

CENTRIS E-BULLETIN

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**The Axis of the
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**The Spiritual
Enhancement
Programmes and
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From the Editor's Desk

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“Communiversality” as a Portmanteau

The word “communiversality” is a portmanteau. It is the combination between “community” and “university.” One of the purposes of a portmanteau is to solidify the meanings of two different but interrelated words into one word to show its significance and uniqueness in the realm of language.

If we look closely, we will notice that the portmanteau to a certain extent is created from a binary opposition, which is between the term “community” and “university.” Hence, the portmanteau dissolves the binary. Perhaps this is because, throughout the modern period, the meanings of a university and a community have been defined as “in contradiction” to one another. On the one hand, we have a university which is an ivory tower that is secluded from the community, consisting of intellectuals who are regarded as elites. On the other hand, we have a community that consists of laymen or “non-intellectuals.”

Thus, to escape this dichotomy, we need to deconstruct the binary opposition. This can be done by privileging the traditionally underprivileged term, which is the community. Modernity has been degrading the community as the lower part of the hierarchy between the university and the community. By privileging the community, we will be able to destabilize the binary opposition, and thus prove that the two terms are so closely intertwined that it no longer makes sense to divide them apart.

In terms of processes, to break from the traditional dichotomy, firstly the university needs to understand the community that it wants to “absorb” to become part and parcel of its operation. The university’s community must listen to the existential problems of the outside community. Secondly, both parties must brainstorm plausible solutions. This is where the question of practicality comes in.

From the Editor's Desk

Being pragmatic without losing the grasp on the theoretical foundation of communiversity is a continuous challenge. For instance, the demands from the community sometimes do not tally with the university's roles that exclude community services. The university must be effective in finding a way to engage the community without "succumbing" to merely providing public services e.g. cleaning up the streets, washing cars, enlarging the roads, building affordable houses, etc. The community must be clear on this matter. Public services are the jobs of the government.

Therefore, the solutions must be reciprocally organic in terms of contributing to the growth of both parties. As mentioned, they constitute the same entity which is the larger society. And there is nothing un-Islamic about it as it is one of the elements that completes the Islamic precepts.

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The Spiritual Enhancement Programmes and Activities of Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Mosque CENTRIS in Gombak (Part II)

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Introduction

Under the purview of SHAS Mosque CENTRIS, SHAS Mosque was able to host a number of helpful programs and activities as of February 2022. In addition, it separated its members into three distinct services, each of which had a unique role inside the organisation. These services included the Imam and Da'wah Unit, the Management and Finance Unit, the Training and Iqra Unit, and more. The 'Ilaj and Irshad Unit, under the control of SHAS Mosque CENTRIS, was established in 2020 as a small unit to support the university's mental health task force.

Following the mosque's goal and university policies, the Administration and Finance Unit was in charge of providing administrative, financial, and maintenance support to the mosque's numerous management units. The Imam and Da'wah Unit, on the other hand, was in charge of managing the mosque's everyday operations and religious events. The Imam Unit oversaw KCDIO's University Ibadah Camps, training and programmes on Islamic precepts, legal jurisprudence, brotherhood, spirituality, culture, and ethics as these were also included in the organisation's mandate.

The courses offered include short-term courses on *fardu 'ain* and *fardu kifayah* such as :

- International conferences
- National seminars
- Character development and family well-being
- School vacation programs
- Halaqah al-Quran, hadith and 'aqidah Li al-Nisa
- Imam and leadership training.



'Halaqah Tafsir li al-Nisa' was introduced since 2014 for female staff and students

In the 2021 report, the Training and Iqra' Unit led the proposal to complete twelve plans; of those plans, eleven were carried out, and one was postponed because of a COVID-19 lockdown during that period. The programmes and activities overseen by the Training and Iqra' Unit are presented in Table 1 below.

