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National Ijtima Attendance Goal: 1313

Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis

Dear Ansar Brothers,

As-Salamu ‘Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah

This humble one invites you to attend the 35th National Ijtima of Majlis Ansarullah, USA to be held on September 23-25, 2016 at Baitur-Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, MD. This year, our attendance goal is 1313. In other words, be the 1 out of 313.

Yes, it is inspired by the 313 Sahaba who valiantly demonstrated their love and loyalty for the Holy Prophet (may Allah’s peace and blessings be on him) at the battle of Badr. At the time, Hazrat Abu Bakr, Hazrat Umar, Hazrat Uthman (may Allah be pleased with them), and the Holy Prophet himself, were all over 40-years old. Taken literally, more than 230 of the 313 Badri Sahaba were the Ansar of Medina.

And yes, our attendance goal is also inspired by the 313 Dervishan of Qadian. Those who demonstrated their love and loyalty for their Khalifah at the time of partition of the Indian subcontinent and stayed behind in Qadian. They relived the legacy of the Awwaleen (the first ones) in the latter days.

Today, it is our turn to rise up to the call of our Khalifah. Coming to the Ijtima is no match—absolutely no match—to the sacrifices of our revered Sahaba (the companions). But it is a symbol, a gesture, a longing to spiritually feel connected to those noble souls.

Reaching this goal of 1313 won’t be easy (neither was Badr or Qadian). It will require all of us to reinvigorate our belief in the unseen. All of us will have to pray that may Allah sends his angels—like He did 1400 years ago in the sizzling desert of Badr—to help us in our humble efforts.

We are focused on meeting the needs of the guests of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), Insha’allah We are working hard to increase the Prayer areas, make the interactive workshops more relevant, enhance the religious knowledge competition, select a hotel location closer to the Masjid, maintain the top notch BBQ, bring in portable bathrooms, and flood you with the loving embraces of our mutual brotherhood. All by the grace and mercy of Allah the Almighty.
So my brothers, come, be the 1 out of 1313 and help your Majlis set yet another record. By rising up to these symbolic challenges, we demonstrate our belief in the unseen and our will to prepare ourselves and our families for the far greater challenges of self-reformation.

I am sharing this goal with you 6 months before the Ijtima so we can all remember our history in the words of the Holy Qur'an, “And Allah had already helped you at Badr when you were weak. So take Allah for your Protector that you may be grateful.” (3:124) and make our travel plans to be the 1 out of 313.

Was-Salam,

Faheem Younus Qureshi
Serving Majlis Ansarullah, USA

**Assigned Books for Reading**

*Monas Chaudry, Qa'id Ta'lim*

All Ansar are encouraged to regularly read the assigned book of the month. The 2016 Education (Ta'lim) tests will cover this material extensively. The PDF as well as audio version of the books of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) are available for download at alislam.org.

A list of the assigned books of the Promised Messiah is as follows:

**Assigned Reading (January 2016 – June 2016)**

1. Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam
2. Blessings of Prayer
3. How to be free from Sin
4. The Will
5. Lecture Ludhiana

**Assigned Reading (July 2016 – December 2016)**

6. Three Questions by a Christian and their Answers
7. Four Questions by Mr. Sirajuddin, a Christian, and their Answers
8. A Misconception Removed
9. The Heavenly Sign
10. A Gift for the Queen
Send us your stories of brotherhood, Ijtima memories, or any other inspiring experience that we can share with Ansar brothers via this e-newsletter.

Department of Publications
Majlis Ansarullah, USA