

Profile of Bihar Anjuman [Registered National NGO in India: RAHBAR (www.rahbar.info)]

Striving towards educational and socio-economic empowerment of Muslims

Winner of TCN (TwoCircles.Net) Organization of the Year Award for 2010

Bihar Anjuman (www.biharanjuman.org), a network of individuals and organization, founded on 14-06-2004, evolved from **Anjuman Islamia**, Bihar [which was formally launched, on 11-03-1999 by Muslim NRIs]. The driving motto is to join hands and minds that can freely pool talents and resources and act in a way which suits each one of them (work as individuals, groups, chapters, etc.) to maximize benefits to the society in general and to Muslims from Bihar and Jharkhand in particular.

MAIN OBJECTIVES (For details, visit <http://objectives.biharanjuman.org>):

- To establish close contacts with other organizations and extend full support in promoting welfare activities inside & outside Bihar for people affected during calamities.
- To help, assist and aid in the establishment of institutions, for promoting professional, vocational and technical education in Bihar.
- To form an employment cell for providing guidance to jobseekers.
- To grant aid & assistance to financially challenged Muslims, widows and disabled persons.
- To set up information-cum-guidance center and maintain a data-bank of Educational Institutions.
- To propagate Islamic values and participate actively in the reforms leading to betterment of the Islamic society; to organize religious, literary, social and cultural get-togethers.

Some examples of what one chapter of Anjuman has done:

(a) **Annual Contributions to Imarat Sharia, by one chapter of Bihar Anjuman:** Following is the list of contributions sent to Imarat Sharia, Bihar, Jharkand and Orissa for the two purposes enlisted in the Anjuman Charter, i.e., (a) marriage of girls, and (b) higher technical education of persons belonging to the economically weaker sections of our society.

Year 2000: Rs. 22,000/=; **Year 2001:** Rs. 25,000/=; **Year 2002:** Rs. 15,000/=; **Year 2003:** Rs. 15,000/=; **2004:** Rs. 2 lakhs (as contribution for flood-affected areas, detailed below); **Year 2005:** Rs. 50,000; **Year 2006:** Rs. 50,000; **Year 2007:** Rs. 50,000 annual contribution + Rs. 1,70,000 as contribution for flood-affected areas; **Year 2008:** Rs. 75,000 annual + more than Rs. 30 lakhs as contribution for flood-affected areas; **Year 2009, 2010, 2011:** Rs. 50,000 per year.

(b) **Gujrat Earthquake:** Anjuman representatives participated actively in the Charity dinner arranged for the purpose, with Dr. Zakir Naik being the main speaker, and were able to raise more than Dhs.150,000/=, in association with other state organizations, in Dubai.

(c) **Floods in North Bihar:** When the whole of North Bihar was struck by devastating floods in 2008, we could not have been a silent witness to the calamity. We pooled up **about forty (40) lakhs** Rupees to (a) help relief efforts by Imarat Shariah and (b) to manage our own camps under RAHBAR [for 20 days with arrangement for Iftar and Sehree (Suhoor) – lunch & dinner were not permitted by local administration]. Similar campaigns were undertaken whenever natural calamities struck the region.

(d) **Earthquake in Kashmir:** As usual, this year too, Bihar Anjuman collected, and supplied, 200 blankets through the Pakistani embassy. We also collected more than Rs. 200,000 (Rs. two lakhs) for sending to both sides (India as well as Pakistan) through Al Khidma for Pakistan, and through Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind for Indian part of Kashmir.

Forum (Yahoo! Group) of Bihar Anjuman: Largest group from Bihar or Jharkhand with 10,600 members, Alhamdulillah (@mid Aug, 2011), it serves as a networking tool, an integrator for chapters, and a forum for free discussions (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/biharanjuman>) open to all Muslims from Bihar and Jharkhand.

Coaching to stop drop-outs of school students [Mission: 62 Centres in 62 districts]: The mission is to increase the number of Muslim graduates (currently 4%, as per govt statistics), who could subsequently raise the employment levels for Muslims [<http://coaching.biharanjuman.org/>]. We provide part-time coaching to grade 8th, 9th, and 10th students of government schools (Poor + non-meritorious, because of

no proper tuition facilities – the left-overs of our society); 20 centres are approved, while 19 centres are functional [Patna, Samastipur, Darbhanga since 2009, Aurangabad, Chakradharpur (Jharkhand), Gopalganj, and Muzaffarpur, **Jamshedpur, Arwal, Saran (Chapra) centre at Olhanpur 2010**. Centres in Kishanganj, Gopalganj's 2nd centre, Hajipur, Ramgarh (Jharkhand), Sitamarhi, Motihari, Bhagalpur, Dhanbad, and Hazaribagh, got added in 2011, Kawakol (Nawadah) will start in April 2012, insha-Allah, thus taking the number of centres to 20. We plan to extend the coaching to cover grades 5th, 6th & 7th, in the 2nd phase. The last (3rd) phase would include coaching the 11th and 12th students.

