



IMPACT REPORT 2021



# Seekers Guidance



## MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

As 2021 comes to an end, we want to take a moment to thank you for all your kindness and support. Your frequent donations helped us to provide a wide variety of beneficial islamic classes and events to our local community, with a global impact. To this day, we have served hundreds of families across the city with inspiring knowledge & direction on beneficial character reformation. which is urgently needed in our communities. Strong communities lead to just and upright societies.

SeekersGuidance Canada strives to spread the light of Prophetic knowledge, guidance in our local community as well as globally. We offer classes and programs rooted in mainstream Islamic teachings, offered by qualified scholars, to revive hearts and minds, and benefit humanity—completely free.

Our center at 220 Britannia Rd. E. in Mississauga is a professionally designed, beautiful learning space where all people are welcome, and will feel a deep sense of community and connection.

We need your support to help us meet our monthly expenses and pay off our loans which were taken in 2020. These loans were used to secure our contract with our facility, and for the renovation of the premises. Monthly donors help us meet our monthly budgetary needs so that we can continue to run the SeekersGuidance Canada center for the community, all for free.

The following report outlines the highlights of what we were able to accomplish with your support for the year 2021. Allah Most High has granted us success in being able to offer a wide variety of programs and services this year. These classes help not only the muslims in our own community, but they also help muslims across the globe learn beneficial islamic learning that helps them to be better muslims, and helps them to increase in good character & conduct with others.

Help us to continue to help others by becoming a monthly supporter today. Please visit us at seekersguidance.org/canadadonate

Jazakum Allahu khayran.

Shireen Ahmed
Managing Director
SeekersGuidance Canada



# HAVE YOU NOTICED A PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY WITH REGARD TO SOUND ISLAMIC EDUCATION?

- Lack of quality, consistent Islamic education for teenagers and adults
- Lack of **qualified scholars**, teachers, and khatibs
- Many families can't afford the classes and programs being offered
- Lack of institutions working on training future generations of scholars and teachers
- Lack of beautiful learning spaces, designed by professionals, which uplift and welcome all visitors
- Lack of accessible Islamic education, globally: many communities around the world do not have access to qualified scholarship



SeekersGuidance
Canada seeks to
address all of these
needs and more.
Support us today via
seekersguidance.org/
canadadonate

### OVERVIEW OF 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Despite the pandemic, (general & advanced) classes were held in person and online from January 4 to December 19, 2021.
  - Winter Term (January 4 April 4)
  - Ramadan Schedule (Apr. 13 May 12) Online Program run by SeekersGuidance Global
  - Summer Term (May 24 Aug. 22)
  - Fall Term (Sept. 27 Dec. 19)
- A variety of monthly programming was held which help to introduce new students to our center, as well widening our scope of programming to a broader audience.
- Classes & events were held outdoors in our garden area whenever weather permitted to keep students safe during the pandemic.
- Two of our advanced students continued their studies full time in Dar al-Mustafa (Tarim) under the guidance of Habib Umar al-Hafiz.
- A third advanced student was accepted into the same program this year, and he is now studying full time in the same institute.
- A new instructor was hired for our institute: We were happy to welcome Shaykh Abdullah Misra into our teaching staff this past fall session.
- Attendance in our in person and online classes increased during 2021.



### ADVANCED CLASSES OFFERED IN 2021

(All classes taught by Shaykh Faraz Rabbani)

### CLASSES TAUGHT DURING EVERY TERM 4



Bajuri's Hashiya al-Sanusiyya [Level Three]

### Hanafi Fiqh:

Nasafi's Kanz al-Daqa'iq Explained: Transactions [Level Three]



Tumurtashi's Tanwir Explained [Level Four]

### Hanafi Fiqh:

Nasafi's Kanz al-Daqa'iq Explained: Worship [Level Three]

### OTHER REGULAR CLASSES HELD 5

### Idah al-Mubham

(Winter Term)

### Hanafi Usul al-Fiqh:

Aqhasari's Samt al-Wusul Explained [Level Three] (Winter Term)

### Law:

Shurunbulali's Nur al-Idah Explained [Level Two] (Fall Term)

### **Intermediate Worship:**

Shurunbulali's Maraqi al-Falah [Level Three] (Winter Term)

### Law:

Halabi's Multaqa al-Abhur [Level Three] (Summer & Fall Terms)





### **GENERAL CLASSES OFFERED** IN 2021

**CLASSES HELD DURING THE** WINTER, SUMMER, AND FALL TERMS 6



This class ran online with Ustadh Ahmad Quwatly, and Ustadha Umm Abdul Rahman. Students learned how to improve their recitation and were offered an opportunity to review their memorization.

