

DEMISE OF HAZRAT SEYYEDAH MANSOORA BEGUM

The unexpected demise of the affectionate mother of millions of Ahmadies all over the world in the person of Hazrat Seyyedah Mansoorah Begum the daughter of Hazrat Nawab Mubaraka Begum, the grand daughter of the Promised Messiah and the illustrious wife of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III is the biggest shock, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih, the family of the Promised Messiah and the Jamaat received on December 3, 1981. INNAA LILLAHI WA INNAA ILAIHI RAJEOON.

The life long companion of her blessed husband Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III whom she strove to serve with utmost love and devotion had endeared herself to the entire community by virtue of her sterling qualities of head and heart. The grief and sorrow of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih with which he was afflicted can better be imagined than described. Contemporary history has yet to produce example of a couple more loving and devoted than the spiritual head and his spouse. She worked day and night to provide comfort and love to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih for about a half a century thereby enabling him to discharge his multifarious duties as head of the community. Hazrat Seyyedah Mansoorah Begum spared neither time nor comfort to serve her august husband round the clock and shall be remembered forever by the Ahmadiyya Community with love and gratitude.

She had encouraging and cheering word for anybody who came in contact with her. She was balm for the sufferer and the needy, generous and noble by nature. Hazrat Seyyedah Mansoorah Begum had become a household name. Lajna across the globe will miss her particularly as she endeared herself to womanfolk by showering her love and consideration to all who met her during her inspiring and faithincreasing visits abroad. Her visits to America are the phases of Ahmadiyya history which Jamaats in America will cherish in their memories.

Model of perfection with excellent qualities of head and heart, Hazrat Seyyedah Mansoorah Begum has earned a unique place in the Ahmadiyya Community as devoted wife and loving mother.

May Allah grant her an exalted place in Jannatul Firdous and enabled Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in particular, the members of the Promised Messiah's family and the entire Jamaat Ahmadiyya in general to bear the immeasurable loss with fortitude and patience. Aameen.

CABLEGRAMS SENT

The following cablegrame was sent to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih on behalf of the entire Jamaat in the States:

"MISSIONARIES, PRESIDENTS AND ENTIRE JAMAAT SHOCKED TO LEARN THE SAD DEMISE OF THEIR LOVING MOTHER HAZRAT SEY-YEDA MANSOORAH BEGUM. INNAA LILLAHI WA INNAA ILAIHI RAJEOON. KINDLY AC-CEPT HEARTFELT CONDOLENCE. MAY ALLAH GRANT PATIENCE TO THE ENTIRE JAMAATS ALL OVER THE WORLD."

The various Jamaats also sent cablegrams to Khalifatul Masih expressing their feelings at this tragic event. Br. Munawwar Saeed the President of South East Region sent the following telegram:

" On behalf of all Ahmadies in South East Region of United States I express deep sorrow at the passing away of Begum Sahiba. May Allah elevate her soul and grant strength and steadfastness to the bereaved."

Br. Latif Victor Malik the President of San Francisco Bay Area sent the following cablegram to Kalifatul Masih: "It is with the deepest regret and profound distress that the S. F. Jamaat and myself offer our heartfelt condolences. Words are weak and fruitless to remove the grief of this overwhelming loss, but consolation may be found in the fact that Begum Sahiba magnificently fulfilled her role as wife, mother, friend and spiritual guide to millions and left an unalterable presence. I pray that the Almighty may assuge the anguish of your bereavement and leave you with a cherished memory of the loved."

All the Jamaats in the States offered Janazah Ghaib and prayed for the elevation of her ranks in Jannatul Firdous.

REPRESENTATIVE DESPATCHED TO RABWAH

In order to express United States Jamaats' concern and sentiments at this shocking news and to convey our heartfelt condolence in person to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in particular and the members of the Promised Messiah's family in general, Br. Rashid Ahmad, the Regional President of Great Lakes Region was sent by the Washington Headquarters to Rabwah. Br. Rashid was graciously given audience by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih wherein he completed his mission successfully and has returned to the States. Prior to his departure for the States, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III handed him the following letter written on December 11, 1981:

Dear Mr. Rashid Ahmad,

Assalamo Alaikum, I thank you and the American Mission for your sympathies on the sad demise of my wife Syeda Mansoora Begum, May Allah be pleased with her.

I am grateful for the feelings you have expressed on this sad occasion. May Allah bless you all with His favours and bounties and reward amicably. Ameen.

> Yours affectionately, (Mirza Nasir Ahmad) Khalifatul Masih III

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCES

The Board of Directors of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc. in the States sent the following Resolution to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III:

"On December 7, 1981, the members of the Board of Directors of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam Inc., U.S.A. resolved that they are shocked to hear of the sad demise of Hazrat Seyyeda Mansoora Begum, (May Allah be pleased with her), illustric wife of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, at Rabwah, Pakistan on December 3, 1981. The Board offers its heartfelt sympathies and sincere condolences to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III on this sad bereavement, members of the Promised Messiah's family and the entire Jama'at spread across the world.

Hazrat Syeda Mansoora Begum was a devoted and loved wife of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih, who dies as a martyr, who spared neither time nor comfort to help Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in discharging his onerous duties and kept herself actively occupied in looking after the need of comforts of our spiritual leader.

The contemporary world has yet to produce an example of a wife more devoting and caring for her husband than was Hazrat Mansoora Begum. Highly popular and loved for her qualities of head and heart, Hazrat Syeda Mansoora Begum has endeared herself to the entire Ahmadiyya Community, her spiritual sons and daughters, along with the members of her immediate family. Her inspiring and faith-increasing visits to America where she infused a new life and spirit into members, particularly Lajnas, will b remembered forever with love and gratitude.

