GCIL Offers Module - C

Faith - Belief in the UNSEEN: 'Seeing is Believing' or 'Believing is Seeing'?

The first blind person and American mountaineer Erik Weihenmayer (b. 1968) to summit Mount Everest and later climb the Seven Summits, overturned the famous adage "Seeing is believing." When asked how he managed such feats without the faculty of sight, he said: "Believing is seeing."

This is the epitome of human brilliance! Conviction based on the power of human intellect and deduction precedes perception. What we believe in without insisting on seeing through the strength of arguments becomes the lens through which we experience the world. This Faith (empowered by reasoning) enables our actions. Belief empowers us to act despite the absence of visible evidence. Vision is not limited to eyesight: True "sight" involves inner clarity, purpose, and trust.

Module – C is tailored to excite our inquisitive minds and decipher God's claim on His existence, and His claim on the certainty of the advent of the Hereafter. God's expectations from us are firmly placed in 'imaniyaat' – belief, while remaining in the unseen! God claims both these news form part of our id (the instinctual part of the mind that contains hidden memories). To reinforce these instinctive parts, God arranged prophets as bearers of good news and warners who were also at times accompanied by Divine Scriptures brought in by the Angels – all these form part of 'imaniyaat'!

GCIL invites you, regardless of caste, creed, colour, or religion, to join this exciting journey of discovering God and His expectations from the Qur'an's perspective, through intellectual reasoning. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and participate in an interactive session.

PS The first two Modules, A and B, were titled "Approach towards God's Expectations" and "God has Spoken! His Arrangement for Our Guidance," respectively.

Module - C

Faith - Belief in the UNSEEN 'Seeing is Believing' or 'Believing is Seeing'?

- 1. The Qur'an's Perspective I: Ilm-ul-Insan (Information and Knowledge about us) God Spoke to Us Before We Were Sent in This World! Surah al-Baqarah (2:30-39): The Story of Adam's creation What Events Took Place When God Introduced the First Man to the Angels and Jinns? The Purpose of The Whole Exercise.
- 2. The Qur'an's Perspective II: Ilm-ul-Insan (Information and Knowledge about us) Surah al-A'raf (7:11-27): Satan's refusal, Adam and Eve's fall, and their dialogue with God.
- 3. The Qur'an's Perspective III: Ilm-ul-Insan (Information and Knowledge about us) Surah al-Ḥijr (15:26-44): Emphasis on Iblis's creation from fire and his defiance & Surah al-Isra (17:61-65): Command to prostrate and Satan's response.
- 4. The Qur'an's Perspective IV: Ilm-ul-Insan (Information and Knowledge about us) Surah al-Kahf (18:50): A Reminder about Iblis being one of the jinn who disobeyed & Surah Ṭā-Hā (20:115-127): Adam's forgetfulness, Satan's deception, and divine guidance & Surah Ṣād (38:71–85): Dialogue between God and Iblis, Satan's challenge to mislead humans.
- 5. The Belief in God & The Belief in the Hereafter go Hand in Hand: Theism in the Contemporary Age Linked with the Hereafter.
- 6. The Belief in the Angels & The Belief in the Prophets: How Does the Qur'an Introduce the Angels? Why should someone believe that Muhammad (pbuh) is the messenger of God?

About the Instructor:

Aamir Yazdani has an English-based presentation of Javed Ahmed Ghamidi's inspired teacher, Maulana Hamid ud din Farahi (d. 1938). He has been closely associated with Javed Ahmed Ghamidi since 1995, regularly attending his Qur'an and Hadith sessions until Ghamidi Sahib's relocation to Malaysia and Dallas.

He also collaborated with Dr. Khalid Zaheer, teaching Islamic Studies in English and courses on the Modern Muslim World at universities in Lahore for nearly three years. In addition, Aamir served as a Member of the Board of Governors for Al-Mawrid Lahore for one year. Over the past four years, he has been an instructor at Al-Mawrid, teaching various courses designed for different age groups: Discovering Islam for early teens, In Search of Truth for older teens, and Decoding Islam for adults.

He received his early education from the Karachi Grammar School and Lawrence College and holds a master's degree in engineering from the United Kingdom. He has combined his engineering career with his passion for teaching and presenting the Qur'an. Last year, he completed his MPhil from the University of Management and Technology (UMT) in Lahore.

As an author, Mr. Yazdani has written "Haq ki Talaash Ka Musafir (An Autobiography)", also translated as "A Traveller in the Quest for Truth". His forthcoming works, "Ilm aur Aql" and "Itikaf Diary", are set for publication. He has served as the Joint Editor of the 'Gazette Newsletter' at Government College, Lahore.

Mr. Yazdani maintains a blog at <u>aamiriqbalyazdani.blogspot.com</u> and manages a YouTube channel: <u>Aamir Yazdani</u>. He has been invited as a guest speaker at various universities and schools. For inquiries, he can be reached at <u>aamiryazdani@yahoo.com</u>.

He splits his time between Dallas, Texas, and Lahore, Pakistan.