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YOUNG MUSLIMS NORTH AMERICA

INTRODUCTION TO YM

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OVERVIEW OF YOUNG MUSLIMS

By Asim Ranginwalla

We all know the grave situation of the Ummah in our time. Our Muslim brothers and sisters are being oppressed and persecuted all over the world. Muslims are well in number, but weak in every aspect of life. We learn from the Qur'an that we must make Islam the dominant Deen (in every aspect of life). This goal seems very far away from reality at this point. The Muslims must work for this goal.

The way in which we work cannot be random and haphazardly chosen. We must look to the Qur'an and Sunnah for the answer. When we study the life of the Prophet (SAW), we can pick out key elements that gave the companions the ability to change the situation of the Ummah, and hold and carry the light (nur) of Islam to the rest of the world. We can clearly see that for the results that the Prophet (SAW) and the companions achieved, there was special training that had to be done. For many years in Makkah, the Prophet (SAW) spent time with his companions, teaching them, getting them prepared, training the mind, body and soul for the hardships and situations they were going to face. A lot of this training happened at the House of al-Arqam b. Abi al-Arqam. This house was more than just a meeting place, it was a sort of school out of which the best students (the Sahabah) graduated.

Young Muslims is trying to follow this example, and trying to produce movement oriented Muslims who are sharp in their thinking, and quick to decipher between right and wrong, Islam and anything else. Sometimes the people who we deal with are not even close to a starting point for this type of training. For this reason there are a lot of activities that we provide, in order for them to first be in a Muslim environment, and second for them to start to think about Islam, and this usually leads to the starting point.

There are other organizations (may Allah bless them and their work) that provide youth with activities. Young Muslims goes beyond that because we don't see the activity as an end in itself. Our goal is not to keep the youth busy and out of trouble. Although this usually one of the results of the Muslims that get involved with us, this is not our goal. Even in our activities, we have our goals in mind, Inshallah, which is to train the youth to carry on the work which is necessary to revive the Muslim Ummah and make Islam the dominant Deen.

The most basic part of YM is the Neighbor Net. This is a halaqah type gathering where the brothers meet up, wherever they feel comfortable, and talk about their problems, find answers through Islam, generally learn about Islam, or just enjoy a Muslim atmosphere. It is the core of YM. This is where the Personal Development Program (PDP) is implemented. This is a syllabus of topics which range from very basic Islam to History and building of personality. The PDP comes with a list of suggested books and also Surahs and ayahs which can be of help. This is where a member of YM gets the basic knowledge he needs, and builds the proper thinking and mindset in order to carry out the work which is necessary for the Ummah.

As a part of YM, you are not just a small group, but a part of a national level struggle. YM is a division of ICNA (the youth wing). Besides that, we are growing in places like New York, Maryland, Florida, Chicago, California, and other places that we are expanding to. There is a very defined structure to YM as an organization. We also hold many conferences and other meetings so that the members can meet other brothers and get a feeling of what they are a part of and the situation in other parts of the nation. For instance, there is a national Summer Camp, which is a week long, and there are lectures from scholars and interactive activities so as to help us get to know different brothers, the result is usually, Inshallah, great brotherhood.

THE GOAL & METHOD OF YOUNG MUSLIMS

By Azeem Khan

The Goal

- The goal of Young Muslims shall be to seek the pleasure of Allah (SWT) by educating, training and developing the Muslim youth to be Islamic workers for Iqamat-ad-Deen in North America.

The Method

- Qur'an and Sunnah shall be the primary source of guidance.
- Providing all areas of education for Muslim youth of North America.
- Inviting youth to submit to the Creator by using all possible means of communication.
- Motivating Muslim youth to perform their duty to being witness unto mankind by their words and deeds.
- Organizing those Muslim youth who agree to work in this cause in the discipline of Young Muslims.
- Offering educational and training opportunities to increase Islamic knowledge to enhance character and to develop skills of all those who are associated with Young Muslims.
- Cooperating with other organizations for implementation of this program and unity in the Ummah.

Understanding the Goal

- Seeking the pleasure of Allah (SWT)
- Educating, Training and Developing Muslim Youth
- Islamic Workers
- Iqamat-ad-Deen
- North America.

What is Iqamat-ad-Deen?

- The Establishment of Islam in its totality
- Surah Fatha 48:28
- It is He who sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth, that He may make it prevalent over all religions. And sufficient is Allah as a witness.
- Surah Shura 42:13
- He (Allah) has ordained for you the same religion, which he ordained for Nuh, and that which We have revealed to you, and that which We ordained for Ibrahim, Musa and Isa saying you should establish religion and make no divisions in it.
- Enjoining good and forbidding evil. Surah Ale Imran 3:104
- Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good enjoining Maroof and forbidding Munkar. And it is they who are the successful.
- Witnesses unto Mankind 2:143
- And it is thus, that we appointed you to be the community of the middle way, so that you might be witnesses before all mankind and the Messenger might be a witness before you.
- Surah Hajj. 22:78
- And strive hard in Allah's cause as you ought to strive. He has chosen you, and has not placed any hardship upon you in religion. It is the religion of your father Ibrahim. It is He who has named you Muslims both before and now, that the messenger may be a witness over you and you be witnesses over the mankind.

Understanding The Method

Qur'an and Sunnah shall be the primary source of guidance.

Providing all areas of education for Muslim youth of North America.

Inviting youth to submit to the Creator by using all possible means of communication.

- Speaking their language
- Understanding their problems

- Applying strategies based on the situation

Motivating Muslim youth to perform their duty to being witness unto mankind by their words and deeds.

- Helping Youth to Realize that their actions must reflect their belief in Islam

Organizing those Muslim youth who agree to work in this cause in the discipline of Young Muslims.

- Promoting the Ideals of working in a Jamaah
 - Listening and Obeying to Ameer
 - Learning to sacrifice opinions
 - Learning to offer Criticism in the proper forums

Offering educational and training opportunities to increase Islamic knowledge to enhance character and to develop skills of all those who are associated with Young Muslims.

Cooperating with other organizations for implementation of this program and unity in the Ummah.

Goal Based Activities

- ❖ NeighborNets
- ❖ Study Circles
- ❖ Lectures
- ❖ Camps
- ❖ Conventions
- ❖ Classes
- ❖ Giving Time to Individuals
- ❖ Hanging Out as a Group

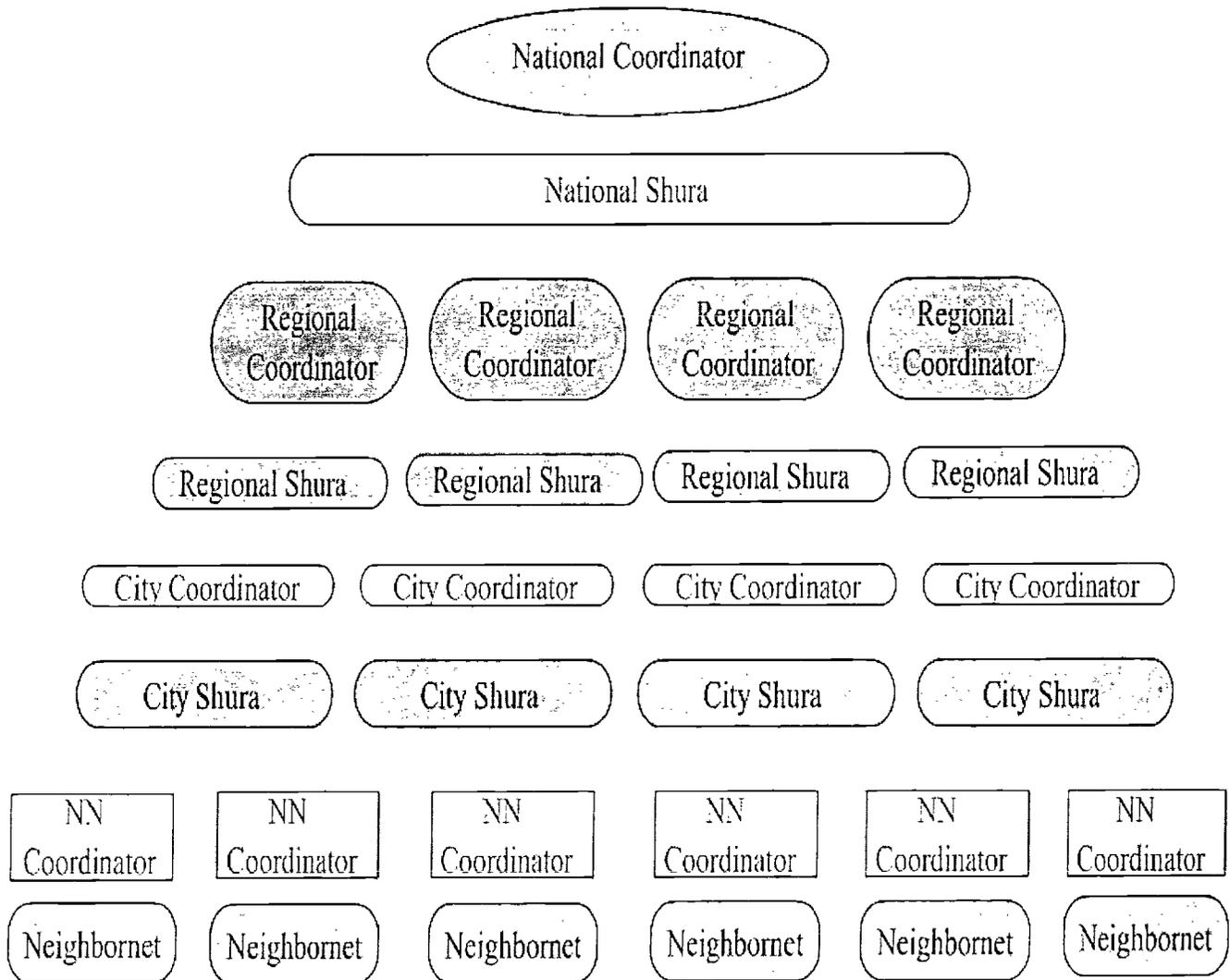
End Result: Trained Islamic Worker

- Has sound understanding of what Islam calls for
 - Personal and collective obligations
 - Can decipher between what's Halal and Haram
 - Everyday Fiqh
- Movement Oriented
 - Has his priorities set, with Islamic Work on the top
 - Can go to any spot on the world, and be able to evaluate the situation and start working accordingly
 - Firm in his conviction on how the Establishment of Islam is to be worked for
- Self motivated in his Personal Development/ Tazkiyyah
 - Relationship with Allah
 - Relationship with the Quran and Sunnah
 - Memorization
 - Understanding
 - Implementation
 - Nawafil Ibaadat
 - Tahajjud
 - Fasting
 - Intellectual Development
 - Has the ability to write and speak effectively
 - Well read on Islamic, and other literature and issues
 - Aware of What's happening around the globe
 - The situation of the Muslims
- Experienced in Ground Work
 - Making Contacts, and bringing them into the movement
 - Working on changing individual's hearts and minds
 - Running Halaqas
 - Organizing events/activities
- Ready to continue link with the Global Islamic Movement by joining larger mediums which are already established.

End Note.

