



NEWSLETTER 1

Quito, 23-August-2019

THE PURPOSE OF THE NEWSLETTER:

The Sufis of Quito have resolved to periodically provide an information bulletin to keep you up to date with the project to construct the first Sufi Movement center in Latin America, and with the steps we are taking toward this longed-for goal. Events have put us to work sometimes as architects, other times as lawyers, as masons, as laborers and so on, and we feel that this is an opportunity to grow and affirm the Message in our hearts. Therefore, by way of a few words we would like to make you part of this experience, and to tell you how in Nur Lomas Alto little by little we begin to see some fruits appearing.

HEARTFELT THANKS:

We must express our profound gratitude because all this work is being realized thanks to the financial support generously given by our brothers and sisters who attended the Pan-Latino Retreat in Medellin in June, and by the sisters and brothers at the Summer School in Holland where Inam's presentation of the project was lovingly received by the Sufi community. This means that Nur Lomas Alto is not a regional project but one that belongs to the Sufis of the whole world.

A CHALLENGE THAT PUTS US TO THE TEST:

Taking decisions about what we want to build on the land has been complicated, and for now we are considering several alternatives. There has been a rain of proposals—four from expert professionals and others from passionate and willing members of the family. From this shower of ideas, doubts and differences about size, the form of the temple, materials, service areas, the implementation on the ground, and so on, have multiplied, and at times we have difficulty reconciling criteria and choosing the most appropriate proposal. Nevertheless, 'rising above distinctions and differences,' we go forward, and it seems that white smoke will soon appear. We hope that with the visit of Nawab planned for November, the situation will be clarified and the energies will be directed. Our longing is that, in the next Pan-Latino retreat, the brothers and sisters who attend will have a lot of work, and that with our hands and hearts we will raise what will be the home of all.

PROGRESS:

Some 97% of the trees we have planted have survived, in spite of the harsh, dry summer, thanks to the constancy of our family, who take water up every week to water them. The old avocado tree that we inherited and which we thought was dead, has become green again and every day is more leafy, responding to the love that arose from the first moment when we chose it and sheltered under its shade—and then when we erected at its feet the altar from which our Murshid blessed the land.



We have formed the Nur Foundation, and we have a lawyer to whom we have given the Principles and Purposes of the Foundation so that he can take care of the legalization.

The children of Sorialoma Commune, where our property is located, received a ceramics course taught by Talibah and a group of Sufi helpers. During four weekends they learned different techniques and ways of working with clay.



We have got the Municipality of Quito to promise to deliver playground equipment and a sculpture for the public spaces of the Commune.

The Commune Directive recognized the property and authorized us to construct a fence that defines the property and keeps cattle from coming and destroying the trees.

One of our brothers was named by the Commune Assembly as Administrator of the project to repair the damaged pipes that carry water from a spring. In the same meeting it was approved that in September work will begin on the last section of road that gives access to our property.



"Use us for the purpose that Thy wisdom chooseth and guide us on the path of Thine own goodness"



If you would like to donate to the Nur Lomas Alto Project, please contact Mujira Ana Puyol <anapuyol@hotmail.com>

For more information on the project, or to receive periodic updates on our progress, please contact Jelal Francisco Proaño <jelal@hotmail.com>.