



MASTERING THE HANAFI TRADITION

THE HANAFI LEGAL CODE PROGRAM

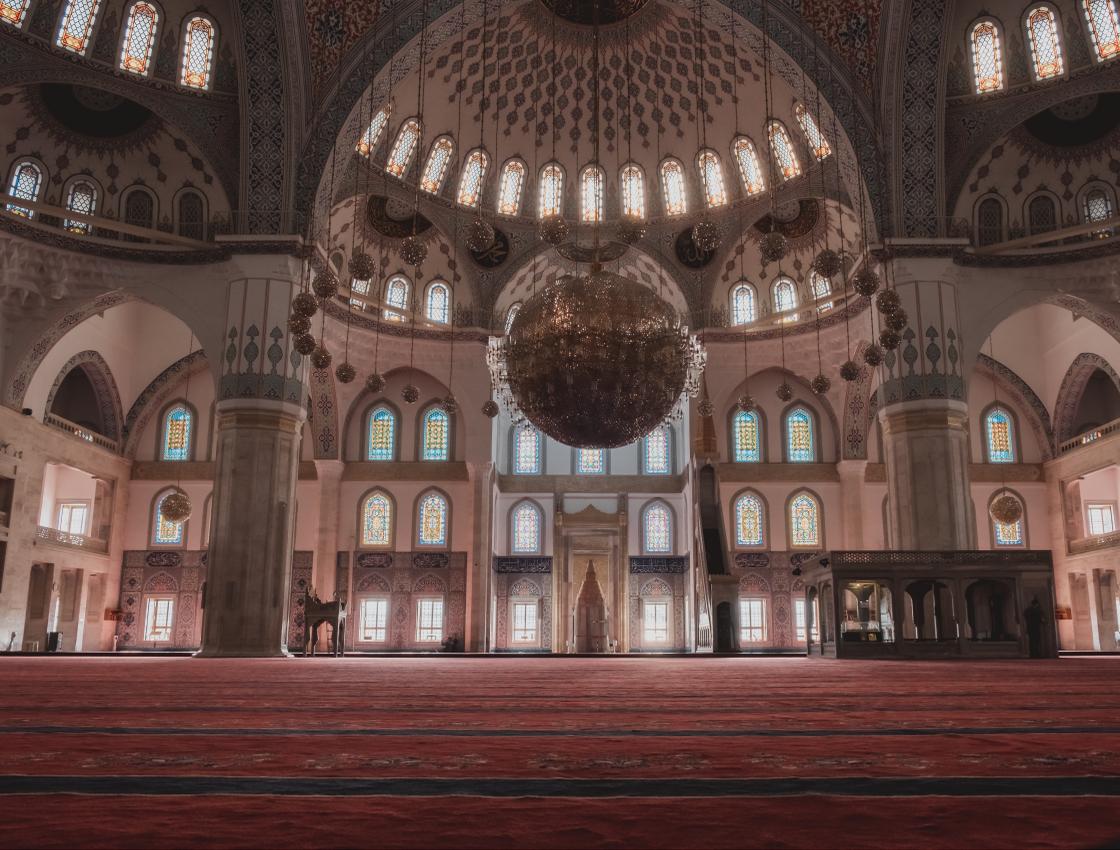
﴿فَلَوْلَا نَفَرَ مِنْ كُلِّ فِرْقَةٍ مِّنْهُمْ طَائِفَةٌ لِّيَتَفَقَّهُوا فِي الدِّينِ

وَلِيُنذِرُوا قَوْمَهُمْ إِذَا رَجَعُوا إِلَيْهِمْ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَحْذَرُونَ﴾

“Out of each community, a group should go out to gain understanding of the religion, so that they can teach their people when they return and so that they can guard themselves against evil.”

QUR'AN 9:122





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Irshad is an educational portal specialising in the instruction of the Hanafi tradition. It provides students with an opportunity to study beginner, intermediate and advanced texts in Sacred Law and Legal Theory. As of 2020, it now also offers a full course of study for dedicated students who have limited time and other commitments. The innovative curriculum combines the various parts of the Hanafi tradition — *fiqh*, *qawa'id*, *usul*, *hadith*, *'aqida*, *tafsir* — bringing everything together into a coherent and consistent whole.

