

TODAY THE BELIEVERS ARE HAPPY TO WITNESS A GRAND SIGN FROM ALLAH

(Friday Sermon delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV on August 19, 1988, at the Fazl Mosque, London)

Mian Mohammad Bakhsh is a popular Soofi poet of Punjab and in one of his verses he says:

دشمن مربحة فوطى مركب سجنان دى مريانا

Rejoice not at the death of your foe, friends die also.

In these lines there lies deep understanding. So far as a believer's training is concerned, it is done by Quran and Sunnah and is embedded in him. They do not make merriment at someone's passing away. In spite of all this, times come when someone's death becomes the cause of one's happiness. But the individual's death is not its real cause as there is a deeper meaning behind it. It has been explained adequately by the Holy Quran when it says:

وَيَوْمِينِ يَفْرَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُوْنَ بِنَضْرِ اللهِ

'The believers are happy today. This is not because someone is vanquished or killed. But they are happy because the reinforcement from God has arrived for their help'.

Therefore, the death of General Mohammad Ziaul Haq is no cause of our joy. We have sympathy for his bereaved family and the families of those who perished with him. I, as the head of the Ahmadiyya Movement, have already sent my condolences to them. I can honestly say that I have feelings of sympathy for them in my heart and I am sure that there are no sentiments of mockery or ridicule or swagger in me. I want to see the same in Jamaat Ahmadiyya too. I strongly feel that this is the condition of Jamaat Ahmadiyya. We feel happy and we do not deny it, it is because a Momim never lies for hypocrisy. The hearts of Ahmadis all over the world are happy and cheerful today. Why? It is not that someone has died. They are happy because they have witnessed the succour of God descending with their own eyes for which they were marking time. It has come to them like the bright shining sun.

This is a historic period through which we are passing. To live in these days is a blessing and is a great fortune for the nations who have witnessed the present times. Such a unique heavenly sign has appeared that the descendants of today's Ahmadis will always be proud to remember that a great heavenly sign of the succour of God appeared in the days of their ancestors. Therefore, our joy is not due to someone's death or his calamity. We deeply feel sorrow at their suffering.

On the other hand those who are bereft of the sweet taste of *Eiman* and are not trained under Quran and Sunnah, they feel differently. They dance and revel at the smallest misfortune of their enemy, but feel utterly exhausted at the tiniest success of their foes as if they are nearly dead. The reactions of the enemies of Ahmadiyyat are quite contrary to the reaction of Ahmadis. The truth of our claim is its basis.

God has graciously shown us two grand signs in the near past. One is the quickening of an enemy and the other of the death of an enemy. When we watched the sign of life of our enemy, we were happy. When we saw the sign of his death, even then we are happy. Therefore, we are happy only on receiving the help and blessings of God and not on anyone's death.

On the other side, our enemies who had personal relations with the one who was missing were raising great storm at his absence. They were clamouring and crying that they will not rest till they revenge his death. But the moment they heard the news of his life, they fell apart and a death-like hush fell upon them. Such is the condition of liars. This is the way of God Who discriminates between the truthfuls and the false ones.

These Ulama who are expressing their condolences today were hurling heaps of abuses on him (Ziaul Haq) till yesterday. This has made it quite clear that they are not at all sorry at his death. They are sorry because God has manifested His great sign in favor of Ahmadiyyat. This is the darkness which has smeared their faces. Jamaat Ahmadiyya has had the training under the guidance of the Holy Quran and Sunnah. The difference between us and these people who did not have tarbiyyat of the Holy Quran and Sunnah is so conspicuous that a person having insight will instantly feel it. You can see the reaction of Jamaat Ahmadiyya and its opponents on both these incidents. You will find that our inside as well as outside is true. We look towards the pleasure of God. He is our ultimate goal of happiness. When it is not so, then that will be our doomsday. We have always lived under the canopy of God's approbation.

I would like to make it quite clear that even the background of this gloomy incident also manifests the truth of Jamaat Ahmadiyya. We never wanted that General Mohammad Ziaul Haq should become the target of the wrath of God Almighty. He was repeatedly warned in unequivocal terms about it. I even showed him the avenues of escape. If he had some fear of God but due to some pride, his high rank and prestigious position, he did not want to accept the challenge of Mubahala openly, he should refrain from persecution and merely keep quiet and we shall take it, and pray that God also treats him similarly, that he had declined to accept the challenge. He was warned in open words and it was also said that as he has not acknowledged even after a long time, he should get more time to think over it.

