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Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

sa:	Şallallāhu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)
as:	'Alaihis-Salām (may peace be upon him)
ra:	Rađiyallahu '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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Allah creates what He pleases

لِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ طَيْهُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ إِنَّاً وَيَهُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ الدُّكُورُ ﴿٥٠﴾

[42:50] To Allah belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He creates what He pleases. He bestows daughters upon whom He pleases, and He bestows sons upon whom He pleases;

أَوْ يُزِّرُّ جُهُمْ ذُكْرًا نَّاً وَيَجْعَلُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ عَقِيمًا طَإِنَّهُ عَلِيِّمٌ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٥١﴾

[42:51] Or He mixes them, males and females; and He makes whom He pleases barren. Surely, He is All- Knowing, Powerful.

وَمَا كَانَ لِبَشَرٍ أَنْ يُكَلِّمَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَّا وَحْيًا أَوْ مِنْ وَرَآئِي حِجَابٍ أَوْ يُرْسِلَ رَسُولًا فَيُؤْوحِي بِإِذْنِهِ مَا يَشَاءُ طَإِنَّهُ عَلِيٌّ حَكِيمٌ ﴿٥٢﴾

[42:52] And it is not for a man that Allah should speak to him except by revelation or from behind a veil or by sending a messenger to reveal by His command what He pleases. Surely, He is High, Wise.

وَكَذِلِكَ أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ رُوحًا مِنْ أَمْرِنَا طَمَا كُنْتَ تَدْرِي مَا الْكِتَبُ وَلَا الْإِيمَانُ وَلِكُنْ جَعَلْنَاهُ نُورًا
نَهَدَى بِهِ مَنْ شَاءَ مِنْ عَبَادِنَا طَوَ إِنَّكَ لَتَهَدَى إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٥٣﴾

[42:53] And thus have We revealed to thee the Word by Our command. Thou didst not know what the Book was, nor what the faith. But We have made it (the revelation) a light, whereby We guide such of Our servants as We please. And truly, thou guidest mankind to the right path,

صِرَاطُ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ طَلَا إِلَيْهِ تَصِيرُ الْأُمُورُ ﴿٥٤﴾

[42:54] The path of Allah, to Whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. Behold! to Allah do all things return.

Holy Qur'ān 42[Al-Shūrā]:50-54. English translation by Maulawī Sher 'Alī

Reestablishment of Faith on Earth

Prophecies of the Holy Prophet Muhammad

May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

“Allah 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.” Holy Qur’ān, 33:57

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ كُنَّا جُلُوسًا عِنْدَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَأَنْزَلَتْ عَلَيْهِ سُورَةُ الْجُمُعَةِ وَآخَرِينَ مِنْهُمْ لَمَّا يَلْحَقُوا بِهِمْ قَالَ قُلْتُ مَنْ هُمْ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ فَلَمْ يُرَاجِعْهُ حَتَّى سَأَلَ ثَلَاثًا، وَفِينَا سَلَمَانُ الْفَارِسِيُّ، وَضَعَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَدَهُ عَلَى سَلَمَانَ ثُمَّ قَالَ ”لَوْ كَانَ الْإِيمَانُ عِنْدَ الْثُرْيَا لَتَأْلَهُ رِجَالٌ - أَوْ رَجُلٌ - مِنْ هَؤُلَاءِ“ (صحيح البخاري كتاب التفسير)

Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrates: We were sitting in the company of the Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, that the verse, “And among others from among them who have not yet joined them” [62:4] of Surah Jumu‘ah was revealed to him. We asked, “Who are they, O Messenger of Allah?” He did not respond until the third time. Salman, the Persian, was among us. The Messenger of Allah, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, put his hand on Salman and said, “If belief ascends to Pleiades, a person, or persons, from them will bring it back.” (Bukhārī, Book on Commentary)

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عَمْرٍ وَرَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: يَنْزِلُ عِيسَى بْنُ مَرْيَمَ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ فَيَتَرَوَّجُ وَيُوْلَدُ لَهُ وَيَمْكُثُ خَمْسًا وَأَرْبَعِينَ سَنَةً ثُمَّ يَمُوتُ فَيُدْفَنُ مَعِنِّي فِي قَبْرِي فَأَقْوُمُ آنَا وَعِيسَى بْنُ مَرْيَمَ فِي قَبْرٍ وَاحِدٍ بَيْنَ أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرَ - (مشكوة باب نزول عيسى)

Abdullah bin ‘Amr narrates: The Messenger of Allah said, When Jesus son of Mary descends towards earth (from his recluse), he will marry and have children. He will live for (about) forty five years (from then). Then he will die and will be buried with me in my grave (that is, in spirituality and in our objectives, we four will be in sync and one). Thus I and Jesus son of Mary will rise from one grave between Abu Bakr and ‘Umar. (Mishkāt. Translation adapted from Ḥadīqatuṣ-Ṣalihīn as printed on page 3 of Urdu section.)

Prophecy about the Promised Reformer

By the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him

February 20, 1886, God, the Merciful and Noble, the Magnificent and High, Who has power to do all that He wills (glory be to Him and exalted be His name) addressed me in a revelation and said:

I confer upon you a Sign of My mercy according to what you begged of me. So I have heard your entreaties and have honored your prayers with My acceptance through My mercy and made your journey a source of blessings for you. Therefore, a Sign of power, mercy, nearness is bestowed on you, a Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to you and you are granted the key of success and victory.

Peace on you, O victorious one. Thus did God speak so that those who desire life may be rescued from the grip of death, and those who are buried in the graves may come out of them, and so that the superiority of Islam and the dignity of God's Word may become manifest unto the people, and so that truth may arrive with all its blessings and falsehood may flee with all its ills, and so that people may understand that I am the Lord of Power, I do whatever I will, and so that they may believe that I am with you, and so that those who do not believe in God and deny and reject His religion and His Book and His Holy Messenger Muhammad, the Chosen One may be confronted with a clear Sign, and the way of the guilty ones may become manifest. Rejoice, therefore, that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed on you; you will receive an unblemished youth who will be of your seed and will be of your progeny. A handsome and pure boy is coming as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and also Bashīr. He has been invested with a spirit of holiness, and he is free from all impurity. He is the light of Allah. Blessed is he who comes from heaven. He will be accompanied by grace which shall arrive with him.

He will be characterized with grandeur, greatness and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their disorders through his Messianic qualities and through the blessings of the spirit of holiness. He is the Word of Allah for Allah's mercy and honor have equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and perceptive and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He will convert three into four. It is Monday, a blessed Monday. Son, delight of the heart, high ranking, noble. A manifestation of the First and the Last, a manifestation of the True and the High; as if Allah has descended from heaven. His advent will be greatly blessed and will be a source of manifestation of Divine Majesty. Behold a light comes, anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. We shall pour Our Spirit into him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and peoples will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to his spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed.

(Tadhkirah, pp. 175-177)

The original text is printed on page 6 of Urdu section.

Weekly Guidance from Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V

May Allah be his Helper

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

Friday November 21, 2014

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We should study the writings of the Promised Messiah ﷺ, an Appointee of God Almighty, on the subject of acceptance of prayer, heavenly signs, and Divine succor in his favor. Also, we should try to act upon all his admonitions.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted the Promised Messiah ﷺ who said:
God has shown countless signs in my favor to which hundreds of thousands of people are
witnesses and testify.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ said:

Only the one, who shuns his own will for the sake of my will and follows in my footsteps and
loses himself in my submission and frees himself from his ego, is with me.

On November 21st 2014, Hadrat 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) quoted from the writings of the Promised Messiah ﷺ in which he has narrated incidents where God accepted his prayers, showed His signs for him and blessed him with His succor.

While narrating these incidents, the Promised Messiah ﷺ admonished the Jama'at to carefully listen to his words, for God sent him as His messenger and blessed his words. The Promised Messiah ﷺ said that God has decreed that this Movement will prosper and flourish and that the survival of mankind now depends upon embracing this Movement.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ said: Once, Nawab Ali Muhammad Khan Sahib, Chief of Ludhiana, wrote a letter to me informing me about the cessation of some of his sources of income and requested me for prayers, so that those sources of income were restored. When I prayed for him, I received a revelation, 'کل جائیں گے', i.e., they will be restored. So, I wrote a letter to him informing him of this. It so happened then that within two to four days' time, those sources of income were restored to him. At this, he developed such faith in the Promised Messiah ﷺ that he completely lost himself in love and devotion to him.

Again, at another place, the Promised Messiah ﷺ said: A few days ago, Seth Abdur-Rahman Sahib, a businessman from Madras, wrote that due to certain

reasons his business was in bad shape and faced a crunch. He, therefore, requested me for prayers. [When I prayed], I received the revelation:

قادر ہے وہ بارگاہ ٹوٹا کام بنادے
بنانیا توڑ دے کوئی اس کا بھینڈن پادے

Almighty is He. He sets right a ruined project and breaks up a running one.

None has access to His secret.

Accordingly, his business began to flourish once again, but then again declined and went into disarray.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted the writings of the Promised Messiah ﷺ and spoke in detail about the prophecy which said that the Promised Messiah ﷺ would be wrapped in two yellow sheets.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The two yellow sheets signified two diseases which ailed the Promised Messiah ﷺ. One of them was severe headache and the other was diabetes. However, God safeguarded the Promised Messiah ﷺ from the ill-effects of these ailments on account of his prayers.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the Promised Messiah ﷺ being a true Appointee of God Almighty and about the prophecies and signs mentioned in the earlier Scriptures about his truthfulness.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted the Promised Messiah ﷺ regarding the sign of the camels being laid off and the new means of transport being

invented during the time of the Promised Messiah ﷺ. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the very words of the Promised Messiah ﷺ concerning the prophecy about the bad end of Deputy Abdullah Ātham and about the fulfilment of the prophecy.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ said: I do not relate the blessings of the Holy Qur’ān as mere stories and fables, but rather I present to the world the miracles to which I personally am a witness. The number of such miracles exceeds one hundred thousand. The earthquakes that have struck the world and the plague which is devouring it are from among the miracles to which I myself am a witness. These disasters and calamities have not yet come to end; rather the ones which are still to come are even more horrible. Certain epidemics, which this country has never witnessed before, will also spread in this country. I am not sure whether they will affect a certain part of the country or will affect the whole of it. However, it is possible that the calamities are averted if people have fear of Allah, as God is the Lord of the earth and the heavens.

Again, urging the people to safeguard themselves against ignorance, make efforts to be worthy of Divine converse and strive to bring their moral condition in line with the will of the Almighty God, the Promised Messiah ﷺ said: Today, people have forgotten what faith is. Faithfulness, loyalty, sincerity and love for God are non-existent. However, God has now willed to revive them. This is why He has sent His Appointee and

this is why knowledge and sciences are flourishing. The Heaven too is showing signs as conclusive proofs and there are many who are benefitting from the signs. Indeed, God has shown countless signs in my favor to which hundreds of thousands of people are witnesses and testify. And, I have firm faith in God my Lord that He will not stop manifesting these signs in future. In fact, He shows a sign whenever He so desires.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, the attention the world is paying to the Jamā‘at is also a sign of the Almighty God. The Promised Messiah ﷺ said: Only those have truly accepted me who have seen me with deep insight, weighed up my words with wisdom, carefully reflected upon my circumstances, and have heard my words and pondered over them. Only the one, who shuns his own will for the sake of my will and follows in my footsteps and loses himself in my submission and frees himself from his ego, is with me.

Towards the end of the Friday Sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the sad demise of Ghulām Qadir Sahib, dervish of Qādiān, and spoke of 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.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also announced the sad demise of two other dervishes of Qādiān, namely Mirzā Muhammad Iqbal Sahib and Chaudhry Manzoor Ahmad Cheema Sahib, and spoke of their services for the Jamā‘at.

Friday November 28, 2014

Man considers worldly help and support to be the only means of accomplishing his objectives; whereas, God alone has the right to be sought for help when it is needed, and indeed He does help.

Worship God Almighty and seek help from Him by bowing yourselves before Him alone.

Don’t ever think that you worship God because you have the power to do so, but rather the fact is that unless God Himself enables and grants someone the power to perform an act, nothing can be achieved.

On November 28th, 2014, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul-Futūḥ Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted the Promised Messiah ﷺ: While seeking help from someone, one should remember that God alone is worthy of being sought for help.

In other words, when a person needs someone’s help to accomplish his tasks, he ought to remember that God alone has the power to help him. God is capable of helping him, and indeed He does help. This

is such an important point that a true believer should always keep it in view when he is seeking help for the accomplishment of his own objectives or for the sake of the needs of the Jamā‘at. However, what we see in our everyday life is that people consider the very means by which they fulfil their needs to be the only tools of satisfying all their necessities and plans.

Haḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) once cited various examples to illustrate the occasions where man believes that it was due to the help and support of certain people that he was able to

fulfil his needs, or that it was due to his own efforts that he accomplished his objectives. At times, he considers his close relatives to be the means of success in his endeavors, and at times he sees his friends or those who often see him or the Nizām-e-Jamā‘at to be the providers of his needs. And, on certain other occasions, he seeks help from the government and humanitarian organizations.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: There is no denying the fact that at times none of the above-mentioned people or organizations are able to help a person or become a source of success for him. Still, if a person succeeds in obtaining his objectives, he realizes that help from the unseen has enabled him to achieve them, and as much as one believes in help from the unseen, one attributes one's success to God. If a person's faith in God is perfect and he considers God to be his only help and believes that God does indeed help, he will attribute his success to none other than God, Who helped him by utilizing certain worldly means. But, those who do not enjoy a firm relationship with God and consider worldly means to be everything and are always dependent on them, they never look up to God for help. However, when all worldly means fail, such people begin to commemorate God and call out to Him for help, because then they are not left with any other choice but to remember Him and seek help from Him alone.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: God says that in times of hardship when no one is willing to be with a person, it is God Who stands by him and helps him out of his difficulties. God rather says that the prayers that are offered at times of extreme helplessness are surely granted – even if they are offered by an atheist, for at times God shows signs even to atheists to prove His existence to them. When despair reigns and all else fails, even worldly people begin to seek help from God. Hence, those who claim that they always keep God in view and are not concerned with anything besides God, they must keep

Him in view at all times and in all their affairs. This is why God taught us the prayer: ایاک نعبد و ایاک نستعین Thee alone do we worship, and Thee alone do we implore for help.

God has commanded us to recite these words in every Rak‘ah of every Prayer. This is because God wants us to always keep Him in view. He wants us not to depend on worldly means and help. True, He has commanded us to make use of these means to obtain our objectives, but has enjoined us to put our trust completely in Him alone. Therefore, we need to follow the example of those believers who set the highest standards of worship and supplication to God. Indeed, we have no other option but to bow down before Him. We should try to understand the essence of the prayer, ‘ایاک نعبد و ایاک نستعین’, and fall prostrate at the threshold of the Almighty God.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Difficulties are being created for us everywhere. But, we need to remember that the fires of opposition will be consumed by their own flames. While this is happening, our job is to be always mindful of our obligations.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ said: God has taught us the prayer: ایاک نعبد Thee alone do we worship.

