

Anjuman Wazifa Sadaat O Momineen of North America, Inc

P.O. Box 844, Hicksville, NY 11802

Web site: Anjumanwazifa.org E-mail: info@anjumanwazifa.org Telephone: 877-297-6662

As of August 2021, the Anjuman has loaned out approximately US\$ 2.3 million to over 364 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.

An engineer by profession, he dedicated his life to the Anjuman after retirement. He was the unsung hero who managed the administrative work of the Anjuman behind the scenes and diligently carried out his duties to the very end.

Khurshid Bhai's death creates a void that would be impossible to fill. He will always be remembered for his sharp wit, calm and collected demeanor and his very pragmatic approach.

We pray to Allah to grant him maghfirat and the highest place in Janat ul Firdous. Kindly recite a Sura e Fateha for the soul of **Syed Khurshid Raza Zaidi s/o Syed Mohammad Alam.**

The Anjuman extends our deepest condolences to Mr. Hasan Momin, member of the Board of Advisors of the Anjuman on the demise of his brother in law, Syed Ali Hasan Naqvi of California, who passed away in July. Syed Ali Hasan Naqvi also served as the Anjuman's representative in southern California in the Anjuman's early days in the US. We pray to the Almighty to grant him maghfirat and a place in Jannat. Kindly offer a Sura e Fathe for the soul of **Syed Ali Hasan Naqvi s/o Syed Misbahul Hasan Naqvi.**

The Anjuman also conveys our sincere condolences to Mr. Ahmed Raza of New Jersey, a long standing member of the Anjuman on the demise of his mother, **Anis Fatima d/o Nazim Husain Rizvi**, who passed away recently in Karachi, Pakistan. Kindly offer a Sura e Fateha for the departed soul. We pray to Allah to grant her a place in Jannat and the courage to the family to bear this loss.

OBITUARY



The Anjuman lost our very own Khurshid Bhai on July 24, 2021. We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Khurshid Raza on his sudden departure to his eternal abode. Khurshid Bhai, as we all knew him, was a humble, soft spoken and kind soul. He was associated with the Anjuman for a long time and served in various capacities as member of the Executive Committee, as a General Secretary, as a member of the Board of Directors and lately on the Board of Advisors.

LOANS GRANTED

The Anjuman received 22 complete applications for the fall 2021 semester. Of the received applications, 19 were approved. ***The new loans for this cycle amount to \$ 60,500. Of the successful candidates, eleven are at the undergraduate level and eight are pursuing professional and graduate level studies. We estimate that only with the loans in this cycle, the Anjuman has saved the community \$50,000 in interest costs over an average of ten years.*** The successful candidates include: Mehmooda Batool Bushra Syeda (Masters), Syed Sajjad Askary (Bachelors), Sara Shirazi (Bachelors), Ahmed Abbas (Masters), Syeda Tabeer Fatima (Masters), Sajida Bandali (Masters), Yusuf Abbas (Bachelors), Mahhum Naqvi (Medicine), Syed Asad Ali Naqvi (Bachelors), Anisa Hussain (Medicine), Zainab Ali (Bachelors), Komael Syed (Bachelors), Sofia Abbas (Bachelors), Fizzah Mirza (Masters), Zahraa Mohammad (Masters), Fatima Zaidi (Pharmacy), Syed Hasan Fawad (Bachelors), Zehra Al-Tamimi Rizvi (Bachelors), Mohammad Zainul Abidin (Bachelors). We wish the best to these students in their educational pursuits.

AZADARI, NOT ENTERTAINMENT

The month of Muharram is once again upon us and the majalis are once again in full swing to pay homage to Imam Husain A.S. and his 72 companions who sacrificed their lives in the desert of Karbala to save the religion of Islam and the teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). This practice of Azadari, doubtlessly, has kept the message of Imam Hussain alive over the centuries and it does revive the message of Islam every single year with the advent of the month of Muharram. The lectures, the marsiyas and the nohas all are meant to communicate the message of the Imam and eulogize the events of Karbala and the aftermath of the supreme sacrifice of the Shuhada. The institution of azadari also serves as the university that teaches our generations the principles of shia Islam and what we stand for.

However, azadari has taken on a new color which deviates quite a bit from the essence of azadari itself and arguably from the teachings of Islam which it purports to revive. In not so distant past, azadari

used to follow a certain pattern that maintained its sanctity and decorum. The reciters made sure that in their lamentations, there was no semblance of joyful singing and the taraz (melody) of the soz, salam, marsiyas and nohas had a somber and sad tone to it. The listener would be moved to tears just by listening to the words. That has now changed.

In this age of social media, Nohas of today are ignoring the sacred rules of azadari. Some nohas are embellished with the aid of musical instruments. Matam is imitated by artificial beats and the tunes do not have the somber notes but resemble songs. The renderings are now in video format with elaborate sets and costumes and the reciters actually act out. There is a race for gathering the most number of views on YouTube channels and gathering the largest number of subscriptions. Every year, some reciters release their albums of latest nohas! On top of that, the reciters blatantly ask the azadars to follow them on social media and subscribe to their channels. The names of the most revered and sacred personalities in Islam are mentioned in the most demeaning fashion and that also accompanied with music, at times.

The videos of nohas might be aesthetically very pleasing but is that what azadari is all about? Is this how we fulfil our promise to Bibi Fatima to mourn the unjust and brutal killing of her beloved son and his family? Is this the propagation of the message of Imam Husain A.S. as was initiated by Bibi Zainab or a competition for producing the most appealing video and getting the most number of likes and followers? This is not what the Imam needs from us. This commercialization of azadari has to stop.

We need to preserve the sanctity of azadari and not turn into a glossy, commercialized media show. Some of the "new age" noha khawns have turned azadari into entertainment and we also play our part in it by patronizing these celebrity reciters. Its time that we took stock of our practices and examine our actions. Especially for us living in the west, our responsibility is far greater in that we have to make the message of Imam Husain (A.S.) relevant for the masses in this part of the world and convey it to the people around us, not just keeping the message to ourselves and being entertained by the glittery recitations and videos.

ANJUMAN WAZIAFA SADAAT O MOMINEEN OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

P.O.BOX 844, HICKSVILLE, NY 11802, USA.

Tel: (877) 297-6662 Fax: (877) 297-6662

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 Saiyed 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 #: _____

ANJUMAN WAZIAFA SADAAT O MOMINEEN OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

P.O.BOX 844, HICKSVILLE, NY 11802, USA.

Tel: (877) 297-6662 Fax: (877) 297-6662

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 INFORMATION

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