2016 – Going "Door to Door"
**About Al-Naḥl**

The *Al-Naḥl* (pronounced annahl) is published annually by Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, an auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām, Inc., USA, 15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905, USA.

**Articles/Essays for the Al-Naḥl**

Literary contributions, articles, essays, photographs, etc., for publication in the *Al-Naḥl* can be sent to the editor at his email address below. Textual contributions can be provided in plain text, Microsoft Word, or Microsoft Publisher.

References should include as much of the following information as available: the name of the publication, volume and number, name of the author, the date and place of publication, the name of the publisher, and the page number(s).

Please keep a copy of your submissions. We may not be able to return originals unless an arrangement is made beforehand.

All items are subject to review and approval by Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA.

Articles may be edited as necessary. Authors need to contact the editor if they want to see the final version of their articles before publication.

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**System of Transliteration**

In transliterating Arabic words, the following system, adopted by the Royal Asiatic Society, is followed.

- ا (a) at the beginning of the word, pronounced as *a*, *i*, or *u* preceded by a very slight aspiration, like *h* in English word ‘honor.’
- ط (t) strongly articulated palatal *t*.
- ث (th) pronounced like *th* in English word ‘thing.’
- ظ (z) strongly articulated *z*.
- ح (h), a guttural aspirate, stronger than *h*.
- خ (kh), pronounced like the Scotch *ch* in ‘loch.’
- خ (gh), a sound approached very nearly in the *r‘grasseye*’ in French, and in the German *r*. It requires the muscles of the throat to be in the gargling position whilst pronouncing it.
- ض (q) a deep guttural *k* sound.
- ص (s), strongly articulated *s*.
- ض (ş), a sort of catch in the voice.
- س (n), nasalized sound like *ant* in croissant.
And thy Lord has inspired the bee, saying, 'Make thou houses in the hills and in the trees and in the trellises which they build, 'Then eat of every kind of fruit, and then pursue submissively the paths prescribed by your Lord.' There comes forth from their bellies a drink of varying hues. Therein is a cure for men. Surely, in that is a Sign for a people who reflect. (The Holy Qur'an, 16 [Al-Naḥl]:69-70)
Message from Ṣadr Majlis

My dear Anṣār brothers,
As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum Wa Raḥmatullāh

“My dear Anṣār brothers,
As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum Wa Raḥmatullāh

“Those of the believers who sit still...and those who strive in the cause of Allāh with their wealth and their persons, are not equal. Allāh has exalted in rank those who strive with their wealth and their persons above those who sit still.” (The Holy Qur’ān, 4 [Al-Nisā’]: 96)

During the time of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him), waging Jihād sometimes meant leaving one’s home, risking one’s life, and going into the battle field for months.

During the time of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), waging Jihād still requires us to sacrifice and strive. We are often required—instead of sitting still—to leave our homes.

2016 was another such year when members of Majlis Anṣārullāh left their homes and strove with their wealth and persons.

In February 2016, 100 of us went for an official Mulaqāt (meeting) with Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) in London. To the best of our knowledge, this was the first such trip. Ḥuḍūr’s guidance propelled us through the entire year.

As you flip through the pages of this Year-in-Review issue of Al-Nahl, this theme of striving, and not sitting at home will manifest itself. Over 25 Anṣār left their homes for Merida, Mexico to participate in spreading the message of Islām and Ahmadiyyat. Hundreds of Anṣār left their homes and established congregational Ṣalāt at the mosques and Ṣalāt centers. Our National ‘Āmila members left their homes and visited all 70 Majālis in the country. Our property teams visited over 20 potential properties before finalizing the land parcel in Maryland. Local Anṣār visited our elderly and ailing brothers at home to lift up their spirits. Finance team went “door to door” for budget and Chanda collection to fulfill the instruction of Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ.

Reciprocating this theme, Anṣār left their homes in record numbers (1,335 to be precise) to attend the 2016 Anṣārullāh National Ijtimā’. Nearly 20 of those brothers were over the age of 80.

Those who could not join us in these “door to door” programs helped us with their prayers.

My brothers, this is not the age to sit at home. Striving towards every cause that our Imām calls us to is the Jihād of our time. We have a long way to go on the road to self-reformation. Let’s start this journey by giving 100% attention and priority to establishing congregational Salāt in our homes and populating our mosques.

I am deeply thankful to each and every one of you for your zeal. May Allāh grant you and your families all the good in this life and the hereafter, Āmīn.

Was-salām,

Faheem Younus Qureshi
Serving Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA

Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA is offering Anṣār Ṣāhir Scholarship to Anṣār for up to $4,000 per year per applicant for a maximum of two year training (maximum amount is $8,000 per applicant). The scholarship is for vocational training of Anṣār to improve their employability. The scholarship will be granted on “first-come, first-served” basis. There is no deadline for the application. In most cases, payments will be made directly to the training institution. Applications should be submitted through the local Za’īm Anṣārullāh. Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

• The applicant is a bona fide member of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA in good standing.
• The applicant has identified a new or alternate career path and is capable and willing to undertake successful completion of the proposed training.

Direct inquiries to: Tahir.Scholarship@ansarusa.org
The 2016 Anşar Leadership Conference (ALC) was held on Saturday, February 13 - Sunday, February 14, 2016 at Fazl Mosque and Baitul Futuh Mosque in London, U.K. The ALC is an annual gathering of Zu'amā, Nāẓīmīn, and National ‘Āmilā to review Majlis’ planned activities for the coming year so everyone understands what targets are to be achieved during the year. The forum is used to engage in intellectual discussions on ways to become more efficient and productive in achieving Majlis’ short and long term goals.

In one respect, the 2016 ALC was an abridged one and in another respect it was so gigantic that no other ALC has yet come close to it. It was abridged because it did not include all the traditional ALC agenda, which is the case when ALC is held in the U.S. Instead, this year, the officeholders of Majlis Anşarullah, USA flew to London, U.K. to meet our beloved Imām, Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper), to get his blessings and guidance.

They all slept under the same roof, offered Prayers behind Ḥudūr and visited some other historic places in London, including the U.K. Jami‘ in Islamabad, and Makhzan-e-Tasaweer (image library). They enjoyed excellent hospitality of Majlis Anşarullah, U.K. and benefitted from the company of the righteous as much as they could.

The most important ALC session, which earned ALC 2016 the status of a mega ALC, was held in Mahmood Hall of Fazl Mosque, London on Saturday, February 13, where Ḥudūr, out of his sheer kindness, spent about two hours with the officeholders of Majlis Anşarullah, USA to provide guidance on various aspects of their personal lives as well as on Majlis Anşarullāh’s official business. Details of this important session is summarized later in this report.

The highlights of the two traditional ALC sessions which were held at Baitul Futuh Mosque are as follows. The First session was Nāẓīmīn’s meetings with their respective Zu’amā, which was held in the evening on Saturday, February 13. The second was an all audience general session held on the morning of Sunday, February 14.

Nāẓīmīn’s meetings Zu’amā

Nāẓīmīn’s meetings with Zu’amā of their respective regions were held on Saturday evening after Ishā’ Prayer. Although Nāẓīmīn and Zu’amā were informed about these meetings at the eleventh hour, every Nāẓīm was able to gather his Zu’amā quickly and all of them occupied various corners of Tāhir Hall of Baitul Futuh Mosque to hold their meetings. These meetings were overseen by Nāʾīb Ṣadr Awwal, Suhail Kausar.

Nāʾīb Ṣadr Awwal had provided all Nāẓīmīn a list of topics to be discussed with their respective Zu’amā, to ensure uniformity and flow of important Majlis directives from national to local levels and vice versa. Some of the important topics, which Nāẓīmīn covered in these meetings include:

- Discuss and agree upon the best method of communication among themselves.
- Holding regular monthly meetings and increasing participation.
- Timely submission of reports answering all questions.
- Identifying dates for local and regional Ijtimā’āt and striving to maximize Ijtimā’ attendance.
- Motivation and communication with the members of their respective Majālis for maximum attendance at the national Ijtimā’.
- Regular follow up with Anşār of local Majālis to achieve various departmental goals.
- Coordination with national ‘Āmila members for organizing Majālis visits.

General ALC Session

This session started at 8:00 AM on Sunday, February 14 after breakfast. The session included three presentations and an interactive session with Ṣadr Majlis Anşarullah, USA followed by his concluding remarks.

The first presentation was given by Nāʾīb Ṣadr Šaff Dom, Imran Hayee, on how to hold effective monthly meetings. In this presentation, he explained the vision and process behind changes in monthly meeting agenda and format. The second presentation was given by Nāʾīb Ṣadr Awwal, Suhail Kausar, about Majlis Anşarullah’s ongoing initiative, “Stories of Our Elders,” motivating and encouraging members to participate in this program by recording and submitting videos of their elders. The third presentation was given by Qāʾīd ‘Umūmī, Maqbool Tahir, on various aspects of everyday business of the Majlis. He emphasized the importance of communication and submitting monthly reports and talked about important dates including Shūrā delegates’ elections and local Majlis budget submission.

Next, Ṣadr Majlis Anşarullah, USA, Faheem Younus Qureshi, gave an opportunity to all Qāʾīdīn to take just 60 seconds to say something important about their respective departmental goals. Qāʾīdīn took advantage of this opportunity and carefully crafted words to give the most important take-home message for Zu’amā about their respective departments.

Next, Ṣadr Majlis opened the floor for questions. First, he gave an opportunity to the new Zu’amā before taking questions from all audience. After all the questions were answered, Ṣadr Majlis talked about some important housekeeping matters in which he emphasized the etiquette of using emails, and WhatsApp groups which Majlis is now frequently using.

In his closing remarks, Ṣadr Majlis made an emotional plea to all to strive their best to come up to the expectations of our beloved Imām, Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper), who so passionately wants us to become men of God. The session concluded with the pledge and silent prayer.
One hundred members of Majlis Anşarullah, USA travelled to London, UK on February 12, 2016 to offer Friday Prayer behind their beloved Imām, Ḥadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper), and for having a meeting with Ḥudūr to seek his guidance and blessings. The meeting with Ḥudūr was held on February 13, 2016 in Mahmood Hall, adjacent to Masjid Fazal. The meeting started at 11:15 AM with silent prayer led by Ḥudūr.

After the silent prayer, Ḥudūr asked Qā'id 'Umūmī about the total number of Majālis in the U.S. and how many of them submit their monthly report regularly. Qā'id 'Umūmī responded that there were 70 Majālis and 12 regions in the U.S. and that about 67 Majālis submit their report regularly. 'Umūmī inquired about the report submission process and whether any feedback is provided on these reports. Qā'id 'Umūmī explained that all Majālis submit their reports online and once a report is submitted, a copy of that report is emailed to all National Amila members and the respective Nāẓim of the region where the Majlis belongs. Qā'id 'Umūmī added that he picks a few Majālis every month and sends his feedback on their reports. Sadr Majlis also mentioned that he provides feedback on all reports submitted by all Majālis every month. Ḥudūr expressed his pleasure when told that about 67 out of 70 Zu'amā regularly submit their monthly reports. Ḥudūr asked Qā'id 'Umūmī about how many Qā'ideen are efficient. In response, Qā'id 'Umūmī expressed that every Qā'id has setup an annual goal for his department and works hard to achieve that goal. Ḥudūr then asked about the best performing Majālis. Qā'id 'Umūmī replied that there is close competition among 8 to 10 Majālis every year and this year Los Angeles East and Los Angeles Inland Majālis were at the top.

Next, Ḥudūr asked Qā'id Finance about how many members were paying Anşār dues regularly. Qā'id Finance replied that about 2,200 members paid Anşār Chanda regularly. When Ḥudūr asked about total budget and collection, Qā'id Finance shared that the total budget for 2015 was $510,000 and total collection for 2015 was over $600,000. Ḥudūr then asked about the reason for more collection than the budget. Qā'id Finance explained that the reason was two-fold; first that a number of new participants were added this year and second, many members paid more than what they had pledged. Ḥudūr also inquired about the budget preparation process. Qā'id Finance explained that local Muntazimīn and Zu'amā contact members individually to get their budget. Ḥudūr advised that local Muntazimīn should know each and every member of the Majālis which can help make the budget process more realistic.

Next, Ḥudūr asked Qā'id Tajnīd if he tallies his Tajnīd with Qā'id Finance. Qā'id Tajnīd replied that his department tries to keep the Tajnīd up-to-date and that all other departments receive Tajnīd information from Tajnīd department. Ḥudūr then asked, how often Tajnīd information was updated and shared. Qā'id Tajnīd replied that his department requests Zu'amā every quarter to verify and update their Tajnīd information. He further added that when a member moves from a Majlis, he can submit his Tajnīd changes online or his Za'im can notify Tajnīd department about the move.

Ḥudūr then asked Qā'id Tāblīgh about his plan. He replied that this year Majlis Anşarullah, USA would send a minimum 100 members to Merida and Chippewa for week-long visits to do Tāblīgh following Ḥudūr’s vision of doing Tāblīgh to Spanish-speaking people. Ḥudūr inquired about Tāblīgh efforts in other parts of
the country. Qā'id Tāblīgh responded that Majlis plans to support all Tāblīgh activities arranged by the Jamā'at. Ḥuḍūr asked about the number of Bai’ats done in USA during the last year. Qā'id Tāblīgh did not have that information. Ṣadr Majlis mentioned that in spite of trying, he could not get that information for Qā'id Tāblīgh. Ḥuḍūr then advised that people in USA and in the West are drifting away from religion because they are not getting their religious needs fulfilled by the so-called religious leaders. We need to reach out to them and give them the message of real Islām and Aḥmadiyyat.

Next, Ḥuḍūr asked Qā'id Ta'līm about the Ta'līm plan; Ḥuḍūr also inquired about the books prescribed for 2016. Qā'id Ta'līm explained how monthly meetings material is prepared and mentioned the names of the books prescribed for 2016.

Ḥuḍūr then asked Ṣadr Majlis if all ʿĀmila members were Mūsiyān. Ṣadr Majlis replied that only one or two were not and he that he was reminding them politely. Ḥuḍūr reinforced that a polite reminder is the best and he should never force them to join the system of Wasīyyat.

Then Ḥuḍūr asked Qā'id Tarbiyat about his plan. He replied that this year, emphasis is on strengthening the culture of congregational Prayers and the goal for 2016 is to ensure that 75% of Ansār regularly offer Prayers in congregation with at least twice a week at Mosque or Ṣalāt Center. Ḥuḍūr advised that we need to keep reminding members about congregational Ṣalāt even if we think they are offering 5 daily Prayers regularly.