Think globally, but work locally

GRAPHICAL LAYOUT - YOUNG MUSLIMS' STRUCTURE



THE CORE TEAM SYSTEM

From the Time of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (S), we can see that there has always been a core group, which has been the strength or nucleus of the Islamic struggle. We must strive to be like those who were always there through the thick and thin. The examples of Syyedna Abu Bakr Siddiq (R), and Syyedna Umar Ibn Al Khattab (R) and the other few who always surrounded the prophet (S) are in front of us. They always remained with the prophet when it came to decision-making matters (planning), and also when it came to practical work (calling others to Islam, performing Jihad etc.). Similarly in YM we have a system where teams can be setup on various levels to ensure that the direction of all planning and activities reflect the goals that Young Muslims wishes to attain.

These Teams can be setup on the following levels: locally (NeighborNets), city wide, regionally, and nationally. The national team is what we call the National Shura (Maglis' Shura) of YM. This Shura provides consultation to the National Coordinator (Ameer) of YM. On a Regional Level a core team can overlook all the citywide units, which fall under that specific region. A city wide unit (Such as New York, or Chicago) which has multiple NeighborNets under it, may have a team setup which consists of their coordinators and future coordinators, who can gather and make city wide plans, and also evaluate all individual member's progress. Core teams may also be setup within the NeighborNet to ensure that all meetings are well planned. Each Team has an Ameer/Coordinator (Ex. National Coordinator, Regional Coordinator, City Coordinator, and NeighborNet Coordinator).

Goals of any Core Team:

- To improve the level of Islamic understanding of each member under their supervision
- To maintain the quality of YM programs
- To Provide direction, and avoid holding random activities
- To constantly improve their own understanding (via training camps, study circles, etc.)
- To Expand, and propagate YM, and its message by all means of communication (programs, websites, newsletters, booklets, stickers, etc.)

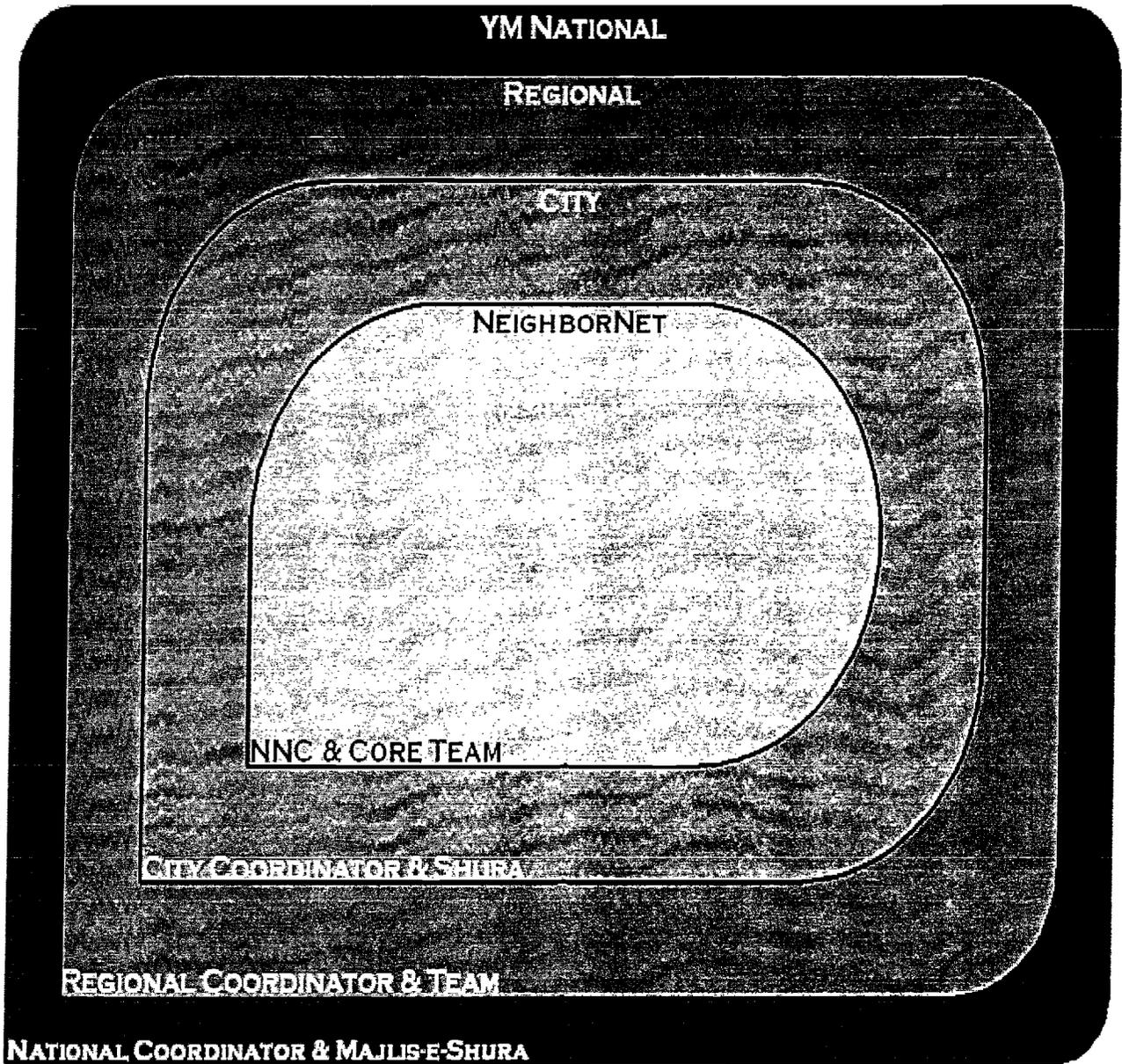
What's needed to maintain a team, and keep the cycle going?

- Always look for 'new blood', find future team members and train them to takeover
- Keep a watchful eye over those who have been appointed responsibilities
- Ehtisaab (accountability sessions) should be conducted on a frequent basis
- Replace those who do not show improvement over a long period of time, or those who have gotten worse.

This system's processes are what many organizations and Islamic Movements use to continue to rejuvenate, and keep themselves alive.

Prepared by Salman Yasir, and Azeem Khan of the YM Shura 2001'.

GRAPHICAL LAYOUT • TEAMS THROUGH OUT YOUNG MUSLIMS STRUCTURE





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CHARTER OF YOUNG MUSLIMS OF NORTH AMERICA

Clause 1: Name

The name of this movement shall be “Young Muslims” (YM).

Clause 2: Status

Young Muslims shall be a division of ICNA and shall make policy decisions with the consultation of the YM Board.

Clause 3: Effective Date

The Charter and By-Laws came into effect on May 1, 1999.

Clause 4: Aqeedah (Creed)

The aqeedah (Creed) of Young Muslims is: “*La ilaha-illallahu Muhammadur Rasulullah*,” That is, there is no deity except Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.

A. *La ilaha-illallahu* means that Allah (SWT), alone is the Creator, Sustainer, Lord, and Sovereign of the whole universe. No one shares His attributes or powers. The acceptance of this fact makes it imperative that the believer should:

1. Believe that Allah begets not, nor is He begotten and that Allah is his/her sole Creator, Guardian, the Benefactor, and the Protector.
2. Repose in Allah his/her trust, hopes and fears.
3. Call for help, pray to, and seek refuge only in Allah without considering any intercessor to Him, be that an angel, a prophet or a saint.
4. Bow his/her head before none, worship none, offer homage to none except Allah, and do not indulge in any practice(s) of polytheistic nature because Allah alone deserves all ibadah (worship).
5. Accept that Allah (SWT) is the Sovereign of the universe and the Supreme lawgiver.
6. Exercise his/her freedom in the submission to Allah’s will as an abd (faithful servant) and refrain from servitude of his/her lust and desires.
7. Recognize the fact that he/she owes his/her life, body, mental, and physical capabilities to Allah and thus consider them a trust (amanah) from Allah.
8. Consider himself/herself answerable to Allah (SWT) for his/her actions on the Day of Judgment.
9. Make the pleasure and displeasure of Allah (SWT) the criterion for all his/her likes and dislikes.
10. Recognize Allah’s (SWT) guidance as “The Guidance” in matters of moral, social, political and economic behavior. Thus reject anything that goes against His Shari’ah.
11. Consider the pleasure of Allah (SWT) as the only basis for his/her struggle for Iqamat-ud-Deen, and the pivot of his/her entire life.

B. *Muhammadur Rasulallah* implies that Muhammad (SAW), is the last Prophet sent by Allah (SWT), with the final and authentic guidance, and that he was entrusted with establishing a model society based on this guidance. Acceptance of this fact makes it imperative that the believer should:

1. Accept without question all those teachings that have been proven to be those of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW).
2. Recognize the fact that obedience to Allah (SWT) and His Prophet is paramount to all other obedience's. Following others can only be under the direction of Allah's book (The Holy Qur'an) and the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (SWT), Muhammad (SAW), but not independent of them.
3. Declare the Book of Allah (SWT) and the Sunnah of His Messenger as the argument, final testimony and source of all guidance in his/her life.
4. Cleanse his/her heart of all prejudices whether they are racial, personal, familial, social, national, territorial, sectarian or parochial; Abstain from developing love and adoration for anyone that dominates or rivals the love and adoration for the truth brought by the Messenger of Allah, Muhammad (SAW).
5. Recognize no person after the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) as having such status that allegiance to him would determine the Iman or Kufr of any person.

Clause 5: Goal

The goal of Young Muslims shall be to seek the pleasure of Allah (SWT) by educating, training and developing the Muslim youths to be Islamic workers for Iqamat-ud-Deen in North America.

Clause 6: Methodology/Program

1. Qur'an and Sunnah shall be the primary source of guidance.
2. Providing all areas of education for Muslim youths of North America.
3. Inviting youths to submit to the Creator by using all possible means of communication.
4. Motivating Muslim youth to perform their duty to being witness unto mankind by their words and deeds.
5. Organizing those Muslim youths who agree to work in this cause in the discipline of Young Muslims.
6. Offering educational and training opportunities to increase Islamic to enhance character and to develop skills of all those who are associated with Young Muslims.
7. Cooperating with other organizations for implementation of this program and unity in the Ummah.

By-Laws

Part I

Clause 1: Membership

Any youth, living in North America, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, family or gender, can become a member of Young Muslims, provided that he/she:

1. Agrees with the aqeedah, goal, methodology and program of Young Muslims.
2. Tries to practice Islam in his life.
3. Fills out the prescribed form, which shall be recommended by the Local or Regional Coordinator and shall be approved by the National Coordinator.
4. Extends cooperation in the struggle of Young Muslims.

Clause 2: Members of Young Muslims

Every member of Young Muslims shall endeavor:

1. To improve his/her knowledge of Islam on a continuous basis.
2. To mold his/her personal, family and social life in accordance with the Qur'an and the Sunnah.
3. To introduce the da'wah of Young Muslims to his/her family, friends and acquaintances.
4. To encourage and extend all possible support to any member of his/her family who is actively involved in the activities of Young Muslims.
5. To undertake an organized struggle for the establishment of Islam and the propagation of its message.
6. To invite those who agree with the aqeedah of Young Muslims to join the movement and help achieve its goal.
7. To abstain from all such activities, which conflict with the goal and of Young Muslims.

