

An informational, literary, educational, and training magazine of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA

July-August 2006

The Ahmadiyya

Gazette

USA



Welcome Hazoor^{aba}, may Allah make your visit a blessed visit

O' seeker of truth and wisdom, O' wanderer in search of knowledge,

Islam is the divine spring, a source of heavenly water that will quench your thirst. So drink up your heart's full. This is the path of righteousness that will free you from all that troubles you.

AL ISLAM
The Official Website of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Love for All,
Hatred for None

Search AL Islam:

Home
Islam
Ahmadiyyat
Library
Online Store

The Holy Quran: Short Urdu Commentary
By Hadhrat Khairatullah Hashmi II
PDF (64 MB) [more](#)

Jesus: His Life, His Death & His Legacy
Learn more about this prophet of God and his final resting place. [more](#)

AMC Website: United Kingdom
AMC UK has over 20 local branches and several thousand members. [more](#)

Historic Quotes [recent additions](#)
"Quote" "Swords can take territories, but that needs, force can bend needs, but not minds." [Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad](#)

One Hundred Years of Khilafat
Read Hazrat's instructions in regards to the completion of one hundred years of Khilafat in 2008. [more](#)

Khilafat: Successorship to Prophethood
Learn about the history, significance and re-establishment of this divine institution. [more](#)

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Ahmadiyyat is the revival of Islam prophesied to unite mankind in the Latter Days. [more](#)

The Promised Messiah
Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^{ra}, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi. [more](#)

Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad^{ra}
The Fifth Caliph after the Promised Messiah. [more](#)

Articles of Faith
» Unity of God
» His Angels
» His Books
» His Prophets
» The Last Day
» Divine Decree

Five Pillars
» Kalima
» Prayer
» Fasting
» Zakat
» Hajj

Selected Topics
» Character of Muhammad^{sa}
» Muhammad in the Bible
» Jihad & Terrorism
» Women in Islam
» Prayer (Salaat) Guide
» more topics...

The Persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
» Pakistan: Minorities and women continue to suffer. [more](#)
» Indonesia: Activists report Mahfuz for slandering Ahmadiyah sect.
» Ahmadiyya meet banned amid threats by radicals.
» Section 144 bars Ahmadiyyas from holding religious festival in B'wana.
[more at the persecution.org](#)

AL ISLAM LIBRARY
» Books » Articles
» Periodicals » Multimedia
[more in the AL Islam Library](#)

THE HOLY QURAN
Search Quran Translation

advanced | tips | arabic search
Browse Quran Translations
English
[more about the Holy Quran](#)

Contact | Sitemap | Affiliated Websites
Copyright © by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community 1995-2006. All rights reserved.

To learn about the true teachings of Islam

log on to

www.alislam.org

An educational and spiritual monthly publication

Ahmadiyya Gazette USA

OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE AHMADIYYA
MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, USA

July—August 2006

Patron **Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar**
Ameer Jama'at USA

Editor-in-Chief **Dr. Naseer Ahmad**

Editor **Dr. Karimullah Zirvi**

Editorial Advisor **Muhammad Zafrullah Hanjra**

Cover: Latif Ahmed Photos: Kalim Bhatti

Ahmadiyya Gazette USA

Masjid Baitur Rehman
15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905
Phone: 301-879-0110 Fax: 301-879-0115
Email: karimzirvi@yahoo.com
www.ahmadiyya.us www.alislam.org

Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

saw: sallallahu alaihi wasallam
(Peace and Blessing of Allah be upon him)

as: alaihissalam
(Peace be upon him)

ra: radhi allah hu 'anhu
(May Allah be pleased with him/her)

rh: rahimahullahu ta'ala
(May Allah shower mercy on him/her)

aba: ayyada hullah ta'ala binasrihil aziz
(May Allah strengthen him with His mighty help)

swt: subhana wa ta'ala
(Holy and Exalted)

The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA 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, OH 45719-0226



Table of Contents

2	Al-Qur'an
3	Al-Hadith
4	Sayings of the Promised Messiah ^{as}
6	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on April 7, 2006
8	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on April 14, 2006
10	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on April 21, 2006
12	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on April 28, 2006
14	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on May 5, 2006
16	Summary of the Friday Sermon of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba} Delivered on May 12, 2006
18	A Mother's Great Gift: An Address to Lajna by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV th
23	Aims and Objectives of Jalsa Salana
28	Some Directives for Guests and Workers of Jalsa Salana Given by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V ^{aba}
32	Etiquettes of Mulaqat (Audience with Hazoor ^{aba})
35	Why Islam is Vital to the West
40	Maulana Ataullah Khan Derwaish
44-68	Departmental Activities Reports: Tarbiyyat, Tabligh, Wasaya, Rishta Nata, Properties, Tehrik-e-Jadid, Waqf-e-Jadid, Ta'lim
70-71	Departmental Activities Reports: Ta'limul Qur'an, Alislam.org, 23rd Shura of the USA, Waqf-e-Nau, MTA-USA,
94	Lajna Imaillah, USA Activities
100	Majlis Ansarullah, USA Activities
104	Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA Activities

Al-Qur'an

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ
وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ ط وَلَوْ أَمَنَ أَهْلُ الْكِتَابِ لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُمْ ط مِنْهُمْ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ
وَأَكْثَرُهُمْ فَاسِقُونَ 0

You are the best people raised for the good of mankind; you enjoin what is good and forbid evil and believe in Allah. And if the People of the Book had believed, it would have surely been better for them. Some of them are believers, but most of them are disobedient. (3:111)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِيَ الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ ؕ فَإِنْ
تَنَازَعْتُمْ فِي شَيْءٍ فَرُدُّوهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ
وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ط ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا 0

O Ye who believe! obey Allah, and obey *His* Messenger and those who are in authority among you. And if you differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and *His* Messenger if you are believers in Allah and the Last Day. That is best and most commendable in the end. (4:60)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ ؕ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ ط
إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ 0

O Ye who believe! fear Allah; and let every soul to what it sends forth for the morrow. And fear Allah; verily Allah is Well-Aware of what you do. (59:19)

Al-Hadith

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ إِنَّ لِلَّهِ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى مَلَائِكَةً سَيَّارَةً فُضِّلَ أَنْ يَتَّبِعُونَ مَجَالِسَ الذِّكْرِ فَإِذَا وَجَدُوا مَجْلِسًا فِيهِ ذِكْرٌ قَعَدُوا مَعَهُمْ وَحَفَّ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا بِأَجْنِحَتِهِمْ حَتَّى يَمْلَأُوا مَا بَيْنَهُمْ وَبَيْنَ السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا فَإِذَا تَفَرَّقُوا عَرَجُوا وَصَعِدُوا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ قَالَ: فَيَسْأَلُهُمُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِهِمْ: مِنْ أَيْنَ جِئْتُمْ؟ فَيَقُولُونَ: جِئْنَا مِنْ عِنْدِ عِبَادِكَ فِي الْأَرْضِ يُسَبِّحُونَكَ وَيُكَبِّرُونَكَ وَيُهَلِّلُونَكَ وَيَحْمَدُونَكَ وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ قَالَ: وَمَاذَا يَسْأَلُونِي؟ قَالُوا يَسْأَلُونَكَ جَنَّتِكَ قَالَ وَهَلْ رَأَوْا جَنَّتِي؟ قَالُوا: لَا أَيْ رَبِّ ' قَالَ: فَكَيْفَ لَوْ رَأَوْا جَنَّتِي قَالُوا: وَيَسْتَجِيرُونَكَ قَالَ: وَمِمَّا يَسْتَجِيرُونَني؟ قَالُوا: مِنْ نَارِكَ يَا رَبِّ ' قَالَ: وَهَلْ رَأَوْا نَارِي؟ قَالُوا: لَا قَالَ: فَكَيْفَ لَوْ رَأَوْا نَارِي؟ قَالُوا: وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَكَ ' قَالَ: فَيَقُولُ قَدْ غَفَرْتُ لَهُمْ فَأَعْطَيْتُهُمْ مَا سَأَلُوا وَأَجَزْتُهُمْ مِمَّا اسْتَجَارُوا قَالَ ' فَيَقُولُونَ رَبِّ فِيهِمْ فُلَانٌ عَبْدٌ خَطَاءٌ إِنَّمَا مَرَّ فَجَلَسَ مَعَهُمْ قَالَ: فَيَقُولُ: وَلَهُ غَفَرْتُ هُمُ الْقَوْمُ لَا يَشْفَى بِهِمْ جَلِيسُهُمْ -

مسلم كتاب الذكر باب فضل مجالس الذكر

Hadhrat Abū Hurairah^{ra} relates that the Holy Prophet^{swt} said: "Allāh's angels patrol the streets looking for gatherings where people keep occupying themselves with the remembrance of Allāh. When they find such a gathering where people are so occupied, they say to each other: 'Come to your duty.' Then they cover the people with their wings up to the sky. When the people disperse, the angels also leave towards the sky. Then Allāh, the Exalted inquires from them while He Himself knows everything: 'Where did you come from? They report: 'We have come from Thy servants who were proclaiming Thy Holiness and Greatness, and who were praising Thee, glorifying Thee and praying to You.' He inquires: 'What do they ask of Me?' They answer" ' They ask of Thee Paradise.' He inquires: 'Have they seen it?' They answer: 'No, Lord, they have not seen it.' He inquires: 'What if they saw it?' Then the angels will say, 'they ask for Thy protection.' He inquires: 'From what do they need protection?' They answer: 'They seek protection from the Fire.' Then He inquires: 'Have they seen it?' They answer: 'No, they have not seen it.' He inquires: 'What if they saw it.' Then He says: 'I forgave them, gave all that they asked, and protected them from whom they desired My protection. One of the angels then says: 'Among them was so and so who is a sinner. He was a passer-by who seeing the people remembering Thee, sat with them.' Allāh says: 'I forgive him too. They are such a people whose associate shall not be deprived of My Mercy.' "

SAYINGS OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH^{as}

Two Aspects of the Mercy of God

First is the mercy which was manifested for man without any action having proceeded from man. For instance, the creation of the earth, heaven, sun, moon, planets, water, air, fire, and all other bounties upon which man's life and survival are dependent. Without doubt all these bounties are a mercy for man, which have been bestowed upon him without any right, through pure grace and beneficence. This is a grace which came into operation even before the existence of man who didn't even have to ask for it....

The **second type** of mercy is that which follows upon the good actions of man. For instance, when he supplicates God earnestly his prayer is accepted, and when he cultivates the earth laboriously and sows seed, Divine mercy fosters the seed, with the result that a large quantity of grain is gathered. In the same way, careful observation would show that Divine mercy accompanies every one of our righteous actions whether they are religious or secular. When we labour according to the laws prescribed by God, Divine mercy comes into operation and makes our labour fruitful. These two types of mercy are such that we cannot survive without them. No one can doubt their existence. These are the bright manifestations which support the whole pattern of our lives.

When it is established that Almighty God has caused the springs of two mercies to flow for our sustenance and perfection, and they are two of His attributes which are manifested in two aspects for the watering of the tree of our being, we must find out how these two springs are designated when they are reflected in the Arabic language. By virtue of the first type of mercy, God Almighty is called *Rahman* in Arabic, and He is called *Rahim* by virtue of the second type of mercy. It is in order to illustrate this quality of the Arabic language that we have mentioned the expression *Rahman* in the very first line of our Arabic discourse. As the attribute of mercy by virtue of its elementary division comprises two types according to the Divine law of nature, the Arabic language has two elementary words for it.

A seeker after truth would find it most helpful to adopt as a criterion the Divine attributes and works that are visible in the book of nature, for the purpose of discerning the subtle distinctions of the Arabic language, and to seek for these divisions, which appear according to the law of nature in the elementary words of Arabic. Whenever it is desired to highlight the distinction between such Arabic synonyms as are related to the attributes or

works of God, attention should be directed towards the division between those attributes and works which is exhibited in nature, inasmuch as the true purpose of Arabic is to serve Divinity, as the true purpose of man is **the enlightened recognition of God Almighty**.

The qualities of any thing can be appreciated only by keeping in mind the purpose for which it has been created. For instance, an ox is created for the purpose of ploughing or transport. If we overlook this purpose and seek to use it as a hunting-dog, it would fail utterly and would prove useless and valueless. On the other hand, if we try it in the field of its true purpose it soon proves that it carries a great responsibility within the system of the means of maintenance of human livelihood. In short, the worth of everything is proved by its being utilized for its true purpose. Thus the true purpose of Arabic is to illustrate the bright countenance of all manifestations of Divinity.

As the proper carrying-out of this delicate and subtle operation, and to be safeguarded against mistakes, was beyond human capacity, God the Noble and Merciful revealed the Holy Qur'an in the Arabic language, a miraculous illustration of the qualities of the Arabic language, and of the delicate distinction between the different elementary words, and the extraordinarily rich connotations of its compounds, in such manner that all heads bowed to it in acknowledgement. All these qualities of the Arabic language were not only acknowledged by the highest contemporary linguists, but their failure to match them established that human faculties are not able to set forth those verities and insights, to illustrate the true and real beauty of the language. We have learned the distinction between *Rahman* and *Rahim* from the same Holy Book which we have cited, as an instance in our Arabic discourse. Every language contains many synonyms, but until we become aware of the distinctions between them, and so long as those words do not relate to subjects pertaining to Divinity and religious teachings, we need take no account of them.

It should also be remembered that man cannot invent these elementary words, but once they are created by Divine power, man can, by study, discover their subtle distinctions and their proper use. For instance, the grammarians have not discovered anything new, nor have they framed any rules which other people must conform to; but, having studied this natural language they discovered that it was illustrative of a system of rules, and they proceeded to formulate those rules in order to facilitate the study of the language. Thus the Holy Qur'an, by using every word in its proper place, illustrated how the Arabic elementary words can be manipulated, how they serve the subjects of Divinity, and how subtle are their mutual distinctions....

(*Essense of Islam, Vol. II, p 18-21*)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON

OF

HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON APRIL 7, 2006

On 7th April 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon in Singapore.

Hazoor^{aba} said: In this age a lot of amazing inventions have been created for the benefit of mankind. But, as always, this increasing dependence on the material and mundane is causing the decline of spirituality. The greater part of the world has forgotten all about Allah and is vying with one another in the pursuit of material and worldly gains. But if man was to peruse the one great purpose of his life, Allah would bestow on him the bounties of both worlds. Allah has declared worship to be the purpose of man's creation and He desires that man should recognize Him, become truly His and worship Him alone. It was for this purpose that Allah sent His Messengers and the Holy Prophet^{saw} who came with the final law. He also sent the Promised Messiah and Mahdi^{as} in the latter days when darkness would prevail, so that he could turn darkness into light and spread rays of light and guidance in the world.

Hazoor^{aba} said: We are the fortunate ones who have been given the honor of accepting the Promised Messiah and Mahdi^{as} and becoming part of his *Jama'at*. But we shall only benefit from this membership in the *Jama'at* when we become subservient to Allah and are not heedless of His worship .. No worldly objective should lead us away from Him, and we should always act upon His commandments. There are 700 commandments in the Holy Qur'an; having accepted Ahmadiyyat we should lead our lives in fear lest we should violate any one of them. When one begins to ignore the smaller commandments, he ends up with ignoring even the greater ones. For instance, when a person lets go of modesty, he becomes oblivious of worship, and thus forgets the purpose for which he was created. Ahmadies should realize that once they associate themselves with the Promised Messiah they have to follow his teachings and abide by every commandment of the Holy Qur'an. They should try to fulfill the objectives of *Bai 'at*, strive to adopt *taqwa*, read the Holy Qur'an with deliberation and lead their lives according to it.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Most of you are born Ahmadies and you may not realize what great sacrifices were offered by the early Ahmadies and Missionaries. The message of Ahmadiyyat began to reach this land about 70 or 71 year ago. Ghulam Hussain Ayyaz Sahib was the first Missionary to arrive here and Haji Ja'far Sahib was one of the first Ahmadies. These

earlier Ahmadies were subjected to beatings and all sorts of persecution. The blessings we are witnessing today are a result of their sacrifices and their prayers. This spirit of sacrifice is alive in the *Jama'at* even today. *Insha Allah* will never allow our sacrifices to go in vain. For the last year, Ahmadies in Indonesia have also been subjected to atrocities. But we do not counter aggression with aggression, rather we submit our woes before Allah. Every Indonesian Ahmadi can testify that these tribulations, rather than weakening them have strengthened their faith. Hazoor ^{aba} urged Indonesian Ahmadies to practice patience and forbearance. It is the hallmark of Ahmadiyyat never to take the law into its own hands and to submit to Allah instead. Remember that you are not alone; the prayers of Ahmadies all over the world are with you. These tribulations are only temporary. You are the *Jama'at* of the Promised Messiah^{as} and Allah will never allow you to be destroyed. Establish a relationship of true loyalty with Allah. While you progress in worship, you should also convey the message of Ahmadiyyat to others with love and sympathy. Remember well that the ultimate triumph belongs to those who fear Allah. May Allah enable us to follow the teachings of the Promised Messiah... Ameen

(Ch. Hameedullah)
Wakil A'la,
Tahrik-e-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

THE WILL AND POWER OF GOD

God Almighty operates in this world in three capacities: one, in the capacity of God; two, in the capacity of a friend; and three, in the capacity of an enemy. His treatment of His average creatures proceeds from His capacity as God and His treatment of those who love Him and whom He loves, proceeds not only in His capacity as God, but also predominantly in His capacity of a friend. The world feels that God is supporting the person concerned like a friend. His treatment of His enemies is characterized by painful chastisement and such signs as indicate clearly that God Almighty is the enemy of that people or that person. Sometimes God tests a friend of His by making the whole world his enemy and for a time subjects him to their tongues and their hands, but He does not do this because He desires to destroy His friend, or to disgrace or humiliate him. He does this so that He might show His sign to the world and so that His impertinent opponents should realize that despite their utmost efforts they were not able to harm the person concerned.

(*Nuzul-ul-Masih, Roohani Khaza'in, Vol. 18, pp. 517-518*)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON

OF

HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON APRIL 14, 2006

On 14th April 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon at Sydney, Australia.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Many members of the *Jama'at* have come to live in this country during the last 20-22 years. Ahmadiyyat first arrived in this country in 1903 when Hadhrat Sufi Musa Khan Sahib had the honor of taking *Bai'at*. Thus it is now a hundred years since Ahmadiyyat took root in this country.

Hazoor^{aba} said: The instructions which Hadhrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib Sialkoti^{ra} sent to Hazrat Sufi Musa Khan Sahib on behalf of the Promised Messiah^{as} are a beacon for us to this day. The first of these instructions was:

Now that your *Bai'at* has been accepted you should observe your prayers with proper care and attention.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Observing daily prayers with proper care and attention means before praying, we should first cleanse ourselves physically and spiritually. We should discard all laziness, perform the ablution properly and observe the prayers at their appointed time. If we do so, we shall not only be safe from trials and tribulations and from Satanic assaults; but we shall also gain nearness to Allah. All Ahmadies should see to it that they offer their prayers on time and they should be particularly vigilant with regard to *Salat-e-Wusta* or the prayer that comes while one is engaged in other activities. When a person gives preference to his prayers over other things, Allah will Himself see to the fulfillment of all his needs. Observance of prayer also means that prayer should be offered in congregation. Congregational prayer is 27 times more rewarding than solitary prayer. The Promised Messiah^{as} says: Prayer should be offered with utmost care and diligence. It is the key to all progress.

The second instruction the Promised Messiah^{as} gave to Sufi Musa Khan Sahib was that he should continuously offer *Istighfar*. The Holy Prophet^{saw} has said that Allah is more pleased with the repentance of His servant than the man wandering in the desert who suddenly comes across his lost camel. Allah says in the Holy Qur'an: Seek forgiveness from your Lord, He is oft returning to His servant with compassion.

The third instruction was that he should try his best to adopt piety and *Taqwa* and should obey the commandments of Allah and the Holy Prophet.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Every Ahmadi should lead his life worshipping Allah, seeking His forgiveness and obeying His commandments and the commandments of the Holy Prophet^{saw}. Deeds that are devoid of *Taqwa* do not reach God.

Hazoor^{aba} said: The Promised Messiah^{as} established *Nizam-e-Wasiyyat* under Divine instructions and he offered a lot of prayers for the Musies. A hundred years have passed since *Nizam-e-Wasiyyat* was established. In 2004 I had made an appeal for at least 50,000 members to sign the *Wasiyyat* by 2005. This target was not only achieved but was surpassed.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Hadhrat Musa Khan Sahib of Australia was the first person to sign *Wasiyyat* outside India. He signed *Wasiyyat* in March 1906, three months after the institution of *Wasiyyat* was first established. More and more Ahmadies in this country should join the *Nizam-e-Wasiyyat*. One hundred percent of all of the office-bearers should sign *Wasiyyat*, because it cleanses the hearts.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Another instruction which the Promised Messiah^{as} gave to Musa Khan Sahib was to pray a lot in his prayers and in *Tahajjud*, and also to spread the message of Ahmadiyyat to other people. Today it is your duty to invite others to partake of this spiritual water, and to bring about a spiritual revolution in yourselves. Try to avoid all the vulgarities of the age and lead your lives in a spirit of love and brotherhood.

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakil A'la,

Tahrik-e-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

THE UNITY OF GOD IS A LIGHT

The Unity of God is a light which illumines the heart after the so-called outer and inner deities are totally negated, and it courses through every particle of man's being. It cannot be acquired by anyone on his own, but only through God and His Messenger. Man's function is that he should impose a death upon his ego and should discard the satanic vanity that he is a learned person. He should deem himself ignorant and should be occupied with supplication. Then the light of Unity would descend upon him from God and would bestow new life upon him..

(*Haqiqatul Wahi, Roohani Khaza'in Vol. 22, p. 148*)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON

OF

HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON APRIL 21, 2006

On 21 st April 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon at Bai'tul Huda Mosque in Sydney, Australia.

Hazoor^{aba} said: By the grace of Allah, my tour of Australia is drawing to a close. Here I was able to participate in the *Jalsa* and to deliver several addresses, I also personally met all the members of the *Jama'at* and, through this direct communication, I was able to gain a lot of information.. By the grace of Allah, *Jama'at* Ahmadiyya Australia is as full of sincerity and devotion as any other *Jama'at*. But, as always, there are some weaknesses that have to be kept in view, so that they can be removed and we can attain the high standards which the Promised Messiah^{as} wanted to see in his *Jama'at*.

Hazoor^{aba} said: The majority of Ahmadies in this country are of Pakistani origin and there are some Fijians as well. A heavy responsibility lies with the sincere and trained Ahmadies from Pakistan, They should not do anything which might cause young Ahmadies or Ahmadies of non-Pakistani origin to stumble. If you fail to fulfill this responsibility, you will be doing a great wrong to yourselves and to other Ahmadies. It is therefore, important that you always try to set a high standard of righteousness and keep analyzing yourselves.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Always remember that it is the Promised Messiah^{as} to whom you have pledged the allegiance of *Bai'at*, therefore, you should only keep his example and teachings before you. Reflect upon what the Promised Messiah^{as} expects of you and do not look at what any office-bearer is doing, for everyone has to answer for himself. Your duty is to link yourself with the *Khalifah* appointed by Allah. The Promised Messiah^{as} says that you should strengthen your faith, cleanse your hearts, try to please your Gracious Lord and to purify your morals.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Make use of the present time. Stick to the teachings of the Promised Messiah^{as} and continuously try to adorn your present life and your hereafter. Strengthen your faith and keep yourself on the straight path rather than look at what someone else is doing. Cleanse all the stains of your heart and purify your morals, for moral miracles will not only help open new paths for *Da'wat Ilallah*, but they shall also help in the proper training of your children.

Hazoor^{aba} said: How can the servants of the faith reform other people if they do not change their own attitudes. Every Ahmadi, whether he is an office-bearer or not, should seek

to reform himself. Try to set worthy examples for others and seek different ways of doing so. Making plans and schemes for the achievement of *Taqwa* is also a form of worship.

Hazoor^{aba} said: It is important for people to control their tongues. Indecent and immoral language can lead to hostility and animosity. The Promised Messiah^{as} has said: I am fearful for the faith of one whose morals are not good. Try, therefore, to correct your deeds while adopting the higher morals.

Hazoor^{aba} said: It is the duty of every Ahmadi to attain the highest levels both in his worship and in his morals, for this is what the Promised Messiah^{as} has instructed us to do in the Ten Conditions of *Bai'at*. May Allah enable you to acquire the high morals and to obey the *Nizam-e-Jama'at* in the best manner. May Allah also enable you to spread the message of Ahmadiyyat in the length and breadth of this country. Ameen.

(Ch. Hameedullah)
Wakil A'la,
Tahrik-e-Jadid. Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

THE TRUE UNITY OF GOD

The true Unity of God, the affirmation of which is demanded by God and upon which salvation depends, is to believe that God in His Being is free from every associate, whether it is an idol or a human being, or the sun or moon or one's ego, or one's cunning or deceit; and to conceive of no one as possessing power in opposition to Him, nor to accept anyone as sustainer, nor to hold anyone as bestowing honour or disgrace, nor to consider anyone as helper or assistant; and to confine one's love to Him and one's worship to Him and one's humility to Him and one's hopes to Him and one's fear to Him. No Unity can be complete without the following three types of particularization. First, there is the Unity of Being, that is to say, to conceive the whole universe as nonexistent in contrast with Him and to consider it mortal and lacking reality. Secondly, the Unity of attributes, that is to say, that *Ru-būbiyyat* and Godhead are confined to His Being and that all others who appear as sustainers or benefactors are only a part of the system set up by His hand. Thirdly, the Unity of love and sincerity and devotion; that is to say, not to consider anyone as an associate of God in the matter of love and worship and to be entirely lost in Him.

(*Siraj-ud-Din 'Isa'i ke Char Sawalon ka Jawab, Roohani Khaza'in, Vol. 12, pp. 349-350*)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON

OF

HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON APRIL 28, 2006

On 28th April 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon in Fiji.

Hazoor^{aba} said: I am grateful to Allah for enabling me to deliver this Sermon live from the last corner of the world. Allah has once again shown us the fulfillment of his promise to the Promised Messiah^{as}.

Hazoor^{aba} said: The message of the Promised Messiah^{as} has spread to the corners of the world through MTA, and now it is being spread around the world from the corner of the world. Whether or not the world accepts him as the Promised Messiah^{as} ... but it is literally crying out for a Reformer. People today have forgotten about God and countless idols have established themselves in their hearts.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Allah has made us among the fortunate ones who have recognized and accepted the Promised Messiah^{as}. The purpose of his advent was to establish a link between man and God and that people should fulfill their obligations towards their fellow beings. In the light of the teachings of the Promised Messiah^{as} we have to strive to attain both these objectives. After accepting the Promised Messiah^{as} it is the duty of every Ahmadi that he makes an assessment of his self and ascertain how far he is fulfilling the purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah^{as}. If we keep this object in our minds we will automatically be drawn towards Allah's worship. *Bai'at* alone, without worship of Allah is of no use. It is only through an in depth study of the Ten Conditions of *Bai'at*, that we can truly understand the change which the Promised Messiah^{as} wanted to create in his *Jama'at*.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Let us always have a pure and straightforward relationship with Allah and let us strive to fulfill our obligations to Allah and to our fellow beings. Our obligation to Allah is that our worship should be for His pleasure alone. The best worship is to observe the five daily prayers with all their conditions. The Promised Messiah^{as} says: "The greatest secret of the life of piety is prayer. He remains in peace who remains prostrating and supplicating before Allah.

Hazoor^{aba} said: After inviting us to Prayers, Allah next draws our attention to making financial sacrifices. Financial sacrifices made for the sake of Allah are also a form of worship. After prayers and financial sacrifices, it is obligatory for us to obey Allah and His

Prophet^{saw} and also the *Nizam-e-Jama'at* when we truly follow the teachings of the Holy Prophet^{saw} and the Promised Messiah^{as}.

Hazoor^{aba} said: *Bai'at* alone is not enough unless we bring about a pious change in ourselves. As we fulfill our duty to Allah, it is important that we also remain attached to *Khilafat* and *Nizam-e-Jama'at*. It is likewise our duty to fulfill our obligations to Allah's creatures. Remember, in order to fulfill your obligations to one another, you must adopt humility. Only then will it be possible for love and harmony to prevail in society.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Remain prostrate before Allah, pray to Him, and keep His fear in mind. One who is ever conscious that he shall one day be answerable to God, will surely fulfill his obligations to Him and to His creatures.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Every member of the *Jama'at* should become a believer in the true sense of the word, and should fulfill his obligations to his fellow beings. May it be so. Ameen.

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakil A'la,

Tahrik-e-Jadid. Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

EVILS OF ASSOCIATING PARTNERS WITH GOD

I regret that I have not found words in which I should set out the evils of leaning towards anyone except God. People cringe before others and flatter them, which invokes the jealousy of God Almighty, and is tantamount to praying to people, from which God withdraws and which He casts aside. I set out the matter in a crude way, though it is not its true reality and yet it is easy to follow. A self-respecting man's jealousy would not tolerate another person establishing a relationship with his wife, as in such a case, he would consider his wretched wife worthy of being killed and very often that is what happens in fact. Similar is the jealousy of the Divine. Servitude and prayer are reserved for His Being. He does not approve that anyone else should be worshipped or should be called on in supplication. So remember well that to lean towards any beside Allāh is to cut asunder from Him. Prayer and Unity—for Prayer is the name of the proclamation of Unity in practice—are without blessing and vain when they are empty of humility and nothingness and are not pursued with a single-minded heart!

