

Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ 3 Year Plan

1. Introduction

Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ is taught in the part time evening Alim class over three years. The fourth, fifth and sixth year classes are all taught together.

The first volume is taught in much more depth compared to the second volume. The sections covered over the three years are outlined in the table below:

Month	Sections
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the science of Ḥadīth• Introduction to Mishkāt and its authors• Kitāb al-Īmān until the end of Kitāb al-Ṭahārah (volume 1)• Kitāb al-Ādāb until the end (volume 2)
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kitāb al-Ṣalāh until the end of Kitāb al-Zakāh (volume 1)• Kitāb al-Nikāḥ until the end of Kitāb al-Ḥudūd (volume 2)
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kitāb al-Ṣawm until the end of volume 1 (volume 1)• Kitāb al-Imārah until the end of Kitāb al-Ruyā (volume 2)

2. Objectives

The objectives and learning outcomes from the study of Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ are as follows:

- To read the Arabic texts of the ḥadīths correctly and fluently.
- To translate the ḥadīths accurately.
- To possess a good understanding of ḥadīths and their meanings.
- To develop a good understanding of the views of the four schools of thought on jurisprudential matters and their interpretation of ḥadīths.
- To develop independent research skills particularly within the Ḥadīth sciences.
- To bring about positive spiritual change within one's life.
- To develop attachment and love with the ḥadīths.

3. Assessments

The assessment for all three-year groups is outlined in the table below:

Term	Assessment method
Term 1	30% - Oral examination
Term 2	30% - 2000-word written assignment
Term 3	30% - written exam
Attendance	10%

Further details regarding each assessment method are available in the attached brief for the written assignment. In addition:

- The oral examination will be based on the sections that are studied in term 1.
- For the written assignment, each student will be given two ḥadīths from the book at the beginning of term 2.
- For the written exam, the teacher will confirm the sections to be covered in term 3.

The assessments for all three-year groups are the same. However, greater depth is expected from the students in the higher classes. In addition, for the written assignments, students from the higher classes will be given more difficult ḥadīths. As an indicator, the following table outlines the chapters from which ḥadīths were allocated to students over the past three years:

Year group	Hadith 1	Hadith 2
Y4 (2019)	Kitāb al-Nikāḥ (Faṣl 1)	Kitāb al-Nikāḥ (Faṣl 2)
Y5 (2020)	Kitāb al-Buyūʿ	Kitāb al-Dhabāiḥ
Y6 (2021)	Kitāb al-Ṭibb	Kitāb al-Zakāt
Y4 (2020)	Kitāb al-Ṭahārah	Kitāb al-Nikāḥ
Y5 (2021)	Kitāb al-Buyūʿ	Kitāb al-Aṭʿimah
Y4 (2021)	Kitāb al-Ṣawm	Kitāb al-Nikāḥ

4. Non-Assessed Tasks

To develop independent research skills, students will be given regular non-assessed tasks which they should complete in the library on Saturdays. Whilst these tasks do not contribute to their final grade, it is important to complete them as they will assist in the formal assessments, particularly the written assignment. The aim of these tasks is for students to become familiar with ḥadīth books and in particular the famous commentaries, books on biographies and gharīb al-ḥadīth books in addition to the commentaries of Maṣābiḥ al-Sunnah and Mishkāṭ al-Maṣābiḥ. Some examples of previous tasks include:

- Write 10 names of Ḥadīth commentaries along with their authors and date of demise.
- Locate ḥadīths of Mishkāṭ in their primary sources.
- Translate a difficult Ḥadīth accurately.
- Summarise one page from any Arabic commentary of Mishkāṭ.
- Find a particular word in a Gharīb al-Ḥadīth book such as al-Nihāyah.
- Outline 10 facts regarding a companion from al-Ikmāl, al-Iṣābah and Siyar.

Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ Written Assignment Brief

1. Introduction

This assessment task forms part of the wider assessment for Mishkāt al-Māṣābīḥ. The following table provides an overview of the assessment tasks throughout the year and their weightings and objectives:

Month	Weighting	Outcomes
Term 1	30% - Oral (taqrīrī) exam	Ibārat (10%): Read Arabic text clearly and correctly. Translation (10%): Translate ḥadīths accurately. Commentary (10%): Explain the meaning of ḥadīths.
Term 2 & 3	30% - 2000-word essay (1000 per ḥadīth)	Translation (5%) – Translate ḥadīths accurately. Narrator profiles (5%) – Research profiles of narrators. Commentary (10%) – Write detailed commentary of ḥadīths. Source (2.5%) – Locate source of ḥadīths and reference. Status (2.5%) – Identify status of ḥadīths. Grammar, Presentation and References (5%) – Write clearly with clear presentation, fully referenced using any referencing system that is consistent.
Term 3	30% - exam	Refer to past papers.
Attendance	10%	

2. Written Assignment Details

(a) Allocation: Each student will be allocated two ḥadīths for the written task.

(b) Word Count: The maximum word count for the assignment is 2000 words. It is recommended to use 1000 words per ḥadīth. Exceeding the word count by more than 10% will reduce the marks.

(c) Translation: This is self-explanatory. Translation should be as accurate as possible, and should not be commentary.

(d) Narrator profiles: You must use and provide references for at least three sources and include the following where available: Full name, date of birth, date of demise, virtues, live overview, prominent students, virtues and which of the books of Ṣiḥāḥ Sittah have their ḥadīths.

(e) Commentary: You must use and provide references for at least five sources. Provide a detailed commentary of the ḥadīth, the learning points, highlight any jurisprudential and linguistic issues, differences of opinion and evidences where relevant.

(f) Source: There are two aspects to this. First, locate the sources mentioned in the book with their volume and page numbers and/or ḥadīth numbers, and highlight any differences in the wording you may locate. Second, provide additional primary sources.

(g) Status: Outline the status of the narration (ṣaḥīḥ/ḥasan/weak/very weak/fabricated) explaining the basis of the conclusion.

3. Submission

(a) Submission date: The final submission date is 15 May. A draft submission can be made to the teacher at least four weeks prior to this to receive feedback. This is optional.

(b) Language: The essay can be written in Arabic, Urdu, or English.

(c) Format: It is preferred to word process the essay. If you decide to write the essay, the writing must be clear and legible with a line space between every two lines.

(d) Submission method: Draft submissions should be made via email ibnushabbir@yahoo.com (optional). The final submission should be made by handing a printed copy to the teacher in class.

4. General tips

(a) Sources: All sources used must be Arabic. English and Urdu sources are not accepted unless they add something new not found in Arabic sources.

(b) Presentation: Do not simply copy and paste from commentaries. An attempt should be made to synthesise and analyse and present the commentary in a cohesive, structured manner.

(c) Wider books: Do not confine yourselves to the standard commentaries. Use other commentaries and specialist books on language, jurisprudence and other sciences as relevant.

(d) Locating original source: Make every attempt to locate the primary source(s) of a particular commentary. For example, if al-Khaṭṭābī is quoted, locate it in his book and cite it.

(e) Supplicate: Supplicate to Allah Almighty to make the task easy and make it beneficial for the Ummah.