



از الذين عند الله السلام

لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله

AHMADIYYA GAZETTE

An Official Organ of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc., USA

MARCH, 1979

THE HOLY PROPHET AND HIS BATTLES

[Being the text of the speech delivered by Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir, Missionary Incharge at the meeting held on Feb. 11, '79, at Washington D.C. in celebration of the Holy Prophet's birthday (peace and blessings on him)].

Our Beloved Holy Prophet, our lord and master Hazrat Khatam-ul-Anbia Muhammad Mustafa is the greatest and most perfect manifestation of the attributes of our Creator and our Lord Allah. Muhammad (peace and blessings on him) is the best image of God for the whole of humanity. Allah's great and beautiful attributes reflect and shine in the high moral qualities of our Holy Prophet.

The Founder of Ahmadiyya Movement (peace on him) says;

"Muhammad (ﷺ) of Arabia is the king of both worlds. The Holy Spirit serves him as a gatekeeper serves the master of the house. I cannot say that Muhammad (ﷺ) is God, but this I must say that, to know God you must know Muhammad (ﷺ)."

The high moral qualities which were

displayed in the time of his *Ghazawat*, that is, the combats in which he fought as a commander of his forces, are so beautiful and so great that history fails to show a precedent.

Our beloved Holy Prophet had complete and full trust in his Lord and Creator for the success in the battles he was forced to fight. He would constantly turn to Allah with prayer and would ask the Almighty His help from the depths of his heart, but at the same time he always made the most thorough plans any army general could make.

Our Holy Prophet (ﷺ) was a very brave man. One of his companions Hazrat Ans says that he was the most courageous of all men. Another companion Hazrat Bra bin Azib reports that "He who could stand by

him in the heat of battle was regarded as very brave, but inspite of this the Holy Prophet did not take undue and unnecessary risks."

He had a great sense of honor, he was *Ghayyur* to the highest degree, i.e. he was quick to react when the honor and dignity of the name of Allah was in question, but he was never cruel or unjust. He used every justifiable method of defense against the invaders but never in his life did he ever commit any act of aggression or compulsion. He promptly reacted against the activities of the hostile forces, but he never liked the fighting and bloodshed and always prayed for peace and tranquility. He achieved some of the greatest victories in the history of warfare, but there never was a demonstration of self-exaltation or self aggrandizement. All he did was to thank his Lord for His help.

He defeated his enemies like a great conqueror, but inspite of the horrible crimes committed by the vanquished enemies he bestowed mercy and forgiveness upon them.

He had great zeal and strong passion for his expeditions, but he never let his emotions overpower his reason and wisdom. He would use all means to succeed in his struggle, but only Just and Proper means. He would always honor his agreements and observe his treaties most scrupulously.

While planning his expeditions he was always anxious to eliminate bloodshed. He fully realized the difficulties and problems; knew that his opponents were much larger in number and stronger in weaponry, but it did not affect his determination and will to take a firm stand and win.

As a commander he had to guide his armies from the command post behind the front lines, but most often, according to the need of the occasion, he would face the enemy standing shoulder to shoulder with his companions in the front lines, and he would take part in all the duties before and

after the battle, like others of his followers. He would not hesitate to raise the slogan of 'Allah is greatest', in the face of gravest situations. He used all power at his disposal to defeat the aggressive designs of his enemies, but he would very strictly forbid attacks on women, children, the aged people, the monks and the non-combatants of the opposite side.

Himself a genius, gifted with exceptional intelligence and wisdom, he would take counsel, generously listen to and appreciate the opinions of his followers. In short, the battlefields of early Islam were brightened not with the shine of swords, but with the light of the high moral qualities of our beloved Muhammad (peace be on him). This statement is based on authentic historical facts.

The plain of Badr saw an unprecedented sight of his great trust in God and of fervent and humble prayers and supplications to Him.

The mount of Uhud is witness of a great sacrifice, of a golden example of steadfastness, courage, and patience, and a strong sense of jealousy for the honor of the name of God.

The Ditch around Medina speaks of the days and nights of strenuous work, of the perseverance in the face of fear and hunger, and of shoulder to shoulder hard work with the companions.

Hudaibia is a symbol of love for peace and a wish to end hostilities inspite of having a superior force and a better chance for victory. The conquest of Mecca reminds of a comprehensive planning, a well arranged operation, a great victory and the greatest demonstration of mercy, forgiveness and compassion the world has ever witnessed.