In response to a question whether children—who know etiquette of Prayer—can lead Prayer, Ḥuḍūr replied that according to Ḥadīth and traditions you should choose Imām who knows the basics of Ṣalāt and has memorized a good portion of the Holy Qurān. At homes you can have your child lead Prayer.

Next, Ḥuḍūr asked about Ḥadhār and Ta'limul Qurān plans. Qā'id Ḥadhār explained that his plan is to make sure all Majālis participate in at least one Ḥadhār activity or program which Ḥuḍūr appreciated. Qā'id Ta'limul Qurān also shared his departmental goal of having 75% Ansār reciting the Holy Qurān regularly at home. Ḥuḍūr advised that Qā'id Ta'limul Qurān also needs to emphasize Waqf-i-ʿĀrdī (short-term devotional) and mentioned that all members should try to recite the Holy Qurān every day.

Next Ḥuḍūr asked Qā'id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā'ī'īn (New Converts) about the total number of new converts and his plan for their training. Qā'id
Tarbiyat Nau Mubā‘īn answered that there were 13 new Anṣār converts and he has made a list of basic teachings which they should know within the first three years. Ḥuḍūr advised that if the new converts are not from Muslim background, they should learn more basic things like:

- Surah Al-Fāṭiḥah, because without this no prayer is complete
- Reading of the Holy Qur’ān
- They should also know the claims of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and the purpose of his coming.
- More emphasis should be given on religious knowledge as opposed to participating in financial sacrifice.

Next, Ḥuḍūr asked Qā‘īd Taḥrik Jādīd and Qā‘īd Waqf Jādīd about their budget and collection. Ḥuḍūr took time to talk to everyone who was not native English speaker which was a source of great blessings for those 14 Anṣār officeholders who were in attendance in the meeting. After that, Ḥuḍūr gave an opportunity to Anṣār officeholders to ask any questions. The following questions were asked by various members.

**Q1:** Dear Ḥuḍūr, we have one Khilafat and one Majlis named Anṣārullāh and every country has its own logo for the Majlis. Wouldn’t it be better if Ḥuḍūr approved a single unified logo for Majlis Anṣārullāh to be used internationally?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** We have the same flag everywhere but if you feel strongly about a unified logo, then send the detailed proposal to me in writing.

**Q2:** Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA tries to inspire members by setting goals for our progress. For example, increasing the percentage of families who offer congregational Ṣalāt or recite the Holy Quran Ḥuḍūr, etc. Some Anṣār members believe that we should simply convey the message but not set the goals. They believe it is not an Islamic style of motivating people. What is Ḥuḍūr’s guidance on this matter?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** If you do not set targets, you will not be able to make progress—not just in financial schemes but in other departments as well. If these targets are counterproductive e.g., if they negatively impact the progress, then we should not set the targets but if this helps improve the performance, it should continue on. Remember, that this is being done for the betterment of the people and not for any personal gain.

**Q3:** Ḥuḍūr what message can I take back to my local Majlis?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** Take messages from yesterday’s Friday sermon of mine. I deliberately chose the sermon
topic keeping Anşarullâh in mind. Top priority should be daily Prayers and respect of each other.

**Q4:** Ḥuḍūr, living in the USA has many challenges especially related to parenting. There are many vices in the society and our children have a lot of peer pressure in schools. In such a situation, what would be Ḥuḍūr’s guidance to parents of young children?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** Parents should listen to my sermons regularly as I often discuss these subjects in my sermons. The main points are that parents should be friendly with the children and they should spend time with them. Especially, after age 12, boys need special care. Parents should try to find out how they think and who their friends are. If parents are harsh on them, they will turn away from them and go astray as other people are turning away from religion. So befriend your children and give them fatherly love.

**Q5:** In the present age, our children are being taught with the best visual presentations either via print or technology. Ḥuḍūr, do you think it is appropriate to visually enhance our teaching material such as Yassarnal Qur’ân or the Holy Qur’ân by adding color to the text or symbols?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** Use any method to enhance the learning of the Holy Qur’ân (regarding coloring the Qâ’ida). U.K. is already using colored methods. And if there is a special proposal regarding Yassarnal Qur’ân, send me the sample first before implementing.

**Q6:** Dear Ḥuḍūr, according to your vision for Tāblîgh in the Hispanic communities, one of our 2016 goals is to send a minimum of 100 Ansâr members to Merida or Chiapas, Mexico for Tâblîgh. Ḥuḍūr, we will be distributing flyers and will be working under the directions of local missionary. I request Ḥuḍūr’s prayers for its success and also seek your advice for effective Tâblîgh there.

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** Most people who will go there do not know the language. Spanish psyche is different. They can distribute materials and then properly follow up. Make such a plan that there is a steady stream of Anşar going there. It should be a continuous process distributed over the whole year instead of all Anşar going at once.

**Q7:** Ḥuḍūr, can you advise a homeopathic remedy for Zika virus that Ahmadis and others can benefit from all over the world, especially in the Americas?

**Ḥuḍūr’s Answer:** I have already prescribed a homoeopathic medicine for this and have sent that to the families of missionaries in South America. You can ask my office which can provide that medicine.

After the question & answer session, Ḥuḍūr gave the awards to the best performing Qâ’idin, regions, and Majâlis. ‘Alâm-i-In’âmî was also awarded to the best Majâlis for 2015 by Ḥuḍūr. Right after the award distribution, Sadr Majâlis presented a humble gift to Ḥuḍūr on behalf of Majlis Anşarullâh, USA. The gift contained a U.S. flag and a rare replica of an original copy of the Holy Qur’ân which exists only in two places in the world. The meeting concluded at 12:40 PM with a group photo and by the grace of Allâh all attendees were blessed to shake hand with Ḥuḍūr before he left the Mamoood Hall.
In Honor Of
Mirza Masroor Ahmad

This Flag was flown over the United States Capitol
Presented to His Holiness
On behalf of Majlis Ansarullah USA

1/19/2016

Date

TED POE
Member of Congress
TEXAS
I became ill during and after London trip, but...

**Imran Hayee, Nā‘īb Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom**

During the London trip, I became sick on Sunday morning after Fajr Prayer. I threw up in the van traveling back from Fazl Mosque to Baitul Futūḥ Mosque. I threw up again after we arrived at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque. I was feeling very weak and fatigued when the program started at 8:00 A.M. Some of the audience may have felt the tremor in my voice and legs while I was talking about ‘how to do effective monthly meetings.’ After finishing my part, I sought excuse from Ṣadr Majlis to leave the stage to uncontrollably emptying my stomach once more. This episode repeated again during our trip back to Fazl Mosque for Ẓuhr Prayer. I took some rest upon arrival at Fazl Mosque and finally, felt better. By nighttime on Sunday, I recovered.

There were no signs of any sickness on Monday, which I spent in London before flying back to Minnesota on Tuesday morning. I arrived home on Tuesday night, feeling somewhat exhausted. I thought, it was just the jetlag but it was more than that. By Wednesday night, I was coughing and having body ache. I thought, I would feel better by taking some rest but I was wrong. I skipped work Thursday and Friday to take rest but my condition worsened. In addition to cold and congestion my right eye became infected. Sunday morning I went to the urgent care and the doctor diagnosed me with severe bronchitis and a pink eye. During the conversation with the doctor, I told him about my London trip and prognosis of my latest condition. The doctor was very confident that I caught a bug from the airplane ride coming back home. He told me how a long airplane ride could make people sick. He explained to me when we are in a closed chamber like an airplane for a long time with so many other people, our chances of catching a bug increases dramatically because germs are trapped in the airplane’s atmosphere for a long period of time and keep circulating in the air to attack our bodies.

When the doctor was explaining this to me, I thought of another closed chamber, Mahmood Hall, where we all spent about two hours together with our beloved Imām, Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper), during our London trip. When we were in proximity of God’s most holy person on earth in a close environment, we were very likely to intercept many spiritual microbes emanating from his body. Those spiritual microbes, trapped in Mahmood Hall for two hours, kept bouncing back and forth long enough to cure our souls from evils like ego, lust, jealousy, suspicion, etc. Those spiritual microbes not only cured our common evils, but also gave our souls uplifting boosts to attain new heights of Taqwā by increasing our standards of prayers, sacrifices, and brotherhood.

Many of us felt similar jolts of spiritual uplifting not only in Mahmood Hall, but also in the closed atmosphere of Fazl Mosque, whenever we had the opportunity to offer congregational Prayer behind our Khalīfah. I hope and pray that some of those spiritual microbes or little angels from our London trip have permanently trapped in our souls to give us a spiritual uplift every day.

There is no doubt that the London trip made me physically ill but it also cleansed my heart and soul of many blemishes of seen and unseen evils and gave me a spiritual boost to increase in humility and prayers. My physical illness will be history tomorrow, but the spiritual uplift from the London trip will stay with me for the rest of my life, Inshā’Allah!
A gift of brotherly love—On February 14, 2016, our host, Majlis Anşarullah, U.K., presented individual gift bags to each participant of 2016 ALC. Each gift bag contained the Holy Qur’an parts 2-8 with split word translation, 2016 UK Jam‘at calendar, a car MP4 player that has 67 books of the Promised Messiah (Alaihis-Salām) pre-recorded in audio format. May Almighty Allāh bless Majlis Anşarullah, U.K. for their love, generosity, and ever lasting memories associated with these gifts, Āmin.
This Urdu article captures the feelings of a brother who went to London as a part of the 100 officeholders of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA. While not a translation, the readers can turn to page 5 of this publication for an English report of the London trip.
لا طاقة لم تأتي حكومة، كما ما
أ לסياحة أخرى، أو تأتي مهندس
إليك ما هو أقرب دليل إلكتروني
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هناك ما هو أقرب دليل إلكتروني
للمرافق الأخرى، أو يد
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للمرافق الأخرى، أو يد
الرجل الأول الذي قد تbraco
الفرقة الأولى التي قالت في رجاء
هناك ما هو أقرب دل
تدوَّشونَ عَلَىَّ صَلِّي وَسُلَّمُ،
وجَنِّبَتْ مَيْيَاتَكَ سَوَىِّ بَرَاءٍ
بِهِ مَرْأَةٌ دَخَلْتْ هَوْاً
لا يُحذِّيُّونَ خَيْرَكَ عَلَىَّ وَذَٰلِكَ.
هيْ زَيْكَةُ كَيْبَوُتْهُ، وَهُدُوَّارُ}

دُعِّيْ غَيْبَهُ ، وَهُدُوَّارُ
مُسَبِّبَاً أَقْوَاءَ وَاٰلِمَةً
كَيْبَوُتْهُ، وَهُدُوَّارُ
هُدُوَّارُ
هُدُوَّارُ
هُدُوَّارُ
يرجى قراءة النص العربي المحرر عن طريق الكراطيل.
2016 Planning Survey Results
Number of Surveys submitted: 104

I recite the Holy Qur'ān

- Most days of the week: 63%
- On weekends: 4%
- Occasionally: 26%
- Rarely: 7%

I offer at least one Ṣalāt in congregation

- Most days of the week: 58%
- A couple of times a week: 17%
- Once a week: 13%
- Occasionally: 9%
- Other: 4%
My congregational Ṣalāt is usually at

- Home with my family: 57%
- Mosque: 34%
- Nearby Ṣalāt center: 4%
- I don’t get an opportunity to do Ṣalāt in congregation: 5%
- Other: 1%

The format and standard of Majlis Anṣārullāh’s annual Ta’lim test is

- Excellent: 39%
- Needs improvement: 22%
- Poor: 13%
- I am unable to evaluate: 26%
I or someone I know has benefitted from the following services offered by Majlis Anṣārullāh
(multiple options allowed)

- Free medical helpline: 19%
- Help with finding Jobs: 4%
- Anṣār Ṭāhir Scholarship: 9%
- Will preparation: 18%
- Friday sermon summary email: 42%
- Not applicable: 38%

My Za‘īm calls or talks to me related to an Anṣārullāh matter

- Twice or more a month: 36%
- Once a month: 24%
- Occasionally: 23%
- Rarely or never: 16%
If Majlis Anṣārullāh were to buy or build a “mini peace village” for approximately 50 families with a multipurpose hall for congregational Prayers, I would

- Buy a unit in Northeastern states (PA/MD/VA, etc.) even if the price was around $250,000: 16%
- Buy a unit in Southern states (AL/TN/GA) since the expected price will be around $150,000: 15%
- Not sure at present: 46%
- No, I will not be interested in this concept: 21%

My biggest source for Anṣārullāh related news is

- Local Za‘īm: 35%
- Anṣār Website: 10%
- Anṣār Robocall: 2%
- Anṣār Newsletter: 40%
- Other: 13%
I plan to attend the 2016 national Ansar Ijtimā’ (to be held on September 24th weekend at Baitur Raḥmān Mosque in Maryland)?

Yes: 68%
No: 10%
Not sure at this time: 22%

My favorite part of being a member of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA is

- Attending national Ijtimā’: 28%
- Attending monthly meetings: 15%
- Enjoying a culture of brotherhood: 41%
- Other: 15%
The 35th National Ijtima’ of Majlis Anşarullah, USA was held at Baitur-Rahmân Mosque, Silver Spring, MD, on Friday, September 23 to Sunday, September 25, 2016. As is customary, the 24th Majlis Shûrâ of Majlis Anşarullah, USA was also held during this time.

Among the highlights of the Ijtima’ were congregational Prayers including Tahajjud, Dars, opening and closing sessions, educational and sports competitions, interactive workshops, service oriented booths, and a grand BBQ lunch on Saturday.

The Ijtima’ sessions were held in a marquee at the outside grounds of the mosque as well as in men’s Prayer hall. The Shûrâ sessions were held in Anşarullah Hall. The meals were served in a separate marquee, next to the main marquee. The men’s Prayer hall was used for Prayers and women’s Prayer hall was used for accommodation. Over 100 rooms at two nearby hotels were also reserved for Anşar to stay on their own expense. Special arrangement for Tahajjud, congregational Fajr Prayer, and Dars were made at the hotels. The sports activities took place at the outside grounds of the mosque.

