learn about the different categories and terminologies related to *Hadīth* sciences.

A student will learn what makes a *Hadīth* authentic, sound, weak and fabricated. A student will also learn how narrators are analysed and what makes narrators reliable and unreliable.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the different terminologies discussed.
- **Memorise** the terminologies and definitions.
- Be able to apply the knowledge gained in this book in ‘*ahādīth*’ books.

Commentaries & related works to use for Nuzhat al-Nazar:

1) Ta`liq of Nūr al-Dīn `Itr

This is the *tahqīq* of this contemporary master, which is printed in a few editions of Nuzhat al-Nazar. It mentions the biographies of ‘*Ulamā*’ mentioned in the text and has some additional beneficial points.

2) Sharh Sharh Nukhbah al-Fikar by Mulla `Alī al-Qārī (d.1014AH)

(شرح شرح نخبة الفكر)

A detailed work commentating on each line and text. Very beneficial to understand the text clearly. A must for students studying Nuzhat al-Nazar.

3) Al-Manhaj al-Hadīth Fi Tashīl `Ulūm al-Hadith by Dr `Alī Nāyif

(المنهج الحديث في تسهيل علوم الحديث)

A contemporary work by a student of Shaykh Nūr al-Dīn `Itr. A very easy, accessible & informative work on *Hadīth*. It simplifies all the technical discussions and makes it very easy to understand. An excellent work to read which gives a wholesome understanding of different discussions in *Hadīth* sciences.

4) **Taysīr Muṣṭalaḥ al-Ḥadīth by Dr Maḥmūd Ṭāḥḥān**

(تيسير مصطلح الحديث)

A contemporary work, which is well laid out and gives charts to explain different concepts. The author relied upon classical works such as *ʿUlūm al-Ḥadīth* by Ibn Ṣalāḥ, *al-Taqrīb* and its commentary *al-Tadrīb*.

5) **Qafwu al-‘Athar Fī Ṣafwi ʿUlūm al-‘Athar by Ibn al-Ḥanbalī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**

(قفو الأثر في صفو علوم الأثر)

This is a work praised by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ as one of the best intermediate works in *ʿUlūm al-Ḥadīth*. The author is a *Ḥanafī*. He has gathered and summarised *Nuzhat al-Nazar* and the different commentaries on it into one. A very beneficial read.

6) **Dirāsāt Fī ʿUṣūl al-Ḥadīth ʿalā Manhaj al-Ḥanafīyah by Abdul Majīd al-Turkumānī**

(دراسات في أصول الحديث على منهج الحنفية)

This work is regarded as the best work on *ʿUṣūl al-Ḥadīth* from the *Ḥanafī* perspective. It is highly recommended by Shaykh Awwāmah and other masters in the field. Extremely beneficial points and discussions throughout the book. A must read.

7) **Tadrīb al-Rāwī fī Sharḥ Taqrīb al-Nawāwī by Imam al-Suyūṭī (d.911AH)**

(تدريب الراوي في شرح تقريب النواوي)

A masterpiece and an authority in the science of *Ḥadīth*. Has detailed discussions on the content of *ʿilm al-Ḥadīth* and can be referred to when further information needed on a particular topic.

Reading list for Year 4

- 1) **Al-Madhab al-ḥanafī by Shaykh Aḥmad al-Naqīb**
(المذهب الحنفي)
One of the most detailed works on the *Ḥanafī* school and arguably one of the best. The author discusses the history of the schools, the Imams, terminologies, books and many other issues. An excellent book to understand the *Ḥanafī* school.
- 2) **Fiqh ahl al-`Iraq wa ḥadīthuhum by Shaykh Muhammad Zāhid al-Kawtharī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(فقه أهل العراق وحدثهم)
This is a must read work for students. It is a well-researched work on the history of the people of Iraq in particular the *Ḥanafīyyah* in terms of *Fiqh* and *Ḥadīth*.
- 3) **Makānat al-Imam Abī Hanīfah fī al-ḥadīth by Shaykh Muḥammad Abdur Rashīd al-Nu`mānī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(مكانة الإمام أبي حنيفة في الحديث)
This is a brilliant work highlighting the true status of Imam Abu Ḥanīfah in the field of *Ḥadīth*.
- 4) **Ṣafaḥāt min sabr al-`ulamā' `alā shadā'id al-`ilm wa al-taḥṣīl by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(صفحات من صبر العلماء على شدائد العلم والتحصيل)
This book highlights the different hardships scholars went through in pursuit of knowledge. An amazing work with numerous benefits.
- 5) **Jawāhirul Fiqh part 3 and 4 by Mufti Muḥammad Shafi Uthmānī**
A collection of *Fiqh* researches. Volume 3 discusses laws relating to travel, moon sighting, *Masajid*, telephones and other issues. Volume 4 discusses laws on *Mīqāt*, *Hajj*, marital issues, copyright laws, insurance laws and gambling.
- 6) **Fiqhi Maqālāt part 3 and 4 by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī**
A collection of researches in *Fiqh*. Volume 3 discusses Islamic Finance, contemporary issues in *Zakāt*, Friday *Khutbah* in another language, the ruling of three divorces, a discussion on *Jihad*, the issue of prawns. Volume 4 discusses *Qadhā' `Umrī*, photography, *Hijab*, *Jum`uah* in jails and airports, mechanical slaughtering, remedy through *harām* and laws of slaughtering.
- 7) **al-Yawāqīt al-Ghāliyah part 1 by Shaykh Muhammad Yūnus Jonpurī**
A book on *ḥadīth* related research. A very interesting read covering dozens of issues.
- 8) **Al-albani shudhoodhu wa akhta`uhu by Shaykh Ḥabībūr Raḥmān al-A`zamī**
(الألباني شذوذه وأخطاؤه)
This detailed research exposes the mistakes and rare opinions of Shaykh Albani.

- 9) **Iqāmat al-Hujjah by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(إقامة الحجّة على أن الإكثار في التعبد ليس ببدعة)
A brilliant work which discusses *Bid`ah* and categorises *Bid`ah*. The author discusses how abundance in worship even if not explicitly found in the time of the Prophet ﷺ will not be regarded as *Bid`ah*.
- 10) **Nuzhat al-Fikar fī Subḥat al-Dhikr by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(نزهة الفكر في سبحة الذكر)
Discusses the permissibility of using rosary beads and illustrating how it is not a *Bid`ah*.
- 11) **‘Iḥkām al-Qanṭarah bī ‘aḥkām al-Basmalah by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(إحكام القنطرة بأحكام البسملة)
This is a book discussing the virtues and rulings related to the *Basmalah*.
- 12) **Tuḥfat al-`Akhyār Fī `Iḥyā’ Sunnat Sayyid al-‘Abrār by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(تحفة الأخيار في إحياء سنة سيد الأبرار)
This is an amazing work full of benefit. The author discusses the meaning of the word Sunnah and discusses the ruling of *Sunnah Mu`akkadah*. He focuses on proving that the actions of the *Khulafā’* are also regarded as Sunnah specifically in relation to twenty *Rak`āt* of *Tarāwīḥ*. A must read.
- 13) **Al-hashasah binaqd al-wuḍū’ bi al-Qahqahah by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(الهسهسة بنقض الوضوء بالقهقهة)
This work discusses the issues of laughing in *ṣalāh* and the famous *Hanaḥī* stance on *wuḍū’* breaking with laughter.
- 14) **al-Bid`ah al-‘Idhāfiyyah by Dr Ṣaif ibn `Alī al-`Aṣrī**
(البدعة الإضافية)
A detailed work on *Bid`ah* which discusses the definition of *Bid`ah* and the types, the *nuṣūṣ* wherein *Bid`ah* has been referred to, the laws of an innovator, doing more actions than mentioned in the Qur`ān and *Sunnah* and other beneficial discussions. A well worth read to get an insight into *Bid`ah*.
- 15) **Al-Muwāfaqāt by Imām al-Shāḥibī**
(الموافقات)
One of the most famous and studied works in the Arab world, this book is a combination of ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiḥ* and *Maqāṣid al-Sharī`ah*. Has many beneficial discussions also.

Year 5

By the end of the year, Inshā` Allah after your effort you will:

- Have a deep understanding of the *Tafsīr* of the Qur'ān.
- You will know other sciences related to Qur'ān.
- Know the evidences of the four *Madhahib* from ' *Ahādīth*.
- Be able to work out the estate distribution.
- Have a deep understanding of the laws of Islamic Finance & other *Fiqh* chapters.

Subject	Tafsīr
Book	Jalālayn by al-Maḥallī (d.864AH) and al-Suyūṭī (d.911AH)

Contents of the book:

The entire Qur'ān will be covered in this extremely brief but insightful *Tafsīr*.