### **Youth Class:**

In the Winter Term students covered The Quran Explained: Tafsir for Youth and the Hikam of Imam Haddad with Shaykh Yusuf Weltch. In the Summer Term students covered the Book of Assistance with Imam Yama Niazi, with Br. Zain Ali acting as the Teaching Assistant. Finally in the Fall Term, Shaykh Abdullah Misra taught Youth in Prophetic Times: An Analysis of 40 Hadith Where Youths are Mentioned.

### **Sisters Class:**

The sisters study circle began the year by studying Imam Ghazali's Letter to a Disciple, and then transitioned to covering Imam Ghazali's The Forty Foundations of Religion. They watch past recordings of Habib Hussein as-Sagaf teaching the text and then review & discuss the material as a group.

### **Community & Conversations:**

(previously known as Coffee & Connections) In the Winter Term Shaykh Yusuf



Weltch covered Imam Haddad's Book of Assistance. In the Summer Term Shaykh Faraz Rabbani and Ustadha Shireen Ahmed discussed Imam Sulami's The Etiquette of Keeping Company, and in the Fall Term they partially covered a discussion on The Forty Foundations of Family: How to Improve One's Marriage and Nurture One's Children.

### The Path of Muhammad: Birgivi's The Path of Muhammad **Explained:**

This class covers one of the great works on how to truly follow the way of the Prophet (peace & blessings be upon him) in knowledge, beliefs, and operationalizing mindfulness of Allah.

### The Revival Circle: Ghazali's Ihya Explained

This year Shaykh Faraz Rabbani started the series from the beginning by covering these sections of the first quarter of the Ihya:

The Book of Knowledge The Basic Tenets of Faith The Secrets of Purification (Winter 2021) Adab with the Quran Supplication & Remembrance Structuring of Spiritual Routines



### OTHER REGULAR CLASSES HELD 7

### Quduri's Mukhtasar (Worship)

was held in the Winter Term with Shaykh Yusuf Weltch, and in the summer with Sh. Faraz Rabbani.

### Ramadan Series:

### **Hope & Closeness**

taught by Shaykh Faraz Rabbani daily before iftar time.

### Hadith:

### Ibn Abi Jamra's Abridgement of Sahih Bukhari

was held with Shaykh Faraz Rabbani during the Winter and Summer Terms

### Introduction to Islamic Beliefs: Ushi's Bad' al-Amali

with Shaykh Faraz Rabbani in the Winter Term

### **Intermediate Arabic Language**

was held in the Winter Term with Shaykh Yusuf Weltch

### **Quran Studies:**

Understanding the Great Opening (Summer Term) & Sura al-Hadid Explained (Fall Term) with Shaykh Faraz Rabbani

### Ghazali's Dear Beloved Son Explained and Dhahabi's The Major Sins Explained:

**Avoiding Pitfalls to Attain Salvation** with Shaykh Abdullah Misra in the Fall Term





### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING IN 2021

### The Prophet's Life for Kids Program

(Nine episodes presented total)

In this unique class, Shaykh Faraz Rabbani teaches two young children (in the form of puppets) about the life of the Prophet (peace & blessings be upon him). Geared towards children ages 5-12, this series helped children to grasp the basics of the Prophet's life, learn the names of various Companions, and insha Allah helped to nurture love of him.

