



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America

*Muslims who believe in the Messiah
Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian*

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

January-February 2016

The Ahmadiyya GAZETTE USA

Muslih Mau'ud Edition

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Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

- sa: Ṣallallāhu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam
(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)
- as: 'Alaihis-Salām
(may peace be upon him)
- ra: Raḍiyallahu '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)

Verse numbers in the references from the Holy Qur'ān count Tasmīya at the beginning of a chapter as the first verse.

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Seven Principles of Acceptance of Prayer

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ۝ مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ۝ إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ۝ اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ۝ صِرَاطَ
الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ ۝ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ۝

Commentary by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him):

“I contemplated during the writing of the commentary of Sūrah Fātiḥah that may Almighty God reveal to me new meanings of the Sūrah. Then, in a flash, God revealed seven principles vis-à-vis prayers described in the Sūrah. Gratefulness is due thus to Allah for this grace.

First Principle of Prayers: It is described in **بِسْمِ اللَّهِ** that the aim sought in a prayer should only be for a noble cause, not that the prayer of a thief for the success of his theft will be accepted. A prayer, which is requested in the name of God seeking His assistance, must be for a purpose in which God can be a party with man. It is observed that many people pray for the ruin and destruction of others... Similarly, they pray for unjust objectives and then they complain that their prayers were not accepted. Some people pose to be righteous and give amulets while praying for illegitimate purposes. In fact, these prayers and amulets shall be thrown back on their faces.

Second Principle of Prayers: In fact, it is described in **أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ**. The prayers should be such that as a result of them men of God, rather the whole world, are benefited or at least they are not hurt. The acceptance of prayers should stamp the praise of Allah and no allegation of any sort should fall on Him.

Third Principle of Prayers: That the prayers are presented in such a manner as to stir the graciousness of God. The acceptance of the prayers should reveal graciousness of Allah.

Fourth Principle of Prayers: The prayers must also have a relationship with God’s attribute of Mercy. In other words, it must have a foundation of virtue for which the world may be affected for a long period of time and from which noble and good people are benefited continuously or at least they do not cause obstruction in their path.

Fifth Principle of Prayers: That the attribute of **مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ** is also included in the prayer. That those worldly means are not ignored in prayers, which are proposed by God for producing the right results. As these means have also been instituted by God therefore asking help from Him by ignoring these principles is unreasonable. As far as the use of available means is concerned, if they are available and it is possible for the seeker to use them, their use is necessary at the time of the prayers. If they are not available, then the attribute of **مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ** is manifested above all means. There is another point in this Sūrah that the seeker should be treating others with forgiveness and does not portray harshness in securing his own rights from others.

Sixth Principle of Prayers: The sixth principle states that the seeker has a perfect relationship with Almighty God and possesses perfect sincerity. He should also be fully devoid of polytheism and polytheistic views.

Seventh Principle of Prayers: That he belongs to God and possesses perfect trust in Him. He does not depend on any other than God and reaches such heights where for anything or any discomfort he says: “I shall ask only from God.”

If a person is established on these seven principles, then he becomes an example of **لِعَبْدِي مَا سَأَلَ** (for my servant is what he asked for). And, it is true that the perfect example of this kind of prayer is shown only by the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) or is exhibited by following him perfectly. The world has seen signs of acceptance of prayers only through them, which gave sight to the blind, ears to deaf and tongues to the dumb. The height attained by following the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is not shut for anybody. Anyone can try and attain these heights.

(Translated by Dr Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Tafsīr-i-Kabīr (Urdu), Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II, Sūrah Al-Baqarah)

Sayings of the Holy Prophet about Obedience

May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

عَنِ ابْنِ عُمَرَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ: مَنْ خَلَعَ يَدًا مِنْ طَاعَةٍ لَقِيَ اللَّهَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَلَا حُجَّةَ لَهُ، وَمَنْ مَاتَ وَلَيْسَ فِي عُنُقِهِ بَيْعَةٌ مَاتَ مِيتَةً جَاهِلِيَّةً، وَفِي رِوَايَةٍ: مَنْ مَاتَ وَهُوَ مُفَارِقٌ لِلْجَمَاعَةِ فَإِنَّهُ يَمُوتُ مِيتَةً جَاهِلِيَّةً۔

(مسلم كتاب الامارة باب الامر بلوم الجماعة عند ظهور الفتن)

Ibn ‘Umar relates that he heard the Holy Prophet [may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him] say: He who fails to obey in any respect shall meet his Lord on the Day of Judgment and will have no excuse to offer and he who dies without having sworn allegiance will die in error (Muslim). Another version is: He who dies having discarded his association with the community dies in error.

عَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ: مَنْ رَأَى مِنْ أَمِيرِهِ شَيْئًا يَكْرَهُ فَلْيَصْبِرْ عَلَيْهِ فَإِنَّهُ مَنْ فَارَقَ الْجَمَاعَةَ شَبْرًا فَيَمُوتُ مِيتَةً جَاهِلِيَّةً۔

(بخارى كتاب الفتن باب قول النبي سترون بعدى امورا)

Ibn Abbas relates that the Holy Prophet [may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him] said: If a person experiences something unpleasant at the hands of a ruler he should bear it with equanimity, for he who departs from obedience a hand's breadth dies in error (Bokhari and Muslim).

عَنْ عَرَفَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ: مَنْ آتَاكُمْ وَأَمْرُكُمْ مُجْتَمِعٌ عَلَى رَجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ، يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَشُقَّ عَصَاكُمْ أَوْ يَفْرِقَ جَمَاعَتَكُمْ فَاقْتُلُوهُ۔

(مسلم باب حكم من فرق امر المسلمين هو مجتمع)

Urfaja relates that we heard the Holy Prophet [may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him] saying: When you are joined at one hand and have a ruler and then if a person arrives to break the unity or creates discrimination among you, then kill him. It means cut off relations with him and also do not obey him (Muslim).

(Translation from Gardens of Righteous by Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan)

Prophecy of the Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

From the Writings of the Promised Messiah may peace be upon him

In the announcement of February 20, 1886, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, says:

God the Merciful, the Noble, the High, the Exalted, Who has power to do all that He wills (glory be to Him and exalted be His name), has vouchsafed to me the following revelation:

“I confer upon thee a Sign of My mercy according to thy supplications.

I have heard thy entreaties and have honored thy prayers with My acceptance through My mercy and have blessed this journey.

A sign of power, mercy, nearness to Me is bestowed on thee. A Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to thee and thou art granted the key of success and victory.

Peace on thee, O victorious one. Thus does 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 emerge there from and so that the superiority of Islam and the dignity of God's word may become manifest unto the people and so that the truth may arrive with all its blessings and falsehood may depart 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 thee, 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 (on whom be peace) 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 thee. Thou wilt receive a bright 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 Bashir.

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 shall be accompanied by grace (Fazl) 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 disorder 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 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 cometh, a light 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, English translation by Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan)

True Islam Campaign One-Page Overview

Problem Assessment:

Years after 9/11, our most recent survey data still indicates persisting concerns among Americans and some Muslim Americans on Islam's view of important issues such as free speech, human rights, and caliphate. Inconsistent messages from Muslim leadership have created increased risk of extremism and radicalization. To remedy these concerns and risks, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA is initiating a public awareness program dubbed the True Islam Campaign (the "Campaign"). This Campaign educates Americans and Muslim Americans on Islam's view of eleven major points of contention, listed below, as taught by Prophet Muhammad.

Purpose:

To provide all Americans a clear way to distinguish true Islam from extremism and to unify Muslim Americans on the correct understanding of Islam that Prophet Muhammad taught.

The Campaign strengthens America's national security against extremism.

The Eleven Points:

The True Islam Campaign establishes the correct Islamic understanding of the following eleven points.

1. True Islam wholly rejects all forms of terrorism
2. True Islam believes in non violent Jihad of the self and of the pen
3. True Islam believes in the equality, education, and empowerment of women
4. True Islam advocates freedom of conscience, religion, and speech
5. True Islam advocates for the separation of mosque and state
6. True Islam believes in loyalty to your country of residence
7. True Islam encompasses the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
8. True Islam believes in all verses of the Qur'an and forbids lying
9. True Islam recognizes that no religion can monopolize salvation
10. True Islam believes in the need for unified Muslim leadership
11. True Islam rejects the concept of a bloody Messiah

Target Audience:

The Campaign focuses particularly on Muslim American youth and on Americans looking to understand how to distinguish Muslims from extremists.

When: The Campaign is scheduled to launch in January 2016.

How: The Campaign will be publicized through press conferences, local chapter flyer distributions, meetings with members of local, state, and federal government, opinion editorials, television and radio interviews, public lectures, and university hosted debates with opposing ideologues, and a public invitation to all Americans and Muslim Americans to join us.

Who: The Campaign is sponsored by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA.

Where: Nationwide.

Past Campaigns: The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA has successfully launched:

- Muslims for Peace
- Muslims for Loyalty
- Muslims for Life
- Peace through the Messiah

Activities of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V

May Allah be his Helper

Nunspeet Mayor Welcomes Head of Aḥmadiyya Muslims



The World Head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad arrived at the Baitun-Noor

“Time for Mankind to Unite and Work Together”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad makes remarks during a live radio interview in Holland

On 5 October 2015, the World Head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph) was interviewed by RTV Nunspeet at the Baitun-Noor Mosque complex in Nunspeet, Holland. The radio interview was broadcast live and streamed worldwide.



Speaking about the purpose of his visit to Holland, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said that he had been invited to address Holland’s Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee and he would also be laying the foundation stone for a new Mosque in the city of Almere.

His Holiness added that he would be meeting members of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community throughout his stay in Holland.

Mosque in Nunspeet, Holland on 4th October 2015.

The caliph travelled from London by road and after crossing into France he was greeted by the National President of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community in Holland, Mr. Hibbatun-Noor and various other officials who then escorted His Holiness to Holland.

His Holiness arrived at the Mosque at 8.35 P.M. local time where he was greeted by Hon. Dick van Hemmen, Mayor of Nunspeet, as well as hundreds of Ahmadi Muslim men, women and children all overjoyed to see their spiritual leader once again. Upon arrival, His Holiness led the Maghrib and Isha Prayers for the first time at the Baitun-Noor Mosque since it was rebuilt at the Nunspeet complex.

Upon being asked about the responsibilities of the Khalifa (Caliph), Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“The responsibility of a Khalifa is to continue the work and mission of a Prophet of God. It is his duty to spread the true message of Islam and to guide those who accept it towards goodness and righteousness. Thus, as Khalifa, I guide Ahmadi Muslims in all parts of the world and meet with members of the community on a daily basis. The bond between the Khalifa and an Ahmadi Muslim is a two-way love.”

Regarding his forthcoming address at the Dutch National Parliament, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“My message to the Parliamentarians will be that Islam is not a religion of extremism and that a violent Jihad is not permissible. I will tell them that all people should join hands and work together to establish love and peace in society.”

Upon being asked his views on the current migrant crisis that is affecting Europe, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“We believe that whoever is deprived or in danger should be given the opportunity to live his or her life with true freedom. Thus genuine refugees should be helped and given the opportunity to settle abroad but we should also seek to establish peace in their home countries so that eventually it is safe for them to return.”

“Blocs Forming and Risk of another World War”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad makes remarks during interview with Dutch News Agency

On 5 October 2015, the *World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalīfa (Caliph)*, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was interviewed by the Dutch News Agency, *Omroep Gelderland*.

Asked about changes in the perception of Islam amongst Western society in the 60 years since the Mubarak Mosque in Den Haag (The Hague) was opened, His Holiness said that during the past six decades, people had drifted away from religion and this was not limited to Islam.

However, His Holiness said that there was a growing perception that Islam was the root cause of today’s problems and conflicts but that this notion was entirely wrong. His Holiness said that whilst Muslims had moved away from the true teachings of their faith, the religion in its original form was a means of uniting society, rather than dividing it. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“In reality, the Holy Quran is a beacon of peace and we Ahmadi Muslims are striving to portray Islam’s true teachings throughout the world. Each year hundreds of thousands of people are joining the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community from all parts of the world.”

Asked whether he was fearful of anti-Islamic groups or individuals, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“I am not at all fearful of those who are against Islam. Every person has a right to an

opinion or viewpoint, however a person does not have the right to claim he understands what another person believes is better than they do. Furthermore, there are now even non-Muslims who are defending Islam. For example, just last week the journalist Ed West wrote a very good article in the Evening Standard about our Community entitled ‘Our own London caliphate is doing nothing but good’.”



Regarding the concept of Jihad, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Muslim extremists are entirely misconstruing the concept of Jihad. In today’s world true Jihad is to spread the peaceful teachings of Islam, which are of love and compassion. If Islam is being attacked now it is through the media and through literature and so Muslims should defend Islam through the media and by publishing articles explaining the true teachings of the religion.”

Islam guarantees universal freedom of religion and calls for world powers to act with justice

Head of Ahmadiyya Community Delivers Historic Address at Dutch National Parliament

On 6 October 2015, *World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalīfa (Caliph)*, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, delivered an historic address at a special session of the *Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs* at the Netherlands National Parliament in the country’s capital city of Den Haag (The Hague) in front of an audience of more than 100 dignitaries and guests. Upon arrival at 4.35 P.M., Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was greeted by Harry van Bommel (*Member of the House of Representatives and Deputy Chairman of the Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs*), who escorted His Holiness to the Committee Room. The formal session commenced as

Mr van Bommel welcomed His Holiness to Parliament and introduced the committee members. He also welcomed various foreign *Parliamentarians, Ambassadors of State* and *dignitaries* representing countries including Albania, Croatia, Ireland, Montenegro, Spain and Sweden.

Thereafter, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad delivered the keynote address during which he deemed the threat to the world’s peace and security to be the critical issue of this era. His Holiness gave solutions to the problems faced by the world based on the teachings of the Holy Quran. He also called on world powers to support less

economically developed nations and to refrain from exploitation.

Speaking about the increasing lack of peace in the world, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“In today’s world we see that certain issues are constantly being highlighted and labeled as the most significant problems of our time. If we analyze the situation objectively, we realize that world peace and security is indeed the most critical issue of our time. Unquestionably, with each day that passes the world is becoming increasingly unstable and dangerous and there are a number of potential causes of this.”



His Holiness said there were various factors affecting the world’s peace and security, including worldwide economic instability; a lack of justice and trust between governments and members of the public; and the increasing discrepancy between developed and developing nations. The religious leader said that neither Islam, nor any other religion, could be blamed for the violent acts of extremists. His Holiness stated that the notion that the Holy Quran or the Prophet of Islam (*peace be upon him*) ever advocated any form of extremism or terrorism was **“an injustice of the very highest order”**.

Referring to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community’s unwavering commitment to peace, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“I, and indeed all true Ahmadi Muslims, are not amongst those people who are creating or partaking in today’s disorder and unrest. Rather, we are the people who desire peace in the world. We are the people who seek to heal the world. We are the people who seek to unite mankind. We are the people who seek to transform all hatreds and enmities into love and affection. And most certainly, we are the people who make every possible effort towards establishing world peace.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“As a religious leader, I wish to say that instead of blaming and provoking one another, we should focus upon building true and long-lasting world peace.”

Later, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad cited a number of *Quranic* verses, which proved that Islam stood for religious freedom and universal human rights. His Holiness also explained that the wars fought by the Holy Prophet (*peace be upon him*) and the early Muslims were entirely defensive in nature and were fought in order to protect the principles of freedom of religion and belief.



Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“In chapter 2, verse 194, Allah has commanded Muslims that they are not permitted to engage in any battle or war where religious freedom already exists. Therefore, no Muslim country, group or individual has the right to engage in any form of violence, warfare or lawlessness, either against the State or its people.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“Quite simply, in Europe and in the West, the governments are secular and so a Muslim can never have the right to violate the laws of the land, to violently oppose the government or to instigate any form of rebellion or insurgency.”

Speaking about the paramount importance of justice in international relations, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Islam teaches that in all circumstances, no matter how difficult, you must remain firmly attached to the principles of justice and integrity... The truth is that sustainable peace can never be established until there is justice at **every level of society.**”

Referring to Islam's commitment to universal religious freedom, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“In truth, Islam guarantees the freedom, liberty and protection of the people of all religions. Islam protects the right of every individual to follow his or her own chosen path or belief.”

Reiterating his concern about the world's security, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“The world stands in desperate need of peace and security. This is the urgent issue of our time. All nations and all peoples must come together for the greater good and unite in their efforts to stop all forms of cruelty, persecution and injustice perpetrated in the name of religion or in any other way. This includes the mockery of any religion which can incite frustrations and resentment and of course also includes the hateful activities of extremist groups who are falsely justifying their evil acts in the name of religion.”

Concluding, His Holiness called on the major powers to desist from all forms of exploitation of weaker nations. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Today, we are seeing many first-world countries increasing their investments in the poorer and developing nations. It is imperative that they act with justice and seek to help those nations and not merely utilize their natural resources and cheap labor forces for their own national gains and profit-making.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“They (affluent nations) should seek to re-invest the majority of what they earn in poorer

countries and use the wealth to help the local people develop and to flourish. If the developed countries act in this way, it will not just be of benefit to the poorer nations but will prove mutually beneficial. It will increase trust and confidence and remove frustrations that are building up. It will be a means of improving the local economies and so in turn will elevate the world's economy and financial health.”



Following the conclusion of his address, members of the *Standing Committee* were given the opportunity to ask His Holiness his views on a range of issues, including religious freedom, freedom of speech, the refugee crisis and the persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Later, His Holiness personally met various dignitaries and guests and was also given a tour of certain historic rooms within the Parliament.

“We feel no enmity towards other Muslims”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad Remarks during an Interview with Reformatorisch Dagblad newspaper

On 6 October 2015, the World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph), His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was interviewed by the Reformatorisch Dagblad newspaper at the Baitun-Nur Mosque complex in Nunspeet, Holland. Asked about the relationship of Ahmadi Muslims with other Muslims, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“We feel no enmity towards other Muslims; rather we preach and convey our message due to our love for them.”

In terms of religious tolerance, His Holiness said that Islam taught that people of different faiths and beliefs should focus on their commonalities, rather than

on those issues that set them apart. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“All people, regardless of faith or belief, should work together for the betterment of humanity. The Holy Quran teaches that there should be no compulsion in religion and so we Ahmadi Muslims respect all religions, all prophets and all people.”

Upon being asked his advice to the Dutch Government regarding the Syrian refugee crisis, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“All genuine refugees should be helped by governments and international organizations. They should be allowed to settle until peace is

restored in their home countries... However, it is also important that the authorities remain vigilant and monitor the refugees to ensure that extremists are not allowed to settle under the guise of asylum.”



Reformatorsch Dagblad’s correspondent noted that many extremists sought to justify their heinous acts in the name of Islam and used verses from the Holy Quran to support them. In response, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Governments should take Firm Measures against Extremist Clerics”

Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad interviews with Dutch media outlet *De Correspondent*

On 9 October 2015, the World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph), His Holiness, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was interviewed by the Dutch media outlet *De Correspondent* at the Baitun-Noor Mosque complex in Nunspeet, Holland.



During the interview, His Holiness said that the peaceful interpretation of Islam advocated by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was not a reaction to the violence and conflict witnessed today, rather it was based on the teachings and guidance of the *Founder* of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

“I can also quote many verses from the Holy Quran that entirely refute their false interpretations. They have misconstrued the verses of the Holy Quran entirely.”

Regarding apostasy in Islam, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said that Islam did not permit any form of punishment for apostasy. His Holiness said that the matter remained entirely between an individual and God Almighty and no one else had any right to interfere.

Reflecting upon the increasing conflict in the Middle East, His Holiness rejected the notion that the West was waging a war against Islam. Rather he said that today’s conflicts were “geo-political” in nature.

Upon being asked his message to Dutch politicians, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“For many years I have been warning that we are moving towards another world war and today we stand on the precipice. And so my message is that we must join hands and create peace in the world because this is the urgent need of the time.”

Upon being asked if the *Iraq War* of 2003 was an attack on Islam, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said it was a “geo-political” war rather than a religious war.

Asked about his views on the terrorist group known as *I.S.* or *Daesh*, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Such groups like Daesh are interpreting the Holy Quran in completely the wrong way. Jihad actually means to struggle for something good but the terrorists are making their own violent interpretations just to feed their own vested interests.”

His Holiness said that context was key to understanding the *Holy Quran* and so when seeking to interpret any particular verse it was necessary to read what was written before and after.

Asked how to combat terrorism, His Holiness said that it was essential to cut the arms supply lines of terrorist groups and to end their sources of funding and means of black market trading.

Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad also said that Muslim governments must take “*firm measures*” to combat the influence of extremist clerics in their countries.

Regarding, the continued efforts of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to spread the peaceful message of Islam, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“We will never give up and we will never become frustrated. Rather, we shall continue with our missionary work and we believe that one day change will come. If not this generation, then in coming generations people will come to realize the truth of Islam.”

Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad lays foundation stone for Sadiq Mosque in Nordhorn

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is pleased to announce that on 14 October 2015, His Holiness, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, the World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph), laid the foundation stone for the first Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque in the German city of Nordhorn. His Holiness has named the Mosque the Sadiq Mosque (Mosque of the Truthful).



Around 100 guests attended the ceremony, including various dignitaries, such as Mayor of Nordhorn, Thomas Berling and Deputy District Commissioner, Helena Hoon.



The formal session began with a welcome address given by Abdullah Wagishauser, the National President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Germany.

Upon being asked if he was optimistic about peace emerging in the Middle East, His Holiness said that the signs were not currently hopeful and there was a risk of the war escalating still further. Thus, he said he was “not optimistic” in the short-term but hoped that eventually people would realize their mistakes and turn towards God Almighty.

He informed the audience that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Nordhorn was providing assistance to the local authorities as they deal with the sudden influx of refugees from Syria.

Thereafter, visiting dignitaries took to the stage to offer their congratulations to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Deputy District Commissioner Graftschaff & Bentheim, Helena Hoon said:

“It is a great honor for us to welcome His Holiness, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad to this region. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Nordhorn is relatively small; however its contribution to the local society is vast and so I believe this Mosque will prove to be a symbol of integration and tolerance.”



Mayor of Nordhorn, Thomas Berling said:

“I am very grateful to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for offering to assist us in our efforts to absorb the sudden influx of refugees. You are providing invaluable services, in particular in terms of translation. Every act of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is based upon its motto of ‘Love for All, Hatred for None’.”

The keynote address was delivered by Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, who said the Founder of the

Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community had instructed that it was the duty of Muslims to fulfill both the rights due to God and to humanity.

Based on this teaching, His Holiness said the new Mosque would not only be a place to worship the *One God*, but would also prove a means of serving and protecting all people.

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“If people paid attention to fulfilling the rights of God and to serving humanity then this world would become a haven of peace and all enmities would die away. Certainly, the Mosques that we build are those that remove all conflicts and hatreds and spread only peace.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“As Muslims, we believe Allah to be the Lord of all mankind and so it is incumbent upon us to serve and care for all people. Thus, Ahmadi Muslims will always be ready to serve humanity in any way we can.”

The religious leader said that it was the duty of Muslims to love and protect their neighbors.

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“It is impossible for us to want peace for ourselves, but to want conflict and misery for our neighbors. Thus, when we build Mosques

we believe it is our duty to protect and love all those around us. Where our Mosques are a place of peace and comfort for us, we also wish to provide love, comfort and peace to all others.”

His Holiness said that the fact so many guests were attending the ceremony proved that the local people had extremely high moral standards and sought an inclusive society in which all people were welcome.

He said that the local people had “tightly grasped the hand of friendship extended by Ahmadi Muslims”.

Concluding, His Holiness prayed:

“I pray that this Mosque proves to be a means of removing any fears or reservations that you may hold about Islam and, God willing, it will be a means of manifesting the true Islam, which is of peace, harmony and love.”

Following his address, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad laid the foundation stone for the *Sadiq Mosque*.

The respected wife of His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Amtul Sabooh Begum also laid a stone and thereafter a number of *Central, National* and *Local* Ahmadi Muslim officials also laid stones.

The event concluded with a silent prayer led by Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad.

People in all parts of the world joining Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community through divine guidance

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V Delivers Friday Sermon from Frankfurt, Germany



On 16 October 2015, the *World Head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalīfa (Caliph)*, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad delivered his weekly *Friday Sermon* from the *Baitul-Aafiyat* complex in Frankfurt, Germany. Over 4,900 attended, whilst the sermon was also broadcast live across the world on *MTA International*. (see complete sermon in this issue)

Around 3,000 of the worshippers offered their prayers at the *Baitus-Ṣubūḥ Mosque*, which lies in extremely close proximity to *Baitul-Aafiyat*.

First ever Convocation Ceremony of Jāmi‘a Aḥmadiyya Germany

Sixteen Graduates receive their Shāhid Degrees from Head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community

The Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community is pleased to announce that the first Convocation Ceremony of *Jāmi‘a Aḥmadiyya Germany* took place at the *Jāmi‘a Aḥmadiyya Germany* premises in Riedstadt on 17 October 2015.

The ceremony was presided by *Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ V* (may Allah support him with His mighty help).

During the ceremony, 16 graduates were presented with their ‘*Shahid Degree*’ certificates by Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad and were thus enrolled as official

Missionaries of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Following the presentation, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad delivered a faith-inspiring address, in which he reminded the graduates of their vast responsibilities and the importance of the covenant they had made with God Almighty. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“The pledge you have made of devoting your entire lives to the spread of the true and peaceful teachings of Islam is not an insignificant matter. Having studied the Holy Quran for the past seven years you are well aware of the importance of fulfilling pledges and so remember that you will certainly be called to account by Allah the Almighty regarding your pledge as a life devotee.”

“Remember, that you cannot fulfill your duties unless you continually assess your own acts and seek true piety. You will only fulfill your pledge when you become a true model of the teachings of Islam. Only then will you be able to spread its message and to engage in the moral training of the members of the Community.”



Speaking about the importance of personal conduct, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“There should never be any conflict or discrepancy between what you preach and your own behavior. You must make sure you are acting upon the advice you are giving to others. Only, when you practice what you preach will your words inspire others towards goodness and piety. In the past your weaknesses were overlooked as you were students, but now people will look up to you and expect you to set the very highest standards of morality and righteousness.”

Reminding the graduates of their responsibilities as standard-bearers, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“You are the first class to graduate from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Germany and therefore it is your duty to set the very best example and to be

a positive role model for those who follow in your footsteps.”

Stating the importance of continuous learning, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Remember that learning and the pursuit of knowledge should never cease. Do not think that what you have learnt in Jāmi‘a is sufficient but rather continue to seek knowledge throughout your lives. The past seven years have taught you the means to learn but the pursuit of knowledge itself should continue until your final breath.”

His Holiness said it was the duty of Ahmadi Muslim Missionaries to prove wrong those who sought to defame Islam or associate it with extremism or violence. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Today, many people seek to associate Islam with extremism due to the acts of certain Muslim groups and so it is your duty to inform the world of the peaceful teachings of Islam. You must refute the hateful ideology and conduct of extremists by shining a light upon the true teachings of the Holy Quran. You must present before the world, Islam’s teachings of love, compassion and kindness.”



Regarding the importance of unity, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad:

“Where Allah has told Muslims to seek to excel others in virtue, it also means that they should grasp the hands of their weaker brothers and sisters and help them to achieve nearness to Allah. Certainly, this spirit of generosity leads to the unity of our Community.”

Concluding, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“As Missionaries, you are the representatives of Khalīfatul-Masīḥ and so it is your duty to convey the voice of the Khalīfa to all parts of the world. The only way you can successfully relay his message is if you yourself hear what he says and implement his guidance

in your own lives. Only then will you be ready to act as true ambassadors of Khilāfat.”

The ceremony concluded with a silent prayer and thereafter His Holiness inspected the Jāmi'a Aḥmadiyya complex.

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad addresses four thousand Muslim females from across the UK

On 25 October 2015, the World Head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph), His Holiness Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad delivered a faith inspiring address to conclude the 37th National Ijtima (Annual Gathering) of Lajna Ima'illa UK, the ladies auxiliary organization of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community. The two-day event which was held at 'Islamabad' in Tilford, Surrey was attended by almost 4000 women and children from across the United Kingdom. During his address, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said that Ahmadi Muslims should continuously seek moral and spiritual development, according to the true and peaceful teachings of Islam. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“It is essential that before looking at others, every Ahmadi Muslim looks at himself and assesses his or her own state. They must question if they are truly following the teachings of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). They must truthfully assess whether they are abstaining from immorality and sin.”