Majlis Shûrâ started on Friday at 9:30 A.M. and ended by 7:30 P.M. Last year’s approved proposals and implementation reports were presented by Shûrâ subcommittee chairmen and secretaries. New proposals that were not selected for discussion and those selected for discussion were presented to the Shûrâ body. Three subcommittees were formed for deliberations on proposals that were accepted for discussion. The subcommittees were General, Finance, and Tarbiyat. The subcommittees met and deliberated on their respective proposals after the opening session on Friday; all committees prepared comprehensive reports with recommendations. The chairman of each subcommittee presented their reports in the final session of Shûrâ. The recommendations were deliberated by the Shûrâ body. The recommendations were sent to Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allâh be his helper) for approval. Over 180 Shûrâ delegates attended the Shûrâ proceedings.

Amir Jam’at USA, respected Şâhibzâdah Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, graciously presided the opening and concluding sessions and addressed the congregation.

In his welcome remarks, Şadr Majlis Anşarullah, USA, Faheem Younus Qureshi, offered gratitude to all those who took time to come to the Ijtima’ for the sake of Allâh. He said that we and our families were all in a perpetual journey towards goodness, thus change was inevitable and healthy. People resist change and are afraid of it with a simple six-word sentence “we are too old to change.” This is negated by Islamic history. Bitter enemies Khâlid bin Walid and Ammâr bin Talha changed. Ḥadrat ‘Uthmân’s (may Allâh be pleased with him) father changed when he was 90. We plan to change the world; shouldn’t we then also embrace change. Prayer is the most powerful agent of change. Then we should just follow the Khalifah and the righteous group he has provided us. The change must come from within; you must decide the things that matter and
make an effort like keeping a beard, starting congregational Prayers, controlling your anger, doing Wasiyat, mend with your wife, adopting purer means of livelihood, etc. Let the people see the change of goodness in you and say, in a positive manner, “he is not the same person.”

Amīr Jamā’at USA, respected Ṣāḥībzādah Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, very eloquently delved into the Jamā’at’s concept of obedience and service which can become challenging due to the constant role reversal that comes into play between the independent auxiliaries, the local Jamā’ats, and the National organization. He opined that even though he was Amīr Jamā’at USA but as a Nāsir he has to take instructions from Ṣādṛ Majlis Anṣārullāh. Similarly Ṣādṛ Majlis Anṣārullāh is an ordinary member of his local Majlis and he must follow the instructions of the local president who in turn, if being a Nāsir, will do likewise in an Anṣār gathering. This is only possible in a God guided organization; no worldly organization can even comprehend this concept and explain the relative ease with which our people slide in and out of it. Anṣār are one of the four walls that keep the roof intact with experience, maturity, and sagacity. Work with humility and follow the Khalīfah and the system of the Jamā’at and you will never go wrong.

In the concluding session, Ṣādṛ Majlis presented the annual report and discussed next year’s plan. In his concluding address, Amīr Jamā’at USA, respected Ṣāḥībzādah Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, reminded Anṣār that in 2005 Ḥadrat Khalīfatul-Maṣīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) had asked for 50% Chanda-paying members to become Mūshiyyān. He said that the Jamā’at overall has 35% Mūshiyyān while Anṣār stand at only 27%. He said that this level of obedience was not a good sign for the future. How can we claim loving the Khalīfah if even in eleven years we have not heeded his call? He said that he would like to see 50% Mūshiyyān in Anṣār by the next Ijtima’.

The central theme of the Ijtima’ was “OUR FAMILIES.” The following presentations and interactive workshops were held highlighting this theme:

- How do we make or break OUR FAMILIES
- Raising OUR FAMILIES within our means
- Peacemaking between OUR FAMILIES
- Helping OUR FAMILIES who migrated to USA
- How Congregational Ṣalāt can transform OUR FAMILIES
- How Merida visits have impacted OUR FAMILIES
- Being a Qawwām for OUR FAMILIES

Free services including health tests and completing a living will were also offered.

Anṣār participated in various educational and sports competitions. Prize distribution was held on Saturday evening recognizing the performing individuals and Majālīs.

A bus tour to the site of the proposed “Mini Peace Village” was arranged on Saturday morning.

A lively and enjoyable BBQ was arranged on Saturday afternoon.

Transportation to and from various airports was provided to the members traveling from distant Majālīs. Shuttle service for the members staying at the hotels was also provided.

The attendance target for the Ijtima’ was 1313. By the Grace of Allāh, 1335 members from across the country attended the Ijtima’. Two representatives of Ṣādṛ Majlis, Anṣārullāh, Canada were also in attendance.

A list of ranked positions for various competitions and awards presented at the Ijtima’ is given on the next page.

A survey was conducted on the final day of the Ijtima’. The survey results are presented on pages 25-32. Testimonials of some participants are presented on page 38.

The names of the first 313 members who registered for the Ijtima’ are listed on page 33-37.

A personal invite was mailed to every Nāsir 100 days prior to the Ijtima’.
Educational Competitions Awards

Recitation of the Holy Qur’ān
1st Abdul Lateef Oresanya (Gulf States region)
2nd Hammad Malik (Central East region)
3rd Qudratullah Ayaz (Midwest region)

Table Tennis (Ṣaff Dom)
1st Ziaullah Mubashir (Headquarters region)
2nd Fazal Qureshi (Southeast region)
3rd Lutf Saleem (Headquarters region)

100-meter (Ṣaff Awwal)
1st Fazlullah Ahmad (Great Lakes region)
2nd Baba Trawalley (Southeast region)
3rd Anwar Rafiq (Gulf States region)

Religious & General Knowledge

Gulf States region (Mansoor Qureshi, B. K. Ahmad, Ahmad Munir, Muzaffar Mahmood)

Central East region (Hammad Malik, Imtiaz Chaudhary, Nasim Bajwa, Nasir Ahmad)

Southwest region (Asim Ansari, Hamid Mansoor, Ramzan Jattala, Abdul Ahad Chowdry)

Inspiring Stories of Our Elders

Rashid Arshed (LA Inland)
Rizwan Alladin (Long Island)
Munawar Malik (South Virginia)

Sports Competitions Awards

Darts
1st Arshad Rahim (Southeast region)
2nd M. Akmal Parvaz (Northeast region)
3rd Jason Elsea (Great Lakes region)

Horse Shoe Toss
1st Fazal Mahmood (New York region)
2nd Iqbal Ahmad (New York region)
3rd Rasheed Ahmad (Gulf States region)

Table Tennis (Ṣaff Awwal)
1st Iqbal Rana (Southwest region)
2nd Anwar Rafiq (Gulf States region)
3rd Muzaffar Ahmad (Great Lakes region)

Tug of War
1st Headquarters region (Naveed Wahla, Zahid Wahla, Naveed Malik, Mazhar Mansoor, Ehtesham Zia, Kazim Wahla, Jasarat Wahla, Khaliq Cheema, Shaukat Chaudhry, Mubasher Bajwa, Idrees Bhatti)

Volleyball
1st Virginia region (Mohammad Mahmood, Abdul Hayee, Suleman Dawood, Muzammal Gondal, Inam Virk, Basra, Habib Virk, Imran Saeed, Altaf Mangat)

Finance Awards

Meritorious Service in Finance
- Khalid Aziz Ahmad (Chicago NW)

Service to Local Majlis in Finance

Midwest Region
- Javed Iqbal Chughtai (Bloomington)

Headquarters Region
Mushtaq Ahmad Chaudhry (Laurel)

Southwest Region
- Munir Ahmad Malik (Phoenix)

Central West Region
- Mohammed Younas Mirza (Bay Point)
- Yeman Samut (Bay Point)

Great Lakes Region
- Ahsan Shemaz Syed (Columbus)

Administrative Awards

Best Dā‘ī Ilallāh Award
Arif Nasim (Laurel)

Service to Local Majlis Award
Bashir Ahmad Chaudhry (Washington, D.C.)

Life Long Service Award
Imtiaz Rajayki (Orlando)
2016 Ijtima’ Survey Results

I was spiritually uplifted by this year’s National Ijtima’.

The programs and culture of Majlis Anšārullāh, USA is helping in my spiritual growth.

Based on my experience, I will recommend others to attend next year’s Ijtima’.
How do we make or break OUR FAMILIES?

Raising OUR FAMILIES within our means

Peacemaking between OUR FAMILIES
How Congregational Ṣalāt can transform OUR FAMILIES?

- Excellent: 53.9%
- Satisfactory: 31%
- Poor: 14.2%
- Not applicable: 0.7%

Being a Qawwām for OUR FAMILIES (Sunday)

- Excellent: 48.2%
- Satisfactory: 32.7%
- Poor: 17.3%
- Not applicable: 0.7%

Helping OUR FAMILIES who migrated to USA

- Excellent: 40%
- Satisfactory: 28.3%
- Poor: 30.6%
- Not applicable: 1.1%
How Merida visits have impacted OUR FAMILIES?

Talqīn-i-ʿAmal: Health Talk

Health Tests (diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, etc.)
Completing a living Will

Food quality

Food setup/distribution
Stage and Displays

Recitation of the Holy Qur'ān

Impromptu Speech
General Knowledge

How were the sports competitions conducted?

Which one of the following changes you plan to implement in your family after returning home from this year’s Ijtima’
**First 313:** The names of the first 313 members who said Labbaik to the call of Ṣadr Majlis to register for Ijtima' 1-313 were sent to Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper) for prayers. The names of these first Labbaik-sayers are listed in the following (thanks to many of the Ānṣār National 'Āmila members and Ijtima' organizers who were among the first 313 registrants but are not included in this list for obvious reasons.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Majlis</th>
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<th>Member</th>
<th>Majlis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tanveer Zafar</td>
<td>South Virginia</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Mubarik A Malik</td>
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<td>Naseer Alam</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>295</td>
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<td>274</td>
<td>Waseem Mehmood</td>
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<td>Bilal Hayee</td>
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<td>Ahmad Aslam Khan</td>
<td>LA - East</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>Novid Aslam</td>
<td>Central Virginia</td>
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<td>Abid Haq</td>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>Muhammad Z Khan</td>
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<td>Javed Bhatti</td>
<td>York</td>
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<tr>
<td>287</td>
<td>Saiyed Burhanuddin A S Qaderi</td>
<td>Chicago Southwest</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>Shamshad Ahmed Nasir Syed</td>
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<tr>
<td>288</td>
<td>Muhammad Zafar Iqbal</td>
<td>Syracuse</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>Mohammad Bashir</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
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<td>289</td>
<td>Shaheed Ul Islam</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>Laeeq Ahmed Butt</td>
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</table>
Participants of the Ijtima‘ provided excellent feedback in the survey. Some of the comments from the Ijtima‘ survey are presented in the following.

“I will make it a point of duty to attend the Ijtima‘ and encourage others to attend the Ijtima‘ every year Insh’Allah.”

“Excellent Ijtima‘, Jazākallāh.”

General Knowledge competition system was awesome. Question selection was excellent.”

“I hope we respect and pay attention to what Amīr Ṣāḥib has said. It was a very powerfully message.”

“First of all, brilliant name badges; you heard my suggestion to print on both sides. Jazākallāh. Secondly, dining area was much better and overall cleanliness was observed on entire grounds. I noticed that Wudū facility was difficult at time of Salāt due to crowd. Additional outside facilities may have to be set up to relieve the rush.”

“Allāh bless the team effort and continue to guide us all to improve each and every year. Wonderful event. Thank you for your hard work. May Allāh bless you all.”

“Next time please list separate timings for sports competitions and announce over the loudspeaker. I wanted to run in the 100-meter race, but did not know where it was to be held and at what time. By the time I found out about it, it was already over.”

“I thought the social hour and BBQ/dinner was very well arranged. Hats off to all the planners and volunteers. The plans showed some creative heads had worked overtime to come up with good ideas. The Ijtima‘ is getting better every year, with some very useful and practical Anṣār related issues being addressed.”

“There seemed to be fewer trash cans around this time. I would also recommend making some attempt at recycling, especially as plastic water bottles are being used.”

“The Urdu program for the welfare of recent immigrants was more than excellent and considered as the most successful event of the Ijtima‘ especially Ṣadr Ṣāhib’s straightforward talk with them was the clearest, truest, and most realistic picture of the facts in the USA life. The whole discussion should be preserved online.”

“This is my first Ijtima‘ after becoming a Naṣīr. Also, first Ijtima‘ in the USA Jamā‘at, Māshā’Allah, excellent organization and relaxed program. I met some of my friends and mentors after 25 years which was amazing.”

“Thanks for all the arrangements and hospitality, which is getting better and better. I really appreciated your management services in this regard.”

“I always enjoy attending the national Ijtima‘ as it rejuvenates my faith in Ahmadiyyat and inspires me to improve my habits.”

“I have a request that the transportation and accommodation desks should always have at least one person present. I saw a lot of people coming to the registration desk asking for help regarding these two things but many a times they could not find anyone stationed at these two desks. We need more volunteers in these two departments.”

“I was asked to provide my feedback since I turned Naṣīr recently and attending the Anṣār Ijtima‘ for the first time. I was not sure how I would rate the Ijtima‘; would it be the food, cleanliness, the program, the location or the overall impression. After spending some time it felt like I was getting the same feeling I used to get at the MKA Ijtima‘ and I realized that I had been coming to the Ijtima‘ for the love and brotherhood. I also saw the same brotherhood and love here. I had the opportunity to spend first night at the Ijtima‘ in Lajna Prayer area and second night at the hotel with my friend. I immediately felt the difference when I reached the hotel. It was like I was cut off from a place where I belonged. We should be mindful of the facilities provided at the Ijtima‘ for people who stay there. Making improvement around sleeping arrangements, showers, and bathroom can make their stay pleasurable.”

“Barbecue on Saturday was awesome!!!! Please continue doing this!!!”

“Recorded sessions available on YouTube were excellent. However, I felt that a lot of seats were empty during workshops. Perhaps setting up exhibition on USA Jamā‘at history and information stalls regarding any specific department initiatives would be helpful to get info out to Anṣār brothers. Bringing a special guest speaker from Pakistan or other countries with inspirational speech might help with attendance a bit more. Jazākallāh.”

“This year’s Ijtima‘ was fantastic. We should start thinking of a bigger place for our Ijtima‘. For what I saw this year, Insh’Allah in the next 3 years, the Headquarters will not be large enough for our Ijtima‘. Overall the Ijtima‘ was conducted very well. Ijtima‘ is excellent overall. Just a minor suggestion: when announcement for sports was made, it was difficult to recognize where and to whom we should give names, e.g., horse shoe. Have more breakout workshops with smaller groups of 20–30 people so more people can participate in the topics of their choice. Please make sure lights are turned off after 11 P.M.”

