

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

## The AHMADIYYA GAZETTE

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

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### I AM THE IMAM OF THE AGE, SAYS THE PROMISED MESSIAH

Now, finally one question is left that, who is the Imam of the Age for this period, obedience to whom has been declared obligatory by God the Exalted upon the entire Muslim Community, the pious, the dreamers and the recipients of revelations?

Hence, I pronounce without fear that by the Grace and Favor of God the Supreme, I am that Imam of the Age; and God the Exalted has aggregated in me all the necessary signs and conditions.

I have been raised at the head of the century of which fifteen years have already elapsed. (Now 100 years have elapsed — Ed.) I have appeared at a time when Islamic beliefs had fallen prey to dissensions. ... Hence, these diverse opinions and different views called for an arbitrating Judge. Know then that I am that tribune. I have been sent to break the cross spiritually and to resolve the differences...

I do not insist that you confine your faith to past miracles. On the contrary, I say that if I am not the Judge then compete with me in signs... Allah the Supreme has favored me with four miracles.

1. I have been blessed with eloquence and fluency in Arabic as a reflection of the miracle of the Holy Quran, and there is **none** who can compete with me in this behalf.
2. I have been vouchsafed the sign of the exposition of the truths and sciences of the Holy Quran and **none** can compete with me in this respect.
3. I have been favored with the sign of profuse acceptance of prayers and **none** can compete with me in this respect...
4. I have been granted the sign of prophecies and **none** can compete with me in this respect.



These are the evidences of God the Supreme with me and the prophecies of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be on him) have been fulfilled in me like glittering signs.

(Zarooratul Imam, pp. 42-45)

## TRUTH ABOUT ISA BIN MARYAM AND HIS SECOND ADVENT

The Second Advent of Isa Bin Maryam or a Messiah in Islam is an accepted Belief of Islam. There is a lot of confusion, however, as regard to the identity of the person Isa. There is a popular belief among Muslims that Isa, the son of Mary, born about 2,000 years ago (roughly 600 years before the Holy Prophet's birth) went up to heaven and that he will come down again in the world to wage wars for Islam and help the Muslims out of their miserable plight. A number of questions arise by holding this view:

First, he was a human being like any other prophet. How could he go to heaven physically and survive there throughout the past 2,000 years?

Secondly, he was a prophet. There can be no prophet after the Holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.), he being the 'Khatam-an-Nabiyyeen', the Seal of the Prophets. How, then, Hazrat Isa, himself a prophet, can appear after the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.)? Is it not contradictory to the Quranic title 'Khatam-an-Nabiyyeen' of our Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.)?

Thirdly, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) is the greatest of all prophets. How Hazrat Isa, a much junior prophet, junior even to Hazrat Ibrahim and Moses, could live, while the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) and all other prophets have passed away?

Fourthly, is it not an insult of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) if we hold the belief that in the time of the miserable plight of the Muslims, none of his own followers will be capable of helping them, rather an Israeli prophet and in fact much junior to the Holy Prophet, would be sent to restore the dignity of Islam and bring the Muslims out of their plight?

On the other hand, it is confirmed by the Traditions that an 'Isa will appear among the Muslims in the latter days, and, as a result, the Muslim Ummah will enjoy the best of time, as is clear by the following Hadith:

**"How an excellent condition you will be in when 'Ibn Maryam' will descend among you and he will be an Imam from among yourselves."** (Bukhari, Muslim)

That the 'Isa will break the cross and will bring about reconciliation among the Muslims is confirmed by another Hadith:

**"Most surely 'Ibn Maryam' will descend among you as 'Hakam' (judge) and 'Adl' (arbitrator). He will break the cross."** (Bukhari, Muslim, Masnad Ahmad)

There is something noteworthy, however: Whereas there are numerous Traditions to the effect that an 'Isa will appear among the Muslims, there is not a single Hadith which says that Isa, the son of Mary, went up to heaven. On the contrary, we find such Ahadith as speak clearly of his death. For instance:

(i)

**"Verily, Isa Bin Maryam lived for 120 years."** (Hujajul Kiramah, p.428; Ibn Kathir Vol.2, p.242; Kanzul-Ummal Vol. 6, p.20; Mawahab Duniyyah Vol.1, p.42; Tafseer Jalalain)

(ii)

**"Had Moses and Jesus been alive they would have no alternative left but to follow me."** (Al-Yawaqit wal Jawahir by Imam Sha'rani; Madarij-as-Salikeen by Imam Ibn al-Qayyim; Sher'h Fiq'h Akbar, p.99)

Neither is there any single reference in the Holy Quran, relevant to the physical ascent of Jesus to heaven. All what the Holy Quran says is:

**"Bar-Rafa-a'hullaho Ilaibe"**

The verb "Rafa'a" here which is erroneously taken for the physical ascent of Jesus Christ occurs in the Holy Quran in respect of many other persons too, and, in no case whatsoever, has given the meaning of their physical ascent. It has throughout stood to express the spiritual ascent of a righteous person after his death (see for reference: 7:171; 19:58). Otherwise, the Holy Quran too, has clearly spoken of the death of Jesus Christ. For example, it says:

- that all prophets before the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) have passed away: (3:14)
- that the worship of Jesus as 'God' (by Christians) was to begin only after the death of Jesus: (5:117).
- that all those who are worshipped besides God are dead: (16:21-22).
- that none of the earlier prophets can live while the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) dies: (21:35).

That it is only the wrong interpretation of some verses of the Holy Quran which has led Muslims to believe in the physical ascension of Jesus Christ is further confirmed by many writings of learned Muslim Scholars and theologians of the past and present. The following may be quoted:

1. Imam Raazi in his commentary of the Holy Quran under the verse "Raafi'o'ka Ilayya" says:

**"This verse tells that 'raising up' of Jesus Christ is in respect of his spiritual dignity only, and not in respect of place or direction."** (Tafsir Kabir by Imam Fakhrud-din Raazi).

