

THE 5D THINKING NEWSLETTER

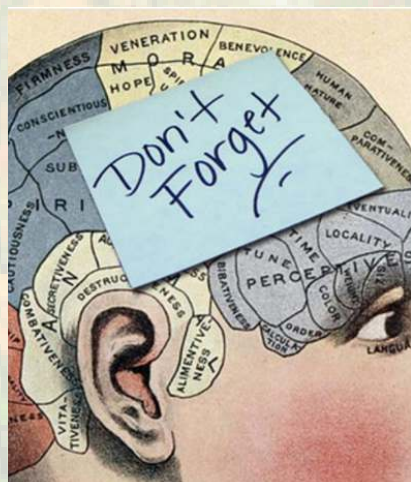
A UNIQUE APPROACH TO READ THE UNIVERSE



Special read: *Alice in Wonderland: Blueprints of Building a House* by Yunus Cengel

**SNEAK PEAK
OF WHAT'S
INSIDE:**

*How does your
memory work?*



News corner:

Uskudar
University
Fall Certificate
Program

Welcome to the third edition of
The 5D Thinking Newsletter!

Dear Subscriber,

Welcome to the third edition of the 5D Thinking newsletter!

This issue presents an overview of our Online Certificate Program that was virtually hosted by Uskudar University last fall. In this edition, you can learn about the 5D Thinking Approach to the Human Memory and read a summary of another great blog article by Dr Yunus Cengel entitled "Alice in Wonderland: Blueprints Of Building a House." This edition also contains a review of Dr Colin Turner's illuminating book "The Quran Revealed: A Critical Analysis of Said Nursi's Epistles of Light" as well as an interview with our talented team member and graduate of the summer program, Aisha Al Owais.

Remember, you can unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the link at the bottom of the newsletter. We hope to continue to inspire you with the Five Dimensional (5D) Thinking Approach to education.

On behalf of the 5D Thinking Team,

Nadine Kamal



5D Thinking on the Human Memory.

You are standing in line at the checkout counter. Suddenly, you lose all memory of why you are there. People behind you are getting annoyed, muttering amongst themselves. You see the checkout lady making odd hand movements and looking at you strangely, but you don't understand what she means.

The above scenario describes what would happen if you suddenly forgot what a checkout counter was for. In other words, this is what would happen if you were suddenly unable to tap into the part of your brain that normally processes this information. To better understand the how our memory works, we will explore it through a 5D reflection in the third topic of our 5d thinking series: "The Human Memory".

In the **first** dimension, Analytical Understanding, we explore the difference between explicit and implicit memories and learn about the parts of the brain assigned with the task of storing and retrieving memories. We also discover some amazing scientific facts such as how the brain can sometimes re-edit traumatic memories in a process called re-consolidation, and how the process of forgetting information is actually vital for the brain to retain its plasticity. Next, in the **second** dimension, Analogical Thinking, we compare the role of a computer's RAM (Random Access Memory) and ROM (Read Only Memory) with the human brain's memory centers.



Then, in the **third** dimension, the Critical Thinking dimension, we reflect on how our memory is superior to any artificial memory not only capacity-wise, but also by quality. In the **fourth** dimension, the Meditative dimension, we explore the hidden message in the phenomenon known as memory and reflect on the attributes of its Maker. Finally, in the **fifth** dimension, Moral Thinking, we consider the value of our memory, and discover how our life would be affected if the parts of our brain responsible for the storage and retrieval of memories were damaged.

For a free download of "The Human Memory", [click here.](#)
To test your knowledge about the human brain, take this quiz by [clicking here.](#)
To test your friends and/or students, take this Kahoot quiz by [clicking here.](#)

How to Apply 5D Thinking: A Knowledge-Based Character Education Model



The 5D Thinking approach consists of the following five steps:

First, it will filter any explicit or implicit message regarding causes, nature, or chances to be the true source of observed phenomena. In this dimension, it is also important that we point to observe universal phenomena as being extraordinary and amazing. Indeed, nothing is ordinary if we remove the veil of ignorance. Thus, readers should be truly amazed with this extraordinary and dynamic creative acts in the universe.