(*Malfoozat*, Vol. I, pp. 167-168)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON

OF

HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON MAY 5, 2006

On 5th May 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon on the occasion of Jalsa Salana. New Zealand.

After reciting verse 206 of Sarah Al-A'raf, which is translated as follows:

And remember thy Lord in thy mind with humility and fear, and without loudness of speech, in the mornings and evenings; and be not of the neglectful. (7:206)

Hazoor^{aba} said: The annual convention of *Jama'at* Ahmadiyya New Zealand is commencing today by the Grace of Allah. The purpose of our Jalsa is that the hearts of the followers of the Promised Messiah^{as} should be filled with Allah's love and that they practice high morals. Our *Jalsas* today, are held in the same spirit in which the institution of *Jalsa Salana* was initiated by the Promised Messiah^{as} 116 years ago. These *Jalsas* portray the wishes of the Promised Messiah^{as} and fulfill the true purpose of the *Jalsa*. Hopefully this *Jalsa* will also come up to the same standards. If, due to some compulsions, you have been unable to fulfill these requirements in the course of the year, then make use of this purely spiritual environment and try to mold your life according to the teachings of the Promised Messiah^{as}. This practice should not be confined to the days of the *Jalsa* only but should continue forever. You will then be appropriately spreading the message of Ahmadiyyat and bringing mankind nearer to Allah.

Every Ahmadi must try to bring about a pure change in himself and must be ever mindful that Allah is watching him. If he has this in mind, the remembrance of Allah will always be on his tongue, he will be able to offer the five daily prayers regularly, and will also act upon all other Divine commandments.

Hazoor^{aba} said: The verse that I have recited admonishes us to remember Allah with fear and humility and to seek His help day in, day out. The Promised Messiah^{as} says that every single moment which we spend unmindful of Allah is a moment spent in unbelief. The Promised Messiah^{as} also says that every dusk should bear witness that we have spent the day in the fear of Allah and every dawn should bear witness that we spent the night in keeping with the requirements of *Taqwa*.

Every Ahmadi should bear in mind that true contentment and peace of mind can be attained only by following Allah's commandments and by remembering Him.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Remembrance of Allah should not be confined to the five daily prayers, Allah has described the believers as people who remember Him standing, sitting and lying on their sides. When man remembers Allah with true sincerity the awe of His Grandeur dawns upon his heart and saves him from sin and increases him in piety and purity.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Ahmadiyyat came to Fiji some 40 to 50 years ago. The early Ahmadies brought about a true transformation in themselves. They offered sacrifices and converted many people into Ahmadiyyat. Today you too should increase your efforts with regard to *Da'wat-e-ilallah* and bring about a true transformation in your own selves. The Holy Prophet^{saw} has instructed us to often repeat the prayer: "O Allah, establish my heart upon Your faith" May every Ahmadi mold his life according to the wishes of the Promised Messiah^{as}. Ameen.

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakil A'la,

Tahrik -e-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

THE GRACE OF GOD COVERS EVERYTHING

God is the light of the heavens and the earth. Every light that is visible on the heights or in the valleys, whether in souls or in bodies, whether personal or impersonal, whether apparent or hidden, whether in the mind or outside it, is a bounty of His grace. This is an indication that the general grace of the Lord of the worlds envelops everything and nothing is deprived of that grace. He is the source of all grace, the ultimate cause of all lights and the fountainhead of all mercies. His Being is the support of the universe and is the refuge of all high and low. He it is Who brought everything out of the darkness of nothingness and bestowed upon everything the mantle of being. No other being than Him is in himself present and eternal or is not the recipient of His grace. Earth and heaven, man and animals, stones and trees, souls and bodies, have all come into existence by His grace.

[Braheen-e-Ahmadiyya, Roohani Khaza'in, Vol. 1, pp. 191-192, footnote]

The Author's name of the excellent article about Hadhrat Salman Al-Farisi^{ra}, which was published in June 2006 issue of the Ahmadiyya Gazette is Muhammad Sharif Khan. Inadvertently, Khan was typed as Khalid. Editor

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FRIDAY SERMON OF HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH V^{aba}

DELIVERED ON MAY 12, 2006

On 12th May 2006, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} delivered the Friday Sermon at Nagoya, Japan.

Hazoor^{aba} said: As members of the *Jama'at*, you have to keep analyzing yourselves to see how far you are fulfilling your obligations to your faith, to what extent you are trying to bring about a pure change in yourselves, and what efforts you are making to communicate the message of the Promised Messiah^{as} to other people.

Hazoor^{aba} said: It was in 1902 that the Promised Messiah^{as} first expressed his desire for the message of Islam to be conveyed to Japan. In 1935 Hadhrat Musleh Mau'ood^{ra} sent the first missionaries, but these efforts were undermined by the Second World War which also destroyed much of this country. The Japanese however are a brave and persevering nation. They quickly established themselves as an economic power and in doing so, inclined towards materialism. But they still have a lot of respect for religion and are eager to learn about Islam.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Most of you have come here to benefit from the better economic conditions. There are nearly 200 Ahmadies in this country and you are here as representatives of Ahmadiyyat. It is your duty to fulfill the wishes of the Promised Messiah^{as} and convey the message of Ahmadiyyat to this nation. Do not depend solely upon the missionaries to perform this task. It is your relationship with Allah and your practical example that will draw people towards you. But you cannot exhibit this example without Allah's grace, and that, in turn, cannot be attained unless you pay due attention to worship. You should try to observe your prayers with all their conditions. This alone will result in your worldly and spiritual advancement, and without it Allah will not even care about you. He says: "But for your prayer to Him my Lord would not care for you." (25:78)

Hazoor^{aba} said: The supplications of the Promised Messiah^{as} cannot be fulfilled in your favors if you are unmindful of your own prayers and supplications. In order to benefit from the supplications of the Promised Messiah^{as} you will have to try hard to raise your own spiritual status.

Hazoor^{aba} said: It is the duty of parents to firmly establish the love of Allah in the

hearts of their children and to accustom them to prayer. If you set a good example for your children; you will bring them and yourselves closer to Allah, your whole environment will see a change for the better, and the *Jama'at* will be viewed with greater respect.

Hazoor^{aba} said: Allah has commanded us that if we wish to gain His nearness we have to make financial sacrifices. He says if you spend in His way, it will indeed be better for you. The Promised Messiah^{as} has made financial sacrifices obligatory for us and the *Khulafa* have organized them into a proper system. Let every one of you examine the state of your contributions and make sure that you are paying at the prescribed rate. Trying to conceal one's true income is like trying to deceive God. In case you are in genuine difficulty you can ask for permission to pay less but it is outright sinful and deceitful to hide your true income. Prayers and all other virtues can only benefit you if they are performed in line with Allah's will. Try to fulfill your responsibilities in this regard and, as you worship Allah, you should also offer financial sacrifices to gain His pleasure. These sacrifices will help to bring about a positive change in you. May Allah give us the power to cleanse our own selves and to convey the message of Ahmadiyyat to others. Ameen.

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakil A'la,

Tahrik-e-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

RECOGNITION OF GOD

As ever since the creation of the world the recognition of God is tied up with the recognition of a Prophet, it is impossible that the knowledge of Unity could be obtained except through a Prophet. A Prophet is a mirror for the beholding of God. It is only through this mirror that the countenance of God may be seen. When God Almighty desires to manifest Himself to the world, He sends a Prophet into the world who is the manifestation of His Powers and to whom He displays His *Rabubiyyat*. Then the world realizes that there is a God.

It is a part of the Unity of God to believe in those who have been under the eternal law of God appointed as a means of the recognition of God. Without this belief, faith in the Unity of God cannot be perfected. It is not possible to achieve faith in the pure Unity of God, which is created from the fountain of perfect certainty, in the absence of heavenly signs and wonders which are displayed by the Prophets whereby they lead people to full understanding. They are a group that points to God and through whom God, Whose Being is imperceptible upon imperceptible and hidden upon hidden, manifests Himself. That hidden Treasure, Whose name is God, has ever been recognized through the Prophets. The acquisition of faith in the Unity of God, which is estimated as true Unity by God Himself, except through a Prophet, is as much opposed to reason as it is contrary to the experience of all seekers after God.

[*Haqiqat-ul-Wahi, Roohani Khaza'in, Vol. 22, pp. 115-116*]

‘A MOTHER’S GREAT GIFT’

An Appreciation of “Ahmadi Mother’s - Builders of the New World”

An Address to Lajna by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh}
delivered on 7/27/1991, at Tilford, England

Saliha Malik, President, Boston Lajna

The First Sermon from the book ‘Hawwa Ki Baitian’ – ‘Daughters of Eve’

“One day you have to decide that you have to fall in love with God...”

Each time I read this sermon I find gold. It is a mine of interwoven treasures to light the way for women in particular on that elusive subject of Jihad-e-Akbar – the inner work of the self. As I go about my day, thoughts from it spring into my mind, stopping me in my tracks. *Meet ugliness with beauty!* And then an after thought: *But the world will be conquered only when you conquer yourselves.* I realize Hazoor^{rh} has given us a working manual in this complex and inspiring address. Here I find the tools to battle the greatest challenge of all – the “self”. Here Hazoor^{rh} has beseeched the women

to take up the responsibility of building ‘The New World’ of peace and unity in the next generations. But, *it cannot be brought about, it cannot be brought about, it cannot brought about* unless we fill our own hearts with the Light of Allah so that light is running before us.

What follows is my own personal understanding of Hazoor^{rh} address, in which I hope to highlight the key points so that we might be encouraged to dwell upon the subject further. Hazoor^{rh} begins with:

How do we unify hearts in a world that is divided?

“Today, the solution to all the problems of the world lies in love of God. And it is this love that can bring hearts together. Other than this all remedies are meaningless, false and non-sensical. They are just worthless utterances.”

Muhammad^{saw} sets the example for all to follow:

“As far as the reconciliation of hearts is concerned, we have seen the intense union of fragmented hearts in the early history of Islam. We have seen such tribes coming together that were thirsty for each other’s blood. They would kill one another for no reason and take revenge on new generations for dishonor done to them a century ago; the fire of retribution could never be put out.

We witnessed the sight fourteen hundred years ago that fragmented nations, whose hearts were not only split but were filled with hatred and enmity, suddenly came together under one command. And they bonded in such a way that according to the Holy Qur’an, they were tied in relations of love. They became brothers who were always ready to forfeit their lives for each other. This was the program initiated in the Holy Prophet’s^{saw} heart and molded into his actions.”

Muhammad^{saw} lived the Qur'an:

"Repel evil with that which is best. And lo, he, between whom and thyself was enmity, will become as though he were a warm friend." (41:35)

"Today Ahmadi women, most of all, need this journey of love. Ahmadi girls need it because they are the future mothers. It does not mean that men do not need it. Men definitely need it but they will receive this favor through their mothers since their paradise is placed under the feet of their mothers. And the best definition of paradise is love of God. Some people, rather many, hear the word paradise and think that they will enter the gardens of heaven right from underneath the feet of their mothers, whereas the actual definition of paradise is love for God."

In this beautiful sermon, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth unfolds the depth and beauty in the Hadith: "Paradise lies under the feet of the mother" and tells the women of the great responsibility given to them by Allah: to build 'The New World' and to unite the hearts of Mankind.

"Replace your darkness with light, and fill it

with such radiance that it can be seen from outside, and the light of your heart manifests itself." Hazoor^{rh} explains, with the verse from the Holy Qur'an:

Their light running before them and on their right hands.... (57:13)

"Their light, that does not remain limited to them, *yas'aa baina aideehim* it runs ahead of them and illuminates the world as well. Mothers need it because they have children in their custody. If you can instill love of God in their hearts at a young age then it is the biggest favor you can do for your children. And to establish that love, you will need to talk about God. And while talking about God, if your core is not touched, your eyes do not shed tears, and your heart does not melt, then to think that children will be impressed by it is a false tale. There is no reality in it. Children of mothers whose hearts melt and flow in the form of tears whenever they mention God, truly love Him. The expressions on their faces change. Children wonder what has happened to their mother, what is the reason for her sadness, and what emotions have captured her? This is the impression that brings about a moral and noble change in a child's heart."

How do we women prepare ourselves for such a task?

Hazoor^{rh} explains two steps: By making a pure change in oneself and by establishing such a deep connection with God, as a result of which one acquires the ability to transfer the impress of God's attributes to others. These are inextricably bound together.

As we take steps towards that deep connection with God we realize what inner work needs to be done.

"One day you have to decide that you have to fall in love with God and whatever may happen you will love God and will search for His Beauties."

I noticed the words: *whatever may happen*, which indicate that the journey will be full of challenges and we might feel like putting up all kinds of excuses and avoid the job entirely.

"What ever may happen, you will love God and search for His Beauties."

What a masterful stroke! When every minute of the day we are beset with distractions and obstacles and difficulties that put us in the wrong. In our interactions with our own family,

and our community and in the choices that confront us as members of this society we might find ourselves tossed and torn and weary at the end of each day. *What ever may happen you will love God.*

Follow the ways of Prophet hood! "Unless a person follows Prophet hood, learns its ways, and works for it, there cannot be any guarantee of this life. The Prophet comes for the purpose of continuing the graces of Prophet hood among people and feed them its fruits. The real meaning of *Khaatam* is a being that makes impressions of itself and makes them in abundance."

We are not only to reflect upon the beautiful character of Muhammad^{saw}, and what he did, but each of us should become engraved with the ways of Muhammad^{saw}. "A stamp has to be carved out with repeated abrasions. The philosophy of a stamp is that the letters are engraved in such a way that they cannot be erased. The impress becomes a part of one's being in such a way that it has the ability to affix it on others" God cannot be seen directly, but only when His attributes manifest themselves in others.

Carving the ways of Muhammad^{saw} into our inner being! Our difficulties and obstacles in our lives and in our service for Allah provide us with the means for inner change. It sounds straightforward. We might say, from now on I will meet all the ugliness in my day with beauty and that should take care of it. The Hadith related in a recent sermon of Hadhrat Khali-fatul Masih V^{aba} from Fiji (4/23/06) captures the essence of meeting ugliness with beauty.

- If someone cuts ties with you, you keep ties with them.
- If someone does not give to you, you give to them.
- If someone is unmindful of your rights, you are mindful of their rights.
- If someone does not forgive you, you forgive them.
- If someone speaks foul language to you, you speak good words to them.

Instead we meet discord with discord, rancor with rancor. Why is it so difficult?

We have to face our inner demons: '*Replace*

your darkness with light.' Without facing our own weaknesses we continue to live contradictions. We expect from others high standards that we have not required of ourselves. I realized the truth: unless you can draw upon beauty from within yourself you cannot meet ugliness with beauty - you only meet it with the same coin - defensiveness, revenge, hatred.

"This subject starts from the self. One does not want to look at one's own flaws and remains unaware of them. One avoids looking at one's own weaknesses intentionally or unintentionally, because of the fact that one is trying to avoid transforming one's life into a hardship. Such a person has acquired the habit of presenting a lustrous façade and portraying himself as a beautiful and charming person who is better than others. His entire plan of reveling in it would be terminated if he starts looking for his own faults and they get disclosed. He would never be able to sing songs of self-praise in front of others. I have mentioned Bahadur Shah Zafar's couplet many times. These verses are delightful and carry a very deep meaning. I never tire of repeating them. He says:

When I was ignorant of my own condition, I was busy looking at others' faults and ills.

When I saw my own vices, None remained defective in my eyes"

'One is trying to avoid transforming one's life into a hardship'. Self-scrutiny draws one into hardship. In fact the example of Muhammad^{saw} – The Prince of Peace – is nothing less than astonishing. It seems counter intuitive to meet ugliness with beauty. It has to be consciously practiced in oneself. Instinctively we blame the 'other', the 'situation'. Instinctively we retaliate, we harbor grudges. So long as we are fault-finders, critical of others we cannot make our hearts ready for God.

"You desire that God should descend in your house; but you instruct others to clean their houses. You do not comprehend that the guest is coming to your house. Therefore, when you realize what guest is about to descend on your heart, this appreciation will make you see so many flaws that no matter how many stains you clean, some new stain will appear. And a person who has had this experience knows that no matter how much you clean your house there is

always a hidden place indicating that cleaning is not complete. And when that place is cleaned then some other places that had appeared clean earlier seem stained compared to this. And this is a never-ending process."

When we truly face our self, we are not sure if we can meet our goal. How can we transform what we see there? We constantly fall and fail in our resolve. But without these steps – faltering in the dark, seeking the courage to make a change in our own self, realizing our own limitations and weakness, moment to moment aiming to meet ugliness with beauty, we could not come into Allah's Grace. How deeply we begin to pray. What anguish surges in the heart! In these prayers lies our road to submission and humility. I realize the darkness is there for a purpose.

"O Lord! Show us your beauty or the manifestations of it. Make us helpless. We should see You and fall madly in love; and become oblivious to the world, and all that is in it. And we should love You and be unable to love anyone in comparison to You." Hazoor^{rh} tells us to pray.

"This is the prayer as a result of which Allah will

bring pious changes in you. As long as there are no pious changes inside you, any moral change in the outside world cannot be brought about! Cannot be brought about! Cannot be brought about!"

As we make a pure change we deepen our connection with God. Love, you are a strange power.

"One day you have to decide that you have to fall in love with God...."

It means falling in love with Muhammad^{saw}, who was the proof of the loveliness and beauty of God. "Behold beauty and you will be helpless. You will then follow it since it is human nature." "One type of love is for the pleasure itself and the other kind is to suffer for the sake of that pleasure." This love is a strange power. It shows us what we need to change in ourselves. It renders us capable of sacrifice. Mothers learn this kind of love in the raising of their children. Without the power of love of this kind, "Providing any cure for the world becomes a headache an untidy business a perpetual difficulty".

O Beloved! Your lovely glances are a sharp sword, that slice through the whole issue of grief caused by strangers.

O love! You are a strange thing and have shown surprising signs. You have made the wound and the salve similar to each other. So now if I get a wound in God's way, it would be soothing as a balm, and when I am treated with an ointment that too would soothe me like a balm."

Love you are a strange power.

Till I had become crazy: I had not come to my senses, O madness of love! I adore you for this beneficence.

"O love I did not gain sanity till you made me insane. I did not have wisdom. O madness! I revolve around you smitten because you bestowed on me that which even intellect could not confer. Hence it is madness of love that will bring about virtuous changes in the world. And every person will have to make this journey individually."

"Then your heart will become your advisor. This love will carry one around and change the course of one's life."

"The fate of a nation is written in mother's milk, whether it will become a

toxic nation or prove to be a life - giving one. Therefore you have a great responsibility. The children of those Ahmadi mothers who fear God and are devoted to Him are never wasted."

Compelled by such a love we can face our inner darkness and God willing, make deep inner changes. Absorbed in love like this we raise our children. The mother's greatest gift is to herself, as it is to her children, and all those around her. The mother's greatest gift is from Allah.

"Our highest pleasures are with our God."

"Sing the lullaby of God's love to them (your children) at an early age, when they are being nourished in your laps, playing in your arms, and growing on your milk. You are standing at the beginning of a new century. You are appointed the revivalists of this century. As a nation you have to fulfill the needs of training of children in the coming ages. May Allah grant you the ability to do so. Ameen."

"Wake up, O who are asleep, it is springtime

Come and see, that Friend is at our door".

References:

- All quotations and italicized phrases are taken from the sermon given by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth— 'Ahmadi Mothers Builders of a New World', 7/27/91.
- All couplets from poems are also taken from the same sermon. The final one is from the poem of the Promised Messiah^{as}, upon which Hazoor^{rh} based the subject of his Khutba.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE STUDIES

My younger brother, Maksudul Alam Ali, has successfully completed his studies at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, *Alhamdulillah*. He graduated on Friday, May 26th and was 248th in his class of approximately 990 graduates. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Systems Engineering and will be a commissioned submarine officer in the United States Navy, *Insha Allah*. Maksud is the youngest of 4 children and is the son of Dr. Mirza Wazed Ali and Dilshad Begum Ali of Clarksburg, MD.

Mahfuz Ali

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF JALSA SALANA

In the words of the Promised Messiah^{as}

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

"One of the major objectives of this *Jalsa* is that sincere members should derive spiritual benefit directly, thus enriching their religious knowledge, and by the grace of Allah, attaining state of God-realization.

There are other advantages too. The *Jalsa* would provide an opportunity to brothers to introduce themselves, consequently contributing to the strengthening of bond of brotherhood.

In addition to the above benefits, the *Jalsa* would provide a forum for presenting useful proposals for religious and spiritual welfare of Europe and America. Lately it has become evident that the unprejudiced individuals from those continents are exhibiting a genuine interest in Islam".

(Ishtihar, dated December 7, 1892, *Majmua Ishtiharat* Vol. 1, PP. 340-341)

"The purpose and objective of the *Jalsa* was that

members of our *Jama'at*, through process of frequent audience ('*mulaqat*'), should undergo a significant internal change, enabling them to concentrate on matters pertaining to the hereafter, so that Allah's pious fear is instilled in their hearts, molding them into models of devotion, righteousness, sympathetic consideration, meekness, and brotherhood. Moreover, their humility, sobriety and uprightness should be worthy of emulation, and that they should be in a state of readiness for rendering services in the cause of faith".

(Shahdatul Qur'an, *Roo-hani Khazain*, Vol. 6 P. 394)

"It is not my wish that like contemporary 'Pirzadas' (descendants of Muslim saints), I should summon multitude of my followers, with view to staging a show of my sway and grandiosity, rather the real purpose of the gathering is to use that for reformation of mankind."

(Shahdatul Qur'an, *Roo-hani Khazain*, Vol. 6 P.395)

"Let it be abundantly clear to all the adherents of my *Jama'at* that the real purpose of the *Bai'at* (Pledge of Initiation) is suppression and cessation of excessive absorption in worldly things, so the love of Allah, the Almighty, and that of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{saw}, should saturate their hearts. The sublime and serene condition thus created, should facilitate a transition to eternity. This tranquil state cannot be achieved without spending time in my company and devoting a better part of life for that purpose, so that witnessing of faith-inspiring signs should enhance faith and inculcate Divine love, by removing spiritual disability and dullness. Every member should aspire for, and fervently supplicate to attain that goal. Unless that state of mind has been vouchsafed, the members of the *Jama'at* should endeavor to see me periodically. Such contacts should be frequent; otherwise the '*Bai'at*' would be reduced to a mere formality, practically devoid of all blessings.

Since, it is not feasible for each and every member to travel again and again, on account of physical weakness, or a long stretch of distance, or financial constraints or a heavy schedule of engagements, it appears appropriate to fix three days annually, for *Jalsa* so that all sincere members, in the absence of all obstacles, should endeavor to participate in the proposed gathering."

(Aasmani Faisla, Roohani Khazain, Vol. 4, P. 351)

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

"Special prayers, for forgiveness and salvation, would be offered for those members of the *Jama'at*, who have departed this transitory world, during the course of the year."

(Aasmani Faisla, Roohani Khazain, Vol. 4, P. 352)

DISTINCTIVE STATUS OF JALSA

"Do not treat this *Jalsa* like other worldly gatherings. This institution is being founded on behest of God Almighty, with view to preaching of Islam. The foundation stone of this dispensation has been laid by the hand of God Him-

self, who has designated nations, which are destined to merge in it. This has been decreed by Omnipotent God for Whom nothing is impossible to achieve."

(Ishtihar, dated December 7, 1892)

BLESSINGS AND ADVANTAGES OF JALSA

"All sincere members, as far as humanly possible, should endeavor, to reach here (Qadian), on specified dates, for listening to Godly discourses and for participating in supplications. The *Jalsa* would be dedicated to present facts and verities, which would strengthen their faith and enhance certainty.

Special prayers, coupled with profound attention, would be offered, for sincere friends, so that the Gracious and Most Merciful Lord accepts them for a lasting transformation...

At the eve of *Jalsa*, the *Jama'at* adherents would be united in a spiritual fraternity. Help would be sought from Allah, the Gracious for dismantling of barriers of estrangement, aloofness and hypocrisy"

(Aasmani Faisla, Roohani Khazain, Vol. 4, P.352)

AN EMPHATIC EXHORTATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN JALSA

"It is my ardent wish that all initiates should travel (to Qadian), to spend some time in my company, with view to undergoing a spiritual change. Note that death can cut short any life at any time. Even a glimpse of mine is beneficial for members, but only those would see me in reality, who truly seek religious enlightenment with patience, and the faith, in the real sense of the word, is their real goal. Note that traveling on the part of the people, gifted with pious intention, is always rewarding."

Shahdatul Qur'an, Roohani Khazain, Vol. 6 P.395)

"Our religion demands that people should benefit from the company of the righteous again and again. Avoidance of this companionship means negation of hope and will to achieve advanced state of piety. I have repeatedly advised our friends to come here again and again, for religious and spiritual benefit but adequate attention has not been paid. People, while making the pledge of initiation, solemnly promise to prefer religion to worldly pursuits,

but in practical life they fail to honor it. Be warned that graves are anxiously awaiting their consignments and death is approaching stealthily. With every breath, in reality, it is the life span that is being shortened but lo the people take it as a lease for leisure. A believer should never attempt to outwit his Creator. Remember, when death overtakes, one cannot defer it for a second. Mind not those who have not joined the fold of the *Jama'at* because they have failed to comprehend the significance of the Divine dispensation. The most unfortunate is the one who recognized the *Jama'at* but wronged his soul by not becoming the real part of it in practical terms. The people who do not see me frequently and miss the opportunity to hear and witness the signs, which Allah, the Almighty, is showing in support of this *Jama'at*, however virtuous and righteous they might be by their own dint, have failed to appreciate the significance of this Divine dispensation... I have earlier said that theoretical advancement must be followed by practical perfection. Practical perfection cannot be achieved without theoretical advancement, which cannot be attained without frequent visits."

(*Al-Hakm*, September 17, 1901)

SAVING FOR PARTICIPATION IN JALSA

"It would be appropriate for members, managing with limited means, to carefully plan for participation in the *Jalsa*. Employing wisdom and frugality, if they embark upon saving some money on a daily or monthly basis for the needs of the *Jalsa*, they would be able to set aside a reasonable fund, enabling them to undertake this journey practically free of charge."

(*Aasmani Faisla*, Roohani Khazain, VOL. 4, P. 352)

AN ESSENTIAL IMPORTUNITY

"All should listen with deep thought and close attention because this matter deals with faith. Dullness, languor and lack of reflection in such matters, often precipitates serious repercussions. The people, who are not serious about faith, do not listen attentively religious discourses. Such people do not appreciate the speaker's wealth of knowledge, and subsequently fail to derive benefit. About such people it has been said that they have ears but listen not; and have hearts but cannot understand. You are advised to listen to all

speeches attentively, because he who fails to lend an attentive ear cannot benefit from a beneficial personage, despite staying in his company for a long time."

(*Al-Hakm*, March 10, 1902)

FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE IN JALSA

The number of participants in the 1898 Annual *Jalsa* was far below expectation. Expressing his pain and distress, the Promised Messiah^{as} is reported to have said:

"It appears that the people have not taken cognition of our aims and objectives. They are not aware of what we expect from them on behest of God. The anticipated great change cannot be wrought in them, unless they come here, again and again, without an iota of reluctance.

He who thinks that his visit (to Qadian) would result in a burden on us or his stay might cause some inconvenience, is actually guilty of '*shirk*'. I believe that if all the people inhabiting this planet, become my dependents, Allah's providence would graciously empower me to take care of all of them and I will not feel the slightest

pinch of that demanding situation. The presence of our friends is always a source of great pleasure. Brothers should repel this evil suggestion. Some members have opined that why should they become a nuisance by prolonging their stay? Some people say that being idle-folks, good for nothing, why should they behave like parasites? Let them understand that such ideas are satanic suggestions. Satan would like that they should not stay here (i.e. Qadian)."

(*Malfoozat, Vol. 1, P. 455*)

AN INSTRUCTION CONCERNING BEDDING AND LINENS

"This *Jalsa*, which is a combination of many blessed considerations and advantages, should be attended by all those who can afford to participate in it. They should come here with the necessary bedding and linens according to the requirements of the weather. Minor losses and disturbances should not deter them from marching forward in the cause of Allah and his Beloved Prophet Muhammad^{saw}."

(*Ishtihar, dated December 7, 1892*)

GIVE PREFERENCE TO OTHERS

"I tell you truly that one's faith is not perfected unless he prefers his brother's comfort over his own. The existing condition of my faith deserves condemnation, if my brother, despite his physical weakness and indisposition, is compelled to sleep on the bare floor and I, being fit and strong, hastily and forcibly seize a bed so that the sickly brother might not claim it for his use. In this scenario, my duty is that I should give that bed to the sick brother, with love and sympathy, and instead prefer to sleep on the floor. If a brother of mine, out of selfishness and arrogance, treats me harshly, even then I should not resort to retaliation, rather, I should try sincerely to demonstrate a high degree of self-restraint and self-denial. Nay, one-step further, I should not only exercise patience, but also should supplicate for him, in my daily prayers, with tearful eyes, because he is still spiritually sick, (otherwise he would have not exhibited harsh and sharp edges of his personality).