The valley of Hunain presents an almost super-human scene of bravery and courage. The Fort of Taif reflects a loving heart, free from malice and ill will, even against the most bloodthirsty of opponents.

In short, Mecca, Medina, Taif and Tabuk, Khaibar and Hudaibia, the desert of Arabia, its oasis, its valleys and hills bear witness to the high moral qualities of our beloved Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa (peace and blessings of God be on him). The *Ghazawat* of our Holy Prophet were not acts of aggression, nor was their purpose to convert people to Islam by force. Till recently this fact was not generally appreciated by non-Muslim writers. Thanks to Ahmadiyya literature, more and more western scholars are now realizing the fact that the battles of early Islam were purely defensive. History tells us that the Quraish of Mecca persecuted the Muslim converts very severely. They deprived them of the most fundamental human rights. They attacked their honor, their life, their property without any response from the Muslims for 13 long years. To cap all, the Qureish planned to kill the Holy Prophet (peace on him) and laid a siege to his house. The Holy Prophet came out of his house under cover of darkness. He left his hearth and home, and migrated to Medina. Thus the final seal was set on the aggression of the Qureish. After 13 years of severe persecution the Muslims were allowed to fight in self-defense. This verse of the Holy Quran was revealed to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings on him).

"Permission to fight is granted to those against whom war is made, because they have been wronged and Allah indeed has the power to help them... They are those who have been driven out of their homes unjustly only because they say that our Creator and Sustainer is Allah. If Allah did not repel the aggression of some people by means of others, Monks' Cloisters, Christian churches, Jewish synagogues and the mosques wherein the name of Allah is oft commemorated, would surely be destroyed." (22:40-42)

The Holy Quran commands the Muslims

to "Fight only those who fight you and do not committ aggression. Allah does not love the aggressor."

It is a pity that a totally false picture of early Islamic fighting has been painted in the West. The Holy Quran is not only a revealed book, it is the most authentic contemporary source of early Islamic history. It is very clearly stated in the Quran that the early Muslims were reluctant to fight and that they were forced to fight in their defence. The Holy Quran addresses those Muslims in these words:

"Will you not fight a people who have violated their oaths, who plotted to turn out the Holy Prophet from his home and who were the first to start hostilities against you."

These verses clearly show that the Holy Prophet and his companions never committed aggression. They were even reluctant to fight in their defense. The Holy Prophet had to take part in about 19 big and small *Ghazawat* and each one of them is a manifestation of his great and beautiful moral qualities. For the purpose of illustration a few words only about the conquest of Mecca would do. The conquest of Mecca is a demonstration of the Prophet's ideal planning, his unique magnanimity, forgiveness and mercy. The movement of the Muslims was made and the operation planned in such a way that there may not be any bloodshed, that the life and property of the greatest enemies of Islam may be spared. When the army of 10,000 saints entered the enemy stronghold, there was no killing, no looting, no slaughter. There was only one loud voice in the streets of Mecca that proclaimed:

Whoever enters the Sacred Mosque will be secure. Whoever enters the courtyard of Abu Suffyan (the leader of Mecca) will not be harmed. whoever comes under the flag of Bilal (the persecuted slave of Mecca) his safety will be guaranteed. Whoever enters

(continued on page 12)

THE PROMISED MESSIAH'S DAY

It was on the 23rd of March 1889 that the Promised Messiah started the formal initiation at Ludhiana, Hazrat Maulvi Nur-ud Din was the first to make the covenant which was: "I repent today, at the hand of Ahmad, of all the sins and evil habits to which I was addicted; and most truly and solemnly promise that to the last day of my life, I shall eschew, to the best of my ability, all manner of sin. I will uphold my faith above all worldly consideration. I shall try, as far as may be within my power, to observe the ten conditions set out in the leaflet dated 12 Jan. 1889. I seek the forgiveness of God for my past sins. I ask forgiveness of Allah, my Lord, for all sins and turn to Him in repentance. I bear witness that there is no one worthy of worship save God, the One without associate, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger. Lord, I have wronged my soul and confess my sins. Do Thou forgive my sins for no one can forgive sins save Thyself."

