Ijtihād Invitation

Imran Hayee, Sadr Majlis

Dear Ansār Brothers,
As-Salāmu ʿAlaikum 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 Ansār brothers. We held a variety of discussions on many different topics, however one topic was common in every discussion. Almost every Nasīr I had a conversation with, unloaded his heartfelt sorrow for not being able to hold public gatherings, especially large ones like Ansār Ijtihād, 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 Ijtihād was held regularly in Pakistan.

I, myself don’t remember any Ansār Ijtihād from Pakistan but vividly remember every Ijtihād here in US since I became a Nasīr 10 years ago. My own memories of all those Ijtihād 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 Ijtihād here in our country.

I have been enjoying Ansār Ijtihād 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 Ansār Ijtihād 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 Ijtihād 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 [Al ’Īmran]:104). The theme of this year’s Ijtihād is also:

قَالَ الَّذِيَانِ لِلَّهِ بِأَلْفِ حَرَّاتٍ ٌمُّبِنِينَ

(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 Ansār Ijtihād 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 Ijtihād by shedding any potential excuses, which may pose a potential hurdle in our intentions or efforts to attend Ansār Ijtihād.

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

With love and prayers,

Wassalām,

Imran Hayee
humbly serving Majlis Ansārullah USA

Register for National Ijtihād at ansarusa.org/register
National Ijtima’

Zahid Mian, Qa’id Finance

Anşar National Ijtima’ 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 Ijtima’ 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 Ijtima’. 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 Anşarullah 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 Ijtima’ date, we will cover up to 75% of your trip cost. Please see the official subsidy policy for details.

National Ijtima’ Travel Subsidy

Below are the key points of travel subsidy for national Ijtima’ 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 Qa’id Finance or Sadr 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 Ijtima’ Accommodation Options

National Ijtima’ 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 Ijtima’. 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: Courtyard Marriott Silver Spring North, 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: Anşar 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. Inna lilâhî wa innâ ilaihi râji‘ûn. He accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1971 in Milwaukee, WI. He introduced my mother, Nusrat Jahan Bashir, to Ahmadiyyat and she signed Bai‘at about three months after him. They married on the same day she signed Bai‘at. Milwaukee was their first Jamâ‘at but they have also been members of York/Harrisburg and Philadelphia Jamâ‘ats. They moved to Arizona about two years ago and most recently belonged to Phoenix Jamâ‘at.

My dad was the proud and loving father of 7 born-Ahmadi children and grandfather of 12 grandchildren, Mâshâ‘allâh. My father loved languages and was an outgoing personality who could make friends anywhere he went. He could always be seen at Jalsa Sâlânâ 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 Jamâ‘at. Alhamdulillâh, he performed Haji several years ago. During the Hajj, there was an elderly wheelchair-bound non-Ahmadi lady in his tour group who had gone without 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 Mithâ‘i (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 Jamâ‘at for only 2 years but in this short period he touched and won the hearts of all the members including young Khuddâm. 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 Dâ‘î Ilâllâh (caller to Allâh) and an active participant of CCTI in Phoenix Majlis and Jamâ‘at. He bought his house near Baitul Aman (Phoenix mosque). He, along with his wife, was offering Salât 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 Allâh protect his family in every respect, Ameen.

A Misconception Removed

Suhail Kausar, Nâ‘ib Şadr Awwal

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

To those who feel that their standards of piety are still not high enough to join the system of Wasiyyat, Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allâh 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-Fadl International, Vol. 11, Issue No. 50, 2004)

The Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) says, “In the end I pray that may Allâh 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 Allâh is pleased with them. Âmin.”

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

If you need transportation on arrival/departure at National Ijtima’
please submit transportation request at ansarusa.org/transportation
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 Ijtima’ Information

Various National Ijtima’ information can be found at the following links.

Ijtima’ Portal ansarusa.org/ijtima
Registration ansarusa.org/register
Ijtima’ Subsidy ansarusa.org/ijtima-subsidy
Transportation Request ansarusa.org/transportation
Accommodation ansarusa.org/ijtima-accommodation
Ijtima’ Program ansarusa.org/ijtima-program