

AMUAAAGC Newsletter – November 2024

November 2024
Volume 2, Issue 6



Executive Committee:

President: Dr. Zafeer Ahmad
Vice-President: Mr. Iqbal Nasim
Secretary: Dr. Fazle Alam
Treasurer: Mr. Ans Ahmed

Board Members:

Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi - Chairperson
Mr. Jawed Aslam
Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari
Dr. Shakil Khan
Mr. Khalid Sayeed



Zafeer Ahmad, Ph.D.

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Recent Events

- * Sir Syed Iftar and Mini-Mushaira on October 19, 2024
- * Monthly EC/Board Meetings
 - Aug 6th, 2024
 - Sep 7th, 2024
 - Oct 8th, 2024
 - Nov 12th, 2024
 - Dec 3rd, 2024
 - Jan 7th, 2025
 - Feb 4th, 2025
 - Mar 1st, 2025
 - Apr 1st, 2025
 - May 6th, 2025
 - Jun 3rd, 2025

President's Message

New Executive committee and Board of Directors are elected in July 2024. We held two events and made significant progress in the education projects since July. Here are some of the highlights:

1. Recognition of Dr. Asefa Ansari and Dr. Masood Akhtar, for their outstanding community services and support of AMUAA-GC.
2. Significant progress made in the construction of two classrooms at Aligarh Modern School. The project started in May 2024.
3. Initiation of Building Renovation Project at Anwarul-Uloom, Bhopal. The cost is \$20,000.00
4. Updating the membership features on the AMU Chicago Alumni website for the integration of a payment gateway, automation of membership renewals, and the addition of an admin dashboard for managing member information. The total development cost is \$250.00 (excluding taxes).

Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association of greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized Annual picnic on August 11, 2024, and a Sir Syed Day/Mini Mushaira event on October 19, 2024. About 85 people attended the fun filled picnic and everyone enjoyed the good BBQ and other food items. This year again we had more fun filled game and activities for kids and Adults organized by Sr. Fauzia.

About 150 people attended Sir Syed Day program. The keynote speaker was Dr. Masood Akhtar, a well accomplished businessman, philanthropist and social activist. The keynote speech was very inspiring and enlightening. This year all the poets were from the Greater Chicago area. They included Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Anjum, Mr. Nazar Naqvi, Dr. Lateef Saif, Mr. Mahboob Ali Khan, Mr. Kashif Haider, Mrs. Sajida Kazmi, and Mr. Iftexhar Sahil.

We started with **\$94,352.16** in our bank account on May 31, 2024, and ended with the balance of **\$86,068.43** at the end of November 19, 2024, even though we had an expense of **\$22,680** for Aligarh Modern School and Anwarul-Uloom Education projects.

Highlights

- The election to fill all open positions in the Executive Council and Board of Directors was scheduled for July 6, 2024, but did not take place because only one nomination was received for each position. All the 9 candidates for EC and Board were declared elected unopposed.
- Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association of greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized Annual picnic on August 11, 2024, and a Sir Syed Day/Mini Mushaira event on October 19, 2024. An appreciation award was given to recognize Dr. Asefa Ansari for outstanding community services and supporting AMUAA-GC.
- Significant progress has been made in the construction of two classrooms at Aligarh Modern School. This project started on May 13, 2024.
- Anwarul-Uloom building renovation project is approved in October 2024 and the cost is \$20,000.

Financial Status

Date	Bank Balance		
	Total	General Fund	Education Fund
May 31, 2024	\$94,352.16	\$8,337.60	\$86,014.56
November 19, 2024	\$86,068.43	\$9,625.59	\$76,442.84*

*\$22,680 used for the Education Projects

Membership Update

Summary of Membership 2024-2025	Total
Annual Members	67
Life Members	40
Honorary Membership	1
Total Members (As of November 19, 2024)	108

Welcome New Member: Mr. Syed Hasnain Ahmed, Mrs. Sarosh Ahmed, Mr. Shah Faisal Khan, Dr. Zeba Farooqui, Aamir Ahmed and Asma Ahmed

