

A school that keeps children close to the Book and the Ahl al-Bayt

A full-time Shia Islamic school in Silicon Valley, built on mastery learning and the Thaqalayn.

Courtyard of light. Concept rendering — not the final design.

إِنِّي تَارِكٌ فِيكُمْ الثَّقَلَيْنِ كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَعِترَتِي أَهْلَ بَيْتِي

"I leave among you two weighty things: the Book of God and my family, the people of my house." — Hadith al-Thaqalayn

What we are building

Thaqalayn Academy is a full-time Shia Islamic school for Silicon Valley families, opening in September 2027 with 20 students and growing to 160 (planning model — not a forecast). Mornings are mastery academics with guides at 1:12. Qur'an and Islamic studies are taught in person before Dhuhr in congregation. Afternoons are workshops, from public speaking and majlis recitation to coding and archery.

All religious content is approved by a scholar board. Fiqh follows each family's marja'.

A day at Thaqalayn

- **8:00** Morning circle — Qur'an, du'a and the Hijri date
- **8:20** Mastery academics — Adaptive apps and a hint-only AI tutor, with guides at 1:12
- **10:40** Qur'an & Islamic studies — In-person teachers; remote specialists in one-to-one slots
- **12:30** Dhuhr in congregation — Around 12:30, following the season
- **1:00** Workshops — Speaking, coding & AI, archery, Arabic, calligraphy and more
- **3:00** Closing circle

Why now

~550,000

US Shia Muslims ESTIMATE

16% of US Muslims. *Pew Research Center 2017*

60,000+

Santa Clara County Muslims

in 2022. *CAIR-SFBA 2022*

~3.8%

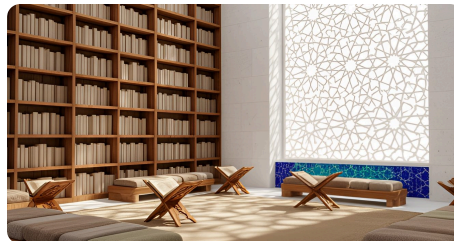
Muslim children in full-time Islamic schools

~235 schools, ~32,000 students (2011, the latest national study). *ISPU (Keyworth) 2011*

We found no full-time Shia school in the Bay Area. Others exist in Houston, Dearborn, Toronto and London. *Wikipedia accessed 2026; The Good Schools Guide accessed 2026*



Focus studio. Concept rendering — not the final design.



Qur'an house. Concept rendering — not the final design.



Maker garden. Concept rendering — not the final design.

\$6M to open the doors and keep them open

Academy use of funds: \$6M in philanthropy



Philanthropic goal for Thaqalayn Academy, years 1–5.

Naming opportunities

Courtyard of Light

The daylit heart of the permanent campus: geometric screens and the prayer hall. Gift level to be shared directly.

Qur'an House

The library and recitation rooms where children memorise and recite. Gift level to be shared directly.

Scholarship Fund

Helps fund financial aid so that cost is less of a barrier for families. Gift level to be shared directly.

Where it goes

- **\$1.5M** — Campus fit-out, deposits, furniture, displays, ventilation, prayer space
- **\$1.5M** — Operating support, years 1–5
- **\$2.0M** — Scholarship fund
- **\$1.0M** — Curriculum, scholar board, teacher recruitment & training

Please note

Thaqalayn Academy is a California nonprofit in formation; 501(c)(3) status has not yet been applied for or granted. Gifts are not yet tax-deductible. Khums/zakat eligibility has not been determined and must be confirmed with the offices of the maraji'. We make no claim of eligibility.

Founding team

Sheikh Dr. Salim Yusufali

Dean of Islamic Education & Scholar Board lead (proposed)

Draft — pending confirmation

Nazeera Salak

Head of School (proposed)

Draft — pending confirmation

Mohammad Mithani

Founder & CEO, Mizan Learning

Draft — pending confirmation

Founding team (proposed roles). Roles are proposed and pending confirmation. Two members currently lead another school; nothing here implies they have left or will leave those roles.

The campus, in three phases

2027

Founding lease

~4,000 sq ft

Lease in Fremont, Union City or Santa Clara.

2029

Expansion

6,000–9,000 sq ft

Larger lease as enrollment passes 80.

2031+

Permanent campus

12,000+ sq ft

Own Silicon Valley campus: courtyard of light with geometric screens and prayer hall, focus studios, Qur'an house and maker garden.



“The heart of the young is like empty land; it accepts whatever is sown in it.”

Nahj al-Balagha, Letter 31 (paraphrase)

Share your giving interest
thaqalayn.pages.dev/support