

Message from Sadr Ansarullah, USA

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Upcoming Events

Dec. 20 - Eid-ul-Adhia

Jan. 7-13 - Tehrik-e-Jadid/
Waqf-e-Jadid Pledge
Collection Week

Jan. 19-20 - Ansar Leadership
Conference in Miami

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Dear Ansar: *السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ*

Act of seeking of forgiveness (*Iftighfar*) is described as a stepping stone to virtuous deeds. Forgiveness is also promised as a gift from Allah to those who lead a virtuous life. We read in the Holy Qur'an: "*Save those who are steadfast and do good works. It is they who will have forgiveness and a great reward.*" (Chapter 11, Verse 12). Here forgiveness is promised to those who do righteous deeds. The forgiveness referred to here is not necessarily equated with pardon of sin. It alludes to the sheer grace and mercy of Almighty Allah who overlooks multiple shortcomings of His servants on account of their living righteous lives. In fact, man always and forever stands in need of forgiveness from Almighty Allah; indeed, this shall continue even in paradise. The Holy Qur'an says: "*And seek forgiveness of your Lord; then turn to Him whole-heartedly. Verily, my Lord is Merciful, Most Loving.*" (Chapter 11, Verse 91). In chapter *Al-Tahrim* of the Holy Qur'an we read: "*O ye who believe! turn to Allah in sincere repentance. It may be that your Lord will remove the evil consequences of your deeds and make you enter Gardens through which rivers flow, on the day when Allah will not abase the Prophet nor those who have believed with him. Their light will run before them and on their right hands. They will say, 'Our Lord, perfect our light for us and forgive us; surely Thou hast power over all things.'*" (Chapter 66, Verse 9). This

unceasing desire for perfection and seeking forgiveness shows clearly that progress in paradise will be endless.

In short, seeking forgiveness with sincerity is the closest form of communion with Allah, the pinnacle of man's spirituality as he advances towards the Divine Being. The man who seeks forgiveness humiliates himself before Allah, admitting the weakness of his nature, and dreads the Power and Glory of the Creator. His own self is crushed and Allah is everything to him. A person who constantly seeks forgiveness, feels his own dependency and turns to Allah for help and aid, giving evidence that he has overcome the weakness of flesh and resisted evil tendencies because the strength of Allah is with him. Allah's light descends upon him and he has suppressed every infirmity of nature which could have led to sin.

May Almighty Allah enable us all to seek His forgiveness sincerely and consistently so that we may become worthy of attaining nearness to Him, *Ameen*.

وَالسَّلَامُ

Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa

From the Desk of...

Qa'id Ta'limul Qur'an

Qa'id Ta'limul Qur'an is looking for qualified teachers who can teach proper recitation of the Holy Qur'an 2 to 3 times a month especially to smaller majalis that hold web-based Qur'an class or classes via teleconference. The duration of each class will be 30 to 60 minutes. Ansar who are interested in teaching these

classes are requested to contact Asim Ansari, Qa'id Ta'limul Qur'an at ansari1300@gmail.com or 909-910-4430.

Qa'id Tarbiyyat

Ansar are urged to write to Huzur (*ayyadahullah*) for prayers regularly. It is important for every one of us to establish and maintain

relationship with the Khalifa of the time and to be included in Huzur's (*ayyadahullah*) prayers. Letters can be sent to Huzur (*ayyadahullah*) as follows.

Email: <https://eletter.alislam.org/login.php>

Fax: 01144-208-870-5234

Snail mail: 16 Gressenhall Road, London SW18 5QL, U.K.

Miami Book Fair

Miami Jama'at has been holding an exhibit at the annual Miami Book Fair International every year for the last eighteen years. Most of the arrangements for the exhibit are made by ansar of Miami majlis. Miami Jama'at started taking part in the book fair in 1989 and has been holding exhibits regularly since then. Hispanics constitute 60-70% of Miami-Dade County where the book fair is held. The exhibition is a great platform to cater for the spiritual needs of this large segment of the local population. This year's book fair was held in November. Before

the book fair, fliers were mailed to twenty-five mosques in South Florida. Each member of the Jama'at was asked to give at least ten fliers to friends, colleagues, classmates, etc. Lajna of Miami Jama'at participated by providing food and snacks for the exhibition booth. The exhibition provided a great tabligh opportunity for the local Jama'at and helped establish many contacts. Not too far from Jama'at's booth was a non-Ahmadi Muslim booth. But the engaging conversation with many visitors created an atmosphere of great

excitement around Jama'at's booth which was unmatched at any other booth held by other religious organizations. A Miami downtown bookstore asked the Jama'at for permission to sell the Spanish translation of the Holy Qur'an at his shop. On the request of Theosophical Society of Miami, Imam Mubashir Ahmed delivered a lecture on Islam at their congregation. Copies of the Holy Qur'an and many other books were sold at the booth. Many books about Islam and Ahmadiyyat were given to the visitors free of charge.

Ansar Tahir Scholarship

Majlis Ansarullah, USA is offering Ansar Tahir Scholarship to ansar 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 secular training of ansar to improve their employability and cannot be used as seed money to start a new business. The scholarship will be granted on "First come, first serve" 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'eem Ansarullah. Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- The applicant is a bona fide member of Majlis Ansarullah, USA in good standing.
- The applicant has exhausted all avenues for employment or wishes to get additional training/education to enhance his employability.
- The applicant has identified a new or alternate career path, is capable and willing to undertake successful completion of the proposed training.
- The applicant has exhausted all available state and federal funding for unemployed and/or displaced workers.