Referring to the crucial role of mothers within a home, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) said it was essential to seek the nearness of Allah the Almighty and the way to do this is to develop a great love of worship and prayer within one's home. As mothers, you can only inculcate a love of worship within your children when you yourself fulfill the rights of worship and perform all your prayers and manifest true devotion to God.”



His Holiness said that the teachings of the Holy Quran drew the attention of believers towards showing compassion and sympathy to others. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) taught that each Ahmadi Muslim should display true love and affection to others and that if they did so Allah would show love to them. Certainly, Allah's love is the means to true peace and contentment. Therefore, always seek to spread compassion and kindness within society. You should not just hope for the best for yourself and your families but should desire that all people are able to live with peace, security and in comfort.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“Those who wish to be counted amongst true believers and who wish to follow the teachings of the Holy Quran must always display love, empathy and kindness. If you respect others and are open-hearted you will see that many bad habits, such as speaking ill of others, will naturally die away and this is extremely important in today's society.”

His Holiness said that parents must concentrate on the educational needs and well-being of their children and set a positive example for them at all times. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“You must establish the very highest standards and values within your homes. You must act according to Allah's commands. Sometimes, children can pick up wrong things or habits from their schools or outside and so you must give ample time to your children. You must explain to them what is right and what is wrong.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad continued:

“You must instill within your children those values that are to be cherished and protected. You must explain Islamic teachings to them. In terms of their school education, of course you should encourage your children to learn and to attain the highest standards. However, if in the name of freedom, the schools ever teach things that are contrary to Islam then you should explain clearly to your children what our values and beliefs are.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said that all Ahmadi Muslims should be regular in watching programs

broadcast on MTA International. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“In terms of MTA, every Lajna member should attach themselves to it and be regular in watching its programs. At the very least they should ensure that they watch my Friday Sermons and the other programs of the Khalifa of the time. And they should make sure their children also sit and listen. This will be the means of their spiritual and moral development and will increase their religious knowledge.”

His Holiness recounted a faith inspiring incident of a newly converted Ahmadi Muslim woman who travelled from France to meet His Holiness during his recent tour of Holland. After becoming an Ahmadi Muslim, she said her husband had rejected her and removed her from her home. However she remained firm and resolute in her faith. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

“Naturally, most women wish to live comfortable lives with their families and to live with comfort and ease. Yet, still there are women who are ready to bear all forms of

hardship, difficulty and persecution for the sake of their faith and belief in the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). That is the state of a true believer that he or she is willing to sacrifice all forms of comfort and to patiently bear all trials and tribulations for the sake of their faith.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad concluded by praying:

“May you become torch bearers who shine a light on the true teachings of Islam. And may Allah enable you to spread the true peaceful teachings of the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace be on him) and to forever abide by the perfect teachings of the Holy Quran.”

During the *Ijtima*, the members of *Lajna Ima'illa* participated in various academic competitions and activities, which included presentations, exhibitions and quiz and speech competitions. New features of the *Ijtima* this year included the introduction of a workshop marquee – which hosted trade and industry and health talks and various demonstrations, as well as a ‘*Great Lajna Bake-off*’ style event.

Head of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Condemns Paris Attack and Prays for Victims

The *World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph)*, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad has condemned last night’s terrorist attacks in Paris.

Speaking from London, His Holiness Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad has said:

“On behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community worldwide, I express my heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the French nation, its people and government following the heinous terrorist attacks that have taken place in Paris. This brutal and inhumane attack can only be condemned in the strongest possible terms. I would also like to reiterate that all forms of terrorism and extremism are

completely against the true teachings of Islam. The Holy Quran has said that to kill even one innocent person is akin to killing all of mankind. Thus under no circumstances can murder ever be justified and those who seek to justify their hateful acts in the name of Islam are serving only to defame it in the worst possible way.

Our sympathies and prayers are with the victims of these attacks and all those who have been left bereaved or affected in any way. May God Almighty grant patience to them all and I hope and pray that perpetrators of this evil act are swiftly brought to justice.”

(Press Release 14 November 2015)

Head of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Arrives in Japan

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad travels to inaugurate first Ahmadiyya Mosque in Japan

On 17 November 2015, the *World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph)*, His Holiness, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad arrived in Tokyo, Japan for his third visit to the country.

His Holiness arrived at *Tokyo Haneda Airport* at 7.40 A.M. where he was greeted by Anees Ahmad

Nadeem, the *President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Japan* and various other members of the *Community* from both Japan and abroad.

Later, His Holiness visited the Meiji Shrine in Tokyo where he was officially welcomed to Japan by Shigehiro Miyazaki, the Vice-Chief Priest.*



Having previously visited Japan in 2006 and 2013, during his current tour Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad will inaugurate the *Baitul-Ahad Mosque* in Nagoya with his weekly *Friday Sermon*. The *Sermon* will be broadcast globally on MTA International.

His Holiness will also hold various other official engagements and meetings during his tour, including delivering the keynote address at a *Special Reception* being held to celebrate the opening of the new Mosque in Nagoya.

Head of Ahmadiyya Community Inaugurated First Ahmadiyya Mosque in Japan



On 17 November 2015, the world Head of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the fifth caliph, His Holiness Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (may Allah support him with His mighty help) arrived in Tokyo, Japan for his third visit to this country.

He visited Meiji Shrine in Tokyo where he was officially welcomed to Japan by Shigehiro Miyazaki, the Vice-Chief Priest. He inaugurated the Baitul-Ahad Mosque in Nagoya with his weekly Friday sermon.

Weekly Guidance from Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V

May Allah be his Helper

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

Friday Sermon 9 October 2015 at Masjid Nur, Nunspeet, Holland

Essentials of Spiritual Training

It is essential for spiritual training that we read the writings and sayings of the Promised Messiah thoughtfully and act upon them

We should always remember our pledge to obey and love with the utmost sincerity, and abide by this pledge. In order to strengthen the institution of Khilāfat it is essential to listen to the Sermons, reflect upon ourselves, and teach our kids to do likewise.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that most Ahmadīs in Holland are either born Ahmadīs or those whose parents accepted Ahmadiyyat while they were still young, and they have been allowed to stay in this country because of the adverse condition in Pakistan. This has brought about a positive change in their circumstances. Since all this is through the blessing of the Jamā'at, they should be cognizant of this favor and realize their responsibilities in this regard. In order to do so, it is essential to read carefully the writings and sayings of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) and to act upon them. It is likewise essential to learn about the life and holy character of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). As gratitude for the positive change in their circumstances, they should try to bring about extraordinary transformation in their lives and teach your children to do the same.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that old Ahmadīs should also present a good example so that they don't become the means to mislead others and so that new Ahmadīs should not complain about the character of old Ahmadīs. Keep attached to the teachings of Ahmadiyyat and the pledge of Bai'at and become strongly attached to the Jamā'at and have a sincere and devotional relationship with Khilāfat. Those who have believed in the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) with full conviction are showing lofty examples. They reflect on the pledge and the conditions of Bai'at and write fervent letters to me. We should all reflect over our conditions and try to understand the meaning of Bai'at and try to act upon it.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today I will present some extracts from the writings of the Promised

Messiah (may peace be upon him). The tenth condition of the Bai'at reads:

“That he/she shall enter into a bond of brotherhood with this humble servant of God, pledging obedience to me in everything good for the sake of God, and remain faithful to it until the day of his/her death. That he/she shall exert such a high devotion in the observance of this bond as is not to be found in any other worldly relationship and connection that demand devoted dutifulness.”

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in these words the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) has described the way to love for the sake of God and has required obedience in Ma'rūf. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that all the Promised Messiah's (may peace be upon him) injunctions fell under the purview of Ma'rūf. These words make us responsible to establish a relationship of devotion, sincerity and fidelity and take it to higher and higher levels. One can only truly obey if one has knowledge. Therefore we should strive to read the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him)'s writings and sayings and then act upon them. And we must establish such a relationship with him as has no equal in this world.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in view of the gratitude we owe to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) for the great zeal he had for our spiritual training and all the means he used to bring this about, we ought to obey him and also establish a relationship of sincerity and love with Khilāfat. Let us not rest content with verbal professions but strive to bring about inner transformation. Let us strive for inner

purity. Let us offer prayers and supplicate and give in charity. Let us employ all these means in a powerful effort to establish a relationship with God. Let us employ our reason and make full effort to find God. But for this to happen it is essential to have a true and sincere relationship with the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) and with Khilāfat. We should watch MTA, listen to the sermons, and teach our children of their importance.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says that in order to establish relationships with God it is essential to gain knowledge and to spread this message. When we spread this message, we will also become mindful of reforming ourselves. Recently when I made a speech at the inauguration of a mosque, a lady guest said that what the Khalifa has said is very good, but it remains to be seen whether his followers act upon them or not. Hence people's eyes are on us. Let us bring

about inner transformation. Let us become one with Khilāfat. We are fortunate that in this age God has brought about innovations that have made the task of Da'wat Ilallāh very easy. Let us make use of TV and internet. One means of the unity of Ahmadiyyat is through association with MTA. May Allāh enable every Ahmadi in every household to make full use of it.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Hafiz Muhammad Iqbal Ahmad Warraich, missionary and secretary of the Yaksad Yatama Committee. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also appealed to the Jamā'at to pray for the early release of his brother Tāhir Mahdī Imtiaz Ahmad Waraich and other Ahmadīs who are imprisoned in Pakistan.

Friday Sermon 16 October 2015 at the Baitul-Aafiyat Mosque, Frankfurt, Germany

Strengthen Relationship with God

Progress of the Jamā'at at the global level, and faith-inspiring examples of people being guided through dreams

The more you grow in certainty in your faith, the more enlightened your heart will become. Strengthen your relationship with God. Read the Holy Qur'ān carefully and offer the daily prayers attentively. Supplication is the essence and spirit of prayer.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Recently while I was in Holland a journalist asked me whether Ahmadiyyat was the fastest growing Jamā'at in the world. I said that when viewed at a global level, Ahmadiyyat is indeed the fastest growing Jamā'at. The voice that rose from a small village in Indian can now be heard in every town and village. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that a time will come when the Jamā'at will be known all over the world and its spread will be a sign of Divine support. God has willed that this Jamā'at will flourish. He will gradually cause it to grow and triumph over all other faiths. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that all the tribulations we are facing today will disappear. The speed with which the Jamā'at is growing is a sign from God and indeed a miracle.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Every Ahmadi is firmly rooted upon the belief that just as Allah has caused the voice that rose from a small village 125 years ago to spread all over the world, and has established Jamā'ats of believers everywhere, so will He, by His grace, usher in the time when the tribulations will vanish, as promised, and this Jamā'at will triumph over all others. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that today we are passing through a phase where the Jamā'at is spreading and the world is

witnessing our gradual growth. Although we are also facing trials and tribulations, God manifests the signs of His support even more abundantly after every trial.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) said that people these days frequently have true dreams through which God wishes to apprise them of the truth of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said finding guidance through dreams has a major part in opening people's hearts. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited several examples whereby people were apprised of the truth of Ahmadiyyat through dreams.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says with regard to those who convert to Ahmadiyyat that they come from among our opponents, and that those who pledge Bai'at every day are from among them. But how could they have left our opponents if they did not have perception of truth and purity of heart? The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) said that he received many letters from people confessing that they used to curse him but had now repented and requested forgiveness.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said even today there are many people who were formerly our

opponents but are now growing in devotion and sincerity after pledging Bai'at. These are the signs being manifested by God which the Jamā'at is witnessing and they further strengthen our faith.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says that if this had been a human endeavor it would have been vanquished by human schemes and human opposition. The fact that the Jamā'at is growing and progressing amidst all the opposition is a proof that it is from God. The more you grow in conviction the more enlightened your heart will become.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Some of those who pledge Bai'at write to me saying that they have gone a complete spiritual transformation and there is now peace and harmony in their households. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that looking at the transformation these converts are undergoing, we too should strive to bring about similar transformation in ourselves.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says, read the Holy Quran and do not despair of God. Our God has total power over all things. Offer your prayers with care and attention and understand the meanings of the words. When you offer Ṣalāt, pray in your own language along with reciting the prescribed prayers. Prayer is the essence and spirit of Ṣalāt. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) read Sūrah Al-Fātiḥah, explained its meaning, and said that the rest of the salat should also be offered with understanding.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Offer Salat with the proper attention, the mere uttering of words is of no use. The belief that God has no partner should also manifest itself in our actions.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allah may enable us to strengthen our relationship with Him, that we may realize the purpose of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him)'s coming and become a firm and active part of the Jamā'at, and that we spread the message of Islam to the whole world.

Friday Sermon 23 October 2015 at the Baitul-Futūh Mosque, Morden, London

Immense Blessings of Allāh on Jamā'at

An account of Huzoor's (May Allāh be his Helper) tour of Holland and Germany, mention of the Jamā'ats progress and Allāh immense blessings, and of the favorable view of people regarding the Jamā'at.

Huzoor's address in the Dutch Parliament and the wide coverage given to the message of Islām. Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya is destined to grow and flourish, and this is God's favor to the Jamā'at that we witness everywhere.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that Allāh, by his grace, shows signs of his help and support during every tour. Recently I was on a tour of Holland and Germany. In Holland I attended a reception at the Dutch Parliament that was attended by 89 dignitaries, including MPs from several countries, ambassadors and government representatives. In my address I spoke about the teachings of Islām and its application in the context of current world affairs, and this had a very positive impact on the audience. Some of the comments were that the Jamā'at had extended its message in a very effective manner and that the Dutch people had the right to be shown the peaceful face of Islam as well. This is a message that they needed and that it would enable them to see the true face of Islām. Some commented that the answers given to the questions of the parliamentary committee were sufficient to open anyone's eyes. They said that the answers given by the Imām of Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya to questions about freedom of speech, tolerance and respect for other religions were most appropriate. They said that Huzoor's (May Allāh be his Helper) discourse regarding tolerance, freedom of religion and brotherhood in the

light of the teachings of the Holy Qur'ān touched their hearts because these values are vital for maintaining interreligious harmony. The teachings of Islām are indeed very potent in terms of establishing world peace. If all people sincerely followed these teachings, the world would become an abode of peace. They said that the words of the Imām of Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya have shown that it is essential to have Aḥmadiyya representation in our programs relating to inter-faith harmony.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In other programs held in Holland, several newspaper, radio, and television journalists interviewed me. I had long discussions with them in which I apprised them of the status and the claim of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), the teachings of Islām, world peace, and Khilāfat. This resulted in introducing the Jamā'at to a wide population. Several Dutch and Norwegian newspapers published news and reports regarding this tour. Our message reached about three million people through newspapers. Likewise about half a million people received the message through radio coverage. The national television also gave coverage to

the events. About five million people received the message through television. In total about eight million people were reached through the media.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I also had the opportunity to lay the foundation stone of our second mosque in Holland. 102 dignitaries attended the ceremony, which include the Mayor, judges, doctors, architects, religious leaders and people from other walks of life. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the positive feedback given by the dignitaries regarding the Jamā'at.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then laid the foundation stone of two mosques in Germany, and these events were also attended by the intelligentsia and helped to spread the message of Ahmadiyyat to a wide audience. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some of the comments given by the guests after these events. These events were also given wide coverage by television, newspapers and radio, and thus the message was broadcast to millions.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that this year the first batch of students passed out of Jāmi'a

Ahmadiyya Germany after completing seven years of study. Sixteen new missionaries have been trained and their convocation was held. It was also the main purpose of my visit to Germany. This was a very successful event. May Allāh enable the new missionaries to serve the faith in the best possible manner.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says that this Jamā'at was established by God and it is by His grace that it is growing and flourishing. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in keeping with Allāh's promise to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), this Jamā'at is destined to grow and flourish, and this is what we see happening all over the world.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Ṣāhibzāda Mirzā Azhar Ahmad Sahib, son of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him), and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayers.

Friday Sermon 30 October 2015 at the Baitul-Futūh Mosque, Morden, London

Sayings of Promised Messiah by Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

Saying and narratives of the Promised Messiah in the words of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

Every one of these sayings and narratives has a moral lesson

Excel one another in virtue. Set higher examples in truthfulness and honesty.

Prayer means to accept death. Only that person can beseech God who considers himself as good as dead before Him

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) related some sayings and accounts of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) as reported by Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that each of these sayings and episodes contains a lesson. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that those who have religious knowledge should also keep in touch with current affairs and history. Missionaries in particular should be mindful of this. Citing an account related by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the lesson we learn from it is that if a person deviates from the truth and tries to falsely adorn the garb of sagacity and intellect, he will end up being humiliated.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that we should hold on to the principle that we must not curse anyone; rather we should pray even for our enemies.

When believers face tribulation, difficulty and danger, God provides the best outcome for them. Today the true believers are only those who are firmly attached to the Imām of the age. If we are facing hardships today, they will be followed by good times in future. The history of Ahmadiyyat bears testimony that trials and tribulations for us are always a precursor to even greater progress.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that evil thoughts can impact others even through proximity. If we spend time with an evil person his evil thoughts will unconsciously affect us, and if we keep company with good people we will be positively influenced by them. The youth in particular should see to it that their friendships and acquaintances should not revolve around those who could negatively influence them. Likewise, we should avoid watching the inappropriate programs on TV and keep our kids from doing so as well. We should keep our environment pure and clean.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while asking someone to pray for you, it is important to establish a relationship with him. Allāh commands us to excel one another in virtue. Instead of trying to compete with one another in worldly things we should strive to excel in virtue and truthfulness. This will not only be good for our own spiritual nourishment and earn us the reward of the hereafter, but also help in the proper upbringing of our children and lead to the progress of the Jamā'at.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that only Allāh can guide someone, and our duty is only to spread the guidance and convey the message. We should undertake this task to the best of ability, and God will then cause it to bear results. It is wrong to think that if such and such a person became Aḥmadī the Jamā'at will progress. Instead we should focus our attention on God's grace and put all our trust in Him. And we should pray that God may grant the Jamā'at such people as will grow in sincerity and devotion and make progress in faith.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some accounts which show the anguish the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) felt for saving the world from misguidance and for its reformation. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also cited Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd's (may Allah be pleased with him) exhortation that every

Aḥmadī should learn a trade and work hard. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also cited Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd's (may Allah be pleased with him) accounts relating to a proof of the existence of God, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him)'s heartfelt feelings regarding Divine support for him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that every Aḥmadī should hold on to the highest moral standards. In this regard Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him)'s example and his exhortation to avoid causing mischief, as related by Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) says that the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) used to say that if someone is unable to experience emotion and fervor in worship, he should try to cry artificially, and when he does so he will begin to feel true fervor. He said that to pray means to die. Only he can truly seek favor from God who considers himself before God as if he were dead and completely helpless. Only he who does this is successful in the eyes of God and his prayers are accepted.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may enable us to acquire the highest standards in morals and in our worship and that He may enable us to offer prayers that are accepted by Him.

Friday Sermon 6 November 2015 at the Baitul-Futūh Mosque, Morden, London

Importance of Financial Sacrifices

The importance and blessings of making financial sacrifices in the way of Allāh

The start of the new year of Tahrīk Jadīd, and the sacrifices made by devout members of the Jamā'at. Spending one's wealth in the way of Allāh is also a measure of a person's goodness and piety.

Pakistan stood first in terms of making financial sacrifices towards Tahrīk Jadīd, followed by Germany, UK, and USA respectively.

After reciting verse 93 of Sūrah Al-e-'Imran, which is translated as follows:

“Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love; and whatever you spend, Allāh surely knows it well.” (3:93)

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in these verses Allāh reminds the believers that if you wish to attain righteousness in order to win Allāh's pleasure then you must remember that piety requires sacrifices. Therefore, in order to win Allāh's pleasure you should sacrifice that which you love most and which gives you the greatest benefit, comfort, and ease. We know that wealth has always been cherished by humankind and

that the love for wealth and striving for its attainment crossed all bounds. Materialism is at its peak. At such a time it might sound ridiculous to the worldly minded to hear of sacrificing one's most cherished possessions for winning God's pleasure, trampling upon one's own desires for those of others, and making sacrifices for the faith. But they do not realize that even in this age there are people who comprehend these teachings of the Holy Qur'ān and try to follow them. Even in this age there are people who strive for righteousness in such a way that it seems to others like a great sacrifice. They strive for piety and set high standards in making sacrifices of their wealth, life and time in order to spread their faith. Such are the sacrifices that foster obedience and Taqwa.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the greater part of the world does not know who these people are. But they are the ones who, by following in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and by attaching themselves to the Imām of the Age, have found the true means of attaining piety. The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) in many of his sayings and writings has elucidated the teachings of the Holy Qur’ān and provided understanding of how piety is achieved and how high standards of sacrifice are attained.

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says that in this world people are very much infatuated with wealth and possessions. But the Holy Qur’ān says that you cannot attain righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love, and this is because kindness to mankind calls for spending one’s wealth, for how can one benefit another without foregoing one’s own needs? Self-sacrifice is necessary for benefitting others. In this verse we have been taught to make self-sacrifices. Thus spending one’s wealth in the cause of Allāh is also a reflection of one’s piety and goodness.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Jamā’at of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) has set high standards in sacrifice, and by the grace of Allāh even today there are men, women and children in this Jamā’at who are well advanced in sincerity and devotion. They have a true understanding of the verse *لن تقالو البر* and are making greater and greater sacrifices. These include both old and new Ahmadīs. There are those who prior to accepting Ahmadiyyat gave priority to their worldly desires, but now they are ready to give away their cherished possessions. This is the revolution brought about by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) in this age. Huzoor (May Allāh

be his Helper) mentioned some faith-enhancing instances of the sacrifices made by sincere members of the Jamā’at and highlighted the blessings of making sacrifices for Tahrīk Jadīd. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said there are many such examples of sacrifices made by men, women and children all over the world and Allāh has blessed the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) with devoted followers in every corner of the world who understand the true spirit of sacrifice. We pray that Allāh may keep this spirit alive and we all keep progressing in taqwa.

Announcing the start of the 82nd year of Tahrīk Jadīd, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some figures for the year that has ended. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that by the grace of Allāh the worldwide Jamā’at offered a sacrifice of 9,217,800 Pounds Sterling. Pakistan has retained its first position. Among other Jama’ats, Germany stood first, followed by UK and USA respectively. Among African countries, Ghana stood first, followed by Nigeria and Mauritius respectively. By the grace of Allāh the number of members who contribute towards Tahrīk Jadīd has reached 1,311,000 with 100,000 new members joining this year. Among the Jama’ats in Pakistan, Lahore stood first followed by Rabwah and Karachi respectively. Among the districts, Sialkot stood first followed by Faisalabad and Sargodha respectively. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also named the prominent Jama’ats in Germany, USA, UK, Canada, Australia and India.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may bless the lives and possession of all those who have contributed towards this Chanda and they may grow in sincerity and devotion. Āmīn.

Friday Sermon 13 November 2015 at the Baitul-Futūh Mosque, Morden, London

Love of Khalīfatul-Masīh I for Promised Messiah

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd’s account of the life and character of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I, highlighting his love for the Promised Messiah.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I was peerless in his bond of brotherhood, love, devotion and obedience to the Promised Messiah.

If there is one person who was at the highest pinnacle with respect to being humble before the Promised Messiah, it is Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the account related by Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) with regard to the life, character, morals, wisdom, insight, obedience, trust in God, humility, sincerity and devotion as demonstrated by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that every Ahmādī who has read or heard about Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I knows of his dedication and deep love for the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). If there is one example of someone pledging to love and obey the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) for the

sake of God, and then putting this pledge into practice, and giving preference to it over every other relationship, and becoming completely attached to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), it is the example shown by Ḥaḍrat Hakim Maulana Nuruddin of Bhera, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I. And if there is one person in the history of Ahmadiyyat who showed the utmost humility before the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), this too was Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him). Consequently, he received from the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) an honor that was not given to anybody else. The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) said with regard to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him): “How fortunate it would be if everyone of this ummah became Nuruddin.” This was an immense honor given by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) whereby he described Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) as an example for his followers, saying that if everyone became Nuruddin, a revolution could be brought about.

Describing Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I’s spirit of sacrifice and obedience, Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd states that once when he came to Qādiān, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) told him that he had received a revelation regarding him and that if he returned to his homeland he would lose his honor. Upon this Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) never again thought of returning to his homeland. Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd says that when the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) established the Jamā’at, those who accepted him were the best in terms of their personal potential, and one of them was Ḥaḍrat Hakim Maulana Nuruddin who proved to be the best companion and helper.

Speaking of the love Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) had for the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd said that it was his habit that when he was very happy and spoke lovingly of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) he would refer to him as ‘our Mirza’. He had been used to referring to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) in these words from days prior to when he had claimed to be the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). But some naïve people would object to this and said that Maulawī Sahib did not give due reverence to the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) —God forbid. Once when he was delivering the Dars in Masjid Aqsa, he said that some people say that I do not speak of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) with proper reverence, but the fact is that I speak of him like that in the extremity of my love and affection. Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd said that we should not look at mere words but should look to the reality that is hidden in them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that despite his humility, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) was blessed with great knowledge and insight and was counted among the topmost physicians in India. And he was also given great honor by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). But all this only served to increase him in humility. May Allāh continue to raise his spiritual status and enable us to learn from his example according to the Promised Messiah’s desire.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that Jalsa Salāna of Jamā’at Mauritius is being held today. It is now a hundred years since the Jamā’at was established in Mauritius. May Allāh bless this Jalsa and all the programs, and may these hundred years usher in an era of greater progress. Āmīn.

Friday Sermon 20 November 2015 at the Baitul-Ahad Mosque, Nagoya, Japan

Ahmadiyyat is harbinger of peace and harmony. This is what our mosques symbolize.

Opening of Baitul Ahad in Japan, exhortation regarding the regular attendance of prayers and benefitting from MTA.

The mosque can accommodate 500 worshippers.

Financial sacrifices made by members of the Jamā’at and wholehearted support from neighbors.

After reciting verse 42 of Sūrah Al-Hajj, which is translated as follows: “Those who, if We establish them in the earth, will observe Prayer and pay the Zakāt and enjoin good and forbid evil. And with Allāh rests the final issue of all affairs.” (22:42) Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, by the grace of Allāh, we have been able to open our first mosque in Japan. May Allāh

bless this mosque in every way and enable us to fulfil the objectives for which it has been built. This is the biggest mosque in Japan in terms of the number of worshippers it can accommodate. However, we will only achieve our true objective when we fulfil the purpose for which we have pledged Bai’at to the Promised Messiah . Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper)

said that the Promised Messiah had expressed an ardent desire for his message to be conveyed to the people of Japan. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) described the recent terrorist attacks in Paris as extremely vicious and said that those who perpetrated them have incurred God's displeasure. Today Ahmadīs are under even greater obligation not only to become more regular in their worship, but to convey the beautiful teachings of Islām and invite people to the truth. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in order to fulfil our obligation to this mosque, it is essential to attend prayers five times a day. The Promised Messiah has said that if you want to convey the message of Islām anywhere, you should build a mosque, which will then open the doors for the propagation of Islām's message. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the verse that I have recited, Allāh describes His true servants as people who fear God, observe prayers and spend out of their possessions for the good of humankind. We should always bear these qualities in mind. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that 'being established in the earth' does not only mean sovereignty but it also means being granted majesty, respect and the peace of heart. There are people who profess to sacrifice everything for Khilāfat, but when they are told to discard their grievances and to become like one body, they start finding excuses. If you wish to become true believers, then instead of finding ways and excuses of creating dissent, you should inculcate the spirit of sacrifice and foster harmony. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that MTA is a very important means of Da'wat Ilallāh and Tarbiyat, and most of all it is an important link with Khilāfat. Parents should listen to Khalīfatul-Masīh's programs and urge their children to do the same. Instead of finding faults with others, spend your time in

constructive pursuits. The office-bearers should guide people with love and kindness. Foster love instead of giving air to grievances. If you speak against the system or the office-bearers of the Jamā'at in your homes, you are in fact spoiling your next generation. It is important to avoid such talks. Addressing Japanese Ahmadīs, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) urged them to grow stronger in their faith and in certainty. Speaking about Baitul Ahad, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it's total area is 1000 square meter. It is a two-storey structure and is located on a main road. The main hall can accommodate 500 worshippers. It can accommodate 800 worshippers at one time if we include the Lajna hall and the courtyard. This is the first mosque in the North-eastern part of Asia, which includes China, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and other countries. There was a building in this place which was bought and converted into a mosque. The purchase and construction cost amounted to 137,800,000 yen or 12,00,000 US dollars. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the hurdles that had come in the way of its construction and how God, by His grace, had removed them and the mosque has been completed. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) related some faith-inspiring examples of how people made financial sacrifices for its completion. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the good will expressed by non-Ahmadīs on the construction and opening of the mosque and of the services of a non-Ahmadī lawyer. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Jamā'at has a reputation as the true representative of Islām that spreads the message of peace and serves humanity. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may abundantly rewards all those who have made these sacrifices and enable them to fulfil their obligations to this mosque.

