

Ansat We are the Helpers of Allāh.

March 2015 Vol. 20, No. 3

Launching "Majlis Anșārullāh Calling"

Dear Anṣār Brothers, As-Salāmu 'Alaikum Wa Raḥmatullāh

> Last year, we reserved 75 hotel rooms for our National Ijtimā' at subsidized rates. On one end, the hotel was unhappy with us, thinking we won't be able to use all the blocked rooms. And on the other end, some Anṣār brothers were unhappy with us that they never knew about these rooms in the first place. (Fact: All rooms were taken well before the Ijtimā'.)

> We want to try our best that no one should be able to say "I didn't know about it." Therefore, by the grace of Allāh, the Majlis is launching a robocall service titled... "Majlis Anṣārullāh Calling."

> This will be a pre-recorded phone call by virtue of which we will pass on critical information, directly to every member on our Tajnīd, in a timely fashion. It is important to remember that this service will compliment, and not replace, any of our existing communication tool. So my dear Zu'amā, Nāẓimīn, and National 'Āmilah members, you still have to maintain the same old—yet very effective—method of communication called "personal connection."

> This is how it will work. Your phone will ring, once or twice a month, during evening hours (never past 9 P.M. unless it is a true emergency), and you will hear a pre-recorded, 30-second voice message typically explaining a service and/or a program.

For example, some members still do not know that Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA provides a free health service for uninsured Jamā'at members, or that Anṣār Ṭāhir Scholarship can financially help you to pay for your tuition, or that we offer free books, or that Anṣār are going to Mexico for Tablīgh, or that you can have your living Will completed at Ijtimā' for free, or...you get the point.

We would prefer to use your cell phone number (if we have it in our database). Of course, if you wanted, there would be an option to opt out.

These humble efforts, these repeated reminders, are also meant as an effort on my part to fulfill the heavy burden that you have laid on me. In his Friday Sermon of December 5, 2003, Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) narrated a Hadīth where the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) said that a person whom Allāh has appointed guardian over a people and he does not discharge his duties fully with respect to those people, then on his death Allāh will make him ineligible to enter paradise.

May Allāh Almighty grant you a long, healthy, and fruitful life in the service of Islām and Aḥmadiyyat, Āmīn.

Was-Salām,

Faheem Younus Qureshi Serving Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA

Free Medical Service: Don't have health insurance? Send us an email at services@ansarusa.org or call us at 716-800-1889 from 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. EST and we may be able to help.

Job Seekers: If you are in the market looking for better employment opportunities in the United States, Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA can help you with your search.

Visit our website at ansarusa.org for more information on these services.

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Upcoming Events

Fri-Sun, Apr. 24-26 -National Majlis Shūrā

Sun, May 24 - Khilāfat Day

Thu, Jun 18 - 1st of Ramaḍān-ul -Mubārak

Fri-Sun, Sep. 18-20 - Anṣār National Ijtimā'

Contact Information

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Editor: Rafi Malik newsletter@ansarusa.org

Subscribe to Anṣār Mailing List

Do you wish to receive direct communication (Summary of Friday Sermon, Newsletter etc.) from Majlis Anṣārullāh? If yes, submit your email address at http://ansarusa.org/mailinglist/ dada/mail.cgi

Beware of Tax Phone Scams

Dawood Munir, Houston

According to IRS, aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents remain near the top of the annual "Dirty Dozen" list of tax scams for the 2015 filing season. The IRS has seen a surge of these phone scams in recent months as scam artists threaten police arrest, deportation, license revocation, and other things. The IRS reminds taxpayers to guard against all sorts of con games that arise during any filing season.

"If someone calls unexpectedly claiming to be from the IRS with aggressive threats if you don't pay immediately, it's a scam artist calling," said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. "The first IRS contact with taxpayers is usually through the mail. Taxpayers have rights, and this is not how we do business."

This year, phone scams top the Dirty Dozen list—a list compiled annually by the IRS listing common scams taxpayers may encounter any time during the year—because it has been a persistent and pervasive problem for many taxpayers for many months. Scammers are able to alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS badge numbers. They often leave "urgent" callback requests. They prey on the



most vulnerable people, such as the elderly, newly arrived immigrants, and those whose first language is not English. Scammers have been known to impersonate agents from IRS Criminal Investigation as well.

"These criminals try to scare and shock you into providing personal financial information on the spot while you are off guard," Koskinen said. "Don't be taken in and don't engage these people over the phone."

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) has received reports of roughly 290,000 contacts since October 2013 and has become aware of nearly 3,000 victims who have collectively paid over \$14 million as a result of the scam, in which individuals make unsolicited calls to taxpayers fraudulently claiming to be IRS officials and demanding that they send them cash via prepaid debit cards.

Protect Yourself

- These callers may demand money or may say you have a refund due and try to trick you into sharing private information. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They may know a lot about you.
- The IRS reminds people that they can know pretty easily when a supposed IRS caller is a fake. Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do. Any one of these five things is a tell-tale sign of a scam.

The IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. The IRS workers can help you with a payment issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484 or at www.tigta.gov.
- If you've been targeted by this scam, also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their FTC Complaint Assistant. Add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your complaint.

Remember, too, the IRS does not use email, text messages, or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue involving bills or refunds. For more information on reporting tax scams, go to www.irs.gov and type "scam" in the search box.