2. Imam Hafiz Ibn Al-Qayyim (1350) says:

**"And what is said about Jesus Christ that he was taken to heaven at the age of 33 years, has no origin whatsoever."** (Zad al-Ma'ad Vol 1 p. 20; Fat'hul Bayan Vol. 2 p. 49.)

3. Imam Shaokani (1834) says:

**“This verse tells that Allah caused 'Isa to die before he raised him up.”** (*Fat'hul Qadeer p. 4*)

4. Sheikh Mohmud Shaltut, the late Grand Mufti of Egypt and Rector of the Azhar University, Cairo, says:

**“It is obvious that 'Raf'a' (raising up) which follows 'Tawaffi' (death) is only in respect of honor and spiritual dignity and not of body.”** (*Al-Fataawa p. 56*)

5. Sheikh Rasheed Razaa, another reputed Mufti of Egypt (1915) writes:

**“Because of the fact that the word 'Tawaffi' means nothing but death, 'Raf'a' (raising up) means only the raising up of the soul (and not of body).”** (*Tafsir Al-Manaar.*)

6. In the Muslim World League of Mecca publication of the Commentary of the Holy Quran, we find the following explanation of the verse under reference:

**“The verb, 'rafa'ahu, (lit., “he raised him” or “elevated him”) has always, whenever the act of raf'a (“elevating”) of a human being is attributed to God, the meaning of “honoring” or “exalting”. (The Message of the Quran p. 177)**

This brings us a clearer picture of the point at issue, namely, that Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the Israeli prophet of Mosaic dispensation, neither rose up to heaven physically (with his mortal body), nor is he living there to this day. So the question of reappearing of the self-same Jesus is ruled out entirely.

What, then, does the coming of a Messiah really mean and in whose person are the prophecies of his second advent meant to be fulfilled?

In order to find answers to this question we must reflect upon the following irresistible facts:

**1. that the appearance of a Messiah among the Muslims is an accepted belief of Islam and is reported by many authentic Ahadith like Bukhari, Muslim, Mas'nad Ahmad, etc.**

**2. that the Messiah to reappear among the Muslims will be an Imam from among themselves.** (*Bukhari, Muslim*)

**3. that the appearance of this Messiah will take place at a time when camels will be abandoned.** (This points to the invention of new modes of transport replacing all old transport media, camels being the most prominent among them.) (*Muslim Vol. 2 p. 494*)

**4. that the Messiah and Mahdi are one and the same person, as said the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.): “Certainly you will meet 'Isa, Bin Maryam, who is the Imam Mahdi.”** (*Masnad Ahmad Vol. 2 p. 41*).

and

**“Mahdi is no other than 'Isa”.** (*Ibn' Maja*)

**5. most important of all, that the Second Messiah has been described by the Hadith as having different features from those of the first Messiah (Jesus Christ).** About Jesus Christ, the Holy Prophet is reported to have said:

**“I saw Isa, Musa and Ibrahim (in a vision). As for Isa,**

**he was of reddish skin color and curly hair, having a wide chest”** (*Bukhari-Kitab Bad-ul-Khalq*).

While, about the second Messiah, the Prophet described his features as having **'long hair and wheat-coloured skin'**. (*Bukhari: Bab zikr-Ad-Dajjal*).

All these facts, deduced from authentic Traditions, as shown above, lead to the inevitable conclusion that the prophecies concerning the second advent of the Messiah will be fulfilled in a person from among the followers of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.), who was to bear attributive names of 'Messiah' and 'Mahdi' in view of his double fold reformatory task: (i) explaining the true nature of Jesus Christ as a prophet and a humble servant of God and thereby exposing the hollowness of Church Christianity in unduly exalting him to the status of divinity, and, at the same time, (ii) reforming the moral and spiritual condition of Muslims, thereby bringing about final and lasting victory of Islam.

This expels the whole confusion surrounding the identity of Jesus Christ, who, as shown above, neither went to heaven nor there is any question of his coming down again from heaven. He, being a prophet and a human being, could not live for 2,000 years.

The Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, who himself claimed to be the second Messiah and Imam of this age, has further explained that Jesus was never crucified, though put on the cross for a short while, and, after having been taken down from the cross, was made to appear like the one crucified.

Further, that the assumption that someone else was given the shape of Jesus Christ and put on the cross instead, while he himself was lifted to heaven, is not only too ridiculous but also against Allah's Majesty and attribute of Justice.

Again, that he, after recovering from the wounds he sustained on the cross, travelled to the East, lived to the ripe old age of 120 years and, after fulfilling his mission, died a natural death in India (at Srinagar, Kashmir), and was thus raised upto heaven like all righteous prophets of Allah.

This secret about Jesus Christ which was disclosed to the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam through Divine revelation has, since then, received the acclamation of many eminent scholars:

1. **Sheikh Rashid Razaa**, the late Grand Mufti of Egypt says: “His flight to India and his death in that country is neither beyond reason nor contradictory to the Traditions.” (*Al-Manaar Vol. 5, p. 900*)

2. **Sheikh Muhammad Shaltut**, the late Grand Mufti of Egypt and Rector of Al-Azhar University, Cairo, writes: “There is neither in the Holy Quran nor in the sacred Sunnah any convincing evidence to the assumption that Isa went to heaven with his body and that he is still there, but the fact is that Allah caused him to die and raised him towards Him.” (*Ar-Risala, Vol. 642, May 15, 1942*)

3. **Sheikh Muhammad Asad**, the learned commentator of the Quran writes in his book *The Message of the Quran*, published by the Muslim World League, Mecca: "Nowhere in the Quran is there any warrant for the popular belief of many Muslims that God has 'taken up' Jesus bodily into heaven." (*The Message of the Quran*, p. 117)

