

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا الْكَرِيمِ وَعَلَى عِبَادِهِ الْمُسَبِّحِينَ الْمَوْجُودِينَ
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

AHMADIYYA GAZETTE

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THE WORD OF GOD

And remember the time when Alláh took a covenant from the people through the Prophets, saying: 'Whatever I give you of the Book and Wisdom and then there comes to you a Messenger, fulfilling what is with you, you shall believe in him and help him.' And He said: 'Do you agree, and do you accept the responsibility which I lay upon you in this matter?' They said, 'We agree;' He said, 'Then bear witness and I am with you among the witnesses.'

Now whoso turns away after this, then, surely, those are the transgressors.

Do they seek a religion other than Alláh's, while to Him submits whosoever is in the heavens and the earth, willingly or unwillingly, and to Him shall they be returned.

Say, "We believe in Allah and in that which has been revealed to us and that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the Tribes, and that which was given to Moses and Jesus and other Prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and to Him we submit."

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.

(THE HOLY QURAN 3: 82-86)

KHALIFATUL MASIH'S HEALTH

According to the latest reports reaching us from Pakistan, Hazrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III, is enjoying good health. Members are requested to continue praying for Hazur's health, and for the rapid progress of Islam under his dynamic leadership.

SURAH FATIHAH BRIEFLY COMPREHENDS ALL THE PURPOSES OF THE HOLY QURAN

BY

HAZRAT AHMAD THE PROMISED MESSIAH

"The Surah Fatihah briefly comprehends all the purposes of the Holy Quran. This is referred to in the verse: We have bestowed on thee the seven oft-recited verses and the Great Quran (15:88). This means that the seven verses of the Surah Fatihah briefly comprehend all the purposes of the Holy Quran and, in contrast with them, there is the Great Quran which sets out religious purposes in detail. For this reason this Surah is known as the Mother of the Book and the Comprehensive Surah. It is the Mother of the Book because all purposes of the Holy Quran can be derived from it, and it is called the Comprehensive Surah as it briefly comprehends all types of learning contained in the Quran. It is for this reason that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) has said that he who recites the Surah Fatihah, recites, as it were, the Holy Quran. The Holy Quran and the Ahadith show that the Surah Fatihah is a mirror that displays the Quran. For instance, it is one of the purposes of the Holy Quran that it sets out all the perfect praise of God Almighty and states clearly the complete perfection that He possesses. This is briefly set forth in the Surah Fatihah in the verse: All perfect praise belongs to Allah; which means that all types of perfect praise are established for Allah Who is comprehensive of all excellences and is worthy of every type of worship.

The second purpose of the Holy Quran is that manifests God's being the Perfect Fashioner and the Creator of the universe, and sets forth the beginning of the universe, and describes as a creation of God all that is part of the universe and proves the falsehood of those who are opposed to this. This purpose is set forth briefly in the phrase: Lord of the worlds.

The third purpose of the Holy Quran is to establish the unearned grace of God and to set forth His general Mercy. This purpose is conveyed briefly in Rahman.

The fourth purpose of the Holy Quran is to establish that grace of God which follows upon effort and diligence. This is set forth in Rahim.

The fifth purpose of the Holy Quran is to set forth the true condition of the hereafter. This is comprehended in the phrase: Master of the Day of Judgment.

The sixth purpose of the Holy Quran is to set forth the sincerity and servitude and purification of the soul from that which is besides Allah and the remedy of spiritual ills and the reform of moral qualities and the upholding of the Unity of God in worship. This is included briefly in the affirmation: Thee alone do we worship.

The seventh purpose of the Holy Quran is to establish God as the true source of all action, and of all strength and benevolence, and help and steadfastness, and obedience and freedom from sin, and the acquisition of all the means of doing good, and the reform of the here and the hereafter, and emphasize the need of seeking His help in all matters. This purpose is set forth briefly in the affirmation: Thee alone do we implore for help.

The eighth purpose of the Holy Quran is to set forth the fine points of the straight path and to emphasize the need of seeking it through prayer and supplication. This is briefly included in supplication: Guide us along the straight path.

