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An Amazing Experience

Rayeesuddin Ahmed, Milwaukee

By the grace of Almighty Allāh, I had the opportunity to attend the 40th Jalsa Sālāna of Canada held on October 7-9, 2016. I would like to share an incident that amazed me and increased my gratitude and belief.

On the second day of the Jalsa, when I return to my hotel I realized that I had lost my wallet which had 3 credit cards, 2 money orders of about \$1500, and around \$1300 cash. I was a little upset for a while but then decided not to spoil the purpose of the visit and requested my family and friends for prayers. The next day, after the concluding address of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh V (may Allāh be his helper), I checked with the Lost & Found department and left my contact information with them.

After the conclusion of the Jalsa, we started our travel back to Milwaukee at 2 P.M. I was thinking that the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) had offered special prayers for those who attend Jalsa Sālāna and this Jalsa was very special because of the presence of our beloved Khalīfah. I was less worried about the material loss and more focused on the prayers of the Promised Messiah for Jalsa attendees.

Around 5 P.M., before even crossing the border, I received a phone call from my niece in Milwaukee that someone named Mr. Rafiq (security in charge of Langar Khāna) found my wallet in Peace Village. I was so amazed and my heart was filled with gratitude. I had just experienced a sign of acceptance of prayers of the Promised Messiah.

We are so fortunate to be a part of this blessed Jamā'at that has been blessed with amazing trustworthy people. I found out that Mr. Rafiq had made a great deal of effort to get my contact information. May Allāh reward him abundantly, Āmīn.

Send your feedback and comments to newsletter@ansarusa.org

Revamp Your Snacking Habits

Syed Tanvir Ahmed, Qāʾid Dhahānat wa Ṣiḥat Jismānī (Intellect and Physical Health)

If late afternoon hunger pangs leave you longing for a snack, there's no reason to deny yourself. Just be sure to choose foods that fit into a heart-healthy eating pattern. "Snacks help bridge the gap between meals." A small snack in the afternoon curbs your appetite so you are not completely starving when you sit down to dinner. That can help you control your portion sizes and avoid overeating—a common cause of weight gain.



Source: Harvard Health Publications

If a tree falls in a forest...

Rizwan Alladin, Long Island, NY

If a tree falls in the middle of a forest, does it still make a sound? Western philosophers have presumably argued on this concept for decades. The point of contention being: if something significant happens, but no one is there to witness the event, then can we definitively say it happened?

Well, on April 3, 2016 at 8 A.M. on a lazy Sunday morning, during a windstorm, a huge tree fell in our backyard. The sound of the tree hitting the ground was so loud, it woke the entire family up, including my sister-in-law and her husband, who had stayed the night. The vibrations were so strong, that my 12-year old son fell off the bed.

Thinking a bomb went off, I checked to make sure all of my family members were indeed all right. Once that was confirmed, we then proceeded to try to figure out what happened. Finally, looking out my son's bedroom window, we visually confirmed—a tree had indeed fallen.

I ran outside, and realized the full extent of how Almighty Allāh demonstrated His full Power, Mercy, and Love to us. The tree fell directly between my home and my next door neighbor's. It merely clipped the corner of my home. Had it fallen just 5 feet more to the left, it would have landed squarely on top of my sister-in-law and her husband. Alḥamdulillāh, the only inconvenience we experienced in the end was an interrupted sleep. The house next door is vacant—and thus, no bodily harm to anyone. Alḥamdulillāh, thumma Alḥamdulillāh.

To get a better sense of the enormity of the tree, one of its branches (note: not the main trunk) crushed the next-door neighbor's two steel air conditioning units. The force of the trunk falling on the cement walkway between our homes has rendered the walkway unusable.

For the philosophically-challenged like myself, I do not know about the middle of the forest, but in our 1000 sq ft backyard, not only can my family attest that the tree made a sound, but that, as dead as the tree may now be, our Lord is Ever-Living, Omnipresent, and the Protector (even for His least-deserving of servants).