This is because man might have relied totally upon his own powers and thus distanced himself from God. God, therefore, also taught us the prayer: و ایاک نستعین And, Thee alone do we implore for help.

This is because God wants us to know that we cannot worship Him out of our own power and energy, but rather the fact is that unless He Himself helps us and grants us the ability to worship Him, we cannot achieve anything on our own. We, therefore, should always bear this important fact in mind.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The world is going through fast changes. May God make these changes a means of progress for the Jamā‘at! May He enable us to worship Him and may He bless us with His help and succor! Āmīn

Friday December 5, 2014

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) made a comprehensive analysis of the Qur’ānic commandment regarding submission and obedience to the Almighty God, the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the Ulul-Amr (those in authority) and advised the Jamā‘at to fully act upon the said commandment.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: True submission results in one's heart being blessed with light and the soul being granted bliss and happiness.

A nation cannot be called a nation and can never become united unless it follows the basic principle of obedience to those in authority.

On December 5th, 2014, Hadrat 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 60 of Sūrah An-Nisa' and gave its translation:

'O ye who believe! Obey Allah, and obey His Messenger and those who are in authority over you. And if you differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger if you are believers in Allah and the Last Day. That is best and most commendable in the end.' (4:60)

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In this verse, God has laid down a basic principle for the true believers: they should strive to demonstrate perfect submission and obedience. In the Holy Qur'ān, God has commanded the believers to obey Allah and His prophet ﷺ and those in authority, that is, the government of the time. Thus, all the actions of a government that are in line with the Sharī'ah include the government in Ūlul-Amr, that is, those 'in authority over you'. If a government issues a directive that is contrary to the commandments of Allāh and His prophet ﷺ then the commandments given by God and His prophet ﷺ must be given preference. In worldly matters, however, a believer should demonstrate perfect submission to the law of the land.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted an extract of the Promised Messiah ﷺ and said: In this extract, the Promised Messiah ﷺ has himself made a number of things very clear. He has explained that, 'those in authority over you', refers, in worldly terms, to the king, and in spiritual terms to the Imām of the Age. However, within the framework of worldly system of government a spiritual system can also function, and does function, and we are fortunate to be a part of the spiritual system. It is for the sake of the spiritual system which has been initiated by the Imām of the Age that God has established the institution of Khilāfat, which endeavors to establish God's kingdom in the hearts and in case of a dispute settles the matters in light of what God and His prophet ﷺ have said. The Promised Messiah ﷺ said that true submission results in one's heart being blessed with light and the soul being granted bliss and happiness.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Here, the Promised Messiah ﷺ means to refer to the submission shown to the spiritual system of government. And, indeed, one can measure one's own

standards of submission by looking at how far one's heart has been blessed with light and the soul with bliss and happiness. Submission to a worldly government results in peace and tranquility for a person; however, spiritual light and bliss can only be acquired through being obedient to the spiritual system.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah ﷺ has made an important point about how we can enhance our spirituality. He said spiritual exercise is not as important as submission. Those who take pride in their Ṣalāt and standards of worship but do not sincerely submit themselves to God can never obtain Divine grace.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ made another point about obtaining high standards of submission. He said one has to slay one's selfish desires in order to truly submit oneself to God. One has to get rid of arrogance and egotism and has to bring one's desires and wishes in line with the will of the Almighty God and His prophet, peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him. Idols can occupy the hearts of the greatest adherents of Divine Unity. Those who claim to worship the One God but have the idols of self-centeredness and pride occupying their hearts cannot show submission even on a small level.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ correlated the progress of a nation to submission and said that no nation can be called a nation and become one and united unless it acts upon the basic principles of obedience. The Holy Prophet ﷺ said that to obtain progress one should associate oneself with the Jamā'at, listen to the blessed words of the Imām of the Age and show perfect submission to him. No progress can be made without this. Therefore, we Ahmadiyya who have associated ourselves with the Jamā'at, should strive to obtain the highest standards of submission. This will not only enable us to reach a good end, but will also create a great revolution in the world.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) referred to Napoleon and explained how submission and obedience in worldly matters resulted in great revolutions in the world, and said: Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, may Allāh be pleased with him, said that Napoleon and other leaders like him did not enjoy Divine support as enjoyed by a true religion, yet they brought about great revolutions. However, the situation of those who take Bai'at [and become Ahmadiyya] is different. The very meaning of the term, Bai'at is to lose oneself completely in submission. This is such a great concept of submission that an equal of

this cannot be found in submission to someone in worldly matters.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) related incidents from the lives of the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and shed light on their spirit of submission and obedience and said: The unity and obedience shown by the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ was so exemplary that it won the hearts of so many. We, therefore, need to adopt the same standards of unity and obedience. We should sincerely follow the example

of the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. But, this will happen only when each one of us demonstrates true obedience and submission. Every Ahmadī, who has taken Bai'at with the Promised Messiah ﷺ, has a responsibility to demonstrate such level of submission and obedience as attracts the attention of the world towards him. I, therefore, pray to Allāh that He may enable us to fulfil the expectations which the Promised Messiah ﷺ had of us. Āmīn.

Friday December 12, 2014

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) narrated a few incidents as explained by Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd about the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ, his high spiritual station and how the Almighty God helped him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave details of the case of attempted murder lodged against the Promised Messiah ﷺ and announced that Captain Douglas' maternal grandson has sent him a message that he wishes to take Bai'at.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: One should always remain engaged in prayers and remembrance of the Almighty God and continue to supplicate that God may bless him with the day when He Himself makes the truthfulness of His faith manifest to him.

On December 12th, 2014, Ḥadrat 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) narrated a few incidents as explained by Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd ﷺ about the life of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: By studying these incidents we come to know about the high spiritual station of the Promised Messiah ﷺ and about how God helped and supported him. In Sūrah Yunus, verse 17 [...] I have indeed lived among you a whole lifetime before this. Will you not then understand?], God has stated the criterion for judging the truthfulness of His messengers.

Speaking about the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ, Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd ﷺ said: When we look at the life of the Promised Messiah ﷺ before he claimed to be the Promised Messiah ﷺ, we find out that he repeatedly challenged the Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims of his time if they could raise any objection on his past life. However, none of those people had the courage to raise any objection against his past life. They all rather admitted that the Promised Messiah ﷺ led a life of piety and righteousness. Even Maulvi Muhammad Hussain of Batala, who later became a fierce opponent of the Promised Messiah ﷺ, testified in his magazine to the pure and pious life of

the Promised Messiah ﷺ. Some other opponents also testified to the righteous and pious conduct of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: God has stated in Sūrah Mu'min that He supports His messengers. Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd ﷺ said that all sorts of efforts were made to kill the Promised Messiah ﷺ, so much so that a case of attempted murder was also filed against him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the case filed against the Promised Messiah ﷺ by Henry Martyn Clark and shed light on how the Promised Messiah ﷺ was acquitted of the charges against him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Maulvi Umruddin Sahib of Shimla judged the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ by witnessing that God helped and supported the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) narrated a few incidents from the life of the Promised Messiah ﷺ shedding light on how the Promised Messiah ﷺ was falsely accused of a number of crimes and then how he was acquitted of those false charges against him; how he was treated with respect and courtesy in the courtroom and how his enemies were humbled and humiliated and proved false in their accusations against him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Indeed, these are manifest signs of the Almighty God. They show us how God caused the Promised Messiah ﷺ to be acquitted of the false charges brought against him by his enemies.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke of Captain Douglas, the English magistrate who heard the case of attempted murder against the Promised Messiah ﷺ, and explained how God showed him the signs of the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: All these are signs of the Almighty God for us. God showed a number of signs to Sir Douglas as well, impressing upon him the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ. One of those signs was that while he walked around, he saw as if the face of the Promised Messiah ﷺ came before him and said that he was sinless and blameless. Sir Douglas narrated these incidents to other people as well, informing them of the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Signs of the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah ﷺ are being shown to this very day. After more than a hundred years have elapsed since the advent of the Promised Messiah ﷺ, I have received a message from a maternal grandson of Captain Douglas that he wishes to take Bai'at. Indeed, this is a sign of the Almighty God that today Captain Douglas' grandson feels that he should embrace the truth which was once made manifest to his grandfather.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We have already heard the story of the great grandson of Dr Martyn Clark who clearly stated that his great grandfather was in the wrong and the Promised Messiah ﷺ was truthful.

Friday December 19, 2104

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) strongly condemned the barbaric killing of innocent children at a school in Pakistan, prayed for their forgiveness and illustrated Islāmic teaching regarding love and compassion for mankind.

The incident was the worst example of brutality and savageness which shook humanity to the core and made it scream out with pain.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted the Promised Messiah ﷺ: Be compassionate towards people and do not oppress them with your tongue, hand or by any other means. Be meek of heart and show sympathy towards mankind so that you are accepted.

On December 19th, 2014, Hadrat 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) strongly condemned the incident in which innocent children at a school in Peshawar, Pakistan, were killed in a most barbaric and cruel manner.

Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ said: A believer should always remain engaged in prayers and remembrance of the Almighty God and continue to supplicate that God may bless him with witnessing the day when He Himself makes the truthfulness of His faith and His own person manifest to him and cause him to see His blessed face as well as the face of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. In fact, when a person surrenders himself to God, the world surrenders itself to him. Nothing in the world can then cause him any damage. We know numerous such incidents in the life of the Promised Messiah ﷺ when he was not armed with any sword, or any other weapon, but God protected him and helped him. Despite all the opposition against him, the Promised Messiah ﷺ remained safe and secure as God had promised to him. Not only the Promised Messiah ﷺ himself remained safe but his Jamā'at also flourished and the town of Qādiān prospered.

Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ said: There was a time when Ahmadiyyah were not allowed to go to mosque in [Qādiān] or fetch water from the well. The potters were told not to supply pots to the Ahmadiyyah. There was a time when these difficulties existed. But, where have all those people gone, who created these difficulties for the Jamā'at?! In fact, their children accepted Ahmadiyyat and are today propagating the message of Ahmadiyyat in the world.

These are all signs of the Almighty God showing that the Promised Messiah ﷺ was true in his claim. These signs also show that the institution of Khilāfat which succeeded the Promised Messiah ﷺ is also supported by God Almighty. Indeed, these signs also enhance us in faith.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The incident was the worst example of barbarity and savageness which made one's hair stand on end and shook humanity to the core making it scream out with pain. People with even an iota of decency expressed their grief and sadness over the incident.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The hearts of Ahmadīs are filled with love and sympathy for mankind. Indeed, the Ahmadīs are always ready to help mankind and are moved by even the smallest of such incidents. I personally felt deeply grieved over the incident and remained distressed throughout the day. May God rid Pakistan of vicious and wicked people! May He rid all Muslim countries of such elements!

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Seeing these incidents one is reminded of the oppressions being committed against the Ahmadīs. A similar incident of brutality and bloodshed was committed in 2010, some four and a half years ago, against the Ahmadīs at their mosques in Lahore. However, neither the government nor most of the public paid any attention to it. We Ahmadīs, however, have love and compassion for mankind. We are deeply moved by the fact that all the school children who have been killed were our compatriots. Therefore, our hearts are filled with sympathy and compassion for them. May God grant all of them His cover of mercy and forgiveness. May God also grant patience and steadfastness to their grieved parents. Āmīn

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Holy Prophet ﷺ had strictly forbidden to kill non-Muslim children and women during wars with them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: May Allāh grant patience and steadfastness to children whose parents were killed in the incident. May Allāh Himself be the provider of all such children. Āmīn

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Extremism and cruelty is a tragedy afflicting almost every Muslim country in the world today. Pakistan is not the only country to be afflicted with this; rather such cruelties are being committed in Iraq, Syria, Libya and many other Muslim countries. The extremists are not only killing the existing people, but they are destroying our coming generations by taking them away from the true teachings of Islām.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Islam teaches love, affection and brotherhood. The Qur'ānic commandments enjoin that we should reject extremism and establish justice and fairness. God enjoins that one should show complete submission to Him and to His Prophet ﷺ and avoid quarrelling with each other. Otherwise, you may become cowardly

and you lose your awe over people. One should also show patience, for surely God is with those who exhibit patience.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Until one treats fairly even those who are one's enemies, and until one establishes high standards of brotherhood, and until the government looks after its people and the people are compliant to their government, and until people have fear of Allāh in their hearts, incidents of brutality and cruelty will continue to take place.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah ﷺ has inculcated in us love and compassion for mankind. The Promised Messiah ﷺ said that the believers have been commanded to show mercy and kindness. Therefore, one should always keep the commandment in view. One should constantly observe oneself as to how far one is truly kind and compassionate to one's fellow beings.

The Promised Messiah ﷺ said: Be compassionate to God's people and do not oppress them with your tongue, hand, or by any other means. Always endeavour for the good of humanity. Do not be arrogant towards anyone...Do not abuse anyone.. Be meek, humble, good of intention and sympathetic to mankind, so that you are accepted. God wants you to be fair towards mankind.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The atrocity committed in Pakistan has caused us the deepest grief. God has, in order to put an end to such atrocities, sent the Promised Messiah ﷺ He had promised. The Promised Messiah ﷺ has come so that he may end wars and conflicts and spread love and kindness. If only people understood this!

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Ahmadīs should offer heart-felt prayers for Pakistan and other Muslim countries. May God cause peace to be established in these countries. Āmīn

Next, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the martyrdom of Mubarak Ahmad Bajwa Sahib of Chak 312/B Kathowali, District Toba Tek Singh, Pakistan. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also announced the sad demise of Amina Ausaf Sahiba of Kababir and Ibrahim Abdur Rahman Bukhari Sahib of Egypt and said that he would lead their funeral prayer after the Jumu'a.

Topics and Deadlines for next Issues

Suggested topics for the March Issue: Mushāwarat and governing in Islam,

Easter (Rise of Christ, Status of Jesus in Islam, Meaning of his rising). Deadline February 10

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.

Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd:

The Prophecy and The Man

Synopsis of the Friday Sermon Delivered by
Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
on February 21, 2014

Yesterday was February 20, a day which is commemorated as the day of the prophecy of Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd in the Jamā‘at. In this prophecy, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) foretold the birth of a son of his who would be pious and righteous and would have many other qualities. Last Friday-Sermon was about signs given to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) by God Almighty. As today is the closest Friday to February 20, Hadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ deemed it appropriate to give a discourse on the prophecy of February 20, which was called a magnificent sign by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him).