“Overall the Ijtima‘ was very good, no need of any changes. Jazākallāh.”

“I do appreciate the work of the entire organizing and planning committees. May Allāh help them to do more.”

“We thank our members for the hard work. May Allāh bless all of our members to continue their hard work. Jazākallāh.”
Ijtima' 1-313: Shūrā subcommittee deliberations
Ijtimā’ 1-313: 42 members attended Tahajjud, Fajr, and Dars on Saturday morning at courtyard Marriott

Ijtimā’ 1-313: Registration and Tajnīd team working on the final attendance numbers
The room was full with 100 foot soldiers, wearing blue blazers, white shirts, and red ties. And then Ḥuḍūr walked in.

None of us will ever forget that trip to London when, on February 11, 2016, we had an official audience with Ḥadrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allāh be his helper). Ḥuḍūr spent well over an hour with us, instructing us on how to tread through the delicate paths of Taqwā. During a conversation about collecting income budgets, Ḥuḍūr asked us to “go door to door” to gather income budgets. Then we witnessed the magic of how Allāh blessed that simple instruction of going “door to door…”

When we returned, we agreed that we were not going to debate or analyze this instruction. The attitude was: just do it. A year later, we witnessed the biggest one-year increase in our income budget. But that’s not where it ends.

The same theme of “going door to door” or leaving our homes dominated the year 2016. As you will see, Alhamdulillāh, in nearly every department, the Majlis’s willingness in going out and striving is what made a big difference.

**Strengthening Monthly Meetings**

For the third straight year, we have maintained focus on increasing the engagement at monthly meetings. Ansār don’t come to meeting just to listen; they come to offer their understanding, have a conversation, ask a question, and walk away with a solid guidance according to Islām and Ahmadiyyat.

Much of the meeting is now on a multimedia format—a PowerPoint slideshow with the audio of the Holy Qur’ān imbedded to help us improve our Arabic reading and video clips of Ḥuḍūr’s sermons so we always walk away with the right take-home message.

Rizwan Alladin (Qā’id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā’i’īn), Monas Chaudry (Qā’id Ta’lim), Tahir Ahmad Soofi (Qā’id Tarbiyat), and Munir Malik (Qā’id Ta’limul-Qur’ān) worked tirelessly with Imran Hayee (Nā’ib Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom) to build this multimedia learning platform. Naveed Malik (Nā’ib Qā’id Publications) designed the cover for the hardcopy book and Rafi Malik (Qā’id Publications) helped with editorial review.

Yes, we are still publishing print version of the handbook.

Maqbool Ahmad Tahir (Qā’id ‘Umūmi) and Mujeeb Chaudhry (Nā’ib Qā’id ‘Umūmi) dedicated long hours to track the progress of monthly reports and attendance at monthly meetings.

The result? We continue to see engaging conversations and a bigger turn out. We remain focused on real issues.

Sometimes the members find the Tarbiyat scenarios in the workbook to be vague and unclear. That’s OK. Isn’t that how real life is? What’s not OK is to go home with vagueness in our mind. Please use the religious references to solve the scenarios
discussed in the meeting and carefully listen to the video clip of Ḥuḍūr to gain clarity.

Tablígh

Over 45 Anṣār (along with their family members) went to Mérida, Mexico during 2016 for Tablígh. From Seattle to Detroit to Los Angeles to Houston, Anṣār responded to this initiative with enthusiasm. Jazākallāh to Muzaffār Siddiqi (Qā’id Tablígh) for leading by example.

One of the National ‘Āmila members went to Mérida with his teenaged son. According to him, within a day they were on the street distributing flyers. They taught the new converts to Islām Ahmadiyyat many basic tenets and rituals of the faith. A detailed report of Mérida visits is presented on page 62 of this publication.

Ta’līm Tests

Whatever it took, our Qā’id Ta’līm, Monas Chaudry, worked hard to increase Ta’līm test participation to over 52%. In addition, members read multiple books of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and enjoyed a new interactive “Kahoots” educational quiz at regional and National Ijtima’āt.

Interactive discussions on family related Tarbiyat matters were held at the regional and National Ijtima’. These presentations were attended by over an estimated 1000 members.

Anṣār Chanda Participation

You will have to flip through the pages of this issue to read the miraculous story of how our Chanda increased during the year 2016.

Since Ḥuḍūr asked us to go “door to door,” that’s what we did. There was so much buzz about Anṣār Chanda that in some cases ladies paid—voluntarily—on behalf of their husbands and sons paid on behalf of their fathers.

The other day, Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh received an envelope in the mail containing a $35 money order and a handwritten letter—shown on the right. This daughter paid Anṣār...
Chanda on behalf of her deceased father.

In 2016, well over 2,400 members (which is over 90% of our reachable Tajnid) participated in Anṣār Chanda drive and we collected $200,000 over our budget.

Our new Qā’id Finance, Zahid Mian, worked relentlessly to propel the Majlis, particularly during the month of December when many thought that we should have given up. We are thankful to Mohammed Layeequddin Ahmed, Hisham Qureshi (Nā’ib Qā’id Finance), and Munawar Saqib (Mu’āwin Šadr) for their help. May Allāh grant abundance to all of them, Ṭāhīn.

**Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd and Waqf-e-Jadīd**

Hassiem Babatu (Qā’id Taḥrīk Jadīd) and Shiraz Mantara (Qā’id Waqf Jadīd) rolled up their sleeves like previous years and helped the corresponding National teams in order to increase participation towards these blessed schemes. Alḥamdulillāh, 2,346 Anṣār participated in the blessed scheme of Taḥrīk Jadīd, contributing over $1 million. At the time of this writing, over 2,250 Anṣār contributed towards the blessed Waqf Jadīd scheme as final numbers are compiled.

**Services**

In order to be true to our motto of “Helpers of Allāh” the Majlis embarked on a variety of initiatives to strengthen our commitment to serving humanity. Mu’āwin Šadr, Abdul Hadi Ahmed, oversaw the departments providing these services.

**Free Health Services**

Our popular health hotline—716 800 1889—served over 150 members. Please remember Dr. Reyaz Haque and Dr. Tanvir Ahmad in your prayers for their selfless service.

An Ahmadi came to know about this service and contacted us from Belgium, where he lives, regarding a disabling neurological condition that one of his family members were suffering from. Our doctors scheduled a Skype call to accurately diagnose and offer a treatment plan for their
brother in need, across an ocean.

**Free Living Will**

For the third year in a row, at National Ijtimā’, our accountants and notary public tag-teamed to help members complete their living wills. What costs $400-$800 in the real world, was provided for free to many Anṣār. The team of Dawood Munir (Anṣār National Auditor), Khalid Ahmad, and Halim Chaudhry has served well over 150 members thus far.

**Anṣār Ṭāhir Scholarship**

A Nāṣīr stopped Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh in Texas and started describing his story of how the Anṣār Ṭāhir Scholarship helped him take classes in information technology. He improved his skill which helped him land a new job. He was extremely grateful for this help, which we believe is a gift from the Jamā’at of Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul Masīḥ to his members.

Anṣār Ṭāhir Scholarship pays up to $4000 towards vocational training courses. During 2016, over $28,000 was awarded in scholarships to nine Anṣār to improve their chances in the job market by undergoing vocational training. Many of them have successfully gained employment. Thanks to the ‘Āmila members who served on the committee to review these applications in a timely fashion.

**Anṣār Leadership Conference (ALC)**

The 12th annual ALC was held in London, U.K. We held a shorter version on Sunday, February 14, 2016. Nearly 100 Anṣār officeholders gathered to align their understanding of the National plan at the beginning of the year. The ALC report can be found on page 5 of this publication.

We are deeply indebted to Majlis Anṣārullāh U.K. for their unforgettable hospitality. Please see the full report of the U.K. trip on pages 5-16 of this issue.

**Personal Visits**

Keeping with the spirit of not sitting at home and going door to door, members of Majlis ‘Āmila visited all 70 Majālīs nationwide. One ‘Āmila member was assigned a Majlis over 1000 miles away. When he called the Za’īm, a thought was floated that perhaps the visit should be cancelled.
as only 3-4 Anṣār were expected to attend the meeting in this small Majlis and the cost of the trip would be around $500. However, after mutual consultation we decided to still go ahead with the trip. The meeting, Alhamdulillāh, went well. Attendance was more than expected. The National ‘Āmla member actually visited brothers at home since they were not feeling well.

These visits were in addition to the regular visits made by the regional Nāẓimin A’lā.

We are grateful to our Zu’āmā and local members who—at times—accommodated these visits even on weekday evenings. By extending their hospitality, they rekindled the values of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) who 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 Mājah)

Phone Calls

‘Āmla members and Šadrān also made periodic phone calls to Zu’āmā. To encourage an open dialogue, every Za’īm gets a monthly opportunity to jump on a 30-minute conference call with Šadr Majlis. Almost 80% of Zu’āmā attend this monthly call.

Robocalls

“This is Majlis Anṣāru’llāh calling…” Remember this? Yes, a quick 30-second robocall allows us to directly reach out to members for maximum impact. Even though our goal is to send more service-oriented messages, we were asked by Zu’āmā in December to send robocalls to remind people of the year-end finance drive. The impact was synergistic. Rasheed Reno continues to serve as the voice of Majlis Anṣāru’llāh on some of these calls.

Conference Calls

The Majlis held a monthly conference call with National ‘Āmla and a separate conference call with regional Nāẓimin A’lā. The calls are typically attended by over 90% of the concerned officeholders.

Revamping the Website

AnsarUSA.org is our home in the cyberspace. Mu’āwin Šadr, Pervaiz Khan, and his team do a marvelous job of timely updates and consistent styling. People used to say, “it is easier to make a website; we shall see when you are able to maintain it.” Alhamdulillāh, our new website is now up for three years. Thus far, our team is doing a great job of keeping it updated.

Al-Nāḥl (Our Flagship Anṣār Magazine)

We have gone to printing just the year-end issue of Al-Nāḥl based on growing segment of the Majlis moving fully online. Rafi Malik, Qā’id Publications, spearheads not only this magazine, but also our print and electronic newsletters, and many other publications in between.

Anṣār Connection (Electronic Newsletter)

Anṣār Connection—our bi-weekly e-newsletter—shares first-person stories of righteousness. You can find the archives of these newsletters on our website. Over 1000 Anṣār open these newsletters every month.

National Ijtimā’

After much prayers, we set the goal of 1313 Anṣār for the National Ijtimā’ 1313—24th Majlis Shūrā of Majlis Anṣāru’llāh, USA was held on Friday, September 23, 2016 during the National Ijtimā’. Ijtimā’ 1313—members enjoying BBQ lunch on Saturday, September 24, 2016
Ijtima‘ 2016. The goal was inspired by the 313 companions at Badr and the 313 Darvëshân of Qädishân. Alhamdulillah the Ijtima‘ was attended by 1335 Anşar.

Testimonials

This is what some of the attendees had to say about 2016 National Ijtima‘.

“I will make it a point of duty to attend the Ijtima‘ and encourage others to attend the Ijtima‘ every year Inshâ’allah.”

“Excellent Ijtima‘, Jazâkallah.”

“General Knowledge competition system was awesome. Question selection was excellent.”

“I hope we respect and pay attention to what Amir Sâhib has said. It was a very powerfully message.”

“First of all, brilliant name badges; you heard my suggestion to print on both sides. Jazâkallah. Secondly, dining area was much better and overall cleanliness was observed on entire grounds.”

“Allâh bless the team effort and continue to guide us all to improve each and every year. Wonderful event. Thank you for your hard work. May Allâh bless you all.”

Regional Ijtima‘ât

Alhamdulillah, 12 regional Ijtima‘ât were held nationwide. Our regional Nâzîmîn A’lâ have lifted the Majlis significantly with their hard work. Pictures from regional Ijtima‘ât...
are included on pages 88-91 of this issue.

What next? Inshā’āllāh!

Strengthening the culture of congregational Ṣalāt and populating mosques remains our primary spiritual focus. While the Majāls has made progress in these areas, much work needs to be done. We may not achieve 100% success, but we will not give up Inshā’āllāh.

Another goal is to inspire 50% of Chanda-paying Anṣār to join the system of Waṣiyat during 2017. Intense nationwide effort is underway to achieve this goal.

We are not sitting at homes. Our ‘Āmila members have pledged to visit 100% of Majāls during 2017. Also, many of the visits will be completed before May 2017 so the local Majāls have a chance to improve their standing.

Our Tablígh team is making sure that even our guests don’t sit at home. We are praying to have 100 Tablígh guests join us at the 2017 Jalsa Sālāna and Anṣārullāh National Ijtima‘.

Similarly, we are hoping to make over a 1000 visits to our elderly and ailing Anṣār brothers.

We also pray that after spending thousands of man hours, the Anṣār Housing Complex in Maryland comes to fruition this year. At the time of this writing, 156 male and female members of the USA Jamā‘at have been placed on a priority list to buy the 46 available homes to be built. A generous sized community center/mosque is being planned and we await our beloved Ḥuḍūr’s decision on naming this complex. There are too many unknowns and unseen. But we have crossed the bridge of “Yu’minūna bil-ghaib” (believe in the unseen) a few years ago.

Full list of our 2017 goals is available at ansarUSA.org/goals2017

We are thankful to every Nāṣir, every Za‘īm, every Nāẓīm Alā‘, and every ‘Āmila member for striving—and not just sitting at home—to accomplish all that Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul Masīh expects from us. May Allāh grant them and their families all the good in this world and the hereafter ʿĀmīn.

Prescribed rates of Anṣār Chanda are based on take-home pay after taxes and mandatory insurance.

Membership: 1% of take-home income (minimum $2/month)
Ijtima‘: 1/8th of Membership Chanda (or 0.125% of income; minimum $1/month)
Publication: $10 per year

Sample Chanda Calculations:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Take-Home Pay</th>
<th>Annual Chanda</th>
<th>Membership + Ijtima‘ + Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000/month</td>
<td>$145</td>
<td>(120 + 15 + 10) or $12/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$28,000/year</td>
<td>$325</td>
<td>(280 + 35 + 10) or $27/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$52,000/year</td>
<td>$595</td>
<td>(520 + 65 + 10) or $50/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$68,000/year</td>
<td>$775</td>
<td>(680 + 85 + 10) or $65/month</td>
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Use calculator at ansarusa.org/calculator to determine Chanda for your income.