Ta'līm Test II Results

Monas Chaudry, Qā'id Ta'līm

I would like to share 2016 Ta'līm Test II results and participation by Majlis. Alḥamdulillāh, 55% of members participated in Ta'līm Test II nationally; a total of 1604 members took the test that exceeded the national goal of 1500. 10 Majālis had 100% participation; 39 out of 71 Majālis met the 50% target. All Majālis in Central East and Northwest regions had more than 50% participation.

My sincere gratitude to all the Nāẓimīn A'lā and Zu'amā for working tirelessly towards achieving the educational goal this year. May Allāh bless them and their families tremendously, Āmīn.

The Majlis level participation is given below.

No.	Majlis	%age	No.	Majlis	%age	No.	Majlis	%age
1	North Virginia	100%	25	Laurel	63%	49	Bloomington	43%
2	LA Inland	100%	26	Portland	63%	50	Philadelphia	40%
3	Chicago Northwest	100%	27	Phoenix	63%	51	Alabama-TN	40%
4	North Jersey	100%	28	Willingboro	61%	52	South Virginia	37%
5	Houston North	100%	29	Dallas	60%	53	Columbus	36%
6	Bay Point	100%	30	Central Jersey	60%	54	Research Triangle	35%
7	Buffalo	100%	31	Binghamton	60%	55	Pittsburgh	35%
8	Lehigh Valley	100%	32	Dayton	59%	56	Minnesota	33%
9	Charlotte	100%	33	Fitchburg	56%	57	St. Louis	31%
10	Las Vegas	100%	34	Silicon Valley	55%	58	LA West	31%
11	Boston	96%	35	Oshkosh	55%	59	San Diego	29%
12	Houston South	96%	36	Kentucky	55%	60	Potomac	28%
13	Georgia-Carolina	91%	37	Baltimore	54%	61	Central Virginia	27%
14	Cleveland	89%	38	New York	54%	62	Tulsa	27%
15	Fort Worth	88%	39	Seattle	53%	63	Milwaukee	19%
16	Detroit	83%	40	Houston Cypress	48%	64	Brooklyn	16%
17	Silver Spring	82%	41	Richmond	47%	65	Washington DC	12%
18	Tucson	80%	42	Chicago Southwest	47%	66	Kansas	12%
19	Austin	78%	43	York	47%	67	Orlando	9%
20	Syracuse	78%	44	Miami	46%	68	Albany	8%
21	Bronx	72%	45	Zion	44%	69	Hartford	8%
22	Long Island	68%	46	Chicago East	44%	70	New Orleans	6%
23	Indiana	67%	47	Sacramento	44%	71	Merced	0%
24	LA East	65%	48	Rochester	43%			

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Are You Reciting the Holy Qur'ān DAILY?

Munir Ahmad Malik, Qā'id Ta'līmul Qur'ān

The promised Messiah (may peace be on him) says: "You do not leave the Holy Qur'ān like a book that has been forsaken, since it is therein—and nowhere else—that life lies. **Those who give honor to this Holy Book shall be honored in heaven**. Those who will hold the holy Qur'ān superior to every tradition and every other saying shall be given preference in heaven."

Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh V (may Allāh be his helper) has repeatedly reminded us about daily recitation of the Holy Qur'ān. In a meeting with Hudūr earlier this year, we had committed that we will set the example for ourselves and for our families in daily recitation of the Holy Qur'ān. Our parents and elders set the example for us and now it is our turn and responsibility to set this noble example for our children and bless our homes by daily recitation of this holy book.

At the beginning of this year, Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA had set a goal that at least 75% of us will be reciting Holy Qur'ān daily. We are currently at 60%, based on reports received from local Majālis. I humbly urge everyone to make recitation of the Holy Qur'ān a daily habit and be the recipient of immense blessings.