The qualities mentioned in the prophecy were the qualities the son was to have. We know that Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) graced the office of Khilāfat for 52 years and departed from this world having proved his mettle to the world. Many books would need to be written if one was to study in-depth these qualities and appraise the life of Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). It is not possible to encompass his life and achievements in sermons and speeches. Jamā‘at commemorates February 20 every year and scholars give speeches according to their knowledge and insight on this subject.

Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote 10 books and journals on Kalām and 31 books and journals on spirituality, Islamic morals and Islamic creed. He wrote 13 books and journals on the life of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), 4 books and journals on history, 3 books and journals on jurisprudence (Fiqh), 25 books and journals on the politics of pre-partition India and 9 books and journals on post-partition politics and establishment of Pakistan.

Yesterday was February 20, a day which is commemorated as the day of the prophecy of Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd in the Jamā‘at. In this prophecy, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) foretold the birth of a son of his who would be pious and righteous and would have many other qualities. Last Friday-Sermon was about signs given to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) by God. As today is the closest Friday to

February 20, Hadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ deemed it appropriate to give a discourse on the prophecy of February 20, which was called a magnificent sign by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace). He told his detractors that although they objected, such a sign was above and beyond human power. Not only did it foretell the birth of a son but also stated that he would have a long life. If this prophecy is seen with deep and fair insight, there remains no doubt in it being a Divine sign. If however, the detractors had any doubts, then the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) challenged them to present a prophecy of their own with similar signs!

He said: ‘Here it should be observed most clearly that this is not just a prophecy but is also a magnificent heavenly sign.’ And just as the purpose of his advent was to prove the truth of Islam and to establish the greatness of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him), the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) did not attribute this prophecy to his own truth, but said: ‘Allah the Exalted has manifested this sign to demonstrate the truthfulness and greatness of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). This sign is in fact hundreds of times superior and more potent and majestic and glorious than the sign of bringing a dead person back to life. Bringing a dead person back to life only entails calling a spirit back for a short while.’ ...

What benefit would a dead soul’s return give to the world, whereas, here, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) says: ‘With the grace and favor of Allah, the Exalted, and the blessings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him), the Noble God has accepted the prayer of this humble one and has promised to send a blessed soul whose apparent and hidden blessings will spread all over the earth.’

He said: ‘O people! I am nothing. Whoever attacks me in fact attacks my Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) but he should remember that he cannot throw dust at the sun. In fact, the dust would fall on his own head, on his eyes and on his mouth and will disgrace him. And the splendor of our Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) will not diminish. In fact, God Almighty will manifest

his splendor all the more. Can you stop the sun from rising near the hour of Fajr? Similarly, you cannot harm the sun of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and his truthfulness. May God Almighty remove your malice and rancor!"

As we know, in accordance with the prophecy, the promised son was born in January 1889 and went on to accomplish great achievements which will be remembered till the end of time. Before citing the tremendous triumphs of Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) Huzoor read out the glorious words of the prophecy:

February 20, 1886, God, the Merciful and Noble, the Magnificent and High, Who has power to do all that He wills (glory be to Him and exalted be His name) addressed me in a revelation and said:

I confer upon you a Sign of My mercy according to what you begged of me. So I have heard your entreaties and have honored your prayers with My acceptance through My mercy and made your journey a source of blessings for you. Therefore, a Sign of power, mercy, nearness is bestowed on you, a Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to you and you are granted the key of success and victory.

Peace on you, O victorious one. Thus did God speak so that those who desire life may be rescued from the grip of death, and those who are buried in the graves may come out of them, and so that the superiority of Islam and the dignity of God's Word may become manifest unto the people, and so that truth may arrive with all its blessings and falsehood may flee with all its ills, and so that people may understand that I am the Lord of Power, I do whatever I will, and so that they may believe that I am with you, and so that those who do not believe in God and deny and reject His religion and His Book and His Holy Messenger Muhammad, the Chosen One may be confronted with a clear Sign, and the way of the guilty ones may become manifest. Rejoice, therefore, that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed on you; you will receive an unblemished youth who will be of your seed and will be of your progeny. A handsome and pure boy is coming as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and also Bashīr. He has been invested with a spirit of holiness, and he is free from all impurity. He is the light of Allah. Blessed is he who comes from heaven. He will

be accompanied by grace which shall arrive with him.

He will be characterized with grandeur, greatness and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their disorders through his Messianic qualities and through the blessings of the spirit of holiness. He is the Word of Allah for Allah's mercy and honor have equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and perceptive and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He will convert three into four. It is Monday, a blessed Monday. Son, delight of the heart, high ranking, noble. A manifestation of the First and the Last, a manifestation of the True and the High; as if Allah has descended from heaven. His advent will be greatly blessed and will be a source of manifestation of Divine Majesty. Behold a light comes, anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. We shall pour Our Spirit into him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and peoples will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to his spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed. [Tadhkirah, pp. 175-177]

These were the qualities the son was to have. We know that Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) graced the office of Khilāfat for 52 years and departed from this world having proved his mettle to the world. Many books would need to be written if one was to study in-depth these qualities and appraise the life of Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). It is not possible to encompass his life and achievements in sermons and speeches. Jamā'at commemorates February 20 every year and scholars give speeches according to their knowledge and insight on this subject.

Huzoor said he has also spoken on this subject time and again and Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ III and Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah have mercy on them) both gave discourses on this subject but it cannot be said that the life of Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) and the prophecy has been covered or everyone has understood it.

Today Huzoor presented one aspect of the prophecy as well as gave an insight on the impact it had on people of the Jamā'at as well on those outside the Jamā'at.

First Huzoor gave an overview of his books and lectures. At the time of Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd, there was no proper recording arrangement and people used to transcribe his discourses in real time. It would not have been possible to take accurate notes. Fazl-i-Umar Foundation has published 24 volumes of his works entitled *Anwārul-‘Ulūm* covering 633 lectures and books. The Foundation says that the finished collection will have 32 volumes consisting of 850 lectures, speeches, etc. Volumes 25 to 29 are ready although they have not yet been printed. Similarly, his sermons given on Fridays, Eids and at the occasion of many Nikāhs number in 2076 discourses and 28 volumes of *Khutbāt-i-Mahmūd* have been published to date and they consist of 1602 sermons. Sermons given from 1948 to 1959 will be published later. This is a mere outline of his academic works. Each piece that he wrote is replete with pearls of wisdom, knowledge and spiritual insight.

Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III (may Allah be pleased with him) said that even if just one aspect of the grand prophecy of February 20 is taken, for example ‘He ... will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge,’ it is so extensive that one cannot encompass its vastness no matter how much is said on it. One example of this is *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* [his translation/commentary of the Holy Qur’ān], which is such a wondrous commentary that any individual who has read a part of it with concentration cannot but acknowledge that if there was a holy person in the world who had only published part of such commentary of the Holy Qur’ān with detailed notes, it would have been sufficient for him to be acknowledged as a holy person from among the holiest persons in the world. However, Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote much else on the Holy Qur’ān. He has probably written 10,000 to 12,000 pages only on the Holy Qur’ān! Currently *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* constitutes 6,000 pages and, additionally, he has written on the Holy Qur’ān in many other places. *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* covers Sūrah Al-Fātiḥa to Sūrah Al-Baqarah, then Sūrah Yūnus to Sūrah Al-‘Ankabūt and then with a gap in publication, it covers Sūrah Al-Nabā to Sūrah Al-Nās, thus covering 59 Sūrahs in 6,000 pages, with 55 Sūrahs not covered. The font size in these volumes is very small and if the font size which is currently used is applied, these pages will probably go up to 10,000 to 12,000. A re-print is underway.

Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote 10 books and journals on Kalām and 31 books and journals on spirituality, Islamic morals and Islamic creed. He wrote 13 books and journals on the life of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him), 4 books and journals on history, 3 books and journals on jurisprudence (Fiqh), 25 books and

journals on the politics of pre-partition India and 9 books and journals on post-partition politics and establishment of Pakistan. He wrote 15 books and journals on the politics of Kashmir and 100 books and journals on the Ahmadiyya Movement. He has covered hundreds of other subjects.

Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III (may Allah have mercy on him) said that just as it was foretold, ‘He ... will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge,’ one glance at his works show us secular as well as spiritual knowledge. The beauty of it all is that each time he wrote a book or a journal, everyone said that one could not write any better! Each time he led in politics or gave counsel on leadership, the great and the good were compelled to acknowledge his matchless ability. In short, the aspect of ‘He ... will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge,’ is extremely detailed and we cannot even reach its thousandth part.

Next Huzoor presented some comments and reviews of people outside the Jamā‘at.

Allāmah Niāz Fateh Puri wrote a letter to Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) in which he said that he had the third volume of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* before him which he had reflected over and found that it doubtlessly presented a completely new perspective in the study of the Qur’ān. He felt that it was the very first Qur’ānic commentary in Urdu of its kind. He praised his discernment, his extraordinary eloquence and reasoning which was apparent from every single word. He regretted not having known about this commentary up till then. He said that having read the thoughts on Prophet Lot in Sūrah Hūd his heart shuddered and he was compelled to write to Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd. He felt that he could not adequately commend the way the commentary threw light on aspects which were different from how other commentators had presented. He felt that publication of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* was a service to Islam of such a high order that even the opponents could not deny it.

Respected Akhtar of Patna University wrote that he sent volumes of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* to a professor of Persian, Abdul Mannan, and the professor was so impressed that he passed some of the volumes on to other academics to read. He later asked them about their opinions. The academics acknowledged that there was no commentary of its caliber in Persian. When they were asked to compare it to Arabic commentaries, they said that Arabic commentaries were not available in Patna. However, the professor told them that there was no commentary of the caliber of the one by Mirza Mahmūd in any language even if commentaries from Egypt and Syria were brought in they would not be a match!

Syed Ja'far Hussain writes that he was imprisoned on the accusation to subvert the government of India and replace it with an Islamic government. He felt that it was a towering accusation for someone as humble as he was. While imprisoned he studied *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* (he was not an Ahmadi at the time) and observed a living Islam therein and he found everything in it that he was looking for and felt that after reading it he was acquainted with the Holy Qur'ān for the first time. Ahmadiyya Jamā'at was portrayed as an ogre but once truth was evident to him, he did not care about the dangers. He fell down in prostrations before God and prayed to be shown the right path. For months, he prayed in this vein night and day with the spot where he prostrated wet with his tears. He felt that his prayers were accepted when he felt resolved about the truthfulness of Ahmadiyyat and he wrote a letter of request for Bai'at. A large part of his imprisonment was spent in Secunderabad jail where the jailor was an educated Muslim and was aware of all the correspondence of the inmates because outgoing letters could not be sent without his signature. Although it was not good but due to his lack of courage Respected Ja'far used to try not to let the jailor find out about his letters written to Qadian. The jail staff and other inmates treated him with great respect and although he could not see anyone other than the person on guard, his letters to Qadian were sent without the knowledge of the authorities. However, any letter that came from Qadian came in the knowledge of the jailor. When Bai'at form arrived from Qadian, there was trouble and his secret was out. The jailor came to see him and spoke to him in a very sympathetic tone and asked him to leave the Qur'ānic commentary (*Tafsīr-i-Kabīr*) and offered to provide him with commentaries by other religious scholars like Abul-Kalām Āzād and Maulānā Maudūdī. Respected Ja'far read commentaries of both these scholars prior to filling his Bai'at form. He says that a student of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* gains the competence to critically review other commentaries. Thus, he told the jailor which parts of both these commentaries were obscure, where the translation was erroneous and where the given meanings were limited. He says that he could do this easily because *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* includes meanings of Qur'ānic terms. 'Which none shall touch except those who are purified' (56:80). He goes on to say that he had written all the detail to remove accusation against him that he delayed taking Bai'at. He sent off his Bai'at form and became engaged in prayer being not sure if his Bai'at would be accepted. His apprehension did not prove wrong. Before accepting his Bai'at, Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote to him that it was the duty of an Ahmadi to also stay loyal to the government of the

day and do everything legally. He replied saying that study of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* had imprinted all these matters on his heart. Few days later he was informed that his Bai'at had been accepted and he fell down in prostration with gratefulness. He says that he had read in *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* that the Khalīfa who would be Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd would be 'the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage,' so he wrote to Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) and requested prayers for his release. Soon after he was released. He writes that he is a living proof of the part of the prophecy about the Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd that says that he 'will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage.'

An example of Western scholars opining about Five Volume Commentary is British academic A J Arberry who was a scholar of Arabic, Persian and Islamic studies. He said that the Five Volume Commentary was a huge achievement and the then current volume was the first stage of the achievement. He said that Ahmadi scholars started this great work under the encouraging auspices of Ḥadrat Mirza Bashīruddin Maḥmūd Ahmād. The work was of towering nature, that is, to produce an edition of the Qur'ān with accurate and corresponding translation in English as well as commentary on every verse. The first volume which was published at the time of A J Arberry's review consisted of the first nine Sūrah. He wrote that the detailed preface is penned by Ḥadrat Mirza Bashīruddin Maḥmūd Ahmād himself in which he says that the contents of the commentary represent the spiritual knowledge that the founder of the Ahmadiyya Community imparted in his books and exhortations and knowledge that was later expressed by the first Khalīfa or by himself, who is the second Khalīfa of the Community. Therefore, he concluded that it could be said that this translation and commentary represents the Qur'ānic perception of Ahmadiyya Jamā'at.

Dr Anas from Syria writes that he had read books and commentaries of various scholars in his search for the truth and light, including that of Ḥadrat Muhyiddin Ibn 'Arabī. But he did not find the pleasure and sweetness that Mirza Bashīruddin Maḥmūd's commentary gave him. He says that he was seeking commentary of the visions his body and soul had experienced and when he read the *Tafsīr* on Ahmadiyya website, he found light and truth in it and it captivated his heart.

Respected Jamāl from Morocco, who corresponded with Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah have mercy on him) over a long period of time, writes that he was sent a copy of the first volume of *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* which he read and then compared it to

various other commentaries that he had also read. The difference was tremendous. He found that while *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* was a summary of the core of *Shari'ah*, other commentaries had been mere shell. Studying *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr* painted a beautiful picture of Islam in his heart which penetrated his very soul.

Huzoor gave some illustrations of the impact of Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd's (may Allah be pleased with him) lectures on others.

Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) delivered two lectures on the request of Literary League. The first lecture was on the status of Arabic among world languages. It was given on 31 May 1934 at YMCA Hall on the Mall Road, Lahore. It was presided over by Dr Barkat Ali Qureshi, who was the principal of Islamia College, Lahore. The duration of the lecture was one hour 30 minutes and the audience listened with rapt attention. Dr Qureshi thanked Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) and advised the audience to avail of what they had heard. He also expressed the desire to listen to such academic subjects in future.