The ninth purpose of the Holy Quran is to set forth the way and manner of those who become the recipients of God's beauty and grace so that the hearts of the seeker

(cont'd on page 7)

EDITORIAL CALL YOURSELVES TO ACCOUNT

Each and every person who has even a little knowledge of trade and business, knows very well that unless one takes account of his business as generally we witness with well established firms that at times they stop sale and fix a sign-board at the store, **NO SALE STOCK TAKING**, one cannot achieve stability and success in his enterprise. It is through stock taking that a trader ascertains whether he is running his business on a profitable basis or he is running it on loss. Similarly the believers are enjoined to put this analogy in their spiritual sphere of life. God says in the Holy Quran "YAA AYYOHALLAZEE NA AAMAN-UTTAQULLAHA WAL TANZOR NAFS-UMMAA QADDAMAT LE GHAD," i.e., "O ye who believe fear Allah and let every soul look to what it sends forth for the morrow." So the believers here are enjoined to take care of the morrow. The wisdom underlying this injunction has also been described in another place where God says: "WATTABE'OO AHSANA MAA UNZELA ILAIKUM MIR-RABBEKUM MIN QABLE ANYA' ATEYAKOM UL-AZAABO WA ANTUM LAA TASH'OROON AN TAQOOLA NAFSUN-YAA HASRA TA ALA MAA FARRATTO FEE JANBILLAHE WA IN KUNTO LA MIN-ASSAAKHEREEN," i.e., "Follow the best teaching that has been revealed to you from your Lord, before the punishment comes upon you suddenly while you perceive not. Lest a soul should say, "O my grief for my remissness in my duty in respect of Allah! Surely, I was among those who scoffed." It is in conjunction to this command of God that Hazrat Umar the second Successor of the Holy Prophet has said: "HAASEBO QABLA AN TOHAASABOO," i.e., "Call yourselves to account before ye be called to account." Again, God says: YAA AYYOHALLAZEENA AAMAN-USBEROO WA SAABEROO WA RAABETOO WATTAQULLAHA LA'ALLAKUM TOFLEHOON," i.e., "O ye who believe be steadfast and strive to excel in steadfastness and be on your guard, and fear Allah that you may prosper." Hence, in

the words of a great regenerator of Islam, Imam Ghazali: the wise man is he who after his morning prayer spends a whole hour in making a spiritual reckoning, and says to his soul, "O my soul, thou hast only one life, no single moment that has passed can be recovered, for in the counsel of God the number of breaths allotted thee is fixed, and cannot be increased. When life is over no further spiritual traffic is possible for thee; therefore, what thou doest, do now; treat this day as if thy life had already been spent and this were an extra day granted thee by special favour of the Almighty. What can be greater folly than to lose it." And this is what another regenerator of Islam, Hazrat Ahmad, the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, has stressed upon his followers when he said "Every morning should be a witness for you that, you spent the night with righteousness, and every evening should be a witness for you that you went through the day with fear of God in your hearts."

JAMAATS ACTIVITIES

San Francisco, California:—

The Jamaat celebrated Muslihi Mauood and Masih Mauood Days by holding meetings at the Mission House. In Muslihi Mauood meeting Malik Bashir Ahmad, Alhaj Abdur Raqib Wali, Latif A. Malik and Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem spoke on various aspects of the prophecy of the Promised Messiah and its fulfillment in the person of Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad Khalifatul Masih II.

In Masih Mauood meeting Seyyed Sajid Ahmad, Lt. Intisar Ahmad Abbasi, Latif A. Malik, Alhaj Abdur Raqib Wali and Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem delivered speeches on Prophecies of the Promised Messiah, Truthfulness of the Promised Messiah through the Holy Quran, The Second Advent of Christ and the Position of the Promised Messiah respectively. Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem in his chairman's remarks elucidated various points connected with the topics of the speakers. Almost thirty persons participated in the meeting.

The Lajna served the dinners at both the meetings.