May Allah grant her exalted place in Paradise, and solace to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and the bereaved family. Aameen."

The St. Louis Jamaat sent the following resolution to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih:

"Nobody other than Khalifatul Masih can truly assess the loss he has suffered from the departure of his life-long companion but it really was an enormous loss to us all. Nobody can ever replace that mother for the children whom she has raised as excellent Ahmadis and that did not limit her motherhood to the children of her body only. But Ahmadi women will forever miss that wonderful sister who ran a household, raised several children, looked after a husband who served Islam round the clock all his life, and at the same time set up an example in practising the teachings of Islam and Ahmadiyyat; particularly when she showed Ahmadis in the West how to observe PURDAH by wearing BURQAH in the western countries. We like hundreds and thousands of other Ahmadis all over the world mourn over the loss and feel as if a loving sister or mother of our own family has gone away.

Nevertheless everyone alive has someday to tame his or her turn to return to Allah when He calls. This time it was the turn of the Hazrat Begum Sahiba and may God bless her soul. May Allah exalt her ranks and honor her with most covetted position, AMEEN."

CABLEGRAM FROM HAZRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH

The awful day (December 3, 1981) when the news of the sad demise of Hazrat Seyyedah Mansoorah Begum was received through telephone, the following cablegram was also received which was despatched before the tragic event:

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE GRACIOUS THE MERCIFUL. DEARER THAN LIFE BRO-THERS AND SISTERS, ASSALAMO ALAIKUM. YOU ALREADY KNOW THE EXTREMELY SERI-OUS CONDITION OF MANSOORAH BEGUM. SHE HAD A SEVERE ATTACK OF RENAL COLIC EIGHT DAYS AGO. THIS AFFECTED HER KID-NEYS WHICH STOPPED FUNCTIONING RESULT-ING IN STOPPAGE OF URINE. HER CONDITION TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE LAST FRIDAY AND BECAME EXTREMELY CRITICAL YES-TERDAY EVENING. SHE IS UNDER TREATMENT OF DOCTORS OF FAZLE UMAR HOSPITAL RABWAH WHO ARE GIVING TREATMENT WITH CONSULTATION OF TOPMOST SPE-CIALISTS OF PAKISTAN. FOLLOWING PRECEPT OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH, PEACE BE ON HIM, THAT IT IS ALLAH AND NOT MEDICINES VHO BRING ABOUT CURE I HAVE ALSO A-**RRANGED FOR HER TO HAVE HOMEOPATHIC** AND TIBBE UNANI TREATMENT. ALL WE AHMADIES ARE THE BRANCHES OF THE SAME HOLY TREE AND ARE UNITED TOGETHER WITH THE BONDS OF LOVE AND AFFECTION. I KNOW HOW CONCERNED AND WORRIED YOU ALL MUST BE ABOUT MANSOORAH BEGUM. I HOPE YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVING DAILY **REPORTS ABOUT HER CONDITION AND HAVE** BEEN PRAYING FOR HER. ALLAH ALONE CAN HELP US AND THERE IS NONE BESIDES HIM WHOM WE CAN TURN TO, HIM SHOULD WE IMPLORE, BESEACH, BEG AND SUPPLICATE. FOR IT IS ONLY HE WHO CAN RELIEVE US OF OUR WORRIES AND HE ALONE ALLEVIATE OUR DISTRESS. SO TURN TO ALLAH AND PRAY FOR HIS HELP AND MERCY. YOU ARE ALL SO NEAR TO MY HEART. I HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN YOU IN MY SUPPLICATIONS AND PRAYERS. MAY ALLAH GRANT YOU HIS SUPPORT AND PROTECTION. MAY HE SAVE YOU FROM ALL EVILS AND ALWAYS BLESS WITH HIS INFINITE BLESSING. ALWAYS LIE PROSTRATE AT THE DOOR OF ALLAH. MAY ALLAH BE WITH YOU. MAY ALLAH BE WITH YOU. MAY ALLAH BE WITH YOU.

MIRZA NASIR AHMAD KHALIFATUL MASIH

JAMAATS REPORTS

CHICAGO, ILL: The Jamaat has been holding its regular Friday services and weekly Sunday meetings. The new Missionary Mirza Muhammad Afzal has settled himself and is doing a good job. Alhamdo Lillah. The Tabligh Day brought the Jamaat to the streets in downtown area and passed out literature in compliance with the propagation program. The Jamaat held a party in honour of the Missionary which was attended by a large number of members who offered their support to him. The Missionary promised to give his time and support for the betterment of the Jamaat. The party was also attended by some visitors who shared in the celebration and expressed their interest in Islam with questions. The Jamaat has started a program of bringing (non-perishable) food to the mosque for the needy people. The intent is to instill the habit of giving Sadaqa.

DAYTON, OH: The Khuddamul Ahmadiyya served as host to the participants of National Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Shoora (Advisory Council) which was attended by the representatives of the Majlis in East, and Mideast Regions. The Shoora was conducted by the National Qaid Br. A. Kabeer Haqque.

The Lajna Imaullah hosted the annual meeting of the National Officers of the Lajna Imaullah U. S. A.

DETROIT, MI: Partial renovation of the renaissance mosque was completed. Propagation day was observed by distributing free literature. A special meeting was held to bid farewell to Muhammad Afzal Mirza who has been transferred to Great Lake Region with his Headquarters at Chicago, Ill. A delicious dinner was also served at this occasion.

