

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

FAQ's of Islahi Committee

What is the purpose of Islahi Committee? Don't we have an Amila?

The Amila's scope of work is broad and typically focused on the present. Islahi committee's job is to sniff through Tarbiyat related problems before they become issues. In the words of Khalifa 4th (rah):

"The Reformative Committee should comprise of people who possess deep insight (those who truly know what's going on in the Jamaat at a grass-roots level.). They should be able to sense evil and realize where its stench is coming from, and, even if an evil is invisible, their sharp senses should warn them that danger is lurking and they should remove it before it actually becomes a disease"

Islahi committee's job is to address local issues and bring the solutions to local Amila for implementation.

Who are the members of the Islahi Committee?

According to the rules and regulations of Tehrik-e-Jadid rule #343:

This committee shall consist of the following six members at local level:

1. Secretary Tarbiyyat (Chairman)
2. Zaeem Ansarullah
3. Zaeem Khudamul Ahmadiyya (Qaid MKA)
4. Sadr Lajna
5. Local Missionary
6. A member appointed at the discretion of local Sadr

The 6th member doesn't have to be an Amila member. If there is any member of the community who fits the qualities mentioned above by Khalifa 4th (rah) (a wise person who knows and understands the people and the issues of the Jamaat), they can be made a part of this committee.

It sounds like Amoor-e-Aama and the Islahi Committee are the same thing. What's the difference between the two?

A good rule of thumb: Amoor-e-Aama looks into the "past" and deals with individual cases; Islahi Committee looks into the "future" and addresses problematic trends. For example, if two members have an altercation in the parking lot and one punches the other, Amoor-e-Aama may get involved with that case. Islahi committee instead should think if this behavior needs to be addressed before it becomes prevalent.

What are the responsibilities of the Islahi Committee?

It varies from Jamaat to Jamaat. You could consider the following opportunities on your Islahi committee:

1. Are we meeting regularly or any issues you are facing in holding a meeting/
2. Are we holding auxiliary meetings on the same day/time?
3. Do we follow local Jamaat calendar of events?

4. How can we improve congregational prayer in our jamaat?
5. Are we addressing the issues of our youth (drugs dating etc)
6. Does racism exist amongst us at all?
7. Are we addressing the issues related to marriages and match making?

It sounds like the Islahi Committee is “policing” over the Jamaat. Why is that?

In the words of Khalifa 4th (rah):

“Therefore, they (Islahi Committee) should be able to remove these ills before they become contagious diseases. If, instead, you wait for any mischief, (or) intimidation (bullying) occur before the Reformative Committee becomes active, then this is not a Reformative Committee in practice, but instead becomes a police committee”.

The purpose is to guide people with love compassion and most importantly, wisdom. If at any point it’s felt that the Islahi Committee is hovering over people’s shoulders waiting for them to make a mistake and address it, then the committee needs to readdress their approach to people.

Can we have the Auxillary Tarbiyyat Secretaries (of Ansar, Lajna, Khudaam) be a part of the Islahi Committee?

The chairman can allow any “wise person” to be a member. However, it is discouraged to add people based on their titles or increasing the membership of the committee drastically.

Once the committee comes up with a task, what’s the next step?

In the words of Khalifa 4th (rah):

“The task of the Reformative Committee is to sense and inform the Jamaat, to present these issues during Aamilah meetings, and then the Majlis Aamilah, in its collective capacity, not relying on just one office-holder but sometimes two or three office-holders, will need to be tasked to address this matter. Sometimes, the Tarbiyyat Secretary will be involved and in some cases the Finance Secretary will be needed.”

Can Lajna have their own Islahi Committee?

The Islahi Committee is supposed to address the issues of ALL members of the Jamaat. The members who are to be part of the Local Islahi Committee have been mentioned above under the question “Who are the members of the Islahi Committee?”. However, regarding this, Hazoor (aya) has stated:

“Lajna are allowed to create their own Reformative Committee, whose members should include National Sadr Lajna, Local Sadr, Naib Sadr, Tarbiyyat Secretary, and a Senior lajna member. But this committee can only deal with those cases pertaining to Lajna matters only. In certain matters, boys are also involved and so all these affairs should go to the Central Reformative Committee.”