

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.

REFLECTION

In classrooms across the globe, professors and students are lecturing, reading, discussing and writing about Islamic topics. The courses may be found in the catalogs of the institutions under theology, religion, philosophy, world studies, history, literature, politics, and even culture. They use various methods of study and sources, but it seems they overlook or marginalize authentic primary sources.

Aside from the long-standing and ongoing work of scholars, researchers and students within and without Islam, there is a new current of interest in Islam, a new wave of scholarship, due to some present-day events and situations that can be seen as positive and negative.

One positive movement in Islamic world history that garnered great attention is the revolution of the Iranian people against a despotic ruler, a revolution that included a nearly unanimous popular referendum to choose an Islamic republic over monarchy and was remarkable Islamically in following the duty to forbid the wrong and command the good and politically with a truly democratic vote, involving little bloodshed.

On the negative side, there is the appearance of wolves in sheep's clothing, i.e., Wahhabism, the so-called Islamic state, Taliban, al Qaeda, Boko Haram and related groups, who teach and practice suicide, fratricide, murder, terror, and mayhem in their perverted take on the teachings of Islam. However, aside from a comparative few motivated to join these groups for various reasons, most thinking people look at their activities and are prompted to ask what the Qur'an really says.

In the wake of these events and situations, more scholars and non-scholars than ever have professed and activated a desire to know more about Islam and Muslims, either out of curiosity, or love of knowledge, or their intuition that these groups

FELICITATIONS

The Anjuman extends our heartiest felicitations to the community on the birth anniversary of our First Imam, Bab e Madinatul Ilm, Imam Ali (A.S.)

Knowledge and education has been given the highest priority by our religion and it is a humble effort by the Anjuman to facilitate the acquisition of higher education by the youth of the community by providing interest free loans to the deserving students.

On the birth anniversary of the First Imam, we renew our pledge to improve our own intellectual levels as well help others in the community to raise their intellectual levels so as to be counted among the true followers of the Bab e Madinatul Ilm, the door to the city of knowledge.

OBITUARY

The Anjuman offers heartfelt condolences to Mr. Khawaja Hasan Abbas of New Jersey on the demise of his father, Khawaja Zawwar Husain who passed away in Albany, NY on March 18. We pray to the Almighty to forgive the sins of the marhoom and grant him the highest place in janat. We request the readers to offer a sura e fateha for the soul of Khawaja Zawwar Husain s/o Khawaja Ziarat Husain.

cannot be following a monotheistic Abrahamic religion, or even to counter or deride Islam. In any case, today's student of Islam has both the benefit as well as the challenge of a plethora of materials including original or at least early texts, missing texts quoted in later works, research collections, translations, commentaries, interpretations and current writings by Muslims and non-Muslims.

Scholarly discussion has revolved around whether to use "aql or naql [reason or revelation]," but a reasonable approach to the divine sources seems to be the most fruitful because it is the revealed word itself that gives the guidance to use divinely placed reason and natural wisdom. Allah (swt) would not have created our "fitra [nature]" with its ability to know and act on that knowing, or provided us the revelation and the words and actions of the prophets, especially the Seal of the prophets and the extension of his presence as it were in his purified family up to the hidden presence of our twelfth imam, peace be on all of them, unless we were to benefit from them as exemplars, teachers, and guides and to put effort into learning and actualizing what was revealed.

The earliest hadiths transmitted by those who would later be called by the names of all the schools of thought in Islam attest to the words and actions of the Messenger of Islam, and of his daughter Fatima, whose martyrdom and birth we mark in these days, and of his vicegerent Ali and all their children (pbut), which place them in the position of offering leadership and guidance. It begs the question then, given the importance of the chain of transmission in evaluating hadith, and that the imams form such an unbroken chain of correct knowledge, leadership, worship, truthfulness, and ethics, not to mention infallibility, why they are not approached as the final word, the truly "primary sources" in any scholarly inquiry or debate or in the striving of any person to live a correct and meaningful life filled with the love of the Sustainer.

Prophet Muhammad, Bibi Fatima, and the twelve Imams (pbut), with their dynamic positive social action, unparalleled knowledge, and singleness of purpose are unwavering, focused, inerrant from the first to the last, and therefore qualified and known as fountains of knowledge, sources of imitation, and guiding companions on the road to the garden, where for them, and hopefully for us, "their greeting will be 'Peace!'" Qur'an Ibrahim: 23

Contributed by Mrs. Mariam Agah

The Holy Qu'ran says: "Allah elevates to high positions those from amongst you who are faithful and those who have acquired knowledge". (Surah al-Mujadilah, 58:11)

CORRECTION

The addition to the Ishtiaq Rizvi and Rasool Bandi fund reported last month was made by Mrs. Shafqat Rizvi of Dallas, TX.

Yadgar funds is the best method of conveying swab e jaria for your loved ones who have left this world and are now dependent on you for any earning any swab.

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/>

LOAN APPLICATIONS

Loan Applications for the fall semester 2017 will be received on line on the Anjuman's website from May 1 until the deadline of June 30. Applications are advised to review the requirements for the application on our website (www.anjumanwazifa.org) and submit the on-line and paper portions of the application, duly completed in all respects, by the deadline. We suggest that the intending applicants to start accumulating the required documents and get the process started.

COLLEGE NEWS

The high school seniors entering college this fall will be receiving the decisions from the schools they applied to and the college selection process is in full swing in these households. Please make sure that you have completed the FAFSA and provided all the supporting documents.

The Anjuman is here to support the students in the community in overcoming financial obstacles in achieving their dreams through higher education. We do not want any child in the community to be denied the opportunity to get into the most prestigious educational institutions in the country just because of financial reasons as the goal of the sole goal of the Anjuman is the facilitate the best education for our children and let them avail of the best opportunities available to them in the academic world.

Help us support this noble cause of elevating the intellectual standards of our community and assisting our children in achieving academic excellence and consequently, financial autonomy by becoming a member of the Anjuman and assisting us in many other different ways.

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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 #: _____

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CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

CARDHOLDER INFORMATION

Name: _____
Billing Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____
Country _____
E Mail Address : _____
Telephone Number: _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Credit Card Type MasterCard Visa American Express Discover
Credit Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____
Expiration Month: _____ Expiration Year: _____
Cardholder Signature: _____
Date: _____

DONATION INFROMATION

I authorize a one- time charge on my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

I authorize a recurring charge on my credit card in the amount of \$ _____
once every _____ (month/year) beginning on _____
and ending on _____ or indefinitely.

The Purpose of my contribution is:

Annual Membership Dues
 Lifetime Membership Dues
 Khums
 Contribution to Yadgar Fund in the memory of _____
 Donation
 Repayment of my student loan from the Anjuman