I did not want that the head of the state of a country which is our homeland and the homeland of the majority of audience sitting here should become the target of God's anger. If it so happened, it will bring several other wraths in its wake. This was the greatest hurdle in my heart. Therefore, I gave him plenty of time to think over. Now I lay before you some extracts from my sermons and you will see that Jamaat Ahmadiyya did not relish in making him the target of God's wrath. In one of my sermons I said:

'So far as the President of Pakistan is concerned, we should give him some more time. He has recently made some political moves in the name of Islam. But they are all political. He is very busy these days and is not quite sure about the events in coming days and he might be having some doubts about it. He may be in doubt that just after accepting the challenge, something will happen instantly. Therefore, till the time he makes his position secure, he is sure of finalizing his plans and feels that he has reached the position to challenge anyone he likes and should be able to accept any retribution of which he is scared. Therefore, he should be given some more time and we shall wait and see further results of God's plans. But whether he accepts the challenge or not, it is not mandatory for a person like him that he should say in so many words about its acceptance. He is the chief of the persecutors and the maximum responsibility of persecution lies on his shoulders. He has tried to relish the atrocities perpetrated on innocent Ahmadis, because he tried to make sure that the orders issued against Ahmadis were fully executed and implemented and the poor Ahmadis were feeling the pain of it. From this angle, time will tell how much courage he has to face God Almighty. How much courage he has to violate justice to the maximum.'

This is the extract from my Khutba of July 1, 1988. He was un-equivocally warned that if he did not refrain from persecution, he will surely be apprehended. But if he refrained and changed his policy, it may be understood that he had side-stepped the challenge. We guess that God will spare him. But alas, he did not avail of this opportunity.

I announced a few days ago in my Khutba of 12th August, 1988 the following:

'He is advancing in mockery and has not changed a bit in his former stance. So far as the Government is concerned, they are persecuting innocent Ahmadis by employing different legal gimmicks and tricks.'

You might remember that I warned the Government in the very beginning that even if he (General Zia) considered accepting the challenge below his dignity and did not refrain from committing excesses against Ahmadis and did not abandon the ways of oppression, so far as I think God Almighty will take it equivalent to accepting the challenge and surely he

will not escape the punishment.

After only a few days of this statement God's plans unfolded and are now quite well known to the world.

This is such a great and historic divine sign that now it has become mandatory for us to offer our thanks to God. We should express our gratitude by praising the Lord. Jamaat Ahmadiyya should now get busy in offering the *Hamd*—praising the Lord extensively, and also should recite Darood. It was revealed to the Promised Messiah:

كل بركة من محدّر صلى الله عليه وسلم

All blessings which the miraculous signs project are in the service of Holy Prophet Mohammad (peace and blessings of God be on him). How nicely the Promised Messiah has put it in the following verse:

اين في مددان كم بخلق فداديم يحقوه وبجركال محداست

The flow of a spring of signs which you are witnessing at my hand is merely a drop from the ocean of the signs of the Holy Prophet Mohammad.

There is no doubt that we prayed humbly to God and entrusted our everything to Him after Mubahala. But we should always keep it in mind that the real force behind us is that of the prayers of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (peace and belssings of Allah be on him) and the force of his ties with God Almighty. So remember, the more you remain closer and bonded with this force, the more powerful you will be. If at any time due to your ineptitude you will deem that God showed the sign due to your qualifications, you will fall far behind this spring of power. You will go outside the cover of this immunity. Therefore, no Ahmadi should dare to march out of the safety umbrella of the Holy Prophet Mohammad Mustafa (peace and blessings of God be on him). The moment one steps out of this safe haven, perdition awaits him.

The Holy Prophet says: الامام جُنّة يتاتل من ورا يها

The Imam is the shield of a Momin. The greatest Imam is Mohammad Mustafa who is the Imam of Imams. If you step ahead or drift this or that way out of his shield, you will come in the range of the deadly attacks and no power will be able to protect you. Therefore, if you want to advance, march under the umbrella of Mohammad Mustafa (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). From this point of view, remember well that the Khalifa of the time, no matter how humble he is in his own person, is the representative of Mohammad Mustafa in his time. Therefore, do not try to get ahead of his shield. Walk behind him and only up to the point he walks in the field he chooses to tread. Therefore, step by his side and follow in his footsteps and you will always remain

safe under devine protection.

There are two aspects of this incident. From one aspect it is a national tragedy. It has left a huge void. The other aspect is similar to a dawn which finally has arrived after a long night. It may bring light and remove our sorrows. Hence the leaders of the nation should thoroughly analyze the present situation and take cautious steps. It is possible that another long night may be imposed after eleven years of darkness. Insofar as the foreign powers are concerned, they are trying to impose military rule once again and Pakistanis may continue to be deprived of their liberties. Remember that so long as we do not break the shackles of foreign slavery, we will never be free.

On the one hand, try to make the military realize its responsibilities. They must be informed that enslaved nations are further enslaved by its armed forces, and freedom which is given by one hand is readily taken away by the other. This is so because if it was such a wonderful recipe, why have the free nations of the world not used it for themselves.