A former chief justice of Kashmir was present at the occasion. He thanked Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) in English and said that he was delighted to listen to an interesting and masterful speech by a most capable orator. He had thought that the speech would be in the old style like when an Arab was asked about the reasons for the excellence of Arabic language, he cited three reasons. 1, because he was an Arab, 2, because Arabic is the language of the Holy Qur'an and 3, because Arabic will be the language of Paradise. However, he found the lecture to be of great academic and philosophical magnitude. He assured 'Mirza Sahib' that he had listened to every single word most attentively and had greatly benefitted from it and hoped that its impact on his heart will be enduring.

Syed Abdul-Qadir, vice principal of Islamia College, Lahore, had a piece published in a paper entitled 'Islam and Communism,' a part of which said

that he had the honor to listen to a lecture by Mirza Bashiruddin, Imam Ahmadiyya Jamā'at, on the subject of 'The Economic System of Islam and Communism.' He found this lecture, like his other lectures, to burnish academic thoughts and filled with information. He said that 'Mirza Sahib' possessed God-given capability and had complete proficiency on every aspect of the given subject, and for this reason, his thoughts deserved to be valued and considered.

There is need to distribute this book in the outside world. It is generally assumed that the concept of the economic system of Islam was first presented by Maulānā Maudūdī, although Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) had delivered this academic speech a long time before. It has been published as a book and now its English translation is also available which should be read by English-speaking people and should be given to those who are interested in matters of economy.

Lala Ram Chand, who presided over the event, said that he considered himself fortunate to listen to such a valuable speech. He said that he found it most beneficial. He had erroneously thought that Islam only looked after Muslims in its rules and regulations and not non-Muslims. But he found from the speech that Islam gives the teaching of equality and he was delighted to hear this. He said he would put it to his non-Muslim friends what excuse did they have in respecting this kind of Islam! He repeatedly thanked Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd for his speech.

Thus was a brief glimpse of just one aspect of the quality: 'He ... will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge.' May God enable us to study the treasure trove of knowledge that Hadrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) has given us, and just as it has been explained, he covered a whole range of different genres/subjects. May God enable us to avail of them and may we enhance our knowledge and spiritual awareness! (<http://khut.ba/21feb2014>)

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Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II^{ra} is the Promised Reformer

‘Abdur-Raḥmān Khādim

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) writes in his Announcement dated 20 February 1886:

“Rejoice, therefore, that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed on thee. Thou wilt receive an intelligent youth who will be of thy seed and will be of thy progeny. A handsome and pure boy will come as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and Bashīr. He has been invested with a holy spirit, and he will be free from all impurity. He is the light of Allah. Blessed is he who comes from heaven. He will be accompanied by grace which shall arrive with him. He will be characterized by grandeur, greatness and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their ills through his Messianic qualities and through the blessings of the Holy Spirit. He is the Word of Allah, for Allah’s mercy and honor have equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and understanding and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He will convert three into four, (of this the meaning is not clear). It is Monday, a blessed Monday. Son, delight of the heart, high ranking, noble; a manifestation of the First and the Last, a manifestation of the True and the High; as if Allah has descended from heaven. His advent will be greatly blessed and will be a source of the manifestation of Divine Majesty. Behold a light cometh, a light anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. He will pour His spirit upon him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and people will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to a spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed.” (Announcement—20 February 1886, page 3. “Majmū‘a Ishtihārāt,” Volume 1, page 101)

Then he states:

“God also revealed to me that the prophecy of 20th February 1886 pointed to the birth of two virtuous sons. Up to the words, “blessed is

he who comes from heaven,” the revelation refers to Bashīr the First, who was a source of spiritual blessings, and thereafter the revelation refers to Bashīr the Second. (Green Announcement, Marginal Notes on pages 17-18, published on 1 December 1888)

“Through revelation it has become evident that ... the prediction in respect of the Promised Reformer starts with the words “he is accompanied by grace which shall arrive with him.” Thus, in the divine text, the Promised Reformer has been named as Fadl (grace). His second name is Maḥmūd and the third name is Bashīr II and in one of the revelation his name been shown as Fadl-i-‘Umar” (ibid, page 21, line 13).

Nine-Year Time Limit

“Such a son will certainly be born, earlier or later, within the nine-year period in accordance with divine promise. Anyway, he will be born within this period.” (Announcement dated 22 March 1886. Majmū‘a Ishtihārāt, Volume 1, page 113).

The text of the marginal note on page 21 of the Green Announcement has been given above wherein it is mentioned that “the Promised Reformer has been named as Fadl in the divine text. Moreover, his second name is Maḥmūd and his third name is Bashīr II.” Then, as regards Bashīr II, he states at another place that:

“The second son about whom the revelation mentioned that the second Bashīr will be blessed, whose name is also Maḥmūd.” (Marginal Note on page 7 of Green Announcement, 1 December 1888)

“God Almighty will send the second Bashīr, just as before the death of Bashīr the First, a prophecy has been made about him in the Announcement dated 10 July 1888, and God Almighty has informed me that I will be blessed with a second Bashīr, whose name is also Maḥmūd. He will turn out to be courageous and determined in his conduct.

Allah creates what He wills. (Green Announcement, page 17, 1 December 1888)

"The second son about whom the revelation says that a second Bashīr will be blessed, whose other name will be Maḥmūd; although he has not been born so far till 1 December 1888, yet, as per God Almighty's promise, he will certainly be born within the specified period of time. The movement of the heavens and the earth may be prevented, but the promise of God Almighty can't be averted. The ignorant laughs at His revelations and the stupid makes fun of His pure glad tidings; because the last day is hidden from his sight and the end result is hidden from his eyes." (Marginal note on page 7, 1st December 1888 of the Green Announcement)

The Birth of the Promised Reformer

According to the prophecy in the above-mentioned Announcement dated 20 February 1886, Bashīr the First was born on 7 August 1887 and died in November 1888. Bashīr II, the Promised Reformer, was born on 12 January 1889. This was mentioned by the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) in his Ishtihār Takmīl Tablīgh dated 12 June 1889 that:

"As is mentioned in the Tenth Announcement of July 1888, God, the Mighty and Glorious, with His grace and favor, had promised that after the death of Bashīr I, a second Bashīr will be blessed, whose name will be Maḥmūd also, and He had told this humble person that he will be bold and courageous, and he will be your parallel in beauty and kindness. He is The Mighty, and gives birth the way He wishes. So today, 12 January 1889, 9 Jamādi-ul-Awwal 1306 A.H. on Monday, a son has been born to this humble person, who, for the time being, has been named as Bashīr and Maḥmūd, merely as an omen. Further information will be provided after a complete disclosure. (Majmū'a Ishtihārāt, Volume 1, page 191)

The Information After Complete Disclosure

1. With this thought in mind and expectation, the publication of Sirāj-i-Munīr was delayed so that when the revelation about the boy is fully exposed only then its complete and detailed account should be written. (The Green Announcement, 1st December 1888, page 4).

In the book Sirāj-i-Munīr, he writes:

The fifth prediction I had made was regarding my son Maḥmūd, and that he will be born now and that he will be named Maḥmūd and for the publication of this prophecy, announcements on green paper were issued, which are available even now and were distributed among thousands of people. Accordingly, that son was born within the time period stipulated in the prophecy and is now in the ninth year of age. (Sirāj-i-Munīr, page 34).

"In the Green Announcement the birth of a son without fail was promised in clear words. Accordingly, Maḥmūd was born. How magnificent is this prophecy. If you fear God, you should think with a pure heart." (Margin on page 34 of Sirāj-i-Munīr).

2. "As regards birth of Maḥmūd, who is my eldest son, a clear prophecy along with the name Maḥmūd exists in the Green Announcement, which was published in connection with the death of the first son and which is printed like a magazine on green colored paper". (Supplement to Anjām-i-Āthām, page 15, 1896)

3a. "My first son who is alive and whose name is Maḥmūd, he had not yet been born when the news of his birth was given in an inspiration and I saw his name written on the mosque wall, that is, Maḥmūd. It was then that I printed an announcement on green colored paper to publish this prophecy, and the date of its publication is 1 December 1888. (Tiryāq-ul-Qulūb, page 40, 1897, Sign No: 22).

3b. A prophecy was made about the birth of my elder son, Maḥmūd through an announcement dated 10 July 1888 and also 1 December 1888, which was printed on green colored paper. It was also mentioned in the Green Announcement that the son to be born would be named Maḥmūd. This Announcement was propagated among hundreds of thousands of people before the birth of Maḥmūd... Then, when this prophecy became well known by propagation through the Announcement and no sect among the Muslims, Christians and Hindus remained ignorant about it, then by the grace and blessings of God, Maḥmūd was born on Monday, the 12 January 1889 A.D., that is, 9 Jamādi-ul-Awwal 1302 A.H. I have informed about his birth in the announcement in whose title, the words Takmīl-i-Tablīgh is written in bold print and in which the ten conditions of

allegiance have been mentioned, and this revelation regarding the Promised Son is mentioned on its page 4.

O Pride of Messengers, I have realized the degree of your nearness to God. Your coming has been delayed and you have come from a long distance. (*Tiryāq-ul-Qulūb*, page 42)

4a. “On the seventh page of my Green Announcement, glad tiding have been given about the birth of a second son; that the second Bashīr will be blessed whose other name would be Maḥmūd; although he has not been born so far till 1 December 1888, yet as per God Almighty’s promise he will certainly be born within the specified period of time. The movement of the heavens and the earth may be prevented, but the promise of God Almighty can’t be averted. This is the text on page 7 according to which a son was born in January 1889, whose name is Maḥmūd and, by the grace of God, is alive and in his seventeenth year of age.” (*Haqīqat-ul-Wahy*, page 360)

4b. The thirty-fourth sign is that one of my sons had died and the opponents, as is their habit, had rejoiced over the death of my son. Then God gave me glad tidings that soon a son will be born in his place, whose name will be Maḥmūd. I was shown his name written on a wall. Then, through a green colored announcement, this prophecy was published among thousands of like-minded people and opponents. Seventy days had not passed after the death of the first son when this son was born and he was named Maḥmūd. (*Haqīqat-ul-Wahy*, page 217).

Meaning thereby that the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has declared Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II as the “Promised Reformer” in clear and unequivocal terms.

The Claim of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II claimed himself to be the Promised Reformer and unconditional and true verifier of the Announcement dated 20 February 1886 and the prophecy mentioned in the Green Announcement. The diary of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II has already been published in the daily *Al-Fadl*, 27 February 1934, Volume 21, No. 103, page 6, column 2, in which, in reply to a question from this humble servant, Hazoor has claimed to be the true verifier of the prophecy of the Promised Reformer. This diary has been published after showing the writing to Ḥaḍrat

Khalīfatul-Masīh II. Subsequently, in 1944 (Al-Fadl, 24 February and 15 March 1944), based on divine revelation, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II claimed to be the Promised Reformer.

A Doubt and its Removal

Doubt: The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has declared Ṣāḥibzāda Mirza Mu'bārak Aḥmad to be the one about whom it is mentioned that “he will convert three into four” in the “Announcement” dated 20 February 1886.

Removal: 1. The prophecy, “he will convert three into four,” points to the birth of four sons. As such, by virtue of being one of them, Mu'bārak Aḥmad is also its true verifier, but the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has not mentioned anywhere that he is the Promised Reformer.

2. The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) was informed through separate dreams and revelations in 1883 and 1886 about the birth of Mu'bārak Aḥmad. So, the text of *Tiryāq-ul-Qulūb*, pages 40, 42, 43 and *Anjām-i-Ātham*, pages 182 and 183, points to these very dreams and inspirations.

The Promised Messiah states:

a. “In 1883 I had a revelation that ‘Mu'bārak (blessed) is the one who will convert three into four. It meant that from my second wife, God Almighty will bless me with four sons and the name of the fourth one will be Mubarak.’” (*Nuzūl-ul-Masīh*, page 196).

b. “Probably four months back, in a state of inspiration, I was given four fruits. Three of them were mangoes, but one of them was a very large green colored fruit. It did not resemble any of the fruits of this world... There is no doubt that the fruits mean children.” (Letter addressed to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I (may Allah be pleased with him), dated 8 June 1886, published in *Al-Hakam*, 17 June 1903, page 16)

This dream was seen in January or February 1886 and both the texts were related to Mu'bārak Aḥmad. Likewise, there was a separate revelation about the four sons, that is, “convert three into four,” but how does this prove that he should be declared as the Promised Reformer? Is it written anywhere that except the Promised Reformer, there can’t be anyone else who can “convert three into four”?

Mu'bārak Aḥmad was not born within “the specified period of nine years,” as his date of birth is 14 June 1899. Thus he was born four years after the specified

time limit of nine years. As such, there can't even be a doubt that he could be the Promised Reformer.

The stated attribute of the Promised Reformer as the one "who will convert three into four," is a separate issue. It is not a single attribute but has numerous other signs attached to it which are not found in the late Mubārak Aḥmad and the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) himself knew even before the birth of Mubārak Aḥmad that he would die at a young age. (See *Tablighī Pocket Book*, 1952, page 532)

Thus, there couldn't be any inclination in the mind of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) that Mubārak Aḥmad could be the Promised Reformer.

The Factual Position: When we see it from a factual point of view, then this belief stands completely solved, because categorically from among the sons of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), only Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II is the fourth son: (1) Ḥaḍrat Mirza Sultān Aḥmad (2) Faḍl Aḥmad (3) Bashīr I, (4) Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II. Therefore from this point of view, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ-II, is categorically and unconditionally the one to convert three into four. But Mirza Mubārak Aḥmad was not the fourth son of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), neither

categorically; because this way he was the seventh; nor was he the fourth one among the sons from the second wife; as this way he was the fifth. (1) Bashīr-I (2) Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (3) Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad (4) Mirza Sharif Aḥmad (5) Mirza Mubarak Aḥmad. Of course he was the fourth among the living children from the second wife. It is in this respect that the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has mentioned about him in *Tiryāq-al-Qulūb*, page 44. However in the Announcement dated 20 February 1886, there is neither a restriction about the second wife nor is there a precondition of living children. Thus, without any restriction and precondition, if there is anyone who can "convert three into four," it is only Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II, who was born within the nine years' time period specified in the prophecy. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II had a long life and also became the second Khalīfa and other attributes of the Promised Reformer also appeared in him. As such Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II, without any doubt is the Promised Reformer.

(Translated by Col. Safi Khan from *Tablighī Pocket Book* (1952), pp. 736-742. Urdu text appears in Urdu section)

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Change in Rule 387 of Tahrīk Jadīd

A letter dated September 17, 2014 from Wakil A'lā, Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan, Rabwah, to the National Amīr, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, announces that Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V ﷺ has kindly approved an addition of a note to Rule No. 387 of the Rules and Regulations of Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya as follows.

