

Ansār Leadership Conference 2013

At Baitul Hameed Mosque, Chino, California

Maqbool A. Tāhir, Qā'id Umumi

pbuh	=	May peace and blessings of Allāh be on him
saw	=	sallallahu alaihi wa-sallam
ra	=	radiallahu anhu/radiallahu anha
as	=	alaihis salam
aba	=	ayyadahullahu ta'ala binasrihil-'aziz
ALC	=	Ansār Leadership Conference

The 2013 Ansār Leadership Conference (ALC) was held on January 19-20, 2013 at Baitul Hameed Mosque, Chino, California. The ALC is an annual gathering for Zu'amā, Nāzimeen and National 'Āmila to review Majālis' planned activities for the entire year, with specific targets to be achieved during the year. The forum is used to engage in intellectual discussions on ways to become more efficient and productive.

More than 85 delegates from 57 Majālis attended this event. Volunteers from LA East, LA West and LA Inland Empire worked hard to make this event successful. All the attendees stayed at the Mosque. By the grace of Allāh everything was smoothly executed.

The program started on Saturday morning with the recitation of the Holy Qur'ān by Naveed Malik, followed by a poem recitation by M. Dawood Munir. After the Ansār pledge, Sadr Majlis Ansārullāh USA, Wajeeh Bajwa addressed the delegates and briefly highlighted the purpose of this conference and ALC program. The first session concluded with Dua (Silent Prayer) led by Sadr Majlis Ansārullāh.

Sadr's Opening Address

In his very brief opening address, Sadr Majlis welcomed the delegates and highlighted the ALC program overview and objectives. He thanked all the attendees for coming here to spend a day and half in the company of the righteous. He also thanked the families of all attendees as most of the weekends are usually busy for most of us. Sadr Majlis mentioned that he strongly advocates having at least one weekend free for the families. He also shared the challenges and opportunities facing Majlis Ansārullāh for the upcoming year. He emphasized that the purpose of ALC is to provide a forum in which we can discuss and understand the challenges which may arise and to find ways to implement instructions given by Khalīfatul-Masīh (May Allāh be his support). He mentioned that it takes a lot of effort to put this event together which takes more than a couple months of planning and organization. This year's Plan is based on the National Amila's meeting this Hudur. So this year's plan is based on the directions received directly from Hudur. Sadr Majlis said that at this ALC, Majlis will try to provide the means which are needed to do to execute plans provided in the handbook. He also emphasized that as a Nasir we need to inculcate the love of Allāh, the desire to preach Islām, serve mankind, get involved in the moral training of our children, and the spirit of protecting the institution of Khilāfat.

He shared the following key goals to be achieved by Majlis Ansārullāh during the year 2013:

- Increase attendance in meetings by at least 10% where members' attendance in meetings is below 30%;
- Maintain 90% participation in online reporting by Zu'amā;
- Encourage Ansār to offer prayers at Mosques. Increase number by 5% (where applicable);
- Distribute at least 250,000 'Muslims for Peace' and other campaign flyers;
- Achieve at least 35% participation of Ansār in educational tests – target is 50%;
- Initiate and sustain at least one social service activity in each Majlis; two activities for large Majālis;
- Streamline financial processes and track the individual Ansār budget and Chanda payments;
- Increase number of Majālis holding Ta'līmul Qur'ān classes to 70%;
- Contact all Nau Mubā'i'in at least six (6) times during the year;
- Increase participation in Tahrīk Jadīd and Waqf Jadīd by 10% compared to last year;
- Make phone calls to 5 to 6 Zu'amā each month to ask them to update their Tajnid;
- Publish all issues of Al-Nahl for 2013 in the same calendar year;
- Have at least 40% of Ansār exercise regularly (at least 3 times a week); and
- Visit to each Majlis in the region by respective Nāzimeen.

After sharing the goals with the Zu'amā, Sadr Majlis mentioned that this year we have provided a USB drive to the ALC participants which contains the following items in PDF format:

- Ansār Administrative Handbook
- Tālim (education) syllabus
- Constitution of Majlis Ansārullāh

He asked Zu'amā to make copies of this USB and share with the members of their Majlis. Each Qā'id will strive to achieve these goals. Some of these goals came from the National Amila's meeting with Hudur after last year's Jalsa. On the other hand some of these goals have been on-going.

