

Bait-uz-Zafar Envoy and *Nawae Zafar* is a monthly bilingual news-letter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of New York. For further information contact:

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Bait-uz-Zafar Envoy

RAMADHAN-SHAWWAL 1436 AH

Upcoming Events

JULY 2015

July 18th: Eid-ul-Fitr at Bait-uz-Zafar @10:30 AM

July 24th-30th: National Tarbiyyat Camp for Waqifat-e-Nau

July 31st–August 2nd: Regional Tarbiyyat Fitness Camp for children ages 10+

August 2nd: Lajna & Ansar Meetings

Ramadan activities continue, Dars-ul-Quran held every weekend an hour before Iftar

Daily Iftars at Bait-uz-Zafar and Taraveeh prayers after Isha.

See more *Ramadan Announcements* inside

EID MUBARAK!

A joyous Eid Mubarak to all of our readers! May Allah accept all of our prayers and sacrifices. May the auspicious occasion of Eid bless you all with peace and joy. Ameen!



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Members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, New York branch paid a courtesy visit to the Ghana Consulate in New York on June 10th, 2015. The purpose of the visit was to extend the Jamaat's message of condolence to the people and government of Ghana for the loss of multiple lives during a recent flood and explosion disaster. The delegation was headed by Nazir Ayaz Sahib, president of the Queens chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Ghanaian Ahmadis living in the USA were also represented.



Members signed the book of condolence and met with the Consular to express their condolence and offered to help the victims through *Humanity First* which is a non-profit organization set up by the Ahmadiyya community to help displaced people worldwide.

The Consular was presented with a book on the Late Maulvi Wahab Adam and after a short discussion, the event came to an end with exchange of contacts and a group photo.

By: Mahmud Ennin

Tabligh Report

Dialogue & Cultural Presentation – On June 7th we attended an interfaith conference themed “Tolerance of all Faiths” held at the Starlite Pavilion in Queens, NY. Respected heads of various faiths were among the group of panelists. After an introduction, the panelists began to take questions from the audience. Imam Daud A. Hanif Sahib was our representative on behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, and partook in every question asked. The highlight of the event was when a Christian gentlemen in the audience made a comment in regards to all religions and their leaders – he noted the hypocrisy of religious leaders whereby they themselves don't always practice what they preach. Our respected Imam Sahib responded to this comment by shining light on the true teachings of Islam and the importance of the Promised Messiah (AS).

Islam & Ramadan Lecture – On Jun 25th we attended a lecture at the Kew Gardens Community Center in Queens. Imam Daud A. Hanif Sahib was invited to speak about Islam and Ramadan, followed by a Q&A session. We received a Thank You letter from the organizer which reads as follows:

Dear Nazir,

I can't thank you and Imam Hanif enough for taking the time to come and explain the beauty and richness of Islam, and the essence of Ramadan. It was just a taste. A number of people had said they never knew what it was about and found it interesting, informative, and it had so much commonality with other religions.

I do have an advantage over the rest of my colleagues, because of the quality of my relationships with my former Pakistani neighbors, and I do ask a lot of questions.

A visit to the mosque would be lovely, and I will try to arrange that. Thank you both again and again.

Ramadan Mubarak.

Joyce Berger

There were a total of 32 guests at this event. Each guest received a copy of **Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, Women in Islam, Muhammad: Liberal for Women**, a Jamaat pen and Jamaat bookmark.

Distribution of Ramadan Timings Calendar – Ramadan calendars were distributed at various locations throughout Queens including grocery stores and NYC Public Libraries which was a major milestone. The head of PR for Queens Central Library gave his regards and was very thankful to the Jamaat for the contribution of Ramadan calendars while noting that we were the only Muslim organization to make such contributions.

Throughout this holy month of Ramadan many of our members have taken on the responsibility of bringing their personal guests whom we take special care of alongside our Tabligh efforts – with special thanks to Ghulam Rabbi Sahib. Lastly, President Sahib wrote and sent out a condolence letter to the families of the victims of the Clarkson shooting.

