



Ijtema Taleem Syllabus 2015

Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA

The purpose of Khuddam educational competitions is to encourage Khuddam to increase their religious knowledge and to teach them practical skills that are very useful in real world scenarios. The same syllabus is used for local, regional and national level. Winners from each level progress to compete at the next level. Rules of the competitions and judging criteria are given at the end of this document. Participants should carefully reviews these rules and criteria and prepare accordingly. Some grading schemes like English Poem, Memorization, Impromptu Speech have changed.

Should you have any questions or confusion, please contact Taleem department via email (taleem@mkausa.org). Tweet your Ijtema educational competition pictures to [@mkalearn](https://twitter.com/mkalearn).

Competitions

The following competitions will take place this year

1. Tilawat (Recitation of Holy Quran)
2. Hifz (Memorization of the Holy Qur'an)
3. Nazm (Urdu Poem)
4. English Poem
5. Impromptu Speech
6. Speech Competition
7. Quiz Competition
8. Research Paper

Tilawat (Recitation of Holy Quran)

Participants should prepare these chapters, as judges may select any verse(s) from either chapter for the participant to recite from.

- a) Chapter 71 Surah Nuh
- b) Chapter 72 Surah Al-Jinn



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Hifz (Memorization of the Holy Qur'an)

The following portions of Holy Quran should be memorized and recited correctly. For Category 1 & 2 you also need to memorize the translation in Urdu or English.

- Category 1: Chapter 99 (Surah Al-Zilzal) – Chapter 114 (Surah Al-Nas) with translation
- Category 2: Chapter 87 (Surah Al-A`la) – Chapter 114 (Surah Al-Nas) with translation
- Category 3: Part 30 (Chapter 78-114)+ Chapter 62 (Surah Al-Jumuah) without translation

Nazm (Urdu Poem)

Khadim may choose any of the following nazms to recite. Repetition of verses will be allowed, but a Khadim should not take more than two minutes.

- Kis Kadar Zahir Hai Nur (Durr-e-Sameen)
- Dushman Ko Zulm Ki Barchi Say (Kalam-e-Mahmood)
- Bahar Aae Hai (Kalam-e-Mahmood)

Urdu verses and English transliteration is given at the end of this syllabus.

English Poem

Khuddam should write their own poems on any one of the following themes. The poem should be read aloud in a poetic manner and be of approximately 3 minutes in length.

- Love for the Holy Prophet (sa)
- The Message of Islam
- Ahmadiyya Identity

Impromptu Speech

There are no pre-selected topics. Khuddam will pick a lot to select their topic. Each Khadim will be given six minutes to prepare for the speech. A copy of Holy Qur'an (with index) will be available along with a pen and paper. Khuddam may not use smartphones or other internet connected devices to prepare for the speech. Topics may not be strictly religious. For example, you may be given a topic "Why I love to sleep". Your task will be to convince the audience with your reasoning. If you can somehow relate it to Islamic teachings and quote some verses,



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hadith, anecdotes then you will have get much more points. Regardless, this competition is fun and light hearted. You do not have to be a Islamic scholar to participate in it. Everyone should try their skills in this competition.

Prepared Speech

Khuddam may select any of the following topics to write a speech. The participants will be asked to deliver a 4 minute prepared speech. Although, you may read the speech but we encourage you to deliver it from memory to make it more effective.

- a) The role of sacrifice in the second century of Ahmadiyyat
- b) Khilafat and achieving world peace
- c) Current signs of the truth of the Promised Messiah(as)

Jeopardy Quiz

There will be one team per region consisting of 5 Khuddam. The questions will be from the following categories

- a) Monthly focus slides
- b) Books assigned for quarterly book studies
- c) History of Islam & Ahmadiyyat
- d) Current Events / History / General Knowledge

Research Paper

This is a new competition this year and will be held only at the national level. You should start your topic selection and research right now. You can partner with one other Khadim, if you want, to write a joint paper. The topic of this research paper must be something new that hasn't been researched before or at least not to the same depth that you are doing it. You may use other people's research in support of your thesis but the work can't just be copy/paste.

The topic must be related to Islam and Ahmadiyyat. Here are some examples of what your topic may look like (you can't use any of these). Holy Prophet's (sa) Sunnah was to drink water while sitting down and in three sips. Someone may prove from medical literature how this is beneficial. People have done research on how frequently the phenomenon of solar and lunar



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eclipse in Ramadhan happens where the moon eclipses on the first night and the sun eclipse on the middle night.

It is recommended that you select a topic and send your thesis statement for approval to national Taleem department (taleem@mkausa.org). Once approved, you can write your paper which should be at least 2000 words long. All sources must be cited using MLA citation style. Your research paper is due 2 weeks before National Ijtema.

