



An informational, literary, educational, and training magazine of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA

February 2015

The Ahmadiyya GAZETTE

USA

First mosque opens in RMI

History was made in Majuro Friday with the official opening of the mosque for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Located in Uliga, directly across the street from the courthouse, the new mosque was blessed and then people enjoyed food as part of the celebration.

The opening included reading from the Holy Quran and translations into Marshallese.

Falah Shams, the National President, spoke and also led the group in prayer, and recently arrived Imam Matiullah Joyia read from the Quran.

The recitation of the Quran and Shams' speech were translated to Marshallese by Billa Typhoon and Samia Nena, respectively.

Both emphasized the message that the Ahmadiyya, from its founding in 1889, has explicitly rejected "jihad by the sword." Instead, said Shams, the Ahmadiyya have promoted an "intellectual jihad of the pen to defend Islam."

"Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is the leading Islamic organization to categorically reject terrorism in any form," Shams said.

Rongelap Mayor James Matayoshi also spoke, recognizing the religious group as one that "rejects violence."

He offered a "warm welcome" and thanked both the Ahmadiyya and its sister organization Humanity First that has worked with both Rongelap and Enewetak local governments to establish computer centers and operate computer training for local residents.



Imam Matiullah Joyia (above) right reads from the Quran, while VIPs and community members listen at the Uliga mosque.

Ahmaddiya Muslims reject Middle East terrorism



Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA strongly condemns the senseless acts of violence against the US diplomatic offices in Egypt and Libya as well as the murder of the US Ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, and other US diplomats.

A statement issued Tuesday to the Journal by Majuro Imam Matiullah Joyia (pictured left), said the killing

of any innocent person is completely wrong, and no religious or moral teachings anywhere in the world can sanction the killing of an ambassador or other representative of a State.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA fully supports the ongoing US diplomatic efforts around the world and call on all people of conscience to wholly condemn such bar-

baric and unjustifiable attacks against those working towards peace.

"On the basis of Islamic teachings, Ahmadi Muslims have always been against all forms of terrorism and extremism," said Amjad Mahmood Khan, National Director of Public Affairs for Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA.

"We stand in solidarity with the US State Department in their efforts to establish just and peaceful relations between nations."



ELM upgrades Hyundai service

ELM Motors mechanic Reynaldo Cadelena (pictured above) returns to Majuro this week after completing a mechanic training program at Hyundai Motors in Malaysia.

"We are the approved distributor for Hyundai in the Marshall Islands so we want our mechanics upgraded with knowledge and experience for the latest models," said ELM Manager Henry Lin, who added new Hyundai models are arriving on island soon.

Cadelena also attended a Mitsubishi vehicle training course in Taiwan in 2010.

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MAJURO ATOLL

WASTE COMPANY

Terbal in aljek enaj jino ilo 8:30

MONDE Rairek RIRE Jenrok nan

Uluga WOTE Rita WOTE Small

Is. nan Capital Building eo

BOLAIDE Payless nan bridge eo

WADEDE Aolepen Majuro, ijo vot ke

menoknok in keinnikkan.

Another proof of the truth of Promised Messiah^{as}

and fulfillment of the Divine promise, "I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the earth"

National Calendar of Activities

March 4 Wed	Muhammad (PBUH), Messenger of Peace	Jamā'at	National
March 7-8 Sat-Sun	MKA Walk-a-Thon	Khuddām	National
March 14 Sat	National Āmila Meeting	Jamā'at	National
March 19 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
March 22 Sun	Masīh Mau'ūd Day	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
Mar 27-29 Fri-Sun	Lajna Mentoring Conference	Lajna	National
March 27-29 Fri-Sun	Spiritual Fitness Camps	Jamā'at	National
April 3-5 Fri-Sun	Spiritual Fitness Camps	Jamā'at	National
April 3-5 Fri-Sun	Tenth Waqf-e-Nau Boys' Visit to Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya		
April 10-12 Fri-Sun	East Coast Qur'an Conference	Jamā'at	East Coast
April 16 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
April 19-20 Sun-Mon	Masroor International Sports Tournament	Khuddām	National
April 24 -26 Fri-Sun	National Majlis Shūrā	Jamā'at	National
May 1 Fri	All Scholarship Applications Due	Jamā'at	National
May 1-3 Fri-Sun	Muslim Youth Day on Capitol Hill/MKA Shūrā	Khuddām	National
May 8-15 Fri-Fri	Aṭfāl Tarbiyat Week	Aṭfāl	National
May 21 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
May 22-24 Fri-Sun	Annual Retreat of AMMA	Jamā'at	National
May 24 Sun	Khilāfat Day	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
May 31 Sun	Service to Humanity Awareness Day	Jamā'at	National
June 5-7 Fri-Sun	Jalsa Sālāna Germany		
June 5-7 Fri-Sun	Regional Aṭfāl Rally (Various Jamā'ats)	Aṭfāl	National
June 12-14 Fri-Sun	MKA National Ijtimā	Khuddām	National
Jun 13 Sat	National Āmila Meeting	Jamā'at	National
June 13-14 Sat-Sun	Spiritual Fitness Camps	Jamā'at	National
June 18 Thu to July 17 Fri	Ramaḍān		
June 20-21 Sat-Sun	Education Day Programs	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
July 4 Sat	Muslims for Loyalty	Jamā'at	National
July 18 Sat	Īd-ul-Fiṭr		
August 1-13 Sat-Thu	Waqf-e-Nau Jāmi'a Orientation Course	Jamā'at	National
August 8-9 Sat-Sun	Education Day Programs	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
August 14-16 Fri -Sun	Jalsa Sālāna USA		
August 20 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
August 21-23 Fri- Sun	Jalsa Sālāna UK		
August 21-23 Fri-Sun	Spiritual Fitness Camps	Jamā'at	National
August 28-30 Fri-Sun	Jalsa Sālāna Canada		
September 5-6 Sat-Sun	For My Country & Nation	Aṭfāl	National
September 11-13 Fri-Sun	East Coast Lajna Ijtimā	Lajna	National
September 13 Sun	Regional Tarbiyat Workshops	Jamā'at	National
September 17 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
September 18-20 Fri-Sun	Anṣārullāh Ijtimā and Shūrā	Anṣār	National
September 19 Sat	National Āmila Meeting	Jamā'at	National
September 24 Thurs	Īd-ul-Aḍḥā		
October 3-4 Sat-Sun	T20 Cricket Tournament	Khuddām	National
October 15 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
October 18 Sun	Religious Founders Day	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
October 18 Sun	Peace through the Messiah (Two Months Campaign)		
October 23-25 Fri-Sun	National Lajna Shūrā	Lajna	National
October 30 to 1 Nov Fri- Sun	Fourth Annual Tabligh Conference	Jamā'at	National
November 19 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
November 22 Sun	Sirat-un-Nabī Day	Jamā'at	Regional/Local
November 26 Thu	Humanity First Live Streaming Telethon	Jamā'at	National
December 4 Fri	National Āmila Meeting	Jamā'at	National
December 5-6 Sat-Sun	Presidents Refresher Course	Jamā'at	National
December 17 Thursday	Voluntary Fast	Jamā'at	National
December 25-27 Fri-Sun	West Coast Jalsa Sālāna		
December 26-27 Sat-Sun	Midwest Tarbiyati Ijtimā	Jamā'at	Midwest
December 31 Thu	Aṭfāl Sleepover	Aṭfāl	Regional/Local

An educational and spiritual publication

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Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

sa:	Ṣallāllāhu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)
as:	'Alaihis-Salām (may peace be upon him)
ra:	Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu/'Anha (may Allah be pleased with him/her)
rh:	Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā (may Allah shower His mercy on him)
aba:	Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil-'Azīz (may Allah support him with His mighty help)

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Lessons from the Holy Qur'an Blessings of Allah are Endless

وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ
النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ^ع وَحَسُنَ أُولَئِكَ رَفِيقًا^ط

“And whoso obeys Allāh and this Messenger of His shall be among those on whom Allāh has bestowed His blessings, namely, the Prophets, the Truthful, the Martyrs, and the Righteous. And excellent companions are these.”

(Holy Qur'an, Chapter 4[Al-Nisā]:70)

يَبْنَئِ أَدَمَ إِمَّا يَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ رُسُلٌ مِّنكُمْ يَقُصُّونَ عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِي^ل فَمَنْ
اتَّقَىٰ وَأَصْلَحَ فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ^و

“O children of Adam! if Messengers come to you from among yourselves, rehearsing My Signs unto you, then whoso shall fear God and do good deeds, on them shall come no fear nor shall they grieve.”

(Holy Qur'an, Chapter 7[Al-A'rāf]:36)

هُوَ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِي الْأُمِّيِّينَ رَسُولًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ
وَ يُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ^ف
وَ إِنْ كَانُوا مِنْ قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ^و
وَ آخَرِينَ مِنْهُمْ لَمَّا يَلْحَقُوا بِهِمْ^ط وَ هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ^و

“He it is Who has raised among the Unlettered people a Messenger from among themselves who recites unto them His Signs, and purifies them, and teaches them the Book and wisdom, although they had been, before, in manifest misguidance; And among others from among them who have not yet joined them. He is the Mighty, the Wise.”

(Holy Qur'an, Chapter 62[Al-Jumu'ah]:3-4)

Continuation of Prophethood in Islam

Prophecies of the Holy Prophet Muhammad

May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

أَبُو بَكْرٍ أَفْضَلُ هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ نَبِيٌّ

“Abū Bakr is the best from among this community of Muslims
except if a prophet is born.”

(Kunūzul-Ḥaqā'iq)

أَبُو بَكْرٍ خَيْرُ النَّاسِ إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ نَبِيٌّ

“Abū Bakr is the best from among all people except if a prophet is born.”

(Al Jāmi‘uṣ-Ṣaghīr by ‘Allama Suyūṭī)

When his son, Ibrāhīm, passed away, the Holy Prophet,
may peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, said

لَوْ عَاشَ لَكَانَ صِدِّيقًا نَبِيًّا

“Had Ibrāhīm lived, he would have certainly been a true prophet.”

(Ibn Mājah, Kitābul-Janā'iz)

The Holy Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, said,

يُوشِكُ مَنْ عَاشَ مِنْكُمْ أَنْ يَلْتَقِيَ عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ إِمَامًا مَهْدِيًّا حَكَمًا عَدْلًا

Anyone who will be alive from among you,
will meet Isā, son of Mary,
who is the Imām Mahdī, a Judge and a Justice.

(Musnad Aḥmad bin Ḥanbal)

Truth Shall Prevail

At the Hands of the Promised Messiah^{as}

By the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him

*“Can he, then, who stands upon a clear proof from his Lord, and to testify to whose truth **a witness from Him shall follow him**, and who was preceded by the Book of Moses, a guide and a mercy, be an impostor? Those who are the true followers of Moses believe therein, and whoever of the opposing parties disbelieves in it, the Fire shall be his promised place. So be not thou, O reader, in doubt about it. Surely, it is the truth from thy Lord; but most men believe not.”*

Holy Qur’ān 11:18

“As you observe the fruit to appear in season, so also the Light descends at its appointed time; none can cause it to descend before; it comes of its own accord, nor can one obstruct its passage when it begins to descend. There will be disputes and controversies, but at the end Truth must prevail. It is so because this is not the work of man nor is it within the power of the children of Adam. It is the work of Almighty God Who rotates the seasons, changes times, and brings forth the day from the night and the night from the day. Though He creates darkness as well, it is the light which He really desires. He also permits idolatry to spread, yet it is Unity which He loves to see prosper. He does not will that His majesty be shared by others. Ever since man came to be born, until the time that he ceases to be, it is the unchanging law that God will remain on the side of Unity (belief in the Oneness of God).”

(Masīḥ Hindustān Meñ: Rūhānī Khazā’in, Vol. 15, p. 65)

“I declare with full confidence and steadfastness that I am in the right and that with the Grace of Allah, I will emerge victorious in this struggle. As far as I can observe with my far reaching sight, I see the entire world ultimately covered by the advancing step of my truth. The time is near at hand before I shall gain a resounding victory. It is so because another voice speaks in support of what I speak and there is another Hand which operates to strengthen my hand. This is not perceived by the world but I see it. In me vibrates the voice of a heavenly spirit which instills each word I speak with life. There is commotion and upsurge in heaven which has fashioned out of a handful of dust, a puppet figure whose movements are manipulated from on high. All those upon whom the door of repentance is not yet closed will soon see that I am not of my own accord. Can they be seeing with eyes which fail to recognize a man of truth? Can he be deemed alive who has no awareness of this Heavenly call.”