Friday Sermon 27 November 2015 at the Baitul-Futūh Mosque, Morden, London

Account of Japan's Tour, inauguration of Mosque, Receptions, Media Interviews, Public exposure of Islām on a wide range

50.2 million people received message of Islām through media and inauguration of Baitul Ahad

Attack on Chipboard factory Jhelum, expression of gratitude and forbearance by factory owners, and acknowledgement of efforts of those who raised their voice for the sake of truth

Speaking of His Holiness's recent tour to Japan and the inauguration of the first mosque in that country, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that despite many difficulties and hurdles Allāh enabled us to build the first mosque and the first centre for spreading the message of Islām in Japan. Literature, including the translation of the Holy Qur'ān, is being prepared in its thousands for the Japanese people in their own tongue.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited many of the dignitaries who attended the opening of the Baitul Ahad mosque in Nagoya as saying that it had been important for the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at to build a mosque in Japan since this Jamā'at has an important role to play in showing the beautiful face of Islam to the world. They also expressed the hope that this mosque will help introduce the Jama'at to the larger public and will foster

love and harmony in the world. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the reception was attended by about 109 Japanese dignitaries and eight non-Japanese non-Ahmadīs. They were all learned and influential people and they said that everything the Imam of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya said was based on truth, and that while he has urged kindness and compassion he has also spoken about the advancement of justice and fairness, which is very positive and very essential. They said that from the words of the Imam Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya they got a glimpse of the true face of Islām and learned much about this religion. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the news of the opening of the mosque was also given wide coverage in the media and the message of Islām reached the Japanese people on a large scale. I gave four interviews to representatives of electronic and print media. In total, the message reached 50,200,000 people through TV channels, Newspapers and the internet. These are demonstrations of God’s help and support that we witnessed as a result of conveying the message of Islām through the building of a mosque. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that a reception was also held in Tokyo and it was attended by 63 prominent Japanese dignitaries. After hearing Huzoor’s (May Allāh be his Helper) address, a Chancellor of a university said that in a very brief time you have comprehensively spoken about contemporary issues and also set out the teachings of Islām. He said that the Khalīfa had also reminded the Japanese people of their responsibilities and said that Japan should bear its history in mind and remain at the forefront in stopping conflict. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that by the grace of Allāh

the tour and the opening of the mosque had brought forth very positive results. May Allāh enable the Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya Japan to continue spreading the message of Ahmadiyyat that has been conveyed through this mosque and, in keeping with the desire of the Promised Messiah, spread the message of Ahmadiyya in Japan as quickly as possible. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also spoke about the recent burning of the Chipboard Factory in Jhelum Pakistan which belonged to Ahmadīs at the hands of the enemies of the Jamā‘at. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the damage to the property and how Ahmadīs managed to miraculously escape with their lives. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said this factory had belonged to Sahibzada Mirzā Munir Ahmad, a grandson of the Promised Messiah, and that it was now being run by his son Mirzā Naseer Ahmad Tariq Sahib who is also Amīr of the Jhelum District. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also asked the Jamā‘at to pray for the release of factory’s security in charge Qamar Ahmad who was falsely indicted and arrested. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said one important aspect of this incident is that this time many non-Ahmadī politicians and others have openly spoken through the media against this atrocity, and they have also pledged to do justice and apprehend the culprits. May Allāh enable them to do so. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also spoke about the attacks on Ahmadiyya mosques in Kala Gujran and Mahmoodabad, Jhelum. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may keep all Ahmadīs safe and provide better means of subsistence for the factory workers. Āmīn.

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Activities and News of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in USA

Second Annual Arab Conference-2015 held at Henry Ford College, Dearborn



2015 Arab Conference, Henry Ford College-Dearborn- Audience listening to Imam Yahya Luqman

By the sheer Grace of Allah, His blessings and Huzoor's (may Allah support him with His mighty help) prayers, Detroit Jamā'at held a successful 2nd Annual Arab Conference titled "Stop the CRISIS – What is the Pathway to Peace?" on November 19, 2015, at the Henry Ford College-Dearborn, Michigan.

Event highlights:

Event: 2nd Annual Arab Conference (titled Stop the CRISIS-What is the Pathway to Peace?)

Number of outside guests: 100

Media coverage: Detroit News and Press & Guide (main newspapers) covered the event with detailed articles on their main page with tens of thousands of readership.

Number of people got introduced to the Jamā'at: Approximately Six to eight thousand via various media (Print and online)

Literature distributed: Approximately 500 pieces of literature including Jama'at introduction flyers,

Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) books in (Arabic and English) and Huzur's (may Allah support him with His mighty help) books on Pathway to peace, MTA Al-Arabia and Al-Taqwa flyers were given to attendees.

With Michigan home to the largest Middle Eastern population in the North America outside of the Middle East, a great deal of focus on engaging with the community and conveying the peaceful message of

Ahmadiyyat, The true Islam has been emphasized. This event was an effort for the same.

The event preparations started a month in advance led by Muhammad Ahmad, Secy. Tabligh Detroit Jamā'at by formulating a team and holding regular weekly planning meetings. To publicize the event, various mediums were utilized that included the following:

- Flyer distribution at the Henry Ford College campus. Over 600 flyers were distributed.
- Henry Ford College advertises the event via newsletter, radio and TV.
- Advertised the event via Henry Ford College social Media sites
- <https://www.hfcc.edu/news/items/1446218441>
<https://twitter.com/hfcc/status/660137463025913857>
- <https://www.facebook.com/henryfordcc/photos/a.448151094452.251568.136046469452/10153959403664453/?type=3>
- Advertisement via local US Arab community site:
- <http://us4arabs.com/index.php?do=/photo/4052/flyer-2nd-annual-stop-the-crisis/>

Arab American Newspaper which is a weekly print edition of a local newspaper with circulation of 30 thousand mainly for the Middle Eastern community ran the ad for a week in their Nov 14 edition.

<http://arabamericannews.com/flash/edition/index.php>

The American Human Rights Council (AHRC) published the event ad in their newsletter as well as online on their website.

<http://www.ahrcusa.org/uncategorized/symposium-on-stop-the-crisis-what-is-the-pathway-to-peace/>

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) advertised the event via their newsletter along with annual Gazette.

Event was scheduled and planned well in advance. Due to the terrorist attacks in France, there was heightened interest in Muslims speaking out against the attacks that took many lives. One of the Professors at Henry Ford College invited to the event initially excused himself due to his teaching commitments. After the Paris attacks, he changed his plans by cancelling his classes and confirmed his attendance for the program. He not only attended the event but also became part of the panelists. One of the professors at Henry Ford College attended the event with her students.

Social media, including Twitter and Face book were utilized for the promotion of the event. Many Arab organizations not only liked the title of the event but also tweeted the event details within their followership.

Many student organizations from both Henry Ford College and University of Michigan-Dearborn were invited to the event and they in turn publicized the event via their own sources including newsletters, web postings and email.

Six major Arab organizations in the region were invited to event. These included:

- The American Human Rights Council (AHRC)
- Arab American & Chaldean Council
- Arab American National Museum
- Islamic Center of America
- American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
- Detroit Arab American Society

By the grace of Allah, a great number of Middle Eastern students at the college were introduced to the Jamā'at via the flyer distribution, social media outreach and various other avenues.

Among the attendees, two professors from the Henry Ford Community College attended the event. One of them was of Syrian descent and the other one was an American. Both have been teaching a wide range of subjects surrounding Middle Eastern affairs, Public Policy and Management.

A person from the Jewish faith was in attendance. He remarked on the Middle Eastern crisis and also asked questions from the panelists.

Media Coverage

Following media personnel were present the entire duration of the event:

- I. Mark Hicks - Detroit News (Detroit Based Print News) along with Photographer
- Teresa Duhl - Press & Guide (Dearborn Based Print News)
- **Detroit News:** One of the mainstream newspapers covered the event in the main section of the online edition of the paper.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/religion/2015/11/20/tackling-extremism-focus-stop-crisis-event-dearborn/76103448/>

- **Press & Guide:**
- <http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/11/21/news/doc564f465193945741675973.txt?viewmode=fullstory>
- <http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/11/17/news/doc564bbb84903f5613645114.txt?viewmode=fullstory>
- **Rochester Media:**
- <http://www.rochestermedia.com/stop-the-crisis-what-is-the-pathway-to-peace/>
- **Oakland Press:**
- <http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20151116/oakland-county-residents-companies-react-to-french-terrorist-attacks>

Public Officials

- Zachary Hayward - District Staffer for Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) stayed the entire duration of the program.

Event Recording and Live Streaming

Adeel Ahmed, Qā'id Detroit, being part of the Tabligh team not only recorded the event, took event photographs but also managed to live stream part of the program.

Jamā'at Literature distribution

During registration of the guests, many Arab guests picked up many Jamā'at literature books and flyers in Arabic including copies of Al-Taqwa magazine.

More than 50 guests received gift bags which included Jamā'at literature in Arabic, English and MTA Al Arabia flyers.

Free Al-Taqwa subscriptions were available to the attending guests free of cost as well. A few signed up.

Program

The program was started with welcome remarks and brief introduction of Jamā'at by Sec. General Detroit Jamā'at, Nasir Bukhari. Also silent prayers and moment of silence were observed for the victims of the Paris Terrorist attacks.

The formal program started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by National Arab Desk Coordinator, Br. Fytahi from Indiana, followed by translation by Malahat Maḥmūd. Professor Dr. Ali Awadi from Henry Ford College gave his speech on "Holy Prophet- Mercy for Mankind". Later, Mahir Osman, Sec. Public Affairs provided causes for youth radicalization and introduced a video related to the same subject.

Immediately after the video, an interactive session was led by Sadr Jamā'at, Dr. Mansoor Qureshi. He explored with the audience what would they do if they happen to be next to a young person being radicalized by ISIS or other terror groups. He also inquired from the audience how they would prevent youth from being radicalized. Later he summarized that community needs to speak confidently about the peaceful teachings of its own religion and that Muslims must be able to decisively refute, with evidence from the Quran, why ISIS ideology is the exact opposite of Islam. He encouraged people to talk one another about their faith and also meet with people of other faiths to get out of their comfort zones.

Following the interactive session, keynote speaker, Regional Imam Yahya Luqman of Dayton, Ohio discussed Pathway to Peace in light of the teachings of Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) He highlighted that Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) foretold such a time when Muslims will suffer due to lack of faith. He also indicated that in the light of the peaceful teachings of Ḥadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (may peace be upon him) of Qadian, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), Muslims who would take up arms in the name of Holy War, Jihad or any war in the name of religion will be roundly defeated and humiliated. The only form of Jihad allowed for Muslims is the Jihad of Pen, Jihad of self-reformation and Jihad of self-purification.

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

Attendance:

By the grace of Allah, the event was successful with more than 100 non Ahmadi guests (mostly Arab) participating along with over 50 members of Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, Detroit. Overall more

than 150 attendees listened keenly to the peaceful message of Ahmadiyyat- the True Islam. The hall was completely full with room available only for standing to many attendees. The event and the presentations were well received by all.

The email invitations were sent to approx. 8000 students, faculty, staff and management of both Henry Ford College and University of Michigan Dearborn. Below is a breakdown of the coverage of the event:

- Email invitations: 80000
- Flyer distribution = 800
- Arab American newspaper distribution = 30,000
- Oakland Press – Many thousands
- Detroit News- Many thousands
- Press & Guide- Many thousands
- US4Arabs- Many thousands

The above details indicate that the peaceful message of Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community was conveyed to tens of thousands of people in the Dearborn and surrounding cities and suburbs. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh

Event Feedback:

One of the Henry Ford College Professor, Dr. Ali Awadi remarked few days before the event while talking to Sec. Tabligh: "I don't see any other Muslims groups come out and speak against the terror groups or in defense of Islam and Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as much as I see Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community. This is the reason I want help you in every way possible as you are the only group out there everywhere speaking against those maligning the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)"

One of the Catholic members of a local Church organization committee Ed Demerly who wasn't able to attend, sent a message post event:

"Hello Muhammad,

I'm sorry that I wasn't able to attend the forum at HFC. The news articles you attached were fascinating. It sounds like the session was very productive.

Besides that, it would have been nice to meet Imam Luqman again as well as the friends I've come to know at Masjid Maḥmūd.

Peace be with you and please continue to speak out. I admire your effort.

Ed Demerly "

Local Jamā'at Lajna Sadr Fouzia Bukhari talked to the Detroit News reporter. Per Local Sadr Lajna "Reporter liked our program very much but also

inquired about the concept of Caliphate. One more important thing that happened was for the first time we ran out of books in English. So for next time we should have more stock.”

A person who read the article in Press & Guide called Jamā’at Public Affairs Sec. and said “He was very happy to see and hear that Muslims are doing their best to raise awareness of the true teachings of Islam.”

During one on one discussion, one of our own Tabligh team member Sr. Leila Elkhailil while talking to one young Arabic guest student said “He seemed to be perhaps a bit confused about Jamā’at while she listened to his views and his understanding of the coming of Mahdi or Masih (may peace be upon him). He described that Masih (may peace be upon him) will come down from the sky. Then she saw some trembling in his voice. There was a bit of a shock similar to what she herself experienced in the beginning when she first learned about the fact Messiah has come before becoming an Ahmadi. She explained that it's a bit overwhelming at first to comprehend and that she gave him some brief

info about Jamā’at and what Jamā’at is doing here and around the world. She also provided info on MTA 3 for him and his family to watch”

“Another young lady also of Yemeni descent sitting at my table was listening attentively and I started telling her about the early life of Prophet Muhammad (saws). She enjoyed and loved hearing about Holy Prophet’s childhood.”

“The lady security guard kept coming in and I kept asking her if she would like some food or refreshments but she'd smile and wouldn't answer and I found out she can't while on duty she was smiling every time she was enjoying what she was hearing during the program.”

Another Tabligh team member, Mahmood Qureshi provided following feedback. "My American, non-Muslim friend 'Thomas Kacer' said 2-3 times, "I am so happy that you people live here" He also asked me to invite him to all our future events. Please pray for him."

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA Condemns ISIS Attacks in Paris

Nation’s oldest Muslim organization condemns multiple acts of violence in Paris, France

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns ISIS attacks in Paris as an attack on humanity. Reports state at least 128 dead with around 180 injured.

“ISIS claims these attacks protect Prophet Muhammad’s (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) honor, in fact this does him the greatest dishonor,” said Dr. Nasim

Rehmatullah, National Vice President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, “They practice a false ideology which will be trumped only by a better ideology, which is True Islam.”

We pray for the speedy recovery of the injured and offer our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims. (Press Release November 14, 2015)

Ahmadis of USA Offer Condolences to Pakistan Earthquake Victims

Humanity First USA Seeking Path to Support Victims

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA expresses its prayers and deepest condolences to Pakistan and Afghanistan for the lives lost today after a horrific earthquake measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale. The latest reports indicate over 260 lives lost, and scores more injured or at risk of death. The Community’s charity wing, Humanity First USA, is making an urgent call for donations.

“Humanity First has long supported disaster relief in Pakistan,” said Munum Naeem, Executive Director of

Humanity First USA, “and we will work with Pakistan and the disaster relief community for the best path forward.”

Humanity First USA seeks active support to help those currently suffering after the earthquake. Please donate through the various options available at the following link:

http://usa.humanityfirst.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=85

The Ahmadiyya Gazette/Al-Nūr and Al-Hilāl

A free copy is sent by mail to every Ahmadi family in the US. If you are not getting a copy, please contact the president of your local chapter to assure that your current mailing address is entered correctly in the Jamā’at database at the US headquarters.



Waqf-e-Nau Ijtimā HQ Regions

Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, three Waqf-e-Nau HQ regions had combined Waqf-e-Nau Ijtimā at Mubarak mosque in Chantilly VA on Saturday Nov. 14, 2015. Here is brief report of various activities.



Wāqifīn, Wāqifāt and parents started coming Masjid Mubarak, around 10 am. Separate breakfast arrangements were made for Lajna and Men sides Ijtimā Program started around 11.30 am. National Sec. Waqf-e-Nau, Hafiz Sami Ullah, presided the session. After recitation of the Holy Quran, Poem and brief welcome note of Dr. Faheem Ahmed, Regional Sec. Waqf-e-Nau, and National Sec. Waqf-e-Nau Hafiz Sami Ullah addressed both Wāqifīn and Wāqifāt. Local missionary Rizwan Khan also briefly addressed the audience and led in silent prayer.

Hafiz sahib conducted less than 5 Wāqifīn & Wāqifāt presentations and gave them chocolates.

About 15 under 5 Wāqifīn and Wāqifāt participated. Three Waqf-e-Nau Regions Maryland, Northern VA/DC and SVA participated in Ijtema NVA, CVA,

Washington DC, SVA, Silver Spring, Laurel, Potomac, and Baltimore Jamā'ats participated Central VA was host Jamā'at for this Ijtimā, however other regional and local Waqf-e-Nau secretaries, equally helped to make this Ijtimā successful Wāqifīn and Wāqifāt had separate competitions as directed by Mansoor Ahmad.

Wāqifīn side competitions and prize were organized by Hameed Ch., Regional Sec. of Maryland and Ijaz Qamar Regional Sec. SVA, while Wāqifāt side activities were led by Zahida Choudhary, Muavina Waqf-e-Nau of CVA Jamā'at Dr. Muhammad Zafarullah Khan, Assistant Sec. Waqf-e-Nau gave presentation on learning Urdu. In afternoon session, Wāqifāt and Wāqifīn had separate presentations for about half an hour. At the end, Hafiz Sami Ullah distributed prizes and gave concluding address and Ijtimā program ended by silent prayer by Missionary Rizwan Khan around 4:00 P.M. Lunch was prepared by local Ziafat team, led by Tahir Ch. and Mirza Abdul Jabar. Attendance from the Lajna side was 148, which includes 65 mothers and 83 Wāqifāt and siblings. On Wāqifīn side around 80 Wāqifīn and siblings and about 75 /100 parents and other guest participated. Some guests attended part of the program. National Sec. Waqf-e-Nau, Hafiz Sami Ullah had separate, very interactive meeting with fathers to discuss different Waqf-e-Nau related issues.

Overall attendance was about 300 to 325, but regardless the exact count, I believe this Ijtimā was very helpful to motivate the Wāqifīn and Wāqifāt for their waqif and also to remind parents their responsibilities. May Allah bless all who participated and make them beneficial fruits of Jama'at of Masīh Mau'ūd (peace be upon him). Amin

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

FIRST NATIONAL WAQIFAT-E-NAU CAMP 2015

"You were born for a great purpose at a great time"

- Friday Sermon Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (rh) April 3, 1987



"تم ایک عظیم مقصد کے لئے عظیم الشان وقت میں پیدا ہوئے ہو۔"
خطبہ جمعہ حضرت خلیفۃ المسیح الرابع رحمہ اللہ تعالیٰ 3 اپریل 1987

Mabroor Jatala, National Muavin Sadr - In charge of Waqif-e Nau USA

By the Grace of Allah Ta'ālā Wāqifāt-e Nau Desk under the guidance of Waqf-e-Nau Department USA and National Sadr Lajna Ima'illa USA was able to hold the very first National Wāqifāt-e Nau Camp in the USA. The camp was held from Friday, July 24 – Friday, July 31, 2015 at Bait-uz-Zafar Mosque in Queens, NY.

Purpose: Learning Waqf-e-Nau Syllabus and Wāqifāt bonding in a loving spiritual atmosphere.

Preparation: The camp preparation started in October of 2014 and the venue and duration of the camp was decided with Waqf-e-Nau Department. National Sadr Lajna Ima'illa - USA, Saliha Malik officially introduced the event at the Lajna Mentoring Conference in March, 2015 and the National Muavin Sadr - in-charge Wāqifāt-e Nau USA, Mabroor Jattala started the camp planning.

The core team was put together which included program coordinator, Namooode Saher (Houston South), Lesson Plan coordinator, Salima Malik (Brooklyn, NY) and core teachers, Sadia Ahmad (Long Island, NY), Amna Ahmad, Sadr Lajna Brooklyn and Salima Malik (Brooklyn, NY). The team purposed the Lesson Plans and daily camp schedule. A team of teacher assistants was also selected. Online registration portal was initiated to register the camp attendees. Under the guidance of Waqf-e Nau Department and National Sadr Lajna Ima'illa - USA, National Muavina Sadr - Wāqifāt administered the preparation of Lesson Plans, the Camp Rules, Travel Guidelines and initiated an invitation letter to all the Majalis in the USA.

National Assistant Secretaries of Waqf-e-Nau Department helped in selection of books for the gifts, souvenir and preparation of certificates.

Daily Schedule & Class Sessions:

Daily Schedule: Wāqifāt started each day with Tahajjud and Fajr Prayers, and Darsul-Qur'an which was pre assigned to different Wāqifāt. After a short

break and breakfast they prepared themselves for classes starting at 9 A.M. sharp till Salatuz-Zuhr.

Classroom Sessions: For syllabus review, the classes were divided into three groups per age. For each group the core teacher and two assistant teachers were assigned.

The teachers discussed several topics from the Waqf-e-Nau Syllabus which were set as their goals to accomplish by the end of the week. The Wāqifāt focused on: the Holy Qur'an, its correct pronunciation and memorization according their age group, Ṣalāt with translation, Aḥādīth and prayers from their syllabus and the history of Islam. With a short break between classes they continued on with history of Ahmadiyyat, attributes of Allah, Qaseedah memorization and an Urdu Class.

Combined Sessions for all 3 groups:

After Salat-uz-Zuhr, lunch and short rest, Wāqifāt joined in a handicraft activity, a cooking class, or some fitness fun at the gym. Returning from the activity of the day, the girls continued their day with a combined session which included interactive presentations prepared by the Wāqifāt from different regions. It was followed by Salatul-Maghrib, dinner and Salatul-Isha.

At the end of the day, Wāqifāt had a social hour in which girls shared concerns or issues they experience in their daily lives and discussed how to resolve them. They also discussed the pros and cons of social media, peer pressure, purdah and the topic of marriage.

Sightseeing: One day was set aside for an outing. On this day the Wāqifāt rode two school buses into the city. The trip started with a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The girls then took a short walk to Central Park for lunch. After this they trekked 40 city blocks to Times Square where they explored the shops and popular sights of the area. They all returned to the Masjid in time for Maghrib.

Key Highlights:

Ma Shā' Allah, we had Wāqifāt representation from seven regions of the US (Central, Northeast, Mid Northeast, South, Southwest, Northwest, and Upstate Northeast)

Sixty Wāqifāt out of sixty five registered attended the camp.

The camp started with Salat-ul-Jum'ah lead by Respected Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, National Secretary Waqf-e-Nau USA. He delivered a very moving sermon and explained the spirit of the Waqf, and expectation from Wāqifāt as desired by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh, which set the tone for the camp.

A list of goals was presented to Wāqifāt at the beginning of the camp. According to their age, Wāqifāt groups were asked to choose any six to seven goals with the consultation of their teachers to accomplish during the camp.

Health seminar conducted by Dr. Tahira Khalid (National Lajna Secretary Sihhat-e-Jismani)

Presentation '*Kūnū Ma'as-Ṣādiqīn*' (keeping company with the righteous) by Bushra Butt (Northeast Regional Sadr)

Interactive presentations prepared and presented by Wāqifāt:

Holy Qur'an guidance for all (MNE & Central Regions)

Kashti Nūh/Hamari Ta'līm -Our Teachings (NE Region)

The Exemplary Lives of Great Muslim Women – Wives of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) (Central Region)

The Exemplary Lives of Great Ahmadi Muslim Women - Ḥaḍrat Amma Jan (may Allah be pleased with her), Ḥaḍrat Sayyida Ummi Tāhir and the sacrifices of the female companions of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), (SW & NW Regions)

Detailed Commentary of Sūrah Al-Kahf (NE Region)

Discussion - Five Friday Sermons of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh IV, Mirza Tāhir Ahmad (may Allah showers His mercy on him) specifically pertaining to Waqf-e-Nau Scheme (UPNE, NE, Central, MNE, and South Regions)

Friday Sermon of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V, Mirza Masroor Ahmad (may Allah support him with His

mighty help) Reviving the Spirit of Waqf-e-Nau January 18, 2013 (SW Region)

Detailed Commentary of Sūrah Al-Fajr (MNE & Central Regions)

All Wāqifāt, teachers and organizers wrote letters to Huzoor e Aqdas (may Allah support him with His mighty help)

Wāqifāt made much needed bonding with other Wāqifāt across America

Concluding Ceremony: Friday, July 31, 2015

The invitation was extended to all Lajna office holders of the Northeast Region to attend the concluding ceremony of the 1st National Wāqifāt-e Nau Camp 2015. Respected Sadr Lajna Ima'illa - USA, Saliha Malik presided over the session.

The program started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by Qaseedah with translation. National Muavin Sadr - In-charge Wāqifāt-e-Nau USA, Mabroor Jattala presented the Camp report.

In a segment called Camp Reflections, Wāqifāt shared their personal accounts and experiences about the camp. All presenters indicated they truly appreciated the opportunity.

Before the concluding address by Respected Sadr Lajna, recognition of camp attendees commenced. Wāqifāt were presented with gifts which included a certificate of attendance and completion of the camp, a set of three books and a souvenir. All teachers and volunteers who helped make this event possible were acknowledged and received a certificate of appreciation and a souvenir.

Closing Address by Sadr Lajna: National Sadr Lajna Ima'illa, Saliha Malik, came for the final day and gave the closing comments and greeted all the girls, teachers and volunteers in the awards ceremony. Sadr Lajna reiterated the special need for Wāqifāt to understand the spirit of sacrifice and to take their example from the Holy Prophet, who said, *My Prayer and my sacrifice, my life and my death are all for Allah....*" (6:163). We are prompted by our *love for Allah* to serve and devote ourselves to His work. She concluded with the passionate words of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) from The Victory of Islam, including: 'I am the invincible citadel raised for you today. He who enters me saves himself from thieves and robbers and wild animals...'

The session concluded with Du'ā followed by Salat-ul-Jum'ah.

Feeding 100,000 people and donating 5,000 units of blood



This is to inform you that, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya USA under the leadership of Sadr Khuddām, Dr Bilal Rana, set out to feed 100,000 people within the United States and collect 5000 units of blood during the 2014-2015 year.



By the sheer grace of Allah, over 65 Majālis participated in various Khidmat-e-Khalq activities

including feeding programs at shelters, mass food packaging, and collecting food items for pantries. This led to feeding MORE THAN 180,000 people fed this past year, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.



Furthermore, Huzoor (may Allah support him with His mighty help) gave Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya USA a goal of 5000 units to collect. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, MKA USA, took heed to the instruction of our Khilāfat and was able to collect 5039 units of blood.

Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community USA Thankful for Pope's Visit

Oldest American Muslim group encourages treating all with love, compassion, and kindness

The Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community USA is happy that Pope Francis arrived home safely and thanks him for his continued work towards peace, justice and interfaith tolerance. Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community USA thanks Pope Francis for his wishes to Muslims for a Happy 'Eid and also for the sympathy he expressed for the hundreds of Muslim worshippers who lost their lives during the stampede at the very end of the Islamic pilgrimage known as Hajj.

“As a global human family, it is important for everyone to see that religion can bring us together instead of tear us apart,” said Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Senior Vice President of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community USA. “We are grateful to know that we have a strong partner in Pope Francis towards our effort of interfaith love and dialogue and we are glad that he reached home safely.”