Standing Committee Updates

Committee Name and Members	Updates
1. Education Committee Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari (Chair) Dr. Gulam Waris Dr. Shakil Khan	• Significant progress has been made in the construction of two classrooms at Aligarh Modern School. This project started on May 13, 2024. • Anwarul-Uloom building renovation project is approved in October 2024 and the cost is \$20,000.
2. Technology Committee Mr. Khalid Sayeed (Chair) Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari	• A proposal for improving the membership features on the AMU Chicago Alumni website has been approved by EC and Board in a meeting on October

Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Mr. Shahbaz Alam	8, 2024. The total development cost is \$2,500 (excluding taxes).
3. Membership Committee Mr. Ans Ahmed (Chair) Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi	Six new members have joined: Mr. Syed Hasnain Ahmed, Mrs. Sarosh Ahmed, Mr. Shah Faisal Khan Dr. Zeba Farooqui, Mr. Aamir Ahmed and Mrs. Asma Ahmed
4. Social & Cultural Committee Dr. Shakil Khan (Chair) Dr. Haris Jamil Mr. Mustafa Iqbal Nasim Siddiqui	- The annual picnic was held on August 11, 224. See the report or details. - Sir Syed Day and Mini Mushaira was held on October 19, 2024. See the report for details.

Election 2024 Results Notification

Report by: **Dr. Zafeer Ahmad (AMUAAGC President)**

The biannual election results for the Executive Council and Board of Directors were provided by the election officer, Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari as below:

Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari <shahanshah.java@gmail.com>

Jul 5, 2024,
1:37 PM

to Mohammad, Shahbaz, bcc: me

Dear AMUAA-GC Members,

We are pleased to announce that all the nominated candidates for the Executive Council and Board of Directors have been elected unopposed. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to these dedicated individuals who will serve AMUAA-GC for a two-year term until 2026.

The election scheduled for July 6, 2024, to fill all open positions in the Executive Council and Board of Directors will not take place due to no additional nominations being received. Therefore, all the below 9 candidates for EC and Board are declared elected unopposed.

Elected Executive Council Members:

President	Dr Zafeer Ahmad
Vice President	Mr. Mustafa Iqbal Nasim Siddiqui
Secretary	Dr. Mohammad Fazle Alam
Treasurer	Mr. Ans Ahmed

Elected Board of Directors:

1.	Dr Mohammed Ahmadullah Siddiqui
2.	Dr. Israr Ansari
3.	Dr. Shakil Khan
4.	Mr. Jawed Aslam
5.	Mr. Khalid Sayeed

Sincerely,

Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari, Election Officer
Shahbaz Alam, Assistant Election Officer
 AMUAA-GC Election 2024

General Body Meeting, July 13, 2024

Report by: **Dr. Zafeer Ahmad (AMUAAGC President)**

1. A general body meeting was held on July 13, 2024, at 11 AM through Zoom Video.

Below is the meeting agenda:

1. Annual Report by the Chairman of Board of Directors	10 minutes
2. Annual Report by the President	10 minutes
3. The Treasurer's Report	10 minutes
4. Appointment of an independent auditor	5 minutes
5. AMUAAGC Future Programs in 2024	5 minutes
6. AMUAAGC new website demonstration	20 minutes
7. AMUAAGC Election Results	15 minutes
7. Questions and Other Matters	15 minutes

Quorum Requirements:

Quorum for General Assembly (1/10 of the members),

Total Members 101

Quorum Requirement 10 members

Total Members attended 21 – Quorum was met for the General Body Meeting

Reports by the Chairman of Board of Directors, President and The Treasurer were presented. All the reports were shared with AMUAAGC members. Dr. Mohammad Mushtaq was appointed as an independent auditor for 2024-25.

Annual Picnic, August 11, 2024

Report by: **Dr. Gulam Waris (Convenor of Picnic)**

The annual picnic of AMUAA-GC was held on August 11, 2024, from 12:00 to 3:30 PM at Century Park, 1001 Lakeview Parkway, Vernon Hills, IL, 60077. About 85 people attended the fun filled picnic and everyone enjoyed the good BBQ and other veg and non-veg food items. Mr. Farrukh Khan from “My Zabiha Halal Meat” provided the marinated chicken and Fatima Angus beef burgers. This year Choley was reintroduced instead of pasta salad.