No.	Programmes/Activities	Date/Day/Time	Status
1.	<i>Halaqah Hadith Li Al-Nisaa' (Kitab Riadhussolihin)</i>	8 January - 31 December, Friday, 11 am	Completed
2.	<i>Halaqah Tafsir Al-Quran Li Al-Nisaa'</i>	8 January - 31 December, Friday, 12 pm	Completed
3.	<i>Fiqh Al-'Ibadah (Permasalahan dalam Ibadah Solat)</i>	24 February, Wednesday, 9 am	Completed
4.	<i>Quranic Class for IIUM Staff</i>	15 March & 1 September, Monday & Wednesday, 12 pm	Completed
5.	<i>Halaqah Tahfiz Al-Quran 1/2021 (KOE Students)</i>	15 March & 25 May, Tuesday, and Friday, 8 am & 7 pm	Completed
6.	<i>Fiqh Al-Saum (Persiapan Menyambut Ramadhan)</i>	24 March, Thursday, 9 am	Completed
7.	<i>Fiqh Al-Nisaa' (Aurat-Issues and Solution)</i>	27 April, Tuesday, 9 am	Completed
8.	<i>International Webinar (Kesihatan Mental dan Kerohanian Islam Era Pandemik Covid-19 Road to Jannah)</i>	28 July, Wednesday, 8 am - 4.30 pm	Completed
9.	<i>Siri Bedah Buku Terbitan Masjid SHAS IIUM (Buku Dosa-Dosa Akhir Zaman)</i>	14 September - 7 December, Every Tuesday, 9 am	Completed
10.	<i>Fiqh As-Sunnah 1 (Memasyarakatkan Ilmu Sunnah 1.0)</i>	13 October, Thursday, 9 am	Completed
11.	<i>Fatwa dan Masyarakat</i>	11 November, Thursday, 9 am	Pending
12.	<i>Fiqh Al-Mirath 2- Hibah and Waqaf</i>	1 December, Wednesday, 9 am	Completed

Book Review Series



The Book Review Series was based on the book published by SHAS Mosque entitled *Dosa-Dosa Akhir Zaman*, written by 17 authors from various prestigious universities including IIUM, Kolej Universiti Islam Perlis, and Institut Agama Islam Negeri Pekalongan (Indonesia). SHAS Mosque hosted this intellectual conversation, centered on the diverse definitions of sin and its various aspects and viewpoints. In addition, IIUM Grand Mental Health Day 2021 organised by the Counselling Unit of IIUM coincided with the book review series, which involved speakers from outside IIUM (conducted online).

Zoom and Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Mosque Facebook Live were the platforms used for the weekly Tuesday talks, which ran from 9.30 to 10.50 a.m. from September 14 to November 20, 2021. The objectives were to help participants in further grasping how to improve the Islamic creed (*'aqidah*) and enhance their faith to achieve success in this life and the hereafter. Thirteen panelists discussed and described on the given topics including all the SHAS Mosque's top management namely Dr Muhammad Muthi'ul Haq al-Hafidh, Dr. Sofiah Samsuddin, Dr. Nurul Jannah Zainan Nazri, Ustadhah Qurratul Aein, Assoc Prof. Dr. Abdul Latif, Assoc Prof. Dr. Saupi Man, Ustadh Abdullah Bukhari Abdul Rahim al-Hafidh, Assoc Prof Dr. Mohd Azerul Azlan, Dr Mohammad Dhiya'ul Hafidh, and Ustadhah Asma' Harun. A fair number of participants attended this Book Review Series as it managed to attract 2000 viewers at a time who were keen to discover new information. This program was found to be beneficial to all communities by offering an understanding of eschatological issues; how to manage their hearts and minds while living at the end of time; and advice on how to be a successful believer in this life and the Hereafter - according to the evaluation form on the satisfaction of the participants.

Daily Lecture

The Imam and Da'wah Unit focused on daily operations and religious activities. This unit was in charge of the five daily congregational prayers, as well as the Eid prayers, *Qiyam al-Lail*, *Zuhr* and '*Asr* daily *tadhkirah*, and the *Jumaah khutbah*. Together with the *khutbah* script supplied by the Majlis Agama Islam Selangor (MAIS), a range of appointed scholars and imams delivered the *Jumaah* sermon. Generally, they talked about current events and encouraged people to maintain a healthy balance between *dunyawi* and *ukhrawi*. In addition, daily lectures were given by IIUM faculty members in a rotational manner after the congregational prayers of *Zuhr* and '*Asr*.

DAILY TAZKIRAH ZUHR AND ASR PRAYERS

Day	Prayer	Imam/Scholar	Title/Book
Monday	Zuhr	Prof. Jamal Badi	AS-SUYUDHI AS-SUYUDHI
Monday	Asr	Prof. Mohammad Ruzlilis	SAHIB AL-BUKHARI
Tuesday	Zuhr	Dr. Mohd Fuzi Usop	MAKFI BAGIAN ANDA DALAM SOLAT
Wednesday	Zuhr	Assistant Prof. Abdulhamid	DOA FROM ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVES
Tuesday	Asr	Associate Prof. Ibrahim Faris Suku	DIYADHUSULIHIN
Wednesday	Asr	Dr. Yusuf Kara	RISALAH AL-NUR
Thursday	Zuhr	Assistant Prof. Nik Md Saiful Azizi	KOLEKSI HADIS PILIHAN
Friday	Asr	Dr. Amal Fattani	MUKHTASAR ISN KATIB
Thursday	Asr	Spkr. Abdulrahman A'Osman	AMBATUS SALIS BY ISN HAQIB

