

Message from Şadr Majlis Anşārullāh, USA

Dear Anşār: اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

The blessed month of Ramaḍān will be starting shortly and we should work hard to adopt *Taqwā* (righteousness), avoiding spiritual as well as moral pitfalls, and to inculcate love and fear of Allāh. We should reflect and turn to Allāh seeking from His grace the capacity to adhere to *Taqwā*. Allāh says in the Holy Qur’ān:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كَتَبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ
كَمَا كَتَبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ
لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴿١٨٥﴾
أَيَّامًا مَّعْدُودَاتٍ ۖ فَمَن كَانَ مِنكُم مَّرِيضًا
أَوْ عَلَى سَفَرٍ فَعِدَّةٌ مِّنْ أَيَّامٍ
أُخْرَىٰ وَعَلَى الَّذِينَ يُطِيقُونَهُ فِدْيَةٌ
طَعَامٍ مَّسْكِينٍ ۗ فَمَن تَطَوَّعَ خَيْرًا فَهُوَ
خَيْرٌ لَهُ ۗ وَأَن تَصُومُوا خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ إِن
كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٨٥﴾

“O ye who believe, fasting is prescribed for you during a fixed number of days as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may safeguard yourselves against every kind of ill and become righteous. But whoso from among you should be ailing, not being permanently incapacitated, or should be on a journey, shall complete the reckoning by fasting on a corresponding number of other days; and for those who find fasting a strain hard to bear is an expiation, the feeding of a poor

person, if they can afford it. Whoso carries through a good work with eager obedience, it is better for him. If you possessed knowledge you would realize that it is better for you that you should fast.” (The Holy Qur’ān, 2 [Al-Baqarah]:184-185)

Subject to the permissible exemptions, the observance of the fast is obligatory upon every adult Muslim during the month of Ramaḍān. Fasting is a physical, moral, and spiritual discipline. The main objective is the promotion of righteousness and security against evil. Through the experience of the fast, the worshipper is urged to exalt Allāh for His having provided the guidance and is prompted to the beneficent use of His favors and bounties.

Ḥaḍrat Abu Hurairah (may Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) said: “Allāh, the Lord of honor and glory says: All other deeds of man are for himself, but his fasting is purely for Me and I shall reward him for it. The fast is a shield. When any of you is fasting he should eschew loose talk and noisy exchanges. Should anyone revile him or seek to pick a quarrel with him, he should respond with: I am observing a fast. By Him in Whose hands is the life of Muhammad, the breath of one who is fasting is purer in the sight of Allāh than the fragrance of musk. One who fasts experiences two joys: he is joyful when he breaks his fast, and he is joyful by virtue of his fast when he meets his Lord.” (Bukhārī and Muslim, “Book of Fasting”)

The Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) said that one who makes a solemn endeavor to seek Allāh never fails. He further said “Think not you are

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Upcoming Events

- Wed, Jul. 10 - 1st of Ramaḍān-ul-Mubārak
- Fri, Aug. 9 - ‘Īd-ul-Fiṭr
- Fri-Sun, Oct. 4-6 - Anşār National Ijtimā’ and Shūrā

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Şadr's message (continued)

sinner. Will your prayers be heard? Do not think like this. Man makes mistakes, but a time comes when he is able to overpower his sinning self. This power to overpower the sinning self is also built into the nature of man. Water puts out fire. This is part of its nature. Howsoever you may heat it, when water drops on fire it must put it out. That is natural. So is man a purifier by nature. Every man has this purifying property. Do not feel defeated because you have been involved in sin. Sin is like a stain on the surface of a piece of cloth. It can be washed away. Your habits, your dispositions may be dominated ever so much by your passions. Pray to God weeping, crying. He will not let your prayers go waste. He is full of compassion.” (Badr 1907)

May Allāh enable all of us to achieve nearness to Allāh by paying special attention to both quantity and quality of worship and abundant recitation of the Holy Qur’ān during the month of Ramaḍān, Āmin.

وَالسَّلَامُ

Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa
Şadr Majlis Anşārullāh, USA

A Summary of Tablīgh Activities in Various Majālis

During the month of April 2013, 395 Anşār participated in Tablīgh (propagation) activities arranged by Anşār, Jamā’at, or another auxiliary. 386 nonmembers were brought to the mosque/center or an event by Anşār (Jum’ah, Şalāt, open house, meeting with missionary, interfaith meeting, Jamā’at events, mosque/center visit). 647 nonmembers were contacted by Anşār in visits to small towns, senior homes, ethnic groups, etc. 32 events were held specifically for nonmembers organized by Jamā’at, Anşār, or Khuddām; 1,096 nonmembers came to these events. There were 37 visits to small towns, ethnic groups, senior homes, etc. 8,285 flyers, leaflets, CDs, DVDs, and books were distributed or placed in reading rooms or libraries by Anşār. Highlights of Tablīgh activities occurred in various Majālis during the month of April 2013 is as follows.

