



An Intensive Islamic Education & Tarbiyah 8-Months Course

AHSAN

1404-1405 · 2025-2026

Bab al-Ridha Institute

In collaboration with the Hawza Ilmiyyah
& Jamia al-Zahra — Qom.

Supported by KSIJ Dar es-Salaam



BAB AL-RIDHA INSTITUTE

01 · Introduction

What AHSAN is



AHSAN is an intensive residential year of Islamic education and tarbiyah — designed to grow intellect, deepen spirituality, and equip participants with the practical skills they need to serve their communities. Delivered in English by the Bab al-Ridha Institute in collaboration with the Hawza Ilmiyyah in Qom and Jamia al-Zahra, the programme brings English-speaking youth from around the world into a shared eight-month journey of study, mentorship, and lived Islamic practice.

Mission, Audience, and Vision

MISSION

Create the space for English-speaking Muslim youth to encounter Islam holistically — strengthening ideology, understanding of the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAWW), and the Ahlulbayt (a.s.), as well as gain important skills for living an Islamic lifestyle that positive impacts the Muslim community.

AUDIENCE

English-speaking youth, brothers and sisters, aged 18–40, from across the globe.

BACKGROUND

Rooted in a decade of Hawza-based study, research, tarbiyah, practical tabligh, and direct guidance from scholars.

VISION

Individuals of firm faith, clear Islamic ideology, spiritual insight, personal piety, and real effectiveness in Muslim communities.

Three Pillars of Formation

I

Islamic Education

Worldview, Qur'an, Hadith, Akhlaq, and foundational beliefs.

II

Religious Identity

Spiritual growth and a rooted sense of self as a believer.

III

Islamic Lifestyle & Tabligh

Balance, time management, and the practical skills of daily life and public teaching.

The 2025–26 cohort

28

Participants

5 countries · 4 continents

10

Sisters

Single 2 · Married 8

18

Brothers

Single 3 · Married 15

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

TZ

Tanzania

16

KE

Kenya

3

GB

United Kingdom

3

CA

Canada

4

US

United States

4

Commitment and Background

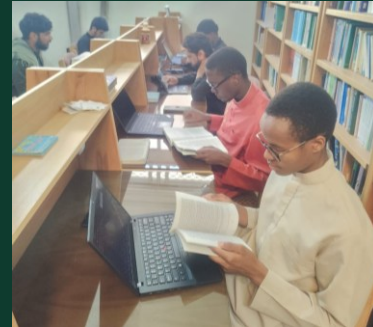


Each participant paused something to be here.

Most participants had completed high-school; some paused a year of university to attend, while others took a leave of absence from work.

Undergraduate students, working professionals, and married couples — ages 18–38.

Study, Ziyarah, Community



Where the Year is Lived

BROTHERS

Jama'at Ahl al-Bayt Hawza Dorms near Bab al-Ridha and the Haram — quiet, comfortable, and walking distance from classes and ziyarah.

SISTERS

Jamia al-Zahra Sisters Hawza — safe, well-appointed, and immersed in a scholarly women's environment.

WRAP AROUND SUPPORT

Iranian & Asian meals with care
for healthy eating

Local transport organised for
classes and ziyarah

SIM cards and currency
exchange throughout the year

Dedicated medical and pastoral
support throughout the stay

Designed in English, Rooted in the Hawza

“

The curriculum is designed and delivered in English by graduates of Hawza Bab al-Ridha, each with a minimum of seven years' study in the Hawza Ilmiyyah and lived tabligh experience across multiple regions of the world.

THE ENGLISH TRACK

All core Islamic subjects taught in English by Hawza-trained scholars with lived tabligh experience across the world.

THE PERSIAN TRACK

A parallel Persian-language track uses the four-volume Parsa series, taught with modern methodology and consistently strong outcomes.