The unmannerly behavior of an unlettered and uncouthly clad brother

should be overlooked. In that case I should never make fun of his vulgarity and embark upon fault-finding. Remember that this attitude leads to spiritual death and that no one can experience true faith without a docile and clement heart. A believer must truly consider himself the lowest of the low. He must get rid of all traces of arrogance and haughtiness. He, who serves others, is destined for elevation and grandeur, and one day would be held in esteem. He, who speaks gently to the poor and the downtrodden, is surely a beloved of God. He, who reacts with virtue and goodness in the face of evil and wickedness, is truly endowed with signs of auspiciousness. He, who eschews anger and bitter utterances, indeed displays a high degree of bravery. But I have noted with distress, that some members of our *Jama'at* lack these characteristics."

(*Shahdatul Qur'an RoohaniKhazain, Vol. 6, PP 395,396*)

PRAYERS FOR THE JALSA PARTICIPANTS

"May Allah, the Exalted, be with those who embark upon the journey for this spiritual gathering.

May He reward them abundantly and shower His mercy on them and relieve them from their difficulties and anxieties, and remove from them every trace of pain and distress. May Allah grant them their wishes and raise them, on the Day of Resurrection, with those, who are entitled to His mercy and grace. May He be their Protector and Guardian up to the end of their to and from journey.

O Allah, O Ye the Possessor of Dignity and Graciousness, O Merciful and the Remover of all difficulties! Accept all these supplications and grant us prevalence over our opponents with manifest signs. Indeed Thou hast all Power and Strength. Ameen! Ameen!"

(*Ishtihar, Dated December 7, 1892*)

"All the participants of this *Jalsa*, who have undertaken this journey, solely for Allah's pleasure, are in my thoughts and prayers. May Allah bless them generously and reward them on every step. Ameen!"

(*Aasmani Faisla, Roohani Khazain, Vol. 4, P.351*)

THE REVIEW OF RELIGIONS

The Promised Messiah^{as} started the publication of the *Review of Religions* in 1902 from Qadian, India. The purpose of this English monthly magazine was to spread the message of Islam to the West. This is the only journal of its kind that is being published continuously for over a century. During this span of time, it has enlightened millions of hearts. At a critical juncture of time, when a closer look at religious ideologies has once again become crucial, the magazine can serve as a very useful source of information.

In addition to regular features from the writings of the Promised Messiah^{as} and his *Khulafa*, spiritual and intellectual articles on current topics are published in the magazine.

The articles published in the *Review of Religions* present the true Islamic teachings as compared to other religious magazines. Alexander Dowie and his Zion, The Immaculate Conception, Economic Justice, and Who are the Amish?, are a few of the many interesting topics, which have been recently published in the Magazine.

The Promised Messiah^{as} wished to have 10,000 subscribers of the *Review of Religions*. The *Review* is now printed in Islamabad, UK and distributed in the United States from New York. Members of the USA Jama'at are urged to subscribe to the magazine. Furthermore, they are requested to increase circulation of the magazine by promoting its subscription at the local libraries and other institutions.

Annual subscription for the magazine is \$30 (thirty dollars), which includes mailing expenses.

Please make checks payable to:

AMI (Review of Religions)

Send checks to the address given below.

Jazak Allah!

**Review of Religions
Baitul Zafar
86-71 Palo Alto Street
Holliswood, NY 11423**

SOME DIRECTIVES FOR GUESTS AND WORKERS OF JALSA SALANA

In the Words of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}

Some of the directives given by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} to the participants of Jalsa Salana, UK, which are applicable to Jalsa Salana, USA, are briefly given here:

PURPOSE OF JALSA SALANA

- This is not a festival but a *Jama'at* convention. Do not think that you are participating in a festival and do not waste your time in personal meetings or in buying or selling or showing off the latest designs.
- Greet each other with smiles. If you have any bad feelings end them with smiles in these three days. Secondly, spread the good deeds and urge others to perform good deeds and tell them to desist from bad practices. After all, that is the prime purpose of *Jalsa Salana*. Those who come to attend *Jalsa*, must partici-

pate in it fully. Instead of roaming about aimlessly, they should derive the maximum benefit from it.

- Care should be taken that the ladies and the children sit and listen to the *Jalsa* proceedings quietly and try to derive the maximum benefit from it.

BLESSINGS OF JALSA

- This is your *Jalsa Salana*. Do not be absent without any valid objection. Some people only come for one day, instead of all three days and then their objective is to meet friends rather than gain the blessings of the occasion. If the blessings of *Jalsa* are kept in mind, then attendance on all three days is essential. Listen to the speeches and other programs in silence, paying full attention. Do not waste this precious time.

ADVICE FOR HOSTS

- To honor and serve our guests should be our aim, and we should serve them with love and sincerity and in a spirit of sacrifice.

ADVICE FOR GUESTS

- Guests should remember that all these arrangements are temporary. The volunteers work very hard to serve the guests, but occasionally if there is any shortfall, it should be overlooked.
- If any guest finds a shortfall, they should gently draw attention to it to the workers. There is no need to get angry. The arrangements are large scale and there are bound to be some deficiencies. They should be tolerated and ignored.

ADVICE FOR WORKERS

- Treat your fellow workers with respect and honor; and perform all your duties together in an atmosphere of love and friendship.
- The hosts must perform their duties of hospitality with pleasant manners and continue to do so as long as the hospitality period continues... Perform your duties diligently and honestly.
- Similarly, if the workers find a guest angry, they should apologize politely and try to remove and solve his difficulty. Remember, you should never speak to your guests harshly or discourteously.

ETIQUETTES OF THE MOSQUE

- Remember the etiquette and sanctity of the place in and around the mosque.

ETIQUETTES OF THE PRAYER

- *Jalsa* days should be spent in the remembrance of Allah, reciting

'*Durood*' (invoking the blessings of Allah upon His Holy Prophet) and regular performance of *Salat* (Prayer). The guests have come from far and wide. If they do not perform *Salat* regularly and at their appointed times, they will lose the real purpose of their coming to *Jalsa*. Similarly, in such places as the kitchen area, where it is difficult for the workers to leave, arrangements should be made so that they can perform their *Salat* in their place of duty. This is the responsibility of those who are in-charge of those areas.

- Sometimes, children start crying during the *Salat*, this naturally diverts the attention of others and spoils their Prayers. The parents, whether father or mother, should take the child away for the sake of others.
- Fathers and mothers with very young children should not try to occupy the front rows during *Salat*. They should sit in the back row so that if need be, they can leave.

CELL PHONES

- Please switch off your cell phones during the Prayer. Some people have the habit of bringing in their phones and leaving them switched on. When the phones begin ringing, it causes a great deal of disturbance to the worshippers.

ETIQUETTES OF CONVERSATION

- Refrain from meaningless talk. Conversation should be carried out in a low voice and with due respect. Acrimonious talk should be avoided.
- Some people talk loudly and in querulous tones as a matter of habit, or sit in groups and indulge in loud laughter. Try to avoid these practices as much as you can during these three days. In fact avoid these altogether. This is not considered a good habit anyway.

DISCIPLINE

Be mindful of all the discipline and arrangements and cooperate and abide fully with the instructions given by workers on duty.

CLEANLINESS

- During *Jalsa*, some children and adults throw litter on the grounds and pathways. Irrespective of whose duty it is, whosoever notices any litter should pick it up and deposit it in the litterbin or boxes provided for this purpose. Both guests and hosts should keep the site free of litter.
- These are simple etiquettes of cleanliness. Remember to keep the toilets clean, after all cleanliness is part of our faith.
- We must always keep in mind the cleanliness of the premises. Do not provide any opportunity of complaint to those on duty. Put it in the forefront of your mind that come what may we have to maintain cleanliness.

ADVICE FOR WOMEN

- Ladies are advised that they should take care not to roam around aimlessly. However, those ladies who are not Ahmadies and do not observe *Purdah*, they should only be re-

quested to do so. There is no need to force or coerce. If there is some Ahmadi woman who has a difficulty to cover her face, she should wear minimum and simple make-up. Spread the habit of keeping your head covered. It should be remembered that we are spending our time in a spiritual environment during these days. We should not try to find excuses not to observe *Purdah*. It is a different matter if there is a genuine reason. Even then the minimum norms of *Purdah* should be observed.

- Do not be oblivious to what was said in the speeches and what *Tarbiyyat* programs were discussed.

ETIQUETTES OF FOOD

- It has been that a lot of food is wasted during these days. It is generally a good practice to take only so much in the plate as you can finish and thus waste nothing. Teach the same to your children. We should not be guilty of bad manners that may affect others. It is also observed that food is wasted by

the consumers and not by those serving. Please avoid this practice.

- Demand only as much as you can consume. However, those on duty are instructed that they should never refuse anyone who wants food. If they see someone wasting food he should be gently reminded about this fact, but no worker is expected to use hard words or rude language with guests. Explain gently that once you finish, you can have a second helping.
- Some guests leave their dirty plates on the table and do not deposit them in the waste-bins that are provided. It requires only a small effort on the part of each guest. Dirty plates lying around look untidy, are unhygienic and add to unnecessary work for volunteers already under pressure when they can gainfully be employed elsewhere.

ADVICE REGARDING BAZAAR

- Another important matter to note is that the Bazaar remains closed

during the *Jalsa* proceedings. The guests should be aware of this and should not force the shop owners to open their shops for them or sit there.

TRAFFIC

- When parking your cars, make sure you do not park in front of entrances to other people's houses and do not park in places where parking is forbidden.
- Observe the traffic rules and cooperate fully with the parking teams.
- Never commence your journey if you are tired or if you are not feeling well. Always have rest and start your journey relaxed and refreshed.

SECURITY

- It is important that for the sake of security, you remain watchful all the time. Be vigilant and if you notice a stranger, inform the relevant department immediately. It is not advisable to interfere yourself personally.
- The best way to be watchful is to keep a sharp look out around

yourselves for those who are not familiar to you. This is the best security for *Jama'at* Ahmadiyya.

- When entering (*Jalsa Gah*), present yourselves voluntarily to the relevant staff for checking.
- Always keep your identity card prominently visible. If you notice someone without the card, remind him politely to display his card.
- Take special care of your valuables and cash. This is your own responsibility. The organizers cannot be held responsible for any loss.

PRAYER

- Most important are supplications and prayers to Allah. Remember to put great emphasis on your prayers, when starting your journey, coming to *Jalsa* and during travels.

(Friday Sermon: 18th July, 2003. Published in *Al-Fazl International* 12th September, 2003)

=====

HADITH

Hadhrat Anas^{ra} relates that Zahir bin Haram^{ra}, a Companion of the Holy Prophet^{saw} who lived in a village and was quite ugly, used to bring the produce of the village to the Holy Prophet^{saw} as a gift. In return, the Holy Prophet^{sa} used to give him something as a gift when he departed. The Holy Prophet^{saw} used to say: "Zahir is my rustic friend, and I am his urban friend." The Holy Prophet^{saw} deeply loved him. Once, he saw Zahir selling produce in a market. The Holy Prophet^{saw} went behind him and covered his eyes with his hands in such a way that he was unable to see him. At this, he said: "Leave me." When he turned and saw that it was the Holy Prophet^{saw}, he touched his back with the chest of the Holy Prophet^{saw} and rubbed a lot. The Holy Prophet^{saw} jokingly said, "Who will buy this slave from me?" Hearing this, he said: "O Messenger^{sa} of Allah! By God! You will be at a loss." At this, the Holy Prophet^{saw} said: "In the sight of Allah, you are not a petty person. Rather, you are a very precious and unique person."

(Shama'il Attirmidhi bab ma ja'a fi sifih mazah rasulullah^{sa})

Etiquettes of *Mulaqat* (Audience with Hazoor^{aba})

Extracted from a Friday sermon delivered by

Maulana Daud Hanif

Missionary In charge and Na'ib Ameer

1. By the grace of Allah we will be blessed with the visit of our beloved Hazoor^{aba}. So preparations for *Mulaqat* should start earnestly right now.
2. Cooperate with the organizers and submit your applications well in time.
3. Use bathroom etc. before coming to such meetings.
4. dress should be good, neat and clean. Wear it after taking bath. Dress should be complete including the head cover. It should show that you are an Ahmadi American. Cover your head with your own cap. Therefore arrange for you cap ahead of time.
5. Nails should be trimmed and filed.
6. If you have made *wudu*, wipe yourself dry before proceeding towards *mulaqat*.
7. Ladies and girls should proceed towards *mulaqat* with proper head-covers. Dress should be appropriate and modest. The head covers should not be slippery.
8. Ladies' dress should not have big collars that expose a large part of the neck. An outer cover (*burqa/chadder*) should be worn appropriately.
9. Children should proceed towards shaking hands with Hazoor^{aba} with both hands.
10. Stand upright and pay full attention to Hazoor^{aba}. Complete the *mulaqat* with dignity.
11. If several members of the family have a joint *mulaqat*, they should meet in turn. They should have a clear understanding of who is going to sit next to the father/mother and in what order.
12. If a request for prayers is to be made during *mulaqat*, have a good understanding of what you are going to request before proceeding towards *mulaqat*.
13. Whether you are experiencing pain or joy that you wish to share with Hazoor^{aba}, mention it briefly without going into the details.
14. Respect the limit given to you for *mulaqat*.
15. Do not mention marital disputes or other complaints. Such issues can be submitted in writing as they require more time and attention.
16. If you are only permitted a handshake, limit yourself to that; do not try to embrace.
17. If the *mulaqat* is in the form of participating in a children's class, make preparations by learning the Prayer, its translation, correct recitation of the Holy Qur'an. Revise your knowledge of religion and basic history with your children as they may be asked questions about it in the children's class or otherwise.

18. If Hazoor^{aba} or his representative calls, proceed towards him with a dignified speed—neither running, nor sluggish. Listen with attention and act upon what you have heard or give response as appropriate.
19. If offered a prize, accept it with both hands. Say *Jazak Allah* and return to your seat and focus your attention on Hazoor^{aba}. No one should clap.
20. Keep invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet^{saw} while in the meeting place.
21. Do not make any noise after the meeting. Return to your home etc. with dignity.
22. Before leaving, make sure that Hazoor^{aba} has departed already.

Etiquettes of the Mosques

1. Cleaning the mosque and surroundings is meritorious; spitting is not permitted.
2. Come to the mosque with a clean body, and pure mind.
3. Take a bath and wear clean clothes. Use perfume.
4. Do not eat raw onion, garlic etc. that produces odor before going to the mosque.
5. Come to the mosque with dignity.
6. Upon entering and leaving the mosque, offer the prescribed prayers.
7. After entering the mosque, offer two *nafl* as *Tahayyatul-masjid* before sitting in the first row first, then second etc; after the *nafl/sunnah*, spend the time in the remembrance of Allah and *Durood* upon the Holy Prophet^{saw}.
8. Do not stand with your arms on your back. Do not sit in a circle; do not sit leaning against a wall; nor spread your legs while sitting.
9. Announcements for articles lost outside the mosque is not permissible in mosque.
10. To place carved images, or curtains having images or photos is not permissible.
11. After the prayer service is concluded, spend some time in remembrance of Allah.
12. Conversation, after the completion of Prayer and *sunnahs* by all, is permitted. Members should introduce themselves to others and increase the circle of acquaintance and brotherhood, especially with new faces. Extend your welcome and strengthen the relationship with them. Ladies should adopt a similar approach in their section and enlarge sisterhood especially to the new comers.

Etiquettes of Jumu'ah

1. Taking of a bath on Jumu'ah is a tradition of the Holy Prophet^{saw} which he emphasized greatly.
2. Brushing teeth and performing *wudu* at home or in the facilities of the mosque before Prayer is obligatory. Using perfume is very meritorious.
3. Arriving at the mosque early is much more blessed than coming later. The Holy Prophet^{saw} says: "He who arrives at the mosque for Jumu'ah during the first period earns the reward of sacrificing a camel; arriving at the second time earns the reward of slaughtering a cow; at the third time, a goat; at the fourth time, a hen; and at the fifth time, an egg."

4. Sit in the first row first, then the second etc. Sit shoulder to shoulder, with no gap between two people.
5. If there is a gap in the first row, do not climb over others to get there. The gap should be filled by those who are sitting near it.
6. Rows should be straight.
7. On Friday, observe complete silence, listen to the sermon, and act upon it.
8. Talking during the sermon is prohibited. Even asking someone else to be quiet is not allowed, except with a silent gesture.
9. After the *sunnah*, spend time in the remembrance of Allah.
10. To talk while others are engaged in *sunnah* or *nawafil* is not permissible.
11. Do not sit in a place temporarily vacated by someone who has left for an urgent need with the intent of returning.
12. The scholars and the learned should sit closest to the Imam.

Promised Messiah and Mahdi^{as} States:

"If I am called *Nabi* or *Rasool* by God, how can I deny it? These titles have been applied to me by God Himself. How can I fail to use them? Why should I fear anyone but Him? I say on oath in the name of God who has sent me, to fabricate anything in Whose name is to earn His curse -- that He has sent me after making me the Promised Messiah, that I have full faith in the manifest revelation vouchsafed to me, the truth of which has become established for me by sign after sign. My faith in it is as firm as is my faith in the verses of the Holy Qur'an. There is no difference, not the slightest. I am ready to stand in the House of God and declare on oath that God Who speaks to me is the same God Who spoke to Moses, to Jesus and to the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{saw}, the Elect. Earthly signs have witnessed to my truth as well as Heavenly signs. Heaven has witnessed for me, as the Earth. Both have declared that I am the Promised Vicegerent. I was to be rejected also, according to the prophecies. Those whose hearts are shrouded by prejudice do not accept. But I know God will help me the way He has always helped His Messengers. My opponents shall fail. They have not the help of God.

Remember wherever I have denied being a Prophet (*Nabuwwat*) I have denied it in the sense that I am neither an independent bearer of a Law or *Shari'ah*, nor am I an independent Prophet, a Prophet in my own right. But in the sense that I have received spiritual grace from my Mentor and Master, my *Rasool*, that I have been awarded his name and have been gifted with knowledge of the unseen through him, and because of him, I am a *Rasool* and *Nabi* but without a *Shari'ah*.

Being a *Nabi* in this sense I have never denied. In this sense God has called me a *Nabi* or *Rasool*. So in this sense I do not deny being a *Nabi* or *Rasool*."

(A Misunderstanding Removed, The Promised Messiah and Mahdi^{as})

WHY ISLAM IS VITAL TO THE WEST

Sarah Meelu

If we look at the present day situation in the world, this topic looks odd. Since Europe is advanced in every worldly aspect of life, an ordinary European may just laugh at this very topic. But the concept of the importance of Islam for the very survival and progress of Europe is not new. A simple look at history tells us that it was Islam which pulled Europe out of the Dark Ages. Many Europeans were students at Muslim universities, especially in Spain. At the time, a massive effort was being made by the Christians of Europe to translate the books of Muslim authors on science, philosophy, art, and history to name a few. The people of Europe held Christianity as their religion, but it was Islam that pulled them out of that primitive stage.

Once again the world is standing at the crossroads and is redesigning the great flaw. In the present day system of government, Communism is fading away after doing great harm to humanity. Capitalism is destined for the same fate. The Promised Messiah^{as} himself

says:

"Ye who seek truth, and ye who faithfully love Islam! Ye know that the time is very dark in which we live. Corruption has set in - in men's faith as well as in their actions. A swift and evil wind blows on all sides spreading error and transgression. What is called Faith amounts to words repeated in mechanical fashion and what are called good works amount to a few rites, to some extravagant practices or hypocritical activities. True piety and virtue have been forgotten. The philosophy and science of this age run counter to spiritual aspirations. The influence they exert is bad to an extreme and conducive to spiritual blindness. They stimulate thoughts dangerous and impulses satanic. Those who become engrossed in these studies lose their religious convictions, so much so that they begin to hold divine truths in contempt and prescribed ways of worship - prayers, fasting etc, - in ridicule. The Being and Existence of God are not

serious propositions with them. A great many are anti-religious steeped in naturalistic thinking and born and bred as Muslims they become hostile to religion."

(Victory of Islam)

Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam is the only hope not only for Europe, but for the whole world. In order to do things right not only for oneself but also for the society in general, one needs to have a direct connection with the Living God. This is what we call '*taqwa*.' We should hold a strong belief in life after death, where we all will be judged according to our deeds in this world. Once again, the Promised Messiah^{as} says:

"At the time of the introduction of *Bai'at* God said to me: 'The earth is rent by a storm of misguidance. At this time of storm make this boat (meaning, make the foundation of Ahmadiyyat). So that he who embarks on this boat will be saved from drowning and he who goes on refusing invites death.'"

(Victory of Islam)

Today, the condition of Europe can be seen by what God-Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an:

"Say, 'Shall we tell you of those who are the greatest losers in respect of their works? Those whose labor is all lost in pursuit of the life of this world, and yet they imagine that they are doing good works'"

(Ch 18: 1 05~6)

Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam is here to teach them.

There are some basic ideas promoted by Islam that could greatly improve society today in terms of everyday dealings:

- 1) First, the equality of human beings, regardless of skin color or creed.
- 2) Second, Islam believes it is imperative on the rich to take care of the poor, not only those of their neighborhood or country but of the whole world.
- 3) Third, the proper behavior at the time of war and peace. For example, when to start war and when to stop, and how to deal with not only prisoners of war, women and children, but also now to deal with property.

- 4) Finally, in matters of commerce, we all know that the present interest system is not only a source of exploitation, but also a cause of many wars. Islam can teach our European friends how interest-free commerce can be an advantage to prosperity for all people.

These are just a few simple but very important examples which can help Europe get out of what I call 'the present-day Dark Ages.' The Promised Messiah^{as} says:

"Islam today is a light hidden in a box. Or, it is a sweet-water spring covered by leaves and twigs and straw. The fair face of Islam cannot be seen. Its beauty cannot be viewed. It is the duty of Muslims to do their utmost to show the world how lovely Islam is. They could have sacrificed their properties and their lives to this end. They have not done so. But they suffer from ignorance, rank ignorance. They ask, are not the old books enough? They know nothing about new dangers, with their ever-new challenges, which cannot be met except by new methods. Prophets and Messengers have come time after time. In the time of each, were there not old

books already in use? So, take it for certain that when there is darkness in the world, heaven must send its light from above. In Chapter Al-Qadr of the Holy Qur'an, God Almighty gives glad tidings to believers that His Revelation, His Prophet, have been sent during a night - a night of Power. Do you know what a night of power is? A Night of Power is a time when terrible darkness envelops the world. That time - so dark it is - demands light, light to dispel darkness. It is a metaphorical expression."

(Victory of Islam)

In the end, there is still hope for Europe and the West, as the Holy Prophet^{saw} said:

"In the Latter Days, the Sun shall rise from the West."

DHIKR-E-ILAH

Abu Huraira^{ra} relates that the Holy Prophet^{saw} said:

"There are two expressions which are very dear to God, the Beneficent. They are light on the tongue (that is, they are easy to pronounce) but are immensely weighty in

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ
الْعَظِيمِ

CENTRAL JERSEY JAMA'AT'S INTERFAITH INITIATIVE

Belal Khalid

In Feb 2006 Central Jersey Jama'at held an interfaith event on the topic of the 'Desecrating Cartoons and the Violent Response'. This program was hurriedly put together in response to Hazoor's^{aba} instructions and the outcry in the media regarding the cartoon incidence. The announcements about the program got news and media's attention and was widely attended by city and state officials as well as participants from the neighboring churches. Everyone not only endorsed the Ahmadiyya viewpoint on the issue of the cartoons but also acknowledged the wider need to hold more interfaith gatherings to bring diverse communities and religious groups close to each other and promote peace through education and interfaith dialogue.

The program held in the Baitul Hadi Mosque went very well and got front page coverage in the local newspapers. One of the local papers, Home News Tribune, put a head-

line on the front page "Group turns to dialogue over drawings". The paper reported, "Assemblyman Samuel D. Thompson R-Monmouth, Middlesex, said the decision by 'Jyllands-Posten', the first European newspaper to publish the offending images, was very foolish. We must live and let live, he said. It is inexcusable to intentionally insult your neighbors because of their religious cultural, ethnic backgrounds. Mr. Thompson said with certain freedoms – in this instance, the freedom of speech – come with responsibilities. He said the appropriate reaction is to condemn the actions of the offending newspapers as well as the actions of those who reacted violently. He said protesting peacefully is key". The paper reported, "Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhary, President of Central Jersey Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, agreed the destructive reaction by some Muslims is counter-productive to the faith. "They disgrace the face of Islam," he said. "We're finding it difficult to clean

that face."

The success of the program put together on a week's notice encouraged us to hold more interfaith gatherings. Rev. Jim Thomas of First Presbyterian Church Iselin was particularly supportive of continuing interfaith dialogue and agreed to jointly host a number of such sessions with the Ahmadiyya Muslim community to build bridges of understanding among communities. We put together a list of 15 topics for the future interfaith events. It was decided to hold some events at the local church and mosque and others at public places.

The first event of the new series was held in March in the Baitul Hadi Mosque and the topic was "Religion promotes peace or causes wars". The panel looked into multiple conflicts paralyzing parts of the world and looked into why religion is associated with so much bloodshed and divisions. The panel after an inspiring dialogue session

concluded that all religions spread peace and harmony. No religion coerces people into killing neighbors or cause wars. The wars and conflicts are rooted in other political and self-seeking agendas and many of the aggressors hide behind religion for selfish motives. This event was well-represented by all the major denominations and went very well. Imam Kauser's speech on the causes of wars in the world and Islam's message of peace was liked by all. A copy of the book 'The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam' was presented as a gift to all the representative heads of different denominations. We developed good friendship with quite a few churches and other members of the community who support the *Jama'at's* perspective and appreciate our desire to work with other communities to promote peace.

On the 3rd of June 2006, the second jointly hosted interfaith event was held at the first Presbyterian Church of Iselin. More than 50 representatives from Presbyterian, Baptist, Jain, Hindu, Sikh, and Islamic communities of Middlesex County participated. The topic of the event was, "The role of place of worship in the community". The Ahmadiyya *Jama'at* was

represented by Imam Inamul Haque Kauser. The event was concluded with a lively discussion, which was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

Imam Kauser talked about history of places of worship and the first house of Allah on the face of earth. He also talked about the sanctity of all places of worship regardless of which religion they belong to. He mentioned that Muslims could pray anywhere on earth, it does not have to be in a Mosque. A young Khadim, Fawad Mubashar, prepared a nice presentation on Mosques and other places of worship around the world which was appreciated by everyone.

In the question answer session a pastor among the guests asked if the Holy Qur'an mentions of killing the infidels. Imam Kauser replied in the negative and discussed the three kinds of Jihad permitted in Islam. He also gave examples from the life of Holy Prophet^{saw}, how he fought defensive battles when he was left with no choice. He mentioned, the Holy Prophet^{saw} declared general amnesty for all disbelievers and enemies of Islam on conquering Mecca and did not take revenge on anyone. Imam Kauser clearly de-

finied the conditions under which the lesser Jihad or defensive battle is allowed. Imam Kauser mentioned the prohibition of suicide in Islam and discussed the incidence when the Holy Prophet^{saw} foretold the bad end of one of his companions who succumbed to wounds in a battle and committed suicide. One of the Sikh speakers spoke passionately in favor of Muslims and mentioned that when a Muslim commits an act of terror, probably the most hurt are the members of the peace-loving Islamic community.

One of the speakers mentioned that music is food for the soul and helps in spiritual uplift. Imam Kauser described the position of Islam on music and mentioned that people get intoxicated by music and it keeps them from remembering Allah. The Baptist pastor on the panel agreed with Imam Kauser and mentioned that he has six choirs in his church and more time is spent on the music compared to the service. He acknowledged to balance music with the service is a challenge for him. Rev Jim Thomas, pastor of the Presbyterian Church mentioned that he always enjoys the recitation of the Holy Qur'an and it is music to his ears. Dr. Imtiaz

Chaudhry, President of the Old Bridge *Jama'at* mentioned that in Islam only musical instruments are disallowed, otherwise poems in melodious voice without music are allowed.

The meeting ended with the prayers led by the host pastor. Everyone appreciated the need of such meetings and suggested to hold these events on larger scale and at public places to increase attendance. One of the participants hosts an Indian show at a local radio station and promised to advertise our future programs in his show.

The event was followed by a networking session over snacks that went on for about 45 minutes and was enjoyed by all. The session went very well from our perspective as most of the questions at the end were pointed at Imam Kauser and we were able to remove a number of misconceptions among the participants about Islam and made some valuable contacts.

Our next interfaith event is scheduled for Tue, July 11th at the Middlesex County College and the College has agreed to co-host the event with the Presbyterian Church and Baitul Hadi Mosque. The

topic of the event is 'The Omens of Hope' The topic was chosen in light of the remake of the movie, "The Omen" that became a popular thriller in 1970s. Speakers would be asked to talk about the traditions of their faiths regarding the end of the world and the Judgment Day. This forum will be more on a round table format where speakers will be asked questions. We have found out that the interactive discussion is more enjoyed by the attendees rather than a monologue by the speakers. The round table format will hopefully facilitate more interesting and interactive dialogue.

Please pray for the success of this small and humble effort which is being carried out to present the shining face of Islam to the Americans. In America, inspite of the long presence of Islam, it is still considered a foreign religion. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq^{ra} was a pioneer missionary of Islam in America and had great success in the propagation of Islam in a short period of time. We, as the members of the *Jama'at* of Promised Messiah^{as} who came in the image of Jesus Christ^{as} should try to wipe out the dirt on the face of Islam and spread the message of peace. We should work hard towards this end.

