Arabic reading competition:

Al–Khaleel Ben Ahmad Alfaraheddi

For Arabic teaching schools

Supported by: The Embassy of Oman in London

Organised by: Islamic Cultural Centre – London

Education Department

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Reading is of great importance in the lives of children and young people, whether in relation to their academic life or social life. It is an important tool to enhance their abilities, as well as to develop their skills. It paves the way for them to learn from various sciences, and general human knowledge, both present and past. It engulfs educational, recreational, social, educational, and other fields. It is also one of the most important means of communicating with others and exploring their minds, as it acts as a window that allows them to view the entire world.

Almighty God has confirmed the importance of reading when He addressed His prophet for the first time through His revelation, saying: (read in the name of your Lord who created). Without reading one will not understand the ‘Aqeedah’ - the doctrine, nor acquire new knowledge, nor develop a nation, nor build a civilisation.

Therefore, the Islamic Cultural Centre in London is honored to announce the organisation of the "Al-Khaleel Bin Ahmad Al-Farahidi" competition for Arabic reading for Arabic teaching Schools, operating in London.

**Goals of participation:**

1. To develop awareness of the importance of reading and the need to promote it, so that it holds a crucial position in schools and centers that are interested in the dissemination of the Arabic language, and teaching it in the West.
2. To raise the level of Arabic language skills for students in complementary Arabic schools, which include reading, understanding, listening, speaking and writing, by increasing the number of vocabulary, and acquiring new and varied learning methods, through the books they read.
3. To strengthen the cultural affiliation of the students, and link them with their Arabic and Islamic heritage.
4. To contribute to the propagation of cultural awareness, unleashing creativity, and nourishing the curiosity and initiative taking among students.

5. To establish tolerance and acceptance of others, by extending bridges of cooperation and acquaintance among students, in various complementary Arabic schools.

6. To instill the love of reading in the hearts of students of the Arab and Muslim minority in the West, thus establishing a generation of young people who love the sciences and general knowledge, and are proud of the Arabic language and work to spread it.

Terms of participation:

• The registration must be completed within one month of the advertisement date, by sending an e-mail to: education@iccuk.org, containing the following information:
  - Name of school - Number of students - Address - Teaching day - Number of teachers
• Participants must belong a school that provides Arabic teaching and is operating in the vicinity of Greater London, with 50 students or more.
• The competition is open to students of both sexes, from 11 to 16 years old.
• The student should read seven books in Arabic (stories, scientific books or other types) suitable for his/her level and age (provided that the number of words in each book is no less than a thousand words), and should summarise them in at least 70 words, mentioning the name of the book, the author, the publisher and the number of pages.
• Each school must have an in-house competition and selection process, whereby two students are nominated to participate in the final round of competition. The schools must send the names of the students and their books’ summaries to the Islamic Cultural Centre, no later than 31st May 2019.
• Candidates must take the final exam with their supervisors on 23/06/2019, and take with them at least seven books that they have read.
• The candidate will choose a book to be tested on, and the exam committee will select another book from the seven books.
• The questions will revolve around:
  1. Understand the meanings of the book's vocabulary
  2. Talking about the characters of the book
  3. Morals derived from the book
The number of participating schools is limited to 30 schools, taken on a first come first serve basis.

The awards will be distributed at a ceremony held at the Islamic Cultural Centre, attended by participating students, their parents, and their schools, with the presence of His Excellency, Ambassador of Oman in The Uk.

Finger food, refreshments and drinks will be provided.

Note:
Supervisors in schools, during their selection for the finalists, must fear Allah and establish fairness when making final selections, taking into consideration the quality of language and pronunciation, the richness of the vocabulary used, and the comprehension and wisdom derived from the book. They must ensure that the student has read and benefited from the book.

Awards

- First place: £ 800
- Second place: £ 700
- Third place: £ 600
- Fourth place: £ 500
- Fifth place: £ 400
- Ranks from 6 to 10: £ 300 each
- The remaining 50 participants: £ 50 each
- Competition supervisors in the 10 winning schools: £ 100 each
- Committee of the judges (four members): £ 100 each

All thanks to God by which, with His grace, righteousness is fulfilled.

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