



Appreciating our Teachers in Islam

In the first weeks of May, there is “Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week” in America in which students are encouraged to show appreciation to their teachers in different ways.

In Islam, we also highly value our teachers for the important role they have in our lives, at all times, not just during a specific week. Our Islamic teachers don’t just teach us mere facts; rather, they teach us beneficial knowledge that will impact us in this world and the next.

While our school teachers are there to ensure our academic success, our Islamic teachers are there to ensure both our academic and spiritual success!

Is teaching Islam a good profession? Being a teacher is one of the greatest professions! Indeed, the Prophet (saw) said, “I have been sent as a teacher” (Ibn Majah). Almighty Allah has elevated our Islamic teachers because of their Islamic knowledge: “Allah elevates to high positions those from amongst you who are faithful and those who have acquired knowledge” (Quran, 58:11).

Your Islamic teachers.....

1. Your Islamic teachers are committed to seeing you succeed in this world and the next InshaAllah!
2. Your Islamic teachers are among the best of people, “the ones who learn the Qur’an and teach it” (Bukhari). The “best of people” include teachers who instruct how to read, recite, memorize, or understand the Qur’an.
3. Your Islamic teachers are your spiritual parents and, therefore, should be treated in a similar manner as you treat your parents.

4. Your Islamic teachers primarily teach for the *outcome*, not the *income*. What is the outcome? Guiding others towards that which is good, and as a result, receiving Sadaqah Jariyah, or continuous reward (Sahih Muslim).
5. Your Islamic teachers teach you *akhlaq* so you can act like an upright Muslim.
6. Your teachers expect you to behave well so you and your classmates can learn Islam efficiently.
7. Your Islamic teachers expect very little in return, only asking that you apply what you learn and make du'a for them.
 - a. What is one thing you learned from your teacher that you apply daily?
 - b. How often do you make du'a for your teachers?
8. Your Islamic teachers want the absolute best for you, even if they have to occasionally discipline you to correct your behavior.
9. Your Islamic teachers are fulfilling a great duty to Allah and performing a great act of worship, teaching others of the religion of Islam!
10. Your Islamic teachers understand the responsibility of teaching. Have you understood the responsibility of learning?
11. Your Islamic teachers are there for you whenever you need them!

Go ahead and brighten your teacher's day! Tell them how much they mean to you and how much they have impacted your life! Also, remember to make dua for them.

May Allah swt bless all of our Islamic teachers and allow us to be like them!



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