The *Tafsīr* clarifies pronouns, states the omitted words form an `āyah and highlights Arabic grammar of an `āyah. At times, a single word is brought to refute a possible objection.

There are brief indications to *Fiqh* as well as variations in *Qirā`ah* of a verse.

The style of the authors of having a single word as *Tafsīr* really challenges students to think why that particular word was mentioned. In many places, a word is specifically selected to refute an objection. A student should work out the objection and answer himself. This exercise will develop a student's mind phenomenally. This book is great for really opening up a mind to think and ponder.

What you will learn:

A student will gain a deeper understanding of *Tafsīr* as well as understand different *Qirā`ah*, *Nahw*, *Naskh* (abrogation) and laws related to *Tafsīr*.

A student will also learn the differences among the *Fuqahā`* related to verses addressing laws of *Sharī`ah*.

Goals for this book:

- Learn the *Tafsīr* of each verse.
- Understand the objections and answers raised by the authors.
- Understand and be aware of the application of *Naskh*, *Makki* & *Madani* verses and causes of revelation.
- Try to apply and identify what is studied in `Usūl al- *Tafsīr*.

Commentaries & related works to use for Jalālayn:

1) Hāshiyah of your print

2) Al-Futuḥāt al-`ilāhiyyah by al-Jamal

(الفتوحات الإلهية بتوضيح تفسير الجلالين للدقائق الخفية)

A very beneficial commentary on al-Jalālayn discussing the *i`rāb*, meanings. This commentary includes many opinions of the *mufasssirūn* on the meanings of different verses.

3) Ḥāshiyah al-Ṣāwī by Imām al-Ṣāwī (d.1241AH)

(حاشية الصاوي)

An adequate sized commentary which explains the text and objections raised. However, it does quote extremely questionable things at times. One should not rely on a hadith or an account except after researching it elsewhere.

4) ‘Aḥkām al-Qur’ān

(أحكام القرآن)

This book is an excellent work written under the supervision of Maulana Ashraf `Alī Thānawī *rahimahullah* by four great scholars: Maulana Zafar Aḥmad `Uthmānī, Mufti Muḥammad Shafī `Uthmānī, Maulana ‘Idrīs Khandhelwi and Mufti Jamīl Aḥmad Thānawī. A very beneficial work full of discussions on the *Fiqh* of the verses.

5) Rawā’i al-Bayān by Muhammad `Alī al-Ṣābūnī

(روائع البيان في تفسير آيات الأحكام)

A very beneficial work, which only contains verses related to laws (*aḥkām*). The author discusses the linguistic side of a verse, its meaning, its connection with other verses, the different *Qirā`ah* of the verse, deeper meanings of the verse and most importantly, a discussion on what the *Fuqahā`* have said related to the verse.

A student should not solely rely on the opinions of the *Fuqahā`* mentioned in these works, rather he should refer and double check with the preferred opinions of the *madhāhib* in the books of *Fiqh*.

6) Ahkām al-Qur`ān by al-Jaṣṣāṣ al-Rāzī (d.370AH)

(أحكام القرآن)

An early and authoritative *Hanafī* work focussing on the verses related to laws (*aḥkām*). Al-Jaṣṣāṣ was a master in explaining basis of *masā`il* and explains a number of issues beautifully.

However, al-Jaṣṣāṣ did have some opinions coinciding with the opinions of the *Mu`tazilah*. Therefore, *Aqīdah* issues in this work must not be taken without first understanding the stance of *Ahl al-Sunnah*.

Subject	Hadīth
Book	Mishkāt al-Maṣābīh by al-Khaṭīb al-Tibrīzī (d.737AH)

Contents of the book:

Al-Tibrīzī *rahimahullah* took Imam Baghawī *rahimahullah*'s Maṣābīh al-Sunnah and worked upon it by making additions, quoting the name of the narrators as well as doing *Takhrīj* of the 'aḥādīth. Al-Tibrīzī added a third sub-chapter. Thus, in Mishkāt, every chapter has three subchapters with the following types of *ḥadīth* in each subchapter:

- 1) That which is narrated in al-Bukhārī or Muslim.
- 2) That which is narrated in the *Sunan*.
- 3) Those narrations found elsewhere which and are related to the chapter.

This book contains all chapters usually found in the books of *ḥadīth* such as *Aqā'id*, *'ibādāt*, *Mu'āmalāt*, *'ādāb*, *Raqā'iq*, *al-Fitan* and *al-Manāqib*.

However, it does not contains chapters on *Maghāzī* or *Tafsīr*.

What you will learn:

In al-Mishkāt, you will come across the following types of *ḥadīth*:

- 1) *Aqā'id*
- 2) *Ahkām*
- 3) *Raqā'iq*
- 4) *Manāqib*

In those 'aḥādīth which are related to *Aqā'id*, *Raqā'iq* and *Manāqib*, learn the translation and understand the meanings of the 'aḥādīth. If there are any apparent contradictions with other narrations, understand the reconciliation.

With regards to the 'aḥādīth of 'aḥkām (laws), a student will learn the evidences of the different *madhāhib* of *Fiqh* and will also learn the responses of the *Ḥanafī* school to the evidences contradicting the evidences adopted by the *Ḥanafī* school.

Goals for this book:

- Learn the translations, meanings and reconciliations between apparent contradictory 'aḥādīth.
- **Memorise** the evidences of the *Ḥanafī* school and the evidences of the other schools **especially for ṣalāh**.
- Remember the responses to those evidences which oppose the *Ḥanafī* school.

Commentaries & related works to use for Mishkāt al-Maṣābīh:

1) **Mirqāt al-Mafātīḥ** by Mullā `Alī al-Qarī (d.1014AH)

(مرقاة المفاتيح شرح مشكاة المصابيح)

Mullā `Alī al-Qarī compiled this work relying heavily upon previous commentaries of Mishkāt. He rarely discusses the strength of the *ḥadīth*. It is more of a collection of what was said on the *ḥadīth* by previous scholars. A nice read whilst studying Mishkāt to give a comprehensive understanding of the *ḥadīth*. A student should try to read the entire Mirqāt to get a good foundation in *ḥadīth*.

2) **Lamaḥāt al-Tanqīḥ** by Shaykh Abd al-Ḥaqq al-Dihlawī (d.1052AH)

(لمحات التنقيح)

This has just been printed for the first time recently. A short commentary on the ‘*aḥādīth*’ of Mishkāt.

3) **Al-Ta`līq al-ṣabīḥ** by Maulana Idris Kāndhlawī (d.1394AH)

(التعليق الصبيح)

This commentary is in effect an abridged version of Mirqāt. Mawlana Kāndhlawī did not manage to complete this commentary. Thus, his son Mawlana Muhammad Malik completed the work and published it in five volumes in Lahore, Pakistan.

4) **‘Tlām al-‘Anām Sharḥ Bulūgh al-Marām** by Shaykh Nurūddīn `Itr

(إعلام الأنام شرح بلوغ المرام)

An excellent work, which students must buy to use for the ‘*aḥādīth*’ related to ‘*aḥkām*’. This book contains *Takhrīj* for each *ḥadīth*, analysis of the chain of narration, brief biography of the *ṣaḥābah*, analysis of the wordings of the *ḥadīth*, the rhetoric in the *ḥadīth* as well as a discussion on the *Fiqh* of the *ḥadīth* with reference.

Subject	Fiqh
Book	Al-Hidāyah Sharh Bidāyah al-Mubtadī Part 3 & 4 By Burhān al-Dīn al-Marghinānī (d.593AH)

Contents of the book:

The masterpiece al-Hidāyah is studied across the globe in the traditional *Madāris*. Imam al-Marghīnānī desired there be a book discussing the topics of *Fiqh* in detail and yet be small. He came to the conclusion that Mukhtasar al-Qudūrī is one of the best books in terms of narrating the *Masā'il* and al-Jāmi' al-Saghīr is a book everyone is desirous of memorising. Therefore, instead of writing a new manual, he combined the two in one and called it Bidāyah al-Mubtadī. He thereafter compiled a commentary on Bidāyah al-Mubtadī in 80 volumes and called it Kifāyah al-Muntahī. Due to its extreme size, he compressed the commentary and titled the abridged work al-Hidāyah.

Al-Hidāyah is an excellent book to refer to for the logical reasoning of a *Mas'alah*. Imam al-Marghīnānī's speciality is to endorse *Masā'il* by textual and logical evidence. He expertly breaks down the proofs and reasoning of the other schools of Fiqh.

He often quotes the view of Imam Abū Hanīfah, Imam Abū Yūsuf and Imam Muhammad without explicitly quoting the preferred opinion of the *Fuqahā'*. However, he does have principles showing which opinion he favours. He does mention *Tarjīh* at times.

