

خزانة دارالافتاء
رقم 61/1



از الذين عند الله لاسلاف

لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله

AHMADIYYA GAZETTE

MARCH 1975

A MESSAGE FROM HAZRAT KHALIFATUL MASHIH III

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ بِمَنْعَةِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ الْكَرِيمِ

حَقَّكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ كَمَا نَأْتِيهِ



Respected Brethren!

Assalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahe Wa Barakatohu!

With a view to accelerating the task of training the Jamaats abroad and speeding up propagation of Islam in order to bring the days of the predominance of Islam nearer and nearer, on the occasion of the 1973 Jalsa Salana, I launched a most important plan termed as *the Ahmadiyya Centennial Jubilee Scheme*. I then approached the devoted members of the Jamaat to make their pledges most generously to the *Ahmadiyya Centennial Jubilee Fund* – promises which they will have to make good in the course of the next 15 years.

I offer hundreds of thousands of thanks to Almighty Allah who blessed my appeal and the Jamaat presented a most glorious example of offering their pledges to the fund so liberally that the amount of money promised exceeded my original demand many-fold. Allah be praised for all that!

My dear brothers and sisters: The first century of the establishment of the Jamaat is the century for the preparation for the victory of Islam. This century has 14 years to reach its completion. The next will be the century of the dominance of Islam over the whole world. We have to prepare ourselves befittingly to receive the ensuing century. In order to achieve our purpose we, of course, require money.

Beloved devotees of the Jamaat: The work has already commenced. You should now realize your responsibility of starting payment of your pledges immediately and making periodic payments thereafter. If you pay 1/15 of your total pledge by February/March, 1975, Allah willing, it will immensely help the successful implementation of the program in hand. JazakumUllaho Khaira!

May Allah the Almighty be always with you and may He enable you to make greater sacrifices than ever before. Amen!

Was-Salam,

(signed) Mirza Nasir Ahmad

Khalifatul Masih III

(Translated by M.M. Ibrahim, Missionary.)

[Brothers and Sisters in America! Your beloved spiritual leader invites you to pay 1/15 of your pledges by February/March, 1975.—Editor]

PILLARS OF FAITH

By Muhammad Munir Mian
President, Montréal Jamaat

The year 1974 will go down as the bleakest year in the history of Pakistan. It was the year in which innocent Ahmadies were murdered and the Pakistani National Assembly, under a mounting threat of bloodshed, amended its constitution to declare the Ahmadi Muslims as non-Muslims. Mullahism scored a political victory and the bigots achieved religious status.

The question: Who is a Muslim? has always been a passion-rouser among uneducated Muslims. Even though Islam regards tolerance a cardinal principle, violent outbursts of intolerance are a common occurrence among present day Muslims. Historically the question: Who is a Muslim? intruded into Muslim social life from church oriented religions. Islam is a non-ecclesiastical religion and it builds no parishes for mullahs to establish their authority and rule on the faith of Muslims.

All Muslims, including the Ahmadies, recognize three sources of Islamic beliefs: the Quran, Hadith and Ijtehad (reasoning). To accept Islam, a convert merely recites the Kalema (proclamation): "*No one is worthy of worship but Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger.*" The Proclamation implies acceptance through the sources of Islamic beliefs. All Muslims profess faith in five fundamental principles, traditionally known as *Five Pillars of Islam* — Kalema, Prayers, Fasting,

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HAZRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH III

Since Huzoor has not been keeping quite well for a long time, it is expected the Jamaat will continue praying for his perfect health and success of his schemes for spreading Islam across the world.

MAJLIS-E-MUSHAWARAT

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih will consult elected

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih will consult elected delegates from Ahmadiyya Jamaats in Pakistan on March 28-30, 1975, at Rabwah at the forthcoming Ahmadiyya Conference, concerning Majlis-e-Mushawarat, on important matters concerning the community as a whole.

Zakat (Almsgiving) and Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca). All Muslims profess belief in the five Quranic principles of Eiman (Faith), known as *Articles of faith* — Unity of God, His Angels, Revealed Books, Prophets and the Day of Judgement. The Quran makes it abundantly clear that these are the only *articles* which form the basis of a Muslim's faith.

