



SeekersGuidance
THE GLOBAL ISLAMIC SEMINARY

Islamic Scholars Fund 2019

Help Preserve Our Religion
By Supporting Our Scholars

seekersguidance.org/donate

SeekersGuidance is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the US.

Shaykh Faraz Rabbani

FOUNDER &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
on the **Islamic Scholars Fund**

WHY ARE OUR SCHOLARS SO IMPORTANT?

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said, "The scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets. Throughout history, the scholars have carried the Prophet's torch -- in teaching and guiding, and ensuring the community remains on the straight path.

Today, such inheritors are few. The upheaval taking place in the Muslim world is devastating. So many lives lost. So many people displaced. So many institutions destroyed.

These institutions were bastions of Islamic guidance. These institutions produced scholars like Imam Ghazali, Imam Nawawi, and so many others.

The question now is how will the scholars of **tomorrow** arise? Where will the scholars of **tomorrow** go to seek this knowledge and take it back to their communities?

How can our condition improve if we're not taking care of our scholars and enabling them to do the work that only they can do?

And what do we expect to change if we're not supporting young students to study and become the scholars of tomorrow?

This is why the Islamic Scholars Fund matters.



What is the Solution?

- 1 SUPPORT**
the most deserving scholars
& students
- 2 EMPOWER**
them to spread and seek
Prophetic Guidance
- 3 TRANSFORM**
millions of lives through the
spread of Prophetic Light

Supporting
Islamic scholars
is among
the highest
of Ummatic
imperatives
today

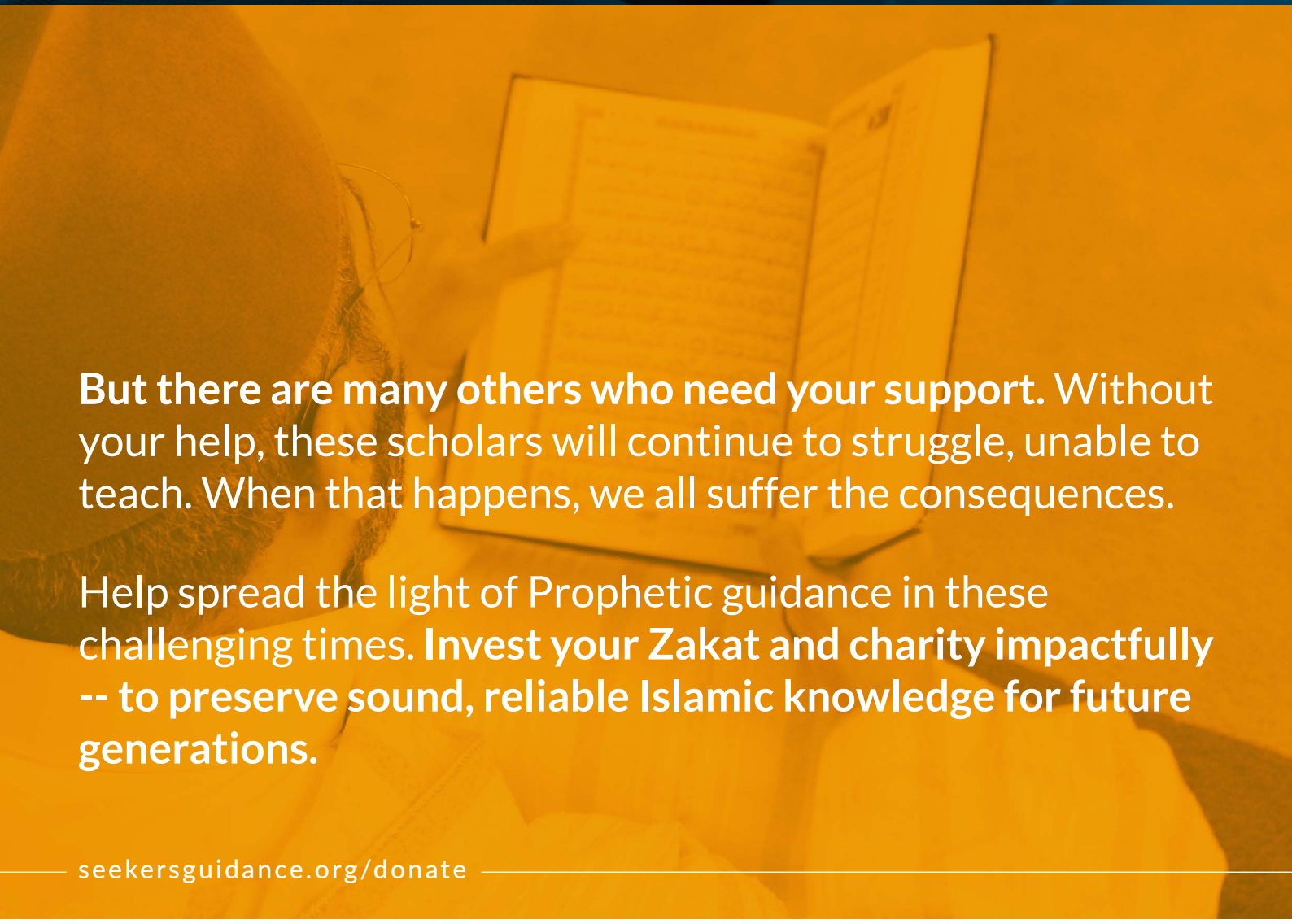
The SeekersGuidance Islamic Scholars Fund helps deserving Islamic scholars and students dedicate themselves to studying and teaching Islam.