Los Angeles, California:—

The Jamaat celebrated Masih Mauood Day by holding meeting on March 23, 1980 at Veterans Memorial building. The speeches were delivered on the life and excellences of the Promised Messiah by Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem the Missionary-in-Charge West Coast region and Br. Rahmat Jamal the President of Los Angeles Jamaat.

St. Louis, Missouri:—

The Jamaat held Seeratun Nabee, Muslihi Mauood and Masih Mauood meetings on their scheduled dates. Speeches were delivered in accordance with the occasions.

Dr. Peinhact along with his sixteen students from Greenville College visited Sadiq Mosque at the time of Juma's Service. Each student along with Dr. Peinhact was presented a Holy Quran. They were also given the good news pertaining to the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

The representatives of the Jamaat have been invited twice to speak to the students of local High Schools. One Church also invited them to speak on Islam on March 14, 1980.

Juma'a services are regularly held with an average attendance of 15 members. Weekly meetings on Sunday are also held by the auxiliary organizations—Ansarullah, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Lajna Ima Ullah respectively.

The members are preaching individually and are distributing preaching material to all those to whom they contact with.

Through the grace of God two persons—one brother and one sister have joined the fold of Ahmadiyyat the true Islam during this quarter. Alhamdo Lillah.

Seattle, Washington:—

The Jamaat held Seeratun Nabee, and Muslihi Mauood meetings on their scheduled dates. Speeches were delivered in accordance with the occasions.

The great sins are: associating others with Allah, disobedience to parents, murder and swearing falsely.

GIST OF FRIDAY SERMON

Lahore, Pakistan:—

Hazrat Ameerul Momineen Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III in his Friday sermon delivered here on February 1st, 1980 at Masjid Daruz Zikr expounded the subtle commentary of the following verses of Sura Al-Anaam and two verses of Sura Yunus:

1. "Ask them: Shall I take as protector someone other than Allah, Creator of the heavens and the earth, Who feeds all and needs not to be fed? Tell them: I have been commanded to render the most perfect obedience. I have also been commanded: Be thou not of those who associate partners with Allah. Tell them also: Assuredly, I fear, if I were to disobey my Lord, the torment of an awful day. He from whom the torment is averted on that day will have been shown mercy by Allah. That indeed is manifest triumph. If Allah were to afflict thee, there is none that can remove the affliction but He, and if He were to bestow upon thee some good, He has power to do all that He wills. He is Supreme over His servants; and He is the Wise, the All-Aware." (6:15-19)

2. "And When Our clear Signs are recited unto them, those who believe not in Our meeting say to thee: Bring a Quran other than this or change it. Say, it is not for me to change it of my own accord. I only follow what is revealed to me. Were I to disobey my Lord, I would be liable to the chastisement of a terrible day." (10:16-17)

Describing the commentary of these verses, Khalifatul Masih warned the members in a very effective way of destructive danger of innovations and vulgar customs, and of pursuing these courses. Urging the community to comply with the God's given Quranic order of life presented attractively in the exemplary life of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him), Khalifatul Masih directed the attention of the community to the responsibility put upon them of revolutionizing the lives of mankind by bringing them to the obedience of God. It is a grand responsibility.

In order to accomplish the task of revolutionizing the lives of others, Khalifatul Masih remarked, it is very essential that the members of the community themselves should first bring a complete change in their own lives by acting upon the Islamic teachings.

Referring to the subject elaborately mentioned in the verses of Sura Al-Anaam (Chapter 6) Khalifatul Masih pointed out that Allah the Exalted has asked the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) to pronounce that he is the most obedient servant of God. And if he does anything contrary to the command of God, he indeed would be liable to the punishment of an awful day.

In the verses of Sura Yunus (Chapter 10) it has been mentioned that the opponents of Islam demanded from the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) to produce any other Quran agreeable to their wishes or at least he should make some modification in this very Quran according to their desires.

In response to this demand, God the Exalted directed the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) to say that it is not his task. He has no authority to modify it. He only follows what he has been commanded through revelation sent down upon him. Were he to disobey his God he would be liable to the punishment of the horrible day.