The Hadith specifically refers to the question: Who is a Muslim? To quote two of the sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad:

"Whoever offers prayers as we do and turns his face towards our Qibla (Kaaba) and eats meat of animals slaughtered by us, is a Muslim for whom is the covenant of Allah and His Messenger." (Bukhari 8:28)

"... you should not call anyone who professes belief in *La Ilaha ill-Allah* (Kalema) a non-believer, nor should you expel him from Islam for any deed." (Abu Dawud 15:33)

Thus a person who follows the five pillars of Islam and professes faith in the Articles of Eiman is indeed a Muslim in faith and action.

Since there is no church in Islam, the acceptance of faith is a matter of one's own conscience which cannot be legislated by National Assemblies, religious synods or Islamic Conferences. The Pakistani Constitution and the war cries of Mullahs, therefore, have no religious weight nor do they affect the religious conviction of the Ahmadies that their faith is true Islam.

MY IMPRESSIONS OF RABWAH AND JALSA SALANA

By Mrs. Aliyya Rashid, Waukegan Jamaat

All the fears and anxieties I had been harboring the preceding ten days of my travels in a foreign country (Egypt) immediately disappeared as I approached the city of Rabwah, and I was engulfed by a feeling of peacefulness. After being in Rabwah only one-half hour I began to experience feelings I had never before felt. We were escorted to our quarters and greeted by warm, loving Ahmadies (Hazrat Maryam Siddiqah, President of Lajna, being one of them). From that point on, the spirit and love for Ahmadiyyat shown by my sisters and brothers in Rabwah was so overwhelming that I often found myself in a tearful state because I wanted so desperately to emulate the qualities I saw in them.

The diligence and untiring devotion to the duties assigned the Ahmadies for Jalsa was so inspiring that I felt compelled on many occasions to help them or at least do something for them in return.

I sensed that all the resources available to them were utilized to make our stay in Rabwah comfortable and to make Jalsa Salana a success. The greatest experience in my life was my first meeting with Huzoor. I felt as if I were dreaming and had to keep telling myself I was actually in the presence of our spiritual leader. The meeting with our beloved leader will never escape my memory. Every moment I spent in Rabwah was full of pleasure. Meeting the Promised Messiah's daughters and many of Huzoor's relatives are also occasions I will never forget.

When trying to formulate my experiences to tell my children and my Ahmadi sisters here in America, I find myself at a loss for words. Being in Rabwah, meeting Huzoor, and knowing that all the people living there are my brothers and sisters, is something a person must experience himself. I cannot accurately describe the wonderful, awesome, invigorating and inspiring feelings you experience in Rabwah. I pray that all American Ahmadies will be able to attend Jalsa Salana one day, Insha Allah.

WORDS OF WARNING

(Quotes from the address delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III at the Wandsworth Town Hall, London, on July 28, 1967.)

The Promised Messiah also prophesied that a third world war of even bigger dimensions would follow the second. The two opposing camps will clash with such suddenness that everyone will be caught unawares. Death and destruction will rain from the sky and fierce flames shall engulf the earth.

The colossus of modern civilization will tumble to the ground. Both the communist and the opposing blocks will perish in the process. Russia and its satellites on the one hand and the U. S. and its allies on the other, shall be destroyed, their might broken, their civilization ruined and their systems shattered. The survivors shall stand aghast and amazed at the tragedy. Russia will recover sooner from the calamity than the West. The prophecy is clear that the Russian population will recover and multiply rapidly. They will be reconciled to their Creator and will accept Islam and the Holy Prophet of Islam. A people who are seeking to wipe out the name of God from the earth and to drive Him out of the skies will realize the folly of their ways and at long last submit to Him as staunch believers in His Unity and Oneness.

You may consider this a fantasy. But those who survive the third world war will witness and bear out the truth of what I have said. These are the words of God Almighty. They shall be fulfilled. No one can avert His decree.

The end of the third world war will be the beginning of the triumph of Islam. People will accept its truth in large numbers and will realize that Islam alone is the true religion and that the emancipation of man is to be won through the message of Muhammad alone (on whom be the peace).

The signs of the revival of Islam are already visible. They may not be very clear yet but they are easily discernible. The sun of Islam will finally rise in its full splendour and illumine the world. But before that happens the world must experience another war – a bloodbath – that will leave mankind shaken and chastened.

