

**APPROVED**  
**at a meeting of the**  
**Scientific Council**  
**NJSC «Al-Farabi KazNU».**  
**Minutes No.10 dated**  
**May 13, 2023.**

**The program of the entrance exam for applicants to the PhD**  
**for the group of educational programs**  
**D052 – «Islamic studies»**

**1. General provisions.**

1. The program was drawn up in accordance with the Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 31, 2018 No. 600 “On Approval of the Model Rules for Admission to Education in Educational Organizations Implementing Educational Programs of Higher and Postgraduate Education” (hereinafter referred to as the Model Rules).

2. The entrance exam for doctoral studies consists of writing an essay, passing a test for readiness for doctoral studies (hereinafter referred to as TRDS), an exam in the profile of a group of educational programs and an interview.

<b>Block</b>	<b>Points</b>
1. Essay	10
2. Test for readiness for doctoral studies	30
3. Exam according to the profile of the group of the educational program	40
4. Interview	20
Total admission score	100/75

3. The duration of the entrance exam is 4 hours, during which the applicant writes an essay, passes a test for readiness for doctoral studies, and answers an electronic examination. The interview is conducted on the basis of the university before the entrance exam.

**2. Procedure for the entrance examination.**

1. Applicants for doctoral studies in the group of educational programs D052 – «Islamic studies» write a problematic / thematic essay. The volume of the essay is at least 250-300 words.
2. The electronic examination card consists of 3 questions.

## **Topics for exam preparation according to the profile of the group of the educational program.**

### **Discipline "Modern problems of Islamic scholars"**

#### **Topic 1. Fundamentals of Islamic Doctrine: God, society (for ummah), man.**

Subtopics: Conceptual and categorical apparatus, content and methodology of the subject "Modern problems of Islamic teachings." The origins of Islamic civilization, its specificity, the transformation of Islam into a world religion, the role of Sharia as a Muslim sacred law, the peculiarities of the attitude of Muslims to power and property. The problem "God, society (ummah), man." The meaning of ijihad, taqlid, fiqh, sharia.

#### **Topic 2. The phenomenon of a variety of doctrinal trends, trends and philosophical schools of Islam.**

Subtopics: Specificity of concepts "direction", "over", "schools of thought" and the doctrinal unity of Islam. Features and importance of studying religious movements. Causes of conflicts and disagreements among Muslims. The reasons for the formation of philosophical, socio-political, ethno-national, socio-psychological, socio-cultural trends in Islam. Religious and philosophical sources for the emergence of new trends, trends and schools in Islam. General classification of trends, trends and schools of law in Islam.

#### **Topic 3. Kharijism and Shiism: the emergence and features of development.**

Sub–topic: The teaching of the Kharijites - followers of the earliest religious and political party (trend) in Islam in Islam. The principles of the Kharijite teachings. The Battle of Siffin (657) and the religious and political conflict between Ali and some of his followers – "Harurists". The formation of the Kharijite (Arabic. Kharij – speaker) of the movement and the struggle against Ali and his rival Muawiya. The split of the Kharijite movement in the second half of the seventh century: Azraqites, Ibadites, Sufrites, etc. Democratic tendencies in the teaching of the Kharijites about the caliphate and the "sovereign power of the community of the faithful." The history of the formation of the Shiite teachings. Shiism as a product of the political struggle (for power - imamate) between the heirs of the Prophet Muhammad (the second half of the VII century.) by blood relationship (Ali) and Muawiya. The Shiite political group (Alidids) is fighting for the return of supreme power to the "family of the Prophet", the transfer of power to Ali and his descendants. The mystification by Shiites of ideas about the supreme power: the imam is the carrier of the "divine" substance." Shiism and the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties. "Moderate" and "extreme" currents in Shiism: 1) The Zeidites: the origin; the history of the emergence of this current. 2) Ismailis: origin; the history of the emergence of this trend; the doctrinal features of the Ismaili teachings. 3) Imamites: origin; history of the emergence of this trend; doctrinal features of the Imamite teachings; geography of the spread of Imamites; 4) Imamites as the main opposition force in the anti–Shah (anti- secular) movement in Iran (XX century). 5) Alawites are known as Nusayrites: origin; history of the emergence of this trend; doctrinal features of the Alawite teachings. Modern Shiites and their basic beliefs. Features of the Shiite law school. Methods of addressing Shiites to the sources of religion. The manifestation of Kharijism, Shiism in modern times.