Contact Information: Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa, 205 Durlington Pl, Cary, NC 27518-6833, E-mail: sadr@ansarusa.org

Centenary Ahmadiyya *Khilafat* Essay Writing Competition

The Jama'at is holding a nationwide essay-writing competition to commemorate the centennial jubilee of *Ahmadiyya Khilafat*. All participants will be awarded certificates of participation in this historical event. First three places for each category overall and for each auxiliary will also be awarded prizes. Entries received after the due date will not be considered for the competition - no exceptions.

Topic: The Institution of *Khilafat*

Due date: December 31, 2007

Rules and Regulations:

- Members may submit essay as individuals or with co-authors from the same auxiliary.
- *Category I:* The essay shall consist of a minimum of 30,000 words and a maximum of 60,000 words and must be submitted in English.
- *Category II:* The essay shall consist of a minimum of 5,000 words and a maximum of 20,000 words and must be submitted in English.
- A complete list of references must be provided: references must state authors' names, year of publication, title, edition, and publisher.
- The essay must be submitted as a MS Word file (on a disk or via e-mail).
- The following are sub-headings given only to guide the competitors. However, essays by no means should be limited to these topics:
 1. Definition, importance, and types of *Khilafat*.
 2. Institution of *Khilafat* according to the Holy Qur'an and *Ahadith*.
 3. Institution of *Khilafat* according to Muslim scholars.
 4. Importance of the station of *Khilafat*.
 5. The great objectives of *Khilafat*.
 6. Institution of *Khilafat* is a part of religion.
 7. Responsibilities of *Khilafat* and the great system of discharging them.
 8. The establishment of *Tauheed* (unity of Allah) through *Khilafat*.
 9. *Khilafat* as a means of spiritual elevation.
 10. *Khilafat* as a means of unity of Nations.
 11. Sayings of the Promised Messiah and his *khulafa* (plural of *Khalifa*) about *Khilafat*.
 12. Blessings of *Khilafat*.
 13. Brief account of *Khilafat-e-Rashida*.
 14. History of *Ahmadiyya Khilafat* and a brief life sketch of each *Khalifa*.
 15. *Tahrikat* of *Ahmadiyya Khulafa* (schemes initiated by *Ahmadiyya Khulafa*).
 16. Great achievements of Jama'at Ahmadiyya during *Khilafat*.
 17. Establishment of *Khilafat* and our responsibilities.

Please submit your essay (on a disk or as attachment to e-mail) to: mmunir52@sbcglobal.net or M. Dawood Munir, Qa'id Ta'lim, Majlis Ansarullah, USA, 11106 Brandon Gate, Houston, TX 77095-6603

Ansar News

Sundas Bajwa, daughter of Dr. Zaheer Bajwa, Na'ib Ameer, passed away on Friday, November 30, 2007 at the age of 22, *Inna lillahe wa inna ilaihe raje'oon*. Her funeral was held at Bait ur Rahman mosque on Sunday, December 2, 2007. May Allah grant peace to the soul of the deceased and grant patience and steadfastness to her family, *Ameen*. Ansar are requested to remember the deceased and her family in their prayers.

Trust in Allah

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said: "Be watchful of Allah, He will be watchful of thee. Safeguard His commandments. He will be ever with thee. When thou must ask, ask of Allah alone; and when thou must seek help, implore Allah alone for help. Remember that if all the people were to combine to bestow some benefit upon thee, they would not be able to bestow anything upon thee except that which Allah has appointed for thee, and that if all of them were to combine to do thee harm, they would not be able to afflict thee with anything except that which Allah has decreed against thee." (Tirmidhi)

Majlis of the Month - Phoenix

The family of Munir Ahmad Malik moved from Douglas, AZ to settle in Phoenix in 1981. There was no other Ahmadi in Phoenix at that time. They were soon joined by Syed Sajid Ahmad in 1984, and Anis M. Shaikh in 1985. These pioneers established local Jama'at in 1986. All three have served as president: Syed Sajid Ahmad (1986-1989), Munir Ahmad Malik (1989-1999), and Anis M. Shaikh (1999-2007). Current president is Dr. Latif Ahmad.

In the beginning, members used to meet for Friday prayer and monthly meetings at each others' homes. In

1997 a prayer center was established in a leased building and used for Jama'at activities until 2006. By the Grace of Allah in September 2006 Phoenix Jama'at purchased a beautiful building and is currently renovating it to make it suitable for its needs. Current Jama'at membership is about 70.

Majlis Ansarullah Phoenix was established in 2002. First za'eem was Munir A. Malik, who has just completed three terms as za'eem, as well as Regional Nazim of Southwest Region. Phoenix majlis has 9 ansar. It has received many

awards in recent years. At the 2007 Ansar National Ijtema, Phoenix majlis was recognized as the most outstanding majlis in small majlis category. It was also recognized for achievement in Finance and for 100% participation in Ta'lim exam.

In the last two years, the za'eem of Phoenix majlis has sent every monthly report on time. This month, za'eem majlis, Munir Ahmad Malik has traveled to Mecca to perform *haji*, but he made sure that November report was sent before his departure.

**Send detail and pictures of your local and regional events and
ansar news via email at newsletter@ansarusa.org.**

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