

# ISTABA

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الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Monthly Newsletter/Magazine



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# our young KHATEEB SPOTLIGHT

## Zayd Nayeem



Zayd credits his remarkable achievements to Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala first and foremost, then to his loving parents who have supported and guided him throughout his journey. He also acknowledges the leadership of Hifz Academy, ISTABA Masjid, and Al-Rahma Masjid, whose mentorship and guidance have played a pivotal role in shaping his character and achievements



Zayd Nayeem, a prodigious 15-year-old student, has already achieved extraordinary milestones in his young life, setting a standard of excellence and dedication that few can match. Alhamdulillah, **Zayd memorized the Quran and became a Hafiz at the tender age of 11**, a testament to his unwavering commitment and exceptional ability. He completed his Hifz and academic studies at Hifz Academy, demonstrating a profound dedication to both his religious and academic education.

Currently, **Zayd is pursuing his freshman year at the prestigious University of South Florida (USF), where he is enrolled in a rigorous bachelor's program in Biomedical Sciences.** His choice of study reflects his passion for the sciences and his aspiration to make significant contributions to the medical field.

Zayd's future ambitions are equally inspiring. **He aspires to become an Islamic scholar and pursue a medical degree**, aiming to bridge the realms of spiritual and scientific knowledge. His vision is to contribute to both fields with equal excellence and impact, embodying a harmonious balance of faith and reason.

**Known for his inspirational presence among the youth, Zayd embodies the values of respect, patience, leadership, and punctuality. His commitment to these principles has made him a role model for his peers, inspiring others to pursue both religious and academic excellence.**

Zayd Nayeem is not only a young individual of exceptional talents and accomplishments but also a visionary aspiring to serve and lead in both the spiritual and scientific domains. His journey as a Hafiz, a student, and a community leader showcases his extraordinary dedication, hard work, and unwavering faith. Zayd continues to inspire and set a high standard for those around him, proving that with determination, one can achieve greatness in all aspects of life.

Zayd's spiritual journey is marked by remarkable achievements and honors. **He has received ijazah in Quranic recitation (Hafs from Asim) from the esteemed Sheikh Bashir Al-Hashemi Muhammed AbdulMalik Al-Alami in Madina and had the profound honor of meeting Sheikh Dr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Sudais, the Chief Imam of the Masjid Al Haram, who blessed him.** These interactions with prominent Islamic scholars have deeply enriched his spiritual understanding and commitment.

In addition to his academic and spiritual pursuits, Zayd is a beacon of leadership and inspiration within his community. **He began giving Jummah khutbahs at Islamic Society of Tampa Bay (ISTABA) and other local Masajids at an early age, displaying maturity and eloquence beyond his years. Alhamdulillah, he also leads Isha and Fajr prayers at Masjid Al-Rahma and is entrusted with leading Taraweeh prayers during Ramadan, demonstrating his steadfast dedication to serving his community**



The Islamic Society of Tampa Bay Area is a non-profit organization which strives to serve the religious, educational, and social needs of the growing Muslim community of the Tampa Bay Area as well as to reach out to our non-Muslim neighbors in order to teach them about our faith and way of life.

## The Islamic Months Şafar-Rabī' al-Awwal

## Services Provided

Safar: Meaning 'empty', this month was named so because pre-Islamic Arabs used to leave their homes in search of food during this month. Some sources say that this name actually derived from pre-Islamic Arabs conducting raids against other tribes, leaving their home 'empty'.

- Prayer
- Classes / Halaqat
- Youth Program
- Marriage
- Funeral
- Food Pantry
- Library
- Bookstore

Rabi al -Awwal: is the third month in the Islamic calendar and the month in which the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him was born, died. It is also the month in which the Prophet migrated from Mecca to Medina. The word Rabi means 'spring'. Al-awwal means 'the first' so together, this month means 'the first spring'.

# JANAZA CORNER

## Monthly Update Obituaries Du'a Requested from the community!



Brother Sulaiman Mohammad Jan passed away in Florida. He was about 56 years old. Marhoun's wife is Sister Zarmina Sulaiman ( Istaba staff). Marhoun has four sons Br. Ramin Sulaiman, Br. Roman Sulaiman, Br. Romal Sulaiman, and Br. Baktash Sulaiman. Marhoun is Originally from Afghanistan. Family and Friends will truly miss him.