Nazm Text

کس قدر ظاہر ہے نور اُس مبدالانوار کا
چاند کو کل دیکھ کر میں سخت بے کل ہو گیا
بن رہا ہے سارا عالم آئینہ ابصار کا
کیونکہ کچھ کچھ تھا نشان اُس میں جمال یار کا
اُس بہارِ حُسن کا دل میں ہمارے جوش ہے
مت کرو کچھ ذکر ہم سے تُرک یاتا تار کا
ہے عجب جلوہ تیری قدرت کا پیارے ہر طرف
جس طرف دیکھیں وہی رہ ہے ترے دیدار کا
چشمہ خورشید میں موجیں تری مشہود ہیں
ہر ستارے میں تماشہ ہے تری چمکار کا
تو نے خود دوحوں پہ اپنے ہاتھ سے چھڑکا نمک
اس سے ہے شورِ محبت عاشقانِ زار کا

Kis Kadr Zahir Hay Noor Us Mabda-ul-Anwaar Ka
Ban Raha Hay Sara Aalam Aaeena Absar Ka

Chand Ko Kal Daikh Kar Mein Sakht Bay Kal Ho Gaya
Kiyon Kay Kuch Kuch Tha Nishan Usmein Jamal-e-Yar Ka

Us Bahar-e-Husn Ka Dil Mein Hamaray Josh Hai
Mat Karo Kuch Zikr Hum Say Turk Ya Taataar Ka

Hay Ajab Jalwa Teri Kudrat Ka Piyaray Har Tarf
Jis Tarf Daikhein Wohi Reh Hay Teray Deedar Ka

Chashma-e-Khursheed Mein Maujein Teri Mashhood Hein
Har Sitaray Mein Tamasha Hay Teri Chamkar Ka

Tu Nay Khud Ruhon Pe Apnay Hath Say Chirka Namak
Is Say Hay Shor-e-Muhabbat Aashiqan-e-Zar Ka



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یہ درد بے گابن کے فو اتم مبر کرو وقت آنے دو
اس راہ میں جان کی کیا پڑا جاتی ہے اگر تو جانے دو
بادل آفات مصائب کے چھاتے ہیں اگر تو چھانے دو
یہ جس فنا کے ماپنے کے دنیا میں ہی پیمانے دو
پھر گالیوں سے کیوں ڈرتے ہو دل جلتے ہیں جل جانے دو
مقصود میرا پورا ہو اگر مل جائیں مجھے دیوانے دو

دشمن کو ظلم کی برہمی سے تم سینہ دل بزنانے دو
یہ عشق و وفا کے کھیت کبھی خوں سینچے بغیر نہ نہیں گے
تم دیکھو گے کہ انہی میں سے قطراتِ محبت ٹپکیں گے
صادق ہے اگر تو صدق دکھا قربانی کر ہر خواہش کی
جب سونا آگ میں پڑتا ہے تو کندن بن کے بھکتا ہے
مائل کا یہاں پر کام نہیں فہ لاکھوں بھی بے فائدہ ہیں

Dushman Ko Zulm Ki Barchi Say Tum Seena-o-Dil Barmanay Do
Yeh Dard Rahay Ga Ban Kay Dawa, Tum Sabr Karo Waqt Aanay Do

Yeh Ishq-o-Wafa Kay Khait Kabhi Khoon Seenchay Baghair Na Pampain Gay
Is Rah Mein Jan Ki Kiya Parwa, Jati Hay Agar To Janay Do

Tum Daikho Gay Keh Inhi Mein Say Qatrat-e-Muhabat Tapkain Gay
Badal Aafat-o-Masaib Kay Chatay Hain Agar To Chanay Do

Sadiq Hai Agar To Sidq Dekha Qurbani Kar Har Khuwahish Ki
Hain Jins-e-Wafa Kay Mapnay Kay Dunya Mein Yehi Paimany Do

Jab Sona Aag Mein Parta Hai To Kundan Ban Kay Nikalta Hay
Phir Galiyon Say Kiyon Dartay Ho Dil Jaltay Hain Jal Janay Do

Aaqil Ka Yahan Par Kam Nahin Who Lakhon Bhi Bay Faida Hain
Maqsood Mera Pura Ho Agar Mil Jain Mujhay Dewanay Do



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بہار آئی ہے ، دل وقفِ یار کر دیکھو خرد کو نذرِ جنونِ بہار کر دیکھو
غضب کیا ہے جو کانٹوں سے پیار کر دیکھا اب آؤ پھولوں کو بھی ہمکنار کر دیکھو
جو کر سکے تھے کیا ، غیر ہمیں بنا نہ سکے ہم اب بھی اپنے ہیں ، اپنا شمار کر دیکھو
بس اب نہ دُور رکھو اپنے دل سے اہلِ وطن ہے تم سے پیار ہمیں ، اعتبار کر دیکھو
ہمیں کبھی تو تم اپنی نگاہ سے دیکھو تعصبات کی عینک اُتار کر دیکھو
لگا رکھی ہیں جو چہروں پہ مولوی آنکھیں نظر کی برجھی ان آنکھوں سے پار کر دیکھو