(Izālah Auhām: Rūhānī Khazā’in n, Vol. 3, p. 403)

Weekly Guidance from Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V

May Allah be his Helper

Summaries of Friday Sermons received from
Ch. Hameedullah, Wakīl A'lā, Taḥrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya, Pakistan

Friday December 26, 2014

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said:

If we strive to benefit from the spiritual atmosphere of the Jalsa and create in ourselves a revolutionary change and offer prayers, we will become heirs to the prayers of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said:

These Jalsas are not like any other ordinary gatherings; rather they are based purely on Divine help and the propagation of the Voice of the True Faith.

During the Jalsa days, we need to assess our moral condition and raise our standards of fulfilling the rights of Allāh and men.

On December 26th, 2014, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke of the Jalsa Sālāna being held in Qādiān and in certain other countries of the world, shed light on the history of the Jalsa Sālāna, and spoke of the restrictions imposed by the government of Pakistan on holding the event in Pakistan, and said: The month of December every year creates an extraordinary emotion in the hearts of the Ahmadīs living in Pakistan, for they used to hold their Jalsa Sālāna in this month. I pray that may God enable them to express their grief and sadness before God in such a manner that their supplications absorb the grace of the Almighty God and thus wipe away with them all kinds of oppositions, difficulties and problems. May the Ahmadīs of Pakistan also are able to benefit from the blessings being enjoyed by the Ahmadīs living in other parts of the world. Āmīn

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The opponents of the Jamā'at tried to hinder the progress of the Jamā'at by imposing restrictions on holding the Jalsa Sālāna in Pakistan. However, the Jamā'at, wherever it is established in the world, now holds the event in their respective countries. In fact, the institution of Jalsa Sālāna established by the Promised Messiah عليه السلام has today become an international event being held throughout the world.

God had decreed that the world would come to know about the True Faith through Ahmadiyyat. That is why the Promised Messiah عليه السلام said: Do not consider this Jalsa to be like some ordinary kind of gatherings, for unlike them it has been based purely on Divine help and the propagation of the Voice of the True Faith. God

Himself has laid down the foundations of this blessed institution and has prepared nations who will soon join in it.

Again the Promised Messiah عليه السلام said: If the dispensation I have established is for the sake of my own advantage, it will soon be destroyed with no trace left of it. However, if it is from God, it will grow and flourish and the angels will protect it even if the whole world were to oppose it.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We ought to remember that we too have certain obligations to meet in this regard, and that the dispensation [established by the Promised Messiah عليه السلام] is not an ordinary one. Nor are these gatherings [Jalsa Sālānas] like any other ordinary gatherings, nor is it a matter of little import to be an Ahmadī. Every Ahmadī needs to realise that if he wants to partake of Divine help and blessings, he is obliged to create in himself that revolutionary change which the Promised Messiah عليه السلام wished to see. In order to be an heir to the prayers of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام, it would not be enough to merely attend the Jalsa, rather it is important to make the spiritual blessings of the Jalsa an everlasting part of one's life. If we strive to benefit from the spiritual atmosphere of the Jalsa and create in ourselves a revolutionary change and offer prayers, we will become heirs to the prayers of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: While referring to the Jalsa, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام not only drew our attention to fulfilling the rights of Allāh, but also to fulfilling the rights of men. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام expected his followers to set an example for others in terms of soft-heartedness, mutual love and

brotherhood. He desired that his followers demonstrate humility, be ready to make sacrifices for each other, and set exemplary standards of truthfulness and piety. He expected his followers to keep away from treating others with disrespect or rudeness and not to devote themselves to the worldly pleasures to the extent where they lose even their faith. He said that his Jamā'at must not be such as is content with mere words, but rather they should strive to fulfil the true intent and purpose of the Bai'at. A true internal change needs to be brought about. You cannot please God merely by learning some arguments; rather you should try to create a change in your inner condition. Pray to Allāh while offering Salāt. Try to join the ranks of those about whom God said, 'والذين جاهدوا فينا', that is, those who strive in our path, by giving alms and doing charity and by any other means they can.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Benefitting from the spiritual atmosphere of the Jalsa, we should try to enhance our standards of fulfilling the rights of Allāh and men.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) advised the Ahmadīs travelling to Qādiān from India and Pakistan to bring with them their bedding. Similarly, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) advised the Ahmadīs

travelling to Qādiān from Europe and other parts of the world to take their warm clothing with them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also admonished the Jamā'ats outside Qādiān to send the names of their representatives wishing to attend the Jalsa on time and said that there should be no laxity in this.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: It is the duty of the Amīrs to make sure that the names and other particulars of the people attending the Jalsa from their countries are submitted to the Centre as desired by the administration of the Jalsa.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also admonished the participants of the Jalsa not to make demands that they should be accommodated in a place of their choice. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the participants of the Jalsa should demonstrate patience and be grateful for whatever accommodation is provided to them by the organisers of the Jalsa.

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the sad demise of Ahmad Shamshir Sukia Sahib, Murabbī Silsila, of Mauritius, and spoke about his services for the Jamā'at. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced that he would lead the funeral prayer in absentia of the deceased after the Jumu'a.

Friday January 2, 2015

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Reflect upon last year and begin the New Year with a firm resolve to perform good deeds and shun evil practices. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Strive to obtain the level of piety described in the Ten Conditions of Bai'at. Eschew shirk (holding partners with God), falsehood, adultery and sinfulness and do not follow erroneous practices and customs. Be steadfast in Prayers, Istighfār (seeking forgiveness from God for one's sins) and recite Durud (invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet ﷺ).

On 2 January 2015, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) began the Friday Sermon by conveying the New Year greetings to the Jamā'at and said: We ought to reflect upon the past year and see if we spent it in accordance with the pious vows we had made at its beginning. We should then make a firm resolve to make up for the shortcomings which occurred during the past year.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We have been assigned the task of performing good deeds and, therefore, we need to assess ourselves if we have done our level best to fulfil our obligations in this regard. Besides, we need to realize that we must acquire the level of piety and righteousness that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام expected of us. Each one of us makes a solemn pledge, at least once a year, on the occasion of the International Bai'at, that he will try to obtain the level of piety expected of him by the Promised Messiah

عليه السلام as stated by him in the Ten Conditions of Bai'at. In order to obtain this level of righteousness, one has to always keep in view the Ten Conditions of Bai'at. It is not enough to merely believe in the Conditions; rather it is important to act upon them fulfilling all their requirements. One should protect oneself from impious acts as one protects oneself from wild beasts and animals.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Although the Conditions of Bai'at are only ten in number, they contain as many as thirty commandments.

The first commandment enjoins one to refrain from shirk (holding partners with God). The shirk is not only to worship idols made of silver and gold, but rather at times one begins to worship one's own words and actions and plans as idols.

The second commandment enjoins one to eschew falsehood, for he who relies upon falsehood stops relying upon God. Therefore, one must avoid falsehood in all matters of life.

The third commandment forbids adultery and fornication. In light of this, one also has to avoid the occasions and excuses as might lead to the committing of these evils. To avoid the occasions and excuses as might lead to such evils is the sign of true chastity.

The fourth commandment forbids the trespasses of the eye. Indeed, the fire of hell is forbidden for the eye that avoids looking at things God has declared unlawful for it to look at.

The fifth commandment forbids all manner of evil and sinfulness. To act against the commandments of the Almighty God and utter abuse and vituperation is an act of sinfulness.

The sixth commandment forbids us to commit wrong, that is, to usurp the rights of one's fellow beings.

The seventh commandment forbids dishonesty. One has been enjoined not to be dishonest even to those who are guilty of dishonesty.

The eighth commandment prohibits all kinds of disorder, mischief and quarrels.

The ninth commandment prohibits all manner of rebellion. One should, therefore, avoid performing such acts and uttering such words against the government and Nizām-e-Jamā'at as amount to the violation of the laws.

The tenth commandment forbids one to be carried away by passions and enjoins one to be obedient to the commandments of the Almighty God.

The eleventh commandment enjoins upon us five obligatory prayers to be performed on time and with all the due requirements. Also, it enjoins one to try to be regular in offering Tahajjud prayer as well, so that one is able to constantly offer prayers to God.

The twelfth commandment enjoins upon one to recite Durud (invoke blessings upon the Holy Prophet ﷺ).

The thirteenth commandment enjoins upon one to constantly supplicate to God for the forgiveness of one's sins.

The fourteenth commandment enjoins upon one to remember and be grateful to God and glorify Him for His bounties. One should also be grateful to those who have done any favor to him.

The fifteenth commandment enjoins upon one to glorify Allāh in all circumstances of life.

The sixteenth commandment enjoins upon one not to cause any harm to Allāh's creatures.

The seventeenth commandment enjoins upon one to forgive others and avoid bearing enmity or grudge towards one's fellow beings. It also says that if one

wishes the reformation of a person, one should convey one's complaints against him to the authorities.

The eighteenth commandment enjoins upon one to always remain obedient and show submission to God Almighty.

The nineteenth commandment enjoins upon one to stop following erroneous customs and traditions.

The twentieth commandment urges one not to follow one's selfish desires. When one shuns selfish desires for the sake of Allāh, Allāh raises the status of such a person in heaven.

The twenty-first commandment enjoins upon one to accept God as the Absolute Sovereign over one's life and act upon all His commandments.

The twenty-second commandment enjoins upon one to take the word of God and the word of the Holy Prophet ﷺ as the beacon of light to follow.

The twenty-third commandment enjoins upon one to completely shun arrogance and pride.

The twenty-fourth commandment enjoins upon one to adopt humility, meekness and humbleness.

The twenty-fifth commandment enjoins upon one to adopt civility and good manners.

The twenty-sixth commandment enjoins upon one to adopt righteous conduct and stresses upon one to live a life of humility and modesty.

The twenty-seventh commandment enjoins upon one to hold the honor of and love for Faith dearer to oneself than the honor of and love for one's own life, wealth and dignity.

The twenty-eighth commandment enjoins upon one to show sympathy towards God's creatures for the sake of His pleasure alone.

The twenty-ninth commandment enjoins upon one to utilize one's God-given faculties towards the good of mankind.

The thirtieth pledge we make is that we will establish such a relationship of submission and obedience to the Promised Messiah ﷺ as is not to be had with any other person.

May God enable us to fulfil our pious vows and act upon the teachings mentioned above! May God overlook the shortcomings we have committed in the past year and may He enable us to perform good deeds during the current year. Āmīn.

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the martyrdom of Luqman Shahbaz Sahib of Bhirri Shah Rahman in District Gujranwala, Pakistan, and spoke of his devotion and his sincerity for the Jamā'at. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also announced the

sad demise of Shehzade Satanos of Macedonia and said that he would lead the funeral prayer of both of the

deceased persons in absentia after the Jumu'a.

Friday January 9, 2015

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke of the commendable standards set by the Jamā'at in terms of financial sacrifice and spending wealth in the cause of Allāh.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) related a number of faith-inspiring incidents in this regard and announced the New Year (58th) of Waqf Jadīd. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced that in terms of total contribution towards Waqf Jadīd last year, Pakistan stood first followed by the UK, USA and Germany. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: God Himself will provide for the needs of the Faith. What we need to do is to inculcate in ourselves the spirit of sacrifice. The office-bearers of the Jamā'at should also pray and make the necessary efforts to this end.

