

# Studying the Din @ NUI



# THE IMPORTANCE OF ISLAMIC EDUCATION



The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “When the time would draw close to the Last Hour, knowledge will be snatched away, turmoil will be rampant, miserliness will be put in the hearts of the people and there will be much bloodshed.” Muslim

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “ If anyone pursues a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to paradise. He who is made slow by his actions will not be speeded by his lineage.” Abu Dawud





# Alignment

Our colleagues in other disciplines will be working in the coming weeks to align their curricula with NJ standards. When we reviewed our Religious Studies curriculum, we aligned it with the consensus of the four major schools of Ahl al Sunna wal Jamaa.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF ALIGNMENT WITH CONSENSUS



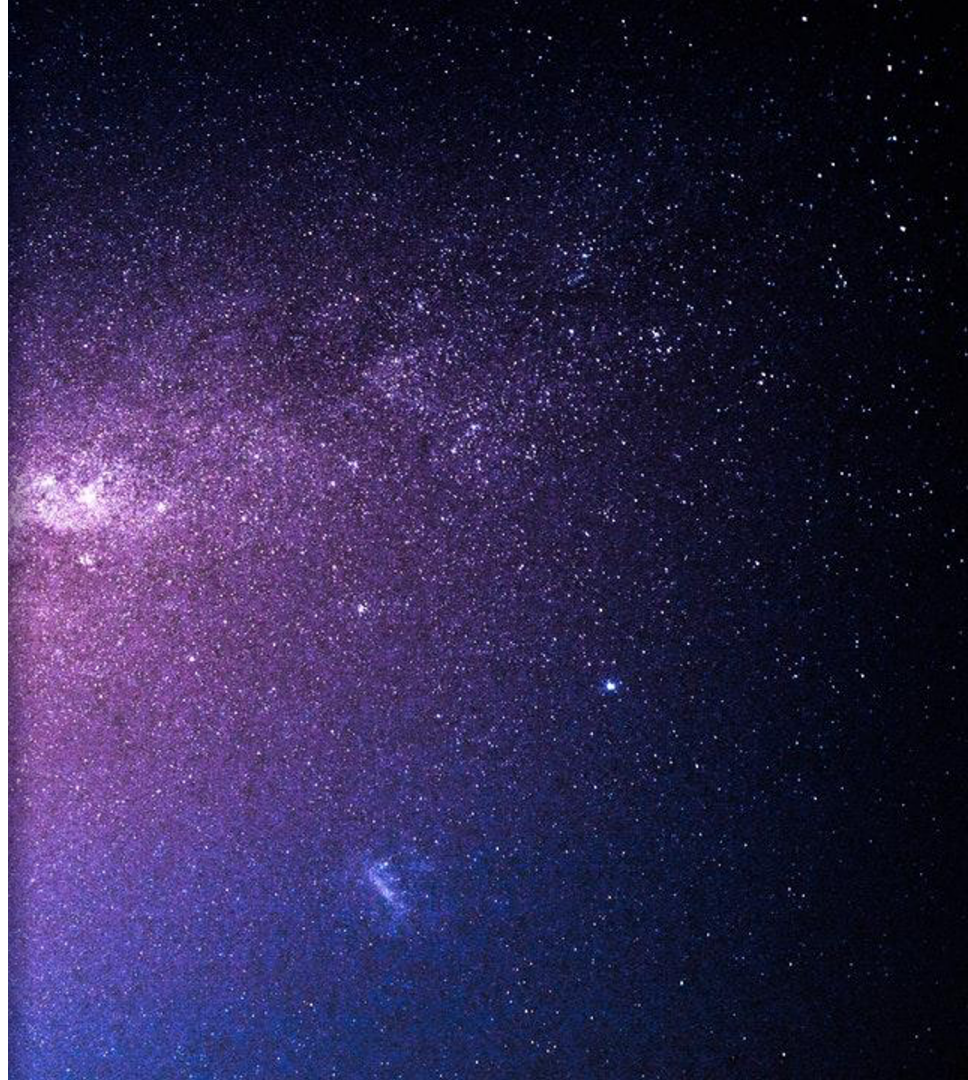
- ★ “Whosoever parts from the Messenger ﷺ and follows other than the path of the believes, We abandon him to what he chose and burn him in the fire” (Nisa’ 115). Therefore, the consensus opinions are binding, and parting from them is sinful (Imam al-Shafi)
- ★ “My umma will never unite upon a misguidance.” Therefore, the majority opinions of the four schools will never lead one astray
- ★ Opinions held by one, two, or just a few scholars are susceptible to human error, and geographical, cultural, or political bias. However, opinions that have been verified by thousands of scholars over centuries and continents are free from such vulnerabilities



# OUR CURRICULUM

Our curriculum covers the core  
Islamic sciences, including

- ★ *Sira*
  - ★ *Hifdh al-Quran*
  - ★ *Ulum al-Quran*
  - ★ *Tafsir*
  - ★ Hadith
  - ★ *Aqida*
  - ★ Purification of the Heart
  - ★ *Fiqh*
  - ★ *Usul*
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# HOW CAN A “THINKING CURRICULUM” BE APPLIED TO ISLAMIC STUDIES?



- ★ As Muslim educators, it is our role to instill in our students a reverence for the sacred sources
- ★ We do not believe that “everything is up for debate” or that the sacred texts can be “picked apart”
- ★ Once this reverence is established, Islam welcomes curiosity and inquiry by students
- ★ Intellectual questions should be addressed with full knowledge that Allah ﷻ commands us to reflect and to think deeply about the meaning of life and the world around us

# STAGES OF KNOWLEDGE



## FIRST

The first task is to instill in our students a love and respect for the word of Allah ﷻ and a deep attachment to His Messenger ﷺ by studying the *shama'il*, *sira*, and the science and memorization of Quran and hadith

## NEXT

Students study *aqida* to develop a profound awareness of Allah ﷻ and delve into Purification of the Heart so that they may come to understand the internal struggles of the human being and how to overcome them

## FINALLY

Students study *fiqh*, the laws of Islam, to understand what is permissible and what is not. They will come to know the mercy of the law and also delve into the methodology (*usul*) and heresiology as seniors. This is balanced by their previous study of the balanced character of our Beloved Messenger ﷺ

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