Second, it will use will use analogy to make subject understandable and convincing. We think that the ultimate seat of verified knowledge is the heart, not the mind. People practice what they believe. In other words, they follow what they put in their heart. Using analogy is the way for a person to verify a new knowledge to reach a level of certainty in order to put his/her heart. Thus, it is very important to have sound and simple analogy.

Third, it will encourage readers to engage in critical thinking through questioning based on the analogy in the previous dimension to find out the answer about the true source of the observed phenomena. The third dimension will help readers to eliminate false choices and find the right one through logical questioning.

Fourth, it will help readers to assure that the correct choice is indeed evidence based and verifiable. Since according to constructive learning theory, people learn through constructing their own understanding, the fourth dimension will give opportunity to know why God alone is the Maker of the observed phenomena. The ultimate objective is to know the existence and attributes of God through His universally connected acts.

Fifth, it will help readers to understand infinite value of the observed phenomena in terms of being the fruit of the universe. Then, it will make them to feel infinite appreciation through understanding the importance of this gift for them and other beings in the universe.

In short, the 5D knowledge-based character education model seeks to help readers develop positive views of science from a holistic perspective, as a means for building better character. It will show how to gain character lessons by studying the universe for both instrumental and meditative knowledge.

**Book Review:
Dr Colin Turner's**

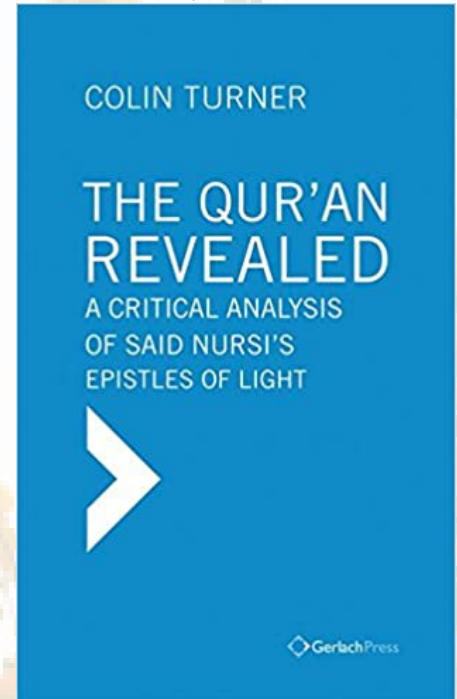
***The Quran Revealed: A Critical Analysis of Said Nursi's Epistles of Light*
by Dr Abdul Majid Khan**

Man in the contemporary world is confused and fraught with choices and dilemmas- he is not sure what to choose, why to choose and what the implications of his choices are. This does not mean that he cannot justify his actions, but the consequences of his actions often create serious problems and issues and thus the rationale of his thought and actions deserve more scrutiny. Paradoxically, man has digressed from the way of his predecessors by ignoring and rebelling against God, prophets and his own spirit and soul. Meanwhile, he has completely relied on his senses and rational faculties to create the apparent best for the individual and society at large.

Through globalization, the thought and practices adopted by the mainstream scientific community in Europe have taken over the whole world. Traditional societies formed and sustained on the basis of revelations have not been spared. However, 'men of God' such as Bediuzzaman Said Nursi, who withstood all sorts of persecution , continued to help distraught man connect to his blessed ancestors, thereby inheriting wisdom and connecting to his own innate wisdom and sprit. Said Nursi, through his Epistles of Light , proved to be a breather for a dying society overtaken by secularism and materialism. His explanations of certain Qur'anic themes linked to the existing mental struggles of human beings proved pivotal in bringing significant parts of society back to life. Close perusal of his Epistles of Light is found to enlighten readers with illuminations of the Revealed Qur'an to help them see reality in different dimensions.

Colin Turner has immersed himself in the Epistles of Light and created a collection of impressive gems draped in beautiful language to lead contemporary man towards a path based on faith and dedication to the cause of truth and virtue. In "The Quran Revealed: A Critical Analysis of Said Nursi's Epistles of Light", the adopted methodology is in in consonance with the qualitative method of research and study. Turner's eloquent writing leads to a deep inner search for meaning. His book is a significant addition to Nursi literature and is hoped to cater to the needs of English speaking people across the globe.