ST. LOUIS, MO: The Jamaat is holding regular Juma's Services, and Classes and lectures on Sundays in the Sadiq Mosque. Class attendance has increased, wherein prayers, Yassarnal Quran and Hadiths are taught to the brothers and sisters. Ten non-Muslims visited the Sadiq Mosque. The Jamaat has been blessed with the arrival of Maulvi Munir Ahmad Chaudhary as Missionary and Imam of the Sadiq Mosque. Since his arrival the number of attendents has increased in Juma's Services. Leaflets are being mailed regularly to the non-Muslims.

Three persons have joined the fold of Ahmadiyyat the True Islam during the period under report. Alhamdo Lillah.

Br. Pir Ahmad and Vakila Ahmad have been blessed with a baby boy named by Khalifatul Masih— Abdul Ali Ahmad. Br. Samad Qadeer was also blessed with the birth of a baby boy. Alhamdo Lillah. May Allah enable us to raise our children in accordance with the teachings of Islam. Aameen.

ALL AHMADIES MUST ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE IN ALL FIELDS OF LIFE EXHORTS KHALIFATUL MASIH

Rabwah, Pakistan: Hazrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III addressing the 37th Annual Rally of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya on October 23, 1981 at the International Headquarters, has emphasized that the victory of Islam, demands that all Ahmadies must achieve excellence in physical, moral, intellectual and spiritual fields. The following is the gist of His Holiness address culled from The Daily Alfazl:

After Tashahhud and recitation of Surah Fatiha, Khalifatul Masih said, "This is the first rally which we are holding in the 15th Century. It is therefore, very important, and has a special significance. Hazoor added that there is a difference of nine years between the beginning of the Fifteenth Century of Hijra and the second century of the establishment of Jama'at Ahmadiyya. This nine year interval is very important and carries with it many secrets of Divine wisdom.

Khalifatul Masih said that the announcement of the Ahmadiyya Centenary plan was made several years ago. The objective of that plan was to prepare the Jama'at to welcome the second century. The time has come to expedite the tasks which were started under this plan. Referring to the nine year period, Hazoor said that in the very first year of this period, Allah has showered so many blessings on Jama'at Ahmadiyya that it astonishes ordinary human minds.

Khalifatul Masih explained at length some of the blessings of Allah. He said that we could not even imagine it but Allah granted us the ability to acquire a mission house costing \$270,000 in Japan and gave three Jama'ats the ability to finance it. The foundation of a mosque had been laid in Cordoba. That Mosque is now nearing completion. The building is under construction. The floor, electric connections, plumbing fixtures for baths and kitchen, have been completed. Only the minarets now remain. Referring to the latest news from Canada, Hazoor said that seven miles from the town of Calgary, the Jama'at has acquired 40 acres of land. It includes a mission house which is much better than the present mission house in Calgary. Hazoor added that here the blessings of Allah have really proved tremendous. Only five years ago the mission house was purchased for \$70,000. It has increased in price so that it is now being sold for \$420,000. From this money, it should be no problem to pay for the new land and mission house.

Khalifatul Masih continued by pointing out that this year in which we have seen so many glimpses of the Mercy of Allah is the first of the nine year period. During this period we have to offer our utmost sacrifices to welcome the second century of Ahmadiyyat. We have to reform ourselves fully in order to establish a strong and firmly based Jama'at, so that it may be capable of discharging its responsibilities to the utmost.

Khalifatul Masih added that the coming nine years contain in them the nature of a foundation. They make four kinds of demands upon us. The time has come, he added, that we divert our attention away from everything else and focus it on our Allah. Let us, therefore, inflict a death on all our wishes and desires, and determine to serve His Will. The four demands which the victory of Islam makes upon us are the following:

First, the Jama'at Ahmadiyya should be the healthiest Jama'at in the world. All Ansar and Khuddam must pay attention to this matter in the coming period. The practical aspects of this are that:

- Eating Tayyeb food, i.e., food which is wholesome and is suitable to the individual's physical needs;
- (II) Eating balanced food, i.e., not concentrating on starches or vegetables or meat or milk. Rather, eating from each major group in a balanced manner;
- (III) Taking suitable exercise in accordance with age, so that the food which has been consumed may provide full benefit to the body;
- (IV) Safeguarding ourselves from moral evils. Since physical well-being is affected by moral decadence.

The second demand which Hazoor laid down refers to the inculcation of intellectual excellence. It has the following aspects:

- (I) Avoiding intellectual waywardness, i.e., keeping away from the habit of wasting our time in idle and purposeless gossip; and
- (II) Achieving progressive sharpening and increased productivity of our intellect by the exercise of continued intellectual pursuits. In this connection, Hazoor said that an average youth in Europe spends 12-13 hours in study. If we have to compete with them, we must, at least, match that. When prayers are added to it, the victory will certainly belong to our students.
- (III) Being alert and alive;
- (IV) Being far sighted;
- (V) Inculcating a habit of reflecting upon ne manifestations of the attributes of Allah and deriving intellectual felicity and pleasure from these reflections.

Hazoor continued that until we beat all the civi-

ed nations in the field of knowledge, we cannot become the instruments of victory of Islam. It is therefore, essential that each Ahmadi make it incumbent upon himself to strive for the full development of his intellectual capacities.