Clause 3: The National Coordinator

1. The National Coordinator shall be the ultimate responsible to guide and lead Young Muslims with the cooperation of YM Shura and members and shall be answerable to the Ameer of ICNA.
2. The National Coordinator shall implement the Young Muslims policies and decisions of YM Shura.
3. The term of the National Coordinator shall be two years. A person cannot be elected as the National Coordinator for a third consecutive term.
4. If at any time the National Coordinator can not perform his responsibilities, temporarily, he shall appoint an acting National Coordinator in consultation with the YM Board for a maximum period of three months. If the situation persists, the Ameer of ICNA shall appoint or the YM Board shall conduct the election for the new National Coordinator.
5. If the office of the National Coordinator becomes vacant during the session due to his resignation, removal or any other reason, the Young Muslim Shura shall elect an acting National Coordinator for a maximum period of six months. It shall be necessary that the new National Coordinator be elected before the expiration of this period.
6. It shall be the duty of the National Coordinator to:
 - a) Place obedience and faithfulness to Allah (SWT) and His Messenger, Muhammad (SAW) above everything else.
 - b) Consider achieving the goal of Young Muslims as his primary obligation.
 - c) Give preference to Young Muslims' interests over his personal interests.
 - d) Treat and command members of Young Muslims justly and honestly.
 - e) Safeguard fully the trusts handed over to him.
 - f) Abide by this Constitution and seek to maintain proper order within Young Muslims.
 - g) To maintain contact or communication with the members of Young Muslims.
 - h) To visit Neighbor Net on a periodical basis.
7. The National Coordinator shall have the following powers:
 - a) To take immediate and appropriate action, when needed, concerning important matters in consultation with the Young Muslims Shura.
 - b) To supervise all the administrative activities of Young Muslims.
 - c) To use the resources of Young Muslims within the limits drawn by the Young Muslim Shura.
 - d) To accept new members or expel any existing members in consultation with Young Muslims Shura.
 - f) To approve the elections or the dismissal of local NeighborNet Coordinators with the consultation of the Young Muslim Shura and the Regional Coordinator.
 - g) To appoint or remove the any office within the National Shura held by Shura member of Young Muslims in Consultation with the Young Muslim Shura and YM Board.
 - h) To use funds from Young Muslims Baitul Maal according to the budget.
 - i) To call in session a meeting of the Members.
 - j) To implement the decisions arrived at by the Young Muslim Shura to the best of his judgment and ability.

- k) To delegate any of his powers to any other person, in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura.

Clause 4: The Young Muslim Shura

1. The basic function of the Young Muslim Shura shall be to formulate the best policies and working procedures with the consultation of the YM Board to achieve the goal of Young Muslims.
2. The Young Muslim Shura shall consist of elected and nominated members.
3. The members of Young Muslims shall elect the members of the Young Muslim Shura every two years.
4. The term for Shura members shall be for two years. A person cannot be elected for a third consecutive term.
5. The National Coordinator shall be the President of the Young Muslim Shura.
6. Powers of the Young Muslim Shura:
 - a) To formulate Young Muslims policies with the consultation of the YM Board.
 - b) To advise, without apprehension, on central, regional and local appointments and other matters.
 - c) To carry out ehtisab (criticism and accountability aimed at future improvements) of the National Coordinator and remove him from his office provided two-thirds of the elected members of the Young Muslim Shura pass a no-confidence motion against him. The removal shall be effective after the approval from the Ameer of ICNA.
 - d) To interpret the Constitution and amend it, in extraordinary circumstances, with the consent of a simple majority and subject to the subsequent approval of the Members.
 - e) To approve the central budget of Young Muslims.
 - f) To review, criticize and evaluate the reports of the central, regional and local organizations.
 - g) To set up committees, as needed, in connection with various works (projects) and departments of Young Muslims and define their limits.
 - h) To take all necessary steps to achieve the goal of Young Muslims in accordance with the Constitution.
 - i) To delegate its powers, or some of them, along with any limits which it may deem necessary, to any committee of Muslims, the National Coordinator or any other person.
7. Duties of the members of the Young Muslim Shura:
 - a) To place obedience and faithfulness to Allah (SWT) and His Messenger (SAW) above everything else.
 - b) To keep a watch on themselves and the National Coordinator in order to ensure that they adhere to Young Muslims ideology and strive constantly to achieve its goal.
 - c) To participate regularly in the meetings of the National Shura.
 - d) To express their honest opinion according to their best knowledge and understanding.
 - e) To abstain from creating permanent groupings and causing divisions within Young Muslims and to help forestall any such eventuality.
 - f) To bring to the immediate attention of the National Coordinator any issue or problem concerning Young Muslims and to help in rectifying the situation.
 - g) To keep in touch with the National Coordinator on a regular basis.
 - h) To carry out the responsibilities assigned to them diligently.
8. Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings:
 - a) Ordinarily, there shall be at least three meeting of the Young Muslim Shura in a year.
 - b) The National Coordinator shall hold the special meeting of the Young Muslim Shura as and when deemed necessary.
 - c) At the request of one-half of the members of the Young Muslim Shura, the National Coordinator shall call a meeting as soon as possible.
 - d) The quorum for a meeting shall be two-thirds of the Shura members, but if a meeting has to be postponed due to lack of quorum, then no quorum is required for the next meeting.

- e) Generally, the Young Muslim Shura shall seek unanimous decisions but in case of differences the decision of the majority of the members present shall be binding.

Clause 5: Secretary General:

1. The National Coordinator shall appoint the Secretary General in consultation with the YM Shura.
2. The Secretary General shall render general assistance to the National Coordinator. He shall perform all those duties and use all those powers entrusted to him by the National Coordinator, and shall be answerable to him for his work.
3. The special responsibilities of the Secretary General include maintaining contact with and supervising the central departments, and compiling proceedings of Shura.
4. The same person may hold the office of Secretary General successively.

Part II Regional and Local Organizations

Clause 1: Regions

1. In order to expand, to strengthen and to better supervise the work of Young Muslims, North America shall be divided into various regions.
2. The regional organization shall normally consist of the following, except in circumstances requiring any other arrangements:
 - a) Regional Coordinator
 - b) Regional Shura, if necessary

Clause 2: Regional Coordinator

1. The National Coordinator shall appoint every two years a Regional NeighborNet Coordinator for each region, in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura.
2. The Regional Coordinator shall have the following responsibilities and powers:
 - a) To implement the program and policies of Young Muslims in the assigned region.
 - b) To maintain contact with the local organizations and the individual members.
 - c) To receive instructions from the Headquarters and to guide and supervise the local organizations.
 - d) To establish new local units in his region.

Clause 3: Local Units

1. A local unit shall be established at a place where there are three or more members of Young Muslims.
2. The National Coordinator under special circumstances, in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura, may ask local members to hold new elections.
3. The Local NeighborNet Coordinator shall be answerable to the local members, regional NeighborNet Coordinator and the National Coordinator.
4. The local NeighborNet Coordinator shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a) To disseminate the message of Islam and to organize those who have joined Young Muslims in his area.
 - b) To nourish the brotherhood among the members of Young Muslims and take personal interest in their Islamic development.
 - c) To implement policies and decisions of Young Muslims at the local level.
 - d) To keep the regional NeighborNet Coordinator and the National Coordinator informed of his unit's progress.
 - e) To guide, supervise and undertake accountability of Young Muslims activities at the local level.

- f) To take prompt notice of the issues affecting Young Muslims, its aqeedah and goal, and to undertake all necessary safeguards in this respect.
 - g) To establish and maintain the local Baitul Maal, in consultation with the local Shura or members, according to the guidance provided by the National Coordinator.
5. Local Shura:
- a) The local Shura shall have similar roles, responsibilities and powers, in the local area, as that of the Young Muslim Shura.
 - b) A Local Shura of five members may be formed with the consultation of the Regional Coordinator, if there are more than 20 members of YM.

Part III

Qualities of the Office Bearers and Elections

Clause 1: Qualities of the Office Bearers

- A) Qualities of the National Coordinator:
1. He should neither desire nor seek this office.
 2. He should be an MGA of ICNA and between the age of 15 and 25 and on the whole, the best of all among the members of Young Muslims in respect of the knowledge of the Qur'an and the Sunnah, taqwa (piety), wisdom, vision and soundness of opinion, honesty, justice, sacrifice, patience and steadfastness in the struggle of the Iqamat-ud-Deen.
 3. He should possess high administrative capabilities.
- B) Qualities of the members of the Young Muslim Shura:
1. They should neither desire nor seek this office.
 2. They should be an MGA of ICNA (in exceptional cases the Ameer of ICNA can grant approval for a non-MGA member to become a member of the Young Muslim Shura) and between the age of 15 and 25, on the whole, the best of all among the members of Young Muslims in respect of the knowledge of the Qur'an and the Sunnah, taqwa (piety), wisdom, vision and soundness of opinion, honesty, justice, sacrifice, patience and steadfastness in the struggle of the Iqamat-ud-Deen.

Clause 2: Elections

- A) Fundamental Principles of Elections:
1. All the elections shall be held by secret ballot and all National elections shall be conducted by the Election committee that is selected by the Young Muslim Shura. This election committee shall consist of 50% MGA members and 50% YM members.
 2. A simple majority shall be decisive in the Central elections. In all other elections, approval of the National Coordinator shall be also required, in conjunction with the Young Muslim Shura.
 3. No member of Young Muslims shall have the right to do canvassing for himself or for someone else.
 4. A member shall be entitled to consult and seek opinion from another member individually.
 5. It shall be necessary that the new election be held before the expiration of the term of the existing office bearer. If that is not possible for any reason, the existing National Coordinator and other office bearers shall continue in their responsibilities. However, this period shall not exceed more than three months.
 6. It shall be necessary for the National Coordinator and other office bearers to take their oath of office before assuming their responsibilities. This oath shall be taken in person or by phone in the presence of the Chairman of the Election Committee, the National Coordinator, or members as the situation may warrant.
 7. The in-charge of an election shall be responsible to inform the members of the principles and procedures of the elections and qualities of the office bearers. The in-charge shall also make sure that the principles are observed and shall report the National Coordinator if any violation takes place.
 8. Upon receiving a written complaint from a member or in-charge of election about any electoral irregularity, the Ameer of ICNA shall take appropriate action.

9. No member shall be elected for the same office for more than four consecutive years.
10. Local Elections:
 - a) The National Coordinator shall appoint a representative for the local elections.
 - b) The representative shall obtain the votes of local members by direct secret ballot.
 - c) The representative shall obtain approval of the results of local election from the National Coordinator prior to their announcement.

Part IV
**Modes of expressing differences of opinion,
 removal of Shura members and
 expulsion of members**

Clause 1: Modes of expressing differences of opinion

A member who disagrees with the strategies, policies and decisions of Young Muslims may express his/her opinion according to the following manners:

1. He shall bring up his/her differences in the meeting of the local members, and the YM Shura or convey his her opinion, in writing, to all the individual members. But he/she shall have no right to use the public press or any other public platform for this purpose and shall have no right to do any canvassing among individual members directly.
2. He shall accept the decisions arrived at through a majority opinion and will abide by them. However, he/she shall have the right within the above-established limits to get those decisions modified or rescinded.
3. If a member, who holds an official portfolio, expresses his/her differences vis-à-vis the established policy of Young Muslims outside the forums provided by the Constitution, then he/she shall be relieved of his/her official responsibilities that oblige him/her to enforce or interpret that policy.