Dear student, do you find yourself attempting to study religion through various texts but always finding yourself facing serious drawbacks, cancellations, repetition, or with unfinished books, notes and business? This is your solution. God willing, if you keep at it, the days and nights shall pass and you will find yourself with a tremendous windfall of the prophetic inheritance by the Grace of Allah Most High. Plant yourself, settle your foundations and grow into a great tree of knowledge and wisdom. Allah is the giver of success.



introducing

THE HANAFI LEGAL CODE PROGRAM

The Hanafi Legal Code Program is a five-level course which will take students through a formal, holistic study of the Hanafi school via a pedagogically sound and structured curriculum. The main levels begin after an introductory, foundational level and end with an optional, specialization level. The carefully curated works chosen for the program focus on instilling a strong, principled and nuanced understanding of the Hanafi school in every participant. Supplementary readings shall also be assigned and occasionally read in class for greater benefit and class discussion.

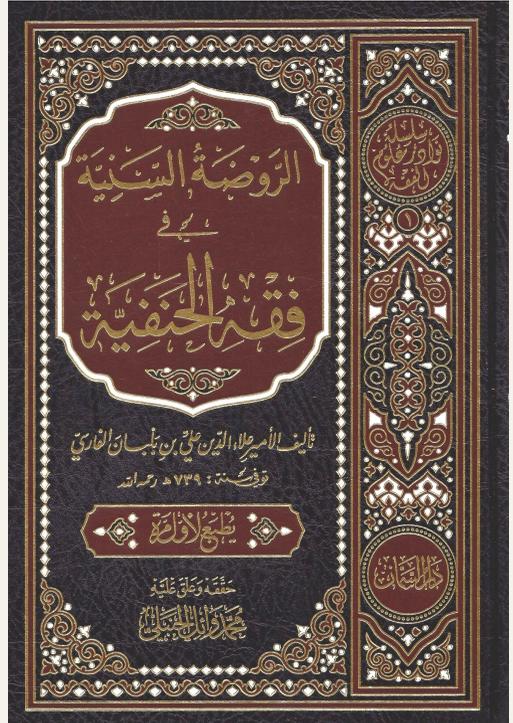
There are presently two tracks for the program: (1) student of sacred knowledge, and (2) auditor. Participants who register as part of the former group will be tested on their comprehension of the material at the end of the course, and certificates will be issued upon successful completion of each stage of the program. Auditors are silent observers in the program. Despite much of the material from the initial levels receiving a live, in-class translation, students entering into the main program will be expected to have studied or be studying the Arabic language sciences.

nb: The approximate hours required for each subject are listed in the respective tables. These are stated as guidelines and are not necessarily representative of the amount of time which shall be dedicated to the subject as that will depend upon different factors.

The books chosen are also subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

