



IABA

Madrasa Monthly.

Issue No.1

December 2023
Rabi'al Thani - Jamaadal Ula 1445



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December 2023

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						01	02
Monthly Halaqah							
Start of Jamad al- Thani	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Shahadat of Bibi Fatima (as)	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No school - Christmas Break							
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
No school - New Year's Eve	31						

Fun Facts



Br Shams

My name is Shams, I moved to the area in the early 1990s when there was no Madrasa available, where if anyone wanted to attend a Madrasa, they had to travel to Houston or Dallas or attend a Madrasa run by local families. Eventually, the community recognized the need for its own school as the number of children grew.

In the beginning, the community was small, and families would meet at each other's homes. Madrasa initially took place in these homes, with two related families, the Yusufali and Jon Muhammad families, opening their homes for Madrasa sessions. The subjects taught were primarily Quran and Islamic studies. The early Madrasa classes were small, with an advanced and a younger level class running in parallel, and the teachers were college students from the University of Texas who conducted these classes on weekends. Formally, the Madrasa started around 25 years ago, in the late 1990s, but the community purchased a property in the early 2000s, which became the official location for Madrasa. This arrangement fostered a strong sense of community with children leading prayers and participating actively in religious practices until eventually The IABA property was purchased.

Many of those who are now leading efforts for Noor Academy were once students of this early Madrasa. The name of the Madrasa at that time was Al Muhammadi Madrasa.

Students would regularly participate in community events, reciting poems, speeches, and even leading the closing salam. Madrasa was a place where children connected with their community, learned, had fun, and linked it with different aspects of their lives. One notable absence during their time was the candlelight vigil, a community event that has since become a significant tradition. This tradition was introduced by a college student named Aun Ali. College students had a positive influence by volunteering in the Madrasa and introducing new ideas and events for the children of the community.

Madrasa Spotlight

Teacher spotlight



Sr. Lamia

Sr. Lamia has been teaching for 19 years, with 13 years of experience in Yemen and 6 in the USA. Her passion for teaching stems from the satisfaction she gets when her students understand the material. She believes that teaching younger and older kids each presents its unique challenges. Teaching older kids involves fostering discussion and providing reasons and logic for understanding. Teaching younger kids requires more interactive and playful methods. She emphasizes that age-appropriate questions from kids should be answered honestly. Sr. Lamia has a background in education and history/geography from Sana'a University in Yemen and taught there for 6 years. She initially taught history and geography to high school students in Yemen and later taught Arabic and Quran to children ages 3-6 in the USA. Her diverse teaching experiences have equipped her to adapt to different age groups and connect with parents. She is currently undergoing Montessori teacher training, set to finish in June Inshallah.

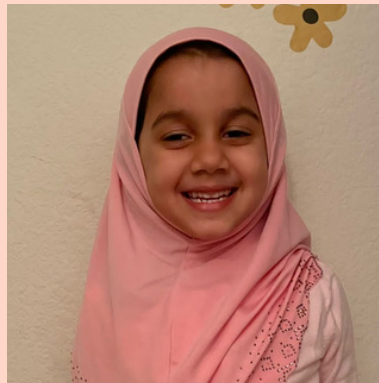
-Students of the month-

Qur'an



Ali Asghar Lv.1

Islamic Studies



Zahra Rizvi Band A

Arabic



Ali Al Saad Lv. 1



Ruqayah Alimari Lv. 5



Zahra Aswad Band D



Najim Al Doori Lv. 4



Principal's Corner



Welcome to our first issue of *Madrasa Monthly*, a publication of the IABA Madrasa reflecting on events, activities and progress of the Madrasa.

Current events in the world, including here in the US, have presented unexpected challenges to many communities and our community is no exception. These challenges have recently risen to conceal our identity, our values and our morals. This is why it is important for the youth these days to connect with their communities and for the community to provide more appropriate programs for our youth.

Now more than ever, our youth need to be educated. Madrasa is an effective way to preserve our identity and educate our youth in the ways of Islam. I encourage the community to volunteer and enroll their children for the upcoming semester as one way to preserve our Islamic identity.



Contact us:

esam.sharafuddin@iaba-austin.org

raza.ali@iaba-austin.org

nadiallah@gmail.com

zhasan82@gmail.com



[612-743-1951](tel:612-743-1951)