JALSA SALANA USA

**The 58th Jalsa Salana
USA will
Insha Allah be held
from:**

**September 1st to
September 3rd, 2006
at**

**The Dulles Expo
Center**

**4368 Chantilly
Center
Chantilly, VA 20153**

www.dullessexpo.com

*Preparations for the
Annual Jalsa USA are un-
derway, and the following
have been assigned the
Jalsa related duties:*

Afsar Jalsa Salana:

*Waseem Haider Sahib
North Virginia Jama'at*

Afsar Jalsa Gah:

*Shahid Malik Sahib
North Virginia Jama'at*

**Afsar Khidmat-e-
Khalq:**

*Naseem Waseem Sahib
Sadr Khuddamul Ahma-
diyya*

Maulana Ataullah Khan Derwaish

A Living Memory of Qadian

**Jalaluddin A. Malik CPT, MS Medical Team Chief
Forrest Avenue Camp Shelby, MS**

A few days ago, the *Jama'at* lost one of its oldest members and a historical figure in the *Jama'at's* history. Maulana Ataullah Khan Dervais was born around 1909 (as his age was estimated to be 97) in *Lorawali*, India, which is a small village near *Halalpur* known to be very basic and had almost no education at the time. He left *Loriwali* and used to tend to cattle, *Mal Mavaish*, as he called it. He told me that he had heard about Ahmadies and in 1937 (at the age of 28 years) went to Qadian to see what these Ahmadies were like. He liked the people and noted there was a very nice feeling or environment when he visited. He liked what he heard, and decided to join the *Jama'at* and accept Ahmadiyyat. His fellow villagers were not pleased with this, but he was content with his decision and never looked back. After 1½ years he visited Qadian again, and after this he enlisted in the Army. He was married at the age of 33 or 34 in the middle of

his years of service. He related that around December 1945, Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, told an Ahmadi Muslim Army officer to tell Ahmadies who were in the service who had the option of discharge to go to Qadian. They were given the choice by the Army to either leave the Army and go back to their homes or join another company within the Army. They were told by this officer that Hazoor's^{ra} orders were for them to go to Qadian, so Maulana Ataullah Khan went to Qadian as was desired by his Imam.

Everyone knows about the history of the creation of India and Pakistan, and how Qadian, the birthplace of the Ahmadiyya Muslim *Jama'at*, fell on the side of India at partition. It was at this time that Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, requested 313 of the devoted followers to remain behind to protect the interests of the *Jama'at*. All of these men

were free to make their own decisions and did not have to remain behind. As it was Hazoor's^{ra} desire, Maulana Sahib did not hesitate at all to serve as his Imam desired. His family was distraught, and his wife was very upset to be separated from her husband. He related to me that when the day came for them to transport people to Pakistan, he boarded the back of the truck with his wife so that she would board, and just at the last minute broke away from her and jumped down to remain behind, in accordance with his Imam's desires. He remembered that day fondly, but also with great sadness, and one can only imagine the intense anxiety his family as well as himself must have gone through. However, this only serves as one small illustration of his great willingness to sacrifice everything for the sake of Allah. As time went on, and the disturbances between Pakistan and India died down, Hazoor^{ra} gave him the option to return, but India was shutting down the border

and made it very difficult for people to leave. He was resigned to staying in Qadian, and was willing to continue to sacrifice separation from his family to serve the *Jama'at*.

I was fortunate to have met him once last year in March of 2005. By this time, he estimated his age to be 96. I found him to be a very pious and sincere man, and very enjoyable to be around. He was thrilled to have been able to meet his grand-daughter again (Maria), for the last time he had met her was years ago when he made his last trip to Germany to visit his 3 children who were living there at the time. He was very light hearted, and cracked jokes often. He had recently lost the ability to walk on his own, but despite being assisted while he walked, he sprung about and had life in his eyes. He hated having to sit and lie down a lot, and you could tell that he was a very active person in his youth. He enjoyed going to *Bahishti Maqbara* almost daily after the *Fajr* prayers, and spent a long time there praying. He was a delight to be around, and you could feel his presence when you were with him. We were fortunate enough to be able to inform him at this time that

he was going to have a great-grand-daughter soon, and he was very happy. "*Alhamdolillah, Alhamdolillah.*"

He sacrificed so much for the *Jama'at*, and prayed for the *Jama'at* till his last days. After partition, he lived for many years in a little room at the top of *Masjid Aqsa*, one of the two main *Masjids* in Qadian. His room was off to the side of *Minaratul Masih*, and he was known for quite some time as the *Muedhdhin* of Qadian (one who calls others to prayer, or calls the *Adhan*). After some time, he then moved into a room that is in between *Masjid Mubarak* and off the courtyard area of *Daalaan* Hadhrat Amma Jaan^{ra}, to the right when you walk from the *Masjid* into the *Daalaan*. He was known to have spent many hours in prayers, and was often asked to pray for others. He spent his final years in *Daar-uz-Ziafat* in a little room off the courtyard, next to the residence of Dr. Syed Daud Sahib, who took care of him like a true son for many years up until his sad demise. When we often thanked him for caring for *Nanajan* so much, Dr. Sahib would say that it was he who was honored to be caring for *Nanajan*. It is this

spirit of sacrifice and love which is so prevalent in Qadian that makes one feel that they have truly entered a paradise on this very earth. I have often noted myself how lovingly the residents of Qadian interact with each other, be they Ahmadi Muslims or not. I remember some years back when I visited Qadian for the first time, my Ahmadi friend took me out one night with his Sikh friend and Hindu friend. There was so much love amongst them, that there was no thought of discord due to religious differences. I was so impressed with them. I remember distinctly how the Hindu friend asked me with such enthusiasm "do you know if Hazoor^{aba} is coming to visit us this year? We hear that Hazoor^{aba} is coming this year?" He was so curious and had such love in his eyes, I was impressed to see such beautiful people in such a remote place, in a world where so much religious strife and intolerance exists. I was saddened, though, as well, for only some miles to our west lay a country that had vehemently turned away Hazoorth and sought to persecute him, despite calling themselves Muslims as well.

He leaves behind a

family that has embodied the spirit of sacrifice that he displayed in his character. I have come to know them as a very loving family, and very devoted to the *Jama'at*. They have sacrificed much themselves, and I have seen that sacrifice with my own eyes, to where they have even been willing to sacrifice not only their time and money, but also their family, for the sake of the *Jama'at*. We should pray that Maulana Ataullah Khan Dervaish's spirit of sacrifice remains deeply embedded in his offspring's hearts, and that they never lose this love so that it remains a lasting tribute to his loving memory. His eldest daughter Amina Anwar and son Imtiaz Ahmad currently live in Heidelberg, Germany, while one son Ijaz Ahmad lives in London, England and one more daughter Kishwar lives in Faisalabad, Pakistan. He has many grand-children, and we are fortunate to have his second great grand-child. We were blessed to get the name Raziyya from him last year as one of her names (Inaaya Raziyya). In the final days before his illness, he was able to enjoy one last *Jalsa Salana* in Qadian, where they were blessed with the attendance of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}. It is

reported that Hazoor^{rba} spent a long time visiting with *Nanajan*, and requested his prayers as well. *Nanajan* was said to be in very high spirits during this *Jalsa* and many were very fortunate to have met with him and spent some time with him, including his son from London. It was soon after the *Jalsa* that *Nanajan* fell ill and finally breathed his last breath yesterday, on 17 May 2006.

Inna lillahe wa inna ilaihi raaji'oon.

I have left out many details and overlooked so many aspects, but I thought I'd just share some of my remembrances and give my perspective, as I can only be expected to do. I may have also made some errors here and there based on my memory, but he has given many interviews on MTA which have been broadcast and I'm sure more will be written about him, so *Insha-Allah* those mistakes may be corrected and the gaps may be filled.

May Allah *Ta'ala* bless his soul in the highest grades of paradise, grant him nearness to Himself, and grant him the company of his beloved imams, the Promised Messiah^{aa} and the Holy Prophet^{saw} in the after-

life. And may his offspring, for all generations to come, display the love of the *Jama'at* and his spirit of sacrifice as a lasting tribute to the lifelong sacrifices he made for the sake of Allah and His *Jama'at*. *Ameen*.

ANGELS

The nature of angels is understood differently among the followers of different religions. Isla-m speaks of angels as celestial beings who have their own entity as persons. The major role they play is the transmission of messages from God to human beings. According to the Holy Qur'a-n, the entire material universe as well as the religious universe is governed by some spiritual powers, which are referred to as angels. Whatever they do is in complete submission to the Will of God and the design that He created for things. They cannot make the slightest deviation from the set course or functions allocated to them, or from the overall plan of things made by God.

The Holy Qur'an says regarding angels:

لَا يَتَمَنَّوْنَ اِلٰهَ مَا لَمْ يَمُرُّوْا
بِفَعْلُوْنَ مَا يُؤْمَرُوْنَ ۝

Who (angels) disobey not Allah in what He commands them and do as they are commanded (66:7)

TARBIYYAT REPORT

2005-2006

Nasir M. Malik, National Tarbiyyat Secretary

1. **2005-2006 Tarbiyyat Plan:** The 05-06 Tarbiyyat Plan, including the Local Tarbiyyat Secretary's Roles and Responsibilities and the 2005 Shura Recommendations, was mailed to all Jama'ats for local implementation. The highlight of this program was to promote Tarbiyyat at a family level with the head of the family as the *murabbi* (trainer). This program consisted of a Monthly Family Tarbiyyat Checklist/Report (attached). Such family reports were expected to be rolled up for the national reports.
2. **Family Tarbiyyat Program:** Monthly Reports for the Oct-April/ 7 month period show less than 25% feedback. Eight Jama'ats (Atlanta, Chicago-W, Dallas, Detroit, L.A.-E, Queens, Research Triangle, and York) supplied 6 of the 7 reports. National summaries of these reports were regularly supplied to all jama'ats and missionaries for appropriate follow-up. All jama'ats and missionaries were urged to:

- Improve participation by Jama'ats and families (explain relevance)
- Emphasize regularly watching select MTA programs in homes
- Emphasize regular recitation of the Holy Qur'an in homes
- Emphasize contacts with 'Inactive/New' Ahmadies
- Emphasize regular Dars-e-Malfoozat in homes

Tarbiyyat Programs and meetings with non-reporting Jama'ats are in progress as follows: Boston (April 16), Portland/Seattle (June 11), and Miami (June 24).

3. **National *Islahi* (Reformation) Committee** is addressing the following topics:
 - Marital disputes and related issues
 - *Rishta-Naatah* system improvement
 - Propensity of youth to marry outside
 - Guidelines for wedding/valima receptions

The NIC is also engaged in resolving various disputes, as assigned by Respected Ameer Sahib, by advising the disputants for reform and reconciliation, as appropriate.

4. **2005 National Tarbiyyat Class:** This annual class was held in the Baitur Rahman Mosque from July 9 to 22 with an overwhelming response. *Alhamdolillah*. Over 200 students (150 boys/men and 50+ girls/women), from 31 Jama'ats (AL/TN, Baltimore, Boston, Brooklyn, Charlotte, Dallas, Detroit, GA/SC, Houston, Las Vegas, Laurel, Long Island, New Orleans, NJ-Central, NJ-North, Philadelphia, Portland, Potomac, Queens, Research Triangle, Rochester, Silicon Valley, Silver Spring, St. Louis, Syracuse, Tucson, VA Beach, VA-South, VA-North, Willingboro, York), attended this class with an additional 50+ attendees over the weekends. The attendees included 61 *Waqf-e-Nau* (48 boys and 13 girls) students.

An annual Tarbiyyat class was also held in the Baitul Hamid Mosque, from August 4 to 10, with 59 attendees, from 3 Jama'ats (L.A.-East, L.A.-West, San Diego). *Alhamdolillah*.

NATIONAL TARBIYYAT CLASS HELD AT BAITUR RAHMAN

Nasir Mahmood Malik
National Tarbiyyat Secretary

The National Tarbiyyat Class was held from July 9-22, 2005 at the Baitur Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland. About 200 students (150 boys/men and 50 girls/women) from 31 jama'ats attended this class for its full duration with an additional 50+ students attending during the weekends only. The attendees included 61 *Waaqfeen-e-Nau* children (48 boys and 13 girls). *Alhamdolillah.*

The planned class schedule was adhered to for the most part. The students were not only able to learn the class syllabus (70+ class hours), many of them were able to call *azan*, lead *salaat*, help with routine chores, participate in sports activities, enjoy a day of picnic, and take a sight seeing trip to Washington, DC. *Alhamdolillah.*

Most importantly, the attendees were able to bond with the Jama'at, the mosque, and each other in a TV/Internet-free healthy and wholesome environment. We hope and pray that this short experience will play a significant role in the social, moral and spiritual development of the attendees. *Insha-Allah.*

We are grateful to all the parents who sent their children to this class, and all the teachers and volunteers who enabled us to hold this class. *Fajazahomullaho Ahsanal Jaza.*

Khilafat Centennial Celebration, USA

By the Grace of Almighty Allah, Jama'at Ahmadiyya, USA will be celebrating the 1st Centennial of *Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya* in 2008 by remembering and thanking *Allah Ta'ala* for the innumerable blessings of Khilafat. *Insha-Allah.*

As part of these celebrations, we are planning to develop a historical exhibition, publish a special Khilafat Centennial issue of the Gazette, and produce commemorative souvenirs.

Therefore, we invite all members to send their creative ideas for any of the above mentioned three planned activities to kccc_usa@yahoo.com by September 2006. *Jazakallah.*

Nasir Mahmood Malik
Secretary, KCC Committee - USA

TABLIGH ACTIVITIES IN THE USA

Ali Murtaza, National Tabligh Secretary

وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ قَوْلًا مِّمَّنْ دَعَا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا
وَقَالَ إِنِّي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

And who is better in speech than he who invites *men* to Allah and does righteous deeds and says, 'I am surely of those who submit?' (41:34)

Since September the 11th 2001 Tabligh in USA has changed as the American interest in Islam has become more intense. This intensity has both positive and negative impact for our Tabligh efforts. On the positive side people want to know more about Islam, on the negative side there is an undeniable resentment towards Islam. Our objective is to convey the True message of Islam in this both receptive and hostile environment.

We members of the Ahmadiyya movement in Islam have been presented an unprecedented opportunity to convey the true teachings of Islam in America. However to do this we must ensure we are manifesting Islam in how we apply it's teachings in our daily lives and remain loyal to the Institution of Khilafat.

Khalifatul Masih V Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad^{aba} said as follows:

"Allah the Exalted has bestowed this immense favor on us, the Ahmadi Muslims, that He has allowed us to join the group which by the grace of Allah believes in all of the Prophets and works according to their instructions, and that most of all He has included us among the *Ummah* (the followers) of the Holy Prophet^{saw}, the best guide and teacher ever sent. Furthermore, Allah has blessed us in this age to be included in the *Jama'at* of the greatest devotee and servant of the Holy Prophet^{saw}. This is such a great bounty of Allah that we can never express enough gratitude to Allah Almighty no matter how much we try.

However, you must remember that this blessing places a great responsibility upon us to not limit the bounty that we have acquired from Allah only to ourselves. **We must share with other people as well this bounty, and those bounties hidden and buried for thousands of years, which can transport us to the love of our Creator.** We must try to free them from the Satanic traps in which they are caught, and help them become devout servants of Allah. We should endeavor according to the Hadith that **whatever you like for yourself, you should like for others.** You should help others also to partake of that. We must not be stingy and just hoard to ourselves the bounty that Allah has granted us. We should try to convey to all the people in the world – not merely the Muslims – that they have abandoned true guidance. They are still anxiously waiting for the appointed moment when the true guide will come and guide them. **In this period of waiting they continue to labor under**

the spell of the *Dajjal*, the anti-Christ. From every direction, they are faced with pressures and they are unaware of what is happening to them to the extent that in these days the Muslims no longer have the space to breathe in their own lands. They do not have the independence to breathe in their own land. **They are being pressured into doing what the *Dajjal* wants them to do.**

This report is to give you a picture of our current ability to convey the message of Islam in USA. Please do not just look at the numbers but also look at those who are accepting the message and look at the opportunities that Allah *Subhannawata'ala* is presenting to us.

First a few highlights from chapter which is number 1 in *bai'ats*.

Zion *Jama'at* one of the smallest *Jama'ats* leads in the number of *bai'ats* for a single *Jama'at*. Their success is from the Grace of Almighty Allah in addition to their efforts towards observing congregational prayer on a daily basis. It should also be mentioned that the passionate involvement of Hasan Hakem *Jama'at* President and Naser Shams local Tabligh Secretary in making Tabligh part of all *Jama'at* functions has also helped the *Jama'at* in it's achievements. In addition to this Zion has initiated out-reach programs which have given them opportunities to collaborate with other community groups and gain recognition. This year Zion held a 3 night interfaith dialogue with a Christian organization called "The Church of Christ" on the topic of "Jesus Prophet or God?" which attracted more than 800 guests. Additionally Zion has been recognized by the Zionites for their youth programs: 3 on 3 basketball tournament, sponsored by Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA, ,Girl Talk and Camp Bismillah, sponsored by Lajna Imaillah USA ; and it's community affairs efforts in holding an Annual Black History month program which includes a scholarship award presented to high school seniors who exhibit outstanding academic achievements and strong community service. These activities have aided the Zion *Jama'at* to lead in the number of *ba'iats* for the second year in a row. May Allah continue to bless Zion with success and manifest the wish of our late Ameer M.M. Ahmad that Zion should become the 1st Ahmadi city in America.

There were also outstanding efforts of other *Jama'ats* such as Los Angeles West, Los Angeles East, Willingboro, Central Jersey, New York *Jama'ats*, Laurel Md., Chicago West and Chicago East, Dayton Ohio, Baypoint (Pittsburg) CA, Charlotte NC, Boston Mass. Silver Springs, St. Paul, Hartford Conn., Philadelphia Pa, and Miami Fla....however the space does not allow to present the details here. Following is a national view of Tabligh activities:

A SUMMARY OF U.S.A. TABLIGH ACTIVITY

August 2005 to April 2006

Bai't Target for USA	= 500
Year-to-date total Bai'ts (8-1-2005 to 6-10-2006)	= 101
No. of Chapters where Bait has been realized	= 28
No. of Chapters still struggling in this noble Jihad	= 35
No. of Da'een who succeeded in realizing Bai't	= 47
Chapter with the most Bai'ts Zion Illinois	= 10
Most Successful Daeen Haji Abdul Raqib Wali	= 7

Regional Profile for the current year-to-date Ba'iat Break Down by Gender and Religion

Regions	No. of Bai'ts May. 2006 to June 2006	YTD. No. of Bai'ts June 2006	Prior YTD No. of Bai'ts	Current Vs Prior YTD Difference
MD SUBURB	0	6	6	0
NORTHEAST	1	23	13	+10
SOUTH	0	8	0	+8
NORTHWEST	0	10	3	+7
WEST	5	17	9	+8
WEST MIDWEST	5	24	7	+17
SOUTHEAST	2	9	3	+6
EAST MIDWEST	0	3	3	0
SOUTH MIDWEST	1	1	0	+1
Total	14	101	44	+54

Male = 67, Female = 34

Ba'iat Break Down by Nationality

Arab	1	Pakistani	15
Asian American	3	Hispanic	15
Haitian American	1	Jamaican	2
Ghanaian American		1 Indian	3
African American	33	Jewish	2
Caucasian	4	Lebanese	2
Bengali	6	Fijian	1
Gambian	3	Kurdish Iraqi	1
Spanish American	1	French Canadian	1
Mexican	3	None given	2

Ba'iat Break Down by Religion

Christian	35	Sunni Muslim	36
Hindu	2	Nation of Islam	1
Judaism	4	Hindu	2
Shia Muslim	1	No Religion Declared	19

Tabligh Highlights

Following the instructions of Khalifatul Masih V, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad^{aba} to do Tabligh in small towns has inspired new efforts. We hope for better results in the near future relative to this new focus. *Insha Allah*. 19 villages were visited; 29 teams participated in these visits; 38 visits have been reported; 102 daeen participated; 3,030 one to one contacts were reported.

Missionary-in-Charge Imam Daud Hanif has recently developed and communicated to all *Jama'ats* additional Tabligh instructions with an emphasis on "Tabligh in small towns" following Hazoor's^{aba} instructions.

THE WASAYA DEPARTMENT

Activities Report – Year 2005-06

Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasaya

Target of 1000 New Moosies: In his concluding address at the Annual Jalsa, UK 2004 Syedna Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} gave a target of 1000 new Moosies to the US Jama'at for the year 2005. Concerted efforts of our Jama'at that followed Huzoor's^{aba} above directive have so far yielded the following results.

- Total number of pledges for new Wasaya: 1139
- Number of actual application forms received by this office up to 06.15.2006: 681

Annual Wasiyyat Statements and Schedule C (b):

- Statement of payment of Hissa Amad / Hissa Jaidad for year 2004-05 along with a copy of 'Schedule C' was mailed to all Moosies/Moosiat residing in USA.
According to Wasiyyat Rule #69 it is obligatory upon every Moosi/Moosia to submit a declaration, as set out in Schedule C, in respect of his/her payments towards Hissa A'amad to the Wasaya office at the end of every fiscal year. In case such a declaration is not received on time the matter will be put up for consideration before Majlis Karpardaz.
- Letters were sent to all Presidents/Local Secretary Wasaya with a request to contact every Moosi/Moosia in their Jama'at to complete respective Schedule C.

Wasiyyat Rules – copies for Prospective Moosies:

Copies of 'Wasiyyat Rules' published by Tehrik-e-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya, Rabwah were mailed to all Local Jama'at Presidents with a request to provide one copy each to all Prospective Moosian. *(If you are a Moosi/Prospective Moosi and have not received your copy yet, please contact your Local Jama'at President and request for one).*

Election for Secretary Wasaya:

Presidents of all Local Jama'ats were requested to hold election for the office of local Secretary Wasaya in case they did not have one already. (At present we have 28 Wasaya Secretaries in 63 Local Jama'ats).

Electronic Record Keeping:

Work is in progress on saving electronic images of Wasiyyat documents under instructions of Respected Amir Sahib, USA Jama'at. Approximately 90% records (New Wasaya Application Forms) have been scanned and stored electronically in the Jama'at's database.

Note: Wasiyyat Forms are also available on the Internet and can be downloaded from the USA Jama'at website (). Much of the Application Form can be filled out on the computer (*signatures and thumb impressions can be affixed after the print out*). It is also recommended to save a copy of the electronic file i.e. Application Form for future reference.

THE WASAYA DEPARTMENT

List of New Wasaya Approvals

Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasaya

The following *Wasaya* approvals were received from *Markaz* during May 2006. May Allah Almighty grant steadfastness to all the new *Moosies*, and make their entry into the *Nizam-e-Wasiyyat* a source of infinite blessings. Ameen.

S. No.	Name Member	Code	Jama'at	Wasiyyat #
1.	Affan Ahmad Abdullah	22366	Philadelphia	44040
2.	Amjad M. Farooq	22874	LA-East	44038
3.	Amtul Hakim Abdullah	22364	Philadelphia	44196
4.	Arshad Muhammad Farooq	23114	LA-East	44039
5.	Ataul Aleem Choudhary	21763	Philadelphia	44047
6.	Bilal Ahmad Raja	33847	Laurel	44043
7.	Dr. Aziza Rehman	22647	LA-East	44192
8.	Faheem Ahmad	22693	LA-East	44034
9.	Farzana Bashir Farhat	31662	Queens	44030
10.	Intisar Ahmad Malhi	34373	Baypoint	44036
11.	Imran ul Haq Jattala	22651	LA-East	44033
12.	Moeenuddin Saleem	20928	Queens	44042
13.	Mubasher Ahmad	22856	LA-East	44069
14.	Muhammed A. Chaudhry	21650	Queens	44028
15.	Nadeem Ahmad Khan	27955	Detroit	44195
16.	Naseem Arain Ahmed	26507	Detroit	44194
17.	Naser Ahmed Noor	22313	LA-East	44191
18.	Naveed-i-Sahar Jattala	22515	LA-East	44032
19.	Neelofar Tahira Abdullah	22368	Philadelphia	44197
20.	Ramzan Ulhaq Jattala	22514	LA-East	44031
21.	Sadaf Ahmad	26895	Philadelphia	44198
22.	Shazia Khan	26020	LA-East	44029
23.	Shoukat Ameen Chaudhry	24078	Philadelphia	44044
24.	Sufyan Ahmad Farooqi	22591	LA-East	44190
25.	Tayyaba R. Malhi	34374	LA-East	44037
26.	Umair Ahmad	31683	Oshkosh	44193
27.	Zaheer Ahmad Choudhary	21578	Philadelphia	44046
28.	Tahir Abdullah	22363	Philadelphia	44188
29.	Khalida Ahsan	24642	North Jersey	44189

WASIYYAT

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INCOME

Question:

What is the rate of Wasiyyat payments on income and Wasiyyat payment on property?

Answer:

A Moosi is required:

- (i) To bequeath $1/10^{\text{th}}$ to $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of his property on his death.
- (ii) To pay Chanda *Hissa Amad* at the rate of $1/10^{\text{th}}$ to $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ on Income from all sources during his lifetime except income from property.
- (iii) To pay Chanda *Hissa Amad* @ Chanda 'Am (i.e., $1/16^{\text{th}}$) on Income arising from any property.

Question:

At the time of filing for Wasiyyat, if he doesn't have a steady income what would an applicant write as his monthly income?

Answer:

If someone has not any steady income, he/she could write the estimated monthly Income or the average income of 6 months or a year.

Question:

Is there any guiding principle regarding women who do not themselves have a

source of income and Chanda is received from men on the basis of pocket-money?

Answer:

The procedure usually followed for the payment of Chanda Wasiyyat by a woman not having her own source of Income is, that the husband should fix an appropriate amount as pocket money that would be considered the Income of such a woman and she, for the sake of maintaining the continuity of her financial sacrifice, will pay Chanda Wasiyyat on her pocket money.

Women are required to pay Chanda according to their living standard. The sacrifice made by a Moosi should stand out as compared to the sacrifice made by a person paying Chanda 'Am. But the pocket money so arrived at should not be less than the minimum amount fixed for the country of residence.

Question:

Is it binding upon a Moosi student to pay Chanda Wasiyyat upon his pocket-money/stipend?

Answer:

Student scholarships/stipends will not be subject to Chanda at the prescribed rates.

However students are expected to get a sum fixed after consultation with the *Jama'at* and pay their Chanda accordingly.

Question:

Along with paying *Hissa Amad* upon their full salaries, employees also contribute a certain amount each month on the basis of which they receive pension upon retirement. Will Chanda be payable on the pension in such a case.

Answer:

Yes, *Hissa Amad* shall be payable upon the pension. This is because the monthly contribution consists of a very minor amount, whereas the monthly pension received upon retirement is more substantial. If someone still wants to deduct this amount from his pension, he will deduct only the amount, which he has contributed. Chanda will be payable on the rest.

Question:

What types of expenses are allowed to be deducted from one's income with regard to Chanda?

Answer:

The income upon which Chanda is payable refers to all kinds of income from all sources.

Only the following payments can be deducted from the actual income:

- (i) Allowances given to employees, whose expenditure is not in the hands of the employee.
- (ii) Mandatory taxes levied by the government, e.g., taxes, mandatory insurance; local rates.
- (iii) Allowances given to employees which are meant for specific expenditure; e.g., Uniform allowance, Education allowance; Children's allowance.
- (iv) Allowances, which are paid for the performance of official duties, e.g., T.A, D.A.

Question:

Will the amount paid for house insurance be deducted from the actual income with regard to Chanda?

Answer:

The amount paid for house insurance, even if it is mandatory, will not be deducted from the total income with regard to Chanda. If it is necessary to have the house insured in order to borrow from a mortgage company, the buyer is still the beneficiary. Such expenses will therefore be considered usual. It is not permissible to deduct any installment, mortgage payment, interest or insurance from the one's real income with regard to Chanda.

Question:

Can health insurance be deducted from the income with regard to Chanda?

Answer:

The amount paid for health insurance will not be deducted from the income, even if it is mandatory. Except in circumstances where it is deemed to be tax and its benefits cover the whole Community instead of the said individual or family.

Question:

If a Moosi owns an immovable property that he has rented to someone. Does he need to pay *Hissa Amad* on income coming as a rent on that house?

Answer:

In case any income accrues from the property of the Moosi then *Hissa Amad* should be payable on such income at the rate of *Chanda 'Am* i.e. 1/16

QUESTIONS RELATING TO PROPERTY

Question:

If a person pays full *Hissa Amad* on his income, and does not deduct the amount which he pays as installments for a new property. Will such a person still pay full *Hissa Jaidad* on that property? If yes, at what rate? And on the current Market value of the house or on the price against which it was bought?

Answer:

When a person does not possess the means to buy a property all at once he acquires a loan in order to buy it. If he wishes to pay *Hissa Jaidad* upon that property during his life, he shall bear the responsibility for the loan and shall have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* in accordance with the value of that property at the time of *Tashkhees* (assessment). Loan acquired during one's life shall not count (for everyone acquires a loan now and then and pays it back)

(ii) A person first produces a source of income and pays *Hissa Amad* upon it. He then buys a property with the rest of his income, either with ready money or in installments. Payment of *Wasiyyat* upon that property becomes binding after the death of that Moosi. But he also has the easy option that, if he so wishes, he can pay this amount during his life.

(iii) The rate of *Hissa Jaidad* will be the same as the Moosi opted for himself i.e. between 1/10 to 1/3.

(iv) *Hissa Jaidad* will be payable at current Market Value when the formal assessment was made except in case the Moosi pays *Hissa Jaidad* on that very property at the time of purchase.

Question:

How is Wasiyyat to be paid upon movable property like shares and other such investments?

