

Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association of Greater Chicago

Newsletter - November 2025, Volume 3, Issue 8



Executive Committee:

President: Dr. Zafeer Ahmad

Vice-President: Mr. Iqbal Nasim

Secretary: Dr. Fazle Alam

Treasurer: Mr. Ans Ahmed

Board Members:

**Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari -
(Chairperson)**

Mr. Jawed Aslam

Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi

Dr. Shakil Khan

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Recent Events

* **Sir Syed Iftar and
Mushira on October
12, 2025**

* **Monthly EC/Board
Meetings**

- Aug 12th, 2025
- Sep 12th, 2025
- Oct 14th, 2025
- Nov 11th, 2025
- Dec 9th, 2025
- Jan 13th, 2026
- Feb 10th, 2026
- Mar 7th, 2026
- Apr 14th, 2026
- May 12th, 2026
- June 9th, 2026

President's Message

Zafeer Ahmad, Ph.D.



There was no election this year, so the same Executive committee and Board of Directors continued after July 2025. We held two events and made significant progress in the education projects since July 2025. Here are some of the highlights:

1. Construction of two classrooms at Aligarh Modern School is now completed. The cost was \$20,000.
2. Started the construction of Classrooms at Noor Girls High School, Meghwal Mathia, West Champaran, Bihar. The cost is \$30,000.00

Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association of greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized Annual picnic on August 2, 2025, and a Sir Syed Day/Mushaira event on October 12, 2025. About 140 people attended the fun filled picnic and everyone enjoyed the good BBQ and other food items. This year we had live barbeque at the site from Urooj Catering along with fun filled game and activities for kids and Adults.

About 110 people attended Sir Syed Day program. The keynote speaker was Dr. M.T. Ali Niazi, an esteemed educationist and pioneer in academia. Dr. Ali Niazi delivered his keynote address, offering profound insights into the visionary legacy of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and illuminated Sir Syed's visionary role in promoting scientific inquiry, social reform, and modern education.

The three guest poets for Mushaira included Janab Muaz Siddiqui and Janab Rafiuddin Raz from New York, and Dr. Ehtesham Anjum from Madison Wisconsin. The Chicago poets included Mr. Nazar Naqvi, Dr. Lateef Saif, Mr. Mahboob Ali Khan, Mr. Kashif Haider, Mrs. Sajida Kazmi, and Mr. Bilal Azam. We started with **\$90,228.18** in our bank account on May 31, 2025, and ended with the balance of **\$72,281.16** at the end of November 20, 2025. We had an expense of **\$16,540** for Education projects.

Highlights

- Organized Annual picnic on August 2, 2025
- Organized Sir Syed Day and Mushaira events on October 12, 2025.
- Completed the construction of wo classrooms at Aligarh Modern School, Aligarh.
- Started the construction of Classrooms at Noor Girls High School, Bihar.

Financial Status

Date	Bank Balance		
	Total	General Fund	Education Fund
May 20, 2025	\$90,250.08	\$10,015.18	\$80,238.90
November 20, 2025	\$72,281.16*	\$6,071.26	\$66,209.90

*\$16,540 used for the Education Projects

Membership Update

Summary of Membership 2025-2026	Total
Annual Members	72
Life Members	40
Honorary Membership	1
Total Members (As of November 20, 2025)	113

Welcome New Member: Mr. Enam Hussain, Mrs. Raheel Hussain, Mr. Abu Seena, and Mrs. Abeer Zahid

Standing Committee updates

Committee Name and Members	Updates
1. Education Committee Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari (Chair) Dr. Gulam Waris Dr. Shakil Khan	• Completed the construction of wo classrooms at Aligarh Modern School, Aligarh. • Started the construction of Classrooms at Noor Girls High School, Bihar.
2. Technology Committee Mr. Khalid Sayeed (Chair) Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Mr. Shahbaz Alam	• AMUAAGC website domain has been changed from GoDaddy to Hostinger. It is the better choice for budget-conscious users prioritizing affordability and performance compared to GoDaddy.
3. Membership Committee Mr. Ans Ahmed (Chair) Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi	• Ans Ahmed has provided an important update regarding membership. While we are currently facing certain challenges in our performance, this situation also presents us with an opportunity to reassess our strategies. It is essential that we engage more effectively with our community as we move forward. By adopting a thoughtful and proactive

	approach, we can strengthen our connections and achieve more effective outcomes. Four new members have joined: Mr. Enam Hussain, Mrs. Raheel Hussain, Mr. Abu Seena, and Mrs. Abeer Zahid
4. Social & Cultural Committee Dr. Shakil Khan (Chair) Dr. Haris Jamil Mr. Mustafa Iqbal Nasim Siddiqui	- Organized Annual picnic on August 2, 2025 - Organized Sir Syed Day and Mushaira events on October 12, 2025.