Al-Hidāyah part 3 covers the laws of Islamic Finance and Judicial Laws.

Al-Hidāyah part 4 covers Penal Laws and other miscellaneous laws.

What you will learn:

A student will learn the different opinions of the Imams of the *Hanaḥī Madhab* and the textual and logical proofs behind the opinions. A student will learn the strengths of the opinions of the *Hanaḥī Madhab* and the answers to other opinions.

Goals for this book:

- Understand every single *'Ibārah* (text) and the context of each *`Ibārah*.
- Understand the logical arguments and thought process presented.
- See how the author constructs, deconstructs and reconstructs different arguments.
- Look out for different terminologies referring to the *Hanaḥī Madhab*.
- Be able to discuss each chapter and the main differences of opinions among the *Hanaḥī Mujtahidūn* in the various chapters.
- Gain a *'Fiqhi sense'* and be able to think like the *Fuqahā'*.

Commentaries & related works to use for al-Hidāyah:

1) *Hāshiyah* of your print

2) Al-Bināyah by Badr al-Dīn al-`Aynī (d.855AH)

(البنایة شرح الهدایة)

Al-Bināyah is a complete commentary of al-Hidāyah. You will find explanations and clarifications for every text. Imam al-`Aynī also brings more evidences and proofs for the *masā'il* as well as many other *masa'il*.

Al-Bināyah is the ideal work to use by a student along with the *Hāshiyah* of Maulana Abdul Hayy al-Lacknawī rahimahullah.

3) Fath al-Qadīr by Kamāl al-Dīn ibn al-Humām (d.861AH)

(فتح القدير)

This is a more technical commentary which does not discuss every line and text as al-Bināyah does. Rather, this commentary discusses the evidences in much more detail and also touches upon '*Uṣūl al-Fiqh*.

4) al-`Ināyah by Imam Akam al-Dīn al-Bābartī (d.786AH)

(العناية)

al-`Ināyah does not explain every text of al-Hidāyah. Instead, it has commentary on selected portions of the quoted text. It has brief explanations to a *mas'alah* and not really so intricate and deep like al-Bināyah. Al-`Ināyah is beneficial for those who do not want a lengthy commentary.

5) Naṣb al-Rāyah by Jamāl al-Dīn al-Zayla`ī (d.762AH) with taḥqīq of Shaykh Muḥammad `Awwāmah

A masterpiece which focuses on *Takhrīj* of the evidences quoted in al-Hidāyah. It discusses the evidences of the *Hanafī* School as well as other schools. The author discusses the chains of narration as well as narrators meticulously. He first mentions the *ḥadīth* cited in al-Hidāyah. Thereafter, he mentions the *Takhrīj* of that narration with different chains. That is followed by other '*Aḥādīth* and '*āthār* which support the primary *ḥadīth*. If it is a *mas'alah* where there is a difference of opinion among the *Fuqahā'*, Imām Zayla`ī discusses the evidences of the other *Fuqahā'* and *Takhrīj* of their evidences.

A must read for a student whilst studying al-Hidāyah and studying *ḥadīth* in general. A student must read the *Dirāsah* in the beginning by Shaykh Muḥammad Awwāmah.

Supplementary books one may use to understand Masā`il:

1) **Sharh al-Wiqāyah** by `Ubaidullah al-Mahbūbī (d.747AH) (شرح الوقاية)

A simplified text compared to al-Hidāyah. It does not have all the *Masā`il* discussed in al-Hidāyah. However, those *Masā`il* which are discussed are explained in an easy manner. A student should look at the commentary `Umdat al-Ri`āyah by Maulana Abdul Hayy al-Laknawī to understand a *mas`alah*.

2) **Badā`i al-Şanā`i** by al-Kāsānī (d.587AH) (بدائع الصنائع في ترتيب الشرائع)

This book explains *Fiqh* principles very well. It is well laid out and presentable. In addition, al-Kāsānī focuses on the evidences of the *mas`alah*. He mentions the evidences of the other schools of *Fiqh*, mainly the *Shafi`ī* school.

3) **Al-Fiqh al-Hanafī Fī Thawbihi al-Jadīd** by Abdul Majīd Ṭahmāz (الفقه الحنفي في ثوبه الجديد)

An excellent work where the contemporary author writes in a very easy and friendly manner. He relies upon the great works like al-Hidāyah, Ḥāshiyah Ibn `Abidīn and Badā`i al-Şanā`i. He discusses evidences and at times touches upon contemporary issues. A very good work, which simplifies the technicalities of the abovementioned works.

Subject	Usul al-Fiqh
Book	Al-Ḥusāmī by al-`Akhsīkathī (d.644AH)

Content of the book:

This is a *mukhtaṣar* (abridgement and summary) of Usūl al-Bazdawī – one of the authoritative works in the *Ḥanafī* ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh*.

Al-Ḥusāmī covers all the discussions related to ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh* in addition to discussions on *Taklīf*, *ahliyyah*, *awāriḍ* and other discussions not covered in ‘*Uṣūl al-Shāshī*.

What you will learn:

Ḥusāmī is studied to gain a deep understanding of *Qiyās* (juristic analogy). A student will get an in-depth understanding of the conditions, criteria and particulars of *Qiyās*. He will also learn technical terms such as *sabab*, *illah*, *sharṭ* and *alāmah*.

Goals for this book:

- Understand *Qiyās* and how it works.
- Understand the differences between *sabab*, *illah*, *sharṭ* and *alāmah*.
- Understand the different terminologies and their application.

Commentaries & related works to use for Ḥusāmī:

- 1) **Hāshiyah of your print.**
- 2) **Tashīl al-Wuṣūl `ilā `ilm al-‘Usūl by Shaykh Muhammad al-Mahallāwī al-Hanafī**
(تسهيل الوصول إلى علم الأصول)
Described by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī daamat barakatuhum as one of the best works in ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh*, it covers the opinions of different *Fuqahā*’, it has very detailed discussions on subjects not commonly discussed and answers objections on the *Ḥanafī* *Uṣūl* in length.
- 3) **Kashful `Asrār `an Usūl Fakhr al-Islām by `alā al-Dīn al-Bukhārī (d.730AH)**
(كشف الأسرار عن أصول فخر الإسلام)
This is one of the most well-known works in ‘*Uṣūl al-Fiqh*. It is a commentary of the famous Usūl al-Bazdawī. Since al-Ḥusāmī is a *mukhtaṣar* of Usūl al-Bazdawī, this commentary on Usūl al-Bazdawī discusses the same issues in al-Ḥusāmī but in more depth. A very good book to use to understand al-Ḥusāmī and to get more elaboration on difficult texts.

4) **Usūl al-Fiqh al-Islāmī by Dr Wahbah Zuhayli**

(أصول الفقه الإسلامي)

A very detailed work covering all the different opinions among the *`Ulamā* of *`Usūl*. The text is easy to read and understand. Many examples are discussed. This book will help a student understand the different terminologies very easily.

Subject	Inheritance
Book	Mu`in al-Farā`idh By Mufti Maḥmūd Hasan Ajmerī

Content of the book:

This is an Urdu work which teaches a student how to deal with an estate. The book discusses the laws of inheritance and the different issues related to inheritance.

What you will learn:

A student will learn who inherits and who doesn't inherit, how to deal with an estate in addition to how to distribute an estate.

Goals for this book:

- **Memorise all** the laws of inheritance
- Practice as many questions of inheritance as possible.

Related works to use for Mu`in al-Farā`idh:

1) al-Mawārīth Fī al-Sharī`ah al-Islāmiyyah by Muhammad `Alī al-Ṣābūnī

(المواريث في الشريعة الإسلامية)

A detailed work with evidences behind the *Masā`il* in addition to discussing the *Masā`il*. The different opinions among the schools of *Fiqh* are also highlighted.

2) Ahkām al-Mawārīth by Dr Muḥammad ṭāhā

(أحكام المواريث)

A book which has 1400 *Masā`il* of inheritance written out. Almost every possible scenario has been mentioned in this work. Students should not rely upon this. This is just a reference work.

Subject	Usūl al-Tafsīr
Book	Al-Fawz al-Kabīr by Shah Waliullah Dehlawi (d.1176AH)

Content of the book:

This book focuses on the technical aspects of *Tafsīr*. There are four categories with many subcategories in this book. The following categories are discussed in the book:

- 1) The different themes of the Qur'ān
- 2) The difficult aspects of *Tafsīr*
- 3) The sequence of chapters and verses and the rhetoric of the Qur'ān
- 4) The different types of *Tafsīr*

What you will learn:

A student will learn the above technical discussions in relation to the Qur'ān.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the different discussions.
- Memorise terminologies

Related works to use for al-Fawz al-Kabīr:

- 1) **Al-Tibyān Fī `Ulūm al-Qur`ān by Muhammad `Alī al-Ṣābūnī**

(التبيان في علوم القرآن)

A very popular book among many scholars, this work has ten chapters on aspects of the sciences of Qur'ān including Causes of Revelation, the compilation of the Qur'ān, abrogation, different *Tafāsīr*, translating the Qur'ān and much more. A must read for students.