On 9 January 2015, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) recited verses 17-18 of Sūrah At-Taghabun, the translation of which is as follows:

'So fear Allāh as best you can, and listen, and obey, and spend in His cause; it will be good for yourselves. And whoso is saved from his own covetousness – it is these who shall be successful. If you lend to Allah a good loan, He will multiply it for you, and will forgive you; and Allāh is Most Appreciating, Forbearing'. (64:17-18)

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Among many commandments of the Almighty God, one is to spend in His cause. Therefore, a believer should never hesitate or be reluctant to spend in the way of Allāh. Today, it is the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at alone that spends wealth towards noble and charitable causes only to seek the pleasure of the Almighty God. Among these noble causes is the propagation of Faith, training of the missionaries and their appointments in the field, publication of literature and the Holy Qur'ān, construction of mosques and mission houses and schools, establishment of radio stations in various parts of the world to spread the teachings of the True Faith, construction of hospitals and running of various other humanitarian projects. In short, there are many other projects the Jamā'at is working on to meet its obligations towards the rights of Allah and the rights of men.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We are doing this because we have accepted the Imām of the age and understood the essence of these noble acts. We are the ones who have decided to shun the covetousness of the self and gained insight into the character of the true Mufliḥūn (those who will succeed).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: To spend in the cause of Allāh becomes a means of success for those

who make such spending, for God is never in arrears on bestowing rewards to anyone; rather He views our sacrifices in His way with love and gratitude. He not only augments the returns for us, but also forgives our sins due to these sacrifices and enables us to perform more good deeds. By the grace of Allāh, Ahmadīs make these sacrifices with great fervor and there are many who, soon after they make a sacrifice, experience an enhanced return from Allāh. The love shown by God to them in return for their sacrifice impacts them to such a degree that they also spend the augmented returns in His way.

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) narrated some faith-inspiring incidents illustrating how God enabled the Ahmadīs to make sacrifices in His cause and how, in return, He bestowed His grace upon them much more abundantly than they had expected.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In fact, such incidents not only prove the truth of the words of the Almighty God, but also show how He continues to support the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh IV رحمه الله تعالى initiated the Waqf Jadīd scheme outside Pakistan to meet the needs of India and African countries. By the grace of Allāh, as many as 95 mosques are being constructed right now in 18 countries of Africa. In addition, there are mosques being constructed in many other countries of the world. There are 25 countries of the world including Africa where 204 mosques and 184 mission houses have been built. About 80% of Waqf Jadīd Chanda contributed by the European and other western countries is spent in African countries.

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) advised the Jamā'at to establish a strong and permanent relationship with those Ahmadīs who embraced Ahmadiyyat during the past few years. Inclusion in the institution of Chanda will not only strengthen the faith of the new converts, but also help them establish a lasting relationship with the Nizām Jamā'at. This is the reason why I had asked the Jamā'at to see that the new

Ahmadīs participate in Tahrīk Jadīd and Waqf Jadīd Chandas.

Jamā'ats will be given new targets by Wakālat Māl in terms of increasing contributors for the next year; therefore, full attention should be paid to this. By the grace of Allāh, I am not worried about how expenses will be met, for God has promised that He Himself will provide for them. What we need to do is to inculcate in ourselves the spirit of sacrifice. The office-bearers of the Jamā'at should also pray for this and make the necessary efforts on their part.

Announcing the New Year of Waqf Jadīd, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The 57th year of Waqf Jadīd has come to an end showering upon us countless blessings of the Almighty God. The new year (i.e. 58th) of Waqf Jadīd commenced on 1st January, 2015. During the past year, the Worldwide Ahmadiyya Jamā'at contributed 6,209,000 pounds sterling towards Waqf Jadīd, which is an increase of 731,000 pounds from the last year. In terms of total contribution, Pakistan stands first, followed by the UK,

USA and Germany. The number of Waqf Jadīd contributors has exceeded 11,290,000 by the grace of Allāh.

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave some statistics of the financial sacrifice made by the Jamā'at in Pakistan, in western countries, in African countries and in India.

Towards the end of the Friday Sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) urged the Jamā'at to pray for the Ahmadīs in Pakistan.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also drew the attention of the Jamā'at to pray that may Allāh protect the Jamā'at from the disorder in the world.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Durud (the invocation of blessings upon the Holy Prophet ﷺ) should be recited in abundance these days. The Jamā'at should make practical efforts for the establishment of peace in the world. May God save the world from chaos and disorder and may this chaotic situation soon change into a peaceful situation. Āmīn.

Friday January 16, 2015

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) Strongly condemned the attacks on the Holy Prophet ﷺ and said that all machinations and conspiracies of the enemies shall come to naught. If we recite Durud Sharif, which is a way of attaining perseverance, we shall be granted delicious fruits of prayers fulfilled. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at has conveyed the true teachings and the real viewpoint of Islam to the world through television and newspapers.

On January 16th, 2015, Haḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) recited verse 57 of chapter Al-Ahzab and gave its translation, which is as follows:

“Allāh and his angels send blessings on the Prophet. O ye who believe! You also should invoke blessings on him and salute him with the salutation of peace”. (33:57)

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: this verse clearly elucidates that the Almighty God sends blessings on His Holy Prophet ﷺ and the angels too pray for the Holy Prophet ﷺ and invoke blessings upon him. Hence, the enemy's conspiracies and tactics can bring no harm to our beloved Prophet ﷺ. The purpose for which the Holy Prophet ﷺ was sent will continue to be achieved by the grace of God. It is Divine Decree that the opponents of the Holy Prophet ﷺ did not succeed before, nor will they succeed now. However, you should discharge your responsibilities and continue to invoke salutations and blessings on God Almighty's perfect, beloved and last Prophet ﷺ. Success lies in profusely invoking Durud on the Holy Prophet ﷺ. If only the Muslims

had realized that the Islāmic teaching of love and peace could soon bring the entire world into the fold of Islām.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the verse recited at the beginning of the sermon the Almighty God has said that, Allah and His angels send down blessings on the Holy Prophet ﷺ so God Almighty has given the basic principle that no base act can harm the Holy Prophet ﷺ and your duty is to invoke salutations and blessings on the Holy Prophet ﷺ instead of repaying to ignorance with ignorance.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We welcome the statement made by Pope Francis about the dignity and respect of every religion. After this incident the world media asked the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at about our reaction and our point of view. Many newspapers and Television Channels put forward our point of view so the true teachings of Islām and its real standpoint reached millions of people. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then presented various Hadīth and excerpts from the writings of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام which bring to light the importance of Durūd Sharif and the various goods attached to it. The Holy Prophet ﷺ said that on the day of Judgment the person closest to him would be the one who invoked most blessings upon him. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says about Durūd

Sharif that there is no injunction to invoke Durūd for any other Prophet. Such sincerity and faith was exhibited by the Spirit of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and so pleased was God by his actions that He made it incumbent upon people to always invoke Durud as a sign of their gratitude. Therefore invoke Durud profusely, for it is a way of attaining perseverance, but don't recite it as a mere tradition or by force of habit, rather keep in mind the spiritual beauty of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and his great favour upon mankind and then invoke it for the exaltation of his spiritual station and rank and for his success, this will then result in your enjoying the sweet fruit of accepted prayers.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام then says: Durūd Sharif should be recited with the aim that the Almighty God shower his perfect blessings upon the Holy Prophet ﷺ make him the fountainhead of blessings for the entire world and make his eminence and grandeur manifest in this world and the next. This prayer should be recited with complete focus and concentration.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said By the grace of the Almighty, there are many among us who recite Durud Sharif with deep feeling and God Almighty shows them its benefits. May God Almighty continue to increase the number of such people in the Jamā'at, for this will augur well for the progress of the community. Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd رضي الله عنه says that when we recite Durud, it results in the station of the Holy Prophet ﷺ being raised. First of all the Almighty God gives him His blessings and then, through him and due to him, those blessings reach us... May God grant us the opportunity to invoke Durud in its true sense.

At the end Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the death of Maulvi Abdul Qadir Dehli Sahib, dervish of Qādiān and Mubarka Begum Sahiba, wife of late dervish Bashir Ahmad Sahib. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) mentioned their efforts for the Jamā'at and announced that he shall lead their funeral prayers in absentia.

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Truth of the Promised Messiah^{as}, According to the Bible

Abdur-Rahman Khadim, B.A., LL.B. (1910-1957)

A chapter from his Urdu work,
“Madhhabi Encyclopaedia, Ya ‘ni Mukammal Tablīghi Pocket Book”

Translated by Syed Sajid Ahmad

First Argument

- “But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.” *Deuteronomy 18:20* [Note 1]
- “Then the LORD said unto me, the Prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not... By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.” *Jeremiah 14:14-16* [Note 2]
- “And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death.” *Deuteronomy 13:5* [Note 3]
- “And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: ... I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it.” *Ezekiel 13:9-13* [Note 4]

Therefore, two false prophets have been mentioned in Acts 5:36-37 who were killed and their followers abandoned them. Name of the first one was Theudas, and of the other was Judas Galilee. [Note 5]

Second Argument

Jesus says, “Which of you convinceth me of sin?” John 8:46

Also “Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.” John 14:19

Revered Mirza [Mirza Ghulam Ahmad] Sahib [the Promised Messiah, peace be on him]: Who among you can challenge any of my actions in my life? (*Tadhkiratush-shahadatain*, p. 64)

Third Argument (Acceptance of Prayer)

“And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins,

they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” [Note 6] *James 5:15-17. John: 9:31* [Note 7]

[*The Promised Messiah, peace be on him:*] I have been given the sign of abundance of acceptance of prayer. No one can equal that. I can declare on oath that about 30,000 of my prayers have been accepted, and I have their proof. (*Daruratul-Imam*, p. 22)

Examples: Abdul-Karim Abdurrahim ibn Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan and Abdul-Hayy son of Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih I, may Allah be pleased with him. (Footnote 1)

Fourth Argument:

“Ye men of Israel, ... Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you...” *Acts 2:22* [Note 8]. *John 3:2, 9:16* [Note 9]

Hadrat Promised Messiah, peace be on him:

- “And the inability of all people to compete with me, whether in the miraculous dialog, or heavenly signs, and the fulfillment of hundreds of thousands of prophecies of the Exalted God in my favor, all these signs, and symptoms, and circumstantial evidence, are enough for a God fearing person to accept me.” (*Tadhkiratush-shahadatain*, p. 38)
- “And the signs which were to bear testimony to this arbitrator, those signs have appeared, rather the appearance of signs continues, heaven is showing signs, earth is showing signs, blessed are those whose eyes won’t stay shut now.” (*Daruratul-Imam*, p.22)

Fifth Argument

God’s help does not bless the foul. [Damima Taryaqul-Qulub, No. 5, p. 1, published 1902]

- a. Messenger Paul says, “But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.” *Acts 5: 39*
- b. “Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.” *Mat 15:13. Psalms 34:15-20, 92:12 Proverbs 12:21, Isaiah: 9:14* [Note 10]

The Promised Messiah, peace be on him:

O imperfect, if this were a man's doing,

That Lord was enough for such a liar

There was no need for your cunning

That Master of the World would have annihilated me

(Barahin-i-Ahmadiyya, Part V, p. 104, First Edition)

Sixth Argument

Prophet Daniel says, “And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.” *Daniel 12: 11-12*

Accordingly, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, appeared exactly in A.H. 1290.

“This is a strange occurrence – and I understand it as a sign of God – that in A.H. 1290, this humble one had been blessed with converse with the Allah the Exalted.” (*Haqiqatul-Wahiy, p. 199*)

Seventh Argument

“For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” *Matthew 24:27*

Hadrat Promised Messiah, peace be on him, declares, “God chose me by His grace and not because of any of my abilities. I was unknown. (He) made me famous, (He) spread my fame so fast as lightning spreads its light from one side to the other.” (*Haqiqatul-Wahiy, p. 234*)

Eighth Argument

1. “... shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall.” *Matthew 24:29* [Note 11]

This eclipse of the sun and the moon appeared in 1894 A.D. (that is, Ramadan 1311 A.H.).

2. “And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars.” *Luke 21:25*

Ninth Argument

There will be wars, earthquakes and pestilences (plague). *Luke 21:11, Zechariah 14:12*

Therefore, the word plague is present in Zechariah 14:12 in the English version of the Bible. [Note 12]

This plague happened in 1882. [The Promised Messiah, peace be on him, declares in *Barahin-i-Ahmadiyya, Vol. 5, published 1908:*]

“You sent plague too, in my support

So that those signs be fulfilled which make the basis of (my) truth.”

