

AWSOM NEWS

Anjuman Wazifa Sadaat O Momineen of North America, Inc

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As of December 2016, the Anjuman has loaned out approximately US\$ 1.82 million to 300 students pursuing undergraduate, graduate and post graduate degrees in educational institutions in the United States. We are neither able to thank Allah enough for His mercy nor you for the continued patronage. Thanks.

FOREWARD

We wish all our members and readers a very happy 2017. We pray to the Almighty to make this New Year a beacon of peace, prosperity and progress for all of us. May the year 2017 bring safety and security to the community all over the globe and bring peace to the troubled lands of Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Pakistan, Syria and Yemen. May Allah guide us in this year to correct our wrongs, improve our lots and follow the injunctions of the religion in letter and spirit.

NEW LEADERSHIP

Waheeb Rizvi and Ali Kazmy completed their two year terms as the President and General Secretary of the Anjuman respectively at the end of December 2016. Accordingly, Mr. Maqbool Ladak was elected as the next president by the Board of Directors of the Anjuman. Mr. Mohamed Haider has been nominated as the new General Secretary. We wish the new President and the new General Secretary success as they take on the responsibilities for moving the Anjuman forward.

OBITUARY

The Anjuman offers our heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. Khurram Ali Razvi of Maryland who passed away in December 2016 after a prolonged illness. Mr. Khurram Razvi served on the Board of Directors of the Anjuman for many years and in his death we lost a bold and visionary leader who was

deeply concerned about the welfare of the community here and globally. Mr. Razvi was fearless, determined and very perceptive. Mr. Razvi was instrumental in propagating the Anjuman in the Maryland, Washington D.C. and Virginia region and was a firm believer in the necessity of higher education for the youth of the community. Mr. Khurram Razvi will be missed for a long time to come for his priceless suggestions and his motivation for building a strong community. We pray to Allah to forgive his sins and grant him the highest abode in Janat with the intercession of the Masoomeen A.S. Kindly recite a sura e fateha for the departed soul.

The Anjuman also conveys sincere condolences to another long standing member of the Anjuman, Mr. Nasim Hamid of New Jersey on the demise of his mother in law, Mrs. Qaisar Sultana who passed away in Karachi in late December. Please recite a sura e fateha for late Mrs. Qaisar Sultana.

FELICITATIONS

The Anjuman conveys our heartiest felicitations to Dr. and Mrs. Yousuf Mamdani of New Jersey on the wedding of their son, Dr. Mohammad Mamdani. Dr. Yousuf Mamdani is a member of the Board of Directors of the Anjuman. We pray for a long and happy married life for the newlywed couple.

YADGAR FUNDS

The following members added additional funds to the existing Yadgar Funds instituted in the memory of their loved ones:

1. Dr. Akthar Naqvi of Maryland added \$ 500 to the Ilyas Rizvi and Safia Kazmi fund and another \$500 to the Wajahat Husain Rizvi (founder of the Anjuman) fund.
2. Dr. Azra Rezwi of New York added \$2,000 to the funds instituted in the memory of Syeda Sughra Subzwari, Syed Taher Rezwi,

Syeda Tahera Rezwi, Syed Ghulam Ali Sabzwari and Zahera Rezwi.

We thank the donors for their generous contributions and request the readers to kindly offer a sura e fateha for the marhoomen mentioned above.

LOANS GRANTED

For the application cycle ending on November 30, 2016, the Anjuman received 15 applications. Out of these applications, 11 were found to be complete and in order and were approved. Loans in the amount of USD 35,000 were sanctioned in this cycle. The successful applicants include: Ommul Ali (medicine), Shuja Abbas (undergrad engineering), Miqdad Raza (undergrad Nanotechnology), Anisa Husain (undergrad Pre Med), Fizzah Mirza (pharmacy), Raza Husain (dentistry), Mohammad Naqvi (undergrad), Ali Naqvi (undergrad), Erum Kazim (medicine), Muzammil Alidina (undergrad), Batool Shirazi (undergrad). We wish the successful applicants luck in their educational pursuits and encourage the unsuccessful candidates to apply again in the next cycle with the deadline of June 30, 2017.

