



TRADE &  
INDUSTRY

صنعت و تجارت



# PURPOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT

The main purpose of the department as laid out in the Constitution is to hold **"exhibitions of handicrafts, the purpose being firstly to make Ahmadi ladies skilful and secondly to eradicate unemployment"**.\*

\* The Constitution of the Lajna Imaillah Silsila 'Aliya Ahmadiyya USA published by Lajna Imaillah USA online version point 79

This is a department by Lajna for Lajna

## HISTORY

According to Tareekh Lajna (History of Lajna Vol 1), the department traces its beginnings as early as October 1926 when ladies of the Jamaat resolved to sell their handmade knitted and cotton garments to raise money for the Jamaat. On 30th October a gathering was held in Mian Bahir Ahmad Sahib's house. Items were sold and the proceeds went to the Tabligh Fund. The next year, in 1927 the first exhibition or 'numaish' was held which showcased handicraft items made by ladies. There was an entry ticket for the exhibition. The winner of this exhibition was a lady named Amatul Mughni Shameem Sahiba who embroidered a banner of blue velvet with the words of the revelation 'Alaisallah' in silver thread. She was awarded a silver medal. After this, an exhibition was held every year. By 1928, it was thought to solidify this work into a separate Lajna Department, of which the exhibition would be a part.\*

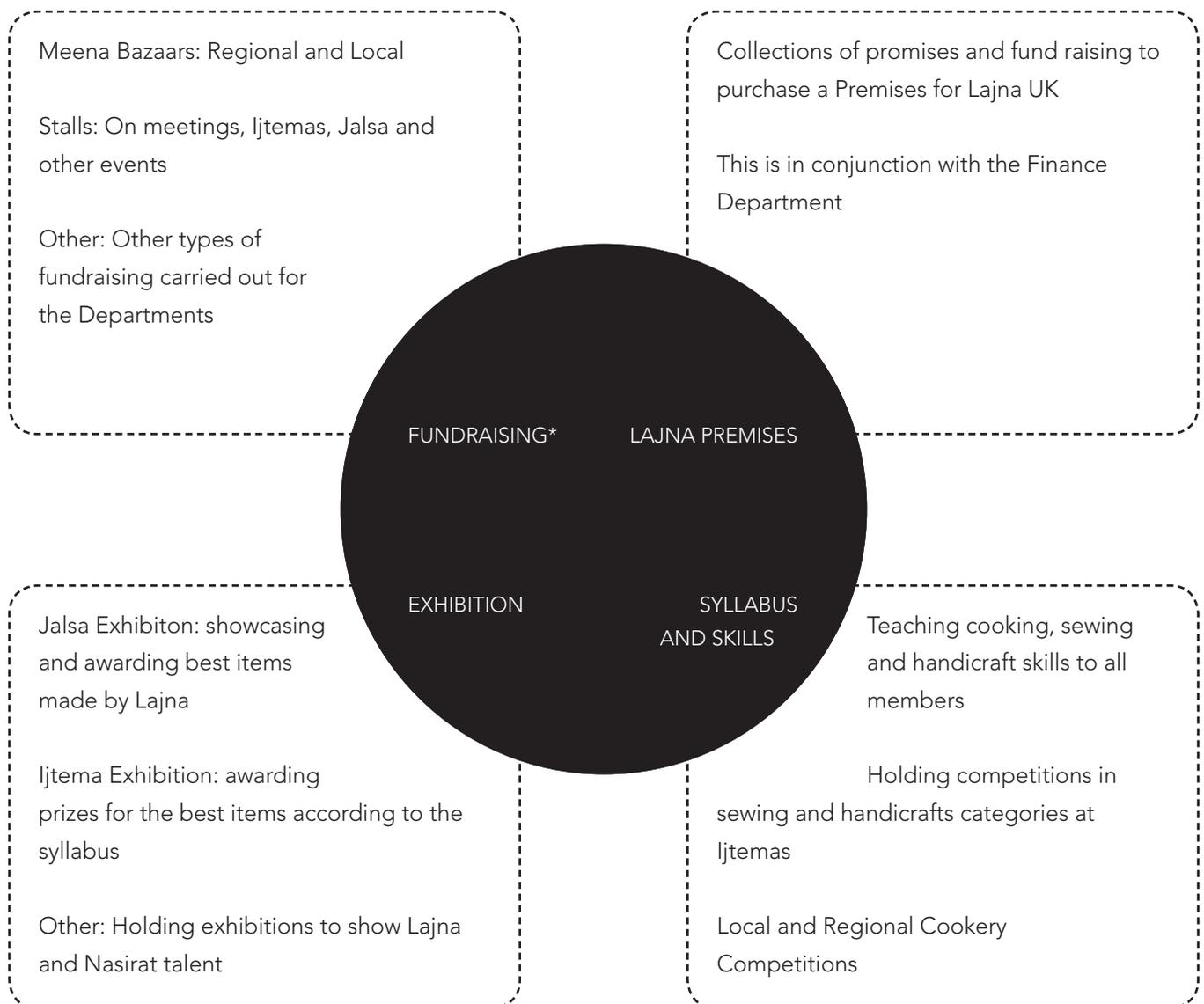
\*Tareekh Lajna Vol 1 Dec 1970 pg 192-194

