

Ansar Connection

A biweekly e-newsletter of Majlis Ansarullah, USA

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We are the Helpers of Allah.

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Enduring Good Works

Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis

Dear Ansar Brothers.

As-Salamu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah

Here is our chance to work together and leave behind some enduring good works...

As per the 2014 Ansar Majlis Shura recommendations, we are in the market to purchase a property to use as Ansar headquarters. Our Ansar Property Committee (APC) has developed some guidelines which I am sharing with you so each one of you could be a part of this process.

Let it be clear at the outset that we are the believers of "you prefer the life of this world. Whereas the hereafter is better and more lasting." Majlis Ansarullah, USA is not pursuing this plan for a worldly gain or recognition but our motive, as per the Holy Qur'an, is: "Wealth and children are an ornament of the life of this world. But enduring good works are better in the sight of thy Lord..." (The Holy Qur'ān, 18 [Al-Kahf]: 47)

Enduring good works...that's what it's all about. We are looking for a facility which provides Majlis Ansarullah, USA with meeting rooms, offices, and an Ijtima Gah. Of course, we need to remain mindful of the cost of acquisition and maintenance of the property and the fund raising it will require by the Majlis.

Since, previously, there also has been a desire to look for a housing facility for our members and their families, I am including that option in this appeal as well.

What's new on the website

- Launching "Majlis Ansarullah Calling"
- Be the One
- A Posthumous Hajj by an Ahmadi Muslim
- 10 Reasons to Feel Good about Becoming a Nasir





Nothing is etched in stone yet, but please comply with the following requirements laid out by the property committee as you search or suggest a property:

- **Land:** 10 50 acres
- **Building area:** Minimum 20,000 square feet
- **Parking:** Approximately 200 cars with additional unpaved space available for temporary parking
- **Location:** Within 15-45 minute drive time of at least 300 Ansar members. Please avoid areas with harsh winters.
- **Accessibility:** Within 15-45 minutes of an international airport.
- **Potential:** Property should have the potential to generate revenue to offset maintenance costs.

Khurram Bashir was the Chairman of the Shura General Sub-Committee which discussed this proposal. He is now leading the APC with the exceptional help of other members of the APC, selected from different geographical areas.

We will, Insha'allah, keep you abreast of the progress of this project. Every member—with a desire to leave enduring good works behind—is encouraged to find properties that meet the above criteria and submit your suggestions at sadr@ansarusa.org. Yes, we won't be able to buy every recommended property. But I promise that we will give a fair consideration to every suggestion.

Please pray that Allah Almighty accepts these efforts and that attaining His pleasure remains our ultimate goal. Amin.

Was-Salam,

Faheem Younus Qureshi Serving Majlis Ansarullah, USA

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2015 Ta'lim Test I

The <u>2015 Ta'lim Test I</u> is now available online. The deadline for taking the test is **Saturday**, **June 13**, **2015**. Please make every effort to take the test online at <u>www.ansarusa.org/TalimTest</u>. The <u>PDF version</u> of the test is also available if you prefer to











take the test on paper.

New Car

Hammad Malik, Central Jersey

A few years ago, I heard a Jama'at member make a comment about his own strong convictions against taking interest loans to buy a new car. He said that he would rather drive a paid off old Honda than finance a luxury car on interest. For some reason I never forgot that advice.

Years later, when my old and beat-up Honda Civic had racked up many miles, I had to reconcile my convictions about interest-bearing loans for a car. I used to frequently travel to Toronto to visit my parents, but slowly these trips came to a halt because I just couldn't risk taking the car on the long journey. When my mother would ask why I stopped coming, I told her about the car, but she simply suggested I buy a new car. I was already making monthly payments for my parents' car, so she just assumed I could afford to pay for a new car as well.

As months passed, the car became more of a headache than an asset; even the repair bills started to mount. My wife and I both knew it was only a matter of time before we had to make a serious decision. Even the kids reminded me of our state of affairs, but I would always tell them to pray for a new car, not knowing exactly how it would be fulfilled. As the expenses continued to pile up the inevitable was knocking on the door. I wrote a letter to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allah be his helper) for guidance. His reply was full of prayers and love, and that brought comfort to my heart.

On Thursday, June 19, 2014, our old, but mostly reliable car finally gave up and refused to start. Disheartened, humiliated, and defeated I forced myself to sit in front of a computer and began searching for car deals and specials. Our family had different needs, so affordability was complicated even more. I finally narrowed my choice down to a Toyota hybrid, but it was just the beginning of a series of surprises that would renew my faith in the power of prayer and patience.

First, it turned out that Toyota was offering a five-year, 0% interest





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- **♦** Editor

deal on the car, so that immediately resolved the interest problem. Then I found out that my employer offered a \$3,000 cash award for purchasing a hybrid. I couldn't believe how quickly my fortune was turning for the better. As I was about to leave the house for the dealership, I got an unexpected call from my mother. When I told her about my decision, she handed the phone to my father who went on to tell me that their car loan had been paid off and that I didn't need to send them the \$500/month that I had been sending. When I arrived at the dealership, I was worried that I didn't have much for a down payment, but salesman reassured me that I didn't need a down payment at all. Finally, a few days later, my boss told me that the department had received some additional funding and that I was getting a \$10,000 raise.

Now I had a new, reliable car and extra funds to pay for it. More importantly, I was convinced this was a small reward from Al-Razzaq, Al-Wahhab, Al-Latif, and Al-Rahim. When I reflect upon my experience, I can't help but fall prostrate before Him and acknowledge my conviction in His wisdom. Words cannot express my gratitude and all I can say is Alhamdulillah.

"Which, then, of the favors of your Lord will ye twain, (O men and jinn), deny?" (The Holy Qur'an, 55 [Al-Rahman]:14) [Chapter Ar-Rehman: verse 14]

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Send us your stories of brotherhood, Ijtima memories, or any other inspiring experience that we can share with Ansar brothers via this e-newsletter.

Department of Publications Majlis Ansarullah, USA



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