

ANSAR

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We are the Helpers of Allāh.

Ijtimā' Invitation

Imran Hayee, Şadr Majlis

Dear Anşār Brothers, As-Salāmu 'Alaikum Wa Raḥmatullāh

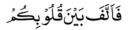
Last month I visited Pakistan for a few days. During my stay there, I visited Rabwah, Sialkot, Islamabad, and Lahore where I had a chance to meet many Anṣār brothers. We held a variety of discussions on many different topics, however one topic was common in every discussion. Almost every Nāṣir I had a conversation with, unloaded his heartfelt sorrow for not being able to hold public gatherings, especially large ones like Anṣār Ijtimā', where they get a chance to meet and spend time with many other brothers. Some of them even shared their fond memories from long time ago when Ijtimā'āt used to be held regularly in Pakistan.

I, myself don't remember any Anṣār Ijtimā' from Pakistan but vividly remember every Ijtimā' here in US since I became a Nāṣir 10 years ago. My own memories of all those Ijtimā'āt multiplied the pain I felt for my Pakistani brothers who have not had such opportunity for more than three decades. As much as I felt their pain, my heart filled with immense gratitude for being able to freely and fearlessly attend Ijtimā'āt here in our country.

I have been enjoying Anṣār Ijtimā' for the past 10 years and every time I go there, my heart fills with joy and my physical, moral, and spiritual condition is rejuvenated. This is similar to the joy you all experience upon attending Jalsa Sālāna except with a different flavor. I know, many of you have tasted this flavor repeatedly for the past several years and are perhaps completely addicted to it by now. And yet there are some who have not reached that level of intoxication needed to experience the promised joy in their hearts. This might be because they have never had a chance to attend any Anṣār Ijtimā' yet or they have not attended it in a while.

Regardless of what category you fall under and how intoxicated you are, I want to wholeheartedly invite you all to please join us at our 37th national ljtimā' to be held at

Baitur Raḥmān Mosque on September 21-23. I assure you that your hearts will be filled with joy and souls revitalized by this blessed gathering, as it is guaranteed by Almighty Allāh Himself in the Holy Qur'ān, "And hold fast, all together, by the rope of Allāh and be not divided; and remember the favor of Allāh which He bestowed upon you when you were enemies and He united your hearts in love ..." (The Holy Qur'ān, 3 [Āl 'Imrān]:104). The theme of this year's ljtimā' is also:



(He has united your hearts in love.)

I am positive that most of you must have already felt your hearts being drawn to each other and the joy which comes with it at many occasions. Please come to this year's Anṣār Ijtimā' to experience that joy once again or for the first time. Whatever the case, you will not be disappointed and will experience the multiplicative effect of this divine pull of hearts, which no science can explain but only hearts can experience.

While our brothers in Pakistan are restricted by unjust and discriminatory governmental policies, we have no reason to miss out on such a golden opportunity. Let's be grateful and plan on attending this year's ljtimā' by shedding any potential excuses, which may pose a potential hurdle in our intentions or efforts to attend Ansār ljtimā'.

We have an exciting program and open arms waiting for you at our National Ijtimā'. I look forward to seeing you all in September, Inshā'allāh.

With love and prayers,

Wassalām,

Imran Hayee humbly serving Majlis Ansārullāh USA

Register for National Ijtimā' at ansarusa.org/register

National Ijtimā'

Zahid Mian, Qā'id Finance

Anṣār National Ijtimā' is the premier annual event of our Majlis. In the last few years, the attendance has nearly doubled and those that have made the extra effort to attend have enjoyed every minute of it. Such statements may seem like hyperbole but come see for yourself just how accurate it is. Two years ago, I asked a brother to join us at the Ijtimā' and he replied that he had attended a few years ago and he did not have a good experience. Last year, I was somewhat surprised to see him at the Ijtimā'. I asked him how it was going, and he replied that it's going great.

Come join your brothers from across the country and see for yourself just how enjoyable and spiritually reinvigorating the experience really is.

The trip is worth every penny, but if the only reason you cannot attend is the cost of airfare, then Majlis Anṣārullāh wants to help you with that. Our travel subsidy is second to none (and that's no hyperbole either). As long as you purchase your ticket at least two weeks before the ljtimā' date, we will cover up to 75% of your trip cost. Please see the official subsidy policy for details.

National Ijtimā' Travel Subsidy

Below are the key points of travel subsidy for national ljtimā' 2018. Complete details can be found at ansarusa.org/ijtima-subsidy

- No subsidy for travel less than 300 miles from Silver Spring, MD
- No subsidy for hotel accommodation, meals, or parking
- No subsidy for traffic tickets and incidental expenses
- No subsidy for trip insurance, seat upgrade and priority boarding
- Road travel reimbursed at \$0.25/mile with at least 4 passengers in a car
- Rental of car/van must have prior approval (email)

- Airfare reimbursed at 75% with a cap of \$250 (\$400 for West Coast)
- Tickets over \$500 need prior approval from Qā'id Finance or Şadr Majlis (before purchasing the ticket)
- Airline tickets must be purchased at least 2 weeks in advance
- All reimbursement requests must be submitted by Sunday October 14, 2018
- No special subsidy for Shūrā delegates
- Any exceptions must have prior approval (email)
- For brothers who are refugees to this country, we will support them fully (100%) for the first three years. Please make sure their ticket is reasonable (similar to what others are paying from the area). After the three-year period, the normal policy will apply.

