



POLITICAL SCIENCE SERIES

POLITICS, POWER & CIVILIZATION

IN ISLAM (السياسة الشرعية)

Instructor: Ustadh Abu Abdullah al Hanbali
Contact: E: abu.abdullah.al.hanbali1@gmail.com P: 647-835-7938 Social: Students will be added to a class WhatsApp group
Location: Online (See Zoom link Below)
Class Time/Day: Every Sunday at 11am – 1pm EST (Starting Nov 1st, 2026)
Commitment: 3-4 hrs per week (2 hrs class + reading/assignments)
Duration: 4 weeks + Exam
Attendance: Mandatory (absence must be notified)
Cost: \$100
Language: English

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Course Objectives:

- Establish from the Qur'an, Sunnah and scholarly tradition that governance and justice are an integral part of the Deen
- Understand the role of leadership and the bilateral relationship of rights and duties between those in authority and the Ummah
- Trace how the current global order came about historically, and the Muslim world's position within it
- Equip students to analyze geopolitics through the Prophetic and Qur'anic narratives and the Qur'anic laws (sunan) of civilizational change
- Escape the secularization of the world and of the Ummah, while avoiding both blind obedience and reckless extremism
- Define the path needed to secure the safety and welfare of the future generation

Class Schedule:

Sessions		Topics	Reading
Phase 1: Foundations & History	Week 1	Introductions and course housekeeping	Qalā'id al-'Iqyān • Chapter 5: Prophethood & Leadership
		Prophethood, Leadership & the 'Aqīdah of Authority	al-'Aqīdah al-Ṭahāwiyyah Sections: • Obedience to those in authority • Ḥajj & Jihād with the rulers • Adherence to the Jamā'ah
		The Leader & the Ummah: Obedience and its Limits	al-Aḥkām al-Sulṭāniyyah Sections: • Ch. 1 — The Contract of the Imāmah
		Ḥākimiyyah / Governance	
		Research paper topics provided	

			Sirah: the Treaty of Ḥudaybiyyah
	Week 2	From the Rashidun to the Nation-State Intellectual & Political Responses	How the Khilafah was Destroyed: - Selected sections al-Aḥkām al-Sulṭāniyyah - Selected sections Supplementary: - Khilāfat o Mulūkiyyat — Selected chapters
Phase 2: Present & Future	Week 3	The Current Global Order & its Direction Group Exercise	Sixty Sulṭāniyyah: - Selected sections Supplementary: - Q 3:137–140, 13:11, 24:55, 47:38 - Muqaddimah of Ibn Khaldūn — Selected chapters on ‘aṣabiyyah and the life-cycle of states
	Week 4	Tajdid / Revival: Laying the Groundwork The Role of the Youth, the Educated, the General Populous	Sixty Sulṭāniyyah: - Selected portions Supplementary: - al-Siyāsah al-Shar‘iyyah — Selected portions - Jihad in Islam — Selected chapters
Exam Week		Research Paper due Exam link to be provided	

Zoom Link

- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82879659488?pwd=xiY7fMaXWovc2ZQSAgDhTaPFCCLPew.1>

Meeting ID: 828 7965 9488
Passcode: 035511

Class Recordings

- Google Drive Short-link: <https://l1nk.dev/lxqtyza>

Textbook

- Required Textbooks:**
 - Qalā’id al-‘Iqyān by Ibn Balbān al-Ḥanbalī (d. 1083 AH) – Chapter 5 on Prophethood and Leadership
 - al-‘Aqīdah al-Ṭaḥāwiyyah by Imām Abū Ja‘far al-Ṭaḥāwī (d. 321 AH) – Selected portions
 - Sixty Sulṭāniyyah by Abū Luqmān Faṭḥullāh – Selected portions
 - al-Aḥkām al-Sulṭāniyyah (The Laws of Islamic Governance) by Abū al-Ḥasan al-Māwardī (d. 450 AH) – Selected portions
 - How the Khilāfah Was Destroyed by ‘Abd al-Qadīm Zallūm (d. 1424 AH) – Selected chapters
- Supplemental/Optional Textbooks:**
 - al-Siyāsah al-Shar‘iyyah by Shaykh al-Islām Ibn Taymiyyah (d. 728 AH)
 - Khilāfat o Mulūkiyyat by Sayyid Abū al-A‘lā Mawdūdī (d. 1399 AH)
 - Milestones (Ma‘ālim fī al-Ṭarīq) by Sayyid Quṭb (d. 1386 AH)

Homework / Readings

- Students must complete the weekly readings assigned **prior** to the live session to ensure that the required content is understood and any relevant questions can be asked

Research Paper

- In Week 1, a selection of research paper topics will be provided to all students with the objective of challenging them to read and expand their knowledge base beyond the stated curriculum
- Papers must be research-based, referenced, and include a bibliography (full requirements provided with the topic list)
- Feedback and marks will be provided

Exam

- Exam links will be released on the final week of the Module (see schedule above)
- Students may be tested on any material presented/discussed/assigned from the class sessions or in the weekly readings
- Exam will be closed-book with a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short/long answer format

Grades

- Participation, Attendance, Reading – 25%
- Research Paper – 25%
- Exam – 50%