



THE  
**Ahmadiyya**  
**Gazette**  
USA

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

DECEMBER, 1997

SHA'ABAN, 1418

FATAH, 1376

## THE FLAG OF ISLAM

In our times Almighty Allah has handed the flag of the grandeur and glory of Islam to the great spiritual son of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the Community established by him, which is completing the 108th year of its creation. The tree planted by Almighty Allah has grown into a flourishing and well established tree of righteousness; its roots are very firm and its branches are very high. By Allah's grace and will, it is laden with fresh fruit all the time.

Every day of the history of Ahmadiyyat bears testimony that through the grace of Allah and according to His will, the Community has always kept the flag of Islam high in confrontation with all forces of disbelief and atheism. One generation after the other has safeguarded the honor of this flag without giving any concern to the mockery, criticism and ridicule they have to suffer in this cause. Their properties have been looted, their homes have been burned, and they have been put behind bars. Even their bodies are torn into pieces. They do it because they gain light and certainty from the ever fresh signs of the support from Allah. They are firmly established on the certainty that:

**Truth will prevail and Islam will once again see the day of the freshness and light that it saw in the days before. That sun will once again rise as it did rise before.**

They also know that:

**Not so yet. It is essential that heavens prevent it from rising until our hearts and minds are totally annihilated in this cause with hard work and utmost striving and until we forsake all comforts for its dawn and accept all kinds of humiliation for upholding the honor of Islam.**

Let us rededicate ourselves at this time to our pledge that we will consider

**Faith and the honor of our faith and the support of Islam dearer to us than our lives, our properties, our honor, our children and all our dear ones.**

And in every walk of life we will continue to hoist the flag of Islam above all others against all forces of evil in the struggle between Islam and infidelity. We will never let it be humiliated. *Insha Allah!*

## FROM THE HOLY QURAN

*“And obey Allah and the Messenger that you may be shown mercy.*

*And vie with one another in asking for forgiveness from your Lord, and for a Paradise whose price is the heavens and the earth, prepared for the God-fearing.*

*Those who spend in prosperity and adversity, and those who suppress anger and pardon men: and Allah loves those who do good.*

*And those who, when they commit a foul deed or wrong themselves, remember Allah and implore forgiveness for their sins,—and who can forgive sins except Allah?—and do not persist knowingly in what they have done.*

*It is those whose reward is forgiveness from their Lord, and gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein they shall abide; and how good is the reward of those who work! (3:133-137)*

وَاطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ ﴿١٣٣﴾ وَسَارِعُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ  
مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَاوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ أُعِدَّتْ  
لِلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿١٣٤﴾ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ فِي السَّرَّاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَالْكَاظِمِينَ  
الْغَيْظَ وَالْعَافِينَ عَنِ النَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٣٥﴾  
وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا فَعَلُوا فَاحِشَةً أَوْ ظَلَمُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ ذَكَرُوا  
اللَّهَ فَاسْتَغْفَرُوا وَإِلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ وَكُنَّ يَتُوبُونَ إِلَيْهِ  
اللَّهُ وَلَمْ يَصِرْوا أَعْلَىٰ مَا فَعَلُوا وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٣٦﴾ أُولَٰئِكَ  
جَزَاءُ هُم مَّغْفِرَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَجَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِن تَحْتِهَا  
الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا وَنِعْمَ أَجْرُ الْعَامِلِينَ ﴿١٣٧﴾

This issue includes:

### pg Contents

- 2 The Holy Quran
- 3 Hadith;
- 4 Sayings of the Promised Messiah
- 7 Waqf-e-Jadid
- 8 Q/A Sessions with Huzoor—Diversity of Religions
- 10 —philosophy of Worship
- 14 Introducing the Books of the Promised Messiah (a.s.)
- 18 The Second Coming and the MTA
- 23 Book Order Form
- 25 Calendar of Events, 1998
- 26 MTA Moving to new Satellite — Instructions  
(4 Pages in the center of the Gazette)

The Ahmadiyya Gazette and An-Noor  
Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc.

15000 Good Hope Road,  
Silver Spring MD 20905

Ph: (301) 879-0110 □ Fax: (301) 879-0115

AMEER

SAHIBZADA M. M. AHMAD

EDITOR

SYED SHAMSHAD AHMAD NASIR

Printers

Fazl-i-Umar Press, Athens, Ohio

THE AHMADIYYA GAZETTE is published by the **AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, INC.**, at the local address 31 Sycamore Street, P. O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT CHAUNCEY, OHIO.** Postmaster: Send address changes to the AHMADIYYA GAZETTE, P. O. Box 226, Chauncey, Ohio 45719-0226.

## SO SAID THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD (May peace and Blessings of God be upon him)

Hadhrat Abu Huraira (God be pleased with him) relates that he heard the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) say: There were three persons from among the Israelites, one was a leper, one was bald and the third was blind. Allah wanted to try them so He sent to them an angel in human form.

First the angel went to the leper and asked him: What would you like? He replied: Good looks and healthy good looking body. I want my ugliness to disappear for which people abhor me. The angel passed his hand over him and his sickness disappeared and he became good looking. The angel asked: What things would you like? He replied: Camels, or perhaps he said cows. Thereupon he was given ten month pregnant camels. The angel prayed that May God increase his wealth.

The angel then went to the bald person and asked him: What would you like? He replied: I want good healthy hair so I am not bald any more which makes me repugnant to people. The Angel passed his hand over his head and his baldness was gone and he got beautiful hair. The angel then asked: What things would you like? He replied: Cows. The angel gave him pregnant cows, and prayed that God may increase his wealth.

The angel finally went to the blind man and asked him: What thing would like most? He replied: I wish God gives me back my eyesight so I can see people. The angel passed his hand over him and God gave him back his eyesight. The angel asked: What kind of things would you like? He said: goats. So the angel gave him goats which could give many lambs.

The camels, cows and goats increased in number so that whole valleys were filled with their flocks. After some time the same angel returned in the garb of a poor man. He went to

the former leper and said: I am poor and have exhausted all means and I have nowhere to turn except help from God so I can reach my destination. I implore you to give me a camel in the name of God Who gave you good looks and healthy body and lots of good things. The man replied: I have many responsibilities. I cannot help everyone. The angel said: You are the same poor leper whom God gave good looks, healthy body and lots of goodies. The man replied: What are you talking about? I have always been rich and got all the wealth from my parents. The angel replied: If you are lying, then let God return you to the same condition you used to be.

The angel went to the former bald person and begged from him the same way he had begged from the leper. The bald person also gave the same kind of reply. The angel said to him: If you are telling a lie, may God revert you back to your former shape and position.

The angel went to the former blind man in the same poor man's shape and said to him: I am a poor traveler. I have exhausted all means and except the help of God I have nowhere else to turn. I beg from you in the name of God Who gave you back your eyesight and gave you much wealth. The person replied: As a matter of fact I was blind and God gave me back my eyesight. I was poor and God gave me wealth. You can take all you want from this God-given wealth. I swear by God that I will not feel niggardly about whatever you take from me. It is all the bounty of God. At that, the angel replied: You can keep your wealth. This was only a trial for you. God is happy with you and He is angry at your other two companions. You deserve His Grace and the other two have come under His anger.



## FROM THE SAYINGS OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH (MAY PEACE BE ON HIM)

*(In October, 1905, Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Promised Messiah (a.s.) visited Delhi. During this stay, many people came to meet him and during these meetings various questions and issues were discussed. On October 27, 1905, after Friday Prayers, the Promised Messiah (a.s.) gave advice and guidance to a group of people who had gathered around him. Presented below is an English translation of the original text of this discourse which is to be found in Malfoozat, Vol. 8, pp. 200-206.) (Translated by Amatul Hadi Ahmad)*

### TRUE GUIDANCE

The Promised Messiah (a.s.) said:

Patience is a great virtue. The person who practices patience and does not speak in anger, his speech is not his speech, it is God Who makes him speak. The people of this Community should act with patience and should not return the opponent's harshness and should not be abusive in response to abuse. It is not necessary that a person who falsifies me should refer to me with respect. There were many examples of this in the life of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) of Islam.

There is nothing like patience but patience is a very difficult thing to adopt in practice. God supports him who is patient. The ground of Delhi is hard but all (people) are not the same. There will be many who are as yet hidden (from us) but when the time comes they will understand of their own accord. Arabia, too, was a very hard nation but even that was won over. Delhi is not that hard.

I dislike the fact that people of my Community should attack someone or that they should do anything that is against good morals. God enjoins us to be kind and understanding and we should act accordingly. The revelations vouchsafed to me carry this message also within them that we should show tolerance and understanding. We do not possess a sweet beverage that we can immediately present to someone.

Even among those who believe in the truth of my claim there are those who do not yet possess certainty of belief. In fact, they bring up many doubts and suspicions. Kindness should still be shown to those who are weak and everyone should try to remember that when they were new in their conversion, they too went through a period of weakness such that they were constantly plagued by satanic thoughts until

gradually the gift of satisfaction and peace was acquired. This is because the poison of previous sins continues to sting.

It is not such an easy matter that the extrication of all the poison be achieved in one go. Gradually God's mercy comes to one's assistance. When a sick person becomes healthy, some weakness still remains and it is an aspect of weakness that a person sometimes stumbles and falls and sometimes the illness suddenly returns.