The learned scholar categorically denies all stories connected with the assumed ascension of Jesus: "There exist among Muslims many fanciful legends telling us that at the last moment God substituted for Jesus a person closely resembling him (according to some accounts, that person was Judas), who was subsequently crucified in his place. However, none of these legends find the slightest support in the Quran or in authentic Traditions, and the stories produced in this connection by the classical commentators of the Quran must be summarily rejected." (*The Message of the Quran*, p. 117)

4. **Sir Syed Ahmad Khan**, the Founder of the Muslim University, Aligarh, India, writes: "Hazrat Isa's death has been mentioned in the Holy Quran at four different places. In all the first three places the natural death of Isa is abundantly clear. It is only some 'Ulemas' who without pondering over the Holy Quran, maintained, in the footsteps of certain Christian denominations, that Isa rose up to heaven." (*Tafseer* by Sir Syed Ahmad, Vol. 2, p. 48)

The Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam further explained that while the coming of an Israeli Prophet after the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) is contradictory to his being Khatam-an-Nabiyyeen, the wearing of prophetic mantle by any of his followers through his complete submission to and by annihilating himself in the consuming love of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) is neither against the Holy Quran nor contrary to the accepted

belief of the Muslim Ummah; and that the Hadith: "There is no prophet after me" only means that 'there will be no law-bearing prophet after me.' This view, he added, is in conformity with that of the earlier Muslim theologians, saints and scholars. A few can be cited as examples:

1. Sheikh Mohyuddin Ibn al-Arabi says:

"The Prophethood that has ceased with the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) is only the Law-bearing Prophethood and not the Prophethood in itself. So there will be no such Law as may abrogate the Law of the Prophet (s.a.w.) or add to his Law any new ordinance. This is what is really meant by the Prophetic statement, namely that 'the Apostleship and Prophethood have ceased and there will be no prophet after me'; implying that 'there will be no prophet after me to abrogate my Law, but whenever there will be, he will be under my own Law'." (*Al-Fotuhatul Makiyya*, Vol 2, p.3)

2. Again he says:

"The Prophethood has not ceased entirely. Therefore we said that it is only the Law-bearing Prophethood that has come to an end. This is exactly what *La Nabiyya Ba'di* means." (*Ibid*, Vol. 2, p. 24)

3. Similarly, Imam Abdul Wahab Sha-rani says:

"Know it for certain that Prophethood has not ceased in its entirety. It is only the Law-bearing Prophethood that has ceased." (*Al-Yawaqito wal-Jawahir*, Vol.2, p.2)

4. Hazrat Shah Wali-Ullah of Delhi, who has been acclaimed as the Mujaddid (Reformer) of the 12th Century Hijra, says:

"That the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was the 'Seal of the Prophets' means only that there will be none after him whom Allah may assign the task of introducing a new Law to the people." (*Tafhimat Ilahiyya*, Vol.2, p.72)

## STUDENTS RIGHTS PLAN

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III has initiated a plan to preserve the rights of all the students. To bring Ahmadi students within the fold of this important and blessed plan, all the Presidents of Ahmadiyya Jamaats in the United States are requested to send the following data on each and every student, from K.G. upto Ph.D., by March 30, 1981:

Name of student; Age; Male/Female; grade/class; Name of father/guardian; Name of school; City; any subject(s) of special interest.

Please send this information to Mubashir Ahmad, Administrative Secretary, 2141 Leroy Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

## Ahmadi Students Win Scholastic Honors

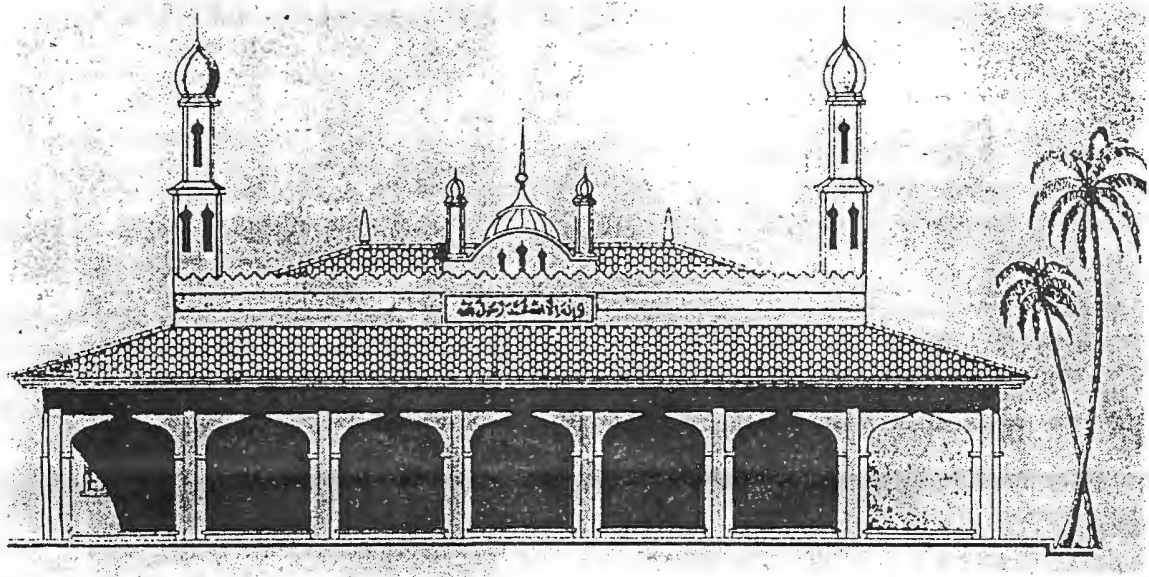
Of the six Ahmadi Muslim students in the Catholic school system of York, three have continued the fine reputation of our Jamaat by placing as follows:

Ahmad Tariq Sharif: 1st place (tied), Soph. class

Ahmad Khalid Collidge: 4th place in senior class, York Catholic High School

Musa 'Sharif Collidge: First Honors list, St Mary's School.

