



## Weekly news & updates

### DR HATEM AL-HAJ: WHY A DEGREE PROGRAM?

Why pursue Islamic knowledge through a degree program? DrHatem al-Haj, our English Islamic Sciences Dean, gives 3 key reasons why dedicating yourself to learning the deen at an institution like Mishkah will benefit you as a serious seeker of knowledge. Through qualified guidance, motivation and structured learning, you will be able to further your Islamic education goals with Allah's help. **Dr Hatem explains more in the video below.**



### Welcome Dr Hamed Ghazali

We are delighted to welcome Dr Hamed Ghazali who will be teaching **Islamic Pedagogy and Khataba** this Fall semester.

Dr Ghazali is a long-term educator with vast experience at Islamic institutions. With a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Kansas State University, he has been at the helm of various Islamic schools including the Houston Quran Academy where he is currently the Director. Dr Ghazali also serves as the Chairman of the MAS Council of Islamic Schools and as an adjunct professor at the Islamic American University. He is also a consultant for several Islamic schools.

Aside from his considerable educational contributions, Dr Ghazali has been greatly involved in the community locally and nationally as an Imam, researcher, speaker, and member of several advisory boards related to crime prevention and community policing. He was vice President of ISNA, and has also served as a consultant for the United Nations.

His extensive experience in the field of tarbiyah and issues related to classroom management enable him to bring a distinct perspective to our Islamic Pedagogy and Khatabah course.



## Dr Salah Al-Sawy: Tafseer Surah Ghafir

Our dear Dr Salah is on vacation for a few weeks but Alhamdulillah he took the time to prepare some special sessions so that we can continue to benefit inshaAllah.

Below is the continuation of his tafseer of Surah Ghafir ayat 7 in which Allah Most High says: *"Those (angels) who bear the Throne (of Allah) and those around it glorify the praises of their Lord, and believe in Him, and ask forgiveness for those who believe (in the Oneness of Allah) (saying): "Our Lord, You comprehend all things in mercy and knowledge, so forgive those who repent and follow Your Way, and save them from the torment of the blazing Fire."*

As always, you can find other lectures on his [Youtube Channel](#).



## Sh Muhammad Elshinawy: Yusuf Taught Me, Ayat 25

In his continuing series, Sh Mohammad Elshinawy shares his reflections of [#YusufTaughtMe with ayat 25](#)

*And they both raced to the door, and she tore his shirt from the back, and they found her husband at the door. She said, "What is the consequence for someone who intended evil for your wife but that he be imprisoned or a painful punishment?"*  
[12:25]

Just as she was adamant to get her way with Yusuf (as), people in life will harass us to commit wrongdoing. They will not just ask gently and leave, and so you cannot just decline politely and stay. Seek the "refuge of Allah" as Yusuf did, but also refuse to be locked in place until your breaking point. The Prophet (saw) forbade us from sitting at a table where wine is circulated for a reason, and from being alone with a non-relative of the opposite gender for a reason. Let us heed his wisdom (saw) before we complain that our relapses into sin are inevitable.



"Don't be too critical of people with ripped clothing or a dusty face. It may have been their dignity which caused them to appear this way." (Dr 'Ali al-Fifi)

The wife of al-'Aziz was certain that her husband was nowhere close, and that he could never come at this hour. But Allah brought him, and exposed her in the place she felt most safe. A reality we must never forget when sinning in private: *"Did they feel secure from the plan of Allah? But no one feels secure from*

the plan of Allah except the losing people.” [7:99]

This is usually lost in translation, but Allah says here, “They found her sayyid (master) at the door,” referring to the husband. Zayd b. Thābit (ra) says, “The husband is a sayyid in Allah’s Book” meaning the leader of his family. This, of course, does not mean domination, as Islam clearly differentiates between authority and the abuse of authority. However, it also provides an effective means for preventing endless debate and decision paralysis. In the Sunnah, we find that “if three people embark on a journey, they must appoint one of them as their leader,” (Abu Dawūd) so wouldn’t a mechanism for escaping stagnation in the complex, lifelong marital journey be more necessary? Just as the Qur’an deems affection and mercy the soul of a marriage which infuses it with tranquility, it deems respect and structure its spinal cord which allows it to stand upright and take steps forward without toppling over.

The precision and consistency of the Qur’an is incredible. One could think that this verse could read “They found their master” and still be factually (not Qur’anic) correct, since Yusuf (as) belonged to al-‘Azīz who purchased him. However, it seems that Allah wished to establish here that al-‘Azīz was not an actual master for Yusuf, since he was abducted into slavery (making it an invalid transaction), and perhaps also because Yūsuf was a believer and this man was not. (Tafsīr al-Baqā’i)

[READ MORE REFLECTIONS ON AYAT 26 AND 27 HERE](#)

## REGISTER FOR FALL 2020



**The Prophet (saw) said,** “O people, knowledge only comes by learning and understanding only comes by seeking understanding. For whomever Allah intends good, he gives him understanding of the religion. Verily, only those with knowledge fear Allah among his servants.”(At-Tabarani)

**Fall Semester is almost here.** Let Mishkah University be your portal to learning and understanding inshaAllah.

Find out more about the courses we will be offering inshaAllah in our [Course Catalog](#) and [Class Schedule](#).

**The Fall Session will begin on Sept 12th, new students must be admitted and enrolled in their classes by Sept 8th.**

## SUPPORT OUR MISSION

This year is especially critical for our university and our students as we all face the impacts of a global pandemic. Please support us by **participating in our \$1 a day, \$30 a month, \$360 a year donation plan, creating a habit of daily giving and daily blessings.**

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