Tenth Argument

“When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken.” *Deuteronomy 18:22*

Thousands of prophecies of Hadrat Masīḥ Mau‘ud were fulfilled. See article “The prophecies of the Promised Messiah” included in this book.

Eleventh Argument

Jesus identified the following difference between a true and a false prophet:

“Ye shall know them by their fruits.” *Matthew 7:16-20. And Luke 6:44-45, Matthew 20:24, and John 15:16-27.* [Note 13]

Look at the exemplary practice of the community of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

Twelfth Argument

“The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.” *John 7: 46*

The unparalleled speech of Jesus was a proof of his being from God and the same proof the Holy Qur’an has presented for its truth:

If mankind and the Jinn gathered together to produce the like of this Qur’an, they could not produce the like thereof, even though they should help one another. (*Bani Isra’il 17:89*)

- a. The Promised Messiah peace be on him, says: “I have been given the sign of eloquent communication in the shadow of the miracle of the Holy Qur’an. No one can compete with this.” (*Daruratul-Imam, p. 25, First Edition*)

- b. [*The Promised Messiah, peace be on him,*] wrote *I‘jaz-i-Ahmadi* and published an award for Rs.

10,000. He wrote, "Allah the Exalted will break their pens, and will dumb their hearts."

c. [His work] *I'jazul-Masih*, etc.

How man's word can be equal to God's

Divine Power there and helplessness here, the difference is clearly evident.

[*Barahin-i-Ahmadiyya*, Vol. 3, p. 182, published 1882]

Thirteenth Argument

It is the Prophets who prevail.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." *John 16:33*. Also *John 5:4* [Note 14].

It is in the Holy Qur'an too,

Allah has decreed: 'Most surely I will prevail, I and My Messengers.' (*Al-Mujadilah 58:22*)

The Promised Messiah, peace be on him declares:

"Mock as much as you like. Abuse as much as you wish. Think of hurting and teasing as much as you like. And plan and plan to annihilate me as many ways as you want. Yet, beware, God will show you soon that His hand is dominant." (*Arba'in, Appendix Tohfa-i-Golarviyah, p. 17*)

Fourteenth Argument

The communities of prophets progress gradually. "Behold, the world is gone after him." *John 12:19*

Look at the gradual progress of the Ahmadiyya Community.

Madhhabi Encyclopaedia, Ya'ni Mukammal Tablighi Pocket Book (Urdu), Malik Abdur-Rahman Khadim, Pp 86-88

Notes by the Translator

All Bible references are from King James Version. All text in brackets is Translator's. The author has produced numerous references but for the sake of brevity has omitted the text in many cases. For readers' assistance, we produce the text in the references below.

1. "Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart. Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my

name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed. And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness upon them." *Jeremiah 14:14-16*

2. "And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee." *Deuteronomy 13:5*

3. "And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD. Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar: Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it. Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it? Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it." *Ezekiel 13:9-13*

4. "For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought. After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: he also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed." *Acts 5:36-37*

5. "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months." *James 5:17*

6. "Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth." *John: 9:31*

7. "Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know." *Acts 2:22*
8. "The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." *John: 3:2*
 "Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them." *John 9:16*
9. "The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken." *Psalms 34:15-20*
 "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." *Psalms 92:12*
 "There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief." *Proverbs 12:21*
 "Therefore the LORD will cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush, in one day." *Isaiah 9:14*
10. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." *Matthew 24:29*
11. "And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." *Luke 21:11*
 "And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." *Zechariah 14:12*
12. "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt

tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." *Matthew 7:16-2*

"For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." *Luke 6:44-45*

"And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren." *Matthew 20:24*

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another. If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." *John 15:16-27*

13. "For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had." *John 5:4*

The Status of the Promised Messiah

May peace be upon him

Abdur-Rahman Khadim, B.A., LL.B. (1910-1957)

Translated by Col. Safi Khan

The members of the Lahori Jamā'at insist that the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him, did not claim to be a prophet. Below, some questions are posed to them in this respect. The Lahori Jamā'at operates under Anjuman Ishā'at-i-Islam and is often mentioned in our literature as Ahl-i-Peghām, meaning, bearers of Peghām, referring to their organ Peghām-i-Şulḥ (Message of Reconciliation).

Please note that the word Muḥaddath used in the article identifies a person who is blessed with communication from Allah, the Almighty, while Muḥaddith points to a scholar of Hadith.

The *Ahl-i-Peghām* believe that the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) was not a prophet or a messenger and that by the claim found in the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) of his being a non-law-bearing prophet, it implies only to his *Muḥaddathiyyat* and *Mujaddidiyyat* and not prophethood, because after the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him), the door for prophethood is closed. On this, we have four questions that need to be resolved and which have been raised on different occasions.

First Question:

The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) states,

“No prophet can come with a *Sharī'ah*, and there can be a prophet without *Sharī'ah*.” (*Tajalliyyāt-i-Ilāhiyya*, page 20)

From this reference, it is clearly proven that “law-bearing prophethood” and “non-law-bearing prophethood” are two opposite and conflicting and contradictory things which cannot be reconciled in any way. In other words we should say that the merging of “law-bearing prophethood” and “non-law-bearing prophethood” in one person at the same time is not possible. As such, anyone who is a law-bearing prophet, it is not possible for him to be a non-law-bearing prophet also. Thus, if according to the belief of *Ahl-i-Peghām*, if we take “non-law-bearing prophet” to mean *Mujaddid* and *Muḥaddath*, it will mean that a law-bearing prophet cannot be a *Mujaddid* or *Muḥaddath*, because law-bearing prophethood contradicts *Mujaddidiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat*, and according to *Ahl-i-Peghām*, non-law-bearing prophethood means *Mujaddidiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat*. Therefore, law-bearing prophethood contradicts *Mujaddidiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat*; and reconciliation between the two is illogical and impossible. The conclusion is obvious that it is illogical for a law-bearing prophet to be a *Mujaddid* or a *Muḥaddath*, although, it stands clearly

proven from the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) that every law-bearing prophet is a *Muḥaddath* and *Mujaddid* also.

This way *Mujaddadiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat* are always conjoined in a law-bearing prophet, as stated by the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) about the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) (who was a law-bearing prophet):

“Thus, our Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was a great *Mujaddid* for the expression of truth.” (Lecture Sialkot, page 5)

As such, as per the thinking of *Ahl-i-Peghām*, if we take the non-law-bearing prophethood to mean *Mujaddidiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat*, then agreement on incompatibility is mandatory. What is illogical and essentially absurd is also impossible and false. Ponder, O men of understanding.

As such we have to admit that non-law-bearing prophethood does not mean *Mujaddadiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat* at all. Rather it implies that prophethood, which is without a book, and it is obvious that a prophet cannot be law bearing and non-law-bearing simultaneously. As such it stands proven that the status of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), in the light of his writings, is higher than *Mujaddadiyyat* and *Muḥaddathiyyat*, which is the status of prophethood. And that is what we wanted to prove.

This is a literary question which has been presented before *Ghair Mubā'i* (ones who accept the Promised Messiah but do not pledge allegiance to Ahmadiyya Khilāfat) missionaries and debaters since ages, but they have not been able to find a solution to it.

Second Question:

The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) states:

“God has appointed a Messiah from this Ummah who is greater in eminence than the earlier Messiah.”

(Review, Volume 1, page 478, No: 6 and *Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahy*, page 148)

In this reference the Promised Messiah has claimed complete eminence over *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him). In this regard we ask the *Ahl-i-Peghām* this question, that:

a. Can someone who is not a prophet have “complete eminence” over a prophet? The reply should be supported by references and text.

b. In this context this fact is especially worth considering that the biggest glory of a prophet is the “dignity of prophethood.” All others pomposities fall below and are subordinate to it. Thus it is possible that someone who is not a prophet has partial eminence over a prophet; but it is not possible that someone other than a prophet (who was not even bestowed with glory of prophethood), is not only greater in eminence, but is “much greater in eminence” than a prophet.

So the second question about this reference is that if the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) was not a prophet, then how could he be greater in eminence to *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him)?

However, while answering , it should be borne in mind that the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has conceded in *Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahy*, pages 149, 150 that in the above referred text he (peace be on him) claims to have more than merely a partial eminence over *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him), as such to try to mention such meanings of this text which merely establishes the claim of only a partial eminence is clearly against the explanation of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) and as such would not be acceptable.

In this context it must also be kept in mind that the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has declared his eminence over *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him) in accordance with verse, “*These Messengers have We exalted, some of them above others*” (*Al-Baqarah*: 254). (“*Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahy*”, page 152)

Moreover, he (peace be on him) declared himself to be eminent over *Masīḥ* with regard to natural capabilities. (ibid, page 153).

As regards “achievements” also he (peace be on him) has claimed eminence. (ibid, page 155).

Then he has declared himself to be eminent from the point of view of “majestic and powerful” signs. (ibid, page 151).

Then he mentioned of his eminence over *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him) with regard to divine knowledge and understanding. (ibid, pages 151, 152).

The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) also said that the enlightenment of the heart that occurred in

him (peace be on him) did not occur in *Masīḥ* (peace be on him). (ibid, page 153).

In short, the Promised Messiah is eminent to Jesus of Nazareth (peace be on him) in every respect. In the marginal notes on pages 3 to 6 of *Nuzūl-ul-Masīḥ*, the Promised Messiah has also accepted dignity of prophethood in himself. In short, the complete eminence over *Masīḥ Nāṣirī* (peace be on him) is the irrefutable proof of the prophethood of the Promised Messiah.

Third Question:

It is the same heavy boulder which for the last 30 years has been an obstacle to the ulterior motives of *Ahl-i-Peghām*, which they have not been able to move in spite of trying their level best, i.e. page 391 of “*Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahī*”:

“Thus in the share of the abundant revelations and the hidden matters I am the only special person. All the other pious and righteous men and the pivots that have passed before me in this *Umma* were not given an abundant share of blessings. As such only I have earmarked to be called a prophet. All others do not deserve to be addressed as such, because for that, abundance of revelations and abundance of knowledge of hidden things is a precondition, which is not found in them”.

Our question regarding this text is that if in the later writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) as per the Announcement of February 1892 A.D. prophet is taken to mean *Muḥaddath*, and in the later writings after 1901 A.D., instead of the word prophet, it should be considered as the word *Muḥaddath*; then in the above mentioned text on page 391 of “*Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahy*” the word prophet should be substituted by the word *Muḥaddath* and its meaning published, which in the eyes of every will be; that in 1300 years only the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) was earmarked to be called a *Muḥaddath* and that there has been no *Muḥaddath* before him (peace be on him) from this *Umma*.

In this context, the second point requiring solution is that, according to *Maulawī Muhammad Ali*, to be a prophet is quite different than being called a prophet. In his opinion, by merely being called a prophet, one does not actually become a prophet. As such in the above mentioned text of *Ḥaqīqat-ul-Wahy*, when the word prophet is substituted by the word *Muḥaddath*, the text will become something like this: “Thus only I have been earmarked to be called a *Muḥaddath*.” In the light of the writings of *Maulawī Muhammad Ali*, the following results will be forthcoming from this:

1. The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) merely attained the name of *Muḥaddath*, whereas actually he is not even a *Muḥaddath*.

2. In the *Muhammadiyah Umma*, other than the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), there hasn't even an unrealistic *Muḥaddath*, what to speak of a real *Muḥaddath*. (Madhhabī Encyclopaedia, Ya'ni Mukammal Tablighī Pocket Book, 734-736)

First Arab Conference 2014

At University of Michigan-Dearborn Tuesday, 18 November 2014

By the grace of Allah, Detroit Jamā'at held the first ever Arab conference titled "Middle East Crisis—What is the Pathway to Peace?" on November 18, 2014, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

This initiative was carried out under the direction of National Headquarters and National Arab Desk.

Here in Michigan, we have the largest Middle Eastern population in North America outside of the Middle East and there has been a great deal of focus on engaging with the community and conveying the peaceful message of Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. This event was one such effort.

The event preparations started two months in advance by formulating a local Tabligh team that held regular weekly planning meetings.

To publicize the event, three flyer distribution campaigns were carried out at the university campus. Volunteers distributed over 1,000 flyers in these drives. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, the event was received warmly by students and professors alike.



