

Ansarullah Picnic

The Majlis Ansarullah Austin had a successful hiking trip picnic on Sunday 16th Dec at Inks Lake Park. It is approximately 1 hour from the Baitul Muqet Mosque. It was chosen for its closeness to Austin and being scenic and presence of decent hiking trail. In addition, the park sported:

Swimming
Boating/water skiing
Paddle boats, canoes and kayaks
Camping
Fishing
Grilling/picnicking
Scuba diving

Akmal bhai and Saad bhai prepared the food in advance. The menu included:

Sindhi Biryani
Chicken Bar B Q
Fish Fry
Salad and
Trifle

Some members car-pooled from the Mosque while others drove directly to the park. The first Van left the Mosque around 9:15 AM while the final one at about 9:45 AM. So almost everyone arrived by 11 AM. And we were off to hiking...As we had some Atfal with us, the trail chosen was of medium difficulty. However, Atfal surprised us by taking the lead and taking some detours through the rocks and water stream. Soon Ansar were being led by Atfal...adventure imitating life!

We hiked for an hour and a half stopping to soak in the scenery, take pictures or snack while waiting on others. There was a small waterfall. The trail continued but we chose to head back from the waterfall in keeping with the time. Once back, it was about 1 PM and we were all ready for some chow. Luckily, food was ready in no time at all. And soon everyone was busy enjoying the Sindhi biryani, fish and Bar B Q'ed chicken. No Ansar event is complete without *doodh patti* tea which was ready soon thereafter. The desert was also well deserved after the hike.

Saffe Awwal Ansar reminded us about Zuhr prayers. There was a water connection conveniently located in our picnic pavilion affording us *Wudu* options. Ahmad bhai made the call for prayer and we proceeded with Zuhr and Asr prayers.

Now it was time for some boating fun. Arshad bhai had brought his canoe. While some of us rented paddleboats: 4 to a boat. Atfal were really excited and used (or shall we say abused!) boats like bumper cars while Ansar sat back and enjoyed the rides. Boating is probably what the Atfal will remember this trip by for a long time.

By the time we returned the boats, it was about 3 PM, which brought our trip to a close. We quickly cleaned the rented pavilion restoring everything to as we found it, picking up trash and putting the food and supplies back in our vehicles.

By the Grace of God, the trip turned out to be a lot of fun. It afforded Ansar and families to relax and enjoy life outside our weekly routines.

Some pictures of the trip are included below:





















