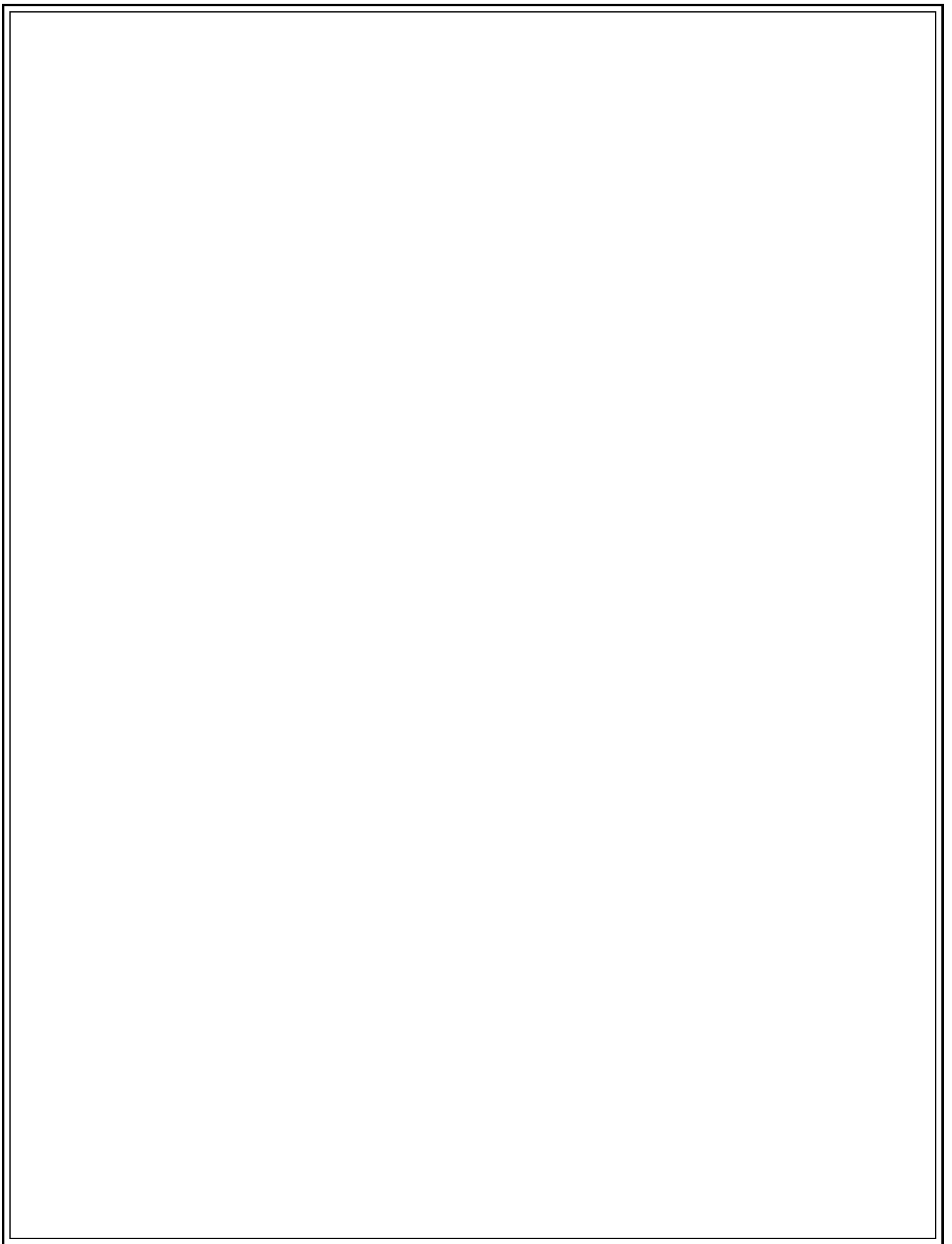


ISLAM IS OUR
MESSAGE
GRADE 4





Islam Is Our Message

Grade Four



Muslim Congress
2012

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Published by Khatoons Inc. for Muslim Congress
6650 Autumn Wind Circle,
MD 21029
USA
www.khatoons.com

Printed in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Muslim Congress Education Team
Islam Is Our Message Grade Four/
Muslim Congress Education Team, 1433 / 2012
p. cm.