- 2) **Manāhil al-`irfān Fī `Ulūm al-Qur`ān by Shaykh Muhammad al-Zurqānī**

(مناهل العرفان في علوم القرآن)

A contemporary work with a lot of detail and quotations from the masters in the sciences of the Qur'ān.

Subject	`Aqīdah
Book	Al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah By Abū Ja`far al-Ṭahāwī (d.321AH)

Content of the book:

This is one of the most famous texts in `Aqīdah. It is a short but comprehensive text outlining the beliefs of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*. It can be split into three major chapters:

- 1) `Ulūhiyyāt (Beliefs about the Names and Attributes of Allah Almighty)
- 2) *Nabawiyyāt* (Beliefs in respect to the Prophet hood)
- 3) *Maghībāt* (Beliefs in respect to the unseen)

What you will learn:

A student will learn the core and fundamental beliefs held by the *Ahl al-Sunnah* and will also learn the beliefs different deviant sects.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the beliefs of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*.
- Understand the differences between the *Ahl al-Sunnah* and other deviant sects.
- Understand the stance of the *Ahl al-Sunnah* on the *ṣifāt* of Allah.

Commentaries for al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah:

1) Sharḥ al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah by Al-Ghaznawī (d.773AH)

(شرح العقيدة الطحاوية)

A very nice and simple commentary worth reading. He explains everything clearly enough for students to understand what the text means.

2) Al-Ta`līqāt al-Saniyyah `alā Matn al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah by Shaykh Aḥmad Jābir

(التعليقات السنية على متن العقيدة الطحاوية)

A short and well-presented commentary on al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah. After every portion of the text, the author analyses the meanings of the difficult words in the text and follows with an overall commentary of the text cited. This is a much easier commentary and good for a beginner in the subject of `Aqīdah.

3) Sharḥ al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah by al-Maydānī (d.1298AH)

(شرح العقيدة الطحاوية)

A good commentary explaining the text but more difficult and complex to understand due to him relying upon Sharḥ al-`Aqā'id and al-Musāyarah.

4) **`Izhār al-`Aqīdah al-Sunniyah bisharḥ al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭaḥāwiyyah**

(إظهار العقيدة السنية بشرح العقيدة الطحاوية)

This is an in-depth commentary with refutations on the *wahhābiyyah*. Students must beware of the author's stance on Sayyidunā Mu`āwiyah.

5) **Al-Sharḥ al-Kabīr `alā al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭaḥāwiyyah by Shaykh Sa`īd Fawdah**

(الشرح الكبير على العقيدة الطحاوية)

One of the most lengthy and detailed commentaries recently published. This work is much more technical and in depth commentary compared to other commentaries. He quotes the previous commentaries also. He makes references to the *`Aqīdah* proposed by Ibn Taymiyyah throughout the commentary and presents arguments against it.

Note:

Ibn Abī al-`Izz has a commentary on al-`Aqīdah al-Ṭaḥāwiyyah. Students should beware of this commentary and should not use this commentary. The *`Aqīdah* which he endorses in his commentary is problematic in nature.

Reading list for Year 5

- 1) **Mirqāt al-Mafātīh by Mullā `Alī al-Qārī**
(مرقاة المفاتيح شرح مشكاة المصابيح)

A student should try to read this daily with the *aḥādīth* studied in class.

- 2) **Al-Sunnah wa makānatuhā fī al-Tashrī` al-‘islāmī by Dr Muṣṭafā al-Sibā`i**
(السنة ومكانتها في التشريع الإسلامي)

One of the best books in defending *ḥadīth* and its authority.

- 3) **Al-‘ajwibah al-Fādhihah by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī with taḥqīq/ta`līq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(الأجوبة الفاضلة للأسئلة العشرة الكاملة)

This is a book comprised of ten questions posed in relation to *ḥadīth*. It has pertinent issues such as the status of ‘*isnād*, establishing jurisprudence from ‘*aḥādīth* without checking strength, contradiction of statements of *Muḥaddithīn*, weak ‘*aḥādīth* and other such issues.

- 4) **Lamaḥāt min Tārīkh al-Sunnah wa `Ulūm al-ḥadīth by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah**
(لمحات من تاريخ السنة وعلوم الحديث)

A lovely work discussing the development of *ḥadīth* sciences.

- 5) **Athar al-ḥadīth al-sharīf by Shaykh Muḥammad `Awwāmah**
(أثر الحديث الشريف)

A must read book explaining with quotes from the early ‘*Ulamā`* that one cannot follow *ḥadīth* directly without *Fiqh*.

- 6) **Adab al-`ikhtilāf fī Masā`il ilm wa al-Dīn by Shaykh Muḥammad `Awwāmah**
(أدب الاختلاف في مسائل العلم والدين)

This book discusses the etiquettes when differing with others.

- 7) **Ghāyat al-Maqāl fīmā yata`allaqu Bī al-Ni`āl by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(غاية المقال فيما يتعلق بالنعال)

An amazing research discussing different laws to do with footwear. There is a lengthy discussion on the *Na`l* of the Prophet ﷺ towards the end of this work.

- 8) **Rad` al-Ikhwān `an Muḥdathāt `ākhiri Jumu`ati Ramaḍān by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī**
(رد الإخوان عن محدثات آخر جمعة رمضان)

A rebuttal on some practices carried out on the last Friday of *Ramāḍān* which have no basis in *Sharī`ah*. This book discusses *bid`āh*.

9) **Sibāḥat al-Fikr fī al-Jahr Bī al-Dhikr** by Maulana Abdul Ḥayy al-Laknawī with **taḥqīq/ta`līq** of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah

(سباحة الفكر في الجهر بالذكر)

Discussing the permissibility and status of doing audible *dhikr*.

10) **Muqaddimah `ilm al-Tafsīr ma`a `ilm al-Hadīth** by Maulana Fadhlur Rahmān al-`A`zamī

(مقدمة علم التفسير مع علم الحديث)

This book introduces one to the science of *Tafsīr* and *Ḥadīth*.

11) **Tahqīq Ahl al-Ḥadīth** (Available in his *Rasa`il*) by Shaykh Ḥabībūr Raḥmān al-A`zamī

(تحقيق أهل الحديث)

This is a short treatise discussing the terminology of '*Ahl al-Ḥadīth*'.

12) **Jawāhirul Fiqh part 5,6 and 7** by Mufti Muḥammad Shafi Uthmānī

A collection of *Fiqh* researches. Volume 5 discusses politics. Volume 6 discusses *Jihād*, apostasy, slaughter laws, '*Uḍhiyyah*'. Volume 7 discusses the laws of transplants, photography, abortion and other contemporary issues.

13) **Fiqhi Maqālāt part 5 and 6** by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī

A collection of researches in *Fiqh*. Volume 5 discusses Islamic Finance, the issue of '*Ijtihād*', the changing of laws due to change of times and a discussion on al-Huda international. Volume 6 discusses traffic accidents and laws, annulment of marriage, breastfeeding laws, the concept of slavery in Islam and the need for contemporary '*ijtihād*' with consensus.

14) **Al-Yawāqīt al-Ghāliyah part 2 & 3** by Shaykh Muḥammad Yūnus Jonpuri

(اليواقيت الغالية)

Further in depth research in the field of *ḥadīth*.

15) **Al-`i`tiṣām** by Imām al-Shāṭibī

(الاعتصام)

One of the most famous works discussing *Bid`ah*.

16) **Al-Qawl al-Tamām bi-`ithbāt al-Tafwīḍ madhaban lil-salaf al-Kirām** by Ṣaif ibn `Alī al-`Aṣrī

(القول التمام بإثبات التفويض مذهباً للسلف الكرام)

One of the most celebrated works in the last couple of years, which clearly proves the true *`Aqīdah* of the *salaf* as opposed to what is claimed by '*salafīs*'.

17) Daf' Shubhat al-Tashbīh by Ibn al-Jawzī with taḥqīq of Imam Muḥammad

Zāhid al-Kawtharī

(دفع شبهة التشبيه)

This work discusses the non-resemblance of the attributes of Allah to the creation. Ibn al-Jawzī, a leading *Ḥanbalī* scholar himself, sets out to rectify the inaccurate ascription to Imam Ahmad in this regard.