This year again we had more fun filled game and activities for kids and Adults organized by Sr. Fauzia. This year we did not have any issue with burnt Chicken or Burgers, thanks to BBQ team for their commendable job.



Sir Syed Day and Mini-Mushaira, October 19, 2024

Report by: **Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi (Convenor of Sir Syed day and Min-Mushaira)**

The Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association of greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized Sir Syed Day and Mini-Mushaira program on October 19, 2024, at Falak Restaurant and Banquets 223 E Roosevelt Road, Lombard, IL 60148.

The registration and social hour started at 6:00 pm. Appetizers were served and the dinner started at 6:40. The program started at 7:30 pm with recitation of Qur'an and English translation (verses 1-5, Chapter 96, Al-Alas) by Ayrah Khalid. Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi, the program convener, welcomed the guests and shared a brief biography of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan whose birthday we were celebrating. He reminded the audience about the importance of carrying out the legacy of the founder of our Alma mater, the Aligarh Muslim University. This was followed by a power point presentation by the AMUAAGC President Dr. Zafeer Ahmad. Dr. Zafeer reported about Hira Public School completion of educational projects that were funded by our association in 2023-2024. He also noted that currently the association is supporting a project at the Aligarh Modern School in Aligarh, U. P. and another project by Anwarul Uloom School in Bhopal, M. P., for renovation of the school building is under review. Dr. Israr Ansari introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Masood Akhtar, a well accomplished businessman, philanthropist and social activist who also leads an NGO, We Are Many, United Against Hate. The keynote speech was very inspiring and enlightening. Dr. Akhtar encouraged the participants to be socially engaged, active, and contributing to the wellbeing of the community and the nation. He gave many examples of his own endeavors and involvement in various civic engagement projects and issues at local, state and national levels.

Awards were presented by the President, Dr. Zafeer Ahmad and the Board Chair, Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi to the keynote speaker, Dr. Masood Akhtar and to Dr. Asefa Ansari, one of the senior most members of AMUAAGC who has served as Secretary and the Vice President of the association. Dr. Asefa was recognized for her services to the community and the association. The award ceremony was followed by AMU Tarana that was presented under the leadership of Dr. Shakil Khan along with many members. The Sir Syed Day Program came to an end with a vote of thanks by the association's Secretary, Dr. Mohammad Fazle Alam.

The Mushaira started at 9:45 pm. It was presided over by Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi and conducted by Mr. Amin Haider. Mr. Amin Haider welcomed everyone and invited all the poets on the stage. This year all the poets were from the Greater Chicago area. They included Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Anjum, Mr. Nazar Naqvi, Dr. Lateef Saif, Mr. Mahboob Ali Khan, Mr. Kashif Haider, Mrs. Sajida Kazmi, and Mr. Iftekhhar Sahil. In his presidential remarks Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi emphasized that Mushaira is an important part of the cultural traditions in India and Pakistan. It is not simply a means of entertainment; it is a medium through which poets reflect upon the social conditions of society and describe it in a poetic form. He said that AMUAAGC organized the first Mushaira some 37 years ago in 1987. Since then, we have continued to organize Mushairas on a yearly basis. After this Mr. Amin Haider took over the charge of

conducting the Mushaira and invited poets one at a time to the podium to share their poetry. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the rich quality of poetry that dealt with a variety of social and cultural issues. The Mushaira concluded at about 11:30 pm.

This year Sir Syed Day and Mushaira were attended by more than 150 people including many young Aligarians who recently moved to the greater Chicago area.



Educational Project, November 2024

Report by: Dr. Israrul H. Ansari (Chair, Education Committee)

Aligarh Modern School – Construction of Two Classrooms

(Sponsored by Ahmad Rizvi and Dr. Zafeer Ahmad)

The construction work of two classrooms is in progress up to roof level. The detail of work is as follows:

1. RCC Chajja on the top of the 4 windows has been completed.
2. Brick works up to roof level have been completed.
3. Shuttering has been installed.



