

جائزة دبي الدولية للقرآن الكريم
Dubai International Holy Quran Award



Dubai International Holy Quran Award Guide

28th Edition (2026 - 1447)



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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



Vision

To serve as an inspiring model in honoring the Holy Quran, both locally and globally.



Mission

To promote Quranic knowledge and culture through sustainable community-driven initiatives, national and international competitions, and Quranic programs and activities that support and celebrate the people of the Quran and honor those who excel among them.



Values



Sincerity



Innovation



Trustworthiness



Integrity



Objectives

1

To motivate both male and female memorizers of the Holy Quran to pursue excellence and deep reflection by organizing distinguished Quran competitions at local and international levels—competitions that spotlight exceptional Quranic role models and enhance their presence on the global stage.

2

To launch and support religious, cultural, and social initiatives and projects of international scope, aimed at raising generations grounded in Quran memorization and connected to its understanding and application—thus contributing to the formation of a globally enlightened society guided by Quranic values.

3

To honor and highlight individuals and institutions, both locally and internationally, who have made significant contributions to the service of the Holy Quran and its sciences, with the aim of elevating their impact on the international level.



About the Award



In 1997 (1418 AH)

By the directive of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the Dubai International Holy Quran Award was established. The award comprises two main branches: the International Quran Competition and the Islamic Personality Award.



In 2024 (1446 AH)

Law No. (25) of 2024 was issued, transferring the Dubai International Holy Quran Award to the jurisdiction of the Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department. This step aims to further advance the award's pioneering journey in serving the Holy Quran, supporting its memorizers, and strengthening its presence both locally and globally.




Dubai International Holy Quran Award for Males and Females



The Quran memorization award, held annually during the blessed month of Ramadan, is considered one of the most prominent international Quran awards. It attracts participants from Arab and Islamic countries, as well as from Muslim communities around the world. Contestants are nominated either by official entities in their home countries, through accredited Islamic centers, or via individual applications submitted by Quran memorizers themselves, in accordance with the approved conditions and criteria.



The award aims to honor and uphold the Holy Quran—its memorization, recitation, and proper performance—through Quran competitions, events, and related programs that promote Quran memorization and the dissemination of its sciences. It also seeks to encourage the younger generations to engage with the Book of Allah, grow attached to it, gain knowledge from its teachings, and live by its guidance. The award has carried out numerous religious activities that serve the Holy Quran and its noble sciences.



Message from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Ahmad Darwish Al Muhairi

Chairman of the Board of Trustees,
Dubai International Holy Quran Award



Praise be to Allah, who revealed the Quran as guidance for humanity with clear signs of wisdom. Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad, who conveyed Allah's message with excellence.

We warmly welcome you to the 28th session of the Dubai International Holy Quran Award, a global platform serving the Quran, uniting memorizers and scholars worldwide.

As we begin this session, we renew our commitment to the Quran, striving for excellence and dedicated to fostering its teachings in hearts and spreading its light globally.

With Allah's grace and the support of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai, who founded this award in 1997, this competition inspires Quran memorizers globally. It sets a standard for Quranic contests, attracts participant worldwide, and inspires initiatives that touch millions devoted to the Quran.

Celebrating this new session, we take pride in the award's achievements and reaffirm our sacred mission. Guided by our leadership, we aim to advance this effort to meet modern needs while honoring the Quran's timeless place in hearts and minds.

We pray Allah accepts our sincere efforts, blesses all participants and supporters, and includes us among the Quran's devotees.

Award Categories





First: Full Memorization of the Holy Quran – Male Participants

Description: This category focuses on the memorization of the entire Holy Quran with proper Tajweed and quality recitation, specifically for male participants. It is open to individuals of all nationalities under the age of sixteen. Registration may be done personally or through nomination by officially recognized Quranic institutions in the participant's country.



Participation Requirements



The participant must have memorized the entire Holy Quran with accuracy and adhere to the rules of Tajweed and proper recitation.



The participant must be male.



The participant must not exceed the age of 16 (Gregorian calendar) by the final day of registration for the award.



The participant must not have reached the final stage or been honored in any previous edition of the award.



The participant must wear the national dress of his country.



The participant must demonstrate good conduct and observe all rules, regulations, and public decorum.