18) al-Tajsīm wa al-Mujassimah by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ al-Yāfi`ī

(التجسيم والمجسمة)

An excellent research on *Tajsīm* (anthropomorphism) which highlights the meaning of *Tajsīm*, the stance of the *salaf* with regards to *Tanzīh* and *Tajsīm*, the evidences of *Tanzīh* of Allah and a discussion on the true *Aqīdah* of the *salaf*.

19) Introduction to Islamic Finance by Mufti Muḥammad Taqī Uthmānī

A masterpiece in Islamic Finance. This book discusses the application of traditional concepts in a contemporary setting. A student will get a simple understanding as to how traditional concepts are somewhat applied in today's banking.

20) Ummul amrāḍ by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī

(أم الأمراض)

A book discussing one of the deadliest illnesses: pride. A must read for a student of `ilm.

Year 6

By the end of the year, Inshā` Allah after your effort you will:

- Know the evidences for the four *Madhāhib*
- Have an acquaintance with *Ḥadīth* terminology
- Have an acquaintance with the books of *Ḥadīth*
- Have a basic understanding to *Riwāyah* and *Dirāyah* of *Ḥadīth*

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī by Muhammad ibn Ismā`il al-Bukhārī (d.256AH)

Content of the book:

This masterpiece covers the famous eight chapters in *Ḥadīth* works:

- 1) *Aqā`id*
- 2) *`aḥkāṃ*
- 3) *Tafsīr*
- 4) *Tārīkh*
- 5) *Riqāq*
- 6) *Manāqib*
- 7) *`ādāb*
- 8) *Fitan*

Imam al-Bukhārī compiled this work for a number of reasons:

- 1) To collect *`ahādīth* which are of the highest calibre in terms of authenticity.
- 2) To deduce *Fiqh* according to his understanding from the *`ahādīth* and extract other inferences from the text. This is understood from the sub-headings in each chapter. The sub-headings come in different styles before a *ḥadīth*.
- 3) Combine the four branches – *Fiqh*, *Tafsīr*, *Tārīkh* and *Raqā`iq* - discussed by earlier *Muḥaddithūn* separately in one book.

What you will learn:

A student will get to study the most authentic collection of *marfū` `ahādīth*. A student will gain the skill of deducing rulings by constantly linking up the subchapter with the *ḥadīth* cited.

A student will also be introduced to the different ideologies, thoughts and opinions through the statements of Imām al-Bukhārī.

Goals for this book:

- Link every *ḥadīth* to the title of the chapter.
- Understand who Imām al-Bukhārī refers to when he makes an objection.
- Appreciate the mastery of Imām al-Bukhārī.

Related works to use for ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī:

1) **Fatḥ al-Bārī by Ḥāfiẓ ibn al-Hajar al-`Asqalānī (d.852AH)**

(فتح الباري)

This work is regarded to be the best commentary on ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī. The foreword of this work is Hady al-Sārī which is a very beneficial introduction to ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī. This commentary discusses:

- a) The objections raised and answers to ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī.
- b) The *manhaj* (methodology) of Imam al-Bukhārī in terms of *Fiqh* and *Lughah*.
- c) The *Mu`allaqāt* of the book in detail.
- d) The differences in the prints of ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī.
- e) The sequence of the book in detail.
- f) The narrators and why there are differences in different ‘*aḥādīth*.
- g) The repetitions of ‘*aḥādīth* and the reasons for repetitions.
- h) The narrators in terms of the correct pronunciation of their names, their status and strength, their date of demise.
- i) *Fiqhi* differences.
- j) The subchapters and the reasons behind each one.

2) **`Umdah al-Qārī by Badr al-Dīn al-`Aynī (d.855AH)**

(عمدة القاري)

A very well presented commentary which is easier to access and read as oppose to Fatḥ al-Bārī. It has many of the same discussions as Fatḥ al-Bārī but under subheadings. He discusses the subheading of the chapter, the narrators, special features of the *sanad*, the different words of the *ḥadīth*, the grammar and rhetoric of the *ḥadīth* and *fiqh* of the *ḥadīth*.

Other works one may refer to:

- a) **‘Irshād al-Sārī by Imām al-Qastallānī (d.923AH)**
- b) **Fayḍ al-Bārī of Imam Anwar Shāh al-Kashmīrī (d.1352AH)**
- c) **Lāmi` al-Darārī by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī (d.1402AH)**
- d) **‘Al-‘Abwāb wa al-Tarājim by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī (d.1402AH)**
- e) **Kashful Bārī by Maulana Saleemullah khan sahib**
- f) **Tuḥfat al-Qārī by Mufti Sa`īd Palanpurī**

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim by Muslim ibn al-Ḥajjāj (d.261AH)

Content of the book:

This is another great collection of *ṣaḥīḥ ‘aḥādīth*. One of the reasons it was compiled was to defeat the fabricators of *‘aḥādīth*. Imam Muslim did not deduce rulings or infer his opinions on issues. This work was purely a work to gather the highest level of authentic narrations and bring multiple similar narrations on one issue. Hence, this collection has many *shawāhid* and *Mutā`ba`āt* (supporting *‘aḥādīth*).

It is organised in the chapters of *Fiqh* with *Kitāb al-`Imān* preceding them. The book is well organised and easy to navigate through and find *ḥadīth*.

What you will learn:

A student will get to study an authentic collection of *marfū` ‘aḥādīth*. A student will learn how narrations/narrators support and strengthen other narrations/narrators.

Goals for this book:

- Understand how *‘aḥādīth* and narrators support one another.
- Understand the translation of the *‘aḥādīth*.
- Understand the commentary on *‘aḥādīth*.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.
- Understand the sequence in the book.

Related works to use for ṣaḥīḥ Muslim:

1) Al-Minhāj by Imam al-Nawawī (d.676AH) (المنهاج)

One of the most famous and most quoted commentaries of ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, Imam al-Nawawī discusses the chain of narration, the linguistics of the text, the narrators, the meanings of the *ḥadīth* as well as extracting lessons, rulings from the *‘aḥādīth*. It is not so lengthy; rather of intermediate size and easily written for a very engaging and beneficial read.

2) Fathul Mulhim by Maulana Shabbīr Ahmad al-‘Uthmānī (d.1369AH) Takmilah Fathul Mulhim by Mufti Taqī Uthmānī (فتح الملهم)

Fathul Mulhim is another very beneficial commentary for *Ḥanafī* students in particular, which relied upon Imam al-Nawawī’s commentary in other aspects. This book discusses the difficult aspects of the *ḥadīth* under discussion, the opinions of the *Fuqahā`*, evidences to

prove the *Ḥanafī* stance, spiritual lessons gained from the *ḥadīth* and other beneficial aspects by quoting from earlier commentators as stated by Allamah `Anwar Shah al-Kashmīrī.

Maulana Shabbīr rahimahullah unfortunately did not complete this work. The *Takmilah* by Mufti Taqī Uthmānī has much more *Fiqh* and contemporary issues discussed. He quotes the opinions of the *Fuqahā'* and elaborates on the *Ḥanafī* stance. One of the remarkable aspects of the *Takmilah* is how Mufti Taqī Uthmānī brings principles for different chapters in *Fiqh*. The book includes short sweet discussions on many contemporary issues. A must read for students.

3) Al-Bahr al-Muḥīṭ al-Thajjāj by Shaykh Muhammad ibn `Ali al-`ītyūbī
(البحر المحيط الثجاج في شرح صحيح الإمام مسلم بن الحجاج)

A recent work which is still incomplete by a famous *ḥadīth* scholar of Makkah al-Mukarramah. This commentary is well laid out and very easy to read. He discusses the biographies of narrators of the *ḥadīth*, remarkable features (*laṭā'if*) of the chain of narration, commentary of the *ḥadīth* and *Fiqh* related to the *ḥadīth*.

Other works students may refer to:

- 1) Al-Mufhim by Abu al-Abbās al-Qurtubī (d.656AH)
- 2) Al-Dībāj by Imam al-Suyūṭī (d.911AH)

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Sunan Nasa’i by Aḥmad ibn Shu`ayb al-Nasa’i (d.303AH)

Content of the book:

Sunan al-Nasa’i can be considered to combine the styles of Imam al-Bukhārī and Imam Muslim as suggested by Ibn Rashīd rahimahullah. Imam al-Nasa’i establishes, deduces and infers rulings like Imam al-Bukhārī through subheadings. At the same time, Imam Nasa’i treads the path of Imam Muslim by quoting the different chains of a *ḥadīth* indicating to the different chains and phraseology of the *ḥadīth*.

Imam al-Nasa’i was a master in the science of ‘*ilal ḥadīth*’ as mentioned by Imam al-Dhahabī. This work deals with the ‘*ilal*’ of ‘*aḥādīth*’ as well as discussing narrators and the authenticity of narrations at times.