Thus was laid the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, the branches of which are to be found in every part of the world. This historic event will be observed all over the world on March 23, or immediately thereafter as convenient by the members and Jamaats around the globe. In America we shall observe the day, insha Allah on Sunday, March 25, 1979. Presidents and other responsible speakers are requested to dialate upon the mission and teachings of the Holy Founder of the Movement, Hazrat Mirza Gunlam Ahmad, (May peace of God be upon him).

We must remember that the concept of the status, claims and the purpose of Movement in the words of Ahmad himself was:

"God Almighty has, through the blessings of my obedience to and love for the Holy Prophet, (peace be on him) and through my following His Holy word, ho-

nored this humble one with His revelation and with inner knowledge. He has enlightened me with the disclosure of many mysteries, and has filled my bosom with many verities and realities. He has informed me many times that all these gifts, bounties, exaltations, favors, kindnesses, attention, awards, supports and revelations have been bestowed upon me by virtue of the blessings of obedience to and love for the Seal of the Prophets, peace be on him, (Braheen Ahmadiyya, p. 623, footnote I).

"I have, by the sheer grace of God, and not on account of any merit of my own, been accorded a full measure of the bounty that was bestowed before me on the Prophets and Messengers and the chosen ones of God. It would not have been possible for me to be granted this bounty had I not followed the ways of my Lord and Master, the pride of the Prophets, the best of mankind, Muhammad the chosen one, peace be on him. Whatever I have been given, I have been given by following him and I know through true and perfect knowledge that no man can reach God except by following The Holy Prophet, peace be on him, nor can anyone arrive at a full understanding of God except through him (Haqiqatul Wahy, p.68).

"I can call God to witness that as He spoke to Abraham and Isaac and Ishmael and to Jacob and to Joseph and to Moses and to Jesus, son of Mary, and last of all spoke to our Holy Prophet, peace be on him, in such manner that he vouchsafed to him the most brilliant and excellent revelation, so He has honored with His converse. This honor has been bestowed upon me only on account of my obedience to the Holy Prophet, peace be on him. Had I not been one of his followers and had I not obeyed him, I would never have been honored with God's word even if my good deeds had been piled up as high as mountains. All prophethood had now come to an

end except the Prophethood of Muhammad. No law-bearing Prophet can now arise, but a non-law-bearing Prophet can arise provided he is a follower of the Holy Prophet. In this way I am both a follower and a Prophet, and my Prophethood is a reflection of the Prophethood of the Holy Prophet. Apart from that it is nothing. It is the same Prophethood as that of Muhammad which has manifested itself in me." (Tajallial-Illahiyyah p. 24).

THE PROMISED REFORMER

The Jamaat celebrates Musleh Maud (The Promised Son) Day every year on 20 February, but with a view to drawing larger audiences we hold our meetings on first Sundays, following the 20th. This year it falls on the 25th. We are sure the Jamaat will celebrate His event with the usual zest and fervor, and the recording secretaries will send us reports of their respective meetings.

The grand prophecy of the Promised Messiah relating to the Promised Son was published on a green leaflet on Feb. 20, 1886. Every aspect of the prophecy was fulfilled in the person of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) His outstanding qualities and his astonishing record of high achievements in so many fields of human endeavor, all related to the revival of the faith and supremacy of Islam over all other religions, marked him as a great and shining figure in the annals of the Renaissance of Islam in the latter days. Tributes in superlative terms were paid to the memory of Khalifatul Masih II by the entire press of Pakistan. It would be enough to set out as an example the one that was published in *'The Light'* a weekly publication of the dissentient group published from Lahore. In its issue of November 16, 1965 under the caption 'A Great Nation Builder' the editor wrote:

The death of Mirza Bashirud Din Mah-

mud Ahmad, Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement (Rabwah) brought the curtain down on a most eventful 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 leadership, 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 teaching in Africa, transplanting the long-entrenched 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 Ahmadiyya 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 a force to be reckoned with. We offer the bereaved family our deep condolences in their great loss.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK MISSIONARY

Dear Brethren:

Assalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah.

I feel great pleasure to write this note for Ahmadiyya Gazette. As brothers and sisters residing in America already know that I have taken over as a Missionary of Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam from brother Masud Ahmad Jhelmi who has been called back to Pakistan on completion of the tenure of his duties. As a matter of fact I am not new to this country. I had the privilege of serving Islam and Ahmadiyyat

in this country for about four years from May 2, 1963 to February, 1967. In those days I was stationed in Dayton (Ohio), where by the Grace of Allah a beautiful Mosque was built by the cooperation of and generous donations paid by the local members as well as the members of our Movement residing in other states of America.