Elucidating the subject in detail explained in the referred verses of these two chapters and expounding the commentary of each verse separately, Khalifatul Masih remarked that the worth thinking point in this whole subject is that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) is the most beloved Messenger of God the Exalted. The love of God acquired by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) and the status conferred upon him by God the Exalted is so high and excellent that none can reach it in the least. Despite such position, God the Exalted has directed him to declare that if he disobeys his Lord then who can

secure him from the punishment of the awful day.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) was Awwalul Muslimeen—the most submissive to God the Exalted, hence, there is no question of his disobedience to God. Nevertheless, when God asked him to make this declaration, it has been meant for us. We have to worry of ourselves and it is we who have to consider that if we committed a least disobedience to God's commandments none can secure us from the punishment of the awful day. It is indeed a fearful situation.

During his sermon, Khalifatul Masih further explained that the teachings and the commandments propounded by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) in the form of the Holy Quran, whether you name it culture, order or way of life has not been presented of his own accord, rather was given to him by God the Exalted, hence, no change or alteration can be made in it.

It is not only his opponents who demanded the modification but even the people despite their possession of belief, who innovate in religion or follow the vulgar customs, whether they demand in letters or not, in actual fact they are demanding through their practice, that the commandments of God should be changed according to their own wishes.

So, if we Ahmadies really realize the status of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him), know the value of the commandments propounded by him, love him in actualities and follow his best example, then we have to keep ourselves away from every kind of innovations and vulgar customs; eschew from all types of wickedness and bring change in our lives by pursuing the excellent model of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him).

When the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) said that he had no authority to modify the commandments of God then who else could

UNDERTAKING TABLIGH IN YOUR JAMA'AT

by Yahya Sharif Abdullah

The jama'at leadership in every locale must grasp and accept the mission of making tabligh (community outreach) a serious undertaking. The word "mission" has come to mean a "Sunday-go-to-meetin' place" instead of an Action program undertaken to carry the message of Ahmadiyyat to the neighbors, business associates, relatives, and fellow townsmen of the Ahmadi Muslims. We must re-new the word "mission" to mean an objective of propagation undertaken, worked very strenuously, and accomplished.

The wrong use of the statement that "Allah makes Muslims" leads to a lazy mental attitude towards propagation week. One Christian allegation against Islam is that "qismat" or "fatalism" is a cardinal doctrine of the faith. We Ahmadis have been given a full and proper explanation of "taqdir"—Divine decree and determination; and "tadbir"—human efforts. But our actions must demonstrate that we have this knowledge, instead of giving credence to anti-Islamic allegations that we are fatalists.

I have heard a useful expression — "Pray as though everything depends upon God, and work as though everything depends upon you." Remember, Allah As-Samad does not depend upon us as individual persons or communities for the realization of his Divine plan. He can replace us with others. It is our privilege to be selected for a part in the Divine work. If we are lazy and do not show the proper spirit and enthusiasm for our calling, we in effect reject the opportunity and will drift further and further away to nothingness. How many among us has already been stung by the sweet poison of Western nihilism? Do you see them fading, disappearing? Tabligh work is an excellent antecedent.

Engaging in real propagational activity has another tremendous advantage. If you have to face the non-Muslims, you will have to know something. One Saturday afternoon foray to your Super-City Shopping Center will drive the lazy in studying to the books for answers.

And after the answers are found in our splendid publications — yes, they are all there — our re-born Ahmadi will become a new soldier of Islam and think all week about going forth next Saturday. Then we are just to convert our weekend warrior to an everyday disciple and the message is on the way.

Very well. You now see that a major purpose of your jama'at is to take the banner of Islam throughout your community, and you admit that every Ahmadi has not approached every relative and neighbor — there is work to be done. Where to begin?

Living as we are in a very modern fast-paced society, dominated by professionalism in every type of undertaking, it is no use to continue to be well-meaning failures; it is a waste of your time to continue using the maybe and hit-and-miss methods.