Please estimate next year’s Chanda and inform your Muntażīm Finance to record your 2017 budget (later, it can be adjusted up or down if circumstances change).

For any questions, please contact Qā‘id Finance at qaid.mal@ansarusa.org
Establishing Şalāt Centers

Tahir Soofi, Qā'id Tarbiyat and Ismail Anani, Nā'hīb Qā'id Tarbiyat

Throughout the year, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatuł-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper) has constantly reminded us that Şalāt is a must but more emphasis was on congregational Şalāt. Şalāt is the second of the five pillars of Islām, the first being belief in the Unity of God. Şalāt is the most potent means of establishing and strengthening one’s communion with one’s Maker and of drawing near to Him.

It was decided that the major goal for the Department of Tarbiyat in 2016 was to inculcate the culture of congregational Şalāt whereby 75% of Anşār were offering congregational Şalāt on a regular basis. The number of Anşār offering congregational Şalāt increased from 37% in January to 67% in December. Please see below the overall progress in terms of percentage by month.

The Department of Tarbiyat assisted the National Tarbiyat administration, must continue to remind members as we read here, “We kept sending out reminders on WhatsApp and encouraging members to come for congregational Prayers. After a few weeks, more people started showing up, including some Lajna members. There were days we had more than 10 members come out to offer congregational Prayers.”

And then we as officeholders/administration, must continue to offer congregational Şalāt—Percentage by Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>Apr</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<td>55%</td>
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<td>58%</td>
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<td>Sep</td>
<td>61%</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The U.S. Anşār offering congregational Şalāt—Percentage by Month

The U.S. Anşar offering congregational Şalāt among the Jamā’at was permitted to start their own. The location was offered by Tariq Mahmood. With mutual consultation and approval of the Jamā’at President and Za’īm Anşārullah, they appointed an Īmām-Şalāt and began Maghrib and Isha Prayers. Initially about 7 families participated with attendance of about 15. Today, by the grace of Allāh, 20-25 members from 10-12 families gather every evening for Şalāt in congregation. Şalāt Fajr has been added recently in response to a pointed reminder by our beloved Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatuł-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper). I believe it is, by the grace and help of Allāh Almighty, one of the best Şalāt centers in the entire country.”

The President of the Washington D.C. Jamā’at adds, “Extremely powerful and never-ending resolve and commitment of the host family and Īmām-Şalāt, I believe this is the most important aspect for the success or non-success of any Şalāt center. I would like to share an incident in this regard. We are grateful to Almighty Allāh that even in rain and storms the flow of electricity is rarely interrupted in our great country, the USA. But one night it did happen; lights went out. As usual, when I arrived with my wife, parking lot, the house, and the entire neighborhood was dark. I promptly made a u-turn back to my house. The following day, the Īmām informed me that Prayer was indeed held with instant light provided by members’ cell phones. The Īmām stated “Obligatory Prayers never stop whether it is dark or light.” Members are so lucky to be blessed with this kind of commitment from Anşār. The same spirit is now being inculcated in our youth, Khuddām, Aṭfāl, Lajna, and Nāsīrāt.”

Such a heart-warming story that is
In 2016, the Department of Tarbiyat worked with Qādīān Nau Mubā‘īn, Ta‘lim, Ta‘lim-ul-Qur‘ān, and Dhahānat wa Šīḥat Jismānī under the guidance of Nā‘īb Ṣa‘dīr Šaff Dom, Imran Hayee, for a two-year Ta‘lim-and-Tarbiyat workbook. It would contain real life scenarios to be discussed in local meetings. Guidance from the Holy Qur‘ān, Aḥdith, and quotes from the writings of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and Aḥmādī Khulāfā was included to guide discussions on the right path.

Two scripts were provided for Robocalls regarding Tarbiyat related matters that can reach over 2000 Anṣār.

The major goal for the Department of Tarbiyat was to inculcate the culture of congregational Ṣalāt whereby 75% of Anṣār were offering congregational Ṣalāt on a regular basis. The year started slow but increased over 75% within 11 months.

The Department of Tarbiyat also played an important role in creating and re-activating Ṣalāt centers with a goal of 250 Ṣalāt centers nationwide. Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA assisted the National Tarbiyat department of the USA Jama‘at and 274 Ṣalāt centers were created or re-activated, Aḥmādullāh.

First ever national Muntāzīmīn Tarbiyat teleconferences were held with success. Overall for 2016, we held 2 national teleconference calls. The Department of Tarbiyat was entrusted with the responsibility of discipline at the national Ījtimā‘ of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA.

We also created a WhatsApp group for the Muntāzīmīn Tarbiyat and Nā‘īb Qādīān Tarbiyat to facilitate more communications.

Interactive marriage workshop scenarios were presented at each Regional Ījtimā‘ as this was an approved Majlis Shūrā proposal. This was one detailed case study and several groups were made to discuss the scenarios and come up with solutions to the scenarios. This was a big success based on the feedback received.

The Department of Tarbiyat gave a presentation on success stories of congregational Ṣalāt based on actual feedback from members. This was presented at the 2016 national Ījtimā‘ of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA.

Send your comments or suggestions to al-nahl@ansarus.org
Bringing Qur’an in Our Lives

Munir Ahmad Malik, Qa'id Ta'limul Qur'an

In this age of advanced technology, the world is suffering from insecurity, unrest, and frustration. Unfortunately, Muslim countries are in the forefront of lawlessness nearing the pinnacle of disregard for human life. Why is this so? Are not the Islamic countries filled with majority of Muslims who claim to be followers of the Prince of Peace, the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him)? Then why are they lost in despair tarnishing the beautiful name of Islam by terrorizing the world?

When we analyze this question we regrettably find that:

1. The Muslims have forgotten the pristine Islamic teachings.
2. Muslims have, practically, totally neglected and discarded the Holy Qur’an which is a complete code of life revealed by the Creator for the entire mankind.
3. Muslims have stopped inculcating the perfect example of the Holy Prophet in their lives.
4. Muslims have failed to recognize and accept the Messiah and Mahdi of this age as prophesied by Holy Prophet.

The deplorable condition of Muslims of this age was sadly predicted by the Holy Prophet. He had prophesied that teachings of Islam would be forgotten and the Holy Qur’an would be discarded in the latter days, necessitating a revival by the Messiah and Mahdi at the start of 14th century.

The dire need of today is to bring the Holy Qur’an back into our lives in order to save ourselves and others. The Holy Qur’an is the word of the Almighty, our Creator, who knows well all the needs of its creation. The Holy Qur’an is replete with knowledge of the past, present, and future and is a source of guidance. The Holy Qur’an is a hidden treasure that very few people are aware of. In the Holy Qur’an, the Almighty Allah says: “This is the perfect book, there is no doubt in it. It is a guidance for the righteous” (The Holy Qur’an, 2 [Al-Baqarah]:2)

About this Holy book, the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) writes:

It is a book which has this outstanding quality that it is filled entirely and purely with the teachings of the Unity of God and does not permit any manner of blemish or defect, or shortcoming or any aspersion to be cast against the Holy Creator. It does not desire to impose any doctrine perforce. On the contrary, it precedes everything that it expounds with such argument and logic as establish its truth. It proves its objectives and purports with weighty arguments and strong evidence. Having presented clear arguments to explain every principle it enunciates, it leads man to firm belief and absolute understanding of realities. It removes, with the help of lucid enunciation, all defects and irregularities which infest human beliefs, practices, words, and deeds. It also teaches all etiquette which is essential to cultivate human values in man. It meets the challenges of every corruption with no less a force than that displayed by the corruption itself prevalent in the world today. Its teachings are straight, powerful, and well balanced as if they were the reflective mirror of nature itself and a true copy of the law of nature. It is like an enlightening sun for the inner eye and perceptive faculty of the heart. (Riḥānī Khazā’īn, Vol: 1: Barāhīn-i-Aḥmadiyya, pp 81-82)

The Promised Messiah admonished his Jamā’at members to focus on the Holy Qur’an:

Listen O those dear to me that without Qur’an man never reaches truth. Qur’an fills the heart with light, cleans the bosom most thoroughly. Every word is an ocean of wisdom and it makes one drink cups full of love of God.”

The reformer of this age, the Promised Messiah, in his book Kasht-i-Nūḥ (Noah’s Arc) addressing his Jamā’at members writes, “You are the last people raised by God so do such deeds of piety as touch the loftiest standards of excellence.”

Our beloved Imām Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) has repeatedly reminded Jamā’at members that he Holy Qur’an should be recited in each home regularly with an emphasis on understanding its meaning and incorporating its teachings in our daily lives. We must now take heed of this sacred responsibility laid upon us as members of this Jamā’at.

Majlis Ansārullāh, USA in compliance with Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ’s directive for daily recitation of the Holy Qur’an in each home initiated a campaign for its implementation at the national level. In 2016, the Department of Ta’limul Qur’an, Majlis Ansārullāh, USA set the target at 75% of Ansar reciting the Holy Qur’an daily. Alḥamduillāh, over the course of the year, we made significant progress. At the end of the year, more than 61% Ansar reported reciting the Holy Qur’an daily, and more than 10 Majalis have exceeded the 75% goal. For 2017 we have increased the goal to 100%. We can achieve this goal through regular reminders and individual efforts to instill the love for the Holy Qur’an.

The key is to personally experience the great blessings of the Holy Qur’an, and to share these experiences. Our Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) said, “The best of you is one who learns the Holy Qur’an and teaches it to others.”

I will conclude by narrating an incredible anecdote written by Ḥadrat Maulānā Ghulām Rasīl Rājāyki (may Allāh be pleased with him), a companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), regarding the blessings of the Holy Qur’an with
special reference to Surah Fatiha. He writes:

“Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain’s six year old son became seriously sick. He was treated very carefully but nothing worked and doctors were disappointed that the child was about to die, so his father went outside to make his son’s funeral arrangements. At that time Dr. Hussain’s wife requested me with great pathos to pray for her son. I gave one rupee to a needy person as Sadaqa and asked him to pray for the child and I also started my Ṣalāt. In my Ṣalāt I recited Surah Fatiha word by word with absolute humility for the cure of the child and I was still in prostration that the child got up and started talking as he was fully cured. At that time mother of the child said to her husband, Dr Hussain, I have tested your medical skill. Whatever can be achieved by the prayers of God's loved ones cannot be achieved by physicians and doctors.” (Ḥayāt-i-Qudsī, Vol 5 pg. 32)

Magnetic cards reminding daily recitation of the Holy Qur’ān were distributed to Anṣār by the department of Taʿlimul Qur’ān, Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA
Our Door-to-Door Journey

Zahid Mian, Qa‘id Finance

When you imagine someone going door-to-door, you think of someone selling a product or maybe selling an idea (for a political campaign) or maybe leaving a flyer at the door. Last year Majlis Anšārullāh, USA also went door-to-door, but we were not selling a product or an idea—we were simply reminding members to witness the truth of Khīlāfāt.

In February, National ‘Āmila, Regional Nāẓīmīn ‘Ālā, and Zu‘āmā of Majlis Anšārullāh, USA were blessed to have a meeting with our beloved Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Maṣīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) in London. That trip is memorable for many reasons, including the hospitality of Majlis Anšārullāh, UK, but mostly because during the meeting Ḥuḍūr asked how we collect income budgets. Our reply was that we try to reach out to individuals during the budgeting process. Ḥuḍūr advised: “You should go door-to-door to collect budgets.” Ḥuḍūr clarified that he did not mean to literally go door-to-door, but our effort should be equivalent. Afterwards, Šādīr Majlis Anšārullāh, USA and I understood the enormity of this task and acknowledged to work towards it in earnest.

Despite the fact that we were implementing this level of outreach for the first time and we did not know how members would react, we did not analyze the details of our plan or think of a prolonged roll-out strategy. We simply heard and we obeyed.

A few months later, our budget process started and we reminded Zu‘āmā and members about the words of our Khalīfah. Not surprisingly, our participation of 2,400. Again, we reminded members of the door-to-door initiative and asked Zu‘āmā/ Muńtaẓīmīn to simply remind members of their obligation towards this. Within a few days, we began to see the fruit of this as well. By December 15, the participation had increased to nearly 2,100, but as anyone with experience in these matters will tell you that it is the “last mile” that is the most challenging. With special prayers towards this task and regular reminders, we slowly gained momentum and when it was all said and done, we had over 2,500 participants and over $770K in collections. Alḥamdu’llīllāh, Alḥamdulillāh, Alḥamdulillāh!

One may be tempted to think that it was our effort that made this happen. However, our effort was just a small piece of the larger undertaking. This began with the advice of our Khalīfah; then our Šādīr Majlis made this a priority; then the Finance team worked to deliver this message with appropriate feedback; then the Zu‘āmā and Muńtaẓīmīn did their job in going door-to-door; and finally the members responded to the call of our Khalīfah.

This is our journey of going door-to-door and its success is merely one of the blessings we have as a Jamā‘at of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). This exercise once again proved the veracity of our Khalīfāt. May Allūh accept our humble sacrifices and may He continue to shower His blessings on our Jamā‘at. Amin.

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Haḍrat Khalīfatul-Maṣīḥ V (may Allūh be his helper) has urged us to listen to his Friday sermons. It is imperative that we listen to Ḥuḍūr’s sermons regularly in order to benefit from the advice of the divinely guided Khalīfatul-Maṣīḥ. The translation/summary of Ḥuḍūr’s Friday sermon is distributed to Anšār weekly via email. Anšār who are not able to listen to Ḥuḍūr’s Friday sermon are urged to read these summaries on a regular basis.
To the Ends of the Earth

Muzaffar Siddiqi, Qa'id Tabligh

Ever since our beloved Imām, Hadrat Khalifatul-Masīh V (may Allāh be his helper), instructed the USA Jama'at to focus on Spanish-speaking community for Tabligh efforts I was longing to be part of the campaign. The opportunity presented itself in the form of Waqf-i-‘Arḍī (short-term devotional) scheme launched for Mexico. I received a heart-warming email from Imām Noman Rana that my request has been accepted. The very feeling that I will be a dedicated—albeit short-term—missionary of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) is beyond description.

