



# Ansar Connection

A biweekly e-newsletter of Majlis Ansarullah, USA

WEBSITE DEPARTMENTS EVENTS PARENTING SERVICES ARCHIVES

We are the Helpers of Allah.

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## Plans and Prayers

*Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis*

Dear Ansar Brothers,  
As-Salamu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah

We are starting another year in the grand history of Majlis Ansarullah. And once again we have grand plans.

We plan to strengthen a culture of congregational Salat by encouraging fathers to lead their families in Prayers at home, parents to drive to Salat centers, and families to populate the mosques.

We plan to encourage members to develop a habit of reading the Holy Qur'an with translation—if not daily—then on most days of the weeks.

We plan to continue to follow our Khalifah's vision to "save yourself and your families from a fire" by coming to our monthly meetings and engaging in Ta'lim & Tarbiyat interactive discussions.

We believe that when we strengthen our monthly meetings, it blesses us with fa-allafa baina qulubikum fa-asbahtum bini'matihi ikhwana "He united your hearts in love so that by His grace you became as brothers" (The Holy Qur'an, 3 [Al 'Imran]:104)—and then everything else falls into its place. Ithar activities increase, interest in reading the books of Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) peaks, Ta'lim tests become enjoyable, more of us participate in financial sacrifices, and less of us feel depressed.

In order to accomplish these plans, the members of National 'Amila, starting with this humble servant of Islam and Ahmadiyyat, will be travelling to all 70 Majalis around the world, Insha'allah. That's hard work. Sometimes the local Majalis will have to accommodate the schedules of these guests of the Promised Messiah. You may have to come on a weekday or may have to stay for an hour after Friday Prayers. Please do that. The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said: "Putting up a guest for one night is obligatory. If you find a guest at your door in the morning, then this (hospitality) is (like) a debt that you (the host) owe him." (Ibn Majah)

Plans mean nothing if they are not backed by hard work, humility, and intense prayers. "Nothing can happen on this earth unless it is decreed in the heavens." The Promised Messiah said in Kitabul Bariyya.

## What's new on the website

- 40 Weekly Fasts
- Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala
- Tarbiyat and Congregational Prayer
- Waging the Jihad of the Pen



Let's pray that Allah the Almighty strengthens our plans and may this caravan continue to follow their Imam with the spirit of being the real Ansar.

Was-Salam,

Faheem Younus Qureshi  
Serving Majlis Ansarullah, USA

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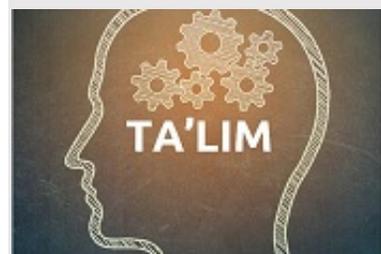


## Six Tips on Whether to File a 2015 Tax Return

*Dawood Munir, Houston*

Most people file a tax return because they have to, but even if you don't, there are times when you should. You may be eligible for a tax refund and not know it. Here are six tips to help you find out if you should file a tax return:

1. **General Filing Rules.** Whether you need to file a tax return depends on a few factors. In most cases, the amount of your income, your filing status, and your age determine if you must file a tax return. For example, if you are single and under age 65 you must file if your income was at least \$10,300. Other rules may apply if you are self-employed or if you are a dependent of another person. There are also other cases when you must file. Go to [IRS.gov/filing](http://IRS.gov/filing) to find out if you need to file.
2. **Premium Tax Credit.** If you enrolled in health insurance through the [Health Insurance Marketplace](#) in 2015, you may be eligible for the premium tax credit. You will need to file a return to claim the credit. If you chose to have advance payments of the premium tax credit sent directly to your insurer during 2015 you must file a federal tax return. You will reconcile any advance payments with the allowable premium tax credit. You should receive Form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement, by early February. The form will have information that will help you file your tax return.
3. **Tax Withheld or Paid.** Did your employer withhold federal income tax from your pay? Did you make estimated tax payments? Did you overpay last year and have it applied to this year's tax? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you could be due a refund. But you have to file a tax return to get it.
4. **Earned Income Tax Credit.** Did you work and earn less than \$53,267 last year? You could receive EITC as a tax refund, if you qualify, with or without a qualifying child. You may be eligible for up to \$6,242. Use the 2015 [EITC Assistant](#) tool on IRS.gov to find out if you qualify. If you do, file a tax return to claim it.
5. **Additional Child Tax Credit.** Do you have at least one child that qualifies for the [Child Tax Credit](#)? If you don't get the full credit amount, you may qualify for the Additional Child Tax Credit.
6. **American Opportunity Tax Credit.** The [AOTC](#) is available for four years of post secondary education and can be up to \$2,500 per eligible student. You, your spouse, or your dependent must have been a student enrolled at least half time for at least one academic period.



Even if you don't owe any taxes, you still may qualify. You must complete [Form 8863, Education Credits](#), and file it with your return to claim the credit. Use the [Interactive Tax Assistant](#) tool on IRS.gov to see if you can claim the credit. Learn more by visiting the IRS' [Education Credits](#) web page.

The instructions for Forms [1040](#), [1040A](#), or [1040EZ](#) list income tax filing requirements. You can also use the [Interactive Tax Assistant](#) tool on IRS.gov. Look for "Do I need to file a return?" under general topics to see if you need to file. The tool is available 24/7 to answer many tax questions.

### Additional IRS Resources

- [Do Your Federal Taxes for Free](#)
- [The Premium Tax Credit](#)
- [Premium Tax Credit \(PTC\)](#)
- [Schedule 8812 \(Form 1040A or 1040\), Child Tax Credit](#)
- [Publication 972, Child Tax Credit](#)

Source: [IRS](#)

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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.**

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