Sadr Majlis continued to emphasize the original purpose of the creation of Majlis Ansārullāh as an auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at. He explained that Majlis Ansārullāh has been created to compliment the work of Jamā'at and not for creating dissention. He mentioned that Majlis Ansārullāh, as an auxiliary, is an independent entity but should work in co-operation with other auxiliaries and with the Jamā'at as a whole at all levels – local, regional and national.

Sadr Majlis mentioned that this year 115 new Ansār joined the Majlis. Their names and contact information will be shared with the Zu'amā and asked Zu'amā to contact all new Ansār in their Majālis. Sadr Majlis has already sent welcome letters to all of these Ansār.

After the opening address, Sadr Majlis requested all delegates to introduce themselves. After the introduction Sadr Majlis commented that "During the introductions, I noticed that most of the attendees held more than one office. So we carry the responsibilities of many offices, and due to

this families can be impacted. If you are asked to do something in addition to your already assigned responsibilities then evaluate your bandwidth. If you find that your time is coming out of the family time then it is perfectly fine to say 'No'. We need to be honest with ourselves and give full attention to our jobs as well as fulfill our obligations to our families. Taking on extra responsibility should not be at the cost of our family obligations."

Sadr and Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom Elections:

Sadr Majlis mentioned that he wants to point out another important matter that this year we have the election of Sadr and Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom. He explained the complete process in detail with deadline for each step:

- 1) Nomination of Sadr and Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom by Majālis must be submitted by June 21, 2013.
- 2) National Majlis 'Āmila will review the nominations on August 17, 2013 in an 'Āmila meeting.
- 3) Names of all nominations for Sadr and Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom will be submitted to Hudur for approval by August 22, 2013.
- 4) All Zu'amā are requested to hold elections for the approved list of names by September 28, 2013 and submit election results by September 29, 2013.

Sadr Majlis answered questions about quorum and eligibility for these elections

- 1) Quorum
 - 1st attempt: All members in the Majlis should be included in the Quorum - Quorum is 50% of the total Tajnid.
 - 2nd attempt: Only eligible members to be included - Quorum is 33% of the eligible members
 - 3rd attempt: Quorum requirement is waived
- 2) Age
 - Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom: Under 47 years old (on January 1st of the following year)

After this the regular agenda of the ALC commenced. This consisted of department plans by Qāideen, a presentation on completing online reports, a special session 'How to be a good Leader' with Rizwan Alladin, Role of Nāzimeen, an address by local Missionary Imam Shamshad Nasir, and the award ceremony combined with the closing session.

Following are the brief highlights of all these events:

Department Plans for 2013 (Session 1)

All Qāideen presented their plan for 2013 and mainly focused on key goals that Majlis Ansārullāh USA will work during the whole year.

While presenting Tāblīgh plan Qā'id mentioned that more than 300 million Americans need to know about Islam and it means that every Nasir has to reach more than 100,000 people and by the grace of Allah we can achieve this target under the banner of Khilāfat. Zu'amā were requested to hold the following events during the year:

- Small town visits
- Retirement home visits
- Ethnic community visits
- Seminars, Interfaith events

The complete workflow of Tāblīgh was presented and Zu'amā were requested to make their Tāblīgh plans in their 'Āmila and then present those plans in general body meeting. Make the teams and assigns the tasks and then measure the performance of the teams and make the adjustments if needed to produce results.

After that Qā'id Māl presented his plan and mentioned the percentages of Chanda as below:

Earning members:

- Membership: 1% of take home income
- Ijtimā': .0015% of take home income
- Publication: \$10 per year

Non-earning members:

- Membership: \$2 per month
- Ijtimā': \$1 per month

In case of hardship if any Nasir needs exemption, he needs to write to Sadr Majlis through his Za'im. Qā'id mentioned that it is very important to submit next year's budget on time as many future Majlis decisions are made on the basis of budget, the deadline to submit 2014 budget is July 31, 2013.

Qā'id Māl also showed a live demo of the new monthly deposit report and requested Zu'amā to submit the report as soon as they make any deposit.

While presenting his plan Qā'id Tajnid requested all Zu'amā to maintain accurate Tajnid and record all changes promptly and submit these change monthly in their report.

Qā'id Tālim emphasized on increasing the participation in Tālim test. This year 33% Ansār participated in both Tālim tests and Hudur wished to have more than 50% participation. All Zu'amā need to make an extra effort to make sure that we achieve our target of 50% given by Hudur. Participation in essay writing competition is also need to be improved. Every Majlis must try to submit at least one essay.