National Ijtimā' Accommodation Options

National ljtimā' participants have three accommodation options available to them:

- 1. **Stay at a brother's home:** Let us know in advance and we will arrange your accommodation at another brother's home within driving distance of the mosque.
- 2. **Stay at the mosque:** Limited number of sleeping bags are available for members flying in for the ljtimā'. Do bring your own pillow, blanket, toiletries, towel, etc.
- 3. **Stay at a hotel:** See hotel accommodation details below.

Hotel Accommodation:

This year we have consolidated the hotel accommodation to one hotel: <u>Courtyard Marriott Silver Spring North</u>, 12521 Prosperity Dr, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

Reservations for the group rate must be made prior to September 6, 2018. This rate is valid for September 20, 21, and 22, 2018.

Room Rate: \$81 per night Reservation code: Anṣār Room Block

How to book your room:

- Guests can directly call Marriott Reservations at 1 (800) 321-2211 or (301) 680-8500
- Book online (ansarusa.org/ijtima-accommodation)

Room rate does not include breakfast
Complimentary on-site parking and wireless internet

All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. The hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured by credit card.

Send your feedback and comments at newsletter@ansarusa.org

Brother Mohammad Bashir

Noor-Ud-Din

My father, Mohammad Bashir of Phoenix Majlis, passed away on May 28, 2018 after a short illness. Innā lillāhi wa innā ilaihi rāji'ūn. He accepted Aḥmadiyyat in 1971 in Milwaukee, Wl. He introduced my mother, Nusrat Jahan Bashir, to Aḥmadiyyat and she signed Bai'at about three months after him. They married on the same day she signed Bai'at. Milwaukee was their first Jamā'at but they have also been members of York/Harrisburg and Philadelphia Jamā'ats. They moved to Arizona about two years ago and most recently belonged to Phoenix Jamā'at.

My dad was the proud and loving father of 7 born-Aḥmadī children and grandfather of 12 grandchildren, Māshā'allāh. My father loved languages and was an outgoing personality who could make friends anywhere he went. He could always be seen at Jalsa Sālāna speaking Urdu with his Pakistani brothers, Chinese with his Chinese brothers, Arabic with his Arab brothers, and so on.

Before retiring, he was self-employed and owned a screen printing business, and he often did t-shirt jobs for the Jamā'at. Alḥamdulillāh, he performed Ḥajj several years ago. During the Ḥajj, there was an elderly wheelchair-bound non-Aḥmadī lady in his tour group who had gone without



Brother Mohammad Bashir on duty at a US Jalsa Sālāna

any family. My parents took her under their wing and cared for her throughout the Hajj so she was also able to complete her pilgrimage.

On one occasion while visiting me, we passed a Sikh temple en route to the airport for his departure home. He requested that we stop and go in to meet our Sikh neighbors. We met a priest who made us tea and served us Mithā'ī (sweets). My father embraced him when we left. A year or two later, that Sikh temple was the site of a horrific attack that made national news and the priest we met was shot. My father immediately called me to inquire about his brother upon hearing the news. This is the type of boundless love for humanity my father displayed throughout his life.

Although Brother Mohammad Bashir was among Phoenix Jamā'at for only 2 years but in this short period he touched and won the hearts of all the members including young Khuddām. He was loving, caring, friendly and had a charming personality with many other qualities. He voluntarily performed security duties at our mosque over an extended period and greeted everyone with a smile. He was a devoted Dā'ī Ilallāh (caller to Allāh) and an active participant of CCTI in Phoenix Majlis and Jamā'at. He bought his house near Baitul Aman (Phoenix mosque). He, along with his wife, was offering Ṣalāt at the mosque on a regular basis.

Brother Mohammad Bashir will be dearly missed. Prayers are requested for his high status in paradise and that may Allāh protect his family in every respect, Ameen.

A Misconception Removed

Suhail Kausar, Nā'ib Şadr Awwal

Many members have expressed their hesitation in joining the system of Waşiyyat because they think they are not at a spiritual level that the divine scheme of Waşiyyat requires.

To those who feel that their standards of piety are still not high enough to join the system of Wasiyyat, Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (may Allāh be his helper) said, "This is such a revolutionary system that if a person joins it with true intentions and later makes sincere efforts for self-improvement in accordance with sayings of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), then with the blessings of

this system the long spiritual journey that would take years to finish will be covered in days, and that of days will be covered in hours." (Al-Faḍl International, Vol. 11, Issue No. 50, 2004)

The Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) says, "In the end I pray that may Allāh help every sincere person in this matter and that He may kindle the fire of faith in their hearts and that they all meet their death when Allāh is pleased with them. Āmīn."

Members are urged to read the booklet Al-Waşiyyat (The Will) and consider joining the divine system of Waşiyyat.

If you need transportation on arrival/departure at National Ijtimā'

please submit transportation request at ansarusa.org/transportation

Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām, Inc. P.O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719

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Send detail and pictures of your local and regional events and Anṣār news via email 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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National Ijtimā' Information

Various National Ijtimā' information can be found at the following links.

ljtimā' Portal ansarusa.org/ijtima

Registration ansarusa.org/register

ljtimā' Subsidy ansarusa.org/ijtima-subsidy

Transportation Request ansarusa.org/transportation

Accommodation ansarusa.org/ijtima-accommodation

ljtimā' Program ansarusa.org/ijtima-program