Message from Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA

Dear Anṣār:

We all know the importance of the power of prayer: nothing of what we do in the service of our Jamā’at can be truly effective without prayer, or without the Grace of Almighty Allāh. Leadership and teamwork are also crucial in any worthwhile organizations, and Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA is no exception to this.

As I come to the close of one of the most humbling and spiritually illuminating and fulfilling periods of my life, stepping away from the role of Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, I am reminded that, as

وَلَيْسَلَّكُمْ وَجِهَةٌ مُّبَارَكَةٌ فَاسْتَقِمواً

أَحْكَمُْ أَيْنَ مَا كَانُواَ يَبْحَثُونِ

اللَّهُ حَيَّ الَّذِي لاَ إِ siguُواُ عَلَى وَلَدِيٍّ قَدِيرٌ

And everyone has a goal which dominates him; vie, then, with one another in good works. Wherever you be, Allah will bring you all together. Surely, Allah has the power to do all that He wills.” (The Holy Qur’ān, 2 [Al-Baqarah]:149)

This verse highlights not only the necessity for us to focus on a goal, it goes on to define the essence of that goal: “vie, then, with one another in good works” or, in other words “be competitive in doing good.” The verse alludes as well to the great significance of the unity that comes about through mutual caring and cooperation.

This spirit of healthy competitiveness is seen constantly in Ahmādī Muslims; it also forms the hallmark of the very existence of the members of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, as their motto.

I leave you with an uplifting reminder of how members of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA can achieve success in leadership and teamwork from the simple yet effective story: “Lessons from Geese.” I know that my fellow Anṣār, ‘Āmilah members, Qā’idān, Nāẓīmīn, (too many to name in this limited space, but you know who you are) who have given of themselves selflessly to serve alongside me these past eight years will identify with these principles; please know that I remain indebted to each of you for making my task easier and for being there at every step to further the progress of this auspicious organization.

Fact 1: As each goose flaps its wings it creates an “uplift” for the birds that follow. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Fact 2: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying
Ṣadr’s message (continued)

alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

**Fact 3:** When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other’s skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.

**Fact 4:** The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** We need to make sure honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one’s heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.

**Fact 5:** When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

(“Lessons from Geese” taken from a speech given by Angeles Arrien at the 1991 Organizational Development Network, based on the work of Milton Olson.)

Please join me in warmly welcoming our new Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi, as he embarks upon his first term from January 1, 2014; let us pray sincerely for the best for Majlis Anṣārullāh under his able direction and always be prepared to offer him our support and teamwork in every way, Inshā’āllāh.

وَالسَّلَامُ

Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa  
Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA

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**Activities in Various Majālis**

Anṣār National ‘Āmilah with Anṣār of Seattle Majlis on August 17, 2013  
Anṣār at Dallas Majlis’ local Ijtimā’ held at Bait ul Ikrām Mosque on March 17, 2013
Anṣār of Minnesota Majlis at an Interfaith event arranged by the local Jamā’at on May 11, 2013

A Nāṣir serving at a Tablīgh stall held on Labor Day weekend at Los Angeles County Fair

Anṣār at Midwest regional Ijtīmā’ held at Bait ul Qadīr Mosque in Milwaukee on June 1-2, 2013

Nāẓim Virginia region, Basharat Wadan, attending ʿĀmilah meeting of Central Virginia Majlis on June 9, 2013

Anṣār of Orlando Majlis with Mayor of Lakeland, FL at an event held to honor 9/11 victims on September 11, 2013

A Nāṣir of Baltimore Majlis was invited to give a lecture to students on September 11, 2013 about situation in Syria
Ta’limul Qur’ān: Assigned Verses for Memorization

As prescribed in Ta’limul Qur’ān syllabus of Majlis Anṣārullāh, 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 52-58 are assigned to be revised with split meaning during the month of December.

A Summary of Tablīgh Activities in Various Majālis

During the month of October 2013, 371 Anṣār participated in Tablīgh (propagation) activities arranged by Anṣār, Jamā’at, or another auxiliary. 263 nonmembers were brought to the mosque/center or an event by Anṣār (Jumu’ah, Ṣalāt, open house, meeting with missionary, interfaith meeting, Jamā’at events, mosque/center visit). 460 nonmembers were contacted by Anṣār in visits to small towns, senior homes, ethnic groups, etc. 22 events were held specifically for nonmembers organized by Jamā’at, Anṣār, or Khuddām; 530 nonmembers came to or stopped by these events. There were 41 visits to small towns, ethnic groups, senior homes, etc. 6,464 flyers, leaflets, CDs, DVDs, and books were distributed or placed in reading rooms or libraries by Anṣār. Highlights of Tablīgh activities occurred in various Majālis during the month of October 2013 is as follows.


Send detail and pictures of your local and regional events and Anṣār news via e-mail at newsletter@ansarusa.org.

To access materials from various departments of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, archives of Anṣār periodicals, calendar of events, and other useful information and tools, visit ansarusa.org.

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