



The M.A.I. Institute

Live the Best Life... for Both Worlds

Prospectus 2021 & Beyond





Produced by Markaz al Ihsaan // the MAI Institute

Published May 2021. All Rights Reserved.

Photo Credits: Impression Studios Ltd.

San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago

<http://maiinstitute.com>
admin@maiinstitute.com;

#161 Dumfries Road
Hermitage Village
Trinidad and Tobago

Live the Best Life. For Both Worlds.



The M.A.I. Institute
Live the Best Life...for Both Worlds

The Islamiyat Program

Culture,
Customs &
Tradition

When you pursue our Islamic Studies Program, you benefit from a range of knowledge and practices that benefit you in this world, and the next.

<http://maiinstitute.com>

Enjoy personal growth



Improve leadership skills



Enhance cultural awareness



Broaden your world view



Identify with a global community



If you are looking for something more out of life, there's no better place to start that with the ***Islamiyat Program*** at the **MAI Institute**. We prepare you with exposure and skills that you can use in every step of your journey... in this life, and the next.

WELCOME TO THE MAI INSTITUTE

We are delighted that you are interested in finding out more about the MAI Institute and the programs offered.

We believe that you want to learn Islam... in order to be a better Muslim, find peace in this life, earn rewards for you and your family in the Hereafter, and also be of service to others in a world that desperately needs some positive action.

At the MAI, we blend classic Islamic study with pioneering contemporary subjects from an Islam viewpoint, so that our students can navigate life today and tomorrow, and represent Islam effectively at any level, anywhere they are.

We aim to provide an unbiased, authentic Islamic education without encouraging division or disunity, and without getting involved in powerplays and jamaat politics. To this end, the MAI Institute is dedicated to making authentic Islamic learning at the highest levels accessible and convenient – even in today's fast-paced and demanding environment.

Being a Muslim today entails dealing with a lot. From job demands to employability and career progression, working to preserve family values, and dealing with issues affecting Muslims such as Islamophobia and media propaganda; terrorism & extremists; warfare and geopolitics; tradition & modernity – all of which manifest throughout the Muslim world. Add to these being bombarded by different ideologies across various sects, and the result can be confusion and concern as to what is Islam and how exactly it should be practiced.

In the face of all these, there is an authentic, mainstream, moderate Islam that is practiced throughout the world – from Albania to Zimbabwe; Karachi to Kuala Lumpur. We aim to bring you authentic moderate Islamic education, and give to you the competence and confidence to live an Islamic life, along with the convenience and accessibility to ensure you can complete your learning and be equipped fully with tools for your journey. This has been our mission at the MAI, since the start of this millennium, and it continues to this day.



ABOUT THE MAI INSTITUTE

Established in 2000, Markaz al Ihsaan was founded on the commitment to realise an educated Muslim and wider national community, wherein persons can live a refined life based on the Qur'anic guidance and on the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be on him), and builds on the previous efforts of the founder and principal Dr. Waffie, and Chairman Haji Imtiaz Edoo. Growing out of a core Islamic Workers Training programme, the MAI Institute moved to its current main campus in the scenic Hermitage Village, La Romaine, adjoining the Hermitage ASJA Mosque.

The MAI Institute was modelled on the foundation established by Dr. Fazlu Rahman Ansari, and preserved in its design the essence of the curricula established at Aleemiyah Institute. Today, it has expanded its focus to also include consideration of the traditional Darz-e-Nizami, Al-Azhar University, Madinah Islamic University, International Islamic University network and other key Islamic training institutions globally – traditional and modern – to bring to you the best combination to help you master Islam and take your Deen and contributions higher.

OUR PRINCIPAL & FOUNDER

MAULANA DR. WAFFIE MOHAMMED



The first Trinidad and Tobago national to have earned a doctorate in the study of Islam, Maulana Dr. Waffie graduated from the University of Karachi with a PhD in Islamic Studies, building upon his Al-Kamil certification from the Aleemiya Institute, under the direct tutorage of Maulana Dr. Fazlu Ansari.