.....(Continued on page 4)

AMIRS MET AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Amirs of the following Jamaats met on February 8-9, 1975, at Washington Fazl Mosque, with Imam Shahid, Missionar Incharge, in the chair:

Amirs — Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New York, Teaneck, N.J., York-Harrisburgh, Pittsburgh, Dayton, Detroit (Rahman Karim substituting), St. Louis, Waukegan, Athens, Milwaukee, and Portland, Oregon. (Bro. Khalil Mahmud of Boston). Col. M. Ata Ullah of Lahore, Pakistan, on casual visit, participated on request.

Agenda was freely discussed during the two sessions held in a friendly and cooperative mood. It was decided that:

- A (1) The Ahmadiyya Gazette be published once a month henceforth.
- (2) The Amirs should collect the annual subscription of \$5.00 for the Gazette and quarterly Muslim Sunrise, and send to the Washington Mission.
- (3) Illustrated history of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam in America be published by the next National Convention (Aug. 30 - Sept. 1, 1975), for which photos and articles be sent to the Editor by May 31, 1975.
- B (1) The first instalment to the Centennial Jubilee Fund, being 1/15 of the total amount pledged, be sent to the Missionary Incharge by the end of February, 1975.
- (2) Jamaats shall submit reports on their activities and financial positions every month on the prescribed forms circulated among the Amirs.
- (3) The National Community Center will submit its final report by June, 1975, selecting a suitable site and estimated cost of the project. M. M. Ahmad was also brought on the committee which is currently busy issuing a comprehensive questionnaire to ascertain individual views of all the members through their Amirs on various problems before making their recommendations.
- C (1) At the recommendation of the convention committee it was adopted

that the next convention be held at Dayton, Ohio.

- (2) Brothers and Sisters will have a common program, joint sessions, as usual. Ladies, of course, will be seated behind a curtain. Women were also awarded a separate session, exclusively meant and run by Lajna, in addition to the regular Lajna meeting, to be included in their over all program.

D (1) Br. Muhammad Sadiq, Br. Bilal A. Salam and Br. Muzaffar Ahmad shared with the audience their views and expressions of the Jalsa Salana — their visit to Rabwah and Qadian, December last. They were heard with love and affection and the audience stood thrilled and inspired.

- (2) Imam Shahid later announced that those intending to make a trip to our spiritual Headquarters this year, will send their applications through their Amirs within three months hence.

The business like sessions, ably conducted by Imam Shahid, kept the gathering actively involved and interested. The Central general and financial secretaries, as well as the Missionary, Midwest Circle, who acted as secretary, were also in attendance. Washington Jamaat, brothers and sisters, generally treated the distinguished gathering to make their guests feel quite at home. Jazakum Allah.

WORDS OF WARNING (Continued)

But, gentlemen, let us not forget that this prophecy, like all prophacies, is a warning and its fulfilment can be delayed or even averted provided man turns to his Lord, repents and mends his ways. He can yet avert Divine wrath if he stops worshipping the false deities of wealth, power and prestige, establishes a genuine relationship with his Lord, refrains from all transgression, does his duty to God and man, and learns to work for true human welfare....

If not, Divine wrath is bound to descend. If they do not give up their evil ways and persist in their arrogance, no power and no false gods shall avail them aught against the promised chastisement.

AMERICAN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

MUSLEH MAUD DAY

The Musleh Maud Day was successfully held at Southern Illinois University Religious Center, Edwardsville Campus, on Sunday, March 23, 1975. Delegates from Waukegan, Milwaukee, Dayton and St. Louis participated, the latter being the host Jamaat.

Representatives from the Baptist Church, East St. Louis, the Baptist Church of St. Louis, and the Seventh Day Adventists, spoke on Prophets and their prophecies, along with Br. Muzaffar Ahmad, Br. Rashid Ahmad and the Missionary, MW Circle. The last three speakers speaking particularly about the prophecy in regard to Musleh Maud (the Promised son of the Promised Messiah)

The well attended audience was composed of Christians as well as Muslims.

WASHINGTON: Musleh Maud Day was celebrated at Washington, D.C. The Missionary Incharge, Imam Shahid presided over the function in which Munawar Saeed, Mubashar Ahmad and Yusuf Ali were the speakers. Delegates from Baltimore, York, and other places participated..