I have now been commanded to work in the East Coast. We have to do a lot of work in this area also. Here also we need a beautiful Mosque and a Mission House. My predecessor had obtained pledges from brothers and sisters for the said project. They amounted to about 65,000 dollars. A list of the members who had made pledges was forwarded to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in September, 1978. The target figure is \$300,000.00. I have requested our beloved Imam to permit us to collect donations for the Mosque. As soon as the permission is granted we will go ahead, Inshallah, with the plan. In the meantime I request brothers and sisters kindly to pray to God Almighty that He may grant us success at every step and help us in every undertaking. Amen.

A meeting was called in the Mission House on Sunday the 7th January, 1979. Unfortunately on that day heavy snow fell and for this reason the attendance was not upto the mark. We have, however, decided that every member male or female will be requested to pledge that he or she will have at least one new member added to our Jamaat during the year ending 31st December, 1979.

Brother Harun Muhammad an American Muslim has signed the Ba'iat on 10th January, 1979 and joined our Movement. Alhamdu Lillahe.

Abdul Hamid
Missionary East Coast
January 11, 1979

JAMMATS ACTIVITY REPORTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Regional Convention was held on Nov. 19, 78 in the meeting hall of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Dulles Airport, Va., which was presided over by Mobaligh in Charge Maulana Attaullah Kaleem. Mobaligh A. Rashid Yahya spoke on "OUR LIVING GOD" then Br. Mubashar Ahmad explained about "THE QURAN-A PERFECT GUIDANCE" and then Br. Daud Malik discussed about "THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD, THE PERFECT EXEMPLAR FOR ALL MENKIND". The last speaker was Maulana Ataullah Kaleem whose topic was "ADVENT OF PROMISED MESSIAH". He explained at length the signs and conditions as prophesied for the advent of the Promised Messiah and quoted many a historical facts regarding the fulfillment of these prophecies. Snacks were served afterwards.

Regular meetings were scheduled during the month of Dec. 78. New Missionary Incharge, Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir was welcomed and a farewell party was given to Maulana Ataullah Kaleem.

During our general meeting on Jan. 21, 79 two very interesting topics were discussed by our two brothers who have recently arrived into U.S.A. Br. Nooruddin Al-Hadis spoke on "AHMADIYYAT IN SPAIN". Ahmadiyyat came to Spain some more than 30 years ago with Maulvi Karam Elahi. Under the rule and sway of Gen. Franco many a restrictions were imposed but despite that Ahmadiyyat has a strong foothold.

At the present time all the restrictions have been lifted off and Islam, Ahmadiyyat is on its way to progress. Our center is in Madrid, though Ahmadies are scattered all over Spain. Local Ahmadies have a firm faith and high spirits and are trying hard to push their way for the propagation of Islam.

Prospects of Ahmadiyyat are very good

as lots of non-Ahmadies from Morocco and other oil producing countries are pouring in and are being contacted by the Ahmadies.

Br. Munawar A. Khalid discussed the "DEVELOPMENT OF AHMADIYYAT IN LIBYA", in the form of questions and answer dialogue. During the questions he pointed out that he stayed in Libya for about 8 years in connection with his service as an Accountant. There are 100% Maliki Muslims, but despite being a Muslim country, no tabligh whatsoever is allowed by any school of thought. Ahmadies do come into contact with other non-Ahmadies and try to make them understand the truth of Ahmadiyyat.

Quran and Islami Taleem classes are regularly being held at different locations and are being conducted by Mobaligh A. R. Yahya. Few more constructive improvements are expected to be implemented very soon to gear up the interest and boost up the progress of children.

It is encouraging to note that keeping into view Hazur's Tahreek of worldwide Amateur Radio Links, Br. Muhammad Haroom Isa, of his own efforts, inquiries, and correspondance with the authorities at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Amateur Radio Club, made some special arrangements for Exclusive classes for Ahmadies. Plans for receiving requisite training are being worked out, to involve participation of 20 members in a preliminary course of ten weeks.

Kalimullah Khan, Gen. Sec.

