

# Camp CoEJ Diaries, Day 1

Sunday 27th July



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# Camp Diaries

## Day 1 – Boys Camp

Today marks the start of Camp CoEJ 2025, signalling the beginning of the 5 days of an action-packed adventure for our 24 campers. This journey began at 5pm, where the campers were welcomed by the two mentors who will be acting as their older sibling for the rest of the camp. At this time, we also introduced them to the rest of their subgroup of campers (planet). We used this time to get to know each other's background and answer any initial questions.



Shortly after this we ate dinner together, where the mentors served their respective planets. This was to model the way in which we expect campers to serve others when their turn arrives. This was accompanied by our camp slogan 'this food was made with love, we serve it with love and we invite you to eat it with love'. The main dish was pilau, alongside cachumbar. There was also an assortment of small snacks accompanying this.

After dinner, we held a group planet time session with all campers. We played a variety of games to pass the time whilst the salah and wudhu assessments took for each individual camper. It was then time for Maghrib and Isha salah. Again, we again as mentors took duties which will be allocated to campers. This includes reading duas and ziyrah. During salah, Mustafa bha highlighted the basics surrounding qasr salah when read in jamaat with an imam who recites full prayers.

Personal development time (PDT) was lead by Hasnain bha, where the campers were first asked to outline what they would like their camp experience to be like. This was to create a comprehensive list that all campers agreed to that they expect to abide by for the duration of the camp. There was also a set of quizzes, which will be undertaken on a daily basis, where the campers collaborate to solve problems within their planet. We also had the mentors, Jaffar bha and Adnan bha, open up and share their backgrounds. To wrap the day up, tabarruk was served, which was brownies.

**Hashir bha Ashraf (Mars Mentor)**



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## Day 1 – Girls Camp

The first day of camp started out with all the girls arriving from their respective cities, where they were greeted by their mentors and began settling into their groups and getting to know one another.



Whilst we waited for all the campers to arrive the mentors within their planets conducted a few ice breakers.

Once everyone had settled in it was time for dinner where everyone enjoyed some tasty pilau and continued to get to know one another in a more relaxed environment.

After dinner we safely transported all of our luggage into the Sayyeda Zainab building where we would be settling for the night.

Everyone settled into their groups again and played some more ice breaker games whilst planet by planet the girls were called out for their wudhu and salah assessments. Once all girls had completed their assessments we settled into a game of Mafia all together.

Namaz time was then approaching and so we all settled into our lines and waited to be lead in jamaat salah by Raihana bai. We also walked the girls through what would become our salah routine, which gives the girls the opportunity to recite: Adhan, duas, Ziyarat and even lead the salah.

We then enjoyed some dessert followed by personal development time where we set out some ground rules for our time ahead at camp.

The girls began winding down after a busy first day and got some sleep, to prepare them for all of the fun activities that the rest of the camp entails.

Looking forward to seeing what the rest of camp holds.

**Zainab bai Bandali (Neptune Mentor) &  
Sabiha bai Rahemani (Mercury Mentor)**