Mérida is the capital and largest city of the Mexican state of Yucatán as well as the largest city of the Yucatán Peninsula. It is located in the northwest part of the state, about 22 miles from the Gulf of Mexico coast. According to the 2010 census, the population of Mérida was 970,377, ranking 12th among the most populous Mexican metropolitan areas.

I arrived in Mérida in the afternoon of April 1, 2016. My host was Imām Azhar Goraya; a very pleasant personality indeed. I picked the option of staying at our mosque rather than the hotel; hence, a doubly blessed trip. Staying in the mosque for 8 days during temporary dedication was an amazing experience.

A typical day would start with Tahajjud and Fajr Prayers in congregation followed by Dars. The key focus of this Waqf was Tabligh in the shape of flyers distribution. A daily target of 2000 individual contacts looked humongous on the first day (considering the typical average we achieve in USA). I cannot explain how the target was achieved day after day. I would stand on the footpath reciting various Qur’ānic verses and be amazed at those hands stretched out to receive the flyer. It was nothing except the blessings of Allāh. Few would stop to get more details. Spanish language would not be a barrier if you memorize few sentences; e.g. “Our mosque is at this address, please come and join us for Coffee, Cake and Islām event.” or “For more information, please call us at this number or visit us at this address.”

Newly converts in Mérida are very simple and loving people. Watching the Imām teaching Ahmādis and non-Muslims the basics of religion was reminiscent of the early days of Islām when missionaries easily intermingled with local populace to propagate the religious teachings.

Helping newly converts to learn ablution, Adhān, Iqāmat, and Ṣalāt was another remarkable experience. They would offer Zuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and ‘Ishā’ Prayers in congregation even though some of them had not fully memorized the Ṣalāt. They would be most attentive during Dars after each Ṣalāt.

Our missionaries work very hard to guide people towards establishing a connection with God Almighty. As Hadrat Khalifatul-Masīh V (may Allāh be his helper) said, “True faith and true devotion requires a person to willingly invoke the demise of his personal ego.” Blessed with the opportunity to live with a missionary, I learned how willing they are to bear all forms of hardship and focused on their goal to call others towards the truth. Only Allāh has the reward for their sacrifices!

With profound feelings of gratitude, I left for home on April 8, 2016. May Allāh accept our small efforts and enable us to be a cause of happiness to Hadrat Khalifatul-Masīh, ʿĀmin.
2016 National Majlis ‘Āmila

Ṣadr Majlis
Faheem Younus Qureshi
Baltimore, MD

Nā‘ib Ṣadr Awwal
Suhail Kausar
Dallas, TX

Nā‘ib Ṣadr Šaff Dom
Imran Hayee
Minnesota

Mu‘āwin Ṣadr (Finance)
Munawar Ahmad Saqib
Willingboro, NJ

Mu‘āwin Ṣadr (IT)
Pervaiz Khan
Detroit, MI

Mu‘āwin Ṣadr (Special Projects)
Abdul Hadi Ahmed
Silver Spring, MD

Qā‘id Umūmi
Maqbool Ahmad Tahir
Detroit, MI

Qā‘id Ta‘lim
Monas Ahmad Chaudry
Los Angeles, CA

Auditor
M. Dawood Munir
Houston, TX

Qā‘id Publications
Rafi Malik
Columbus, OH

Qā‘id Tahrik Jadid
Hassiem Abdullah Babatu
Milwaukee, WI

Qā‘id Tablîgh
Muzaffar Ahmad Siddiqi
Los Angeles, CA
The Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) said: Allāh is very benevolent. The ocean of His benevolence is very deep and it will never deplete. Its seeker and solicitor has never been deprived. So you should get up during nights and beg for His blessing.

[Concluding address at Ijtima' 1-1-1-1 by Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper), Sep. 20, 2015]
Members of Anṣār National ‘Āmila and regional Nāzimīn Alā gather for a group photo during their visit to Baltimore, MD for national ‘Āmila meeting held on May 14, 2016 at Baitus Ṣamad Mosque.

Group photo with Anṣār of Georgia-SC Majlis during a visit to Atlanta, GA for Anṣār national ‘Āmila Meeting held on August 20, 2016.
Ṣadr Majlis with Anṣār of South Virginia Majlis

Ṣadr Majlis with Anṣār of Minnesota Majlis
Ṣadr Majlis with Anṣār of Long Island Majlis

Nā‘īb Ṣadr Awwal, Suhail Kausar, with Anṣār of Philadelphia Majlis
Nā‘ib Ṣadr Awwal, Suhaïl Kausar, with Anṣār of Phoenix Majlis

Nā‘ib Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom, Imran Hayee, with Anṣār of Cypress Houston Majlis
Nāʿīb Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom, Imran Hayee, with Anṣār of New Orleans Majlis

Nāʿīb Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom, Imran Hayee, with Anṣār of Fort Worth Majlis
National Anşarullâh Auditor, M. Dawood Munir, with Anşâr of Miami Majlis

National Anşarullâh Auditor, M. Dawood Munir, with Anşâr of Chicago East Majlis
National Anṣārullāh Auditor, M. Dawood Munir, with Anṣār of Portland Majlis

Qā‘id Tarbiyat, Tahir Soofi, with Anṣār of Tennessee Majlis
Qā’id Tarbiyat, Tahir Soofi, with Anṣār of Detroit Majlis

Qā’id Tarbiyat, Tahir Soofi, conducting a Tarbiyat workshop in Virginia
Qā‘id Tarbiyat, Tahir Soofi, with Anṣār of Dayton Majlis

Qā‘id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā‘īn, Rizwan Alladin, with Anṣār of Central Jersey Majlis
Qā‘īd Ta‘līmul Qur‘ān, Munir Ahmad Malik, with Anṣār of Bay Point Majlis

Qā‘īd Ta‘līmul Qur‘ān, Munir Ahmad Malik, with Anṣār of Zion Majlis
Qā‘id Ta‘limul Qur‘ān, Munir Ahmad Malik, with Ansār of Osh Kosh Majlis

Qā‘id Īthār, Basharat Ahmad Wadan and Nā‘ib Qā‘id Īthār, Munawar Malik, with Ansār of Charlotte Majlis
Qā'id Īthār, Basharat Ahmad Wadan and Nā‘īb Qā'id Īthār, Munawar Malik, with Anṣār of Lehigh Valley Majlis

Qā'id Īthār, Basharat Ahmad Wadan and Nā‘īb Qā'id Īthār, Munawar Malik, with Anṣār of York Majlis
Qā’id Finance, Zahid Mian, with Anṣār of Silicon Valley Majlis

Qā’id Finance, Zahid Mian, with Anṣār of Merced Majlis
Qā’id Tajnīd, Muhammad Shahid Mahmood, with Anṣār of St. Louis Majlis

Qā’id Taḥrīk Jadīd, Hassiem Abdullah Babatu, with Anṣār of Bloomington Majlis
Qā‘id Publications, Rafi Malik, with Anṣār of Indiana Majlis

Qā‘id Publications, Rafi Malik, with Anṣār of Long Island Majlis
## 2016 Regions

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2016 Regional Nāẓimīn A’lā

Nāẓim A’lā Central East
Abdul Nasir
Central Jersey

Nāẓim A’lā Central West
Khurram Shah
Bay Point, CA

Nāẓim A’lā Great Lakes
Naseem Ahmed Khan
Detroit, MI

Nāẓim A’lā Gulf States
Mahfooz Sheikh
Dallas, TX

Nāẓim A’lā Headquarters
Khurram Bashir
Silver Spring, MD

Nāẓim A’lā Midwest
AbuBakar Bin Saeed
Milwaukee, WI

Nāẓim A’lā New York
Muhammad Arshad Janjua
Long Island, NY

Nāẓim A’lā Northeast
Sarjō Trawalley
Boston, MA

Nāẓim A’lā Northwest
Atta Karim Chowdhry
Vancouver, WA

Nāẓim A’lā Southeast
Ahmad Krishan Dard
Cary, NC

Nāẓim A’lā Southwest
Zafar Abdul Basith
Los Angeles, CA

Nāẓim A’lā Virginia
Ijaz Ahmad Qamar
Lorton, Virginia
Central East regional Ijtima’ was held on May 22, 2016 at Baitul Hādī Mosque in Old Bridge, NJ

Central West regional Ijtima’ was held on May 21 in Bay Point, CA

New York regional Ijtima’ was held on May 8, 2016 at Baituz Žafar Mosque in New York, NY
Gulf States regional Ijtimā‘ was held on April 16-17, 2016 at Baitus Samee Mosque in Houston, TX

Headquarters regional Ijtimā‘ was held on May 8, 2016 at Baitur Rahmān Mosque in Silver Spring, MD

Midwest regional Ijtimā‘ was held on July 23, 2016 at Baitul Jaamay Mosque in Glen Ellyn, IL
Great Lakes regional Ijtima’ was held on April 30, 2016 at Baitun Nāṣir Mosque in Columbus, OH

Southeast regional Ijtima’ was held on April 3, 2016 in Atlanta, GA
Northwest regional Ijtimā’ was held on May 1, 2016 at Baitul Ehsaan Mosque in Seattle, WA

Southwest regional Ijtimā’ was held on May 7-8, 2016 at Baitul Ḥameed Mosque in Chino, CA

Virginia regional Ijtima’ was held on May 8, 2016 at Mubarak Mosque in Chantilly, VA
2016 Zuʿamā

Zaʾīm Alabama-TN
Hammad Khan

Zaʾīm Albany
Muzaffar Ahmad

Zaʾīm Austin
Maqbool Ahmad

Zaʾīm Baltimore
Basit A. Khan

Zaʾīm Bay Point
Mohammad Javed Khan

Zaʾīm Binghamton
Mehmood Ahmad Butt

Zaʾīm Bloomington
Atiq Ur Rehman

Zaʾīm Boston
Karim Sharif

Zaʾīm Bronx
Mohammad Waseem Kokab

Zaʾīm Brooklyn
Naeem Ahmad Janjua

Zaʾīm Buffalο
Zafar Ahmed

Zaʾīm Central Jersey
Khalid Maqsud Ahmad
Anṣār at the local Ijtima’ of Buffalo Majlis held on April 10, 2016

Anṣār at the local Ijtima’ of New York Majlis held on April 3, 2016 at Baituz Zafar Mosque in New York, NY
Anṣār at the local Ijtima’ of Chicago NW Majlis held on May 15, 2016 at Baitul Jaamay Mosque in Glen Ellyn, IL

Anṣār at the local Ijtima’ of Dallas Majlis held on April 3, 2016 at Baitul Ikrām Mosque in Dallas, TX
Anṣār at the combined local Ijtima‘ of Houston North and South Majlis held on March 13, 2016

Anṣār at the local Ijtima‘ of LA East Majlis held on April 9 and 10, 2016 at Baitul Ḥameed Mosque in Chino, CA
Anṣār at the local Ijtīmā’ of Las Vegas Majlis held on April 9, 2016

Anṣār at the local Ijtīmā’ of North Jersey Majlis held on April 17, 2016 at Baitul Wahid Mosque in Patterson, NJ
Anṣār at the local Ijtimā’ of Milwaukee Majlis

Anṣār at the local Ijtimā’ of Philadelphia Majlis
Anṣār at the combined local Ijtimāʿ of Boston and Fitchburg Majālis

Anṣār at the local Ijtimaʿ of Detroit Majlis held on April 17, 2016

Anṣār at the combined local Ijtimaʿ of Laurel, Potomac, and Silver Spring Majālis held on April 17, 2016
Anṣār at the local Ijtima’ of Rochester Majlis held on April 10, 2016

Anṣār at the combined local Ijtima’ of Central and North Virginia Majālis
Anṣār at the local Ijtīmā‘ of Las Vegas Majlis

Anṣār at the local Ijtīmā‘ of Cypress Houston Majlis
Anṣār at the local Ijtimā’ of LA Inland Majlis

Anṣār at the local Ijtimā’ of Dallas Majlis
Amīr Jamāʿat USA, respected Ṣāḥibzādah Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad blessed a meeting of LA Inland and LA East Majālis held in November 2016

Anṣār of North Jersey Majlis participating in their monthly general meeting
Anṣār of Central Jersey Majlis participating in December monthly meeting

Anṣār of LA East Majlis at monthly general meeting held on December 11, 2016 at Baitul Ḥameed Mosque, in Chino, CA
Anṣār of Zion Majlis participating in November monthly meeting

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mauʻūd (may Allāh be pleased with him), referring to Sūrah Jumuʻah, mentioned the coming of such a prophet and the true servant of the Prophet Muḥammad (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him)—among the Ākharīn (the latter ones)—who should be the one who will carry forward the work of the Holy Prophet. In this regard, like other subsidiary organizations, he assigned the responsibility to Anṣārullāh that their job was also to do Tablīgh, teach the Holy Qur'ān, state the wisdom of Shari'ah, impart good training, remove the worldly weaknesses of the community, and move them forward.

[Concluding address at Ijtima' 1-1-1-1 by Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masîh V (may Allāh be his helper), Sep. 20, 2015]
Members at a Ṣalāt center in Houston South Majlis

Qa’id Tarbiyat and Nāzimīn Ālā visiting a Ṣalāt center during their visit to Atlanta, GA for Anṣār national ʿĀmila Meeting held on August 20, 2016
Anṣār of Dallas Majlís during a blessed Waqf-i-ʿĀrḍī (short-term devotional) in Mérida

Imām Noman Rana seeing off Anṣār of Austin and Dallas Majālīs upon completion of their Waqf-i-ʿĀrḍī in Mérida
Qāʿid Tablīgh, Muzaffar Siddiqi, and Anṣār of LA East Majlis pose for a group photo with Imām Noman Rana and local brothers before ‘Ishā Prayer during their visit to Mérida.

Anṣār from Chicago with local brothers during their visit to Mérida.
Mu'āwin Ṣadr, Pervaiz Khan, with Imām Noman Rana and new convert brother during his visit to Mérida.

A show of brotherly affection—a Nāṣir of Austin Majlis, Qamar Zafar, with local brothers during his visit to Mérida.
Hassiem Abdullah Babatu (Qā‘id Tāḥrīk Jadīd), Abubakar Bin Saeed (Regional Nāzim A’lā of Midwest region), and the veteran Dā‘ī Ilallāh Nāṣīr, Al-Ḥāj Dr. Muhammad Sabir, during a live call at the Islām Live radio show in Milwaukee, WI

Tablīgh booth of LA East Majlis at the International Fair in Artesia, CA
Anṣār of LA Inland Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity. The local Jamāʿat’s float received the “Overall Best” award.
Anṣār of South Virginia Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity.
Anṣār of Houston North Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity.