Clause 2: Removal of the members of the Shura

1. Any member of the Young Muslim Shura shall be removed from its membership if:
 - a) He ceases to be an MGA of ICNA.
 - b) He remains absent from two consecutive meetings of the YM Shura without a valid reason.
 - c) He resigns from the membership of the Shura and the National Coordinator accepts his resignation.
 - d) A written motion of no confidence is presented against him by 2/3 members of the YM Shura in a Shura meeting that is approved by the National Coordinator.

Clause 3: Filling a vacant seat of Shura during the session

If a seat in any of the Shura becomes vacant for any reason during the session, the National Coordinator or the respective National Coordinator shall be entitled to fill it in consultation with the remaining members of the Shura.

Clause 4: Suspension of a member

If the National Coordinator deems it necessary, due to special circumstances, he may suspend a member, in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura, for a maximum period of three months.

Clause 5: Cancellation of membership

If a member abandons his/her residence in North America on a permanent basis, the National Coordinator may cancel his/her membership in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura.

Clause 6: Expulsion of a member

The National Coordinator, in consultation with the Young Muslim Shura and the respective regional and local NeighborNet Coordinators, shall have the authority to expel a member, if:

1. He/she violates, despite a reminder, the conditions of membership repeatedly and deliberately.
2. He/she acts repeatedly against the interests, goal and methodology of Young Muslims.
3. If he/she conveys, verbally or by continuous action, the impression that he/she no longer has any interest in the activities of Young Muslims.

Part V Baitul Maal

Clause 1: Finances

1. The department of Baitul Maal (Treasury) shall be established at central, local levels.
2. The National Coordinator in conjunction with decision of Young Muslim Shura shall have the final authority on all the Baitul Maals.
3. The local NeighborNet Coordinators shall bear overall responsibility for the respective Baitul Maal, but each one of them shall be accountable to his higher National Coordinator.
4. The National Coordinator shall be accountable to the Shura.
5. The National Coordinator at each level shall be authorized to spend from his respective Baitul Maal on the activities of Young Muslims.
6. Sources of income to the Baitul Maal shall be as follows:
 - a) Contribution from members.
 - b) Donations from the community at large.
 - c) Zakat/Ushr/Sadaqat.
 - d) Contribution from the units
 - e) Contributions from the departments/institutions.
 - f) Income from investments/properties, etc.

Part VI Miscellaneous

Clause 1: Amendment and Addition to the Constitution

1. Any member shall have the right to present an amendment to the Constitution through the National Coordinator.
2. Such amendment shall be deliberated upon by the Young Muslim Shura, and after securing approval of a 2/3 majority shall be submitted to the Ameer of ICNA for final approval.

Clause 2: The Relations with ICNA

To insure the integration of YM workers and graduates after the age of 25, there shall be constitutional and functional ties between the two for the common purpose of Iqamat-ad-Deen in North America.

1. The Ameer of ICNA with the consultation of ICNA Shura (or Executive Council) and Young Muslim Shura shall appoint a Board to facilitate the YM activities, to oversee the matters of YM.
2. The YM Board shall serve as a link between ICNA and YM leadership.
3. It is imperative that YM utilizes ICNA human and financial resources, and YM members shall be encouraged to attend and participate in ICNA activities. The YM members shall be encouraged to join ICNA as MGA's. The YM members becoming MGA's of ICNA shall be allowed to remain focused on YM work till the age of 25.

4. A member of YM shall become a MGA of ICNA after the recommendation and approval of his application by the YM Board and the Ameer of ICNA respectively.
5. The Local Units of YM shall have close contacts, coordination and cooperation of ICNA Units.

Clause 3: Disagreement between YM Shura and YM Board

In case there is a disagreement between the Young Muslim Shura and the YM Board, the matter shall be resolved by the Ameer of ICNA, whose decision shall be binding.

Amendments to the Original Constitution:

1. On September 2001, Part 1 Clause 5; Secretary General Clause was approved by the National Coordinator; Tayyab Yunus, Young Muslims Shura, Young Muslims Board, and the Ameer of Islamic Circle of North America; Zulfiqar Ali Shah.

YOUNG MUSLIMS TARBIYAH GUIDE

If you have any difficulty implementing this syllabus or if you have any questions or concerns please contact the National Tarbiyah Team:

Azeem Khan	718-642-4310	azee1v1@aol.com
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Omer Choudhry	201-332-8668	omer_thegreat@yahoo.com

STUDY OF HADITH**PERSONAL**

- Each member should begin to read and memorize as many Ahadith as possible. (English & Arabic (if possible))
- Each member should be able to quote Hadith from the following categories:
 1. Islamic Pillars
 2. Manners/Conduct
 3. Dhikr
 4. Daily Life
 5. Family Relations
 6. Major Sins
 7. Character Building
 8. Brotherhood/Sisterhood
 9. Jihad
 10. Death

Recommended Text: *Forty Ahadith* by Imam an-Nawwi
Guidance from the Messenger by Dr. Mazhar Kazi

Alternate Texts: *Riyadh as-Saliheen* (Gardens of the Righteous)
Mishkat al-Masabih

Suggested Method:

- NNC should follow the similar method used for the Quranic study.
- Each member should be contacted by the NNC on a weekly basis to encourage & evaluate the process.

COLLECTIVE

- NNC should conduct Hadith-based discussions in the weekly meeting. This is the best way to help the members remember the famous Ahadith in Islam.
- The same topics that were mentioned in the Personal can be applied to the Collective section.

ISLAMIC BELIEFS**PERSONAL****A. GENERAL OVERVIEW**

For the Level 1 Brothers, a General Overview of Islam is critical before further development. Such an overview will insh'Allah provide the members with a sound and clear conceptual understanding of the Islamic system and model.

- NNC should breakdown the chapters of the following books for personal reading:
- Each week, the member should evaluate how well the member understands the material.
- This evaluation can be done in several different ways: Please contact your Regional Coordinator for more information.
- CERTAIN portions of these books can be used in presentation to the weekly NeighborNet.

Recommended Books:

Towards Understanding Islam by Sayyid Mawdudi
Islam, Beliefs & Teachings by Ghulam Sarwar
The Rap is Live: Revolution by the Book by Imam Jamil al-Amin

B. IBAADAT (Worship)

- NNC should encourage and facilitate each member to begin the Compulsory acts in Islam.
- This can be done on a gradual level, so NNC should not become easily offended or frustrated.
- The first action must be on the 5 Daily prayers. NNC should encourage the member to read as many as possibly, with emphasis on consistency.
- He should facilitate this process by taking him 1 or 2x a week to the Masjid or even praying with him at the home.

Recommended Books:

A Guide to Prayers in Islam by M. Saqib
Let Us be Muslims by Sayyid Mawdudi

C. EVERYDAY LIFE

- Each member should start make small steps in acquainting himself with the major Do's and Don'ts in Islam
- Each member should begin to adopt the "ETIQUETTES" of a Muslim and Muslim way of life.

Recommended Books:

The Lawful & Prohibited in Islam by Yusuf al-Qardawi
Etiquette's of Life by Yusuf Islahi
Everyday Fiqh (v.1-2) by Yusuf Islahi

BROTHERHOOD

PERSONAL

- The NNC must develop a personal relationship with every member of the NeighborNet
- The members of the NN should know each other so well that they know each others strengths and weaknesses. They should work to help brothers absolve their weaknesses, and adopt each others strengths.

Recommended Text: *The Duties of Brotherhood in Islam* translated from the Ihya of Imam Ghazali by Muhtar Holland

Suggested Method:

- Each member should be visited by the NNC on at least a monthly basis

COLLECTIVE

- The NN should meet outside of the weekly gathering to play sports, and eat together
- The NNC can assign people as brothers to each other (similar to what the Prophet (S) did with the Muhajireen and Ansar)

SEERAH [Biography of Muhammad (saw)]

PERSONAL

- The model of the Holy Prophet is the best example for us as Muslims. Unfortunately, the Muslim youth have little or improper information concerning the Prophet and his life.

The following study will help to accomplish 3 things:

- Re-acquaint the Muslim youth to the Noble qualities of the Final Messenger of Allah.
- Enable the Muslim youth to understand and follow the example that was the Prophet Muhammad (saw).
- And as importantly enough, to prepare the Muslim youth in defending and promoting the Life and Message of Muhammad (saw) to society at large.

Recommended Books:

Prophet Muhammad: The Infinite Light by Fethullah Gulen
The Life of Muhammad by Taha al-Isma'il

Suggested Method:

- Each member should begin a self-paced study of the life of the Prophet.
- NNC should explain to the members that this study should be done not solely for the academic pursuit, but to sincerely learn about the greatest human being that ever lived.
- NNC should sit down with each member and prepare a study guide, using chapters in the recommend books or topics, whichever is easier.
- NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of his life. Particular attention should be given to historical events and important Islamic dates.

COLLECTIVE

- NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of Muhammad's (saw) life.
- A collective effort should be made to attend the Seerah Conferences that are held throughout the USA on his life as well as local Masjid sponsored events.
- The group as a whole should adopt Sunnahs of the Holy Prophet.

Recommended Books:

Prophet Muhammad: The Infinite Light by Fethullah Gulen
The Life of Muhammad by Taha al-Isma'il
THE COMPANIONS OF THE PROPHET (SAW)

PERSONAL

- The model given to us by the Holy Prophet's Companions has in it great guidance for us to live by. Unfortunately, the Muslim youth have yet to realize the role that these great men and women played in the course of not just Islamic but human history.

The following study will help to accomplish 3 things:

1. Re-acquaint the Muslim youth to the lives of these great personalities.
2. Enable the Muslim youth to take these personalities as role models in their lives today.
3. And equally important, to help the Muslim youth relate the common experiences of the companions to the youth of modern day society.

Recommended Books:

Companions of the Prophet by A.Wahid Hamid

Suggested Method:

- a. Each member should begin a self-paced study of the earliest companions.
- b. Each member should be able to relate to the names with a brief description of some of the great companions.
- c. NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of the lives of the earlier companions. Particular attention should be given to historical events and important Islamic dates.

COLLECTIVE

- NNC should require each member to prepare routine presentations on different aspects of the companions, with particular attention to the common difficulties faced by us.

Recommended Book:

Companions of the Prophet by A.Wahid Hamid

DHIKR (Remembrance of Allah (SWT) & ISLAMIC SPIRITUALITY

Islam has made Dhikr the instrument towards self-purification. This development program will not be successful unless there is the use of Dhikr-illah (The remembrance of Allah) in our training.

PERSONAL/COLLECTIVE

- NNC should introduce the concept of Dhikr to each member.
 - NNC needs to make Dhikr a routine and constant part in the lives of the members.
 - The following are some of the methods found in the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (saw):
1. Making Nawaafil (non-compulsory prayers) on a constant basis.
 2. Fasting when it is not obligatory.
 3. Qiyam al-Layl (Spending one portion of the night in the worship of Allah (swt)).
 4. Brotherhood-building activities.

