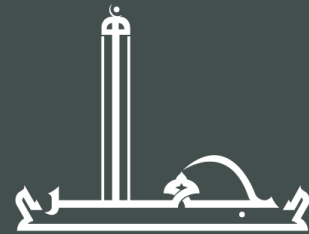


# COMMITTEE

*Handbook*



JAFFARI  
ISLAMIC  
YOUTH



Islamic Shia Ithna-Asheri  
Jamaat of Toronto  
FAITH PEACE UNITY

JAFFARI ISLAMIC YOUTH

TERM 2025-26

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# MISSION & VISION

WILAYAH | AMANAH | LEADERSHIP | ILM

The mission of the Jaffari Islamic Youth is to cultivate a vibrant community of Muslim youth committed to holistic growth and excellence.

Inspired by the guidance of Marḥūm Syed Asad Jafri on youth engagement, we believe in connecting with our youth through a balanced approach of **social, recreational, spiritual, and academic initiatives**. Our aim is to create spaces where meaningful friendships are built, leadership is nurtured, and faith is strengthened. Rooted in Islamic values, we strive to equip our youth and by extension, our community with the confidence and tools to contribute positively to the broader society.

For the 2025–26 term, our guiding principles remain: **Wilāyah (social unity), Amānah (trust), Leadership, and ‘Ilm (knowledge)**. These values will guide our efforts through intentional social bonding and inclusivity, open communication and active listening between JIY members and the wider youth community, dynamic and relevant programming, and ongoing scholarly guidance.

*Jaffari Islamic Youth*

@jaffariyouth | [linktr.ee/jaffariyouth](https://linktr.ee/jaffariyouth)

# GOALS



- **SCHOLARLY GUIDANCE**

Establishing effective and open communication with our scholars — including Resident Aalim Maulana Rizvi and Sr. Tahera Kassamali — remains a cornerstone of our mission to deepen the youth's connection with Allah (S.W.T). While we have made progress in building internal communication channels, our focus this term is to extend that bridge to the wider youth community. By creating accessible, consistent, and youth-centered avenues for engagement with our scholars, we aim to foster a stronger relationship between the youth and the teachings of the Ahlul-Bayt (A.S). This effort is not only to ensure alignment with authentic Islamic guidance, but to also enable our youth with the confidence, clarity, and spiritual grounding needed to walk firmly on the path of faith in today's world.

- **SUSTAINABILITY**

Jiy is an organization that supports over 3,000 youth, with a commitment to building sustainable systems both internally and externally. Externally, we are focused on envisioning and addressing the long-term needs of our youth by developing intentional, well-structured programming that fosters their growth for years to come. Internally, we aim to strengthen our Islamic team culture and create lasting program frameworks that prevent burnout, maintain momentum, and ensure a smooth transition for future youth leaders.



## A large group of men in white thobes and ghutras are seated on the floor in a large, ornate hall, listening to a speaker who is standing and addressing them. The hall has high ceilings and large pillars.

When we realize, all of us are our creations of Allah (s.w.t), the desire to love, care and support each other becomes stronger. With this intention, we want to connect with our youth, as well as give them opportunities to connect with each other through real conversations, shared experiences, and relevant initiatives. It's about quality over quantity — focusing on building genuine relationships and creating programs that reflect the real interests, needs, and concerns of our youth.

Building a genuine sense of belonging and unity is one of our biggest goals this year. We know that for many youth, connection to the mosque can sometimes feel limited — often revolving around sports or occasional programs. But we believe there's potential for so much more. We want every young person to feel that this community is truly theirs — a space where friendships grow, voices are heard, and purpose is shared. This year, we're working to create that kind of environment: one that goes beyond just showing up to events, and moves toward building lasting bonds and meaningful involvement. Together, we can shape a culture where every youth feels seen, valued, and proud to be part of the future of their mosque.

We want to change that. Our goal is not just to increase attendance, but to transform the youth experience into one of family, purpose, and connection.