The majority of the military is patriotic. Instead of criticizing the military they must be prepared to give sacrifices for the cause of the country. You must beseach them by appealing to their consciences, their love for the country, and in the name of their mothers, sisters and children, that they should not loot the freedom of their own country or they would be condemned for ever. On the other hand, a dialogue should be arranged with the superpowers. It is not to our advantage to incite the nation against any one of them; nor is it correct to stoop to any one of them, nor is it in the interest of Pakistan to antagonize any one of them. Therefore, it must be made clear to them that we have no enmity with them, but they should stop interfering in our internal affairs. Our conditions demand that we should be on friendly terms with all nations. If any nation becomes aware of enmity even inadvertently, this will leed to internal polarization and will prove disasterous for the nation. Therefore, after a correct analysis of the situation, these powers must be made to understand, otherwise no one would be able to stop the Russians from coming into Pakistan.

If all political leaders, after proper deliberation and having united themselves under one flag, were to present these matters before the military and before the United States as well as Russia, I am confident that a magnificent morning would dawn on Pakistan. We must pray that the miracle from God which has now unfolded itself as a consequence of Mubahala may become not only a source of spiritual but worldly blessings as well.

CONTINUING PERSECUTION IN PAKISTAN

According to reports recently received from Pakistan, a series of arrests of Ahmadies have been going on for the "crime" of the distribution of Mubahala pamphlets. Up until September 30, cases have been registered against more than 100 Ahmadies and the police is continuing the process of arrests as well. Some of the cases are listed below:

1. Cases Against Huzoor: In Sargodha, a case has been registered against Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV, because of offering the invitation for Mubahala. Mr. Shabbir Hussain, Additional District and Session Judge, has directed the case to be presented in the Federal Shariat Court. Another case for the same "crime" has been registered in Chaniot (a city close to Rabwah) against Huzoor and Chaudhry Rashid Ahmad. It may be pointed out that Ch. Rashid Ahmad is a British Citizen. A third case against Huzoor has been lodged in Rabwah because of the sale of Kalam-e-Tahir, a collection of Huzoor's poems in a boklet form.

2. Jhang: Cases have been registered against the following six Ahmadies for distributing Mubahala pamphlets under sectio 298/C and 16MPO:

Sh. Mahmood Ahmad, District Amir; Muhammad Akmal; Rasheed Ahmad; Muneer Ahmad;

Muhammad Mian; Dr. Muhammad Bakhsh; Mirza Muhammad Din Naz.

Brs. Muneer Ahmad and Muhammad Mian have also been arrested.

3. Rabwah: A case has been registered against a store named Afzal Bros., because of the distribution of booklet *Kalam-e-Tahir*, a collection of poems by Huzoor. In this regards, Bros. Qureshi Afzal & Qaisar have been arrested on the petition of Maulvi Allah Yar Arshad. When the Jamaat members met with the Deputy Superintendent of Police, they were told that this case has been registered and the arrests have been made upon the direction of higher authorities.

4. Prem Kot, Distt. Gujranwala: An 11-year old Ahmadi child, Shaukat Ali, a student of 6th grade, was arrested by the police for the "crime" of distribution of Mubahala pamphlet. The local magistrate had rejected his application for bail.

5. Rabwah: Mr. Maula Baksh, an 80 year old Ahmadi in poor health, has been arrested for writing a poem about 'Maulana Aslam Qureshi', the person who sudenly reappeared after having been allegedly murdered by Ahmadies many years ago.

6. Bahawalpur: Upon the orders of Assistant Commissioner, two Ahmadi brothers, Qamarul Haq & Mubarak Ahmad, were arrested for distribution of Mubahala pamphlets.

7. Faisalabad: Under the leadership of some maulvis, a procession of 150 persons attacked and completely ransacked the clinic of Dr. Bashir Ahmad upon the distribution of Mubahala pamphlet. Four nephews of Dr. Bashir Ahmad were physically beaten and arested by the police.

8. Kot Momin, Distt. Sargodha: A video cassette of Huzoor's Majlis Irfan was being shown by some Ahmadies at an Ahmadi's (Sh. Gulzar Ahmad) residence. Some non-Ahmadi maulvis got a hint of it and complained to the police. The police raided and searched Sh. Gulzar Ahmad's house at midnight but could not find anything objectionable. Thereupon, the maulvis called a meeting where a very notorious and staunch enemy of Jamaat, Maulvi Akram Toofani, also arrived and instigated the police. Cases against 9 Ahmadies were registered, including: Sh. Gulzar Ahmad; Malik Hameedullah; Abdul Sattar; Sh. Muhammad Sharif; Sh. Iftikhar Ahmad; Munawar Ahmad. The names of three other brothers have not been received yet.

9. Toba Tek Singh: Because of the "crime" of distribution of Mubahala pamphlet, Ch. Abdul Qadir, District Amir and the following brothers have been arrested: Fazal Ahmad; Barkat Ahmad; Mahmud Shahid; Abdul Basit. The city Magistrate has rejected their bail.

10. Attock: A case has been registered against two Ahmadi brothers, Basharat Ahmad and Muhammad Maqbool, on the baseless charge of wiping out an anti-Ahmadiyya poster.