Our students in compliance with the wishes of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih have repeatedly taken high places among hundreds of Catholic students in their own schools. *Alhamdo Lillah.*



*Sketch of the first Mosque being built by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission in Spain*



*The Missionaries and the Presidents with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III during his visit to Washington, D.C., in September, 1980*

## THE SECOND ADVENT OF JESUS CHRIST

### SIGNS OF THE SECOND ADVENT

Jesus had foretold his second advent. He had also spoken of the signs of the time when he was to come for the second time. He had said: "And ye shall hear of war and rumours of wars... For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earthquakes in diverse places" (Matt. 24:6-7). We have seen that each and everyone of these signs has been fulfilled. There have been wars, famines, earthquakes, all on a scale hitherto unknown to the world. The calamities of these days have been universal. They call for a universal remedy.

### HE APPEARED IN THE EAST

Our God has not forgotten His creation. He has also not forgotten His promise. He has sent a messenger of His in this age who has claimed to have come in the spirit and power of Jesus Christ. He came from a country which is exactly in the East of the Holy land as prophesied in Matt. 24:27. His name is Ahmad of Qadian, India (1835-1908), the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). He has come to call all people around one Faith i.e. Islam, which is the only solution for all the problems of the world.

### I AM THE LIGHT OF THIS DARK AGE

He says: "I am the light of this dark age; he who follows me will be saved from falling into the pit prepared by Satan for those who walk in the dark. I have been sent by God to lead mankind to Him, through gentleness and humility, and to reestablish the reign of morals in Islam. God has provided me with heavenly signs for the satisfaction of seekers after truth. He has disclosed to me the secret of the unseen and of the future which according to the Holy Scriptures is a sign for a true claimant of divine revelation, and He has vouchsafed to me Holy and pure knowledge.

### THE OBJECT OF MY ADVENT

Again he says: "Jesus had found the Jews in the same state in which I find the world today, and just as lack of faith had driven love of God from the hearts of the Jews and had destroyed their morals, the world has today ceased to love God, and I have been sent to restore Truth and faith and to revive the love and fear of God in the hearts of men. This alone is the object of my existence.

### THE MANNER OF APPEARANCE

It is only natural that you will raise objection to the claims of the Promised Messiah because his advent has not taken place in the manner that you expect. But let you, however, know how the prophecy regarding the appearance of Elijah was fulfilled. According to II Kings 2:11 Elijah ascended into heaven in a chariot drawn by horses and the Jews were expecting his return to earth which would precede the coming of the Messiah promised to them (Malachi 4:5). However, Elijah never appeared in the manner that they expected but instead this

prophecy was fulfilled in John the Baptist who came in the power and spirit of Elijah and not physically from heaven. (Matt. 11:14 and Matt. 17:12, 13).

The above references clearly indicate that when anybody is spoken of in the scriptures as having gone to heaven to come back to this mortal world of ours it does not mean that that man has actually gone to heaven with his body of clay and that the same person will come back to live among us. Jesus is also said to have gone to heaven. We must therefore never be like the Jews of the days of Christ to expect the self-same Christ who was born to Mary (peace be on both of them) to descend from heaven. His ascension was spiritual and so must his descension also be. Jesus himself has denied his physical return to this world for it is recorded in Matt. 23:39 that he said: "Ye shall not see me henceforth till ye shall say blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." And such was Hazrat Ahmad's claim that he had come in the name of Jesus. So, it is hoped that the mistake of the Jews in not accepting the divine office of John the Baptist and consequently rejecting the claims of Jesus to be their Messiah, may serve as a lesson and a caution to those Christians who were awaiting the return of Jesus. Let them not be too self assured that the second coming of Jesus is to be fulfilled exactly in accordance with their expectations. Let them therefore hearken to the call of him that has appeared in the East and let them investigate the truth (in accordance with criterion mentioned by Jesus in Matt. 7:15-20) of the claims of God's Anointed — Hazrat Ahmad, the Promised Messiah, the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

### WHY HAS HE APPEARED FROM AMONG THE MUSLIMS?

Now, why has the Promised Messiah appeared from among the Muslims? Because all the other religions have been absorbed into Islam and, as it has been explained in the Holy Quran 5:4, Islam is the completion of God's revelation for mankind. This is the reason that it is only the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, who has been sent for the whole of mankind while all the other previous prophets including Jesus came for particular tribes and nations. Islam does not deny the truth of Christianity but claims to be the completion of Christian belief of today as representing the original pure faith taught by Christ. It was, therefore necessary for the Promised Messiah to appear among the Muslims to re-establish the truth of Islam and to point out the misconceived and false beliefs that had crept into all religions generally and into Christianity particularly.

Hazrat Ahmad says: "I have never any desire to claim to be the Promised Messiah; I love to remain in solitude and to be quite unknown to the world abroad. But Divine wisdom ordained it otherwise and God enjoined me to come out of the corner of solitude which I love. Almighty God does not love that greater honor and dignity should be attributed to a man than that to which he is entitled.

This is against His Unity. Hence because Jesus whom God sent as a Messiah to the Israelites was taken for a God, Divine jealousy ordained that another man should be sent as a Messiah so that the world may know that the first Messiah was nothing more than a weak mortal. Almighty God has by raising one of the followers of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be on him) to the dignity of the Messiah, not only corrected the error of the Christians in unduly exalting Jesus but also revealed the true dignity of him whose servant appears as the Messiah of the last ages.

### ISLAM A LIVING RELIGION

Another reason why the last Messiah is raised from among the Muslims is that Islam is a living religion whose blessings shall not be intercepted to the day of judgement. It shows how great is the sanctifying power of our Holy Prophet that his spirituality has not ceased to cast its wholesome influence upon his followers even after thirteen hundred years."