ISBN: 978-0-9856110-3-3

KBP199.47-J50B712 2012
199.6'1280-dc21

20120104

First Edition: May 2012

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

*O Allah send salutations upon
Muhammad and his progeny*

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Introduction

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful

Praise be to Allah ﷻ the Lord of the Worlds and may Allah ﷻ bless Muhammad ﷺ and his purified progeny. All praise is for Allah ﷻ, who is one, unique and single. He is needless, all-powerful, all-knowing and wise. He is most high and most exalted. He is glorious and honored, and perfect. Nothing is like Him. And He is all-hearing and all-seeing. The eyes are unable to perceive Him and He perceives everything. And He is Kind and all aware.

We at Muslim Congress recognized the need for a standardized curriculum for weekend schools imparting Islamic teachings. This initiative came about as part of workshops at the annual Muslim Congress conference where the need for such a syllabus was articulated by several educators. Such a curriculum has to cater to the age groups ranging from around five years to the late teens.

Attempts have been made in the past to create syllabus in varied subjects such as Islamic etiquettes (*akhlaq*), jurisprudence (*fiqh*), history (*tareekh*) and Quranic studies. Material, in a variety of forms, exists in the form of online resources and text books today.

We have, however, taken an approach where we tackle concepts such as foundational concepts (*Usool al Deen*), religious practices (*Furoo' al-Deen*), teachings of the Prophets and Imams ﷺ and the verses of the holy Quran into an integrated set of lessons. In such an approach the concepts are reinforced through verses from the holy Quran, ahadith from the *masumeen* ﷺ and events from the Islamic history in a coherent way.

This curriculum is also designed in what is referred to as *spiral curriculum*. In this model, students repeat the study of a subject at different grade levels, each time at a higher level of difficulty and in greater depth. The first edition comprises grades one through five and subsequent grades will be made available in the near future.

We also plan to supplement these text books with activities and resources that will help teachers make the classroom more dynamic and the subject livelier.

The syllabus is organized in the form of lessons where each lesson can be taught in a single session or extended to multiple sessions. We have also used a color coding scheme where the verses of the holy Quran are coded in **green**, duas are coded in **blue** and adadith in **red**. This helps the teacher reinforce that the students must be in the state of wudhu before touching the verses of holy Quran.

The accuracy of the content has been verified by ulama and all effort is made to ensure the material is factually correct.

Supplemental material to the text books is available on the Muslim Congress website:

<http://www.muslimcongress.org/contentmc/services/syllabus.aspx>

Please send all inquiries suggestions to syllabus@muslimcongress.org

The Muslim Congress Curriculum Team

1. Allah ﷻ is the Creator

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ أَعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

O Mankind, worship your Lord who created you and those who were before you so that you may be Godwary (Baqara, 2:21)

Some of our Goals

- Learn how to logically prove that there is a Creator
- Become aware of the many bounties that Allah ﷻ has bestowed on us
- Learn how to thank Allah ﷻ for his bounties in our actions

I Read and Learn

The Islamic studies teacher entered the fourth grade class on the first day of school. He was warmly greeted by his students as he wished them a successful school year.

And then said: "I would like to share with you an important lesson that is related to our existence."

The teacher: Hasan, do you know who made the chair that you are sitting on?

Hasan: The carpenter made the chair.

The Teacher: Samir, who made this beautiful painting?

Samir: The artist made the painting.

The Teacher: So the carpenter made the chair, the door, and the closet... and the artist drew and painted the picture... and it is the student who wrote his homework. Now I would like to ask this question to all of you.

Who do you think created the earth and the sky, the human being and the animals, and the water and the wind?