Recommended Books:

In The Early Hours, Reflection on Spiritual and Self Development by Khurram Murad

Remembrance and Prayer by Muhammad al-Ghazali

Muslims Character by Muhammad al-Ghazali

The section of Dhikr under the previously mentioned Hadith books.

History of Islam

Young Muslims desires that all its members should be familiar with the History of Islam. A good understanding of the past is necessary for preparation in the future. InshaAllah, the members will begin to develop and perfect their analytical & awareness faculties as they move forward in the PDP.

PERSONAL

- Each member will begin a self-paced reading on the history of Islam, starting from the Prophet Adam.
- NOTE: NNC will assist members in breaking down the dates and events and it is being stressed that this is a self-paced reading.
- Each member should be able to relate back the major events of the past. NNC will assist where needed.

COLLECTIVE

- Group discussions on the major topics in Islamic History should routinely take place ONCE every month.
- Seminars or Presentations should be arranged to be held on various topics and events of Islamic history. Particular attention should be given to corresponding calendar dates.

Recommended Books:

The Pious Caliphs by Dr. Majid Ali Khan

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Young Muslims desires that all its members should be aware and up-to-date on the Current Events of our times. InshaAllah, the members will begin to develop and perfect their analytical & awareness faculties as they move forward in the PDP.

PERSONAL

- NNC should request that each member read one of the recommended newspapers on a daily basis.
 - Each member should be able to have good understanding of the world and its events.
 - NNC should provide background information to some of the on-going events in the world today including the following:
 1. The Palestinian oppression and the situation of Muslims worldwide.
 2. Major Islamic Events of the past and present such as:
 - The Jihad in Afghanistan
 - Islamic Revolution in Iran
 - Islamic Movement in Pakistan & India
 - Muslim Brotherhood of the Arab World
- And other such events....

Recommended Reading:

The New York Times
 Newsweek and/or Time Magazine
 The Message
 The Muslim American
 Impact
 Weekly Mirror International

COLLECTIVE

- NNC must assign and facilitate different presentations on Current affairs.
- Weekly discussions should take place on issues of Muslim and Societal concerns.
- Events should be organized with Qualified speakers speaking on pertinent topics.

IX. Self-improvement & Empowerment

It is important that as Muslims, we equip ourselves with the necessary and valuable skills that will make us resourceful human beings. Young Muslims feel that an important part of the responsibility of being the vanguards of the Islamic Movement in America involves training ones' self in all areas of self-improvement and essential skill building.

The following will help each member of Young Muslims to begin establishing a strong skill base for use in all facets of their lives.

Personal/Collective**Recommended Books:**

How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie
Individual Dawah by Mustafa Mashoor

ATTACHMENT 1**The Quranic Syllabus
One-Year course**

Al-Hajj 22: 77-8	Life of Worship, Jihad, mission of Shahadah
Al-Tawbah 9:111-12	Pledge of Iman, life of worship
Al-Nisaa 4:131-7	Witnessing to justice, summons to Iman
Aal Imran 3:102-10	Purpose of Ummah
Al-Fath 48:8-11	Pledge to continue the Prophet's Mission
Al-Baqarah 2:40-6	Call to fulfill the pledge
Al-Muzzammil 73:1-10, 20	Building a relationship with Allah
Al-Israa 17:23-29	Individual and collective morality
Al-Nahl 16:1-11	Evidence for Tawhid, Risaalah, Aakhira
Al-Nahl 16:12-22	Evidence for Tawhid, Risaalah, Aakhira (2 nd Part)
Yunus 10:31-6	Evidence for Tawhid, guidance
Al-Hajj 22:1-7	Evidence for Aakhira
Qaaf 50:1-18	Evidence for Aakhira (2 nd Part)
Al-Mu'minun 23:99-118	Aakhira
Yaa Seen 36:50-65	Aakhira
Qaaf 50:19-35	Aakhira
Al-Zumar 39:53-66	Preparing for Aakhira
Al-Hashr 59:18-24	Preparing for Aakhira, Allah's attributes
Al-Hadid 57:1-7	Allah's attributes;summons to Iman and infaaq
Al-Hadid 57:12-17	Iman and infaaq
Al-Hadid 57:20-5	Present Life, infaaq, establishing justice
Al-Saff 61:9-14	Call to commit to the Prophet's Mission, Iman, Jihad
Al-'Ankaboot 29:1-11	Testing of Faith
Al-Anfaal 8:72-5	Iman, Hijarah, Jihad, Jamaah
Al-Nisaa 4:95-100	Hijarah, Jihad
Al-Tawbah 9:19-24	Jihad, the highest act; sacrificing everything
Al-Tawbah 9:38-45	Jihad
Aal Imran 3:169-75	Dying in the way of Allah
Al-Baqarah 2:261-6	Infaaq fi Sabili'llah
Al-Baqarah 2:267-72	Infaaq fi Sabili'llah
Al-Anfaal 8:20-9	Collective life, obedience
Al-Nisaa 4:60-7	Collective life, obedience
Al-Noor 24:47-52, 62-4	Collective life; response and obedience
Al-Hujuraat 49:1-9	Collective life: relationship with leaders
Al-Mujaadalah 58:7-13	Collective life: rules and duties
Al-Hujuraat 49: 10-15	Collective life: Interpersonal Relations
Fussilat 41:30-6	Dawah and required attributes
Al-Baqarah 2:150-163	Mission and its obligations
Aal Imran 3:185-92	Summary
Aal Imran 3:193-200	Summary

ATTACHMENT 2

Suggested Presentation Topics / Reference Guide

In order to more effectively study the concepts discussed in the suggested books of the Islamic Beliefs section in the personal development plan, this list of suggested presentation topics has been compiled along with the references in the books. These references are the page numbers of the books Towards Understanding Islam, Islam – Beliefs and Teachings, and Let Us Be Muslims. It is advised that these topics be discussed weekly by the NeighborNets, one at a time. The coordinator should assign a member to present a topic from the list using the references given in about 15 minute's time.

Key:

TUI --- Towards Understanding Islam
by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi

LBM --- Let Us Be Muslims
by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi

IBT --- Islam: Beliefs and Teachings
by Ghulam Sarwar

III. Islamic Beliefs

A. GENERAL OVERVIEW

1. **The Meaning of Islam and Kufr**
-- TUI 1-11, IBT 13-17, LBM 53-55
2. **The Blessing of Islam and the Obligation for his favor**
-- TUI 11-18, LBM 47-48, 74-76
3. **What Does it Mean to be a Muslim?**
-- LBM 48-52, 65-67
4. **The Reason for the Muslims' Disgrace and Humiliation**
-- LBM 56-60
5. **The Meaning of Iman (Faith)**
-- TUI 19-23, IBT 18
6. **Knowledge Of Allah and the Unknown**
-- TUI 24-28
7. **Tawheed – Oneness of Allah**
-- TUI 74-86, IBT 19-20
8. **The Effects of Tawheed on Human Life**
-- TUI 86-91, IBT 21-23
9. **Belief in Angels**
-- TUI 91-94, IBT 27-29
10. **Belief in the Books of Allah**
-- TUI 94-98, IBT 29-31
11. **Belief in the Prophets of Allah**
-- TUI 99-102, IBT 26-27
12. **Life After Death**
-- TUI 102-113, IBT 36-39
13. **Al-Qadr**

-- IBT 23-25

14. The Quran

** Its Compilation...*

-- IBT 32-36

** Our Duty Towards It...*

-- LBM 61-64

15. The Shahada

** The Meaning of the Kalima...*

-- LBM 69-74

** The Difference Between Kalima Tayyibah and Kalima Khabithah*

-- LBM 77-84

** The Purpose of The Kalimah*

-- LBM 85-90

16. How Man is Lead Astray

-- LBM 93-101

17. Signs Of Hypocrisy

-- LBM 103-106

18. Examples of Obedience to Allah and the Way to Allah's Pleasure

-- LBM 106-110

19. The Quality of True Muslims and the Completeness of their Islam

-- LBM 111-118

B. IBAADAT (WORSHIP)

1. Obedience to Allah

-- LBM 119-124

2. Meaning of Ibadah

-- LBM 135-141

3. Acts Of Worship

-- TUI 114-117, IBT 40-42

4. Prayer...

** Its Benefits*

-- TUI 117-120, IBT 42-45, LBM 145-151

** Method of Prayer (What to recite)*

-- IBT 45-61, LBM 153-164

** Congregational Prayer and its Benefits*

-- LBM 165-171

** Imamat*

-- LBM 171-174

** Why Salah Has Become Ineffective*

-- LBM 175-180

** Selected Duas and Quran Ayahs*

-- IBT 64-74

5. Fasting

-- TUI 120-121, IBT 76-78, LBM 183-188

* *The Purpose and Benefits Of Fasting*

-- LBM 189-194

6. Zakat

-- TUI 121-123, IBT 74-76, LBM 197-205

* *How Nearness to Allah is Achieved Through Zakat*

-- LBM 207-210

* *Qualities of Hizbullah*

-- LBM 210-215

* *Zakat in Collective Life*

-- LBM 217-222

* *Infaq fee Sabeelillah*

-- LBM 223-226

* *Modes of Spending in the Way of Allah*

-- LBM 226-230

* *Special Injunctions for Zakat*

-- LBM 231-239

7. Hajj

-- TUI 123-124, IBT 78-81

* *Origin of Hajj*

-- LBM 243-252

* *History of Hajj*

-- LBM 253-262

* *Benefits Of Hajj*

-- LBM 263-271

* *Universality of Hajj*

-- LBM 273-282

8. Jihad – Defense Of Islam

-- TUI 124-125, IBT 81-83

* *Its Comprehensiveness*

-- LBM 285-293

* *Importance Of Jihad*

-- LBM 295-303

C. EVERYDAY LIFE**1. The Distinction Between Deen and Shariah**

-- TUI 126-130, IBT 161-163, LBM 125-134

2. The Shariah and it's significance

-- TUI 131-135, LBM 125-134

3. The Rights and Obligations under the Shariah

-- TUI 135-136, IBT 196-198

4. The Rights of Allah

-- TUI 136-140, IBT 186-188

5. The Rights of the Self

-- TUI 140-142

6. The Rights of Others

-- TUI 142-153, IBT 188-191

7. The Rights of All Creatures

-- TUI 153-154

8. The Universal and Eternal Law of Shariah

-- TUI 154-157

9. The Political System Of Islam

-- IBT 173-180

10. The Qualities of a Muslim and His Virtues

-- IBT 191-194; 198-201

11. What the Muslim Avoids and Vices

-- IBT 194-196; 201-202

12. Family Life in Islam

-- IBT 165-172

ATTACHMENT 3**PDP level 1 Plan for New NeighborNets****Tips for New Coordinators and new NeighborNets**

