



# Ansar Connection

A biweekly e-newsletter of Majlis Ansarullah, USA

WEBSITE DEPARTMENTS EVENTS PARENTING SERVICES ARCHIVES

We are the Helpers of Allah.

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## How to find time from our busy schedule to spend with our children?

*Tahir Ahmed Soofi, Zion, IL*

In Chapter Al-Asr of the Holy Qur'an, Allah reminds us that time is short and it surely flies by us. At the same time, this chapter gives us hope in the words: "Except those who believe and do good works, and exhort one another to accept truth, and exhort one another to be steadfast." [103:4]

It was once said: "Children spell love T-I-M-E." Our children were definitely onto something. Unfortunately, if you are like most parents, time is a precious commodity that often eludes us. Whether we have a new job, a new baby, or Jama'at work, or if we just need to make the coffee or clean the storage or make the beds, we always seem to be wishing for more time. We always need and want more time to spend with our children, but we feel we just don't have enough of it.



### What's new on the website

- [Ijtima Transportation Request](#)
- [Outside Vendor Application for the Ijtima](#)
- [Ijtima Registration](#)
- [Ijtima Program](#)
- [Jama'at National Amilah Members Who Are Coming to the Ijtima](#)



Spending quality time with our children is extremely important for their development and happiness, and believe it or not, it is good for us, too. We must find ways to slow down and slip-in some memorable time which will let our children know that we love and care for them.

Many children will let you know in their own subtle ways if they feel you are not giving them the attention they need. Some will withdraw while others will "act out." You might see them going back to doing those odd behaviors that once got your attention when they were young, like increased crying, throwing tantrums, or even bed-wetting. This is a way to get your attention, albeit in a negative way, so that they can enjoy "focused" time with you. Essentially, the thought process is: "If I can't get their attention by doing something good, I'll get their attention by doing something bad." Nobody wants that!

What can you do to manage your time in order to maximize your experiences with children? Here are some tips:

1. One-on-one Time: Time with your child is best spent when you are doing something you both enjoy. With one family it may be the time when dad takes the child so mom can spend time alone. This could mean going to a movie, going to the playground, watching trains go by, watching a live sporting event, or just sitting at the park on a bench and talking or kicking or throwing a ball around. The frequency of one-on-one time is up to you, but I did this once a week every Saturday for a few hours, but I think twice a week is better.

Suggestion: Marking your dates down on a calendar is a great idea and shows your children you make this time for them a priority in your life. For those with smartphones, enter it in the calendar as an appointment.

2. Integrate Together Time into your Daily / Weekly Schedule: Children love to help. Do you have a mailing to do? Have them put the stamps on the envelopes. Need to go shopping? Make grocery shopping "fun time" with your children. Need to make dinner? Let them help you by contributing to the preparation process. While it might be messier and it may take more time in the beginning, you will see that your children will become your greatest



helpers and they will look back and remember that “before dinner” time was always special time with you. Even incorporating clean-up time is a great idea. Trust me; I know how difficult clean-up time can be.

Suggestion: Create a list of responsibilities and distribute the tasks, empowering your children so they are all included in activities with you.

3. Phantom Time: Don't have a moment to spare until about 3 A.M.? You can still let your children know that you care. Write notes and drop them into their lunch boxes. This was one of the things my children appreciated the most—it made them feel loved and cared about by their parent. Other ideas would be to record a short video for them using a camera and leaving it for them at the breakfast table. Be creative here!
4. Break time: Everyone is busy. Some parents are busier than others. Slide in a “break time” so that you and your children can spend 15 minutes or a half-hour together. Set a timer if you need to so that everyone knows when “break time” starts and ends. Give warnings to your children when 2 minutes are left so that it does not come as a surprise. You might not think that 15 minutes is any significant time at all, but to a child, it is 15 extra minutes with you. Don't we do this at work? Let's start this with our children.
5. Serving humanity together: We should teach our children to respect and serve mankind from the very beginning. I will often take my children to a soup kitchen every other month to serve others. This teaches them that we should give preference to others before ourselves. At the same time, we should bring some gifts, paper notes, flowers, cards or chocolate for the mothers and other siblings.

Spending time with your children provides them with opportunities to learn and to be heard. Most of all, it provides you and your children an opportunity to connect. It is these connections that make your children feel loved. So leave the beds unstripped for another few minutes and put the coffee on an automatic timer. Take those extra moments to spend with your children. When you look back, you will be thankful for the memories. I know I am and I would not trade



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them for anything at all!

Reference: [lifehack.org](http://lifehack.org)

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### **Ijtima Transportation**

If you are going to need transportation to or from Baitur Rahman Mosque, upon your arrival or departure, [please provide the necessary information here](#) so that we can make arrangements for you. Jazakallah.

### **A Correction**

Please note that the English translation of the Friday sermon of 19 September 2014 has been revised. The revised translation can be found [here](#).

## **Ta'lim Test 1 Results**

*Monas Chaudry, Qa'id Ta'lim*

I would like to share with Ansar brothers the results of Ta'lim Test 1. Alhamdulillah! We met some of the targets. May Allah forgive our shortcomings and help us to do better next time. Jazakumullah to all of you for doing your part. Allah is the true reward.

Alhamdulillah, every Majlis participated and the national target of 1000 tests was achieved. Participation and ranking of Majalis and regions in terms of participation percentage are as follows.

2014 Ta'lim Test 1 Participants (Goal)	1,000
Total Ta'lim Test 1 Participants (Actual)	1,107
Total Adjusted Tajnid	2,598
Number of tests submitted online	552
Number of tests submitted via email/fax/mail	545
National participation percentage	43%
Number of Majalis with over 50% participation (each gets 35 points)	26
	18



Number of Majalis with over 30% participation 15  
Number of Majalis with less than 30% participation

### Majlis Ranking

100%  
1st - Willingboro and York 93%  
2nd - Charlotte 90%  
3rd - Lehigh Valley

### Region Ranking

64%  
1st - Southwest 56%  
2nd - Central East 53%  
3rd - Gulf States

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**Send us your stories of brotherhood, Ijtima memories, or any other inspiring experience that we can share with Ansar brothers via this e-newsletter.**

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