On his return to Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Waffie contributed to the development of the Muslim and wider national communities throughout the country and the region – through Islamic classes held nationwide, his appointment to the Senate in 1981, and his later appointment as Director of the Muslim World League regional office for the Caribbean and Latin America, a position in which he served until his retirement in 2003.

Dr. Waffie is founded and currently serves as the Principal and Director at the Markaz al Ihsaan (MAI) Institute. He also serves as a spiritual leader of the local chapters of the Qadri and Nakshbandi Orders within Islamic Spirituality Circles.

The author of numerous books, articles and publications dedicated to Islam and contemporary social issues, Dr. Waffie also has a growing number of pioneering works in contemporary Islamic studies. In 2016 he was awarded the Humming Bird Medal (Gold) for his contribution in Education to the National Community.

MISSION

To provide accessible authentic Islamic education effectively and efficiently to all those interested in understanding and applying Islamic beliefs, values and practices in their everyday lives.

VALUES

The MAI Institute aspires to inculcate a family culture and environment based on key values which include

- **Inclusion** of anyone across diverse backgrounds;
- **Tolerance** of individual personalities and predispositions,
- **Respect**, for each other celebrating our similarities and in spite of our differences; all underpinned by
- **Competence** and the ability of each individual to demonstrate Islamic values and practices.





Islamiyat Program

**The Fundamentals to
being a Practicing Muslim**

ISLAMIYAT PROGRAM

The Core Fundamentals to be a Practicing Muslim

Whether you are a working professional, business owner, or student, this program gives you a sound understanding of the core beliefs and practices of Islam, regardless of whether you studied Islam previously or not.

Our Islamiyat program is designed to cover the core articles, pillars and culture of Islam. For those who want to learn Islamic principles and practices, so that they can be assured of safeguarding themselves and their families, this course seeks to ensure you are adhering to the core tenets of true Islam, without the spin, compromise or hardline interpretations that lead us to shirk or extremism.

Who's it for?

- New Muslims or persons with little or no prior exposure to Islamic studies
- Persons seeking to formalize their study of Islam
- Business owners, working professionals and students wanting to learn Islam in a convenient, accessible manner
- Anyone wanting to learn unbiased Islam, and the rationale behind the differences

Objectives

- To be a good practicing Muslim, there are a few core beliefs, practices and skills that are required. Our aim is that you achieve the following in your course of study:

- Learn to read the Quran with Tajweed, and memorise parts to fulfill your obligations
- Learn of Islamic practices to correctly guide your conduct and that of your family
- Learn the core principles and concepts of Tawheed
- Learn about the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be on him) – his life and his significance
- Explore the history of Muslim civilization and contributions to human development
- Complete reading the entire Quran over the course of study
- Learn about the required, recommended and disliked acts relating to everyday life in society
- Understand the various Muslim groups, their sources of reference and basis for differences in Muslim majority and minority contexts
- Explore messages and meaning of various chapters of the Holy Quran
- Explore the various aspects of Islam relating to Marriage and the Family, interaction with different groups and institutions within the community, death and barzak, and more

Program Particulars

This program is covered over 2 years of part-time study.

Classes are scheduled every Saturday morning from 9 am – 12 noon.