## HAZRAT AMMA JAAN'S (RA) EXCELLENT EXAMPLE

Hazrat Amma Jaan (RA), the wife of the Promised Messiah was exemplary in her household management. She would often give advice to ladies of the Jamaat on or suggest small improvements they could make in the home on a low budget. Hazrat Amma Jaan did not like to waste things. She would use old scarves and small pieces of cotton to make quilts for the summer, filling for blankets, cushion covers or tray covers. Nothing went to waste in her house\*. In fact this is what we mean by 'upcycling', which she practised regularly many years ago. She taught the ladies to dress well and to live well. In all her actions, she was a model for us on how to conduct ourselves and our household affairs well. We should try to change to follow her example and take note of her valuable advice.

\*Hazrat Amman Jan (RA) an inspiration for us all by Munavara (Nabbo) Ghauri Islam International Publications Limited UK 2011 pg 82-83

# DEPARTMENTAL OUTLINE



\*by 'fundraising' we mean collecting or producing money by setting up of stalls, selling things you have made etc. Not just collecting donations and pledges.

## CLASSES

- Holding classes for the department is a requirement.
- Members should be encouraged to learn new skills.
- Please hold classes separate to your general meetings.
- Those majalis that hold classes and cover the quarterly targets will be given higher grades.
- You do not have to teach only the items in the syllabus below.
- Please refer to the website for ideas on how to make some of the items set out in the syllabus and other recipes too.
- There is repetition in the syllabus to make it easier and cost effective for you to teach your groups at one time.

## QUARTERLY TARGETS

This year we have set out quarterly targets:

### 2014-2015

	1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER	3RD QUARTER	4TH QUARTER*
LAJNA	Hold a local Meena Bazaar	Enterprise Part 1 (More details will follow)	Set a formal table with correct place settings (for Iftar or meal)	Focus on prayer, make items for Jalsa, and delicious Iftar!
NASIRAT	Hold a stall at the local Meena Bazaar	Enterprise Part 1 (More details will follow)	Learn how to fold napkins in three different ways	Focus on prayer, make items for Jalsa, and help in making delicious

\*We realise that this is an extremely busy time for all which is why there is no other specific quarterly target

### 2015-2016

	1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER	3RD QUARTER	4TH QUARTER*
LAJNA	Hold a local Meena Bazaar	Enterprise Part 2 (More details will follow)	Learn how to set a lunch table	Focus on prayer, make items for Jalsa, and delicious Iftar
NASIRAT	Hold a local Meena Bazaar	Enterprise Part 2 (More details will follow)	Learn how to set a tea trolley/tray and serve guests tea or juice	Focus on prayer, make items for Jalsa, and help in making delicious Iftar!

# IJTEMA

The Department has a competition on the National Ijtema for Naisrat and Lajna. All are invited to participate. The best items are awarded. Items will be judged at regional level. The best items will be sent to the centre for the National Ijtema

## SYLLABUS FOR LAJNA 2014-2015

	HANDICRAFTS	SEWING	COOKING
LAJNA 1	Produce a piece of framed art with the words Allah and/or Holy Prophet Muhammad (SA)	Make a hot water bottle cover <i>Compulsory to learn: Straight stitch, blanket stitch</i>	Vegetable Pilau or Chick Pea Pilau Chicken Korma Potato cutlets/kebabs Chocolate Cake
LAJNA 2	Decorate an envelope or gift bag for presents or wedding from scraps of fabric that you have already	Kaftan of your own size with a round neckline and thread work embellishment and anything else you wish <i>Compulsory to learn: Hemming, round neckline, thread work/embroidery</i>	Chappali Kebabs with homemade naan or paratha (fried flatbread) Fish Tikka Stuffed Chilies Lemon Cake
LAJNA 3	Make an item or set of jewellery (can be to wear with your new suit in the sewing section)	Full Kameez and chooridar pyjama <i>Compulsory to learn: Hemming, sewing on sleeves, (many suits nowadays come with sleeves attached to sew on ourselves, so this is a useful thing to learn!)</i>	Shaami Kebabs A loaf of bread of your choice e.g. wheat, rye etc Chicken Manchurian with egg fried rice Coffee and Walnut Cake