First, every President, accepting the challenge of serious tabligh, should select one of the most capable brothers as the local tabligh secretary. He should be a member of the executive committee of the jama'at and report on tabligh progress at every executive meeting. And yes, some funds should be designated for tabligh in the jama'at budget. It may be suggested that the Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, being the younger and more vigorous section, may have the tabligh secretary appointed from among them. They should already have one for their Khuddam branch. Further, the Khuddam are instructed in the twelve principles for conducting tabligh and in various programs, and could in turn, train the entire jama'at. Using the resources you already have in your jama'at, especially in the smaller jama'ats, reflects wisdom on the part of a jama'at president.

The local jama'at should view itself as a small NUCLEUS, a dynamic energy charged circle of bearers of the true faith. The real step towards growth is to then BUILD a larger circle of FRIENDS and contacts around the small core of Ahmadi Muslims. The circle of friends may consist of any interested persons, non-Ahmadi Muslims, contacts of all

sorts. They should be these persons who would be willing to come to jama'at programs and lectures, and to generally appreciate and support the teachings of Islam publicly and privately. Such friends must be carefully and deliberately cultivated by the membership.

At a regular gathering of the jama'at the tabligh secretary should advise every Ahmadi to begin compiling such a list by name, address, telephone number, and relevant particulars, such as special interests. Members must be advised not to slam the door of blessings in anyone's face as Allah has opened the gates of paradise to all. Say "no" for no one. Every member should be able to generate from 15 to 50 such names. NOW READER, get started. Collect your names and present them to your tabligh secretary or President at your next meeting. A copy should be kept by the member as well.

The next step involves the tabligh secretary sitting down with each Ahmadi to EVALUATE the list — to see which of the names are the very best prospects. Take the top five names and make up index cards on them. Then go to work. Have two Ahmadi visit them at home. Take them some piece of literature. Pick them up and BRING them to your meeting. Invite them to your home for dinner. List whatever steps you take on the card. Pace yourself and use wisdom and good judgment. The entire list of all friends should be invited to programs organized by the jama'at or region. As recently occurred on the West Coast, the non-Ahmadis in EVERY program should be at least three times as many as members. You could solicit a small fee from the Friends of Islam to cover mailings all year. Get them to openly join the "Friends" and receive a book quarterly. Jama'ats are asked to take this basic plan, work it, and send the results to the Nazim Tabligh, Yahya Sharif. The best methods will be shared with other jama'ats, and you will receive assistance and comments after you are working along these lines.

SEERATUN NABEE MEETINGS IN PICTURES



Br. Rahmat Jamal addressing the meeting in Los Angeles.



Sahibzadah M. M. Ahmad addressing the meeting in Washington, D.C.



A section of the audience of Washington meeting.



A section of the audience of Los Angeles meeting.

LAJNA IMA ULLAH

VIRTUOUS WOMEN

(Continued from December 1979 issue.)

5) The lady companions of the Prophet were symbols of patience and self-determination. The son of Hazrat Abu Talha Ansari (razi-al-laa-ho 'an-ho) fell ill. Hazrat Abu Talha Ansari was then not in his house. During his absence his son died. When he came back home in the evening, he enquired of the welfare of the son from his wife. She replied that he was now in greater comfort than before. So saying, she served meals to her husband.

Next morning, the wife queried to her husband, "If a person lends something to another and then wants it back, has the latter a right to withhold it?" Hazrat Talha Ansari replied, "No." Thereupon she said to her husband, "Then you shall keep patience for your son (who was dead)."

6) The lady companions of the Prophet also treated their servants well.

One night Caliph Abdul Malik called his servant who delayed in responding to him. The Caliph annoyed and cursed him. Hazrat Um-mul-Durda (razi-al-laa-o 'an-ha) was in his place at the moment. In the morning she said to the Caliph "Last night you cursed your servant, although the Kind Prophet had declared that one who cursed any one, would not be among martyrs and will be deprived of intercession on the Doomsday."

7) The religious war of Uhad was on. The enemy spread rumours throughout the city of Madina that the Prophet had fallen a martyr. Sorrow and grief clouded the whole city. Every one was out of his house, uneasy and restless.