FOUNDATIONS

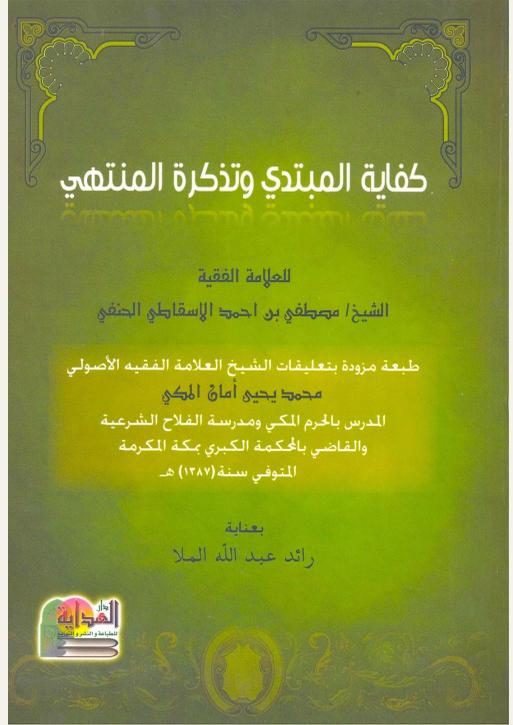
At the Foundational Level, students will learn about the early development of Islamic Sacred Law (*fiqh*), with particular reference to the Hanafi school. They will also study the lives of the founders and main figures in the early school. The introduction to Legal Theory reading via *Mabadi' fi 'Ilm Usul al-Fiqh* gently apprises students of basic terminology, leaving the details for later levels. *al-Rawda al-Saniyya* is comprised of a central section of the laws of worship interspersed with beautiful, transmitted sunnas of different aspects of life, the laws of the lawful and unlawful, and the adab and rules of speech, food and earning a living. The specialised text, *Khulasat al-Kaydani*, will allow the student to specifically learn the detailed rules of prayer in a logical manner and with precision. Then, the reading of Forty Hadith on the Prayer and the Prayer of the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) will introduce a student to traditions (*ahadith*) which clearly support Hanafi precedent and practice. Finally, students will study the proper manners of students of sacred knowledge through a reading of the relevant section in *Shir'at al-Islam*.



SUBJECT	TEXT
Methodology	The Hanafi School , Key Figures & Why Fiqh? (10)
Legal Theory	Mabadi' fi 'Ilm Usul al-Fiqh (15)
Sacred Law (Main)	al-Rawda al-Saniyya fi Fiqh al-Hanafiyya (35)
Sacred Law (Specialized)	Khulasat al-Kaydani (10)
Traditions	al-Arba'un al-Hanafiyya & Sifat al-Salat (5)
Inward Sacred Law	The Proper Manners of Students of Knowledge (5)

LEVEL ONE

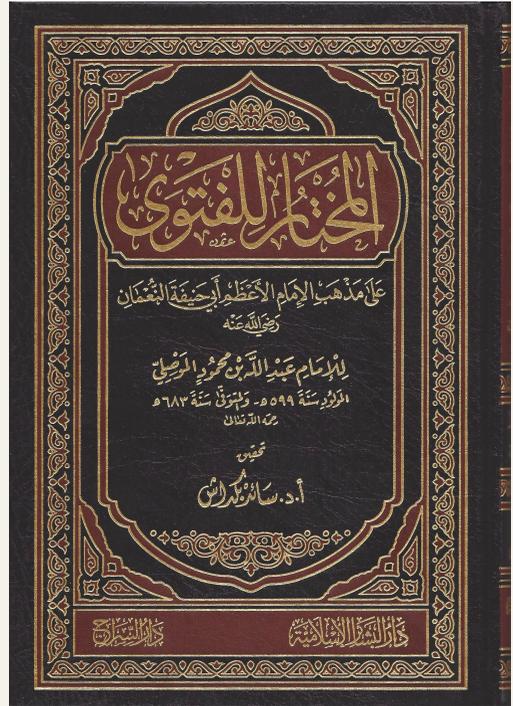
At Level One, students will learn about Hanafi hadith methodology in considerable detail using selections from *I'lam al-Anam bi Isti'ab al-Imam Abi Hanifa li Ahadith al-Abkam*. They will complete their first reading of a classical primer in Legal Theory with *Mukhtasar al-Manar*, a work which will expand upon and add further details to their foundational study. *Kifayat al-Mubtadi* will be the work which begins the student's journey in mastering the *fiqh* of Imam Abu Hanifa. This text focuses on transmitting the positions of the Imam alone, allowing the student to focus and grasp all the central *masa'il* with clarity. Next the students will study the laws of the hajj pilgrimage in detail by reading Rahmatu 'Llah al-Sindi's excellent treatise titled, *al-Mansak al-Saghir*. As a form of review and consolidation, students will read their first full work on Ahadith al-Ahkam, specifically according to the Hanafi school, *al-Mu'tasar*. Next, students will learn the transmitted beliefs of Imam Abu Hanifa by studying his *Wasiyya*. Finally, students will study inward *fiqh*, namely, the proper etiquettes of practising the shari'a in one's life from the beautiful work, *Shir'at al-Islam*.