The Third demand which His Holiness made is the development of *moral* qualities. To achieve it, the morals of Allah must be reflected in our lives. We should become living manifestations of the attributes of Allah. Hazoor added, the Holy Quran is our life. Its teachings must circulate in our bodies.

The Fourth demand, Khalifatul Masih said, is to bring our spiritual development to perfection. This perfection can only be attained when the human being establishes a living relationship with his Creator. That King of kings has, in sheer mercy, told His servants the ways to achieve a living relationship with Him. By following these ways, a human being can attain His blessings. Hazoor added that a new life is granted to him who achieves a living relationship with Him. Say Lubbaik, therefore, to the call of Muhammad, since he is calling you towards what will make you alive. Whoever will accept a death in 'he cause of Allah, will find a new life. The Holy uran says that:

"He who annihilates himself in the cause of Allah, finds angels descending upon him; (II) the angels speak to him; (II) the angels give him glad tidings of Paradise; and (IV) the angels accompany him as friends and guests."

His Holiness said that Almighty Allah has made this grand announcement that whoever achieves a new life by establishing a living relationship with Allah, will achieve supremacy in all fields of life. If you establish your relationship with Allah, and fulfill the requirements of faith, you have Allah's Word that supremacy in all fields of life will be yours.

At the end Khalifatul Masih read some excerpts from the writings of the Promised Messiah, and said, "If we inculcate our physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual faculties, we will surely defeat all the nations of the world. Then will come to pass the grand scheme of the supremacy of Islam all over the world."

37TH RALLY OF KHUDDAM

Rabwah, Pakistan: The 37th Annual Rally of the Majlis Khuddam al Ahmadiyya took place here on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th of October in full accord with its traditions. All the Khuddam and Atfal spent three days in the remembrance of Allah, prayers, and worship. They experienced a new spiritual life through the life giving words of their Imam, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih, and made fresh resolve to make every sacrifice for the victory of Islam under the banner of the new programs which Hazur presented.

The other items in the program included: the Commentary of the Holy Quran by scholars and Companions of the Promised Messiah, speeches filled with spiritual awakening, address by President of Khuddam, Brother Mahmood Ahmad, a speech from Sahibzada Mirza Farid Ahmad about his recent visit to the foreign countries, views and opinions expressed in the Advisory Committee, debate on the budget, and other intellectual and physical competitions.

The Advisory Committee (Majlis Shura) had recommended three names for the Presidency of Khuddam. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih accepted the majority opinion and appointed Brother Mahmood Ahmad as President for two further years.

Along with Khuddam, a rally of Atfal also took place in the Mahmood Hall and the Compound of the office of Majlis Ansarullah. To the delight of the innocent children, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih visited them on the second day of their rally.

In the last session of the Khuddam, Hazoor gave a concluding address which was preceded by the distribution of prizes. Among the Qaids of Zila's (Districts) the district of Sheikhupara was declared first. Karachi second and Larhkana third. Among the Atfal, Martin Road, Karachi was judged to be the first, Rabwah second and Aurangi town, Karachi, third. In writing research papers, Brother Basharat Ahmad (Martin Road, Karachi) was declared first; Brother Abdul Aziz Mangla second and Brother Ullah Kalay third. In the Competitions in scholarship held during the Rally, Brother Hameedullah of Shiekhupara won the first prize. Rabwah was the winner of the prize in the scheme of Cycling. As for the other competitions, Rabwah was first in Kabeddi, and Rabwah green in Football. Hazoor also awarded a special prize of Rs 5000 to Faisalabad Majlis for distinguished service to the flood victims in Tehsil Sumundri. Moreover, students who attained first, second, or third positions in their universities were awarded medals. (One day earlier Hazoor had offered, in plates, similar medals to girl students in the Lajna Ijtema). The best tent was judged to be that of Railway Lines Rawalpindi, the second prize going to Goal Bazar (Bajwa Market) and the third to Goal Bazar (Masjid Bilal).

A VCR film was prepared during Hazrat Khalifatul Masih's visit to Ijtema. A unique function of its own kind has been held by the various Ahmadiyya Jamaats in the States as it is convened annually by the sister branches all over the world.

It is the celebration of the Religious Founders Day which is conducted to pay tributes to the founders of different religions, on a platform provided to the adherents of diverse faiths by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. A few reports of these meetings received so far from the Jamaats are given below:

WASHINGTON, D.C.: The function was held in conjunction with the International Student Council of the University of Maryland, College Park campus at Zoo-Psych Building 1240 under the chairmanship of Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him); a retired President of International Court of Justice, the Hague; a former President of the General Assembly's 17th Session, United Nations and the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan.

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director of the American Jewish Committee Washington D. C. chapter spoke on "Moses—A Law Bearing Prophet"; the Venerable Oung Mean Candavanna, Spiritual Leader of the Cambodian Buddhist Society addressed on "Buddha the Light of Asia"; Rev. M. John Farrelly OSB, Prof. of Theology De Sales School of Theology Washington, D. C. explained "Jesus and the Christian Way"; and Alhaj Ata Ullah Kaleem the Imam of the American Fazl Mosque Washington, D. C. delivered his speech on "Muhammad the Messenger of Allah."

After the scholarly speeches of the eminent speakers, the audience of multiferious nationalities and of divergent creeds asked questions to which the speakers replied to the entire satisfaction of the questioners. This interested period lasted almost an hour which indicates the zeal and quest for knowledge of the participants.

In his Presidential address, Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan exhaustively dealt with the moral and religious degeneracy of the present day society and and then presented its solution in the acceptance of the Reformer of the age, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah, who came in the spirit and power of all the Prophets particularly in that of Jesus Christ and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him).