Aṭfāl visit the Hill



On Friday October 23, 2015, 170 Aṭfāl from around the US came to Washington DC to meet with Congressmen and Senators to discuss an [anti-bullying law](#) and introduce Aṭfāl-ul-Aḥmadiyya. Most of the Aṭfāl stayed overnight at Bait-ur-Rahman and then drove in two school buses to Capitol Hill early Friday morning.

A press conference was held in the Capitol Building which was attended by [Congressman Mike Honda](#) of California. He spoke about his experiences of being bullied and spoke highly of the young boys who had come from long distances to stand up against bullying. Sobaan Iqbal, an 11 year old Ṭifl, spoke of his personal experience with bullying. Muavin Sadr, Dr. Ahmad Chaudhry, spoke about Islamic solutions to bullying.

Over 70 Congressional offices were visited by the Aṭfāl. Each group of 3-4 Aṭfāl that attended the meetings

was thoroughly prepared with background information on the anti-bullying bill they were advocating for. One Ṭifl in the group was chosen by the Aṭfāl Senior team to do the presentation based on their knowledge and ability to present with confidence.

Jum'ah salat was held on the National Mall just across from the Capitol Building. After salat, the entire group of Aṭfāl went to the White House. Lunch was served in a nearby park. The group then returned to Bait-ur-Rahman. The overwhelming emotion among the Aṭfāl was of excitement and accomplishment. During the meetings, the Congressmen and their staffers commented how wonderful it was to have young boys come and discuss such an important issue.

Visit of Consulate General of Canada on Eid-ul-Aḍḥa



The Honorable Jamshed Merchant, Consulate General of Canada, visited Nusrat Mosque in Minnesota on the occasion of Eid-ul-Aḍḥa, September 24, 2015. Above picture shows him in the mosque lobby area with the president of Minnesota chapter and other members.

Report on Visit to French Consul, Princeton New Jersey

On Friday, November 20th, 2015 four members of the Central Jersey Jamā'at went as a delegation to visit the Honorary French Consulate of New Jersey, Anne de Broca-Hoppenot at her office in Princeton. The delegation consisted of President Dr. Mir Sharif Ahmad, Nazim Public Affairs Tariq Sharif, Nazim Tabligh/Zaim Ansarullah Abdul Nasir, and Nazim Ta'lim-ul-Quran/Waqf-i-Arzi Dr. Anas Mirza.

Prior to the visit, under direction from National Amir USA, Nazim National Public Affairs and President, Tariq Sharif, had sent a letter, press release of Huzoor's comments, and an email to the Honorary Consul. She made some initial very favorable comments via email and agreed to welcome our delegation. Upon arrival, the delegation presented her with a bouquet of flowers in the national colors of France with a note that read "Our Thoughts & Prayers are with you and the People of France. Peace, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Old Bridge, New Jersey".



The meeting lasted almost an hour. After introductions, Anne expressed that the letter and email she received had inspired her and caused her

to view the attacks in the Paris area "in a completely different light". She held a very balanced view of Islam, distinguishing between the atrocities of some and the nature of true religion. A Catholic by religion, she felt strongly that religions must work together to promote peace.

Anne also explained that she had forwarded Huzoor's comments and the letter she received to the French Consulate in New York as well as sharing them with multiple members of the French community.

Jamā'at members then shared a brief overview of Ahmadiyyat, Huzoor's role on the world stage in promoting peace, and the local activities we have been doing to provide service to the community and build bridges with other communities. Anne was extremely attentive, respectful, and complimentary.

After the initial discussion, everyone collaborated on several next steps (as Anne said, "I am a woman of action"). First, she agreed to talk to the interfaith group at Princeton University about opportunities for our Jamā'at to interact. We informed her that a member of our community, Atif Mian, is a Professor of Economics there. Second, she stated that she will work on putting together an event where the French community of New Jersey can come together and hear from our Jamā'at. We discussed that it may be a presentation, panel or Q&A session as appropriate. Third, as a school teacher by day, she wants to look into having a speaker come to her classroom to talk about true Islam.

Finally, the delegation invited her to visit the Mosque where we would host her and her guests. At the end she was presented with Huzoor's book Pathway to Peace, Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, and Life of Muhammad which she promised to review.

Thanksgiving Event in Central Jersey



On Saturday November 21st, the Central Jersey Jamā'at hosted the Second Annual Old Bridge Service Awards in conjunction with the Mayor's Office of Old Bridge Township in New Jersey. The event was held in the Old Bridge Senior Center and the attendance of around 150+ people included approximately 70 guests. A moment of silence was observed at the beginning of the program in respect of the victims of terrorist violence in Paris the previous week. Old Bridge Mayor, Owen Henry, and Central Jersey Jamā'at President, Dr Mir Sharif Ahmad, presented awards for "Excellence in Service to Humanity" to Rose Welsh, Supervisor of the

Old Bridge Food Bank, and Ruth Mathieu, President of the Old Bridge Community Emergency Response Team. Mr. Eddie LaPorte, Head of Faith Based Initiatives in the Office of Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno, read out a letter of greetings from the Lieutenant Governor. New Jersey State Senator Sam Thompson was also in

Prayers for Paris Victims

Killing even one innocent person is like killing all mankind, we should pray for the people of France and especially for the victims, said Imam Shamshad of Ahmadiyya Muslim community of Chicago.



Ahmadiyya Muslim community from all over the world is with the peaceful people of France to share their pain and grieve. Those who lost their lives are in our thoughts and prayers. Such barbaric attack is an attack on the entire humanity rather than on France only. Any attempt to justify such killing of innocent lives is absolutely a wrong approach.

The Head of the Worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, His Holiness, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad has condemned attacks in Paris in open words. Islam is a religion of peace and emphasizes on the sacredness of human lives. The Holy Quran says that killing even one innocent person is same as to kill all of mankind.

Meeting with First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ of Downers Grove

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ of Downers Grove had a meeting of Faith in Global Ministries Panel on Sunday 15th Nov 2015. Jan Remer-Osborn, PhD (Licensed Minister) the organizer from church side served as moderator during this event.

Imam Shamshad from Glen Ellyn, Illinois accepted the invitation to speak on behalf of Ahmadiyya Muslim community.

Faiths represented were Islam Ahmadiyya, Hindu, Judaic, Humanist, and Christian (protestant).

Glein, a businessman represented humanists, Mark spoke on behalf of Judaic though he was not a rabbi. Devendra, an ex-politician and former mayor explained

attendance and spoke a few words to the audience, which included representatives from various Old Bridge Service Organizations and Old Bridge Township Councilors. A Thanksgiving dinner was served to those present at the end of the formal presentations.

On Saturday 13th Nov 2015, Ahmadiyya Muslim community Glen Ellyn(Chicago)chapter arranged congregational Tahajjud and Fajr Prayers in St. Thomas United Methodist Church, Glen Ellyn and showed their respect and moral support for those who got injured and killed in Paris terrorist attacks.

Such attack on the peaceful public is outrageous. Every one of the participants saddened on the brutal killing in Paris which has taken 129 lives till last news. Prayers were said for the speedy recovery of the wounded. Imam Shamshad expressed the heartfelt condolences to the families of the bereaved on behalf of whole Ahmadiyya community in Chicago. "We are shoulder to shoulder with the civilized world against this act of terrorism" Imam extended his message and expressed grief over the brutal killings of innocent people.

May God provide solace and strength to the bereaved and to their loved ones to bear this great loss. Amen.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the oldest established Muslim community in the USA, is over 125 years old, world's largest and only Muslim organization with one central leader has a membership of over 160 million worldwide. The community has been established in 207 countries and territories of the world. (Nadim Raza)

about Hinduism, Dev. Scott was there to speak for Protestants while Matt and Imam Shamshad represented Islam in this panel meeting. It is worth mentioning that Matt is a new convert who got inspired from Islam in a similar interfaith meeting. Matt is working on his Ph. D in religious studies. The program started from introduction of the panel members, then Jan, the organizer of the event asked questions and all members in the panel were supposed to voice their opinion per their respective faiths turn by turn. The audience was also welcomed to ask questions.

The diversity of knowledge could be seen during panel discussions however some of the participants couldn't limit their answers to the exact scopes. In

response to a question about possibility of peace between different faiths, Imam Shamsad explained this is quiet possible. The only thing we need is to promote tolerance and listen to others rather than setting up one sided opinions. He also mentioned about negative role of media leading towards wrong directions of any incident happening in society. If there is bleed, media will lead, said Imam, such a way of working always flames up rather than resolving disputes and promoting peace.



Another question was “How does your religion address the diversity of other religions here today.” Imam Shamsad explained about Ahmadiyya community’s worldwide motto "Love for All, Hatred for None". In fact the only way to promote peace and harmony in societies comprising different faiths, is to win hearts thru love and serving to humanity.

A copy of the Holy Qur’an with English translation presented to pastor Dev. Scott.

Imam Shamsad emphasized on all panel members to bring at least some people with them from their

Blood Drives in Silver Spring, Mechanicsburg PA Harrisburg Jamā’at

With great blessing of Allah, Muslim for life blood drives have been running yearly in our small town of Mechanicsburg since 2011. We had our first blood drive at our Ahmadiyya Mosque in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

We have been living in this area for 35 years, The township and the country commissioner know us very well. Our local Lajna was helping the township veterans memorial committee with raising money for the memorial since 2009. In 2012, on Veterans Day, the memorial was to open in park in our township of Silver Spring. At that time, we asked the veterans committee to let us have our blood drive with their veterans’ ceremony and let us provide lunch for our veterans and for people who come out and give blood. They were thrilled that some religious community wanted to do such a thing with the veterans and also do service for the community by collecting blood.

respective faiths to listen such mind opening discussions.

Imam also introduced the book "Pathway to Peace" and presented many copies to the panel members and the audience. This book also proves that Ahmadiyya community acts the same way in whole world under as one worldwide faith members, are centralized on one policy.



Imam also presented the copy of the Holy Quran to the Pastor of the Church.

Jan Remer wished to host more such type of events in future, not in church but some different place. Imam Shamsad offered to welcome future gatherings in Ahmadiyya mosque.

Jan announced the end of meeting after question answer session and thanked the speakers from different faiths for their visit.

This is how mutual relationship came about with the township and the veterans committee. Now Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has become part of the Veterans Day ceremony to have a blood drive and give lunch to the veterans.

We had 180 people come out to the park for the ceremony and the blood drive. Most of the veterans can’t give blood because they have been out of country but their families can.

The Cumberland School district allows blood drive fliers in schools. 1400 fliers were sent home with every kid living in Mechanicsburg Silver Spring Township.

We are very pleased with Allah’s blessing that He made the event a symbol for people of the township and county that they look at us as people who want to help and will help. They are truly impressed by the leadership Khilafat we work under.

Every year we have introduced new campaigns that Jamā'at launches providing us a way to talk to our local neighbors about the new campaign every year. Our Atfāl and Nasirat get to meet veterans and be thankful to them for their sacrifices.

So far Mā Shā' Allāh we have collected 83 pints of blood in Pennsylvania this year. We have also make great strides in public's eyes for our welfare efforts. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.

Old Bridge salutes exceptionally caring leaders

The Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community and the Mayor's Office saluted two outstanding Community leaders on Saturday



[Pamela Mackenzie](#), @pammackenziemcj

6:55 p.m. EST November 22, 2015



Rose Welsh, left, director of the Old Bridge Food Bank, and Ruth Mathieu, right, president of the Old Bridge Community Emergency Response Team, were recognized Saturday for their extraordinary service to their community. (Photo: Pamela Mackenzie/Staff Photo) Buy Photo

- The Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community established the award with the Mayor's Office to promote peace.
- Rose Welsh, director of the Old Bridge Food Bank was one of the honorees.

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OLD BRIDGE - The township and the Old Bridge Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community established a new Thanksgiving tradition Saturday with their second annual Old Bridge Service Awards to two outstanding community leaders, Rose Welsh, executive director of the community food bank, and Ruth Mathieu, president of the Old Bridge Community Emergency Response Team.

The ceremony and dinner were conducted the Senior Center in the Old Bridge Municipal Complex. Tariq Sharif, director of public affairs for the Aḥmadiyya Muslim community, was master of ceremonies, while Mayor Owen Henry and some members of the township council participated in the ceremony.



Story Highlights

- This was the second annual Community Service Awards ceremony in Old Bridge.



Sharif opened the event by acknowledging the families and friends of the victims of the terrorist attack in Paris the week before, expressing support for them and denouncing terrorism as having no part in Islam. He added that he and members of the Aḥmadiyya community had met earlier in the day with the French consul in New Jersey to share this same message of support and peace. He also described his own family,

and how is father, a second-generation American, had served in the U.S. Marines and National Guard, and how a deep love for the United States had been passed down from father to son.

Peace is a key value in Islam as the Ahmadiyya community understands their religion, he explained, adding how these awards help to foster that quality in the community. Acknowledging the great contributions of the police and fire departments, as well as many other professional responders and caregivers, he said, "We are committed to peace and loyalty to this country."

The awards for community service, which the Ahmadiyya Muslims and the Mayor's office began last year, are one of many ways that this love for the community is fostered.

Fifteen years of answering a promise to God

Rahim Latif read a poem about Thanksgiving to set the mood, and Lianah Santa Ana sang the National Anthem. Then the first award was given to Welsh, a Christian, who began volunteering at the food bank 15 years ago.

Eddie LaPorte, head of faith-based initiatives in the office of the Lieutenant Governor, shares a letter for Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno with Old Bridge Mayor Owen Henry and Dr. Mir Sharif Ahmad, president of the Old Bridge Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. (Photo: Pamela Mackenzie/Staff Photo)

Welsh's service began after she had a stroke, which left her whole right side paralyzed. As she recovered, she promised God that if she pulled through, she would spend her time serving Him by helping others. She came to the food bank as a result of that prayer. Today, she still has some vestiges of the effects of that stroke, but she is a very active manager of the food bank, putting in a full work week there. Just on Saturday alone, she had led 50 volunteers, including Mayor Henry, in organizing hundreds of baskets of food for

Thanksgiving meals for families in need in Old Bridge

"People think that working in a food bank is serving meals like a soup kitchen, but it's not like that," Welsh said. "It's a lot of lifting and organizing."

Welsh particularly thanked the regular volunteers at the food bank, adding that they always can use more volunteers. She also thanked the businesses that regularly support their work, including ShopRite, Whole Foods, BJ's, the YMCA, Amboy Bank, DCH Honda, Max of Old Bridge and Weichert Realtors. She also said the Reformed Church Home on Route 18 has been extremely helpful, not only in collecting food but

also in raising \$1,800 for the food bank to get needed supplies.

Volunteers and food bank clients are all screened. Clients apply for help through the township, and their applications are handled by Diane Amabile, the assistant director of social services. Volunteers are also screened, but the screening is mainly to determine what their skills are and how they best can help.

Welsh said the food bank works with the community throughout the year as schools and businesses conduct food drives.

"Our numbers (of people needing food) grow every year," Welsh said, adding there's been a big increase in September and October.

[MYCENTRALJERSEY](#)

Hunger in Central Jersey's backyard

Meeting one emergency at a time, whatever the need

The second honoree, Mathieu, began volunteering more than a decade ago with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and is in her fifth year — half-way through her second term — as president. The CERT does everything from search and rescue — for example responding to Silver Alerts when elderly dementia patients wander off and go missing — to organizing storm shelters. After Hurricane Irene, CERT ran a shelter for seven days in a local school. After Super storm Sandy, she said, the Old Bridge CERT embraced surrounding communities, running a shelter for Old Bridge and South Amboy for two weeks.

"We work closely with OEM (Office of Emergency Management)," she said. "A few weeks ago, when there was a possibility of an earthquake hitting our area, we were on the phone with them every day for a week, making sure we were prepared if we had an emergency."

She said helping someone and having that person say "thank you for being there" is the best reward she or anyone could receive. It's what keeps her going.

Eddie LaPorte, head of faith-based initiatives in the office of Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, read a letter from Guadagno, praising the honorees and acknowledging their service to the community. State Senator Samuel Thompson also shared a few remarks of thanks to the Muslim community and the special guests. Mayor Owen said he feels Old Bridge is the best community in the state because of the way its diverse members work so well together.

In closing Dr. Mir Sharif Ahmad, president of the Old Bridge Ahmadiyya Muslims, spoke of the true message of Islam being peace, not war or terrorism. He

was followed by Santa Ana singing "God Bless America."

The Ahmadiyya Muslim community then served a Thanksgiving meal which combined a traditional Thanksgiving meal of turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes and salad with spicy chicken and some ethnic foods popular in that congregation. All the food was halal. After dinner, there was pumpkin pie.

Ruth Mathieu, center, seated, is surrounded by members of the Old Bridge CERT team. (Photo: Pamela Mackenzie/Staff Photo)

Muslims in Monroe host interfaith meeting on Paris attacks

By [Joel Moreno](#) Published: Nov 16, 2015 at 6:40 AM PST Last Updated: Nov 16, 2015 at 10:39 AM PST



MONROE, Wash. -- Muslims have often been targets of intolerance since the start of America's war on terror, but members of a local mosque are trying to turn the tide of public sentiment. On Sunday, leaders from various faiths gathered at Bait-ul-Ehsan Mosque to talk about how to achieve peace overseas by starting here at home.

The meeting tried to find ways for different cultures and religions to work together for peace - even when confronted by horrific acts like what was on display in the streets of Paris.

"It's so sad that there's such a misunderstanding between the cultures, the religions," said Linda Emory, a Monroe resident.

Dr Hamid Sheikh and his team to receive Emmy Award in Engineering

It was just announced that AAMS-USA (Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists) member Dr. Hamid Sheikh of Dallas, Texas, a PhD in electrical engineering, will receive, along with his team, an Emmy Award in Engineering.

The Engineering Emmy is a prestigious award given by the Television Academy to engineers who have

To find out more about Old Bridge's food bank services or to volunteer, call Diane Amabile at 732-721-5600, ext. 6625. To find out more about donating food, call Rose Welsh at 732-721-5600, ext. 2022.

To volunteer with the Old Bridge CERT team, call Lt. Robert Greenway at 732-721-5600, ext. 3610. Residents must be 18 years of age or older. Application forms for CERT are available on the Old Bridge municipal website, www.oldbridge.com.

The Old Bridge Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is at 27 South St. Call the mosque at 732-360-2001.

A panel of leaders from various faiths explored what it takes to achieve global peace and how it starts by fighting ignorance at home.

"This kind of event, where we get to know each other, where we can face each other, it's a big step to understanding and getting to know one another," said Rev. Michael Hanford, one of the panelists invited from Christ Church Monroe.

Imam Zafar Sarwar said the radical, extremist belief behind the Paris attacks is in no way supported by the teachings of the Qur'an.

"God said that if you kill a person, you are killing the whole of mankind," Sarwar said. "So they have killed not one person. They have killed over 130 people."

The holy texts of all major religions teach people to strive for inner peace, and faith leaders said following those teachings can set the tone for global change.

"We can certainly pray for that result," said Rev. Tom Sorenson, from the First Congregational Church of Maltby. "It's sometimes hard to hold onto much hope because there is so much violence in the world."

Instead of turning numb from the senseless violence in Paris, the religious leaders who gathered in Monroe believe international peace can be fostered through grassroots efforts. They said it's those individual efforts that break down barriers.

significantly improved television performance. Dr. Sheikh's team developed a Structural Similarity algorithm for estimating the perceived quality of an image or video. The advancement has positively affected the viewing experience for tens of millions of viewers daily.



He was asked two pressing questions.

1) Did you find inspiration from the Holy Qur'an or your faith to conduct the research that you are being awarded for? If so, please explain?

For a believer, prayers are the source of all inspiration. Whether a person is religious or not, hard work and dedication are necessary for any undertaking; but for a believer, and an Ahmadi Muslim in particular, realizing that Allah is the Source of all Knowledge and He can bestow hard work with the best kind of fruit, is very important. I have benefited tremendously from the

Qur'anic prayer of Rabbi Zidnī Ilmā (O my Lord, increase me in knowledge), and a prayer of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) "Rabbi Arinī Ḥaqa'iq al-Ashyā" (O my Lord, show me the true nature of things). I've also always believed that with prayers, Allah's special promise to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) will bear a much larger fruit to my efforts than that of others (non-Ahmadis).

2) What advice would you give to young Ahmadi Muslim Scientists?

Every week Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ (may Allah support him with His mighty help) gives us precious advice to live by in his Friday sermons. That is the best advice available on Earth today. I urge our young Ahmadi scientists to listen regularly and to try to implement his advice into their lives as best as they can. Beyond that, I feel that at the root of scientific discovery and good engineering, there is a kind of faith and optimism. If you believe that an idea or a line of investigation should work, pray for its success, and then focus intently on making things work, leave no stone unturned, and do not be afraid of failure. Every failure will teach you something that will make you successful one day.

Mr.& Mrs. Jabou Jagne Blessed with a Baby Boy

I am pleased to inform you that Allah blessed Mr. & Mrs. Jabou Jagne with a baby boy yesterday. Both baby boy and mother are doing fine. Please join me in congratulating brother Jagne and his family at the birth

of baby boy, may Allah grant him long, healthy, prosperous life and he becomes a true servant of Ahmadiyyat. May Allah keep them all under his protection. Amen.

Dr. Basheer Ahmad of St. Louis Jamā'at passed away

Inna Lillāhi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'oon

He was member of St. Louis Jamā'at since 1968 and was a very pleasant, loving and caring personality. His Janaza Prayers were offered on October 20th after Zuhr

Prayers at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland followed by burial at Sykesville Maryland.

Sad Demise of Young Ayaan Khalid (2007- 2015)



"Surely, to Allah we belong and to him we shall return"

Ayaan, a young Ṭifl returned to his Creator due to medical illness. His loss grieves the Jamā'at and we pray for him. He was son of Ahsan Khalid of Maryland, grandson of Hamid Ahmad Khalid, and great grandson of Ḥaḍrat Mahboob Alim Khalid.

Amatul-Karim Nusrat Chaudhry

The late Respected Amatul Karim Nusrat Chaudhry was born on May 29, 1951 in Lahore, Pakistan to Dr. Ghulam Mustafa Chaudhry and Respected Noor Begum. Dr. Mustafa was one of the founding physicians of Rabwah's renowned Fazl-e-Umar hospital. Ms Nusrat Chaudhry was the granddaughter of Haḍrat Chaudhry Muhammad Deen, who was a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and a Derwesh of Qadian. Nusrat Chaudhry's elder brother was the late Chaudhry Ghulam Muḥtaba. Chaudhry Ghulam Muḥtaba was an attorney in Pakistan's Supreme Court, and a member of the Qaḍā Board. Here, he served with Haḍrat Khalifatul-Masiḥ V (may Allah support him) prior to Huzoor's election to Khilāfat. Chaudhry Ghulam Muḥtaba's son is Dr. Ghulam Muḥtada Chaudhry, who is a Cardiologist and serves as the Secretary of Finance in the Boston, USA Jamā'at. Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry's cousin was the late Chaudhry Mubarak Muslehoodeen Ahmad, who served Jama'at as Wakeel-ul-Maal Tahrik-e-Jadid in Rabwah, Pakistan.

Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry completed a Masters Degree in Arabic from Ta'lim-ul-Islam College in Rabwah, Pakistan. She married Respected Mubashir Ahmad Chaudhry on September 10, 1972. They marked their 43rd wedding anniversary this September, 2015. On February 14, 1983 the couple moved from Rabwah, Pakistan to San Jose, California.

Throughout her life, Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry was an active member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. She remained passionately devoted to Khilāfat and proudly observed Islamic purdah, including Niqaab. On a flight just a few days after 9/11, some people advised her to remove her Niqaab to avoid discrimination—she instead proudly wore her Niqaab as she did in her adult life.

Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry worked relentlessly in service of the Jamā'at in various positions, including as secretary of finance in Rabwah, and for several years as Sadr Lajna of the San Jose Jamā'at. Despite her many pressing responsibilities, she tirelessly served as an Al Furqan teacher to countless children, and likewise took immense joy in teaching adults how to read the Qur'an in Arabic. At the time of her passing, she served as the Lajna Secretary of Tahrik-e-Jadid for the San Jose Chapter.

Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry was known as a noble person with a sweet personality. She eschewed backbiting, dishonesty, miserliness, and arrogance. Her reputation was that of a compassionate leader and a trustworthy confidant. Within her family and throughout the

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, many sought her counsel, advice, and wisdom—especially during times of trial and tribulation. Nusrat Chaudhry was passionate about helping Jamā'at members get married, and received calls from all parts of the country and internationally seeking her counsel. Her passion to build relationships included a unique ability to determine how seemingly unrelated Jamā'at members were in fact related to one another. Nusrat Chaudhry was a loving mother, a gracious aunt, an obedient wife, a caring sister, a generous provider, and most of all engrossed in the love of Allah and Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Mrs Nusrat Chaudhry was a Muslim who believed in the Messiah, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be upon him) of Qadian. Allah blessed her to join the honorable scheme of al-Wasiyyat when she was only 18 years old. She passed away as a Moosi, and contributed 1/3 of her income to al-Wasiyyat. Allah also blessed her to perform the Hajj in 2013, Mā Shā' Allah. Throughout her adult life she was regular in her observance of I'tikāf during the holy month of Ramadan. In San Jose, she hosted Jum'ah at her home every week for several years.

Unwavering in her five daily prayers and supererogatory 3 a.m. Tahujjed prayers, Ms. Nusrat Chaudhry additionally kept a detailed prayer list to pray for her family, friends, and anyone else who would ask her to pray for them. Her thoughts were constantly engaged in the remembrance of Allah and her every action was a reflection of the Qur'an and Sunnah. Her final act—mere hours before her passing—was a request to allocate funds to the mosque fund. She continued to engage in the remembrance of Allah with numerous prayers in the final hour of her life. Her last words were the Kalima Shahada. Respected Amatul Karim Nusrat Chaudhry returned to her Creator on October 22, 2015. Innā Lillāhi Wa Innā Illaihi Rāji'ūn. From God we are and to God must we return.

She was the youngest of seven children. She is survived by her husband, Mubashir Ahmad Chaudhry, her elder brother Chaudhry Ghulam Qadir, three children—Muhammad Ahmad Chaudhry, Ramla Chaudhry, and Eamon Chaudhry—and four grandchildren—Momin Chaudhry, Dania Chaudhry, Yusuf Roshan Virk, and Adeen Virk.

She was buried in Maqbarah Moosiyan in San Jose, California on October 26, 2015. May Allah bless her with His choicest blessings and admit her into His gardens of bliss, Amen.

In Memory of Mansoor Pal

Fouzan Pal

On the eve of November 2, 2015 my father, Mansoor Pal, breathed his last and completed his journey back to Allah. He was a moosī and had a prolonged struggle with Alzheimer's disease which gradually overtook various aspects of his mental and physical health. I write the following memoir to reminisce about his personality with those who were acquainted with him, and to introduce him to those who didn't have an opportunity to get to know him. Regardless, I hope that this narrative inspires all readers to pray for him.

My father was born in Ranchi, India and later moved to Sialkot where he lived most of his early life. Soon after marriage he moved to Saudi Arabia where he spent most of his early working career. Due to restrictions on Ahmadiyyat in Saudi Arabia, we did not have the good fortune of being part of the Jamā'at ecosystem during my childhood years. In fact, my first real interaction with Jamā'at was after the age of fifteen when I moved to the US to pursue further studies. Such detachment would typically have resulted in disassociation with the Jamā'at. I remain today an active member of the Jamā'at due to the fervent prayers of my father and the grace and mercy of Allah.

Jamā'at members who knew my father typically use words such as "timid", "patient", "quiet", and "harmless" to describe his personality. He was a man of few words, often minding his own business and not engaging in discussions around politics or current affairs that are typically the subject of many informal gatherings. Even regarding Tarbiyat of his children, he would take the approach of expressing his like or dislike through indications or signals rather than direct lectures or actions. In spite of his serene personality, I clearly recall spikes of emotions, all of which were directed against ideas or persons who criticized the Jamā'at in any way. He had great love for the Holy Quran. During his healthy life he would spontaneously recite verses in support of his statements. Even during the early part of his Alzheimer's, he would complete verses of surah Fātiḥah if one recited a part thereof--this was during a time when he didn't recognize his own children, didn't know day from night, or have any recollection of where he was. Later on as the disease increased, his ability to speak sensibly gradually diminished. But even in this state, his eyes would often fill up with tears upon hearing the recitation of Holy Quran.