11. Sahiwal: Because of the "crime" of distribution of Mubahala pamphlet, the president of Chak No. 137/9-L, Mr. Muhammad Akram, and four other Ahmadies have been arrested under section 295/A. They are: Abdul Razzaq, Tanweer Ahmad; Jameel Ahmad and Khalil Ahmad.

A MUBAHALA CHALLENGE

(This is a translation of a letter, in Urdu, sent by our Missionary, Mubasher Ahmad, to the editor of **The Pakistani**, a monthly publication from Chicago)

Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Sadiq Anwar, Editor, *The Pakistani*, Chicago,

I received the Sept., 1988 issue of your monthly, *The Pakistani*. On its page 4, almost in four columns, you have written an article: *The Mischievous Gang: Qadiyyani, Mirzai,* in which you have repeatedly called the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, peace be on him, "liar", decietful" and "Fabricator of lies", etc.

Therefore, I ask you that you should accept the challenge of *Mubahala* by the Ahmadiyya Jamaat and its Imam, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, may Allah be his help. You should accept it with courage without any hesitation, without any lame excuses. I am enclosing a copy of the *Mubahala* in Urdu as well as in English. Please put your signature on page 6 of *Mubahala* in Urdu and page 23 in English, and publish it both in the Urdu and the English sections of *The Pakistani*. Thus, dare to render a great service to Islam.

I am making arrangements to send copies of this letter to Pakistani friends. Several of them live in the city of Chicago, and I have high hopes that you will not disappoint them. If you did not accept this *Mubahala* with your signatures on it, and if you tried to find ways to escape under "scholarly" or "Shara'i" excuses, then certainly your courage, integrity and claims to be sincere for Islam shall all prove to be untrue, and the standard of truth in your journalism will become extremely doubtful.

I hope that you will exhibit a sense of honor and sincerity in matters of the faith, and accept the *Mubahala* as the second party, and publish it.

I am waiting to hear from you that you have accepted the Mubahala immediately.

Mubasher Ahmad MUbaligh of Islam Baltimore.

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(A letter to the Wall Street Journal)

August 30, 1988

The Wall Street Journal Letters to the Editor Dept. 200 Liberty Street New York, N.Y. 10281

Dear Editor:

I was amazed to read the harsh criticism of Islam by one Daniel J. Theron in your August 24 edition under the caption "What Has Islam Wrought?" In response to Mr. Theron's closing question: "But what liberty, progress or emancipation has Islam brought to its adherents?" I would like to quote a non-Muslim's defense of Islam. H.G. Weaver, in his book The Main Spring of Human Progress (pp.105,118) comments:

"It is to the Saracens that the world of today owes much of its science-mathematics, astronomy, navigation, modern medicine and surgery, scientific agriculture-and their influence led to the discovery and exploration of America. In the world of the Saracens, no authority suppressed scientists, and no policeman harried them, nor did any government take care of them. They opened schools; and from Baghdad to Granada, students flocked to them. Some of these schools grew into great universities, and for hundreds of years they continued to grow... Theirs was a spontaneous religion based on sense of reality, springing from and depending upon the personal self. And for 800 years, during the period when the greater part of Europe was submerged in the Dark Ages, this religion produced the most brilliant scientific progress and the greatest material prosperity that had ever been known to man."

Mr. Theron is either himself confused or he wants the readers to get confused when he attributes Muhammad's pre-eminence to the sword. I would suggest that Mr. Theron should first study the Quran in the privacy of his home—where there is no fear of sword hanging on his head—and discover for himself the power and the beauty that have already won the hearts and minds of millions in the world, including U.S.A. without a "holy war."

Sincerely,

Mubasher Ahmad Baltimore, MD.

SIGN OF THE TIME

by Yusuf Ali

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Four, Now holds the light that beams and soars.

General Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, Linked to Pharaoh in Egyptian land.

A man with such worldly wealth, Inspired to put Ahmadiyyat to death.

Yet, our beloved sweet Khalif did his best, Not to put this man to this great test.

We were informed by our Khalif to demonstrate love, Just as Angels of Wadud above.

He prayed to Allah that our enemies repent, And accept the message that Allah has sent.

Yet Pharaoh rejected Moses and the message divine, And Allah then sent His final sign.

The sign of death which we prefer not to see, Yet, they leave no choice and Allah lets it be.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Four, With Allah's Grace has opened the door.

With the latest living sign, none should forget, Marks the love, sweet proof, of Ahmadiyyat.

Huzoor represents Allah and the Ahmadis sure know Allah has released us from the evil Pharaoh.

Allah's vicegerents will forever be, Yet those with faith will only see.

August 17, 1988, Marks the latest living sign of Allah's fate.

The living proof of Allah's Islam, And the institution of Khilafat with all its charm.

Ahmadiyyat the only message to revive the world, Is now glowing bright as a beautiful pearl.