#### **Topic: Sunnism: essence and content.**

Subtopics: The specifics of the formation of the doctrine of Sunnism. The history of the appearance of the term "Sunnis". Sunnis are "people of truth" (ahl al-haqq). Important signs of belonging to Sunnism. The development of the teachings of Sunnism during the time of the righteous Caliphs. The role of Caliph Umar in the establishment of Islam as a world religion. The Hadith and the Sunnah of the Prophet as a historical and literary monument, the second (after the Quran) source of legal theory and practice. □ Islamic law under the righteous Caliphs and Umayyads (661 – 750). The specifics of the formation of various madhhabs. The addition and complication of legal theory and practice (fiqh) under the Abbasids. Characteristics of the main legal madhhabs and their founders. Features of Islamic law

(Fiqh): ibadat and muamalat. Ashab al-hadith vs Ashab ar-rai. Legal institutions of Muslim societies and their personnel. The role of faqihs, mujtahids, muftis and qadis in the formation and application of hadith. Sunnism in modern times.

#### **Topic 4. Shiism : essence and content.**

Subtopics: The history of the formation of the teachings of Shi'ite. Shiism as a product of the political struggle (for power - imamat) between the heirs of the Prophet Muhammad (second half of the 7th century) by blood relationship (Ali) and Muawiya. Shi'ite political groups the Application (alidid) in the fight for the return of sovereignty "To family of Prophet", the transmission power of Ali and his descendants. Shi'ite mystification of the idea of supreme power: the imam is the bearer of the "divine" substance. " Shiism and the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties. "Moderate" and "extreme" flow in Shi'ism: 1) Zaidism: origin; the history of the origin of this current; Zaidism as an example of the most moderate of all Shi'ite sects in matters of dogma: denial of the divine nature of the Imamate, recognition of the possibility of electing any Alid as Imam, tolerant attitude towards the first three caliphs: Jafarites , Imamites; the Zaidist party and its political aspirations - the creation of a theocratic state headed by an elected imam of the Ali clan; the geography of the spread of Zaidism: North Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and other countries. 2) Ismailis: origin; the history of the emergence of this trend; doctrinal features of the teachings of the Ismailis; the split of the Ismailis; geography of distribution of the Ismailis. 3) Imamites: origin; the history of the origin of this current; doctrinal features of the teachings of the Imamites; the geography of the distribution of the Imamites; 4) imamites as the main opposition force in the anti-Shah (anti-secular) movement in Iran (XX century). 5) Alawites are known as Nusairites: origin; the history of the origin of this current; doctrinal features of the teachings of the Alawites. Modern Shi'ites and Their Foundations of Belief. Features of the Shi'ite legal school. Methods of addressing Shi'ites to the sources of religion.

#### **Topic 5. Sufism: concept and essence.**

Subtopics: History of Sufism. Foundations of the teachings of Sufism. Socio-political reasons and ideological origins of the emergence of Sufism. The concepts of "tarikat", "sheikh - ustaz". Sufi tariqas: at-Tijaniyya, al-Sinusiyya, al-Qadiriyya, Rifaiya, Naqshbandiyya, al-Shaziliyya and others. Distinctive features of each tariqa. Twelve maternal tariqas in Sufism. Features of the internal organization and life of the Sufi brotherhoods. The essence of dhikr as collective zeal. Geography of the spread of Sufism in the world and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

#### **Topic 6. Wahhabism: content and essence.**

Subtopics: The history of the emergence of Wahhabism. The main categories of Wahhabism. Attitude towards directions and schools of Islam. The principles of the Wahhabi teaching of the school. Ideas and views, especially the doctrine. The main directions of Wahhabism. Salafism. The current state of Wahhabism.