During his healthy life, he was physically very active and not one to delay anything till the next day. He would do many house chores himself without being asked. In fact, after I got married, my wife would often tease me that I had it so easy since my father would do all the grocery, cut the lawn, take care of the car repairs etc.



I recall many instances of sacrifices he made, putting the interest of others--his family and strangers alike--over his own. He was not wealthy, but when it came to spending in the way of Allah, he was very generous. In addition to obligatory and voluntary Chanda, I often saw him giving cash or other form of assistance to anyone in need. In the days following his demise, our family heard from so many people--many of whom we didn't even know had acquaintance with my father--mentioning that he had given them a ride to the hospital, installed MTA dish at their house, or helped them in one way or another.

Many people who knew my father here in the US remember him for his MTA dish installation work--a passion that resulted from a genuine concern for the wellbeing of Ahmadi households. He strongly believed that MTA was a definitive way to save Ahmadi households from the ill effects of the society and to attach children and adults alike to Khilāfat. Even in his sixties, he would not hesitate to climb roofs to install MTA dish at members' houses. In fact, I clearly remember one of our Virginia Jamā'at Amila meetings where different members raised concerns about the safety of my father, asking the Jamā'at president to forbid him from going on roofs and instead have some young Khuddām to assist him whenever such an action was required. He was also one of the first to work at the satellite earth station at Bait-ur-Rahman.

I cannot say for certain when his struggle with Alzheimer's actually started but the visible signs of this disease spanned six to seven years. Those who are familiar with Alzheimer's know that it is a devastating disease that impacts the brain functions and ultimately leads to a collapse of the body as well. One is left wondering why such suffering should visit a man that, as the expression goes, wouldn't hurt a fly. Aside from the fact that suffering in one form or another must accompany the eventual demise of all human beings, I firmly believe that this was done--in the infinite wisdom of God--to provide the family members with an opportunity to seek forgiveness for our sins and gain the pleasure of Allah by caring for him in his old age. So viewed in this light, even in his last days, just like he had done so often throughout his life, he sacrificed his own comfort for the benefit of others around him.

Two weeks prior to his demise, my wife and I were granted a healthy baby girl, who was a welcome addition to the family after her three elder brothers. A month prior to this, I had the good fortune to visit Huzoor (may Allah be his Helper) in UK and have a personal meeting in which I requested prayers for the

health of my father and the expected birth of my daughter. I can only hope and pray that some of the characteristics of my father will live on in her personality.

Parents do a lot for their kids. I look back and wonder what was the most important gift he left for his kids--love and care, education, a good life. But ultimately it was the gift of Ahmadiyyat that is most prized. He had received this gift from his father, Muhammad Din Pal, who had accepted Ahmadiyyat during the time of the second Khalifa (may Allah be pleased with him), and had fulfilled his responsibility of passing it on to us. Through his balanced approach towards Tarbiyat, he instilled in us an attachment to the Jamā'at and Khilāfat that I can only hope to emulate in my children.

It is often said that time washes away the pain, but there are certain memories you do not want time to diminish. You want to hold on to the pain not because it makes you stronger, rather it makes you weak. But that weakness makes you a better person because it reminds you of the final truth: that it is only God who is beyond all weakness; it is to this God that we belong, and to Him is our return.

Amatul Baseer Akbar of Alexandria, VA passes away

Amatul Baseer Akbar (1965 - 2016) of Alexandria, VA (Washington D.C. Jamaat) passed away on January 4, 2016 due to a sudden attack of seizure at age 50. She was the daughter of Jameel and Zakiyyah Akbar. Jameel Ahmad Akbar (1923 - 2005), was the son of a Sahabi of the Promised Messiah, Ch. Umaruddin of Sialkot. Jameel Akbar came to the U.S. in 1949, was known to many Jamaat members, and was the younger brother of the former Amir and Missionary In-charge USA, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir (1917-1986), who served

the USA Jamaat from 1946 to 1959. Zakiyyah Bengalee Akbar was the daughter of the former Amir and Missionary In-charge USA, Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee (1899-1955), who served the USA Jamaat from 1928 to 1948, and later was the Editor of the Review of Religions based in Rabwah, Pakistan. Amatul Baseer was buried in Maqbaratus-Salaam, the Ahmadiyya Jamaat cemetery in Sykesville, Maryland.

Jaleel A. Akbar (jaleel_20136@yahoo.com)

Sad Demise of Amtul Jamil Jadran

Amtul Jamil Jadran of Minnesota Jamā'at passed away at the age of 57 on October 1st, 2015 at 12:40 A.M., surrounded by her loving family at Mayo Clinic Rochester. **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَرَبُّنَا إِلَهُنَّ رَاجِعُونَ**

She was the daughter of Shaikh Faizullah Hyderabadadi and granddaughter of Shaikh Naimatullah (Khan Sahib), Bridge Engineer who engineered the Chenab railway bridge between Rabwah to Chiniot. He is buried in Bahishti Maqbarah Qadian in special section under the instruction of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) due to his extreme love with Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and dedicated work for the Jamā'at. Her maternal grandfather Seth Shaikh Azeemuddin was the first

Ameer-e-Jamā'at of Sind Pakistan and he was appointed by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ II (r.a.).

Her husband, Abdul Rafique Jadran (s/o Dr. M.A. Qadeer Jadran "Shaheed" Qazi Ahmed Sind), served in Ghana for 13.5 years under Nusrat Jahan Scheme where she joined him for 10 of those years in Africa. She was a Moosiyya and her burial took place on Tuesday October 6th, 2015 at Maqbarat-us-Salām in Sykesville, MD near Washington, D.C.

While serving in Ghana, her family lived very close to Ṣāḥibzāda Mirza Masroor Ahmad, now Ḥaḍrat Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ V (may Allah support him with His mighty help), and his family. Amtul Jamil had a very strong bond of love and respect with Ḥaḍrat Begum

Sahiba while living in Ghana, which continued until she passed away.

Amtul Jamil dedicated many years of services to the Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Canada Lajna Ima'illa as Secretary Ziafat. This continued in the same capacity in Minnesota Jamā'at for about 17 years in the U.S.

She is lovingly remembered as being an optimistic, positive, fun, and loving person who did everything possible to be there for everyone in need. Many young ladies confided in her with their personal problems and came to her for support and guidance and often mentioned that she was like a mother to them.

She battled cancer for almost 7 ½ years and handled her sickness with patience, forbearance, and a fight for life. She was strong willed and would have little rest and still be pushing herself into work the next day as if nothing happened. Her response always remained positive in regards to her health and always said "Shukr. Al-Ḥamdu Lillah."

Proper treatment of guests was of an extreme importance to her during her life and she would work

tirelessly, even in times of pain, to deliver to her guests the most comfort possible.

She believed in importance of praying for the Ahmadiyyat and held strong faith that the Jamā'at would reach great heights. This strong faith was not just a belief but her personal vision that the Jamā'at success was indefinite.

She is survived by her husband, four daughters, son in Waqf-e-Nau, and Ma Sha Allah two grandchildren. She also left behind 4 brothers and one sister who live in Canada and Germany. Two of her brothers are currently members of a National Amla in Germany and the other two brothers also served as dedicated members of National and local Amila in Canada Jamā'at.

Hadrat Khalifat-ul-Masīḥ V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) graciously offered her Namaz-e-Janaza gha'ib on October 27th, 2015 in Fazl Mosque in London.

May Allah give her a special place in paradise and exalt her status and may He give steadfastness to her family, Amen.

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Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd and the Holy Quran

Dr. Shahab Ahmad, Edmonton, Canada

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, the Promised son of the Promised Messiah, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (may peace be upon him), whose advent was foretold in Talmud, the Holy Quran, and Hadith and in the writings of Muslim saints, was born in Qadian, India, on 12 January 1886.

The Holy Qur'an says:

“He will plan the Divine Ordinance from the heaven unto earth, and then shall it go up to Him in a day the duration of which is a thousand years according to what you reckon.”
(32 [Al-Sajdah]:6)

This verse refers to a very serious crisis that was destined to come over Islam. Islam was to pass through a period of sustained progress and prosperity during the first three centuries of its life. The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have pointedly alluded to this fact in a well-known saying, viz., the best century is the one in which I live, then the next century, then the century after that (Tirmidhi and Bukhari; Kitab al-Shahādāt). Then there will spread falsehood at the hands of the people who will take pride in their wealth and riches and will grow fat on the earnings of others. (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Maḥmūd Ahmad: The Holy Quran With English Translation And Commentary, Islam International Publications Ltd., Tilford, United Kingdom, 1988, Vol. 4, p. 2093)

Commenting on this verse, Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) says that the end of the 13th century Hijri corresponds to 1886 of C.E. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) migrated to Medina from Mecca in 622 C.E. This was the starting year of the Hijri Calendar. The 1300 lunar years make 1264 solar years. Adding 622 to 1264 gives 1886, or 1885 if fractions are ignored. This was the time when the Holy Founder of the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islam was informed about the triumph of Islam, and was also informed that the work started by him will be furthered by his Promised Son to be born within a period of nine years, through whom the message of Islam will reach to the corners of the earth. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Mahmud Ahmad, according to the above-mentioned verse and the prophecy of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) was born on 12 January 1889, i.e., within nine years. (See Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Maḥmūd Ahmad: Tafsīr-i-Kabīr, Islam

International Publications Ltd., Tilford, United, United Kingdom, 1986, Vol. 8, p. 194 footnote)

In his announcement of 20 February 1886, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says:

“God the Merciful, the Noble, the Exalted, Who has power to do all that He wills (glory be to Him and exalted be His name) has vouchsafed to me the following revelation: I confer upon thee the Sign of My mercy according to thy supplications. I have heard thy entreaties and have honored thy prayers with My acceptance through My mercy and have blessed thy journey. A sign of power, mercy, and nearness to Me is bestowed on thee, a Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to thee and thou art granted the key of success and victory. Peace be on thee, O victorious one. Thus does 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 emerge there from 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 depart with all its ills, and so that people may understand that the Lord of Power, I do whatever I will, 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 (on whom be peace) 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 thee, thou wilt receive a bright 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 Bashir. 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 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 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, the 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 cometh, a light 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 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.” (Khan, Muhammad Zafrulla: Tadhkirah, Saffron Books, London, United Kingdom, 1976, pp. 85-86)

As announced by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), the Promised Son was born within the prescribed period of nine years, on the 12th of January 1889. Explaining the verse, “And they ask thee to hasten on the punishment, but Allah will never break His promise. And verily, a day with thy Lord is a thousand years of your reckoning,” (22 [Al-Hajj]:48) the Promised Reformer writes,

“The reference in this verse is to a mighty event in the history of Islam. The Holy Prophet is reported to have said that the first three centuries of Islam would be its best period after which falsehood would spread and a period of darkness would extend to over a thousand years (Tirmidhi). This period is likened to one day in the present verse and in 32:6. In this period of moral and spiritual decadence of Muslims a people having blue eyes were to arise and who were to spread all over the earth and at whose hands Islam was destined to receive a serious setback (20:103-104). This period of political decadence of Islam and moral degeneration of Muslims in which they met with defeat and discomfiture at the hands of Western Christian nation having blue eyes, began after the expiry of the third century of Hijri and lasted up to the dawn of the 14th century when the Promised Messiah made his appearance. It is to these Western people that the reference has been made in the words “And

they ask thee to hasten punishment.” In their conceit and arrogance born of material glory and political power, the Western people came to labor under the misconception that their progress and glory would last forever. So they are depicted in the verse under comment as challenging to the Holy Prophet to hasten on the punishment which he said would overtake them. To their implied taunt and gibe, the verse make a reply that God had already made a promise that these Western nations would be granted a respite for one thousand years after which a terrible tribulation would overtake them and all their greatness and glory would become a thing of the past. Divine punishment would descend on their houses and the very soil on which they would be living would be rendered bleak and barren. They are warned that the punishment would be so severe, overwhelming and enveloping that one day of it would appear to them as a thousand years.” (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: The Holy Quran With English Translation and Commentary, Islam International Publications Ltd., 1988, Vol. 4, pp. 1758-59)

The occurrence of four important events— Announcement by the Promised Messiah about the birth of his Promised Son (20 February 1886), his birth (12 January 1889), on the same date (12 January 1989), the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) announced about accepting allegiance from those who were ready for it, and laying foundation of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (23 March 1989)— could not be just a chance. These events were a divine plan and clearly point out that the mission initiated by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) will be furthered by the Promised Reformer (may Allah be pleased with him). History witnesses to this fact.

Khilāfat

One month after the death of the Promised Messiah, which occurred on Tuesday, 26 May 1908, Ḥaḍrat Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) received the following revelation:

‘Work ye, O House of David gratefully.’

This revelation refers to the verse 103 of the second chapter (Al-Baqarah) of the Holy Qur’an:

“And they pursue the course which the rebellious men followed during the reign of Solomon. And Solomon did not disbelieve; but it was the rebellious ones who disbelieved,

teaching people falsehood and deception. And they pursue what was revealed to the two angles in Babylon, Hārūt and Mārūt. But these two taught no one until they had said, 'We are but a trial, do not therefore disbelieve.' So men learnt from them that by which they made a difference between him and his wife, but they harmed no one thereby, except by the command of Allah; on the contrary, these people are learning that which would harm them and do them no good. And they have certainly known that he who trafficks therein has no share of good in the Hereafter; and surely, evil is that for which they have sold their souls; had they but known!" (2 [Al-Baqarah]: 103)

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) said that this revelation alluded that one day he will be Khalīfa of the Aḥmadiyya Community, and like Prophet David (may peace be upon him), he also would face many criticisms and false accusations by his opponents. (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: Tafsīr-i-Kabīr, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 1886, Vol. 2, pp. 66-67)

And it so happened that within a short period of six years after the death of Ḥaḍrat Maulawī Nur-ud-Din (may peace be upon him), which occurred on Friday, the 13th of March 1914, he was elected the Second Successor of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) on Saturday, the 14th of March, 1914. False accusations against Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) were made by the Paighamis, Mistris, Shaikh Abd-ur-Rahman, Fakhr-ud-Din Multani, etc. On every occasion, God acquitted him of the false charges. God not only acquitted him of these accusations, rather He raised his honor after every false accusation. And the enemies were frustrated and humiliated.

It is appropriate to mention that God knew about these false accusations, therefore, years before He named him Mahmud, as mentioned in the writings of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). Therefore, any accusation against a person who is named Mahmud, i.e., Exalted by God Himself, cannot be true.

Manifestation of Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

On 1 December 1912, while explaining the verse "And we punished Pharaoh's people with drought and scarcity of fruits that they might be admonished. (7 [Al-A'rāf]:131), Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) said, "I am hopeful that God willing, after 30 years, the Reformer, the Promised Caliph, will

manifest," that is, Musliḥ Mau'ūd will appear in 1944. (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tarikh-i-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'āt, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 3, pp. 341-42) And it so happened that Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad claimed to be the Promised reformer in early January 1944, i.e., 30 years after.

Elected As Khalīfa

"Ḥaḍrat Maulana Nur-ud-Din, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him), passed away on Friday, the 13th of March 1913. Now the first and the foremost task for the Aḥmadiyya Community was to elect the new Khalīfa. The next day thousands of Ahmadis had gathered in Noor Mosque, and were eager to elect the new Khalīfa.

"In the midst of the clamor Maulawī Sayyid Muhammad Ahsan stood up and said in a loud voice: The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) said concerning me that I was one of the two angels mentioned in Hadith leaning upon whom the Masīḥ would descend in the latter days. I consider Ṣāhibzāda Bashīr-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad fully qualified in every respect to accept our allegiance and request him to swear us in... Shaikh Yaqub Ali Irfani (may Allah be pleased with him) gave expression to the general feeling by calling out, time is too precious to be wasted in any wrangles. Our master, please accept our allegiance." This was greeted with shouts of Labbaik, Labbaik, and people began to press forward towards Ḥaḍrat Ṣāhibzāda Sahib. The few dissentients then withdrew. No one tried to obstruct them."

"A hush fell upon the gathering, though everyone was eager to approach closest to Ḥaḍrat Ṣāhibzāda Sahib, he sat in silence as if occupied in prayer. Qazi Amir Husain, a revered divine, came up to him in great agitation and begged him: Huzoor, please do accept my allegiance. Ḥaḍrat Ṣāhibzāda Sahib looked up, his eyes searching for someone. He saw Maulawī Sayyid Muhammad Sarwar Shah, pressed down among the eager throng, and said to him, 'Maulawī Sahib, this heavy responsibility has fallen on me suddenly and unexpectedly. I cannot recall the terms of pledge. Will you kindly instruct me?' Thus the process of swearing began."

"Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ spoke the words of pledge, as instructed by Maulawī Sayyid Muhammad Sarwar Shah, and everyone swore

allegiance to him accordingly.” (Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-i-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, pp. 139-40)

This historic event proves beyond any doubt that innocent Maḥmūd never wished or thought to be Khalīfa. But it was the Will of God that only he and no one else could be the Second Caliph of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him).

At its proper place it will be discussed that Ḥaḍrat Maḥmūd (may Allah be pleased with him) has satisfied all the conditions of a rightly guided Caliph as mentioned in the Istikhlaf verse.

Now I relate how all schemes started by the Promised Reformer are based upon the Holy Qur’an.

Establishment of Majlis Mushāwarat (Advisory Council) in 1922

The Holy Quran says:

And those who hearken to their Lord, and observe Prayer, and whose affairs are decided by mutual consultation, and who spend out of what We have provided for them. (42 [Al-Shūrā]:39)

Based upon this Quranic verse and also for some other important organizational reasons Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) established the Shūrā System in 1922

How the System works is as follows:

First Step

“Verily, Allah commands you to make over trusts to those entitled to them, and that, when you judge between men, you judge with justice. And surely excellent is that with which Allah admonishes you! Allah is All-Hearing, All-Seeing. “(4 [Al-Nisā]:59)

“And those who hearken to their Lord, and observe Prayer, and whose affairs are decided by mutual consultation, and who spend out of what We have provided for them.” (42 [Al-Shūrā]:39)

Before the National Advisory Council Meeting is held at the national headquarters of the country, the local communities submit suggestions to the Centre and also elect representatives to attend the National Council Meeting. Members of the local communities are supposed to be guided by the verses quoted above. That is to say that while electing their representatives they must be honest and elect the best and the most competent representatives who can further the cause of

the Community. Their votes must be free from nepotism, friendship, etc. And the suggestions also should be useful, purposive and needed.

Second Step

Members of the National Advisory Council are also guided by the verses 4:59 and 42: 39 (quoted above). Every representative must think before opening his mouth. What he suggests must be in the interest of Ahmadiyya Islam. If any suggestion he has in his mind is already suggested by any other member before his turn comes he should not repeat it. Healthy discussion is allowed but the representatives are not supposed to insist on their suggestions. When any recommendation is accepted by the majority vote they must happily accept it. They must know that the Shūrā is a Recommending Body.

In short both at the local and at the national levels members are advised to be guided by the verses of the Holy Qur’an quoted above.

Third Step

The final decision is made by the Caliph of the time, who decides in accordance with the following verses of the Holy Qur’an:

“...So pardon them and ask forgiveness for them, and consult them in matters of administration; and when thou art determined, then put thy trust in Allah. Surely, Allah loves those who put their trust in Him. “(3 [Al-Imran]:160)

“And know that among you is the Messenger of Allah; if he were to comply with your wishes in most of the matters, you would surely come to trouble; but Allah has endeared the faith to you and has made it look beautiful to your hearts , and He has made disbelief, wickedness and disobedience hateful to you . Such indeed are those who follow the right course, through the grace and favor of Allah. And Allah is All-Knowing, Wise. “(49 [Al-Hujurat]:8-9)

All Ahmadi Muslims know that apparently our Caliphs are elected by the Community members but the Hand of God is working behind this election. That is to say that He turns the hearts of the voters in favor of the person whom He wants to be the Caliph. (24[Al-Nūr]: 56)

Under Divine guidance his decisions are in the best interest of the Community. If he accepts all recommendations of Advisory Council the Community may face trouble.

Credit goes to Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) who established a system exclusively based upon the Holy Qur'an from the beginning till the end and beneficial for the Community. Till 1947, such meeting used to be held only at Qadian. Now the National Advisory Council meetings are held in a number of countries, but the international and the most important Meeting is held in London, United Kingdom, because the Caliph of the time himself presides over it.

Wembley Conference 1924

At the request of Ḥaḍrat Abd-ur-Rahim Nayyar, then Ahmadi Missionary in the United Kingdom, the organizers of the Wembley Conference invited Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) to deliver a lecture on Islam. Before making any decision, he consulted members. He himself and forty pious members performed Istikhāra, which indicated that he should address the Conference. The Promised Reformer also consulted Lecture Lahore and Barahin-i-Ahmadiyya Part V. In these books, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) has written that in the story of Dhu'l-Qarnain, mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, there is prophecy about him. He is Dhu'l Qarnain of this Age. Therefore he himself or any of his successors will travel to the west. The Qur'an describes the journey of Dhu'l Qarnain as follows:

And they ask thee about Dhu'l Qarnain. Say, 'I will certainly recite to you *something* of his story.'

We established him in the earth and gave him the means to *accomplish* everything.

Then he followed a *certain* way

Until, when he reached the setting of the sun, he found it setting in a pool of murky water, and near it he found a people. We said, 'O Dhu'l Qarnain, either punish them, or treat them with kindness.'

He said, 'As for him who does wrong, we shall certainly punish him; then shall he be brought back to his Lord, Who will punish him with a dreadful punishment.'

But as for him who believes and acts righteously, he will have a good reward, and We shall speak to him easy *words* of Our command. (18 [Al-Kahf]:84-89)

After the decision to participate, he prepared a lecture for this purpose. This lecture is known by the name of *Ahmadiyyat or The True Islam*, originally written in Urdu and translated into English by Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with

him). This was a very lengthy lecture, which could not be read in the time allotted to him. Therefore, he wrote another book or lecture by the name of *Ahmadiyya Movement* in Urdu. Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan was again the translator. This was the lecture read by Sir Zafrulla Khan in the Conference, on 23rd September 1924.

The verses quoted above (18:84-89) were fulfilled when Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) decided to go to United Kingdom, located to the west of India. He went to United Kingdom to plan a scheme how to convey the message of Islam to the West in efficient and effective way.

In the presence and on behalf of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him), Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan first recited Chapter Al-Fātiḥah and then the following verses from the Holy Qur'an:

"To bear witness to the fact that Truth shall prevail in the end, I call attention to the gatherings in which people shall sit in rows, and to the committees which shall convene such gatherings, and which shall not permit anybody to infringe another's rights, and the persons who shall read papers on the beauties of the different religions; the efforts of all these will lead but to one conclusion—that God is One, the Lord of the Heavens and of the Earth and of all that is between them, the Lord of the East as of the West. We have adorned the nearest spiritual heavens with stars, charging them to guard the Truth from attacks of all those who lead astray, and those who have renounced allegiance to God." (37 [Al-Şāffāt]:2-8)

These verses were recited because Wembley conference fulfilled the prophecy mentioned in them. When the Holy Qur'an was revealed in the seventh century, there was no concept of interfaith symposiums. This thinking continued till the 19th century. It was the late 19th century when such symposia started. The Conference of Great Religions held at Lahore on December 26-29, in which the paper, "The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam," authored by the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) was read is an example.

"Dr. Walter who had organized the conference and was a famous clergyman, commented after hearing his holiness address, that the speech had caused him to conclude that Islam certainly is a living and vibrant religion." (The Review of Religions, February 2011, p. 47)

The journey of the Promised Reformer to the United Kingdom fulfilled two Qur'anic prophecies:

1. Journey of Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd to the west representing the Dhu'l-Qarnain of this age.
2. Start of Interfaith Symposia.

Taḥrīk Jadīd (The New Scheme) 1934

“A new political party was formed in the Punjab called Aḥrār (the Free). Its membership was confined to Muslims and its leadership was vested in persons whose only purpose was to exploit every situation for their personal benefit. In their political outlook, they supported the policies of the All India National Congress and the bulk of the Punjab looked upon them as the Muslim wing of the Congress. They were not, however, firmly committed to any set of principles or policies. They trimmed their sails according to the direction of the prevailing wind. The only policy to which they consistently adhered was their proclaimed virulent opposition to the Aḥmadiyya Movement. This attitude of theirs was not inspired by any concern for religious doctrine or teaching but had been prompted by the consideration that opposition to and hostility towards the Movement would win them easy popularity among the bulk of Orthodox Muslims.” (Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-E-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p. 183)

On one occasion the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) met Chaudhry Afzal Haq, President of Majlis Aḥrār.

“In the course of the conversation, Chaudhry Afzal Haq told the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Aḥrār are determined to crush the Movement. The Khalīfatul-Masīḥ (may Allah be pleased with him) pointed out that the Movement claimed to have been founded under Divine direction. If this claim was true, as surely it was not, neither the Aḥrār nor any other organization, or neither combination of organizations nor any government would have the power to crush it. ... (Ibid, p. 185)

In one of his sermons, he said that he saw ground slipping from under the feet of the enemy and he could foresee their imminent defeat.

“In 1934 members of the Aḥrār Party plotted to create misunderstanding among Muslim mass about the Movement. Some top bureaucrats of the British administration including Sir Herbert Emerson, the Governor

of Punjab sided with the Aḥrār Party. Sir Herbert Spencer Emerson was well known for his hostility towards the Movement. He encouraged the Aḥrār in their opposition and backed them up. It appeared as though the entire population of the country is supporting the Aḥrār.” (Ibid., p. 186)

Based upon the then adverse situation, and also upon the following vision of the Promised Messiah, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II set forth the blessed scheme of Taḥrīk Jadīd (The New Scheme). Out of evil came a great deal of good. In his three Friday Sermons delivered on 23, and 30 November and 7 December 1934, Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) set forth a scheme before the Community, which made nineteen demands from the members. Initially the operation of the scheme was limited to three years, but before the expiry of the period, it was made permanent. To finance the scheme, he asked the Community to provide Rs. 27,500 for the expenses of the first year. The Community contributed Rs. 107,000.

His nineteen demands, which subsequently increased to twenty-four, were aimed mainly to rousing the spirit of sacrifice in the Community, stimulating their moral and spiritual qualities and broadening the base of the Movement by carrying its message far and wide.

Vision of the Promised Messiah about Taḥrīk Jadīd

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) says:

“In a vision I saw two persons in a house, one sitting on the ground and the other near the roof. First I addressed and requested the person on the ground for an army of one hundred thousand. He kept silent. Then I turned towards the other person who was near the roof and towards the Heaven, and repeated the same question. He replied that only five thousand soldiers will be provided, not one hundred thousand. Then, within my heart I thought although five thousand is a small number but God-willing a few can dominate many, and recited the following verse: How many a small party has triumphed over a large party by Allah's command! “(2 [Al-Baqarah]:250) (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tarikh-i-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 7, p. 3)

The rejection of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) request by the angel on the ground and its

acceptance by the angle near the roof—though in reduced number—points out that Taḥrīk Jadīd will operate on Heavenly help, not on the worldly resources. It is very important and interesting to note that the number of Ahmadis who joined Daftar Awwal (First Register) of this scheme (1934-43) was 5,000, as promised by the angel near the roof.

Accomplishments of the New Scheme

Even before the establishment of this scheme, the message of Ahmadiyyat had already reached to different foreign countries outside India. But this work was done by the Central Aḥmadiyya Association, which was doing this work inside India as well; therefore the outreach work in foreign countries was not to the desired scale. The object of establishing this scheme was to further the outreach works outside India.

“Today, by the grace of Allah, Aḥmadiyya Communities have been established in 178 countries. More than 13,000 mosques have been built and 740 missions have been established. At present 250 missionaries are working all over the world. They also include 50 non Pakistani missionaries.” (Aḥmadiyya Gazette Canada, October 2013, p. 21)

The financial contributions are: First year (1934-35): Demand, Rs.27, 500 Contributions, Rs. 107, 000. In the 78th year (2011-12): 7,219,100 pounds. In the 79th year (2012-13): 7,869,100 pounds. (Friday Sermon delivered by Khalifatul-Masīḥ V on 8 Nov. 2013)

I must mention that in the provincial election in the Punjab, held in early 1946, Ch. Fateh Muhammad Sayyal, an Ahmadi, won with overwhelming majority as an independent candidate from the constituency wherefrom the Aḥrār Movement was going to wipe out Ahmadiyyat.