Brother Shahab-Uddin Khan passed away in Florida. He was about 89 years old. Marhoun's wife is Sister Kaneez Fatima Marhoun has Four Sons Br. Kamil Shahab ( Late ) married to Sister Nosheen Khan, Br. Amir Khan married to Sister Nausheen Siddiqui, Br. Asif Khan married to Sister Nida Shahab and Br. Kashif Khan married to Sister Amber Mustafa. Marhoun has Two Daughters Sister Hina Shahab married to Brother Arif Jamil and Sister Saba Shahab. Marhoun is Originally from Pakistan.



Brother Xhevit Rrapollari passed away in Florida He was about 96 years old. Marhoun's wife is Sister Bajame Rrapollari Marhoun has Three Sons Br. Rrapo Rrapollari married to Sr. Trendeline Rrapollari, Br. Flamur Rrapollari married to Sr. Vjollca Rrapollari and Br. Gezim Rrapollari married to Sr. Greta Murat. Marhoun has One Daughter Sister Lujeta Zaimi married to Br. Pellumb Zaimi. Marhoun is Originally from Albania



Brother Asad Manzoor passed away in Florida He was about 53 years old. Marhoun's wife is Sister Shazia Asad Marhoun is the father of three Hifz Academy students. The oldest Son Brother Mohammad Usman Asad graduated from Hifz Academy. Brother Mohammad Bilal Asad is currently in Hifz Academy, 8th grade student. Sister Hafsa Asad graduated from Hifz Academy this year. Marhoun is Originally from Pakistan

# Community

For any community announcements in ISTABA's monthly magazine, please email at [aaysha@istaba.org](mailto:aaysha@istaba.org).

# Announcement



Flashback from Tampa Grand Hajj Celebration took place at ISTABA Halls in honor of Hajj and Hajjis. The program included Quran, guest speakers, professional munshids, competitions, and much more



Our longtime teacher at ISTABA Peace Academy, Sr. Sassia Eldefrawy, has passed away in her home country of Tunisia. Azza was held at ISTABA Hall to give condolence to the family. May Allah SWT grant her the highest level in Jannah. Ameen. Please keep her in your dua.



Congratulations to Sr. Jenan Biuk on the birth of her beautiful baby girl,

**Lareen Biuk!**

Layla and Loujain are her two sisters, who was former students at Hifz Academy and has memorized Quran.



# POLITICAL CANDIDATES MEET AND GREET WITH ISTABA COMMUNITY!



ISTABA is a registered 501(c)3 organization. We welcome all leaders from different faiths. We do not endorse anyone but we only introduces them to the community. If you or someone you know is interested in meeting our community and discussing your platform, we can be reached at 813-628-0007 or Email us at [Mainoffice@istaba.org](mailto:Mainoffice@istaba.org)



# OUR RESIDENT IMAM SHAIKH ARJAN AHMESULA



Please call us to schedule your appointment with Imam Arjan Ahmesula

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## MEET WITH IMAM

### Shahada

Services are for Non-Muslims

### Marriage

marriage contract (nikah) officiated by  
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### Counseling

Marriage, pre-marriage and divorce  
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### Religious Questions

Any questions for religious matters for

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**WELCOME LUNCHEON FOR  
NEW MUSLIM REVERTS!**  
**Family and Friends are invited!**  
**Community Brothers and Sisters are  
Welcome! Bring your Non Muslim friends  
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**Completion Ceremony**

## HIGHLIGHTS





## **Hifz Academy is a unique school that offers a blend of Qur'an and Academics**

Hifz Academy stands as a distinguished educational institution strategically located in the central region of East Tampa. Our steadfast dedication to delivering top-tier education to the community **commenced in 2011, initially with a modest enrollment of 12 students** spanning various grade levels. Over the subsequent years, our institution has experienced remarkable growth, currently catering to a student body **exceeding 500 individuals**.

Our academic focus encompasses **students in the Elementary (KG-5) and Secondary (6-12) grades**, ensuring a rigorous curriculum in core subjects, Qur'an, and Religious Studies. Notably, our program offers students the unique opportunity to learn and commit the entire Qur'an to memory, achieving the esteemed status of Hafiz or Hafiza of Qur'an. Furthermore, participants have the chance to earn college credits toward an Associate Degree while concurrently fulfilling high school diploma requirements.

In addition to our academic offerings, Hifz Academy provides a diverse range of after-school programs, including basketball, soccer, volleyball, and judo. Complementing these extracurricular activities, we extend our commitment to academic excellence through after-school programming designed to support students in literature, mathematics, and various other academic subjects.