## • FAITH AS IDENTITY

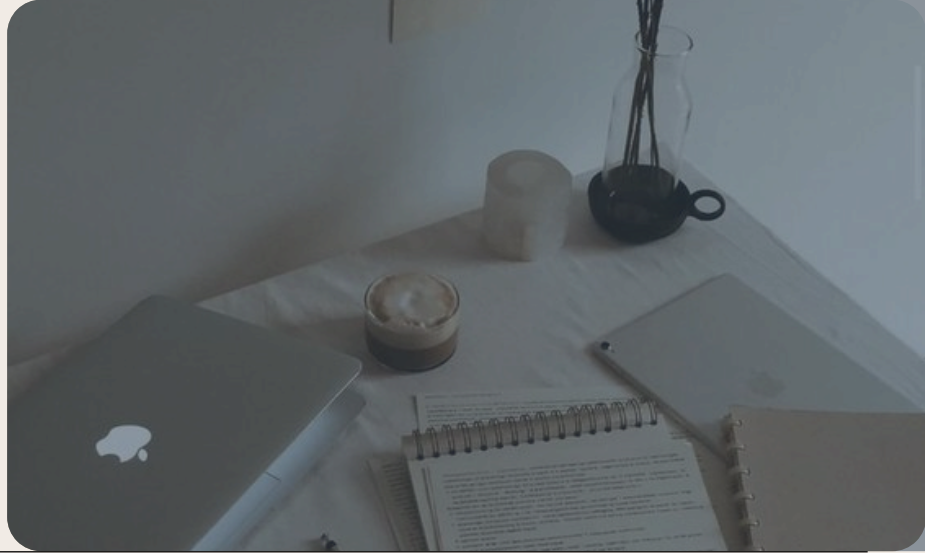
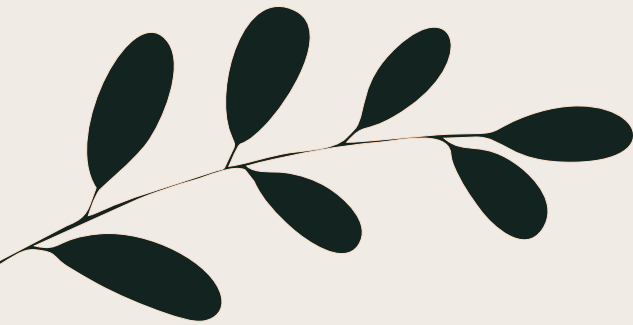
One of our goals this term is to help youth feel proud and confident in their faith — not just through individual actions, but by embracing Islam as a way of life. We want to move beyond the idea of Islam as a checklist of rituals, and instead encourage a deeper connection where faith becomes part of who we are, how we think, and how we live. This means seeing Islam not just as something practiced at the mosque, but something that guides our character, our relationships, and our choices — in school, online, at work, and in every space we enter. By nurturing this mindset, we hope to empower youth to live their faith authentically and confidently, finding strength, direction, and purpose in being Muslim every day.

## • SERVICE & SOCIAL IMPACT

Rooted in the prophetic tradition of service, we strive to empower youth to become active contributors — first within our own communities, and then in the broader society. Our goal is to cultivate a sense of responsibility and purpose, encouraging youth to use their time, energy, and skills to meet real needs and drive meaningful change. When we recognize that we are stronger together, and bring our unique strengths into collective action, we unlock the power to uplift one another and serve more effectively. This spirit of service also prepares us for the reappearance of our 12th Imam (a.t.f.s), by building systems of care, justice, and unity. It calls us to look beyond ourselves — to the needs of our fellow Muslims, both locally and globally .

# EVENT FOCUS

*During the 2025–2026 / 1446–1447 term, the team will focus on enhancing the Jaffari Islamic Youth (JIY) experience through a diverse range of events. Our goal is to provide a balanced approach that supports youth in growing spiritually, socially, educationally, and recreationally — helping them excel in all areas of life.*



## Educational & Professional Development

As a faith that values knowledge deeply, Islam places immense importance on both religious and worldly education. At JIY, our educational programming is designed to empower youth with tools for both personal growth and professional development. This includes workshops on career building, university preparation, financial literacy, and community leadership. In every educational initiative, we aim to pair practical skill-building with Islamic ethics — reminding youth that success is not only defined by grades or titles, but by intention, integrity, and contribution to the greater good.