DAYTON, OHIO

The events happening during celebrations of the Holy Prophet's birthday, this year in Dayton, will be remembered by the Muslim community across America with a feeling of gratitude and pleasure. Honorable Mayor James H. McGee issued a Proclamation recognizing the remarkable contribution made by the Holy Prophet of

Islam towards fostering peace and prosperity in the world, and enjoined upon the citizens of Dayton to whatever race and religion they belong, to join the Muslims in celebrations of the Holy Prophet's birthday.

The Proclamation was received at a ceremony which was televised by the news medias in the Mayor's office, by the missionary of Dayton, Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, accompanied by Bro. Muzaffar Ahmad, President, and some other prominent members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Television channel 7 covered and telecast the Friday sermon (Feb. 9) and the Dayton Daily News published scheduled program in its issues of Feb. 9 and 10th (Reproduced below).

The missionary received several phone calls asking for fuller information in Islam and its teachings on Feb. 10th and 11th, and the turn out on the Sunday (11th) meeting was fairly responsive. In his comprehensive and informative speech Mian Muhammad Ibrahim brought out salient features of the character and achievements of The Holy Prophet which deserved to entitle him to be ranked as the most successful and influential figure of the world. The audience composed of both Ahmadi and non-Ahmadi Muslims of both Sunni and Shia sects including several non Muslims. The meeting was also addressed by Br. Habeeb Shafiq on Islam and Human Rights, and was chaired by Br. M. Rafiq A. Salam. Br. Muhammad Qasim recited a portion from The Holy Quran, a Shia Muslim brother, Mr. Shahid Naqvi, recited an Urdu poem written by the Founder of The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

A separate program for the children was held on the 9th of February. Twenty children rose to the occasion giving speeches on his life and teachings. This was equally a successful session conducted by Sister

Amatul Mueed, Secretary of Nasirat.
(Yusuf Amin)

PROCLAMATION

From the Office of the Mayor
The City of Dayton, Ohio

WHEREAS, this date is the Anniversary of the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad who was born February 9, 570 A.D. in the Holy City of Mecca in Saudi Arabia; and

WHEREAS, the Prophet Muhammad was the founder of the Religion of Islam which is the world's second largest religion; and

WHEREAS, the followers of the religion of Islam have made contributions of great significance to humankind in the areas of Science, Medicine, Astronomy, Mathematics, Architecture, Art, Printing, Literature, Law, Philosophy and Theology; and

WHEREAS, millions of the peoples of the world, including many in this Nation who are Muslim, will celebrate this day in honor of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.S.); and

WHEREAS, there are many highly cultured educational and social organizations who recognize the Holy Prophet Muhammad as making a most profound change in the social, moral, cultural and religious progress of mankind.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James H. McGee, Mayor of the City of Dayton, Ohio, call upon the citizens of our community to recognize the birthday of this great teacher and leader, and join together this day in celebration of his valued life and legacy.

IN WITNESS THEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dayton to be affixed this 9th day of February, 1979.

James H. McGee
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DAYTON, OHIO

Muslims mark Muhammad's birthday

Muslims around the world will celebrate the birthday of their Holy Prophet, Muhammad, today. The prophet was born Feb. 9, 570 AD in Mecca, Arabia.

Locally, observances will be celebrated with "modest prayers toward humanity and rejoicing," said Mian M. Ibrahim, missionary to the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam at the Fazl-I-Umar Mosque, 637 Randolph St.

A sermon will be delivered at 1:30 p.m. at the mosque for members of the congregation. Discussions will be held concerning aspects of the prophet's life.

On Sunday, at 5 p.m. speeches will be delivered at the Mosque for the public to gain insight into the life and teachings of Muhammad, said Ibrahim.

(The Dayton Daily News, Feb. 9, 1979.)

Discussion topic at mosque centers on Muhammad's life

The Fazl-I-Umar Mosque, 637 Randolph St., will discuss the life of the Prophet Muhammad, whose birthday was celebrated Friday, during services at 5 p.m. Sunday.

Among the topics to be discussed will be the status of women, the significance of the veil, tolerance toward other religions and Islamic political structure, according to A.R. Zafr, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Movement in Dayton.

(The Dayton Daily News, Feb. 10, 1979)

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

A very thrilling lecture was delivered by Br. Muzaffar Ahmad, National President, at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Brother Rashid Ahmad, Regional President who occupied the chair, himself made an impressive speech bringing out the beauties of Islam and informing the huge audience

half of which were christians that the prophecy about the second coming of Jesus has been fulfilled in the person of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1834-1908). The main speech was delivered by Br. Muzaffar Ahmad who proved that Jesus did not actually die on the cross, but had simply gone into a swoon and was mistakenly taken as dead. Blood stains on the shroud in which his body was wrapped has revealed that he was still alive when he was taken down from the cross. The learned speaker showed slides to supplement his remarks. The speech was very impressive and instructive and created quite a stir in the area. Account of the meeting appearing in the University News of Feb. 13, is printed below.