1. Analyze the PDP and decide whether it would fit the attendees' level of knowledge and understanding.
2. Only the first Sub-level has organized week-by-week Qur'anic and Ahadith assignments. After the first sublevel it is the responsibility of the NNC to organize the suggested verses in level of importance to the topic.
3. The same goes with the Hadith. The hadith book, "40 Ahadith by Imam Nawawi" is only a suggested book. This is a simple and small collection of the Ahadith. If the NNC prefers another book that may have a central focus (i.e. Etiquette, spirituality, methodology, everyday life etc.) that would also be appropriate. The NNC decides all these important aspects of the NN.
4. Be sure to have review sessions, so that the members will be able to remember the knowledge that the acquired so that they may implement what they learn in their daily lives.
5. Practice your speaking skills. Aside from the NN being a training of leadership and knowledge. It is also the training of propagating the message. So be uplifting in your speech and motivate the members to work for Allah.
6. It is also important to assign individual members responsibilities (i.e. presentations, tafseer, hadith etc) this will promote participation of the general members and would leave plenty of room for discussions. This is also training for the other members. Do not over load yourself with all the tarbiyah sections of the neighbornet. By assigning presentations, the NeighborNet will become more productive and at the same time the NNC will be less burdened.
7. **Tafseer-** It is important for the presenter of tafseer to do research with official tafseer of the specific verses. It is preferred to use multiple sources to get the deeper meaning behind the verses. It is good to focus on the main points, so the members could remember them easier and they could implement them InshaAllah.
8. **Hadith-** See above tips. If the NNC decides to use random Ahadith, it is better to keep the Ahadith related to the main focus/theme of the specific NN. The NNC could possible assign numerous members to make presentations depending upon the focus of the halaqah and the time involved.
9. **Main book-** It is best for the NNC and the core individuals to read the book and prepare the material before the day of the NN. This will give them time to focus on certain points within the reading material. Supplying books to all NN members is unnecessary. However, it is preferred that the members get their own copy of the book in order to develop their own level of tarbiyah. This may also increase NN discussion.
10. **Current Events-** Discuss the recent issues of the Muslim Ummah. This is good to promote positive discussion as well as informing the members of the status of the Ummah. Use this to further motivate the members to work towards lifting ourselves from the problems we are facing.
11. **Nasiha-** Leave the members with a simple piece of advice that they should focus on during week. (I.e. Salat on time, wudhu, character, schooling, free mixing, tahajjud, reading the Quran etc.) This is a good time for connecting with the brothers.

Structure of the NeighborNet

Quranic Tafseer	20 min
Hadith	20 min
Book Study	45 min
Current Events	10 min
Nasiha	5 min
Total time:	1 hr 40 min

Sub-Level A

Recommended tafaseer: Towards understanding the Quran by Mawdudi, In the Shade of the Quran by Syed Qutb, and a Thematic Commentary on the Quran by Muhammad Al-Ghazali

1. Islamic Beliefs

- a. Book=Towards Understanding Islam by Maulana Mawdudi
- b. Hadith book= 40 hadith by Imam Nabawi

Week 1

Quran Tafseer: Surah Ikhlaas
 Hadith: Number one of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Intro and Chapter 1 "The meaning of Islam"

Week 2

Quran Tafseer: Surah Nahl 1-11
 Hadith: Number two of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 2 "Faith and Obedience"

Week 3

Quran Tafseer: Surah Nahl 12-22
 Hadith: Number Three of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 3 "The Prophet hood"

Week 4

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yunus 10:31-33
 Hadith: Number Four of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 4 "Articles of Faith"

Week 5

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yunus 10:34-36
 Hadith: Number Five of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 5 "Prayer and Worship"

Week 6

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:1-4
 Hadith: Number Six of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 6 "Din and Shariah"

Week 7

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:5-7
 Hadith: Number 7 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 7 "The principles of Shariah"
New book: Let us be Muslims by Mawdudi

Week 8

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hajj 77-78
 Hadith: Number 8 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 1 "Iman"

Week 9

Quran Tafseer: Surah Tawbah 9:111-112
 Hadith: Number 9 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 2 "Islam"

Week 10

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:102-104
 Hadith: Number 10 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 3 "Salah"

Week 11

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:105-107
 Hadith: Number 11 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 4 "Fasting"

Week 12

Quran Tafseer: Surah Al' Imran 3:108-110
 Hadith: Number 12 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 5 "Zakat"

Week 13

Quran Tafseer: Surah Baqarah 2:40-43
 Hadith: Number 13 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 6 "Hajj"

Week 14

Quran Tafseer: Surah Baqarah 2:44-46
 Hadith: Number 14 of "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 7 "Jihad"

2. Quranic Study

- a. Book=Way to the Quran by Khuram Murad
- b. Hadith="Forty hadith" by imam Nawawi

Week 15

Quran Tafseer: Surah Muzzamil 73:1-10
 Hadith: Number 15 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Intro and Chapter 1 "The Journey of Life"

Week 16

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:12-14
 Hadith: Number 16 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 2 "Basic Prerequisites"

Week 17

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hadid 57:15-17
 Hadith: Number 17 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 3 "Participation of the Inner self"

Week 18

Quran Tafseer: Surah Zumar 39:53-66
 Hadith: Number 18 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 4 "Rules of Reading"

Week 19

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hashr 59:18-24
 Hadith: Number 19 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 5 part A: Study and Understanding→General Principles

Week 20

Quran Tafseer: Surah Hajj 22:1-7
 Hadith: Number 20 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 5 part B: Understand as a living reality→ END of chapter

Week 21

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yasin 36:50-57
 Hadith: Number 21 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 6 "Collective Study"

Week 22

Quran Tafseer: Surah Yasin 36: 58-65
 Hadith: Number 22 in "Forty Hadith"
 Book: Chapter 7 "Living the Quran"

Sub Level B

3. DHIKR

- a. Choices of Books in PDP
- b. Continue Weekly "Forty Ahadith"

Quranic Verses

Hashr 59: 18-24

Al-Hadid 57:20-25

Al-Saff 61:9-14

Muzzammil 73:20

Qaaf 50:1-18

Qaaf 50:19-35

4. Seerah of Muhammad (S)

Quranic Verses

Al nisaah 4:131-137
 Al- Fath 48:8-11
 Al-Fussilat 41:30-36
 Al-Baqarah 2:150-156
 Al-Anfaal 8:20-29
 Al-Nisaa 4:60-67
 Al-Muminun 23:99-118

5. Every Day Life
 - a. Recommended book, Lawful and Prohibited in Islam (see official PDP)
 - Quranic Verses
 - An-Noor 24:47-52
 - An-Noor 24:62-64
 - Al-Hujarat 49:1-9
 - Al-Hujarat 49:10-15
 - Al-Israa 17:23-29
6. Companions of the Prophet
 - Quran Verses
 - Al-Ankaboot 29:1-11
 - Al-Anfaal 8:72-75
 - Al-Nisaa 4:95-100
 - Al-Tawbah 9:19-24
 - Al-Tawbah 9:38-45
 - Ale' Imran 3:169-175

Sublevel C

7. History of Islam
 - Quran Verses
 - Al-Baqarah 2:261-266
 - Al-Baqarah 2:267-272
 - Ale' Imran 3:185-192
 - Ale' Imran 3:193-200
8. Self Improvement
 - Quranic Verses
 - Any Necessary verses or shifted verses.

NOTE: Any necessary changes in verses or books are decided by the NeighborNet Coordinator. This is a rough sketch of the syllabus. The verses were organized to the best of our ability to fit the topic being discussed.

Young Muslims National Study Circle System

Background

A very dynamic and flexible syllabus was created as a guide for NeighborNet coordinators in the mid 90's by Br. Salman Ali, the first national coordinator of Young Muslims. This syllabus became known as the PDP or Personal Development Plan. Over time it became obvious that no one set curriculum would be able to cater to the diverse needs of all of our NeighborNets, and YM members who all varied in their Islamic understanding. Even the PDP was criticized because it starts with level 1. One brother once commented at a NeighborNet coordinators conference saying: "We have brothers who are at level 0, because they aren't ready for this level 1". On the other hand there were those YM members who were ready for levels 2, 3, 4 and 5. An understanding was reached by Young Muslims' leadership that the PDP would be implemented, but it would not be strictly enforced. Another problem which arose was that we never knew what level our members were on, because of the manner in which each coordinator approached the PDP. Some were intense in their approach and others barely had one.

NeighborNets Vs. Study Circles

A NeighborNet is a group of Young Muslims members who are usually situated in the same neighborhood. A NeighborNet meets up at least once a week. In their gatherings the members learn all the basic fundamentals of Islam, share their problems, seek guidance, and simply enjoy an Islamic environment with their peers. A NeighborNet is the most basic part of YM thus it must be open for anyone to join at any given time. To accommodate attendees and future attendees the NeighborNet must run at a very general level. So someone who joins does not feel like a student who has entered a class in the middle of the semester. The NeighborNet serves as a recruiting ground for future coordinators, and active members. The members who have potential are spotted (by the coordinator and his core team), and are given increased assignments and are asked to play new roles in the NeighborNet. The NeighborNet serves as a training ground for these YM members. They are asked to do presentations, make contacts, bring in new members, help resolve conflicts and eventually become NeighborNet coordinators.

Since the NeighborNets are ran at a very general level this poses a challenge. How can those members who are forever focusing on the fundamentals of Islam on a weekly basis (to cater to the needs of those around them) possibly receive a higher level of Tarbiya that is required by not only Young Muslims, but also by themselves? It is impossible for them to do so in a NeighborNet because of the current structure and understanding of how a NeighborNet works and should be run. Therefore a new type of gathering was developed where the coordinators, core team members, and others who have the desire to gain knowledge on a deeper level can do so in a study circle where others who are as serious as them are gathered. In a NeighborNet it is not essential for its attendees to necessarily do any reading at all. All that is required of a NeighborNet attendee is regular attendance and some degree of participation. The study circle on the other hand mandates not only mandatory reading by every attendee, but also requires a higher level of discipline, and an increased level of participation. Every study circle attendee must carefully read the assigned material beforehand and come to the study circle ready to discuss his points of interest, confusion, and analysis of his reading. Through discussion the group should clarify any misconceptions, come to conclusions about the material presented by the author, and capitalize on the presence of the Murabbi by extracting extra material from their knowledge base which would supplement the assigned readings.

To avoid the randomness experienced with the PDP (at the NeighborNet level due to the various levels of the NeighborNet's attendees) the study circle syllabus is not made to be flexible per say (unlike the PDP the books used, and the sequence they are used in are not up to the discretion of the moderator or study circle attendees), it is rather something concrete which must be strictly adopted and implemented. Conceptual and ideological matters which must be understood by all members of YM are covered in the books which are included in the syllabus. A deeper look is taken into subjects such as World Views, Introduction to Shariah, Islam as a complete system of life, prerequisites to approaching the Quran, the Seerah of Prophet Muhammad (S), being witnesses unto mankind (the purpose and duty of the Muslim Ummah), and foundational and methodological issues in regards to the Islamic Movement. In the PDP books were recommended and suggested, but there was no strict enforcement of the usage of those books. Nor was there a system in place to determine if the attendees of a NeighborNet had any uniform basic understanding of YM's goals and objectives as a 'movement oriented' group, and what that meant for them as members of YM. Therefore specific (trusted) books had to be selected which would help mold the understanding of YM members. In the NeighborNets attendees vary from all levels so the topics of discussion remain general. But in the Study Circle the levels in which attendees would be placed (based on competency) had to be created. In this manner we would be able to determine who stands where, and what they need next.