Answer:

(i) Such property (shares) will be taken at their current market value and *Hissa Jaidad* will be payable upon it.

(ii) *Hissa Amad* shall be payable at the prescribed rate on any profits gained from such property (at the rate of 1/10 or whatever the Moosi has pledged). This also applies to all other forms of investments

Question:

If a Moosi owns a house at the time of filing for Wasiyyat, what would be the rate of Wasiyyat on the house?

Answer:

Minimum rate of Chanda Wasiyyat is 1/10 and maximum is 1/3. One can decide what he would like to fix for himself and inform the office. Keeping within the said limit one can have different rates for his property and income.

Question:

Is a car included in the property of a Moosi?

Answer:

A car is not included in anyone's property for the purpose of Chanda Wasiyyat as other dispensable items except

if one has no other property as the basis for his Wasiyyat and he willingly pays Chanda *Hissa Jaidad* on his car and similar items.

or

One's property mainly consists of such items.

or

One has an expensive collection of such item that can be considered to be his property.

Question:

Can the items of common use, like TV, computer, car, etc. be submitted as property when filling the Wasiyyat form?

Answer:

The above-mentioned items are considered items of household use. Wasiyyat is therefore not payable upon them. Wasiyyat will similarly not apply on sewing machines, cameras, cassette recorders, VCRs, or other household devices as well.

Question:

In some countries, property is generally owned equally by husband and wife according to the law of the land despite the fact that actually it is bought only by one of them. If only one of them is a Moosi, on what portion of the property will *Hissa Jaidad* be payable.

Answer:

(i) If the property is equally bought by husband and wife, and only one of them

is a Moosi, he will have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* on half of the property.

(ii) If they both share the property merely out of constitutional necessity, while the property has actually been bought by one of them, he who has paid for it will have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* on the whole property. If the other partner is a Moosi and has not spent anything on that property, it will not be considered his/her property, nor will he/she have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* upon it.

(iii) It is necessary to disclose as to who is the actual owner. If one partner dies and the property is inherited by the other partner, who happens to be a Moosi, he/she will then have to pay Wasiyyat upon that property at the prescribed rate.

Question.

If *Hissa Jaidad* has been paid upon a certain property, and that property is then sold and a new property is purchased, will *Hissa Jaidad* be payable on that new property?"

Answer:

The following shall apply on the amount which is received by selling a property, such as land, house, commercial plot, etc:

(i) If a new property is bought with the same or lesser amount, then *Hissa Jaidad*

shall not apply on it. However, if any income ensues from that property. *Hissa Amad* shall have to be paid upon it (at the rate of 1/16)

- (ii) If more money is added to the amount at which the previous property was sold, for the purpose of buying the new property, the *Hissa Jaidad* shall apply on the new property in proportion to the extra amount which was added to purchase it. Full *Hissa Amad* shall also be payable on any income that ensues from the property (at the rate of 1/16).

- (iii) From the income on which *Hissa Amad* is already paid, if a portion is set-aside as saving, *Hissa Jaidad* is not payable on such saving. But *Hissa Amad* will be payable on any income or profit accrues from such saving.

Questions:

What is the rule regarding items which have been bought by selling jewelry?

Answer:

If jewelry, on which *Hissa Jaidad* has been paid is sold and new jewelry is bought with the same amount, then *Hissa Jaidad* shall not be payable on the new jewelry. But it shall be necessary to give detailed information about the new jewelry to the office (the type and weight of the new jewelry) and to state that it has

been bought with the amount which was gained by selling the old jewelry. But if the new jewelry has been purchased by adding more money to that which was gained by selling the previous jewelry then *Hissa Wasiyyat* shall be payable on the new jewelry in proportion to the extra amount which has been added.

Question:

When making *Wasiyyat* is it necessary to set down in the *Wasiyyat* form the property which has been acquired on mortgage or loan?

Answer:

All property acquired upon loan or mortgage shall be considered the property of the Moosi and it shall be essential to mention it in the *Wasiyyat* form. It shall also be necessary to give the approximate market value and address of the property in question. If the Moosi acquires another such property in the future, he is bound to inform Markaz about that as well.

Question:

What is the status of property acquired on loan or mortgage?

Answer:

The following is a quotation by Hdhrat Khlifatuk Masih IVth regarding property which has been acquired on loan:

“The basic way to approach this issue is as fol-

lows: If a person wishes to pay *Hissa Jaidad* during his life, his request is granted with some conditions. But if a Moosi says that I have a certain amount of loan to pay upon the property, please deduct this amount and I shall pay *Hissa Jaidad* on the rest, this will create some complications. In order to avoid such complications, the best method is that if such a person requests to pay *Hissa Jaidad* on his property, it will be accepted only if he shall himself be responsible for such loans. He will, therefore, pay *Hissa Jaidad* on total market value of his property.

If he wishes to deduct the loans and is granted permission, such permission shall only mean that he shall pay *Hissa Jaidad* only upon the property on which there are no loans to be paid. The matter of the property upon which the loan are still to be paid shall be considered postponed till the death of the Moosi. This means that if the loan has been paid by that time, then *Hissa Jaidad* shall be demanded upon his property at his death, as he did not pay *Hissa Jaidad* on it citing the loan. If some loan still remains, then an estimate of the property shall be made, the loan shall be deducted from it, and *Hissa Jaidad* shall be payable on the rest. This is the basic rule which shall apply in all such cases ...”

Question:

What shall be the procedure for assessing (*Tashkhees*) of property acquired on mortgage?

Answer:

There are only two ways to pay *Hissa Jaidad* on property that has been acquired on mortgage.

- (i) If a Moosi wishes to pay *Hissa Jaidad* in his lifetime, then the property shall be assessed according to the market value and the amount of the mortgage shall not be deducted from it, as the loan does not count while a person is alive.
- (ii) If a Moosi does not pay *Hissa Jaidad* during his life, then, at the time of his death, his loans have to be paid first, then *Wasiyyat* and lastly his inheritance. In such a case, if there is a property on which mortgage installments still need to be paid, then that amount shall be deducted and *Hissa Jaidad* shall be paid on the remaining amount.

Question:

Can a Moosi get the assessment of his house value in his life, and payoff his dues during his lifetime? At what rate? Is there a time limit to make the complete payment after the assessment is done?

Answer:

- (i) Yes one can get the value

of his/her property assessed during his/her lifetime and pay *Hissa Jaidad* accordingly.

- (ii) The rate for such payment will be the one fixed by him/her and approved by *Majlis Karpardaz*.
- (iii) The time limit for such payment is two years for all types of property after the date of assessment.
- (iv) The above time limit extends up to five years if the said property is a house and the Moosi himself is residing in it

Question:

If a property is in the name of a Moosi but he is not the sole owner of the property, does he still have to pay the *Hissa Jaidad* on that property?

Answer:

If a Moosi is not the sole owner of a property, he will have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* according to his share of ownership. But if he has no share whatsoever and in substance the said property is someone else's than the fact should be conveyed to *Majlis Karpardaz*

Question:

What if a Moosi bought a house by getting a loan and is still paying the loan installments and he wants to get the assessment of house value and payoff his *Wasiyyat* dues. Does he need to make the *Wasiyyat* payment on the total value of the house or only on his share?

Answer:

Hissa Jaidad is due on the demise of the Moosi. However, to avoid complex and unforeseen situations relaxation is granted to pay off one's *Hissa Jaidad* in one's lifetime. So if a Moosi wants to pay his *Hissa Jaidad* in his lifetime then he will bear the obligation of the loan himself and pay his *Hissa Jaidad* on the current Market value. But if he dies while the loan amount on such property is still outstanding, then the net amount so arrived at by subtracting the outstanding amount of loan from the current Market value will be subjected to *Hissa Jaidad*.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PAYMENT OF WASIYYAT AFTER DEATH

Question:

If a Moosi has already paid *Wasiyyat* on his house during his lifetime after his demise do his inheritors have to pay *Wasiyyat* again on the house?

Answer:

If a Moosi pays his *Hissa Jaidad* on his property in his lifetime, his heirs do not have to pay *Hissa Jaidad* on such property on behalf of the Moosi.

Question:

What will be the procedure for payment of *Hissa Jaidad*? on demise of a Moosi?

Answer:

Payment of *Hissa Jaidad* becomes incumbent immediately after the death of a Moosi. If his heirs are unable to pay *Hissa Jaidad* immediately, in such a case, if they produce a reliable guarantor, *Majlis Karpardaz* can grant exceptional permission for burial. Such a guarantee, however, shall be valid for no more than one year. It shall be binding to make the full payment within this time.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO BUSINESS OR TRADE

Question:

Will the principle amount which has been invested in business be considered a Moosi's property?

Answer:

The principal amount invested in business shall be considered a Moosi's property and its full details are required to be given in the Wasiyyat Form.

Question:

Will Chanda Wasiyyat be payable on the net income from business or will it be payable only on the amount which a businessman sets aside from his profit for his daily use?

Answer:

Businesspersons shall pay Chanda on their net total income, after deducting from

their gross income such expenses as are required to generate income. It is not right to pay Chanda only on the amount which has been drawn from the business for monthly expenses.

Question:

At what rate shall Chanda *Hissa Amad* be paid on the income from business?

Answer:

A Moosi will pay Chanda Wasiyyat at the rate which he has pledged to pay in the Will and not at the rate of *Chanda Aam*. During a Moosi's life, Wasiyyat shall be paid only on the income that is derived from his business. Payment on net assets i.e., total business assets minus total business liabilities, shall be made after his death, or in the case a Moosi wishes to pay it during his own life. There is no Chanda on working capital.

Question:

Will the machinery used for construction be included as property in the Wasiyyat?

Answer:

In any kind of business, whether it is related to factory, mill or construction, only the portion which belongs to the Moosi will be considered his property. For instance if the total value of assets, including fixed assets, receivables, bank balances, etc., of a factory/mill/construction company is 10 million, of which it owes

6 million to banks and in other dues, the portion of the Moosi shall be 4 million. This will be considered the Moosi's property, and upon it he will pay *Hissa Jaidad*. In other words, the total value of a property, minus the liabilities, will be equal to the portion of the Moosi upon which he will pay *Hissa Jaidad*. *Hissa Jaidad* on businesses is required to be paid after the Moosi's death. But if he wishes to pay it during his life, the *Tashkhees/assessment* will be made of the total value of the business, all the amounts that are owed by the business will be subtracted, and *Hissa Jaidad* will be payable on the rest of the property.

QUESTIONS ABOUT DEATH AND THE TOMBSTONE

Question:

Will the same rules apply in case of local Maqbara Moosian, as apply to the Bahishti Maqbara, Rabwah?

Answer:

- (1) Yes, the same rules and regulations apply to any Maqbara Moosian as do on Bahishti Maqbara. As written in the regulations, a Moosi's *Hissa Amad* must be paid before the burial, though exception can be made in case of *Hissa Jaidad*. If a Moosi's *Hissa Jaidad* has not been paid burial can

go on if a reliable person guarantees its payment. At the time of a Moosi's death it is essential to acquire all the accounts relating to the Moosi's *Hissa Amad* and *Jaidad*, and to receive the dues accordingly.

- (2) Cemeteries for Moosis located in other countries cannot be given the name of Bahishti Maqbara. They will be called *Maqbara Moosian*.
- (3) The National Ameer will be the President of the Committee that runs the affairs of the *Maqbara Moosian*, and the National Secretary Wasaya will be its Secretary. The National Finance Secretary and Missionary In-charge will also be members of the Committee. The total number of members should be from five to seven. The quorum will consist of three members.
- (iii) committee will continuously motivate the members in their countries to make Wasiyyat. It will also be responsible for the tasks relating to the burial of Moosis and the running of Maqbara Moosian

Question:

In view of the circumstances of a country, is it possible for the Committee responsible for burial to fix a sum to be received from the heirs of a Moosi to cover the expenses of the Cemetery? As expenses are paid for burial in

the common cemeteries.

Answer:

If such a necessity does arise in a country, the Committee should present its specific recommendations and send them to Markaz, through the National Ameer. The Markaz will then deliberate upon the matter and reach a decision.

Question:

Who will be responsible for the expenses of the tombstone?

Answer:

After receiving reports of the property which the Moosi has left behind, and receiving the full due amount of Chanda *Hissa Amad* and *Hissa Jaidad*, the office will itself place the tombstone, which will be of the common standard size.

If the heirs wish to place a tombstone themselves, they will have to seek written approval from Secretary *Majlis Karpardaz* and send a sample of the inscription to be written on it. In such a case the size of the tombstone shall be as follows:

Length - 24 inches.
Width = 15 inches.

A sample of the text shall be as under:

Name, Father's/Husband's name, place of residence, date of birth, date of *Bai'at*, date of demise. Wasiyyat number.

- (i) If the Wasiyyat is of more

than 1/10 portion, this should be mentioned.

- (ii) A brief description of the Moosi's exceptional qualities, services for the *Jama'at* and important incidents may be given.

- (iii) If the Promised Messiah^{as} or any of the *Khulafa* has said something in praise of the Moosi, it may be mentioned.

Secretary *Majlis Karpardaz* shall grant approval. The same procedure shall apply to the tombstones which are placed in *Maqbarah Moosian* in other countries.

Question:

Is there any justification for extracting the expenses for the burial from a Moosi's property?

Answer:

Since the time of the Promised Messiah^{as}, in the first clause of the Wasiyyat Form the Moosi makes the following affirmation.

"That after my death, my body should be sent to Bahishti Maqbarah Qadian for burial... If I have not paid the expenses for conveying my body to Qadian to Sadar Anjuman Ahmadiyya before my death, then these expenses shall be paid from the property I leave behind. But these expenses will not affect *Hissa Jaidad* which, according to this Wasiyyat, I submit to Sadar Anjuman Ahmadiyya."

When Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth was asked the same question, Hazoor said:

"Moosis should continue to make the same affirmation which was made by Moosis at the time of the Promised Messiah^{as}. There is no need whatsoever to change it."

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

Question:

At the time of filing for Wasiyyat if a Moosi does not have any income then can he still do Wasiyyat? If yes what would be his Chanda?

Answer:

At the time of filing for Wasiyyat, if some one has neither the property nor any income then such a person is not required to make a will. But in case one has reasonable property but does not have independent income (like married housewives) they will fix a sum so arrived at on the basis of their living standard to be considered as their pocket money and pay Chanda accordingly,

Question:

If a person has, for whatever reason, obtained remission in Chanda Aam, is he eligible to make Wasiyyat later on?

Answer:

If a person had at one time asked Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih for remission in Chanda Aam due to some

compulsion, and later started paying Chanda Aam regularly, there is no rule which hinders such a person from making Wasiyyat

Question:

Is it permissible to make Wasiyyat while one is under debt?

Answer:

If an aspiring Moosi fulfils all the conditions including those relating to income and property, he cannot be stopped from making Wasiyyat. Debt or loan is no hindrance in the way of Wasiyyat, for debt does not count while a person is alive. But it is important to analyze the circumstances of the person in debt. If he has made some new property by acquiring loan, and that property is producing an income, or if he has started a business with a loan and is receiving profit from it, in such a case he can make Wasiyyat. But if there is a member who has no source of income) nor any property, and he is permanently dependant upon loan for subsistence, then it is not obligatory for him to make Wasiyyat.

Question:

Who should put his signature as a witness on the Wasiyyat form

- (i) In the minutes of the first meeting of Majlis Mutamideen Sadar Anjuman Ahmadiyya, held on 29th January 1906, it is written under instruction no. 3(b):

" ... If possible, the Wasiyyat form should bear the signature of the heirs or relatives of the aspiring Moosi, along with the signatures of two respectable personages of the town or village,"

- (ii). Witnessing that the applicant has signed the document by himself and in their presence.

Question:

How much is the publication fee?

Answer:

There is no specified amount for expenditure of publication (*Ailan-e-Wasiyyat*). This Chanda varies depending on the circumstances of a country. Amir/president of every country will recommend to Markaz and will get its permission.

Question:

How much is *Shart-e-Awwal* or subscription dues under first condition?

Answer:

The guiding principle in this regard is that the aspiring-Moosi should pay this Chanda in view of his own capacity, so that the requirements of running and maintaining the cemetery can be met. The aspiring Moosi should, therefore, pay this Chanda in keeping with his income, assets and the requirements of the *Maqbarah Moosian*.

Question:

What is the definition of *Tarka*, and what items does it constitute?

Answer:

All the movable and immovable property of a Moosi at the time of his death shall be considered his *Tarka*. A Moosi's house, land, jewelry, cash, bonds, shares, etc., shall all be part of his *Tarka*. In short, all the items which are divided between heirs shall be considered the Moosi's *Tarka*. Essential items of everyday use shall however be considered an exception when paying *Hissa Jaidad*.

Question:

What will happen in case one Wasiyyat has been made under *Nizam-e-Jama'at* and another Wasiyyat/Will has been made at the local level?

Answer:

Every Moosi is fully bound by the Wasiyyat which he has made under *Nizam-e-Jama'at*, and this Wasiyyat shall be effective according to its text. The reason why Wasiyyat under *Nizam-e-Jama'at* is required from a Moosi is that it shall be his final Wasiyyat/Will. After this he cannot make any will which can in any way affect this Wasiyyat. Any will made locally shall, therefore, not be in conflict with the Wasiyyat under *Nizam-e-Jama'at*. In the local

will, the portion which has been assigned to Sadar Anjuman Ahmadiyya should be shown as a debt.

Recognizing a True Faith

In order to recognize a true religion it is necessary to look at three matters. In the first place, one must see what is the teaching of a religion concerning God. That is to say, what does a religion state with regard to the Unity, power, knowledge, perfection, greatness, punishment, mercy and other attributes of the Divine.....

Secondly, it is necessary that a seeker after truth should inquire what does a religion teach with regard to his own self and with regard to human conduct. Is there anything in its teaching which would disrupt human relationships, or would draw a person into courses which are inconsistent with modesty and honour, or would be contrary to the law of nature, or would be impossible to conform to or carry out, or make it dangerous to do so. It would also be necessary to see whether some important

teaching needed to control disorderliness has been left out. It would also be necessary to discover whether a religion presents God as a Great Benefactor with Whom a relationship of personal love should be established and whether it lays down commandments which lead from darkness into light and from heedlessness to remembrance.

Thirdly, it is necessary for a seeker after truth to satisfy himself that the god presented by a religion should not be one who is believed in on the basis of tales and stories and resembles a dead being. To believe in a god who resembles a dead being, belief in whom is not by virtue of his having manifested himself but is due to one's own good faith, would be to put him under an obligation. It is useless to believe in a god whose powers are not felt and who does not himself make manifest the signs of his own existence and life.

[*Nasim-e-Da'wat*,

Roohani Khaza'in, Vol. 19,
pp. 373-374]

Rishta Nata Department Report

Abdul Shukoor Ahmad, In charge Rishta Nata Department

Rishta Nata Department has just completed a year of service in April, 2006. These are some salient points of the reports.

- There are a total of 138 candidates/applicants in our database
- There are 78 girls in the database
- There are 60 boys in the database
- We have about 22 applicants from Pakistan, 1 from Nigeria and 4 from India, 14 from Canada and 6 from UK
- About 38 of them are talking among themselves and exchanging profile/details (among themselves).
- We had 22 of the applicants engaged/married from our database and they have been deleted.
- Out of this 14 of them were matched by the RN Department and 8 identified themselves.
- Some applicants are in the database for quite a long time
- We are working very closely with Lajna (We have 4 remarkable/caring members in our team from Lajna and they have been fairly effective)
- We have opened up the access of our real-time database to several Missionaries and they could monitor the progress of each applicant in real-time.
- There are 4 Lajna members who are working from the Lajna side to access the database and facilitate the families (they are: Mubarika Malik Sahiba/Bushara Malik Sahiba/Sadiqa Hayee Sahiba/Amtul Basit Sahiba)
- We do an hour conference call on every Wednesday at 9 PM to exchange notes and determine action items for next week....Also, assign applicants among ourselves.
- We have established contact with the Secretaries of Rishta Nataa of the following countries (Canada/UK/India/Pakistan/Germany)
- We exchange a summary of boys/girls every month on the 20th of each month with these secretaries and our missionaries
- We have gotten our database fully organized with the following capabilities:
 - 1) Real Time Access to the Database via secured server
 - 2) Ability to track the progress/challenges of each applicant
 - 3) Ability to share/e-mail resumes/profiles
 - 4) Ability to provide management report
 - 5) Ability to search specific matches
 - 6) Ensure an applicant is not provided with choices/names of those who have already been connected/suggested.

Challenges

- 1) We have been a little delinquent in returning phone calls. However, we are good with e-mails and return e-mail responses in less than 48 hours (majority of the time).
- 2) Assistance to those who are in Pakistan is a little challenging.
- 3) Addition of a couple of male members in the team who could allocate a good amount of time

Contact: Email: rndepartment@yahoo.com; 301 219 0923 Cell/301 805 4721/240 465
0396 Fax. 6800 Willow Creek Road, Bowie, MD 20720

MOSQUES AND MISSION HOUSES OF JAMA'AT AHMADIYYA, USA

Sardar Hifazat Ahmad, National Property Secretary

General

By the Grace of God, in the past few months, there has been a lot of activity in our endeavors for the development and acquisition of *Jama'at's* properties for use as mosques and places of worship. The acquired properties include plots of land for the mosques and mission houses and offices / commercial complexes for use, after varying degrees of modifications and renovations, as places of worship.

We also embarked, recently, on the active construction for a new major mosque in Detroit. Design processes have also advanced in preparation for commencement of construction of a couple of other mosques projects elsewhere in the USA.

Described herebelow is a brief outline of the major recent developments:

(A) Construction Program

1. Detroit Mosque

By the Grace of God,

construction of our Detroit Mosque (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Center, Detroit) was started in November 2005. This mosque is one of the five (5) major mosques planned and approved by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth. The project is estimated to cost \$3,900,000, including the costs of land, permits, engineering and architectural services.

The mosque is to be constructed on a 4.6 acres lot and has a built-up area of 19,750 Sq. Ft. The mosque complex comprises two (2) separate prayer halls for men and women, each with a capacity of 150 persons; a library / reading room, lobbies for men and women; children's' room; a multi-purpose hall with a seating capacity of about 350 persons; and ample parking facilities.

Construction work on the mosque proper has recently been started. It is expected that the mosque would be substantially completed by mid - 2007.

2. Willingboro Mosque, NJ

By the grace of God, construction work under

Phase-1 of the mosque is now complete. Dome has been installed. Phase II works comprising installation of utilities, electrical systems, HVAC system, ducting, elevator, plumbing works etc. has recently been started. The mosque is expected to be completed in the next few months.

3. Dayton, OH

In October 2005, an old house, in a dilapidated condition, adjacent to the existing mosque was acquired for \$27,000. After its demolition at a cost of about \$9,500, additional space would become available for expansion of the mosque. Design plans for the renovation and expansion of the Dayton mosque have now been prepared and are under review. Services of an architect /consultant have been acquired and basic concept plans have been approved. The plans involve combination of the individual plots of land into a one single lot. Work is underway for the City's approval.

Some time back, the Missionary's residence, which is located close to the mosque, was severely damaged due to a broken water

main. Utilizing the insurance funds, the house has been repaired and renovated. An additional sum of \$8,000 is planned to be spent on roof repairs, a central air-conditioning system, basement finishing and painting etc. With all this expenditure, the house would, *Insha Allah*, become a new structure.

(B) Developmental Program

1. Virginia Mosque, VA

Work on finalization of the detailed designs for the VA mosque is now in an advanced stage. Key decisions in respect of layout of utilities and space utilization have been finalized. With the completion of detailed designs and drawings, work on the bidding documents will be initiated. The mosque proper is estimated to cost about \$1,200,000; while the site preparation works would cost about \$700,000.

The bidding documents for the site preparation works, which include parking facilities, services etc., are now being developed. Ground breaking for the mosque project is expected in August 2006.

2. St Louis Mosque, MO

This mosque is being built on five (5) adjacent lots purchased from the City authorities at nominal prices. Old houses on these

lots have been demolished so as to have about an acre of land to house the mosque.

Following approval of the conceptual design of St Louis mosque, the detailed design has now been completed. The bidding documents are expected to be ready by about late June 2006, whereafter, the bidding phase would start. The mosque is located on a high ground area on the main Route 70 running from coast to coast. We plan to have a minaret about 35 feet in height, subject, of course, to the local building codes and limitations.

The mosque proper is estimated to cost about \$600,000 with a total covered area of about 5200 Sq. Ft. There would be separate halls for the men and women, together with a multi-purpose hall.

Efforts are underway to acquire from the City authorities additional adjacent vacant houses, in dilapidated condition, so as to create additional space for parking and play grounds. We hope to acquire the houses at very nominal prices.

It is expected that the ground breaking for the mosque proper would take place in September 2006. Construction of the mosque is expected to be completed by early 2007, *Insha Allah*.

3. Baitun-Naseer Mosque, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

The church building housing the above mosque was procured in 2004 at a cost of \$400,000. The building required substantial renovation and repairs. The residential unit located on the upper floor of the building has already been renovated and is being used as a guest house as well as as *Murabbi's* residence. Work is now proceeding on replacement of all the 46 windows of the building with storm proof windows.

Work on further remodeling and renovation involving division of main hall into ladies / gents portions; wash rooms, purdah wall for the upper gallery is now under planning stages and is expected to be completed by late 2007.

(C) Acquisition Program

Availability of mission houses / centers located in reasonably close proximity of the *Jama'at* members' residences is of vital importance for the education, training and grooming of our younger generation. We have, therefore, all along been endeavoring to acquire suitable built-up properties for use as mission houses / places of worship for the *Jama'ats* who previously did not have any such centers or where the existing

facilities were grossly inadequate to meet the *Jama'at's* growing needs.

By the grace of God, we succeeded in acquiring the following buildings:

1. Syracuse, NY

Last year, we worked very hard to purchase an old church building in Syracuse, NY. The building was presently being used as a club; and had several good features in terms of parking facilities, location and type of construction. Unfortunately, despite our meeting all the terms and conditions, the management of the building declined to agree to the sale of the building to the *Jama'at*.

We therefore, started looking for some other building. By the grace of God, we succeeded in purchasing another building at a better price. It is an office block, in a very good condition, on a 1.12 acres lot, with a built up area of about 4,100 Sq. Ft. The building also has a 25-cars parking facility as part of the property.

The property was purchased at a price of about \$250,000 including closing costs. The facility is currently being used as a place of worship without any major modifications or improvements.

2. Bronx, NY

In view of widely scat-

tered Ahmadi population in the New York area, with long commutes, there was always a pressing need to look for and acquire additional buildings for use as places of worship. In view of very high real estate values, the choices were very limited.

In December 2005, we successfully concluded a deal for acquisition of a building located at the junction of the White Plains Road & Gunn Hills Road at a cost of \$700,000. The building has a built up area of 7,800 Sq. Ft with a capacity of about 150 persons. It has a 25-cars parking facility and is located conveniently close to a subway station as well as a Freeway.

3. Pittsburgh, PA

Pittsburgh *Jama'at* badly needed a central place of worship for its members, particularly its younger generation. From mid-2005, we had been expecting to close a deal for acquisition of an old laboratory building at a cost of \$325,000. The building was under bankruptcy proceedings and we were eagerly expecting to succeed in the acquisition. In November 2005, there appeared another party who boldly out-bid the *Jama'at*. We were very sad to lose the opportunity; and hoped and prayed for a better deal.

By the Grace of God, in November 2005, we came

across another much better opportunity. It is an old Masonic temple with beautiful massive stone-masonry walls on over a half-acre lot. It has three (3) floors with over 20,000 Sq Ft built-up area. It has a 25 to 30 cars parking facility and is located in the Borough of Wilkinsburg, about 6 miles east of the downtown area. It is located quite close to the residences of a sizable number of our *Jama'at* members.

The building was recently furnished and upgraded by the previous owners for use as a school; and has lots of school and office furniture in a relatively good condition, however, the building was not in use for about a year. The building also has an elevator.

The building is very spacious and is conveniently located, however, we have a couple of concerns. The overall space in the building is very large; and exceeds the immediate needs of the *Jama'at*; secondly, the premises have not been in recent use; and may require some repairs and renovation. Electrical fixtures need to be checked and upgraded as necessary.

At the start, we plan to use the first floor of the building only. Alternate plans would be developed as appropriate for utilization of the other building areas.

The deal was closed April 14 2006 at a cost of \$305,000. *Alhamdolillah*. We are completing the other formalities (certificate of occupation, insurance etc.) for commissioning the building for use as our place of worship.

4. Queens, NY

Recently, we came across another very unusual opportunity of acquiring a building for use as our mosque in the Queens, NY. The building is "New York Deliverance Gospel Temple" located in the midst of commercial entities on the main Jamaica Avenue, about 10-minutes from our existing Queens mosque.

The building was originally built as a classical theater, but is currently being used as a church. It is built on a 0.52 acres lot with a covered floor area of about 110 ft x 222 ft. It has a massive structure with 65-ft high walls; and has a built up area of about 42,000 Sq Ft.

Jama'at offered a sum of \$1,800,000 for the building. Agreement for the deal was signed on mid-January 2006; however, later, in February 2006, another church entity succeeded in closing the deal.

5. Research Triangle, NC

The Research Triangle *Jama'at* does not presently have a regular mosque or

place of worship. Through dedicated efforts of the local *Jama'at* officials, a plot of land, measuring about 7 acres, located in the city of Holly Springs, NC, was purchased at a price of \$175,000.