So, Christians of this age, if you have faith in Jesus, do not turn away from this call which has been made by God.

### THE PROMISED MESSIAH

The Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, was born on February 13, 1835, in Qadian, India. His father's name was Mirza Ghulam Murtaza.

In early youth, the Promised Mesiah was given to worship of God and his heart overflowed with the love of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be on him). He led a quiet life of devotion to prayer and was helpful to the poor. At the age of 40 he was called to the office of Mahdi and Messiah. Allah commanded him to serve the cause of Islam and to call the world to the Holy Book and the Holy Prophet. Muslims had become very backward in all walks of life and had grown weak in faith. He put before them the original teachings of Islam. Those who joined him are known as Ahmadi Muslims. People opposed him bitterly and caused him grievous suffering. But he kept working for Islam with patience and courage. God gave him a large party of Islam and now his followers are to be found all over the world. God showed many signs and miracles at his hand and re-established faith firmly in the hearts of tens of thousands of his followers.

The Promised Messiah wrote over 80 books in defense of Islam and on the excellence of the Quranic teachings and the glory of the Holy Prophet's light. He passed away on 26th May, 1908 in Lahore and was buried in Qadian, the Headquarters of the Movement.

## AHMADIYYA MUSLIM SCHOOL, MILWAUKEE

This marks the second year that the Ahmadiyya Muslim School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been in operation. *Alhamdo Lillah*. The Ahmadiyya School has five grades: Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten taught by Mrs. Muhammadi Sabir, First grade taught by Mrs. Salim Fatima. Other teachers at the school include Mrs. Aziza Ahmad—Religion; Mrs. Annisa Walid — Manuscript and handwriting; Mrs. Nasira Raza Chaudhary — Yassarnal Quran and Quran; Mrs. Qadeera Sadiq—Creative abilities; and Mrs. Nusrat Jahan Bashir—first grade science.

An additional part of the school, which began as a baby-sitting service for teachers, is a learning center for pre-school age children. The learning center provides lessons in phonics, counting, colors, etc. and has a reading center with tables and chairs, puzzles, and numerous creative learning games.

In addition to the full schedule of courses we already have, we have upgraded our math and science programs and have added to our supply of books in this area. We try to stress religion in our school and are happy to report that two students, Malik and Bushra Bashir have completed Yassarnal Quran and are reading the Holy Quran. This year we also had an Eid Program, directed by Mrs. Aziza Ahmad, at which the children told stories about the meaning of Eidul Adha, and Abraham and Ishmael, among others. The children also quoted Ahadith and recited over 40 attributes of God and their English meanings which they have learned.

Other activities which the school has held include a trip to the zoo, a Frankfurter Day, and milk breaks made possible through the donation of milk by one of our parents.

We are presently collecting Campbell soup labels and Kellogg's proof of purchase seals so we can get equipment for our school. We would appreciate your help in collecting these things. Labels as well as proof of purchase seals can be sent to the school. This is our first attempt at a Newsletter and we welcome your suggestions. We also request your prayers for the success of the Ahmadiyya School and welcome any help you can offer or share with us for the betterment of the school. *Jazakumullaho Khairan*.

The Ahmadiyya School Board, Milwaukee

MARCH 22 :

MASIH MAUOOD  
DAY  
MEETINGS

## JALSA SALANA IMPRESSIONS

**MUZAFFAR AHMAD ZAFAR:** Twenty-one delegates from the U.S.A. by the Grace of Almighty God attended the first Jalsa Salana of the 15th century.

We were blessed to hear Hazrat Sahib's speeches simultaneously translated. What a great Blessing this was. This was the first time for me to feel that I actually could hear every speech made at Jalsa Salana.

Hazrat Sahib has spelled out a massive educational program for Ahmadi children. I enjoin us American Ahmadies to have our children finish in the top ten of their class and send their names to Hazrat Sahib for prayers.

We must strive to have a zero school drop-out rate. Every Ahmadi child should graduate from High School. It is the duty of us parents to provide for them the best provisions we can so that they might achieve the very best. Hazrat Sahib has stated that we should give our children Lecithin with Soya, thus we strengthen the brain and help the child to perform more mental work in sixty percent of the time normally used. Hazrat Sahib wants 100 geniuses within the next ten years.

Hazrat Sahib spoke very favorably about the American Ahmadi ladies who were observing Purdah and recalled his visit to America in 1976 and warned our women folk that if they continued to follow the examples of the non-Muslim Americans we will pick up their habits and lose our daughters. There was one sister at Jalsa Salana who has started to wear the Burka and she will be the only American Sister in her city to wear the Burka. I pray and request all of you to pray that Allah will give this sister strength and patience until some other American Ahmadies join her. To sum up this discussion on Purdah, Sahibzada Mirza Tahir Ahmad said those persons who fear man will not observe Purdah, those who fear Allah will observe Purdah.

Hazrat Ameerul Momineen said we must recite *La ilah illallah* much, and that he saw in this century the Hindus and Christians turning away from their false beliefs. We in America must step up our propagational activities so we might play some part in this great victory of Islam. We must increase our centenary pledges so we might contribute to the building of new mosques in Europe.

I am bursting with joy that Huzur has blessed we American Ahmadies by allowing us to host the Conference of Deliverance of Jesus from the Cross in 1982. This conference will be held at Madison Square Garden, Insha'Allah.

Brothers and sisters you can see that Almighty God is giving America a great opportunity to serve Islam. We

American Ahmadies must rise up to this great challenge. What a great blessing we have. May Almighty God shower success upon Hazrat Ameerul Momineen, may God forever strengthen his hand and grant him a long life. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifa of two centuries. What a blessing we Ahmadies enjoy to be Muslims, to be Ahmadies, to serve under a Khalifa at the second rise of Islam.