Since launching the Islamic Scholars Fund in 2015, we have distributed nearly \$4 million to scores of deserving scholars and students around the world on a regular, monthly basis. **The impact this is having in our communities, both now and into the future, is tremendous.**



Scholars who were busy working odd jobs, trying to make ends meet, **are now able to dedicate themselves to teaching and guiding their communities.**

Students who have the desire and potential to become Islamic scholars, are now able to pursue scholarship with focus and commitment.



But there are many others who need your support. Without your help, these scholars will continue to struggle, unable to teach. When that happens, we all suffer the consequences.

Help spread the light of Prophetic guidance in these challenging times. **Invest your Zakat and charity impactfully -- to preserve sound, reliable Islamic knowledge for future generations.**

How The Islamic Scholars Fund Works

The Islamic Scholars Fund accepts both zakat and charity. According to mainstream Islamic scholarship, Islamic scholars students are zakat-eligible under the category of ‘in the Path of Allah,’ mentioned in the Verse of Zakat [Qur’an, 9.60].

The best of zakat and charity is the giving that has the greatest benefit. [Ibn Abidin, Radd al-Muhtar]

And there is consensus that the greatest benefit --for all humanity--is the preservation of religion. This entails supporting present and future scholars.

The Islamic Scholars Fund operates on Fund Policies devised through careful consultation with a wide network of scholars in the West and East. It has been supported by scholars and leaders, including Habib Umar bin Hafiz, Imam Zaid Shakir, Shaykh Yahya Rhodus, and Imam Siraj Wahaj, among others.

Application



Scholar or student submits application to the Islamic Scholars Fund Committee. We only accept applications and grant funds to those who:

1. Qualify as being scholars, teachers of Islam, or dedicated and deserving students of Islamic knowledge
2. Are eligible for zakat or charity support

Consultation



We confirm both the eligibility and deservingness of any applicant for support through careful consideration and consultation with community leaders and scholars who know the candidate.

Support



The Management & Academy team of SeekersGuidance proceeds to assist the scholar or student in their pursuit to teach and learn



Deliberation



The Islamic Scholars Fund Committee, comprised of the following members, assesses all applications in accordance with approved ISF policies, and only unanimous approvals are proceeded with:

1. **Shaykh Faraz Rabbani**
Founder & Executive Director
2. **Shaykh Hamza Karamali**
Dean of Academics
3. **Dr. Asif Padela**
Academic Advisor

Approval

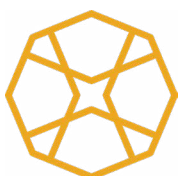


Once the applicant is approved to receive support from the Islamic Scholars Fund, SeekersGuidance initiates a monthly support program from your generous donations

Review



Every recipient of the Islamic Scholars Fund undergoes a regular review process by the Islamic Scholars Fund Committee



FACT 01

Supporting scholars to teach and students to study knowledge is completely zakat-eligible. All contributions are tax-deductible in the USA.