CENTRE FOR ISLAMISATION (CENTRIS)
LEVEL 3, M. 400 AL SAUF BUILDING
IIUM GOMBAK CAMPUS
JALAN GOMBAK, SELANGOR

SULTAN HAJI AHMAD SHAH
MOSQUE, IIUM GOMBAK 5000
MALAYSIA

The Imam and Da'wah Unit was in charge of planning four major lectures each year to commemorate significant anniversaries in Islamic history, such as the *Mawlid al-Rasul* Day, *Isra' al-Mi'raj*, *Ma'al Hijrah*, and *Nuzul al-Quran*. However, because of the lockdown, the unit was able to host only two major talks in 2021. The first lecture was entitled "*Al-Quran Pembela @ Pendakwaraya*" and was delivered by Masjid Putra's Chief Imam, Ustaz Haji Ikmal Zaidi Hashim of Putrajaya on the 25th day of Ramadan in 1442, 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. This amazing speech was delivered via Zoom and the Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Mosque's Facebook page.

The Grand Talk on Mawlid al-Rasul



The Grand Talk on Mawlid al-Rasul was another talk that was organised on November 17, 2021. It was in conjunction with the Mawlid al-Rasul, and this talk entitled "*Penghayatan Maulidur Rasul dalam Kehidupan Sehari-hari*" –was held via the aforementioned online sites. Sahibus Samahah Dato' Dr. Haji Anhar Opir, the Mufti of Selangor, was invited to this great discussion as a distinguished speaker. He delivered a good and insightful sermon on the virtues of Prophet Muhammad as the last Prophet on earth and how we should imitate his deeds and actions in our day-to-day lives

Achievements

Since its founding many years ago, the SHAS Mosque has accomplished noteworthy goals. As of 2020-2021, CENTRIS and other organisations were working together more frequently to address the broad coverage of the *ummah* through intellectual methods including by organising national webinars, international conferences, and lifelong learning programmes.

First, to organize an international conference for papers and presentations on current issues in Islamic thought and institutions, SHAS mosque collaborated with the Academy of Contemporary Islamic Studies (ACIS) of Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Perlis Branch, Arau Campus. The Third International Social Science Conference: Islamic Thought & Understanding (ISSCITU 2018) was the name of the international conference.

The main goals of the conference were to discuss and reinvigorate Muslims' attitudes toward advancing Islam peacefully and supporting the spiritual aspects of faith and practice. It also offered a forum for scholars, academicians, and researchers to engage in intellectual discourse aimed at revitalizing Islamic thought and understanding; and forging strong relationships and alliances with institutions, organizations, and individuals from both local and international levels.

Furthermore, the National Quranic Memorization Competition was organized by SHAS Mosque in collaboration with the ITQAN Institute for Quranic Education. There were eight categories in this thirteenth session. The categories are as follows: (1) 3 Juzu', (2) Juzu' for Adults, (3) 5 Juzu', (4) 10 Juzu', (5) 20 Juzu', (6) 30 Juzu', (7) 30 Juzu' (*al-Jazariyah* & meanings of Quranic terms) (8) *al-Noorania* with Juzu 'No. 30. Three rounds were scheduled for the competition dates: March 7 and 8, 2020 for the first round, March 14 and 15 for the second round, and March 21 and 22 for the final round.

Every year, the competition is held at the SHAS Mosque in Gombak. Typically, the closing ceremony will be attended by a representative from Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), Majlis Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (MAIWP), Ambassadors of the Saudi Arabia Embassy, Yaman Embassy, and VIPs among local and international guests.





Additionally, SHAS Mosque organised a national webinar entitled “Webinar Kebangsaan: Kesehatan Mental dan Kerohanian Islam Era Pandemi COVID-19: Road to Jannah” featuring participants from government and non-governmental organizations (GOs and NGOs), such as Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM), Pejabat Agama Islam Daerah Gombak (PAID), Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), Nadwah Ulama dan Ilmuwan Islam Malaysia (NUIM-YADIM), Persekutuan Seruan Islam Selangor dan Wilayah Persekutuan (JAMIYAH), Persatuan Ulama Malaysia (PUM), PAPISMA, PAKSI, and Yayasan Nur Ramlah.


Then another national webinar was held entitled "Webinar Minda Sejahtera Minda Merdeka," which took place on August 28, 2021, in honor of National Independence Day.