What you will learn:

A student will get a good understanding of ‘*ikhtilāf*’ (differences and discrepancies) among narrators and narrations. A student will be introduced to the science of ‘*ilal*’ of *ḥadīth* through this work.

Goals for this book:

- Understand how and why there are differences in ‘*aḥādīth*’ in terms of words, narrators and chains.
- Understand what Imam al-Nasa’i is referring to each time he says *اختلف على*.
- Understand the subheadings brought.
- Link the subheadings with the ‘*aḥādīth*’.
- Understand the translation of the ‘*aḥādīth*’.
- Understand the commentary on ‘*aḥādīth*’.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.

Related works to use for Sunan al-Nasa’i:

1) Zahr al-Rubā`alal Muḥtabā by Imam al-Suyūṭī (d.911AH)

(زهر الربى على المجتبى)

This is a short and concise commentary more like footnotes. Imam al-Suyūṭī discusses the pronunciations of narrators, clarifies the meanings of difficult words, makes references to rulings and benefits gained from the *ḥadīth* as well as ‘*ādāb*’ (etiquettes) acquired from the *ḥadīth*. He relied a lot upon the works of the earlier *ulamā`* especially the writings of al-Hāfiẓ Ibn Hajar rahimahullah.

2) **Hāshiyah al-Sindhi ‘ala al-Mujtabā by Muhammad Abdul `Hādī al-Sindhi (d.1138AH)**

(حاشية السندي على المجتبى)

A brief commentary which expounds upon correct pronunciations of words, names, the *I`rāb* of words and meanings of the text.

3) **Al-Dhakhīrah al-`Uqbā fi Sharh al-Mujtabā by Shaykh Muhammad ibn ‘Ali al-‘ītyūbī**

(الذخيرة العقبى في شرح المجتبى)

A very well laid out commentary and easy to read. Under each *ḥadīth* there are discussions on the narrators of the *ḥadīth*, remarkable features of the chain of narration, a commentary on the meaning of the *ḥadīth*, *fiqh* of the *ḥadīth* and lessons drawn from the *ḥadīth*.

4) **Al-Fayḍ al-Samāwī ‘alā Sunan al-Nasa’i by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī (d.1402AH)**

This commentary is based upon notes and lessons of Maulana Rashīd Ahmad Gangohi *rahimahullah* with additional points added by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī.

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Sunan Abū Dāwūd by Sulaymān ibn al-‘Ash`ath al-Sijistānī (d.275AH)

Content of the book:

Imam Abū Dāwūd collected in this work the evidences of the different *Fuqahā’*. The book is in the sequence of the chapters of *Fiqh*. His aim was to collect all the evidences from the ‘*aḥādīth* used by the *Fuqahā’*’.

He comments on aspects related to the chain and phraseology of the *ḥadīth* in a subtle manner.

What you will learn:

A student will get an overview of the evidences of the different schools of *Fiqh* as well as an insight into subtleties indicated to by Imam Abū Dāwūd.

Goals for this book:

- Know the evidences of the different *madhāhib*.
- Know the answers of the *Ḥanafī* School to the ‘*aḥādīth* which are evidences for the other schools of *Fiqh*’.
- Understand what Imam Abū Dāwūd is referring to each time he says قال أبو داود
- Understand the reason for bringing more than one *ḥadīth* under a subheading.
- Understand the translation of the ‘*aḥādīth*’.
- Understand the commentary of the ‘*aḥādīth*’.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.

Commentaries for Sunan Abū Dāwūd:

1) Ma`ālim al-Sunan by al-Khaṭṭābī (d.388AH)

(معالم السنن)

One of the earliest commentaries of Sunan Abū Dāwūd. Latter commentators of Sunan Abū Dāwūd have all relied upon this book.

It is not a lengthy commentary, rather he mentions ‘*ahkām* related to the *ḥadīth*, ‘*ādāb*, lessons gained and expounds upon difficult words.

2) Sharh Sunan Abū Dāwūd by al-`Aynī (d.855AH)

(شرح سنن أبي داود)

This is an incomplete commentary by Imām al-`Aynī. He discusses the subheadings, difficult words, narrators, the reasons and meanings of the ‘*aḥādīth*, lessons gained from the ‘*aḥādīth*, *takhrīj* and other beneficial aspects.

**3) Badhl al-Majhūd fī Ḥall Sunan Abī Dāwūd by Maulana Khalīl Sahāranpūrī
(d.1346AH)**

(بذل المجهود في حل سنن أبي داود)

Arguably regarded as one of the best commentaries on Sunan Abū Dāwud, it has detailed commentary with explanations of the subheadings, narrators, explanations of the texts and much more. He quotes extensively from earlier ‘*ulamā*’. A very enjoyable read with *ḥadīth* and *fiqh* discussions.

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Sunan Tirmidhī by Muḥammad ibn `isā (d.279AH)

Content of the book:

This work is based on the chapters of *Fiqh* and focuses on the opinions of the *Fuqahā`*. Imam Tirmidhī makes references to the strength of the narration as well as indicating to similar *‘aḥādīth* to the one quoted.

Maulana Idrīs Kāndhlawī *rahimahullah* states that Sunan al-Tirmidhī is somewhat a combination of ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, ṣaḥīḥ Muslim and Sunan Abū Dāwūd in the sense that he covers all chapters like al-Bukhārī, places *‘aḥādīth* systematically like Muslim and discusses *Fiqh* like Imam Abū Dāwūd.

What you will learn:

A student will get an overview of the opinions of the *Fuqahā`* as well as getting an understanding of how *hadīth* grading works. A student will get an amateur understanding of the factors that affect the authenticity of a *ḥadīth*.

An extremely beneficial exercise whilst studying al-Tirmidhī is to practise doing *Takhrīj* of the *‘aḥādīth* indicated to by Imam al-Tirmidhī in his **وفي الباب**

Goals for this book:

- Know the opinions of the *Fuqahā`*.
- Understand the terminologies of Imam al-Tirmidhī.
- Perform *Takhrīj* of the *‘aḥādīth* mentioned in **وفي الباب**
- Understand the translation of the *‘aḥādīth*.
- Understand the commentary of the *‘aḥādīth*.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.

Some commentaries for Sunan al-Tirmidhī:

- 1) `ārīḍah al-‘aḥwadhī by Ibn al-`Arabī (d.543AH)
(عارضه الأحمدي)

This is a concise commentary explaining the meanings of the text and elaborating on the comments of Imam al-Tirmidhī.

2) **Al-Kawkab al-Durrī ‘alā al-Jāmī al-Tirmidhī by Maulana Rashīd Ahmad Gangohi (d.1323AH)**

(الكوكب الدرّي على الجامع الترمذّي)

An Urdu work which is a collection of the lessons of Maulana Rashīd Aḥmad Gangohi penned by Maulana Muḥammad Yaḥyā Kāndhlawī with additional footnotes of Maulana Muḥammad Zakariyyā Kāndhlawī. According to Mufti Taqī Uthmānī, it is one of the best commentaries, which is not so lengthy yet full of benefit in understanding Sunan al-Tirmidhī.

3) **Ma`ārif al-Sunan by Shaykh Muḥammad Yūsuf al-Binnorī (d.1397AH)**

(معارف السنن)

This is an incomplete commentary until the chapter of Hajj. However, it has the most in depth discussions related to *Fiqh* and *Ḥadīth*. It is full of quotes of the *Muḥaddithīn* and *Fuqahā’*. One of the most beneficial works to read whilst studying.

4) **Tuḥfat al-‘Aḥwadhī by Shaykh Muḥammad al-Mubārakpūrī (d.1353AH)**

(تحفة الأحوذّي)

Mufti Taqī ‘Uthmānī states that this work is by a *ghayr Muqallid* (one who doesn’t abide to one school of *Fiqh*) who presents good discussions in terms of *ḥadīth*. However, he has at times attacked the *Ḥanafī* school unjustly in different places. He relied on al-Shawkānī’s *Nayl al-‘Awṭār*.

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Sunan Ibn Mājah by Muḥammad ibn Yazīd al-Qazwīnī (d.273/275AH)

Content of the book:

This work is based on the chapters of *Fiqh* and focuses on bringing narrations not mentioned in the other *ṣiḥāh*. Many narrations in Ibn Mājah are not in the other *Ṣiḥāh*. There are weak narrations in Sunan Ibn Mājah.

What you will learn:

A student will learn how ‘*aḥādīth* become weak. A student should focus on finding the reasons for the weakness of the ‘*aḥādīth* narrated in this work.

Goals for this book:

- Know the reason for weakness of a narration.
- Understand what *Zawā'id* are.
- Research the narrators of the ‘*aḥādīth*.
- Understand the comments made by Imam Ibn Mājah.
- Understand the translation of the ‘*aḥādīth*.
- Understand the commentary of the ‘*aḥādīth*.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.