Since the study circle is a training ground for active YM members accompanying segments must be incorporated into the study circle gatherings which would train them to be better workers. Based upon what is needed or is lacking the most. Matters such as Speaking skills, Khutbah delivery, Quranic Recitation (with Tajweed), Quranic Memorization, and Dua memorization should be focused on.

The proper usage of a Murabbi (Teacher/Guide)

A Murabbi or teacher is needed in all of our study circles to ensure that the proper conclusions are come to, and that the concepts presented are not misunderstood. The murabbis should also bring extra flavor to the points of discussion by providing additional substance which goes beyond what is in the text. A murabbi must not violate the structure of the study circle by turning it into a class. The study circle is meant to be discussion based, and murabbis are needed to enrich those discussions. A murabbi should allow ample time to the study circle attendees to debate with one another, and come to conclusions based on their reading. The murabbi should step in when he finds that errors are being made, and are not being corrected by the attendees themselves. They should also add extra substance to any conclusions which are come to. If a question posed by a study circle attendee is not adequately being responded to, then the murabbi should offer points of clarification. The Murabbi should encourage discussion, and should be allowed to lead the discussion (by directing attendees to offer their viewpoints then have others criticize and have the attendee defend his viewpoint). He should also make sure that all attendees are doing their reading, and should assess if they are absorbing what is required of them from their readings. The murabbi must be approved of by the YM National Tarbiyah Department. (Because issues of ideology will come up all throughout the implementation of the study circle system, not any sheikh, or imam can become a YM murabbi).

The Rules of Study Circle

A Study Circle Attendee must:

1. Attend the study circle on a weekly basis
 - a. The attendee should be removed from the study circle if he has more than 2 unexcused absences (permission for missing a study circle meeting coupled with acceptance of that excuse must be sought by the assigned moderator of the study circle)
2. Completely read any assigned material
 - a. If a study circle attendee continually does not read the assigned material he should be removed from the study circle (winging it should not be tolerated)
3. Come prepared with points of discussion
 - a. The moderator of the study circle, and the murbbai must make sure that all attendees are participating and are comprehending the text based upon the points they bring up. No study circle attendee should be allowed to become a spectator, rather than a participant.
4. Remain a consistent member of a NeighborNet
 - a. Our grassroots effort takes place in the NeighborNets and every member except for those who have been given an assignment which requires the person to either overlook multiple NeighborNets or travel frequently must be consistent members of a NeighborNet. The study circle should not be used as a means to merely fulfill intellectual pursuit. Only active and consistent members of YM NeighborNets should be allowed to join a study circle.

Standardized Phases and Testing System

The Study circle is broken into phases so that at each interval testing for competence can take place. Like with any serious institutionalized curriculum, standardized testing must be set in place so the attendees of the gatherings can prove their worth. Passing these tests would allow the continuation of study circle attendees to move from one phase to the next. These tests are currently under development (as of February 21, 2003). The tests will include a combination of multiple choice questions, essay questions, oral presentations and defense of a thesis delivered in front of a panel of respectable murabbis and other knowledge people. The durations on the study circle syllabus are merely suggested. A study circle can move faster as long as they thoroughly discuss the material presented in the books. Remember that the tests for each phase will check to see if the proper conclusions were come to. These conclusions are not necessarily always clearly spelled out in the text.

Conclusion

Currently (as of February 21, 2003) only three phases have been created. It is the goal of the Tarbiyah team to continue to enhance this system, and add extra phases to it. The future phases are under development, and suggestions for titles of books are needed. Topics such as Seerah should be explored deeper and deeper with every few phases. The inclusion of any book can be questioned by any YM member, but a proper critique and request for removal/replacement of a book should come from individuals, or groups who have previously read the book in question in a study circle format/environment (reading a book individually, and studying and dissecting a book in a group setting with the help of a murabbi are two totally different things). Though any and all feedback is appreciated and is necessary. We can only properly refine each phase when multiple study circles of each phase are completed and critiqued. So please play your role, and contact me if there are any questions. Surveys to obtain feedback for each existing phase should also be created.

Young Muslims is always in the process of improving its systems and processes. It is the duty of its members to bring forward any suggestions, concerns or complaints that they may have.

Azeem Khan

-YM Tarbiya Department Chair 02-03

STUDY CIRCLE PHASE AND BOOK LIST

Phase 1

(12 Meetings)

<u>Book</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Islam The Natural Way by AbdulWahid Hamid	The concept of "worldview" and the source and importance of knowledge.	4 Meetings

(Chapters 1 and 2)

The Islamic Way of Life by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi	General understanding of Islam as a complete way of life. How the moral, economic, social, justice, spiritual, etc. aspects of life work as one unit and not in a compartmentalized view.	8 Meetings
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Phase 2

(34 Meetings)

<u>Book</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Way to the Qur'an by Khurram Murad	Learning the physical, emotional, moral, and spiritual prerequisites to get the most out of the Qur'an.	10 Meetings

The Makkan Crucible By Zakaria Bashier	(Seerah, Makkan Period) Understand the struggle of the Prophet (SAW) in the Makkan period. Highlight contemporary points of interest.	12 Meetings
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Sunshine at Madina By Zakaria Bashier	(Seerah, Madina Period) Understand the struggle of the Prophet (SAW) in the Madina period. Highlight contemporary points of interest.	12 Meetings
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Phase 3

<u>Book</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Witnesses Unto Mankind By Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi	The purpose and duty of the Muslim Ummah to the rest of humanity.	8 Meetings
Milestones By Syed Qut'b	Basic key foundations needed for the revival of Islam, collectively as well as individually.	
To Be a Muslim By Fathi Yakun	Characteristics needed by both the individual and the movement in order to function properly and with strength to fulfill the aspirations of the Islamic Movement.	

Assalamu Alaikum Brothers,

Inshallah I hope you are in a great state of health and Imaan. As it was suggested at the NeighborNet Coordinators Conference last May, after each of the National Shura meetings, we will publish the decisions made to all the members. Inshallah this will help increase communication between our leadership and our members.

The following are decisions made in our National Shura meeting during Labor Day weekend. I compressed 15 pages of the meeting minutes into 9, ☺ and made them as relevant as possible for everyone in YM (this is a must read!). It is suggested that when you gather to plan for next year, keep note of this document, it will help you out, Inshallah.

This document is in fact rather long, but it is very important that it is read. (print it out and keep a copy!) There are many assignments made, and many of you have been assigned certain responsibilities. If you have any questions please contact us, at the end of the document, all of our contact info is listed. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of any of the projects/events/programs please email me at sg@ymusa.org.

Deadlines are *italicized*.

Jazakallahu Khair,
Assalamu Alaikum
Azeem Khan
Young Muslims
Secretary General
sg@ymusa.org
www.ymusa.org

YOUNG MUSLIMS NATIONAL SHURA MEETING DECISIONS AUGUST 30, 2002— SEPTEMBER 2, 2002, BROOKLYN, NY

Attendees (100% attendances)

Salman Yasir
Azeem Khan
Saad Siddiqui
Yasir Bilal Choudhry
Tayyab Yunus
Habeeb Hussaini
Waheed Akbar
Asim Ranginwala

Note: Look at the bottom of this document for contact info for above mentioned brothers.

Planning for Sep 2002- Dec 2003

- **Expansion**
 - It was decided that YM will not actively pursue youth in remote areas to start up new NeighborNets.
 - We will only expand to those places where either an existing "icna-ym" unit (start by ICNA i.e. LA, Toronto, Dallas) is present, or a place where youth have asked us to help them start a NeighborNet.
 - YM would make itself very visible for Muslim Youth by:
 - Having a booth at all MSA Conferences and major Islamic Conventions
- **National Campaigns**
 - Objective: Uniformity, collective Effort, working for common prioritized goals.
 - The following 6 campaigns will have all YM members working on the same projects.
 - Resources (Brochures, Posters etc.) will be provided by YM National. Local units will be urged to help contribute material for distribution (Posters, Brochures, Stickers, and Booklets), hold Events to raise awareness, and come up with fresh new ideas to help execute these campaigns.
 - **Ramadan Campaign**
 - Duration: Starts two-three weeks before Ramadan, and ends with Eid
 - Welcome Ramadan Event

- Each Major City/State Unit will be asked to do a Welcome Ramadan Event geared towards the community at large (including non-Muslims)
- All Ramadan Related printed material should be distributed at this event
- Flyer (one template)
 - Abid Sharif (Chicago)
- Posters about Ramadan- Abid Sharif (Chicago)
 - Small reminders, Ahadith, ayahs about the essence of Ramadan, and fasting should be used.
 - *Deadline: Oct, 12, 2002*
- Booklets-Bader Almoshelli(Chicago) should include:
 - A personal chart
 - Which includes prayers, reading Quran etc.
 - Personal plan- developed by the national tarbiyah team
 - *Deadline: Oct 19, 2002*
- Brochures/Flyers
- Each City/State Unit must submit its plans for Ramadan (which should include all activities (Qiyams, Iftaar gatherings etc.) This planning should include each NN which falls under that city/state unit. *deadline: Oct 13, 2002*
- **Dawah Campaign**
 - Duration
 - November-December 2002
 - Focus Points for our members
 - Practicing Islam and being a representative of Islam has to be worked on
 - Our members need to be friends of non-Muslims
 - There should be work-shops for our members
 - Article/Brochure will be created by Asim Ranginwala about the problems Islamic Workers have in their approach to Dawah Work, Qiran Pillai will assist him
 - Islam Awareness Week- November
 - Young Muslims will nationally endorse MSA's "Islam Awareness Month"
 - Each NN will do organized Dawah events/activities during that Month.
 - YM members will attend local MSA events and participate in their activities.
- **The Ummah Project**
 - Purpose
 - To enforce the idea that Allah (S) made us as an Ummah.
 - Being a member of the Ummah demands that we are concerned with the matters of the Ummah
 - The Ummah is like a body, when one part hurts, the whole body feels it.
 - We will pay special attention to places in the world where Muslims are suffering.
 - A fundraising event will be held by each unit for a specific country.
 - That Unit will also raise awareness about the problems revolving around those area via various mediums.
 - Houston- Sierra Leone
 - NY- Iraq
 - NJ- Kashmir
 - MD- Gujrat, India
 - Chicago- Afghanistan
 - Windsor- Palestine
- **Iraq Awareness Campaign**
 - Time and Duration
 - Immediate
 - Brochure- Adib Contractor (NJ)
 - Information needs to be collected
 - A Fact sheet need to be put together
 - The end result will be a brochure-
 - *Deadline: Sep 29, 2002*