Testing Procedure and Phases

The evaluation process for the Full Memorization of the Holy Quran – Male Participants category is conducted in the following stages:

Phase One: Participants must submit a three-minute video recording of their recitation from any passage of the Holy Quran. The video must be of suitable quality and free of audio enhancements or sound effects. The preliminary evaluation is based on adherence to the rules of Tajweed and the quality of recitation.

Phase Two: Qualified participants from the first phase proceed to a remote evaluation. This stage assesses memorization accuracy, Tajweed compliance, and recitation quality.

Phase Three: A select group of top-performing participants from the second phase will be invited to Dubai for the final round of in-person assessments. The first-place winner will be honored during the closing ceremony of the award.



Second: Full Memorization of the Holy Quran – Female Participants

Description: This category focuses on the memorization of the entire Holy Quran with proper Tajweed and quality recitation, specifically for female participants. It is open to individuals of all nationalities under the age of sixteen. Registration may be done personally or through nomination by officially recognized Quranic institutions in the participant's country.



Participation Requirements



The participant must have memorized the entire Holy Quran with accuracy and adhere to the rules of Tajweed and proper recitation.



The participant must be female.



The participant must not exceed the age of 16 (Gregorian calendar) by the final day of registration for the award.



The participant must not have reached the final stage or been honored in any previous edition of the award.



The participant must demonstrate good conduct and observe all rules, regulations, and public decorum



Testing Procedure and Phases

The evaluation process for the Full Memorization of the Holy Quran – Female Participants category is conducted in the following stages:

Phase One: Participants must submit a three-minute video recording of their recitation from any passage of the Holy Quran. The video must be of suitable quality and free from any audio enhancements or sound effects. The initial evaluation focuses on the application of Tajweed rules and the quality of recitation.

Phase Two: Qualified participants from the first phase will undergo remote assessments. Evaluation in this phase is based on memorization accuracy, Tajweed proficiency, and overall recitation quality.

Phase Three: A selected group of top-scoring participants from the second phase will be invited to Dubai for the final round of in-person assessments. The first-place winner will be honored during the award's closing ceremony.

	Rank	Award
1	First	US\$ 1 million
2	Second	US\$ 100,000
3	Third	US\$ 50,000



Registration Process:

Participants wishing to compete in all categories must register as follows:



Go to the registration link on the award's website: www.quran.gov.ae.



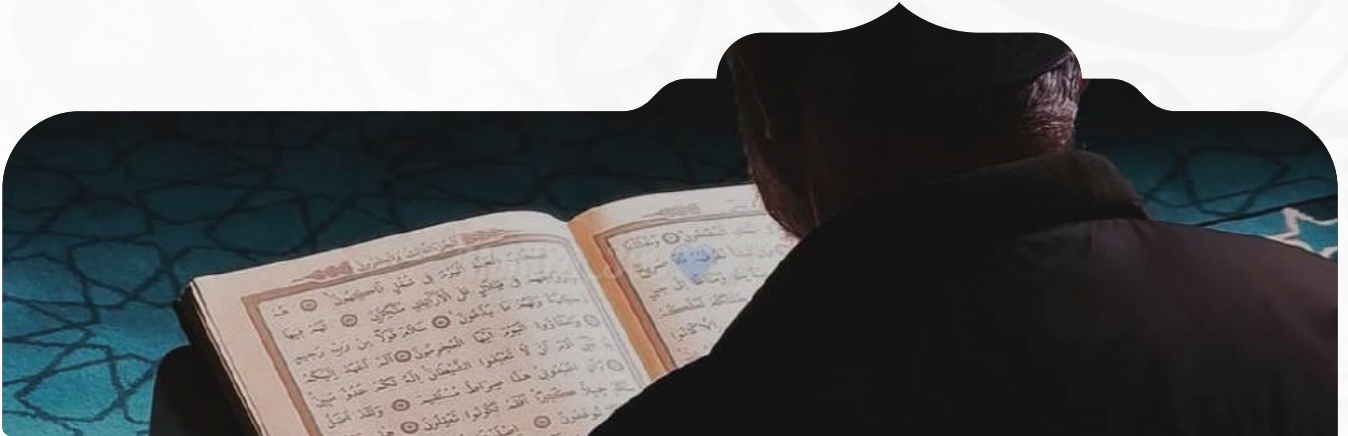
Fill out the registration form with the required information.