### January 9th

The Prophet's Blessed Birth & Childhood

### February 6th

The Prophet as a Young Man

### March 6th

Revelation Begins: The Early Years

### June 5th

Islam Spreads: The Later Meccan Years

### July 3rd

Moving to Medina: The New Horizon

### July 31st

Building the City of Light

### October 2nd

Defending Truth & Justice: The Early Battles & the Peace Treaty of Hudaybiyyah

### November 6th

Expansive Times: Inviting Rulers to Islam, Expeditions, and the Conquest of Mecca

### December 4th

The Final Farewell: The Battle of Hunayn & the Passing of the Messenger (peace & blessings be upon him)





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"I learned a lot."
- Zakariya Arazi,
Age 8

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"I like the way the puppets move and I like their voices."
-Meryem, Age 5

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"The puppet show was entertaining and fun to watch.
The characters Fatima and Ahmed, along with their grandparents and Sheikh Faraz, were engaging and witty. We laughed often."
-Muhammed, Age 10

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"When I was able to sit down with my children, I enjoyed watching the puppets speak and hold conversations with one another and their elders and teachers. I loved puppetry as a child... It was so much fun and took me back decades. It is so nice to see it played out in an Islamic context for my kids to enjoy. Very exciting."

-Nadia, Parent

### PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELLNESS PROGRAMS IN 2021



### January 16th

An Islamic Guide to Dealing with Depression with Guest Speaker Dr. Asim Yusuf

### June 12th

An Islamic Guide to Helping Others Through Crises & Difficult Life Events with Guest Speaker Dr. Asim Yusuf

### November 13th

How to Deal with Stress & Optimize Your Resilience with Dr. Rania Awaad

### **Physical Wellness Workshops:**

### February 13th

You Are What You Eat:

The Importance of Ethical Consumption with Guest Speaker Br. Fahim Alwan

### July 10th

How to Recover from the Pandemic and Get Back on Track with Guest Speaker Br. Belal Hafeez (Personal Trainer of thehealthymuslims.com)

### October 9th

Motivational Nature Hike with Shaykh Faraz Rabbani and Guest Speaker Personal Trainer Br. Belal Hafeez



"I was really moved by the presentations of Dr. Asim Yusuf and Dr. Rania Awaad this year. Their workshops with SeekersGuidance Canada provided me with the tools I need to deal with adversity, and they also helped me to think more deeply about the topics so that I am in a better position to handle my social relationships."

Fatima Ahmed

"Seekers Guidance Canada has provided great programs to bring spirituality and physical wellness together. The programs have been engaging and interactive. It is great to see Seekers Guidance be leaders in helping the community become healthier."

(Br. Belal Hafeez, Personal Trainer thehealthymuslims.com)



### ARTS & CREATIVITY WORKSHOPS IN 2021

### March 13th

Calligraphy Artwork on Paper with Calligrapher Sr. Farzana Razzaque

### December 11th

Calligraphy Artwork with Acrylics with Calligrapher Sr. Farzana Razzaque







### COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENTS IN 2021

### (All free of charge to the community)

The Friday Circle of Remembrance & Reminders was our largest weekly gathering throughout the year. This event featured nasheeds and beneficial lessons which was ideal for families and weekly religious inspiration.

### JAN. 3, JUN. 19, SEPT. 25

**Community Meals** to celebrate the start of the new terms done either in person or as drive thru format.

### JANUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> Deli Sandwiches Drive Thru

### MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> Healthy Snack Boxes Drive Thru

### JULY 17<sup>TH</sup> & OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>

**Community Bazaars** featuring Firdous Books and several other vendors to promote Islamic book reading and support local businesses.

### JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> Outdoor Eid Prayer

AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>
Ice Cream Outdoor Social Event

### NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> Healthy Snack Boxes Drive Thru

### **DECEMBER 18**<sup>TH</sup>

Free Cookies & Hot Chocolate Drive Thru





# CRITICAL ISSUES SEMINARS IN 2021

### January 1st

Sparking Your Internal Revolution: The Hadith of Uprightness

### January 30th

The Straight Path Online: A Roadmap for Beneficial Islamic Learning

### February 27th

Lessons for Humanity from the First Migration to Abyssinia

### March 27th

Dealing with Death: Etiquettes of the Dying Person and the People Around Them

### April 3rd

Ramadan Toolkit: Get Ready for Fasting Ramadan

### May 29th

Transformative Prayer: Standing Before God with Awe & Reverence

Available at





### June 26th

Living Simple: Practicing Zuhd in Complex Times

### July 24th

Lessons for Humanity from the Last Sermon (Guest Speaker Sh. Faid Said)