The function was rounded off with refreshment served to all the participants who numbered almost four hundred. During refreshment informal discussion continued between the members of various denominations. The Washington chapter presented all the non-Muslim participants with copies of different brochures on Islam along with copies of the booklet entitled "A Glimpse into the Life and Teachings of Muhammad."

A number of participants expressed their appreciations for holding such meetings and the scholarly presentations made by the speakers. For instance, Mr. Kendall Currier Halbert in his letter dated December 1, 1981 to Alhaj A. U. Kaleem, Imam of the American Fazl Mosque wrote:

> "Mrs. Roberts Chestnut of the National Press Club, my guest and I wish to thank Sir Muhammad Khan, and you for the clear, precise, inspiring presentation you both gave of the Holy Prophet Muhammad and Islam...."

The success of the function no doubt is through the mere grace of God, yet it is also a fact that the Washington chapter Executive Committee members along with other devoted workers exerted themselves in despatching the Invitations Cards to Intelligensia, distributing the flyers to the friends and neighbour and hiring the services of Public Relations Agencythat God the Gracious crowned their efforts with success. ALHAMDO LILLAH.

The highlights of Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan's Presidential Address shall, INSHA ALLAH, be published in the next issue of the Gazette.

MISSIONARY IN CHARGE JAPAN LETTER TO MISSIONARY IN CHARGE USA

Dear brother in Islam, It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge with sincere thanks the receipt of one hundred thousand US dollars (\$100,000) from Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc., Washington, D.C. 20008 U.S.A. I understand that the above mentioned amount has been sent to this Mission as a donation for the purchase of new Mission House It gives me added pleasure to in Nagoya, Japan. inform you that, by utilizing this amount sent by your Mission as donation and other donations received from other Missions, the new Mission House has already been bought in Nagoya and has been named the "Ahmadiyya Center." I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and all members of the Ahmadiyya Community who contributed towards raising this donation and pray to Allah Almighty for His choicest blessings and limitless bounties.

Your humble brother in Islam, Ataul Mujeeb Rashed Amir & Missionary in Charge The Ahmadiyya Gazette, December 1981



Ahmadiyya Center Nagoya Japan



Hazrat Ch. Muhammad Zafrullah Khan delivering his Presidential address. On the stage from left to right are seen the speakers—Alhaj Ata Ullah Kaleem, Venerable Oung Mean Candavanna, Rabbi Andrew Baker and Rev. M. John Farrelly. Next to the speakers are also seen Ch. Allah Bakhash, Mr. Sheryar Durrani and Maulvi Inamul Haq Kausar.



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The audience of different denominations and various nationalities.



Jamaat Ahmadiyya York/Harisburg

RELIGIOUS FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATED

YORK, PA: York newspapers announced the celebration of Religious Founders Day in their headlines— "Four Faiths to Meet in 'Great Exchange'."

The trun-out, which included Ahmadies and their supporters from four neighboring Jamaats, was marked by more than thirty non-Muslims, most of whom stayed for a long time engaged in lively discussion with the speakers and Ahmadies present after the formal program.

The newspapers stated that the program is "a service for the purpose of creating better understanding between followers of the four religions," and that "all believe in one God." Information about our Jamaat and our beliefs was included in the articles.

Among the speakers was Rev. Robert Ketchum speaking on the foundation of Christianity. Ketchum is Director of the York County Council of Churches and sent 1000 flyers to various associations and churches at his own expense.

Br. Husain Abdul Aziz spoke on the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him), and delivered a very well prepared lecture with feeling and clarity. The speech will be copied and distributed to participants by mail as a follow-up to the program.

Venerable Ralph Linguist, a popular insurance executive, Isshinryu Karate Master, and priest of Nichiren Buddhism spoke on Gautama Buddha in his temple robes. He attracted a large number of karate enthusiasts, college students, and other persons. A dynamic youthful Franciscan Father, Richard Davis brought students from his school and spoke well on Francis of Assisi. There was an extensive question and answer period. Alhamdo Lillah.

LOS ANGELES, CA: The Jamaat celebrated Religious Founders Day by convening meeting at Veterans Memorial Building in Culver City. Beside an advertisement in the Los Angeles Times—"FIRST TIME IN LOS ANGELES," The founders of Major World Religions are being honoured on Sunday, November 29, at 11 a.m. at Veterans Mem. Auditorium 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City. Sponsored by Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. All are invited." One thousand flyers were distributed.

Br. Rahmat Jamal, the President of the Jamaat, chaired the meeting which started with the recitation of a portion of the Holy Quran by Br. Inayatullah Khan who also presented the English version of the verses which enjoin upon the Muslims to believe in all the Prophets of God.

Br. Anwar Mahmud Khan introduced the speakers

and welcomed them along with the participants who were of different denominations and of various nationalities.

Sardar Inder Singh, Shin Zin Young, Rev. Richard Coon, Rabbi Jacob Pressman and Alhaj Ata Ullah Kaleem represented Sikhism, Buddahism, Christianity, Judaism and Islam respectively, and spoke on the lives of their founders. The speeches were followed by questions and answers period which lasted almost an hour.

The lunch was served to all the participants numbering Eighty including Fifteen non-Muslims, etc. All the non-Muslim speakers were presented with copies of the Holy Quran, the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, and the Life of Muhammad. Alhamdo Lillah.