#### **Themes: Non-traditional religious movements of Islamic origin.**

Subtopics: Babism is the teaching (babiyya) of the Babbis, followers of Ali Muhammad Shirazi (1819 -1850), who declared himself (1844) Bab (Arab "bab" -gate) - "The Gate of the Messiah" (Mahdi), "opening" a new era of "justice and equality on Earth". Ideological and political essence of Babism and anti-Shah actions of the people in Iran (1848-1852). the split of the Babi community in Baghdad. Ezelites and Behais. Doctrinal features of the Babis. Sharia prohibition. The practice of political individual terror in the Babite movement. The condemnation of the Bab by the Shi'ite mujtahids as a heretic and the defeat of the Babite movement in Iran. Bahaism is the teaching of Behais, followers of Babbis Mirza Hussein - Ali Nuri (1817-1892), known as Baha Allah ("the glory of Allah"), who emigrated with the Babite community from Iran after the defeat of the Babite uprising there and the execution of the founder of Babism. The doctrinal sources of bhaism are the works of Bah - Allah "Kitab - i - ikan" (1858) and "Kitab al - qadas" (1873). Features of the teachings of Baha'ism and the internal organization of Baha'i communities: the absence of a ceremony, the institution of worshipers and the basic tenets of Islam.

Difference from Babism. Bahatism and the unity of mankind at the religious and political level. World House of Justice in Haifa. Geography of the spread of the teachings of Bahatism.

Qadianism (Qadiani or Ahmadiyya) is a Muslim community founded by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani (1835-1908) in Punjab (India). The syncretic character of the disciple I Qadiani, addressed to Muslims, Christians and representatives of other religions. Doctrinal basis of the teaching: the founder of the Ahmadiyya (Nabi) community embodied the Muslim Mahdi, Christian Messiah and Hindu Krishna; rationalistic interpretation of the Koran (comments of Muhammad Ali to the English edition); the object of the hajj was declared the Punjab (where Ahmad Qadiani lived - hence the Ahmadiyya) and the place of the alleged burial of Christ (Yus Asafa) –d. Srin agoor in Kashmir; zakat is calculated as 2.5% of capital, not income. Ahmadiyya educational activity. Geography of distribution of the Ahmadi teachings in the world.

Hizbut-Tahrir Islamic Communities and Movements: Definition; origin; the history of this movement; the foundations of the teachings of the Hizbut-Tahrir movement; legal solution of modern issues; geography of the spread of teachings in the world and in the CIS .

Jamaat Tabligh: definition; origin; the history of the movement; the basics of the teachings of the two izheniya tablig.

Habashites: about DEFINITIONS; origin; The history of this Motion eniya; the foundations of the teachings of the Habash movement. Jamaat at - Takfir wal-hijra: acquaintance with this current; the history of the movement; ideas and views, especially the doctrine.

### **Topic 7. The problems of Islam in the context of globalization and digitalization.**

Subtopics: Specificity of a systematic approach to modern problems of Islam. Islam in the poly-confessional space of Russia: essence and features. The spread of Islam in the West: specificity and main problems. The role and place of Islam in the spiritual culture of modern Kazakhstan.

### **Topic 8. Culture of Islam.**

Subtopics: The contribution of Islam to world culture, influence on modern mass culture. Problems of Muslim Syncretism: Spanish Moriscos Bahatism, Sikhism. Modern trends and problems of Islam (concepts of "Muslim socialism" and "Islamic revolution"; concepts of "Islamic state" and "Islamic economy"). Modern concepts of jihad and the problem of Islamic fanaticism (terrorism). The ideology of Islamism as a factor in the politics of modern Muslim countries.

### **Topic 9. Political aspects and history of Islam.**

Subtopics: Towards an Islamic Reformation: Civil Liberties, Human Rights. Islam in pursuit of the century. Islam in the modern ideological and political struggle. Islam and nations. Ways and forms of influence of the Shiite clergy on the social and political life of Iran. Islam on the threshold of the XXI century Caliphs without a Caliphate: Islamic Non-Governmental Religious and Political Organizations in the Middle East: History, Ideology, Activities. Islamic extremism in Arab countries. Muslim minorities in the political life of the countries of the East.

### **Topic 10. European Islam.**

Subtopics: European Islam or Islamic Europe. Demographic, social, economic and political significance of the Muslim phenomenon in Europe. The concept of the deterritorialization of Islam. The idea of the intra-European Christian-Muslim borderland as a practical result of the failure of the assimilation of Muslims.

Theory and practice of European multiculturalism, the causes of Islamophobia. The historical roots of European Islamophobia. The tendency of the use of political Islam by European states separately and the EU as a whole as a means of achieving specific geopolitical goals (the example of the "Islamic State"). The division of political Islam into "good" and "bad", the implementation of support for those Islamists, whose actions correspond to the opportunistic interests of European governments.