## SYLLABUS FOR LAJNA 2015-2016

	HANDICRAFTS	SEWING	COOKING
LAJNA 1	Decorate a glass/set of glasses with paint	Tunic Top Compulsory: Straight stitch using a sewing machine, round or v neck	Lentils and rice Baked Fish with vegetables Rasmalai
LAJNA 2	Decorate a glass vase	A set of 4 Napkins. Embellish with embroidery and anything else you wish Compulsory: Straight stitch, embroidery, folding and sewing neat corners	Sushi Japanese Noodles Palak Paneer Meringue
LAJNA 3	Knit a baby outfit of hat, booties, cardigan and mittens.	Bread baskets or pouches for flatbreads such as rotis Compulsory: know how to apply decorative edging in the form of piping, ribbon and/or bias binding	Samosas with tamarind chutney Hyderabadi Aubergines Stuffed 'Karela' or bitter melon/gourd Fruit tart (any fruit of your choice)

## SYLLABUS: NASIRAT 2014-2015

	COOKING	SEWING	HANDICRAFTS
7-9	Cornflake crispy cakes Hummus Oreo Milkshake Angel Delight Dessert	Pencil Case for at two pens at least with a button <i>Compulsory to learn: Straight stitch, Two hole button</i>	Decorate a pencil with materials to make them fun and interesting
10-12	Banana Smoothie Home made hummus platter with cut peppers, carrot sticks, celery and homemade chips Cheesecake	Hanging door handle decorations with embroidered initial <i>Compulsory to learn: straight stitch, joining two edges together neatly after stuffing item, embroidery</i>	Decorate a t shirt of your own size using fabric paint or pens. or A bunch of ribbon flowers
13-14	Salsa , hummus and guacamole dips with homemade tortilla chips Vegetable Skewer Kebabs Banoffee Pie	Scented pouches for your clothes drawers. You can decorate with ribbon, buttons and/or embroidery <i>Compulsory to learn: straight stitch, embroidery, sewing buttons and decorating with ribbon</i>	Sugar flowers for cake decoration or Decorate a ceramic pot. Plant a seed and look after it!

## SYLLABUS FOR NASIRAT 2015-2016

	COOKING	SEWING	HANDICRAFTS
7-9	Healthy sandwiches Chocolate lollies Lemonade	Bath time scrubby buddies (small bags for soap etc. made from towels). <i>Compulsory: straight stitch, drawstring</i>	Play dough letters. You may wish to do your name or initials or Bookmark paperclips
10-12	Quiche Coconut ice squares Lemonade Recipe for play dough	Mobile phone pouch decorated with sequins and anything else you like <i>Compulsory: sewing on sequins by hand</i>	Play dough flowers Or Bookmarks
13-14	Pitta Pizzas Bread and Butter Pudding Recipe for play dough	Snood. <i>Compulsory: straight stitch using a sewing machine</i>	Play dough paper weights or Decorate stones to make a paperweight.

# GRADING

Majalis are awarded monthly grades from A\*-D

- Grades are based on monthly reports and activities carried out that month
- To achieve the highest grades branches should try to carry out all activities; classes, fundraising, etc and quarterly targets
- If exceptional work has been carried out in one area in one month it can be worth a higher grade as well
- Organising and holding a meena bazaar is demanding work. Therefore it gets a higher grade. We do not expect you to hold a meena bazaar every month
- Your position at the end of the year is based on your grades
- A GUIDELINE is detailed below:

## CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OVER THE YEAR:

- Most money raised by individual branch in the whole year
- Most money raised by region in the whole year
- Most money collected by individual branch for Lajna Premises in the whole year
- Most items made for Jalsa Exhibition by branches
- 1st 2nd and 3rd for the best items at the Jalsa Exhibition
- Syllabus tests position holders in each category
- Sanato Tijarat Award
- Upcycling Award

## MEENA BAZAARS

Meena Bazaars are held on a local, regional and central level. The central team organises one meena bazaar in May in which South regions participate. Other regions hold theirs at places local to them. The meena bazaar is a chance to have fun, showcase your skills and meet other people, all whilst raising funds for the Jamaat. We ask that you participate in your meena bazaars to make them successful.