Huzoor invites all to take a part, Let this great sign penetrate your heart.

Zia ul Haq of Pakistan, Awaits his questioning in Allah's sand.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Four, Is sending us the light that beams and soars.

From the Press:

York Daily Record,

Religious Freedom in Pakistan

Even though Pakistan's President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, an advocate of persecution and destruction against the minority Muslim community known as the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, has been removed (bear in mind the end of Pharaoh of Moses and the rejectors of Lot), the crisis of conscience still remains.

When a law-abiding minority is being subjected to the worst form of religious persecution, when the pulpit of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be on him, is being openly desecrated and exploited by ruthless mobs, when Islam is being exposed to ridicule throughout the world by totally un-Islamic and irrational demands, when men and women are being murdered in cold blood because of their faith, and when dead bodies of Ahmadies are being pulled out of their ancestral graveyard, is it not time that the free and fairminded people in Pakistan through the promptings and example of the American Government, abandon their silence and indifference to aggression? Military aid and strategic locations or distribution of uranium are not the only issues on which the United States should be focusing. The first and foremost issues are human rights and religious freedom.

Where are the poets who become emotional on a mere mention of Vietnam or South Africa? Where are the ideologues who shout themselves hoarse in support of victims in Nicaragua and Afghanistan? And finally, where are the journalists who swear by the sanctity of their pen when they write in defense of individual rights and freedom?

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a purely religious community that has spent almost a century showing the world that in this era of instability, agitational politics and turmoil, we are a people who stand firmly for the supremacy of law, for toleration, and for peaceful co-existence.

Our peaceful posture remains, however, based on faith, strength and sacrifice, and not on weakness or expediency. However weak we may seem, let no one have an anxious moment regarding our fate. Almighty God is watching over us as we exalt Him as Wiser than the wisest and Mightier than the mightiest. Ayesha Bashir, York

JAMAAT ACTIVITY REPORTS

Washington Metro Jamaat: We were able to keep up our tradition of holding our Monthly General Meeting on first Sunday of each month, i.e., Aug. 7, 1988. The theme was Mubahala and the keynote speaker was Maulana Sh. Mubarak Ahmad. Sheikh Sahib spoke for more than one hour and gave an exhaustive explanation of Mubahala. He read out extensively from the writings of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, and related numerous signs that Allah Almighty had shown as a result of Mubahala challenges given by the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. His speech was extremely inspiring for all and specially informative for the younger generation. Sheikh Sahib's address was preceded by a poem of the Promised Messiah recited in a melodious voice by Zafar Ahmad Sarwar. More than 150 men, women and children attended the meeting. Alhamdo Lillah.

We had the blessing of hosting the monthly National Majlis Aamila Meeting on August 20, 1988. National office bearers from all over the country came to attend this meeting. The meeting started at 10 a.m. under the chairmanship of Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, and concluded at 1:30 p.m. A number of important decisions were made to accelerate the activities of the Jamaat. A delicious lunch was cooked and provided by sisters Asghari Chaudhry and Kishwar Malik. Br. Jamal Malik, secretary Ziafat, and Br. Muzaffar Malik were at hand to serve the guests. Jazakum Allaho Taala.

A special *Thanksgiving Meeting* of the local Jamaat was held on Sunday, August 21, 1988, to offer our special thanks to Allah Almighty for showing one of the most important signs of the truth of Hazrat Masih Mauood Alaihis Salaam, i.e., the sudden death of General Ziaul Haq, along with several of his generals and the American Ambassador, in an air crash as a result of the *Mubahala* challenge given by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (may Allah give him strength). More than 200 Ahmadis arrived at the mosque, just on a nod from the Halqa Nigrans. The zeal and enthusiasm of everyone, big and small, was worth seeing.

After the recitation of the Holy Quran by Syed Muhammad Ahmad, Br. Allah Bakhsh Chaudhry, president of the local Jamaat, explained briefly the purpose of the meeting and read out a letter received from the Markaz. After that Huzoor's Friday Sermon delivered in London just two days before (Aug. 19) — brought in specially by Br. Jalal Malik—was relayed. An English translation of the inspiring sermon was simultaneously relayed to our English speaking brothers and sisters by Dr. Laeeq Ahmad. Sheikh Sahib gave the concluding remarks and led us in the collective Du'a. The audience repeatedly raised the slogans of *Allaho Akbar*. The atmosphere was so inspiring that it cannot be explained in words. Everyone offered two rakaats *Nafal*. Sweets were distributed among the children.

Tucson, AZ: Regular prayer held in our mosque. On hearing of our Huzoor inviting the opponents and enemies to a Mubahala challenge, and General Ziaul Haq was the foremost addressee. We in the Jamaat were very glad to hear this good news that now we will have Allah judge our enemies. Then soon after he news of the prayer challenge (Mubahala) the news of the death of General Ziaul Haq came on August 17, 1988.