We emphasize again that the applicants have to complete both the electronic and the paper portions of the applications in order to be considered for the loan. While the preliminary application and most of the documents can be submitted on line, we must receive the fully executed Promissory Note and the signed paper application from the applicants.

REFLECTION

In the Quran, Allah commands the mankind in Sura Al Ma'idah in the following words:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَوْفُوا بِالْعُقُودِ أُحْلِلْتُمْ لَكُمْ بِهَيْمَةِ الْأَنْعَامِ إِلَّا مَا يُنْتَلَىٰ
عَلَيْكُمْ غَيْرَ مُحِلِّي الصَّيْدِ وَأَنْتُمْ حُرْمٌ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَحْكُمُ مَا يُرِيدُ

Translation:

" O' you who have Faith! fulfill the contracts (made by you or people). The four-footed animals are lawful to you (for food) except those which will be recited unto you, pilgrim garb, and while you are in deem not game permitted to be hunted. Verily, Allah decrees whatever He intends."

The intent of mentioning this ayah is to reflect upon the command from Allah to us to fulfill our contracts. To ensure harmony and justice in the society, Islam puts a lot of emphasis on fulfillment of promises and

Imam Ali, (A.S.), says: "O people! Remember that the excellence of your faith lies in acquiring knowledge and acting upon it. It is more essential for you to crave for knowledge than for riches". (Usulul Kafi, p.15)

contracts at all levels. The issue has been addressed in the Quran repeatedly. **Sura At-Taubah, No. 9, verse 4** says:"...so fulfil their contract ..." According to a tradition from Imam Sadiq (a.s.), recorded in Al-Kafi, vol. 1, p. 162 even the fulfilment of agreements with the sinners is necessary.

These covenants may be with Allah or with people who can be an individual or a group, young or old. The contracts may be with the countries or between individuals doing business with each other; these covenants can be between an employer and employee, a buyer and seller, a lender and borrower. Breach of covenants and promises results in inequity, mistrust and imbalance in the society.

However, faith is the basis of fulfilling the promises and vows. The holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) said: **"There is no religion for the person who does not fulfill his promise."** If the agreements and promises are not kept, the basis of the society and common confidence will fail, and disorder comes forth.

With clear injunctions and advice on the matter from our Imam's, do we see the manifestation of this very important tenant in our lives?

We are generally mindful of fulfilling our promises where the consequences of breaching those contracts are monetary and where we are afraid of legal consequences. **However, we slack off and break our promises and contracts readily where the overseer is only our conscience and there are no worldly consequences.**

In our everyday life, we notice big and small infringements by us and others around us where we freely break our vows and yet we do not even realize that we are in blatant violation of the covenants. Doing personal work on the time and dime of the employer, accepting responsibilities that comes with a title but not delivering on them, borrowing money and not returning it in the agreed upon manner are some examples of such negligence. It is incumbent upon us to examine our deeds and make sure that we are not in defiance of the injunctions of the religion either knowingly or out of sheer carelessness.

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Membership Form

(Tax Exempt under IRS 13-3588100)

Dear Sir,

I wish to become a member of the Anjuman Wazifa Sadaat o Momineen and enclose herewith my check/ cash/ online payment for US\$_____being the subscription for the year _____ or for Life time Membeship. I hereby undertake to abide by the Anjuman's Constitution, Rules and Regulations as approved by the Board of Directors.

Date: _____

Full Name: _____

Telephone No. _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Introduced By: _____

I am donating a sum of US\$ _____
to support educational programs of the Anjuman.

I am contributing US\$__ from my Khums money. (*Anjuman has obtained 'Ijaza' from Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Al- Seestani*)

I am donating a sum of US\$ _____ to establish an "Endowment Fund" in the memory of my late _____, the income from which will be utilized by the Anjuman for supporting its aims and objectives.

Name and contact information of person(s) who may be interested in Anjuman's membership:

Name _____

Address and Tel #: _____

Name _____

Address and Tel #: _____