By: Abdul Ghafoor

As the first semester of Tahir Academy comes to an end we would like to appreciate all of our teachers and administration for taking the time out of their busy schedules to dedicate it to the children of our Jamaat every weekend. This semester with five Classes; KG, Level 1, Level 2 Boys/Girls, Level 3 Boys/Girls we had a total of 87 students in our Academy. This was the first Semester the students were taken to the gym located in the school across the street from the Masjid. Atfal/Nasirat classes and meetings were held regularly at the end of the day in a rotating schedule with Waqf-e-Nau classes. The results are as follows:

KG 1 st – Fizza Basharat 2 nd – Duha Ahmad 3 rd – Shafia Rizwan	Level 3—Girls 1 st – Baria Ahmad 2 nd – Faaria Basharat
Level 1 1 st – Naseem Dhanraj 2 nd – Sarmad Mansoor 3 rd – Ishaal Ahmad	Level 2—Boys 1 st – Qaasid Bajwa 2 nd – Muqeet Ahmad 3 rd – Kamal Mohammed
Level 2—Girls 1 st – Maahida Bajwa 2 nd – Mahera Mohar 3 rd – Huda Mahmood	Level 3—Boys 1 st – Mahir Mahmood; Danial Mahmood 2 nd – Danish Chaudhry

By: Shanze Hamid

Regional Tarbiyyat Camp

There will be three levels for boys and girls ages 10+. Level one will be for Primary school students, Level 2 will be for Middle School students and Level 3 for High School students. The camp will start on Friday, July 31st with registration from 9:00-10:00 AM. Breakfast will be available. Classes will start at 10:00am and continue all day. Saturday and Sunday classes will also start at 10:00am and continue all day. Certificates will be awarded only to those in attendance for all three days.

Parents and children are requested to give priority to the camp and adjust their vacation schedules around it so as to not miss it.

Finance

Tehrik-e-Jadid:

Those of us who have completely given their Tehrik-e-Jadid pledges will have their names sent to Huzoor for special prayers. To be included, please make sure to give in your pledges by the 25th of Ramadan.

End of fiscal year: We are about to close the current fiscal year. As we prepare this newsletter, we are short on Chanda Aam and Chanda Jalsa Salana and are working to meet our target. Your cooperation in this regard is much appreciated.

Medical Services:

If you need to contact an Ahmadi doctor for prescription or second opinion about medical treatment please call 716-800-1889

Walk for Humanity

A walk will be held in Flushing Meadows Corona Park on September 19th, 2015. All members are requested to attend. For more information on this event and to register for it, please visit: www.walkforhumanityusa.org/newyork

Invitations for Qadian Jalsa:

Those interested to attend Jalsa Salana Qadian may obtain forms for Invitation from Secretary Amur -e-Aama

Lajna Report

After listening to the live concluding address of Huzoor (atba) during Jalsa Salana Germany, the Lajna meeting began with Quranic recitation and translation by Amtul Hayee Mariyam. Hadith and translation was read by Saba Noreen. Sadr Sahiba read the Lajna pledge. It was followed by the Talim program which was conducted by Tehmina Rafique and Zina Sahiba. They talked about the Importance of Ramadhan. They also conducted a quiz session which was informative and also served the purpose of revision of the basics.

Next, the Tarbiyyat program was led by Farah Ahmad. She discussed the 1st and 3rd conditions of Bai'at. She outlined the basics such as: to offer 5 daily prayers, thank Allah, recite Durood, asking for forgiveness, etc. She spoke about shirk and the different forms of shirk. She also discussed the hidden idols associated with raising children and gave some examples and asked the members to give their personal examples. Some examples were: helping kids with homework during Salat time, hitting kids rather than explaining to them what wrong they did, not sharing knowledge, etc. She urged sisters to not make worldly means as form of reliance and reminded sisters that the Quran calls people to accept the oneness of Allah and severely prohibits people from associating partners with His personality or attributes.

This was followed by the health session conducted by Kanwal Bhatti, on the topic, "Eat Healthy and Feel Healthy". The Tabligh Program followed and was led by Salamat Majeed Sahiba. She talked about using different resources for preaching. She asked sisters to create a new heaven and new earth for themselves and their children especially in Ramadhan as we should focus on changing our lives for the better.

