Dear Ansar Brothers,  
As-Salamu ‘Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah  

During his concluding address at the National Ijtima of Majlis Ansarullah UK and USA 2015, Amirul-Mu’minin, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allah be his helper), reminded us about establishing Congregational Prayers.  

Since then I have received heartwarming news from various Majalis. Just between the Majalis of Greater Houston, Los Angeles, and Miami over 25 Salat centers have been established!  

This spiritual awakening is sign of your love for Allah and his Khalifah. The Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) said:  

*Islam lays emphasis on the Oneness of God and also underscores the need for concord and unity among mankind.*  

Congregational Prayer is promised to be more rewarding because it makes for unity. To translate this unity into practice, Islam enjoins with great emphasis that when we line up for Prayer, our feet should be in line, the lines should be straight, and all worshippers should stand close to one another with a view to unifying the many into one, so that the light of one should illuminate the others, thus removing the divide which causes egoism and selfishness.  

*Remember, man is gifted with the power to absorb the light that others radiate. It is for the realization of this unity that we are enjoined to offer daily Prayers in the local mosque, the weekly Prayers in the central mosque, Eid Prayers in the Eid Gah, and, once a year, to ensure the congregation of Muslims from all over the world in the House of God—Ka’bah. The purpose of all these injunctions is none other than forging unity.*  
(Lecture Ludhiana, page 47)  

Limbs that become motionless after a stroke, regain their strength slowly. It starts with a flicker of a muscle sometimes. Let’s show that flicker by starting congregational Salat in our homes if we didn’t do it before. If you were regular in your homes, step it up to a Salat center and build that unity. If your Salat center is going successful, take it a notch up to start going to the mosque.  

I urge you all to pay special attention towards establishing Salat centers.  

May we all radiate the spiritual light which is a distinction of true believers, may we
continue to absorb that light from each other, and may our congregational Salat unite us as brothers, Ameen.

Was-Salam,

Faheem Younus Qureshi
Serving Majlis Ansarullah, USA

Ijtima 1-1-1-1 - Huzoor's Concluding Address

English translation of the concluding address by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allah be his helper) at National Ijtima of Majlis Ansarullah UK/USA 2015 is now available.

In Memory of My Father

Fouzan Mansoor Pal, Central Virginia

On the eve of November 2, 2015, my father, Mansoor Pal, breathed his last and completed his journey back to Allah. He had a prolonged struggle with Alzheimer’s disease. He was a Musi. I write the following memoir to reminisce about his personality with those who were acquainted with him, and to introduce him to those who didn’t have an opportunity to get to know him. Regardless, I hope that this narrative inspires all readers to pray for him.

My father was born in Ranchi, India and lived most of his early life in Sialkot. He spent most of his early working career in Saudi Arabia.

Due to restrictions in Saudi Arabia, we did not have the good fortune of being part of the Jama’at ecosystem during my childhood years. In fact, my first real interaction with the Jama’at was after the age of fifteen when I moved to the U.S. While such detachment would typically have resulted in disassociation with the Jama’at, I strongly
believe that I remain today an active member of the Jama’at due to the fervent prayers of my father and the grace and mercy of Allah.

Jama’at members who knew my father typically use words such as “timid,” “patient,” “quiet,” and “harmless” to describe his personality. He was a man of few words, often minding his own business and not engaging in discussions around politics or current affairs that are typically the subject of many informal gatherings. Even regarding Tarbiyat of his children, he would take the approach of expressing his like or dislike through indications or signals rather than direct lectures or actions. In spite of his serene personality, I clearly recall spikes of emotions, all of which were directed against ideas or persons who criticized the Jama’at in any way. He had great love for the Holy Qur’an. During his healthy life he would spontaneously recite verses in support of his statements. Even during the early part of his Alzheimer’s, he would complete verses of Surah Fatiha if one recited a part thereof—this was during a time when he didn’t recognize his own children, didn’t know day from night, or have any recollection of where he was. Later on, as the disease progressed, his ability to speak sensibly gradually diminished. But even in this state, his eyes would often fill up with tears upon hearing the recitation of Holy Qur’an.

During his healthy life, he was physically very active and never wanted to delay anything till the next day. He would do many house chores himself without being asked. In fact, after I got married, my wife would often tease me that I had it so easy since my father would do all the grocery, mow the lawn, take care of the car repairs, etc.

I recall many instances of sacrifices he made, putting the interest of others--his family and strangers alike--over his own. He was not wealthy, but when it came to spending in the way of Allah, he was very generous. In addition to obligatory and voluntary Chanda, I often saw him giving cash or other form of assistance to anyone in need. In the days following his demise, our family heard from so many people—many of whom we didn’t even know had acquaintance with my father—mentioning that he had given them a ride to the hospital, installed MTA dish at their house, or helped them in one way or another.

Many people who knew my father here in the U.S. remember him for his MTA dish installation work—a passion that resulted from a genuine concern for the well being of Ahmadi households. He strongly believed that MTA was a definitive way to save Ahmadi households from the ill effects of the society and to attach children and adults alike to Khilafat. He was also one of the first to work at the satellite earth station at Baitur-Rahman.

Parents do a lot for their kids. I look back and wonder what was the most important gift he left for his kids—love and care, education, a good life. But ultimately it was the gift of Ahmadiyyat that is most prized. He had received this gift from his father, Muhammad Din Pal, who had accepted Ahmadiyyat during the time of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him), and had fulfilled his responsibility of passing it on to us.