Brothers and sisters, my writing skills leave much to be desired, so I shall not take up more space. I will see many of you during this year and I can share my experience of Jalsa Salana with you. I would like to thank each Brother and Sister who accompanied me on Jalsa for allowing me to serve them. I congratulate each and every person who has attended Jalsa. I wished that each of you could have attended this Historical Jalsa, the first of the 15th century. *Was Salam.*

**SIS. AMATUSH SHAKUR:** (Sister from Milwaukee, Wis.) I am writing a long overdue account of my Jalsa trip. I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to go to Jalsa two years together. It is an experience that I long to experience again and again. I want to be surrounded by people and a community that are about the business of serving and pleasing God. You will not have to ask this year if I am planning to go — going again is a daily thought and a continuous prayer.

When I am in Qadian and Rabwah I feel so blessed, but yet unworthy. There is so much for me to learn, not only about Islam but what it means to love mankind and my responsibilities.

I will try now to give a more explicit account. The many forms of transportations i.e. modern airplanes, buses, cars and trains add a new adventure for a weary traveller. It offers contrast and many opportunities to test one's resilience. One can be exposed to luxury and poverty all within a few hours. I think there are a lot of physical and mental adjustments to make. But I would not identify these adjustments as difficult because of the spiritual foundations they are supported by. I experienced a similar contrast in our living accommodations. I have recognized that there are blessings to be gained in all that I endure.

So, in conclusion, I feel blessed and have a desire to return, it is not something that is to be done once, but should be a planned part of each year. It is a great opportunity to magnify one's relationship with God and also mankind.

I am sorry it took me so long. I thought I had written enough in one page and then decided I needed to add more.



## JAMAATS CONDUCT SEERATUN NABI MEETINGS

**Washington, D.C.:** The Jamaat held the meeting at a suburban hotel in Maryland on February 1, 1981. Invitation cards in large numbers were sent out to members of the Jamaat and their guests. Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, a grandson of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) presided over the meeting. In his opening remarks after the recitation of the Holy Quran and the translation of the portion recited in English and Urdu by Mubarak Ahmad Malik, Sahibzada Ahmad pointed out two major purposes of the meeting:

1. To mould our lives in the fashion of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be on him), keeping in view at the same time his lofty character and marvelous teachings.

2. To remove the misconceptions and ignorances prevailing against him and Islam as well. He reminded his audience, how in 1920-1930, an abusive campaign was launched by Arya Samaj, an antagonist sect of Hinduism, against Islam and its Holy Founder. The Muslehe Mauood, Hazrat Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmud Ahmad Khalifatul Masih II, defended Islam by writing many articles, posters and leaflets. He further said that the Jamaat Ahmadiyya is still willing to participate in any meeting arranged by any other religious organization to bring harmony and to clear the polluted atmosphere. Sahibzada Ahmad exemplified three basic points of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be on him):

1. Excellent and perfect exemplar. *Maa Ana Illa Basharun Mithlokum* explains that he did not have supernatural capacity; rather, he was simply a human being.

2. Character and life. *Rahmatul Lil-Aalameen*—His mercy is universal without limit and without discrimination for all mankind.

3. Description of Hazrat Ayesha that his character was the Quran. *Reflection of Quran in moral excellence.*

The speakers who addressed the meeting were Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, Bro. Abid Haneef, and Alhaj Maulvi Ata Ullah Kaleem, who spoke on Holy Prophet, the Reformer for all times; Holy Prophet, a Mercy for Mankind; and Holy Prophet's Attitude towards other Religions, respectively. Br. A. Hamid Bhatti from Harrisburgh, Pa., and Br. Jamaluddin Malik recited poems in praise of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, and Br. Nuruddin Alhadith presented the translation.

Ahmadies from Metropolitan area, Baltimore, Harrisburgh, York and Philadelphia attended the meeting. Many distinguished Americans also attended and got the literature from the desk which was especially arranged for that. A booklet entitled *A Glimpse into the Life and Teachings of Muhammad* was published for the occasion by the Jamaat and its copies were distributed among all the participants. *AlHamdo Lillah*. Refreshments were served to all the participants.

**Chicago, Illinois:** Seeratun Nabee meeting was celebrated on Sunday, January 18, 1981, with 90% members in attendance. Br. Abu Bakr Salahuddin related the examples of the Holy Prophet's life and told his audience how to mould our lives and those of our children. Br. Rafi Ahmad spoke on some aspects of the life of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of God be on him). Refreshments were served to all the members and guests.

**Dayton, Ohio:** The Holy Prophet's day was observed with due fervor and reverence. Over 75 persons attended the meeting chaired by Dr. Sajid. Imam Ibrahim and Br. Muzaffar spoke at length on prominent aspects of the Holy Founder of Islam's character and life. Several non Ahmadi Muslim families also participated. Sumptuous dinner was served to all participants.

**Pittsburgh, PA:** The Jamaat held the Seeratun Nabee meeting on January 18, 1981, which was attended by a greater number of the members. Br. Jamilur Rahman, Br. Omar Shaheed, Br. Wahid Hikmat, and Br. Muhammad Tayyeb addressed the meeting on various aspects of the life of the Holy Prophet and asked their audience to follow his best example in all their lives.

**Philadelphia, PA:** Seeratun Nabee day meeting was held on the 18th of January, 1981, at the University of Pennsylvania. The meeting was well attended and a copy of the Holy Quran was presented to one of the participant guests who had spent several years in Pakistan.

**Miscellaneous:** Our Jamaat in New York held Seeratun Nabee meeting at Nasir Mosque, Brooklyn. The Jamaat in York, Pa., also conducted the Seeratun Nabee meeting.

