

Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ Written Assignment

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. For 2018-19, these shall be from the chapters of marriage.

(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 Monday 10 June 2019. A draft submission can be made to the teacher at least three 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.