# HIFZ ACADEMY

## Graduation class of 2024

12th Grade

5th Grade

Kindergarten



## Academic Alumni



### AASIM OSMAN

### BS in biomedical science

Aasim Osman graduated as valedictorian of Hifz Academy class of 2021 while concurrently completing college-level courses at HCC, demonstrating advanced academic aptitude. He was Awarded a full-ride scholarship to USF. His reflecting dedication, diligence, and exceptional scholastic achievement earned his exceptional status.

During his undergraduate studies at USF in Biomedical Sciences, he gained a strong foundation in biology, chemistry, and physics, which provided him with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental principles that govern living organisms. He excelled in courses such as molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetics, laying the groundwork for his specialization in the field.

Throughout his academic career, he demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence, maintaining a high GPA and receiving accolades such as Dean's List recognition. He actively participated in extracurricular activities related to his field of study, such as joining research clubs and volunteering at local healthcare institutions, further enhancing his skills and knowledge in Biomedical Sciences.

Congratulations to Br. AASIM OSMAN on a successful future! 🎉🌟 May his endeavors continue to flourish and bring positive impact.

# HIFZ ACADEMY

## DUAL ENROLLMENT AT COLLEGE

Hifz Academy offers a dual enrollment program for grade 9 and up. The program is in partnership with Hillsborough Community College (HCC) and USF.

**This program allows high school students to take college-level courses while still enrolled in high school, providing them with the opportunity to earn both high school and college credits simultaneously.**

**The dual enrollment program** is a great way for students to challenge themselves academically and gain valuable **college experience while still in high school.**

### **Benefits for dual enrollment at Hifz Academy**

1. Saving Time and Money: Students can earn college credits while still in high school, reducing the time and cost required to complete a college degree.
2. Exploring Academic Interests: Dual enrollment allows students to take a variety of college-level courses, helping them explore different subjects and potential career paths.
3. Boosting Academic Performance: Engaging in more challenging coursework can enhance students' academic skills and better prepare them for college.
4. Enhancing College Readiness: Students gain experience with college-level coursework and expectations, making the transition to college smoother and less intimidating.
5. Improving College Admission Prospects: Having college credits and experience on their transcripts can make students more attractive to colleges and universities.

These benefits collectively help students build a strong academic foundation and gain confidence in their ability to succeed in higher education.



# HIFZ ACADEMY

## Dual Enrollment

# Highlights



### Alaa Kahla

Graduated from HCC in May 2024 with his Associate Degree in Medical Science and Graduated from Hifz Academy in May 2024 with A/B Honor Roll and Memorized 17 Ajzaa.

Remarkable aspects of the dual enrollment program at Hifz Academy. Many students are able to complete up to two years of college coursework before they even graduate from high school. This means they can earn an Associate's degree or a significant number of college credits, giving them a head start on their higher education journey.

This achievement is a testament to the rigorous academic environment and the support provided by both Hifz Academy and Hillsborough Community College (HCC).

It allows students to save time and money on their college education while also preparing them for the challenges of university-level coursework.

There are several success stories from students who have participated in the dual enrollment program at Hifz Academy.

1. Academic Excellence: Many students have graduated with honors, having memorized entire Qur'an or multiple Juzas of the Qur'an and earned over 30 college credit hours through the dual enrollment program. This has significantly boosted their college readiness and academic profiles.
2. College Admissions: Graduates of Hifz Academy have been accepted into prestigious universities, thanks to their strong academic records and the college credits they earned while still in high school.
3. Community Involvement: Students have also completed more than the required minimum community service hours, contributing positively to the Tampa community.
4. Personal Growth: Parents have reported that their children not only excelled academically but also developed strong friendships and enjoyed the diverse environment at Hifz Academy.

These success stories highlight the positive impact of the dual enrollment program and the comprehensive education provided by Hifz Academy.



# Summer Camp Program 2024

## Empowering YOUTH Through Education and Enrichment

**We are delighted to share the tremendous success of HiFZ Academy Summer Program, where youth aged 6-16 have engaged in an inspiring 5-week journey filled with learning, exploration, and growth.**

### Quran and Islamic Studies:

Throughout the program, Students delved into the richness of Quranic stories and the lives of our Prophets. These lessons enriched their knowledge and deepened their spiritual understanding of their prophets. Students practiced and memorized Suras from Quran.

### Coding and Computer Classes:

Throughout the program, students enthusiastically immersed themselves in interactive learning experiences. They learned the fundamentals of coding and website creation

### Physical Health and Well-being:

Promoting holistic development, our program emphasized the importance of physical activity through sports and physical education activities. Students honed their athletic skills, fostered teamwork, and embraced the values of perseverance and sportsmanship.