SUBJECT	TEXT
Methodology	Hanafi Hadith Methodology (10)
Legal Theory	Mukhtasar al-Manar (30)
Sacred Law (Main)	Kifayat al-Mubtadi (60)
Sacred Law (Specialized)	al-Mansak al-Saghir (10)
Traditions	al-Mu'tasar (30)
Beliefs	Wasiyyat al-Imam Abu Hanifa (5)
Inward Sacred Law	[Selections] Shir'at al-Islam (15)

LEVEL TWO

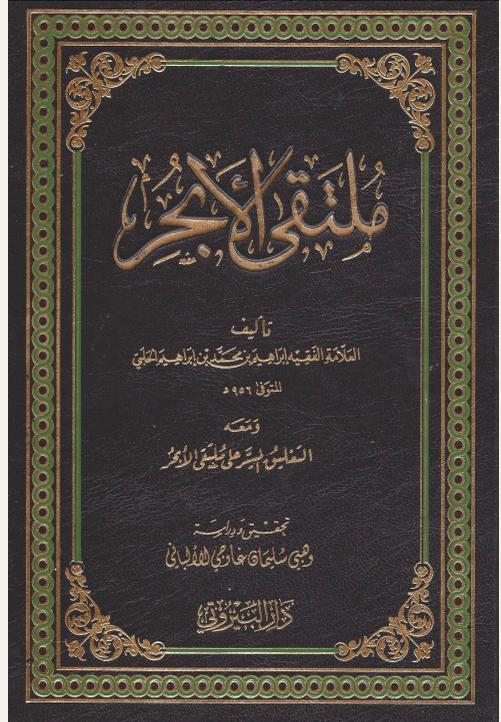
At Level Two, students will use a short treatise written by the the assistant to the final Shaykh al-Islam of the Ottoman Empire, Zahid al-Kawthari, to review and strengthen their understanding of the Kufan inherited practice and its centrality to the Hanafi tradition. *Samt al-Wusul* is one of the best abridgements of the *Manar* and it serves as a useful bridge to it. This reading will help to review concepts previously studied, but also serve as a preparatory text for future studies in Legal Theory. In the study of *al-Mukhtar*, students will continue their principled study of the *madhhab* of Imam Abu Hanifa as Imam Mawsili focuses on transmitting this alone to the student, relying on a code to indicate any difference of opinion. The specialized text for this course is Ibn al-Humam's *Zad al-Faqir* which is a semi-detailed compendium of rulings for purification and prayer. This text is the first more in-depth look at these chapters and it serves as a useful preparatory text for a later study of *Maraqi al-Falab*. Students will also cover the *Musnad* of Imam Abu Hanifa, a text which has received much attention from the scholarly class. Then, the students shall complete a reading and study of *al-Fiqh al-Akbar* and finally continue their study of inward fiqh from *Shir'at al-Islam*.



SUBJECT	TEXT
Methodology	Fiqh Ahl al-'Iraq & Responses to Criticism (10)
Legal Theory	Samt al-Wusul (35)
Sacred Law (Main)	al-Mukhtar li'l Fatwa (130)
Sacred Law (Specialized)	Zad al-Faqir (25)
Traditions	Musnad al-Imam (35)
Beliefs	al-Fiqh al-Akbar (10)
Inward Sacred Law	[Selections] Shir'at al-Islam (15)