A believer is a friend of God but acquiring this blessing is difficult. That is why the Holy Quran, addressing the new converts of the desert, state that you should say: We have submitted, rather than saying that We have believed. (49:15)

[At this juncture a question was presented to the Promised Messiah (a.s.)]

**Q:** We say our daily prayers, keep fasts and follow all the rules of the *Shari'a*. So what is the harm in not believing in you as the Messiah?

**A:** I have answered this question many times. I believe in both that which is stated by God and that which is stated by the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.). I also believe in revelation from God. My advent is in exact accord with the promise made by both God and His Prophet (s.a.w.). The person who believes one thing that is said by God and His Prophet (s.a.w.) but does not believe another thing (that has also been said by God and His Prophet), how can he claim to be a believer in God? This is the same as has often been stated in the Holy Quran that: These people believe in some Prophets but not in others. They do not, in fact, have faith.

The one who was promised by God and His Messenger came at the appointed time. He came at the head of the (fourteenth) century. He brought many

signs. He came at the time of need. He possesses strong proofs of his claim. Is the rejection of such a person the work of a believer?

The Jews too were referred to as believers in Unity. Even today they claim to be holding fast to Unity. They say their prayers, they keep fast but they do not believe in the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) and for this reason they became *Kafirs* (non-believers). Insistence against and rejection of even one commandment of a Prophet sent by God makes such a person a *Kafir*. The same is the error committed by people who say that they perform *Namaz* (Obligatory Prayers), keep fast and observe all the good practices, so what need is there for them to accept the Promised Messiah (a.s.)?

They do not realize that the capacity to perform good deeds also comes from God. A person is not able to rid himself of all manner of *shirk* (worship of things other than God) both from his inner self and that which is all around him. A person is not able, through his own efforts alone, to worship God with sincerity and with true pleasure in his heart. All these are not matters that a person may or may not choose to adopt for himself and by himself. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to follow the example of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.).

It is stated in the Holy Quran that if you wish to become the beloved of God, you should follow the example of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) (by showing full obedience to him). These people do not realize that the capacity to do good deeds is dependent upon God's grace. Until there is special grace shown by God, the multitude of inner impurities cannot be removed.

When a person adopts an attitude of deep sincerity and extreme truthfulness, there then descends for him a heavenly force. If a human being could do everything by himself, there would be no need for prayers. God states that He will show the path to him who strives in His path. This is a very fine point. It is stated in the *Hadith* that you are all blind except the one to whom God gives eyes, and you are all dead except the one to whom God gives life. You know that God has said about the Jews that they are like donkeys upon whose backs are loaded many books. What benefit can such knowledge give to people? Until the heart is filled with knowledge, there can be no guidance or peace within it.

It is easy to strike up an affinity with satan but it is difficult to strike an affinity with angels because that involves climbing upwards. The satanic affinity involves falling downwards and it is easier to fall downwards than it is to climb up—climbing upwards is a very difficult thing. This status is achieved only when a person becomes truly pure and makes the love of God enter within him. However, if this feat were an easy thing to achieve, why would there be so few holy and saintly people (who achieve a lofty status before the sight of God)?

In all appearances these people offer their prayers and keep fasts the same as anyone else, but the difference is only of capacity. These people do not adopt an attitude of display or meanness. Instead, they adopt the path of humility and strive hard in the path of God. The person who adopts an attitude of haughtiness before a worldly ruler faces humiliation. What then will be the condition of him who is insolent and arrogant before the commandments of a Messenger of God? The Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) used to pray: *O Allah, do not entrust me to my self, not even for the blink of an eye.*

Now, we should assess the righteousness of the people who reject me. I came before them. My claim is that of being the Promised Messiah. Did they consider this matter carefully? Did they study my books? Did they come to me that they may try to gain understanding from me (about the facts of my claim)? Based on hearsay, they started to call me an irreligious person, a non-believer, anti-Christ, and further added that this person must be murdered. They did all this without any analysis or investigation and uttered their statements with much audacity. It would have been more appropriate if they had presented some *Hadith* (sayings of the Holy Prophet, s.a.w.) by way of a challenge to my claim.

My own belief is that even the slightest diversion from the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) is to fall into faithlessness. However, is there an example anywhere in the world of the fact that a person utters falsehoods against God for twenty-five years and God, in turn, supports and assists him every single day? That person was alone, when he first made the claim, and God has strengthened him by giving him a party of around three hundred thousand people. Is it doing justice to righteousness that a loud and vulgar noise should be raised against him and that there should be

no investigation of the matter?

On the matter of the death of the Messiah (Jesus, a.s.), the Holy Quran is with us. The *Hadith* relating to *ma'araj* (the spiritual ascent of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) in a state of vision) is with us. The combined and united authority of the companions of the Holy Prophet is with us. What then is the reason for which you bestow a distinction upon Jesus (a.s.) which is not there for any of the other Prophets?

A holy person once made a statement which I find very sweet. He has written that if he had to believe in the eternal life of any prophet, it would be that of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) of Islam. What benefit to us is the eternal life of anyone else? One should act with righteousness. Stubbornness is not good. Look, the Christian clergy go around the streets and bazaars saying the same thing that Jesus is alive and your Prophet is dead. What answer to this can you give them? This age is the age of the progress of Islam. The eclipse of the sun and the moon has also occurred in exact accordance with the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.).

In support of the progress of Islam, God has adopted a perspective before which all are speechless. Just think, what has been the result of believing Jesus (a.s.) to have been alive for the past nineteen hundred years? Just this that four hundred million people became Christians. Now try the other aspect for a few years and see what the outcome is of that.

Ask any Christian that if the death of Jesus (a.s.) is accepted, would any Christians remain in the world? Why is your anger and your wrath aimed at me? Is it because I wish for the victory of Islam? Remember that your opposition can do no harm to me or my cause. I was alone but according to the promise of God many hundreds of thousands of people are with me now and all the time there is progress. In Lahore the Bishop posed this very question before the Muslims. There were thousands of people gathered there and a great meeting was taking place. He explained the supremacy of Jesus (a.s.) in terms of the fact that he is still alive and that the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) of Islam has died. At that time no Muslim was able to respond to him, but from among our Community Mufti Mohammad Sadique (r.a.) Sahib stood up (he is present here today). He said at that gathering that I can prove from the Holy Qur'an and the Bible that Jesus (a.s.) is dead and he did prove it.

The Bishop could not answer and refused to speak to (members of) our Community.

It is a sad thing indeed to observe that in order to humiliate me, these Maulvis attack Islam itself and they bring down the name of Islam. They say that when the Mahdi comes he will spread the faith with the sword. Are you so ignorant that you assist the Christians in their objections against Islam (in that they say) that the religion of Islam was spread by the sword? Remember! Islam was never spread by the sword. The Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) never raised the sword for the purpose of forcibly spreading the faith of Islam. On the contrary, the sword was taken up for the purpose of defending against the attacks of the enemy, and that was after a long period of patience and forbearance to protect and safeguard the helpless Muslims against the cruel attacks of the enemy. None of the hostilities were started by the Muslims. This is the true purpose of Jihad (holy war).

Nowadays the attacks made by the Christians are not with the sword. Instead, they are made with the pen. Hence, it is with the pen that a response to them has to be made. A true belief cannot be spread with the sword. Some foolish and unlettered people of the country at times grab hold of a few Hindus and force them to say the Kalima. But when they return they still remain Hindus. Islam was never spread with the sword. On the contrary, it was its pure teaching that was the cause of its spread. (The sword was raised only in defense) and as such a lesson was taught to those who attacked it with their swords. Now the opponents are being answered with the pen, with proofs, with clear argument and with signs.

If it were God's wish that the Muslims should undertake *Jihad* (with the sword) then the Muslims would have been made the greatest power and would have been granted the best war machinery and equipment and the skills involved in their manufacture and use. But the situation is such that even the Muslim kings buy their armament from Europe. You do not have swords and from this (you can ascertain) that God's wish is not that you should use the sword. It is with a teaching based on the truth and the miracles (that accompany the truth) that Islam will now achieve victory. I am even now willing to show signs. Let a Christian priest come and stay with me for forty days. The swords can gather rust but who can make the signs rusty, signs that are fresh!

Islam is now facing a period of decline. If these people do not like our method then they should suggest a method (of their own) to bring about the victory of Islam, a method they would put into practice. If they were to propose a method we would accept it. Every wise person now bears witness that if there can be a victory of Islam, it is through this (i.e. acknowledging that Jesus (a.s.) died a natural death). Even the Christians are themselves of the opinion that it is the very aspect of the death of Jesus that could shake the very foundations of the religion of Christianity. If these people abandon Christianity then there is no way for them but to enter through the door of Islam. This is the only way but if someone knows of any other method then it is incumbent upon him to present it. Such a person should not contemplate even eating or drinking until he has put his proposal before us.

