

The book cover features a central purple panel with a white floral motif. The motif consists of a central stem with several leaves and a large, multi-petaled flower at the top. The purple panel is framed by a decorative border with a repeating floral pattern in various colors (red, blue, green, brown) on a light background. The title is written in a white serif font, centered on the purple panel.

Attracting Allah's ﷻ
Blessings & Pleasure

with Board Member
Naheed Hashmi

“At Darul Qasim College, women are involved at every level of operations in some capacity. We have females contributing to the financial infrastructure, academic affairs, human resources, marketing, communications, and the list goes on.

Shaykh Amin once said, ‘there will always be women working at Darul Qasim College.’ They have and will continue to serve in varying capacities.”



"I serve on the college's board of directors in an advisory capacity. Specifically, my focus is on the college licensure requirements and accreditation process through the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). I make sure that we are in alignment with all of the guidelines and standards.

By Allah's ﷻ faḍl, Darul Qasim College is now licensed to operate as a college. I spearheaded those efforts with the IBHE by filling out the appropriate applications and providing any documentation that was required. It took approximately five years to attain this status."



“Of course, it is not an individual person’s work. Everyone at Darul Qasim College pitches in to get the work done. Currently, we are in the midst of filling out the degree-granting authority application. Upon approval, we will be able to offer a state-recognized degree in Master’s of Islamic Law and Theology.”



"I also assist in an administrative capacity. For example, when COVID hit, there was a need for a safety committee to make sure that our college was in line with all state-mandated health regulations. I was the head of that committee, alongside physicians, faculty members, and some student volunteers. I did a lot of answering questions from our faculty and students regarding safety requirements.

Compared to other institutions, we had very few outbreaks and most notably our college was never the source of an outbreak. This was because everyone responded right away. I was answering emails, as they were coming in, 24 hours a day. Alhamdulillah, we got through those three very tumultuous years. When students or faculty had to be absent they were given online access. By Allah's ﷻ grace, we did not suffer academically or financially at a time when many colleges were shutting down."



"Anyone who is a part of this institution knows that by design all faculty, staff, and students' interests are being addressed. It's quite seamless and there's never been a dichotomy. For example, I've never felt female interests or needs are not being taken into consideration. Rather, Shaykh Amin and the board have always met the needs of male and female faculty, staff, and students equally.

Under the leadership of Shaykh Amin, the college operates with an Islamic worldview. Shaykh is the one who taught us that. I can't recall ever saying, 'We need to consider the women's side of things' which is very different from other institutions. Yet, if the need ever arises I am confident that my voice will be heard."

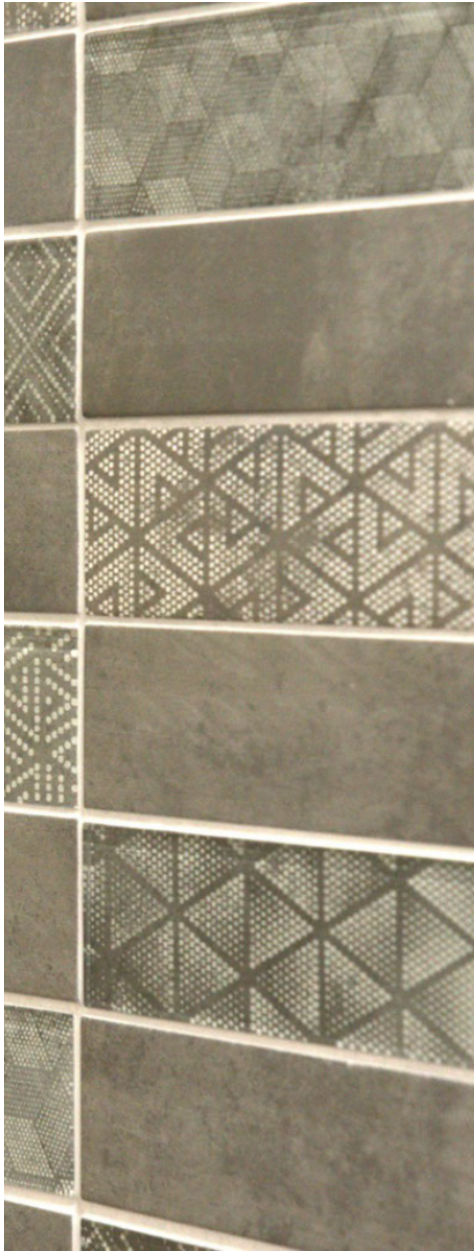


"Using an Islamic worldview, education and Islamic knowledge is made accessible to all regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, and class, however, not without considering our Islamic duty. Sometimes, there are special circumstances that warrant consideration.

For example, if there is a female student and male teacher, or vice versa, and all other students are absent, we make sure that there is a third person present. That's out of consideration for the Islamic duty that we have. Education can go on and it can't be said, 'we can't teach you because you're the only female or male.'"



“Anyone entering a classroom at the college can clearly see the beautiful separations we have created. There is no compromising on Islamic values, but we’ve made it beautiful, appealing, and welcoming. The atmosphere is made welcoming for both men and women.”



“What I’ve learned from Shaykh Amin is that people who are meant to come, will come. There’s an element of having some patience and the right means of attracting what you want to attract. And that means of attracting is through du‘ā’ and doing things correctly, meaning with the right intention and action.

This is an amazing lesson and I would say that it needs to permeate throughout all of the departments and administrative branches of the college. I’ve seen things happen that I wouldn’t have imagined could happen because we didn’t do it the conventional way, rather we sought Allah’s ﷻ blessings and pleasure through our intentions and actions.”

“Darul Qasim College is an energy in and of itself. I always feel like I’m trying to catch up, even as someone who has been here for more than a decade. I feel like it’s an energy that Allah ﷻ has unleashed onto this world and it’s just growing on its own. As long as our niyya and a’māl are correct, it will keep going and growing long after we are all gone in shā’ Allah.

This is all from the du‘ā’s of our Shaykh, our well-wishers, and ultimately Allah ﷻ, mā shā’ Allah. I don’t see it being contained within one state or one country, but growing beyond that. I envision Darul Qasim University and I do not think that’s unattainable.”