## Disciplina "Hadith Studies"

### **Topic 11. Science "Hadith": an introduction to the subject**

Subtopic: Specificity of the subject "Hadith studies". Features of the origin of hadith studies. Difficulties in the formation of the science of hadith studies. The purpose of the study and classification of hadith.

### **Topic 12. Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad.**

Subtopics: Definition of the Sunnah and its relationship with the Qur'an. Hadiths and the way of life of Muslims. Compilation of collections of authentic hadiths. Sunnah of the Prophet and the work of the founder of the Muslim religion (ijtihad). The need of the early Muslim community for the example of Muhammad. Formation of the concept "Sunna of the Prophet". Methods and ways of collecting and transmitting hadith. The growth of the authority of hadiths (VIII - IX centuries) and the perception of the Sunnah as a second, additional source of Muslim doctrine. Sunni and Shiite attitudes towards sunna: hadith and khabar. Conjugation of the Qur'an and Sunnah in solving problems of the life of society. Hadith as a special form of transmission of knowledge. The structure of the hadith: isnad and matn, their purpose. Muslim traditional criticism of hadith. The principles of their classification and verification. Sunnah as a Historical Source on the Era of Early Islam. Translations of collections of hadiths and modern methods of their study and dating. The difference between hadith, the words of the companions and their followers (tabi'in). The difference between sunnah and hadith. Sunnah and innovations (bid'a). Hadith Qudsi.

### **Topic 13. Classification of hadiths.**

Subtopics: Types of Hadith. Hadith "sahih" ("authentic"), "sahih lizatihi" and "sahih ligayrihi". Hadith "hasan" ("good"), "hasan lizatihi" and "hasan ligairikhi". Hadith "daif" ("weak"), the degree to which "weak" hadiths are used in resolving Sharia issues.

### **Topic 14. Classification of hadiths in terms of the number of their transmitters.**

Subtopics: Hadith "Mutawatir". Hadith Mashhur. Hadith aziz. Hadith "ahad". Scholars' opinions on the use of the hadith "ahad".

### **Topic 15. Isnad - the chain of narrators of the hadith**

Subtopics: Isnad and Conditions Presented to the Hadith Transmitters. The Science of Isnad, the Importance of Isnad's Authenticity. Isnad Muttasy1 (المتصل الإسناد). Isnad gair-Muttasy1 (الإسناد غير المتصل). Isnad Aliy (الإسناد العالي). Is over Nazil (الإسناد النازل). Difference between "Isnad Aliy" and "Isnad Nazil". Isnad Sahih (الإسناد الصحيح). Types of "weak" isnads: (الواهي، المعنعن، المؤنن، المضطرب). Substitutions in isnad (القلب في السند).

### **Topic 16. Science of challenge and confirmation.**

Subtopic: The science of withdrawal and confirmation (Ilm ad-Jarh wa at-Tad'il) as a unique science of determining (confirming) the truthfulness (conscientiousness) of the narrator of the hadith. Hadith selection method. The use of the smallest details from the lives of the transmitters of hadiths to study hadith in terms of their truthfulness, decency, piety, memory (accuracy of transmission of the hadith heard), as well as his mind and reason).

### **Topic 17. Requirements for the narrator of the hadith.**

Subtopics: Truthfulness in the transmission of the hadith. Accuracy in retelling. Possibility of semantic transmission of hadith. Requirements for the source from which the transmitter u heard the hadith.

### **Topic 18. Writing hadiths.**

Subtopics: Writing hadiths during the lifetime of the Messenger of Allah. Prophet Muhammad's attitude to the recording of hadiths. The Hadith Recording After His Death: Problems and Ways to Find Solutions to Problems

### **Topic 19. To the most important collections of hadiths.**

Subtopics: Collections of hadiths and biographies of their authors. Scientists' statements regarding these collections. Sahih al-Bukhari. Sahih Muslim. Sunan An-Nasai. Sunan Abu Dawood. Sunan At-Tirmizi. Sunan Ibn Majah. Muwatta Malika. Musnad Ahmad Ibn Hanbal.

