



Ansar Connection

A biweekly e-newsletter of Majlis Ansarullah, USA

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We are the Helpers of Allah.

September 12, 2023

Vol. 10, No. 16

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Allah's help comes to rescue when faith is strong

By: *Qudir Malik (Los Angeles, Majlis)*



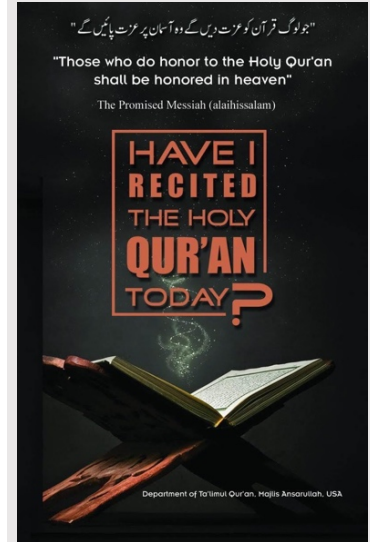
I firmly believe that when an Ahmadi decides to do something for Jama'at, it happens as if it was destined to happen. I am going to share one such incident of my life where Allah the Almighty gave me courage to take an action which could have resulted from expulsion from the country to imprisonment. Safety and security of the people currently living there don't permit me to mention the name of the country and cities.

The Ameer Sahib of the country at the time decided to celebrate a first ever Jalsa Salana for the Jamaat members and arranged a safe place for that. At this historical event three hundred and fifty fortunate men, women, and children participated. Our local Jama'at being the largest and active Jama'at was assigned the task of preparing the Jalsa programs. I was assigned the task of selecting the topics and finding the speakers.

This process made me realize that my knowledge of Jama'at was insufficient. This was pre-internet era for the country I am referring to. We hardly had any Jama'at books and literature available locally. Even for my own speech I was not able to verify the exact words of all those quotes which I planned to mention in my speech.

This is the moment where I made up my mind and told my wife that next trip to Pakistan, we will take the risk to bring Jama'at books. With little discussion we both agreed to take this chance. We went to Pakistan not too long after that. It was the tough period of General Ziaul-Haq's government and hardly any Jamaat books were available in the open market. Anyway, whatever books I had available in my home in Pakistan and whatever I could find in Rabwah or elsewhere in Pakistan, I gathered them all.

It was time for us to travel back to a country where anything related to Ahmadiyyat was banned and punishable. My wife and I were packing our suitcases behind closed doors. We did not want anyone to see what we were packing and discourage us. While hiding Jama'at books under the garments, we were looking into each other's eyes every now and then. Sometimes our eye contact was very discouraging and fearful, but sometimes it was again making us strong in our conviction and belief. Despite all the fear and risk,



we both had some kind of satisfaction that we will remain safe and successful in our endeavor. Our flight left Karachi airport and we engaged in prayers. I literally don't know how much time I was in the aircraft. All I realized was that our airplane had landed.

At the airport there was a long line, and we were pulling close to the counter. We had our three children accompanying us and we were dragging three suitcases with, while watching the cruel behavior of the customs officer, who was asking every passenger to empty their suitcases on the counter. In one case someone had schoolbooks in Urdu language for his children. The officer looked at them and trashed them. As we were drawing nearer and nearer, we had mixed feelings. We didn't know what is going to be our fate. We had one last passenger in front of us, suddenly the duty officer's beeper started beeping. While I was putting my first suitcase on the counter, He pulled out his walkie talkie and started talking to someone. While moving away from the counter he called a colleague of his to replace him. The new officer looked at us, looked at the luggage and said, don't open your boxes. He marked all the suitcases and shoulder bags as checked without even opening the zipper. Allah Ho Akbar.

Remembering our brother - Late Khalid Mahmood Sahib Bhindar

By: Safdar Ali Warriach (Zaim, Albany Majlis)



Our dear brother Mukarram Khalid Mahmood Sahib Bhindar, a member of Majlis Ansarullah Albany, passed away on June 22, 2023, at the age of 55 years.

His native Village was Chuck 161 Murad Tehsil Hashilpur District Bahawalpur, Pakistan. Ahmadiyyat was introduced in his family by his father Chaudhry Ghulam Muhammad Bhindar. He came to USA as a refugee via Sri Lanka in 2020.

Brother Khalid used to live in Albany with his two nephews, Kashif Rehman Hanjra and Mohsin Iqbal Bajwa. He was an active member of Majlis Ansarullah Albany and always showed keen interest to serve Jamaat in any capacity he was asked to serve. He observed his salat regularly and always paid his Chanda on time A few months ago he went back to see his family in Pakistan and upon returning he became seriously ill and was admitted to Albany Medical center where after a short illness he passed away. He is survived by his widow, and six children. The family is still in Pakistan, struggling to migrate to the US. His funeral prayers were held on June 24, 2023, and was buried in local Ahmadiyya graveyard in Albany .

May Allah elevate his status in Jannah and give strength to his grieving family and friends to bear this tremendous loss (Ameen).

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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