Give your zakat and charity at seekersguidance.org/donate

What Kind of Contributions Can Be Made to the Islamic Scholars Fund?

Contributions to the SeekersGuidance Islamic Scholars Fund can be in the form of:



Zakat



Ongoing Charity
(sadaqa jariya)



General Charity
(sadaqa)



Wills

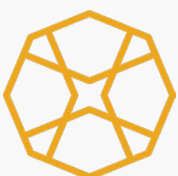


Expiation Funds (kafara)

How Do I Know That My Funds Are Distributed?

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) emphasized giving charity to the needy and deserving without delay. As such, **the Islamic Scholars Fund disburses all funds collected within the recommended guidelines (within a month to four months)**, while keeping a buffer to ensure that there are zakat and charity funds to ensure consistent support for recipients throughout the year.

An external accounting firm maintains a regular review, and our Islamic Scholars Fund Committee does quarterly and annual reviews, all under the aegis of our Board of Directors, to ensure compliance and support in a timely manner.



FACT
02

The Islamic Scholars Fund is the preeminent & amongst the most needed support programs for scholars and students globally to acquire, preserve and transmit sacred knowledge. All contributions are Zakat-eligible and tax-deductible in the USA.

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Key Figures

PRESENT
MONTHLY
DISBURSEMENTS:
\$80,000

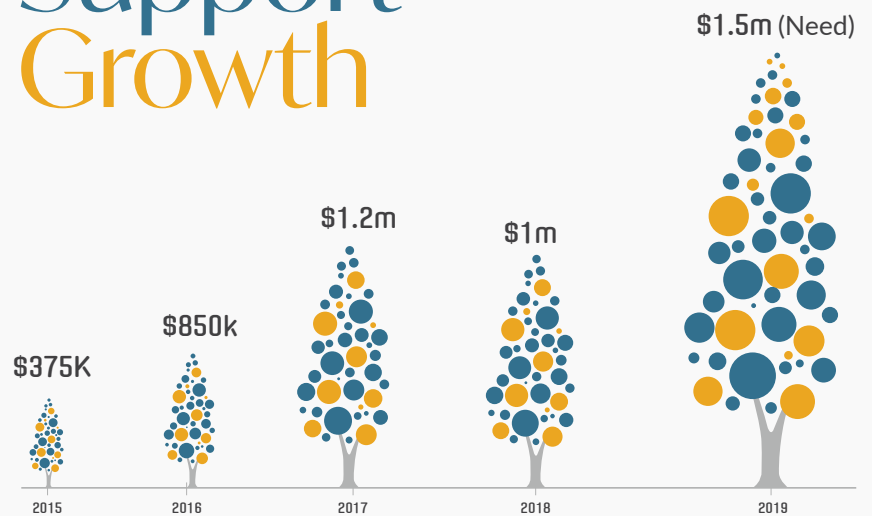
NEEDED
MONTHLY
DISBURSEMENTS
BY YE 2019:
\$100,000

PROJECTED
MONTHLY
DISBURSEMENTS
WITH IN
PROCESS CASES
AND WAIT LIST
FOR 2020:
\$150,000

Where Your Support Goes



Support Growth



FACT
03

SeekersGuidance undertakes thorough assessment, consultation and review process of each recipient of the Islamic Scholars Fund, and regularly consults with senior scholars from the east and west. All contributions are Zakat-eligible and tax-deductible in the USA.