Existing Rule No. 387	New Approved Rule No. 387
<p>Chandas are as follows:</p> <p>a. Obligatory Chandas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Chanda 'Ām: It is a monthly Chanda and is obligatory for every earning member. The prescribed rate is 1/16 of monthly income. 2) Chanda Waṣīyyat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ḥiṣṣa Āmad: It is a monthly subscription paid by a Mūṣī against his monthly income according to his Waṣīyyat (or Will). The rate is from 1/10 up to a maximum of 1/3 of the monthly income according to the commitment made by a Mūṣī in his Will. (ii) Ḥiṣṣa Āmad at the rate of Chanda 'Ām: If the income accrues from the property of the Mūṣī, then Ḥiṣṣa Āmad shall be payable on such income at the rate of Chanda 'Ām i.e. 1/16. (iii) Ḥiṣṣa Jā'īdād: This is paid by Mūṣīs as per Waṣīyyat Rules. It is rated at one tenth to one third of one's property. (iv) Chanda Jalsa Sālāna: Its rate is 1/120 of yearly income to be paid during the year. 3) Zakat. <p>b. Other Chandas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Fitrāna (ii) 'Id Fund (iii) Ṣadaqa <p>c. Chanda Tahrīk Jadīd, Chanda Waqf Jadīd and contributions towards other schemes launched by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ from time to time.</p> <p>d. i) Donations for which approval of Markaz has been obtained. ii) Local Fund.</p>	<p>Chandas are as follows:</p> <p>a. Obligatory Chandas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Chanda 'Ām: It is a monthly Chanda and is obligatory for every earning member. The prescribed rate is 1/16 of monthly income. 2) Chanda Waṣīyyat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ḥiṣṣa Āmad: It is a monthly subscription paid by a Mūṣī against his monthly income according to his Waṣīyyat (or Will). The rate is from 1/10 up to a maximum of 1/3 of the monthly income according to the commitment made by a Mūṣī in his Will. (ii) Ḥiṣṣa Āmad at the rate of Chanda 'Ām: If the income accrues from the property of the Mūṣī, then Ḥiṣṣa Āmad shall be payable on such income at the rate of Chanda 'Ām i.e. 1/16. (iii) Ḥiṣṣa Jā'īdād: This is paid by Mūṣīs as per Waṣīyyat Rules. It is rated at one tenth to one third of one's property. (iv) Chanda Jalsa Sālāna: Its rate is 1/120 of yearly income to be paid during the year. <p>Note: If a husband has paid Chanda Ḥiṣṣa Āmad or Chanda 'Ām on his income and afterwards he gives some amount out of it to his wife, then</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) If the wife is not a Mūṣī, it is not obligatory for her to pay Chanda 'Ām or Chanda Jalsa Sālāna on the above mentioned amount. (ii) If the wife is a Mūṣī, it is obligatory for her to pay Chanda Waṣīyyat on the above mentioned amount. Besides she can also make additional sacrifice. <p>Similarly payment of Chanda Jalsa Sālāna is not obligatory for those students, women and other persons who do not work but pay some amount as Chanda Waṣīyyat.</p> <p>3) Zakat.</p> <p>b. Other Chandas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Fitrāna (ii) 'Id Fund (iii) Ṣadaqa <p>c. Chanda Tahrīk Jadīd, Chanda Waqf Jadīd and contributions towards other schemes launched by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ from time to time.</p> <p>d. i) Donations for which approval of Markaz has been obtained. ii) Local Fund.</p>

National Calendar of Activities

February 7 Sat	National Āmila Meeting	Jamā‘at	National
February 14-15 Sat-Sun	National Public Affairs Conference	Jamā‘at	National
February 15 Sun	Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd Day	Jamā‘at	Regional/Local
February 21-22 Sat-Sun	Finance Refresher Course	Jamā‘at	National
February 21-22 Sat-Sun	In-Person MKA Āmila Meeting	Khudam	National
February 28-March 1 Sat-Sun	Local Qur’ān Conference	Jamā‘at	National
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 22 Sun	Masīḥ 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’ān Conference	Jamā‘at	East Coast
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 Hill/MKA Shūrā	Khuddām	National
May 8-15 Fri-Fri	Atfāl Tarbiyat Week	Atfāl	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 Atfāl Rally (Various Jamā‘ats)	Atfāl	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.....	Ramadān		
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 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	Atfāl	National
September 11-13 Fri-Sun	East Coast Lajna Ijtimā	Lajna	National
September 13 Sun	Regional Tarbiyat Workshops	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-Adhā		
October 3-4 Sat-Sun	T20 Cricket Tournament	Khuddām	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 Tablīgh Conference	Jamā‘at	National
November 22 Sun	Sīrat-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 25-27 Fri-Sun	West Coast Jalsa Sālāna		
December 26-27 Sat-Sun	Midwest Tarbiyatī Ijtimā	Jamā‘at	Midwest
December 31 Thu	Atfāl Sleepover	Atfāl	Regional/Local

History of Ahmadiyya Islam in the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Imam I. Mahmood Kauser

Introduction

The Republic of Marshall Islands is an island country consisting of 24 coral atolls. It is located in the northern Pacific Ocean and is part of the island group called Micronesia. The population of the country is a little over 68,000. It is surrounded by Federated States of Micronesia to its west, Wake Island to its north, Kiribati to its southeast, and Nauru to its south. It is the first area of population next to the international dateline as you move west from Hawaii. The Capital is Majuro where the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is located, and the first mosque of Marshall Islands; Masjid Baitul-Ahad.



Historically, the presence of the Ahmadiyya Community is fairly new for it was only in the 90s that various missionaries from the Fiji Islands would travel to the neighboring countries, including the Marshall Islands, to spread the message of Ahmadiyya Islam.

It was in the year 2000 that our beloved Khalifa, with his great vision and foresight, sent (Late) Hafiz Ahmad Saeed Jibril to Micronesia to further establish the community. It was in this very year that the community tried applying to the government to register the Jamā'at for its legal establishment here.

Allah Sends Help for the Believers

At that time, an African-American, Carl Ingram, became good friends with Hafiz Jibril and a great help to the community. He was an attorney by profession at

the time, and agreed to help file the application. At first, he was constantly getting the run around and nobody was willing to hear the case. At this point, the most Senior Ahmadi Muslims, Sam Ali Nena and his wife Neri Nasira Nena became worried. Sister Nasira Nena decided to speak to the president, who happened to be a close relative of hers. She requested him to help in expediting the application, but they were shocked to hear that the president, although a close relative, responded in the negative and added that he would not let this happen in his lifetime. It was the sheer magnificence of God that the President's promise came true, but God instead called him to himself right away and it was a mere 2-3 weeks after that very statement that he passed away. Within 1 month or so, the Jamā'at was registered in the Marshall Islands. The beauty of this registration was that when the draft of the constitution of the Jamā'at was sent to Khalifatul-Masih IV, it came back with signatures on every page by our beloved Khalifa himself.



Carl Ingram did a great service for the Jamā'at. He did not accept any fees but told the Jamā'at that he was doing the service as a gesture of good will. Even after the Jamā'at insisted for him to take something, he did not take anything. It was then God's blessings that were showered on him for his great service; from an attorney he has now reached the position of the Chief Justice of the Marshall Islands. By February 2001, the Jamā'at was officially registered in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. According to the bylaws, the first National Amir was Hafiz Saeed Jibril.

After Hāfiẓ Saeed Jibril returned to Ghana, unfortunately there was no other missionary to water the newly planted seeds of Ahmadiyyat. In the midst of that disconnection, some pioneer Ahmadi Muslims passed away or moved to other islands. Only two families were left on Majuro, the family of Sam Nena and another family of Alik Kenlak (who passed away) and his wife Nella Bien.



Sam Ali Nena recalls that among the islanders to accept Islam, John Lakulang was the very first, followed by Esra Jarwan, Madan Jack and Sam Nena himself. After many years without a missionary, Hāfiẓ Jibril wrote a few letters for Sam Ali Nena of which he signed himself stating to our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ about the need of a missionary here. It was the great compassion of our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ that he agreed to send a missionary to further the training and message of Ahmadiyyat.

It wasn't until 2006 that our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ V ordered Imam Inamul Haq Kauser to make another visit to the Marshall Islands and help to re-establish the seed of Ahmadiyyat. The visits of Imam Inamul Haq Kauser would last for about 3-4 weeks at a time. He was able to help in organizing the membership, convey the message to other natives of Marshall Islands, and teach the already existing membership Ṣalāt and other tenants of Islam. By the grace of Allah, his missions were met with great success because he was able to reconnect with the already established members as well as help further the cause of Islam, further solidifying the efforts of Hāfiẓ Jibril Saeed.

In 2011, upon request of the members, our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ assigned these areas to the USA Jamā'at and instructed the building of a mosque. The countries that were assigned were Marshall Islands, FSM, Mariana Islands which includes Guam, and Palau. With the approval of Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ, Falahud Din Shams was assigned the responsibility of building the mosque in Majuro.

Opponent of Islam

Early on, Ahmadiyyat and the members on the Island were tried in many different ways, especially after the dreadful events of 9/11. The members recall that after that horrific event many of the locals began to think that they had the same agendas as fanatics abroad and therefore unofficially issued social boycotts. It was years of this struggle and social pressure that was endured by these resolute Ahmadi Muslims. Amidst this communal shunning began another great attempt to cut the seed of God on the fertile soil of Marshall Islands. It began by a single yet powerful and influential opponent named Alik Alik. In 2008-09, Senator Alik Alik began to start a campaign against Ahmadiyya Islam with the purpose to not only hinder its progress but to remove it from its very roots. Like most nations of the modern age, Marshall Islands also respects and honors freedom of religion, so it was a great challenge for the Senator to come up with a plan to remove Islam from this free and secularly based state. After much contemplation, he conjured up the plan to begin to debate in the parliament about whether or not Islam was a religion to begin with. His case was that Islam was not in fact a religion and was only a terrorist organization or cult. The purpose of such case was that if Islam was removed legally as a religion then it would not be able to benefit from the freedom of religion clause. This was the second time in the history of Ahmadiyya Islam that a government discussed the validity of Ahmadiyya Islam in its parliament with the purpose to remove it. In this case, unlike in the case of Pakistan some 50 years earlier, there was no representation of Islam to counter the allegations.

During the sessions, various pastors and reverends of many denominations would come and speak against Islam. Unfortunately there was no attempt to allow Islam or a representative of Islam to come and clear their case. On this distant Island, there was only one group representing Islam, and that was the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and yet they were not invited to these hearings.

He continued to stress that they were a group of terrorists and the constitution should declare that Islam is not a religion, just a group of terrorists which would exclude Muslims the clause of freedom of religion. This proposal was even sent to the constitutional amendment referendum committee, however, Sam Ali Nena gave statements to the newspapers and told them that Islam had nothing to do with terrorists. "We are Ahmadi Muslims," he argued. It was by the sheer grace of Allah that Senator Alik Alik's plans to denounce Islam as a religion failed.

Allah, the Almighty, saved this minuscule seed of truth from this breeding disorder in this far off isolated Island. It was amazing how, during his many arguments, he even pointed out a specific location saying “the Muslims are going to build a mosque there” while at that time there was no plan that the community had or means to build a mosque. Allah made it a sign that the opponent was warning the government of the progress of Islam on the Island by pinpointing the exact location of the Mosque. Allah made such warning true by guiding the members much later to that very location. Now, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, the mosque is standing strong in that very location.

During this dreadful time, Sam Ali Nena would meet different senators and ask them about this discussion and what was the root cause. They all directed him to Senator Alik and said that it was spearheaded by him. Despite countless attempts to meet him, Respected Nena was not able to meet him because the Senator would always find ways to avoid him.

Subsequently, Senator Alik also became Deputy Speaker of the House which brought great concern for Imam Inamul Haq Kauser and Sam Ali Nena because this gave him a platform of higher influence. Nonetheless, just as his first attempt to declare Islam as not being a religion, Allah also stopped him from ever injuring the progress of Islam in the Marshall Islands.

Falah Shams made his first visit in May of 2011. The purpose was to sign the lease for the land of the future mosque. As Falah Shams, Sam Nena and Imam Inamul Haq Kauser were in the attorney's office to sign the lease, Senator Alik Alik happened to walk into the attorneys office at the same time. At this, Imam Kauser and Sam Nena approached Senator Alik to finally say hello and talk to him. While gone only for a short time, Imam Kauser came back to Falah Shams and said, “Do you want to see a sign of God?” He took Falah Shams to the other room where Senator Alik was seated with a pen and paper. To their surprise they discovered that he wasn't able to speak and was using the pen and paper to communicate. He wrote on that piece of paper, “I am normal I just can't speak.” This was a great sign indeed because it was his own mission to eliminate Islam but Allah took away his only means and stopped the problem from its very core.

For many months after this incident, there was no word of Senator Alik until July of 2011 when there was a headline news that Senator Alik Alik would be leaving politics and would not run for the 2011 election. In August of 2011, there was a parliamentary meeting. Senator Alik was the Speaker of the house but could not speak. He had one of his assistants to speak for him.

The parliament rejected the idea and demanded that the senator should resign because he cannot do justice to the duty of the speaker of the house. In September 2011, he was given compensation of \$25,000 and forced to resign from office. It is also interesting to note that in September 2011, on the very page of the Journal that announced Senator Alik's resignation, there was a piece about the first computer training center in Majuro sponsored by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. It was God's design to display the first step of progress of Islam on the very page where the announcement of his enemy being removed was displayed.



For the next 12 months, there was again no word on the whereabouts of Senator Alik Alik and people were not aware either. In September 2012, Falah Shams brought Matiullah Joyia as the missionary for Marshall Islands. All of a sudden one day Senator Alik's brother was seen at a restaurant. Falah Shams inquired as to how his brother was doing and whether he went for treatment. Senator Alik's brother said that he didn't go to the Philippines, instead he went to Texas and then added that it seems as though nobody will be able to help him now. He said that he felt that if we (the Jamā'at) would pray for him, he could recover from his illness.

Again in February 2013, Falah Shams came for a visit to Marshall Islands. The next day, Senator Alik's brother came to mosque and told him that Alik would die the next day. He was on life-support. His brother added that “they are going to murder my brother tomorrow.” His brother shared with Falah Shams that he wanted to bring his brother's body to Majuro for funeral and burial customs, which is an essential component of this culture and usually takes a minimum of about a week of celebration with all of the relatives and friends, more extravagantly than even wedding ceremonies, but Senator Alik's wife would not allow the body to come to the Marshall Islands. He was instead buried in Texas. This is how Allah dealt with an enemy of the Jamā'at and Islam even in this modern day.

Registration and Building a Mosque

Under the instructions of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V, plans were made to build a mosque and establish a functioning Jamā‘at. All of this was done under the supervision and guidance of Respected Amīr Jamā‘at USA, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar.

