



All praise belongs to God.

We begin in His name, the Merciful, the Compassionate. We ask Him to send His peace and blessings upon our noble Messenger Muhammad (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) and all messengers that came before him as guides to humanity.

As-salamu alaikum wa rahmatullah,

Peace and love be upon you all.

I wanted to let you know what we have going on, InshAllah, for the month of September. Now, this is a very special time because we've entered the new Islamic year and this month, in particular, the month of Muharram, is a very important month. It is the month wherein the Prophet (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) and his companions migrated to Medina. This was the beginning of the migration to Medina, fleeing persecution, and establishing the Muslim community.

So, it's a joyous occasion for us. It's a joyous month for us in a sense that now the Prophet (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) and the community of Muslims have gained safety, have gained refuge, and have established this incredible community of Ansar and Muhajirun, of those who were local and those who migrated that just became family. But it's also a month that is sad because one of the greatest companions of all, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) was tragically murdered in his standing for justice. He was murdered mercilessly and it was in this month, on the 10th in particular, wherein he was murdered. And so, while we are joyous that this is the month when the Prophet (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) and his companions were able to find refuge, we're also saddened in that one of the greatest companions of all, the grandson of the Prophet (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ), the one who is the leader of all young people in Jannah, Sayyidna Husayn (رضي الله عنه) was martyred in this month and so we also are saddened and we invoke Allah (سبحانه و طائفة) and we try to remember the beautiful qualities of Sayyidna Husayn, the grandson of the Prophet (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) and reflect upon those and honoring him.

Now, this month, our daily prayer services for Fajr and Isha prayers are going to continue. The timings can be found on our website (www.icgt.org) and you're welcome to also email (samar@icgt.org) if you'd like to join the Whatsapp group for regular notifications.

Our weekly programs will also continue. We have our Sunday lecture series "The Beginning of Guidance" at 12:30 PM on Sundays. This month we will begin presenting it outdoors on the hill with social distancing. It will still be live-streamed on Facebook and available on Zoom for those who would like to join us. In addition to that, we have our "Faith Foundations" class for converts and new Muslims that is happening at 11 AM every Saturday and that will also be outdoors on the hill if we can manage. It will be available via Zoom for those who usually join in this manner. Of course, we have our weekly Jumu'ah at 1:30 PM outdoors on the hill.

Now, in terms of our monthly programming, we have a "Youth Circle and Hike" with our middle school community members. In addition to that, we will continue with our adult educational seminars that we've been having with esteemed guests. This month, we have a very special guest, a dear teacher of mine, Dr. Rudolph Ware, who has created an incredible nationwide youth curriculum in teaching the history of Islam and in particular focusing on "Invisible Muslims." We will be having that the first week of September and that's going to be in the evening. It will be a discussion with him and I. You can find all of these details online and on our social media.

And of course, the last monthly program, the first Friday of every single month, we'll have our "Family Spiritual Night" on Friday, September 4th at 8 PM. Please make sure to attend and register so we can keep in touch with you and get feedback from you on all of our programs. Registration forms are available on our social media pages (@ICGToledo) and website (www.icgt.org).

As you know I try to be as accessible as possible, so if you need to reach me the information is on our website and on our social media. God bless you and your families. May Allah protect you and your families. I look forward to seeing you for another month of programming.

Wa-salamu alaykum.

Your humble servant,

Imam Ahmad Deeb
Director of Religious Affairs