IRS Information on Tax Scams

YouTube Videos: English | Spanish | ASL Podcasts: English | Spanish Source: www.irs.gov

Dawood Munir serves Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA as National Auditor. He is experienced in Banking, Accounting, and Finance. He is currently self-employed with S&D Bookkeeping & Tax Services in Houston, TX.

A Posthumous Ḥajj by an Aḥmadī Muslim

Mobashir Latif Ahmad, Toronto

Ever since Aḥmadīs were declared non-Muslims in Pakistan and subsequently barred from performing their rightful religious duties, they have been subject to severe prohibitions in regards to performing noble religious rites including performing Ḥajj. As has always been the Sunnah of Almighty Allāh towards his loved ones, who are persecuted in His cause, He has shown innumerable signs in the favor of Aḥmadīs, the humble followers of the Imām of the age, the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), that are testimony to the fact that whether or not they are accepted as Muslims by others, in the eyes of Allāh, they are true Muslims. I would like to share an interesting incident that was narrated to me by a non-Aḥmadī friend of mine that to me is such a sign.

Riaz Ahmad Khan, since deceased, who belonged to an orthodox Muslim family of Teḥṣīl Mailsi, Multan, Pakistan, was a very good friend of mine since our school days. He was also a very good friend of late Faiz Ahmad Aslam who was an Aḥmadī and a special judge of anti-corruption court of the federal government of Pakistan in Rawalpindi.



Riaz and members of his family planned to perform Hajj and left for Saudi Arabia. Upon his return, having performed Hajj, Riaz especially traveled to Lahore to tell me about a special occurrence he had experienced. He told me that in Mecca, after going through the various stages of Hajj, when he was in the midst of circumambulating the Ka'bah, he saw the most unbelievable but a very joyful scene; he saw that Faiz Ahmad Aslam—who had passed away a number of years ago—was also circumambulating the Ka'bah. "I chased him," he said, "and kept calling him at the same time. This vision continued for quite some time, till the time he was lost in the crowd."

Riaz told me that this was such an incredible incident that after his return from Saudi Arabia, he had gone back to his home town paying only a flying visit and then rushed to Lahore only to tell me about this amazing vision.

May Almighty Allāh continue to shower His blessings on his humble servants and may He make such signs the source of guidance for others. Āmīn.

Mobashir Latif Ahmad is a Senior Advocate of Supreme Court of Pakistan. He has taught law at University of the Punjab for 45 years. He has been blessed with the opportunity of representing the Jamāʿat in blasphemy and other cases against Aḥmadīs in Pakistan since 1974. He currently resides in Toronto, Canada.

Running like 16 at the Age of 67

Rashid Syed, Los Angeles

On February 1, 2015, I ran, jogged, and walked my 10th Surf City Half Marathon, 13.1 miles, along with thousands of other runners. I have been running for as long as I remember but I have been running half marathons since 2005. Not only does it help me stay healthy it also helps raise funds to benefit causes such as Alzheimer's Cure Research Foundation, American Liver Foundation, Cops for Kids with Cancer, and many more.

And this year, I was fortunate to have other Ahmadi brothers running the marathon with me.

In 2005, I experienced lower back problem. The doctors advised for a back surgery to repair the bulge in my disc but I decided not to let the doctors cut open my back; instead, I started exercising more. That was the best decision I have ever made. I continued running and I am not sure what happened but my back pain disappeared. I have not seen a doctor for my back since 2005.



In 2008, the doctors found out that I had blockage in 3 arteries. After many examinations, the doctors decided not to do a bypass or place any stents. They decided to treat my condition with medication. After two months of rest, the doctors decided that it was safe for me to resume running. I was determined to treat myself with diet and exercise. I became more aggressive in running.

continued on next page ...

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 67, I feel pretty good about my health. If I can do it, anybody can do it.

I would encourage my Ansar brothers to keep a healthy lifestyle by doing exercise and eating healthy. However, if you are not in the best of health, please do not start running 13.1 miles based on my experience. Here are some suggestions:

- Start with 15-20 minute regular walk each day and increase your walk and distance each week.
- Set a goal. Run or walk to a set destination each day. Have a good attitude and keep smiling.
- Buy good, light running/walking shoes (look for sales for good price).
- Keep increasing your time and distance until you reach a comfortable limit.
- Do not skip days while running; skipping means starting all over again, which is not easy.
- If you are not in the best of health, consult your physician or Qā'id Health at qaid.health@ansarusa.org before you start running.

Rashid Syed is a former Zaʿīm of Los Angeles East Majlis. His Majlis received 'Alam-i-In'āmī in 2007 while he served the Majlis as Zaʿīm.

2015 Ta'līm Test I

2015 Ta'līm Test I is available online at www.ansarusa.org/TalimTest. Please make every effort to complete this test online. If you prefer to take the test on paper, a hard copy of the test is enclosed with this issue—both in English and Urdu. You can send the completed test to Qā'id Ta'līm in one of the following ways. **The deadline to submit the test is Saturday, June 13, 2015.**

E-mail: qaid.talim@ansarusa.org Fax: 714-993-6414 Snail Mail: Qā'id Ta'līm, 2859 E. Stearns Street, Brea, CA 92821

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 deparments of Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA, archives of Anṣār periodicals, calendar of events, and other useful information and tools, visit ansarusa.org.

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