Our Jamaat Tarbiyyat Secretary announced that we would be having a fast on the last Sunday of every month. In the early morning of August 28, those who could, met at the mosque for Nawafil. We had Tahajjud and then Fajr prayers. Then a light meal was provided by the Secretary Tarbiyyat. 12 brothers and sisters were present at this prayer.

The press was contacted in regard to the Mubahala and the connection to the death of Zia. A followup will be kept up with the press and the community to bring an awareness of Allah's Justice.

In the area of Tabligh, a total of 20 people were propagated to by members of Lajna, Khuddam and Ansar. A Holy Quran was presented to a Jewish-Christian lady who understood that the Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, was foretold by Jesus, peace be on him.

ALL RELIGIONS FOUNDERS DAY IN NEW YORK

The All Religions' Founders Day was held on Sunday, October 9, 1988, at P.S. 165 in the Queens. The program started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Mr. Samiullah of Washington, DC. The translation of the Arabic verses into English was read out by Mr. Munir Hamid (president of Philadelphia Ahmadiyya Muslims).

Speakers representing the major religions of the world were invited to speak on their respective Holy Founders. Mr. Abid Hanif welcomed the august gathering and the speakers at the forum.

The audience of about 300 people consisted of a cross section of men, women and children of different religious backgrounds, namely, Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam. They listened with rapt attention to the enlightening speeches of the speakers who elaborated on the respective Religious Founders' contribution to humanity.

The basic theme of the forum was to promote inter-faith harmony. The first speaker of the afternoon was from the Buddhist faith—Rev. Jomoyo Tanaka—who stressed that Buddhism taught nonviolance. Rev. Jomoyo Tanaka is the Director of the Mandala Buddhist Center in Vermont.

The second speaker was Rabbi James Michaels of Temple Israel of Wilkes Barre, PA., who elaborated on Prophet Abraham, peace be on him, as a founder of Judaism. Dr. Ehsan Zafar moderated the program in an elegant manner, giving valuable comments on the speakers.

THe third speaker of the day was Rev. N. J. L'Heureux, Jr., who is the Executive Director of the Queens Federation of Churches. He spoke on Christianity and put forward the view of Christianity and its contribution to humanity.

City Councilman Sheldon Leffler also attended this occasion on behalf of New York City and expressed similar views as put forward by Rabbi Michaels. On behalf of New York City he thanked the organizers of this religious forum—the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam New York Chapter, for holding an event that promoted *Inter-Faith Harmony*.

The next speaker of the occasion was Sh. Mubarak Ahmad, Chief Missionary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, who spoke on the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of God be on him, the Religious Founder of Islam and his teachings. With excellent examples taken from the Holy Prophet's life, he showed how he contributed to the enhancement of humanity. The audience listened with great interest and appreciated all the speakers.

The program concluded with silent prayers. Refreshments were served to all those who attended. The organizers of this *All Religions' Founders Day* are the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, New York chapter, and they thanked one and all in making this program a great success.

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CHILDREN'S TARBIYYATI CLASS BY HOUSTON JAMAAT

The fourth annual three day Tarbiyyati class for Itfaal and Nasirat was held from August 19-21, 1988 at the residence of Br. Kalim Ahmad Chaudhry, president of the Houston Jamaat.

Arrangements were made by the president and the secretary Talim-o-Tarbiyyat coordinated with secretary Itfaal and secretary Nasirat. The participation was excellent. In all, 31 out of 32 children, including 14 Itfaal and 17 Nasirat attended the class. Their ages ranged from 5 years to 15 years.

The program was interesting, consisting of recitation of the Holy Quran, Pillars of Islam, Articles of Faith, Azan, Namaz, speeches on Islam and Ahmadiyyat, about the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be on him, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, their Khulafa, Hadith and Sunnah.

Children were introduced to some of the differences between an Ahmadi Muslim and a non-Ahmadi Muslim. Later they were tested on religious knowledge and were awarded prizes and certificates of achievement.

Coaching was done by Br. Kalim Ahmad and Tahir Minhas for the Itfaal and for Nasirat it was taken care of by Sister Farhat Saifullah and Sister Rashida Minhas. In the concluding session, they listened to some of the speeches given by the Itfaal and Nasirat, and the class ended with collective Du'a.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

October 9, 1988

To All In Attendance Religious Founders Day Celebration P.S. 165 Kew Garden Hills, New York

Greetings:

On behalf of more than seven and a half million New Yorkers, who represent every religion and nationality in the world, I salute this gathering which is being held by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

No city in history has ever been more ecumenical in fact and in spirit, than New York. The Ahmadiyya Movement proclaims its ecumenical spirit today, and has invited speakers of different faiths to address its Religious Founders Day Celebration.

