

AHMADIYYA

GAZETTE

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THE HOLY QURAN ON ISLAM

1. "Allah bears witness that there is no God but He- and also do the angels and those possessed of knowledge-Maintainer of justice; there is no God but He, the Mighty, the Wise. Surely, the true religion with Allah is Islam (Complete submission)." (3:19,20)
2. "And whoso seeks a religion other than Islam, it shall not be accepted from him, and in the life to come he shall be among the losers." (3: 86)
3. "And strive in the cause of Allah as it behoves you to strive for it. He has chosen you, and has laid no hardship upon you in religion; so follow the faith of your father Abraham; He named you Muslims (both) before and in this (Book), so that the Messenger may be a witness over you, and that you may be witnesses over mankind. Therefore observe Prayer and pay the Zakat, and hold fast to Allah. He is your Master and an excellent Helper! (22:79)
4. "This day have those who disbelieve despaired of (harming) your religion. So fear them not, but fear Me. This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed My favor upon you and have chosen for you Islam as religion." (5:4)
5. "They think they have done thee a favor by their embracing Islam. Say 'Deem not your embracing Islam a favor unto me. On the contrary, Allah has bestowed a favor upon you in that He has guided you to the true faith, if you are truthful.'" (49:18)
6. "Nay, whoever submits himself completely to Allah, and is the doer of good, shall have his reward with his Lord. No fear shall come upon such; neither shall they grieve." (2: 113)

SAYINGS OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH, PEACE BE ON HIM

Devotion to means and worship of the world have become so rampant in this age that trust and faith in God have become extinct; atheism and agnosticism are in full swing. Looking at the condition of the time, one has to admit that the time is, as it were, practically denying the existence of God. Moral condition of the people has become so depraved that indecencies are committed openly; sins and transgressions are on the increase. All these go to show that faith in God and fear for Him, have disappeared from the minds of the people, and they have no firm belief in the existence of God. If a man knows for certain that there is a snake in a certain hole, he will never put his finger into it. The fact that immoral practices and foul deeds sins and transgressions, violation and misappropriation of others' rights, are on the increase, is proof of the fact that people have no faith in God; in other words, one may say that God is lost. So God has willed to manifest Himself in this age, and has, therefore, raised me. Addressing me; he said, 'Thou art from Me, and I am from you'. It means that God's Majesty, Unity and Greatness shall be manifested through me. God's help and succor to my Movement, and the Signs shown by Him in its favor, are the means by which He has been manifesting His Existence, Unity and Greatness. (Al-Hakam, November 10, 1902)

The religion that has not the means to bring about a certainty, is false. The religion which cannot show the face of the living God with certainty, is false. The religion which has nothing but idle tales of the marvels of the past, is false. The eternal and unchangeable God is even now as He was in the past ages, and His wonderful powers are the same as they were, ere now, and He has the same might to show His wonderful signs as He had at any previous time. Why then trust in tales and not seek the living manifestations of the power of God? That religion is nothing but the way to perdition whose miracles and prophecies are stories & those people are ruined to whom God has not revealed Himself. (Review of Religions, Vol. II, 1903)

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EXCERPTS FROM THE SERMONS OF HAZRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH III

delivered on August 9, and 16, 1968

After reciting chapter Fateha and verses 18, 42, & 44 of chapter Ahzab(33) Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, may God strengthen him with His help said that sometimes God issues His decree about certain group of people to deprive them of His favors and blessings, whereas He decrees about others to grant them His Grace and Mercy. And we know from the Holy Quran that His decrees are based on right judgment. He says: "They shall not be wronged even as much as the little hollow in the back of a date-stone." (4:125) After knowing this we have to try to adopt those ways and means which may make us the recipients of His blessings and favors and keep us away from His wrath and anger.

One of those means is the remembrance of Allah, as He says: "O ye who believe, remember Allah with much remembrance; and glorify Him morning and evening." (33:42,43) Again this remembrance is of two kinds- secret on in mind or verbal one. Again the latter one is divided into two. The first one are those prayers of which the Holy Prophet, peace be on him, has fixed the number and occasion. For example he has asked the believers to say subhanallah, Alhamdo lillāh and Allaho akbar thirty three times each and La ilaha illallah once, after finishing the obligatory prayers. Now the occasion for these prayers is fixed and the number also. But the second one are those prayers and glorifications which are repeated abundantly according to the above-quoted verses. But an individual or an Imam can fix the minimum number of some prayers so that the minimum standard of spirituality be achieved by the members of Jamaat. Otherwise one can, rather one should remember and glorify Him abundantly and as many times as possible. As a result of the abundant remembrance 'God will bring the believers forth from all kinds of darkness into light.' (33:44)

