

**In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful**

## **2018 MYNA Regional Executive Committee Application Procedures and Reminders**

### **.::| Introduction**

***Innama al a'mal bi niyyat.***  
***Actions are but by intention.***

We will begin by touching briefly on the topic of intentions. By now you should need no reminder that the work you do, the time you spend, the patience you put into practice; all these energies should ultimately be focused solely on attaining His pleasure, love, and mercy. Realize that there is no glamour, no glory, and no reward worthy of pursuing in a leadership position other than that which is granted by the Divine. Your obligation to God is the most essential part of your development as a sincere, compassionate, and beloved individual and is your key to Paradise. This you already know.

### **Be of the Movement.**

What may be somewhat harder to grasp, however, is the obligation you have towards your fellow companions. As a young leader of this movement, it is not enough for you to say “I serve God” and to neglect those who are counting on you for support. Realize that what we are striving for is greater than you, greater than our petty differences, greater even than some randomly arranged letters put together to symbolize an organization. What we aim to achieve is a social and spiritual revival from the roots of our community up to the atrium of our Ummah. We aim to give ourselves the voice that no one else will give us. To celebrate an identity that is wholly our own. To not just echo the calls of those who came before us but to build off their successes, learn from their mistakes, and to create something entirely fresh, bold, and new. It is our responsibility and duty to reach up and seize the mantle of our faith if we are to progress as a people. Our stage will not be handed to us; we must step up, assert ourselves, and claim it. This is the prophetic example and the most beautiful manifestation of true devotion. But this will never happen if we cannot learn to look beyond ourselves.

Therefore: as we discuss the future leadership of MYNA, it is imperative that we honestly examine ourselves and our motivations for assuming leading roles. On your own, you are a unique thread unlike any other. Your passions, opinions, interests, views, and faith all define your Deen. But if you cannot weave yourself in with others who share your commitment, if you cannot learn to love your brothers and sisters for the sake of God, you do not deserve to lead this movement. If your top priority is gaining something flashy to put on your college application, you do not deserve to lead. If you cannot listen

with humility and an open mind to the thoughts of others, especially when they differ from you, you do not deserve to lead. If you cannot be there for your fellow youth when they are in need, or remain patient when difficulties arise, MYNA is not for you. A thread alone, no matter how exquisite, is useful only to the wind. It's only when you can intertwine yourself with your peers do you become something greater than yourself; for this is how the rope of Allah is fashioned.

Finally, there are some who are hesitant to step up to the plate of leadership. This may be out of humility (which is admirable), lack of confidence, or lack of patience. No matter the reason, we urge you once again to think beyond yourself. You have been blessed with talent, insight, and a wide variety of resources. To not lend yourself to this cause is to squander what has been gifted to you, and to deprive your peers who depend on you for your support and different perspective borders on outright selfishness. Can you imagine what may have happened if 'Umar ibn al-Khattab had neglected the responsibility of Khalifa? If Khalid ibn al-Walid had politely declined to lead the army of the believers? If Bilal ibn Rabah al-Habashi had humbly refused to grace ears with his beautiful call to prayer? If you genuinely feel that you have something to offer, purify your intentions, push aside your doubts, roll up your sleeves, and get to work.

A healthy Regional Executive Committee is one composed of equals, all of whom have nothing but the utmost respect and care, and who are the pillars of support and the shade of assistance for one another. Because each member is passionately outspoken, they will not always agree with each other (nor should they). They will, however, be completely united in their common purpose and commitment to serving the greater good. And in this way will our beloved movement move forward, InshaAllah. May God grant us all the passion, patience, and wisdom to strive for His sake and to find our balance between prayer and action.

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## **Eligibility**

- All current Regional Executive Committee members, former members of a Regional Executive Committee (REC), national department members, core members of event planning committees, and any local youth may apply for a position on the REC.
- All applicants must be 19 years or younger as of September 1st, 2018.

## **Procedure:**

- Individuals must complete and submit applications.

- Individuals must receive parental permission and submit a parent consent form with the application itself.
- Individuals must provide a source of reference, either professional or personal, for the application.

## **The Application Timeline**

### **Applications and Recommendation Forms                    March 25<sup>th</sup>- April 7<sup>th</sup>**

All applicants must submit the following materials:

1. Application form (including all essays unless an Executive Committee application was also submitted)
2. Parental consent form
3. References

Recommenders may not be family members.

All materials are due on April 7th at 11:59 PM EST. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that recommendation forms are completed and submitted on time.

### **Deliberation    April 7<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>**

- An election committee composed of two regional advisors, at least two Executive Committee members, outgoing ineligible REC Chair, and the YPSD director will deliberate and select the 2018/2019 MYNA RECs.
- The Application Committee will announce the 2018/2019 MYNA National Regional Executive Committee on May 14h.
- At no point throughout this process is any form of campaigning allowed, nor will it be tolerated if observed. Applicants who choose not to follow this rule risk disqualification. You already know that leadership is a tremendous responsibility; be sure to treat the application process with the respect and humility it deserves.

### **Training    May - August**

- All incoming REC members are required to attend at least a portion of the Summer Leadership Summit in Flint, Michigan, which will be hosted on June 24th - June 30th.
- The current REC will thoroughly introduce and instruct the incoming REC on all of its responsibilities as well as the current state of affairs.

## **Integration & Transition**

Following election, there will be a 4-month transition period during which the outgoing REC will work to ensure the new REC is fully integrated and acclimated to their various roles and responsibilities.

All incoming and outgoing REC members are required to attend the ISNA Convention during Labor Day weekend for formal introductions. ***The Incoming REC's official term will begin September 4th, 2018.***

## **A final word...**

As you digest the procedures and being the process of nominating, considering your own nominations, and eventually partake in the process of voting, remember the reason why you have committed yourself to an organization, a movement, called MYNA. Beyond that, why you have committed your youth, a blessed time of energy and opportunity, to the work of activists, of writers, of organizers, of leaders, of game-changers so often left to the dealings of those much older than us. It is because you, at one point in your life, you internalized the message of our beloved master, Rasulallah (S), to take advantage of our youth before old age. It is because you looked upon the example of 'Usama bin Zaid, 'Ali bin Abi Talib, and so many countless others with immense admiration and yearning to emulate. It is because you desire to be honored with the privilege to reside under the shade of the throne of Allah (SWT) on a day when there will be no shade but his shade.

Rekindle these motivations, supplicate for guidance, assistance, and sincerity, and take part in this collaborative effort to seek Allah's (SWT) pleasure and reward.

Jazakum Allahu khairan