Naseerud Din Ahmad

**Jesus lived, went to
India, lecturer says**

Jesus did not die on the cross. He was alive when he was taken down. According to a speaker at UWM Sunday night, he later moved to India, married, had children and died there at the age of 120.

The lecture, "Jesus Did Not Die on the Cross," was given in the Union Fireside Lounge by members of the Ahmadiyya Movement of the Islamic religion

The main speaker, El-Hajj Muzaffar Zafr, said that Jesus was not the Son of God, he was a prophet of God; the mistake was made in translating the Bible into English.

Zafr also said that the Virgin Mary was one of 23 women who were being prepared to be the mother of God.

Zafr showed slides which he claimed included photographs of the face of Jesus and a man who claims to be direct descendant of Jesus.

He twice attacked the concept of the Christian God being of three parts: the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. He called

it "pure foolery."

Zafr and the opening speaker, Rashid Ahmad, often said that Islamic religion is better understood because it is easier to follow the example of their prophet Muhammad, who was a mortal man, than to follow the example of God.

"Man cannot follow the example of God, man can only follow the example of another man," Ahmad said.

Zafr said many people attack the Islamic people as being warlike, but he said, "Muslims have only fought in their defense. Christians have created more hassles, more wars than anyone else." He cited World Wars I and II and the Korean conflict as wars started by Christianity.

A discussion after the lecture concerned the situation in Iran. The discussion on whether Jesus died on the cross was carried on outside the Fireside Lounge by the persons who had left the lecture and Muslim followers who managed an information table.

(Amy Pelishek, The Post)

YORK, PA.

Four York Ahmadiis were blessed to participate in Jalsa Salana Rabwah—Yahya Sharif, Tahir Abdullah, Hamid Ahmad Bhatti, and Mumtaz Bhatti. Yahya Sharif also participated in Jalsa at Qadian.

Welcome three new Ahmadiis born at York Hospital: AFFAN AHMAD ABDULLAH, s/o Tahir Abdullah, 9/22 weighing in at 12 lbs. 4 oz.; SABIA AMTUL MAHAJMIN, d/o Salim Abdul Mahajmin, 12/15 at 7 lbs. 13 oz.; and MAJID MAHMUD BASHIR, s/o Ahmad Bashir on 12/16 at 6 lbs. 14 oz. All are in fine health, alhamdulillah.

The Jama'at has been given use of rooms at Thompson College in York for regular classes and meetings, and plans a full weekly schedule of programs in 1979. We have

been invited to lecture in Spring at Gettysburg College.

A friend of the Jamaat and owner of Thompson college in Central Pennsylvania has given the use of a college building on York's main street for an Ahmadiyya Center where our Jamaat and auxiliary meetings are now being held.

The Center was inaugurated with the celebration of Seeratun Nabi Day on Feb. 11, 1979.

The program was opened by a Tifl, Harun Rashid, who recited verses from Sura Al-Kahf. A psalm of Hazrat Masih Maud was recited by Hamid A. Bhatti and the English translation offered by M. Aslam Khan.

The principal speakers were Ahmad Khalid who presented the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be on him) in the light of the ideal teacher of faith with the perfect teaching. Ahmad Bashir spoke on the Prophet as exemplar in family affairs.

Hamid A. Bhatti cited several hadiths and explained some moving incidents from the life of our most beloved and honored Prophet.

Yahya Sharif concluded the program by presenting the Holy Prophet, *Sallallahu Alaihe Wa Salam*, as a Living Prophet, in contrast with Christian teachings about Jesus and about his second coming through the advent of Hazrat Masih Maud, *Alaihis-salam*.

The Jamaat has issued a mimeo newsletter of its activities, available upon request.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Weekly meetings are held regularly. Recitation of The Holy Quran, translation and commentary, reading on speeches and sermons delivered by the Khalifatul Masih III, traditions of the Holy Prophet and the Pronouncements of The Promised Messiah

form special features of our gatherings. Children are trained in the art of speech making according to their capacity. Meetings are held by rotation at different members' residences, and are presided over by the host, who willingly makes all arrangements, including refreshments on his own. The President of the Jamaat generally winds up the meetings with brief suitable remarks. Congregational Zuhr and Asr prayers are offered before the gathering breaks up.