Left: Young Areej Tahir, reciting verses from the Holy Qur'ān. Center: Welcome remarks by Mohammed Faytahi. Right: Guest Speaker, Fatina Abdrabboh.



Audience asking questions.

The team met with five professors on campus and sought their help in extending the invitation to their students. In the effort they ended up having engaging

conversations with these professors and as a result generated the much required momentum. By the grace of Allah, none of the professors declined to take flyers for their classes. In one particular instance, when a professor was asked to help invite his class to the event, he commented, "By policy I can't distribute flyers to my class, however, if you would like to come with me to the class, you can do it yourself." Later when a volunteer accompanied the professor to his class, the professor not only introduced the volunteer to the class, but also encouraged them to attend the event.

Social media, including Twitter and Facebook were fully utilized for the promotion of the event. A professor of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, Juan Cole, who has a large following on Twitter, tweeted the event details to his followers which number approximately 33,000.

Many student organizations were invited to the event and they in turn publicized the event via their own sources including newsletters, web postings and email.



Left: Local president, Dr. Mansoor Qureshi conducting an interactive session at the Arab Conference, 2014. Imam Azam Akram speaking to the audience at the 2014 Arab Conference at UoM-D.

Five major Arab organizations in the region were invited to event. These included, Arab American and Chaldean Council, Arab American National Museum, Detroit Arab American Society, Islamic Center of America, and Michigan office of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

By the grace of Allah, close to 40% student population of the university was introduced to the

Jamā'at via the flyer distribution campaigns, social media outreach and various other avenues.

Two professors from the Henry Ford Community College also attended the event. Both were of Syrian descent and have been teaching a wide range of subjects surrounding Middle Eastern affairs.

Media Coverage

NBC's local affiliate, News 4 was on site to cover the event. Following websites published/advertised the details of the event.

Patch.Com:

<http://patch.com/michigan/dearborn/middle-east-crises-what-pathway-peace-o>

us4arabs.com:

<http://us4arabs.com/index.php?do=/fevent/953/middle-east-crisis-%E2%80%93-what-is-the-pathway-to-peace-university-of-michigan-%E2%80%93/>

Detroit News, one of the mainstream newspapers published a brief introduction on the event.



2014 Arab Conference, University of Michigan-Dearborn- with Regional Imam Azam Akram

The program started with recitation of the Holy Quran by young Areej Tahir, followed by welcome and introduction by National Arab Desk coordinator, Mohammed Fytahi. Next, the president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Detroit Chapter, Dr. Mansoor Qureshi, conducted an interactive session with the audience during which he probed them with questions as to how peace can be established in the world. He summarized comments and other responses in light of the Islamic teachings. This was a very unique and effective session and was well received by the attendees. Following the interactive session, guest speaker, Fatina Abdrabboh, Michigan Director of Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), delivered a speech on tolerance. She spoke from her personal experiences as a woman of Arab descent, growing up in the US and the changes after 911.

Regional Imam Azam Akram, delivered his keynote speech on "Pathway to Peace". He energized the audience with enthusiastic style dispelling the myths and stating the facts regarding the peaceful teachings of Islam as were taught and practiced by the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him). He highlighted the fundamental principles of justice presented by Islam as the key to establishment of peace.

At the end a Q&A session was held where panelist answered multitude of questions from the audiences on the subject.

By the grace of Allah, the event was successful with close to 70 non-Ahmadi guests participating along with over 130 members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Detroit. The event and the presentations were well received by all.

Selling your books through amibookstore.us

The US Jamā'at bookstore is allowed to sell only the books published or approved by Wakalat Tasneef. Authors who want to sell their books through amibookstore.us need to provide a copy of the letter of approval of their work by Wakalat Tasneef. They also need to fill a consignment form available from incharge@amibookstore.us.

Books need to be delivered much in advance of an event for sale. The bookstore needs time to catalog and place barcodes on the books before they can be sold.

Authors wishing to sell their book at the US Jalsa Salana, should have the paperwork completed and books delivered a few weeks ahead of the event so that the books can be cataloged and barcodes placed for sale at Jalsa.

Topics and Deadlines for next Issues

Suggested topic for the April Issue: Khilāfat. Deadline March 10

Suggested topics for the May issue: Ramadan and May 11, Mothers' day (Status of mother in Islam. Rights and responsibilities of a mother. Personal anecdotes related to one's mother. Stories about mothers). Deadline April 10.

May Issue: Ramadan. Spiritual fitness. June 15: Father's day. Status of father in Islam. Rights and responsibilities of a father. Personal anecdotes related to one's father. Stories about fathers. Education. Deadline April 10.

Community Leader and Pioneer Hajja Naima Kai Latif

Aliya Latif, Brooklyn NY

Hajja Naima Kai Latif was born May 21, 1939 to parent Mamie Robinson and the late Perry Robinson who passed while her mother was still expecting, in Takoma Park, Maryland. She attended Dunbar High School in Washington DC, the first high school in the nation for African American Students) and West Virginia State University. She volunteered for military service in the United States Army Women's Corp, trained and worked in medical records and assisting wounded soldiers returning from the Vietnam war. Her civil commitments included lawful, peaceful demonstration including the notable March on Washington, DC with Dr. Martin Luther King.

She converted to Ahmadiyyat early in her marriage and set her own pace to study the religion for herself. She regularly attended Jum'ah prayer only missing the few before her demise. It was also her practice to attend Lajna meetings, Ijtimas, and national and international Jalsas regularly.

Naima volunteered often for various local social services and each week provided rides for the elderly members of her local Jamā'at to attend Jum'a services, pioneers like Uncle Muhammad Sadiq and his wife Aunty Amina Sadiq, Uncle Bashir Afzal and his wife Aunty Jameela Afzal. She was central in the Islamic education of her children from habitual encouragement by example of regular prayers to getting them excused from school each week to attend Jum'ah.

She performed Hajj in 2002 with her husband and a large delegation of Jamā'at USA members.

Over her 40 years of membership in Jamā'at Ahmadiyyat, Hajja Naima served in many local offices including Lajna Sadr in North Jersey, National Waqf Jadid Secretary, and most recently on the USA Jamā'at national Rishta Nata team. She was a Mūsiyya, and ever obedience to Khilāfat. She is survived by her husband Hajji Jalaluddin, son Abdur Rahim and his wife Rehana, son Junayd and his wife Suriyya, daughter Aliya, and son Hakim and his wife Samiyya. There are seven grandchildren who will miss her loving smile.

In addition to fulfilling prescribed fasting during the month of Ramadan, Hajja Naima also practiced optional fasting on Mondays and Thursdays per the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be on him. She realized the benefits of I'tikāf during the last 10 days of Ramadan, and would attend

regularly with her husband. She loved the month of Ramadan and can be remembered to recently say, "I have been waiting all year for this month! It's nothing but mercy all month long."

She was known for encouraging others in a loving way to strive hard and stay connected to Jamā'at. She welcomed financial sacrifices and any jewelry or valuables given to her were donated to mosque funds. She eventually told her husband not to bother buying her any expensive gifts because she would only donate them to the mosque. So why not just donate money directly there. She showed no signs of arrogance, selfishness, impatience or insensibility. She would often pray for Allah to make her actions, her thoughts, and her words, match her heart. She never wanted to be associated with hypocrisy and prayed often to be safeguarded from it.

She was not inquisitive about others' personal affairs and was very trustworthy. So much so people would often confide in her, even strangers she would meet for the first time. Her life was centered around Islam and Ahmadiyyat. She saw value in people from all walks of life.

She would refuse to backbite. When women, from Jamā'at or otherwise, would want to gossip or even mention something disagreeable about someone else who was not present she would say, "I do not want to backbite" or she would say, "I do not want to eat anyone's flesh." She would say it very frankly. It got to a point where people would stop themselves before gossiping around her and say, "Yes, I know, Naima, you don't backbite", and then would almost always discontinue that conversation topic. She did not stay on the telephone long as a general rule and would say it encourages frivolous conversation which easily could get someone involved in backbiting. She liked to discuss only what was important and necessary on the phone and then lovingly give her Salams, even with her own children. It may seem like she was stern, but in fact she was very warm hearted, funny, always courteous and very graceful. Even people who have wronged her, or her own children, she would not engage in backbiting them. She would instead pray for them and try to overlook.

Her obedience to Khilāfat was exemplary. When the Third Khalīfa (r.a.) visited the USA for Jalsa at

Drew University, he gave a speech advising women to observe purdah, she immediately began wearing the veil before the speech was over, without telling her husband or family and didn't remove it until her older years, despite being the only visibly veiled Muslim in her town, at a time when Americans were not at all familiar with Islam or seeing a garbed Muslim woman. She said wearing the full veil gave her so much courage when she had always been a naturally shy person.

A moment she felt most proud of was when she attended UK Jalsa 2000 at Islamabad and during her Mulāqāt with the Fourth Khalifa he asked her who her father was. My mother looked surprised and responded that he was not a Muslim. Khalifatul-Masih IV (ra) looked surprised and said she looked as though she had been Ahmadi her entire life. She was very touched by this remark.

She was very committed to making prayer on time and in congregation, especially while raising children. Every day after Fajr Prayer, each family member would take turns reciting Quran in Arabic aloud and then in English. This was the family tradition. Even when her husband was at work for long hours in New York City, she was committed to making sure all the children would come in for prayer—even if playing with neighbors and friends. So much so that children in the

neighborhood would also come and want to join the congregational prayer as well.

In her last days she found so much comfort in the beautiful relationship she had with Khalifatul-Masih V. Despite, advanced stages of cancer, she did not complain of any pain and was still making her prayers on time. Whenever she felt a little stronger she would be up for Tahajjud as well. She was especially touched that Khalifatul-Masih V inquired about her wellbeing during UK Jalsa even though she was not in attendance due to her illness. Can you imagine the Khalifa of the whole wide world is praying for you. It's so humbling!"

Hajja Naima also remarked, "To be surrounded by such loving sisters and the community and my family, and with so many people praying for you... I am so grateful. I am not even going to try to guess how this could be."

In closing, below is one of Hajja Naima's favorite prayers from the Holy Quran, which helped inspire her to want to join Islam many years ago. May Allah Almighty have mercy on her soul.

Our Lord, we have heard a Crier calling us unto faith, 'Believe ye in your Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord, forgive us, therefore, our errors and remove from us our evils, and in death number us with the righteous. (Holy Qur'an 3: 194)

Free Copies of Review of Religions

During the months of September and October 2014, 9,520 copies of old issues of Review of Religions were shipped free of cost to fulfill the outreach needs of twelve Jama'āts and individual members. Please send your requests for free copies of old issues of Review of Religions to usa@reviewofreligions.org. There is no shipping charge. Please include the number of copies you need, your name and your shipping address. You can request copies of a particular issue if available. (Faiza Bajwa)

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1- Our Beloved Master, His Early Life (English)	1- Philosophy of the teachings of Islam	1- 17 Khutbaat of Khalifatul-Masih IV on Pakistani Government White Paper (Urdu)
2- World Crisis and Pathway to Peace (Bosnian)	2- World Crisis and Pathway to Peace	2- Orhni Waliyon ke liye phool (Urdu)
3- Victory of Islam (Bosnian)	3- An Interpretation of Islam	3- Uswa-e-Insaan-i-Kamil by Hafiz Muzaffar Ahmad (Urdu)
4- Three Questions by a Christian and Their Answers (Bosnian)	4- Life of Muhammad (pbuh)	4- Tazkaritul-Aabaa (Urdu)
5- The Will (Bosnian)	5- Holy Qur'an in Spanish	5- Sarguzasht-e-Kaleem (Urdu)
6- Remembrance of Allah (Bosnian)	6- Holy Qur'an English (Paperback)	5- Askhon Ke Chiragh Urdu Poetry Ch. Muhammad Ali
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8- Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam (Bosnian)	8- Essence of Islam	7- The Guiding Light (English)
9- Life of Muhammad ^{sa} (Bosnian)	9- An Elementary Study of Islam	8- Holy Quran: Ch. Zafrullah Khan (English)
10- Jesus in India (Bosnian)	10- Jesus in India	9- Ahmadiyya Mosques Around the World (pictorial book)
		10- Holy Quran (Greek translation)

A Gem called Rashid Sabir

By C. Naseer Ahmad

After a productive life of 80 years, Rashid Ahmad Sabir passed away on Tuesday January 20, 2015. He was a loving grandfather to about 22 grandchildren. For all those who were fortunate to have known him as a friend, colleague or just a community worker, he was a real gem. His story is a wonderful chapter in the history of our beloved community.