JALSA & DECEMBER VACATION DAYS

Jalsa is a great blessing and every means should be undertaken to encourage and enable every Ahmadi Muslim to participate in the Jalsas of Qadian 1 Rabwah from time to time.

To this end, it has been suggested to form Regional committees of those who have participated to discuss the blessings of the Jalsa and organize slide shows which they can take to every Jama'at of their region some months before Jalsa to encourage the local members to pray and plan to participate.

However, some members may be under a misunderstanding about Jalsa and the session that we believe should be shifted. Perhaps 1/10 of 1% of American Ahmadi Muslims are able to participate in the Jalsa.

It is now being stated that no other activity should occur during this time as it will somehow detract from Jalsa participation.

On the contrary, longing to be at Jalsa, it will benefit us to gather in its SPIRIT to collectively pray for its success and spend our time beneficially in remembrance of Almighty Allah at this time. In America, the season of Commerce and Christmas, our young people should not be left over their school vacation without programs because a few members are out of the country. The vacation time should continue to be utilized for regional conventi auxillary ijtemas, and childrens' programs.

> (an opinion expressed by) Yahya Sharif

KHALIFATUL MASIH'S ADDRESS TO AHMADI LADIES

rabwah, Pakistan: During the 21st annual convention of the organization of Ahmadi women, Lajna Imaullah, held here in the last week of Oct., Khalifatul Masih III Hazrat Amirul Momineen (May Allah strengthen his hand) gave an address on the second day. He said that until we attain supremacy in physical health, knowledge, as well as moral and spiritual fields, the proud and haughty nations of this world will not turn to Islam. Hazoor added that this is not the time to sleep, slumber or be indolent. The Ahmadivva Movement has entered a very great and critical era, and its responsibilities have multiplied. Hazoor addressed the Ahmadi Ladies very emphatically saying, "Take heed, take heed, take heed, and work diligently with a firm determination that whatever else might happen, they have to win the homes and hearts of every opponent for Islam. Hazoor added that in reference to the Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Allah says in the Holy Quran, "Listen to Muhammad-he calls you in order to bring you to life. Hazoor prayed that we all may be spiritually alive and those are already alive may attain greater ster and strength in life, so that mankind may benefit from the benificence for which it has awaited since the creation of Adam."

Hazoor's address followed the recitation from the Holy Quran and a poem. Before beginning his address, he distributed medals to Ahmadi students attaining distinction in the academic field.

He said that in the light of the prophecies of the Holy Quran, sayings of the Holy Prophet, and the tidings which the Promised Messiah received through the blessings of the Holy Prophet, the coming century is the century of the victory of Islam. There is a difference of nine years between the beginning of the 15th Century of Hijra and the second century of Ahmadiyya. Before we enter the second century of Ahmadiyya, we have many responsibilities to discharge.

His Holiness referred to many blessings and signs of Mercy which Allah has shown us in the very first of these nine years. In this respect, he pointed out that the mosque of Cordova is a very beautiful place. It is located on a hill with two major roads on both sides. All passers-by have a nice view of the mosque. Hazoor added that, by Allah's Grace, and counting on His Mercy, he plans to go for the opening ceremony of that mosque next year.

The second blessing which Hazoor mentioned is that a house costing \$270,000 has been purchased in Japan to serve as a mission house. Similarly, in Calgary (Canada) Jamaat has found a house with 40 acres of land within 7-8 kilometers of the city, which has been purchased by the Jama'at.

Khalifatul Masih referred to address delivered at the Khuddam Convention regarding the importance of the coming century and a program for it. He added that while Allah is about to charge us with greater responsibilities, He has also given glad tiding. In Holy Quran, He says:

"No doubt you are weak, but do not display weakness, because THE ONE you have joined yourselves with is not weak."

You are sinful, but grieve not due to your sins because Allah is All-Forgiving and He has promised that if you repent from your sins, He will cover your sins with the mantle of His Mercy. And then He has given the glad tiding that if you will fulfill the obligations of faith, you will attain supremacy in all spheres of life. Allah will grant you victory in spite of your weaknesses.

His Holiness said that when we reflect upon the teachings of Islam, we find that there are four fields of effort: physical health, achievement of excellence in intellectual pursuits, moral enlightenment, and spiritual excellence. If you follow the revelation of Allah in all four fields, Allah will fulfill His promise.

Concerning the physical health, Khalifatul Masih said that one should eat proper food and take suitable exercise. He said that exercise is not hard. There should be arrangements for Ahmadi Ladies of a vast compound with high walls for exercise within Purdah. The Ahmadi ladies and girls should be the healthiest in the world. They will then attain excellence in academia also because a healthy body is needed for intellectual work too.

His Holiness stressed that all ladies should make a firm determination that not one of them will prove unfaithful to Allah. The first demand in this respect is that they should look after their healths. They should make progress in intellectual pursuits. Those who can read should sharpen their intellects. The prayer "O Allah increase me in knowledge," is not just for students. It is a prayer for every Muslim of every age—even the one who has only three days left in his life. To attain these objectives, some changes will have to be made in the organization. He added that a lady can join her husband, father, or brother in Waqfi Arzi. All such (combined) delegations should inform Laina organization for arrangements and the ladies should work for the Lajna in such delegations, and should follow their guidelines.

His Holiness said that our Ahmadi ladies and

girls should be the healthiest, the best intellectuals, and should display such light and beauty in their morals as to win the hearts of all women. Their spiritual life should attain such heights that even those who deny spirituality should be convinced. This, he added, requires efforts and sacrifices. Let us resolve that we shall give every sacrifice in attaining this status.