Since 2001, the Jamā‘at in the Marshall Islands had not been able to file the annual report to the government to renew the organization and the corporate filings. The Jamā‘at had to be re-registered. Due to re-registration, new office holders were appointed and approved. The by-laws of this constituted that Falah Shams would be the national President/Amīr and Inamul Haq Kauser as the Vice President, Sam Nena as the General Secretary and Kinja Jivirak as the Financial Secretary.

After this, the next focus of the Jamā‘at was to acquire land for the building of a mosque. Al-Ḥamdu Lillah, land was leased from Sister Nery Nasira Nena, wife of Sam Nena, who is a landowner in the main center of the city. She offered land right in front of her own home, which was adjacent to the back road in the Uliga district. The lease was signed for 30 years with two 30 year extension options totaling 90 years. The annual lease amount was \$1,000. Under the laws of Marsahall Islands, Jamā‘at could not own property. It was the shear grace and mercy of God that within the very first year, the devout member of the Jamā‘at Nery Nasira Nena decided to completely donate the land to the Jamā‘at and refused to take any money. At this, Falah Shams asked her to confirm the agreement with signatures by her and her children. She acquired the signatures and the document was registered with the land court. The reason for signatures from the children was suggested because land in the Marshall Islands is not the property of a single person, instead it is an elaborate system which insures that land remains in the possession of the family. Since Sister Nasira Nena was donating it without any compensation, it was important to make sure that her family would also agree. Sister Nasira Nena passed away at the end of 2013. May Allah grant her paradise and elevate her status.

During the Jalsa Salana UK of 2011, the drawings for the Mosque were presented to Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V. Various changes were made and a final plan was prepared. By September 2011, ground breaking ceremony was held for the first Mosque of the Marshall Islands. In that same time, various bids were received for construction of the mosque which resulted in construction starting in November 2011 and was completed by the grace of Allah by May 2012. Because

of the many activities that had already begun, the contractor was instructed to build and complete one room first and then proceed with the rest of the building so that prayers and various other programs could begin without delay. This room was completed by January 2012 from which various programs began.

In 2012 finally by the grace of Allah the mosque was completed without any setbacks. At this joyous occasion, an opening ceremony was held with an announcement that the official inauguration would take place when Khalīfatul-Masīḥ would visit the Marshall Islands.

By the grace and mercy of Allah, this joyous occasion was also announced on radio Australia. Different newspapers all over Micronesia published articles with the heading of “The First Mosque in Micronesia.” Radio Australia is in contact with the Jamā‘at since then.

Baitul-Āḥad Mosque is a 3,300 square foot two story building, with separate men’s and women’s prayer halls, which can accommodate 75-80 people each. It is equipped with a full kitchen, offices, a meeting room, and a two-bedroom missionary residence on the second floor. It is located in the robust downtown area of Uliga across the street from the courthouse, with regular routine traffic.

December 2011 marked the date when an official missionary was assigned specifically to the Marshall Islands. A missionary, Abdus Samad Usman Ukai, was appointed from Ghana. He served here until September 2012. A new missionary, Matiullah Joyia, was appointed from Canada out of the missionaries appointed to USA from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada.

Programs of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya RMI

Starting at that point, daily children’s classes, five daily prayers, *Dars*, Friday Prayer, regular Sunday general meetings, as well as *Tabligh* ventures by making contacts with political personalities, visiting schools, and distribution of literature began. By this time all of such programs began to be the regular activities of the Marshall Island Jamā‘at and Baitul-Āḥad Mosque.

Langar Khana (Dining Hall)

Daily lunch and dinner arrangements started at the mosque location during May of 2013. By the grace of Allah, nearly 50 people are fed daily. All arrangements and cooking are done by the members. An elaborate plan was made to cut the cost of the meals to a meagre

50 cents per meal. This service is not exclusively for members. It is open to all.

Children's Classes

Among the many daily programs, one key feature in the training and teaching of the future generation of Marshall Islands through daily classes. Children of all ages have been sorted out. Within the span of a year they have learned dozens of features of Islam such as the complete Salat with translation, basic history of Islam and Ahmadiyyat, *Qa'ida Yassarnal-Qur'an*, as well as many other basic teachings such as prayers and actions of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Many steps have been taken to make the learning process enjoyable and effective, such as prizes during the classes for outstanding children. Regular students who come for the most Prayers receive recognition for attendance for Prayer and a trip around the Island at the end of the week. Daily classes have also begun in the new Jamā'at of Long Island attended by 18-20 children daily and have the same programs as in the mosque to promote education and training of children.

General Meeting

Every week there is a program on either Saturday or Sunday for a general meeting in which all of the members of the Jamā'at gather to learn new aspects of Ahmadiyyat. Usually the general meeting starts after Zuhr and 'Aṣr Prayers and consists of Tilāwat, Ḥadīth, a presentation, a lecture by Imam Joyia, and closing remarks and Du'ā by Vice President Sam Ali Nena. The regular attendance of these meetings is typically around 60-80 members.

Radio Program

Among the countless efforts to spread the message of Ahmadiyya Islam to this isolated island, one is the national radio station. Since the demographics and culture of the islanders here revolves more so around the sharing of information verbally, therefore the radio is considered one of the most prominent and effective way to get information to the masses. It was for this reason that the Jamā'at here decided to begin to spread the pure teachings of Islam as presented by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) through the radio station broadcast. Even this venture was faced with great obstacles mainly due to fears that have been ingrained in this far off land towards Islam and its adherents. Unfortunately many of the Islanders have begun to assume that Islam represents a terroristic teaching and therefore it should not only be feared but

its publication and teachings should be censored. It was this fear at first that caused much setback in this mission, but Allah has always shown true believers the truth of their mission and the proof of His existence by removing obstacles. Once the first few programs began to be played on the radio, many new members were pulled towards the mosque. One of them is now the General Secretary and Secretary Tabligh. Romeo Benson visited and later joined the Jamā'at because of the radio program played by the Jamā'at.

Radio Station

By the grace of Allah, not only has the Jamā'at worked on starting programs on the existing national radio station, but by the guidance of the many leaders of the Jamā'at especially Amīr Jamā'at USA, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar and Respected Falah Shams, the Jamā'at was able to take a step forward and acquire an official US approved Radio channel of their own. By the grace of Allah, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya has registered 89.1 frequency and has made many plans for the programs and material to be aired. The equipment has been installed and tested. With Allah's help we were able to get brand new equipment for only \$1,500 locally from a Non-Ahmadi Muslim who comes to our mosque regularly. In January 2015, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI officially started the radio program, Fal-Hamdu Lillāh.

MTA on MBC

"I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the Earth," is a grand prophecy of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). We have seen the fulfillment of this grand prophecy in countless ways over the hundred years of history. One such manifestation was in the launch of the first Muslim television channel MTA in 1994. MTA has played a vital role in spreading the message of Ahmadiyyat to the world at large. It was the dream of the Jamā'at to bring MTA to the Marshall Islands not on an individual level through the internet but instead launch MTA on the national television to be broadcast to every home in the Marshall Islands. A part of this dream was fulfilled in 2013 when MTA was played on MBC for two weeks. The incident was mentioned by our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ V. The preliminary work has been completed and only the final few steps are remaining to officially launch MTA on MBC on an official basis, with no ads and no distractions. By the grace of Allah, even the two-week test run showed great results and many had tuned in to see what was being shown.

First Muslim Newsletter

Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI has left no stones unturned in terms of ways to get the message to the Marshallese people, from audio, video and even written material. Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI has also started "Voice of Islam in Micronesia," the first Muslim periodical to be published in Micronesia. It began in 2013 and has since been publishing bi-monthly. It is being sent to the general public as well as the elite of the country. A section is in the Marshallese language for local readers. By the grace of Allah, this newsletter has now begun to be translated in Kosraean language as well, and therefore, its scope has grown tremendously in the few months since its inception.

Leaflet Distribution

Flyer distribution is one of the oldest and basic methods of distributing information among masses. In 2011, Falah Shams prepared various leaflets in the Marshallese language and printed them to be distributed to the general public. Many of these flyers convey the basic introduction about Islam to the residents of these islands.

Humanitarian Efforts

Qur'ān defines *Insān* as human beings who possess both a love for Allah and a love for humanity. Under this divine direction, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI has made it a prominent part of their activities to help the local Marshallese people in any way possible. In a joint effort with Humanity First, programs are organized to promote education and improve the health of the citizens of Marshall Islands.

Blood Drives

In 2012, the first blood drive was held in the Marshall Islands in a joint effort with Humanity First USA and the College of Marshall Islands. A record 28 donors came to help the Ahmadiyya Community to make a difference. Prior to the effort to collect blood through blood drives, hospital would at the time of an emergency surgery make an announcement on the radio requesting someone to donate the specific blood type needed. This method began to be an issue and it became harder and harder to find blood when emergency situations arose, or in case certain blood types were harder to find due to the lack thereof among the relatives of a patient. This program was a stepping stone towards progress in the field of health. Since then many blood drives have been held. Now, an ongoing monthly plan has been sketched by the Jamā'at to hold

a blood drive in a new location, rotating among four prominent communities, so that year round blood is collected and there is then no reason for announcing for blood on the radio. In fact, every time the hospital needs blood, they call the Jamā'at and request that we arrange for a blood drive.

Computer Training Center

One of the very first projects to help in educating the Marshallese people was the launch of the first Computer Training Center (CTC). It was the goal and dream of the Jamā'at, in a joint effort with Humanity First USA, to open computer training centers to help the Marshallese people acquire the basic skills to help improve not only their lives but adding more skills so that they could achieve far more in the job sector. The very first CTC was opened during the time of Senator Alik's attempt at disorder and was in fact published on the same page as the resignation of Alik Alik. Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI was able to start two fully functional CTCs and is now transferring one to the Youth to Youth center as a hope to help the local youth of Marshall Islands.

Aid to Government

Among the many services provided to schools and individuals around the Island, one was provided to the government. Laptops were donated to the Internal Affairs department of the government of Marshall Islands for their many services that they conduct on a daily basis. This is a proof that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community works in every capacity to help not only individuals but humanity at large.

Helping Students

One of the greatest achievements in the field of humanitarian efforts was to help various children who were not able to attend school otherwise. They were helped in enrollment, paying the fees, or supplies for their scholastic experience. One such case was not only mentioned in the newspaper but also mentioned by our beloved Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V during a Jalsa UK 2013 speech. Imam Joyia began daily classes in the mosque and noticed that one particular child was extremely bright and was able to retain more of the material than any other child. After further enquiry, he was shocked and disappointed to know that she was not enrolled in any school. He offered to help her and the family. They approached many schools but unfortunately because of one or another technicality they refused her entry. Imam Joyia and Bonny, who is an activist promoting education and better living for all, were able to help her

get into school. It was related in a newspaper that, the day she was told that she had been accepted into school, Arlynn and the family began to weep and cry with joy. It was such a revolutionary day for them for they were able to conquer great heights all with the help of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The whole family participates in the community programs as active Ahmadi Muslims by the grace of Allah.

Home Rebuilding/Renovating

Many of the residents of the Marshall Islands are forced to live far below average standards due to the condition of their homes. Jamā'at Ahmadiyya RMI was able to renovate many houses under Humanity First to help as many residents as possible to improve their standard of living leading to a healthier and efficient life with increased life expectancy. Some such homes were of the members of the Ahmadiyya Community.

Mayor James Matayoshi

Since 2011, Mayor James Matayoshi of Rongelap Atoll has been a great help to our Jamā'at. He helped us with survey of land to be purchased for the mosque. Anytime we need any help, he has been there for us. He also spoke at the mosque opening ceremony and gave us a place in his office building for the first computer training center and paid for trainer and utilities for two years. Allah has rewarded him for his help. He became the president of the Mayors Association of Marshall Islands and a few months later became the president of Mayors Association for whole Micronesia. We have arranged with him to set up a medical clinic In Shā Allah. He has agreed to lease the main floor of his office building on the main road near the mosque at a nominal rate. Under the instructions Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ V, a physician is being sent who was providing services for the Jamā'at in Liberia. May Allah make this clinic a success and a great help to the people of Marshall Islands. He is also one of the directors of newly formed Humanity First of Marshall Islands.

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'ats 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)

Free Copies of Muslim Sunrise

Look for special issues of Muslim Sunrise for outreach on amibookstore.us or email info@muslimsunrise.com.

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.

Interfaith Thanksgiving program at Baitul-Hādī Mosque, Old Bridge NJ

November 21, 2014

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Old Bridge, NJ held its second annual Thanksgiving meal with Hon. Mayor Owen Henry of Old Bridge township on November 21, 2014.



© M. Rizwan Akbar

Moderated by Tariq Sharif, the program started with recitation from the Holy Qur'ān by Hammad Malik. Mr Sharif gave a brief introduction of the community and cited a short synopsis of various humanitarian activities that took place in 2014. Among the highlights were multiple blood drives held throughout central Jersey, donation of food for various food pantries, free medical clinics, interfaith and community outreach meetings.



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This year, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, and the Mayor's office worked together to recognize residents whose volunteer efforts were outstanding. Hon. Mayor presented "Ahmadiyya Excellence in service to Humanity" award to Lisa Giuliano for her dedicated service in managing the volunteer EMS services in Old Bridge. Kathlyn Louves of Old Bridge EMS services accepted the award on her behalf and

read out her thank-you note. Dr Mir Sharif was also noted to receive the US Presidential award for volunteer services this year.



Mayor Henry addressed the audience. He emphasized the need for volunteer services needed in the township to continue to run all-volunteer fire department and EMS services and thanked all residents who volunteer their time. The Mayor was accompanied by councilman Dr. James Anderson and council vice president Mary Sohor.



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Dr Mir Sharif, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Old Bridge gave a short concluding address thanking everyone for taking part in this great Thanksgiving tradition and closed the meeting with a silent prayer.

Traditional Thanksgiving meal was served for all followed by social hour. Many guests were present who met the congregation of the mosque and enjoyed the meet and greet sessions during dinner.



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Humanity First USA

Gift of Sight 2014 Eye Camp

Ahsan M. Khan M.D., Director, Gift of Sight, Humanity First USA

By the Grace of Allah, the fifth annual eye camp in Guatemala took place under the Gift of Sight initiative of Humanity First USA from October 25 to November 1, 2014. The camp was held in Guatemala City, Guatemala. The patients we treated were transported from remote villages comprising a mix of local Guatemalans and Mayans who lack access to basic medical care and who represent the poorest socioeconomic sectors of the surrounding area.



From Left to Right: Dr. Bilal Rana (Sadr, MKA USA), Abdul Sattar Khan (Amīr Jamā'at Guatemala), Dr. Charles Bouchard (Chairman of Ophthalmology, Loyola University Chicago), Dr. Ahsan M. Khan (Director, Gift of Sight), David Gonzalez (Director, HF Guatemala), Dr. Saqib Ali (Anesthesiologist, Cleveland, OH) visiting Baitul-Awwal Mosque library.