- Poster- Omer Choudhry
 - Will use facts from the brochure Adib makes
 - Deadline: Sep 29, 2002
 - **Remembering the Revivalists Campaign-** Tarbiya Team
 - Time and Duration
 - March till June
 - Posters
 - Will include what they faced
 - Accomplishments
 - Booklets- Abid Shariff
 - Mini-posters
 - List of books
 - Excerpts
 - Quotes
 - Synopsis of their life story
 - Revivalists will include: Hamid al-Ghazali, Ibn Taymiyyah, Hasan al Banna, Syed Qutb, Syed Mawdudi
 - **Imam Jamil Awareness Campaign-** Omer Choudhry lead
 - Time and Duration
 - To be determined based on correlating it to start before a major event in the trial process.
 - Having a gathering for workers to write letters make phone calls to media to create spot light on the issue.
 - Brochures will be handed out to raise awareness.
 - Student Alliance for Imam Jamil, Imam Jamil's community, will be contacted and worked with
 - Tayyab will work on a universal template for the various campaigns to use in making a brochure.
- **Projects**
 - **Multimedia Project-**
 - Awwab Arif (NY)-lead
 - Tayyab Yunus (CHI)
 - Speeches from YM events, camps, and classes will be put on video & audio format so that they can be:
 - Put online
 - Sold on CD format to raise money
 - *Deadline: Must be completed by next ICNA Convention.*
 - Items should be ready to be sold.
- **Events**
 - **ICNA Conventions**
 - Goals and Objectives
 - To cater to the needs of the youth
 - Propagation
 - Make contacts
 - Raise funds
 - National Convention (ICNA-July)
 - Lead: Sohaib Ahmad (NY)
 - Team
 - Abdul Sattar (CHI)- program
 - Omer Choudhry (NJ)- program
 - Waheed Akbar (NJ)- advisor
 - Kamran Hosain (NY)- finances
 - Hassan Choudhry(Windsor)- basketball tournament
 - Habeeb Hussaini (NY) and Asim Ranginwala (NY) will oversee

- Rafai Bukhari (MD) - rooms and auxiliary
 - Adnan Mirza (HOU)- Quiz Competition
 - Arif Husain (CHI) and Bassim Abbassi (NJ)- propagation
 - ICNA South East Zone Convention
 - Lead: Tayyab Yunus (CHI)
 - Team
 - *Will be picked by September 22, 2002*
 - Suggestions
 - Use people from the South East
 - Lawrence Ville, Atlanta NN (Naveed)
 - ICNA Canada Convention
 - Lead: Yasir Choudhry (Windsor)
 - Team
 - Will use Windsor and Toronto teams
 - *Deadline: December 15th*
 - MAS-ICNA Convention (Chicago- Dec 2002)
 - Lead: Abdul Sattar
 - Team
 - *Will be picked by September 22, 2002*
- **Non-ICNA Conventions/Conferences**
 - Goals, same as for ICNA Convention.
 - ISNA
 - Lead: Sajed Rehman (NY)
 - Team
 - Shoaib Hashmi (NJ)
 - Azmath Hussaini (NY)
 - Omar Ranginwala (NY)
 - Yasin Ranginwala (NY)
 - MAS-WD
 - Lead: YM Chicago will handle it
 - MSA Conferences
 - The Midwest, and Northeast regional team will handle anything close to them
 - Everything else will be handled by the following team
 - Abid Sharif (CHI)- lead
 - Omer Choudhry (NJ)
 - Bilal Khan (Windsor)
 - Saad Siddiqui (CHI)
- **Conferences/Camps**
 - NNCC
 - Lead: Abdul Sattar (CHI)
 - Location for 2003: Chicago
 - Team, *will be picked by November 30th*.
 - Asim Ranginwala (NY)- program
 - *Deadline for program: April, 29, 2002*
 - **Regional Fundraising Conferences**
 - North East region – end of 2003
 - Midwest region – *Midwest team will decide by October 30th 2002.*
 - **Training Camps**
 - There will be Regional Winter Camps
 - Will be weekend long and invite-only
 - National will facilitate non region affiliated units
 - Will be done for coordinators and future coordinators
 - The Tarbiyah Team should provide the Agenda
 - **Summer Camp(s)-National camp Vs. Regional camp**
 - PROS of national camp

- Unification of resources
 - Speakers
 - Experienced members
 - Manpower
 - Costs will be less
 - Building relationship amongst members on a national level
 - More people who can work on breaking up cliques
 - Labor will be less
 - Cooking etc.
 - Activities
 - Promoted as a “national” event
 - Many parallel sessions can be done
 - CONS of national
 - Members who need attention from their local coordinators may not get it
 - Negative cliques
 - People who comes with, stay with, and leave with the same group without interacting with others
 - Traveling distance
 - Travel Costs
 - PROS of regional
 - Region can focus on its own Region
 - City can focus on city
 - CONS of regional
 - **Decisions:**
 - The camp will be National
 - The dates will be August 9th- 15th 2003 (tentative; subject to change)
 - Lead: Salman Yasir (CHI)
- **National Teams & Focuses**
 - **Web Team**
 - Defining the Role and Focus
 - Actively pursue content
 - Facilitate Communication
 - Between National and Local
 - Between members
 - Projects
 - Members Section
 - Reporting
 - Coordinators
 - Members individual reports
 - File sharing
 - Minutes
 - Shura Decisions
 - Jan 1st deadline: People can sign up and be checked off
 - messaging within the system
 - Contact list
 - Newsletter (e-mail based)
 - Will be released bi-monthly
 - Online Store
 - T-shirts
 - CD's
 - Online Donations (secure)
 - Articles Section
 - FTP passwords
 - Passwords will be set for various folders to grant access to local web teams\
 - Special sub-sites for campaigns

- **Tarbiyah Team**
 - Defining Role and Focus
 - Projects
 - Personal study syllabus for every YM member
 - *Deadline: December 15, 2002*
 - Testing Scheme for Study Circle system
 - *Deadline: Jan, 31, 2002*
 - Remembering the Revivalists Campaign
 - Ramadan Personal Study Plan
 - *Deadline Oct 1, 2002*
- **Constitution Review**
 - Various changes were proposed, and agreed upon by the Shura
 - These changes will be given to the YM Board for approval
 - For further inquiry e-mail sg@ymusa.org
- **Future Shura Meetings:**
 - Chicago: Dec 28-29th
 - NJ: April 5-6th
 - Chicago: July 19th-20th
 - NY: Oct 4-5th
- **Relationships with other organizations**
 - **MAS Youth Department.**
 - There were three instances since 2000 where we met formally (meetings), no concrete plans were made.
 - Three places where we both exist: NY, NJ, and Chicago.
 - Leadership of these areas will meet with MYD in an attempt to get to know each other.
 - Increased cooperation should result from these meetings.
 - **YM sisters**
 - Will Work with them on the Welcome Ramadan Events.
 - There should be coordination between us.
 - Now when we do big events, we can't avoid them. We can't separate the two as two species.
 - There has to be at least a little communication on the local level.
 - **MSA**
 - We will have a presence at every MSA Conference in US and Canada
 - We will nationally endorse Islam Awareness Month (November)
- **Other Decisions**
 - Tayyab will write a proposal revising the national elections schedule.
 - This will be done so the new National Coordinator can start off his term with new planning.
 - Tayyab Yunus was assigned as the Midwest Regional Coordinator
 - All Shura members must fill out a Check-o-matic form
 - Nov 15th Final day for regional teams to submit their planning for 2003
 - Dec 15th Final Day for NeighborNet coordinators to submit all local planning for 2003
 - A plan + budget for 2003 will be ready by Jan 1st which will include planning from all levels of YM
 - We will continue to get our mail at ICNA headquarters in Jamaica, NY.
 - We will reevaluate this decision on Nov 1st 2002
 - If we are unsatisfied we will get a P.O. Box
- **Shura Visits Schedule**

This Schedule is for shura members visits to units for rest of 2002. Dates will be confirmed three months in advance, and based on 2003 planning from the units. Shura members assigned are tentative.

 - **Houston**
 - October Friday 4-6th. Azeem and Asim

- Dec 14-15th Asim and Habeeb
- 1st Quarter 2003, Habeeb and Saad
- 2nd Quarter 2003 Saad and Tayyab
- 3rd Quarter 2003 Waheed and Salman
- **NY**
 - Salman will go to next Members Only Meeting, early 2003, Asim will tell him when it is.
 - And For Mid to Late 2003, Yasir and Saad
- **NJ**
 - Sep 20th, Tayyab to the Monthly Program
 - Dec 13th, Saad and Salman
 - 2nd Quarter 2003, Saad and Tayyab
 - 3rd Quarter 2003, Yasir and Salman
- **MD**
 - Regional Team will make visits
 - They will decide on the National visit schedule
- **Chicago**
 - December MAS Convention, Chicago: Azeem, and Asim
 - 2nd Quarter 2003, Asim and Waheed
 - 3rd Quarter Habeeb and Azeem
- **Windsor**
 - Sep 28th Salman, Azeem,
 - 1st Quarter Habeeb, Asim, Tayyab
 - 2nd Quarter Waheed, Saad, Tayyab
 - 3rd Quarter Habeeb, Saad, Tayyab
- **LA**
 - Oct 5-6th Azeem and Salman
 - 1st Quarter Azeem and Asim
 - 2nd Quarter Asim and Saad
 - 3rd Quarter Saad and Salman
- **Toronto**
 - Sep 28th Azeem, and Salman
 - 1st Quarter 2003, Azeem and Habeeb
 - 2nd Quarter 2003 Habeeb and Asim
 - 3rd Quarter 2003 Saad, and Asim
- **Atlanta**
 - October 5th or 12th Habeeb? and Yasir
 - December, SEZ regional Convention. Habeeb and Tayyab
 - 1st Quarter 2003 Habeeb and Salman-or-Azeem
 - 2nd Quarter 2003 Habeeb and Asim
 - 3rd Quarter 2003 Habeeb and Yasir

Review

- **The following topics were discussed in our Review of the year 2002.**
- Many details of the years review are not included into this document (because we would like for our members to focus on the future decisions which were made based on our review.
- **2002 Planning**
 - Focus Points
 - Tarbiyah
 - Organization
 - Invitation
 - Academics
 - Family Relations
 - Effectiveness of approach
 - Goals may have been reached coincidentally

- Focus Points were too general and didn't affect our work
- The 2001 focus was simple (easy to remember and follow)
- Effectiveness of Budget
 - Not working well
 - Having an overall number is good- helped us to attain funds
 - Confusion was caused because when a "budget" was approved it only meant that the financial outlook for the year seemed ok, but did not guarantee any funding
- Events
 - Qiyams
 - Training Camps
 - IYC
 - MW Camp
 - NE Camp
 - Convention
 - Members Meetings
 - Shura Review \ Individual Review
 - Asim Ranginwala- Web Team, Assignments: SC, Constitution, Regional Team, YM NYC CC, Study Circle Moderator
 - Azeem Khan- Secretary, North East Region, Tarbiya Team, participation in national teams
 - Yasir Bilal- Web Team In charge, Study Circle In-charge, Assist NNC
 - Waheed Akbar- Regional Team, NJ coordinator, Convention In charge
 - Salman Yasir- NC, member of Tarbiya team, participation in finance and web team, YM Board, ICNA shura.
 - Saad Siddiqui- Regional team, City Shura
 - Tayyab Yunus- Fundraising, Finance Team, National Shura ICNA
 - Habeeb Hussaini- Bball tournament, City Team, NN Core Team, Assignments: national registration for YM.
- Teams
 - Web
 - Finance
 - Tarbiya
 - Units
 - Houston
 - NY
 - NJ
 - MD
 - Chicago
 - Windsor

If you have any questions, comments, concerns please contact us.

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