The Year in Numbers

770

Hours of Classes

51

Unique Modules

250

Persian Language
Hours

20

Male Teachers

12

Female Teachers

STRUCTURE 8 months split across 3 terms, plus reading weeks

BREADTH Seven core themes taught alongside Persian language

ASSESSMENT Assessment style matched to each subject — written, oral, and research or project-based

How the 770 hours divide



TOTAL 770 hours across 7 core streams + a Persian language track

Four content pillars

I

Islamic Worldview

Foundational beliefs (Aqa'id), responses to modern doubts, and a mature Islamic worldview.

II

Ethics & Tarbiyah

Islamic ethics (Akhlaq), spirituality, and Qur'anic concepts.

III

Foundational Texts

Tarh-e Wilayat (6 volumes) and selected works of great Scholars.

IV

Applied Skills

Research, teaching, tabligh, and engagement with youth.

Foundational Beliefs

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Epistemology (Ma'rifat-shenasi)	Tarh-e Wilayat, Vol. 1 — Allamah Misbah (r.a.)	6
Term 1	Theology (Khoda-shenasi)	Tarh-e Wilayat, Vol. 2 — Allamah Misbah (r.a.)	13
Term 1	The Reality of the Human Being	Tarh-e Wilayat, Vol. 3 — Allamah Misbah (r.a.)	10
Term 1	Prophethood & Guidance	Path & Guide — Allamah Misbah (r.a.)	9
Term 1	Islamic Thought — General Framework	Tarh-e Kolli-ye Andisheh — Shaheed Rahbar	16
Term 2	Wilayah — Foundational Text	Tarh-e Wilayat, further volumes	12
Term 2	Signs of Belief	Selected treatises	8
Term 3	Divine Justice	Advanced Aqa'id	10
Term 3	Return (Ma'ad)	Advanced Aqa'id	8

92

HOURS

9

MODULES



Qur'an & Ahlulbayt

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Companionship of the Qur'an (Uns bil-Qur'an)	Importance and practical methods for a lifelong bond with the Qur'an	9
Term 1	Concepts of the Qur'an	Foundational Qur'anic concepts, Vol. 1	36
Term 2	Ahlulbayt Studies	Lives, teachings, and legacy of the Imams (a.s.)	30
Term 3	Imamah	Foundational study of Imamah and responses to key doubts — a core output of scholars trained as mubaligheen	45
Term 3	Usul al-Fiqh	Introductory study of the science of jurisprudential principles	6
Term 3	Tajwid	Fluent recitation and rules of Tajwid	13
Term 3	Hadith Studies	Narrators and the transmission of Hadith	11

150

HOURS

7

MODULES



Ethics & Spirituality

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Spiritual Wayfaring I	Sayr wa Suluk — Ayatollah Tehrani, Part 1 (importance, aims, needs)	25
Term 2	Spiritual Wayfaring II	Sayr wa Suluk, Part 2 (prerequisites of the path)	16
Term 2	Ethics in Financial Life	Role of moral virtue in personal economics (earning & spending)	4
Term 3	Spiritual Wayfaring III	Sayr wa Suluk, Part 3 (obstacles and fruits of spirituality)	13

58

HOURS

4

MODULES



Fiqh

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Applied Fiqh I	Everyday acts of worship (ibadat) in practice	25
Term 2	Applied Fiqh II	Everyday transactions (mu'amalat) in practice	16
Term 2	Fiqh for Women	Rulings specific to women	3
Term 2	Fiqh of Gaze & Hijab	Rulings on gaze and hijab	3

47

HOURS

4

MODULES



Insight & Contemporary Issues

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Framework of the Islamic Sciences	Overarching aims and internal order of the Islamic disciplines	6
Term 2	The Modern World	History and ideology of the West from the Renaissance to today — humanism, secularism, and their social effects	18
Term 3	The Status of Women in Islam	A principled response to modern doubts about women, engaged with Western frameworks	10
Term 3	The Influence of Film	How film shapes belief, insight, and behaviour	4

38

HOURS

4

MODULES



History

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	History of Hadith & Its Narrators	The transmission chain of Hadith and its major narrators	10
Term 1	Study of Sayyida Fatima al-Zahra's (s.a.) Sermon	Textual study of the Fadakiyyah sermon during Ayyam Fatimiyyah	3
Term 1	The Event of Ghadir	A principled response to doubts raised on Ayyam Fatimiyyah	3
Term 2	The 250-Year-Old Human	Shaheed Rahbar's reading of the continuous 250-year struggle of the Imams (a.s.)	17