According to the dictionary, the word gem is a noun used to describe any of the following: 1. a cut and polished precious stone or pearl fine enough for use in jewelry. 2. something likened to or prized as such a stone because of its beauty or worth. 3. a person held in great esteem or affection.

Without exaggeration, Sabir Sahib's personality and wonderful life fit all three descriptions above. He was a truly a precious person and the rose in the lovely garden that we call the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He embodied the best qualities we hope to achieve and were encouraged to achieve by our parents and elders. Sabir Sahib was a patient person who did not shy away from hard work and adversity.

In the end, he was a human being and like others his life would sadly end. Innā Lillāhi Wa Innā Ilaihi Rāji'un, "Surely we belong to Allah and to Him shall we return." So on Friday January 23, 2015, hundreds travelled long distances to accompany Sabir Sahib on his final journey to his eternal resting place in the Lakeview Memorial Park, Maqbaratus-Salām, Sykesville, Maryland.

As his body was being lowered in the ground, I recalled the joyful memories of this loving human being. These memories took me to the time when our community in the United States was so small that on Eid days the front room at the American Fazl Mosque on LeRoy Place in Washington DC still had room that was later filled by non-Ahmadi guests who stopped by after praying at the Islamic Center of Washington a few blocks away.

My first meeting with Sabir Sahib was in an old building in downtown Washington that has since been torn down to make room for fancy new buildings. He was working for a travel agency and he was helping my father Late Col. Aziz Ahmad with his return ticket to Pakistan.

One of the things I had learned from my beloved father was that "service to the community is a blessing for which one should seek no reward." He was quoting Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmūd Ahmad,

Khalifatul-Masih II, who had influenced his life during his youth.

The blessing for me came in the form of two requests first from beloved late Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad and then Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad (whom we affectionately called Mian Sahib) to assist the community in their efforts to help set up a computer system. They were wise leaders who understood that information is the life blood of any organization. As our community was growing, there was a need to have the necessary mechanisms to manage information about our membership as well as finances.

The example of the early Eid day gatherings was one illustration of how far we have come as a community. Another example is the venue where Sabir Sahib and I often met in our early days of friendship. The office in which many of the part-time volunteers used to meet was actually the kitchen in the old days at American Fazl Mosque.

In the age of iPhones and iPads, few might know that getting IBM PC-AT—with 256 KB memory and a hard drive of 1 megabyte or so—was considered a great deal and the costs were prohibitive in those days. Sabir Sahib and I worked on a program providing rudimentary processing. I always admired his dedication and how much love and respect he would give to everyone—regardless of the age and status.

There has never been a shortage of both talent and ideas of how to do things in our community. In those days, there were many ideas being floated and tested. When Shaikh Sahib requested me to travel to Canada with Dr. Abdul Majid Shah to evaluate the work being done by our community members in Canada, I found that they had a more mature system. I was deeply impressed by the team spirit of all those who worked so hard under the steady leadership of Maulana Naseem Mahdi. Upon my return, I recommended to Shaikh Sahib that instead of reinventing the wheel, we should adopt the system development by Danial Khan and his dedicated team of workers.

When Mian Sahib became the Amir, he requested me to help implement the computer system developed by our community members in Canada. My role was to provide some leadership and coordination. It was during this process that I developed a close friendship with Sabir Sahib, who accompanied the team on several visits to Canada. The spirit of cooperation and synergy

between community in US and Canada was remarkable resulting in great progress.

I found Sabir Sahib to be the most hard-working member of the team of volunteers who was eager to learn and ask questions. His dedication to work was unquestionable. He was a few years senior to me but always was very kind and wanted to be like a student of mine even though it was I who could learn from him.

Like a magnet, humility attracts goodness, and so in his humble ways, Sabir Sahib brought out the goodness in all the team members with whom I had the honor of serving. There was never a frown on his face, nor were ever eyebrows raised, rather it always was a gentle smiling face that I recall. The enthusiasm of each

volunteer was contagious and we met the goals set by Mian Sahib.

Life took me to other places and my involvement with the computer system ended when I moved to Egypt but Sabir Sahib along with so many beautiful souls became friends for a lifetime.

As I walked through Maqbaratus-Salām, reading the tombstones of friends or parents or children of friends, once again I appreciated the wisdom in the words, “service to the community is a blessing for which one should seek no reward.” Undeniably, it is through service to the community that one discovers real gems and gets the blessing of friendships that enrich our lives.

Allah Almighty helps those who help His cause sincerely

By: Mian Ismail Wasim, Washington D.C.

Few months ago, a thought came up in my mind that I, as President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Washington D.C. Chapter should be invited by the White House and attend some of their functions as an invited guest just like other prominent civic, religious and community leaders who represent certain sections of our great American Diaspora at large.

After offering special two Rak‘at Nafil Prayers, I sent Durūd and Salām on our Master Holy Prophet Muhammad, Sallallahu ‘Alaihi Wa Sallam and sat down at my desk to make a phone call to the White House. I searched the web for an appropriate contact number. I couldn’t decide who to call but somehow chose to contact Social Affairs office. No one picked up so I left a message. After a few days, someone returned my call. We had good engaging conversation centered round why I should be invited. I had already prepared myself at least mentally for most if not all of her questions.

I explained who I was, what I represented and why should I be invited to participate in the White House functions. I had a whole list of “Possible/Probable” ONE LINERS or BULLET POINTS in my mind. I’d like to share a few, which I feel, are important.

I called as an elected President and represent the oldest recognized mosque in Washington, D.C. I am a volunteer serving the community. Why has the office of the President of the United States not invited me thus far?

Towards the end of our phone conversation, The White House official told me that my name as President

of the local Chapter of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will be listed in the data system and that I will be invited to an appropriate function.

On 29 October 2014, I was indeed invited to the White House East Room function where President Obama made his “Remarks” to a selected audience of community and civic leaders. It was first time ever that a President of Washington D.C Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was officially invited to the White House.

Here are my personal thoughts regarding this event.

Great things happen and our prayers are accepted only by the Grace of Allah, the Almighty. As functionaries representing the Nizām-i-Jamā‘at, we should keep in mind that we represent the spiritual and divine Jamā‘at of the Promised Messiah, ‘Alaihis-Salām, and we don’t represent our individual selves. We do our duty only as humble servants of the greatest Servant of Holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.) namely, the Messiah and Mahdi of the Age. We must keep reminding ourselves, “We are Muslims who believe in the Messiah, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani.”

The bottom line is that we are privileged and honored to serve. If we are sincere, full of Taqwa and keep dictates of Nizām-i-Jamā‘at in focus, Almighty Allah will keep blessing our efforts. May Allah, the Almighty, always be our Guide and Helper as servants and officials of Nizām-i-Jamā‘at and Ahmadiyya Khilafat, Āmīn. May Allah help us all to serve His cause, Thumma Āmīn.

Announcements, News and Events

Ahmadis in Gujranwala once again target of hatemongers

Ahmadi youth becomes latest victim.

A conference held few days ago instigated participants to take actions against Ahmadis.

On 22 December 2014 participants in Geo TV's morning show instigated hatred against Ahmadis which should not be ignored.

Hate speech and instigation to violence is taking life of Ahmadis in Pakistan: Spokesman Jamā'at Ahmadiyya.

Chenab Nagar (PR): Today early in the morning right after Fajr Prayers an Ahmadi Luqman Shahzad was murdered while he was on his way from his home to his farm.

This is the latest incident of violence in Gujranwala where few days ago a conference was organized and its speakers as usual used bad language against Ahmadis and instigated participants to take strong actions against Ahmadis.

The spokesperson of Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Pakistan Saleemuddin said "instigation to hatred and violence against Ahmadis is normal and acceptable in Pakistan

where pamphlets, brochures, street banners openly instigate hatred and violence against Ahmadis."

Saleemuddin further added, "A national TV channel Geo on 22 December had participants calling Ahmadis enemies of Pakistan who should be taken to task without any fear of its consequences on the lives of innocent Ahmadis. Last time in 2008 same channel with same host aired a program that called for death to Ahmadis and two prominent Ahmadis were shot dead in next two days of the program."

Saleemuddin asked question that is there no law in this country that keeps a check on these hate mongers and anchors who spew hatred or give space to hate mongers openly?

It is high time that Pakistani government and law enforcement institutions take notice of this open hatred and instigation to violence and brought the culprits to book. Nobody should be allowed to spew venom against anyone on the basis of religion and this way only we can bring this menace of terrorism to end. (17 December 2014)

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns anti-Ahmadi and anti-Semitic hate speech

Calls on U.S. Government and International Human Rights NGOs to Swiftly Condemn Hate-Filled Rhetoric Against Muslims and Jews.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA categorically condemns the hate-filled and false statements made on GEO TV's 'Subah Pakistan' program.

The hate-filled 'Subah Pakistan' program [the program] broadcasted in Pakistan on GEO Television and by subscription in the United States of America on December 22, 2014. Hosted by the infamous hate preacher Amir Liaqat Hussein, who has a history of promoting terrorism, the program claimed that "Ahmadi Muslims and Jews are the enemies of Pakistan" [and] "the culprits behind the Peshawar Attack."

This demonstrably false language promotes national and international anti-Ahmadi hatred and anti-Semitism. The program additionally alleged that Ahmadi Muslims are the "common enemy of all sects of Islam" and are "enemies of Pakistan responsible for various terrorism plots against Pakistanis."

In an attempt to further incite hatred against Ahmadi Muslims, the program falsely alleged that Ahmadi Muslims commit blasphemy against Prophet Muhammad. This is a particularly incendiary statement both because it is false and also because Pakistan enforces the death penalty for blasphemy. Tragically, extremists in Pakistan have murdered innocent civilians on multiple occasions on the mere accusation of blasphemy.

Moreover, in 2008, hate preacher Amir Liaqat Hussein declared on his program that Ahmadi Muslims are "Wajibul-Qatl," that is, "it is obligatory to kill [Ahmadis]." In the coming days, extremists in Pakistan confessed to murdering two prominent Ahmadi Muslim leaders in response to Liaqat's demand. Therefore, to prevent further violence against Pakistan's religious minorities, it is crucial that

Pakistani, American, and the international community condemn the program's hate speech and demand a retraction of the program's false and defamatory statements.

While Ahmadi Muslims have faced ongoing persecution in Pakistan only for their faith, the Worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, His Holiness the Khalifa of Islam, Mirza Masroor Ahmad, has repeatedly guided Ahmadi Muslims to serve the people of Pakistan and pray for the nation's uplift. Following the Peshawar school attack, His Holiness declared in his internationally broadcast Friday Sermon:

"We Ahmadi Muslims sympathize and love humanity and so wherever mankind suffers in any way it leaves us grieved and pained. In this instance those killed were our fellow Muslim brothers and our

countrymen and so our grief is even more. Our hearts are filled with love and compassion for them."

"This hate speech and calls to violence against Ahmadi Muslims, and in this case also Jews, is condemnable and unfortunately nothing new in Pakistan," said Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, National Vice President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA. "Pakistan has permitted hate speech against religious minorities with impunity, which empowers extremists, sows the seeds of terrorism, and continues to put Pakistan's religious minorities in grave danger."

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community ask the Pakistani Government to hold accountable those responsible for these anti-Ahmadi and anti-Semitic statements, and to protect the rights of Pakistan's vulnerable religious minorities. (26 December 2014)

Ahmadi Muslims mourn 150 children in Peshawar murdered by Taliban

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns in the strongest terms today's terrorist attack on Peshawar Army Public School. Reports indicate at least 150 children have been killed and scores more injured.

The Community mourns with the families and friends of those afflicted by this horrible atrocity. May God give them strength, patience, and fortitude to bear through this painful and shameful day.

"As Muslims, as parents, and as human beings, we are devastated to hear of this horrific act of terror," said

Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, National Vice President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, "and condemn the Taliban in the strongest terms possible. We once again call upon the Government of Pakistan to stop this injustice and to root out and end the Taliban's reign of terror."