Bahar Aae Hai, Dil Waqf-e-Yar Kar Dekho
Khirad Ko Nazr-e-Janoon-e-Bahar Kar Dekho

Ghazab Kiya Hay Jo Kanton Say Piyar Kar Dekha
Ab Aao Phoolon Ko Bhi Humkinar Kar Deho

Jo Kar Sakay Thay Kiya, Ghair Hamain Bana Na Sakay
Hum Ab Bhi Apnay Hain, Apna Shumar Kar Dekho

Bas Ab Na Dur Rakho Apnay Dil Say Ahl-e-Watan
Hay Tum Say Piyar Humein, Aitebar Kar Dekho

Humein Kabhi Tu Tum Apni Nigah Say Dekho
Ta'asubat Ki Ainak Utaar Kar Dekho

Laga Rakhi Hein Jo Chehron Pe Maulvi Aankhein
Nazar Ki Barchi In Aankhon Say Par Kar Dekho



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Judging Criteria & Competition Details

Recitation of the Holy Qur'an

Tilawat	Max Marks	Criteria Description
Criteria-1	20	Correctness & Clarity of Pronunciation. Stops at appropriate punctuation
Criteria-2	10	Confidence and Continuity
Criteria-3	10	Appropriate Delivery Volume and Speed
Criteria-4	10	Overall Sweetness of Delivery (Soza/Qirat)

Goal: To encourage Khuddam to recite the Holy Qur'an in the most correct and beautiful way. The Khuddam will be asked to recite a portion of the assigned syllabus at the Ijtema. The length of the portion selected will also be dependent on the number of participants and the time allotted. Khuddam should be familiar with the entire passage as the portion to be recited will be selected randomly. In the event that the judges choose verses in sequence, the list of competitors may be randomized so that Khuddam will not be aware of the portion to be recited until they reach the podium. Translation will not be asked in this competition. A Khadim may bring his own Holy Qur'an. In any event, a copy of the Holy Qur'an will be provided for all competitors.

Hifz (Memorization of the Holy Qur'an)

Memorization	Max Marks	Criteria Description
Criteria-1	20	Overall memorization of the Arabic
Criteria-2	10	Know the correct translation (for Cat 1 & 2)
Criteria-3	5	Confidence and Continuity
Criteria-4	5	Appropriate Delivery Volume and Speed



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Goal: To encourage the Khuddam to memorize large portions of the Holy Qur'an and even engender the need for Khuddam in the USA to become Hafiz-e-Qur'an.

One of the judges will recite a portion of the Holy Qur'an, usually one or two verses, depending on the length of the verses. A short verse would necessitate recitation of an additional verse to enable to the Khadim to discern the portion of the Holy Qur'an that is being read. The Khadim is to continue the recitation once he has ascertained the portion being read. After the judge or appointee have completed the verse being tested, the Khadim will have ten seconds to continue the recitation or would receive a score of zero for the verse being tested. In this manner, three to five verses will be selected from the Ijtema syllabus provided to the Khuddam.

The translation of a single verse will be asked of a Khadim. The verses will usually be based on the Arabic selections recited by the Khadim which will encourage memorization with translation and enhance understanding. Between four and ten selections may be asked, again the number of selections is inversely proportional to the number of competitors.

One's score will be based on both memorization of the Arabic and the translation which may be done in English or Urdu. If done in Urdu, the best translation will be asked and it will be imperative that the translation be relevant to the context of the verse as Arabic and Urdu vocabulary is often similar.

Nazm (Urdu Poem)

Nazm	Max Marks	Criteria Description
Criteria-1	10	Correctness & Clarity of Pronunciation. Stops at appropriate punctuation
Criteria-2	10	Confidence and Continuity
Criteria-3	10	Appropriate Delivery Volume and Speed
Criteria-4	20	Overall Sweetness of Delivery (Soaz/Qirat)

Goal: To encourage Khuddam to recite Nazms or Urdu Poems in the most correct and most beautiful way.

A portion of a Nazm, usually about 3-4 verses depending on the number of competitors and the allotted time. The Nazm(s) will be selected prior to the Ijtema. Khadim will be given a choice as to which Nazm he would prefer to recite. Translation will not be required in this competition. A Khadim may bring his own copy of the Nazm. In any event, a copy of the Nazm will be provided



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for all competitors at the podium. Though the competition is Urdu Nazm, the selections may come from the Qasidah and / or Farsi (Persian) poetry of the Promised Messiah(as).