O' Muslim people! Just think: what harm is there for you in the fact of the death of Jesus (a.s.)? Has not your beloved Prophet (s.a.w.) Also died? You do not feel anger at the thought of the death of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) but at the mention of the death of Jesus (a.s.), you become angry. I do not have any selfish reasons for saying this as I do not wish for world

worldly fame. All that I wish for is that Islam should progress. God knows my heart well. It is He who has put this burning desire in me. I do not say this (about the death of Jesus (a.s.)) from myself. It is God's revelation that has been forcing me to say this for the past twenty-five years. A revelation of that time vouchsafed to me included the words The Gracious One who has taught the Qur'an. (Ch 55, vs. 2-3 of the Holy Qur'an). God wishes that the guilty should be distinguished from the truthful.

There is no point in attacking me. The person who has vision cannot abandon his vision. I promise that if there is someone who is a sincere seeker of truth he should come to me and I will show him fresh signs. Am I to abandon such certainty for the mere conjectures that you put forward? The person whom God has endowed with vision, whose truth has been sealed by God's signs and revelation, what can such a person do with your imaginary talk? If you cannot believe having seen so much then (the following verse of the Holy Qur'an is applicable), You pursue your purpose and I shall pursue mine, then soon will you know. (Ch. 6, v. 136). You continue the work of your affairs and I shall continue with mine. You will soon know who (from among us) is the truthful one.

## WAQFE JADID

### LET US *SURPASS* OUR EXCELLENT RECORD OF 1996

Last year the USA Jamaat had the honor of making the largest contribution to the blessed scheme of Waqfe Jadid. As Huzoor pointed out, this scheme is fulfilling the urgent need of taking care of new converts who, by the Grace of Allah, are increasing in number at an accelerated pace.

Let us also accelerate the pace of our sacrifices and maintain the honored position which the Jamaat achieved last year.

The Waqfe Jadid financial year closes on December 31, 1997. Please fulfill your pledges as soon as possible.

## Q/A SESSIONS WITH HUZOOR

*Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, the Fourth Head of the Ahmadiyya Community, on various occasions, offers to people of different faiths and beliefs, the opportunity to raise any questions and issues that they may have. Presented below is his response to some questions regarding the issue of diversity of religions and the philosophy of worship which were raised in the UK at different sessions held in London and Leicester respectively. (Transcribed by Amatul-Hadi Ahmad)*

### DIVERSITY OF RELIGIONS

**Questioner:** I know that Islam recognizes Jesus (a.s.) and other Prophets of the Old Testament as forerunners of the Prophet and I was wondering what you feel about the religious teachings of other traditions which do not belong to the Islamic and Christian and Judaic traditions, Buddhism which in some respects has no God or Hinduism which recognizes God in a multiplicity of forms.

**Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad:** You have touched upon a subject which I have discussed in detail in my (forthcoming) book. Apart from other evidence which I have discovered from the study of original writings on Buddhism by the Buddhists and of inscriptions found on rocks, I have proved the point that Buddhism was completely misunderstood by a generation of Western scholars who did not have any direct knowledge of the Pali language and who believed the Buddhist scholars representing Buddhism as they did and they attributed no God to Buddha or atheism to him. Later on it was the Western scholars themselves, particularly a great scholar from France, who noticed this fact and who started studying the Pali language himself and who studied the inscriptions on the rocks. He proclaimed for the first time that the Western scholars have committed a deadly mistake and he said that whenever he read about it there was something that was very disturbing to him and this was that a teaching should have been inherited by a large number of people as a moral teaching without a God.

He writes that his personal understanding of matters relating to religion and morality did not agree with this concept so he began to study Buddhism in greater depth and that is what prompted him to study the Pali language. So, in the end he concludes that Buddhism was not a godless religion. Buddhism was created by God and this is exactly what had been said by the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Community on the subject of Buddhism. So, we already had agreed with

him and the Promised Messiah (a.s.) categorically mentioned these things for which I have now found evidence, because the Promised Messiah (a.s.), the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Community, spoke of all the religions in relation to Islam at different times and because he had studied vastly the different religions at their sources. As he was a great writer, he wrote about ninety books or so, he did not give references every time he spoke of them, but it was for us to follow and find out the references.

So he has said exactly the same things about Buddha, that Buddha was not against God, he was against gods, the gods of the Brahmans and as such it was misunderstood to mean that he was waging a war against God himself. The Buddha spoke of God, he believed in the hereafter, he believed in the devil, he believed in goodness and evil. All this he has mentioned and I have traced these things back to the original Buddhist writings called the 'Three Baskets' and in my (forthcoming) book you will find references to these and I hope, *Insha Allah*, after reading those, you will agree that Buddhism was not without God.

Similarly, there are other religions which appear to be idolatrous, like Hinduism, but when you read them at the sources you have to come to the same conclusion that their founders use practically the same terminology as other Prophets in the world have been using and they have been misunderstood as much as by the same terminology elsewhere by people.

I have particularly spoken of similarities between Jesus Christ (a.s.) and Krishna (a.s.). Jesus Christ (a.s.) speaks of the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Krishna (a.s.) spoke of the lost cows of the house of God in India. Sheep were known to be the main flock, the main animal on which humans flourished, or survived. So was the role of cows in India. So he speaks of cows and when you compare both teachings in detail you are amazed to find that they are talking



of the same things. When Jesus (a.s.) speaks on behalf of God he says that it is God who is speaking in him, 'I am speaking what God has asked me to say'. When Krishna (a.s.) speaks of his being like a Pied Piper, he holds the flute in his hand and is depicted as holding a flute, which is a symbol of his religion, but how can it become a symbol of his religion? Gopias are shown around him. Gopias are those who tender cows and Krishna (a.s.), surrounded by them, holds the flute in his hand indicating that it is God who breaths into that and the sound that is heard coming from it is not his voice, not the human voice, but it is the voice of Him who breaths into it. So, this is the message which can be read behind the lines of even Krishna (a.s.). So, all his life-story can be rewritten in the light of these implied messages which you can read only if you compare them with the phenomenon of religion elsewhere in the world.

To my mind there is no difference whatsoever. Religion has a universal character, it has to be. If religion has not a universal character then there is no God – it is clear as that. In my forthcoming book you will, *Insha Allah*, find many questions answered on this issue.

**Questioner:** My question is about Lord Krishna (a.s.). We Hindus treat Lord Krishna (a.s.) as the creator, the preserver and the destroyer of all beings. As he himself said, 'of all the creations, I am the beginning and the end and the middle. I am unborn and without beginning. Though I am the Lord of all sentient beings, I still appear every millennium in my original transcendental form. My question is, how far does this religious philosophy conform with the philosophy of Islam?

**Mirza Tahir Ahmad:** First of all, I beg to differ with you as far as the interpretation of these lines is concerned. I have been a student of comparative religion. I found that every religion, however idolatrous it may appear to us today, was fundamentally a monotheistic religion because if one does not accept this universal principle then arguments between religions will have no end whatsoever and each religion will be understood to have emanated from a different source, from a different God.

Now, as against the understanding of the Vedas which you have presented to us, you should have remembered also that this is exactly what Jesus Christ (a.s.) said, that 'I am the Alpha, I am the Omega,

and this is not only said by Jesus Christ (a.s.) but also in the Holy Qur'an there is mention of this truth that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) Is the source and means of people reaching God and when you say 'Khatemun Nabiyyeen' (i.e. the 'seal of all the Prophets') then it can be understood as Omega. But in another 'Hadith' (tradition of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.)) he claims himself to be the very first, the Alpha and according to all the Muslim sects together, in view of some Quranic verses and declarations of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.), he was the first to be born.

Now, the question here is that there are some translations made by yourself or somebody else, which indicate that Krishna (a.s.) claimed that he was never born, that he is eternal. I have read the Bhaghav Gita myself with deep attention and I have discovered there only the evidence of truth and unity of God, and Krishna (a.s.) himself only claimed to be a Messenger, nothing more. For instance, his being called 'murlidhar' (flute player). Apparently, the flute is singing the song or creating the music but there is breath behind it. Then he has more hands than ordinary people and he has a body, a well defined body, but instead of two hands he has four hands and he is also known to have possessed wings.

Now, what do these symbols, or if they are not symbols, the literal facts indicate, that is the question! As you said, he gave us the glad tidings that every one thousand years 'I will reappear in my original form'. Is this the original form of God? Is this his entire geography that within the space of a human stature, with four arms, he can be confined and then disappear somewhere and then begin to rule from there. This is a very, very limited understanding of the nature of God which he has created. How could Lord Krishna (a.s.) say that? There has to be some misunderstanding of his message or misinterpretation of his word.

Such misunderstandings do appear in every religion because of the specific religious terminology. Take, for instance, the use of the word 'wings'. The Holy Qur'an also uses the word 'wings' in relation to angels. But the Holy Qur'an makes it specifically clear that these are not the 'wings' used to fly with, only that the 'wings' are indicative of attributes. So, if there are 'two arms', the attributes are half the number possessed by a person who has four arms. The angels grew in attributes and in this world,

according to the Holy Qur'an, they have four wings. But in the hereafter they will have eight wings' and these are all metaphorical terms and figures, let us say.

For instance, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) Himself is told to lower his 'wing' of mercy over those who believe him. Then the people are told to lower their 'wings' over their parents. So these usages of the same word 'wing' elsewhere in the Qur'an make it very clear to us that they are just terms which have been misunderstood and misapplied.