Anṣār of Austin Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity.
Anşar of Houston South Majlis took part in local Jamā‘at’s 4th of July parade activity.

Anşar of Forth Worth Majlis took part in local Jamā‘at’s 4th of July parade activity.
Anṣār of Dayton Majlis took part in local Jamā‘at’s 4th of July parade activity.

Anṣār of Silicon Valley Majlis took part in local Jamā‘at’s 4th of July parade activity.
Anṣār of Milwaukee Majlis took part in local Jamā’at’s 4th of July parade activity.

Anṣār of Chicago NW Majlis took part in local Jamā’at’s 4th of July parade activity.
Anṣār of Bay Point Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity.

Anṣār of Fitchburg Majlis took part in local Jamāʿat’s 4th of July parade activity.
33 guests attended Houston North Majlis’ 911 event held at Baitus Samee Mosque in Houston, TX

Anṣār of North Virginia Majlis volunteering at Food Fight 2016 event on May 15, 2016
Anṣār of Detroit Majlis planning with Humanity First and Khuddām on delivering many truckloads of water to the communities affected by the water crisis in Flint, Michigan

Jason Elsea of Columbus Majlis drove in 2 pallets of drinkable water to Detroit to help with the City of Flint Water Crisis

Anṣār of Detroit Majlis worked hand in glove with Humanity First and local Khuddām during the crisis
Anṣār of North Jersey Majlis participating in Waqār-i-‘Aml in May 2016 at the newly acquired mosque site

NY Senior Day: A dinner for senior Anṣār members of New York Majlis was held during the month of March at Baituz Zafar Mosque, in Queens, NY. All senior Anṣār members of the New York Majlis were invited. Members were entertained with real life stories, poetry, and jokes. Almost all the members recited poetry. Nāẓim A’lā of New York region also attended the event. Dinner was served.

Anṣār of Silicon Valley at food pantry event on Oct. 28

Anṣār of Chicago NW and SW Majaālis at Waqār-i-‘Aml
Anṣār of Zion Majlis gather for spiritual and physical fitness—Tahajjud, Fajr, and exercise—followed by breakfast.
Anṣār taking part in a walkathon held in New York

Anṣār of Zion Majlis taking part in a walkathon
Anṣār from Virginia participated in 5K walk for hunger in Washington, D.C.

Anṣār of Pittsburgh Majlis gather for a group photo at a picnic with other members of the local Jamā’at
Running like 16 at the Age of 68

Rashid Syed, Los Angeles

At age 68, I ran and jogged 13.1 miles on Super Bowl Sunday on February 7, 2016, in Huntington Beach, CA. I was not alone; I was with my son, Salman Syed, other members, and twenty five thousand plus other participants. I felt pretty young when I learnt I was running along with a lady who was 89.

I have been running half marathons since 2005. Not only does it help me stay healthy it also helps raise funds for various charity organizations.

Over the years, I have been determined to treat my medical conditions—including heart issues and back pain—with diet and exercise.

Running and jogging helps you adopt an active and disciplined lifestyle. I am a living example of the fact that discipline, determination, motivation, watching diet, and doing a little exercise can cure many health conditions. Everyone experiences aches and pains with the age but at age 68, I feel pretty good about my health. If I can do it, anybody can do it.

Please get out, start walking 15-20 minutes a day, but regularly. Increase your walk to 25-30 minutes and continue until you are comfortable with the speed and distance. Don’t start running until you have built speed. If you have a medical condition, you should seek advice from your doctor or Qa’id health at qaid.health@ansarusa.org before start running.

Planning for another ½ Marathon in February 2017, Inshā’allāh.

Rashid Syed
Ṣadr Majlis, Faheem Younus Qureshi, presenting a plaque to the Honorable U.S. Senator Ben Cardin who joined the Baltimore Jamā’at members for Iftār on July 3, 2016, along with a pastor, several non-Muslim and non-Ահմադի guests

Alpha Bah, Za‘īm of Zion Majlis, received the Waukegan Township Drum Major for Justice Award recognizing him as a “Dream Maker”
A recognition plaque was offered on behalf of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA to the outgoing Amīr Jamā’at USA, respected Ahsanullah Zafar, at the farewell dinner held in his honor.
Departed Souls

The following U.S. Anṣār departed this temporary abode in 2016 on their journey towards eternal bliss in the next life, Inna lillāhi wa inna ilaihi rājiʿūn. May their souls rest in peace, Āmīn.

Information about deceased individuals is provided by the family, friends, or local administration. Information about some individuals could not be obtained but will be included in the subsequent issues of this magazine if and when made available. Readers are encouraged to write about the deceased to preserve history and their good example for the next generations to follow. The information can be provided at www.ansarusa.org/information-about-deceased-members.

Abdul Shahid Muʾmin

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala
Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala of LA Inland Majlis passed away on February 1, 2016 at the age of 85.

Nasir Ahmad Raja
Nasir Ahmad Raja of Laurel Majlis passed away on Saturday, February 6, 2016.

Nazir Ayaz
Nazir Ayaz of New York Majlis passed away on July 3, 2016 at the age of 69.

Mir Ahmad Afzal
Mir Ahmad Afzal, former Zaʾīm of Chicago East Majlis, passed away on July 4, 2016.

Ahmed Abdul Hameed
Ahmed Abdul Hameed passed away on July 6, 2016.

Chaudhry Umar Din Khan Darvesh Qādīān
Chaudhry Umar Din Khan Darvesh Qādīān passed away on December 5, 2016 at the age of 97.

Remembering a Gentle Soul, Ahmed Abdul Hameed
Faheem Younus Qureshi, Ṣadr Majlis

Ahmed Abdul Hameed passed away on July 6, 2016 in Maryland, Inna lillāhi wa inna ilaihi rājiʿūn. He was a devout Ahmadi Muslim, a loving father, a responsible husband, and a friend to many. He was born in Hyderabad Deccan, India where he served as Qāʿīd Majlis Khuddāmul Aḥmadiyya. From there, life took him to Saudi Arabia where he was entrusted to be the President of Dammam Jamāʿat. Over 20 years ago, he dedicated himself to serving MTA USA at Baitur-Raḥmān Mosque. He also served as the Secretary Wasāyā in Silver Spring Jamāʿat.

Abdul Hameed Ṣāhib—as we lovingly called him—was a man of ideas. From what kind of speech topics we should select to where we should place the portable bathrooms at Ijtimaʿ, he knew it. “We should have more discussions about Rishtah Nātā. Let fathers talk to each other about their children of marriageable age,” he once advised me.

A few days before his demise, when he was on hospice, I was fortunate to visit him at home with two other Anṣār of Baltimore Majlis. Despite being deeply jaundiced and physically exhausted, he was sharp. “Dr. Ṣāhib, I have always read the works of Ḥaḍrat Masīh Mauʿūd (Alaihis-Salām) and found them flawless,” he said, “but lately when I read them, I find Ḥuḍūr’s words to be very powerful.” “Very powerful” he emphasized by shutting his eyes and making a fist of his right hand.

One measure of the goodness of a tree is the fruit it leaves behind. Allāh blessed Late Ahmad Abdul Hameed and his wife, Sabiha Banu with six children (Abdul Shukoor Ahmed, Abdul Rafeeq Ahmed, Mansora Shaheen, Abdul Noor Ahmed, Zakia Mubarika, and Abdul Hadi Ahmed) and 19 grandchildren. He remained devoted to Khilāfāt and urged his children to do the same.

His final days, Alḥamduillāh, were spent in fervent prayer in the holy month of Ramadān with his family. On July 6th, he peacefully passed away at home. His funeral Prayer was offered at Masjid Baitur-Raḥmān Mosque, Silver Spring, MD, on July 8, 2016.

His youngest son, Abdul Hadi Ahmad currently serves as Muʿāwīya Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA. While his oldest son, Abdul Shukoor Ahmad has previously served as Naʿīb Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom, Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA. Both of them flew over to India to fulfill one last wish of their beloved father.

A few days ago, a friend shared a picture of both of these brothers, wearing grey and white Topīs, spreading dirt at the freshly made grave of their beloved father in Qādīān, where respected Ahmad Abdul Hameed was buried. May Almighty Allāh elevate his status in paradise and grant his family strength to bear this loss with steadfastness, patience, and fortitude, Āmīn.
Abdul Shahid Mu’min

It was with a great shock that Anṣār of Dallas Majlis received the news of passing away of our dear brother Abdul Shahid Mu’min, on the morning of January 21, 2016, Innā lillāhā wa inna ilaihi rāji‘ūn.

Born in Dallas on December 30, 1946 as J.C. Gibson, Brother Shahid had a difficult childhood. His sister and he were brought up by religious foster parents, under whom J.C. studied the basics of Bible. Later in his teens, when he lost his foster father, he was introduced to alcohol and drugs and other vices that veered him into a wrong lifestyle. For a little while, he got back on track working with Jehovah’s Witnesses. Here is a sketch of his youth in his own words.

“In October 1963, Mr. Hodge passed away and it was one of the darkest days of my life. I was fifteen years old, so depression and rebellion grew in me and I dropped out of school from the 10th grade. This brought about an introduction to alcohol, drugs and illicit sex. My outlook on life was very dark at that time. During that time in the 1960s, three important men were killed that could have brought hope to the United States of America. One was President John F. Kennedy, second Malcolm X, and third Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1968, I became a member of Jehovah’s Witnesses. I stopped all the illicit things. I studied the Bible, went from door to door witnessing and giving out Bible tracts.” [Al-Nahľ 2011, Vol. 22 No. 2]

He converted to Islām in 1993, but was not a practicing Muslim for a long time. He then happened to meet a very learned man, Late Nashid Muhammad of Dallas Jamā’at, who used to visit him at the restaurant where he worked, every Friday after Jumu’ah. Brother Nashid will share the deeper and clearer meanings of the Holy Qur’ān with him and became his spiritual mentor. In 2009, during Ramaḍān, Shahid attended the Ahmadiyya mosque of Dallas Jamā’at, which was a life changer for him. Again in his own words: “I attended Ramaḍān at Masjid Baitul-Ikrām in Allen, Texas. I had fasted and offered Prayers at other mosques but this (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community) was a blessing from Almighty Allāh to open up a spiritual reality that I had never felt with my body senses, intellect, and heart before. I had never met a group of people, or in fact a group of Muslims, showing deep love and affection towards the development of every person in the Jamā’at, even as far as in that respect towards all of mankind.”

In a short one year thereafter, during the Ramaḍān of 2010, he was at the mosque performing I’tikāf for ten days. He attended Anṣārullāh National Ijtimā’ in 2010 and in 2011, he had the blessing of attending the Annual Convention in London and also meeting Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allāh be his helper), an experience he had kept so dear and blessed all his life.

It was hard to believe for brothers in Dallas that he was with us in Dallas only for short 5 years. The brotherhood he built with us, with his cheerful face and his energetic smile was so great that he became attached to young and old alike. He helped the Jamā’at establish connections with the city officials and other prominent people in the City of Dallas. He was one of the very few people who used to borrow books from the Jamā’at library. He has always been a subscriber of Review of Religions as well. Despite living 35 miles away from the mosque he was regular at Jumu’ah Prayers. Whenever there was a call for financial sacrifice he either immediately paid some amount or made a pledge.

May Allāh bless him with lofty station in paradise, Āmin. His daughter Jasmine and her husband Michael Banks are members of Dallas Jamā’at. May Allah enable them to carry his mantle and be the source of blessings for the departed soul, Āmin.

Nasir Raja

Nasir Ahmad Raja of Laurel Majlis passed away on Saturday, February 6, 2016, Innā lillāhā wa inna ilaihi rāji‘ūn.

He was a very well liked and respected member of the Laurel Majlis. He was at the forefront of starting the Ta’limul-Islām College Alumni Association in the USA. He was also the first General Secretary of the association. He served at the National General Secretary’s office. He also served the local Jamā’at in teaching and organizing children classes and in other capacities.

He always served the Majlis and the Jamā’at with great zeal. He had been very helpful to the Department of Publications of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA with its needs in handling the books and orders. Most recently, he served the guests of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) at the national Ijtimā’ of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA in the area of transportation. May Almighty Allāh exalt his status in the paradise and grant fortitude to the family, Āmin.
Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala of LA Inland Majlis passed away on February 1, 2016 at the age of 85, Innā lillāhi wa innā ilaihi rājīʿūn. He was born on December 4, 1930. He had been a member of the Los Angeles Jamāʿat for the past 45 years and was one of the pioneers of the Los Angeles Jamāʿat.

He is the younger brother of late Ch. Muhammad Ziaul Haq of Virginia. Aḥmadiyyat came in the family through their father, Ch. Nabi Bakhsh, who accepted the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) in the early 1920s.

He served in the Pakistan Air Force and later established an import & export business before moving to the U.S. in 1970. He was the first Pakistani Aḥmādī to settle in the Los Angeles area. At the time, there was only one African-American Aḥmādī in Los Angeles, Late Brother Rahmat Jamal. Together, these two pioneer members set out to build the Los Angeles Jamāʿat.

Having served as Qāʿid Majlis Khuddāmul Aḥmādiyya, Montgomery (now Sāhiwāl), Pakistan, in the 1960s, he had the good fortune of serving the Jamāʿat in the Los Angeles area in various capacities. He was the longest serving Secretary Wāṣāyā for the Los Angeles area. He has been also blessed to serve as President of the Santa Maria Jamāʿat in the 1990s and Vice President of Los Angeles Inland Jamāʿat during the 2000s. He was a Mūṣī serving as Secretary Wāṣāyā of LA Inland Jamāʿat at the time of his passing. He is also known for his service in the building of the Baitul Ḥameed Mosque in Chino, CA from start to finish.

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala, a man of strong principles, was a true lover and servant of Aḥmādiyya Khilāfat. He is survived by two sons, 4 grandchildren, and a younger sister. Three of the four grandchildren are Wāqifīn-i-Nau in the U.S. May Allāh elevate his status in the Paradise and shower His immense Mercy on the departed soul and provide solace and comfort to the family members, Āmīn.

Ch. Nisar Ahmad Vance

Ch. Nisar Ahmad Vance passed away on February 9, 2016, Innā lillāhi wa innā ilaihi rājīʿūn. He left behind his wife and three daughters. May Allāh grant his soul and exalt his status in Paradise and be the provider of his young daughters and his wife, Āmīn.