I wish all who are participating a most productive and enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely Ed Koch Mayor

VIDEOCASSETTES OF HUZOOR'S ADDRESSES TO AMERICAN AUDIENCE

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV has enjoined upon all members of the Jamaat to benefit from these videotapes by viewing them, having their families and friends view them and use them for presentations at their meetings and in propagation, education and training. Each tape is of two hours. The three tapes are labelled Volume I, Vol. II and Vol. III. Tapes are

VOLUMEI

VOLUME II

Do God and Allah differ? No Coersion in Faith. World Conversion. Universality of Islam. Becoming Universal. Spread of Early Islam. Prayer for non-believers. Governments in Islam. Khomeni's Islam. Islam and Judaism. Holy Prophet as Ruler. Islamic Bomb. Jihad Today? Ahmadiyya Attitude How to Have World Peace Religious Decay. Ahmadi Belief on Jesus. Jesus' Crucifixion. Proofs: No Death on the Cross. Proofs of Jesus' migration. NASA on Turin Shroud. The Muslim-Christians. Identity of Shroud. Russian Bishop Findings. Science on Jesus' Image. Second Coming: How? Ahmadiyyat's Truth. Psalm of Hazrat Ahmad.

What does God look like? Islamic Culture Age of the World Life Outside Earth **Quran's Space Claim** The Human Soul Soul Reaches Out Creation of Soul Life in Fetus Organ Transplant Terminal Illness AIDS Woman's Islamic Status Future of Mankind Third World War Last Warner **Expanding Universe** Universe was a Ball Rolling up of Universe Black Hole Doomsday? How Far? Soul's Waiting After Death Development Heaven or Hell Bound? Journey to God What: Heaven and Hell? The Promised Messiah Song of Musleh Mauood

VHS 1/2 inch format. The topics are listed in viewing sequence.

The set of three videocassettes is priced at \$30.00. For purchase, contact Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, 2141 Leroy Place, NW, Washington DC. 20008. Ph: (202) 232-3737

VOLUME III

Welcome to USA Reply to Attack on Ahmadiyyat Why Ahmadiyyat? State of Muslim Clergy Signs of Messiah's Coming Outside of Pale of Islam Penalty of Rejecting Messiah Promised Messiah and Muslims Search For Messiah and Mahdi Duty When Imam Mahdi Comes Sectarian Differences Ulemas' Contradictory Meanings. The Messiah Refutes Allegations Ulemas' specific Absurdities Ulemas' Mutual Fatwas on Kufr Can Absurdities be Disregarded? What is the Correct Islam? Must Believe in All Prophets Penalty for Rejecting Prophets No Penalty for Jenuine Ignorance Loss on not accepting the Messiah Ahmadiyyat: Important Features **Blessings of Khilafat** Early Islam and Ahmadiyyat Alike What Muslim Brotherhood? Ahmadi Persecution like early Islam Muslims lack in reversing vices Our Major Doctrial Diferences

TAJNEED RENEWAL

A national sensus of Jamaat Ahmadiyya, USA, is long overdue, as you may already know. Now that we are getting ready to install our new computer system, we have to begin with a census. This census will form the basis of all our future planning and record keeping. It is, therefore, imperative and extremely urgent to have these forms filled out with all speed and return as soon as possible for processing.

Kindly adhere to the following while filling out

these forms:

- 1. Every member 16 years or older, must fill out a separate form.
- 2. Members under the age of 16 should be included in either of the parents forms, but not on both.
- 3. Kindly make sure that all forms are correctly and completely filled out.

A copy of the Tajneed form is given on the next page. For additional copies, please photocopy this form or request more forms from your local or regional president.

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CONFIDENTIAL J	Ahmadiyya I	Novement	in Islam, I	nc.	
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	2141 LEROY PLACE, N.W., WAS	SHINGTON, D.C. 20008 Telepr Rhational Headquarters Rabwah P	none: (202) 232-3737. Cable: ISLAM	GENERAL INFORMATION	
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PREVIOUS BRANCH:					
PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FOR DEPENDANTS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE:					
FULL NAME	RELATION SE		DATE OF BIRTH	COUNTRY OF BIRTH FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	

FOURTH DA'EE ILALLAH MISSION MONTERREY, N.L., MEXICO

Brother Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad and Hasan Parvez left Houston for Mexico for the fourth time on an invitation received from some Mexican friends. The following are some of the activities performed during this six day tour which started on May 29, 1988.

Marketing of Ahmadiyya Muslim Books in Spanish (May 29-31)

We had to break our journey on the way in Nuevo Laredo, a border town, where we tried to market *The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam* in a Spanish bookstore. They accepted some copies of this book on a trial basis. After staying one night in this town, we left next morning for Monterrey. On May 30 and 31, we had the chance to explore some other book stores. By the Grace of Allah, two book stores agreed on fair terms with us to sell Islamic literature and audio cassettes in Spanish and Arabic languages. On May 31, a lecture was planned to be held the next day in downtown area.