Qā'id Tarbiyat discussed the following moral training guidelines and requested Zu'amā to implement this plan at their local level:

- Inculcate Islāmic culture in families
- Activating inactive Ansār
- Participation in congregational Salāt in Mosques and Salāt centers
- Strong affiliation with Khalīfatul-Masīh (may Allah be his support) and Jamā'at
- Moral training week – March 18-24, 2013
- Addressing rising problem of drugs, alcohol, and smoking
- Addressing social media's effects on youth
- Addressing social issues in Majālis

Qā'id Publication discussed the following points and offered guidelines for each:

- Main goals for the year and deadline and points allocated to each goal
- The main objective for 2013 is to increase number of articles for Al-Nahl received from Majālis by 25%.
- Emphasis on motivating Ansār to write articles for Al-Nahl
- Sending Majālis' activities information
- Sending information about deceased members
- Submitting materials for Majlis Sultanul Qalam (MSQ) award
- Guidelines for taking group photos
- Ordering Ansār books

Qā'id Tahrīk Jadīd emphasized the importance of this blessed scheme and requested all Zu'amā to encourage all Ansār to participate in this scheme. After this the session was adjourned for Lunch and Zuhr/Asr Prayer.

Demonstration of Online Reporting System:

In this session, Qā'id Umumi emphasized the importance of submitting monthly Majālis reports on time and gave a brief tutorial on submitting reports online and also explained some common misconceptions regarding how to answer some specific questions in the report. All Zu'amā were requested to file their monthly reports on time (before the 7th of each month). It was also mentioned that IT team is working on a new reporting system which will allow saving reporting data before the final submission.

Department Plans for 2013 (Session II)

Qā'id Ta'līmul Qur'ān discussed the importance of reciting Holy Qur'ān with correct pronunciation. He also mentioned about the online classes for Qur'ān learning, Classes for new

converts and online classes for correct Tarteel and Tajweed. Minimum annual target for Qur'ān exhibition and Waqf 'Ārdi are given below for Majālis:

- Small Majālis: One per year
- Medium Majālis: Two per year
- Large Majālis: Three per year

Qā'id Tarbiyat Nau Mubā'i'īn discussed the importance of keeping contacts with new converts by Zu'amā and making sure that they are properly trained. He also mentioned the monthly Tarbiyat conference call for new converts and an annual workshop which will be held in October 2013.

Qā'id Waqf Jadīd discussed the importance of this blessed scheme and requested Zu'amā to encourage all Ansār in their Majālis to participate in Waqf Jadīd.

Qā'id Ithar discussed the way Ansār at local level can participate in Ithar activities. Providing food to the needy, helping others in finding jobs and providing ride to members are few examples of Ithar. He also requested Zu'amā to make their plans and let him know if they need any financial help in executing those plans.

Qā'id Health emphasized the importance of health of all Ansār to do the Jamā'at work. He requested Zu'amā to ride the bikes regularly as it is a very good exercise. Zu'amā were requested to hold an annual health fair to remind the membership about the importance of health.

Auditor discussed how to prepare for audit, he emphasized the following points:

- Total amounts of the following should match each other:
 - Monthly deposit slips
 - Monthly collection/batch report
 - Total amount of receipts issued during the month
- Keep record of all voided/cancelled receipts and report to Qā'id Māl in the monthly collection/batch report.
- Obtain approval of expenses over the budgeted amount.

Session ended with break for Maghrib and Isha Prayer. A group photo of all attendees was taken outside the Mosque.

How to be a good leader

Rizwan Alladin

After Maghrib and Isha prayers a special session was conducted by Rizwan Alladin on 'How to be a good leader'. He was invited to talk about how the Zu'amā and Nāzimeen can better lead their Majālis or regions.

All attendees were divided into 12 groups and an effort was made to make sure that attendees from one region sit in different groups. Eight events were presented to all groups and they had to select one best option out of two given to them and on the bases of their selection of options they had to measure the Ansār participation in events along with measuring completion of National Ansār plans. It was an interesting interactive session that provided the opportunity to everyone to express his opinion while selecting the best option. First part of the session ended with some questions from attendees to the presenter.

The first day of ALC ended with dinner and brief meeting with local Ansār from the three host Majālis, more than 150 members attended this dinner. Local Ansār was provided opportunity to ask questions during the dinner. Sadr Majlis and regional missionary, Imām Syed Shamshad Ahmad, answered those questions.

Second Day of the ALC:

The second day of the ALC started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'ān. After the recitation, Sadr Majlis talked about the role of Ansār in Saf Dom and encouraged all Saf Dom Ansār to participate actively in Majlis's activities.

