

## Hafiz Naeemur Rehman elected as Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami

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In a significant development within the political landscape of Pakistan, Hafiz Naeemur Rehman has been elected as the Amir (chief) of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), one of the country's prominent religious and political parties. The announcement of his election as the new party chief was made following a decision by the majority of the members of Jamaat-e-Islami on Thursday. Hailing from Karachi, Hafiz Naeem is a civil engineering by profession. He also categorises himself as an environmentalist on his social media profiles. The selection process for the party chief within Jamaat-e-Islami is a significant affair, occurring every five years. This time, the party's central consultative body, known as the Markazi Shura, proposed three names to lead the JI members. Among these names were prominent figures such as Sirajul Haq and Liaquat Baloch, alongside the ultimately successful candidate, Hafiz Naeemur Rehman. The outgoing chief, Sirajul Haq, held

the position of Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami since 2014, marking a decade-long tenure. Before him, a lineage of influential leaders including Syed Munawar Hassan, Qazi Hussain Ahmed, Mian Tufail Muhammad, and Maulana Syed Abul Ala Maududi have all held this prestigious responsibility. It's essential to note the historical significance of Jamaat-e-Islami within the political fabric of Pakistan. Founded in 1941 by Maulana Syed Abul Ala Maududi, the party has played a pivotal role in shaping the ideological and political discourse of the country over the decades. Born into a middle-class family in Hyderabad, Sindh in 1972, Hafiz Naeemur Rehman emerged as a stalwart figure in Pakistani politics, particularly within the ranks of Jamaat-e-Islami Karachi. His journey from a humble beginning to the helm of leadership exemplifies determination, resilience, and a relentless pursuit of social justice. Naeemur Rehman's roots trace back to Aligarh, with his parents instilling in him values of integrity, compassion, and service to the community. Growing up in a family of four brothers and three sisters, he imbibed the importance of familial bonds and shared responsibilities. Currently residing in a rented house in Block A, North Nazimabad, Karachi, Naeemur Rehman, alongside his wife Shamaila Naeem, a dedicated doctor and active member of Jamaat-e-Islami, balances familial duties with his profound commitment to public service. Education laid the foundation for Naeemur Rehman's journey towards leadership. Memorising the Holy Quran at Jamia Masjid Darul Uloom, Latifabad, Unit 10, marked the early stages of his

spiritual and intellectual growth. His academic pursuits led him to Noorul Islam Primary School, Hyderabad, and later to Allama Iqbal High School for matriculation. Transitioning to Karachi, he pursued his intermediate education at Pakistan Ship Owners College. Hafiz Naeem's academic prowess continued as he earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the prestigious NED University, complemented by a Master's in Islamic History from Karachi University. These diverse educational experiences equipped him with a holistic understanding of societal dynamics and historical contexts, shaping his worldview and guiding his leadership principles.