At the end of the meeting, Sadr sahiba made announcements about Chanda dues and funds being collected for various schemes. The funds she highlighted were: Lajna hall fund, Eid gift fund, Humanity First fund for Tanzania hospital and Guatemala fund. The meeting concluded with silent prayers and was followed by Salat (Zuhr).

By: Faiza Bajwa and Sadaf Latif

Ansar Report

This month's monthly meeting was held on Sunday June 7th at Bait-uz-Zafar. The theme of this month's meeting was, "**How is the TV and internet impacting our family?**" Due to Huzoor's live closing speech from Jalsa Salana Germany, the meeting was delayed and most of the time was spent by members to listen to Huzoor's speech. After that, a brief meeting was held. The recitation of Holy Quran was done by Mohammad Afzal Sahib from Chapter 62 Verse 12 and Chapter 57 Verse 21. The Ansar Pledge was led by Zaeem Sahib. Khalifat-ul-Masih's religious guidelines were presented by Zaeem sahib. Zaeem sahib along with Mirza Ghulam Rabbi Sahib discussed the questions relating to Tarbiyyat and held an interactive discussion with all the members present and discussed their opinions on the topic of discussion. The memorizations of the Holy Quran verses were taught by Rashid Ahmad sahib which are part of the syllabus.

Nazim Sahib urged members to recite Holy Quran during Ramadan and requested members to register online if they intend to complete at least one cycle. He requested members to make arrangements to attend the national **Ansar Ijtema on September 18, 19 and 20**. He also reminded us to hold an election for the nomination of Sadr and Naib Sadr and Shura delegates for the national Shura and mentioned the upcoming picnic for the region. Imam sahib mentioned the etiquette of being in the mosque and sitting together. Zaeem sahib reminded us about the Talim test, memorization of Sura Al-Naba, Feed the Hungry program, offering congregational prayers at the mosque and listening to Huzoor's khutba.

The meeting concluded with silent prayers and after Zuhr prayers, lunch was served to the members.

Talim Test:

Jazakallah to all 62 members who took the Majlis Ansarullah Talim test.

****Due to Ramadan, we will not hold a general meeting in July, but there will be a brief meeting to hold a Shura delegate, National Sadr, and Naib Sadr election on Saturday July 4th****

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- Khuddam visited the local police precinct to deliver a condolence letter from Sadr Sahib and a plaque to the police station for the young police officer who was killed on duty.
- Khuddam helped in a park clean up where Atfal and Khuddam cleaned and planted new plants and trees
- Khuddam and Atfal visited the Jamaat cemetery in Long Island
- Khuddam helped out in a book fair and helped others with set up and break down
- One Khadim was helped with a part time job
- 6-7 Khuddam are getting trained by another Khadim who is an IT professional.
- Fajr prayers are offered almost daily at Bait-uz-Zafar.
- More than 10 direct contacts were made at the Bangladesh Book fair that was for 3 days. More than 100 people dropped by and many bought children books, The Holy Quran and Bangladeshi books from our Jamaat's stall.
- The Queens Khuddam and Atfal held a picnic and BBQ last Sunday
- Every Friday a book study class is held where books of the Promised Messiah (AS) are read.
- We had prepared a Tehrik-e-Jadid drive in our Masjid during the Regional Ijtima
- Khuddam helped clean the Masjid

NorthEast Regional Atfal Rally

By the grace of Allah, the Northeast Atfal Rally was held on June 5 to June 7 and we had 65 Atfal, 30 Khuddam and 5 Ansar in attendance over the course of the weekend. The attendees hailed from New England, Upstate New York, New Jersey, and the New York Metro Regions and included 8 Majalis.

The objective of the rally was to combine Taleem and sports to give the Atfal the fun they crave while including religious and moral training that every Muslim is expected to learn. The field trip took place on Saturday morning and the Atfal visited the Cradle of Aviation Museum where they took in over 200 years of aviation history and built bottle rockets. The sports portion of the weekend was held at Cunningham Park and included various activities. After observing Salat, we resumed our program with two memorization workshops, one for the older group and one for the younger group both on the topic of Ramadan. After dinner there was a panel Q & A with New York Metro Regional Qaid, Salaam Bhatti, and Naib Sadr MKA USA, Zeeshan Hamid, and Regional Nazim Atfal, Mubashar Idrees on various topics. Alhamdulillah we were grateful for their time and insight into issues that our Atfal face today.

