

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم الله رب محمد صلى عليه وسلما ﴿ نحن عباد محمد صلى عليه وسلما

The Lum'ah Award invites you to mark and pay tribute to the auspicious centenary after the passing of the great reviver, Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān al-Baraylawī (1856-1921). This award aims to foster a spirit of friendly competition amongst Sunni Muslims of the Anglosphere and beyond whilst also rewarding intellectual and scholarly excellence.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

The following are guiding questions and non-exhaustive topics for possible entry submissions.

Applicants are welcome to write on a topic of their own choice.

Mujaddidiyyat

- Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān as a 14th century reviver.
- Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān's revival work (tajdīd) in different scholarly disciplines.
- Re-assessing Ḥanafī figh: Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān and al-Fatawa al-Ridawiyyah.
- Imagining a 15th century reviver.

Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān's Legacy

- Prophetic love in the message of Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān.
- The Guardian of the *Ahl al-Sunnah*.
- Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān and the roots of modernist thought in India.
- What is *Maslak-e AlaHazrat*? What is its relationship to *Ahl al-Sunnah* and delineate its parameters.
- Intra-Sunni diversity and the protocols of disagreement (*ikhtilāf*).
- Contributions of contemporary Barelwī scholarship.

Insāf al-Imām

- Imām Ahmad Ridā Khān's 10 Point Plan: 100 Years Later.
- Discuss Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān Naʿīmī's couplet "Ahl-e Sunnat behr-e Qawwālī-o 'Urs..."
- Has justice been done to Imām Ahmad Ridā Khān and his legacy?

"[AlaHazrat] had very little knowledge of Ḥadīth and Tafsīr" [Sayyid Abū l-Ḥasan ʿAlī al-Nadwī]. Analyse.

Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān and his Contemporaries

- The 'School' of Imām Ahmad Ridā Khān.
- Mawlanā 'Abd al-'Alīm Ṣiddīqī as 'The Roving Ambassador of Islam' and Da'wah today.
- Şūfis and the State: From Imām-i Rabbānī to Imam Muṣṭafā Riḍā Khān.
- Imām Zafar al-Dīn al-Bihārī's contributions to the *Ḥadīth* studies.
- The Nobles (Ashrāf/Sādāt) of Kichocha and Marehra.
- Sadr al-Shari'ah and the later Ḥanafī tradition.
- 20th century Muḥammadan Devotees: al-Baraylawī, al-Nabhanī, and The Kattānīs.

Miscellania

- What label should Sunni Muslims identify with in the West?
- Critical book reviews (for reference see here and here):
 - O Devotional Islam and Politics in British India by Usha Sanyal.
 - O Defending Muḥammad [in Modernity by SherAli Tareen.
- What is the significance of *Maslak-e AlaHazrat* in the 21st century beyond the Subcontinent?
- The poetics of Imām Aḥmad Riḍā Khān.

REQUIREMENTS

Entry Requirements

- The minimum age for entry is **16**.
- Both males and females are invited to enter.
- International entries are welcome.
- Participation is free of charge.
- Submissions shall only be in **English**.

Deadlines

- The **new** deadline for **paper submission** is at 11:59 PM (GMT) on December 31st, 2021.
- Please direct any inquiries and paper submissions to thelumahaward@gmail.com.

Style, Referencing, & Paper Particulars

- Every paper by a participant over the age of 20 shall be at least 1500 words in length.
- There is no minimum word limit for applicants under the age of 20.
- Every paper shall be submitted in .doc or .docx format.
- Participants should reference their work properly, following a commonly accepted citation style. Plagiarism checks will be in place.

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Judgement Process

- The Lum'ah Award is in two stages.
 - First stage: a panel of scholars shall examine the paper entries.
 - **Second stage**: an oral paper defence (*viva voce*) for the best papers in front of a panel of scholars. This will occur either in-person or virtually for those unable to attend.
- A conference to announce the **winners** will be held on a date to be announced in the future.

Assessment Criteria

- Papers will be assessed on a number of criteria, particularly:
 - o originality and depth of thought;
 - o clarity in reasoning; and
 - o critical analysis.
- **Oral paper defences** will be assessed on the ability to convey and justify one's thesis. The applicant is expected to sustain critical questions that aim to challenge them and explore the deeper aspects and implications of their ideas and thoughts.

AWARD

- The winner shall be awarded a grand-prize of £1,000.
- Top five applicants will also receive a prize.
- Special awards shall be granted to exceptional performances to those under-20 years of age.
- The best entries will be translated into Arabic and Urdu to be published in a select issue.

SUBMISSIONS & CONTACT

Inquiries & Submissions

- Please direct any inquiries and paper submissions to thelumahaward@gmail.com.
- Please include your **full name**, **age**, **location** (city/town, country), **educational background** and **phone number** in the body of your submission email.

Organiser Information

• The Lum'ah Award is hosted by Arqam College.