Classes are delivered online, using Zoom for live classes and supported by a robust elearning management platform for general student access

Subjects Covered

Over the course of study, you will cover the following subjects:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 1		
Islamic Beliefs	Islamic Etiquette	Introduction to Islamic Spirituality
Seerah	The Messenger of Allah	History of Islamic Civilization 1
Reading Arabic / Tajweed	Tajweed / Hifz	Tajweed / Hifz
Usool e Tafseer	Tafseer of last 10 Chapters	Tafseer Surah Joseph
Wudhu, Ghusl, Tayyamum Salaat	Fasting & Zakaat	Hajj and Other Ibadaat
Year 2		
Islam for Healing and Protection	Leadership in Islam	Public Speaking, Presentations & Kuthbas
History of Islamic Civilization 2	History of Islam in Trinidad & Tobago	Muslims Groups & Sources of Reference in Islam
Hifz & Qirat	Hifz & Qirat	Hifz & Qirat
Tafseer Surah Joseph	Tafseer Surah Joseph	Usool e Hadith
Fiqh of Islam for the Family and the Environment	Fiqh of Islam for interacting with the Community and Events	Death, Janazah, and Barzak



"I found out about Markaz Al Ihsaan classes from my Imam who had highly recommended these classes.

As part of my desire to learn more about my religion I started these classes. The subjects were presented in such a skillful way that learning was made enjoyable and easy, even learning to read Arabic.

These classes had a profound impact on me as knowledge brought *imaan* and *imaan* made it easier for me to better practice this great religion. With knowledge I now feel more confident to deal with the challenges of life, I feel closer to my creator and more prepared for the day when I would meet with him.

This has been a life changing experience for me and I sincerely recommend it for all my love ones and members of the Muslim community of Trinidad and Tobago."

Mr. U. Khan (41 years)

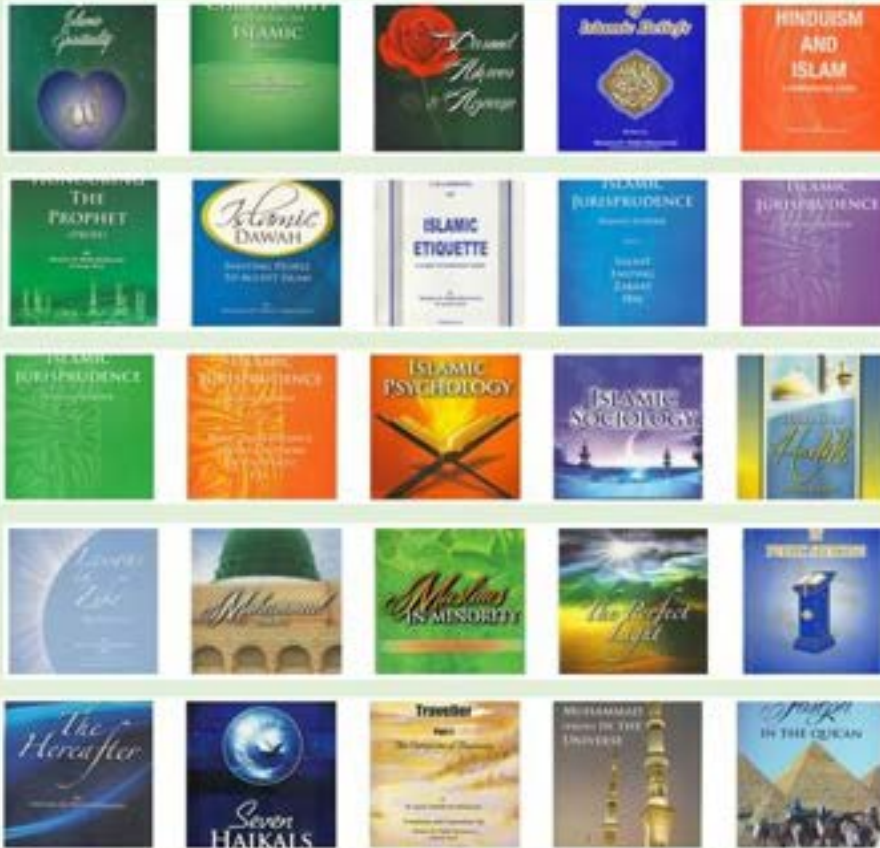
MAI KEY FACTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established 2000 • Educational, social and media services • 3 locations in 2 countries with 1 mission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 900 students to date* many involved in Islamic work across organisations and at various levels • Students comprise experienced professionals in Law, Engineering (all branches), Education, Business Owners, Executives, Working Professionals, Students at A and O levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every teacher holds degrees from recognized universities regionally / internationally, (from BSc's to PhDs) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Islamic Theology, - Arabic, - Education, - Mathematics, - History - Business Administration, - Information Technology • Local and International Faculty drawn from 3 continents
---	---	--