Experts in various fields, such as Dr. Mahyuddin Ismail, Ustaz Mohd Syafiq Syafi, Dr. Mohd Puzhi Usop, and Hj Abd Manaf bin Jusoh, among others, delivered their talks at the online webinar on mental health. The moderators for the webinar in conjunction with Independence Day were Dr. Mohd Nor Sapir, Mohammad Hasnol, and Ustaz Mohd Nabil Ahmad. Among the distinguished speakers include Abdul Ghaffar Surip, Dato' Dr Suhaini Kadiman, Dr. Mohd Izawan Md Yusof, and Dr. Raudlotul Firdaus Fatah Yasin.


The SHAS Mosque was the center for spiritual growth, in line with the global rise of mental health issues, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, it introduced a Friday lecture series on *Risalah Nur* entitled "Journey of the Hearts and Minds." This was in addition to the already published *Halaqah Hadith li al-Nisa'* by Dr. Nurul Jannah Zainan Nazri and *Halaqah Tafsir li al-Nisa'* by Dr. Sofiah Samsudin.


A JOURNEY OF HEARTS AND MINDS


  **Weekly Series**
for Academic & Non-Academic Staff



 **A JOURNEY OF HEARTS AND MINDS**
with **Badi'uzzaman Sa'eed Nursi**
and His Risalah An-Nur

 **Yusuf Kara**, Manager,
Nursi Research and Training Centre (NRTC)

 **Asso. Prof. Dr. Akmal Khuzairi**
Director, Center for Islamisation (CENTRIS)

 **Prof. Dr. Waleed Faris**, Director,
International Institute for Muslim Unity (IIMU)

 **Asso. Prof. Dr. Radwan Jamal Elatrash**
Dept. of Quran and Sunnah Studies

 E-Certificate
 Google Meet

Every Friday
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM
Starting on June 5th

The programme aimed to introduce the methodology of Badiuzzaman Said Nursi in bringing Muslims who lived in a modern and secular era of disintegration (between revealed and scientific knowledge). This is to achieve a deeper understanding of Allah as the God, Creator, and Sustainer who will always provide for human needs through His wisdom and Most Merciful attributes.

The programme guided the participants toward achieving spiritual ecstasy in fulfilling the task of *'ibadah* and responsibility as *khalifah* in this life, with strength and patience, despite all the obstacles encountered.



Finally, the creation of the *Al-Bustan Al-'Amali* lifetime learning program was the most noteworthy achievement of the SHAS Mosque. Anyone over 40 who wanted to apply for the programme, which offered beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels of study, was welcomed in addition to the *Bustan al-'Ilm*, which has been offered for the past years.

The program was regarded as semi-academic and was offered in part-time mode. Knowledge of *fiqh al-'ibadah*, the Quran, *tarannum*, the principles of Islamic spiritual medicine, the *Tafsir Harfiah* method, the Arabic language for 'Ibadah, property management, grants, *hibah*, and *faraid* were all imparted in its curriculum. Attendance of at least 80% was required, even though the main focus was on information sharing rather than summative assessment.

The Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Mosque (MTMZA) in Putrajaya, the MWPKL in Jalan Duta, and the SHAS Mosque at IIUM Kuantan hosted both the *Bustan al-'Ilmi* and *al-'Amali* programmes. The programme's goals: (1) give citizens a way to continue learning about Islam and applying its teachings in line with the idea of lifelong learning; (2) offer IIUM graduates who meet the necessary skills and competencies employment opportunities by allowing them to serve the Center in a variety of capacities depending on their areas of expertise and abilities; and (3) offer a location where IIUM students can finish their practical training and internships.

Three years were spent studying the first intake of the *Bustan al 'Ilm* programme (IIUM-JAKIM Collaboration) at the MTMZA's Sheikh Daud al-Fathoni Hall, from 2015 to 2017. Among the attendees were members of the Putrajaya Senior Citizens Association and the Mutiara Welfare Body. On November 29, 2017, the graduation ceremony was held in the IIUM Gombak Banquet Hall, for the participants as recognition and appreciation. At the IIUM 2022 Convocation Ceremony, which was organised by the IIUM Academy wherein we honored over a hundred accomplished graduates from the three branches of Wilayah Persekutuan, Putrajaya, and Kuantan (Pahang), the latest graduates of *Bustan al-'Ilmi* were also commemorated.



Interestingly, SHAS Mosque under the purview of CENTRIS has never missed an occasion to celebrate *Eid al-Adha* or *Eid Al-Fitri*, while facing challenges such as the lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, it promised to follow the Ministry of Health's and MAIS's stringent Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to organize the IIUM *Ibadah Korban* and guarantee the participants' safety at all times. As part of the initiative, hundreds of "qurban" packs were given to the underprivileged and *asnaf* as part of the organisation's largest community service project.

To be continued...



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