After that 2nd part of 'How to be a good leader' started and Rizwan Alladin along with Sadr Majlis discussed all the events and options those were presented to the attendees in 1st part and explained how to select the best option according to the situation. At the end of this part results were shown to the attendees from the first day discussion.

Nā'ib Sadr Awwal discussed the role of Nāzimeen in detail and mentioned some key challenges faced by the Nāzimeen and they were encouraged to select their 'Āmila and distribute the work among 'Āmila members to get the better outcome. Nāzimeen were requested to visit every Majlis in their region at least once in a year.

Concluding Session

The concluding session started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'ān followed by the annual award presentation in which the best performing Majālis were recognized based upon their performance throughout the year in small, medium, and large Majālis categories. "*Alam-i-Inami*" was awarded based upon overall best performance. The Nāzimeen were also recognized for their excellent performance and Outstanding Nāzim awards were given to them. The award winning Majālis are listed below:

Awards:

'Alam-i-Inami:

Willingboro Majlis - Za'im: Abdul Rehman Minhas

Large Majālis:

First Place: Willingboro Majlis - Za'im: Abdul Rehman Minhas
Second Place: Dallas Majlis - Za'im: Mubashir Ahmed
Third Place: LA East Majlis - Za'im: Muzaffar Siddiqi

Medium Majālis:

First Place: York Majlis - Za'im: Zرار Bajwa
Second Place: Cypress-Houston Majlis - Za'im: Iftikhar Ahmad Sheikh
Third Place: Baltimore Majlis - Za'im: Nasir Jamil

Small Majālis:

First Place: Syracuse Majlis - Za'im: Muhammad Zafar Iqbal
Second Place: Fitchburg Majlis - Za'im: Masood Ashraf
Third Place: Minnesota Majlis - Za'im: Nasim Ahmad

Most Improved Majlis:

St. Louis Majlis - Za'im: Kalim Wali

Outstanding Nazim Award:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Gulf States Region | Suhail Kausar |
| • South West Region | Faheem Ahmad |
| • Virginia Region | Basharat A. Wadan |
| • New York Region | Arshad Janjua |
| • Midwest Region | Abu Bakr Bin Saeed |
| • Northeast Region | M. Zafar Iqbal |
| • South East Region | Syed Abdul Shukoor |

After the awards distribution, Imam Shamshad A. Nāsir, Regional Missionary, addressed the ALC attendees.

The Ansār's Responsibility to the Next Generation

Imām Syed Shamshad A. Nasir

Imam Sahib started by mentioning that it was a great honor that the Majlis Ansārullāh USA and Sadr Majlis decided to hold the 'Āmila meeting and the ALC 2013 in this Majlis. He said hopefully this pattern will continue. After this Imām Syed Shamshad A. Nāsir Said that:

“The topic given to me is quite broad. This morning Abu Bakr Bin Saeed gave a good example in his Dars-e-Qur’ān. He narrated the incident about a person who gave the best education to his son. It is a custom in Ghana that a successful student gets a presidential award. So this boy’s father went to the Amir of Ghana, Wahab Abdul Adam, to request him to go with the son to receive the award, since this would also be a good opportunity to show presence by a Jamā’at official. Amir Ghana was very happy to hear about the boy’s accomplishment and asked the boy to read the Holy Qur’ān. But the boy could not read the Qur’ān. Amir Ghana brought this to the attention of the father of the boy, saying that while the father focused of his son’s worldly education he neglected the spiritual education. Thus Amir did not accompany the boy to the President’s office.

Another similar incident comes to my mind. In this incident a son completed his PhD degree and right after that his father passed away. The boy started crying, as is the natural response. People paid their condolences to the boy and tried to console him by telling him that this happens to everyone. But the boy did not stop crying. The people asked the Missionary to go and console the boy. Missionary approached the boy and talked to him. The boy told him that “I am not crying just because my father has passed away. I am crying because my father did everything he could for my worldly education. Now he has passed away and I don’t even know how to say his Janazah (funeral) prayer.”

In the first example the father thought that taking the Amir would be a Tāblīgh activity. But this is not Tāblīgh. Promised Messiah (May peace be on him) came to connect us with God (not just to prove his truthfulness with arguments). To become a true servant of God people should have a live relationship with God. This was the mission of the Promised Messiah (May peace be on him). He came to purify us.