The M.A.I. Institute
Live the best life ... for both worlds

Markaz al Ihsaan Publications



The MAI Institute
is pleased to provide
Free Access
to download its entire
Digital Catalog

Access is easy:

1. Visit MAIInstitute.com
2. Go To Services > MAI Catalog
> Publications
3. Add to Cart
4. Create an account (if you
don't have one*)
5. Click 'Purchase' and
Download

*no credit card required

Islamic Studies

- A Handbook of Islamic Beliefs
- Islamic Etiquette
- Islamic Psychology
- Islamic Sociology
- Lessons in Hadith (Usul and Text)
- Muslims in Minority
- Qur'anic Lessons in Public Speaking
- The Hereafter
- The Story of Joseph in the Qur'an

The Mukhtasar of Al-Qudoori by Imam Abul Husain Ahmed bin Muhammad

- Islamic Jurisprudence Part 1 (Salaat, Fasting, Zakaat, Hajj)
- Islamic Jurisprudence Part 2
- Islamic Jurisprudence Part 3
- Islamic Jurisprudence Part 4

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBOH)

- Honoring the Prophet (PBOH)
- Prophet Muhammad (PBOH) The Perfect Light
- The Status of Prophet Muhammad (PBOH) in the Universe
- Muhammad (PBOH) The Messenger of Allah

Dawah, Spirituality and Comparative Religion

- An Introduction to Islamic Spirituality
- Darood Aqseer & Azaam
- Lessons in Zikr (Remembrance)
- The Seven Haikals
- The Stations of the Traveler - Part 1 (The Categories of Beginning) by Sh. Ismail Abdullah bin Muhammad
- Christianity According to Islamic Beliefs
- Hinduism and Islam - A Comparative Study
- Islamic Dawah - Inviting People to Accept Islam

Visit: <http://maiinstitute.com/>



Alim(a) Program

**Advanced Islamic Learning
for 21st Century Leadership**

ALIM(A) PROGRAM

Advanced Islamic Studies for 21st Century Leadership

Building on the Islamiyat program, the Alim course builds on the initial designs set by Maulana Dr. Fazlu Rahman Ansari, and drives an ethical framework for Islamic contributions to contemporary challenges.

Program Particulars

This program is covered over 4 years of part-time study.

Classes are generally scheduled every Saturday morning from 9 am – 12 noon, with some classes conducted on 1 or 2 weekday evenings.

Classes are delivered online, using Zoom for live classes and supported by a robust elearning management platform for general student access.

The Alim course is built on, and expands upon the classical study of Islam, and emulates those Alim courses that are prevalent globally.

Students will cover the classical subjects alongside contemporary subjects that prepare them for dealing with emerging and present-day issues that face the Muslim community – locally and across the world.

Who's it For?

This program is open to those graduates from the Islamiyat program who wish to learn more about Islam, dive deeper into the classical subjects, and those who wish to contribute in a more meaningful way to the issues, research and responses facing Islam and Muslims today.

Objectives

To be an Alim, there are several subjects which a person must master in order to accurately represent Islam, and avoid misinterpretations and misrepresentation.

In addition, there are other contemporary subjects which students would be required to study in order to effectively assimilate, synthesize and articulate in an accurate, meaningful and consistent manner.