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### THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM

BY HAZRAT MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD  
Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam

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## LAJNA IMAILLAH

### NEVER DISCARD ISLAMIC INJUNCTIONS DUE TO WORLD'S FEAR

#### Exhorts Khalifatul Masih III

**RABWAH, PAKISTAN:** Never discard Islamic injunctions due to the fear of the world, as God the Exalted says, that there should be only His fear in the heart, has been exhorted here by Hazrat Ameerul Momineen Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III, the Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

The Ameerul Momineen was addressing the ladies session of 88th Jalsa Salana held here on December 26-28, 1980.

Describing the commentary of the Quranic verse *falaa takhshauhum wakhshaounee*, Khalifatul Masih said, that though the Islamic teachings ward off all the troubles yet there occur in the life, a lot of petty fears which debar from adopting the paths of virtue. For instance, there is an injunction of simple life, but a woman says, if she adopts simplicity what would her neighbors think of her. Hazoor said, do not violate the command of God for their fear.

Giving another example of those Ahmadi families who went to foreign countries to earn their livelihood through the Grace of God, Ameerul Momineen said, their womanfolk due to breathing in the immoral environment of the dirty and awful life of those countries, take off their veils, with the fear that those people should not consider them uncivilized and debased. Hundreds of such fears become the hurdle in following the injunctions of God. Hence, Allah the Exalted has given a basic command: *falaa takhshauhum* — Do not fear anything of the world which may ultimately put you on a track far away from Me. There should be My Khashyat (fear) alone in your hearts.

#### MEANING OF KHASHYATULLAH

Elaborating the meaning of Khashyat, Khalifatul Masih said: It means it is essential to comprehend grandeur, power and perfect beneficence of God the Exalted. In order to create *Khashyatullah* (fear of God) in the hearts, one must acquire the knowledge of the manifestations of God's attributes which make their appearance trillion times within a second. And this could be achieved even by those who are not much educated. Whoever attains *Khashyatullah* (fear of God) becomes His ardent lover, and the love for all kinds of relationships of the world disappear from his heart, and there kindles only a single love in his heart and that is the love of the Lord.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih advised the ladies to forget of themselves and live in love of God. Because, God has said that if you will have His *Khashyat* in your hearts, then He shall complete every kind of bounty upon you which would consequently lead you to the paths of salvation and success. If you will not do so, Khalifatul Masih continued, then you will have to pass through that

type of life in which the Western society is going through. The life which the apparently so-called civilized Western nations are passing through is the most dreadful and disgusting.

Giving an illustration, Khalifatul Masih referred to his recent tour, when in London a program was televised on London T.V., wherein it was disclosed, that the British society has been corrupted to such an extent that the vagabonds seduce innocent young girls of ten to twelve years who consequently give birth to illegitimate children.

Stressing his point, Khalifatul Masih said, that he has told you before, and tell you again — keep it in mind, that if you discarded Islam and adopted the Western culture, then your girls would also produce illegitimate children like them.

Khalifatul Masih also referred to a Press Conference addressed in his recent tour wherein a correspondent objected to Purdah as suppression upon women. Hazoor said, he told him that the law which Islam has formulated for safeguarding your mothers, daughters and sisters does not seem good to you. Pointing to the Western culture, Hazoor said, he has studied there and lived there. Those people have free discussion with me and they are not satisfied at all with their life. They are manufacturing huge weapons for their own destruction. Whenever the world war starts, it will be known what dreadful weapons they had made. Their homes are devoid of happiness and their environment without joy. Their relationships among fathers and sons, husbands and wives, mothers and sons and daughters are not cordial. If securing yourselves of this path of destruction you will continue acting upon Islamic teachings, then even your coming generations would continue expressing gratitude to God that our forefathers have saved us from treading the path of destruction.

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#### THE RACE IS ON

Try to make your Jamaat the number One Jamaat of the year. Despatch activities reports and Financial reports on time.

We have received activities reports for the month of January, 1981 from the following Jamaats: Baltimore, Chicago, Dayton, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington and York-Harrisburgh. We express our gratitude for the cooperation of the Presidents of these Jamaats. *Jazahumullaho Khairan*. Amen. ————— Administrative Secretary.

## JAMAATS ACTIVITIES REPORTS

**Baltimore, MD:** Through the grace of God the efforts of the Jamaat have been crowned with success and a person named Battatawi Salah has joined the fold of Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. *Alhamdo Lillah.*

**Chicago, ILL:** The Jamaat has been holding Friday Services and Sunday meetings regularly. During Sunday meetings we have had four guests. Our renovation project inside the Sadiq Mosque is almost complete. The Khuddam had the chance of going to the Airport (O'Hare) and passed out 2000 pieces of literature on Islam.

An old member and one of the original converts during the time of Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq in the person of Sister Aliyya Ali breathed her last. *Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Ilaihi Rajeeon.* She was 89. May Allah grant her *Jannatul Firdous* and patience to the family of the deceased. Amen.

**Dayton, OH:** The Jamaat has had the privilege of listening almost every night to the English version of the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) not translated into English so far. At present we are going through *Chashmai Ma'arifat* — Spring of Divine Knowledge. *Alhamdo Lillah.* The President of the Jamaat — Br. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafar has appointed Br. Abdul Shakur Ahmad as Propagation Secretary.

**San Francisco, CA:** The Jamaat held its meeting regarding the completion of 14th century and the beginning of 15th century, with Maulana Ata Ullah Kaleem in the chair. Syed Sajid Ahmad presented different aspects of the importance of these two centuries to the Muslims. Maulana Ata Ullah Kaleem related the prophecies in and about the fourteenth century and the glad tidings awaiting for the Muslims in the fifteenth century Hijiri. He also enlightened the audience upon the responsibilities of the Ahmadiyya Community concerning the new era of Islamic supremacy.

