



EMBARGOED UNTIL AFTER EVENT ON 27th OCT 2017, 6PM

FACTSHEET

27 October 2017

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR MUSLIM RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

BACKGROUND

1 Section 87 of the Administration Muslim Law Act (AMLA) requires any individual teaching Islam in Singapore, and any provider that offers Islamic education programmes, to be registered with the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis). This requirement was made mandatory starting 1 January 2017. A Muslim religious school refers to a provider offering religious instruction to non-family members on a habitual basis. This includes conducting religious classes at the following premises: mosques, madrasahs, private Islamic education centres, community organisations, private rented spaces and residences.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

2 Muis has received a total of 237 applications from Islamic education centres and providers (IECPs). To date, 193 have been approved while the remaining are working closely with Muis to ensure that they are able to fulfill the requirements, which include ensuring that all their teachers are registered under the Asatizah Recognition Scheme and that their curriculum comply to the ARS Code of Ethics. Approved IECPs will be issued a certificate of recognition. Validity of the recognition ranges between one to three years.

BASIC CERTIFICATE FOR QURANIC TEACHERS (BCQT)

3 Muis, in collaboration with Darul Quran@Masjid Siglap and ARB¹, is introducing the Basic Certificate for Quranic Teachers (BCQT). This programme is intended to facilitate religious teachers who are currently already teaching but do not have the required minimum qualifications to be admitted into ARS. This programme aims to help the participants develop their competencies and knowledge required to be recognised as a Quranic teacher. An estimated number of 700 religious teachers are expected to benefit from this programme.

¹ The Asatizah Recognition Board

4 BCQT is a highly subsidised program for a Quranic teacher² and will cover four different modules including *Tajwid (recitation rules) Al-Quran, Ulum Quran (Quranic studies), Fardu Ain* and Quran in Context & ARS Code of Ethics. Please refer to Annex A for more information on the programme.

MUIS COMMITMENT TO IECP

5 Muis is committed to help facilitate and enhance the development of registered IECP's capacity. Registered IECPs will continue to be consulted for their needs enhancement. Apart from registration, Muis will offer and subsidise specialised trainings, certificate programs and courses for registered IECPs teachers to enhance their knowledge and professionalism.

REGISTRATION OF IECP

6 Muis would like to remind all new centers and providers under Muslim Religious School Rules Section 87 AMLA to send in the IECP application to Muis. Any non-compliance with the conditions of registration under the Section 87 AMLA are grounds for: refusal of registration, reduction in registration validity period, suspension or cancellation.

MAJLIS UGAMA ISLAM SINGAPURA

National Archives of Singapore

² Muis subsidises the cost of the programme. Participants need only pay a nominal fee.

BASIC CERTIFICATE FOR QURAN TEACHERS (BCQT)

Objective

The objective of the course is to introduce participants to subjects that are related to the field of Quranic studies. This is a baseline course aims to help the participants to develop their skill set and knowledge which is a requirement as certified Quran teacher in Singapore. This program will also give an introduction to subjects that are covered in a higher learning program (Specialised Certificate for Quran Teachers SCQT and Specialised Diploma for Quran Teachers SDQT) offered by Darul Quran Singapura. An assessment will be conducted at the end of the course.

Modules

The core modules for this course are as follows:

1) *Tajwed Al-Quran (8 Hours)*

- Etiquette and *Adab* in Reading the Quran
- Read al-Quran The Way It Was Revealed.
- Practical Application of *Mad, Nun Sukun* and *Tanwin*
- Special Ruling in *Qiraat Hafs an Asim*
- Enhance the Correct Pronunciation of *Makhraj and Sifat al-Huruf*

2) *Ulum Quran (6 Hours)*

- Understanding Al-Quran & Its Revelation
- Compilation of Al-Quran in Post-Prophetic Era
- Categorization of Makkah, Madinan Verses & Reasons of Revelation
(*Asbab Nuzul*)
- Major Themes of Al-Quran
- Interaction with Al-Quran

3) *Fardu Ain (6 Hours)*

- Using AQIL Syllabus To Teach Basic Islamic Teaching (*Fard Ain*)
- It Covers 6 Rukun Iman Which Related to Muslim Belief (*Aqidah*)
- Learn The Compulsory Practices in 5 Rukun Islam (*Ibadah*)
- Learn The Etiquette Towards Allah SWT, Other Human Being and Other Creation of God (*Akhlaq*).
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4) *Quran in Context & Code of Ethics (4 Hours)*

- This session will be conducted in a seminar setting.
- It covers the understanding of Quran in the current context
- The code of ethics of a religious/Quran teacher in a Multi-cultural society

ARS CODE OF ETHICS

General Code of Conduct

1. All asatizah registered under the Scheme shall comply with the following general principles:
 - (a) **Integrity** – to demonstrate both religious and moral integrity by adhering to the moderate teachings of Islam and by exemplifying good character at all times.
 - (b) **Professional competence** – to exhibit a sound grasp of religious knowledge that is being imparted to students whilst being mindful of contextual considerations in the interpretation of religious teachings.
 - (c) **Professional conduct** – to act in ways that retain the trust and confidence of the Singapore Muslim community towards religious teachers and to protect the profession from any form of disrepute.

Religious Doctrines

2. (1) Asatizah shall recognise that there are diverse opinions and schools of thought in Islam, and may choose to adopt and teach such opinions and schools as they think fit so long as these are not to the detriment of the well-being and harmony of the society.
- (2) In matters of religious doctrine, asatizah shall remain guided by the decisions of the Legal Committee on opinions and schools which are considered unacceptable.
- (3) Asatizah shall remain committed to preserve the well-being and harmony of the society at all times.
- (4) Asatizah shall not teach the following:
 - (a) Rejecting opinions and practices within Islam on the basis that these are unacceptable and/or deviant, unless the Legal Committee has expressed the same in its formal rulings;
 - (b) Denigrating any individual, groups, or community, including non-Muslims, using concepts, terms and descriptions that may erode social harmony and threaten the social fabric of Singapore;
 - (c) Advocating any political idea that may encourage extremism or violence, whether directly or indirectly.