



Tilawat Course

2026/27

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Summary

Cambridge Central Mosque's Tilawat Course is a year-long programme for those who wish to improve their recitation. It takes adults with a basic reading ability to the point where they can read fluently with correct pronunciation, after which they can move on to memorisation or Ijaza level tajweed.

Each class consists of 2 parts. The first part of the class covers theory, going through the translated book of the great Syrian qari and scholar, Shaykh Dr Ayman Rushdi Swaid, titled "Illustrated Tajweed". In the second part of the class, students are split into small groups to practice with instructors. This way the theory is immediately solidified and students can gain a practical understanding along with the theoretical instruction.

Each class will be 1 hour 45 minutes, with 45 minutes for the theory, 30 minutes of practice related to the week's lesson, and then 30 further minutes for general practice (and for memorisation later in the course). There will be a 10-15 minute break in between, likely with salah.

Expectations & Outcomes

By the end of the course, every student should:

- Recite with correct pronunciation and articulation.
- Recite with reasonable fluency using a Mushaf (a physical copy of the Qur'an)
- Memorise at least 20 surahs with correct pronunciation.
- Develop a stronger attachment to the recitation of the Qur'an.
- Gain sufficient knowledge to instruct one's own children on the rules of tajweed.
- Be ready to join the Adult's Hifz Program.

To achieve these goals, students are expected to:

- Attend every class, and catch up via other students or instructors if they fall behind.
 - Missing 3 classes may result in removal from the course unless a student can demonstrate that they have not fallen behind.

- Read some Qur'an every day
 - From the start of the course, at least 1 page per day.
 - Gradually increase to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Juz per day by the end of the course (completing 1 Juz every 4 days).
- Memorise the last 20 surahs of the Qur'an.
- Join the monthly Qur'an khatam, Qari events, and any other Qur'an programs at the Mosque

Term Dates

Public Sessions

Friday 19th September 2026 – Opening Talk with Head Imam Sejad Mekic & Community Qur'an Khatam

Friday 25th September 2026 after Maghrib – First Class with Head Imam Sejad Mekic introducing the book and course with time for Q&A. This class is open to everyone.

Registered Students Only

Both Men's and Women's classes will take place on Fridays after 6pm (exact times adjusting with salahs). The theory will be done together (with segregation), and the practice will be done in small groups in separate spaces for each gender.

[Term 1] Friday 2 October to Friday 23 October - 4 weeks

School half-term

[Term 1] Friday 6 November to Friday 18 December - 7 weeks

School December break

[Term 2] Friday 8 January to Friday 5 February - 5 weeks

Ramadan

[Term 2] Monday 12 April to Friday 14 May - 5 weeks

Eid Al-Adha

[Term 3] Monday 24th May to Wednesday 21 July - 9 weeks

Syllabus

The course consists of 3 sections:

- Makhraj (Articulation) – 8 weeks
- Sifat (Attributes) – 10 weeks
- Ahkam (Rules of Recitation) – 9 weeks

Each section will be followed by an exam to monitor progress. There will also be an additional program in Ramadan to encourage practice of recitation and engagement with the Qur'an during the month of its revelation. The details will be provided closer to the time.

Etiquette for Attending Classes and Reciting Qur'an

Recitation of the Qur'an demands certain etiquettes. The recitation is not just the physical production of sound, but the recitation of The Word of God. Certain practices should be maintained, in the classes and in private:

- Ablution – maintain a state of wudu and generally ensure you are clean
- Modest and clean clothing – wear clothes that show your respect for the class and the Qur'an. For women, please wear a headcovering.
- Come early and prepared – do not arrive in a rush just on time, but rather at least a couple of minutes early so you are seated before the class starts. And try to spend a little time before the class reminding yourself what was covered the previous week.
- Avoid distracting, harmful, or useless talk – the class is a time for focus on the Qur'an so save other conversations for after the class.
- Revere the mushaf – the written copies of the Qur'an must be treated with absolute respect. Do not place them on the floor, or somewhere you would sit, or hold them down by your side. Keep them high and place them on dignified stands or hold them. Look after the mushafs you use.
- Respect the teachers – the teachers are the vessels of the knowledge you are seeking. Particularly with the sciences of recitation, you are trying to emulate them, so show utmost respect, even if you know them in a casual manner outside the class. And if you notice any apparent faults, make excuses for them, ignore them, and focus on what you are there to gain from them.

Costs

In order to reimburse the teachers for their time and cover costs to ensure the course is sustainable, we request that each student donates £300. We do not require the full amount in one go, but we require students to complete the donation for the term once they start, and to give notice by the end of the term if they will not continue to the next to ensure we can adjust the number of teachers and students if required. The donations can be divided as follows:

- Term 1 = £110
- Term 2 = £100
- Term 3 = £90

Resources

Students do not require any resources for the course.

It is recommended that students bring their own copy of the Qur'an that they are familiar with, otherwise they can use a Qur'an from the prayer hall.

If students wish they can find the book (Illustrated Tajweed by Shaykh Dr Ayman Rushdi Swaid) online and purchase physical or digital copies. However it is not required or recommended for the course as all details will be covered in the classes. There is a companion app available, and we will share more details on this after testing it.