In short, according to the Ahmadiyya belief, Hadhrat Krishan (a.s.) was a holy Messenger of Allah. He used a language of symbols to convey to the world of that time some truths and if you read the Bhaghav Gita in detail, it is not just an account of war between two factions. It is, in reality, a masterpiece of description of goodness pitched against evil, or evil pitched against goodness. A battle between darkness and light.

Now, let us turn to Zoroastrianism. What Zoroaster (a.s.) says is again the same thing in different terms. He speaks of fire against darkness, and makes fire the symbol of truth which is God and darkness a symbol of falsehood which is the devil. One finds similar symbolic statements in the Bible and in the Holy Qur'an, but there they do not mean that evil had a separate entity in itself and emanated from a God who was independent of the God of goodness.

So, these are symbolic terms and the use of similar terminology is found in every religion. It is our duty not to be confused by them but to come to a reasonable, sensible understanding whereby we could reconcile the world religions as having emanated from the same single source, that is God.

I hope this will be sufficient as I don't think it will be very profitable to go much further into a debate on this issue.

---

## PHILOSOPHY OF WORSHIP

**Questioner:** How can I convince someone who is not a Muslim that God created man in order that he may worship God as stated in the verse of the Holy Qur'an, *I have created human beings, the mighty and the meek, so that they may worship me*, (Ch. 51, v. 57). If the other person responds to this by saying that he can worship God in his own way, how can I convince him that the way of true worship is that taught by Islam?

**Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad:** You should never try to convince someone with your argument about some issue without first agreeing as to the nature of that which is under discussion. First of all, the basic question has to be analyzed as to what meaning of worship you have in mind and what meaning of worship the other person has in mind. The word 'worship' is a vague term and it does not coincide exactly with the Qur'anic term of *Ibadah*. So you must begin to instruct him as to the meaning of worship as referred to in the Holy Qur'an and if you have knowledge enough to explain the meaning of worship with reference to the Qur'an, then most of the need would already be fulfilled – most of the questions will already have been answered. If you

leave this term vague then you will go on meandering here and there but you will never reach any conclusion – it is not possible. So, first of all let me speak briefly on the question of worship with regard to how it has been referred to in the Holy Qur'an.

**Questioner:** Yes, that was my main purpose in asking this question. Thank you.

**Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad:** *Ibadah* (total submission or worship) is a term which is applied in the case of all human beings and the term *Al-Abd* (human being) implies one who is created by God. *Ibadah* is a term which is not applicable to (worship by) any other form of creation. It is only applied to human beings. Its meaning is to (willingly) submit to His authority, to belong to Him so totally that you do not possess anything of yourself, you have nothing left of yourself. That creates the *Malik* (the Supreme Master) which is an attribute of God that is mentioned in *Surah Fatiha* (the opening Chapter of the Holy Qur'an) just before (the verses) reminding man that he is created for worship. To belong to that *Malik* is the ultimate meaning of worship in religious terms. The term *Malik* means one who owns something com-

pletely, not just a thing but the whole system and not only the system but the government of all forms – everything that is governed and controlled and created by the Supreme Creator – that is the quality of *Malekiyat* (total ownership). However, to delve further into this will drag me into a very long discussion, so let me stop here and return to the question of *Ibadah* (worship).

Why should God have created human beings to worship Him? What does God gain from it? That is the first question and, if He gains anything from it, why did He create without asking man whether he would like to worship Him or not because in this aspect man has no choice. Every human being is created for the purpose of worship of God. This is the categorical statement (made by God in the Holy Qur'an) and the question as to why this is so, is resolved by understanding the true meaning of worship. It connotes a constant evolution. It means something that happens to be placed at a lower level of existence, moving forward or rising higher in understanding in such a manner that the distance from God seems to be less and less. However, as God is not finite, the distance between Him and a human being can never be closed – it can only seem less and less. So it is an onward journey; it is eternal – from imperfection to perfection. This is the meaning of worship.

Before inviting man to worship Him, God introduces Himself in His four basic attributes which provide one with not only the reason why one should worship such a Being, but also leave one with no choice but to worship Him. The four attributes that are mentioned (in the opening Chapter of the Holy Qur'an) are as follows. First, *Rabb-ul-Alameen* which means He is The Nourisher and Provider for the entire universe. (This in turn indirectly poses the question to human beings), why do you, then, bow to any other authority?. Why do you accept (as supreme) a system of worldly authority when it cannot and does not (in reality) provide you with the means of livelihood?. (It is God who provides and) He provides the best possible means of livelihood. Economy is the main issue that governs even politics. It is the economy which, in the final analysis, governs all aspects of society. Those countries which understood this philosophy became the colonizers of almost the entire world because of their economic interests in the regions they colonized. If you know how to handle

the economy, you become the provider and then people bow to you – they practically prostrate before you. Why do the Third World countries accept America hegemony? It is because they know their economic interests are tied up with America to such a degree that they cannot ignore it. So, the first attribute of God that is mentioned here in the context of worship, (in the opening chapter of the Holy Qur'an), is *Rabb-ul-Alameen* that is the Nourisher and Provider, not only of human beings, but of the entire (system of) existence and this subject is further explained in detail but, again, as I said before, time is short so let me stop here for the time being.

The second attribute (of one who should be worshiped as described in the Holy Qur'an) is *Al-Rahman*, i.e., one who has the attribute of being extremely beneficent, so beneficent that he shows his mercy to those who do not even ask for it. He bestows everything he has created with his immense mercy and beneficence with the result that all that he intended to create has already been provided with all its present and future requirements. These requirements and means were not asked for yet they exist for their benefit. So, the attribute of *Rahman* (the Beneficent) also urges human beings to follow the one who possesses it (so completely). When the Holy Qur'an makes a claim such as this, it has its own evidence with it.

Now, when we understand the meaning of the term *Rahman* as I have explained it, as one who is the possessor of qualities of such kindness and beneficence that he gives without anyone asking him for anything, it also resolves the question of why man was created. Long, long before humans were created, the Creator knew the ultimate qualities which were to develop in human beings through a continuous evolution. Not only that, the Creator also knew, as it was He Himself who was planning to create man, that after developing into a human, during his progress in every area of knowledge, man would require some outside forms of matter to help his mental achievements. If these were not provided, his mental and intellectual evolution would be of no service to him.

For instance, man today has learnt through his knowledge how to make internal combustion engines but if there was no petrol, if there was no gas, how could man utilize his mental capabilities to create an internal combustion engine? Man has learnt how to

make flying machines like jumbo jets and so on. What would he have done with these if there were no petrol? Man could not even have thought of designing such things. They cannot be run on coal. They cannot be run on wood fire. But as long as man's mind was not developed enough, wood fire was made available to him. As he developed further, coal was made available for him. As he proceeded still further, oil was struck from right under his feet and as he reached a stage where he was a little concerned about the possible exhaustion of these resources, suddenly the energy of the atom came to be known, or, was made to be discovered. I say 'made to be discovered' because it was the design of God, and the Holy Quran speaks of it as such, that a time will come when man will discover an inexhaustible and who knows what is in store for us in the future.

When we look back at our journey so far we know that our mental progress or achievement has never lagged behind in a way that people thought of things but were unable to create or build them due to the unavailability of suitable materials, even though they were mentally capable of visualizing and building some machinery or equipment, etc. The journey that man is making is on a wagon which has two wheels, one wheel is within him, within his mental faculties and the other is outside over which he has no control. So, if God had not created all his requirements before time, man's mental progress would only be a source of journeying in desperation – he could think of things but would not be able to make them. For instance, the discovery of new materials that can cope with the highly advanced need of rapid speed is a subject that belongs to this area of God's pre-knowledge as to the time when man would be capable of making things for which he would need new materials and God saw to it that it would be made available when man reaches that stage. A great deal can be said on this subject but, as I warned you earlier, this is an inexhaustible subject – just a brief reference should suffice. So, when you know that there does exist a Being who takes care of you, even in areas of which you are not aware yourself, how could you prefer anyone else over such a Being. You are bound to bow to Him.

(To continue the discussion of attributes), the third attribute is the attribute of *Rahimiyat* which means that (the one who possesses this attributes) does not show his mercy once, only to disappear after

that. Some philosophers have written books containing such rubbish as 'God is dead'. The attribute of *Rahimiyat* shows you that the God towards whose worship the Qur'an invites you is not dead - He will never be dead because He shows His mercy repeatedly. (This becomes apparent) when you contemplate, for instance, the change in seasons. You will observe that first comes a season for the sowing of crops which then turns into the reaping season, followed by another season for the sowing and then the reaping of another crop, and so on, and yet if you happened to have lost this full circle for the year, it comes again and again. This repeatable mercy of God belongs to the attribute of *Rahimiyat* which means that He repeats His mercy over and over again and again. So, if somebody has befriended you or can befriend you with such loyalty, with such a guarantee of his presence when you need him, why should you not worship him?

(The fourth) attribute is that of *Malike-Yaum id-Din*, 'the ultimate owner of everything'. Nothing can result in anything without the permission of the 'ultimate owner'. He is the Creator, He is the Governor, He is everything to His Creation.

