



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ Ansar

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We are the Helpers of Allāh.

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Upcoming Events

Sun, Feb. 15 - Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd Day

Sun, Mar. 22 - Masīḥ Mau'ūd Day

Contact Information

Ṣadr Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA:
Faheem Younus Qureshi
sadr@ansarusa.org

Editor:

Rafi Malik
newsletter@ansarusa.org

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Message from Ṣadr Majlis

Ideas, critique, debate. Wherever you go, you can find someone who has a “new” idea, or a critique, or is ready to debate a point. Don't get me wrong; I love new ideas, and I believe there is place for critique and debate in life. But my only problem is this: these ideas, critiques, and debates are generally focused at fixing something or someone else.

That's not the direction where Khalīfatul Masīḥ wants Majlis Anṣārullāh to go.

On November 22, 2014, during an official meeting, Haḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) reminded me to maintain Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA's focus on “save yourself and your families from a fire” (The Holy Qur'ān, 66 [Al-Taḥrīm]:7). That's an inward focus: I need to develop ideas to fix myself and my family.

Why do you believe Khalīfatul Masīḥ is constantly reminding us about self-reformation? Because as individuals, we are surrounded by fires: the fire of devouring interest in the name of trade (2:276); the fire of arrogance displayed in the feeling of “I am better than he.” (7:13); the fire of disobedience (72:24); and many more.

Similarly, our families too, are surrounded by fires: the fire of marrying

an idolatrous man or woman (2:222); the fire of ungratefulness (39:9); the fire of rebelliousness (46:21); and many more.

There is security in numbers and the feeling of “the whole world is doing it after all” tempts us in. That's the trap. So let's “incline not towards those who do wrong” (11:114). Because on the Day of Judgment, “Neither their riches nor their children will avail them aught against Allāh.” (58:18)

We must agree to remain united behind the call of our Khalīfah, otherwise, God forbid, we will be like those who were “on the brink of the pit of a fire” (3:104).

As we start a new year, let's help each other in fostering a culture of self-reformation. Let's share ideas of how can I reform myself, how can I help my family lose a bad habit, how can I align my children with Khilāfat.

Only then Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA will become a party of “Those who say, ‘Our Lord, we do believe; forgive us, therefore, our sins and save us from the punishment of the Fire.’” (3:17)

Was-Salām,

Faheem Younus Qureshi
Serving Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA

Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA is offering Anṣār Ṭāhir 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 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'im 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 or 856-495-6421.

Managing Our Anger before Venting It at Our Family

Anonymous

This story is in the present. This is my war on my anger issues. When you think of anger issues, you might be thinking of some stereotypes. You don't have to. Look in the mirror. Did you know that the best mirror you have at home is your spouse and children?

Being strong is always a positive trait but not being able to cope with things you do not like is never good. With how much certainty can you claim that what you say is ultimately correct? That's the problem I had. I believed that I was always right and as a result I was gradually losing the tolerance to accept my mistakes. It was arrogance that was building inside of me, unknowingly, yet proudly.

It took years for me to realize this. I got married. Alhamdulillah, I was blessed with a loving wife who molded herself according to my desires. Then we had wonderful children. With the children, my anger issues became very visible to myself. I tried to control my anger—tried applying all the principles: sitting down, drinking water, counting to ten...but when anger hit, none of these ideas helped. I was out of control.

All these years I have been thankful to Allāh for all the blessings He showered on me. I thought if He decided to get angry with me like I do with my children, where would I be? That thought made me tremble with fear. A brother once explained why our beloved Holy Prophet Muḥammad (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) commented that if it was allowed to worship being, he would have asked wives to worship husbands. The worship here is not meant as a status symbol. The emphasis is really on the expectations from us, husbands—a kind heart, someone who can forgive and continue supporting, oft-returning, someone who will hold hands in difficult times and carry in arms when things get worse. I thought to myself, “Am I that husband? Do my family members reach out to God through me?” Then came the topic of arrogance. During a moral training session, our local chapter president covered various hidden arrogances we all face every day and how strongly the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) had condemned that. Once again, I thought to myself, “Am I being arrogant with my children?” Needless to say, I was not pleased with the answer.