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA prays for the departed and urges the U.S. State Department to help Pakistan in protecting and providing security to all its citizens. (16 December 2014).

Announcement from National Secretary Audio-Video:

An Android App for Al-Fazl newspaper has been launched. iPhone App already exists.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.thefwz.alfazl>

Announcement from Secretary Rishta Nata

Under the instructions of Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih V (aba), the Dept. of Rishta Nata is offering premarital counseling for prospective couples and their families. Please encourage all such members to benefit from this service. Premarital counseling can be

requested by sending an email to PremaritalCounseling@Rishtanata.us or PMC@Rishtanata.us. Dr. Farooq Ahmad Padder, National Secretary Rishta Nata, (267) 974 4197, www.Rishtanata.us.

Announcement from National Secretary Umoor-i-Kharija

On 23 October 2014, Respected Mujeeb-ur-Rahman, Advocate, participated in a special program at prestigious Columbia Law School in New York entitled, Pakistan's Ahmadis: Blasphemy, Identity and Persecution. The event was moderated by Mahmood Ahmad, lawyer and member of the National Public Affairs Team. Approximately 75 people attended the event, including 7 professors and more than 30 law students. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.

Watch the complete HD video of the event and the fascinating talk at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ydbUIBFcRU>.

I want to thank 1) MTA USA Studios, under the able leadership of Na'ib Ameer, Dr. Rehmatullah, Daoud Chatha, Dr. Asad Chaudhry and Rizwan Akbar for their terrific efforts in recording this historic event; 2) the Queens Jamā'at, under the able leadership of Nazir Ayaz (President), for their excellent organizational

support; and 3) Sister Zainab Ahmad (Columbia Law alumna) for help securing the venue. (16 December 2014)

North Jersey news

Zia Unas and Farah Sayyed-Unas of North Jersey were blessed with son Uzair Moeen Unas on Nov 11, 2014.

Arslan Ijaz and Sadaf Khurshed of North Jersey were blessed with daughter Ayza Ijaz on Dec 7th, 2014.

News from Miami

What meant to be a simple charitable event on Christmas Day, the neighbors at Hallandale Beach were overjoyed when a knock on their door during the mid hours of Christmas Day surprised their early afternoons. For some, Christmas Day is a holiday where all visits become warranted; where all bad deeds come to a halt; where good deeds receive recognition. "You know what, its Christmas (as the antagonist cloaks its hatred dislike or disbelief), I will take your chocolates and your card and shake your hand and definitely shake your hand," exclaimed one neighbor after stating "No Thank You" to a knock unknown to her own door. Neighbors who may have wanted that surprise visitor or a precious loved one to knock on their door and say "Merry Christmas" was a gift that Muslims For Peace at Hallandale Beach fulfilled. With a team of over 23 members, we took bags of chocolate and cards of silver

foil to spread what we know best on any day of the year: "Love for all, Hatred for none." Our teams were comprised of men and women who took separate streets and knocked on over 113 homes giving them a holiday wish that seemed precious for them and joyful for us. It was a win-win situation. Children whose families could not afford chocolates were excited with joy when a box filled their happiness. Lonely men opened the door with twinkles in their eyes expressing the same love and appreciation as the children did. Muhammad Saeed, our local Murrabi remarked, "Sadr Sahib, this was a great experience. People wanted us to be there." To the box of chocolates that people received on Christmas Day, Forrest Gump leaves us with his astute advice: "Life was like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get." Safer Bhatti, Ph.D.

Pakistan's Dark Days

Terrorism and the Blasphemy Laws

By Amjad Mahmood Khan

AMJAD MAHMOOD KHAN is an Adjunct Professor at UCLA School of Law.

December 21, 2014



A boy in an army uniform weeps for victims in front of Army Public School in Peshawar, December 19, 2014. (Fayaz Aziz / Courtesy Reuters)

Last week's massacre of 132 schoolchildren in Peshawar by the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) was

horrific. It sparked a wave of sympathy—world leaders expressed their solidarity with the country—and also criticism—for years, Pakistan has given safe haven to terrorist groups.

TTP's ghastly attack in Peshawar was hardly surprising. In the spring of 2010, Faisal Shahzad, a TTP-trained American, attempted to bomb Times Square in New York. Just weeks later, TTP operatives massacred 86 Ahmadi worshippers during Friday prayers at mosques in Lahore. (Ahmadis are a persecuted minority Muslim sect.) In 2013, TTP was linked to the killing of 127 Christians in Peshawar.

Yet despite overwhelming evidence of the threat presented by TTP, Pakistan has been utterly deficient in dismantling it.

Neither a lack of resources nor a lack of international support is the problem. Pakistan has

spent billions of dollars on its counterterrorism efforts, the bulk of which has come directly from the United States. U.S. drone attacks, meanwhile, have aided in the fight against TTP. And although Pakistan does, at the very least, turn a blind eye toward some terrorist groups that target India, that does not really figure into this case; the TTP mostly murders within Pakistan.

Rather, the problem is a group of draconian laws that a military dictator, Zia ul-Haq, enacted decades ago and a dangerous culture of impunity the laws have engendered. Known as the blasphemy laws, these provisions punish any “spoken, written, or visible representation,” including offense by “imputation, innuendo, or insinuation,” that “directly or indirectly defiles the sacred name of Prophet Muhammad” and thus outrages the religious sentiments of Muslims. The accused can face capital punishment. The codes thus provide legal cover for terrorists to commit atrocities in the name of protecting Islam’s integrity based on their warped view of the faith.

Since 1984, Pakistan has permitted the arrest and prosecution of several thousand of its citizens—both Muslim and non-Muslim—on trivial and often trumped-up charges of blasphemy. These include wearing an Islamic slogan on a T-shirt, using an Islamic greeting in a public square, making the call for prayer on a loudspeaker, printing a wedding invitation card with Koranic verses, sending a text message perceived as critical of Islam, even committing a spelling error on an examination. And the registered cases prompt violence against the accused. For example, earlier this year, TTP sympathizers in Gujranwala burned down many homes in an Ahmadi-inhabited village over an allegedly blasphemous Facebook posting, killing four, including an elderly woman and her two young granddaughters. More troubling than these individual cases is the ability of groups like TTP to draw on the laws to justify their crimes.

For example, when TTP and its affiliates massacred Ahmadis and Christians, it claimed that it was doing so because Ahmadis and Christians are infidels who insult Islam. Similarly, when TTP massacred the children of military families last week, it claimed that it was to signal its opposition to the parents’ implicit support for U.S.-backed drone attacks. Here, too, TTP’s justification is apparent: silence those who threaten,

however indirectly, Pakistan’s status as an Islamic state.

In all of this, TTP has the backing of laws that criminalize minority beliefs, views, and activities. Indeed, TTP has made fighting blasphemy its *raison d’être*. For example, in 2012, one TTP spokesperson rallied all Muslim youth of Pakistan to fight blasphemy, saying: “Zionist and crusader enemies of Islam are insulting the signs of Islam everywhere.” The approach has worked: feeling intimidated themselves, Pakistani authorities have failed to fully prosecute a single TTP or TTP-affiliated operator for any of the group’s prior attacks. Between arrest and conviction, the criminal cases against TTP and its affiliates drag, falter, and fold because police fail to furnish incriminating evidence and few lawyers or judges dare to confront the difficult question of limiting the reach of Pakistan’s blasphemy laws. It also does not help that lawyers who represent individuals accused of blasphemy are threatened and killed. For example, Rashid Rehman, a well-known civil rights advocate defending a blasphemy prosecution, was shot and killed in Multan last May.

Within the Pakistani government, the most vocal opponents of the blasphemy laws, Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab, and Shahbaz Bhatti, the minister of minorities affairs, were assassinated. In Taseer’s case, the assassin, Mumtaz Qadri, maintained the support of over 500 Muslim clerics and was serenaded with rose petals and praised for his “defense” of Islam as he entered the court during his trial. A TTP spokesperson justifying Bhatti’s murder struck a similar note: “[The] assassination of Bhatti is a message to all of those who are against Pakistan’s blasphemy laws.”

If Pakistan is serious about ridding itself of TTP, it must do more than simply vow to up its war on terrorism. It must address the reasons that TTP can terrorize with impunity. It must examine and dismantle its own discriminatory penal code that has long suffocated the rights of citizens and protected terrorists. It must overcome a culture of fear that prevents adequate police protection for vulnerable populations and communities and robust prosecution of known terrorists. Above all, it must decide whether it is prepared to defeat the ideology, and not simply the weaponry, of its biggest enemy.

Old Copies of Ahmadiyya Gazette Needed

The publications department is looking for old copies of Ahmadiyya Gazette USA to preserve the history of Ahmadiyya Gazette. Please look in your stacks of old magazines and email publications@ahmadiyya.us if you have copies of Ahmadiyya Gazette published before 1980. Jazakumullāh for your help.



BOLETÍN AHMADÍA

Boletín Oficial de la Comunidad Ahmadiya del Islam, USA - Una publicación bimensual, espiritual y educativa

El líder de la Comunidad musulmana Ahmadiya pide una reacción pacífica ante las publicaciones de nuevas caricaturas

Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad dice que los musulmanes deben responder pacíficamente a través de las oraciones, y elogia los comentarios del Papa Francisco a este respecto.

El líder Internacional de la Comunidad musulmana Ahmadiya y Quinto Jalifa, Su Santidad Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad, ha respondido a la publicación de una nueva caricatura del Santo Profeta Muhammad (la paz sea con él) en la portada de la edición de esta semana de Charlie Hebdo.



Desde la mezquita de Baitul Futuh en Londres, Su Santidad abordó este tema en su Sermón del Viernes, y dijo que estas caricaturas provocan tristeza y dolor en los musulmanes amantes de la paz en todo el mundo, y por tanto debían ser condenadas. No obstante, dijo que cualquier forma de violencia o respuesta ilegal era injustificable e iba en contra de las enseñanzas del Islam. Su Santidad también dijo que las manifestaciones de protesta en la calle no eran una respuesta apropiada, y que en su lugar, los musulmanes debían responder acrecentando sus oraciones e invocando bendiciones para el Santo Profeta (la paz sea con él).

Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad dijo: "Recordad que el Islam nunca se ha extendido y nunca se extenderá mediante la violencia y el derramamiento de sangre. Al contrario, sólo se difundirá mediante la invocación de bendiciones y saludos (Durud) para el Santo Profeta del Islam (la paz sea con él). Sólo tendremos

éxito si ofrecemos el Darud." Su Santidad dijo que tras los ataques a Charlie Hebdo, la revista había recibido un nuevo impulso. Hazrat dijo:

"¿Qué se ha logrado a través de este ataque terrorista? En el pasado, muchos líderes occidentales condenaban la publicación de este tipo de caricaturas ofensivas, pero tras los ataques de la semana pasada en Francia, muchos líderes y personas han cambiado de opinión y anuncian públicamente su apoyo a esta publicación indecente." Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad continuó diciendo:

"Desde el ataque (a Charlie Hebdo) el periódico ha recibido una gran apoyo financiero por parte de distintas fuentes. Anteriormente, la difusión de su edición impresa sólo alcanzaba los 60,000 ejemplares y se comentaba que la revista tendría que cerrar el negocio pronto, pero debido a las actuaciones de estos supuestos musulmanes, ha recibido un nuevo impulso y esta semana la difusión de su edición impresa ha superado los cinco millones."

Durante su sermón, Su Santidad elogió los comentarios que recientemente hizo el Papa Francisco respecto a que la libertad de expresión debe tener límites, de manera que ninguna fe o religión debería ser objeto de burla o escarnio, y que se debía respetar la dignidad de cada religión en todo momento. Su Santidad dijo que el punto de vista expresado por el Papa en este asunto era "totalmente acertado".

El líder de la Comunidad musulmana Ahmadiya dijo que los medios de comunicación internacionales tenían un gran poder e influencia y por ello les pedía que ejercieran su dominio con la debida responsabilidad.

Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad dijo: "En la época actual los medios de comunicación tienen un gran poder; si actúan de forma irresponsable pueden generar desórdenes y provocación gratuita, pero si actúan de forma responsable pueden jugar un papel muy importante en la promoción de la paz y la armonía en la sociedad."

Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad concluyó su sermón rezando por la paz en el mundo y reiterando la necesidad de que los musulmanes respondan a cualquier intento de ridiculizar al Santo Profeta (la paz sea con él) mediante oraciones ofrecidas con devoción y sinceridad.

Del Sagrado Corán

No ha de existir coacción en la religión. Ciertamente, lo recto ha quedado separado de lo erróneo: así, quien se niegue a ser conducido por los pecadores, y crea en Al-lah, ha agarrado con seguridad una empuñadura fuerte, que no tiene grietas. Y Al-lah es quien todo lo oye, Omnisciente.



Al-lah es el Amigo de los que creen: los saca de toda clase de tinieblas a la luz. Y respecto a los que no creen, sus amigos son los pecadores que los llevan de la luz a toda clase de tinieblas. Estos son los moradores del Fuego; allí habitarán.

(C. 2, Vs. 257-258)

Hadiz (Relatos del Santo Profeta^{sa})

Abu Musa relata que el Santo Profeta dijo: “El caso de la guía y conocimiento con que he sido enviado es similar al de la lluvia que cae sobre la tierra, una de cuyas partes es buena y fértil, y su hierba seca se torna verde, produciendo abundante hierba nueva y fresca, y otra de cuyas partes es árida y almacena el agua que Dios ha hecho beneficiosa para la gente, que bebe de ella y la utiliza para el cultivo. Y otra parte es una llanura estéril que no retiene el agua ni produce hierba fresca. Este es el caso de aquellos que entienden la fe revelada por Al-lah y se benefician de aquello que Al-lah me ha revelado y lo aprenden y enseñan; y el caso de los que no se inmutan para obtener el conocimiento de la fe ni aceptan la orientación con la que he sido enviado.”

(Bujari y Muslim)

Escritos del Mesías Prometido

¿No es algo maravilloso el hecho de que en una época en que las grandes naciones del mundo poseían abundancia de recursos económicos, militares e intelectuales, un simple pobre huérfano desamparado, indefenso, iletrado y sin ayuda, diera lugar a tan brillantes enseñanzas que, con sus argumentos concluyentes y pruebas irrefutables, dejara sin habla a todos sus oponentes? Él fue quien puso en evidencia los fallos y errores de los pensadores que se enorgullecían de ser grandes filósofos y hombres de sabiduría. A pesar de su condición de pobre y desamparado, alcanzó un gran poder, destronando a poderosos reyes, y colocando en su lugar a los pobres. Si esto no provenía de Al-lah ¿cómo fue esto posible? Conquistar y superar al mundo entero en sabiduría, conocimiento y fuerza: ¿puede acaso lograrse sin la ayuda de Dios?

(Rohani Jazain, Vol. I; Brahine Ahmadiá)

Cabe señalar que el Santo Profeta (la paz y bendiciones de Dios sean con él) permaneció firme y constante al reivindicar su misión profética desde el principio hasta el final a pesar de los innumerables peligros y amenazas de multitud de enemigos y adversarios. Durante años padeció crecientes dificultades y sufrimientos que podían hacerle desesperar de la victoria. Es inconcebible que nadie que persiguiera ningún objetivo mundano pudiera mostrar semejante resistencia. Además, al proclamar su misión profética, perdió incluso el apoyo que antes disfrutaba. Una palabra suya trajo consigo miles de contiendas y acarreó miles de calamidades sobre su persona; fue desterrado de su tierra; fue perseguido con furor para ser asesinado; su hogar y propiedades fueron destruidos, sufrió varios intentos de envenenamiento y vio convertirse en enemigos a sus amigos. Durante una época que pareció eterna tuvo que soportar sufrimientos que ningún impostor hubiera podido padecer.

(Rohani Jazain, Vol. I; Brahine Ahmadiá, pág. 108)



Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
(1835-1908)

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EL ISLAM NO DA PERMISO PARA MATAR A NADIE

(Entrevista a Waseem Sayed publicada en el Diario Yucatán)

MÉRIDA, Yucatán, 14 de enero.- "En el Sagrado Corán y los dichos del Noble Profeta, su conducta y ejemplo, no hay ningún lugar donde se mencione "Guerra Santa" dentro del islam", explicó Waseem Sayed, PhD, representante de la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadía de México en una entrevista concedida a *Libertad de Expresión Yucatán*.

Respecto a la Guerra Santa y los actos de violencia perpetrados por personas que dicen seguir al Islam, señaló que estas ideas y acciones "salen de las mentes de personas que quieren abusar de la religión para lograr sus propios fines". "En las poblaciones donde hay escasez de educación, pobreza, hambre y una lucha para la supervivencia, y hay un liderazgo que no tiene los intereses de la población como prioridad y la gente vive sin esperanza, siempre surgen sacerdotes, imanes, líderes religiosos y políticos que abusan de cualquier control que puedan ejercer sobre la sociedad".

El entrevistado reiteró que las acciones de los radicales, entre las cuales citó el atentado terrorista

contra el semanario francés *Charlie Hebdo*, son contrarias a las enseñanzas del Islam: Dijo que es posible verificar que todo es falso e inventado por las personas que quieren abusar de las poblaciones que ya están sufriendo. Indicó que para combatir estos radicalismos es preciso educar a la gente sobre las verdaderas enseñanzas del Profeta Mohammad y aquellas contenidas en el Sagrado Corán .

Dijo que el Noble Profeta pasó 13 años de su profetazgo en Meca, bajo persecución, y nunca levantó un de-



El Imám Noman Rana [derecha] presentando el Sagrado Corán al Lic. Luis Alberto Solis Vazquez, Coordinador de la Biblioteca Pública Central Estatal de Mérida, Yucatán, y el Dr. Waseem Sayed

do para defender o atacar, para hacer nada a las personas que habían matado a muchos de sus fieles. No hizo nada porque el Sagrado Corán dice que no está permitida la rebelión bajo ninguna circunstancia".

"Dice el Sagrado Corán que ustedes no pueden cometer rebelión bajo ninguna circunstancia, ni siquiera si están perseguidos. Solamente y únicamente tienen la opción de abandonar este lugar en el nombre de Dios para seguir creyendo en Él, y comprobarán la ayuda de Dios y que Dios les proveerá de todo lo que necesitan", aseguró.

Indicó que es falso que el Santo Profeta Mohammad se convirtiera en un soldado, aboliera la libertad religiosa y matara a los no seguidores. "El día que liberó La Meca, el Noble Profeta perdonó a todos. En Medina, él mismo fue elegido por los judíos, musulmanes y paganos como su líder. Cualquiera persona que conozca la historia de lo que fue la vida del Noble Profeta sabe que no existe en el Islam permiso de matar a nadie", como dice el Sagrado Corán, C. 2, Vs 257: "No ha de existir coacción en la religión", indicó el Dr. Sayed.

ACTIVIDADES DE LA YAMAAT EN MÉRIDA

La Comunidad Ahmadía del Islam, representada por el Imam Noman Rana, misionero de México, y el Dr. Waseem Sahib, está realizando grandes progresos tras aproximadamente un año de su establecimiento en Mérida. Con la ayuda de Dios la Comunidad ha sido acogida en Mérida con entusiasmo e interés y 20 personas se han unido a la Comunidad Ahmadía en los dos últimos meses. Entre otras actividades, cabe destacar la distribución de folletos, anuncios en la radio, charlas, clases, etc. Hasta la fecha se han distribuido alrededor de 400.00 folletos en esta ciudad. Por otro lado se emiten alrededor de diez anuncios diarios en la radio, donde acuden entre diez y cuarenta personas diarias. La Comunidad se ha dado a conocer ampliamente a través de los medios de comunicación y ya se conoce en la mayor parte de México. Asimismo, todos los jueves se organiza en el centro islámico una charla llamada "Café, Torta e Islam, a la que suelen acudir alrededor de 30 personas, y los sábados se imparten clases de árabe, a la que también asisten una treintena de personas. Gente de todas las esferas de la ciudad de Mérida, entre ellos estudiantes, visitan diariamente el centro islámico un gran número de personas participa en las oraciones de Yuma y en las oraciones diarias.



Quienes deseen prestar servicios voluntarios en los trabajos de predicación en Mérida, por un periodo de una semana a diez días, por favor, pónganse en contacto con :

Comunidad Ahmadía de Mérida, email: Merida@IslamEsPaz.org

Participación en la Feria del Libro de Guadalajara, México



La Comunidad Ahmadía participó con gran éxito en la Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara, México, en Andalucía Stand, patrocinado por España. Es la segunda feria del libro en el mundo en

número de expositores, a la que acudieron alrededor de 750.000 personas con representantes de 44 países. Se distribuyeron alrededor de 7000 y fueron entregadas publicaciones a los representantes de los gobiernos de Uruguay, Bolivia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Chile y el Tribunal de Justicia de México. También se enviaron publicaciones a diversas bibliotecas y universidades. La radio y la televisión también sirvieron de instrumento de propagación del mensaje de "El Islam y la Paz". Qamar Fazal, representante de España en la Feria del Libro, describe así su experiencia en esta ciudad:

“Los mejicanos poseen cualidades espirituales. Creen en Dios firmemente y utilizan mucho las expresiones “con la gracia de Dios, con la ayuda de Dios”, etc. Muy pocos de ellos rechazaron las publicaciones. Acostumbraban a sentarse en el puesto y permanecer escuchando durante largo tiempo. Profesores, médicos, sociólogos, psicólogos y gente ordinaria dieron gustosos su información de contacto. Se establecieron alrededor de 100 contactos. Los estudiantes solían cooperar en plegar los folletos y distribuirlos entre sus amigos, y la atmósfera era increíble con la gracia especial de Al-lah.

Jesús^{as} hijo de Dios, la redención, el pecado original, el papel de Santa María, la confesión, la muerte de Hazrat Isa^{as} en Cachemira, profecías sobre el Santo Profeta Muhammad^{sa} en la Biblia, la interpolación de la Biblia, la ciencia y la religión, la necesidad de un profeta del tiempo... eran entre otros los temas que interesaban al público. La gente conoce muy bien la Biblia. Un psicólogo mexicano que leyó el libro "Diez condiciones de Baiat" ha escrito una carta a Hazur (ATBA) diciendo "que los mexicanos necesitan su orientación aquí en Guadalajara para difundir el mensaje del Islam entre nuestros hermanos. Estoy dispuesto a ayudarle".

Nueva Escuela de Humanity First en Guatemala

Según la USAID, se estima que 2 millones de niños en Guatemala no asisten a la escuela, y sólo 3 de cada 10 niños se gradúan después del sexto grado. En un esfuerzo por abordar la situación angustiosa de la educación en Guatemala, Humanity First emprendió el "Proyecto Educativo para la niñez y juventud guatemalteca Masrur Ahmad" en Alotenango, Guatemala, el 15 de enero del 2015. Más de 200 estudiantes de preescolar y primaria de las comunidades marginadas de Sacatepéquez se han matriculado en la escuela de Humanity First. Cada estudiante recibe una beca determinada por un estudio socio-económico individual realizado por el personal de Humanity First Guatemala.

Humanity First reconoce la gran necesidad de invertir en el futuro de estas comunidades, y ha puesto énfasis en la educación. Desde 2012, la Academia de Informática e Idiomas de Humanity First ha otorgado becas a más de 1.250 estudiantes de 23 instituciones públicas para estudiar informática y cursos de inglés en Antigua. Tanto la Academia como la Escuela Humanity First están acreditadas por el Ministerio de Educación de Guatemala.

Este nuevo capítulo para la Humanity First en Guatemala no puede ser posible sin su apoyo generoso. Para aquellos interesados en contribuir a los esfuerzos de educación de Humanity First en Guatemala, por favor póngase en contacto con Saifra Khan, Directora del País de Guatemala, a: saifra.khan@us.humanityfirst.org.



Página oficial en Twitter y proveedor principal de información Islámica en español de la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadía EE.UU.:
@elislam.us, www.islamespaz.org

Nuevos folletos en español disponibles
La Comunidad Ahmadía, Yihad O Terrorismo,
Jesús el Hijo de María y Velo Islámico.
1-800-WHY-ISLAM.

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