An Ansari lady was madly inquiring from people about the welfare of the Kind Prophet. She was told that her brother, father and husband, all had fallen martyrs. She did not bother for it and was impatient to know of the welfare of the Kind Prophet. When at last she was informed that the Prophet was alright, she heaved a sigh of relief.

8) To help others or to render assistance to the needy was a common practice of the lady companions of the Kind Prophet. In the war of Uhad, Hazrat Safiyah (razi-al-laa-ho 'an-ha) brought two pieces of cloth for burial of Hazrat Hamza (razi-al-laa-ho 'an-ho) and

found that by the side of the corpse of his brother lay the corpse of an Ansari. She was ashamed to think that Hamza should be buried in two pieces of cloth while the Ansari should have none.

Thereupon she gave one piece for the burial of the Ansari.

9) In these modern days, people make out excuses for exemption from fasting. But it was different with Hazrat Umama (razi-al-laa-ho-an-ha). She pleaded with the Kind Prophet to pray for her martyrdom but he always prayed for her safety. At last she requested him to let her know of a worship that would give her recompense. The Kind Prophet asked her to keep fasts. Hazrat Umama took to the advice. Both her husband and servant joined her in the fastings which became a distinction of their house. If any day smoke was found rising from their house, it was assumed that some guest had arrived.

10) Hazrat Ayesha was so strictly against music that she would not even stand the tinkling made by bells around the necks of camels. If any notes would reach her ears, she would ask the camel driver to stop so that the tinkling of the bells should also cease; or she would ask him to go fast in order to avoid the sound.

On one side is this example of Hazrat Ayesha's hatred even to musical sound and on the other we find the great liking for music in this age.

(11) Hazrat Hamna bint Jahsh (razi-al-laa-ho 'an ha) was very fond of saying prayers (salaat) and was always busy with it. When she got tired, she would tie herself with a rope to the pillar of the mosque so as to avoid tardiness. When Hazrat Muhammad (sal-lal-laa-ho alaihe wa aa-le-h-i-wa-sal-lam) saw her, he remarked that one should offer prayers only to the extent his strength permitted and ordered that the rope be removed.

JAMAATS ACTIVITIES

Waukegan, Illinois:—

The Jamaat held Muslihi Mauood meeting at North Chgo Center, which was attended by the surrounding Jamaats—Milwaukee, Racine, Streamwood and Chicago. Speeches were delivered by the presidents or their representatives. Dr. Salahud Din Shams spoke on behalf of the Waukegan Jamaat. Almost 159 members par-

ticipated and a delicious meal was served by the Lajna.

Regular Juma'a Services and weekly Sunday meetings are held in which THE ESSENCE OF ISLAM by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is being studied by the members. Br. Ali Raza, the President of the Jamaat, also gives lectures on various aspects of Islam.

Ms. Rose Huley a sister of our old member Safiyya Darr has joined the fold of Ahmadiyyat the true Islam during the month of February. Alhamdo Lillah.

Tucson, Arizona:—

The Jamaat celebrated Muslihi Mauood Day by convening meeting at the Hall of Mission Vista Trailer Park which was reserved by Mr. and Mrs. Ellen, a couple under preaching. They also arranged the field for the games competition of the children. May Allah reward them with the best reward.

The meeting started with the recitation of a portion of the Holy Quran by Muhammad Suhail Qureshi; and the translation of the verses were presented by Muhammad Jameel. The young Nasirat sung a poem. The pledge of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya was repeated by all the participants.

Qureshi Muhammad Ishaque the President of the Jamaat read the prophecy of the Promised Messiah printed in Sabz Ishtihar-Green leaflet, and explained its fulfillment in the person of Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad Khalifatul Masih II.

This was followed by the educational and practical competitions in which the children took part with great zeal. The members of Lajna had their own competitions. In the competitions the extracts from the speeches of Muslihi Mauood delivered in 1944 were read. There were competitions in calling Azan and in memorizing the first seventeen verses of Sura Al-Baqarah.