It is true that getting angry is sometimes necessary. However, I found that anger was not the real problem. It is how we expressed that anger which is the larger issue at hand. That is where the arrogance comes over us, and instead of a divinely inspired response we end up uttering words that we regret.

Fortunately, I am on a path of recovery now. I cannot claim that I am fully cured, but at least I am getting better. My wife and kids stand witness to the changes I have brought about. This transformation is only possible through prayers. For people like me, who are not strong in getting results from prayers, we need to improve the quality of our prayers.

Here are some suggestions:

- Identify arrogance around you. The idea is not to blame others, but to understand what arrogance means. For weaker souls like me, it is easy to identify faults with others. Then try to detect arrogance in yourself. That, indeed, is the real first step towards recovery.
- See if you are being divine to your family. Do you act the way you want Allāh to act towards you?
- Remember, you have the responsibility of running the home. It is your responsibility to keep your wife and kids at peace. If you lose peace, that is not an excuse against your family. But if they lose peace, it is your fault indeed.
- If kids are driving you crazy, instead of showing your anger to them, try thinking—these kids are wonderful beings. Why are they acting like this? Are they under stress? What am I trying to help them with? Is showing anger the right response?
- All along, keep praying. Take to congregational Prayer when possible. Not at home. Preferably, get to the mosque or a Ṣalāt center. Spend longer time in your personal prostrations.
- Set up a goal for any task you are pursuing. The goal should be beyond what is normally possible with your best effort—as our local chapter president says, “Where math does not add up, pray for it with all your heart and experience magic.” When you reach your target, Inshā'allāh you will see yourself mellowing down and you will feel like all your prayers have been accepted.
- The toughest part is to hang in there and keep the peace. A fall from a higher altitude is always riskier.

Brothers, this has been my journey. I seek your prayers for myself to keep my pace and altitude.

Note: This is a real life story of a brother; for privacy reason, name is not disclosed. The story is being told as gratitude to Allāh and with prayers that it may help others as well.

Send us your stories of brotherhood, Ijtimā' memories, or any other inspiring experience that we can share with other Anṣār brothers. Send your stories to newsletter@ansarusa.org.

National 'Āmilah of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA for 2015