Concluding his address, Khalifatul Masih said that it is the responsibility of the organizations of Khuddam and Lajna to make specific progress in pursuit of these objectives. For example, what kind of food should be consumed to attain good health. He said that he has mentioned earlier the advantage of taking soya bean. Now it is up to these organizations to do further research and come up with guidelines on what consitutes good food and what is to be avoided. He added that all these arrangements *have* to be made, because the supremacy of Islam has been decreed. Now either we should march forward, or else Allah will bring another nation to replace us.

It is therefore incumbent upon all listeners to follow the revelations and not to show weakness and laxity. Follow every commandment. Allah is independent and Besought of all. He does not need the laggards and the tarnished. He has decreed that the flag of Muhammad will be hoisted on every home. So spend your days in humble prayers. He prayed that Allah may give his audience understanding, intellect and may guide those who have been appointed to positions of responsibility.

In the end, Khalifatul Masih led a collective prayer and left with salutation of Assalamo Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu.

TABLIGH ALERT: JEWISH-MUSLIM TIES ASKED

President Vitzhak Navon of Israel recently called on the Diaspora Jews, those living in other nations around the world, to "establish a dialog with Islam," so that Israel and the Muslim world could better understand each other.

In an interview with Kol Israel, Navon said that many positive statements in the Qur'an about Jews can be the basis of understanding.

Local Jama'ats are requested to provide that opportunity to their Jewish neighbors. Supply the Holy Quran and arrange a speaker for the Sunday morning breakfast-lecture at the nearest synagogue. See the article on Prophet Moses in the forthcoming Gazette for a discussion topic.

(THE DIAMONDBACK, December 1, 1981)

University of Maryland, College Park: Washing n area leaders of four major world religions—Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Judaism—came to campus in a Thanksgiving presentation as guests of the International Student Council (ISC), and stressed togetherness in a world full of inter-faith conflict.

Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, former United Nations president and Pakistan's first foreign minister, presided over the "religious founders day," and said, "Religion must serve its main purpose of uniting."

Alhaj Ataullah Kaleem, the Imam of the American Fazl Mosque in Washington, talked of the Islam faith, challenging the claim of many opposing groups that Islam is the religion of militancy.

"The greatest injustice of all is done by those who present the prophet of Islam as a fanatic," he said. "The message he (Mohammad) presented to the world was one of peace and goodness to mankind."

Kaleem also said Islam gives more respect to women than any other faith. During the presentation, the Moslem women in the audience sat in the back of the auditorium, their faces covered with veils.

Sheryar Durrani, ISC president, explained is seating arrangement. "It's basically a Moslem oradition," he said.

Durrani said the sexes are segregated so that each can concentrate on his or her teachings without distraction.

Rabbi Andrew Baker, director of the Washington chapter of the American Jewish Committee, represented Judaism.

Baker said there is a trend in Judaism toward individualism rather than dependence on a distant spirit. "No longer do we look to the heavens, but to our own study," he said, adding, "We have the law in our hands, and we are the ones who decide."

The Christian speaker, the Rev. M. John Farrelly, stressed the similarities between all the religions presented, saying, "We all believe that the greatest good is our relationship with God."

Farrelly, a professor at the DeSales School of Theology in Washington, did say there was one crucial difference between Christianity and Judaism, however. (Christians) center on the purpose and intentions of the law rather than the letter," he said.

Oung Mean Candavanna, the spiritual leader of the Cambodian Buddhist Society, spoke of a h that has not received much exposure in the West, especially in this country. But Buddhism is one of the oldest religions still practiced in the world.

Later, Durrani said he was somewhat disappointed with the student turnout at the founders day.

ASHINGTON, D.C.: On the request of Washington D. C. Chapter, Hazrat Chaudhary Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan very kindly agreed to address the members of the local Jamaat. He arrived at the Fazl Mosque Washington, D. C. at 5 p.m. and remained with the members till 9 p.m. With the grace of God the meeting was very fruitful, and the entire Jamaat enjoyed and took full benefit of his presence. He expressed his opinion on various topics of interest in a very attractive way. The first half part of this meeting was spent by him expressing the excellences of the Holy Quran. Responding to an enquiry regarding the fatherless birth of Hazrat Isa Bin Maryam, Jesus son of Mary, he referred to the relevant verses of the Holy Quran and explained that the Holy Quran is the only divine book that throws a flood of light on all the important aspects of his miraculous event. For example, how under divine command Hazrat Marvam became pregnant staying untouched by any man. The Bible is vague but the Holy Quran is very specific on this issue. The Holy Quran has resolved this difficult point in a brief statement full of wisdom. This session was concluded with the dinner repared by Washington Lajna.

In the second session which strated after the dinner, Chaudhary sahib in his exhortation made, the Ahmadi members realised in most effective way that the Promised Messiah is in fact a complete and perfect reflection of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him) for us who are living in the later days. The Holy Quran and the Sayings of the Holy Prophet give us the happy tiding of the revival of Islam through the Promised Messiah, hence, as a blessed community of the Promised Messiah we should discharge our duties accordingly.

After the speech, Chaudhary sahib encouraged the audience to ask questions on any matter of their concern. Answering a question related to the upbringing of Ahmadi children in an un-Islamic society, he stressed upon the basic responsibility of parents to create an Islamic atmosphere within the home. The parents should act upon the commandments of Allah, and teach Islam to their children by giving a practical example. He mentioned a particular family living in London and elaborated that excellent moral training is possible under any circumstances if the arents decide to do so. The mother in particular can play a very important role to discharge this duty, but the father also had to participate in a significant way. The men have to find time for the training of their off-springs.