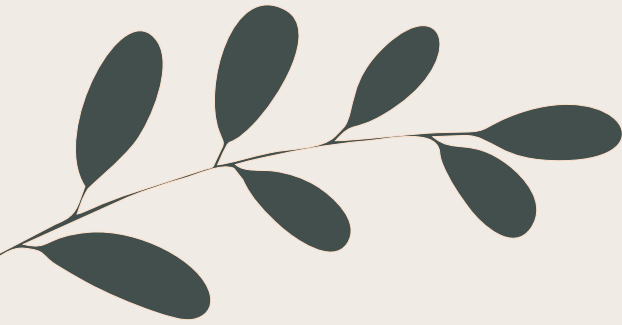
## Spiritual/Religious Growth

At the core of JIY is the intention to nurture a stronger connection between youth and Allah (S.W.T). Our spiritual programming is designed to move beyond rituals and foster a lived, heartfelt relationship with Islam. Whether through reflective circles, scholar-led discussions, or Qur'an nights, we aim to make religion understandable and impactful. These endeavours are designed to reshape the worldview of our youth and instill in them the mindset necessary to navigate their faith within a secular society — helping them remain confident and grounded as Muslims in all environments. As young Muslims living in the West, it's essential that safe spaces exist for youth to explore questions of faith, identity, and purpose — all while anchoring ourselves in the teachings of the Ahlul-Bayt (A.S).



# EVENT FOCUS

CONTINUED



## Social Bonding

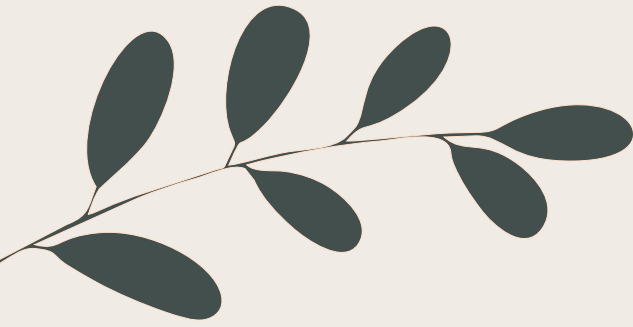
Social bonding plays a vital role in shaping a youth's sense of belonging and commitment to their community — what we call **Social Wilayah**. By creating opportunities for youth to gather in relaxed and welcoming settings, both at the JCC and beyond, we aim to reach a diverse range of young people — including those who may not regularly attend religious programs. We also recognize the value of collaborating with other youth committees to build unity and widen our reach. Even in our social programming, we aim to weave in spiritual dimensions — whether through intention-setting, ethical reminders, or the adab (etiquette) of gathering — to remind us that Islam is a way of life in all settings.

## Recreational

Islam encourages physical wellness, balance, and joy — the Prophet (s.a.w) himself engaged in sports and promoted recreation as a form of holistic health. Our recreational events aim to uplift the mental and physical well-being of youth while offering a halal and welcoming alternative to mainstream recreational spaces. From sports tournaments to adventure outings, these programs also provide a natural environment for mentorship, brotherhood and sisterhood, and character development. We are also mindful of the varying needs of different age groups, and we aim to offer age-appropriate recreational opportunities that are inclusive, fun, and impactful.

# EVENT FOCUS

## CONTINUED



### Mental Health & Wellbeing

It's essential that we continue working to destigmatize mental health within our community — especially among youth, where the impact can be deeply felt. Beyond simply raising awareness, we aim to create initiatives that offer real, practical tools to help young people navigate their daily challenges with confidence and resilience. While there are resources and support systems already in place, many go unnoticed due to a lack of visibility or accessibility. This is where JIY can play a meaningful role — by bridging the gap, amplifying existing supports, and ensuring that help reaches those who need it most.

# MEET the team

BR. HASNAIN MERCHANT  
Chair



SR. ATIKA ISMAIL  
Vice-Chair (Female)



BR. SHABBIR RASHID  
Vice-Chair (Male)



# MEET the team

BR. KUMAYL REMTULLA  
Treasurer



SARAH MANEK  
Secretary



ALI RAIHAN BHIMANI  
Communications (Male)





# MEET the team

SR. FATIMA SUGHRA  
Communications (Female)



BR. MAHDI LAKHANI  
Elected Member (Male)



SR. AMINAH NAJARALI  
Elected Member (Female)







# J A F F A R I I S L A M I C Y O U T H

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