Annual Picnic, August 2, 2025

Report by: **Dr. Shakil Khan (Convenor of Picnic)**

The annual AMUAA-GC picnic was held on August 2, 2025, from 12:00 to 3:30 PM at Century Park, 1001 Lakeview Parkway, Vernon Hills, IL, 60077. About 110 people attended the fun filled picnic and everyone enjoyed the good BBQ and other veg and non-veg food items. Urooj Catering provided a live BBQ which included Sooji ka Halwa, Puri, Aloo ki Tarkari, Chicken Tikka, and Chicken malai boti.

General Body meeting started with the recitation of Quran. AMUAAGC Board chairman, Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi; President, Dr. Zafeer Ahmad and Treasurer, Mr. Ans Ahmed presented their reports. Mr. Anis Khan was selected as an auditor for 2025-2026 AMUAAGC financials. Meeting was finished with Dua from Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi.

WE BRING LIVE BBQ TO YOUR DOOR STEP

MOST AFFORDABLE PACKAGE IN 2025

- CHANA MASALA OR ALOO KI TARKARI
- CHICKEN TIKKA (RED)
- CHICKEN MALAI BOTI
- RAITA & CHATNI
- NAAN OR PARATHY

MINIMUM ORDER 60 PEOPLE

\$20 PER HEAD

FOR LIVE BBQ INQUIRIES:
+1 (847) 510-7641

2616 INFO: (224) 920-2816

UROOJ CATERERS



Sir Syed Day and Mushaira, October 12, 2025

Report by: **Dr. Shakil Khan (Convenor of Sir Syed day)**

The Aligarh AMU Alumni Association of Greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized the 208th birth anniversary celebration of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan on Sunday, October 12, 2025, at Falak Banquets, 233 E Roosevelt Rd, Lombard, IL 60148. More than 110 guests attended the event from Greater Chicago and Madison (WI). Dr. Shakil Khan conducted the program as the Master of Ceremony. In his welcome note, he presented a thoughtful reflection on the extraordinary life of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan—an exceptional leader, visionary thinker, reformer, and the founding force behind modern Muslim education in India. He emphasized the importance of honoring Sir Syed's enduring legacy and renewing our commitment to the values of education, enlightenment, and unity in diversity that Sir Syed championed. He invited the audience to recommit themselves to these principles as a tribute to Sir Syed's lifelong mission.

The program began with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqui. The President of AMUAA-GC, Dr. Zafeer Ahmad, provided an overview of the organization, describing the initiatives conducted throughout the year, including the Sir Syed Day Mushaira, the Sir Syed Ramadan Iftar, and the Annual Picnic. He shared updates on organizational and educational completed and ongoing and completed in 2024–25 and urged everyone to support the association's efforts to empower underprivileged girls through education. He also encouraged attendees to become members of AMUAA-GC to strengthen future initiatives. Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqui formally introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. M. T. Ali Niazi, describing him as an esteemed educationist and pioneer in academia.

Dr. Ali Niazi delivered his keynote address, offering profound insights into the visionary legacy of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and illuminated Sir Syed's visionary role in promoting scientific inquiry, social reform, and modern education. His speech highlighted not only Sir Syed's contributions but also the responsibility of the AMU community today to carry forward his ideals in a world marked by technological advancement and complex social challenges.

Dr. Ali Niazi was presented with a commemorative memento by President Dr. Zafeer Ahmad, Chairperson Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari, and Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqui. Dr. Israr Ansari, Chairperson of the Board, thanked the audience for attending the celebration. He also expressed his appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee, Board, committees, and volunteers for their dedication and service to AMUAA-GC.

The evening continued with a nostalgic and spirited presentation of the AMU Tarana by the Tarana Team. This was followed by a delightful dinner and a Mushaira, adding a rich cultural touch to the evening and honoring the long-standing tradition of literary expression within the AMU community.