### **Topic 20. Ways of False Hadith Appearance.**

Subtopics: Works of hadith scholars on identifying false hadith and owls and their authors. The most important works written in the field of identifying and studying false hadiths: "Ways of the appearance of false hadiths" (by Al-Suyuti). "The Cleansing of the Shariah" (by Ibn 'Arrak).

## Discipline "Theology of Islam"

### **Topic 21. Science "Islamic Theology".**

Subtopics: Introduction to the subject "Islamic Theology". The meaning of the term "Islamic theology", the subject and object studied by this science. History in the introduction of Islamic sciences. The place of "Islamic theology" among the Islamic sciences and its importance. Features of Muslim beliefs. Brief biographies of prominent Islamic theologians.

### **Topic 22. Allah as the main object of Islamic theology.**

Subtopics: Arguments from sacred texts. Rational reasoning. Classic arguments by example, the arguments of Abu Hanifa and Jafar al-Sadiq. Evidence in the outside world. Evidence in the human structure. The existence of Allah from the point of view of Sufism. Examples of modern attempts to justify divine existence. Names and Attributes of Allah: Classification of Divine Attributes. Explanation of attributes: "Existence", "Beginning", "Infinity", "Independent existence", "Oneness", "Life", "Knowledge", "Will", "Power", "Hearing", "Vision", "Speech", "Creation", etc. Obligation to recognize all the divine attributes mentioned in the texts of the Quran and Sunnah. The reasons for the difficulty of comprehending the divine attributes. Methodologies for understanding and interpreting divine attributes. 99 names of Allah Almighty.

### **Topic 23. Faith in Divine Scriptures (Books).**

Subtopics: Identifying Divine Scriptures. The purpose of their sending. Divine scriptures sent down before the Quran.

### **Topic 24. Belief in Angels. Genies.**

Subtopic: Definition of Faith in Angels, Creation of Angels, Angels in the Qur'an and Sunnah. Attributes of angels. Responsibilities spine angels: Great angels and their responsibilities. Guardian angels. Angels are God's servants.

Jinn are creatures created from fire. The jinn civilization exists in parallel with the human civilization. Jinn's attributes: reason, passions, faith, disbelief.

### **Topic 25. Prophets and Messengers.**

Subtopics: The Meaning of Faith in Prophets and Messengers. The number of messengers indicated in the sunnah. The difference between a prophet and a messenger. Duties of the prophets: Communicating divine laws to people. Clarification of divine laws. Personal example. Leadership of the Ummah. Conducting discussions with opponents. Prophets' attributes: sinless people, miracle workers.

### **Topic 26. Judgment Day.**

Subtopics: The Meaning of Faith in the Day of Judgment. Verses of the Qur'an and hadiths of the prophet telling about the Day of Judgment. Doomsday names in the Qur'an. Death. The grave. The state of believers and unfaithful in the grave. Pr signs of the Doomsday. Resurrection. Collection. Payment. Syrat. Paradise. Hell.

### **Topic 27. Predestination.**

Subtopics: The Meaning of Predestination. The history of predestination. Predestination is the result of such divine attributes as "Power" and "Knowledge". The concept of good and evil in Islam. Created s Allah human acts and the relationship with the freedom of choice.

### **Topic 28. The essence of faith.**

Subtopics: Definition of faith. The opinion of Abu Hanifa and his opponents. Common points of both definitions. Is faith changeable or permanent? Scientists' views on the constancy and variability of faith. Explanation of the reasons for the disagreement between the mentioned points of view. Degrees of Faith. Classification of faith by degrees: iman fitri, iman taklidi, iman istidlali. Acceptance of Islam: Rules for Acceptance of Islam. Pronunciation of the formula "There is no deity but Allah" and its meaning.

### **Topic 29. Disbelief.**

Subtopics: Definition of unbelief. Beliefs, words, and actions that lead to unbelief: Acts that lead to unbelief are of several types. Beliefs that lead to unbelief. Words leading to unbelief. Actions that lead to disbelief. Rules for dealing with non-Muslims: Enmity with infidels is unacceptable, however, relationships with them should not be detrimental to the principles of Islam and the faith of a Muslim. Types of unbelief: Unbelief is denial. Disbelief, non-recognition. Disbelief stubbornness. Disbelief is hypocrisy. Polytheism / Paganism. Examples of theological classification of paganism. Examples of religious classification of paganism. Apostasy.

## **3. List of references.**

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