Patients waiting for eye surgery.

David Gonzalez, Director of Humanity First Guatemala, worked tirelessly for several months to prepare for our camp, and was supported by his team which included Abdul Sattar Khan (Amīr and Missionary-in-Charge Guatemala) as well as Claudia

Armas, Luisa Giron and Saifra Khan (Country Director, Humanity First Guatemala).

This year's Gift of Sight team included Dr. Charles Bouchard (Chairman of Ophthalmology, Loyola University Chicago), Dr. Amir Mehralian (Corneal Fellow, University of Illinois-Chicago), Dr. Majed Roohbakhsh (Corneal Fellow, University of Illinois-Chicago), Dr. Asad Movahedian (Corneal Fellow, University of Illinois-Chicago), Dr. Karen Small (Resident, Texas), Juan Nunez (Ophthalmic Surgical Tech from LA), Dr. Saqib Ali (anesthesiologist from Cleveland), Dr. Bilal Rana (Sadr MKA USA and anesthesiologist from Houston), Iftikhar ul Haq Khan (LA East), Abdus Salam Khan (LA IE), Harris Ahmed (LAIE) and Shailin Govinder (Irvine). Dr. Ahsan Khan (LA) is the Director of Gift of Sight and headed the mission.



Left: Gift of Sight USA team member Dr. Majid Roohbakhsh performing cataract surgery. Right: Volunteers from LA Jamā'at (Iftikhar Khan and Harris Ahmed) administering drops to patients.

Weekly conference calls were arranged leading up to the mission. Aysha Rahman Alburaki and Minaal Sayed were project coordinators and facilitated communication between team members, flight arrangements and travel logistics, volunteer forms, and collection of travel/housing funds, among other things. David Gonzalez was in constant communication with the team to ensure the clinic was appropriately set up

in Guatemala. All planning was done under the oversight of Munum Naeem (Executive Director, HFUSA) and Dr. Mahmood Qureshi (Director of Operations, HFUSA).

Several hundred patients were screened and assigned to return to our clinic for eye exams and, when indicated, cataract and pterygium surgery.

Several ophthalmic companies donated eye medications and supplies to support our effort, including Abbott Labs/Advanced Medical Optics, Alcon Labs, Allergan, and Bausch & Lomb. HFUSA created a Gift of Sight webpage with an online donation system (usa.humanityfirst.org/giftofsight). In addition, many team members created personal webpages through First Giving and many raised substantial funds to cover the cost of travel, food and accommodations. A successful fundraiser, Night for Sight 2014, was held in Chicago in September 2014 and raised donations to cover the expenses of the trip.

In all, over 70 surgeries were performed during the week. All surgical patients were examined the following morning by the surgeons and given medications and instructions through Spanish interpreters. At the time of writing of this report, it has been three weeks since the camp. Many of these patients have returned for

follow-up examinations and treatment plans are being arranged through live phone communication with local doctors. Many of the patients are seeing better, Al-Hamdu Lillāh.

Many of the Guatemalan residents were instructed on new surgical techniques.

On the final day, inventory was taken, all supplies were re-boxed and packed and delivered to the Humanity First headquarters in Antigua. Several medications were left in the clinic for the residents to give to post-op patients. A patient registry and log was created and provided to the Guatemalan residents for follow-up.

On Friday, the team departed Antigua and participated in Friday Prayers at Baitul-Awwal near Guatemala City. Al-Hamdu Lillah all team members returned to the U.S. safely and in good health.

All in all the Gift of Sight camp was a blessed success, Al-Hamdu Lillah. The Gift of Sight team is grateful to Amīr Jamā‘at USA, as well as the administration of Humanity First, under the direction of Munum Naeem, for their support and allowing us this blessed opportunity to serve. Earnest prayers are requested that may Allah accept all of our meager sacrifices in the service of humanity.

Greetings from Merida, Mexico!

As per directions of Respected Amīr Sahib, please encourage members to come to Merida to help us out for a week to ten days or more.

An exciting Tabligh plan to convey the message of Ahmadiyya Islam to the people of Merida, Mexico has started. We plan on using every mean possible, which include distributing flyers, open houses, lectures, media, billboards, social media. We need members to come out and join the efforts.

The minimum commitment needed is set at one week. Ideally we would like people to come for ten days. You may choose to sign up for a longer period if you wish - up to the maximum of three months for the current campaign.

The airfare varies, and you will need perhaps \$150 cash for food and drink for a period of one week to ten days stay. Accommodation will be provided. If you need help with the travel and/or food and drink expenses, please let us know, there may be partial assistance available.

If you are interested, please contact:
 Imam Noman Rana, Merida, Yucatan,
 Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadiyah de
 Mexico
 Cell: 99.91.29.45.94.
 email: noman.rana@ahmadiyya.us.
 web: muslimsforpeace.org.

Health Corner:

High Blood Pressure

Dr. Lutf ur Rehman, Nashville, TN

What is High Blood Pressure (Hypertension)

Pressure of blood in the arteries above a certain level is called high blood pressure. Normal blood pressure in a healthy adult is under 120/80.

You can have high blood pressure for years without any symptoms. Even without symptoms, damage to blood vessels and heart continues. Uncontrolled high blood pressure increases your risk of serious health problems, including heart attack and stroke.

High blood pressure generally develops over many years, and it affects nearly everyone eventually. Fortunately, high blood pressure can be easily detected. And once you know you have high blood pressure, you can work with your doctor to control it.

Symptoms

Most people with high blood pressure have no signs or symptoms, even if blood pressure readings reach dangerously high levels. Ask your doctor for a blood pressure reading at least every two years starting at age 18. Blood pressure should be checked in both arms to determine if there is a difference.



If you don't regularly see your doctor, you may be able to get a free blood pressure screening at a health resource fair or other locations in your community. You can also find machines in some stores that will measure your blood pressure for free, but these machines can give you inaccurate results.

Causes

There are two types of high blood pressure.

Primary (essential) hypertension

For most adults, there's no identifiable cause of high blood pressure. This type of high blood pressure, called essential hypertension or primary hypertension, tends to develop gradually over many years. More than 95% people who have high blood pressure fall into this category.

Secondary hypertension

Some people have high blood pressure caused by an underlying condition. Your doctor can run tests to make this diagnosis.

Risk Factors

Age. The risk of high blood pressure increases as you age.

Race. High blood pressure is particularly common among blacks, often developing at an earlier age than it does in whites.

Family history. High blood pressure tends to run in families.

Being overweight or obese. Over-weight people tend to have higher blood pressure.

Physical Activity. People who are inactive tend to have higher heart rates and higher blood pressure. Exercise helps to lower the blood pressure as well as weight.

Using tobacco. Smoking or chewing tobacco immediately raises your blood pressure temporarily, and the chemicals in tobacco can damage the lining of your artery walls. This can cause your arteries to narrow, increasing your blood pressure. Secondhand smoke also can increase your blood pressure.

Too much salt in diet. Too much salt in diet can cause body to retain fluid, which increases blood pressure.

Stress. High levels of stress can lead to a temporary increase in blood pressure.

Certain chronic conditions. Certain chronic conditions also may increase your risk of high blood pressure, such as kidney disease and sleep apnea.

Complications

Uncontrolled high blood pressure can lead to:

Heart attack or stroke. High blood pressure can cause hardening and thickening of the arteries (atherosclerosis), which can lead to a heart attack, stroke or other complications.

Aneurysm. Increased blood pressure can cause your blood vessels to weaken and bulge, forming an aneurysm. If an aneurysm ruptures, it can be life-threatening.

Heart failure. To pump blood against the higher pressure in your vessels, your heart muscle thickens. Eventually, the thickened muscle may have a hard time pumping enough blood to meet your body's needs, which can lead to heart failure.

Kidney (Renal) failure: High blood pressure can damage your kidneys permanently.

Thickened, narrowed or torn blood vessels in the eyes. This can result in vision loss and blindness.

Trouble with memory or understanding. Uncontrolled high blood pressure may also affect your ability to think, remember and learn.

Treatment

Changing your lifestyle can go a long way toward controlling high blood pressure. Your doctor may recommend you eat a healthy diet with less salt, exercise regularly, quit smoking and maintain a healthy weight. But sometimes lifestyle changes aren't enough.

In addition to lifestyle changes, your doctor may recommend medication to lower your blood pressure.

Most patients will need medication to control their blood pressure. There are several classes of medicines which can be used to gain control of blood pressure. Your doctor will decide which drugs to use.

There is no cure for high blood pressure. Medicines help to control it as long as you use them. If you stop using medicines, blood pressure will go up again. So treatment should not be changed or stopped without consulting your doctor.

Local Jama'at News

San Diego

Yawar Minhas, sec hospitality, San Diego, and wife Farah Minhas, were blessed with baby boy, Rayan Minhas on Nov 24, 2014. Tahir Ijaz, San Diego.

Bloomington

Hassan Qamar Shahid, born in November 2014 to happy parents, Bro Hannan Yousaf Shahid and Sis Shahid in November 2014. Parents plan to dedicate him as a Waqf Nau.



Dallas

Brother Mansoor Rana and his wife Maryem have been blessed with a baby boy on 27 Nov 2014. Huzoor (may Allah be his Helper) has graciously named him Sarmad Ahmad Rana. Mansoor Rana served Jamā'at as Qaid Khuddāmul Ahmadiyya.

Syracuse

Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, President Syracuse NY Jamā'at, along with four other Syracuse Jaamā'at members, had a meeting with US Rep Dan Maffei. We used presentation provided by foreign affairs department. Mr Maffei took keen interest and was impressed. He was given book World Crisis and Pathway to peace.



Announcements, News and Events

From the Desk of the National Amīr, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA

Respected Saleha Malik has been approved by the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V for another term as the Ṣadr of Lajna Imā'illāh USA.

General Secretary USA

In order for Mulāqāt with the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ, a request from the office of respected Amīr sahib needs to be sent to London in advance. Please send the request form to national headquarters. Fax the following required information to 301 879 0115 with the recommendation of the local president or missionary.

Name, member code, family members requesting Mulāqāt, Dates in London, preferred date for Mulāqāt and contact information in London.

If members reach London without advance request, there may be problems in Mulāqāt if the above procedure is not followed.

Announcements from National Secretary Audio-Video:

For easy access to Friday Sermons alislam team presents a short URL

Use khut.ba/date. As an example, khut.ba/21nov2014

Tadhkira is available in Urdu searchable format now:

<http://www.alislam.org/library/browse/book/Tadhkirah/?l=Urdu#page/1/mode/1up>

Browse, copy and paste. You may also tweet.

In the language tab change to English Tadhkira and browse.

The search (google based) is accessible using the right side menu by clicking on  at the bottom right. To access the text-behind, click on کپی بگیر. To tweet a passage click on the bird. To access the PDF click on the PDF icon

Announcement from National Secretary Umoor-i-Kharija

In Sha Allah, the 9th Annual National Public Affairs Seminar and 5th Annual Day on the Hill will take place on the weekend of February 13-14, 2015. The Day on the Hill will take place on Friday (February 13) at U.S. Capitol Hill and the Seminar will take place on Saturday (February 14) at Masjid Baitur-Rahman.

All locally elected Umoor-i-Kharija (Public Affairs) Secretaries are required to participate in both events. Please plan to arrive by Thursday evening, February 12.

Successful Tarbiyat Initiative

Tarbiyat Team's biggest initiative in 2014 was to set up or revive 200 Ṣalāt centers in 100 days. By the Grace of Allah, we met our goals and then some by reviving 214 Ṣalāt centers nationwide.

We are thankful to Allah, the Almighty, for blessing us with 214 Ṣalāt Centers this year. Fifteen of them are Jumu'a Centers but all of them, homes and mosques, are strengthening spiritual fitness by attracting believers towards Allah's worship.

We are deeply thankful to Tarbiyat secretaries, Jamā'at presidents, missionaries, and all those friends

of Allah who tirelessly worked to revive these 214 Ṣalāt Centers. Please remember them and their families in your special prayers. Special thanks to our National Ṣalāt Center Coordinator, Riyaz Muhammad, for all his dedication and tireless work.

However, the work is far from over. Let us please ensure that we keep these Ṣalāt Centers—and our spiritual fitness—alive by praying at these mini-Masājid as often as possible. For the full list and locations, please visit our Website, SpiritualFitness.us.

Religious Leaders Meet in Chicago NW



Glen Ellyn Area Religious Leaders gathered at Faith Lutheran Church at 41 North Park Boulevard in Glen Ellyn. The event was hosted by the Rev. George D. Smith, Rector and Jim Honig, Senior Pastor. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Glen Ellyn Chapter provided refreshments. Religious leaders exchanged their views to clear the misconceptions taking heed now a days. Imam Shamshad A. Nasir of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, representing Glen Ellyn Chapter, offered his cooperation and services to promote peace and harmony in the community on behalf of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Later, he presented the book 'World Crisis and Pathway to Peace' by Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Head of Worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (which is a compilation of letters which His Holiness has sent to world leaders and speeches which he has delivered to European Parliament and Capitol Hill) to everyone present in the meeting. All present thanked Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for providing the book on peace and refreshments. The meeting ended on the note that the work of building relationships among those who labor in and care about the faith community will continue in future. (Imam Shamshad A. Nasir)

❖

Ahmadiyya Muslim community of Glen Ellyn Chicago Chapter visited St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Glen Ellyn, IL, on a special invitation from Reverend Donna M. Lalongo, the head of the church. The 16-member

delegation of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was led by Imam Shamshad A. Nasir. The delegation was welcome by Reverend Donna with her church members and officials.

After introduction of the people present in the meeting, Imam Shamshad shed light on Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, its founder, the long-awaited Massaih, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, India. He told the audience the purpose of the Promised Messiah which is reformation of mankind in the present age. Imam Shamshad further added that the mission originated from a remote town of India named Qadian and how Allah Almighty blessed his efforts and today this community is established in 204 plus countries of the world under the spiritual leadership (Khilāfat) and there are millions of followers today who are increasing every day. He also enlightened the audience by describing about Islam including its five pillars. Islam gives freedom of faith, he told, "Today Islam is hijacked by extremists for their political gain," Imam said. His address was followed by a question and answer session. In the end Imam Shamshad gifted a book on the life of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to the Rev. Donna while Souvenir of Ahmadiyya Muslim community USA was distributed among the members of church present in the meeting. The program concluded with combined prayer.

Current Issues Discussed at Interfaith Event in Dallas

The first event in the Interfaith Series planned in collaboration with Town North Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday October 19th. The program started at 5 P.M. and was attended by around 175 people, with near equal participation from both sides.