All the believers should know that their good acts and virtues are in vain without the Grace of Allah. The Prophet Joseph rightly said, "I do not hold my own self to be free from weakness; for, the soul is surely prone to enjoin evil, save that whereon my Lord has mercy." (12:54) So as human beings, in spite of all the efforts and virtues we are prone to weaknesses, shortcomings and satanic onslaughts. We should, therefore, all the times depend upon the Grace and Mercy of Allah along with our humble efforts and services.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in his sermon of August 16 mentioned another way to receive the blessings of Allah, and that is to invoke the blessings of Allah upon the Holy Prophet, peace be on him. God says, "Allah and His angels send blessings on the prophet. O ye who believe! you also should invoke blessings on him and salute him with the salutation of peace." (33:57). In this verse God has prescribed that He and His angels are sending their blessings on him and are helping his mission for which he was sent. If believers want to receive blessings of Allah they should try to be participants in fulfilling his mission. Thus by joining him and his mission they will become the recipients of Favors and Blessings of Allah.

The third way to win the pleasure of Allah is to accept the decisions of Allah, of His Prophet, peace be on him, and of those who succeeded him wholeheartedly. This commandment of Allah is to establish unity and unanimity among the believers. They should have so great attachment with Allah and the Holy Prophet, peace be on him, that a little separation from them and their commandments become unbearable to them. Such a man who will sacrifice his own desires and passions and will abide by the judgments and decisions of Allah and His messenger will certainly become inheritor of Divine blessings and favors.

May God enable us all to create strong ties of love and affection for the Holy Prophet, peace be on him and for fulfilling his mission for which he was sent, so that we may inherit the mercy of Allah and prayers of His angels.

EID MUBARAK

We wish all of you a very pleasant and happy Eid and a full measure of its spiritual as well as a temporal blessings. "For every people there is a day of jubilation and for us Eid has been appointed by God as the day of rejoicing." (Holy Prophet)

(3)

POEM WRITTEN BY CHIEF MISSIONARY MAQBOOL AHMAD QURESHI
GOD IS THERE REMEMBER HIM
SING THE SONGS OF GLORIOUS HYMN

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| 1. O ye who believe! remember | favors done by God so tender |
| 2. Keep Him always in the mind | Who is Almighty and Kind |
| 3. Be you steadfast, never pause | Be you generous to His cause |
| 4. Go on forward, forward more | Keeping Godhead in your core |
| 5. Make your efforts in His way | Keeping all the pride away |
| 6. Do not waiver in your creed | Put your mind in pious deed |
| 7. Don't be sluggish in His path | Never incur Godly wrath |
| 8. God is there remember Him | Sing the songs of glorious Hymn |
| 9. Live with Him and love Him too | He is full of Love for you |
| 10. Keep His love-tree ever green | Bearing fruits, unique, unseen |
| 11. May you blossom, may you flourish | May His tender love you nourish |
| 12. May you strive hard for the better | In His path remain together |
| 13. Though your bodies are apart | Yet united in your heart |
| 14. In your brotherhood and love | Having blessings from above |
| 15. Planting seeds of love that grow | Bringing glad days nearer so |
| 16. Kindling inward light in soul | Banishing darkness reach the goal |
| 17. Living in the Paradise | Here on earth and there likewise |
| 18. May He bless Maqbool for ever | May He be his altogether |
| 19. May He grant him virtues prime | May he be exempt from crime! |

EID-UL-FITR FESTIVAL

Eid-ul-Fitr Festival is approaching. We will, Insha Allah, celebrate it on Saturday, December 21, 1968.

Before Eid prayers every Muslim is expected to pay SADAQATUL FITR, i.e. one dollar or fifty Cents (according to one's capacity) for every member of the family. The Sadaqa is to help the needy and the poor so that they may also participate in rejoicing of the Eid Festival. The Sadaqa should be sent to the Secretary at Washington D.C.

On Eid day Every Muslim should take bath, wear clean or new clothes, use perfume if possible and attend Eid prayers. One should go from one way and return from the other. The women in menstruation, who cannot say prayers, should also attend and sit aside, and listen to the sermon. They should remain busy in other verbal prayers and takabir. Eid prayers should be said out of the city if possible. But due to certain circumstances they can be said at the Mosque or the place of congregation. If people cannot gather on Eid day for some reasons they can say Eid prayers next day.

