

Three Reasons to Start and End Ansarullah Programs on Time

Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis

Last year, if you counted all the Ansar who attended the monthly meetings, the number was less than 700. Our goal for 2014 is to take that number up to 1,000 per month, Insha'allah. With our monthly meeting agenda becoming more interactive and relevant, attendance is increasing and we are gaining momentum.

But one thing could kill this momentum: not ending our meetings on time.

Ending the meeting on time is the responsibility of the highest ranking officer of the Majlis who is chairing the meeting. I believe it is deeply Islamic to remain punctual. Need data? Here are my top three favorite reasons:

The Holy Qur'an on Promises

As a Za'im, when you say that the meeting will start at 11:00 A.M. and end at 12:30 P.M., many minds register this information as a "promise" you made with them. When the meeting drags on to 12:45 P.M., they feel betrayed. The Holy Qur'an states, "...fulfill the promise; for the promise shall be questioned about." (The Holy Qur'an, 17 [Bani Isra'il]:35)



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The Holy Prophet on Making Things Easier

The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said, "Make things easy for the people and do not make them difficult for them. And make them calm and do not repulse them." (Bukhari, 6125; Book 78; Hadith 152) America runs on the clock; we all know this. When our events drag on, it makes things difficult for our members—it repulses them. That is not good. We must be compassionate to the needs of our brothers.

The System of Jama'at on Punctuality

The issue of punctuality has come up so many times, that the 2013 Majlis Shura of the USA Jama'at inquired, "How can we make our Jama'at programs more effective for all (i.e. punctual, engaging, well prepared in advance, more relevant to the audience,...)?" [Proposal 4]. Majlis Shura, in part, recommended: "Practice punctuality. i.e. start/finish Jama'at programs on time." [4-B]

Punctuality, based on the above, is not just a Western value; it is an Islamic value. We must reclaim it.

Continue the great work with the monthly meetings and we will share with you when, not if, we reach the 1,000 mark. Insha'allah!

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The deadline for taking the [2014 Ta'lim Test I](#) is June 15, 2014. Please make every effort to take the test online at www.ansarusa.org/TalimTest. The PDF version of the test can be [downloaded](#) if you prefer to take the test on paper.

A Story of Brotherhood

Anonymous

"And the believers, men and women, are friends one of another...It is these on whom Allah will have mercy." (The Holy Qur'an, 9 [Al-Taubah]:71)



JOBS



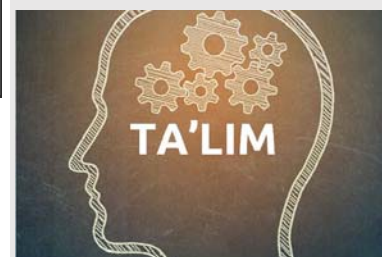
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TARBIYAT



TABLIGH



TA'LIM

"Whoever relieves a calamity that has struck a believer in this world, Allah will relieve for him one of the calamities of the day of Judgement, and whoever makes things easy for a person in trouble, Allah will make his matters easy in this life and in the hereafter, and whoever shields the faults of a Muslim, Allah will shield his faults in this world and the hereafter, and Allah will help and support his servant as long as he is helping and supporting his brother" (Sahih Muslim)

I attended school in Pakistan and received a scholarship which I used to pay for my room and board.

I lived in a hostel with about 12 other Ahmadi students. During a conversation, we learned that two of our Ahmadi students were contemplating withdrawing from school. Being concerned about our brothers, we inquired as to why they were considering leaving the school. They informed us that their parents could no longer financially afford to pay for them to attend school.

The rest of us were very concerned about our friends and the financial burden placed on their parents. We met and devised a plan that would keep our friends in school, that is, by simply changing the place we all ate each day. Instead of eating at the convenient costly cafeteria located inside of our building, we could all eat at the small inexpensive food vendor across campus and have enough money to purchase food for our other two fellow students.

We discussed our money saving plan with our Ahmadi brothers and they agreed to our solution. Each day we all walked together laughing and talking as we journeyed to the small food vendor across campus.

Because we all made a sacrifice, both of our brothers in faith were able to stay in school and complete their studies. After finishing school, they both moved to the West and have been living in Europe and North America. We occasionally get a chance to meet each other at Jalsas and talk about our careers and family.

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