Prayer at the Masjid: Beyond academics and physical activities, our program provided a nurturing spiritual environment. Students had the opportunity to pray at the Masjid and connect with other Muslims brothers and sisters.



Healthy Meals: During the Summer Program we provided free nutritious lunches for all participants. This initiative ensured that every student had the energy to fully engage in their activities and enjoy.

# Summer Camp Program 2024



**Scientific Discovery:** Hands-on science experiments captivated our young scientists, where they explored intriguing concepts, such as generating electricity from fruits and vegetables, creating volcanic eruptions, and building robots. They experienced real farm life by taking care of their visiting friends' chicken and goat. These experiences sparked curiosity and nurtured a passion for scientific inquiry.



# ISTABA PEACE ACADEMY DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL

Peace Academy  
(813) 940-5533

Office Hours

Mon to Fri : 8 AM - 4 PM

[director@istabapeace.org](mailto:director@istabapeace.org)



- Operational Hours:
- Mon to Fri : 7.45 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
- Full time : 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Part time : 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- After Care: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m
- Free VPK Hours
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Peace Academy  
NOW Enrolling for  
2024-2025 School  
Year. Enroll Now!  
Call 813-940-5533

# ISTABA PEACE ACADEMY DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL



ISTABA Peace Academy is a private Islamic early childhood center nestled within the serene campus of the Islamic Society of Tampa Bay Area, conveniently located at 7326 E. Sligh Avenue in Tampa, Florida. Catering to children aged 12 months to 5 years, we offer a nurturing and stimulating environment where young minds can flourish.

Our center provides a safe, welcoming, and loving space for children to explore and learn about the world around them. We understand the importance of early childhood education in shaping a child's future, and thus, we prioritize creating an environment that fosters curiosity, creativity, and growth.

**New Peace Academy campus has been added to ISTABA.**



**NOW Enrolling for 2024-2025 School Year. Enroll Now! Call 813-628-0007**

# HIFZ WEEKEND SCHOOL



Registration  
To register your child in Hifz  
Weekend School,  
please contact  
Main Office at 813-628-0007  
or visit the Main office

Days and Hours

Day: Saturday

Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Hifz weekend schools provide a great opportunity for students who attend public schools to stay connected with the Quran, Arabic language, and Islamic teachings.

Hifz Weekend School provides instruction to children ages 4-18. Its objective is to provide an Islamic environment where children can learn about Islamic principles and values, including basic understanding of Islamic beliefs and practices.

In addition to Islamic Studies, emphasis is also placed on basic Arabic reading for the purposes of Quranic reading and memorization.

Children are placed in groups according to their ages and abilities. The groups are from levels 1 - 5, including kindergarten.

## Fees

- \$580 per student.
- Each additional sibling will receive 6% discount. (\$530)
- Books are included in the fee.
- Scholarships are available for those who qualify financially.

Note: Tuition will not be refunded to any student who is expelled for violating school policies.

**Application Fee: \$25 per family**

# Hifz Weekend School



Days and Hours Day:  
Saturday  
Hours: 11:00 a.m. -  
3:00 p.m.  
Aug- April



Hifz weekend schools provide a great opportunity for students who attend public schools to stay connected with the Quran, Arabic language, and Islamic teachings.



# WELCOME TO YOUTH CORNER!



## Boys Halaqa

**Every Saturday  
after Asr Prayer  
to Magreb Prayer**



- Kids play games basketball or soccer
- Halaqa (Islamic lectures)
- Pizza is served
- Boys goes to the Masjid for Magreb



**Contact: Br. Talai  
at 813-454-8529**



# YOUTH CORNER!

## Girls Halaqa

Sr. Hafsa and Sr. Munira

### Girls Halaqa is once a month

- From 2PM-4PM in Women side upstairs
- Halaqa (Islamic lectures)
- Girls Activities
- Painting, crochet, cooking, sewing, and more!
- Pizza is served
- Girls are dismissed to parents



# RED CRESCENT **CLINIC**

**813-246-5006**

**Fax: 813-498-2712**

**Email: [info@RedCrescentTampa.org](mailto:info@RedCrescentTampa.org)**

**FREE MEDICAL CARE  
FOR ALL MANKIND**



**Tuesday to Saturday  
9:30am - 2:00pm**

**Located on the ISTABA Campus**

# TAMPA PALACE

Hall Rental at ISTABA

[mainoffice@istaba.org](mailto:mainoffice@istaba.org)

813-628-0007 x101





# ISTABA



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MAIN OFFICE AT 813-628-0007



[MAINFOFFICE@ISTABA.ORG](mailto:MAINFOFFICE@ISTABA.ORG)