So how do we become Godly people? Here are some of the simple items I want to emphasize:

1) Prayer (Namaz):

- I feel quite shy to tell Ansār to say the prayers after their age of 40 years (not 7!). At 40 we should be setting an example for our Children and grandchildren. Actions speak louder than the words. A practical example is needed from the Ansār. Children look at us and follow what we do. Some things may seem minor to you but they are not. For example your dress. When we come to the Jamā’at podium or come to the mosque for prayers then our dress should be appropriate.
- I was told a story in London: Two friends came to London Jalsa and stayed at the guest house. Every morning one friend dressed well, while the other did not care. One day the friend who did not care about his dress asked his friend why he dresses up every day early in the morning for the Fajr Prayer. His friend replied: “Don’t you see Huda? He is always properly dressed with the long coat (Atchkan) and the turban.” It leaves a good impression and effect on children when you are properly dressed whenever you go to the meeting, Jalsa, or the mosque. It is not necessary to look young by wearing clothes that teenager’s wear. We should look like Ansār. Some Ansār don’t have any beard. Do whatever you can do to present yourself well. You should not just

go with the flow. When you come to the podium to deliver a speech then know that this podium is your honor and you are an office holder or representative of the Jamā'at and thus should appear honorable and dress appropriately.

2) Wearing a Cap:

- Some Ansār don't wear a cap during Prayers. How can such a Nāsir be a role model for the next generation?

3) Etiquette of the Mosque:

- Some Ansār talk when they come for Prayers to the mosque. It is very important to stay quite when in the Mosque waiting for the Prayer to start.

4) Reading Holy Qur'ān:

- Read the Holy Qur'ān with a loud voice at home. In Qādiān and Rabwah people used to read Holy Qur'ān after the morning prayers at home such that a passerby could hear it. But if the grandfather and the father are asleep in the morning then how will the next generation will wake up and recite the Qur'ān?

5) Saying positive things about Jamā'at:

- Always say good think about the Jamā'at, Khilāfat and office holders, especially in front of your children. Teach them obedience to Khilāfat and Nizam-e-Jamā'at (system of Jamā'at). Do not talk bad about any office holder in front of the children; otherwise this will poison your next generation.

6) Look with in the Jamā'at for Spouses:

- When selecting spouses for your children, find appropriate marriageable candidate within the Jamā'at. This is happening a lot that the next generation is seeking spouses outside. I will share an incident regarding Hadrat Maulvi Mohammad Ilyas of Peshawar. He was not very educated but loved the system of Jamā'at. This incident is a contrast to the materialistic life that the people are chasing. A Paramount chief sent the message of marriage to Maulvi Mohammad Ilyas's daughter promising a lot of wealth and land to his future wife. Maulvi Mohammad Ilyas decided to go and respond to the chief in person. He told him that even if the King of Kabul came and asked him for his daughter's hand he would refuse and would prefer to marry her daughter to a poor person who is an Ahmadi and have love for Jamā'at.
- We should stay within the Jamā'at and look at the righteousness of people. Enhance the respect of the spouses, daughters, and sisters. The Holy Prophet (May peace and blessings of Allah be on him) gave the glad tidings that paradise at home is due to the wife and the daughter(s). So be respectful of them.
- He then recited Verse 18-19 of Surah Luqman (Ch 31): *"O my dear son! Observe Prayer, and enjoin good, and forbid evil, and endure patiently whatever may befall thee. Surely this is of those matters which require firm resolve. And turn not thy cheek*

away from men in pride nor walk in the earth haughtily; Surely, Allah loves not any arrogant boaster."

He explained that Allah has recorded this advice of Hadrat Luqman (May peace be on him) to his sons, since this is a lesson for us to safeguard the teaching of our Prophet (May peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

He then quoted an article from a newspaper form March 16, 1936 in which Sardar Divan Singh Makhtoom wrote an article titled "Status of Ahmadiyyat." The article says: "If all the Ahmadis of the world are killed and only one Ahmadi is left and he is told that he will face the same fate as those before unless he renounces his faith even then that lone remaining Ahmadi will say "no". He will not leave true Islām, Ahmadiyyat. An Ahmadi will not leave his beliefs, traditions and practices."

- The Promised Messiah (May peace be on him) says that the person who does Bai'at follows me and is obedient to me, he is the person who will be saved and be cured by my spirit during trials and tribulations and during the day of Judgment. He said that you are the last people of God. Practice the good to an extent where it reaches its highest perfection (Kishti-e-Nuh, 1902).

Imam Shamshad A. Nāsir concluded his address with this prayer "May Almighty Allah forgive our shortcomings and enables us to follow true teachings of Islām and Ahmadiyyat (Amin).