NEW YORK: Bro. Bashir Afzal presided over the Musleh Maud Day gathering, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir being the principal speaker.

This day was also befittingly observed in Portland, Oregon and other places. Further details on these gatherings will be included in the next issue of the Gazette.

KHUDDAM GATHERING

Imam Shahid performed the opening ceremony of the Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Convention for the East Coast Circle, on the 21st of February. This gathering was held in New York during February 21-23, 1975.

NEW YORK JAMAAT

The Jamaat holds regular Juma services, the average regular attendance being 15. We also hold regular Sunday meetings.

Holy Qur'an Study: Most members of the Jamaat

can read the Quran in Arabic. Those who cannot read yet, join the Arabic classes.

Arabic Classes: Primarily for Nasirat and Atfal. Yassarnal Quran study for those who cannot yet read in Arabic.

Education Class: Nasirat and Atfal. Study from lessons in Islam series, as well as learn other basic Islamic principles.

Speeches: Generally held once a month. Topics are chosen by individual speakers.

BIRTHS: Son born to Bro. and Sis. Salahuddin (October). Daughter, Hamidah, born to Bro. and Sis. M. I. A. Jamal (November)

NEW MEMBERS: Bro. Muhammad joined in November and Sis. Halimah Amatul Hakim joined in December.

MILWAUKEE JAMAAT

The Milwaukee Jamaat holds regular Juma services and Sunday meetings where we have lectures and speakers. The Jamaat attended a special meeting in Waukegan to hear from the brothers and sisters who had attended the Annual Jalsa. The Jamaat will be holding civil defense classes in February to expose the brothers and sisters to first aid in times of emergency. The Khuddam continue to propagate at the local universities. (Sabur Jawad, Sec.)

BOSTON JAMAAT

From the Boston Jamaat Abdus Sami and Latifa Khaliq and Fatima Ahmad were fortunate to attend Jalsa Salana, 1974, in Rabwah. On January 11, 1975, a reception was held at the home of Br. Khalil Mahmud for this lucky brother and sisters, by the Boston Jamaat. Slides were shown and tapes of speeches made by Huzoor and other speakers at the Jalsa were played. At the following Sunday meetings, more slides were shown. A movie and talks were given by those delegates who had attended the Jalsa Salana 1973 and 1974. Sister Fatima gave a very inspiring talk about her experiences in Rabwah and Qadian.

On January 25, 1975, a social evening was held at the home of Abdus Sami and Latifa Khaliq, which was attended by most of the members of the Jamaat. One non-Muslim guest also attended.

I would like to encourage all those brothers and sisters who have not been to Rabwah and Qadian to try to do so. The spiritual upliftment that can be gained there is worth the sacrifices made to make the trip. (Latifa Khaliq, Information Sec.)

YORK-HARRISBURGH JAMAAT

Regular Quran study continues. Lajna meeting regularly and following program. The entire Jamaat has participated in a study of the life of Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

Response to an early fall presentation by Amir Yahya to the Jewish community of York resulted in two further presentations. Muhammad Yasin, age 12, delivered an address to the sixth through 9th grade Hebrew school students on Islam in December. In January, Amir Yahya addressed a monthly breakfast of the Jewish Men's Club at Temple Beth Israel in York. A well-known scholarly Rabbi attended and gave considerable support to the Quranic

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teachings concerning Nabi Isa, peace be on him. He also praised Muslim rule after the first century conquests, Islamic scholarship and the strengths of Islamic monotheism in his remarks during the lengthy discussion period following the address.

FOR MIDWEST JAMAATS

It has been decided to celebrate the Musleh Maud day jointly at St. Louis, Mo., on February 23, 1975; Masih Maud Day (Promised Messiah Day) on March 23, at Zion, Ill., and the Holy Prophet's Day on March 30, at Detroit, Mich. Among others, M. Ibrahim, the regional Missionary, will address these gatherings.

THE HOLY QURAN TRANSLATED INTO LOGANDA

Our Jamaat in Uganda (East Africa) has published the Holy Quran with commentary in their native tongue, Loganda. This is in addition to the regional SWAHILI language translation which was published in 1953. The latest achievement is the result of a concerted effort of the said Jamaat for the last ten years. Jazakum Allah!

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