RAHBAR-e-Banat Scool-cum-Madrassa: Comprehensive Holistic Education [Islamic + Contemporary] & Training to every female of Bihar and Jharkhand, with one girl's **madarsa-cum-school** in each district of the 2 states [<http://school.biharanjuman.org/>] -111 girls are taking primary classes, hostel building construction (G+2, 24 rooms) has reached roof level of 3rd floor (finishing work in progress).

Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) [Mission: 62 ITIs in 62 districts]: After successful implementation of coaching projects, same model of collaboration with a local Infrastructure provider has been formulated to establish one government approved ITI in each district of Bihar & Jharkhand. NOC for First ITI was received in Feb 2011. It is likely to get final approval by Dec 2011, insha-Allah. Details @ <http://iti.biharanjuman.org/>

Sponsor-a-Teacher Project: Sponsoring one teacher is like sponsoring more than 100 students. Anjuman selected 7 quality teachers through a rigorous process. They joined two selected institutions, with effect from Aug 2007. Full details: www.biharanjuman.org >> **Projects**. Starting 01-10-2009, two more teachers have been placed in Madarsa RAHBAR-e-Banat (details are above).

RAHBAR Job Information Centre launched in Patna, on 8th August, 2007 @ ITI of Imarat Shariah, Patna, as NRI-cum-placement cell for Imarat-e-Sharia to be managed by BA, serves as a connecting point between the employers in India & abroad, the pass-outs from Imarat's ITIs and the unemployed youth of Bihar. Many successful walk-in interviews have been arranged already.

Some Projects sponsored: (1) **BANEE Career Centre (BCC)**, Delhi (2) **BASIL** - Bihar Anjuman's Sources of Infinite Learning, an Islamic library, (3) **Women's Polytechnics** in a slum area (Kurji) and Samanpura of Patna, managed by **BAJEE** [www.bajee.org - Bihar Anjuman's Jewels for Educational & Economic Empowerment - the women's wing of Bihar Anjuman], and Bherokhra village of Samastipur district, (4) **Coaching and Career Guidance Centre** in Aligarh, managed by RAHBAR-Aligarh. It has successfully managed batches in 2007 and 2008; (5) **Eye Camps Project led by Dr. Moiz Shams** of Makkah Mokarramah, in Sabalpur, Patna, Gaya ...and growing. (6) **BANEE Scholarship** scheme currently has **90 beneficiaries**, (7) **SABA** (www.sabaonline.org: **Shadi Assistance by Bihar Anjuman**) facilitates match-making and provides guidance on Islamic marriage. Extending the mission, 60 marriages in 2011 and 40 in 2010 were accomplished in 2010, through **group marriage project**, (8) **Islamic teachings to all** (<http://quran.biharanjuman.org/>): has numerous free online books, presentations, audios and videos in Urdu and English.

Local chapters: Many chapters already exist all over the world. Yours could be next. Write to chapter@biharanjuman.org to check if there is one in your city, and to demand one where you are.

Vacancies Circulation: Worldwide vacancies are circulated regularly by members, in the **Yahoo!Group** (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/biharanjuman>), thus benefiting hundreds of job-aspirants every month. It has numerous useful files to help in job hunting, and aptitude and technical tests, etc.

BaKhabar (<http://bakhbar.biharanjuman.org/>): BaKhabar or Bihar Anjuman's (BA) Khabar lets us remain bakhbar (alert and updated) on current issues affecting the Muslims of the world and provides an excellent platform for members to hone their writing skills and inspire the community into action.

Why we must rush to do our bit? Whatever has been done, is just a beginning, and there is a lot to do within the limited time that has been allotted to us by Allah. Who can guarantee that he or she would live tomorrow? Therefore, we have to try our best to do whatever we can, **today**. We just can't postpone things for the morrow. In Bihar Anjuman, you have a fair chance to things you like doing. Lend your HAND, and turn your dream into reality!

Better Light a Candle than Curse the Darkness