# STALLS AND FUNDRAISING

Many branches hold stalls at local meetings, events and whenever the opportunity arises. This is a good way to raise funds in your localities. Try to hold stalls of donations, snacks, food etc. where you can. Please keep in mind that money raised by the Department is used for local, regional and central Lajna Use.

## JALSA SALANA UK

1. Bazaar: Food stalls, Drinks, Donation stalls, and private stalls selling many different things including clothes and jewellery
2. Exhibition: In accordance with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V's instructions, we now have an exhibition on Jalsa held in a separate marquee. Huzoor suggested that those ladies who have an interest in, and who have more spare time, should take up work throughout the year. Huzoor suggested that those, for example who can sew etc should make artefacts that can be displayed at exhibitions and sold as well.

Details of the theme and items to be made for the exhibition, as well as information for those wishing to hold a private stall will be given by the local secretaries and/or presidents closer to the time Inshallah.

We also ask for branches to make a particular item in large quantities and donate them to the centre so that we may sell them. Details will come nearer the time Inshallah

## LAJNA PREMISES APPEAL

We are aiming to buy our own premises for Lajna that will Inshallah be able to cater for our growing needs.

Mashallah, Lajna UK are very active and there is a need for premises that can support the work that we do together. We need your help to make this a reality.

First and foremost we ask that you all pray for this cause. Mashallah Lajna and Nasirat are always at the forefront of financial sacrifice and work hard to raise money for many worthy causes all year round. We ask you to put your efforts into this project as well so that we may all benefit and continue the work of Lajna on a larger and better scale than before, Inshallah.

This may seem like a daunting task but we remind you of the sacrifices that Lajna have made so far. Especially we remember those ladies in Qadian who funded the building of Fazl Mosque, London. We are sure that with Allah's help we will be able to succeed.

There are two aspects for the Lajna Premises:

- Collection: Collecting of money that people have promised. It is up to the individual how much they wish to promise, not the secretary or president
- Fundraising: Raising money through other means e.g. stalls for Lajna Premises Appeal

## SANAT O TIJARAT AWARD

Keeping within the objectives of Sanat o Tijarat, the department wishes to award a Lajna member for their efforts. Mashallah many Lajna members run their own businesses be it clothes, jewellery, food etc. This award is to celebrate those women who are actively trying to develop their skills in line with the constitution; making themselves skilful and eradicating their unemployment, whilst maintaining their dignity and Islamic identity. We would like to know who you think should be awarded 'Sanat o Tijarat Woman of the Year'. Please send in

nominations on a separate piece of paper with information on why they should be awarded. You may use the criteria to help you.

Criteria:

- what encouraged them to start their business
- what their business model is
- what is their current turnover, workforce, growth rate, success
- how they overcame both business and personal challenges
- what lessons they have learnt along the way
- what value they see in business for other Lajna in the Jamaat and how it helps with managing a family
- what benefit other people get from the business

## NEW \*WORKSHOPS\*

One of the main purposes of the department is to make ladies skilful. The syllabus sets out different skills to be taught to members. These are by no means the only skills that should be learnt. Nasirat and Lajna are encouraged to learn anything that takes their interest and possibly use these new skills to earn money from which they can pay chanda. Alongside new skills, our members also need the knowledge to run a business. Members are therefore being advised to learn, through workshops, business sense as well. Details will be given to your local secretaries or presidents soon Inshallah.

## NEW \*ENTERPRISE DAY\*

Enterprise Day aims to show latest ideas and inventions from our Nasirat and Lajna for all to see and appreciate. There will be a national day. Details of this will come closer to the time.

## NEW \*ART EXHIBITION\*

There will be an art exhibition that will showcase Lajna artistic talents Inshallah. The aim will be to sell items at the exhibition. Please take care not to draw people. Lajna do not necessarily have to paint, they can use photography, or other crafts for their piece.

## NEW \*UPCYCLING AWARD\*

In the spirit of thriftiness, and not wasting things, we encourage members to upcycle. Upcycling is the process of turning materials that are otherwise waste, i.e. things that you have perhaps used and would usually throw away, and turning them into something useful. We invite members to take photos of their upcycled projects and send them to the Lajna web team who will hopefully upload them onto a gallery for all to see. At the end of the year an award will be presented to the most original and well-made design