Concluding Address Sadr Majlis Ansārullāh

Sadr Majlis stated that his speech will just be a set of reminders or the summary of what has been covered in the last two days. He then suggested that the audience could go ahead and ask any questions of him first before his speech. Here is a summary of some of the questions and responses from this last session:

- Question: Top ten Majālis list should be printed.
Response: Last year Willingboro was the most improved Majlis. This year we sent the evaluation to Zu'amā in July that provided status for the first 6 months. Also, the areas of improvement were sent as well. Willingboro took it to heart. It was a real challenge for us to decide the first and second position. I didn't send the final list for a day or so due to the very close results. Dallas should not feel bad. Willingboro did a little extra. We will share the ranking with all the Majālis, Insha'allāh.
- Question: Alm-e-Inami and the chance for small Majālis of winning it.
Response: Alm-e-Inami can be won by the small Majālis. Large Majālis have been getting it because of the amount of work they do. Four or five terms ago the Research Triangle received it with only nine (9) members.
- Question: Is the Syllabus book sent to every Nasir?

Response: Yes. It was sent to the printer on December 11th or 12th. We found out in early January 2013 that somebody from Jamā'at sent two more publications that delayed it by a month. It is printed now and it will be going out in the mail by the end of this week (01/25/2013). All the information in the handbook is also on the website and on the USB (that was distributed during this ALC). Please share this information with members of your Majlis.

Closing Address:

Sadr Majlis started his closing address by thanking the three Zu'amā, Presidents, and Imam Syed Shamshad Nasir for hosting the National Amila meeting and the ALC. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. This event is an effort of about 3 months and a lot of work went into it. Sadr Majlis then mentioned that the location of the 2013 Majlis Ansarullah USA Ijtema will be Baitur-Rehman Mosque, Silver Spring, MD on October 4-6, 2013 (Eid will be October 16, 2013). All the information about the competitions is in the handbook. While emphasizing the importance of Tajnid Sadr Majlis said that it costs money to mail out the handbooks and if the Tajnid is not accurate then there is a lot of waste.

Sadr Majlis reminded everyone of the key responsibilities of Zu'amā (Listed on page 22 of the Constitution), especially completing and submitting monthly reports on time, if the report is not received on time then there is a domino effect, eventually impacting the report that goes to Hudur. Zu'amā were also reminded that the rules and regulations of the Majlis are there to be followed. Sadr Majlis highlighted the use of the agenda/plans available in Ansār Handbook for conducting monthly Ansār meetings. He emphasized that Zu'amā or Muntazameen should respond to Qāideen's requests in timely manner. If a Za'im receives a message from a Qā'id please acknowledge that even by replying just "Jazakllah". Zu'amā were reminded that all the expenditure should be within the approved budget of their Majlis. He also reminded that the second round of election of Sadr and Nā'ib Sadr Saf Dom at the Majlis level must be completed before September 29th.

Ansār chanda for non-earning members have been fixed at \$24 per year as membership dues and \$12 per year for Ijtimā'dues. Exemption can be granted by Sadr Majlis (according to the Constitution of Majlis Ansārullāh). Hudur's comment on the Shura Proposal is that "... for exemption, provide reason, duration for exemption."

He concluded by reminding all present to pay attention to our obligations to promote:

- Love of Allah
- Teachings of Islam
- Serving mankind
- Training of our children
- Obedience to Khilāfat
- Placing collective interest over personal interest

How can we fulfill these obligations? Promised Messiah(as) wrote that “What I say is not an occasion for surprise, therefore, it is an occasion, rather, for rendering thanks - repeated thanks - to God. It is an occasion for renewing faith.” [Victory of Islam]

The ALC 2013 was ended with silent prayers for the attendees, for the Majālis and their members, the Qāideen, the Nāzimeen, for the safe travel back home of all the participants, for Hudur and for all those who are facing any kind of hardship.

At the end of this report, I would like to mention the wonderful job done by all Los Angeles area Ansār, many Khuddām, and Atfāl members, whose selfless dedication helped to make this event a success, *Alhamdulillah*. They did a great job on all fronts, including conference venue, arrangements, transportation, accommodation, refreshments, and taking care of needs of all the guests. May Almighty Allāh give them and their families reward for making this ALC a memorable experience for all the attendees, Amīn.



Group photo of all participants of the Ansār Leadership Conference (ALC) 2013
taken on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at Baitul Hameed Mosque, Chino, CA