The lot is located in a more or less plain area in the city suburbs close to a major roadway. There is lot of potential for the development of this property for use by the *Jama'at*. Funding constraint is a major problem in proceeding with the next steps towards development of a formal mosque project.

Efforts are underway by the local *Jama'at* for fund collection which will be followed by development of mosque plans and commencement of construction.

6. Phoenix, AZ

Recently, two adjacent residential properties became available for acquisition for use by the local *Jama'at* as a place of worship. Both are located in close proximity to the residences of the local *Jama'at* members. After a visit to the site; and in consultation with the local *Jama'at* members, one of the properties appears to be suitable for acquisition. It is a single story residence with about 2,500 Sq. ft. built-up area on a one acre lot. Additional construction is possible at the rear side.

The property is priced at

\$950,000; and is zoned as residential with potential for use as a place of worship. Because of funding constraints, the acquisition is recommended subject to the condition that the local Phoenix *Jama'at* raise the bulk of the funding. It is expected that the deal would be closed in the near future.

7. Rochester, NY

In view of the growing numbers of *Jama'at*'s local members, the *Jama'at*'s mosque in Rochester, NY was grossly inadequate. Acute congestion was experienced particularly during *Jama'at* gatherings and meetings. The mosque basement had an acute problem of ground water seepage. During the wet season, almost half of the basement area, which was used by ladies, was rendered unusable. Major repairs were needed to make the building suitable for use as a mosque.

An office block in a nearby downtown area became available and the seller accepted the *Jama'at*'s offer of \$400,000. The building has two floors and a parking space for about 65 cars. The building is in a good condition. Zoning permission has been received subject to the condition that we add a handicap access to the second floor.

A small elevator estimated to cost about \$200,000 also has to be installed.

Some modifications (estimated to cost about \$70,000) involving removal of internal temporary partitions and addition of a bath room would also have to be made so as to have two big halls for *Jama'at* functions and separate prayer areas.

The building would, *Insha Allah*, become available for use as our mosque in about a couple of months.

7. Seattle, WA :

A *Jama'at* member had donated a plot of land for construction of our mosque. The mosque plans were almost complete when the City, in its plans for roads improvements, acquired 10-foot wide stripes of lands from 2 sides of our corner plot. This resulted in severe loss of the potential built-up area of the mosque. After allowing for parking facilities, the mosque would no longer have been able to cater to the *Jama'at* needs. The project was thus rendered unfeasible; and had to be abandoned.

The *Jama'at*, then, started looking for other venues for use as a mosque.

An office/show room facility on a 6-lane roadway became available; and the *Jama'at* successfully negotiated the deal for \$ 630,000. The site has a 45-car parking space; and has a great potential for future expansion.

In the past few months, we have completed some essential modification of the building so as to make it code compliant for use as a mosque. We already have the zoning permission. The occupancy permit for use of the building was issued early this week; and the mosque was formally commissioned for use as a mosque on Sunday, June 17, 2006.

8. Miscellaneous

In November 2005, 150 additional burial spaces were acquired in a local downtown cemetery in Albany at a cost of \$300 each. The burial sites are located in a corner of a well-maintained cemetery in a good location. Half of the spaces are earmarked for the Moosies.

**SERVE
HUMANITY
THROUGH
HUMANITY
FIRST**

FORGIVENESS BY ALLAH

Hadhrat Abu Hurairah^{ra} relates that the Holy Prophet^{saw}, on behalf of his Lord, said: "A servant of Allah committed a sin and then supplicated: Allah, forgive me my sin. On which Allah, the Blessed and the High, said: 'My servant committed a sin and then realized that he has a Lord Who forgives sin and also calls to account for it. The servant reverted to it and sinned again and supplicated: Lord, forgive me my sin. The Blessed and High said: 'My servant committed a sin and then realized that he has a Lord Who forgives sin and also calls to account for it. The servant again reverted to it and sinned and supplicated: Lord, forgive me my sin. The Blessed and High said: 'My servant committed a sin and then realized that he has a Lord Who forgives sin and also calls to account for it. I will forgive My servant and protect him from sins, in the future. My servant will act as I Wish."

(Muslim kitabuttaubah bab
qauluttaubah
minadhdhanubi wa an
takrartudhdhanubi
wattaubah, Bukhari
kitabuttauhi)

Tehrik-e-Jadid USA

Brief Annual Report for FY' 2005

**Anwer Khan,
Secretary Tehrik-e-Jadid USA**

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Collections</i>	<i>Increase</i>
2002-2003	700,000	\$ 958,778	18 %
2003-2004	1,000,000	\$ 1,230,322	23 %
2004-2005	1,000,000	\$ 1,264,469	3 %

Six -Year Collection Progress

FY' 2000	\$ 547,801
FY' 2001	\$ 631,314
FY' 2002	\$ 814,483
FY' 2003	\$ 958,778
FY' 2004	\$ 1,230,322
FY' 2005	\$ 1,264,469

Alhumdolillah a 230 % increase in 6 years.

Additional Parameters of significance include

- ✓ No. Of participants increased from 6156 to 7232 an 18 % increase
- ✓ 28 chapters out of 60 increased their collections by at least 30 %
- ✓ 22 chapters decreased their collections from the prior year
- ✓ 11 chapters did not change in their amount of collections
- ✓ Per capita contribution also increased from \$ 155 to \$ 170 this year

Special efforts made last year to raise the awareness and participation.

- Under the title: "Future of Ahmadiyyat in the Mirror of Divine Revelations" *Kashafs* and visions of the Promised Messiah^{as} and *Khulafa* were gathered on a huge World Map and it was displayed at the booth during Jalsa Salana USA 2004. In this map prophecies of about 30 countries that are yet to be fulfilled were displayed. A computer CD was also produced from authentic Jama'at literature.
- A power Point presentation was also prepared with this material.

- ❑ 17 chapters were visited, 43 lectures *Khutbas* and talks were delivered
- ❑ *Ashra Tehrik-e-Jadid* was successfully organized and managed throughout.
- ❑ Secretaries *Tehrik-e-Jadid* in several chapters did a fantastic job under the leadership of their Presidents.
- ❑ All the respected Missionaries fully supported and persuaded the membership to participate in this noble scheme
- ❑ Majalis Ansarullah, MKAUSA, and Lajna Imaillah fully co-operated and executed their plans and advanced substantially in their collections.
- ❑ Incredible progress was made by *Jama'at* Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Zion, Georgia and Silicone Valley.
- ❑ Largest single contribution of one member of MKA USA was \$ 89.3K

Challenges continued for future

- ❑ There is a room for at least 30 % increase in Participation level
- ❑ Over two-third participants contribute below the standard contribution level set by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}
- ❑ A very large number of New Ahmadies are still unaware of the scheme and lack participation
- ❑ *Dafatir* are not observed properly as pledges are not collected by *Dafatir* in Chapters.
- ❑ *Daftar Awwal* accountability still lacks transparency to reach the original accounts of the deceased parents and grandparents.
- ❑ Work starts in August for actual collections.

Measures taken this year

- ❑ A complete list of 5000 *Mujahideen* is being placed in our Computer for immediate transparency.
- ❑ Auxiliaries are requested to focus on this scheme with greater efforts and monitor the progress regularly.
- ❑ The campaign of collections will start on July 1, 2006 instead of in late August. We have to excel in the world and need to collect \$ 1.5 Million this year. May Allah enable us to do so.
- ❑ Conference Calls are scheduled for all 63 Secretaries three times between June and October 2006. *Insha Allah*
- ❑ Bi-weekly letters to Hazoor requesting miraculous successes will be sought by both the Secretaries and the Presidents.

WAQF-E-JADID - USA

Waseem A. Sayed, PhD
National Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid

And everyone has a goal to which he turns his whole attention. Then vie with one another in good works. Wherever you may be, Allah will bring you all together. Surely, Allah has the power to do all that He wills.[2:149]

وَلِكُلٍّ وِجْهَةٌ هُوَ مُوَلِّيهَا فَاتَّبِعُوا أَلْحَبْرَاتِ مَ آيَنَ
مَا تَكُونُوا يَأْتِ بِكُمُ اللَّهُ جَمِيعًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ
شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

In 1991 our Respected Ameer Sahib, of blessed memory, had expressed the desire of the US *Jama'at* to become #1 in the field of financial sacrifices towards the Blessed *Waqf-e-Jadid* Scheme. Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth, had welcomed this wonderful idea and had prayed and watched, with loving affection, as the US *Jama'at* made strides towards this goal.

Now for many years we have been maintaining this title and here is a cumulative year by year comparison of the US *Jama'at's* *Waqf-e-Jadid* sacrifices from '01-'06:

	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative
Dec	\$	\$926,712	\$1,013,149	\$867,504	\$574,484	\$481,383
Nov	\$	\$518,522	\$528,821	\$381,194	\$374,387	\$251,563
Oct	\$	\$431,340	\$416,936	\$298,250	\$278,763	\$181,717
Sep	\$	\$362,077	\$334,588	\$198,676	\$247,784	\$159,306
Aug	\$	\$327,257	\$303,979	\$161,651	\$216,574	\$147,415
Jul	\$	\$300,630	\$279,005	\$141,012	\$203,363	\$139,238
Jun	\$	\$278,318	\$270,280	\$130,678	\$195,113	\$134,310
May	\$	\$235,576	\$206,722	\$113,179	\$177,081	\$114,995
Apr	\$211,208	\$213,533	\$186,135	\$102,889	\$159,365	\$104,916
Mar	\$179,171	\$182,264	\$168,005	\$89,122	\$135,857	\$93,420
Feb	\$156,456	\$120,726	\$142,407	\$70,231	\$119,012	\$76,911
Jan	\$111,156	\$80,900	\$102,079	\$54,892	\$78,095	\$50,442

All of us in the US Jama'at thank Allah for having enabled us to make the progress reflected in the above numbers and we beg more of the same from Allah. May Allah grant us the distinction to ever remain No. 1 in the world in these sacrifices. Ameen.

DEPARTMENT OF TA'LIM ACTIVITIES REPORT

Karimullah Zirvi
Secretary Ta'lim

1. TA'LIMUL QUR'AN CLASSES

The Seventh Ta'limul Qur'an class was held in the North East and the West Coast regions.

A booklet covering the course of the class was prepared and provided to all the participants in all the regions. The participants learned correct recitation of the Holy Qur'an and translation and commentary of the seventh Ruku' of the following three Surahs of the Holy Qur'an: *Al-Baqarah, Al-Imran, and Al-Nisa*. *Basic Arabic Grammar was also taught.*

A) NORTH EAST REGION

In the North East region, one-day classes were held at Baitul Hadi, Old Bridge, NJ (May 14, 2005) and Baitul Tahir, Brooklyn, NY (May 15, 2005). Maulana Inamul Haq Kauser, Maulana Azhar Haneef, and Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhary covered the syllabus outlined in the Program during these classes.

Attendance in the classes was as follows:

Baitul Hadi, Old Bridge, NJ (Saturday, May 14, 2005)

In the Northeast-1 Region, 175 members (Ansar: 39; Khuddam: 32; Atfal: 19; Lajna: 63 and Nasirat: 22 from Central Jersey, North Jersey, Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Syracuse Jama'ats participated)

Baitul Tahir, Brooklyn, NY: (Sunday, May 15, 2005)

In the Northeast-2 Region, 140 members (Ansar: 25; Khuddam: 30; Atfal: 27; Lajna: 43 and Nasirat: 15 from Queens, Brooklyn, Long Island and Rochester Jama'ats participated).

B) WEST COAST REGION

The Seventh West Coast regional Ta'limul Qur'an Class was held at two locations: At Seattle, WA (September 17, 2005) and at Baitul Hameed, Chino, CA (September 18, 2005). Maulana Shamshad A. Nasir, Maulana Irshad A. Malhi and Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhary covered the syllabus outlined in the Program during these classes. Attendance in the classes was as follows:

Seattle, WA (Saturday, September 17, 2005)

92 members (Ansar: 10; Khuddam: 25; Atfal: 10; Lajna: 37 and Nasirat : 10 from Seattle Jama'at participated.)

Baitul Hameed, Los Angeles, CA (Sunday, September 18, 2005)

190 members (Ansar: 53; Khuddam: 30; Atfal: 27; Lajna: 67 and Nasirat: 13 from Los Angeles/East, Los Angeles/West, and San Diego Jama'ats participated.)

C) LOCAL TA'LIMUL QURAN CLASS

Since 2004, a one day local Ta'limul Qur'an is being held in each *Jama'at*. A day has been designated for holding the local Ta'limul Qur'an Class. In 2005, the Class was held on September 24, 2005. *A circular was sent along with three copies of the 7th Ta'limul Qur'an Book to all Jama'ats (One book each for the Jama'at President, Ta'lim Secretary and Lajna President) asking the Jama'ats to hold local Ta'limul Qur'an Class on September 24, 2005*

2. EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the time of the National Majlis Amila members' meeting with Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}, Hazoor had instructed that an Educational Advisory Committee should be formed to counsel the students with regards to the selection of fields of studies. Accordingly, an Educational Advisory Committee was formed, which was approved by Amir Sahib. The names and telephone numbers of the Committee members were published in the Gazette several times.

3. SURVEY OF AHMADI STUDENTS IN THE USA

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}, in his Friday sermon delivered on December 5, 2003, had stated that Ta'lim Secretaries in each country throughout the world should collect information about students so that the students could be guided towards the achievement of their educational goals and also helped financially when needed. No Ahmadi students should be left behind due to lack of funds to study. *Accordingly, all the Presidents and Ta'lim Secretaries in the USA were contacted in order to collect information about Ahmadi students in the USA enrolled in the Academic Year 2005 - 2006. The results of the survey are as follows:*

<i>Total # of Students:</i>	<i>939</i>
<i>10th to 12th Grade:</i>	<i>300</i>
<i>College:</i>	<i>454</i>
<i>Med./Dental School:</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Engineering College:</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Graduate School:</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>Law:</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Business:</i>	<i>50</i>

8th National Ta'limul Qur'an Class USA (April 21-23, 2006)

Dr. Zaheer-ud-Din Mansoor Ahmad
National Secretary Ta'limul Qur'an and Waqf-e-Arzi

In compliance with the directives of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}, Department of Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-Arzi (USA) has taken over the function of teaching the Holy Qur'an at all levels, since October 2005. Continuing the tradition in the past, Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an Department arranged a National Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an Class on April 21-23, 2006. The class was arranged to impart the knowledge of the Qur'anic translation along with the practical demonstration of principles of correct recitation.

The class was inaugurated by respected Daud Hanif Sahib, Missionary In Charge and Na'ib Ameer, after *Jumu'ah* Prayers. National Secretary Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an, Dr. Zaheer-ud-Din Mansoor Ahmad Sahib mentioned the purpose and the objectives of the class in his opening remarks. The first presentation was by guest speaker, Imam Firoz Alam Sahib who is the MTA coordinator for the

Bengali channel. Other speakers on Friday included, Anser Ahmad Sahib (Assistant National Ta'limul Qur'an Secretary) talked about the revelation and compilation of the Holy Qur'an, whereas Col. Fazal Ahmad enlightened the attendees with the translation and commentary of Surah Fatihah.

In the Morning Session of the second day, Imam Zia-ul-Haq Kauser and Imam Yahya Luqman addressed the audience on learning the Arabic language and Arabic vocabulary from the Holy Qur'an respectively. A workshop, on the correct recitation of the Holy Qur'an, was conducted by Hafiz Samiullah (National Secretary Waqf-e-Nau) which was highly appreciated by the participants. Nasir Mahmood Malik (National Secretary Tarbiyyat) addressed the class on the moral guidance provided by the Holy Qur'an. Translation and short commentary from the portions of the Holy Qur'an

was presented by Dr. Khalil Malik and Imam Mubasher Ahmad, which was interactive and very informative. On the Second Day, Ameer *Jama'at* U.S.A, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, addressed the audience and appreciated the efforts of organizers of the class and advised the participants to benefit from the class as much as possible. The evening session concluded with a very enjoyable and informative *Jama'at* Team Competition on knowledge of the Holy Qur'an conducted by Imam Zaki Kauser and the Northern Virginia Khuddamul Ahmadiyya.

On Sunday, April 23rd 2006, which was the third day of the class, Harris Ahmad Sahib spoke on the importance of making the Holy Qur'an a part of every Ahmadi's daily life. Imam Azhar Haneef elaborated on the need and importance of responding to the criticism against the Holy Qur'an. He went over some of the criticisms and explained the truth. A panel discussion

was held in which questions on contemporary issues were raised and were answered by the panel of scholars comprising of Maulana Naseer Ahmad Qamar, Imam Daud Hanif, and Imam Azhar Hanif. This portion of the class was interactive. All members including Lajna actively participated in these discussions.

In the concluding session, Mulana Naseer Ahmad Qamar, addressed the class emphasizing the need for learning the Holy Quran and implementing its teachings in one's every day life. At the end prizes and certificated were given to the winners and the volunteers who work diligently to make the class successful. *Alhamdollilah*, this class was a success. Over 250 male member and 100 Lajna and Nasirat participated in the class from 32 *Jama'ats*. A special feature of the class was that, participants were encouraged to express their views and share the knowledge with other participants as well. Structure and content of the class was highly appreciated by the participants.

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE GRACIOUS,
THE MERCIFUL

A NOTE OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION

On June 11, 2006, around 10:30 PM, a cruel and barbarous person shot dead my eldest son-in-law, dear Perwaiz Ahmad of North Virginia.

Inna lillahi Ilaihi Raj'oon

At the occasion of this very sad and unexpected martyrdom of my son-in-law, many friends and relatives, from America, Canada and Pakistan have shared our grief and deep sadness and consoled us over phone, and through faxes and letters. We are extremely thankful to all of them. May God Almighty grant them the best reward. Ameen

*Al'ain tadam'a wal-qalabu yahzan wama naqoolu illa
bima yedi bihe ranbbana, Inna lillahi Ilaihi Raj'oon*

Our eyes are shedding tears, and our hearts are overwhelmed due to sadness. However, we recite the words,
which please God Almighty. i.e.,
Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.

This tragedy is a great shock and trial for our daughter, Faiqa. Similarly, this tragic death is a very hurting and painful to the mother, brothers, and sisters of dear Perwaiz. I humbly request to all to pray that may God Almighty grant us the strength to bear this great tragedy, comfort us, and may God Almighty always be our dear Faiqa's and our Protector.

Sincerely yours,

Daud Hanif

1500 Good Hope Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905

Alislam.org Official Website of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Masood Nasir, Alislam Team, Toronto Canada

Alislam.org is the official website of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and has been in operation since April 1995. From a humble beginning, we have by the grace of Allah, now achieved the status of the best and most reputable Islamic site evident through the 35,000 visitors received daily.

Alislam.org is managed by Ahmadiyya Internet Committee (AIC) which works under the guidance of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih. It was initiated by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth and is now being guided by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah of USA is the Chairman of AIC and has an advisory board whose members range from all over the world. The AIC is also blessed with a large number of dedicated volunteers around the world.

The object of creating *Alislam.org* is to provide the world with the true teachings of Islam and Ahmadiyyat and provide

Jama'at members tools for *Dawat ilallah* and *Taleem-o-Tarbiyyat*. The site went through a major face-lift last year not only to add new and updated information, but to refresh the computing environment to support the added traffic, and to increase its reliability.

To introduce our readers to the *alislam.org* website, some of the major sections are discussed below.

The Holy Qur'an

This is one of the most important sections of the *alislam* website. Complete English translation is available with advanced search capabilities. Arabic search is still being developed. A proto type search in Arabic is available.

A separate section provides Arabic with English translation including Short Commentary and Arabic with various translations which include: Albanian, Bangla, Chinese, Danish, French, Greek, Hindi,

Italian, Japanese, Kashmiri, Manipuri, Marathi, Oriya, Portuguese, Spanish, Telegu, Turkish and Urdu. More translations are in the process of being added.

A complete set of commentaries by the Promised Messiah^{as}, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih I^{ra}, and Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} are available in Urdu, and the Five Volume English commentary.

Recently in *Ramadhan-ul-Mubarak* of 2005, the complete recitation of the Holy Qur'an with English translation has been added in MP3 audio format.

A new development in this section has just been completed which brings a very user friendly web interface for browsing commentaries and translations and creating bookmarks.

The Holy Prophet^{saw}

A special section about the beloved Holy Prophet^{saw} features many books and articles on his

life and excellent example. The Arabic *Qaseedah* written by the Promised Messiah^{as} in praise of the Holy Prophet^{saw} is also available with English and Urdu translations. For those interested in religious debates and discussions, there are some books with the details of the true meaning of *Khatamun Nabiyyeen*, and prophecies in other religions concerning the advent of the Holy Prophet^{saw} including from the Bible and Vedas. Recently the book of Ahadith *Hadiqatus Saleheen* and the comprehensive historical book *Seerat Khatamun Nabiyyeen* have been added to the site.

Darsul Qur'an

Dars-ul-Qur'an and *Tarjma-tul-Qur'an* classes by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth are also being added to the site in audio format.

Letters to Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}

A new and exciting free service has been introduced in October 2005. By signing up on the site one can send letters to Hazoor from the *alislam* website. These letters are delivered within a few hours to Ha-

zoor's Private Secretary Office.

Languages

The main website is in the English language however there are 15 major languages covered so far which include: Arabic, Chinese, German, Japanese, Spanish, Swahili, Russian, French, Malayalam, Turkish, Indonesian, Schweiz, Swedish, Norwegian, and of course Urdu. Some of these sections include monthly magazines and *Jama'at* books that are also available for download.

New Arabic Website

A beautiful new Arabic website with full multimedia capabilities has been launched in 2005 featuring a variety of Arabic content. This site is maintained by Arabic desk and is growing fast with new material. The website can be reached at www.islamahmadiyya.net.

Magazines and Newspapers

Some of the *Jama'at* periodicals available on the website include monthly English and French Review of Religions, *Al-Ta'qwa* in monthly Arabic magazine published from London. In

Urdu the site has *Daily Alfazl* from Rabwah, *Alfazl International Weekly* from London, and weekly *Badr* from Qadian. Some other magazines include:

- *Mishkat* monthly magazine from Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, India.
- *The Muslim Sunrise* quarterly journal on the subject of Islamic Renaissance from USA.
- *Al Nahl: A quarterly publication of Majlis Ansarullah, USA.*
- *Al Hilal: Quarterly magazine for children published in the USA.*
- *Khalid: Monthly magazine by Khuddamul Ahmadiyya published in Rabwah, Pakistan.*
- *Tashheez: A monthly magazine for the children published in Rabwah, Pakistan.*
- *Ahmadiyya Gazette, Canada.*
- Malayalam language magazines include *Sathyadoothan*, *Sathyamithram*, *Al-Haq*, and *Annur*.

MTA 24/7 Live

Alislam provides round the clock live transmission of Muslim Television

Ahmadiyya (MTA) in audio and video formats using Real Streaming. Work is in progress to include Microsoft Media streaming as an option. Important and historical speeches and sermons are also available *On Demand* in the *Archives Section* of the site. Currently this section has archives dating back to 2001. Work is in progress to expand the section to as far back as possible.

Podcasting

Podcasting is a way of publishing audio files to the Internet, allowing users to subscribe to a feed and receive new audio files automatically. *Alislam* is also providing podcast feeds to deliver the latest Friday Sermon to users' desktop that is ready to play on their computer or to load on the portable MP3 player. This feed is also published on many Podcast Search engines such as iTunes and Podcast.

Picture Gallery

There is a large gallery of historical pictures that are categorized in four major sections: personalities, mosques, places and events. The *alislam* picture gallery currently holds

about 11,000 pictures and growing.

Nazm/Poems in Urdu

This is a very popular section of the *alislam* site. The section provides over 200 poems that are available in Real formats for online and downloadable MP3 formats. The *Alislam Nazm* Section is categorized by authors and is laid down to easily locate any *nazm* that is available. As more *nazms* are becoming available, the section is constantly growing.

Books

There are more than 170 titles available for online reading and in downloadable formats. Some important books include complete set of Holy Qur'an Commentaries, *Roohani Khazain* and *Malfoozat* of the Promised Messiah^{as}, *Anwarul Uloom* and *Khutbaat-e-Mahmood* of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, and *Khutbaat-e-Tahir* of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth.

The Book section is categorized by Author and work is being done to categorize them by topic and to provide search capabilities.

New books are constantly being added. Please visit the book section at <http://www.alislam.org/books/> to benefit from this wealth of knowledge available.

Focused Topics

There are some sections on the website with focused topics. Some of the recently added topics are:

- i) **Khilafat – the succession of prophet-hood:** you can learn about the history, significance and re-establishment of this divine institution. Also read and download Hu-zoor's instructions in regards to completion of one hundred years of Khilafat in 2008.
- ii) **Jesus – a humble Prophet of God:** his life, his death and his legacy. Strangely enough the three great nations of the world: Jews, Christians and Muslims are at variance with regard to, both, to the birth as well as the death of Jesus Christ who was born among the Jews. Learn more about the controversy and the Ahmadiyya Muslim view on the issue.

iii) Jihad and Terrorism:

This is another very

important section particularly in the current environment, which provides visitors a very detailed explanation of the true meaning of Jihad and refutes common misconceptions.

Audio Books

The section contains some Urdu books of The Promised Messiah^{as} in MP3 format. Efforts are underway to expand this section to include more books in different languages.

Question/Answer

No one can forget the question/answer sessions of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth. *Alislam* has dedicated a separate site www.askislam.org for this purpose. The site hosts a large number of questions and answers in English that cover basic topics of interest in daily life. These topics are categorized by subject with search capabilities. Extensive work is being done in USA to expand this section to include more and varied topics.

Jalsa Salana (Annual Conventions)

This section was added to the website in

2003. *Jalsa Salana* speeches, nazms, and pictures make this a lively section. In the year 2003, proceedings from Jalsa UK, Germany and Qadian were covered on the site. By 2006, *Jalsas Salana* of 19 countries are regularly covered. Special arrangements are made during each of these *Jalsas* to digitally capture the highlights and present them in the Picture Gallery. Effort is made to provide recordings of speeches on the website the same day, and archive it for later listening. This section does an excellent job of preserving these important and historic events of our *Jama'at* for generations to remember.

On line Store

Alislam Online Store has been in operation since October 2001. Books, CDs, DVDs are sold and shipped worldwide. Because of excellent customer feedback, Yahoo gave it the Top Service award in the very first year of operation.

Search Engine

To find what you are looking for on such a large website is not easy and one needs to use search tools for this purpose. *Alislam* pro-

vides the search facility utilizing *Google* as the backend search engine. If you are looking for a particular subject, just type the keywords in search option on the home page, and you will be presented with the pages that match your keywords.

Websites Operating under *alislam.org*

When you talk about the Internet, the Worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is represented by www.alislam.org. In addition to this site, *Alislam* provides some country specific websites and a few subjective websites

Country specific websites are:

Country	Website Address
---------	-----------------

Australia

www.ahmadiyya.org.au

Canada

www.ahmadiyya.ca

Germany

www.ahmadiyya.de

Indonesia

www.ahmadiyya.or.id

Mauritius

www.theislam.org/mauritius/

Netherlands

www.ahmadiyya-islam.nl

New Zealand

www.ahmadiyya.org.nz

Sweden

www.ahmadiyya.se

Switzerland

www.ahmadiyya.ch

UK

www.ahmadiyya.org.uk

USA

www.ahmadiyya.us

Subjective websites include:

www.jalsasalana.org
(Jalsa Salana),

www.askislam.org
(English Question/Answer in audio),

www.thepersecution.org
(Persecution Newsreports),

www.mta.tv (MTA International),

www.fazleumarfoundation.org
(Fadl-i-Umar Foundation),

www.tahirfoundation.org
(Tahir Foundation), and the list is growing.

A blessing of Allah

It is a blessing of Allah on the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community that every

new technology that is revolutionizing the world in this information age is being utilized for spreading the message of Islam to all corners of the earth. It is indeed a fulfillment of the great prophecy of the Holy Qur'an:

And when books are spread abroad

(Holy Qur'an 81:11).

Muslim Television Ahmadiyya is using the latest digital satellite technology to reach the corners of the world, while *alislam* spreads the same message over the Internet through Live Streaming of MTA and by providing books and articles of Hadhrat Masih-e-Mau'ood^{as} and other scholars of the *Jama'at*. One can search and browse through them from the convenience of their homes; interactively read or listen to a wide range of topics and subjects. Indeed it is a blessing of Allah! May Allah enable us all to take full advantage of these tools in achieving the ultimate objectives of our lives. Ameen!

SERVE HUMANITY

REPENTANCE

Hadhrat Anas bin Malik^{ra}, servant of the Holy Prophet^{saw}, said: "Allah is more pleased with the repentance of a servant of His than would be one of you who were to lose his camel in a barren desert and then find it suddenly."

Another version is: Allah is more pleased with the repentance of a servant of His than would be one of you who were to lose his riding camel, which carries his food and drink, in a barren desert, and losing all hope of finding it he were to lie down in the shade of a tree, and then should suddenly find it standing near him and should seize its nose-string and in his extreme happiness should blurt out: 'O Allah! Thou art my servant and I am Thy lord.'

(Bukhari kitabudda'wat babuttaubah, Muslim)

Imam Abu Hanifa says:

"Whoever intends to enter the fold of Islam, let him solemnly declare and believe that there is none worthy of worship but Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger. If he does this, he is surely a Muslim even if he is unaware of the fundamental injunctions of Islam."