Now, if you analyze these four attributes and apply them to human beings you will be amazed to learn that these are the only four reasons why people bow their heads before other people of the world and before great governments of the world. You bow to those to whom governments belong. You bow to those who are extremely beneficent and merciful. You bow to those with whom are linked all your needs and, of course, you bow to those who provide for you. So, when you worship some being such as this, as described in the Holy Qur'an what is the ultimate object or direction you take, the direction towards closeness to the being who is the possessor of all these attributes. This means that (by worshipping such a being) you yourself will gain in *Rhoobiyyat*, i.e., in the quality of providing others with what they need. You will gain that sense of extreme mercy which the human beings require from others. (As a result of your worship of the true Creator and Provider) your ability to benefit others will not become exhausted. You will always be thoughtful of the requirements of others and will be willing to provide for them whenever the need arises.

The ultimate object of worship is, therefore, to

improve the quality of man in a manner such that the world becomes a paradise and if this is not purpose enough, not reason enough for the creation of man, what else could it be? So, I hope for the time being this is sufficient. Later on, if you have other questions to ask, you can always come to us.

**Questioner:** Is religion not just an excuse created by man to explain his own existence?

**Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad:** If we remove this so-called deceptive reason, will man cease to exist? Certainly not. Whether religion is right or wrong, man still exists. This so-called reason has no relationship with the realities of life. Religion was created very soon after man was created because prior to the creation of man we do not find the evidence of any religion in the subhuman forms of life. The creation of humans goes hand in hand with religion and it is not the work of philosophers or sociologists that a concept of God exists. It is a universal concept that existed independently of any knowledge of what people believed in other parts of the world. It was this universal presence of belief in the whole world which convinced many an atheist, at least to a degree, that this is a very strong and potent reason why we must respect the possibility of the Existence of God.

Those who have not been convinced enough say that if any one argument can reasonably convince us to ponder over this question seriously, this is the argument – why should the idea of God be found all over the world in all ages?

Turn to the continent of Australia. Australian aborigines are known to have the longest, continuous civilization since time immemorial. The knowledge or evidence we have of their beginning leads some scholars to date the origins of their civilization to some forty-thousand years. Others place it at some sixty-thousand years, and there are some who push it even further beyond. The evidence from their civilization of the belief in God is so baffling, so amazing that the so called sociologists who thought that God is the creation of human imagination, as the question suggests, have no answer to the evidence presented by Australia. The Australian aborigines are divided into six-hundred independent tribes. Some say more, others say a little bit less, but generally speaking the overall consensus is that they are divided into six-hundred independent tribes. Each of the independent tribes has their own language which is

not understandable by their next door neighbor. Historically they have never related to each other except for occasional encounters at the borders of their territories where they exchange courtesies with one another only. Why should the idea of one Supreme Creator exist in all these independent tribes?

Some Christian scholars who were staunch believers in Christianity and were also sociologists suggested that it was because of the arrival of Christianity – when it reached there, that the idea of God also reached there. But other Christian scholars have debunked this idea to be totally wrong and without foundation. They say that there is positive evidence that long before Christianity reached there and long before Western civilization put its first step there, this belief (in a Supreme Creator) existed and there is such a host of evidence available on this that no sane person can reject or deny it. This should be enough reason for the gentleman who asked this question to revise his opinion about the existence of God and the role which religion has played in it.

So, there are only two options available to us— either there is a God who created humans as well as religion or there is no God and it is humans who have created their so-called creator. So from this angle we can again examine the whole issue of creation, beginning with the origins of life, ending our journey with the consummation of life into human beings was an organized step. Life is not eternal – this has been proved beyond a shadow of doubt. It began with the big bang, that is, not life itself but the possibility of life. It began with the big bang which occurred around twenty-billion years ago and ever since then life emerged out of nothing.

Now, this issue has been discussed by me in one of my books, which is about to be published, in detail and I have proved with scientific evidence that even the most staunch believers in blind evolution have to admit repeatedly that for this they can't find any answer. Even those who are otherwise atheists, when they contemplate the wonders of evolution created or packed in a small space of one billion years, they begin to calculate through the mathematics of large numbers how much time it should have required for evolution to take place, and to reach its consummation, by blind chances. The figure they have worked out is not only mindboggling, but is also impossible for an ordinary person to conceive. The

figure they have reached is ten raised to the power of two-hundred and forty-nine which means that you write two hundred and forty-nine zeros to the right of the number one.

Whatever figure that is, that would be needed, not for the completion of the whole evolution, but just for the creation of the first brick of life, the proteins that are needed for building DNA's and iron. The rest is still to be calculated as to how much more time will be needed. So, if you do not believe in philosophies, go

go to the scientists. Find out how man could have been created, how could the very first organism of life have been created without there preceding a conscious being, an all-knowledgeable being who was eternal.

Issues like these and many others which compel a scientist with a fair mind to believe in God have been discussed in the book which I have just referred to and when it is published, I hope it will be made available to you.

## INTRODUCING THE BOOKS OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH (a.s.)

The Promised Messiah and Mahdi, Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s.), wrote more than eighty books, mostly in Urdu, Arabic and Persian. Only a small number of these have been translated into English. In order to hopefully bring English readers closer to the original writings of Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s.), we are serializing *Introducing the Books of the Promised Messiah (a.s.)* by Mr. Naseem Saifi. In this work, Mr. Saifi has presented a brief account of every book written by the Promised Messiah (a.s.).

### **Anwarul Islam** (The Light of Islam)

During the debate with Abdulla Atham, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) had prophesied that Atham would fall in the hell within fifteen months, provided he did not turn towards the truth. Fifteen months passed and Atham was still alive. So, the Christians made a great hullaballo and took out a procession to celebrate the victory of Christianity over Islam. This procession was taken out on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1894. Their newspaper *Noor Afshan* wrote: 'Mirza Sahib did not hold the debate with his being a recipient of the revelation and to be the like of the Messiah, as an issue. The real point at issue for which he held the debate was that He should show the religion of Mohammad to be true and the Qur'an to be the book of Allah and refute the beliefs of Christianity. The prophecy that he announced towards the end of the debate was to prove the religion of Mohammad to be true and from God.'

Despite the fact that this was the position of the debate, some shameless Mullahs joined the Christians to be a party to this celebration – they mocked at Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) and objected to the non-fulfilment of the prophecy. They even went to the extent of hurling abuses on him. When these Mullahs were going too far, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) paid them in their own coins. He said:

*Some nominal Muslims whom we should call semi-Christians are very glad that Abdulla Atham has not died in fifteen months time; they are so happy that they have not been able to contain themselves. They have issued posters and have, as they are always wont to do, hurled abuses. Due to the personal grudge that they had against me, they have attacked Islam also, for the purpose of my debate was to uphold and support Islam and not to prove my claim to be the Promised Messiah. Whatever they thought of me, a kafir, a Satan, a Dajjal—the issue of the debate was the truth of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and that of the Holy Qur'an.*

However, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) wrote and published *Anwarul Islam* on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1894 and gave a full explanation of the fulfilment of the prophecy. The death of Atham was conditioned with his non-return to truth. Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) gave many proofs of the fact that Atham was overawed by the prophecy and in his heart of hearts he had accepted the truth of Islam.

Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) Also published four posters offering prizes (Rs. 1000 in the first poster, Rs.2000 in the second poster, Rs.3000 in the third poster and Rs.4000 in the fourth poster) to Abdulla Atham to swear by God that he was not overawed by the pro-

phesy and he had not turned towards Islam. Atham did not take up the gauntlet and thus proved to the world that the prophecy had been clearly fulfilled.

### **Nurul Haq** (The Light of the Truth)

It was published in 1894. When the Christians felt that their defeat in the debate that Abdulla Atham had with Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) was crushing and it was as if their back was broken. One of their so-called missionaries, Imadud Din, who had left Islam and joined them, published a book entitled *Tauzinul Aqwal*. It was most abusive and inflammatory of the highest degree. So much so that the Hindu newspapers—and even a Christian publication—came out openly to say that it was most inflammatory. They went to the extent of saying that if there was an uprising again like that of 1857, it will be caused by the writings of this person.

In this book Imadud Din criticized the style of the Holy Qur'an and hurled abuses on the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. It was full of mean allegations against the Holy person of the Founder of Islam and had also incited the government against Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) by alleging that he (Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.)) was working towards the overthrow of the constituted authority. He remarked that Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) was creating disorder and causing disturbance in the land and was no less than a traitor. He also referred to 'Jihad in Islam' and said that 'Whenever he (Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.)) will find himself in power he will not hesitate to wage Jihad against the government.'

The book *Nuqul Haq* is a reply to this book of Imadud Din. Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) explains his own belief in Islam and also exposes those who had called him kafir.

He talks of the Maulvis who had gone astray and who were not worried in the least about the attacks that were being made on Islam. He tells his readers how, having seen the Muslims gone astray, he has tried to win them back and how the people in different places have reacted; some joined him and others started calling him a kafir without knowing what kufr actually meant. He calls upon the Muslims in the words: 'O ye the Muslims, run towards God. There are disorders and disturbances all around you and that being the case you should try to act in a way that may bring you the pleasure of God—O ye people,

you should purify yourself and clean up your breasts. Do not be pleased with carcass and the fat of the dead and don't let the dogs drag you towards its flesh. You should die as Muslims—and be not content with anything less than that.'