(Hussain M. Sajid)

MISCELLANEOUS

Gulf States Region

Dr. Qazi Barkatullah of Jackson, Miss. has been appointed President of Gulf States Region. Members of the Jamaat residing in that region are requested to contact him to strengthen and promote the cause of the Movement. His postal address is 250 Deason Dr., Jackson, Miss. 39209, while his telephone number is 601-922-5731.

Mir Mahmud Ahmad)
Missionary Incharge.

Board of Directors' Meeting.

Members of the Board met at Dayton, Ohio (Fazle Umar Mosque) with Mir Mahmud Ahmad, Missionary Incharge in the chair, on January 21, 1979, and discussed several momentous issues affecting the Movement.

Dayton Jamaat welcomes the President of the Board at a reception which Mir Sahib suitably addressed in response the same evening.

Dr. M. Yusof Khan Passes Away

Dr. M. Yusof Khan, originally from District Jhelum (Pakistan), who had migrated to America in the early twenties passed away in Detroit, Mich., after a protracted

illness on January 19, 1979. (Inna lillah wa inna elahai rajaoon).

Dr. Khan who had arrived in U.S.A. as a student carried on the activities of the Ahmadiyya Movement for several years after the departure of Hazrat Maulvi Muhammad Din to the Headquarters in 1925. Dr. Khan himself an old student of Hazrat Maulvi Sahib, successfully conducted the affairs of the Movement and provided continuity to the mission work till Hazrat Maulvi Mutiur Rahman arrived. Dr. Khan did notable work in MW, particularly and was instrumental in founding or consolidating several Jamaats in this area.

May Allah reward him for his sincere and consistent efforts for the promotion of Ahmadiyya in America, and may his soul rest in peace. Amen!

He was a *Moosi* and his body was reported to have been flown to Rabwah. Janaza prayers were led by Missionary Abdul Rashid Yahya.

KHUDDAM STEP FORWARD FOR '79

At a special meeting of Khuddam officers held on January 27, 1979 at the American Fazl Mosque, Washington DC, Yahya Sharif, the Qaid-A'la passed on new and extensive information based on his several lengthy meetings with the Sadr and central officers of Khuddam in Rabwah.

A plan to strengthen local leadership through de-centralization of the national officers for religious education, propagation, health and fitness, and services was launched.

The National Majlis was organized into three subordinate majalais with a Qaid appointed for each. These are the Eastern U.S. Majlis comprising the 12 local Branches in Regions 1 and 2; the Central U.S. Majlis of the 10 Branches from Regions 3 and 4; and the Western U.S. Majlis made up of the 5 Branches of Region 5.

The new Qaids are Sardar Rafiq Ahmad, Eastern Majlis; Nasirullah Ahmad, Central Majlis; and Syed Sajid Ahmad of the Western Majlis. Each has a staff of 7 Nazims.

While each of these bodies places all emphasis on delivering and implementing the fundamental programs for which Khuddam was organized, the National Cabinet and Staff have been reduced in size and streamlined to four supervisory departments covering every aspect of Khuddam. The fifth department is for the Atfal al-Ahmadiyya. All of the programs developed by Khuddam will be printed along with By-Laws, forms, training items, history, agendas, and other useful information in a Khuddam Operations Manual for use by Khuddam leaders. The loose-leaf manual will be a permanent reference source, and is projected for publication in time for the Ijtema Salana in June. Atfal will have a parallel Ijtema.

Progress is continuing on the American Ijtema Salana to be held in New Jersey in June; Jalaluddin Abdul Latif is Afsar Ijtema.

The Majlis is also considering a National Project of major import; Hazrat Khalifatul Masih will be approached for approval and blessings with his recommendation.

(National Qaa'id)

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

The Board of Directors is now conducting an official census and registration of Ahmadi Muslims in America.

Every President received in November, printed registration cards and instructions for the national Tajnid or enrollment.

Every adult, male and female age 15 or older, is to fill out and submit a Tajnid card to their President for forwarding. Those registered, receive a new printed Membership card for the Ahmadiyya Movement. Each card contains an individual number for positive identification.