On Sunday, we began bright and early with Fajr prayers and then allowed the Atfal to catch up on some sleep. The Atfal had the honor of participating in the Collective Bai'at in conjunction with the Germany Jalsa Salana. A short sports make-up session was conducted and then the concluding session. Maulana Daud Hanif Sahib presided over and gave out the gifts and certificates to all Atfal. All in all, the rally was a huge success and we are grateful to all of the Atfal, parents, local nazimeen, office holders, and volunteers without whom this rally could not have been possible.

Message from Amir Sahib, USA

Fidya: For people who are unable to observe their fast in Ramadan because of illness, inability or travel etc., the Quranic injunction is that they should pay Fidya as a recompense for the lost opportunity to observe fast.

****The rate of Fidya, depending on individual circumstances, is equivalent to two meals for every fast which has been missed. This year the rate of Fidya is set to a minimum of \$150 for the month of Ramadhan at the rate of \$5 per day.**

Fitrana: Fitrana is a Sadqa, which is obligatory on each earning head of household. Its purpose is to help the poor brethren of the community so that they can fully enjoy the happiness of Eidul Fitr. It is advisable that Fitrana should be paid as early as possible starting the month of Ramadan so that the management can distribute it among the deserving on time. In any case, it should be paid before Eid prayer.

****The rate of Fitrana is fixed @ \$ 5.00 per person (including even a new born before Eid prayer). The head of household is responsible to pay on behalf of his/her dependents. If due to financial hardship someone is unable to pay according to full rate, he/she can pay @ \$ 2.50 per person.**

Eid Fund: To make this festival of Islam an occasion of joy and pleasure, one is expected to contribute something before Eid for those who are poor and less fortunate. Eid Fund should be paid according to donor's capacity.

Nasirat and 15-25 Lajna Sleepover

The regional sleepover for the Nasirat and young Lajna of the New York Metro region was held on the weekend of June 13 and 14. Nasirat and Lajna members from Brooklyn, Queens, Long Island and the Bronx all attended the sleepover weekend. The first day of the sleepover was scheduled with presentations and workshops for both groups. The Nasirat participated in workshops about peer pressure, and how they can maintain a relationship with Allah. The young Lajna had workshops on maintaining marital harmony as well keeping a close relationship with Allah. The girls were then served lunch and then had an activity where they learned how to sew and hem their own clothes. After dinner, some girls stayed over for the night. The next day, the Nasirat went on a field trip to the Adventure Land amusement park while the young Lajna went indoor rock-climbing. All of the girls enjoyed both days of the sleepover immensely. InshaAllah we will be able to hold more events like these in the future.

By: Maham Ahmad

Ramadan Announcements

Announcements

- Ramadan started on June 18th with the first Taraveeh prayer led by Naeem Ahmad Sahib.
- Weekend Dars is being delivered as scheduled
- Iftar is being prepared and served by the Ziafat department on weekends as well as on a daily basis accordingly
- The Jamaat was represented at the Queens Borough President Iftar program on June 23rd
- Recitation of the Holy Quran is encouraged to be made on a regular basis during this blessed month

Upcoming Events

- Taraveeh prayers will continue as usual. Hafiz Salim from France will lead us in Taraveeh prayers from June 27th until the end of Ramadan Insha'Allah
- An Ameen ceremony will be taking place on July 5th. Please remember to register your child before the deadline for this event
- Remember to participate in Iftari. Contact the Ziafat secretary for weekday Iftari and Halqa Nigrans for the weekend Iftari
- Those members planning to sit for Itikaf should submit their forms on or before July 4th. Only full time observers will be given preference
- Remember to pay your Fitrana on time before the Eid day, so that recipients can have the opportunity to make use of the funds for its purpose
- Ramadan Dua will be led by Imam Daud Hanif Sahib on July 12th
- Eid-ul-Fitr will take place on July 18th Insha'Allah

Income Criteria for Lazmi Chandajaat

Earning members include:

- ♦ All members (male and female) of your Jama'at who have jobs and earn wages, salaries, tips, etc.
- ♦ All members (male and female) who are self employed.
- ♦ All members (male and female) who have income through retirement, social security benefits, personal allowances etc.
- ♦ All members (male and female) who have income through rents, royalties, investments, farming, etc.
- ♦ All members (male and female) who are students and have income through full time or part time jobs.