Report by: **Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi (Convenor of Mushaira)**

The Mushaira started at 9:45 p.m. after the Sir Syed Day program and the dinner. It was presided over by the senior guest poet from New York, Janab Rafiuddin Raz and conducted by Mr. Amin Haider. Mr. Amin Haider welcomed everyone and invited all the poets to the stage. The Three guest poets included Janab Muaz Siddiqui and Janab Rafiuddin Raz from New York, and Dr. Ehtesham Anjum from Madison Wisconsin. The Chicago poets included Mr. Nazar Naqvi, Dr. Lateef Saif, Mr. Mahboob Ali Khan, Mr. Kashif Haider, Mrs. Sajida Kazmi, and Mr. Bilala Azam. In his welcoming remarks Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi, the Mushaira convenor, emphasized that Mushaira is an important part of the cultural traditions in the Indian Subcontinent. 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 AMUAAAGC has been organizing Mushairas for over 35 years in the greater Chicago area. We need to make a concerted effort to engage the young generation to our culture and traditions so that the Mushairas

continue to thrive in the U. S. and Canada. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the rich quality of poetry that dealt with a variety of social and cultural issues. Janab Rafiuddin Raz was the star poet who presented his classical ghazals and received repeated applause from the audience. The Mushaira concluded at about 11:00 pm. Below are a few ashaar from the ghazals presented by Janab Rafiuddin Raz.

Haarne kaa tajurba bhi chaahiye insaan ko Razme gaahe Zindagi mein fetho nusrat ke liye	Aankh mein aane se pehle ashk mein dhalne se qabl Kitni khaamoshi se pairaahen badelta hai luhoo
Weswasa jeb dilon mein palta hai Berf choone se haath jelta hai	Raz soorej kaa ujaala bhi haqeeqat hai magar Din ke hone ki gawahi meri beenai hai



Educational Project, November 2025

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

Aligarh Modern School – Construction of Two Classrooms

(Sponsored by Ahmad Rizvi and Dr. Zafeer Ahmad)

Construction started on May 13, 2024, Cost \$24,000

The construction work of two classrooms at Aligarh Modern School is completed in July 2025.

Construction of Classrooms in Noor Girls High School, Meghwal Mathia, West Champaran, Bihar (Sponsored by Sana Hoda)

The AMUAA-GC agreed to support the Hikmat Foundation for constructing a computer lab, a library, two classrooms, and a principal office in place of an old temporary structure which has now been demolished. The Foundation has established first high schools for girls in rural impoverished areas in 2016 in Raibari. Mahua panchayat of Bagaha I Block, West Champaran, Bihar.

Second school was established in 2017 in Meghwal Mathia panchayat of Ramnagar Block, West Champaran. Both schools cater to poor village girls. AMUAAAGC agreed to fund the project in two phases:

- ❖ Phase I – Amount \$15000 to cover Foundation for three-story structure, construction of columns, beams, and roofing for at least two floors, and full finishing of the ground floor ground floor for immediate academic use.
- ❖ Phase II - amount \$15000 to cover This phase will complete the structural work of the second floor and occupancy-ready completion of the first and second floors.

(All the room dimensions are approved by the Bihar School Examination Board)

Progress to Date:

In the first phase, the old structure was demolished and the site levelled. Unfortunately, the work was stopped due to heavy rain, Durga Puja & Chatt festivals in that region. Overall, the construction materials have been procured, and the construction re-started again. A detailed list of expenses during the first phase of construction is provided here. A set of construction images are provided below.

The current AMUAA-GC Executive Council and Board members sincerely thank all donors and well-wishers who contributed to this great cause.

Item/s	Amount (in Rupees)
Total money transferred (US \$15000)	1276500
A. Demolition	30000
B. Rebar	663721
C. Labor Contract	105058
D. Red Sand	56655
E. Cement	105012
F. Stone Chips	104500
Total cost (items A - F)	10,34,946
Balance amount from first transfer	2,41,554





Metropolitan Asian Family Services (MAFS) and Universal Metro and Asian Service (UMAS)

Report by: **Mrs. Santosh Kumar, AMUAAGC Life Member, MAFS Executive Director**

Metropolitan Asian Family Services (MAFS) is a Not-for-Profit, Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) organization in 1993 with a mission to provide comprehensive and integrated services to the community at large. MAFS is a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic organization and has at its core, a commitment to educate, assist and empower the immigrant community to adjust to life in the United States and become productive members of society instead of dependent on government aid. To achieve this, we have initiated many educational programs such as English literacy and computer training. Through our basic etiquette sessions in dressing, speaking and resume writing we have touched and changed many lives."