A Lecture on "My Faith"

On June 1, at 7 p.m., we had a gathering with twenty two intellectuals from various backgrounds such as lecturers, engineers, religious philosophers, students and a Haray Krishna scholar. A friend of us who is a computer engineer and who had studied our literature, graciously agreed to translate for us.

The proceedings on this gathering started with the recitation of the Holy Quran (Bani Israel 17:23) by brother Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, which lasted 15 minutes including the translation. Following this recitation, brother Hasan Parvez delivered a speech based on a small booklet by the late Hazrat Ch. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan named "My Faith," which lasted for another 35 minutes. Soon after he finished the speech, the audience started asking questions about the crucifixion of Jesus and his journey to Kashmir, and other topics. The session lasted one and a half hour. In an attempt to answer questions, the speaker referred to Biblical, scientific and historical evidences to satisfy the audience. At the end of the activity, some literature was distributed. Before leaving the place, one of the members of the audience, a scholar in philosophy and comparative study of religions, invited us for a symposium on the life and death of Jesus Christ, on our next visit to Monterrey.

Meeting With Three Families (June 2-3)

One of their members, who had already developed contact with us and received our literature, arranged a meting of three families where we had the opportunity to introduce Ahmadiyyat. In this way, God gave us new opportunities to develop social relationships in Monterrey and distribute our literature.

During the same tour we received a letter from a Mexican friend who has already accepted Islam, requesting literature and guidance. Somehow, one of our Spanish books reached him 500 miles away from Monterrey.

It seems as if people are seeking for the truth. They are reading our literature with interest and day by day this trend is increasing, *Insha Allah*. they are asking for literature as we received three more letters in this month.

Please pray for the Jamaat and for those people who received the message of Islam so that they will be able to acknowledge the truth and follow it. Ameen!

(By Hasan Parvez & Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad)

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INDEX FOR 5-VOLUME ENGLISH COMMENTARY OF THE HOLY QURAN

The following volunteers from USA helped in the preparation of the index for the 5-volume English Commentary of the Holy Quran. May Allah reward them abundantly. Please remember them in your prayers.

Index Entries:

Sisters: Aisha Sharif of York; Farzana Qadar of York; Nycemah Ameen Yaqub of Chicago; Ayesha Hakeem of Chicago; Dhiya Tahira of Chicago; Shakoora Nooriah of Washington; Rafia Rammah of Washington; Uzma Saeed of Washington; Salma Ghani of Philadelphia; Khadija El Hadi of Philadelphia; Khulat Alladin of New York; Fatima Hanif Darnevil of New York.

Arabic Words & Expressions:

Brothers from Washington: Munawar Saeed; Ahmad Saeed; Syed Muhammad Ahmad; Hammad A. Malik; Aftab Ahmad.

Transportation of Manuscript:

Computer Programming & Monitoring of Data Entry:

From Washington, brothers: Naseer A. Chaudhry; Tariq Amjad; Mirza Ghulam Qadir; Basharat A. Jameel.

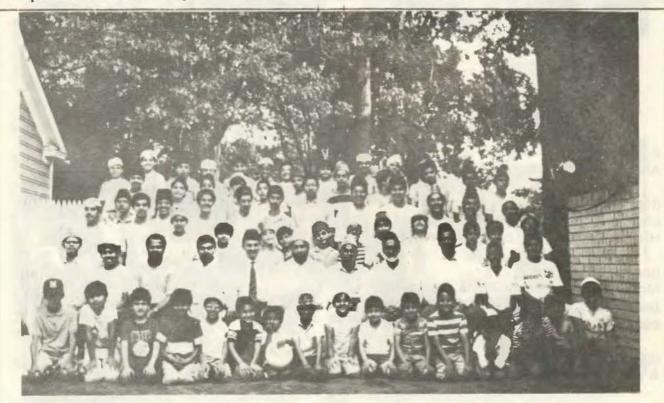
Data Entry & Proofreading:

All these volunteers are from the Washington Jamaat. Sisters: Anisa Jamil; Nabeela Khan; Shameela Khan; Faryal Bakhsh Chaudhry; Shehla Bakhsh Chaudhry; Hala Bakhsh Chaudhry; Saba Sami; Shafkat Khokhar; Fatimah Fatah.

Brothers: Javed Saeed Malik; Jalil Akbar; Mohammad Amin; Kamran Sami; Jalal Malik; Mirza Mahmud Ahmad.

Overall coordination of Data Entry & Proofreading: Br. Abdul Rashid Yahya of Washington. Preparation of Meals: Sis. Tahira Rashid Yahya

Rashid Ahmad of Washington; Syed Shamshad A. Nasir of Dayton.



Participants at the TAHIR CAMP for Atfaal held at Baitul Zafar, New York, during July 10 - 16, 1988





Scenes from a Book Stall set up by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

(top left)

Literature being presented to the Head of History Department, Boston University

(top right)

Mrs. Yousaf Latif, our Lajna member of Boston. She was also very active in propagation.

(lower right) A scholar visiting our Book Stall.