Give your zakat and charity at
seekersguidance.org/donate

"Figures are in USD"



SeekersGuidance in Istanbul: Dar al-Fuqaha

From early 2020 we will be offering a full schedule of classes with leading Islamic scholars, from Syria and elsewhere, at an Ottoman seminary in Istanbul. This will lead to a Specialization in Advanced Legal Studies (takhassus fi'l fiqh), to train scholars to address the critical legal and religious issues of our times. **This is made possible through the Islamic Scholars Fund.**

1. We are striving to preserve the legacy and spirit of Syrian scholarship
2. We are collaborating with a leading Turkish Waqf
3. Together we will be offering educational offerings; daily classes with 6-7+ leading scholars to serve students of knowledge from around the world
4. These will be broadcast live online, for instant access anywhere in the world
5. We are establishing the Dar al-Fuqaha to train world-class Islamic legal scholars (fuqaha), with a **Post-Graduate Level Specialization in Islamic Law (takhassus fi'l fiqh)** with leading Islamic legal scholars
6. There will be Summer and Winter Intensives in Arabic and Islamic Studies in Istanbul with renowned, qualified, mainstream Islamic scholars.

A few stories of the SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS we've been supporting.

“

Shaykh Hashim Ahmad

is a classically-trained Syrian scholar. After the upheavals in Syria, he sought refuge in Turkey. Despite getting offers from leading institutions, he remained for long months at a refugee camp-- helping establish schooling and support services for fellow refugees. Now based in Istanbul, Shaykh Hashim is **actively teaching students from around the world**, through funding from the Islamic Scholars Fund.

“

Ustadh Sufyan Qufi

is a French student of knowledge. He began his studies through SeekersGuidance, a decade ago. He began travelling to study in Toronto under Shaykh Faraz Rabbani. Ustadh Sufyan is **now studying advanced texts** in Amman, with leading scholars, while continuing studies with Shaykh Faraz. He is also **teaching online** through SeekersGuidance, and is the Answers Service Coordinator. Upon completing his studies, he hopes to **spread beneficial knowledge** back in the West.

“

Ali Salem and Heba Mohammed got married seeking knowledge: they met as both were studying in their community for several years. After demonstrating significant progress in their studies and local teaching, their teachers encouraged them to **study in Tarim under Habib Umar**. We hope that both will be **shining lights of knowledge and guidance** upon their return to the West.

“

Imam Abd al-Fattah Khan

is a **community leader, scholar, and activist who sacrificed for years** as imam of a small community in the US. After many challenges, he found himself without work, and at a crossroads: how to **serve the community**, with its urgent needs, while **supporting his family with dignity**. Upon recommendation of respected senior scholars, the Islamic Scholars Fund has sponsored him--so he can dedicate himself to teaching, counselling, and guiding in his local community, and across the world.

All the scholars and students we support are personally known to us and verified as to their eligibility. They are bastions and representatives of moderate, mainstream Islam -- which we are in dire need of.

** To preserve and protect their honor, their real names were not used.

The Truly Global Islamic SEMINARY

There Is Nothing Else Like It



SUPPORT THE ISLAMIC SCHOLARS FUND

Give your Zakat and charity to support the Prophetic legacy. There are so many deserving Scholars who are struggling to continue to teach their communities, often under very difficult conditions.

Help us raise **\$500,000 by years end** to support the most deserving and needy Scholars, as well as students of knowledge around the world - young men and women who are devoting their lives to help keep the torch of the Prophetic tradition alive.

The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said: "Allah does not lift sacred knowledge by removing it from the hearts of people. Rather, He lifts it through the death of scholars—until only the ignorant remain, confused and confusing others."

Will you join our passionate community of people who are changing lives by making Islamic Knowledge accessible to anyone, anywhere in the world, completely FREE of charge?

seekersguidance.org/donate

No other Islamic project reaches as many people, so consistently, so easily, with such clarity.

THIS IS THE PRESERVATION OF THE PROPHETIC TRADITION.

Give and Spread the word - motivate and inspire those you know with your own example.

WHY NOW? YOU?

You have been instrumental in getting us here today. We could not have done this without you...this is YOUR legacy.

Spreading beneficial knowledge, absolutely FREE, without barriers of time or cost.

“

*The beauty of the religion
is being captured by the
work that's going on at
SeekersGuidance.*

— Imam Zaid Shakir

“

*Nothing is closer to the Sunnah
of our Prophet than what
SeekersGuidance has done in
establishing free classes.*

- Shaykh Yahya Rhodus

“O you who believe! Spend of that with which We have provided for you, before a Day comes when there will be no bargaining, nor friendship, nor intercession.”

(Qur'an 2:254)



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Questions? Email us at: development@seekersguidance.org