Objectives at the Alim level include:

- Explore the Tafseer of key chapters of the Holy Quran
- Examine the Fiqh positions on matters based on the guidance articulated in select key source texts
- Conduct critical thematic study of core books of Ahadith
- Study the Arabic language in its various branches of study, so as to inform interpretation, understanding and conclusions on matters pertaining to Islam
- Explore the various key religions and attitudes to religions present in contemporary society, from an Islamic viewpoint
- Explore the principles and practices of Dawah in communities today
- Examine the Islamic perspectives and approaches to the subjects of Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy
- Examine the various principles, structures and instruments used in Islamic Finance and Economics
- Explore key issues around Islam the West, Science and Materialism, the Dajjal and End of the World
- Study key authors in Islamic civilisation.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Alim Year 1		
Tafseer	Tafseer	Tafseer
Fiqh	Fiqh	Fiqh
Hadith	Hadith	Hadith
Arabic Language	Arabic Language	Arabic Language
Dawah	Comparative Religion	Comparative Religion
Alim Year 2		
Tafseer	Tafseer	Tafseer
Fiqh	Fiqh	Fiqh
Hadith	Hadith	Hadith
Arabic Language	Arabic Language	Arabic Language
Islamic Psychology	Islamic Psychology	Islamic Psychology
Alim Year 3		
Tafseer	Tafseer	Tafseer
Fiqh	Fiqh	Fiqh
Hadith	Hadith	Hadith
Arabic Language	Arabic Language	Arabic Language
Islamic Sociology	Islamic Sociology	Islamic Sociology
Alim Year 4		
Introduction to Islamic Philosophy	Islam, Science and Materialism	Ideological and Political Issues of Islam and the West
Select Authors in Islam 1	Select Authors in Islam 2	Select Authors in Islam 3
The Coming of the End of the World	The Quranic Foundation and Structure of Muslim Society (1)	The Quranic Foundation and Structure of Muslim Society (2)
Arabic Language	Arabic Language	Arabic Language



“...I am 46 years of age and I am a student of MAI Institute for the past 4 years. I joined this institution based on the feedback given from the members of my Jamaat... because of the standard of Islamic knowledge imparted on the students as well as the close family atmosphere experienced.”

“As a Muslim, because of the...lectures, I am able to effectively teach Maktab and be of service to my community and... my family members.”

Ms. S. Mohammed (46 years)



WHY CHOOSE MAI?

Choosing the right institution can be a daunting task.

In the face of attention surrounding Islam and Muslims globally, and being bombarded by all the diverse ideologies and dogma, which course represents 'true Islam', and does not lead to some form of extremism or fundamentalism? Which ones present Islam as a solution to today's challenges, without overly focusing on issues from a century or even a millennium ago?

Authentic Islam For Today's World

The MAI Institute's Islamiyat program blends the classical with the contemporary to provide to you a course that helps you to navigate the dynamic terrain of today, and infusing the authenticity of Islam from the core reference texts that have withstood the tests of time.

Moderate Islam

Different groups offer Islamic courses, and while all focus on classical Islamic curricula, some curricula are presented with their own interpretations or spin. In some iterations, these led to the emergence of the Taliban, in others Al Qaeda, and yet others ISIS. Their logic has deviated from Islam in some instances, and has certainly not helped their followers to be better persons, live a better life nor represent Almighty Allah and Islam to the world.

At the MAI Institute, we follow the moderate mainstream Islam, and highlight the differences and deviations across the various groups as we cover the curricula. By taking this approach, you know the nexus of the issues, and choose the path and interpretations that make most sense to you. After all, you will stand alone before Almighty Allah and be held accountable on the Day of Judgement.



"I am 16 years old and I am a 3rd year student of Markaz al Ihsaan. I joined this institution because my father enlightened me about it and I saw it as an asset in helping me not only gain knowledge but put it into practice."

"These classes have not only changed me morally but has allowed me to further my Islamic studies to make myself stronger in my religion. These classes have given me a sense of belonging and security since I have joined the Markaz family."

"I have grown and changed tremendously over the years, I've been praying more, reading more Quran and involving myself in beneficial activities. You will truly see a change when you join."