(Commentary of the Fiqh-i-Akbar by Imam Abu Mansur Muhammad Bin Muhammad Hanifa, p 34)

23rd Shura of the US Jama'at Held On April 28-30, 2006

A Brief Report by Syed Sajid Ahmad, Fargo ND

Delegates from all over the country, from 60 chapters spread throughout the country, gathered in Masjid Baitur Rahman, Silver Spring, MD to discuss and propose the plans for the next year. Maulana Naseer Ahmad Qamar, Additional Wakilut Tasnif, London who was visiting USA attended the proceedings.

Proceedings started with the recitation of the Holy Quran and its translation. Dr Ahsanullah Zafar, Ameer, USA, inaugurated the proceedings of the Shura by referring to the following verse of the Holy Qur'an:

wa amruhum shūrā bainahum (Shura:39)

And whose affairs are decided by mutual consultation. (42:39)

He directed the members to conduct under the rules as defined by *Khulafa*. The proceedings started after collective silent

du'ā.

First, the minutes of the last Shura were confirmed by the delegates. Then various Secretaries presented their reports for the implementation of the decisions of the last Shura, which followed by a discussion of the reports.

Later on, the following National Secretaries presented their reports for the activities and accomplishments in their areas during the past year:

The Tabligh Secretary reported there were 99 *bai'ats* and there was significant growth in Tabligh activities. Tabligh focus was on small towns and 19 villages were visited. More than 3,000 contacts were made, and 23 seminars were held countrywide. Neighboring countries of Bahamas and Mexico were visited by Missionaries.

The Secretary Tarbiyyat reported that the focus of their activities was on families. The heads of

the families were asked to take up responsibilities as leaders of the families, and play visible role in establishing congregational Prayers. The Secretary informed the members that the Second Tarbiyyat class will be held from July 1-13 at Baitur Rahman Mosque.

The Secretary Ta'lim reported that seventh Regional Ta'limul Qur'an class was held in East and West Coast regions. Besides translation and commentary of certain parts of the Holy Qur'an, correct recitation of the Holy Qur'an was also taught. A total of 597 members attended these classes. A survey of 939 students in the community was conducted to identify their educational goals.

The Finance Secretary reported a record income budget for the year 2006-2007. He reported that during current year the number of Chapters meeting their budgets and the number of contributing members increased overall.

The Secretary Wasaya reported that we are still short of our goal of 1,000 new Moosies in the States.

The Secretary audio/video reported that a change is in the works to move from dishes to the reception of MTA through internet to the TV screen.

The *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretary reported the results of career surveys and the awareness day celebrated all over the country. He reported that 61 *Waqfin-e-Nau* attended the *Tarbiyyati* camp.

In charge of the Exhibition and the Ahmadiyya History in the US reported that the draft of the history of Ahmadiyyat in the US has been prepared and submitted for review to Ameer Sahib.

The General Secretary reported that the reporting procedure will be consolidated to have only one report covering various departments. He reported the success of the refresher course for office-bearers. He gave details of the US delegation, which visited the families of the martyrs in Mong Rasul, Pakistan.

The Ameer Sahib, at this point, informed that the

US Lajna had translated the sermons on *Waqf-e-Nau* and that they have been published.

Sadr Khuddamul Ahmadiyya reported that 752 Khuddam and Atfal attended their annual *Ijtemas*, more than a hundred representatives attended the refresher course, and more than 700 *Waqar-i-amal* were conducted.

The Public Relations Secretary reported more than 100 contacts were made with high public officers.

The *Tahrik-e-Jadid* Secretary reported that the participation increased to 7403 from 7,232 contributors. The contributions were the highest per capita in the world. The US members contributed wholeheartedly to the fund and took the number 2 position in the world. He informed that the list of the first 5,000 contributors is available now for the consultation of their descendants to continue their sacrifices. He reported that 267 accounts from this list had already been revived.

The Auditor reported that the quarterly audits have been performed at the Headquarters, and that

changes have been made to improve control on finances.

The Property Secretary reported on the new mission in Pittsburg, PA and the work on the planning and design of a mosque in St. Louis.

The Rishta Nata secretary reported that a database had been organized, and it can be accessed by the Missionaries.

The National Secretaries reports were followed by questions and comments by the delegates and responses from the Secretaries.

Next the proposals for discussion in the 23rd Shura were presented. The Finance Secretary presented the budget for the financial year 2006-2007. There was a 60,000% increase in the budget compared to 1955 budget.

Maulana Inamul-Haq Kauser related his experiences in the collection of funds for the establishment of Tahir Heart Institute in Rabwah. He was amazed how the members came forward to answer the call of the Khalifatul Masih^{aba}. He reported that 3.2 million dollars out of the 3.5 Million dollars target have

been collected.

Three subcommittees were formed to discuss the proposals.

The subcommittees met during the night and the next morning to deliberate the proposals and formulate their recommendations. A session was held Saturday morning to discuss responsibilities of various departments, and a finance workshop was also held.

Saturday afternoon session started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an. The Tabligh, Tarbiyyat, General and Finance subcommittees presented their recommendations for general discussion. The discussions focused on creating an Ahmadiyya Blog, enhancing contacts with media and administration, role of parents in the training of *Waqifin-e-Nau*, encouraging youth to study at *Jami'a* Canada and to enter the field of journalism. The subcommittees' recommendations were approved by the delegates for presentation to the Khalifatul-Masih.

The Ameer Sahib encouraged the delegates to take the ideas to their chapters and see how they work. He said, "You have to see

what you can do in your individual areas? What can and cannot be done and report next year."

Group photos were taken at the end of the session. A session to convey various departmental information was held in the evening.

The Sunday morning session started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an. After the discussion of the remaining subcommittee recommendations, Dr Ahsanullah Zafar addressed the delegates. He thanked the organizers and concluded the session with prayers.

Martyrs of Battle of Uhud

Hadrat 'Uqbah bin 'Amir^{ra} relates that the Holy Prophet^{saw} went to the graves of the martyrs of the Battle of Uhud eight years after the battle and prayed as if he was saying farewell to the living and the dead. Then he ascended the pulpit and said: "I am going ahead of you, and I am witness over you and our meeting shall be at the Reservoir in the Heaven. I am looking right now at the place where I will be standing. I am not worried that you

will start associating partners with Allah. However, with regards to the world, I am worried about you that you may try to compete with each other for gaining the world." Hadrat Uqbah^{ra} says this was his last opportunity of looking at the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

Another narration is: "I am worried that you will compete with each other for gaining the world. Consequently, you will fight each other, which will cause your destruction like the people before you were destroyed by doing so.

According to another narration the Holy Prophet^{saw} said: "I am going ahead of you so that I could do good for you and I am witness over you. By God! I am looking at the Reservoir in the Heaven where I will stand. I have been given the keys to the treasures of the world or the keys of the whole world. By God! I am not worried that you will become pagans after I depart. Rather, I am worried that you will compete with each other for worldly things.

(Muslim kitabul Faza'il bab athbat haudnabiyyina^{sa}, Bukhari kitabul maghazi bab ghazwah Uhud, Kitabul jana'iz babussalat 'alashshahid)

23rd Shura of the US Jama'at Held On April 28-30, 2006



WAQFE NAU DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR 2005-06

Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhary
National Secretary Waqf-e-Nau

ORGANIZATION OF WAQFE NAU DEPARTMENT

The *Waqf-e-Nau* department has been organized along the following lines under the supervision of the National Secretary *Waqf-e-Nau*, USA:

- National & Local *Waqf-e-Nau* Committees
- Four Assistant National Secretaries
- Regional *Waqf-e-Nau* Teams
- *Waqf-e-Nau* Career Planning Committee
- Local *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries
- Nine Regional *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries
- *Waqf-e-Nau* Training Committee

FOUR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES

The work of the four Assistant Secretaries has been divided into the following four categories:

1. Asst. Secretary for Bio-Data updates, progress reports of *Waqifeen-e-Nau* and maintenance of files/records.
2. Asst. Secretary for collection of activity reports from US *Jama'ats*, compiling national reports and follow ups in compliance with Center directives.
3. Asst. Secretary for availability of syllabus & suggested books, giving tests and awards of certificates.
4. Asst. Secretary for organization of *Waqf-e-Nau Ijtema'at*, tours and other *Waqf-e-Nau* events.

REGIONAL SECRETARIES WAQF-E-NAU

<u>REGION</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>JAMA'AT</u>
1. South Region:	Chairul Bahri, Ph.D	New Orleans, LA
2. Northwest Region:	Idrees Munir, Ph.D	San Jose, CA
3. Southwest Region:	Imran A Jattala	LA East, CA
4. Southeast region:	Syed Fazal Ahmad	Philadelphia, PA
5. East Midwest:	Pervaiz Ahmad Khan	Detroit, MI
6. West Midwest:	M. Layeequddin Ahmad	Chicago, IL
7. South Midwest:	Mahmood Ahmad	Georgia-S.C.
8, Northeast region:	Muhammad Ahmad Chaudhary	New York, NY
9. Headquarter Region:	Faheem Ahmad, Ph.D	Northern VA

CENSUS OF U.S. WAQIFEEN-E-NAU

The latest list of U.S. *Waqifeen-e-Nau* from the central system in Rabwah has been obtained. We are updating our U.S. system with new and/or additional information received from Rabwah. There are 498 *Waqifeen-e-Nau* in the USA including 301 boys and 197 girls.

CAREER PLANS FOR WAQIFEEN-E-NAU ABOVE AGE 15

There are 149 *Waqifeen-e-Nau* in the USA above the age of 15 as of March 31, 2006. Out of 149, there are 95 boys and 54 girls. Following are the career choices for the US *Waqifeen-e-Nau* above fifteen (15) years of age:

Murabbis:	11 Boys	
Doctors/Medical Sciences:	27 Boys	22 Girls
Engineers:	9 Boys	
Information Technology:	4 Boys	
Teachers:	0 Boys	5 Girls
Attorneys:	2 Boys	1 Girls
Cinematography:	1 Boy	
Astronaut:	0 Boy	1 Girl
Business Management:	1 Boy	
Broadcasting & Journalism:	1 Boy	
Undecided:	39 Boys	25 Girls

TWO WEEK LONG NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP

A National training camp was held from 8-23 July, 2005 (a two week long program) at Masjid Baitur Rahman, Silver Springs, MD. This was a very successful event organized under the Tarbiyat Department, USA. With the permission of Respected Ameer Sahib, the participation was made obligatory for *Waqifeen-e-Nau* age 14 and above. There were 61 *Waqifeen-e-Nau* who participated in this National training camp. This was recommended for both boy and girls *Waqifeen-e-Nau*.

REGIONAL WAQFE NAU TEAMS

Regional teams consist of the following members:

1. Respected Regional Missionary Sahib
2. Regional *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretary
3. Local *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries of the area *Jama'ats*

Regular meetings, quarterly programs and biannual *Waqf-e-Nau Ijtema'at* are required from these teams. Missionaries are requested to be the lead teachers, and teaching teams can operate under their guidance. Administrative work is to be organized and supervised by the Regional *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries.

WAQFE NAU AWARENESS DAY APRIL 2, 2006

The blessed scheme of *Waqf-e-Nau* was started on April 3, 1987 by Syedna Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth. The *Waqf-e-Nau* department suggests that the first Sunday of April be dedicated for the awareness of the blessings of *Waqf-e-Nau* and the benefits of joining in this scheme. The *Waqifeen-e-Nau* should update their bio-data files, annual review of their academic achievements and health records. Urdu language workshops have been added for this year's programs

E-MAIL ADDRESS: WaqfeNauUSA@gmail.com

This e-mail address has been created for immediate contact. This is to be used if any one wants to contact the National *Waqf-e-Nau* Team for routine and general information. There is another one that *Waqifeen-e-Nau* are welcome to use, i.e. HafizSamiullah@aol.com.

WAQF-E-NAU BOOKS

One thousand (1000) copies of *Waqf-e-Nau Nisab* were printed and distributed to all *Waqifeen-e-Nau* through their Regional Secretaries. Three sets of the available books recommended in *Nisab Waqf-e-Nau* were obtained with help of *Vakalate Waqf-e-Nau*, Rabwah and given to the Respected Missionaries who are the members of the *Waqf-e-Nau Career Committee* for their review and input. National *Waqf-e-Nau* Department USA, has requested *Vakalate Waqf-e-Nau*, Rabwah to scan the books which are recommended in *Waqf-e-Nau* syllabus into digital format. These books will be posted on the Ahmadiyya.us website.

MONTHLY WAQF-E-NAU TELECONFERENCE CALL:

A monthly teleconference call has been instituted for the National *Waqf-e-Nau* team. The National *Waqf-e-Nau* team comprises of the National *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretary, the Assistant National *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries and the Regional *Waqf-e-Nau* Secretaries. Various ongoing efforts related to the *Waqf-e-Nau* department are discussed during this monthly teleconference.

VISITS TO VARIOUS JAMA'ATS

The National Secretary *Waqf-e-Nau* visited the following *Jama'ats* during this report period. In these classes, the *Waqf-e-Nau* children who completed 1st course of the *Nazira* recitation of the Holy Qur'an were specially recognized with the award of "AMEEN PLAQUES". Awards, Trophies and certificates were presented to the *Waqifeen-e-Nau*. Various educational and sports competitions were held and the winners were recognized with the award of trophies. Every *Waqf-e-Nau* child was recognized at the *Ijtema* and presented with a trophy marked with the *Waqf-e-Nau* logo.

Brooklyn, New York on February 12, 2005: A successful regional *Waqf-e-Nau Ijtema* was held for all area *Jama'ats* of Northeast region. Meeting with parents and *Waqifeen-e-Nau*, of the area *Jama'ats*, distribution of Certificates.

Silver Springs, Maryland on May 19, 2005: The regional *Ijtema* was held at Masjid Baitur Rahman. Out of a total of 109 *Waqf-e-Nau* children in the region, 88 attended the *Ijtema*.

Long Island, New York on September 20, 2005: A picnic style *Ijtema* was held in a park of Long Island, NY. Meeting with parents and *Waqifeen-e-Nau*, of the area *Jama'ats*,.

Detroit, Michigan on September 10, 2005: Detroit *Jama'at* camp out was from 09-11 September. The regional *Ijtema* was held on 2nd day of the camp out. Meeting with *Waqf-e-Nau* children and parents of 4 area *Jama'ats*.

San Jose, CA on November 12, 2005: Meeting with parents and *Waqifeen-e-Nau*, of the area *Jama'ats*, distribution of Certificates.

Los Angeles, CA on November 13, 2005: Meeting with *Waqifeen-e-Nau* children and parents of 4 area *Jama'ats*.

Houston, TX on December 11, 2005: Meeting with WN children and parents of 4 area *Jama'ats*. A very productive career planning workshop was conducted where various professionals were present to guide *Waqf-e-Nau* children about the different career choices.

Zion, IL on December 17, 2005: This was the first regional *Waqf-e-Nau Ijtema* in Zion *Jama'at*. Meeting with *Waqf-e-Nau* children and their parents from the area *Jama'ats* was held.

Queens, New York on February 11, 2006: Meeting with parents and Waqifeen-e-Nau of the area Jama'ats.

York, PA on March 04, 2006: Meeting with parents and Waqifeene Nau of the area Jama'ats.

REGIONAL IJTEMA'AT IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

There were sixteen (16) Regional *Waqf-e-Nau Ijtema'at* held during this reporting period. Please find below the list of all *Ijtema'at* according to the region and the place where they were held:

<u>REGION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Southwest	Apr. 9, 2005	Baitul Hameed, Chino, CA
Northwest	Apr. 10, 2005	Baitul Baseer, San Jose, CA
West Midwest:	Apr. 17, 2005	Baitul Jamay, Chicago, IL
Headquarters	May 22, 2005	Baitur Rehman, Silver Spring, MD
Northeast	Aug. 20, 2005	Baitul Huda, Long Island, NY
East Midwest	Sep. 10, 2005	Detroit, MI Jama'at
Southeast	Sep. 17, 2005	Baitun Nasr, Willingboro, NJ
Northwest	Nov. 12, 2005	Baitul Baseer, San Jose, CA
Southwest	Nov. 13, 2005	Baitul Hameed, Chino, CA
South	Dec. 11, 2005	Baitus Samee, Houston, TX
West Midwest	Dec. 17, 2005	Zion Jama'at, IL
Northeast	Feb. 11, 2006	Baitutz Zafar, New York, NY
Southeast	Mar. 04, 2006	Baitun Noor Mosque, York, PA
Southwest	Apr. 08, 2006	Baitul Hameed, Chino, CA
Northwest	Apr. 09, 2006	Baitul Baseer, San Jose, CA
West Midwest	Apr. 15, 2006	Baitul Jamay, Chicago, IL
South	May 20, 2006	Baitus Samee, Houston, TX
Headquarters	Jun 10, 2006	Baitur Rehman, Silver Spring, MD

West Coast Jalsa Salana, Los Angeles, California on December 24, 2005

In addition to the National Secretary Waqfe Nau USA, Respected Naib Ameer and Missionary In-charge USA, Maulana Daud Ahmad Hanif addressed the audience. The Waqifeen-e-Nau children and parents of the West Coast Jama'ats participated with zeal and enthusiasm. The total attendance was over 400 including Waqf-e-Nau children, their parents, siblings and well-wishers.

JAMIA AHMADIYYA, CANADA

Jamia Ahmadiyya started its classes in the summer of 2003. There are seven (7) American students studying in Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada. Of these students, 4 are in the first year, 2 are in the second year and 1 is in the third year of their studies. One Waqfe Nau from USA who was selected in Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada in the class starting in September 2004 could not start his classes because of VISA issues. Two Waqf-e-Nau boys have promised to join Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada this fall while we expect more Waqifeen Nau to join. Waqf-e-Nau department has organized a comprehensive trip to Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada for the benefit of the Waqifeen-e-Nau boys (14 years and older). The trip took place from June 23 – June 25, 2006. This trip was aimed at creating interest among the Waqifeen-e-Nau for Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada and to allow them to explore life at the Jamia from close quarters.

LOCAL WAQF-E-NAU COMMITTEES

According to the instructions of Syedna Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} local Waqfe Nau Committees have been suggested in those local Jama'ats where there are 10 or more Waqifeen-e-Nau. Following are the members of the committee:

President as Chairman: Secretary *Waqf-e-Nau*
 Secretary Ta'leem, Qa'id, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Sadr, Lajna Imaillah
 Murabbi (under whose jurisdiction that Jama'at falls)

The job of such a committee is to oversee the work of *Waqf-e-Nau* in their Jama'at, for the proper upbringing, training, guidance and counseling of *Waqifeene Nau*.

ANNUAL WAQF-E-NAU PROGRAM AT JALSA SALANA USA, 2005

The annual program at *Jalsa* 2005 was a success. All boys and girls under the age of 10 were in the main *Jalsa Gah* and the older girls watched the program in the Ladies *Jalsa Gah*. In addition to the National Secretary *Waqf-e-Nau* USA, Respected Na'ib Ameer and Missionary In-charge USA, Maulana Daud Ahmad Hanif addressed the audience. The *Waqf-e-Nau* children and their parents participated with zeal and enthusiasm. The attendance was great. The Regional Secretaries of various regions were present on the stage. It has become an important and interesting annual event. A stall was allocated for the *Waqf-e-Nau* team, at *Jalsa Salana* USA 2005 for the benefit of all the *Waqf-e-Nau* children and parents. *Waqf-e-Nau* books and other *Waqf-e-Nau* information was provided. A Career Planning Form was requested to be filled out by all *Waqifeen-e-Nau* *Jalsa* participants at this tent. Data entry corrections in the central database were also available. Photographs of various regional *Ijtema'at* were posted. Posters and charts showing various data and information about *Waqf-e-Nau* activities were also made available.

WAQF-E-NAU DEPARTMENT AT AHMADIYYA.US WEBSITE

This is a website for USA Jama'at members. Very soon, the Waqfe Nau children will have access to the following books and material on this website:

1. Tehrik Waqf-e-Nau
2. *Nisab Waqf-e-Nau* up to age 17 i.e. the most recent one available from Rabwah.
3. Foundation Course for Waqifeen-e-Nau
4. Urdu Qaida
5. Urdu Book One
6. Urdu Book Two
7. Online Submission of Quarterly Report Forms: The Team *Waqf-e-Nau* USA is working with the volunteers of Ahmadiyya.us website to make this option available to all the local and regional *Waqf-e-Nau* secretaries for the online submission of their reports. This will provide regularity in the reporting system.

Urdu textbooks from Grades 1 to 10 from Punjab Textbook Board, Pakistan are currently being converted into PDF format for the benefit of *Waqifeen-e-Nau*. These textbooks will soon be available in the *Waqf-e-Nau* section of AHMADIYYA.US website.

CAREER COUNSELING SESSIONS FOR WAQIFEEN-E-NAU

In the light of the US Shura 2006 recommendations, all the local Jama'ats have been advised to hold counseling sessions individually for all the *Waqifeen-e-Nau* kids who are 14 years and above.

WAQFEEN-E-NAU BOYS' TRIP TO JAMIA AHMADIYYA CANADA (JUNE 2006)



WAQFEEN-E-NAU BOYS' TRIP TO JAMIA AHMADIYYA CANADA (JUNE 2006)



WAQF-E-NAU MEETING IN BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE HELD ON JUNE 11, 2006



MTA USA SERIES: ATTRIBUTES OF ALLAH

Dr Zia H Shah

MTA USA

MTA USA has made several movies about the attributes of Allah. Seven of the movie titles described below are ready to be shown and many are in the making. Two of these movies 'Al-Rahman' and 'Butterflies' were shown on May 20th, during the MTA USA hour, which is every Saturday 9.30 PM till 10.30 PM Eastern Standard time. These movies have been made by MTA USA Program production in charge Dr. Lutf Ur Rehman and myself under the direction of National Audio Video Secretary USA Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah. We are also in constant need of new team members.

The main purpose of the movies is to study the attributes of Allah and relate those to the conventional teachings of science. Wherever some new insight comes to mind that is suggested. The secondary purpose of the movies is to enjoy the travel and the scenic and aesthetic beauty of the sites visited.



The Promised Messiah^{as} has said, "Examine the earth and the heavens and whatever you can see in them. Is it possible that such an elaborate infrastructure could be maintained without the hidden hand of Allah *Ta'alah*? No, certainly not, Not at all!"

In understanding the role of God in the creation of the universe and then in eventual creation of life and its perfection in the form of human life, the first fact to be appreciated is that God is imperceptible. The Qur'anic term is Al-Batin. The Holy Qur'an says: He gives life and He causes death; and He has power over all things. He is the First and the Last, and the Manifest and the Hidden, and He knows all things full well. (Al-Hadid 57:1-4)

Humans cannot directly see Allah or His Hand at work because He is "the Hidden – Al-Batin". This implies that even though He is the Creator of the universe and human and other life forms, yet we will see His Hand only through the laws of nature and mechanisms that He has used for such creation.

God invites us to study the beauty of His Creation and glorify His Creativity and Benevolence (Al-Baqarah 2:165, Al-Ghashiyah 88:18-21, Al Saff 61:2). One form of such study took us to Watkins Glen, Niagara Falls, and Buttermilk Falls. All these sites are in New York State. We examine in this movie how the hidden hand of Allah, through geological mechanisms, has shaped these landscapes.

AL-BAARI (THE FASHIONER)



The Holy Qur'an describes the origins of life in a verse of *Surah Anbiya*: "Do not the Unbelievers realize that the heavens and the earth were a solid mass, then We split them asunder and We made every living thing out of water. Will they then not believe?" (*Surah Anbiya* 21:31)

In this verse Allah makes some far-reaching and profound claims. The precision of the claims and their accuracy in light of modern science is a proof of the truth of these claims. Allah then asks a rhetorical question that should not these accomplishments and His sharing of this information with the mankind, make them believe in His existence. Allah starts the description of the onset of life with the mention of the starting of the Universe with the phenomenon of the Big Bang. After the creation of the universe and the solar system through natural mechanisms, God directed His attention to the creation of Life, and as always is the case with His creativity, the Omniscient and the Omnipotent resorted to natural mechanisms. He utilized the Laws of Nature for the creation of life on this planet earth.

The phrase 'We made every living thing out of water', means that every living thing was made of water as its essential component. It could equally mean that every living thing originated in water. The two possible meanings are strictly in accordance with scientific data. Life is in fact of aquatic origin and water is the major component of all living cells.

Without water, life is not possible. When the possibility of life on another planet is discussed, the first question is always: does it contain a sufficient quantity of water to support life?

Most organisms are made up of more than 50% water. In the case of humans, water makes more than 70% of the weight of the body. In some organisms like jelly fish their bodies are 98% water. This movie describes how Allah evolved life in water. This process started some 3 billion years ago.

AL-KHALIQ



This movie is a trip to Jasper National Park in Canada and Northern Rockies. Do mountains serve some specific purpose on earth? The Holy Qur'an says: "Allah has placed in the earth firm mountains lest it should quake with them; and We have made therein wide pathways, that they may be rightly guided." Surah Anbiya' 21:32

And again we read in the Holy Qur'an: "Allah has placed in the earth firm mountains lest it quake with you and rivers and routes that you may find the way to your destination." Surah Al-Nahl 16: 16.

The movie also proposes a possible scientific explanation for some of the verses of the Holy Qur'an pertaining to mountains.

AL-RAHMAN



Seven hundred and fifty verses of the Qur'an (almost one-eighth of the Book) exhort believers to study Nature, to reflect, to make the best use of reason in the search of the Ultimate, the Creator, the Almighty Allah. This contrasts with 250 verses in the Holy Qur'an in regards to different legislation about day to day living and human interaction.

As we reflect on the different laws of nature we are impressed by the attribute *Al-Rahman* of God. This attribute implies that God provides for mankind even before they supplicate for their needs. Talking about the attribute of Allah of *Al-Rahman*, the Promised Messiah^{as} has said:

"The revelation of the Holy Word of Allah and its communication to mankind is by virtue of the Divine attribute of *Rahmaniyyat*. It is characteristic of *Rahmaniyyat* that it is manifested on account of pure Divine grace and beneficence, without any reference to any preceding human effort. For instance, the sun, the moon, water, air, have all been created for the benefit of mankind by virtue of the Divine attribute of *Rahmaniyyat* and no one can claim that they have been created in consequence of any action or effort on his part". This movie is about the attribute *Al-Rahman* of Allah as it pertains to water.

Water has numerous physical properties that make it very suitable for life. One of these is called anomalous expansion below 4 degree centigrade. Matter contracts as its temperature falls and expands as it heats up. For water we have a strange exception which turns out to be a very suitable manipulation, which allows life to survive freezing temperatures. This property of water is unique. As water cools towards freezing and ice forms it expands and as such becomes lighter and rises to the surface. As a result we can have liquid water beneath the top layer of ice and aquatic life can survive the freezing winter. The thermal conductivity of water, which is the capacity to conduct heat, is four times greater than any other common liquid. This helps warm-blooded animals in passing heat from the inside of the body to outside. In contrast the thermal conductivity of ice is low. This fact helps the fish in cold harsh winters. They are insulated from the low atmospheric temperature by the covering of an insulating blanket of ice on the top.

Lawrence Henderson was a professor of Biochemistry in Harvard in the early twentieth century. He is well known to all biochemistry and medicine students for the Henderson-Hasselbach equation. He argues, "it turns out that not one or two, not most, but all the thermal properties of water are mutually adaptive not only for the maintenance of thermal stability on a planetary scale but also for the buffering of individual macroscopic life forms against sudden temperature changes". He adds, "amazement mounts at the wonderful elegance and parsimony in the way the various thermal adaptations of water conspire to achieve so many life sustaining ends."

To a Muslim this certainly reminds us of the verse of *Surah Al-Mulk*, "You see not any imperfection in the creation of the Gracious God. Return your gaze, do you see any flaw. Then return your gaze again and again. Your gaze comes back to you dazzled, perplexed and fatigued, having found no incongruity." (Al-Mulk, 67:4-5)

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



The diversity of the living world is staggering. More than 2,000,000 existing species of plants and animals have been named and described; many more remain to be discovered, from 10,000,000 to 30,000,000 according to some estimates. This diversity serves as a strong pointer to us that Allah created life through the process of evolution, to be more specific, '**Guided Evolution**'.

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh} in his book *Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth* has put forward the concept of 'Guided Evolution' as opposed to the concept of 'Spontaneous Evolution'. The word *Al-Rabb* is used numerous times in the Qur'an as an attribute of Allah. The closest meaning of this in English language will be "The Provident". According to Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh}, "This (attribute) leaves no doubt whatsoever as to the fact that the Qur'an speaks of creation only in step by step progressive stages which are well provided for, categorically rejecting the concept of spontaneous generation." In accordance with the teachings of the Holy Qur'an, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh} does not believe in the randomness or the blindness of evolution. He has put forward the concept of Guided Evolution. This implies that the course of evolution was and is being influenced by Divine plan.

This is just like the course of human history has been influenced by Divine Wisdom over the last 6 thousand years. Allah has influenced human history through sending prophets, scriptures and miracles. Moreover, He has been hearing millions and billions of prayers of ordinary humble believers. In a similar way His Hidden Hand has molded the course of evolution.

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh} suggests, and we quote, "By way of example we may consider the construction of an aero plane for which many thousand of stages and parts are required. The designer while planning its production treats every component nuts, bolts, wings, seats and all – as the building of the aero plane itself, which is the real object of this exercise. Nuts and bolts also have an independent purpose to serve other than being components of the plane. As such all the earlier stages are treated as merely preparatory to the consummation of the ultimate purpose. ... It is here that the Qur'an parts company with the biologists who believe in a haphazard evolution without a pre-set design. To these biologists the origin of evolution of life appears to have neither purpose nor design, nor a well calculated plan of execution." So the evolution of earlier stages of life should be considered as a

part of the grand scheme of creation of man, the course of evolution is a journey of increasing consciousness.