Br. Siddique Qamruddin, son of late Kamaluddin Khan, held Aqiqa ceremony for his daughter which was attended by most of the members. In a speech, Syed Sajid Ahmad stressed on better training of the children. He also explained the role of prayer in bringing up children. He said, the members will have to take the responsibility of providing safe, secure and successful future of Islam to their progeny.

Mirza Farid Ahmad, Naib Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Central, discussed progress, problems and future plans of the local branches with the Western region Qaid, S. Sajid Ahmad and other Khuddam during his stay in San Francisco. A dinner was arranged in his honor by the local Majlis and was participated by the Western Regional Qaid, Sajid, Local Zaeem, Intisar Ahmad Abbasi, and the local Financial Secretary, Shahid Ahmad.

Br. Mikael Haneef has been blessed with a baby girl. Prayers are requested for the baby and her mother.

The Ijtema conducted by the Khuddam of the San Francisco Bay area was a success. Both the Khuddam and Atfal participated in the 100 yard dash, long jump and arm wrestling for the physical competitions. In the intelligence area, contests included general knowledge, religious knowledge and memory tests. The Atfal were also tested in solving a 100 piece puzzle and in recitation of the Namaz. First, second and third prizes were awarded in every field. Some of the prize winners are Khadim Shah, Anwar Shah, Shahid Abbasi, Sajid Ahmad and Arshad Ahmad for the Khuddam and Ahmed Shah, Saleem Baig and Khurram Shah for the Atfal. A special award was presented to Brother Hidayat Shah for his advice and guidance all through the Ijtema.

Because of the huge success of this Ijtema, the Khuddam have plans for conducting another Ijtema in the near future.

**New York:** Sunday School for children to teach the Holy Quran and other religious matters has been started. Classes are held regularly.

**Philadelphia, PA:** The Missionary for our Circle, Maulvi Masud Ahmad made a visit to our city on Friday January 30, 1981. A Muslim from Germany who was in need of food and a place to stay was given financial help by the Jamaat. Regular Friday services and Sunday meetings were held and were well attended.

**St. Louis, MO:** Juma'a services are held each Friday with about 20 persons attending. Sunday meetings are held regularly, and the general meeting is conducted along with religious classes taught by Br. Ahmad Saeed and supervised by the Educational Secretary, Br. Abdullah Aziz.

Through the Grace of God two persons have joined the fold of Ahmadiyyat the True Islam. *Alhamdo Lillah.* The Jamaat enjoyed the visit of Imam Ibrahim, the Regional Missionary Midwest Region for two weeks in November. We are hoping for his return in the near future. Efforts are being made to acquire land for Eid Gah. All local earning members are asked to pledge for this goal of Hazur's. Prayers are requested from all members for our success.

**York, PA:** The Jamaat sponsored Boy Scout Troop No. 53 held a "Court of Honor" to distribute awards and offer recognition of achievements. Attendance included non-Muslim families. Juma'a Salat was held as often as possible at the Nuruddin School.

A daughter, Siddiqa Amtul Aziz Muhaimin was born on Jan. 22, 1981, to Saleem and Shahida Muhaimin. Prayers are requested for the child and the parents.

## HAZRAT AHMAD: A SELECTIVE CHRONOLOGY

Compiled by Syed Sajid Ahmad

- 1835 Feb. 13 Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is born to Mirza Ghulam Murtaza and Chiragh Bibi at Qadian, India.
- 1863 Upon the instructions of his father, he got appointment as reader in a Sialkot court.
- 1876 His father expires.
- 1880 Publishes his epic making book *Braheen Ahmadiyya*.
- 1884 November: Marriage with Nusrat Jahan Begum.
- 1886 February 20: Publishes revelations concerning the birth of the Promised Reformer, the Muslehe Mauood, as a sign of mercy from the Almighty.
- 1889 January 12: Muslehe Mauood, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, born at Qadian. March 23, First BAI'AT at Ludhiana, India.
- 1891 December 27: First Ahmadiyya Conference, the Jalsa Salana, at Qadian.
- 1894 Eclipse of the moon (Ramadhan 13, 1311 A.H.), March 21, and eclipse of the sun (Ramadhan 23), April 6, confirm Holy Prophet's prophecy determining the time of the advent of his Mahdi.
- 1895 Publishes *Minanur-Rahman*, "Favors of the Beneficent", proclaiming Arabic to be the source and the mother of all the languages, and *Sat Bachan*, proclaiming Baba Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, to be a Muslim.
- 1896 His essay, *The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam*, outshines, as prophesied, all other papers read at an all religion conference in Lahore.
- 1897 March 6: Lekhram, a bitter opponent of the Holy Prophet and Islam, is murdered mysteriously, fulfilling prophecies widely proclaimed, with Lekhram's concensus, all over the Indian Sub-continent before Lekhram's end.
- 1898 January 3: First Ahmadiyya school, *Madrasa Ta'limul Islam*, established at Qadian as an elementary school. It became Middle school in 1898, High School in 1900, and attained the status of a College in 1903. February 6: The Promised Messiah sees a vision foreseeing the spread of plague. The fatalities caused by plague were the highest during the 1903-1907 period.
- 1899 April: Wrote *Masih Hindustan Mein*, (Jesus in India).
- 1900 November: Announced the name Ahmadiyya Muslims for his sect.
- 1902 January: First issue of the *Review of Religions* published.
- 1903 Prophecies concerning Pigott and Dowie widely published.
- 1905 Prophesied the spread of the World Wars. *Madrasa Ahmadiyya*, *Jamia Ahmadiyya* now, established on the demise of Maulvi Abdu Kareem, to keep the ranks of the movement flourishing with competent scholars.
- 1907 Dowie dies, fulfilling the prophecies of the Promised Messiah. Exhorts the members to devote their lives to the service of Islam.
- 1908 May 26: Departs from this temporary world for heavenly abode with the Almighty. Peace be upon him. Ameen.

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