Answering a question related to food, he said

though he is neither a doctor nor a dietician, he may recommend whatever lawful food is taken it should be wholesome and should not be eaten in excess. He quoted an old saying that the muslims do not eat unless they are hungry and they quit eating before the hunger is fully gone.

Commenting on the opposition of Ahmadiyyat in Pakistan and on the end of the opponents, he said that the truth of the Promised Messiah's prophecy in this regard has been manifested and the Ahmadiyya Community as a whole has gained progress and strength in Pakistan. Those who called the believers as non-Muslim, there dreadful end is clearly explained in the Holy Quran, and we are an eye-witness to its truth. Even the bitterest enemy of our community is forced to say that the progress of Ahmadiyyat cannot be hindered. We feel sorry for those who do not take advantage of God's merciful concessions granted to them, and forced themselves to fall into the deathpit.

NEW YORK, N. Y: As requested by the New York Jamaat, Hazrat Chaudhary Sahib graciously met about 200 members at Public School specially rented for the purpose in Flushing, N. Y.

Br. Abid Haneef opened the meeting with the recitation of a piece of the Holy Quran, and the Regional Missionay M. M. Ibrahim formally introduced the revered Chaudhary to the audience for the benefit of those who are not fully aware of the laudable services he has been rendering to the community during his seventy years hective activity on the national and international level.

Hazrat Chaudhary Sahib commenced his invigorating address with recitation of the verses of the Holy Quran relating to our responsibilities as Ahmadi Muslims and our obligation to the cause of the Community. He explained that out of gratitude to Allah for all that He has bestowed on us, we must keep on spending in this way to help the cause of His faith. Allah's plan shall prevail despite our niggardliness, and we might be replaced by others who will consistently be making requisite financial sacrifices, and we will, he stressed be the losers. Allah has favoured us with His Grace and bounties, we could be deprived of all that He has given us any time, if we refuse to contribute consistent with our means. The discourse feelingly delivered was received with rapt attention. The regular speech lasting over an hour was followed by a fairly long but highly interesting question-answer session. New York Jamaat and brothers from the neighbouring areas who formed the audience found themselves highly inspired in Hazrat Chaudhary Sahib's company.

SEMINAR ON CONCEPT OF GOD

The Washington, D. C. Lajna Imaullah hosted a seminar on Saturday the 12th of December 1981 at the masjid. The theme was "CONCEPT OF GOD IN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY." The purpose of the activity was to invite Christian women from local churches for an exchange of views and to promote knowledge of Islam and Ahmadiyyat, in a social setting.

The program opened with reading from the Holy Quran and translation of first part of Surah Al-Fatiha, Ayat Al-Kursi and the last three Ayats of Surah Al-Hashr President of Lajna Nusrat J. Ahmad stated the purpose of the meeting in her warm welcoming address: To increase knowledge of the Most High and to exchange different concepts of God. She said, "We believe in One Source; we are all awed by the Creator whether we are Muslim, Jew, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist or Sikh. Creation was not by accident. We come together to honor the Creator."

The first speaker was Lisa Battle, a medical student and member of the United Methodist Church. She stated her belief in the Bible and in Jesus as God in the Holy Trinity, that God showed Himself to man through Jesus.

The second speaker was Ann M. English of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (Roman Gatholic). Her beliefs were similar to Miss Battle's: Jesus was god and man. She said Catholic Christianity is changing to recapture tradition which emphasizes the Bible and human reason in speculating on the Bible. Some early Church writings are important, even though they are not Scripture, and should be re-examined.

The third speaker was Azra Ahmad, who stated that "Our belief in God must remain imperfect if it be not backed up by a true conception of Him.

Islam refuses to acknowledge, Azra Ahmad continued, the incarnation of the Divine Being. That the highest aim of religion is communion with God is a fact universally recognized. According to Islam, this communion is not attained by God assuming a human shape in the sense of incardation but by man rising gradually towards God by spiritual progress and the purification of his life from sensual desires and low motives. The perfect one who reveals the face of God to the world is not the Divine Being in human form, but the human being whose person has become a manifestation of divine attributes by his own personality having been consumed in the fire of love of God. He serves as an incentive and is model for others to follow. He shows by his example how a mere mortal can attain communion with God.

The fourth speaker, Nuzhat Khalid, discussed "Allah, God of Islam." She declared that abstractions are not relevant to knowledge of God; His attributes are distinct from Allah. He chooses to reveal some of His attributes to man, the 99 attributes in the Quran were revealed because they were suited to the level of human understanding of the time. He is Lord of all the universes. Allah is in the Bible and the Torah; all of God's Prophets are respected in Islam; He is the Unseen, the High, the One.

In summarizing the discussion, Shakura Noorinh, recited Sura Al-Ikhlas and commented that the cussion of "Concept of God in Islam and Christianity" had fulfilled the purpose of the meeting: to explore knowledge of both faiths and begin to build bridges of understanding and respect for each other. Allah has endowed the participators with the ability to act according to their own conclusions, but constant supplication for guidance will lead to the right path of Islam. She emphasized such similar beliefs in the two faiths as belief in all the Prophets of the Bible; Scripture; worship of God; and service to man. She said that Islam is the prescription for times of adversity and prosperity and the hearers should be diligent in remembering God gratefully and moving among His creatures with humility, peace, and love, always seeking His forgiveness and guidance.

> Shakura J. Nooriah, General Secretary

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