Attach a copy of the participant's passport and a personal photo.



Upload a recitation video with clear sound and good quality, no longer than 3 minutes, without using any sound effects.



Third: Islamic Personality of the Year

Description: This is an annual award granted to an individual or an institutional entity that meets the specified criteria.



To be eligible for nomination as the Islamic Personality of the Year, the nominee must:



Have played a significant role in serving Islam and the Muslim community.



Demonstrate a positive and impactful presence within society.



Possess tangible scholarly contributions marked by originality and excellence.



**Be a role model with a reputable standing and commendable reputation in the Islamic world
Must be alive at the time of selection if the nominee is an individual.**



Recognition:

The winner of the Islamic Personality of the Year award is honored during the Dubai International Quran Award ceremony. The Board of Trustees may decide on an alternative method of recognition as deemed appropriate.



Reward:

The winner of the Islamic Personality of the Year award receives a reward of **1 million US\$**.

Dubai International Quran Award Regulations



Article (1):



Definitions

The Authority:

The Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities in Dubai.

The Award:

The Dubai International Quran Award.

The Judging Committee:

A group of certified judges responsible for evaluating the performance of participants based on specific criteria.

The Contestant:

Any individual who meets the participation requirements and competes in one of the award categories.

Preliminary Qualifiers:

The initial stages of evaluation, where participants are screened, and the best are selected to advance to the later stages, culminating in the final stages.



Final Qualifiers:

The last stage of the Holy Quran award, where those who have advanced from the preliminary qualifiers compete for the top spots.

Memorization:

The participant's ability to accurately recite the Quran by heart, with correct surah order.

Tajweed:

The application of the rules of Tajweed, including correct pronunciation of letters, characteristics, elongations, nasal sounds, and other Tajweed rules.

Performance:

The continuous and smooth recitation of the Quran, without hesitation or dissonance, ensuring the meanings of the verses are expressed as clearly as possible.

Pause:

When the participant completely stops reciting due to forgetfulness, preventing them from continuing.

Error in Memorization:

When the participant makes a clear mistake in the recitation of a word or verse, such as omitting, replacing, or changing a letter, word, movement, or verse, or reciting in a narration other than the one they are participating with.

Self-Correction:

When the participant realizes and corrects their mistake before the judging committee intervenes with a prompt or correction.

Correction:

When the judging committee provides the participant with the correct word or verse upon a mistake.

Alert:

An audible signal (bell) used to alert the participant when a mistake occurs during recitation, without verbal intervention from the judging committee.

Error in Tajweed:

A mistake in applying one of the Tajweed rules or the rules of stop and start, which alters the meaning during the recitation of the Quran.

Article (2):



Award Objectives

1

To highlight the pioneering role of the Emirate of Dubai and the United Arab Emirates in caring for the Quran and its sciences, through memorization, Tajweed, and recitation.

2

To promote the noble Islamic values from the perspective of the Quran and demonstrate their impact on the life of a Muslim.

3

To foster a spirit of positive competition among the memorizers of the Quran globally, encouraging them to exert more effort in mastering it.

4

To provide an opportunity to honor and appreciate Quran memorizers from around the world.

5

To utilize modern technologies in Quranic competitions and develop innovative methods suitable for various categories.

Article (3):



Terms and Conditions of Participation

Conditions for Participation in the Dubai International Quran Award:

1

The contestant must have memorized the entire Quran with proper recitation and mastery of the rules of Tajweed and pronunciation.

2

The contestant's age must not exceed sixteen years on the date of the closing registration for the award. The contestant should not have reached the final stage or been honored in a previous edition of the award.

3

The contestant must adhere to the specified time for their test, both in terms of the day and the order. The contestant must wear the national attire of their country.

4

The contestant must maintain good conduct and respect the rules and public decorum of the United Arab Emirates.

Participation is open to all those who meet the conditions, and applicants can apply personally or be nominated by accredited .Quranic institutions in the participant's country

Article (4):



Conditions for the Jury of the Dubai International Quran Award

The jury for the Dubai International Quran Award, including its president and vice president, is selected by the Board of Trustees of the award, and a decision is issued by the president of the board.