LEVEL THREE

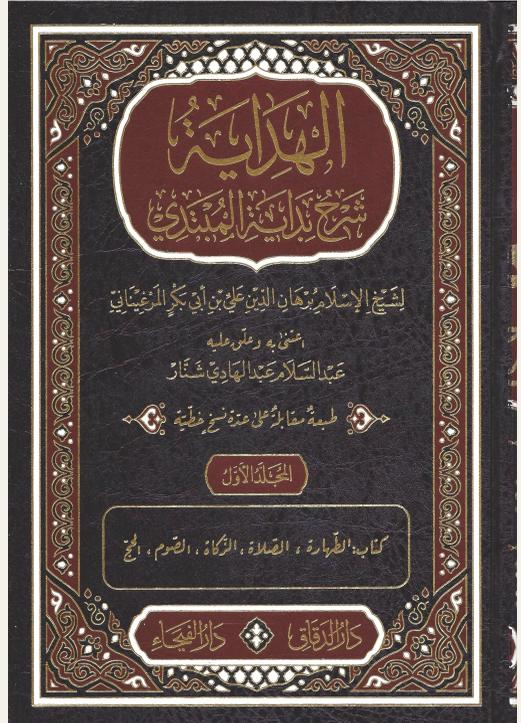
At Level Three, students will continue to enrich their understanding of how the Hanafi tradition dealt with traditions of the Holy Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) by reading *al-Madkhal ila Usul al-Hadith ‘ala Manhaj al-Hanafiyya*. They will deepen their knowledge of Legal Theory by delving into *al-Shashi*, a work that will broaden and deepen their understanding of this science by presenting the *masa'il* in a slightly different manner. Next, students will be introduced to an encompassing primer in the Hanafi school, *Multaqa al-Abhur*, which gathers the *masa'il* of the main primers (*mutun*) into one work. This will also introduce them to the positions of Imam Muhammad and Qadi Abu Yusuf. The specialised reading will be the famous primer in inheritance laws, *al-Sirajiyya*, which will allow students to truly grasp this forgotten science. They will also read *Nayl al-Maram* which captures the essential discussion from major works of Ayat al-Ahkam in accordance with the Hanafi school. Next, they will cover their final work on the science of Beliefs, Aqhisari's *Nur al-Yaqin*. Finally, students will study inward *fiqh*, namely, the proper etiquettes of practising the shari'a in one's life from the beautiful work, *Shir'at al-Islam*.



SUBJECT	TEXT
Methodology	al-Madkhal ila Usul al-Hadith (35)
Legal Theory	Usul al-Shashi (50)
Sacred Law (Main)	Multaqa al-Abhur (200)
Sacred Law (Specialized)	Sirajiyya (50)
Qur'anic Exegesis	Nayl al-Maram fi Ayat al-Ahkam (90)
Beliefs	Nur al-Yaqin Sharh al-Tahawiyya (20)
Inward Sacred Law	[Selections] Shir'at al-Islam (15)

LEVEL FIVE

At Level Five, students will first study the seminal work and pride of the Hanafis, *al-Hidaya*. This will be coupled with a reading of Qadri Pasha's *al-Ahwal al-Shakhsiyya* to learn the detailed rulings of family law, from marriage and divorce to child custody, financial maintenance and inheritance. In methodology, students will study legal maxims, learn obscure rulings and learn the intricacies of *fiqh* from Ibn Nujaym's *al-Ashbah wa al-Naza'ir*. The *usul* text for this level will be a combination of Bazdawi and Sarakhsi's works, in conjunction with the former's glosses, most importantly, *Kashf al-Asrar*. At this level, the students will also cover Mulla Jiwan's excellent work on the legal verses of the Qur'an, *al-Tafsirat al-Ahmadiyya*, whilst also looking at Nasafi's presentations in his *Madarik al-Tanzil*. Finally, students will be expected to write twenty-five well-researched, academic-level answers on a variety of contemporary issues in order to put their training into practice, and to also produce a dissertation comprising of an in-depth look at a topic of their choice.



SUBJECT	TEXT
Methodology	al-Ashbah wa'l Naza'ir (200)
Legal Theory	Usul al-Bazdawi & Glosses (260)
Sacred Law (Main)	al-Hidaya (400)
Sacred Law (Specialized)	al-Ahwal al-Shakhsiyya (200)
Qur'an	al-Tafsirat al-Ahmadiyya (240)
Practical	25 Scholarly Answers & Dissertation

After the five levels, students will have the opportunity to enter into a specialization program comprising of a detailed reading of *al-Durr al-Mukhtar* and its glosses, most importantly, *Radd al-Mubtar*. There will also be readings from topic-specific texts and the works of *Zabir al-Riwaya*.



www.irshad.org.uk/thehanaficode

For more information about applications, please check the website and sign up to the mailing list. For further questions about the program, please email irshadclasses@icloud.com.

WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE SAYING

I would highly recommend anyone wishing to begin exploring the Hanafi School in a systematic and traditional way to undertake this course. The instructor, Shaykh Tabraze, may Allah preserve him, has an excellent manner of teaching, *ma sha' Allah*, and is very open to questions and discussion from the very outset. The distinguishing feature about the course content is its progressive and comprehensive nature, where one learns stepwise in a very structured manner. The teacher also imparts an all encompassing confidence in the *madhhab*, allaying and dispelling any misconceptions one may have seen or heard but unable to answer, laying a strong and conviction based foundation for further study.

— Student (UK)

With reading books of fiqh and listening to online lectures one only gains superficial understanding of the material. It took me a good teacher and dialog-based live classes to understand that. Shaykh Tabraze taught me fiqh in context, the depth of our scholarly tradition, and the character of the Blessed Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) in everyday situations. I highly recommend Irshad Classes!

— Student (EUR)

I found the Hanafi Legal Code Program to be of immense benefit in terms of both its academic merit and pedagogy. By weaving traditional education through a digital framework, Shaykh Tabraze offers an immersive experience that is as interactive as a regular classroom. I recommend this program for anyone who wishes to pursue knowledge with consistency and rigour.

— Student (CAN)

THE INSTRUCTOR



TABRAZE AZAM is traditionally-trained in the Islamic sciences and specialises in Hanafi Sacred Law and Legal Theory. He was educated in Computer Science at the University of Leicester and he completed his classical studies under distinguished scholars in Turkey and Jordan. He is presently the Academic Director at Irshad and based in the United Kingdom.

FAQs

1. Who is the program for?

The program is primarily geared towards students who currently work or study full-time, or for those who have other existing time constraints which prevent them from studying with sufficient regularity. However, it is also suitable for traditional students of knowledge, for those who wish to review what they have already learnt, or for those desiring to grasp the tradition in more depth.

2. Do I need to know Arabic to apply?

No, beyond basic literacy, knowledge of Arabic is not a requirement for the foundational level. But it is expected that students who begin the main program (Level One onwards) will be studying or will initiate studying the tool sciences.

3. Do you offer any financial aid?

Unfortunately, we don't have funding at the present time to offer significant financial aid. However, financial barriers should not prevent a student from study, so please reach out to us describing your situation for further assistance. Having said that, please note that need-based, full scholarships are available at each level of the program and awarded to the most deserving candidates.

4. How much time is required outside of class to keep up?

It depends on the student. Some time outside of the class is essential to prepare for the assessments at the end of the level. Beyond that, it returns to each student's own desire to review, prepare and study.

5. What platforms are used to host the courses?

The live sessions are streamed through Zoom and the class materials, forums and recordings are available on Canvas. Students may also voluntarily choose to join the class Telegram group.

6. How long do students have access to the material?

Students have access to the materials for a period of thirty days after the completion of the level.

7. Are there any breaks from classes during the year?

There is a break from classes approximately every quarter.

8. Why don't you teach the books of *badith*, or works of *sirah* and *tajwid*?

This is a specialized course offering which is carefully designed to create students who are deeply grounded in the Hanafi tradition. It is not a general learning curriculum so it doesn't cover sciences which fall outside of its remit.

9. Can I test into a level of my choice?

Yes, if you are able to pass the entrance assessments which cover the contents of previous levels.

10. Can I study selected texts of my choice from each level?

At this stage, no, the program is one cohesive unit and designed to take students to a certain level of understanding of the Hanafi tradition. Dropping in and out of classes disrupts the harmony of the classes and unit as a whole.





IRSHAD

THE HANAFI TRADITION EXPLAINED

@irshadclasses