Then, under the heading of 'Announcement', Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) draws the attention of the Queen to the abusive language of the person who has caused him great pain. He talks of the writer of the book *Tauzinul Aqwal* and makes mention of the way the writer had been abusive and mean. He also refutes the charge that he is in any way working against the government. He assures her that he has always been loyal because he considers the government to be just and sympathetic towards the people of the country. He refers to the religious freedom and says that everybody who cares for his religion must be grateful to this kind of government.

He says that he has met Jesus Christ (a.s.) in his visions many a time and has even dined with him and that when Jesus Christ (a.s.) was asked about the present day Christianity, he was astonished and he disliked it; Jesus (a.s.) talked of the greatness of God and expressed his humility.

Then he takes up the allegations one by one and refutes them. He also expresses the hollowness of the Christian doctrine like the godhead and sonship of Christ. He tells them their 'God' is dead and they are revering old and decayed bones while they are mocking at him who is living spiritually and who will continue to live till the end of the days.

As for the superiority of the style of the Holy Qur'an which the writer of the *Tauzinul Aqwal* had derided at, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that he is a servant of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) and what to talk of anyone writing like the Holy Qur'an he would ask him to compete with his writings. He throws a challenge to him and to his other colleagues to write a book like *Nurul Haq* and he also offers a prize of 5000 rupees.

He says the reason why he has written *Nurul Haq* in the Arabic language is that it should be a challenge for Imadul Din and other Christians who call themselves Maulvis and who boast of their knowledge. He gives them a period of two months to prepare a publication containing prose and poetry of the standard that he had set forth in his book; if they

could do so, they would get 5000 rupees.

He adds that they will never be able to take up the challenge and if even after this defeat of theirs they do not stop abusing the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, then he offers them a thousand curses and he asks his readers to join him in giving these curses to Imadud Did and others.

At the end of this book Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.) prayed to God saying: 'O God, am I not from You? How severe has become the campaign of calling me kafir and cursing me. Decide between us and our people with justice and truth and You are the best of those who decide. O God, send down Your help for me from heavens and come to the aid of Your servant in the troubled times. I am weak and as if humiliated and my people have abandoned me and they have accused me. So, You help me in such a way as You did help Your Holy Prophet, may God's choicest blessings be upon him, on the day of Badr—and protect us, O God, You who are the best of the Protectors. Verily, You are the Lord, the Merciful and you have made it incumbent on Yourself to be merciful. So grant us a portion of that mercy and shower Your help and be kind to us and turn to us and You are the best of those who show mercy.'

Within a month after this prayer, the sun and the moon eclipsed as it was prophesied by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. It was a great sign that took place and it was indeed a great help that was granted to Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.), as he had prayed to receive help from the heavens.

When the sun and the moon got eclipsed in complete accordance with the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.), the Maulvis instead of being rightly guided by it started raising objections, more than ever before. They gave out to the world that the Hadith which mentioned this prophecy was not authentic and so they could not rely on it. They also said that this eclipse had not taken place according to the conditions mentioned in the Hadith.

Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.), in the second part of *Nurul Haq*, deals with the authenticity of the Hadith and thrashed the bogus objections of the Maulvis.

Both parts of the *Nurul Haq* were written in Arabic and the year of publication is 1894.

## Minanur Rahmam

(The bounties of the Gracious God)

Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that when he observed that the Ulema of Islam were quite negligent of what was happening around them, and the opponents of Islam were doing all they could to efface Islam from the world, he prayed to God very fervently that His help may come and console him and let him do what is necessary to see Islam supreme.

He says that his prayer was heard. One day when he was reading the Holy Qur'an and thinking over it very deeply, his eyes stopped at a certain verse '*Wa kazalika auhaina ilaika Quranan Arabiyyal-li tunzira ummul Qura wa man haulaha.*' This verse, as if, shone before his eyes extraordinarily and he felt that it was a treasure of knowledge and of secrets (spiritual). He was very glad and shouted '*Alhamdo lillah.*'

Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that it was made clear to him that this verse pointed towards the excellence of the Arabic language and also to the fact that Arabic is the mother of all the languages and the Holy Qur'an is the mother of all the previous scriptures—also that Mecca is the mother of the Lands. It is this theme that Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.) has expounded and explained in his book *Minanur Rahman*. He intended this book to be published in December 1895 but for one reason or the other it could not be published in his lifetime. It saw the light of day in 1915.

## Zia ul Haq (The Light of the Truth)

The theme of this book is the same as that of *Anwarul Islam* and it was intended to be a part of *Minanur Rahman*. But due to the publication of some articles in the *Noor Afshan* (Christian newspaper) in connection with the prophecy about Abdulla Atham, it was not considered expedient to delay it any more. So, *Zia ul Haq*, which was to be part of *Minanur Rahman*, was published separately. It was brought out in 1895. In it Hadhrrat Ahmad (a.s.) mentions the four posters that he had issued calling upon Abdulla Atham to swear to God that he had not turned towards Islam and says that it is a pity that the Christian Padres have not read them carefully and have therefore continued harping on the prophecy not having been fulfilled. He explains the wording of the prophecy and also the significance that it carries.



Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) quotes the instances that show that Abdulla Atham was overawed, and in the heart of his hearts he had started believing in the truth of Islam.

### **Sut Bachan** (The True Word)

Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that he wrote this book to refute the charges of the Aryas levied against Baba Nanak, a very godly person who spoke the truth and acted the right way. This refutation was meant to urge the Aryas to realize the true position of Baba Nanak and to follow his footsteps.

The other reason why he wrote this book was to show to the people that Baba Nanak was, in his words and his deeds, a Muslim. He shunned the Vedas and adopted the Islamic beliefs and the Islamic way of life.

In the poetry composed by him (Baba Nanak) he has made it clear that salvation depends upon believing in the Islamic declaration—*La ilaha illallah Mohammodul Rasulullah*. He got himself initiated at the hands of the Muslim Saints and he spent time on the graves of the Muslim Walis in prayers to God. He performed Haj twice and the gown that he has left behind is a pure proof of his being a Muslim. This gown has Islamic writing on it.

Although the Sikhs who claim to be the followers of Baba Nanak did not like the idea of his being a Muslim, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) proved it from their own books. In this book he gives a history of this gown and also of Baba Nanak's stay at different shrines of the Muslim Saints. He also says that he is not the first person who is saying that Baba Nanak was a Muslim; there have been other people also who said the same things and to cite an instance he quotes Hughes *Dictionary of Islam*.

Further, he gives the criterion of the religion which conforms with the nature of man. Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that the freedom in the matters of religion that the British government has introduced in India is a great blessing for comparing various religions and finding out where the truth lies. He says that the opportunity that he has got to spread Islam was not available even to the kings before that time.

He also mentions the printing presses that have been set up to facilitate the conveyance of message to a much larger number of people.

Then Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) takes up Arya religion, Christianity and Islam and gives a detailed account of the teachings of the three dispensations.

While talking about Islam, Hadhrat Ahmad (a.s.) says that its teachings are in complete accord with the nature of man. He cites the instance of belief in God and says that if all the scriptures are lost, man would be able to 'see' God in nature, as He is presented by Islam. Having given the detail of the teachings of these three religions, he leaves it to the readers to come to the conclusion that Islam is the best—and now the only one acceptable to God.

He also makes mention of the Balm of the Disciples which is well known by the name of Balm of Jesus. He cites it as a proof of the fact that when Jesus (a.s.) was taken down from the cross, he was still alive and this balm was applied to his wounds.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

When you write to Huzoor, you must give your complete address in the letter in order to get a reply from Huzoor.

It is not enough to write your return address on the envelope. Because of the large volume of mail received by Huzoor, it is not possible to keep the envelope with the letter.

Please make it a point to write your address on the same paper you write the letter. Then you can expect an answer to your letter.

## THE SECOND COMING AND THE MTA

Basharat M. Mirza, Ph.D.

Most people in the Christian world await the second coming of Christ, The manner in which he will come is not clearly understood and many legends prevail which have no scriptural basis at all. Let us examine the Bible to try to understand this phenomenon.

We must first study the First Coming of the Messiah before we can fully comprehend the phenomenon of his second coming.

Two thousand years ago, the Messiah was being awaited by the nation of Israel. The expectation was that the prophet Elijah will first descend bodily from heaven just as he was lifted up: (2 Kings 2:9-11), before the Messiah will appear (Malachi 4:5)

Here comes Jesus, claiming to be the Messiah. But what about Elijah?

“And his disciples asked him, saying, why then say the scribes that Elias must first come. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you that Elias is come already... Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.” (Matt. 17:10-13)

“And he (John the Baptist) shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias.” (Luke 1:17)

Jesus thus solved the problem of the second coming of a prophet. He explained that John the Baptist had come in the **power and spirit of Elijah**. The original Elijah did not come back. We must remember this when we look for the second coming of the Messiah.

Jesus described in detail the event of his second coming. How will he come? How will he be treated by the multitudes and what will happen to them as a result of their treatment of him?

### MANNER OF THE SECOND COMING

Contrary to commonly held legends, the manner of the second coming is described in the Bible in this way.

“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” (1 Thess. 5:2)

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night” (2 Peter 3:10)

In simple language, the Messiah will come quietly, un-noticed by the masses.

### WHERE SHALL HE APPEAR?

“For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the son of man be.” (Matt. 24:27)

He will, therefore, appear at a place somewhere on the east of Jerusalem.

