

AWSOM NEWS

Anjuman Wazifa Sadaat O Momineen of North America, Inc

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As of July 2016, the Anjuman has loaned out approximately US\$ 1.78 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.

Our observations of lack of honesty and truthfulness come into play in the context of the Anjuman and the conduct of some (a minority) of our borrowers and guarantors. One such example is that of a practicing attorney in New York City from our community. The individual in question completed his education and received a degree in law with substantial help from the Anjuman. Not only is this borrower delinquent and has neglected the repayment of the loan but continues to challenge the Anjuman to recover a penny from him and takes the position that he never borrowed from the Anjuman. Another delinquent borrower, after a lot of persuasion to repay the loan tried to swindle the Anjuman by sending in a bad check. The guarantor of the same individual, a respected community leader in New York who sponsors large scale majalis in the tri-state area and host Ulema and Zakirs at his residence, refuses to make good on his guaranty and states that he does not know the borrower who actually happens to be his nephew. Yet another respected leader of the community in New York, when approached to assist the Anjuman in recovery of the loans from borrowers that he guaranteed refuses to recognize the borrowers and states that he never guaranteed the loans. These individuals tend to forget that all legal documentary proofs are in place with the Anjuman to prove our case.

But what is to be pondered is if this how the followers of the Masoomeen (A.S) are supposed to act? We can cheat and enrich ourselves as much as we want in this world but all of us will return to our eternal abodes leaving behind our ill gotten wealth and our fake respect. We have perhaps forgotten that will be answerable for our deeds and conduct to the same Masoomeen (A.S.) that we claim to follow.

The Anjuman has, registered its presence on social media with the launch of our Facebook page. We request you to kindly visit the page.
<https://www.facebook.com/anjumanwazifa/>

FELICITATIONS

The Anjuman extends heartiest felicitations to the community in the month of Zulhajj as we celebrate three Eids namely Eid ul Adha, Eid e Ghadeer and Eid e Mubahila. May Allah accept our sacrifices related to Eid ul Adha and our Ibadat in the month of Zulhajj. We also convey our greetings to those members of the community who performed Hajj this year.

MEMBERS' CORNER

Condolence: The Anjuman extends heartfelt condolences to Mr. Ali Kazmy, the General Secretary of the Anjuman on the sad and untimely demise of his cousin, Syed Hassan Ali Jafri, s/o of Late Sagheer Husain Jafri who died in Karachi on August 24. We pray to Allah to grant him the highest abode in Janat. Kindly recite a sura –e- fateha for the departed soul.

CONDUCT AND ETHICS

As followers of the Ahlul Bait, we are expected to demonstrate a higher level of moral and social conduct. We are the followers of those who were sent to this earth as embodiment of truth, justice, humility, honesty and demonstrated a code of conduct that was to become an example for the mankind.

However, our moral and social conduct, in general, leaves a lot to be desired.

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Anjuman receives approximately 50 - 60 applications every year and provides interest free loans totaling approximately \$160,000 to the students in the community every year.

Your contributions to the Anjuman in the form of annual membership dues, donations, khums, yadgar funds and the repayments on outstanding loans enable us to provide this service to the youth of our community. Almost 100% of the funds received by the Anjuman are used for the purpose of making these loans. The Anjuman is run entirely by volunteers who are dedicated to the cause of promoting higher education in the youth of the community. Most of the expenses of the Anjuman are borne by the volunteers who manage the affairs of the Anjuman.

We thank you for your patronage and support and thank the Almighty for making our efforts successful which are visible from the growing number of applications for loans as it indicates that more and more youth of our community are pursuing higher education.

We request you to encourage other members of the community to join the Anjuman and assist us in providing this service to a greater number of students. We strive to provide a better future and opportunities to our youth by empowering them through higher education.

This ideal was understood and adopted by our forefathers in India in the 1930s when the Anjuman was first initiated in India and then replicated in Pakistan upon the creation of the country. The same idea applied when the Anjuman was started in the USA in 1994. We hope you share the same ideals and would continue your support to the Anjuman in the years to come.

REMINDERS

We would like to remind all members to kindly renew their **membership dues** for 2016 if they have not done so. Membership dues of \$120 can be paid on our website, through Paypal or through checks mailed to the Anjuman's mailing address.

For those members who have instituted Yadgar Funds in the memory of their loved ones, we want to remind that supplemental funds can be added to these funds. Money in **Yadgar Funds** remains invested and the returns are used to make interest free loans to students. The Yadgar Funds are a source of Sawab e Jaria for the departed souls in whose memory these funds are created.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The month of Muharram is almost upon us and in merely twenty days we will be commemorating the supreme sacrifice of Imam Husain A.S., his family and companions in the desert of Karbala. The observation of Aza and the majalis play a vital role in keeping the *mazhab* alive and serve as a refresher course of our beliefs and practices. No other sect in Islam offers this annual reinvigoration of beliefs in the form and manner that Ayam e Aza provides to the followers of the Jafri faith. The majalis serve as a school for the young and at the same time provides immense food for thought for the elders as the zakirs and ulema present their yearlong research in the Quran, faith, jurisprudence and history. Their speeches shape a number of young minds and inspire a lot of individuals as the Zakirs explain the sacrifice of the Imam and his message.

Since the majalis are such an important source of religious education for our children and youth, it is incumbent on us to choose the best and the most qualified teachers for this *darsgah* just as we would choose the best schools and the best teachers for our children for their secular education. We ought to make sure that people gracing the pulpit of the Prophet (SAWW) have the depth of knowledge and strength of character and demonstrate in practice what they preach. Rather than habitually criticizing the zakirs in private conversations and airing our frustrations to a closed group, we need to make it clear to the managements of the centers as to our required standards for the zakirs and what level and quality of education we desire for our children in the *darsgah* e Imam. Mere command on language(s) and ability to pull large crowds should not be the scale to measure the strengths of the zakirs. The message of Imam Husain goes beyond lamentation on the sacrifice and hardships the Imam endured which needs to be propagated in a way that resonates with our younger generation and is relevant to the times we live in and the places we live in so our future generations could spread this message further.

KNOWLEDGE AND ACTING ON IT

Imam Ali A.S. said:

O you who carry knowledge around with you; are you only carrying it around with you? For surely knowledge belongs to whoever knows and then acts accordingly, so that his action corresponds to his knowledge. There will be a people who will carry knowledge around with them, but it will not pass beyond their shoulders. Their inner most thoughts will contradict what they display in public, and their actions will contradict what they know.