



# Anjuman-e-Saifee, Chicago

*A nonprofit Corporation administering & managing the affairs of the Dawoodi Bohra Jamaat of Chicago*

Date: 06/06/2020

To Whom It May Concern

Respected Sir/Madam:

The Dawoodi Bohra Muslim community, headed by its 53rd spiritual and temporal leader, His Holiness Syedna Mufaddal SaifuddinTUS, observes 9 days of mourning and self-reflection in remembrance of the martyrdom of the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed SAW, Imam Husain AS, at the onset of the Islamic year. Known as Ashara, this observance is held every year from the 2nd day of the Islamic month of Moharram and culminates in a full day of intense mourning on Moharram 10th. Throughout the nine days of Ashara, attendance in daily sermons and participation in evening gatherings is deemed compulsory for every Dawoodi Bohra.

The remembrance of the tragedy of Imam Husain's AS martyrdom is a central tenet of the Dawoodi Bohra Muslim faith. The principles of the martyrdom of Imam Husain SA are founded upon truth and loyalty. The sermons that commemorate the martyrdom are focused on discussions surrounding compassion, sincerity and conviction and provide a forum in which the Dawoodi Bohra community's identity, philosophy, and practice is elucidated and strengthened. Most importantly, it provides members of the faith an opportunity to contextualize its thousands of years old-history with life in the modern age, enabling them to become faithful Muslims who are responsible, loyal and active members of the societies they live and work in. Through the remembrance of the sacrifice of Imam Husain AS, Dawoodi Bohras recommit to their faith and their humanity.

This year, Ashara Mubaraka will be observed from **Wednesday, August 19th to Friday, August 28th**. Every Dawoodi Bohra will attend daily sermons held between **10:30 am to 1:00 pm** (excluding the required time for travel) and gatherings in the evenings from **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm** for the first nine days of Ashara Mubaraka. On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the Moharram, or Ashura **Friday August 28th**, every Dawoodi will participate in full-day observance and ritual fast.

Since the attendance of these days of remembrance forms part of the very foundation of the faith and religion of every Dawoodi Bohra, I/we ask that leave is granted to the member bearing this letter during these days. Any school/office work that may be missed during the granted leave will be completed as per your direction.

I/We thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter. I/We can be reached at mobile no.: 6302485152 or email: [hussainkarimi@hotmail.com](mailto:hussainkarimi@hotmail.com), if you have any further questions of concerns.

Yours sincerely,  
**Hussain Karimi**  
Secretary Anjuman-e-Saifee, Chicago