[Click here to purchase the book.](#)



Summary of Dr. Yunus Cengel's "Alice in Wonderland: Blueprints of Building a House" by Yusoph Ramos



Dr Yunus Cengel is Professor Emeritus at the University of Nevada and the author of several well-known college textbooks in Engineering.

Different shades of paints, bristle brushes and thick paper sheets alone could not have produced the famous portrait of the Mona Lisa without a gifted painter. Flour, water, and yeast left alone on a table top could not instantly nor gradually transform into a loaf of bread unless a baker kneads them together. Steel bars, sacks of concrete, and pipes placed at a construction site could not organize themselves to build a house or a skyscraper- they require an architect, an engineer and a construction crew to get the job done. For all the structured things that we see, we expect that someone has created them based on efficient designs to functionally serve specific purposes.

Similarly, plants, animals and human beings are the outcome of an intelligent design enabled by an invisible creator. For all living beings, DNA is the blueprint of life. However, unlike portraits, loaves of bread, and skyscrapers that require both raw materials and human workers to construct them, DNA embedded within a living cell enables its transformation into a capable, self-replicating organism without the necessary intervention of humans. For instance, a soil-entrenched seed is able to sustain its growth into a plant seemingly on its own by absorbing all the nutrients it needs from its surroundings without the need for humans to physically interfere. Unlike portraits, bread, and skyscrapers, humans do not build plants nor are they capable of synthetically producing seeds that are as efficient as the ones in nature. Yet, a seed's innate ability to develop itself is as sophisticated as the combined efforts of specialized workers and their technologies.

In this blog, Prof. Çengel reminds us to appreciate life's grandness and magnificence. He does this by narrating the sequence of events in a dream that ignites the reader's imagination. A plant's DNA is compared to a building's architectural blueprint. Using this comparison, Prof. Cengel seeks to emphasize who actually causes something into existence. He reminds us of the limitations of the humanly capacity to build. With the cognition of this limited ability to create something identical to what exists in nature, is the necessity to recognize the true meaning of life which can be reflected from a seed's astonishing ability to grow.

[Click here to read the article.](#)

Read, Rate and Comment!



An Interview with Online Certificate Program

Participant: Aisha Al Owais



Part I

Nadine: Kindly introduce yourself.

Aisha: My name is Aisha Alowais, I am from the United Arab Emirates, and I have heard about this summer school from the Head of the Department of History and Islamic Civilization at the University of Sharjah in the UAE, Dr. Mesut Idriz who is a student of Dr. Alparslan Acikgenc.

I am a Master's student in the mentioned department and I am very much interested in the field of history of sciences. I work as a research assistant at the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences, and Technology. The research projects I am involved in are mainly about machine learning since I had my BSc degree in Computer Science from the American University of Sharjah. Moreover, I minored in Arabic Language and Literature.

Nadine: How engaging would you say the overall content of the summer program was?

Aisha: The overall content, in both courses, was sufficient and advanced to an extent, especially to people like myself who are not yet in the right academic circle of thought. Nevertheless, my learning curve increased significantly and truly opened my heart and mind to many topics I was never aware of. The in-class exercises were thought-stimulating and we were given the chance to speak our minds regardless of our insufficient background.

It was extremely helpful to hear other learning partners' thoughts and opinions, especially since each one of us came from a different field and from a different culture. Additionally, having guest lecturers from time to time was a great and an effective idea. Not only did we learn a lot from them, but our connections also grew. This is of course an important factor in shaping an individual's academic character. As we have learned from Acikgenc's book, we need a scientific community in order for sciences to progress in a civilization.

An Interview with Online Certificate Program Participant: Aisha Al Owais

Part II

Nadine: Can you describe how successful the course outcome was compared to your expectations?

Aisha: It was very successful indeed! It exceeded my expectations and I feel so grateful for having this opportunity. From a spiritual aspect, this course was exactly what I was searching for, and likewise from a scientific aspect. Moreover, I was honored to have meet wonderful personalities like the respected instructors from across the globe as well as my dear colleagues.

Nadine: How would you rate the course?