The jury consists of five members, including the president and vice president, along with a sixth (reserve) judge. The following conditions must be met for the judges:

1

The judge must have memorized and mastered the Quran with proper recitation, be knowledgeable of Tajweed rules, and understand the principles of Quranic reading.

2

The judge must hold a certification in at least one of the ten or seven Qira'at (readings) when necessary.

3

The judge must have previous experience in judging international competitions, though this condition can be waived if the judge is a renowned expert in Quranic readings.

4

The judge must adhere to the award's judging regulations.

5

The judge must have healthy hearing and vision, as well as the ability to use electronic devices.

Article (5):



Responsibilities of the Jury



The president of the jury manages the judging sessions as follows:

- Supervising the work of the jury and managing the award.
- Opening and closing the sessions.
- Clarifying the evaluation criteria for the contestants on the first day of each stage of the award.
- Assigning the members tasks such as reading the questions, giving corrections (opening and warnings) according to a pre-prepared schedule. The question is read by one judge, while the correction and warnings are given by another judge, and the question is concluded by the president of the jury.
- Ensuring that all members complete the evaluation forms.

2

The reserve judge carries out the evaluation of the contestants using the pre-prepared forms, to be referred to when necessary.

3

The vice president assumes all of the president's duties in the event of their absence or inability to perform their tasks.

4

The president of the jury calls the contestant by stating their name, country, and the Qira'at they will read.

5

The president of the jury gives the contestant a correction (opening) if there is an incorrect stopping and starting point in their recitation, which is considered a Tajweed error rather than a memorization error.

Article (6):



Criteria for Preparing the Award Questions

A committee of specialists to prepare the award questions is formed by the Director of the Award or someone authorized by the Council. The committee includes five members, including the chairman. Their task is to prepare question models, adhering to the following criteria:

- 1 Five questions are prepared for each contestant.
- 2 The length of each question should be equivalent to one page (one side) or approximately 15 lines in the Mushaf of Sheikh Maktoum, may God have mercy on him, ensuring the verses are complete.
- 3 The questions should be distributed with one question for every six consecutive Juz' according to the order of the Mushaf.
- 4 The gap between each question should not be less than two Juz'.
- 5 There should be a variety of questions, including average, easy, and similar questions, with at least two questions focusing on similar verses.

- 6 The questions should follow the order of the Mushaf, from Al-Fatiha to An-Nas.
- 7 Each question should begin with the head of the verse, considering both the beginning and ending meanings.
- 8 Questions or models should not be repeated for another contestant in the final stages.
- 9 The number of question models should exceed the number of contestants in the final stages by 25%.

Article (7):



Evaluation Form and Marks

Grades and Evaluation Marks:



The contestant's evaluation score is out of 100 points, distributed as follows:

- 60 points for memorization, with a maximum of 12 points per question.
- 30 points for applying the rules of Tajweed, with a maximum of 6 points per question.
- 10 points for performance and clarity of voice, with 1 point per question, then the scores are summed and divided by five.



The following symbols are used to evaluate contestants:

- (X) denotes an error that requires correction, and 2 points are deducted.
- (/) denotes a reminder, and 1 point is deducted.
- () denotes hesitation, and 0.5 points are deducted.
- (O) denotes a Tajweed error, and 0.5 points are deducted.

Regulations for Evaluating Memorization:



- (Question Text): The question text itself is not counted in the error, reminder, or hesitation calculation initially. If the contestant repeats an error in the question text, the errors will start being counted.
- If the contestant pauses or stops reading, they are given a chance of 5 to 7 seconds. If they do not resume, the evaluator will correct them.
- If the contestant makes an error, they are given a reminder once, and 1 point is deducted. They are then allowed 5-7 seconds to correct the mistake. If they do not correct it, the evaluator will correct them, and 2 points will be deducted in addition to the 1-point reminder.
- The correction should be limited to clearing any confusion or similarity for the contestant without adding to it.
- Hesitation is considered even if the contestant hesitates on a single word. Half a point is deducted for hesitation. Breathing interruptions or voice strain are not considered hesitation.
- If the contestant is asked to start from the beginning of the specified surah, they must know the starting point. If they make an error, it is treated the same way as any other error with reminders and corrections.
- If the contestant stops at the end of a surah, they are corrected by naming the next surah. If they do not know the next surah, the error is treated according to the error handling rules.
- If the contestant makes an error and the evaluator corrects them immediately without prior reminders, only a reminder deduction of 1 point is applied.
- If the contestant is reminded by the evaluator before finishing the word they made an error in, the reminder is counted.

