

Aqidah Series



Hafs Academy
Sample

وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ

ANGELS

PART 4 & 5

Aqidah Series
Angles Part 4 & 5

First Edition
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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

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FORM/YEAR:

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TEACHER:

.....

Hafs Academy is an educational trust founded by some of the country's leading educators, scholars and academics, to push forward the frontiers of Muslim schooling in the UK.

A thought out curriculum

We call our secondary school curriculum “the balance” - a combination between an analytical national syllabus and a humanising Islamic curriculum. A student benefits from the strengths of both sciences at the highest level, while actualising the Hadith, “No father has ever given a child a gift that is superior to good manners.”

Great teachers

Teachers are our greatest asset. Our educators and scholars are experts in their fields with a strong record of delivering academic success. Together with an emphasis on character development, mentoring and tarbiyya, students are able to achieve their full potential in both the secular and Islamic sciences.

Fully resourced

We have fully equipped modern classrooms and laboratories with a full compliment of gadgetry and support staff. Our Islamic teaching collateral is unique and produced in-house by academics at the forefront of curriculum design. The hifz programme is also staffed by experts in qira'at and we regard it as one of the best in the country.

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Angles

The belief in Angels (*al-Mala'ikah*) is the second article of faith in Islam. Allah mentions in the Qur'an:

“The Messenger (ﷺ) believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, and so do the believers. All believe in Allah, His Angels and His Messengers.”

(Qur'an 2:285)

In part 3 we continued to look at how angels pray for the believers, as part of their interaction with the believers. The reality is that angelic engagement with the believers does not stop with their prayers for them. It can go beyond that and can often translate into physical contact and assistance. It is this aspect which shall form the basis of this chapter.

Heralds of Good News

The Qur'an informs us of angels coming in the form of men and bringing good news to Prophets. For example, they came to Prophet Ibrahim عليه السلام and gave him the glad tidings of a boy. The Qur'an tells us,

“Have you heard the story of the honoured guests of Ibrahim? They went in to see him and said, ‘Salam (peace). Salam (peace).’

He said, ‘These people are strangers.’ He turned quickly to his household, brought out a fat calf, and placed it before them.

‘Will you not eat?’, he said, beginning to be afraid of them (since they did not eat), but they said, ‘Do not be afraid.’

They gave him good news of a son who would be gifted with knowledge.” (51:24-28)

Similarly, angels came to Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام and gave him the good news of having Prophet Yahya عليه السلام,

“There and then Zakariyya prayed to his Lord, saying, ‘Lord, from Your grace, grant me virtuous offspring: You hear every prayer.’

The angels called out to him, while he stood praying in the sanctuary, ‘God gives you news of Yahya, confirming a Word from God. He will be noble and chaste, a prophet, one of the righteous.’” (3:38-39)

This type of physical interaction and giving good news is not restricted to Prophets.

A Hadith tells us about a man who set off to visit a brother of his in another town. Allah sent an angel to wait for him on the way. When he came near to him, the angel asked, “Where are you headed?”

He replied, “To see a brother of mine in this village.”

The angel asked, “Is it for a favour that you owe him?”

He answered, “No, except that I have befriended him for the sake of Allah.”

The angel responded, “I am a messenger from Allah to you [to tell you], Allah befriends you as you have befriended him.”

Likewise, the Prophet ﷺ once said, “Jibril came to me and said, ‘O Messenger of Allah, Khadijah [your wife] ﷺ is coming to you with a vessel. In it is stew, food or drink. When she comes, convey to her salam from her Lord and me, and give her the glad tidings of a house in paradise made from reed [brocaded with pearls and rubies], in which there is no noise or exhaustion.’”

From the above two examples we learn that angels interact with non-Prophets too.

Angels Teach People Their Religion

‘Umar ibn al-Khattab ﷺ said,

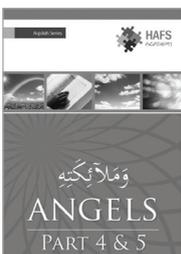
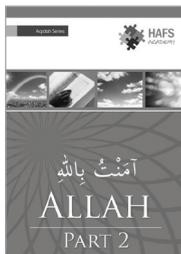
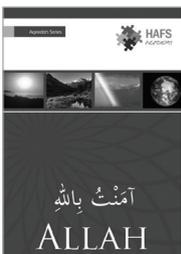
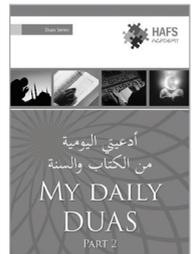
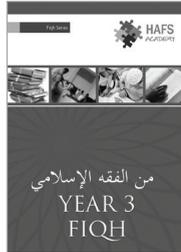
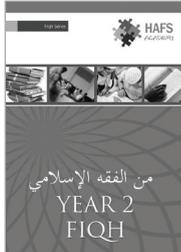
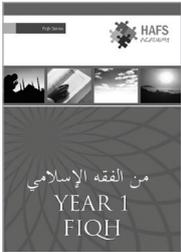
“One day while we were sat with the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, a man appeared before us. His garments were sparkling white, his hair pitch black. There were no signs of travel upon him and none of us recognised him. He went to the Prophet ﷺ and sat in front of him, placing his knees before the Prophet’s knees. He also placed his hands upon the Prophet’s thighs, saying, ‘Muhammad, what is Islam?’”

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ replied, ‘Islam is to testify that there is no deity except Allah and that Muhammad is His Messenger; to establish regular prayer, to give Zakat, to fast during Ramadan and to visit Allah’s House as a pilgrim (Hajj) when you are able to.’

Thereupon the stranger responded, ‘Indeed, you have spoken the truth.’

We were amazed that this stranger would ask the Prophet ﷺ a question and then tell him he was correct too!

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At Hafs we believe that the tarbiyah (development) of a child in a good environment is of utmost priority. Children are innocent and so it is during these days of innocence that tarbiyah is most effective.

Our beloved Prophet (saw) created an environment of learning for his companions. It is in this environment in which the Sahabah developed such iman (faith) that they have forever become role models for those who come after them.

Allah (swt) says:

If they believe the way you have believed then they would achieve guidance. (Baqarah 2:137)

In the very beginning of the Quran Allah (swt) describes the people of taqwa as those who have faith in the ghayb (the unseen). But have we ever explained to our children what is meant by ghayb?

Without firm grounding in belief, we are lost, meaningless, prey to a host of forces and bound for the route of destruction. Sound belief is the only guarantee for our success and God's pleasure - it is the purpose behind our creation and the reason for which Prophets were sent. It is paramount/crucial, therefore, to realise the importance of sound upbringing and belief and to provide Muslim youth with good instruction from a young age. It is the only effective manner which helps them navigate through the ups and downs of life and face the challenges it throws at them.

To this end, Hafs Academy presents a revised syllabus on various Islamic sciences/subjects (Aqidah, in this case) with a bias towards student age/maturity, relevant topic selection and detail. In this compilation, emphasis is placed on iman-building over crude theological formulations by compounding elementary beliefs with exhortative and descriptive data found in the rich sources of Hadith literature, in addition to heart-softening anecdotes and parables of wisdom.

It is hoped this revised format will make the subject more engaging, pique further interest, provoke action and yield the much anticipated results. Wa ma dhalika 'ala Allah bi Ba'eed - and with Allah alone rests assistance.

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