Universal Metro Asian Services was incorporated as a Not-For-Profit organization on December 7th, 2000. Our aim is to serve immigrant populations of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Middle East, Latin America and Europe. The organization received its first contract with Illinois Department on Aging (IDOA) to administer homecare services to ethnic seniors in 1993 via Universal Industries.

Our Community Care program is unique. For the past three decades we have been at the forefront of meeting the requirements of the South Asian immigrant community and have since evolved to serve all communities. We are dedicated and determined to provide services to the elderly in their home rather than institutionalized in a nursing home. We consider our participant's cultural and social preferences very carefully before assigning a Caregiver in order to best match their needs.



MAFS
metropolitan asian
family services



family | advocacy | service | support

WE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN:

• Health Insurance (Obamacare, ACA)	• Social Security Services
• Access to Care Insurance	• Social Security Benefits
• Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)	• Income Supplement
• KidCare	• Disability Benefit
• Medicaid	• Transportation
• Medicare	• Nutritious Meals
• Immigration & Citizenship Assistance	• Food Stamps (SNAP)
• OCI, Passport, Visas	• Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
	• Weatherization

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847.824.9414
mafsinc.com



**Nutritious
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Program**

We Collaborate with:







MAFS is a Not-for-Profit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.
MAFS does not discriminate in membership programs or activities on the basis of race, ethnicity, or national origin. It is an equal opportunity organization. It provides services to all individuals regardless of race, ethnicity, or national origin. It is an equal opportunity organization.



**universal metro
asian services**

Homecare
Do you have elderly at home that need help?
Our unique homecare program helps you keep your independence from the privacy of your home.

- ✓ Personal Care
- ✓ Meal Preparation
- ✓ Grooming & Dressing
- ✓ Medication Reminders
- ✓ Housekeeping & Laundry
- ✓ Escort to appointments

Adult Day Care
Do you have elderly at home that want to enjoy their golden years with friends, activities and great food?
Our adult day centers provide a venue for the elderly to get involved in structured and fun-filled activities. We offer door to door pick-up & drop off services for qualified individuals.

- ✓ Hot Nutritious Meals
- ✓ Social Activities Daily
- ✓ Nurse on Staff
- ✓ Free Transportation*



2900+
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CAREGIVERS ON STAFF



340
HAPPY ADULT DAY CARE CLIENTS



11
CHICAGO LAND LOCATIONS

Our Caregivers. Your Language.



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umasinc.com 847.306.7606

Health Corner



Diabetes Awareness

Did You Know?

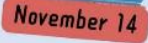
- Over 400 million people worldwide have diabetes.
- Type 2 diabetes accounts for about 90-95% of all diabetes cases.

Common Symptoms:

- Increased thirst and hunger
- Frequent urination
- Fatigue
- Blurred vision
- Unexplained weight loss

Take Control of Your Health!

- Get Regular Screenings: Early detection can make a big difference.
- Stay Active: Just 30 minutes of physical activity a day can help manage and prevent diabetes.
- Eat Balanced Meals: Focus on whole grains, lean proteins, and fresh vegetables.



World Diabetes Day

November 14

Diabetes is a chronic condition that affects how your body processes blood sugar (glucose). It occurs when the body doesn't make enough insulin or can't use insulin effectively, leading to high blood sugar levels.

#DiabetesAwarenessMonth #FightDiabetes

Upcoming Events:

Sir Syed Iftar and Dinner:

- **Convener:** Ajmal Sufiyan
- **Date:** Saturday, February 21, 2026
- **Venue:** Sullivan Community Center
- **Address:** 635 N Aspen Dr, Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Musical Program:

- **Convener:** Dr. Shakil Khan
- **Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2026
- **Venue:** Buffalo Grove Community Arts Center Theater
- **Address:** 225 McHenry Road, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Please support Aligarh Muslim University Alumni
Association of Greater Chicago



**ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO**

Please Support Education Projects
(Our target is \$50,000 for the year 2025-2026)

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!