These are the accomplishments of the New Scheme. What was the end of our enemies is as follows:

Soon after the announcement of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd in 1935, some controversies arose in Punjab (the incident of Shahidganj 1935, the election of 1937, etc.) in which the Movement was not directly involved but in which its sympathies were with the bulk of the Muslim to whom it lent its moral support. The Aḥrār ranged themselves on the opposite side. Feelings rose high and the Aḥrār became the subjects of disgrace on the part of the Muslim masses. They rapidly lost favor and were no longer trusted or respected. Their original leadership has passed on and they dragged along as despised and remnant. (Refer to Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-e-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p. 190)

This fact is acknowledged by a non-Ahmadi newspaper, Ehsan, Lahore, in its issue dated 8 October 1938, and a Sikh newspaper, Rangin, Amritsar.

What was the end of Robert Spencer, the then Governor of Punjab, who sided with the Aḥrār? “When his term as Governor was approaching its end he was granted an extension for two and a half years. He suffered a severe attack of internal hemorrhage while playing golf on extended leave. Although he returned to robust health, he was unable to resume the Governorship.” (Ibid)

The New Scheme: The New World Order

“I have indicated that this scheme (Waṣiyyat) requires time before it matures. It must await years before it matures. It must wait the years when the greater part of the world will have accepted Ahmadiyyat. Our present income is not adequate even for the efficient running of the center. God, therefore, inspired me with the idea of the Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd as a means of establishing a central fund which may be utilized towards the most intensive propagation of Ahmadiyyat. The Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd, therefore, is a symbolic offering of faith to God indicating that, as time is not yet ripe for the universal establishment of the New Order based upon Al-Waṣiyyat, we proceed to construct a humble model of it by means of the Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd, so that pending the establishment of the system based upon Al-Waṣiyyat we should be able to utilize the funds obtained through the Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd for the spread of Ahmadiyyat, and this in turn should enable to carry on into effect, on an ever wider scale, the objects of Al-Waṣiyyat.”

“Though Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd had in point of time been inaugurated after Al-Waṣiyyat, it is in effect its forerunner.”

“To sum up, the System of Al-Waṣiyyat comprises within itself the whole social and economic system of Islam. They are mistaken who think that the fund established by the Waṣiyyat can be used only for the verbal propagation of Islam. This is not correct. Al-Waṣiyyat contemplates both verbal propagation and practical establishment. It no doubt includes missionary effort, but it equally includes the complete establishment of the system under which the needs of every human being should be looked after in a dignified manner. When this system attains maturity, it will provide not only for missionary work but

will also help to abolish want and distress by making adequate provision for the needs of all individuals. An orphan will not have to beg, nor will a widow have to ask for neither charity, nor a needy person to suffer anxiety. The system will be a mother to children, a father to youth and will afford security to women. Under this system, not by means of compulsion or coercion, but out of real affection and goodwill, a brother will be eager to help his brother. Nor will such sacrifice be in vain. Every giver will be recompensed many times over by God. The rich will not suffer loss nor will the poor suffer privation. Nation will not fight nation, nor will class contend against class. The system will put everyone under an obligation.

“I assure you that the New Order will not be inaugurated by Mr. Churchill or Mr. Roosevelt. Declarations like the Atlantic Charter will accomplish nothing. They are full of defects and shortcomings. New orders are always established in the world by prophets raised for the purpose by God. They have no bitterness against rich and no bias for poor. They are neither of the East, nor of the West.” (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: New World Order of Islam, Islam International Publications Lt., Tilford, United Kingdom, 205, pp. 136-39)

A Christian Scholar Admits the Force of Ahmadiyyat

“In the early days of the Promised Reformer’s Khilāfat, Mr. Walter, Secretary All India Young Men Christian Association (Y.M.C.A.), Rev. Hume and Mr. Lucas, Principal Foreman Christian College, Lahore, met him (the Promised Reformer) in Qadian and discussed several religious issues. Afterwards, Mr. Lucas delivered a lecture in a gathering of Christians in Colombo, Ceylon, in which he said that the battle between Christianity and Islam will not be fought in the big cities or in the big universities. I tell you that I have seen the preparation for this battle in a small village, which has no railway service or telegram facility. I have seen the real preparation for this battle in this village. In this village it will be decided whether Christianity or Islam wins this war. This lecture was published in a newspaper of Ceylon. (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: Tafsir-i-

Kabīr, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 1886, Vol. 10, p. 74)

A distinction of the New Scheme

As mentioned above this Scheme started in 1934 and 5,000 Ahmadiis are listed in the First Register. The Second Register started in 1944 and a good number of Ahmadiis joined it. Then other registers started. In these 80 years (1934-2014) so many contributors to this Scheme have passed away but their contribution did not stop; they is maintained by their descendants. In cases where their descendants were unable to contribute for their ancestors other well-to-do members of the Community are doing this job. That is to say that somehow or other the contribution of the deceased participants is continued. Some deceased contributors are so fortunate that more than one of their descendants is contributing for them. It is surprising to know that some of the first register contributors were not even born in 1934. But at the time of the birth of such babies their parents registered them with retroactive effect. These distinctions are found only in Divine Communities. Credit for this distinction goes to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah showers His mercy on him) because it was he who asked the Ahmadiis to continue to pay on behalf of their deceased elders.

Hijri Shamsi Calendar (1937-38)

He it is Who made the sun radiant and the moon lambent and ordained for it stages, that you might know the number of years and the reckoning of time. Allah has not created this but in truth. He details the Signs for a people who have knowledge. (10 [Yūnus]:6)

The sun and the moon run their courses according to a fixed reckoning. (55 [Al-Rahman]:6)

And has placed the moon therein as a light, and made the sun as a lamp? (71[Al-Nūh]:17)

Because of this Quranic instruction, Muslim Kings—Hisham Bin Abdul-Malik, Harun Al-Rashid, Mu‘tazil Billāh, in the Arab countries; the Ottoman Empire, in Turkey; and Sultan Ali Fateh Tipu in India—promulgated Hijri Shamsi calendars during their regimes but for one reason or the other they could not continue resulting in the dependence of the Muslims on Gregorian calendar.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him), the great champion of Islam and promoter of Islamic values, planned to promulgate Hijri Shamsi Calendar. For this purpose, he appointed a committee consisting of Sayyid Muhammad Ishāq, Ṣāhibzāda

Nasir Ahmad, Maulawī Muhammad Halalpuri and Maulana Abul-Ata Jalandhari. This committee thoroughly searched the important events, occurred in the life time of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and named the months after these events. This way the Hijri Shamsi calendar started. Like Hijri Qamari calendar, it starts from the event of the Holy Prophet's migration from Mecca to Medina. (Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 8, p. 8 onward)

Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd Manifests (1944)

It was observed by so many members of the Aḥmadiyya Community that the Signs of Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd or the Promised Son were evident in Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him). He himself had no doubt in it, yet he did not put forward any such claim till 1944.

It was the night between January 5 and 6, 1944. Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) was staying at the residence of Sheikh Bashir Ahmad when God revealed to him that he was the Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd or the Promised Son as announced by the Promised Messiah in the Announcement of 20 February 1886. The detail can be seen in Tārīkh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 8, pp. 491-505

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd announced this clear vision on the following occasions.

- Friday Sermon, Qadian, 28 January 1944
- Hoshiarpur, 20 February 1944
- Lahore, 12 March 1944
- Ludhiana 23 March 1944
- Annual Advisory Meeting, Qadian 7-9 April 1944
- Delhi, 16 April 1944
- Annual Convention Qadian, 26-28 December 1944

In his Friday Sermon, delivered on January 28, 1944, he announced:

“I wish to state something today which I find difficult to set forth having regard to my temperament, but as some prophetic and divine decrees are involved in making this exposition I cannot refrain from making this exposition. I cannot refrain from making it despite my reluctance.

“I wish to mention that when I woke up after the dream I kept thinking over it and my thoughts were formulated in Arabic. The end of my thinking was that God had clearly determined that truth had arrived and falsehood had vanished (16:82). Today, when I was reading the announcement of the Promised

Messiah (may peace be upon him) of 20 February 1886, I found the same words set out in it. Thus, God Almighty has revealed the reality to me and I can affirm without the least hesitation that the prophecy of God Almighty has been fulfilled, and that He has laid a foundation through Taḥrīk-e-Jadīd in consequence of which the prophecy of Jesus (may peace be upon him) that the virgins will accompany the bridegroom into the citadel one day will be fulfilled in a grand manner. The reflection of the Messiah will lead the virgins to the presence of God Almighty and the nations who will have been blessed through him will proclaim joyously: ‘Hosanna, hosanna.’ They will then believe in Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and will have true faith in the first Messiah (may peace be upon him). At present they proclaim him to the son of God, which amounts to reviling him. But it is decreed that the seed sown by me will one day grow into such a splendid tree that the Christian people will gather under it in order to seek blessings from the reflection of the Messiah and will thus enter into the Kingdom of God, and the Kingdom of God will arrive on Earth as it is in Heaven.” (Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-E-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p.238)

Jalsa at Hoshiarpur on 20 February 1944

Jalsa Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd was held at Hoshirpur on the 20th of February because the Promised Messiah had announced this prophecy from this town on this very date in 1886. Every person was not allowed to attend this Jalsa or convention. Very strict conditions were imposed by His Holiness for the attendants of this convention. This admonition was taken so much by heart by those proceeding to Hoshiarpur for the purpose of participating in the meeting that Maulawī Sanaullah of Amritsar, a bitter opponent of the Movement, was moved to comment in his paper, the Ahl-i-Hadith, of 10 March 1944:

“It appeared as if a host of the Companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) were proceeding to the conquest of Mecca.” (Ibid, p. 240)

In this meeting, His Holiness announced that God had informed him that he is the Promised Reformer or the Promised son of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). He also pointed out the important fact:

“I do not say that I am the only Promised One and that no other Promised One will appear till the Day of Judgment. It appears from the prophecies of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) that some other promised ones will also come and some of them will appear after centuries...” (Ibid. p. 240)

Supplication in the House at Hoshiarpur

It was January and February in 1886 that, as directed by God, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), secluded himself for forty days for special prayer in the residence of Shaikh Mehr Ali, a respected person of Hoshiarpur. As revealed to him by God, he announced the advent of Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd on the 20th of February 1886. It was the night between 5 and 6 January 1944 that God informed Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) that he was the Promised Reformer. Only then he announced in several places on several occasions that he was the Promised One. The Jalsa in this connection was held at Hoshiarpur on the 20th of February 1944. In this long period of 58 (1944-1886) years, Shaikh Mehr Ali had sold this house to a Hindu Seth, Harkishan Das. The Seth had renovated this house. The room in which the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) had secluded himself was no more in existence. The Seth had built a new room at the same place and on the same foundation. The Seth and his family members willingly allowed the Promised Reformer to supplicate in the new room. He and his family members were very hospitable to him and his companions. (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tārīkh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Nazārat Nashr-o-Ishā‘at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 8, p. 590)

Meeting on 12 March 1944 in Lahore, Fifty-Nine Years after the Prophecy of the Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd

This meeting was attended by Ahmadis, non-Ahmadis and non-Muslims. Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) again announced that he was the Promised Reformer and said:

“Who can say on his own that a son would surely be bestowed upon him, who can say that such a son would live and grow up, who can say that he would become the leader of a Community, who can say that he would become known unto the ends of the earth? Most certainly, no one can say these things on his own... In short, the fresh evidence of the support of God Almighty has proved once more

that this Movement has been established by God and enjoys His help and support. Today, the prophecy made through the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), 59 years ago, ‘I shall bestow upon thee a son who will be a sign of My Mercy and of My power, of My Grace and My Beneficence, and through him the message of Islam and Ahmadiyyat will be carried to the ends of the earth,’ has been fulfilled with great glory. Today, hundreds of countries bear witness that the name of Islam reached them during the period of my Khilāfat and it was during the period of my Khilāfat that they heard the name of Ahmadiyyat.” (Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-E-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p. 241)

Dāgh-e-Hijrat (Stigma of Migration)

Migration is among the traditions of the prophets. Prophets Adam, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus (peace be on them) were forced to emigrate from their native places. Above all the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) after 13 long years of hardships in Makkah migrated to Madinah. The case of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) could not be different. On the 18th of September 1894, the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) received the revelation (Urdu) “The Stigma of Migration.” For any reason, known only to God, migration of the Ahmadiyya Community did not happen in the lifetimes of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) or Khalīfatul-Masiḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him). It happened but during Khilāfat of the Promised Reformer.

Indications about Migration

“On the 20th of April 1938, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote to the Promised Reformer that a thorough study of Tadhkirah had led him to conclude that one day they will have to leave Qadian, and this situation will be created by the government, therefore, we should be prepared to safeguard our all our holy religious and national buildings. The Promised Reformer replied that he himself had the same opinion for the last 20 years. For this very reason he had asked the Community to peg underground the four corners of Masjid Aqsa and all such buildings, so that if these buildings are demolished they can re-erected on the basis of these pegs.” (Shahid, Dost Muhammad:

Tarikh-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 7, pp. 481-82)

In his Friday Sermon, delivered on the 12th of December 1941, the Promised Reformer informed the Community that in a vision he had seen that he had migrated from Qadian and had established a new Centre under a hill. (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tārīkh-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 8, 273-76)

“In the Advisory Council Meeting held in April 1946, the Promised Reformer asked the Community to sacrifice their lives and property, and be prepared for migration. In very strong words he said that it is certain that one day we will have to migrate from Qadian and to part with our houses and other properties for the sake of God. (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tarikh-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 9, pp 580-81)

On the last day of the 1946 Annual Convention, i.e., on the 28th of December, the Promised Reformer said:

“Get ready for the war which is coming closer and closer.” (Ibid, Vol. 9, p. 612)

Here, His Holiness has not used the word of “Migration.” But what happened in Punjab in 1947 within a year clearly indicates what he meant by the word “war.”

In August 1947, India attained independence and, at the same time, it was divided into India and Pakistan. Punjab, the province of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), was also divided into East and West Punjab. As decided by The Boundary Commission, three-fourth of District Gurdaspur was awarded to India in which Qadian is located. At the same time, very serious communal riots started on both sides of Punjab—Indian Punjab and Pakistani Punjab. In the Indian Punjab, it was well planned and more gruesome than in Pakistani Punjab. In this barbarism the Sikhs excelled the Muslims and even the Hindus. Compelled by the circumstances almost all Ahmadis in Gurdaspur, including Qadian, had to leave India and move to Pakistan. The Promised Reformer left Qadian on the 31st of August 1947 at 1:15 P.M. and reached Lahore at 4:30 P.M. the same day. Situation in east and west Punjab changed from bad to worse. The East Punjab Police and the Indian Army openly sided with the rioters consisting of Hindus and Sikhs. On 3rd October 1947, the Indian army, in collusion with the rioters, attacked Qadian and killed more than 200 Muslims. Ahmadis had to leave major part of Qadian. But as shown in a vision to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II six years earlier the enemy was stopped just outside the

central quarter of the town, which contained the house of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), the two principal mosques—Mubarak Mosque and Aqsa Mosque—the offices of the Central Association and the Heavenly Graveyard. Risking their own lives, 313 Ahmadis, called Darwaishān, remained in this area. The role of government in dividing the country and the role of the police and the army in this bloodshed proved that the apprehension of Mirza Bashir Ahmad that there will be role of the government in migration proved to be true.

It is not out of context to mention that when Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) decided to migrate from Qadian, all attempts were made for transportation, which could not be accomplished till 11 A.M. Soon after 11 A.M., transportation was arranged fulfilling the following revelation of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him): After 11.

Established of Rabwah as the New Center

Lahore was our temporary headquarters. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II started to look for an isolated place.

After searching a number of places, he selected a barren land in the district of Jhang at the recommendation of Chaudhry Aziz Aḥmad Bajwa, Sessions Judge Sargodha, because this place was in accordance with his vision which he saw in 1941. Arrangements for the purchase of this land were made by Ḥaḍrat Nawwab Muḥammad Din.

Several names for this barren place were recommended to the Promised Reformer. Out of these names he accepted the name Rabwah, suggested by Maulana Jalal-ud-Din Shams. Selection of the name, Rabwah, was fulfillment of the Quranic prophecy:

And We made the son of Mary and his mother a Sign, and We rescued them and helped them reach an elevated land, a restful place with springs of running water. (23 [Al-Mu'minūn]:51)

Like so many other verses of the Holy Qur'an this verse not only describes the event of Jesus' migration, with his mother and others from Palestine to Kashmir, India, but also foretells a future event to be fulfilled on the event of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). In spite of the revelation, “Stigma of Migration,” the Promised Messiah remained in Qadian till his death. However, due to the circumstances mentioned above migration took place during Khilāfat of the Promised Reformer, reflection of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him).

The following couplet in Urdu was revealed to the Promised Reformer when he was inspecting the progress of work in Rabwah.

“On my way, the Divine providence caused water to flow beneath my feet.” (Al-Fazl, 18 August 1949)

This reminds us of the historical incident that took place with Ḥaḍrat Hajira and Prophet Ishmael (may peace be upon them).

“We are told that when Ishmael suffered from extreme pangs of thirst in the wilderness of Mecca and his mother Hagar in vain searched for water, the voice of the angel came to her saying that God had caused a fountain of water to flow from under the feet of Ishmael. (Bukhari)” (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: The Holy Qur’an With English Translation And Commentary, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 1988, Vol. 4, p. 1573)

In short, what happened with Prophet Ishmael (may peace be upon him) also happened to the Promised Reformer (may Allah be pleased with him).

Attack on Fazl-e-Umar’s Life (1954)

“It was 10 March 1954, when Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd after leading Aṣr Prayer in Mubarak Mosque was returning to his residence, a young stranger (Abdul-Hamid) suddenly attacked on him with a knife from his back. This attack caused serious injury to jugular vein of His Holiness. The attacker made another attempt but bodyguard Muhammad Iqbal came in between the murderer and the Promised Reformer and was injured himself. With great struggle the worshippers controlled the attacker and, while doing so, some of them were injured.” (Shahid, Dost Muhammad: Tarikh-i-Ahmadiyyat, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha’at, Qadian, India, 2007, Vol. 16, pp. 230-31)

One of prophetic titles of Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd was Fazl-e-Umar, indicating his spiritual affinity to Ḥaḍrat Umar. These are as follows:

- Ḥaḍrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) was the Second Successor of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and Ḥaḍrat Mirza Maḥmūd was the Second Successor of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him).
- Both of them started Advisory Council System.
- Both of them started Islamic calendars based on the sun and the moon, i.e., the solar and the lunar

calendars. For some reason, Muslims continued to use the lunar calendar but not the solar (the details are given above). As directed by Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd (may Allah be pleased with him), the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community started using the solar calendar in 1938 which by the grace of God is still in use.

- Both of them introduced the system of Electoral College to elect the new Khalifa.
- Both of them were attacked by their enemies during Prayer in the mosque, with the difference that Ḥaḍrat Umar was attacked while offering Fajr Prayer and Ḥaḍrat Mirza Maḥmūd (may Allah be pleased with him) was attacked after completing Aṣr Prayer. The enemies in both cases were outsiders. In the case of Ḥaḍrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) the assailant was a non-Muslim, a prisoner of war from Persia whose name was Firoz Abu Lu’lu. He had some personal grudge against Ḥaḍrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him). In the case of Ḥaḍrat Mirza Maḥmūd (may Allah be pleased with him) the assailant was a non-Ahmadi. For some reason known only to God Ḥaḍrat Umar succumbed to death in one or two days, whereas Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad survived for more than eleven years. These incidents remind us to the Quranic verse:

“O ye, who believe! let those whom your right hands possess, and those of you who have not attained to puberty, ask leave of you at three times (before coming into your presence): before the morning Prayer, and when you take off your clothes at noon in summer, and after night Prayer. These are the three times of privacy for you. At times other than these there is no blame on you or on them, for they have to move about (waiting upon) you, some of you (attending) upon others. Thus does Allah make plain to you the Signs; for Allah is All-Knowing, Wise.” (24 [Al-Nūr]:59)

This verse asks Muslims to take special care for their safety, especially for Khulafā. What happened with Ḥaḍrat Umar and Ḥaḍrat Mirza Maḥmūd was due to their negligence in obeying this Quranic verse. Only after comparing these two historical incidents the meaning of the word Fazl-e-Umar became clear to me.

I now quote a Quranic verse which applies in the personal life of Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him), and in his life as Khalifa.

“Is Allah not sufficient for His servant?” (39 [Al-Zumar]:37)

The Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) had inscribed his three revelations in Urdu on three different rings—"Is Allah not sufficient for His servant?", "I have reserved My Mercy and Power for you," and "God is sufficient." He decided to give one ring to each of his sons. He made the decision by lottery. The ring inscribed with the words "Is Allah not sufficient for His servant?" came in the lot of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). (Mirza Bashir Ahmad: Sirat-ul-Mahdi, Nazarat Nashr-o-Isha'at, Qadian, India, 2008, Vol. 2. p. 16)

The long life of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd proves how this Quranic verse was always true with him. God always provided him to support his large family. He himself writes that he worries when he compares his income and the expenses. But when he does not think about it and leaves the matter in the hands of God, all his needs are provided from unknown sources.

This was about his family expenses. The same is true with the Community expenses. In the long 51 years of his Khilāfat (1914-65), the Community expenses were multiplied many times. God was always Sufficient to provide the expenses.

Knowledge of the Holy Qur'an

The Holy Qur'an is an open Book, which any Muslim or non-Muslim can read and understand according to his ability. But such is not the case with the deep or the inner meaning of the Qur'an. The deep meaning is revealed by God only to holy personages. Says the Quran:

"That this is indeed a noble Qur'an, in a well-preserved Book, which none shall touch except those who are purified." (56 [Al-Wāqī'ah]:78-80)

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) was extremely holy, pious, and a person of high spiritual station, therefore, God revealed to him the deep understanding of the Holy Qur'an, next only to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him). He challenged all Muslims divines that if any of them thinks that he can write a commentary (Tafsīr) of the Holy Qur'an better than him he should come forward. But no one, during his 51 years of Khilāfat, had the courage to accept this open challenge. Comments of Non-Ahmadi scholars about his knowledge of the Qur'an are as follows:

The great scholar and founder editor of Nigar, a monthly periodical of very high standard, and recipient

of Padma Bhushanan award bestowed only to those whose academic accomplishment is of very high standard, Allama Niaz Fatehpuri:

"The third volume of Tafsīr-i-Kabīr is before us and we are studying it thoroughly. There is no doubt that you have created a unique facet of studying the Holy Qur'an. The commentary is the first of its kind and in fact, you have blended intelligence and scholarship very beautifully. Your great knowledge, profound thinking, extraordinary understanding and your way of expression is apparent in each and every word. I regret having neglected it for so long. Alas! I could have studied all the volumes. Only yesterday, I was studying commentary on Sūrah Hūd and I was so impressed with your opinion in relation to Ḥaḍrat Lot that I found myself compelled to write this letter. This position which you have adopted on the verse" these are my daughters," is unique and I do not have the words to express my gratitude to you. May God Almighty preserve you. (Nigar, 1959)

Addressing Aḥrār, Maulawī Zafar Ali Khan, editor of Zamindar, a daily Urdu newspaper, and a great opponent of the Aḥmadiyya Community:

"Listen with your ears wide open, you and your accomplices could never compete with Mirza Mahmud Ahmad till resurrection. Mirza Mahmud has the Qur'an with him, and a deep knowledge of the Qur'an, What have you got? You have never read the Qur'an even in your dreams." (Rahman, Mujebur: Fazl-E-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, 268)

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, the fifth and the present head of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, has quoted three non-Ahmadi scholars who expressed very high opinion about the commentary of the Holy Qur'an by the Promised Reformer (may Allah be pleased with him) of the Holy Quran:

Professor Abdul-Mannan, Patna University:

There is no commentary of the caliber of the one by Mirza Maḥmūd in any language. Even if commentaries from Egypt and Syria are brought in they would be no match.

Dr. Anas, Syria:

He had read books and commentaries of various scholars in his search for the truth and light, including that of Ḥaḍrat Mohyiddin ibn 'Arabi. But he did not find the pleasure and

sweetness that Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmood'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 Tafsir on Ahmadiyya web site he found light and truth in it and it captivated his heart.

Jamal Sahib from Morocco:

He read Tafsir-i-Kabir and then compared it to various other commentaries that he had read. The difference was tremendous. He found that while Tafsir-i-Kabir was a summary of the core of Shariah, other commentaries has been mere shell. Studying Tafsir-i-Kabir painted a beautiful picture of Islam in his heart which penetrated his very soul." (Mirza Masroor Ahmad: Friday Sermon Delivered on February 21st, 2014)

On his death, in a condolence note written in Sidq-e-Jadid, Lucknow, it was mentioned:

"May Allah reward the Imam Jamā'at Ahmadiyya's effort towards world-wide publication of the Holy Qur'an and its wisdom and also for the propagation of Islam in all corners of the Earth and in lieu of this let us overlook all other matters. The learned manner in which he has interpreted in detail, the truth and wisdom of the Holy Qur'an was really unique." (Rahman, Mujeebur: Fazl-e-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p. 268)

Explanation of Kāf Hā Yā 'Ain Šād

(Abbreviations at the beginning of Chapter Maryam)

The Promised Reformer (may Allah be pleased with him) had wonderful knowledge of the Holy Qur'an. His understanding of Chapter Maryam is unique. Based only upon the abbreviated letters at its beginning, he proved the falsity of Christianity.

"I had pointed out that Ahadith say that the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) designated these [Quranic] abbreviations to attributes of the Almighty. One of my old dreams also testifies to this. Once I was coming from Sindh Province, I saw in a dream that someone was pointing out to me that the abbreviations Kāf Hā Yā 'Ain Šād in the Holy Quran also refer to me. Since my work is essentially the work of the Promised Messiah, who in turn is in the likeness of Jesus of Nazareth, meaning of my mention in the abbreviated letters in fact is that Christianity is

mentioned in Kāf Hā Yā 'Ain Šād. It follows that if the abbreviated letters describe the first messiah, then essentially they must contain the mention of the second messiah. The first Messianic faith is described in the sense that the Christians did not understand the attributes of God being Sufficient, True, Guide, Omniscient, and Veracious and adopted an incorrect religion. These abbreviations would refer to us in the sense that we [the Ahmadi] were able to refute the Christian doctrine by making use of the same attributes of God. "In other words, both the Messianic faiths would be involved, the group of Jesus of Nazareth and the Promised Messiah's group. With reference to Christianity it would mean that they lost their way from the right path by not paying attention to the said attributes of God. Whereas for us it would mean that the said attributes of the Almighty guided us and we were able to vanquish the false doctrine of Christianity." (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Maḥmūd Ahmad: Tafsir-i-Kabir, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 1986, Vol. 5, p. 116)

Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd in the light of Āyah Istikhlāf

"Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them; and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them; and that He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear.: They will worship Me, and they will not associate anything with Me. Then who is ungrateful after that, they will be rebellious. (24 [Al-Nūr]:56)

- The first condition of Khilāfat-e-Rāshida (Rightly Guided Caliphs, Rāshidūn) in accordance with this verse is: Belief and acts of goodness. It is clear to everybody that the reputation of the Community is noble and the majority of our members do good works. Since these conditions are satisfied the promise of Khilāfat is fulfilled.
- The second condition Allah, the Almighty, has mentioned in this verse is: As He made Successors from among those who were before them. Just as there have been Khulafā in the past, similarly there will be Khulafā in Ummah of the Holy Prophet. It

means that as the previous Caliphs were appointed by the divine power and nobody could face them. The same thing will happen now. This manifestation has also been proved through the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masiḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) faced only external fear. But Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, the Second Caliph, faced external and internal oppositions as well. Moreover Khalīfatul-Masiḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) had very high reputation among the Community. In his case it was propagated that if the reign of this child, the Community would be ruined. It was propagated that he was not a scholar of Arabic or of English. There is nothing in him to attract people.

The third condition is:

- He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them.