Nisar Ahmad Vance was the son of Ch. Noor Ahmad Vance—a farmer near Qādīān and first Aḥmādī in his family—who migrated in 1947 to Okara village, Pakistan during partition.

In the late 1940s, Nisar Ahmad was born in Pakistan, grew up as the youngest sibling, in a caring family of three brothers and two sisters. While growing up on the farm, he learned his family values of caring, sharing, and hard work.

He got his education at a local high school and T.I. College, Rabwah. He migrated to USA in the early 1980s, with all his siblings’ families and settled close to his brother, Mubarak Ahmad, in Saddle Brook, NJ.

In the mid 1980s, he married to Ms. Rukhsana, daughter of Col. Akbar Ali of Kharian, Pakistan.

He truly made good of his name while serving his family, friends, and fellow community members. He was especially blessed to have served both of his parents well for as long as they lived.

He was an active member of the Jamāʿat. He actively participated in the Jamāʿat activities and many a times helped the Dīyāfat team in a selfless manner. He met everybody with a smiling face and was well liked by the member of the community. He lived truly a simple and God fearing life, and we pray for his blessed place in Paradise. He will always be sorely missed by his family and friends.

Information about Deceased Members

Information about members who pass away is published in Anṣār newsletter with request for prayers for the departed souls and their families. Members are requested to provide information about deceased members at www.ansarusa.org/information-about-deceased-members.
Nazir Ayaz, Who Led by Example

Faheem Younus Qureshi, Ṣadr Majlis

It was the spring of 1999. I was moving to Long Island, New York for my fellowship. While in New Jersey, people, after hearing about my move, said, “Oh, so you are going to be in Nazir Ayaz Ṣāhib’s Jamā’at.” They used words like “go getter,” “no nonsense” to explain him. It piqued my interest.

During my first visit to Baituz-Zafar in Queens, New York, I saw a lanky, clean shaved man, setting up chairs before the event. Then the program started. That lanky man went and sat among the audience; didn’t say a word, didn’t ask a question. Just sat. Looked around.

Yes. That was Ayaz Ṣāhib.

That evening, on our ride back home, my wife and I had so much to talk about. “Our Ṣadr Lajna is such a pious and elegant lady. No glitzy fashions; all Taqwā.” My wife said about the then Queens Lajna Ṣadr, Baji Baushra Butt (as we now call her). “Our Ṣadr is the most down-to-earth man I have seen. He was literally picking up the chairs himself.” I countered.

Still in my 20s, I was in desperate need of a role model around me. In Ayaz Ṣāhib, I found one. He never made a speech, yet he taught. He never sat on the stage, yet he exuded authority. He never lectured us about Khilafat, yet he inspired people to fall in love with Khalifat-ul-Maśīḥ.

You could never say no to Ayaz Ṣāhib. Because when he called, he called from the mosque. His calls were short. A typical call would go like this: “Faheem, As-Salāmū ‘Alaikum; This is Nazir Ayaz.” You were at the tail end of your “Wa’alaikum as-salām” and he would say, “So and so lives x-number of minutes away from your home. I want you to go, pick them up and drop them off at such and such address. Can you do that in the next 15 minutes please?” And you better respond, “Jā Ayaz Ṣāhib” or you would hate yourself for a very long time. That was that.

Let me share a secret. For the first 30 years of my life, I had never made a speech. Not at school, not at an Ijtimā’. Never. In the year 2000, Ayaz Ṣāhib approached me at Baituz-Zafar Mosque and said, “Faheem, I have assigned a speech to you at the upcoming Mūṣliḥ Mau’ūḍ Day.” My heart sank into my boots. “What? How could I?” I wondered. “Insāḥallāh you will be fine; you will be fine.” He consoled and walked away. I could not say no; came home and frantically started preparing for what was akin to space travel for me back then. With his confidence and the prayers of my mother, the speech went well. I lived. Ayaz Ṣāhib smiled.

Ayaz Ṣāhib was that connector who knew everyone’s strengths and knew whom to use where. Who drives a cab, who runs an IT business, who is a venture capitalist, who can get stuff shipped overseas for free, who knows someone at the United Nations Building, who is a doctor, who can lead Tarāwīḥ. On July 3, 2016, I believe we lost the spiritual Yellow Pages of the Queens Jamā’at.

In 2006, I remember that the Ṣadr MKA USA elections had just concluded at our National Ijtimā’ in Staten Island. Ayaz Ṣāhib came to me, reminded me that I was a former New Yorker (I had moved to Baltimore by then) and started lobbying for a certain MKA sports tournament to take place in New York. I submitted that until Ḥudūr’s approval, none of these election results mattered and that I would only comment on his ask after Ḥudūr’s approval. He was relentless. “When your approval comes, don’t forget that you promised me about holding this tournament in New York.” Did I promise? No. But this goes to show that even a Ṣadr Khuddāmul Ahmadiyya better not say no to Ayaz Ṣāhib’s loving appeal.

Then in 2007, we held our Masroor Basketball tournament in New York. With his support, the tournament became international. Soccer was added. Canadian teams drove; teams from Belgium, Germany, and U.K. flew in. And the scale of the event—despite our limited budget in Khuddāmul Ahmadiyya—kept on expanding. Ayaz Ṣāhib would find the missing funds, find the right people.

Ayaz Ṣāhib did not usually attend Ṣaḥīratāl-Naqšah National Ijtima’. He had his priorities. Rest assured, when he was not at the Ijtima’, he was not playing golf; he was still serving the Jamā’at in some other area. But by 2015, I too had learned some tenacity from my mentor. So last year at Jalsa Sālāna, I stopped Ayaz Ṣāhib, grabbed his hand and said, “Ayaz Ṣāhib, I know you don’t attend Anšār Ijtima’at but please, this year, I am humbly requesting you to come. Even for one day. If you come, I said, I will feel like my father came.” He promised that he would come. And he did! Nazir Ayaz attended Anšārullāh National Ijtima’ in 2015 when our attendance goal was 1111. Who knows, maybe he was the one!

Ayaz Ṣāhib lived on his terms. It is Allāh’s sheer grace and mercy that he granted him a departure which also seems to be on his terms. Passing away during the month of Ramaḍān, with less than 48 hours of hospitalization, still serving his favorite Jamā’at as its Ṣadr, and then getting buried with prayers of hundreds if not thousands of people, if this is not “Anjām Bakhā’ir” (good ending) then what is?

In a nutshell, Ayaz Ṣāhib was my mentor in 1999 and was a father figure by 2016. He led by example. May Allāh elevate his status in paradise, Āmin.
Chaudhry Umar Din Khan Darvesh Qādiān

Respected Chaudhry Umar Din Khan (Darvesh Qādiān # 34) passed away on December 5, 2016 in Fresno, California at the age of 97, Inna lillāhi wa inna ilaihi rāji'ūn. He was the son of Chaudhry Muhammad Khan Šāhib Firozpurī and son-in-law of Maulawi Fazal Din Bungwī. He took Bai’at at the hand of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allāh be pleased with him) in 1946.

When he took Bai’at at the hands of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd, he was asked by Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd to live in Qādiān, because he was needed there. He was still employed by British army. Saying Labbaik to the call of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd he went back and resigned right away from the army and came back to settle down in Qādiān.

For our new members, Darvesh Qādiān are 313 volunteers who stayed behind in Qādiān to protect the city —at the instruction of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd—at the time of India and Pakistan partition in 1947, while other Muslims left for Pakistan for a brighter future, to practice their own Islāmic values. He volunteered himself for this noble cause, having had British military background from second world war. The purpose of these volunteers was to protect all the Ahmadiyya historical buildings and properties from Sikhs and non-Muslims, who had already said that they would obliterate Qādiān and take all its bricks and through them in the river. These brave Darveshān had no weapons and were without their families.

He served Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd as his driver and later respected Mirzā Waseem Ahmad (late Šāhīr of Qādiān) as his driver. Respected Chaudhry Umar Din Khan was a Mūṣī (Waṣīyyat number 9467, making him among the first 10,000 Mūṣīyān).

Since he came to USA in 1984 he was part of Merced chapter, California. He was the most regular Chanda-paying member and always paid Chanda on time. Before his sickness he always attended all local Jamā’at meetings and travelled to attend Jalsa Sālāna even though he did not understood English.

Respected Chaudhry Umar Din Khan was a historic personality, had many historic events in his life time. His son-in-law, Abdur Raqeeb Wali, President Merced Chapter, is the first African American who got married to a lady from Qādiān, who is the eldest daughter of Chaudhry Šahīb.

He is survived by his two sons Chaudhry Naseeruddin Khan and Chaudhry Nasir M. Khan of Fresno, California and four daughters, Rifat Wali of Merced, Shaukat Jallal of Las Vegas, Zainat Dar of Chino, CA and Malika M. Ahmad of Las Vegas and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all living in USA. Of the 313. May Allāh Almighty raise the status of the departed soul in Paradise. Āmīn.

July 18, 2015 - Umar Din Khan Šāhib with his two sons, Chaudhry Naseeruddin Khan and Chaudhry Nasir M. Khan
2016 Ta'lim Test I Results

For Ta'lim Test I, the target participation for each Majlis was set at 50%. National participation goal was set at 1,500. The national goal was achieved with a total of 1,537 submissions. 8 Majālis had 100% participation, 37 Majālis met the 50% target.

The Majlis level participation is given below.

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<td>Philadelphia</td>
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</table>
### 2016 Ta’lim Test II Results

55% of members participated in 2016 Ta’lim Test II nationally; a total of 1,604 members took the test that exceeded the national goal of 1,500. 10 Majālis had 100% participation; 39 out of 71 Majālis met the 50% target. All Majālis in Central East and Northwest regions had more than 50% participation.

The Majlis level participation is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Majlis</th>
<th>%age</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Majlis</th>
<th>%age</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Majlis</th>
<th>%age</th>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>LA Inland</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>63%</td>
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<td>40%</td>
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<td>40%</td>
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<td>Oshkosh</td>
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<td>59</td>
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<td>York</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2016 Majālis Ranking

**Large Majālis**
- **1st**: Chicago Northwest (Za‘īm: Khalid Aziz Ahmed)
- **2nd**: LA - Inland (Za‘īm: Faheem Ahmad)
- **3rd**: Dallas (Za‘īm: Mubashir Ahmad)

**Most Improved Large Majlis**
- **1st**: Syracuse (Za‘īm: Rafi Ahmad)
- **2nd**: Lehigh Valley (Za‘īm: Asad Nawaz Chaudhry)
- **3rd**: Phoenix (Za‘īm: Abdul Waheed Khan)

**Medium Majālis**
- **1st**: Houston North (Za‘īm: Nasir H. Malik)

**Most Improved Medium Majlis**
- **1st**: Bay Point (Za‘īm: Mohammad Javed Khan)

**Small Majālis**
- **1st**: Houston North (Za‘īm: Nasir Hafeez Malik)

**Most Improved Small Majlis**
- **1st**: Cleveland (Za‘īm: Akbar Shah)

### Majlis Points Table

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Majlis</th>
<th>Points</th>
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### Outstanding Nāẓim Awards
- **Region**: Southwest
  - **Nāẓim**: Abdul Zafar Basith
- **Region**: Gulf States
  - **Nāẓim**: Mahfooz Sheikh

### Outstanding Qā’id Awards
- **Zahid Mian (Qā’id Finance)**
- **Monas Chaudry (Qā’id Ta’lim)**
Majlis Anşarullāh, USA

Majlis Anşarullāh, USA, is an auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām, Inc. USA, 15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905, USA.

It consists of Ahmadi Muslim men above the age of 40.


Anşar Pledge

Ash-hadu • allā ilāha • ilallāhu • waḥdahū • lā sharīka lahū • wa ash-hadu • anna muḥammadan • ‘abdūhu • wa rasūlūh

(I bear witness that • there is none worthy of worship • except Allāh. • He is One • (and) has no partner, • and I bear witness • that Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) • is His servant and messenger.)

I solemnly pledge that • I shall endeavor • throughout my life • for the propagation • and consolidation • of Ahmadiyyat in Islām, • and shall stand guard • in defense of • the institution of Khilāfat. • I shall not hesitate • to offer any sacrifice • in this regard. • Moreover, • I shall exhort my children • to always remain dedicated • and devoted to Khilāfat. • Inshā’Allāh.

National Āmila, Majlis Anşarullāh, USA

2016

Şadr: ..........................................................Faheem Younus Qureshi
Nā‘īb Şadr Awwal: ..........................................................Suhail Kausar
Nā‘īb Şadr Şaff Dom..........................................................Imran Hayee
Qā‘id Umūmi (General Secretary): ..................................Maqbool Ahmad Tahir
Qā‘id Ta‘lim (Education): .............................................Monas Ahmad Chaudry
Qā‘id Tarbiyat (Training): ...............................................Tahir Soofi
Qā‘id Ta‘limul Qur’ān (Education of the Holy Qur’ān): ........................................Munir Ahmad Malik
Qā‘id İthār [Eesaar] (Social Services): ...................................Basharat Ahmad Wadan
Qā‘id Tabligh (Preaching): .............................................Muzaffar Ahmad Siddiqi
Qā‘id Māl (Finance): .....................................................Zahid Mian
Qā‘id Taḥrīk Jadīd: ......................................................Hassiem Abdullah Babatu
Qā‘id Waqf Jadīd: ..........................................................Mooda Shiraz Mantara
Qā‘id Tajnīd (Membership): ..........................................Muhammad Shahid Mahmood
Qā‘id Ishā‘at (Publications): ...........................................Rafiuddin Malik
Qā‘id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā‘īn (Training of New Converts): ..................................................Rizwan Alladin
Qā‘id Dhaḥānāt wa Shiḥat Jīsmānī (Intellect and Physical Health): ...................................Syed Tanwir Ahmad
Auditor: ..............................................................................M. Dawood Munir
Mu‘āwwin Şadr (Finance): ..............................................Munawar Ahmad Saqib
Mu‘āwwin Şadr (Information Technology): ...............................................Pervaiz Ahmad Khan
Mu‘āwwin Şadr (Special Projects): ........................................Hadi Ahmed

Special Member (Former Şadr): ..............................................................Wajeeh Bajwa
Special Member: ..............................................................................Syed Sajid Ahmad
Al-Naḥl
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