33

HOURS

4

MODULES



Persian Language

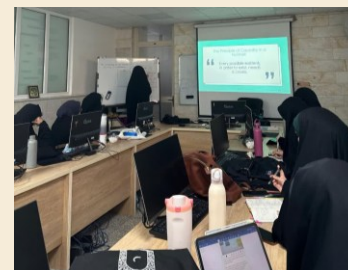
Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Speaking Persian I	Persian language acquisition — foundational level	91
Term 2	Speaking Persian II	Persian language acquisition — intermediate level	72
Term 3	Speaking Persian III	Persian language acquisition — advanced level	82

245

HOURS

3

MODULES



Life Skills — Part 1

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 1	Time Management	Time management, planning, and lifestyle design	6
Term 1	Contentment in Life	The Islamic approach to contentment, drawn from Ustad Panahian's course and book	5
Term 1	Study Method	Effective methods for study and retention	6
Term 2	Logic (Mantiq)	Core topics of introductory logic	18
Term 2	Choosing a Spouse	Religious foundations and practical methods for choosing a spouse	5
Term 2	Team Project	A live team-based project delivered on the ground in Qom	25
Term 2	Family Life	Religious foundations and practical principles of a strong marriage	3
Term 2	Presentation Skills	Public speaking and delivery for teachers and mubaligheen	8

129

HOURS

16

MODULES



Life Skills — Part 2

Term	Course	Description	Hours
Term 2	Financial Literacy	Personal finance and stewardship	6
Term 3	Managing Desire (Shahwah)	A practical approach to managing desire for young adults	3
Term 3	Culinary Skills	Practical cookery — a specialist single-participant course	8
Term 3	Research Skills	Applied research: producing a written paper	10
Term 3	Raising Children	Religious foundations and practical principles of raising children	5
Term 3	Engaging Youth	Communicating with adolescents — understanding their needs and responding well	10
Term 3	Digital Literacy	Effective, ethical use of digital tools	6
Term 3	Community Service	Applied service and organised outreach	5

129

HOURS

16

MODULES



Supervision and Tarbiyah

Academic & Tarbiyah

Continuous support for participants' academic, spiritual, and skill-based growth through regular sit-downs, personal assessments, and tailored guidance — with attentive care for individual differences and the varied needs of every learner.

Personal Mentorship

Sincere, trusting relationships built with mentors who have themselves walked a similar path in the Hawza. This protects participants' emotional and spiritual wellbeing and prevents any sense of isolation.

5 *tarbiyah* groups Participants were organised into five tarbiyah—education groups to strengthen communication, follow-up, and impact — each with a dedicated supervisor and mentor.

Ziyarah, Recreation, and Sports

Spiritual Visits

Weekly visits (1–2×) to the Holy Shrine, the Gulzar-e Shohada, Sheikhan, and Jamkaran — always accompanied by a du'a-and discussions.

Sports

At least three hours a week — Judo, football, and swimming for the brothers; a parallel programme for the sisters.

Recreation

Regular trips to Mount Khidr, Kahak, Imamzadeh Abdullah and Isma'il, and parks around Qom.

Mashhad & the North

Two ziyarah trips to Imam Ridha (a.s.): a week-long trip by train and a one-week road trip via Gorgan, Golestan Forest, and the northern coast.

Developing Effective Human Resources

Skill Development

- 1** Stronger cross-cultural communication
- 2** Expanded tarbiyah and spiritual capacity
- 3** Deeper capability in tabligh and teaching

Character Development

- 1** A firmer sense of commitment and personal responsibility
- 2** Stronger self-discipline and personal order
- 3** A cultivated spirit of organised, cooperative work

Long-term Impact

- 1** An international network of AHSAN alumni
- 2** Trained personnel ready to serve the community's future work
- 3** Strengthened credibility for the Hawza and the wider institution



BAB AL-RIDHA INSTITUTE

THANK YOU

An AHSAN year.

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