### HOW WILL THE WORLD RECEIVE HIM INITIALLY?

“But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of his generation. And as it was in the days of No-e, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.” (Luke, 17:25-26)

He will not be accepted initially and the world will reject him and will not pay any heed to him. It will be just like the time of Noah. Noah was also rejected by his people.

The people of Noah were punished for rejecting Noah. The punishment was in the form of a flood. Will there be any punishment for rejecting the Messiah? Again we can find the details of the punishment in the Bible.

“... ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars... for nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilence, and earthquakes, in diverse places.” (Matt. 24:6-8)

“For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time.” (Mark 13:19)

In other words, the punishment will be very severe. Wars, famines, pestilence, earthquakes on a very large scale, having no parallel in the history of the world.

### LIKE THE TIME OF NOAH

If the second coming of the Messiah was to be like the time of Noah, then the sequence of events in this case will be similar to the sequence of events at the time of Noah.

FIRST, Noah appeared among his people.

SECOND, His people rejected him.

THIRD, They were punished for rejecting Noah.

In this case also, the sequence had to be the same.

FIRST, The Messiah would appear. He will come quietly, un-noticed by the world. (2 Peter 3:10; 1 Thes. 5:2)

SECOND The Messiah will be rejected by his generation. (Luke, 17:25)

THIRD, People will be punished for rejecting him.

The Dayton Daily News of May 11, 1996 carried a long advertisement with the headline "**Eight Compelling Reasons Why Christ is Coming Very Very Soon**". The reason given was that the prophecies in the Bible regarding his second coming have all been fulfilled. Wars, rumors of wars, floods and earthquakes, etc. have all been rampant throughout this century. Similar views are held by most Christians today.

In other words, the authors of this article admitted that the punishments described in the Bible for the time of the second coming of Christ have all been administered.

If the wars, floods, earthquakes, pestilence, have all been rampant all through the twentieth century, then **where is the Messiah?**

God is not unjust. He cannot punish mankind for no reason at all. He cannot punish them for the rejection of the Messiah before the Messiah appears. The Messiah had to appear before these wars, floods, pestilence, etc., became rampant.

### HE HAS ALREADY COME

The fact is that the Messiah did actually appear

before all these troubles appeared for the world. Just as predicted, he appeared in a place **East of Jerusalem**. He came quietly, un-noticed by the masses. He was not the original Jesus. He was a man sent by God in the **power and spirit of Jesus**, just like John the Baptist was sent in the power and spirit of Elijah.

His name was **MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD** (a.s.). He appeared at Qadian, India, and initiated a new Movement in 1889. He said he had come in the power and spirit of Jesus. He passed away in 1908, but the system he initiated is growing by leaps and bounds and is now established in more than 150 countries of the world, with millions of followers.

Before the 20<sup>th</sup> century began with all its troubles of wars, floods, earthquakes, etc., he had repeated the warning regarding punishments for rejecting him. He said:

"Behold! I have been sent in his name to point out to you the error of your ways and **WARN YOU** of the day when the heavens shall be shaken and the earth shall tremble, and that which man's hands had fashioned and which appeared goodly in his sight and of which he was proud, shall compass his ruin. His own handiwork shall destroy him and the fruits of his labor shall kill him, and that which a man rejoiced in will push him into the grave. Repent, therefore, before that hour arrives and accept him of whom you were told by Jesus, the Messiah, in his first coming, and to whom he calls you in his second. If you accept him, I shall testify it of you before the Father and shall declare your righteousness unto Him, and you shall find His pleasure and realize His mercy."

How true did he say. We have, by our own handiwork, perfected means of destruction unheard of even a hundred years ago. The arms race resulted in bigger and better means of devastation; what with the nuclear bombs and means of biological warfare.

We must repeat: The Messiah had to come before the wars, floods and earthquakes. These are the punishments from God and people had to do something to deserve this wrath from God. God is just and will not punish anyone without a reason. People had to reject and abuse the Messiah before

God would punish mankind for rejecting His Messenger.

### THE OPPOSITION

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s.) put forth his claim in 1889 that God had appointed him the Messiah of this age. But as soon as he laid out this claim, under Divine Commandment, the whole world seemed to have united in his opposition.

Undaunted by all the opposition, the Messiah pressed on with his mission and little by little, people began to take notice and began to join his movement. Predictably, this enraged his opponents and they began to persecute the Messiah and his followers.

This opposition and persecution was also predicted in the Bible:

"Then they will deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you; and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake." (Matt. 24:9)

"But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake." (Mark, 13:9)

"...they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake." (Luke, 21:12)

This is exactly what is happening today to the followers of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. There are thousands of them in jails in Pakistan. Many of them have been killed. Many have been hauled to courts and countless have been afflicted by having their houses burned and their businesses looted. All this is happening to them because, and only because, they are following the Messiah.

Show me any other community, following any other religious leader anywhere in the world, which fulfills the prediction quoted above from the Bible. It fits perfectly to the community of Hazrat Ahmad.

### HIS MISSION

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s) of Qadian said that God had revealed to him:

"I have made thee Messiah, son of Mary. Say: 'I have come in the footsteps of Jesus.' They will answer: 'We have not heard this from our ancestors.' Say: 'God knoweth and you know but little. Ye are content with words and the truth is hidden from you'."

He explained the object of his coming in the following words:

"I have been sent to give the world a firmer faith and to demonstrate to the world the existence of God. For faith has withered and the belief in a life hereafter has become a mere fable and the conduct of man shows that his whole trust is placed in this world and things material and that he has no faith in God or in the life to come."

Let us remind our readers again that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (a.s.) proclaimed to be the Promised Messiah (a.s) in 1889 and he passed away in 1908. His warnings of future devastation preceded all the developments of weapons of mass destruction. The air power which today plays a decisive role in warfare did not exist in his lifetime.

### THE AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM

The Messiah of our age appeared in 1889. He laid the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. He was rejected by his generation. The world has witnessed the punishment from God for the rejection of the Messiah in the form of wars, floods and earthquakes on a grand scale throughout this century.

It was destined that eventually, the message of the Messiah will reach the corners of the earth and will begin to move the hearts of people. His followers had to begin to increase significantly. The time of his glory had to come finally.

We see today the beginning of the triumph of his message. Another prediction of the Bible is beginning to be fulfilled.

### SIGNS FROM CLOUDS OF HEAVEN

Chapter 24 of the Gospel of Matthew describes all the signs of the second coming and we have discussed some of them. After the times of tribulation and punishment, his glory was to begin to shine. We read:

"And then shall appear the sign of the son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn and they shall see the son of man coming in the clouds of heaven in power and great glory." (Matt. 24:30).

If it was the literal appearance of the Messiah as some people think, many questions come to mind. Which part of the world will he appear? After all, the clouds in one place cannot be seen everywhere in the world. When he appears say, in the morning, in the USA, will he and the clouds he appears in stay stationary for twelve hours or so until the earth rotates so Asia can see him?

Do you know how this really came about? Just a few years ago, the message of the Messiah began to be beamed to the earth from a satellite. The MTA International was born. The sign of the Messiah appeared from the sky and his message came down from the clouds of heaven.

His message was to come, not from the far away heaven but from the clouds of heaven; and so it came from satellites relatively close to the earth.

### THE MTA INTERNATIONAL

As mentioned above, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was initiated by the Promised Messiah (a.s.) in 1889. This initially tiny community was put through all kinds of hardships and persecutions. But every time the opposition to the Movement intensified, God made the Community advance forward numerically as well as financially.

The Headquarters of the Community, originally in Qadian, India, were moved to Pakistan in 1947 where a new town, Rabwah, was initiated by the Ahmadiyya Movement. This beamed its international headquarters.

The opponents time and again created problems and hurdles for the Community, so much so that the Supreme Head of the Movement had to migrate to London from Pakistan in 1984.

Within a few years of this migration, rapid advances were made by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam and late in the 1980s the Movement began to beam its message via a satellite. The MUSLIM TELEVISION AHMADIYYA (MTA) was inaugurated. Initially, it was on for only a few hours per week, but it expanded rapidly and became a program beamed all day, 24 hours a day, seven days a week,

52 weeks a year.

It the message of the Messiah beamed from a satellite which can be received everywhere. This is, in fact, what is happening. You can tune in to the MTA International any time of the day or night, anywhere in the world.

The rate at which the message of the Messiah was attracting new adherents was relatively slow before the MTA International began to beam the good news of the advent of the Messiah all around the globe. But with the inauguration of MTA, a new era dawned of a much more rapid growth in the ranks of the followers of the Promised Messiah (a.s).

It was predicted:

"And he shall send his angels with the great sound of a trumpet and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matt. 24:31)

"And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven." (Mark, 13:27)

God's angels sounded the trumpet in the form of waves carrying the MTA message to all parts of the world, and his elect began to gather together to be initiated into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

It was in 1993 for the first time that a world-wide day of initiation (known as the International Bai'at) was set aside in the end of July. We have had this annual event now repeated four times. The number of new converts to Ahmadiyyat have been:

In 1993, there were more than 204,308 new members.

In 1994, there were more than 418,206 new members.

In 1995, there were 845,294 new members.

In 1996, there were more than 1.6 Million new members.