Arguments for the existence of a Creator

1. In our way to school we see large buildings on both side of the road, we would automatically think that there has to be an architect who made its design, and the contractor is the one who built them. We would never think that the building created itself without an outside force that made it.
2. And we look at the sky, we see how vast it is and without limit in sight. During the day we see the sun rise providing us with light and warmth. At night we see the shinning moon and the glittering stars providing us beauty and splendor. As we reflect on this, we realize that there must be a great creator, who is the one that put the whole universe together in the best order, and created its object in the best of images.



3. **Allah ﷻ is the Creator of the earth:** When we turn our attention towards the earth, we see vast fields, high mountains, and deep valleys. Then we look further, we notice rivers, great oceans, different vegetation and numerous animals. We conclude that this earth must have a powerful creator who perfected it and made it subservient to man.

4. **Allah ﷻ is the Creator of the human being:** When we see the human being, we find him to be an amazing creation. We see that the human being looks at the universe through two eyes and hears sound through ears. He breathes the air through a nose and lungs. We also see that he has a heart that pumps blood through his whole body, a stomach that acts like an efficient food processor, and a brain that thinks and directs his actions.

We know that this amazing human being must have a wise maker, who created him in the best of images and gave him a soul, a mind and feelings.

Our relationship with Allah ﷻ

Allah ﷻ is the powerful Creator, He is Qadir (all powerful), Hakeem (all wise) who created the universe and all in it. Allah ﷻ created the universe for the service of human beings. Hence, we should ask ourselves what is our duty towards Him?

Allah ﷻ is kind to us and created everything we need. We therefore should love him, obey Him and worship none but Him.

- Allah ﷻ commanded us to pray and fast. We should do so in obedience to Him.
- Allah ﷻ commanded us to be truthful and trustworthy in our actions.
- Allah ﷻ ordered us to obey our parents, be kind to the poor and needy. We should obey our parents and help the poor and be kind to the needy



I Read and Act

- A Muslim knows that everything has a maker
- A Muslim knows that the creation has a Creator. The Creator is Allah ﷻ
- Allah ﷻ created the sky and what is in it such as the sun, the moon and the stars.
- Allah ﷻ created the earth and what is on it such as the mountains, the oceans, the animals and the vegetation.
- Allah ﷻ also created the human being and gave him sight, hearing, taste, mind, soul and feelings.
- A Muslim thanks Allah ﷻ for what he receives. He loves Allah ﷻ and obeys Him. So he prays, fasts, obeys his parents and is kind to the needy and the poor.

I Discuss What I Learned

1. Who made the building? And drew the picture?
2. Is it possible for the building to build itself?
3. If you look at the sky, what do you see? And what can you conclude?
4. If you contemplate on your body, what would you discover?
5. Who is the creator of the world? And what are some of His qualities?
6. Why should we love Allah ﷻ?
7. How does a Muslim obey Allah ﷻ?

From the Quran and Hadith

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ ﴿٤﴾

We certainly created man in the best of forms

(Tin, 95:4)

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ says, "Those who are most loved by Allah are the ones who benefit others the most".

Obedience to parents is obedience to the Almighty Allah ﷻ.

اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَأَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْرَجَ بِهِ
 مِنَ الشَّجَرَاتِ رِزْقًا لَكُمْ وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمُ الْفُلْكَ لِتَجْرِيَ فِي الْبَحْرِ بِأَمْرِهِ ۗ وَسَخَّرَ
 لَكُمْ الْأَنْهَارَ ﴿٣٣﴾

It is Allah who created the heavens and the earth, and He sends down water from the sky and with it He brings forth crops for your sustenance. And He disposed the ships for you so that they may sail at sea by His command, and He disposed the rivers for you.

وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمُ الشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ دَائِبَيْنِ ۗ وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ ﴿٣٤﴾

He disposed the sun and the moon for you, constant in their courses, and He created for you the night and the day,

وَأَاتَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ مَا سَأَلْتُمُوهُ وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ لَا تَحْصُوهَا إِنَّ
 الْإِنْسَانَ لَظَلُومٌ كَفَّارٌ ﴿٣٤﴾

And He gave you all that you had asked Him. If you count Allah's blessings, you will not be able to count them. Indeed man is most unfair and ungrateful!

(Ibrahim, 14:32-34)