The lajna served the lunch to all the participants. Zuhar and Asar Salats were performed in congregation. The prizes arranged by the Lajna were distributed to those who topped the competitions. The celebration was rounded off by the speeches of Br. Munir Ahmad Malik and Br. Muhammad Ishaque Qureshi on the life and works of Muslihi Mauood. Almost 50 persons participated in the celebration. Alhamdo Lillah.

SURAH FATIHAH (cont'd from page 1)

after truth might be comforted. This purpose is included in: The path of those on whom Thou bestowed Thy favours.

The tenth purpose of the Holy Quran is to set forth the qualities and way of those with whom God was displeased and of those who lost the way and fell into all sorts of innovations so that the seekers after truth should be warned of their ways. This purpose is included in: Not of those with whom Thou displeased, nor of those who went astray.

These are the ten purposes that are set out in the Holy Quran and that are the roots of all verities. So they are all briefly mentioned in the Surah Fatihah (Braheen Ahmadiyya, pp. 558-563, footnote 11).

FRIDAY SERMON

(cont'd from page 3)

dare even to think of modification. None can protect from the punishment of disobedience to be meted out in the form of torment of an awful day. Each person is responsible for his own soul. If you want to enlist yourselves among those who are seeking destruction, then it rests with you alone, conversely if you desire to acquire the love of God by complying with the Quranic injunctions and following the best example of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) then this too depends upon you alone. God the Exalted asked the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be upon him) to declare that if he disobeys or makes any changes in the commandments of God, he indeed fears the punishment of the awful day, then who can save you or other if they disobey the commandments of God. It is indeed the moment of great fear.

In the conclusion of his sermon, Khalifatul Masih explaining the importance of carrying out Quranic injunctions and yielding to the commandments of God admonished the Community that he has made the start in this direction. He would try for your transformation. Khalifatul Masih announced that the vulgar customs and un-Islamic practices should not infiltrate in you. Nevertheless, if he has to be hard on you he will not hesitate to do so. God the Exalted has said that the responsibility of creating revolution in mankind lives by bringing them to the obedience of His commandments rests upon you.

Hence, he reiterated that they have to bring revolution in their own lives before exerting complete change into the lives of mankind. Finally, he prayed that may Allah the Exalted empower me and you all to achieve this goal. Amen.

TABLIGH

(cont'd on page 4)

If useful and practical, a one day seminar could be organized in every region on methods and techniques of programs aimed at inviting persons to the fold of True Islam.

In your next jama'at meeting, take some time to study the following verses from the Holy Quran: 4:96, 16:126, 20:45, 26:215, 29:47 and 41:35. Then answer these questions as a group: Is tabligh obligatory upon all Muslims? Do those who decline from tabligh lose some personal advantage? Does Allah Himself inform us as to who to propagate to, and how?

JAMAATS ACTIVITIES REPORT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:—

The Jamaat celebrated Muslihi Mauood Day by convening meeting at An-Nur Mosque with the President of Jamaat, Br. Jameelur Rahman in the chair.

Br. Umar Shaheed gave a short sketch of the life of Muslihi Mauood—Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad Khalifatul Masih II. He also presented the gist of the first speech delivered by Muslihi Mauood.

In his speech, Br. Jamal Murtaza dealt with the prophecy of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) regarding the birth of an "Illustrious Son" which was fulfilled accordingly in the person of Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II.

Br. Muhammad Tayyib informed the audience of the testaments expressed on the remarkable works of Muslihi Mauood.

Dr. Khalid Malik through his personal experience described a few beauti-

ful glimpses of the life of Muslihi Mauood.

Sister Aliyya Shaheed expressed the indebtedness of Ahmadi ladies to Muslihi Mauood regarding the formation of Lajna Ima Ullah.

The President in his chairman remarks, enlightened the congregation in detail concerning the life, works and exhortations of Muslihi Mauood. The members offered Zuhar and Asar prayers in congregation after which the Dinner was served by the Lajna.

York, Pennsylvania:—

The York Jamaat celebrated Muslihi Mauood Day by convening meeting in which speeches were delivered by different speakers representing Ansarullah, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Lajna Ima Ullah and Atfaul Ahmadiyya. A complete biography was presented from the childhood of Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad to his claim of Muslihi Mauood.