Some commentaries for Sunan Ibn Mājah:

1) **Al-‘i’lām bi Sunnatihī `alayhis salām by `alā al-Dīn Mughaltāi (d.762AH)**

(الإعلام بسنته عليه السلام)

This is an incomplete commentary only until the chapter of *ṣalāh*. It has discussions on the *Fiqh* related to the *ḥadīth*, *takhrīj*, mention of *shawāhid* and *Mutāba`āt* as well references to the strength of the *ḥadīth* quoted.

2) **Mashāriq al-‘anwār al-wahhājah by Shaykh Muhammad ibn ‘Ali al-‘ītyūbī**

(مشارك الأنوار الوهاجة)

A very well laid out commentary and easy to read. Under each *ḥadīth* there are discussions on the narrators of the *ḥadīth*, remarkable features of the chain of narration, a commentary on the meaning of the *ḥadīth*, *fiqh* of the *ḥadīth* and lessons drawn from the *ḥadīth*. It is currently incomplete.

3) **Miṣbāh al-Zujājah by al-Buṣīri (d.840AH)**

(مصباح الزجاجاة)

This is a work on the *zawā'id* of Ibn Mājah.

Subject	Ḥadīth
Book	Muwaṭṭa’ by Imam al-Mālik (d.179AH)

Content of the book:

This work contains *marfū’* ‘*aḥādīth* as well as ‘*āthār* of the *Ṣaḥābah* and *Tabi`īn*. It contains authentic ‘*aḥādīth* as well as references to opinions of the *Fuqahā’*, the practices of the People of Madīnah and the opinions of Imam Malik *rahimahullah*. The most famous recension is that of Yaḥyā ibn Yaḥyā al-Laythī *rahimahullah*.

What you will learn:

A student will be exposed to different types of narrations such as *marfū’*, *mawqūf* and *maqṭū’*. A student will get an understanding of the *Fiqh* of Imam Malik as well as his methodology in *Fiqh*.

Goals for this book:

- Understand the different types of narrations.
- Understand the reasoning and opinions of Imam Mālik.
- Understand the translation of the ‘*aḥādīth*.
- Understand the commentary of the ‘*aḥādīth*.
- Know the answers to apparent contradictions.

Some commentaries for Muwaṭṭa’:

1) **Al-Tahmīd limā fī al-Muwaṭṭa’ min al-Ma`ānī wa al-‘Asānīd** by al-Ḥāfiẓ ibn Abd al-Barr (d.463AH)

(التمهيد لما في الموطأ من المعاني والأسانيد)

This is one of the most famous commentaries yet arguably the most difficult in terms of navigation. It has been organised alphabetically according to the teachers of Imām Mālik *rahimahullah*. The commentary of the ‘*aḥādīth* in al-Muwaṭṭa’ will be under the teachers of Imām Mālik.

He discusses the commentary of the *ḥadīth*, the *fiqh* related to the *ḥadīth* and the differences in the chains of narration. However, he has only commented on the *Marfū’* narrations of al-Muwaṭṭa’ in this work of his.

This commentary of Ḥāfiẓ ibn Abd al-Barr is much more *ḥadīth* inclined as opposed to al-‘Istidhkār.

2) **Al-‘istidhkār by al-Ḥāfiẓ ibn Abd al-Barr (d.463AH)**

(الاستذكار)

This is more of a *Fiqh* commentary on al-Muwatta’. Everything he quotes in here is with a chain of narration. There is much more emphasis in the commentary on the *madhāhib* of the *Fuqahā’* and the opinions of the *Ṣaḥābah* and *Ṭabi`īn*. One will find many narrations of the *Ṣaḥābah* as well as their opinions in this work. In this work, Ḥāfiẓ ibn Abd al-Barr comments on the *Mawqūf* narrations of Muwatta’.

3) **Awjaz al-Masālik `ilā Muwatta’ Mālik by Maulana Muhammad Zakariyya Kāndhlawī (d.1402AH)**

(أوجز المسالك إلى موطن مالك)

This is more of a compilation of earlier commentaries. There is also mention of the opinions and commentaries of the Indian `Ulamā’. This work also contains *Ḥanaḥī Fiqh* and evidences as well as opinions of the other *Fuqahā’*.

Reading list for Year 6

- 1) One complete sharh of ḥadīth – may be al-Minhāj or Fath al-Mulhim
- 2) **Kashf al-‘iltibās `ammā ‘awradahū al-Imām al-Bukhārī `alā ba`ḍ al-Nās** By Abd al-Ghaniyy al-Ghunaymī al-Maydānī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah
(كشف الالتباس عما أورده الإمام البخاري على بعض الناس)
This is a beneficial work explaining the issues upon which Imam al-Bukharī has said قال بعض الناس.
- 3) **Al-Tirmidhi wa al-Muwāzanah bayna Jām`ihi wa al-ṣaḥīḥayn** by Nūruddin ‘Itr
(الترمذي والموازنة بين جامعه والصحيحين)
An excellent work discussing the methodology of Imam al-Tirmidhī and other beneficial points in relation to al-Tirmidhī.
- 4) **Tahqīq ismayi al-ṣaḥīḥayn wa ismi jāmi` al-Tirmidhī**
(تحقيق اسمي الصحيحين واسم جامع الترمذي)
An amazing research discussing the actual names of the books ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, ṣaḥīḥ Muslim and Jāmī’ al-Tirmidhī.
- 5) **Al-Imam Ibn Majah wa Kitabuhu al-Sunan** by ‘Allamah ‘Abd al-Rashid al-Nu’māni with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah
(الإمام ابن ماجه وكتابه السنن)
A very beneficial work discussing Ibn Mājah and his book of ḥadīth. In addition, it has very beneficial research on the development of the science of ḥadīth, the conditions in accepting ḥadīth by the *Muḥaddithūn* and *Fuqahā’* and much more.
- 6) **'Umdat al-Sami' wa al-Qari** by al-Sakhāwī
(عمدة السامع والقاري)
This work by the master al-Sakhāwī focuses on ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī.
- 7) **Ghunyat al-Muḥtāj** by al-Sakhāwī
(غنية المحتاج في ختم صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج)
This work by the master al-Sakhāwī focuses on ṣaḥīḥ Muslim.
- 8) **Badhl al-Majhūd** by al-Sakhāwī
(بذل المجهود في ختم سنن أبي داود)
This work by the master al-Sakhāwī focuses on Sunan Abū Dāwūd.
- 9) **Bughyat al-Rāghib al-Mutamannī** by al-Sakhāwī
(بغية الراغب المتمني في ختم سنن النسائي)
This work by the master al-Sakhāwī focuses on Sunan al-Nasa’i.

10) Mabadi' 'Ilm al-Hadith wa Usuluhū by Maulana Shabbir Aḥmad `Uthmānī with taḥqīq of Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah

(مبادي علم الحديث وأصوله)

This is the brilliant foreward of the commentary 'Fath al-Mulhim'. It is full of benefit for *ḥadīth* students discussing a range of *ḥadīth* related issues and books of *ḥadīth*.

11) Hadiyyah al-darārī by Maulana Fadhlur Rahmān al-Azmi

(هدية الدراري)

This is an introduction to studying ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, which discusses all that a student should be aware of before studying ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī.

12) Al-Yawāqīt al-Ghāliyah part 4 by Shaykh Muḥammad Yūnus Jonpuri

(اليواقيت الغالية)

Further in depth research in the field of *ḥadīth*.

13) Mas'ūliyat al-`Ulamā fī al-`awḍā` al-Mutaghayyirah by Shaykh Abul Ḥasan `Alī al-Nadwī

(مسؤولية العلماء في الأوضاع المتغيرة)

A must read for a student in the final year. This short booklet is a translation of a speech given by Maulana Abul Ḥasan *rahimahullah* in the Urdu language. It is a call to `Ulamā' to focus on improving themselves and understanding their value in society.

14) Rijāl al-Fikr wa al-Da'wah fī al-Islām by Shaykh Abul Ḥasan `Alī al-Nadwī

(رجال الفكر والدعوة في الإسلام)

A lengthy and inspirational work discussing the lives of some famous personalities in Islamic history such as `Umar Ibn Abd al-Azīz, al-Hasan al-Baṣrī, al-Ghazālī and others. This book will give inspiration to students to follow the footsteps of those great `Ulamā' discussed.

15) Thalāth Rasā'il fī `Ulūm al-Ḥadīth compiled by Shaykh Abdul Fattāḥ Abū Ghuddah

(ثلاث رسائل في علوم الحديث)

This is a compilation of three different write-ups. Two of them discuss the conditions in terms of selecting 'aḥādīth in the famous books of 'aḥādīth. Very beneficial whilst studying the books of *ḥadīth*.