English Poem

English Poem	Max Marks	Criteria Description
Vocal Communication	5	Appropriate delivery volume and speed. Were you able to hear the speaker? Were you able to understand the speaker (i.e. not too fast or slow, not choppy, or unnecessary pauses)?
Physical Presence	5	Appropriate use of physical and vocal skills to reinforce mood and setting. Appropriate use of gestures and movements. Did the speaker make eye contact and engage with the audience? Did the speaker capture the audience's attention?
Language	15	Appropriate use of literary devices (i.e. metaphors, similes). Did the speaker use effective word play, such as puns, spoonerisms, strong vocabulary, clever storytelling, double entendres, etc.?
Overall Performance	25	Evaluate the overall content and recitation of the poem. Did the speaker address the topic? Did the speaker explore the topic in a challenging way (i.e. level of difficulty)? Did the speaker entertain? Was the speaker confident and enthusiastic?

Goal: To encourage Khuddam to compose and recite English poetry in the most correct and beautiful way.

A Khadim will compose a poem that is to be recited at the Ijtema in three minutes. The topic of the poem will be included with the National MKA Ijtema syllabus and the Khadim must write his



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poem on the assigned subject matter. He may bring the written poem with him for recitation and is not required to memorize the material. He may recite the poem in a melodious voice.

Impromptu Speech

Impromptu Speech	Max Marks	Criteria Description
<i>Criteria-1</i>	10	Appropriate Delivery Volume & Speed. Clarity of Pronunciations
<i>Criteria-2</i>	10	Style of Delivery, Confidence and Continuity. Witty. Spontaneous.
<i>Criteria-3</i>	20	Quality of Speech Content & Knowledge of the Subject. Entertaining for audience?
<i>Criteria-4</i>	10	Use of Verses of the Holy Qur'an, Ahadith, Quotations and/or Poetic Verses

The impromptu speech competition will prepare Khuddam for the real world scenario where they might be asked to speak on a topic without knowing it ahead of time.

We are making this competition more open for all participants. No pre-selected topics will be given to the participants ahead of time. This year the topics will not be strictly religious in nature. They may even be slightly humorous. For example, the topic may be "Why I love to sleep" or "My favorite food". Your job is to convince the audience of your point of view. You may somehow relate these topics to Islamic teachings and may even quote verses, ahadith, and anecdotes to make your case stronger.

On the day of the competition, one's name will be called about six to ten minutes prior to his turn to speak. In general, two people will speak in the time allotted for a Khadim to prepare his speech. A Khadim will not be permitted to bring any written materials to the podium and he may not use his smartphone or any other internet connected device to research the topic. A copy of Holy Quran with English translation and index will be provided. A copy of Holy Qur'an with English will also be kept at the podium to help Khuddam recite the verses for their speech.

When one's name is called, he will come forward to a designated area and pick a lot to select their topic. At the designated preparation area, there will be blank paper provided to the Khuddam so that they may brainstorm and make notes with the help of provided copy of Holy Quran. Speeches are to be three to five minutes in length although you may end your speech early if you run out of things to say.



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Impromptu Speech

Prepared Speech	Max Marks	Criteria Description
<i>Criteria-1</i>	10	Appropriate Delivery Volume & Speed. Clarity of Pronunciations
<i>Criteria-2</i>	10	Style of Delivery, Confidence and Continuity.
<i>Criteria-3</i>	10	Quality of Speech Content & Knowledge of the Subject
<i>Criteria-4</i>	20	Use of Verses of the Holy Qur'an, Ahadith, Quotations and/or Poetic Verses

Goal: To encourage the Khuddam to improve their knowledge base to help us excel in tabligh and improve their public speaking skills.

Prepared speeches are to be three to four minutes in length. Use of verses, ahadith, etc. carry more marks in this competition. 30 seconds before the end of participants allotted time, he will be warned using a tap on the table. Participants should start wrapping up their speeches at that time. If you go over the specified time limit (4 mins), the judges may deduct marks from your final score.

Research Paper

Research paper will be judged on the quality of research as well as the style of writing. The idea being researched must be substantially new and should not have been researched by someone to that depth by someone before you. You may use other people's work to support your hypothesis but it must be properly cited. Think of this as an essay writing competition to bring new and fresh ideas. The research idea doesn't have to be scientific in nature. You could write about other topics related to Islam & Ahmadiyyat whether it be history, comparative religion, arguments to be used in tabligh, etc. You come up with a topic and get it approved from Taleem department (taleem@mkausa.org). Then present your ideas in an essay 2 weeks before national Ijtema (submit to same e-mail address). Length should be at least 2000 words.



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