- If the contestant self-corrects simultaneously with the reminder, only hesitation is counted.
- If the contestant self-corrects simultaneously with the opening, no point is deducted for the opening.
- If the contestant makes an error in memorization and is reminded, then continues reading, they must repeat the full text correctly. If they make another error it is treated as a new error.
- If the contestant forgets to recite the Bismillah at the start of a surah or between two surahs (except for Surah At-Tawbah), it is considered an error. They will be reminded to recite it, and 0.5 points are deducted, with the symbol (O) placed.
- If the total points for the reminder, opening, and hesitation equal half of the score for the question, the contestant will be moved to the next question for that specific question only.
- If the contestant is allowed to skip two questions, the head of the evaluation committee has the right to exempt them from the remaining questions.



Regulations for Evaluating Tajweed:

- If the contestant makes a mistake in Tajweed but realizes and corrects it immediately, no points will be deducted. However, if they fully move past the error without correction, the mistake will be counted.
- A problematic stop or beginning (incorrect pause or starting point) is considered a Tajweed error, and the specific recitation style (Qira'ah) of the contestant should be taken into account.
- If the contestant repeats a specific error more than once within a single question, they will lose points for each repeated mistake.
- If the contestant makes an error in memorization and is reminded, they must also observe Tajweed rules when continuing. If they do not, points will be deducted for the new mistake.
- Contestants are not penalized for controversial Tajweed matters, such as the proper opening of the mouth during the "shafawi" (lip) concealment.



Regulations for Evaluating Tajweed:

- The performance score is determined based on the evaluators' assessment of the contestant's fluency, avoiding forced or artificial intonations, and the balance between speed and slow-paced reading. The contestant must also maintain the proper balance between elongations (mad) and uphold Tajweed rules appropriate for the speed of recitation.
- No points will be deducted in the performance section for errors already deducted in Tajweed.
- The highest score for performance is 10 points, with fractional points (tenths) used for precise differentiation between similar levels of performance.
- If the contestant exhibits speech impediments or issues that don't result in clear mispronunciations, such as a nasal sound in certain letters, 1 point will be deducted from the performance score.

Article (8):



Criteria for Preparing the Award Questions

- 1 Treat the contestants with kindness and fairness, without any discrimination or bias, and refrain from giving any indication of approval or disapproval.
- 2 Ask questions and provide corrections (opening or clarification) to the contestant in a clear and audible voice.
- 3 Listen attentively and focus on the recitation, avoiding any distractions or talking to ensure fair evaluation.
- 4 Strictly adhere to the provided question models and the judging guidelines, refraining from making any personal adjustments or leniency that contradict them.
- 5 Follow the contestant's recitation from the Qur'an or the designated program, and not rely solely on their memory.
- 6 Limit evaluations and notes to the assessment form or program without sharing them with the contestant, even if it is intended for educational purposes.
- 7 Document mistakes accurately in the test form or competition program, and note any observations regarding the contestant's memorization and recitation, both strengths and weaknesses, for reference as needed.

1

Delay discussions among committee members until after the contestant has completed all questions.

2

Maintain the confidentiality of the contestants' scores and levels during the award and after its conclusion.

3

The head of the committee is responsible for making decisions regarding matters not explicitly covered in the regulations.