Post-graduate Studies

Introduction to Post-graduate courses

Every student should study further and gain an expertise in a field he has a passion for after completing his `alimiyyah studies. During your `alimiyyah studies, you will *naturally* get an inclination to one subject over others. When you realise what you have an inclination for, it is the time to utilise this passion and begin looking at further options in that field.

Without spending time in the company of an expert in a field, one can never really gain a wholesome understanding nor depth in that subject.

A *tālib al-ilm* who fails to specialise in a field is left without a direction and slowly stops reading books let alone researching.

A *tālib al-ilm* who does not study a subject under an expert may self-study all his life; however, he will not have a methodology, precision nor accuracy in his works. Very likely, he will form his own conclusions based upon his selective reading and assumptions, which have a strong possibility of being short of the reality.

By specialising in a subject, it will bring a sense of purpose in your life, a goal and direction. You will gain a deep understanding of that field and will be means of helping and guiding many.

A student must specialise in a field and for the rest of his life aid the `Ummah through this field by devoting his life to the service of that field.

Takhaṣṣuṣ is not about studying certain books; it is far greater than that. The purpose is to spend time with a master who has a sixth sense or *Tafaqquh* in that field and acquire that sixth sense from him. *Takhaṣṣuṣ* is all about learning and acquiring a methodology and insight from the heart of the master of a field, who gained such an expertise from another expert; who gained from another expert; so on and so forth.

In *Takhaṣṣūṣ*, a person gets an understanding of the reliable books and authorities in that science. He gets an insight into the practical experiences of a master in that field. He learns principles and rules not found in books but understood by that expert. A student learns from the etiquettes, practices, behaviour, characteristics of the Shaykh, which profoundly influences the student. Furthermore, Allah instils into the heart of the student farsightedness because of his *taqwā*, company of his shaykh and his hard work. This insight is one of the greatest blessings for a student in a *takhaṣṣuṣ*.

When deciding where to study for a *takhaṣṣuṣ*, consult those `Ulamā' who are engaged in the field you wish to expertise in. Some institutes have a lot more to offer than other. One should try his best to find a real expert and master in that field regardless of where he is in the world and go spend time studying under him. Try to study under someone who has been active in that field for a number of years and is a *muḥaqqiq* (researcher).

There are many fields a student can specialise in, such as:

- 1) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Tafsīr
- 2) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Qirā`ah
- 3) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Ḥadīth
- 4) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Fiqh
- 5) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Aqīdah
- 6) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Lughah
- 7) Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Tārīkh

We will discuss and introduce each one briefly.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Tafsīr

Course Objective

The objective of this is to develop a deep understanding of the Qur'ān and all the sciences related to the Qur'ān.

Course Outline

Different institutes have different methodologies. Below is what some institutes offer:

- 1) *Usūl al-Tafsīr*
- 2) *Tarjamat al-Qur'ān*
- 3) *Tafsīr al-Qur'ān*
- 4) *Jam'u al-Qur'ān*
- 5) *Tafsīr methodology and analysis of Tafsīr works*
- 6) *Fiqh al-Qur'ān*
- 7) *Tabaqāt al-Mufasssīrīn*
- 8) *Asbāb al-Nuzūl*

Career

A specialist in Tafsīr will spend his life being a means of preserving the meaning of the Qur'ān, relaying the accurate meanings of the Qur'ān and answering the claims of the opponents of the Qur'ān. The specialist will pass on this sacred knowledge to the next generation.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Qirā'ah

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to be a means of preserving the recitation of the Qur'ān in the manner recited by the Prophet ﷺ. Preservation and teaching the pronunciation of the Qur'ān is one of the objectives of Prophet Hood.

Course Outline

Some of the subjects studied in a *Takhaṣṣuṣ of al-Qirā'ah* involve:

- 1) *ʿilm al-Qirā'ah* (a study of the different modes of recitation)
- 2) *ʿilm al-Wuqūf* (a study of the different types of recital pauses)
- 3) *Rasm al-Khaṭ* (a study of the text of the Qur'ān)
- 4) *ʿilm al-Tajwīd* (a study of correct recitation and pronunciation)
- 5) Recitation practice

Career

A specialist in *Qirā'ah* will spend his life preserving, teaching and propagating the Qur'ān in the manner it was recited and taught by the Prophet ﷺ. A specialist will also research and contribute to the field as well as pass on this trust to the next generation.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Ḥadīth

Course Objective

The objective of doing a Takhaṣṣuṣ in Ḥadīth is to gain the ability to distinguish between what is correctly attributed to the Prophet ﷺ and what is not.

Course Outline

Different institutes offer different subjects and have different approaches. The books taught will be similar although not identical. A student will develop further in the following sciences whilst studying Takhaṣṣuṣ in Ḥadīth:

- 1) *Ilm Riwāyah al-Ḥadīth*
- 2) *Ilm al-Rijāl*
- 3) *Ilm `ilal al-Ḥadīth*
- 4) *Ilm Gharīb al-Ḥadīth*
- 5) *Ilm Mukhtaliḥ al-Ḥadīth*
- 6) *`ilm Mushkil al-Ḥadīth*
- 7) *Ilm al-Nāsikh wa al-Mansūkh*
- 8) *Ilm Shurūh al-Ḥadīth*
- 9) *Ilm al-Takhrīj*

Career

You will be a defender of the sanctity of the Prophet ﷺ and prevent lies being attributed to him. Likewise, you will spend your life researching what is established in the Sunnah and what is not.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Fiqh/Iftā'

Course Objective

The objective of this is to develop a deep and firm understanding of Fiqh. This will enable one to reach conclusions on contemporary issues in the light of the Qur'an and `aḥādīth through the understanding of the illustrious *Fuqahā'* that have passed.

Course Outline

Different institutes have different methodologies. Below is what some institutes offer:

- 1) *Uṣūl al-`iftā'*
- 2) *Qawā'id al-Fiqh*
- 3) Answering '*Istiftā'*' (questions)
- 4) Taking part in business and marital cases to find solutions
- 5) Learning how to research
- 6) Islamic Finance and Banking
- 7) Laws of Inheritance

Career

You will spend your life establishing the law of Allah and the Prophet ﷺ in the practical daily lives of people. You will be busy finding the *Shar'ī* solutions to practical issues and problems for hundreds of people across the world.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-`Aqīdah

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to preserve and relay the correct beliefs of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*. Likewise, to expose the deviant beliefs and deviant groups.

Course Outline

Some of what a student will study comprises of:

- 1) The ‘*Aqīdah* of *Ahl al-Sunnah* and their evidences.
- 2) The development of ‘*Aqīdah*.
- 3) The classical and contemporary different sects.
- 4) Works in ‘*Aqīdah*.
- 5) Philosophy.

Career

You will spend your life defending the true beliefs held by the Prophet ﷺ and the *ṣaḥābah*. You will expose deviant sects and beliefs and protect the sacred beliefs of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Lughah

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to get a deep and profound understanding of the Arabic language.

Course Outline

A student will develop and gain expertise in the following branches of lughah:

- 1) ‘*ilm al-Nahw*
- 2) ‘*ilm al-Taṣrīf*
- 3) ‘*ilm al-`ishtiḳāq*
- 4) ‘*ilm al-`Urūd wa al-Qawāfī*
- 5) ‘*ilm al-`inshā`*
- 6) ‘*ilm al-Bayān*
- 7) ‘*ilm al-Badī`*
- 8) ‘*ilm al-Ma`ānī*
- 9) ‘*ilm al-`adab*
- 10) ‘*al-Tarāduf wa al-Taḍād*

Career

A specialist in *lughah* will be a means of preserving the beauty of the language of the Qur’ān. He will spend his life analysing and researching the beauty of the Arabic of the Qur’ān and ‘*aḥādīth*. A specialist will be able to write and contribute in the Arabic language as well as pass on this knowledge to the next generation.

Takhaṣṣuṣ Fī al-Tārīkh

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to understand & preserve the history of the previous nations and this ‘*Ummah* accurately.

Course Outline

A student will study some of the following:

- 1) *Tarājim* and *Ṭabaqāt* (biographies and categories of people)
- 2) *Ansāb* (Knowledge of lineages)
- 3) *Sīrah* (Prophetic life)
- 4) *Tārīkh al-Khulafā’* (History of the times of the successors of the Prophet ﷺ)
- 5) *Tārīkh al-Duwal al-Islāmiyyah* (History of the different Islamic empires)
- 6) *Al-Firaq* (different sects in history)

Career

A specialist in history will primarily preserve the correct and authentic history. He will be well versed in issues of history and can relate to the current times by looking at history.