### August 21st

Book Summary: Abu Ghuddah's The Prophet as a Teacher Explained

### October 23rd

The Most Praised: Great Poetry in Praise of the Beloved Prophet (peace be upon him)

### November 27th

The Pure Heart: Abu Talib al-Makki's Nourishment of the Heart Explained



"The Critical Issues Seminars are a unique opportunity to explore, develop, and enrich your understanding on relevant and beneficial topics in an engaging and meaningful approach. Shaykh Faraz and the other scholars offer great wisdom and insight that one can build

from and strive to practice in their daily lives."

Sherene





SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS IN 2021

Shaykh **Faid Said** 

Shaykh **Yahya Rhodus** 

Dr. **Asim Yusuf** 

Dr. **Rania Awaad** 

Br. **Fahim Alwan**(Blossom Pure Organics)

Sister
Farzana Razzaque
(Calligrapher)





## WELCOMING NEW INSTRUCTOR TO OUR STAFF

**Shaykh Abdullah Misra** was born in Toronto, Canada in 1983. His family hails from India and he was raised in the Hindu tradition. He embraced Islam in 2001 while at the University of Toronto, from where he completed a Bachelor of Business Administration. He then traveled overseas in 2005 to study the Arabic language and Islamic sciences in Tarim, Yemen for some time, as well as Darul Uloom in Trinidad, West Indies. He spent 12 years in Amman, Jordan where he focused on Islamic Law, Theology, Hadith Sciences, Prophetic

Biography and Islamic Spirituality while also working at the

Qasid Arabic Institute as Director of Programs. He holds a BA in Islamic Studies (Alimiyya, Darul Uloom) and authorization in the six authentic books of Hadith, and is currently pursuing specialized training in issuing Islamic legal verdicts (ifta'). He holds a certificate in

Counseling and often works with new Muslims and those struggling with religious OCD. His personal interests include Indian history, comparative religion, English singing and poetry. He has recently returned

to Canada with his wife and children.

Shaykh Abdullah has alhamdulillah joined the SeekersGuidance Canada teaching staff as of the Fall 2021 Term.





### INTERIM FINANCIAL REVIEW

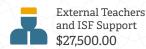
SeekersGuidance Canada Income & Expenses

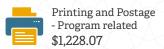
January - December 2021

TOTAL DONATIONS **\$219,985.66** 



### **Programs Expenses**









### **Administrative Expenses**

















### HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT SEEKERSGUIDANCE CANADA?

### Attend our classes and programs:

"Whomever Allah wishes well for, He grants understanding of religion," said the Prophet (peace be upon him) By remembering the organization & team in your supplications (dua) By encouraging your friends and family to take advantage of our classes and programs, in person or online

Becoming a monthly donor—this is the key to our sustainability, growth, and impact Volunteering,
to be part of serving the
Prophetic mission: "Say:
This is my way, I call to Allah
with insight—I and those
who follow me."
[Qur'an]

### **Teaching Staff in 2021**

Shaykh **Faraz Rabbani**  Shaykh Yusuf Weltch

Ustadha
Shireen
Ahmed

Shaykh
Abdullah
Misra

Ustadh
Ahmad
Quwatly

Ustadha **Halima Maideen** 

### **Board of Directors**

Shaykh **Faraz** 

Rabbani President

President

Dr. **Tahira Batool**Secretary

Brother **Hamidur Shibly** *Director* 

Ustadha **Shireen** 

Ahmed Treasurer

Sister
Sandra
Noe
Director

Brother
Azeem
Mohammad
Director



SeekersGuidance Canada offers engaging classes with qualified scholars, completely free.

### **REGISTER TODAY:**

www.SeekersGuidance.org/canada



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Questions? Email us at: sgc@seekersguidance.org