The religious knowledge revealed to him by Allah the Almighty will spread in the world and nobody will have the power to destroy it. There is no doubt about it that the Companions acquired a special status through their companionship with the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). There is no doubt about it that Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masiḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) was an accomplished expert fond of the Holy Qur'an. But Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) was charged of being uneducated. Therefore, the way the attribute of the All-Knowing of Allah, the Almighty is displayed with great magnificence through him, the precedent of it is not available in the class of Khulafā. He was the same who was called a child of yesterday. He was the same who was ignorant and unintelligent. But after taking the charge of Khilāfat, Allah, and the Almighty revealed the Quranic knowledge to him in such abundance that the Muslim Ummah has to read his books for their benefit till the Day of Resurrection.

The fourth condition is: He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their peace.

This sign is satisfied in the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). During his Khilāfat he faced opposition from non-Ahmadiis, non-Muslims and the hypocrites. At times the opposition took very horrible shape. But no opposition could stop or retard the progress of Aḥmadiyya

Community. After every opposition the Community was at a higher stage. Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd fully satisfied the fourth condition. Such oppositions have already mentioned above therefore I will not repeat them. (Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Ahmad: Khilāfat-e-Rashida, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2009, pp. 242-47)

As mentioned in the Announcement of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), the Promised Reformer returned to his God on the night between 7 and 8 November 1965. This was a shock not only to Ahmadiis but to non-Ahmadiis and non-Muslims also. People expressed their sentiments in different ways. A tribute was published in the Light, a weekly publication of the dissentient Lahore group, published from Lahore. In its issue of 16 November 1965, under the captain "A GREAT NATION BUILDER", the editor wrote:

The death of Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud, Head of the Aḥmadiyya Movement (Rabwah) rang the curtain down on a most eventual career, packed with a multitude of far reaching enterprises. A man of versatile genius and dynamic personality, there was hardly any sphere of contemporary thought and life during the past half century, from religious scholarship to missionary organization, even political hardship, on which the deceased did not leave a deep imprint. A whole network of Islamic missions and mosques scattered over the world, the deep penetration of Islamic preaching in Africa, transplanting the long - entranced Christian Missions, are a standing monument to the imaginative planning, organizational capacity and unflagging drive of the deceased. There has hardly been a leader of men in recent times who commanded such deep devotion from his followers, not only when alive, but also after death, when sixty thousand people rushed from all parts of the country to pay their last homage to their departed leader. In the story of the Aḥmadiyya Movement the Mirza Sahib's name will go down as a great nation builder, who built up a well-knit community in the face of heavy odds, making it force to be counted with. We offer the bereaved family our deep condolences in their great loss." (Rahman, Mujebur: Fazl-E-Umar, Islam International Publications, Tilford, United Kingdom, 2012, p. 383-84)

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Mohammad Ahmed Nasir, In charge Ahmadiyya Bookstore USA

Love of Lahore's Musa Family for Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

May Allah be pleased with him

By Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi Columbus OH

Mian Muhammad Musa the companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), and his family has deep rooted relations with the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) and all Ahmadiyya Khalifas. My father Mian Muhammad Yahya stated that Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II graced our house in Lahore in the year 1944 with his presence.

Laying foundation Stone of Mian Musa's Shop

A training session of the Jama'at was held in Gujranwala, Pakistan on October 25-26, 1913 in which a lecture was delivered by Ṣāḥibzādah Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him). On return from Gujranwala Ḥaḍrat Ṣāḥibzādah laid foundation stone of shop of Mian Muhammad Musa at Nila Gumbad, Lahore. (Shahid, Maulānā Dost Mohammad, (2007), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, v. 3, p. 468)

An Eye Witness on the Election of Second Khilāfat

Ḥaḍrat Dr. Hashmatullah, a companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) wrote that he was going to Qadian with Muhammad Mustafa. We were told at Amritsar Railway Station that Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) passed away yesterday i.e. 13th of March, 1914. Ḥaḍrat Maulawī Muhammad Ahsan arrived on the same station from Lahore. I was of the opinion that Maulawī Ahsan would be elected as next Khalīfa. Maulawī Ahsan was constantly arguing the needs of establishing Khilāfat till all of us arrived at Batala. We were separated from him as we opted for a separate transport. We both hired different *Tongas*. As we were nearing Widala Granthan, we saw Mistri Musa approaching from Qadian side with one or two friends. Our *Tonga* was stopped by him and gave us a writing which was read by Maulawī Muhammad Mustafa first and then handed over the paper to me after signing. I took the paper in my hand and read:

‘On oath to God who is Omni present and watches each and everything, give your opinion whether there should be Khilāfat or not. If there is one then it should either be like of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I or something else’.

I read the manuscript. I wrote that it should be and should be like that of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I and signed the document. Our *Tonga* started moving and I asked Mustafa why he signed without consulting him as he was the head of the entourage. Then he replied that it was obvious and he did not think the need of consultation in that regard and signed the document. (Shahid, Maulānā Dost Mohammad, (2007), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, v. 3, p. 520)

Journey to Kashmir and Feast by Mian Muhammad Musa

Sayyidinā Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) proceeded to Kashmir on the advice of doctors in the year 1921. A big crowd bade him farewell outside the town. Ḥaḍrat Ummul-Mu'minīn (may Allah be pleased with her) and all three wives of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I (may Allah be pleased with him) accompanied him. Also Ḥaḍrat Meer Muhammad Isma'il, Ḥaḍrat Dr Hashmatullah (may Allah be pleased with him); Ḥaḍrat Hafiz Roshan Ali and some other Khuddam were with him. Many members of the Jama'at were present at Batala railway station. The entourage boarded a reserved railway compartment. Ḥaḍrat Mistri Muhammad Musa provided food at Lahore railway station. He was accorded warm welcome throughout the journey up to Rawalpindi. (Malik, Salahuddin of Qadian, Ashab-e-Ahmad, p. 357)

Journey from Batala to Delhi and provision of ice

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) planned a journey to Delhi. He proceeded to Batala from Qadian along with Khuddām where a big crowd was waiting for him. On the tour he met members of the Jamā'at at different stations. Members of the community bade farewell to their beloved master. He and his entourage were photographed at Amritsar, Bias, Jullundur Cant, Phagwara and Delhi. Qamarul-Anbiyā Ḥaḍrat Ṣāḥibzādah Mirza Bashir Ahmad was also with Huzoor but returned to Qadian from Saharanpur. There was an arrangement of ice from Mistri Muhammad Musa which continued till Delhi. He remained with Huzoor during the travel. (Shahid, Maulānā Dost Mohammad, (2007), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, v. 4, p. 434)

Efforts in Launching Rail Link to Qadian

The members of the Jamā'at had to travel eleven to twelve miles on foot or by Tonga to go to Qadian. There was a considerable discomfort in harsh summer and rainy seasons. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) asked Mian Musa that it was his duty to plan and launch rail link to Qadian. It involved lot of planning and efforts. Mian Muhammad Musa finally succeeded in bringing the rail to Qadian. It was a tremendous achievement by him. These efforts are described in Tārīkh Ahmadiyyat chapter on companions of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him):

“The special event in the life of Ḥaḍrat Haji Muhammad Musa was launching of rail link to Qadian for which he really tried hard from the years 1915 to 1924. He approximately spent twelve to thirteen thousand rupees. For the purpose he participated in an auction bid of twelve miles long rail track of Dandoot Kalree. Similarly he also used his office for the auction in Agra, India. Afterwards he approached deputy commissioner Gurdaspur, India and district board and asked about the railway line. Once he surveyed Siri Gobindpur with the help of an engineer and prepared extensive maps. There was a proposal to form a partnership company who could launch that rail line. Finally an application was given to Railway Board. The board responded that the project proposal is in queue and its priority is fixed at 17. Knowing this he abandoned his personal struggle because his objective was to launch the rail link and not business. He had no intension to earn any profit. The rail link to Qadian was finally launched after about three years. When the first train was about to leave the track from Amritsar to Qadian, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) addressed to Muhammad Musa (may Allah be pleased with him), “Your efforts are successful today”. (Shahid, Maulānā Dost Mohammad, (2007), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, v. 10, p. 543-545); (Ashab-e-Ahmad, Rawayat (un-published), Register No. 11, p. 11 to 15) and (Shaikh, Abdul Qadir, (1966), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat Lahore, p. 309-10)

Asking Prayers for Ummi Tāhir by Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II

My father narrated that Ḥaḍrat Ummi Tāhir wife of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) was under treatment at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital

Lahore. She was sick and in great pain. Huzoor arrived in Lahore from Qadian to enquire about her health. Lot of people from Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Lahore was present there. Huzoor asked about Haji Muhammad Musa as he was not present there. People told Huzoor that he fell from his bicycle while returning home from his shop. He got severe bruises on his knees. He was unable to move and was forced bed rest. Huzoor said that he wanted to ask him to pray for Ummi Tāhir. Huzoor and his entourage decided to go to our ancestor home at Fleming Road instead of going to hospital. My father was leading the entourage on a bicycle. Huzoor came to our house after climbing the stairs. Mian Muhammad Musa was resting on bed. On seeing his master Mian Musa stood up in respect. Huzoor advised him to keep lying on the bed and said:

‘We know that you are a cycle merchant. You should desist from riding cycle at this age. Ummi Tāhir is seriously ill and need our special prayers’.

Afterwards he stepped down from the stairs and proceeded to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital. Mian Muhammad Musa then never rode the bicycle till his death. In this context, my father also narrated that Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) after *Maghrib*, *Isha* combined prayers and *Majlis Irfān* said on 12th of March, 1944 at the residence of Shaikh Bashir Ahmad Amīr Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Lahore:

‘I wrote following verse as a prayer on 2nd March and Ummi Tāhir passed away on 5th of March, 1944.’

اِک طرف تقدیر مُبرم اِک طرف عرض و دعا
فضل کا پلڑا جھکا دے اے مرے مشکل کشا

(Kalām-e-Maḥmūd, Section: Revealed Verses)

Security Duty with Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) migrated to Lahore from Qadian during Indo-Pak partition in the year 1947 and his first abode was Rattan Bagh near Mayo Hospital, Lahore. Khuddāmul-Aḥmadiyya Lahore was assigned security duties of Huzoor. My father Mian Muhammad Yahya narrated that without a code word no one was allowed entry into the building. One of the bodyguards of Huzoor asked my father that he will be checked during night to ensure security of Huzoor. He would jump from one of the boundary walls for checking purposes. My father told him that he shall ask code word. If you keep quite or tell wrong code word, then you will be shot before you land on the ground. The aim of my father was immaculate

and he used to shot flying swans with perfection. On hearing the bodyguard got scared and never tried to check the security arrangements.

Helping Flood Victims of Lahore

My father and his team mates helped flood victims when city of Lahore was inundated by overflowing of river Ravi in early fifties. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) praised him and his team in the following words:

“There is no doubt that Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya has infused life in half dead Jamā’at of Lahore. The feather in the cap was due to four-five members of Khuddāmul-Aḥmmadiyya, Lahore who really worked hard to accomplish the task. Not only the Majlis Lahore’s unusual work in the days of last floods in the field of public works is appreciated, but they also introduced the work in public sector in an unusual manner. Respected Muhammad Yahya was amongst those four five colleagues. (Shaikh, Abdul Qadir, (1966), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat Lahore, p. 569)

A Tribute by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II

My father was Qā’id Majlis Khuddāmul-Aḥmmadiyya Lahore in the year 1956. Many meetings of office bearers of Lahore Majlis were held with Ḥaḍrat

Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him). He stated with honor that he happened to sit around Huzoor’s feet for hours. Huzoor used to discuss matters of interest of the Jamā’at. Sometimes he shall ask for advice. One day the author asked him to tell some events of those meetings. He replied, “It is between father and son. Those confidential matters are to be kept secret. I am not supposed to tell the contents of those meetings.” He kept all the secrets confidentially till his death. He used to say that he cannot betray the trust.

He was given a responsibility to do certain important work of the Jamā’at. He performed the task diligently with the help of his colleagues. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II (may Allah be pleased with him) expressed his pleasure and wrote following golden words in a letter:

“Mubarak Maḥmūd met me. The report presented by him shows that Khuddāmul-Aḥmmadiyya is doing tremendous work. It is with blessing of God that when we fall in sickness and old age, then He infused courage in youth and they took the necessary burden. However, I am extremely happy with Majlis Khuddāmul-Aḥmmadiyya, Lahore. I am happy to an extent that you cannot visualize at the moment.” (SHAIKH, Abdul Qadir, (1966), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat Lahore, p. 613)

Once in Millennium Opportunity

There is a once in a millennium opportunity for members to be among those first few whose names will forever shine like stars in history of spread of Islam Ahmadiyyat in Latin America.

This opportunity and the victory and the attached blessings for those who rise up to help that I speak of here is mentioned so beautifully in verses 10-15 of Sūrah Al-Saff (Chapter 61) of the Holy Quran.

On the one hand we see the reality that even after one thousand four hundred years there is essentially no sign of Islam in Latin America and on the other we have the Promises of Allah to make Islam prevail the world over through the Jamā’at of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) ... and our beloved Imam is telling us it is time for us to go in to the lands of Latin America and win the hearts of the people for Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

There can surely be no bigger bargain.

I humbly ask you to convey this to the youth in your Jamā’at and urge them to come to Mexico and not miss this opportunity.

I hope and pray that Silicon Valley Jamā’at will send one volunteer EVERY WEEK starting November 9, 2015 at least ... to do Waqf e Aarzee here for a week to ten days. I believe in this way, over a year, some 50 people from your Jamā’at will be blessed.... and we will witness, In Sha Allah, the immense beneficial impact of this sacrifice, this responding to the call of our Beloved Imam, in every sphere of their future lives.... material and spiritual.

What kind of people? People willing to help distribute flyers, teach prayer and reading of the Holy Quran. Spanish is not essential. They will have to just pay their airfare here and back. We will look after their local board and lodging In Sha Allah.

جس کی فطرت نیک ہے وہ آئے گا انجام کار

Every good-natured person will eventually come and join

Acceptance of Ahmadiyyat by Syed Aftab Ali

Dr Mahmud Ahmad Nagi Columbus OH

Syed Aftab Ali accepted Ahmadiyya, the real Islam, after thorough research on religions. He had been benefitting from telecasts of Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA) since long. He carved his way to success by his noble intentions. He recorded an interview for Ahmadiyya Gazette USA in which he narrated the modus operandi of his acceptance of Ahmadiyyat. He also mentioned some heart probing incidences of love and affection for Khilāfat after becoming an Ahmadi. We are presenting the resume for our readers. This interview can be listened and viewed on You Tube web site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycIrW2jPZw4>

Introductory Remarks

Syed Aftab Ali was born in Lahore, Pakistan in April 1945. He practiced Shiah sect in Islam. He participated whole heartedly and with devotion in conferences arranged in honor of Ḥaḍrat Imam Hussain (may Allah be pleased with him), grandson of Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He was skeptical on distributing meal cooked during Zul-Jinah procession but partially eaten by the Zul-Jinah horse. Some women of that sect used to pass under the belly of the horse for want of male offspring. This practice is totally forbidden in the teachings of Islam. These un-Islamic acts forced him to abandon these traditions.

He got his education from Christian Missionary School and College of Lahore. The administration of Forman Christian College earmarked an hour daily for religious education and would always say bad things about the Prophet of Islam. They would particularly raise questions on multi marriages of the Prophet and many more such controversial matters. They did so to keep Muslim students away from the teachings of Islam. But their efforts always brought negative impact on Muslim student at large. He would always ask answers of those questions from his parents and Maulawī who used to come at his residence to first time reading of Holy Quran. The Maulawī would say that such questions can disfigure your faith. He also searched in vain to divulge answers from available books. He was employed as a computer programmer in UBL bank of Pakistan. He also got an opportunity to travel abroad as there was no main frame computer in

Pakistan in those days. He remained abroad for ten years before returning to Pakistan.

He was married in the year 1971 and in the same year visited Calcutta in India with his spouse. He was fond of Indian films and saw many of them. He went to see few Hindu temples to observe Hinduism. It included those where monkeys, snakes and rats were at rampage. All of those places were filthy and it further increased hatred about that religion. They hired a Sikh driver who helped them to see the temples. In one of the temples he recommended not to take family as adultery is committed there. The priests and other bad people were stationed there half naked. Those women who could not conceive come here and commit adultery. There is no punishment in Hinduism for conceiving illegitimate children.

The wife of Mr. Aftab passed away in 1971 due to some complications during a surgical operation. She was social and jolly and was full of life.

In the year 1994 his daughter fell seriously ill and was hospitalized. She was not taking any food or any fluid. He dreamt that a person came and turned whole environment at peace. As he got up, he was not sure what was happening. He thought it was a bad dream or satanic allusion because the saint in the dream advised him to go to London. He was perplexed why a person dressed with a turban and sherwani would ask him to visit London, a city not known to be a source of enlightenment. After joining the Ahmadiyya Community, when he saw the pictures of the Ahmadi Khalifas, he discovered that the saint in his dream was Ḥaḍrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih III, and he understood why he advised him to go to London: to enjoy the blessings and benefits of meeting the Khalifatul-Masih who resided in London.

Acceptance of Ahmadiyyat

Syed Aftab Ali went to Saudi Arabia in connection with an employment. He liked people there who are in general Ahl-e-Hadith. They do not like polytheistic traditions. They would not allow touching even boundary walls of the shrine of Ḥaḍrat Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). They would break journey to offer prayers in time. He says that he was in possession of translation of Quran by Mr.

Thanvi but he was unable to grasp meanings of some of the verses. He was fortunate to visit Prophet's Mosque and Ka'ba. These are peaceful places and he went there quite often to offer Friday prayers. He also performed Hajj. Then he migrated to US after eight years of stay there. He had a habit of surfing different channels on dish network in leisure times. Accidently he noticed a bearded man with a turban, sherwani and shalwar. He could speak simultaneously in English, Urdu and Punjabi. He was fluently answering questions in English. He and his wife got answers of all the queries. They got satisfaction on hearing his Friday sermons. They met a girl in Maryland whose eyes glitters when she talked about him. They requested her for an audience but did not succeed. That man visited United States in the year 1994 but they could not have a meeting as he proceeded to Los Angeles and Chicago to inaugurate a mosque. Mr. Aftab started offering Jumu'a in Ahmadiyya mosques. He was impressed with an eighty year's old Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad Amir USA who was standing outside a mosque in harsh winter. He asked me: "Have you come to see mosque?" Mr. Aftab went downstairs of the mosque to see pictures. He was disturbed and surprised to see a picture of Kalama painted by non-Ahmadi of Pakistan. He procured books "Philosophy of the teachings of Islam" and "Mahzarnama." Lately they decided to accept this faith.

Mr. Aftab one day went to London to see that man himself. The interview after this is full of emotions. He is still cherishing those moments even after elapse of many years. He says that those moments are his precious asset. There were 50-60 people waiting. Here Mr. Aftab started crying with emotions and his voice went hoarse. He was astonished when that man stood for them. Our scholars or Maulawīs would never do so. They sat on chairs in front of his table. His daughter was not facing him for which he was confused and disturbed. That man noticed this and asked her to go upstairs and meet his daughter. He then addressed him, "When did you arrive in United States? Are you going to Pakistan or you are on business trip?" Mr. Aftab said, "No, I have come here to meet you." Suddenly his attitude changed like a 2-3 years old kid. A serene smile appeared on his face. He asked questioningly, "You have come to meet me! Why you come here from far to meet me?" Mr. Aftab then replied that he had been watching MTA programs for quite some time. Then he got up from his chair and hugged and patted his cheeks. Mr. Aftab told Huzoor that he works for EDS (Electronic Data Systems). Huzoor then said, "You work for Ross Perot." Mr. Aftab enquired how he knew about that man. On this Huzoor replied that he contested an election. The time of meeting ended and Huzoor himself opened the door and waited his exit. Mr. Aftab

waited outside for a while for her daughter to arrive and could see the same light in her eyes as was noticed in the girl from Maryland. She described the daughter of Huzoor as an angel like women. She asked Huzoor what to recite for peace and tranquility and started crying. Huzoor took out a handkerchief from his pocket and wiped her eyes and said, "Keep this handkerchief?" They remained in London for three days and had another audience with Huzoor on the last day. Huzoor asked him about his sect and was pleased to know that he was a Shiah. He said with authority, "You know that so many people from Shiah community are accepting Ahmadiyyat. He is also 4th caliph. I came to know that your wife passed away. You should marry as soon as possible." Mr. Aftab replied that he could not take the decision prior to consulting his family. He says that he never ever witnessed such a compassionate fellow throughout his life. Huzoor is living in a small two room flat. He got everything for which he never desired. It was our luck that Huzoor arrived in US for three years in a row i.e. 1996, 1997 and 1998 and we were afforded opportunity to offer prayers behind him. He used to meet Huzoor almost every day. Later it was a routine for him to go to London whenever cheap tickets were available on line and remained there till Sunday. Mr. Aftab's non-Ahmadi friends sometimes asked obnoxious questions that had he asked Mirza Sahib about "Muhammadi Begum" and some other related similar queries. He told them that his daughter was half dead and got life due to Huzoor's prayers. The man of God for whom they were searching ultimately surfaced.

The son and daughter of Mr. Aftab ultimately embraced Ahmadiyyat after 3 and 6 months respectively. His son now looks after the business. Now he feels that he is not in need of money anymore as his daughter graduated. He requested Huzoor to find a match for her and he did find a boy. Huzoor also said to say yes to this relation. Mr. Aftab did not know about the implications of the marriage affairs for which he requested Huzoor for prayers. Huzoor again asked him to say yes as he shall not find a better relation than the boy. Huzoor solemnized the Nikah. A joke was prevalent there that whatever Mr. Aftab suggests Huzoor always say in affirmative. Now he starts crying whenever he happens to talk with Huzoor. He described another incidence when her daughter could not conceive even after one and a half years of marriage. He asked Huzoor for prayer. Huzoor prayed and told him that God shall bless her. To our happiness she became pregnant next month for which she never took any medicine or consulted a doctor.

Some Episodes of Love for Ahmadiyyat

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) once asked to permanently settle in London as his business is well taken care by his son. It was Ramadan in winter and generally Huzoor would not meet people. One day he questioned Huzoor, “How would you compare yourself with your father?” Huzoor replied, “Ask for forgiveness and do not say anything like this. It is not appropriate to utter such sentences. There is no comparison with my father. Have you ever heard me calling his name in Friday sermons? I always call him Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd”. In the beginning I sometimes ask him such questions but not anymore.

He once narrated following to his Agha Khanee friend, Islam is a structural religion. Prayers are offered on time. There is a strict schedule for Ramadan. The prayers are not offered with music as in the case of some other religions. There is an Imam in Ahmadiyyat and everyone submit to him in letter and spirit.

He knows now how Imam in Ahmadiyyat is elected for which he has perception. It happened at the time of election of Fifth Khalifa in Ahmadiyyat. Some ten thousand people were gathered and were standing for about three hours. In the mean time it was announced to sit. A fat man sat in his lap. Mr. Aftab asked him, “What are you doing?” He told, “Huzoor has instructed to sit down.” It happened at the time of Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) or has been witnessed now. The members of the Jamā’at present there sat on a sign of Khalifa. The Khalifa is a simple man and everyone can meet or write to him. He replies to all who does so. Now he has not even an iota of doubt in his mind that Khalifa is designated by God.

Mr. Aftab took some of his non-Ahmadi friends to an Ahmadiyya mosque. They commented, “You meet

people on Friday as if it was I’d festival. We do not meet people like this even on I’d.” He told them that he met them only two weeks ago on Friday. Now we are bound in eternal friendship and shall always meet in the same way.

Mr. Aftab happened to visit Pakistan. He told people there that he came from Bait-ur-Rahman USA. They start asking about different Ahmadiis there. He met Mr. Solangi two weeks before he was martyred in a Lahore mosque. We were taking a cup of tea in a small kiosk after his burial. A man presented to him a cookie. When Mr. Aftab went to the owner of the shop to pay bill, he was told that someone has already paid the dues. You cannot imagine such friendship the world over. He remembers a couplet from Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) meaning “I am looking for a man who could remedy my pain”. Another young man Mr. Rizwan met him during I’tikāf in Ramadan and Mr. Aftab mentioned the couplet to him. He presented to him a copy of poems by Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV on a CD. These are few examples of friendships which are only possible in Ahmadiyyat and not elsewhere.

Message for Young Generation

At the end of his interview, Mr. Aftab recorded a message for youth in Ahmadiyyat. It says: “I worked hard throughout my life. I was fortunate to have an employment in IT. I was running around in search of annual increments and promotions etc. I wished I had not wasted my time. Those who are after this world are good for nothing. He advised his progeny and young generation to obey office bearers of Jamā’at and cling to Khilāfat. Few Ahmadiis write to him but there is positive trend among younger generation towards this aspect. These blessings they shall cherish throughout their lives”.

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Annual Review of Work in Mexico

SUMMARY: Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh that at our Annual Review we were blessed to see a flourishing Jamā'at in Merida, Mexico, by the sheer Grace of Allah, the Exalted. Over the year, in brief, we have been blessed with more than a hundred Bai'ats, four of whom have visited UK and met the Khalifatul-Masih (may Allah assist him with His Mighty Help). When I met three of these four, and asked them to tell me of their experience of their meeting, their faces lit up. Then I met the members whom I had not seen for a while and I saw light and devotion and dedication in their faces. The members have started to take on responsibilities. Some are engaged in taking care of communication with members, others with handling phone calls, giving lectures on Islam, taking care of hospitality, involved in arranging the distribution of flyers, etc. All are working seamlessly under the direction of Imam Noman Rana. The Jamā'at is now known throughout Merida extremely well and nationally introduced so well that when a Professor from Puebla University decided to carry out a study of Muslims in Mexico she invited us to be a part of that study. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.

REGISTRATION: Jamā'at is duly registered as a civil association currently in compliance with local regulations. In Sha' Allah, in due course the registration will be converted into a religious organization. A bank account has been opened and immigration work for the missionary and his family is under way. We are also working to gather information for Pakistani students to come to Mexico. Tabligh continues at an amazing pace. More than 1.5 million flyers were distributed in some seven states (Yucatan, Campeche, Puebla, Mexico, DF, Queretaro, San Luis Potosí and Guadalajara). We have members in perhaps ten states.

TAJNEED: A complete list of the members with their full information has been supplied to the US Tajneed department. We have started receiving contributions though we still have some hurdles to overcome in getting all necessary permissions.

MEDIA: During the year we attained immense coverage in the media of all types, print, TV, radio, internet. We were invited to represent Islam on national TV and radio and our information appeared in all the leading local newspapers in the State of Yucatan. Social media is being used very effectively, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.

UNIVERSITIES: We were asked to speak on Islam at the most prestigious universities in Yucatan. We were sponsored by the State to hold our first [and the first in history] interfaith symposium in Merida. It was well attended. The highest authorities were officially represented and all commended the event.

TARBIYAT: Classes are being held weekly for men and women and members are being taught to read the Holy Quran and memorize Ṣalāt. Three have already completed the Qaida and are now reading the Holy Quran. Several more are on their way. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh. All five Prayers are held at the mosque and Dars is given as well.

MOSQUE: Land has been identified and an offer will In Sha' Allah be attempted after due diligence. We are now looking to get set up in Mexico City and actively looking to get space for our mosque/mission house and ask for everyone's prayers.

MISSIONARIES: Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, we now have three missionaries working in Mexico. Noman Rana oversees the work at the national level, Merida is being taken care of by Azhar Goraya, and Mexico City by Adnan Haider. As work grows we will need several additional missionaries. The missionaries are becoming better at Spanish by the day.

TA'LIM: There is a great deal of help needed to make many members acquire their high school graduation to improve their prospects considerably in landing better paying jobs. Local Ahmadi women teachers are conducting classes to help students graduate from high school. We also requested help from National Ta'līm Dept USA. The National Secretary paid a visit to assess the needs in person.

MTA PROGRAMS: We have several series prepared by US Jamā'at. The first series "Islam 101 en Español" is playing.

LITERATURE: Ten thousand copies of the Spanish Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran are being printed to be launched soon, In Sha' Allah.

PUERTO RICO: We went to Puerto Rico and spent 15 days there. We were blessed with 8 Bai'ats. Imam Noman Rana, Syed Abdullah Shah and Adnan Haider were instrumental in effecting these bai'ats. May Allah bless them!

Contributing to the Ahmadiyya Gazette

Please type and send a soft copy of your English or Urdu contribution through e-mail to publications@ahmadiyya.us.

