25/10/2025

Dear Students,

All praise is due to Allah, and blessings and peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa. Greetings to you all.

On the occasion of the 1500th anniversary of his birth, the Office of the Counselor for Religious Affairs at the Turkish Embassy in Islamabad is organizing a series of events to enhance our understanding of the Prophet, a mercy to all worlds (ﷺ), and to help us embody his Sunnah in our daily lives.

Every Muslim bears the responsibility of embodying and practicing the words, actions, and behavior of the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) in all aspects of life. Furthermore, Muslims should shape not only their personal identity but also social ethics and order in accordance with his exemplary conduct.

In this context, we sincerely invite you to participate in our composition contest titled *"In His Footsteps"*. Please submit an essay prepared in line with the meanings of the Hadiths provided in the contest guidelines and inspired by your own experiences. I am confident that your reflections and personal experiences will serve as guidance for elders and as an example for younger generations.

Kindly note that the submission deadline is **November 30, 2025**, and time is passing quickly.

We look forward to celebrating your contributions at the award ceremony.

Dr. Abdurrahman AKKUŞ
Counselor for Religious Affairs
Turkish Embassy, Islamabad

ISLAMABAD RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE
&
TÜRKİYE DİYANET FOUNDATION

"IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PROPHET (PBUH)"

ESSAY COMPETITION

Purpose of the Competition

Article 1: This competition is being organized to mark the 1500th anniversary of the blessed birth of our Master, Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (peace and blessings be upon him) — who was sent as a mercy to all creation and as a model for all Muslims. Its objective is to foster awareness about the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) and to encourage reflection on his exemplary and inspiring life.

Theme and Category of the Competition

Article 2: The competition shall take the form of an academic essay contest, in which participants are required to write an essay based on one of the following selected Hadiths of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). Each Hadith highlights a distinct moral, spiritual, or social principle from the exemplary teachings of the Prophet (peace be upon him).

a. *"The most excellent of speech is the Book of Allah, and the finest of guidance is the guidance of Muhammad (peace be upon him)." — (Ahmad b. Hanbal, II, 320)*
b. *"Among the people, the one closest to me on the Day of Resurrection will be the one who sends the most blessings upon me." — (Tirmidhi, Witr, 21)*
c. *"The most complete of the believers in faith are those who possess the best character." — (Abu Dawud, Sunnah, 15)*
d. *"None of you truly believes until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself." — (Tirmidhi, Sifatu'I-Kıyāmah, 59)*
e. *"It is sufficient evil for a person to look down upon his Muslim brother." — (Muslim, Birr, 32)*
f. *"When a Muslim visits his ailing brother, he remains amidst the gardens of Paradise until he returns." — (Muslim, Birr, 41; Tirmidhi, Janāiz, 2)*
g. *"Whoever sets out on a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him the path to Paradise." — (Tirmidhi, 'Ilim, 19)*
h. *"The believers, in their mutual love, compassion, and mercy, are like one body; when one limb suffers, the entire body responds with sleeplessness and fever." — (Muslim, Birr, 66)*
i. *"The trustworthy and honest Muslim merchant will be with the martyrs on the Day of Resurrection." — (Ibn. Majah, Tijārah, 1)*
j. *"The best among you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best among you to my family." — (Ibn. Majah, Nikāh, 50; Tirmidhi, Manāqib, 63)*

Target Participants

Article 3 The competition shall be conducted in two distinct categories:

Students enrolled in grades 6–8 (Middle school) and grades 9–12 (High school) at public or private educational institutions within the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and the students belonging to the same age cohorts who are currently pursuing their studies in Madrasas.

Eligibility and Submission Requirements

Article 4: The conditions governing participation and submission are specified as follows:

a. Each participant may submit only one original composition.
b. Essays generated through AI–assisted software or otherwise lacking originality, as well as entries noncompliant with the provisions of the competition guidelines, shall be excluded from evaluation.
c. Submissions must be prepared in Microsoft Word format, comprising a minimum of one full A4 page (approximately 350–400 words) and a maximum of two A4 pages (approximately 750–800 words).
d. Essay shall be written in Turkish, Urdu, or English, using Times New Roman or Urdu font, in 12-point size.
e. Submitted works must be unpublished and must not have been entered in any previous competition.
f. Entries submitted without a duly completed Information and Consent Form shall not be considered for review.

Submission Procedures

Article 5: The procedures for the submission of compositions are as follows:

a. Essays collected by school administrations shall be submitted collectively—through the respective institutional heads—to either the Religious Affairs Counsellor's Office or the Educational Counsellor's Office of the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Islamabad.
b. Participants preferring to submit their entries by post may send them to the aforementioned offices.
c. All compositions must be delivered in person or received by post no later than 30 November 2025. Submissions received after the stated deadline shall not be accepted.

Evaluation and Awards

Article 6

a. The evaluation of submissions shall be undertaken by an Evaluation Committee constituted by the Executive Board.

b. Upon review, the committee shall confer awards to the authors of the compositions achieving distinction within each of the two competition categories, as follows:

Category I – Students of Grades 6–8

- First Prize: PKR 60,000
- Second Prize: PKR 45,000
- Third Prize: PKR 30,000
- Especial Prize: PKR 15,000

Category II – Students of Grades 9–12

- First Prize: PKR 60,000
- Second Prize: PKR 45,000
- Third Prize: PKR 30,000
- Especial Prize: PKR 15,000

Evaluation Criteria

Article 7 – Evaluation Framework

The submitted compositions shall be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria and point distribution:

	Criterion	Points	Description
1.	Title	10	
2.	Adherence to writing and grammatical rules	15	
3.	Coherence and consistency between paragraphs	10	
4.	Use of real-life examples related to the selected Hadith	25	
5.	Thematic consistency with the selected Hadith	25	
6.	Originality	15	
7.	Total	100	

Copyright and Intellectual Property Rights

Article 8

a. All copyrights and legal responsibilities pertaining to the submitted works shall remain with their respective authors.
b. The Executive Committee reserves the right to reproduce, publish, or disseminate the works, either in print or visual form, for educational and promotional purposes.

Competition Timeline

Article 9

a. Deadline for Submission of Essay: *30 November 2025*
b. Announcement of Award-Winning Essay: *31 December 2025*
c. The award ceremony and subsequent announcements shall be communicated through the official social media platforms listed below.

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/share/1CQjYNdRWe/?mibextid=wwXIfr

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/islamabad.dinhizmetleri?igsh=MTJybHB0MG5iOGdtZA%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

Contact Information

Article 10
Turkish Embassy, Office of the Religious Affairs Consultancy
Street No. 1, Diplomatic Enclave, G-5,
Islamabad 44000, Pakistan

PARTICIPATION AND CONSENT FORM

I hereby declare and undertake that I shall not claim any copyright fee for the composition I have written for the "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PROPHET (PBUH)" Essay Competition, organized in collaboration between the Religious Affairs Counsellor's Office of the Turkish Embassy in Islamabad and the Türkiye Diyanet Foundation.

I further affirm that all legal responsibilities related to my work shall rest solely with me, and that I fully accept and agree to all the terms and conditions stated in the competition guidelines.

Date: ___ / ___ / 2025

Signature:

Author's Full Name	
ID Number	
Title of the Essay	
Name of School/Madrasah	
Class and Roll Number	
Phone Number and E-mail Address	
Address	