Br. Salim A. Muhaimin has assumed the position of Muslim Chaplain at the York County Prison, where he conducts weekly classes for the inmates in a studies of Islam programme.

Sister Shahida A. Muhaimin through the grace of God has completed the reading of the Holy Quran in Arabic. Alhamdo Lillah.

A few of our Atfal have distinguished themselves in their Schools. Harun Rashid gained first place in the religious division of the annual project fair at his school—St. Mary's Catholic School. In the same school Musa Sharif has made the first honor roll list. Ahmad Khalid, a Khadim has also made the first honor roll at York Catholic High School.

Regular Juma'a Services are being held at the Nuruddin School.

All adult members are studying "THE ESSENCE OF ISLAM" by the Promised Messiah in their preparation for the Examination at the next Annual Convention.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Maulvi Muhammad Siddique Shahid Missionary-in-Charge Surinam, South America is undergoing a cataclysmic operation, hence, members are requested to pray for the successful operation and the speedy recovery of this servant of Islam.

ISLAM PREACHED TO STUDENTS

Santa Clara, California:

Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem, the Missionary-in-Charge West Coast region, addressed two classes of Santa Clara University on "ISLAM AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER RELIGIONS" and "JESUS IN THE QURAN" respectively.

In both the classes a number of questions were asked to which Maulvi Kaleem answered to the entire satisfaction of the students and their professor.

The prepared preambles on both the topics were distributed to all the students. Besides, a booklet entitled "Why I Believe in Islam," a broadcast lecture of Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad Khalifatul Masih II, was given to all the students. A copy of the Holy Quran Arabic Text along with English translation was presented to Prof. Donam H. Wakefield for the University library.

JAMAATS ACTIVITIES

New York, New York:—

Maj. Abdul Hamid the Missionary-in-Charge North East region has sent the following report regarding Masih Mauood Day celebration:—

Masih-i-Mauood Day was celebrated on Sunday the 23rd March, 1980. A meeting was held on that day in our Mission House, at 1064 Union Street, Brooklyn. The members were informed of the meeting well in advance by a circular letter. Thanks to the good offices of brother Umar Bilal Ebrahim the President of New York Jamaat and brother N. A. Ayaz, the General Secretary who made all the necessary arrangements of the meeting, it turned out to be extremely successful. The male members, the ladies and the children thronged on this occasion to hear all about their beloved Imam Mahdi and the Promised Messiah who in this age of darkness of evil and sin, has filled the earth with spiritual light. The following speakers delivered their speeches on various aspects of the life of the Holy Promised Messiah.

1. Major Abdul Rahman Mughal recited a portion of the Holy Quran.
2. Brother Ghulam Mahmood recited one of the Urdu poems of the Promised Messiah.
3. Major Abdul Rahman Mughal — Signs shown by the Promised Messiah.
4. Brother Nurud Din Abdul Latif— The Life of the Promised Messiah.

5. Brother Salim Ahmad Nasir The Prophethood of the Promised Messiah.
6. Brother Muhammad Sadiq, the President of the New Jersey Jamaat The Inspiration that he derived from the Promised Messiah.

I was about to stand up to present a few closing remarks, when came running to me a boy and a girl carrying some papers in their hands. They expressed their eagerness to deliver their speeches on that occasion. I permitted them. Mr. Farid a boy of 12 studying in the sixth grade read out his paper; then his sister Farah a girl of 10 years age studying in the fifth grade read out her paper. Their papers were concise and to the point, written in flawless English and expressed in the excellent American accent. Both are the children of Doctor Shahid Ahmad M.D. of Staten Island, New York.

In future we will include some children in our program provided their parents inform us well in advance.

Brother Bashir Afzal closed the meeting with prayer. I am thankful to all the workers, speakers and the audience for their wonderful cooperation. May Allah bless them all. Amen.

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AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, INC.
WEST COAST REGION
3336 MAYBELLE WAY
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