No.	Name	Office	Email
National 'Āmilah			
1	Faheem Younus Qureshi	Ṣadr	faheem.younus@gmail.com
2	Suhail Kausar	Nā'ib Ṣadr Awwal	ubcconvertec@yahoo.com
3	Imran Hayee	Nā'ib Ṣadr Ṣaff Dom	imranhayee@gmail.com
4	Munawar A. Saqib	Mu'āwin Ṣadr (Finance)	ansar@saqib.net
5	Pervaiz Khan	Mu'āwin Ṣadr (IT)	pervaiz_a_khan@yahoo.com
6	Abdul Hadi Ahmad	Mu'āwin Ṣadr (Special Projects)	hadiahmedi@gmail.com
7	Maqbool Ahmad Tahir	Qā'id Umūmī (General Secretary)	maqbool_tahir@yahoo.com
8	Syed Fazal Ahmed	Qā'id Ta'limul Qur'ān (Education of the Holy Qur'ān)	fazalahmedsyed@gmail.com
9	Monas Ahmad Chaudry	Qā'id Ta'lim (Education)	monas123@gmail.com
10	Rafiuddin Malik	Qā'id Ishā'at (Publications)	rafimalik@yahoo.com
11	Mohammad Yasin Sharif	Qā'id Tarbiyat (Training)	yrsharif@gmail.com
12	Rizwan Alladin	Qā'id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā'i'in (Training of New Converts)	ralladin@gmail.com
13	Muzaffar Ahmad Siddiqi	Qā'id Tablīgh (Preaching)	muzaffar_a@yahoo.com
14	Syed Imran Mudassar	Qā'id Mal (Finance)	imranms@yahoo.com
15	Muhammad Shahid Mahmood	Qā'id Tajnīd (Membership)	mahmooms@yahoo.com
16	Hassiem Abdullah Babatu	Qā'id Taḥrīk Jadīd	hassiembabatu@yahoo.com
17	Sarjo Trawley	Qā'id Waqf Jadīd	family4together@yahoo.com
18	Basharat Ahmad Wadan	Qā'id Īthār [Eesaar] (Social Services)	basharatawadan@yahoo.com
19	Lutufur Rehman	Qā'id Dhahānat wa Ṣiḥat Jismānī (Intellect & Physical Health)	lutf.ch@gmail.com
20	M. Dawood Munir	Auditor	dawood@sndtaxservices.com
Nāzimīn			
1	Abdul Rahim Latif	Nāzim Central East Region	rahim.latif@gmail.com
2	Musawwir Momen	Nāzim Central West Region	ronnie.m.momen@us.hsbc.com
3	Naseem Khan	Nāzim Great Lakes Region	naseemkhan50@yahoo.com
4	Mahfooz Ur Rahman Sheikh	Nāzim Gulf States Region	mahfoozrshikh@gmail.com
5	Khurram Bashir	Nāzim Headquarters Region	khabashir@aol.com
6	Abu Bakar Bin Saeed	Nāzim Midwest Region	abubakarbinsaeed@yahoo.com
7	Muhammad Arshad Janjua	Nāzim New York Region	ajmaster70@gmail.com
8	Muhammad Zafar Iqbal	Nāzim Northeast Region	miqbal2@gmail.com
9	Ahmad Krishan Dard	Nāzim Southeast Region	krishan@nc.rr.com
10	Zafar Abdul Basith	Nāzim Southwest Region	zafarbasith@gmail.com
11	Ijaz Ahmad Qamar	Nāzim Virginia Region	iaqamar2001@yahoo.com
12	Atta Karim Chowdhry	Nāzim Northwest Region	fchowdhry@usa.com
Nā'ib Qā'idīn			
1	Attaul Mujeeb Chowdhry	Nā'ib Qā'id Umūmī	mujeeb.chowdhry@gmail.com
2	Fakhar Ahmad	Nā'ib Qā'id Umūmī	fakhar.ahmad352@gmail.com
3	Ahmad Hisham Qureshi	Nā'ib Qā'id Mal (Expense)	hisham_aq@yahoo.com
4	Zia Rahman Azam	Nā'ib Qā'id Mal (Income)	zia@nc.rr.com
5	Mohammed Layeequddin Ahmed	Nā'ib Qā'id Mal (Reporting)	layeeqahmed@yahoo.com

No.	Name	Office	Email
6	Mubasher A. Satkahi	Nā'ib Qā'id Publications	AoA964@gmail.com
7	Nasir A. Bukhari	Nā'ib Qā'id Publications	nbukhari2000@yahoo.com
8	Naveed Ahmad Malik	Nā'ib Qā'id Publications	squashed4life@yahoo.com
9	Usman Ahmad Mangla	Nā'ib Qā'id Ta'līm	umangla@yahoo.com
10	Moyenuddin Ahmad Sirajee	Nā'ib Qā'id Tabligh (Preaching)	moyenuddinsirajee@gmail.com
11	Imran Afzal Malik	Nā'ib Qā'id Tabligh (Preaching)	imranindiana@aol.com
12	Nasir Ahmad Jamil	Nā'ib Qā'id Īthār [Eesaar] (Social Services)	nasir.jamil@yahoo.com
13	Novid Aslam	Nā'ib Qā'id Īthār [Eesaar] (Social Services)	aslam2100@gmail.com
14	Irfan Ahmad Chaudhry	Nā'ib Qā'id Health (Sports)	irfan.chaudhry@live.com
15	Syed Tanvir Ahmed	Nā'ib Qā'id Health (General) & Ta'līmul Qur'ān	tahmedmd@me.com

Majlis Anṣār Sulṭānul-Qalam (MASQ) Awards

Information about publications (Op ed, letter to editor, book etc.) for consideration for Majlis Sulṭānul-Qalam Award by Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA can be submitted at <http://www.ansarusa.org/publications/msq-awards>. Following awards are available for the members of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA in good standing. For further information, please contact Qā'id Publications at qaid.publication@ansarusa.org.

1. Up to \$500 for a book publication by an independent renown non-Aḥmadī publisher.
2. \$300, \$200, and \$100 awards for top three articles published in newspapers and periodicals.
3. \$200, \$150, and \$100 awards for top three articles published on websites.

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