Aisha: I would give it a 10 out of 10 without a second thought. It is truly heartwarming, mind opening and life changing.

Nadine: If asked, would you be able to summarize the goal of this program in three sentences?

Aisha:

- Liberate science from secular ideologies and present a holistic perspective through the mana-i harfi approach based on the writings of Said Nursi.
- Introduce students to the stages of scientific development in the Islamic Civilization and its validity to be applied to other civilizations.
- Build a community that looks at the universe from a holistic point of view and provide them with new concepts to help reestablish the way sciences are taught and spoken of.

Nadine: Would you recommend this course to a colleague?

Aisha: Definitely! As a matter of fact, I did recommend it to one of my friends and she is enjoying it very much.

News Corner: Uskudar University 5D Thinking Fall 2020 Certificate Program

Existence and Meaning: A Multidimensional Approach

Uskudar University offered a 5D thinking certificate program in Fall 2020. The program was an extended version of a similar one which was offered in Summer 2020. The program was based on the premise that ideology-free science and authentic Divine messages do not contradict each other, as they both come from the same source.

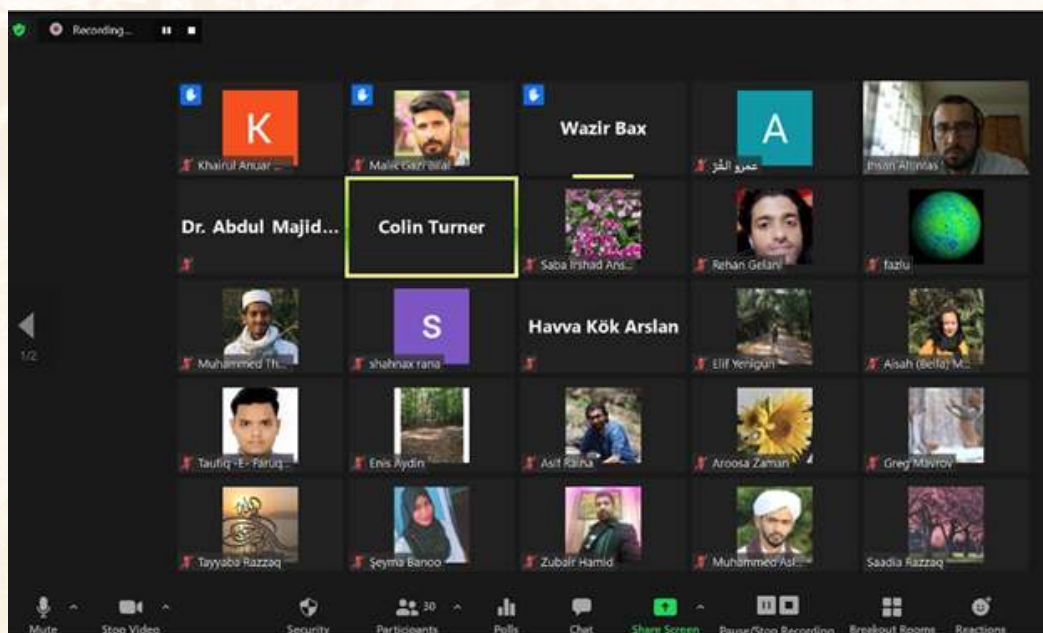
The program presented the five-dimensional (5D) thinking approach based on Said Nursi's *mana-i harfi* method to read the book of the universe to derive character lessons. The program consisted of three courses with a total of 9 college credit hours. The courses were taught through Zoom by three leading instructors (Dr. Alparslan Acikgenc, Dr. Colin Turner, and Dr. Necati Aydin) as well as several guest instructors.

Nearly 30 students from various countries who are mostly graduate students, independent researchers, scholars, and educators enrolled in the program. The following graduate level courses are currently being offered within the program:

RNK-PHIL 542: Epistemology of Science: A Theoretical Approach

RNK-PHIL 543: Philosophy and Teaching of Science: 5D Thinking Approach

RNK-PHIL 544: Reading Said Nursi Reading the Creation



Click on the image below to view the YouTube clip on the third topic of the 5D Thinking approach.



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