In 1997, there were more than 3 million new members.

Each year brought in twice as many new adherents as last year.

Another feature of the International Bai'at is the speaking in so many tongues simultaneously. When the Khalifatul Masih reads out in English, there are translations in so many languages read out simultaneously that a true spectacle of speaking in tongues is presented. Read Acts (2:4) and Acts (19:6) and then witness the International Bai'at to see people speaking in tongues.

The message of the Messiah has begun to shine from the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

There are opponents still out there but they are now powerless in stopping these flood gates opened through the MTA International. The message of the Messiah is beamed all over the world twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

The days of trials and persecutions are tapering down and the days of the glory of the Promised Messiah (a.s.) are at hand now.

### **WARNER FOR THE WHOLE WORLD**

Christians were not the only ones waiting for the second coming of Christ. Muslims were awaiting the return of Jesus. Hindus were awaiting the return of Krishna. Buddhists were awaiting the return of Buddha, etc. If we study all these claims, one thing stands out as common to all of them. The time of the fulfillment of these prophecies was roughly the present age we are passing through.

It was the claim of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s.) that God had fulfilled all these promises in appointing him as the Imam of the age. It would be very confusing indeed if the predictions of the various religions were to be filled with different personalities, all coming almost simultaneously. That would not unite mankind; it would be a source of discord and turmoil.

A learned Christian scholar, R.C.E. Skolfield, in his article, *Some Observations on the Life of Jesus* describes the different roles of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (a.s.) in an interesting way:

"He fulfilled the prophecies of the return of the Messiah or the Christ or the Anointed One to all people in a unique way. Being a Persian by race, he was the Promised One of the Zoroastrians; being an Indian by birth, he was the Promised One of the Hindus; Being a Muslim by faith, he was the Promised One of the Muslims; and living under a Christian government, and having defended the honor of Jesus and revealed the location of his tomb, he is entitled to be the Promised One of the Christians." (*Truth About Crucifixion*, p. 120).

And our last statement is that all praise belongs to Allah, the Sustainer of the universe.

---

## **106th JALSA SALANA AT QADIAN**

The One Hundred Sixth Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat at Qadian will be held during December 18, 19, and 20, 1997.

The Jalsa Salana (Annual Convention) at Qadian has a special significance. The Promised Messiah (a.s.) inaugurated the first Jalsa Salana at Qadian in 1891. Until the partition of India in August, 1947, Qadian was the site of the Central Jalsa Salana of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat.

If you plan to visit Qadian for this Jalsa Salana, you can get further information by contacting the National Headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. (Ph: (301) 879-0110).

---

BKORDER.XLS

Books Order Form

11/9/97:05 PM

	Name:			
	Phone Number:			
	Street:			
	City, State, Zip:			
Serial #	Book Name	Price	Quantity	Total
1	Holy Quran 5 Volume	75.00		
2	Holy Quran with Short Commentary	25.00		
3	Tafseer Sagheer	15.00		
4	<b>Holy Quran with translation by Hazrat Maulvi Sher Ali</b>	10.00		
5	Tafseer Kabir Arabic Volume 1,2 (each)	10.00		
6	<b>Holy Quran Simple Without Transiation</b>	10.00		
7	Holy Quran Spanish Translation	20.00		
8	Tafseer Kabeer 10Volume	60.00		
9	<b>Introduction To The Study Of Holy Quran</b>	7.00		
10	Malfoozat 10 vol.	60.00		
11	<b>Gardens Of Righteous</b>	7.00		
12	Jesus in India	3.00		
13	Our Teachings	0.75		
14	Victory of Islam	1.00		
15	The Will	0.50		
16	AlWassiyat	0.50		
17	Essence of Islam	10.00		
18	<b>Life of Mohammad</b>	5.00		
19	Ahmadiyyat, Ranaissance of Islam	10.00		
20	Christianity A Journey from facts to fiction	3.00		
21	Absolute Justice,Kindness, Kinship....	4.00		
22	<b>Islam's Respnse to Contemporary Issues</b>	5.00		
23	Elementary Study Of Islam	1.00		
24	Revival of Religion	0.50		
25	Murder in the Name of Allah	6.00		
26	A Man of God	6.00		
27	<b>Homeopathy (Urdu)</b>	10.00		
28	A Man of God.(Urdu)	10.00		
29	Gulf Crises	8.00		
30	Life Supreme	2.00		
31	Where Did Jesus Die?	3.00		
32	<b>Invitation To Ahmadiyyat</b>	5.00		
33	Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian	4.00		
34	<b>Ahmad the Guided One</b>	10.00		
35	<b>Promised Messiah and Mahdi</b>	4.00		
36	Hazrat Maulvi Nooruddin Sahib Khalifa tul Mussieh 1	4.00		
37	<b>Islam the Summit of Religious Evolution</b>	3.00		
38	Pathway to Paradise	2.00		
39	Some Distinctive Features of Islam	0.50		
40	Islam and Human Rights	2.00		

BKORDER.XLS

Books Order Form

11/9/97:05 PM

41	Souvenir Bait ur Rahman Mosque	8.00	
42	Way of Seekers	3.00	
43	Rememberance of Allah	1.00	
44	Fullfilment of Grand Prophecy	1.00	
45	Seal of Prophets	0.50	
46	Afghan Martyrs	5.00	
47	My Mentor	4.00	
48	Message of Islam	1.00	
49	Biblical References	1.00	
50	Women In Islam	0.50	
51	Wisdom of Holy Prophet	3.00	
52	Message of Peace	1.00	
53	Ramooz Fitrat (Urdu)	5.00	
54	Qabooliat Dua Ke Raaz (Urdu)	1.00	
55	Rah Huda ((Urdu)	4.00	
56	Tafheemat Rabania (Urdu)	8.00	
57	Shahhedan Rah Wafa (urdu)	3.00	
58	Ibn Maryam (Urdu)	6.00	
59	Mehzar Nama (Urdu)	3.00	
60	Ashab Ahmad (Urdu)	5.00	
61	Ahmad and Sarah	2.00	
62	Words of Wisdom and Purification	3.00	
63	Stories From Early Islam	2.50	
64	Holy Prophet's Kindness to Children	1.00	
65	Muslim Festivals	4.00	
66	Lessons on Islam (set of 4)	6.00	
67	<b>Salat (Prayer Book)</b>	2.00	
68	<b>Yasarnal Quran</b>	2.00	
69	Synopsis of Religious Preaching 1,2 (each)	1.50	
70	Bilal	1.00	
71	The True Story of Jesus	2.00	
72	<b>The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam:</b>		
	English Hard Cover	2.50	
	English Paper Back	2.00	
	Urdu	2.50	
	Arabic Hard Cover	2.50	
	Arabic Paper Back	2.00	
	Turkish	2.00	
	Greek	2.00	
	Bulgarian, Russian, Polish, Albanian	2.00	
	Chinese, Hebrew, Spanish	2.00	
	<b>PLease Mail or Fax your Order. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE</b>		
	2141 Leroy Place NW		
	Washington DC 20008	Fax 202 232 8181	
	<b>The Books Highlghted Are Recieved Recently.</b>		



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1998

Dec 31,97	Wednesday	First Day of Ramadan	
Jan. 4	Sunday	Programs/Plans for 1998 by each local Jamaat	Local*
Jan. 30	Friday	Eidul-Fitr	
Feb. 22	Sunday	Musleh Maud Day (Historical Feb. 20)	Local
Mar. 22	Sunday	Masih Maud Day (Historical March 23)	Local
Apr 7	Tue.	Eidul-Adhia	
Apr 24-26	Fri-Sun	Majlise Shura at Bait-ur-Rahman	
May 24	Sunday	Khilafat Day (Historical May 27)	Local
Jun 26-28	Fri-Sun	Jalsa Salana USA at Washington Metro Area	National
July 3-5	Fri-Sun	Jalsa Salana Canada at Toronto	Canada
Jul 17-19	Fri-Sun	Ijtema Mid-West Lajna	Mid-West
Jul 31-Aug 2	Fri-Sun	Jalsa Salana UK at Islamabad	UK
Aug 7-9	Fri-Sun	Ijtema Khuddam	National
Aug 14-16	Fri-Sun	Ijtema East Coast Lajna	East Coast
Aug 28-30	Fri-Sun	Ijtema West Coast Lajna at Bait-ul-Hameed, Chino, CA	West Coast
Aug 28-30	Fri-Sun	Ijtema West Coast Ansar at Bait-ul-Hameed, Chino, CA	West Coast
Sep 11-13	Fri-Sun	Ijtema and Shura Ansarullah at Baitur-Rahman	National
Sept 20	Sunday	Seeratun Nabi Day**	Regional*
Oct 18	Sunday	Religious Founder's Day	Regional
Nov 15	Sunday	Fulfilment of Hazrat Masih Maud's Prophecy about Dr. Dowie	
Dec 20	Wed.	First Day of Ramadan (Fasting)	
To be decided	Fri-Sun	Jalsa West Coast at Los Angeles	West Coast

• Dates for Local/Regional events can be changed for local needs.

\*\* Additional Seeratun Nabi Days should be arranged. In addition to Regional and or Local level functions, small scale functions for Seeratun Nabi should be arranged at Halqa level at Ahmadi homes.