This event was held at the Church Auditorium in Richardson, which was planned for brief speeches – one for Islam and the other for Christianity, followed by a formal Question and Answer session and a social time over some snacks.

The topic was “What does our faith say about persecution.” Imam Mubashir Ahmed presented Islam’s point of view, he mentioned that all prophets and their followers were persecuted but since God was on their side, they emerged victorious in the end, he also detailed the persecution of Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his followers and mentioned the persecution Jamā’at is facing in Pakistan. Imam Ahmed argued that prayer is the best weapon against persecution, and prayers are to be due to both the persecutor and the persecuted alike. However Islam allows fighting in defense, to protect sanctity of life.

Pastor David Rogers presented the same topic from the Christian viewpoints. He mentioned that it is Christian belief to expect persecution, as was Jesus

Christ persecuted. Christians are the limbs of the body of which Jesus is the head and the pain will be suffered by all the members of the church. He stated that the Christian teaching to survive persecution is based on Sixth commandment, which focuses on the sanctity of life and hence Christians should retort to prayer than to fight back.

After the 20 minute speech by the Pastor, Question Answer session was held. Audience asked and listed to a lot of interesting questions and the response on both the faith’s points of view. Some of the questions were

Shall we and how shall we counter persecution by ISIS?

What is the punishment for blasphemy?

How to understand Quran and its meaning?

Did Prophet Muhammad order killing of 900 Jews?

Does Christianity allow taking weapons for self-defense or for the protection of the family?

The question and answer session was extended into a longer one-one discussions during the snack time. The program ended at 7:30 PM with a resolve that we will meet again for such events to be planned for better understanding between the communities. (Reported by Naseer Tahir, Sec. Outreach Programs)



Miami Book Fair International 2014

We present three different views of the event:

Synopsis by the President Jamā'at

By the grace of Allah Miami book fair concluded on Sunday November 23 with our successful participation as usual. Here are some highlights of this year:

About 3,000 copies of Review of religion and hundreds of copies of Muslim Sunrise were distributed.

Like always, translations of Holy Quran in English, Spanish and other languages were sold more than any other book.

Qasim Rashid recorded an interview with a local radio station.

Dr Hafeez Ur Rehman had live interview on major Spanish television station, America Teve on Friday November 21. A representative of Telemundo came to book fare and recorded brief message for their television program. He was also visited by Juan Pablo Salas, a host from radio Caraco.

I find this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who came from many other Jama'ats and Guatemala to help us at the book fair, may Allah reward them abundantly, Āmīn. (Munawar Ahmad Chaudhry)

Impressions of Dr Hafeez ur Rahman

This is a very large book fair where thousands of people visit. I was naturally assigned to the Spanish booth and we started working. Indeed a very enjoyable experience. Words cannot fully explain this enjoyment. Any dull moment? Absolutely not when Khadim Shah and Sadr Miami is standing next to you.

On Friday (11/21/14) at 9 PM I was invited by Diego Bas of America Teve to come to their studio for a live interview. The host of the program was Felix Guillermo, whom I have known from previous programs on this TV station. When I told the host that our motto is love for all and hatred for none, he was so impressed that he repeated these words again to emphasize the point. He asked me about my opinion of Khilāfat. I told him how Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) himself had told his followers about the series of events in relation to the institution of Khilāfat. As predicted by the Prophet, the divinely appointed institution of Khilāfat was short-lived after him with just four Khulafā who were just in their dealings with everyone. This was followed by unjust and cruel rulers. Eventually, the divinely appointed Khilāfat was to be reestablished among Muslims after Promised Messiah, which we are witnessing now as Ahmadi Muslims. We

also talked about the ISIS. I told him that their cruel acts of violence and atrocities against humanity had nothing to do with the peaceful teachings of Islam.

We were also visited by Mr Juan Pablo Salas, a radio host from Radio Caracol (who has done my interview live twice this year). In fact, his radio station is the first media station that talked about our Khilāfat and ISIS Khilāfat in a comparison a few months ago.

The four common questions frequently asked by Spanish visitors summarized their misunderstandings about Islam: Why do we separate our men and women in Mosques? Why Islam does not give rights to women? Why there is no peace in the world. Jesus and Holy Spirit. We happily answered them to the best of our abilities. (Hafeez ur Rehman,MD)

Report by Secretary Tabligh

A fine literary event, Miami Book Fair International, takes place in downtown Miami every year. Miami Dade College and its community partners founded it in 1984. For eight-day in November, more than 250 publishers and booksellers exhibit and sell books. By the grace of Almighty Allah, since 1989, Miami Jamā'at has been a regular participant in the three-day street fair held on the weekend.

Initially, we started out with a single booth and just a few books. In 2008, a second booth was added for Spanish literature. In 2011, a third booth was added for special exhibits of Holy Qur'ān and Life of Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). This year, we had four booths for the first time.

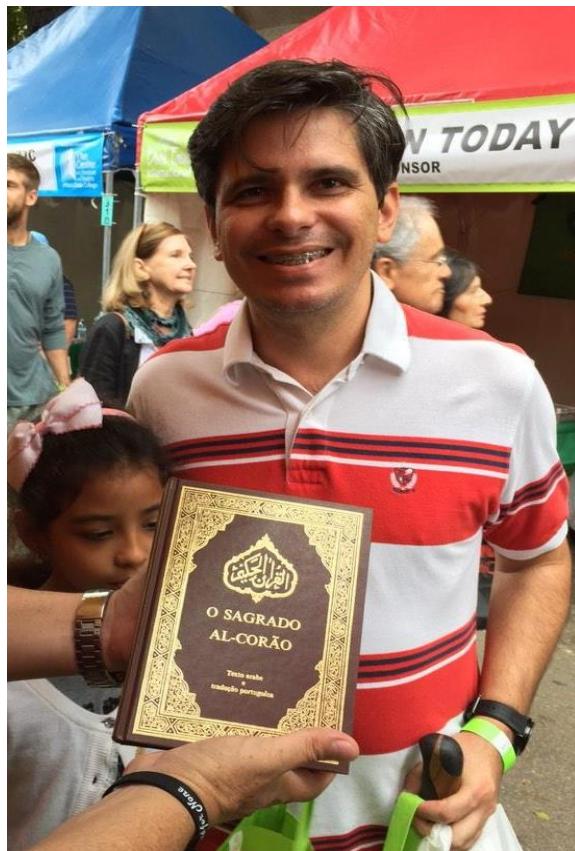
The main booth displayed books about Islam and Ahmadiyyat. The Exhibition booth contained Holy Qur'ān in 26 languages and books about life of Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). The Foreign language booth contained literature in Spanish, Arabic, French, Bangla, Chinese, Russian and Turkish. Another distinguishing feature this year was a Women's booth titled "Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him): Liberator of women," that was managed by National Tabligh team's Lajna members.

The featured books at the 2014 Fair were:

World Crisis and Pathway to Peace by Ḥadrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allah be his Helper)

Life of Muhammad, The Economic System of Islam and *Muhammad: Liberator of Women* by Ḥadrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him).

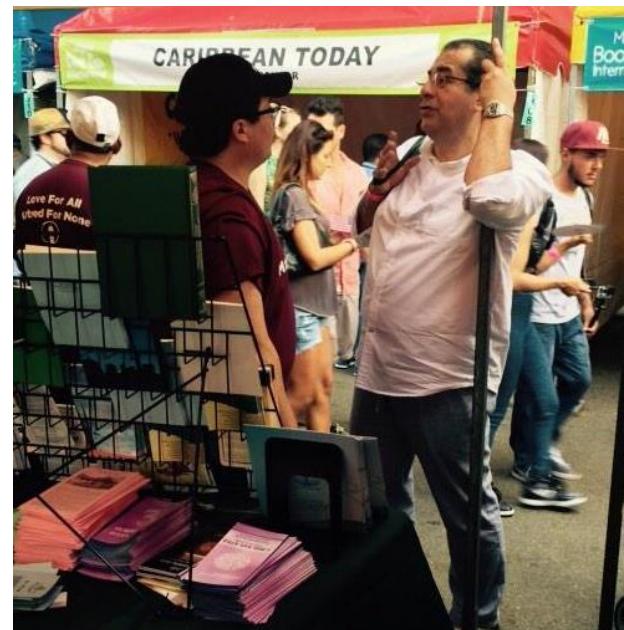
The four booths were a huge success and managed to draw huge crowds. About 2,000 copies of *Life of Muhammad* and 1,000 copies of *World Crisis and pathway to Peace* were given out to interested visitors. About 2,500 reusable bags with our logo were also given out. These bags contained more than 10,000 flyers in English, Spanish and French. The most popular and sought after items were the translations of Holy Qur'an in English and Spanish. Thousands of souvenirs were also handed out, which included 'Love for all, Hatred for none' wristbands, bookmarks, pens and US flags.



The stalls were decorated with colorful banners that included Muslims for Peace, Muslims for Life and Muslims for Loyalty. Huge pictures of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) were displayed. The four stalls attracted the most traffic at the Fair. Visitors engaged in detailed discussion about various concepts relating to Islam, Ahmadiyyat and other contemporary issues.

Qasim Rashid, the author of 'Wrong Kind of Muslim' and 'Extremist' was also present at the Fair to discuss his books. He was also interviewed by CBS4 and delivered a lecture at Florida International University, a day before the Fair. Spanish outlets, American Teve and Telemundo, interviewed Dr. Hafeezur Rahman.

Local and guest volunteers played a crucial role in the effectiveness of the Tabligh efforts at the Fair. We had guests from Guatemala (David Gonzales, Alejandra Giron) who were instrumental in capturing the interest of Latino visitors. Hafeezur Rahman from Albany and Eduardo Valdez from CA aided them. Achraf Issam and Muhammad Fytahi catered to the Arabic and French speaking visitors. Khadim Shah from CA, Abdul Basit from Orlando and Qasim Rashid from VA returned again this year and offered their invaluable support. National Tabligh team's Aliya Latif of NY, Ayesha Lateef of Fitchburg MA and Faiza Waseem of NY led the Lajna booth. It must be highlighted that the women's stall was well received by visitors who were impressed with the knowledge, diversity and participation of the women volunteers.



Technology was effectively employed at the Fair. Visitors had an opportunity to download free books of their interest through the QR code. Many visitors expressed an interest to learn about the fundamental of Islam. They were given an opportunity to enroll in a free, online course 'Understanding Islam' that has been developed by Imam Tahir Selby of UK.

Miami Book Fair International provided us an ideal opportunity to spread the peaceful message of Islam and counter the propaganda of ISIS. Miami is a gateway to Latin America and its vast population is genuinely interested in Islam. Latinos are equipped with a favorable impression of Islam and their quest to learn more is palpable. This was quite evident among the visitors at the Fair and our efforts were well attuned to cater to that increasing interest. Pew research has lately mentioned the statistics regarding the quest of Latinos to find alternatives to Catholicism as they are

increasingly withdrawing from it; however, we witnessed that heightened interest in the search for viable alternatives on the streets of Miami during the three-day book fair.

160 people signed up to keep in touch with our local mosque. Some visitors expressed a genuine desire to visit our mosque; and they will soon be invited.



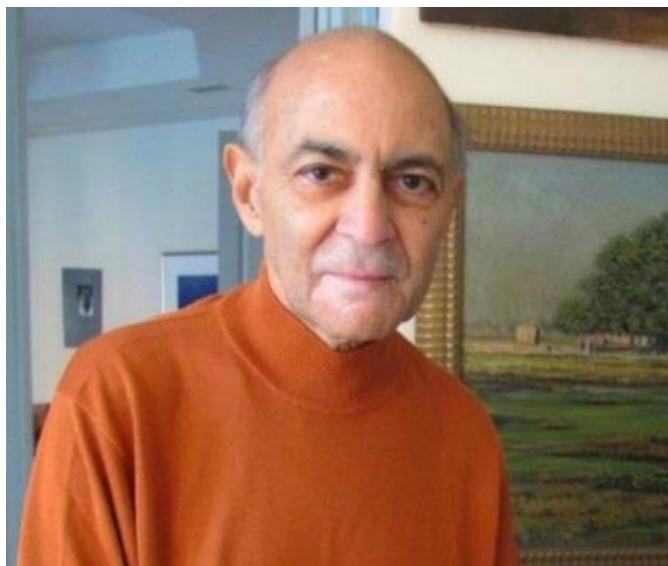
Miami Book Fair International was an apt portrayal of the universal message and appeal of Islam. The volunteers were from varied nationalities, however, these divisions were blurred and the

signature of brotherhood that is unique to Islam was visible. Positive energy, hard work and passion are inevitable to spread the beautiful message of Islam. These key ingredients were at display during the Fair.

There was an overwhelming response to our humble efforts to highlight the peaceful narrative of Islam. Some visitors lauded our efforts to curb the stereotypes about Islam and for setting the record straight.

In his Friday Sermon of May 10, 2013 in Los Angeles, CA, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (may Allah be his Helper) reiterated the need to capture the interest of Latin Americans and Hispanic Americans as they are becoming increasingly inclined towards religion and are in search of true faith. Miami Book Fair International has witnessed this rising trend in the past decade and the number of visitors to the stalls of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has surged. This year's success is a precursor of what can be expected in the coming years. It is our earnest hope and we sincerely pray that may Allah bless our modest efforts in this regard. As the world is poised for a spiritual revolution in Latin America, may we do our part and help spread the message of Islam to this vast frontier. Āmīn. (Khalid Minhas, Secretary Tablighi, Miami)

Dr. Shams Rasheed passes away



It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing away of Dr. Shams Rasheed, one of the early members of the Dallas Jamā'at. Innā Lillāhi Wa Innā Ilaihi Rajī'ūn.

Dr. Rasheed leaves behind his wife Amtul Wadood (Doodi), a son Bilal, and two daughters, Sairah and Saba Rasheed along with 5 grandchildren.

Dr. Rasheed was a humble and loving person. He made a deep connection with and a lasting impression on whomever he came across. He was an accomplished neonatologist and had a long and illustrious career. He was retired and lived close to Ahmadiyya Mosque in Allen.

Dr. Rasheed was the son of Abdur Rasheed Tabassum, of Model Town Lahore, Pakistan, a well-known poet and laureate of Jamā'at. His sister, Arifa Haleem, is an active member of Chicago Jamā'at and a regular contributor to the Ahmadiyya Gazette. He also has a brother Abdushukoor who resides in Springfield, IL and a sister Salma Tabassum who is in London.

Dr. Rasheed was the son-in-law of Abdur Rehman Khan of Model Town. He has two brothers-in-law, Nadeem Khan and Waseem Khan of Lahore and two sisters in law, Amtul Quyoom (Qoomi) (wife of Major Maqbool Ahmad) and Bushra Kark (wife of Abdul Munim Kark of Dallas Jamā'at.)