Please provide your name and phone number on the contribution.

Please indicate in the email if you want to see the edited version before its publication.

Please provide references for quotes from the Holy Qur'ān, Ḥadīth, Malfūzāt, any quotations and other sources.

First World Religions Conference of Marshall Islands

The historic First World Religions Conference was held on Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at the College of the Marshall Islands. The theme for this year's conference was selected as 'Religion's Founders'.

The program started at 1 pm by the moderator, Mr. Ben Chutaro, an entrepreneur and current Chairman of the Board of Regents of the

College of the Marshall Islands: A total of six religions were represented at the interfaith conference including Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Baha'ism and Atheism. Presentations were made in the chronological order. A spiritual poem or hymn was presented for each religion before the main 20 minutes presentation. A total number of more than 70 people attended the event.

Details of the speakers, some pictures and the program of the event are as follows:

Hinduism

Mrs. Usha Patil arrived in Marshall Islands in 2003 with her husband Dr. Patil, who is currently serving at the Majuro hospital. Prior to this, they spent considerable amount of time (since 1979) all over the world, due to Dr. Patil's assignments in various cities of Africa (Zambia), Papua New Guinea etc. They are the life time members of ISCON (International Krishna Consciousness), a Hindu spiritual group aimed at bringing peace and harmony among all living beings.



Mrs. Patil had worked as University Lecturer in Papua New Guinea, Africa, and recently serves as Finance Consultant to the Majuro hospital.

Being a Hindu, she believes that real pursuit of the life should be striding the path to achieve oneness with God, than fulfilling ever increasing materialistic sensual desires of life. This can be achieved by all, while leading a normal life of student, father, mother, professional, retired, rich, poor, anybody to nobody, anywhere in village, city to metro.

Buddhism

Todd Skorich has obtained academic degrees, which include BA from Pennsylvania State and MA from New Carolina State.

Todd is also USMC War Veteran. He teaches English to the high school students at Coop and DevEd English to the college students here at CMI. Todd is a practitioner and instructor of Yoga and Meditation.

Christianity

Brian Tidwell is a lifelong Catholic who received his Bachelor's Degree in English/Anthropology from Southwestern University and his Master's Degree in Instructional Technology from Sam Houston State University. Since leaving in Texas he has worked in Christian Schools in both Honduras and the Marshall Islands.



Islam

Matiullah is a born Pakistani and raised Canadian. He graduated from the Ahmadiyya Institute of Islamic Studies in Canada in 2010 to become a central Missionary/Imam of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Since his graduation, he has served, as a trainee, in various parts of the world including Africa (Liberia) and Pakistan. He moved to Majuro in September 2012 and continues to live happily with his wife Khadija.

Atheism

Nicholas Knobloch has a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and a Masters in English Studies from Western Washington University. Nick is an instructor for the College of the Marshall Islands, Liberal Arts Department with his main concentration in teaching composition and rhetoric. Nick's intellectual Interests include Philosophy, Film Studies, Indian English Literature, & Chess.

International News

Compiled by Namj us Saqib, Ft Worth TX

By the Grace of Allah, on 29th July 2015, a peace conference program was held by Jamā'at Tanzania Shinyanga Region. Numerous dignitaries were in attendance. Press and media covered the event widely. Total attendance was over 200. (Al-Fazl, Rabwah 28 Nov 2015)

Jamā'at Fiji held their 40th National Ijtimā Lajna, MKA, and Ansarullah on 29,30 Aug 2015. The Ijtimā was attended by respected Amir and Missionary-in-charge. Q/A session was held after Isha Prayer. Representatives from US and Australia were also in attendance. Total attendance was 190. (Al-Fazl, International 2 Oct 2015)

On 3 Sep 2015 Jamā'at Brussels, Belgium was invited to church of scientology to give an introductory presentation on Islam Ahmadiyyat. A bookstall was also held there. At the conclusion of the program, world crisis and the Pathway to Peace, Life of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) books were given to the guests. 25 Lajna and 15 Khuddām

participated in the program. (Al-Fazl, International 16 Oct 2015)

On 9 July 2015 Jamā'at Japan was invited to a program arranged by the city "AMA" to give a presentation on Introduction to Islam. A bookstall was also held there. Over 65 guests and dignitaries attended the program. (Al-Fazl International, 6 Nov 2015)

On 26th July 2015 Jamā'at Japan held an interfaith conference in the city of Waseda. Representatives from Islam, Shintoism, Buddhism and Christianity attended the program and presented their views. Quran was exhibition was also held and other books were given on the introduction of Islam. Guests took a keen interest in the Japanese copy of the Holy Quran. (Al-Fazl, International, 13 Nov 2015)

On 19 Sep 2015, Jamā'at Finland held a Quran exhibition in the city of Turku. Quran in 50 different languages was presented at the exhibition. It was a very successful event and received positive reviews by the guests. (Al-Fazl International, 20 Nov 2015)

No Ahmadi can ever contemplate the slightest disrespect to the Holy Quran

An attempt in Jhelum to burn innocent Ahmadis alive over vicious allegation of blasphemy of the Holy Quran

Chenab Nagar, Rabwah (PR): Yesterday, under a monstrous plan, an attempt was made to burn Ahmadis alive after accusing them of defiling the Holy Quran. According to details a chip board factory, functioning in Jhelum since long, owned by an Ahmadi, was set on fire. Chip board was being manufactured in the factory when some miscreant reportedly informed the local mullahs that copies of Holy Quran had been delivered to the furnace. Thereafter, without any further enquiry, announcements were made on loudspeakers in mosques that Holy Quran had been desecrated in Ahmadis' chip board factory. A violent mob was formed through these provocative announcements, which surrounded the factory, pelted stones, caused damage and then set the factory on fire by the use of inflammable material. Law enforcement personnel arrived at the scene and rescued the people trapped in the factory. The fire has destroyed 70% of the factory while eight vehicles parked inside were also severely damaged.

The spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya community expressed great anguish over this incident and said that a deliberate attempt had been made to burn Ahmadis alive by torching the factory under a plan. Someone pushed the vicious allegation of blasphemy for personal vendetta and animosity. Last year on July 27, 2014 during Ramaḍān in Gujranwala three Ahmadi females were burnt alive by an enraged mob over baseless allegation of blasphemy of the Holy Ka'ba. Subsequent investigations proved the allegation entirely false and a result of personal animosity. He said, "Every Ahmadi is mindful of the Sha'a'ir (sacred) of Allah more than his life as they are part of his faith. We have been taught that, 'those who honor the Quran are honored in the heavens.'" According to the National Action Plan a ban on hateful speeches is little more than paperwork, as extremist elements are free to implement their hateful anti-Aḥmadiyya agenda, he said. He demanded transparent investigation of the incident and swift action to bring the perpetrators to justice. (Press Release Nov. 21, 2015 by Nazarat Umur Āmma, Sadr Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan Rabwah)

Three Ahmadis of same family were attacked in Karachi

Vandals cannot make Ahmadis frightened: Spokesman of Jamā'at Ahmadiyya

Chenab Nagar/Rabwah (PR) 3 members of Ahmadiyya community belonging to the same family were attacked yesterday on 11th October, 2015. As a result, two of them became seriously injured. According to the details, resident of Gulshan Iqbal Karachi, Saleem Rafaqat along with his 2 nephews were coming back to the home on the car after offering Isha prayers at Ahmadiyya worship place. 2 unknown persons standing near the gate of house opened up fire on them. They were shifted to hospital soon after the attack. 2 bullets hit the shoulder and back bone of Salim Rafaqat respectively. One bullet crossed the head of his nephew, Moaaz Ahmad who was discharged by the doctors after providing first aid. Shahmir Ahmad is still in critical condition due to the bullet struck in his stomach and remained on ventilator in ICU. Keep in mind that

Ahmadi young man, Nauman Najam was also the victim of sectarian killing on 21st March.

Spokesman of Ahmadiyya community, Saleem Uddin has expressed his grief and sorrow over the incident and said that literature based on hatred against Ahmadiyya community is being published and distributed continuously. It has become the great danger for the lives of Ahmadis. It was clearly mentioned in National Action Plan that action will be taken against literature and speech promoting hatred. But it is sorry to say that extremists are making negative propagandas against Ahmadis. Terrorists take great advantage of these propagandas and play with the lives of Ahmadis. He demanded authorities to arrest unknown attackers on urgent basis and punish them in accordance with the law.

Hatred being spread in Pakistan by Clerics

There is no dispute between Shiah and Sunni sect: Maulana Ilyas Chinioti

Qadianis are responsible for anti country activities and terrorism



passing through Chenab Nagar. They are busy in making Muslim residents of Chani Qureshian apostate and torture all those who refuse to accept Qadianiat. Qadianis must be tried under Qadianiat Prevention Act. Otherwise, we will launch a strong nationwide protest from the platform of Worldwide Khatm e Nabuwat Movement. RPO, Faisalabad, Ahsan Tufail ensured to provide justice to the residents of Chani Qureshian on urgent basis. Qadianis are busy in making plans to create differences between Shiah and Sunnis. He urged local police to keep a record of all non Muslim Qadianis who come from all over the globe to stay in Langar Khana of Promised Messiah. If police keeps a close eye on the apostasy centers of Qadianis, they will get a proof of their involvement in terrorism. Qadianis propagated their religion in Chani Qureshian few days back and pelted the stones on the houses of Muslims who did not accept their religion. Local Imam, Maulana Wajid Hashmi requested police to register a case against non Muslim Qadianis but inspector asked Maulana to change his opinion and arrested him illegally for 6 hours once he refused to accept the orders. Inspector forced complainant to sign an application. Chinioti handed over complete file of a case including proofs to RPO. Chinioti said that RPO referred file to DPO Muhammad Abdul Qadir Qamar and also instructed him to provide justice to the Muslims.

(Daily Pakistan, 15th October, 2015)

Chinioti (Special Correspondent) In his interview to journalists after the meeting with RPO Faisalabad, president of Worldwide Khatm e Nabuwat Movement and a member of Punjab provincial assembly, Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Chinioti said that it is proved that Qadianis tried to create a civil war in the country by pasting seditious stickers on all the trains and buses

‘Vulnerable communities facing various methods to silence them’

Saher Baloch

HRCP chairperson Zohra Yusuf speaks at the consultative meeting on Sunday as the HR body’s secretary general I.A. Rehman looks on.—White Star

KARACHI: Different strategies are being used to silence vulnerable communities in Pakistan at the moment and the solution lies in the way the law is written and interpreted, said representatives of the Ahmadi community at a consultative meeting on Sunday.

Representing the panel consisting of members from the Ahmadi community, Supreme Court lawyer Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq said: “The wording ‘subject to law and constitution’ leaves the law against the Ahmadis open to interpretation and eventual harassment.”

Among the changing trends, which he quoted from a report compiled by the central office of the community in Rabwah, advocate Tariq spoke of persistent “harassment perpetrated by the administration” in Punjab which had eventually seeped into other provinces through clerics.

Organized by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) at a hotel, the meeting included views, suggestions and changing media attitude towards the community, vulnerable because of their belief.

Excerpts from the report, compiled by the community, were read out and then presented to the HRCP panel, which included its chairperson, Zohra Yusuf and secretary general I.A. Rehman.

The first part of the meeting was spent hearing out the Ahmadi representatives, who spoke of discriminatory attitude they faced at their workplaces and in educational institutions. The panel, while noting down the grievances of the community, interrupted only when a clarification was needed.

Giving a backdrop of the current situation, Zohra Yusuf explained that the Ahmadis were declared non-Muslims through the second constitutional amendment passed by Pakistan Peoples Party founder Zulfikar Ali Bhutto during his tenure as prime minister in 1974.

Following up on it, military dictator General Ziaul Haq introduced further amendments making it punishable for the Ahmadis to call themselves Muslims or to call their places of worship mosques.

Answering questions, spokesperson for the Ahmadis, Mujeebur Rehman, said the harassment came in many forms. Recounting one instance, he said the syllabus at the primary school in Punjab included a

chapter on the reverence of the last Prophet (PBUH) and “teachers usually try to single out Ahmadi students while explaining it”.

He said that since most people felt isolated, they had found a solution by opening schools for the community. “Now, the problem is that those who send their children to those schools are called out for keeping a soft corner for the Ahmadis,” he added.

Another representative, and attorney, Waqas A. Rahman, said the harassment and singling out was limited to the schools with only a few instances occurring at the university and postgraduate level.

Speaking about the recent trends, he said the community was not attacked directly but rather faced a reluctant administration which “seems to be acting in collusion with the unruly characters who want to eliminate us”.

Human rights activist Tahira Abdullah pointed out the campaign on television by “a renowned host announcing fatwas against the Ahmadi community that led to death threats and subsequent killing of an Ahmadi man in Nawabshah (in 2012).” This prompted a question from the panel asking the representatives if they saw the media as an ally or adversary. Explaining his stance, Mujeebur Rehman said the media was an ally for sure.

“But it depends on the language of the publication. We get a lot of coverage in the English language publications; the same can’t be said about the Urdu press, which is discriminatory and agenda driven in their coverage of our community,” he added.

When asked about the solutions to their present predicament, Waqas Rahman said it should be a campaign on social media. “The point should be emphasized that protection of human rights is most crucial in an Islamic state,” he said.

Mr. Mujeebur Rehman, not agreeing with the proposed solution, said “that’s the problem”. We are not an ideological state but a pluralistic country.”

Speaking about the meeting, Zohra Yusuf said the situation, though very much prevalent in Punjab, was also making its way into Sind. “There’s still time for the state to take note of the growing incidents of harassment faced by the minorities. There is a dichotomy in the way the media covers these incidents, while the judiciary is pressurized,” she added. (*Published in Dawn, October 5th, 2015*)

In Memory of My Beloved Mother

From a daughter, Sayyarah Hikmat Chowdhry

The image of God on earth
with the song of the morning star.
I was there with my mother.
Where there is love, there is always prayer.
True love never leaves, how I remember.

My mood is dark and drear,
My soul is drenched in grief; how I suffer.

I spent a lifetime around my mother.
She was the hallmark of glory; of my reverence, the center.

In our morning walks we were always together
as I lingered to admire nature,
blooming roses and fragrant flowers of summer.

Autumnal leaves now have lost their color.
I listen to the sighing winds; how the sad cypress
whisper.

Ah the touch of that hand
to be remembered forever.
A commitment of love, a bond enduring.
It was our last meeting, I was never aware.

Oh Mother, how hard it is to bear.

The naked truth, the anguish and torture.
Oh you could never know, how your going has left a
deep scar.

I feel I am walking on the shingles of the world with
my feet bare.

Life has lost all of its rosy charm and glitter.
The rainbow in the sky has lost its luster.
Only the memory remains of the days when you
were here.
A souvenir, how I cherish that treasure.

When you were here, life was a valley of sunshine
and flower.

Now life is a mirage to be trod by a weary traveler.

Now no one is waiting for me in my land of dreams.
No one calls me from across the shore.

To seek new horizons you traced your path amidst
the stars;

on the road of life you left marks of grandeur.

That beacon of light, how it will illuminate my path
forever.

Correction

Wrong verse was inserted on page 51 of the last issue. Please make correction as follows.

Change from:

The Qur'an has clear and strong prohibitions of disorder and violence in many places. The Qur'an illustrates clear commandment about violence:

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ آمِنُوا كَمَا آمَنَ النَّاسُ قَالُوا أَنُؤْمِنُ كَمَا آمَنَ
السُّفَهَاءُ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ السُّفَهَاءُ وَنَكِنُ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

“When it is said to them: Create no disorder in the land, they reply: We are only seeking to promote peace.”
[2 (Al-Baqarah) :12]

Change to:

The Qur'an has clear and strong prohibitions of disorder and violence in many places. The Qur'an illustrates clear commandment about violence:

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُصْلِحُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

“When it is said to them: Create no disorder in the land, they reply: We are only seeking to promote peace.”
[2 (Al-Baqarah) :12]



BOLETÍN AHMADÍA

Boletín Oficial de la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadiya de EE.UU.- Una publicación mensual, espiritual y educativa

Hazur reitera su condena al terrorismo en la inauguración de la primera mezquita de Japón

Resumen del Sermón del Viernes del 20 de noviembre de 2015

Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad, el Líder de la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadiya Internacional, inauguró la Mezquita Baitul Ahad (Mezquita del Único Dios) en Nagoya, Japón. Es la primera mezquita construida por la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadiya en el país.



so había dado a los áhmadis musulmanes residentes en Japón la oportunidad de vivir sus vidas en paz y prosperidad y les había concedido una libertad religiosa que no tenían en Pakistán.

Prosiguió diciendo que correspondía a los musulmanes áhmadis locales presentar el verdadero rostro del Islam a Japón, como expresó el Mesías Prometido (la paz sea con él). Dijo:

Durante su sermón, Su Santidad destacó el verdadero propósito de una mezquita e hizo hincapié en la necesidad de que los áhmadis musulmanes locales alcanzaran los más elevados estándares morales y espirituales. Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad dijo:

personas renuncien al derramamiento de sangre y la crueldad y en su lugar se esfuercen por una Yihad de la propia reforma y mejora. Lamentablemente, los musulmanes de hoy en día adoptan cada vez más el extremismo, hasta tal punto, que algunos afirman servir al Islam a través de asesinatos brutales y despiadados de personas inocentes.”

“¿Acaso esta libertad que disfrutáis en Japón no requiere una reforma piadosa y moral? ¿No exige que renunciéis a vuestros deseos egoístas y busquéis el placer de Dios Todopoderoso? ¿No requiere que mostréis amor y compasión mutuos y los extendáis en la sociedad en que vivís?”

“Ahora que ha sido construida esta mezquita, es esencial que desempeñéis vuestras responsabilidades y deberes en agradecimiento a Dios Todopoderoso. El simple hecho de decir “¡Alabado sea Al-lah” por haber aceptado al Mesías Prometido (la paz sea con él), o por el hecho de ser áhmadis musulmanes no es suficiente. Por lo tanto, debéis rendir culto aquí cada día y tratar de mejorar vuestros estándares morales y conducta, y difundir las verdaderas enseñanzas del Islam en toda la nación.”

Su Santidad condenó rotundamente los recientes ataques terroristas de París y dijo que los autores solo han contribuido injustamente a difamar el nombre del Islam. Respecto a la propagación del extremismo entre algunos musulmanes, Hazrat Mirza Masrur Ahmad dijo:

Concluyendo, Su Santidad presentó los detalles de la mezquita y de su construcción. Dijo que hubo momentos en que parecía imposible obtener el permiso de las autoridades locales, pero Dios Todopoderoso eliminó tales obstáculos.

Condenando el extremismo entre algunos musulmanes, Hazur dijo: “La propagación de las verdaderas enseñanzas del Islam exige los más altos estándares de culto. Exige que las

“Los recientes ataques terroristas de París solo pueden ser descritos como despreciables y bárbaros. Este tipo de ataques son totalmente contrarios a las enseñanzas del Islam, por lo que a los áhmadis musulmanes les recae la gran responsabilidad de difundir las enseñanzas verdaderas y pacíficas del Islam.”

Baitul Ahad es la mezquita más grande de Japón, con capacidad para 800 fieles (zona principal de oración, terraza y salones). El edificio se encuentra en una calle principal de Nagoya y tiene excelentes conexiones de transporte, alojamientos, oficinas y una biblioteca.

Su Santidad dijo que Dios Todopoderoso

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DEL SAGRADO CORÁN

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

Y Al-lah es quien todo lo oye, Omnisciente.

(C.2 Vs: 257)

¡Oh vosotros los que creéis! Sed perseverantes en la causa de Al-lah en calidad de testigos justos, y que la enemistad de un pueblo no os incite a actuar con injusticia.

Sed siempre justos, porque eso está más cerca de la virtud.

Y temed a Al-lah. En verdad, Al-lah es consciente de lo que hacéis.

(C.5 Vs: 9)

HADIZ (RELATOS DEL SANTO PROFETA^{SA})

"El verdadero musulmán es aquel de cuyas manos y lengua están a salvo los demás musulmanes . El verdadero emigrante es aquel que se abstiene de lo que ha sido prohibido por Dios".

de Abdullah bin Umar (Bujari)

LA IMPORTANCIA DE LA ADORACIÓN (ESCRITOS DEL MESÍAS PROMETIDO)



Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
(1835-1908)

LA LUCHA POR LA CAUSA DE AL-LAH (LA YIHAD)

El Islam nunca ha predicado la coacción. Si se examinan atentamente el Santo Corán, los libros del Hadiz y los registros históricos y si se estudian o escuchan seriamente en la medida de lo posible, se comprenderá con certeza que la acusación de que el Islam permite el uso de la espada para propagar la fe con la fuerza es totalmente infundada y vergonzosa. Este es en realidad el criterio de aquellos que no han leído el Corán, las tradiciones y las historias fidedignas del Islam con imparcialidad, sino que han recurrido sin escrúpulos a la falsedad y han presentado falsas acusaciones contra él. Sé, sin embargo, que está cerca el momento en que quienes están sedientos de la Verdad comprenderán claramente lo falso de estas acusaciones. ¿Cómo es posible describir la Fe como una fe de coacción, cuando el Libro Santo, el Corán, prohíbe categóricamente el uso de la coacción para la propagación de la religión? Dice el Santo Corán: "Nada de coacción en cuanto a religión". ¿Podemos acusar al gran Profeta de utilizar la fuerza contra otros cuando él mismo, día y noche, durante trece años, amonestó a sus Compañeros de la Meca a no devolver el mal por el mal del enemigo, sino a olvidar y perdonar? Sin embargo, cuando la maldad del enemigo sobrepasó todos los límites y todas las naciones se unieron para borrar el Islam de la faz de la tierra, el Dios Celoso creyó que había llegado el momento de que fueran aniquiladas por la espada las personas que la habían levantado por primera vez. Si se exceptúa esto, el Santo Corán no ha aprobado la coacción. Si el Islam hubiese aprobado la coacción, los Compañeros de nuestro Santo Profeta^{sa}, no se habrían comportado en momentos de tribulación como personas de fe sincera y auténtica. No obstante, creo que no hace falta mencionar la lealtad y fidelidad de los Compañeros de nuestro Maestro, el Santo Profeta^{sa}. No es un secreto que entre ellos hay ejemplos de lealtad y fidelidad sin paralelo en los anales de otras naciones. Este grupo de fieles no cedió en su lealtad y perseverancia ni siquiera bajo la sombra de la espada, sino que, al contrario, dieron pruebas de una perseverancia que ningún hombre podría dar a no ser que su corazón y todo su ser estuviesen encendidos con la luz de la verdadera fe. Por lo tanto, la coacción no juega ningún papel en el Islam.

(Rohani Jazain, Vol. 15; Jesús en la India, Prefacio, págs. 17-18)

Noticias de México y Estados Unidos

RESUMEN ANUAL DE LAS ACTIVIDADES EN MÉXICO



Con la gracia de Dios, Mérida cuenta con una comunidad floreciente y creciente. A lo largo del año, más de 100 personas han aceptado el bai'at. Algunos de los miembros han mostrado una renovada devoción y entusiasmo tras su visita al Reino Unido y su entrevista con Hazur. En su mayoría, los miembros tienen un gran espíritu de devoción y están dispuestos consagrar su tiempo al servicio del Islam bajo las instrucciones del Imam. En estos momentos, la Comunidad se conoce tanto en Mérida como a nivel nacional.

En el campo del Tabligh se están haciendo esfuerzos extraordinarios. Hasta el momento se han distribuido más de 1.5 millones de folletos Yucatán, Campeche, Puebla, México, DF, Queretaro, San Luis Potosí y Guadalajara. Por otro lado, se tiene previsto la publicación del Santo Corán y de otros libros de la Comunidad en decenas de millares.

La Comunidad de Mérida ha tenido una amplia cobertura en los medios de comunicación (televisión, prensa, radio, internet, etc...). Sus representantes fueron invitados en distintas ocasiones por la televisión y radio nacionales para presentar la doctrina del Islam. Además, ha aparecido una amplia información sobre la Yamaat en los diarios más importantes de Yucatán.

Las universidades más prestigiosas de Yucatán también invitaron a los representantes de la Comunidad a hablar sobre el Islam. Bajo el patrocinio del Estado, tuvo lugar un simposio interreligioso (el primero en la

historia), en el que hubo representación oficial de los más altos dignatarios del país. Recientemente, ha tenido lugar una charla en la Universidad Marista de Mérida, Yucatán, en la que han participado representantes de diversas religiones.

La Comunidad de EE.UU. está preparando también una serie de programas para la MTA (Islam 101 en español) algunos de los cuales ya se han emitido.

En el campo del Tarbiyyat, cada semana se imparten con éxito clases regulares para la enseñanza del Santo Corán y la oración y continúan las tertulias diarias *Café, Torta e Islam* para responder a las preguntas de los interesados en el Islam.

La Comunidad de México está registrada como una asociación civil y cuenta con tres misioneros, el Imam Noman Rana, misionero de México, Azhar Goraya Sahib, misionero de Mérida y Adnan Haider Sahib, misionero de México City. En estos momentos se encuentran miembros áhmadis en aproximadamente diez estados y se está haciendo lo posible por adquirir un terreno para la construcción de una mezquita.

Por último, se brindó a sus representantes la oportunidad de viajar a Puerto Rico durante dos semanas y un total de 8 personas han aceptado el bai'at con la ayuda de Dios.

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Noticias de México y Estados Unidos

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE LA YAMAAT EN MÉXICO CITY



Con la ayuda de Dios, la Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadía de México se propone abrir una nueva misión y Mezquita en la capital mexicana, México City.

El representante de la Comunidad en México, el Dr. Waseem Sayed, el Imam Adnan Haider Sahib encargado de México City, y Modood Khan Sahib, un áhmadi de la localidad, junto con un equipo de voluntarios procedentes de varios lugares han realizado grandes esfuerzos por hacer llegar la voz del Islam a la capital mexicana a través de diversos medios.

Entre otras actividades, se ha emitido un programa de radio a través de Periscopio, se han distribuido folletos en el centro de la ciudad, bibliotecas, etc... y se han iniciado tertulias regulares (Café, torta e Islam) en un centro desde el 5 de noviembre de 2015. Por otro lado se ha recabado información sobre altos cargos, universidades, medios de información, etc... para hacerles llegar literatura islámica a través de una carta introductoria y también con objeto de conseguir entrevistas con los dignatarios para hacerles entrega del Santo Corán.

Se pretende distribuir un promedio de cinco mil folletos diarios en esta ciudad, es decir, unos 350.000 folletos mensuales. Por otro lado, se tiene previsto la publicación del Santo Corán y de otros libros de la Comunidad por decenas de millares. La Comunidad Musulmana Ahmadía de México también tiene previsto participar en la feria popular de Xmatkuil de Yucatán, que atrae a unos 2 millones de visitantes al año.

CLINICA DE LA SALUD EN MIAMI

La Comunidad Musulmana de Miami está brindando con éxito atención médica gratuita a ciudadanos guatemaltecos residentes en Miami a través de su clínica de salud situada en el Consulado de Guatemala de esta ciudad. El propósito de esta clínica es atender a los ciudadanos guatemaltecos que no tienen acceso a los servicios médicos debido a su situación financiera. Profesionales médicos, estudiantes y voluntarios en general, están prestando servicios voluntarios en esta clínica, desde su apertura en Marzo de 2014, especialmente en la prevención de condiciones médicas crónicas, como la diabetes y la tensión alta.

En este sentido, la Cónsul General de Guatemala en Miami, D^a Rosa María Mérida de Mora, ha enviado la siguiente carta de agradecimiento al Dr Tariq Mahmud, encargado de la clínica y Director de Tahir Academy:

“Por favor, acepte mi gratitud más sincera por su importante participación durante el evento el Mes de

Concientización de la Salud en nuestras instalaciones, para ofrecer servicios médicos a los ciudadanos guatemaltecos que visitaron nuestras oficinas, así como al personal del Consulado.

Estamos muy agradecidos por su asistencia en hacer que esta participación sea posible, no sólo para prestar servicios, sino también para educar a la comunidad guatemalteca. Le expreso mi gratitud y aprovecho esta oportunidad para expresarle testimonio de mi mayor consideración.

Rosa María Mérida de Mora,
Cónsul General de Guatemala.



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