All earning members (male and female) should be asked to inform you about their income. **This is the net income after allowed deductions (i.e., federal, state, and local taxes, social security taxes, and any insurance compulsory under the law).**

Only self-employed members can deduct expenses incurred for earning that income from their gross income, e.g. car/vehicle operating expenses, rent on premises, electric bills, workshop expenses, etc.

The installments of payments on mortgage/monthly rent are not allowed for deduction from gross income.

Members participated in the Bai'at held on the last day of Jalsa Salana Germany, including Atfal who were in the midst of their Regional Rally. Later in the day, members watched Huzoor's concluding speech of the Jalsa. Ansar and Lajna members delayed their meetings to listen to Hazoor's speech live from Germany.

Ameen Ceremony

On the last day of Tahir Academy, the Ameen ceremony of Naseem, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tariq Dhanraj was conducted by Hadi Nasir Sahib.

May Allah enable Naseem to make the Quran a source of his knowledge and to practice its teachings.
Ameen.

Marriages

The Walima Reception of Furhan Ahmad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aziz Ahmad was held this month. Congratulations to the couple and may Allah bless them with immense happiness.

Ameen.

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Asif Mohammad were blessed with their first child, Faizun, who was named by Huzoor. The child is Waqf-e-Nau. He is also the nephew of Qaid MKA, Aslam Mohammad Sahib.

Mr. and Mrs. Khurram Bajwa were blessed with a baby girl.

Congratulations to both families and may Allah make these children a source of happiness for the parents.
Ameen.

Education Day

Secretary Talim would like to remind all students and their parents to submit copies of graduation diplomas, transcripts or academic awards as soon as possible for them to be recognized in this year's Education Day which will be held after Ramadan. Awards will be given to recent graduates and students with scholastic achievement.

Please drop them off in the Talim mailbox in the office and contact Secretary Talim, **Zulfikar Sikder**, if you have any questions.

E-mail: zulfikarsikder@gmail.com Mobile: (917) 324-4005

Feed the Hungry Program

During the month of June, Ansar members volunteered for the "Feed the Hungry" program at SNAP center.

SNAP is a social service agency providing for the needs of the senior citizens residing in the borough of Queens. Along with other services, they deliver about 2,700 meals a month. Ansar members spent 10 hours volunteering.

Obituary:

Nasira Sahiba, mother of Shazia Bhatti Sahiba passed away in Pakistan.

The elder sister of Rashida Bajwa Sahiba passed away in Pakistan.

Sabiha Barakat Sahiba, mother of Birgees and Nauman Barakat passed away. Her Janaza was held at Bait-uz-Zafar and she was later buried at the Jamaat's graveyard in Long Island. The deceased was the wife of Late Syed Barakat Ahmad, the former Indian Diplomat.

اَنَا لِلّٰهِ وَ اَنَا اِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Inna lillahi wa inna ilahi raji'un

May Allah The Almighty elevate the status of the deceased in paradise and grant Patience to their family members to bear their loss. May Allah grant all the deceased a high status in Paradise. Ameen.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Humanity First BBQ on Sunday (6/7). Masha'Allah we were able to collect close to \$5,000 bringing our total collection to just over \$18,000!

The BBQ was attended by local AMI members as well as the participants of the Atfal rally which was held in Queens on Saturday and Sunday. There was a brief video on Humanity First shown prior to afternoon prayer.

A special thanks to Daud Hanif sb who reminded us of the blessings of donating during his speech. Also a **big thank** you goes out to the Ziyafat team for the wonderful food.



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America

67th Jalsa Salana USA 2015

August 14th to 16th

Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex
2300 N Cameron St, Harrisburg, PA
17110

jalsasalana.us
855-47-JALSA (52572)