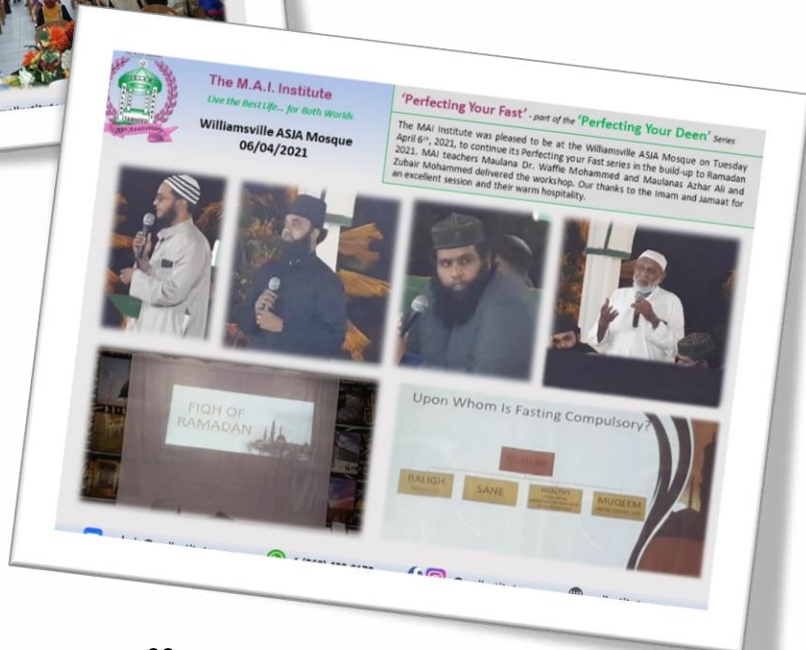
Ms. A. Hosein (16 years)

BEYOND THEORY

MAI recognizes that time is a scarce resource for many persons, given the demands placed on persons by their jobs, their families and commitments. We acknowledge that persons want to ensure they get the most out of their time and efforts.

The MAI Institute has continuously stived to ensure that students gain more than just a sound understanding of Islamic theory and practice, but gain the exposure and experiences necessary to boost their efforts, their contributions and their skillset.





PERFECTING YOUR FAST FOR RAMADAN 2021

MAI was pleased to host a seminar series on the topic across a number of masajid locally and online.

Resources are available *in perpetuum* at <http://maiinstute.com/ramadan>

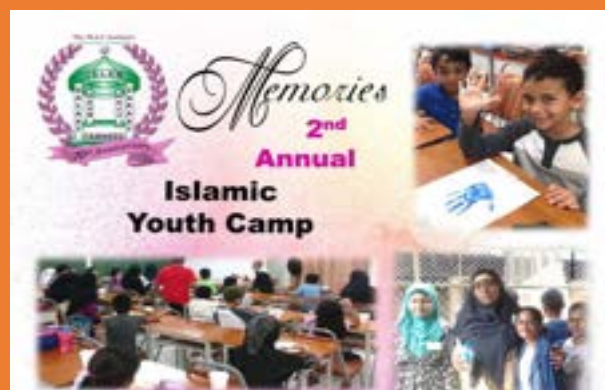


THE FUTURE OF ISLAM IS IN GOOD HANDS

Our Youth Camp and Maktab Program engages children in their study of Deen, utilizing best-practices and modern approaches to deliver subjects. We strive to hone their creativity, problem solving and critical thinking skills, while keeping them grounded in Islamic values and practices. We're doing our part in preparing them for their future as representatives of Almighty Allah in a world that would look very different from today's reality.

HOLISTIC LEARNING...

there's lots to do at the MAI. Enjoy these moments from our Throwback album.





<http://maiinstitute.com>

admin@maiinstitute.com;

#161 Dumfries Road
Hermitage Village
Trinidad and Tobago