Article (9):

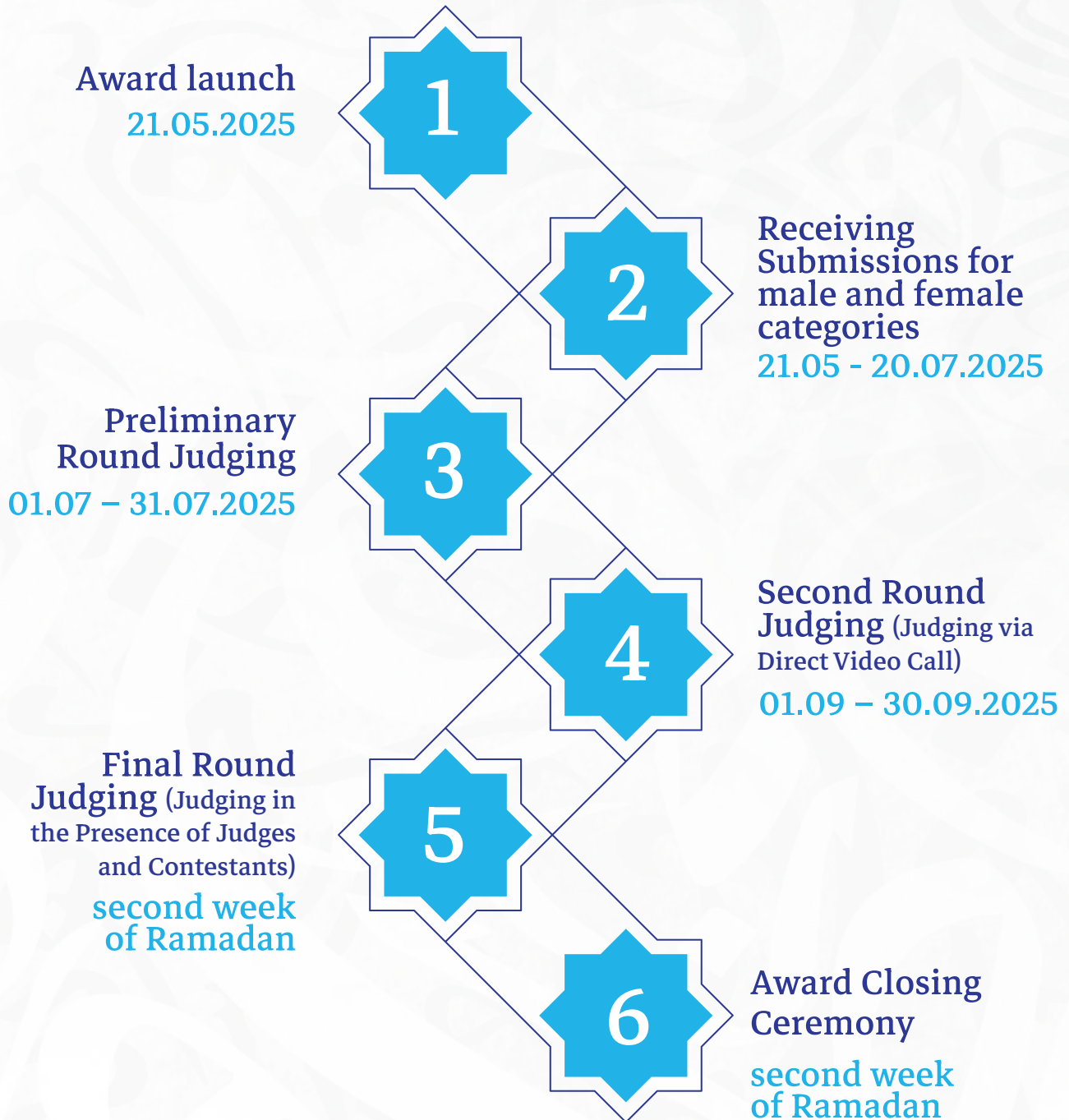


General Provisions

- 1 All entries will be recorded both audio and video for reference when needed.
- 2 Judges, contestants, and attendees must maintain silence in the hall and refrain from distractions during the testing of contestants in the award.
- 3 The members of the jury must follow the process of giving warnings and corrections and ensure their accuracy. If an error occurs, the jury members should consult each other to determine the correct approach and approve it, ensuring equal treatment of all when calculating hesitations, warnings and corrections. However, the assessment of tajweed mistakes and performance ratings can be determined by each jury member according to their conviction, without obligation from the president or other members.
- 4 The competition unit must verify the accuracy of the contestant's information displayed on the screen at the start of their participation.
- 5 The decisions of the jury are final once approved by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



Award timeline:





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