Baltimore: 4 lectures; 12 radio program appearances; talk and Q&A session in Jewish congregation; a workshop about writing articles and getting published. **Buffalo:** Meeting, Q&A, and luncheon of Network of Religious Communities at the mosque. **Central Jersey:** “Muhammad, Messenger of Peace” conference (MMOPC) follow ups; the book Life of Muhammad mailed to guests and placed at township libraries; a Hindu family invited to Tablīgh Secretary’s home for dinner and discussion. **Chicago East:** An area Alderman and US Congressman introduced to Aḥmadiyyat and offered pens with inscription of Love For All, Hatred For None. **Columbus:** Placed 50 copies of Qur’ān in hotel rooms. **Cypress-Houston:** 4 live hourly radio programs. **Dallas:** Dā’īn Ilallāh class; Tablīgh topic discussion in general meeting; invited a candidate for Mayor for the City of Plano, TX to a Nāşir’s house; visit to 3 different small towns by 3 Anşār; a Nāşir attended Interfaith coffee house meeting; visit to office of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson. Door-to-door Muslims for Peace flyers distribution by 5 Anşār. **Detroit:** MMOPC follow ups. **Fitchburg:** Weekly local access TV program; help and discussion on Islām in local homeless shelter; A Nāşir in discussion with 3 contacts. **Fort Worth:** Introduction of Jamā’at to 2 people including a nun. **LA East:** Guests and Q&A at a Nāşir’s home. **LA West:** Open House; USC Book Fair. **Las Vegas:** Discussion with a Mormon guest, gave him the book Christianity: A Journey from Facts to Fiction. **Laurel:** Seminar at University of Maryland. **Lehigh Valley:** Joining a group called Muslims and Christians United - A Lehigh Valley Initiative for Justice and Peace. **Miami:** MMOPC at Florida International University and in Hallandale City Town Hall. **Milwaukee:** 4 live radio programs; Tablīgh booth; 103 inmates visited; 83 pamphlets handed out. **New York:** The Interfaith Council of New York invited to Bait-uz-Zafar for Interfaith meeting; breakfast gathering at the UTS Church; bookstall; books and pamphlets to guests at a youth program at York College. **Oakland:** Books, magazines, pamphlets placed at a senior home by a resident Nāşir; Ḥuḍūr’s visit to L.A. shown on a PC at non-Aḥmadi house. **Orlando:** Bookstall; MMOPC; discussions; event at Unitarian Church of Eustic. **Philadelphia:** Local Jamā’at’s Tablīgh Trailer near Temple University Campus distributing 4,000 flyers in April and generating discussions; weekly one-hour radio program “AskIslam” by local Jamā’at; Anşār’s active participation in these events; MMOPC at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. **Research Triangle:** MMOPC at Meredith College and UNC-Chapel Hill, a combined effort of Lajnah, Khuddām, and Anşār. **Rochester:** Bookstall started. **Sacramento:** 10 guests invited by Anşār to MMOPC. **San Diego:** A Nāşir traveled 220 miles to attend ethnic Tablīgh program, participated in Q&A session. **Silver Spring:** Meetings with Dr. O’Brian, Dr. Banchoff, director of Berkley Center, Rev. Casey of Good Hope Community Church, Rev. Charles Schmitt, Senior pastor of Immanuel’s Church, and Gaithersburg Mayor at Arab-American Heritage celebration; Qur’ān display and literature distribution at a class by Institute of Christian Jews Studies; Greater Olney interfaith meeting; attended a fundraising dinner and a Religious Liberty dinner in Canadian Embassy; 15 members and pastor from St. Matthew Presbyterian Church came to Baitur Raḥmān, had lunch with members, listened to a lecture on Islām followed by Q&A session and a tour of the mosque. **St. Louis:** Weekly bookstall. A Nāşir visited Cape Girardeau and St. Charles in Missouri. **Syracuse:** Weekly bookstall. **Willingboro:** Qur’ān and the Holy Prophet exhibition; a lecture at Burlington County College. **Zion:** Tablīgh class; bookstall at 7 mile Fair; Qur’ān exhibition and bookstall at Grayslake Library.

Activities in Various Majālis



Anṣār at regional Ijtimā‘ of Southeast region held on March 30-31, 2013



Anṣār of York Majlis with Imām Azhar Hanif at Hadee Mosque



Anṣār at local Ijtimā‘ of Los Angeles West Majlis held at Baitus Salam Mosque on March 22, 2013



Anṣār at the first local Ijtimā‘ of San Diego Majlis held on April 6, 2013



Members of Majlis-i-‘Āmilah of Dallas Majlis



Members at a picnic of York Majlis held on April 13, 2013

Ta'limul Qur'an: Assigned Verses for Memorization

As prescribed in Ta'limul Qur'an syllabus of Majlis Ansharullah, USA, verses 36-41 and 52-58 of Sūrah Al-Nūr (Chapter 24) are to be memorized with split meaning during the year 2013. Verses 52-53 are assigned to be memorized with split meaning during the month of July.

Request for Prayers

Mohammed Sharif of Oakland Majlis, a Mūṣī, passed away on June 23, 2013, Innā lillāhi wa innā ilaihi rāji'ūn. May Allāh grant peace to the soul of the deceased and grant patience and steadfastness to his family, Āmīn. Anshar are requested to remember the deceased and his family in their prayers.

A Correction

In the 2012 Year-in-Review issue of Al-Naḥl (Vol. 23 No. 3-4) an inadvertent error was made by the printer during the printing process that resulted in a picture becoming obscured by another image at the bottom right on page 36. The picture should have looked as shown on the right.

You may cut this picture and the text given below it and paste it over the wrong image on page 36 so that the correct information is in your issue of Al-Naḥl.



Pens given as souvenir commemorating Ijtimā' theme, "Peace through The Messiah" at the National Ijtimā' 2012 (October 12 -14, 2012) held at Baitur Raḥmān Mosque, Silver Spring, MD

Anshar membership dues: 1% of yearly (take home) income; non-earning members: \$24 yearly

Ijtimā' dues: 1/8th of Anshar membership dues (0.00125% of yearly take home income); non-earning members: \$12 yearly

Publication dues: \$10 yearly; non-earning members: none

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