Imam leads two Rakaat prayers. In the first Rakat Imam will say seven Takabir after first takbeer and Thana (i.e. Subhanakallahumma, etc.), and then will start recitation loudly of chapter Fateha, etc. Similarly in second Rakat after takbeer for standing Imam will say five takabir before starting recitation. All will raise their hands upto ears while saying these takabir. After finishing two Rakaat Imam will deliver Eid sermon. Hearing this sermon is necessary for the attendants, unless one gets permission from the Imam for special reasons.

In short we should celebrate this occasion solemnly and with the feelings of gratitude and happiness because of observing the month of Fasting properly. We should try to pass the time in glorification of God and saying takabir loudly.

R A B W A H ' S _ N E W S _

1. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III has been suffering from pain in the joint of waist & leg because of pull of muscle. The latest report indicates relief. Members should pray continuously for his complete & speedy recovery and long healthy life.
2. Hazrat Nawab Mubarak Begum had headache and stomach trouble. Members should pray for her speedy health and long life.
3. Members will be glad to know that a daughter is born to Sahibzada Mirza Anas Ahmad, son of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih, on November 29, and a son is born to Sahibzadi Amatul

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Shakoor, daughter of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and Shahid Ahmad Khan Pasha, son of Hazrat Nawab Amatul Hafeez BEgum, on November 24, 68. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and other members of the family. May God grant them healthy, prosperous and pious lives!

4. By the grace of God Hazrat Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil-ut-Tabshir, returned safely after his successful tour of Bangkok (Thailand), Kuala Lumpur (Malaya), Singapore, Jakarta (Indonesia), Manila (Philippines), Tokio (Japan) and Hong Kong. May God make his tour a milestone for the propagation of Ahmadiyyat in that part of the world!

5. The 78th Annual Gathering of the Ahmadiyya Movement will be held on Thursday, December 26 through December 28, 1968. May God make it a great success!

NEWS OF AHMADIYYA AMERICAN MISSIONS

1. Chief Missionary Maqbool Ahmad Qureshi visited New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. missions. He also attended the meeting of office-bearers of Lajna Ima Ullah, at Washington D.C. and exhorted the members of the respective places to strive hard and propagate Islam in the best possible way.

2. The marriage between Br. Rashid M. Alladin and Sr. Khullat Nasira, daughter of Br. Khalil Ahmad Nasir took place on Saturday, December 7, 68. Mr. and Mrs. Jawad Ali arranged Waleema dinner on behalf of the bridegroom at Washington, D.C. on December 10. May Allah make this union a source of continuous blessings for both sides!

3. Waukegan and Kenosha missions have elected their office-holders. Chief Missionary approves them.

4. Khuddamul Ahmadiyya will be glad to know that Br. Hussain Abdul Aziz, Philadelphia, has started their Bulletin named "KHADIM".

5. Dars (Recitation and Translation of the Holy Quran) of one part is being given regularly at Dayton, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. during this month of Ramadan.

6. By the Grace of Allah 13 persons- seven from Waukegan, three from Philadelphia, and three from Chicago joined the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. May God grant them steadfastness!

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

1. Islamic Calendar for 1969 will be out, Insha Allah, this month. This year it will have photo of Dayton Mosque on its front page, Timings of Sunrise and Sunset and Five prayers. Along with the standard Arabic Lunar and Solar Calendars after Hijrah (Migration) it includes English Calendar. It will be sent directly to the Ameer. Individual can buy it from Dayton, Ohio, mission for \$1.00 each.

2. Members who want to buy "The Review of Religions" or "Tahrik Jadid (Monthly) organs for themselves or for the sake of propagation for others should inform the Chief Missionary at the earliest. Annual subscription is dollars three & one respectively.

3. Some persons had forgotten their sweaters at the Dayton Mosque at Convention. The owners should contact the Dayton Mission.

4. The Ameer are requested to see personally that no member remain behind in pledging for Tahrik Jadid subscriptions. Lists should be forwarded as early as possible.

5. The Ameer should also try to collect Fazli Omar Foundation Subscription and should not wait for the last month. Jazakumullah!

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS: Members are requested to be regular in their subscriptions of the Month, of Wasiyyat, of Tahriki Jadid, of Waqfi Jadid, or other pledges which they have made. Jazakumullah!

ISLAM & CHRISTIANITY written by former missionary of Dayton, Major Abdul Hamid is out. Members are strongly requested to buy it and present it to non-Muslims. It can be had from the Secretary Br. Syed Jawad Ali, Washington, D.C. for \$3.75

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE AHMADIYYA GAZETTE FOR THE NEW YEAR: \$2.50 per annum or donation will help its publication. Jazakumullah!

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