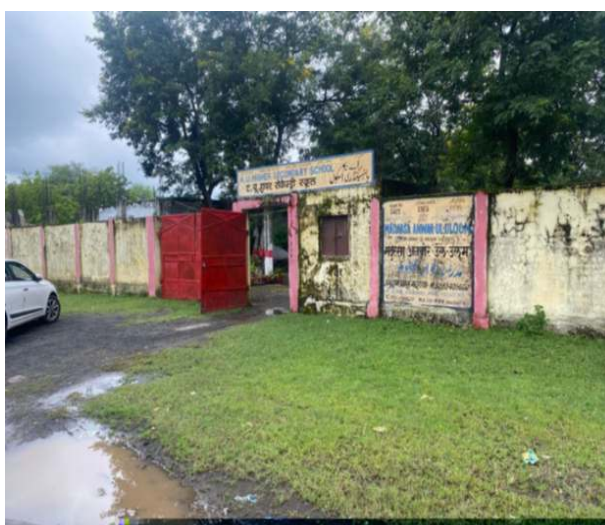
Aligarh Modern School Progress Photos (November 4, 2024)

Anwar-ul-Uloom, Bhopal-Building Renovation

(Sponsored by Dr. Israr Ansari and Shahanshah Ansari)

Building Renovation (Project Approved, October 2024). Cost \$20,000.

- Ø School Building was painted 10 years ago, has deteriorated badly
- Ø Cracks have emerged at many places
- Ø The infrastructure is losing its positive impact on Parents & Students
- Ø Few classes have cement sheets which must be replaced with proper Ceiling
- Ø Since the area is big, overall cost is huge
- Ø Students belong to poor category & hence are unable to pay school fees and resulting in less or no renovation or maintenance budget



AMUAAGC Membership Improvement

Report by: **Mr. Khalid Sayeed (Chair, Technology Committee)**

A proposal for improving the membership features on the AMU Chicago Alumni website has been approved by EC and Board in a meeting on October 8, 2024. The proposal outlines the integration of a payment gateway, automation of membership renewals, and the addition of an admin dashboard for managing member information. The total development cost is \$250.00 (excluding taxes).

Key highlights of the proposal include:

- Email reminders before membership expiration (1, 15, and 30 days prior).
- Admin approval for new members.
- Integration of Drupal with WordPress for consistency.
- Four membership levels: Annual (single/spouse) and Lifetime (single/spouse).

The payment will be easy and integrated, with no JotForm to use. We can search databases. Event information will go directly. Mr. Ajmal will coordinate with a company in Calcutta.

Local Sponsors to AMUAA-GC

Real Estate Solutions

- **Buying**
- **Selling**
- **Investing**
- **Renting**

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Health Corner:

Report by: **Dr. Mohammad Masood Athar**

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes
An estimated 30.3 million people in the US (9.4 % of the population) have diabetes. About 1 in 4 people with diabetes don't know they have the disease.

Prediabetes
An estimated 84.1 million Americans aged 18 years or older have prediabetes, is a serious health condition where your blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough yet to be diagnosed as type 2 diabetes. According to the CDC, more than 1 in 3 U.S. adults have prediabetes that's 88 million people but the majority of people don't know they have it.

Good News!
By making small **Healthy Lifestyle** changes, it is possible to **prevent type 2 diabetes** and even **reverse** your prediabetes!

Regular Exercise
At least 30 minutes of **Physical Activity** -> 5 days a week. Start slowly by breaking it up throughout the day.

Healthy Food & Drink Choices
High Fiber, Low Fat, Sugar & Salt

Weight Watch
Maintain your ideal weight. If overweight->lose weight

Consult your Health Care Provider For the Risks & Screening Tests, if needed!



ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

Please Support Education Projects
(Our target is \$50,000 for the year 2024-2025)

Please write your checks to:

AMUAA Greater Chicago,
P. O. Box 67 Wadsworth, IL 60083

Direct transfer via Zelle / through email
info@amuaachicago.org, ID: AMUAA Chicago

Donate online at
<https://www.amuaachicago.org/donate>

All your gifts & donations are tax-deductible!