BUTTERFLIES

This movie examines the biology of butterflies and the concept of Guided Evolution.

If the brute force of 'survival of the fittest' was the only force ruling the biological world, then there would have been no reason or tool to make the butterflies colorful and beautiful and pleasing to human eye in contrast to the moths. The beauty and the colors of the flowers, the plumage of birds especially the peacocks, the bright scales of fishes, the painted wings of butterflies and their graceful flights, certainly point to a Divine Creator, Whose Grace wants to create more than the mere necessary.

AL-AZIZ

This movie is about the manifestation of the Might of Allah in the form of hurricanes. Hurricanes are indeed, a powerful reminder of the attribute Al-Aziz of God Almighty. In *Surah Al-Hashr* we read:

He is Allah and there is no god besides Him, the Sovereign, the Holy One, the Source of peace, the Bestower of security, the Protector, **Al-Aziz** that is the Mighty, the Subduer, the Exalted. Holy is Allah, far above that which they associate with Him. (Al-Hashr 59:24)

An average hurricane has tremendous energy. In one day the energy released is at least 8,000 times more than the electrical power generated each day in the United States. This quantity is equivalent to a daily explosion of half a million atomic bombs of the 20-kiloton Nagasaki variety.

In terms of rainfall a typical hurricane produces about 5.5 trillion gallons of rain a day. This movie examines the power of the hurricanes with special reference to Hurricane Katrina.

CONCLUSION

In the study of nature it is paramount to note that Allah works through hidden means and the laws of nature. But He is not a Deist God, Who created the universe and now has nothing to do with it. On the contrary, He is a Personal God, Who is ever inclined to listen to human prayers and is keenly involved in human affairs. The Promised Messiah^{as} has elaborated, "Examine the earth and the heavens and whatever you can see in them. Is it possible that such an elaborate infrastructure could be maintained without the hidden Hand of *Allah Ta'alah*? No, certainly not, Not at all!"



How can our study of nature help us in our personal life? Again in the words of the Promised Messiah^{as}, **“Man has, therefore, been reminded that his God is the Lord and Providence of the Universe, so that the horizon of his hopes may be extended and he may believe that God, the Supreme, has immense beneficial powers and that He can bring into being an extensive variety of means for his benefit.”**

If we inculcate this behavior when we travel around and visit places then we will *In-sha Allah* (God willing) become heirs to the following vision of Promised Messiah^{as}:

“Our paradise is in our God. Our highest delight is in our God for we have seen Him and have found every beauty in Him. This wealth is worth procuring though one may have to lay down one's life to procure it. This ruby is worth purchasing though one may have to lose one's self to acquire it. O ye, who are bereft, run to this fountain and it will satiate your thirst. It is the fountain of life that will save you. What shall I do, and by what drum shall I make the announcement that this is your God, so that people might hear? What remedy shall I apply to their ears so that they should listen? **If you belong to Allah, rest assured that Allah will indeed belong to you.”** (*Kashti Nooh; Roohani Khaza'in*, Vol. 19, pp 21-22)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Malfoozat recording of September 14, 1907.

Professor Abdus Salam. Islam and Science - concordance or conflict. Review of Religions; 90(3): 26-40, March, 1995.

Dr. Mohammad Iqbal. Life: its meaning and origin. Review of Religions; 88(2): 26-30, February, 1994. Michael J Denton, Nature's Destiny: How the Laws of Biology reveal purpose in Universe. Publisher: The Free Press, 1998. Page 29.

Encyclopedia Britannica online under Evolution.

Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth, page 340-341.

Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth, page 342. Commentary on the Holy Quran, based on the writings of Promised Messiah^{as}, Translated by Sir Zafarulla Khan. Volume I, Surah Al-Fatihah, Published by the London Mosque, page 78.

LAJNA IMAILLAH - USA

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Samrah Ahmad, General Secretary

A Report from London, dated July 29, 2005, stated that it was:

“A successful and productive year for Lajna Imaillah, USA. Lajna has worked hard towards maintaining regular contact with all halqas and submitting monthly reports on a regular basis. Members are active in all *sho'bajaat* and also produce informative and interesting magazines called Lajna Matters and Ayesha. There has been considerable activity in Tabligh. Workshops, gatherings and a community picnic have been successfully held. The Waqf-e-Nau quarterly report received has been impressive and Nasirat have demonstrated hard work and efforts in Talim and Tarbiyat in classes. May Allah Almighty enable Lajna USA to acquire successes of ever increasing magnitude and prove to be a real exemplary Lajna.” (The above summary was part of the correspondence from London that provided a brief account of the annual per-

formance of Lajna Imaillah from around the world).

At the present time, Lajna Imaillah-USA consists of 63 branches that are divided into 12 regions with an approximate tajnid of 3,621 Lajna and 741 Nasirat members. **A synopsis of activity highlights is presented below.**

The **Theme for the Lajna National Program** centers around the: **“Ten Conditions of Bai'at.”** Through cross references and related activities, this integrated program is aimed at understanding each Condition of *Bai'at* from a Talim, Tarbiyat, Tabligh and Khidmate Khalq point of view. This allows the membership to gain a better perspective of how to put the condition to practice in their daily life. Lajna Imaillah and Nasiratul Ahmadiyya are actively implementing the National Program and using creative ways to improve attendance and local participation. Over the past six months there has been a remarkable

improvement in reporting (98%) and attendance (50%) at both Lajna and Nasirat meetings, *Alhamdulillah*.

Talim-o-Tarbiyat

A deeper understanding of each of the Ten Conditions is gained through references from the Holy Qur'an and Ahadith as well as assigned sermons of Hazoor^{aba}. Assigned readings from *The Will* (by the Promised Messiah^{as}) and *Daughters of Eve* (by Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IVth), have aided the study. A workbook with the study materials from all the sources has been prepared both in Urdu and English, and this has been an extremely successful tool for implementing this program successfully through self-study and group discussions

About 279 workshops, 21 presentations, 86 panel discussions and 14 Q/A sessions on topics relating to the Conditions of *Bai'at* were conducted by Lajna across the country. On an

average, 433 members are regularly learning Qur'an *Nazira* every month. The percentage of Lajnaat listening to Friday sermons of Hazoor^{aba} has also been steadily increasing.

Tabligh

The Tabligh program provides suggestions for implementation of the Ten Conditions through preaching and other related activities. More than 475 Tabligh meetings at which more than 2540 guests attended were organized by different *Majaalis* to discuss various topics about Islam. More than 8500 pieces of literature were distributed, including the Holy Qur'an, books, multimedia, and pamphlets. About 212 Lajna members have been part of *Dae illallah* committee each month. Lajna members have preached to more than 7,260 people on one-to-one basis. In the past year, 23 *bai'ats* have been obtained *Alhamdulillah!*

Tarbiyat of New Ahmadies:

When a new sister accepts Ahmadiyyat, she is welcomed and supported during her integration into Lajna & Jama'at by a team

of lajna members. A database of New Ahmadi sisters has been created and is regularly updated. Welcome packets are sent to all New Ahmadi sisters by National Secretary Tarbiyat for *Nau Mubai'at*. The new sisters are also encouraged to attend National Lajna events (Ijtema, Camps) and at Jalsa Salana, where they are recognized and presented with a Holy Qur'an.

Khidmat-e-Khalq

The Khidmate Khalq program presents ways to implement the Ten Conditions by serving the community; both within and outside of the Jama'at. Lajna branches have partnered with other organizations, visited the sick at Hospitals and Elderly Homes, adopted shelters and charitable organizations, contributed towards Humanity First, and donated generously to organizations for the victims of natural disasters such as the tsunami, hurricanes, earthquake, etc. About 820 members were active each month and at least 9,862 hours were spent on community services. More than 1336 meals were donated for the homeless and about 12-14 charitable organizations were adopted by various Lajnaat.

Sihat-e-Jismani

Sihate Jismani secretaries worked with *Khidmate Khalq* and Tabligh secretaries to organize health symposiums, health days, lectures and presentations on various health related topics aimed at improving health awareness in women, both within and outside the community. In addition, picnics / sports day and Fun Days were planned. Many *Majaalis* also focused on learning Islamic perspective on several topics related to health and hygiene.

Handicraft

Lajna and Nasirat members actively participated in handicraft activities and arranged cutting, sewing, arts & crafts and cooking classes. The items they prepared were exhibited at the Jalsa Salana, as well as at Local, Regional, and National Ijtema'at. Many *Majaalis* were able to raise great sum of funds for their local Mosque projects, Humanity First, and other charitable organizations.

Tehrik-e-Jadid and Waqfe Jadid

Lajna, Nasirat (and Children under 7 years of

age) have made steady progress and improvement in the number of members participating as well as in the amounts pledged and collected in both of these blessed schemes, *Alhamdulillah!*

Nasirat

With the development of a Nasirat Workbook and the implementation of a more interactive Nasirat program and new testing format, there has been an increase in overall activities and participation of Nasirat across the country. In one year, 1269 classes were held, along with other activities. Participation of *Majaalis* in test taking has increased to 98%! Apart from their Talim and Tarbiyat program, Nasirat are encouraged to hold workshops and discussions on contemporary topics. 49 Ijtemaat and camps were also held. 135 Nasirat completed their first reading of the Holy Qur'an and many of them were recognized at the Jalsa Salana and presented with a Holy Qur'an.

Through their Tabligh and *Khidmate Khalq* programs, Nasirat have donated generously and assisted the needy and held meaningful discussions about Islam, donated books

and discussed Islamic holidays with teachers and friends. For the past four years, just prior to *Ramadan*, Nasirat raised funds for Children of various third world countries. In the past year, \$ 20,000.00 was donated from our children to the children of Muzaffarabad, Qadian and Ghana. This has been a wonderful mechanism for encouraging our children to share and care for children who may be less fortunate. May Allah reward them abundantly for their generosity and compassion, Ameen.

Isha'at

This is an active and busy department which serves Lajna in many ways.

§ Waqfe Nau Sermons:

The five sermons delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVth were translated into English and printed as a booklet for the benefit of mothers and children who cannot read Urdu.

§ **Lajna Matters:** Four issues of the quarterly newsletter, *Lajna Matters* were published in the past year. *Lajna Matters* provides a direct link of communication between National *Amila* and local membership, and pro-

vides a quarterly update of National, Regional, and Local events. Messages from Hazoor^{aba}, Ameer Sahib and National Advisors are also communicated to the general membership through the newsletter.

§ **Ayesha Magazine:** The themes of the most recent issues of 'Ayesha' Magazine were **What is the Culture of Islam?** and **What is the Role of Religion in Science?**

§ **Al-Hilal:** Al-Hilal is a joint effort of MKA and Lajna-USA. Most of the contributions come from the youth, thus enabling them to bring out their creative talent and skills in writing, graphics, poetry etc. Three most recent issues of Al-Hilal focused on themes such as, "**Friendship**," "**Earth Day**" and "**Truthfulness**."

§ **Talim and Tarbiyyat Workbook:** A workbook was prepared in both English and Urdu with the aim of assisting Lajna in increasing their knowledge and practice of religion in their daily lives. The contents of the workbook included text from the Holy Qur'an, Ahadith, and books of the Promised Messiah^{as} as they

may relate to the National Syllabus.

§ **Hawwa Ki Baitiyaan (Daughters of Eve):** As part of the National Tarbiyyat Program, these sermons were translated into English and made available to Lajna USA in a workbook format.

Additional National Events and Directives

Lajna and Nasirat

Ijtema'at

As in previous years, four National Lajna and Nasirat *Ijtema'at* are organized around the country during the summer months. Approximately 1700 *Lajna'at* and 200 Nasirat members attended these National events collectively. In addition, about 30 Local *Ijtema'at* and summer camps were also held.

The National Theme for 2005 was "**Tabbatal Illallah.**" Lajna members participated in various competitions, (including speech, recitation of the Holy Qur'an, Poems, *Bait Bazi*), quizzes, workshops, panel discussions and interactive discussions on topics related to the theme. With references from the Holy Qur'an, Ahadith of Holy Prophet^{saw}, sayings of the Promised Messiah^{as} and his

Khulafa, Lajna and Nasirat learned about the Concept of *Tabattal Ilallah* and the Relationship between *Tabattal Ilallah* and *Tawakkal Ilallah*. Since Al-Wasiyyat was one of the books under study, a quiz and workshop on how Wasiyyat increases our understanding of *Tabattal Ilallah* was also organized.

Camp Bismillah

A 7-day camp was held for the community children in Zion, IL in July 2005. The purpose of this camp was to provide a service to the community surrounding the Zion Mosque, to have the opportunity to meet the mothers in the area, and to establish an ongoing relationship with the community, with the hope of introducing them to Islam-Ahmadiyyat.

The theme of the camp was "**What do you want to be?**" Children were stimulated to explore this question with arts/crafts, sports, visiting the sick/old at a nursing home, visiting a nature center and other activities. May Allah continue to bless this project in the future, Ameen.

National Lajna Mentoring Weekend

A mentoring weekend

was organized for Lajna Imaillah-USA in March 2005 at Baitur Rehman Mosque, in an effort to provide training and guidance to local *Sadrs* and *Amila* members. More than 200 participants attended from across the country and topics of discussion included *Nizam-e-Jama'at*, Lajna Constitution, Roles and Responsibilities of local and national office holders and Etiquettes of Jalsa Salana.

Nizam-e-Wasiyyat

In his concluding address at the 2004 Jalsa Salana in UK, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} appealed to Jama'at Ahmadiyya to enroll in the blessed scheme of *Nizam-e-Wasiyyat*. From the total of 1,000 *Moosies* assigned to Jamaat USA, Lajna USA was assigned a target of 300 *Moosies*. An extensive effort was made to meet the target assigned by Hazoor^{aba}. *Alhmadolillah!* Lajna has succeeded in meeting the assigned target, and are making a renewed effort to increase further enrollment in this blessed scheme.

Media Watch Team

When Hazoor^{aba} delivered sermons on the need for Ahmadies around the world to write responses to attacks on Islam. Lajna

USA responded by forming the Lajna Media Watch Team. Through this effort, Lajna around the country, are submitting articles to various media sources in order to dispel myths and spread the truth of Islam. The Project and its volunteers have been divided into five departments which include: Research, Writing, Review, Editing and Submissions. Our strategy has been to assign a year's worth of timely topics to Lajna writers so that these articles can be submitted for publication in coincidence with calendar events through out the year.

Wristbands:

"LOVE FOR ALL, HATRED FOR NONE"

With the approval of Ameer Sahib, Lajna custom designed wristbands debossed with the motto "Love for All, Hatred for None." These wristbands have been so successful that additional wristbands were ordered for distribution, sale and tabligh purposes. Upon request, wristbands were also mailed to UK Lajna and UK Humanity First.

Khilafat Centenary Celebrations-2008

In a letter dated November 2005, Lajna hum-

bly proposed to Respected Ameer Sahib that in preparation for the Khilafat Centenary Celebrations, permission be requested from Hazoor^{aba} for Lajna-USA to compile a book on **Advice for Lajna** from all of the *Khulafa*.

National Sadr Lajna Imaillah USA, received a letter from Hameedullah Ch. Sahib, *Wakil-e-A'la Tehrik-e-adid* and Chairman of Central Committee, Centenary Khilafat, Rabwah, dated April 16th, 2006 in which he wrote that upon the request of the Central Committee, Hazoor^{aba} has graciously granted approval for Lajna-USA to work on the translation of speeches of the *Khulafa* to Lajna Imaillah. Lajna-USA is assigned to translate all of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih III^{rh}, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{rh} and Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} speeches to Lajna. Hazoor^{aba} expects Lajna to have the speeches approved and printed by December 2007 (for Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, III^{ra} and V's^{aba} sermons) and by December 2008 for Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV's^{rh} sermons.

Progress thus far

Following a humble and urgent appeal from the

National Sadr, and with the approval of all the Regional and Local Sadrs, a plan was put into place to allocate the various speeches to the 12 regions around the USA. Regional Sadrs were recruited to work in conjunction with the Local Sadrs to provide volunteers who were fluent in English and Urdu and would be able to work in teams to translate the speeches. *Alhamdulillah*, 173 Lajna have volunteered their services towards this blessed project. To standardize the process of translation across the various regional teams, guidelines were developed and disseminated to ensure consistency and a higher standard of translation.

The first two books chosen for translation were from Khalifatul Masih II's^{ra} addresses to Lajna - *Alazhar azwatul Khumar (orhni waliyon ke liye phool)*, Volumes I and II. Given that Volume I was available online, relevant addresses were assigned to various teams (total of 445 pages). Since Volume II was not available online, the book was scanned electronically and relevant pages were emailed to the translators (total of 225 pages). Thus a total of 670 pages, corresponding to about 120 speeches have been assigned so far.

CAMP BISMILLAH ORGANIZED BY LAJNA IMAILLAH, USA



ANNOUNCEMENT LAJNA IMAILLAH - USA

Registration for Children's Area, Jalsa Salan USA, 2006

Registration for *Jalsa* USA 2006, Children's Area is now open. Two areas will be assigned for children this year at the Expo Center. One area for mothers with young children under age 5 (Group 1) and one area for children from ages 5-7 (Group 2). Due to limited space, registrations will be honored on first come first serve basis. If you are interested, please send your child(ren)'s name(s), age, any special needs, and your name, cell phone/emergency contact information to Sister Shahina Bashir at LajnaKids@yahoo.com The Registration Form for the Children's tent that can be obtained from the following URL:

http://www.ahmadiyya.us/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=64

Ameen Ceremony

Local Sadr's, if there are any children in your Jamaat who would like to have their Ameen with Hazoor^{aba}, please make sure you provide child(ren)'s name, age, date of completion (From Jun '05-Aug '06), parents' name and contact information, to Sister Uzma Ahmad (LajnaSyracuse@yahoo.com) and Sister Tahira Khalid (AssistantSadr@yahoo.com). Please submit this information by **August 4, 2006**, on the form provided to you via email.

Please Follow the Guidelines & Etiquettes of Ameen. Jazakallah!

Ameen Ceremony Etiquette

- Dress modestly, Atfal's head should be covered with a cap (*Topee*) and he should not be shuffling around with it. Nasirat's head should be covered with a "*Doppata*" securely and she should not be shuffling around with it during the ceremony.
- The child should be also reminded not to move around and talk during the ceremony.
- Please make sure that your child's nails are cut and clean.
- Children should have clean feet (if socks are on, they should be clean)
- Please make sure that the child has performed *Wudhu* before the ceremony.
- The Holy Qur'an should not be treated like any other ordinary book and should be read with a cheerful and pleasant voice.
- The Holy Qur'an must be read with complete attention.
- The child should know that if one reads from the middle of the Holy Qur'an, *only Atta'wwuz (Aoo zu billah hee minash shaee towan nirra jeem)* is recited and if it is the beginning of a Chapter of the Holy Qur'an than both *Atta'wwuz* and *Bismillah* is recited.
- When the child recites the Holy Qur'an, he/she should point with his/her right hand index finger on the Holy Qur'an.
- It is the Local Sadr's responsibility to make sure that child reads properly and has been screened by one of the designated members.

MAJLIS ANSARULLAH, USA

Activities Report

Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa, Sadr

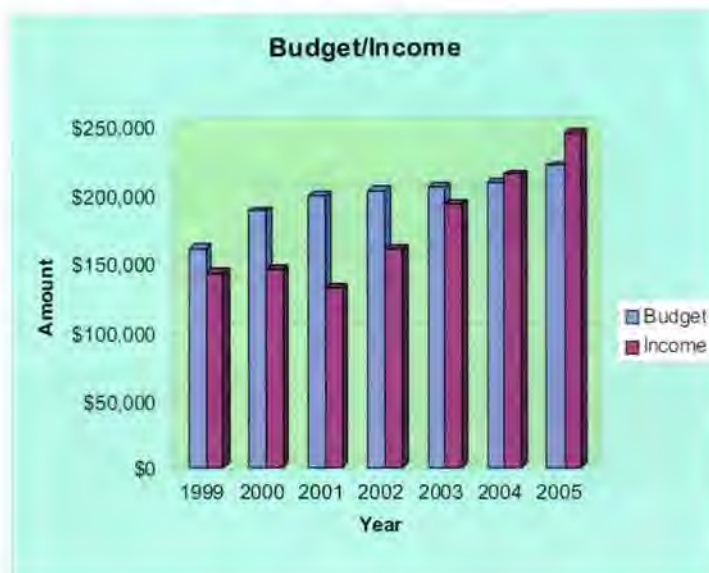
In 2005 members of Majlis Ansarullah, USA had the honor of meeting with Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba} in Canada after the annual convention. Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih^{aba} inquired from every Qa'id about their activities and provided directives to improve and enhance the performance in the respective areas. The following group photo commemorates the occasion:



Front (Left to Right): Wajeeh Bajwa, Nasirullah Ahmad, Nasir M. Malik, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}), Ahsanullah Zafar, Masoud A. Malik, Munum Naeem, Bashiruddin K. Ahmad.

Standing (Left to Right): Nafis Rehman, Kalim A. Rana, Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Anwer M. Khan, Jalaluddin A. Latif, Khalil M. Malik, Mahmood Ahmad, Syed Sajid Ahmad, Peer Habibur Rehman, Chaudhry Mushtaq Ahmad, Amjad Chaudhry.

By the grace of Almighty Allah Majlis Ansarullah USA continues to move forward and make progress in several areas. Numerous activities took place during 2005 and the early part of 2006 and many are planned for the remaining part of 2006. *Insha Allah.*



- In response to Hazoor's^{aba} call, and under the direction of respected Amir Sahib USA, special efforts were initiated to collect \$300,000 for the acquisition of land that will accommodate UK *Jalsa Gah*. Pledges have been collected and efforts to enhance collection are underway.
- Ansar responded with generous contributions to Hazoor's^{aba} appeal for the Tahir Heart Institute Fund in 2006 for a world class facility planned to be built in Rabwah, Pakistan, to treat heart related ailments.
- The Ansar Tahir Scholarship Program was implemented by awarding scholarships totaling \$15,221 (2005 Budget = \$20,000) to 4 deserving Ansar for furthering their education and training to increase their chances of finding a better job and becoming a more productive member of society.
- The 24th National Ijtema and the 13th Shura were held from September 30 to October 2, 2005 in the Baitur Rahman Mosque, with participation from 40 *Majalis*. This is the highest number of *Majalis* participating to date.
- Regional *Ijtema'at* in 2005 were held in all 10 regions for the 2nd consecutive year. National Aamila was represented by Qa'ideen at each regional Ijtema.
- Number of established *Majalis* increased from 53 in 2005 to 59 in 2006.
- The 2005 Annual Leadership Conference (ALC 2005) was held in the Baitul Ikraam Mosque, Allen, Texas, from January 15 to January 16, 2005. Fifty-two Ansar Office-Bearers (National Aamila Members, *Nazimeen*, and *Zo'ama*) attended this conference.

- The 2006 Annual Leadership Conference (ALC 2006) was held in the Masjid Baitus Samee, Houston, Texas from January 14 to January 15, 2006. Seventy-five Ansar Office-bearers (National Aamila Members, Nazimeen, and Zo'ama) attended this conference. This was the highest attendance in the ALC since its inception.
- In *Ta'lim* tests, 258 ansar from 41 *Majalis* participated in the first test of 2005 (held in July 2005).
- A special *Wasiyyat* issue of *Al-Nahl* was published.
- The annual edition of *Al-Nahl* (2004 in Review) was published; 2005 edition will be published by the end of May 2006, Insha Allah. Ansar newsletter was published every month.
- Ansar chanda collection increased by more than 14% over 2004 and exceeded the 2005 income budget by 11%, *Alhamdulillah*.

Activity Reports: In 2005 *Zo'ama* were required to submit *Majlis*' activity reports every two months. However, starting in January 2006 *Zo'ama* are required to submit reports every month by the 7th day of the following month. In 2006 an average of 42 reports (from 58 *Majalis*) are being submitted every month.

Majalis Awards: The following awards were given at the annual ijtema 2005. The activities of the *Majalis* were evaluated with respect to their performance in all areas:

Best <i>Majlis</i> (<i>Alam-e-In'ami</i>):	Dallas
Outstanding Large <i>Majlis</i> :	Los Angeles - East
Outstanding Small <i>Majlis</i> :	Research Triangle
Most Improved <i>Majlis</i> :	Chicago-West

Activities for 2006

Here are activities that are planned for the remaining part of 2006:

Za'eem's and *Nazim's* monthly reports are due on 7th of every month.
Qaideen's monthly reports to Sadr are due by 14th of every month.

ANNOUNCEMENT

***The fourth National Amila Meeting will be held
on August 5, 2006 at Baitur Rahman Mosque.***

Date	Day	Event	Scope	Missionary
June 3	Sat	Send letters to all <i>Zo'ama</i> & <i>Qa'ideen</i> for 2007 Budget, Shura Proposals, and Shura Representatives	<i>Qa'id Maal/</i> <i>Qa'id Umumi</i>	
July 11	Tue	National <i>Aamila</i> teleconference (Progress Review) 9:00 PM ET to 10:30 PM ET*	<i>A a m i l a /</i> <i>Nazimeen</i>	Imam Irshad Ahmad Malhi
Jul 30	Sun	Submit 2007 Budget, Shura Proposals, and Shura Representative election results.	<i>Z o ' a m a /</i> <i>Qa'ideen</i>	
Aug 5	Sat	National <i>Aamila</i> meeting (Shura/ <i>Ijtema</i> Prep) 12 noon – 8 PM ET*	<i>Aamila</i> In Baitur Rahman Mosque	Imam Daud Ahmad Hanif + To be assigned
Sept 24-30	Sun-Sat	<i>Tahrik-e-Jadid</i> Week – Collections	<i>Qa'id TJ/</i> <i>Zo'ama</i>	
Oct 27 to Oct 29	Fri-Sun	14 th National Shura and 25 th <i>Ijtema</i>	All Ansar In Baitur Rehman Mosque	Imam Daud Ahmad Hanif + To be assigned
Nov 19-26	Sun-Sun	<i>Waqf-e-Jadid</i> Week – Collections	<i>Qa'id WJ/</i> <i>Zo'ama</i>	
Dec 4	Mon	National <i>Aamila</i> teleconference 9:00 PM ET*	<i>A a m i l a /</i> <i>Nazimeen</i>	Imam Syed Shamshad A. Na- sir
Jan 12, 2007	Fri	National <i>Aamila</i> meeting (ALC Preparation) Dallas, TX	<i>A a m i l a /</i> <i>Nazimeen</i>	Imam M. Za- frullah Hanjra
Jan 13 - 14, 2007	Sat-Sun	Ansar Leadership Conference for 2007 Dallas, TX	<i>A a m i l a /</i> <i>N a z i m e e n /</i> <i>Zo'ama</i>	Imam Daud Ahmad Hanif

*All times are US Eastern Standard

It is merely Almighty Allah's grace and mercy that we had the good fortune to serve His cause. May He accept our humble efforts. May He always forgive our mistakes, cover our shortcomings, and bless us with another chance to do more justice to our pledge, *Ameen*.

Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA Activities Report

MKA USA Holds Heating and Air-Conditioning Workshop

Imran Hayee

**Mohtamim San'at-o-Tijarat (Industry and Trade),
Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA**

The *San'at o Tijarat* (Industry and Trade) department of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA held a successful "Heating and Air-Conditioning Workshop" in Baitul Jamay, Chicago, on Sunday, April 23, 2006. The workshop was attended by approximately 35 members of the Jama'at, while 2 non-Ahmadi guests were also present. This workshop, the first in a series to follow, is part of a program designed for individuals who work hourly labor jobs and could potentially acquire technical skills in this field by minimal training and hence enter into more rewarding careers.

The keynote speaker was Br. Mohsin Ahmed from Maryland who is an expert in the field of heating and air-conditioning and runs a successful business in this industry. The program started with the recitation of Holy Qur'an followed by an opening address by the Regional Qa'id, Br. Tahir Ahmed. In his introductory remarks Br. Tahir Ahmed thanked the speaker for volunteering his time and coming all the way from Maryland to share his knowledge and skills with other Ahmadi brothers. Elaborating on the theme of the program he expressed that this was an excellent opportunity to learn a new career skill which is in high demand and could potentially enhance the job marketability of many brothers.



Attendees of the Heating and Air-Conditioning Workshop listening to Br. Mohsin Ahmed's presentation.

Following the introduction, Br. Mohsin Ahmed led the day-long program. He conducted a detailed lecture on how one could get started in this field and the basic elements of maintenance heating and air-conditioning systems. He also shared the experience of starting his own business. He fielded many questions during the course program and convinced the audience of his command over the subject. The program consisted of theoretical lecture and practical demonstrations and the audience listened with interest and enthusiasm. In the very near future the department of *San'at-o-Tijarat* plans to conduct a detailed, three day course for those who seriously want to adopt the field of heating and air-conditioning as a career.

Respected Missionary, Mubasher Ahmed Sahib was also present at the occasion and expressed his happiness on the sharing of knowledge among Khuddam of various Majalis. The audience was served with a delicious lunch by the Ziafat team, headed by Qaid Chicago West, Br. Ahsan Manto. The program came to an end at approximately 5:00 pm.



A view of the audience at the Heating and Air-Conditioning Workshop held in Chicago

Ahmadiyya Muslim Students' Association Activities

*Naem Mohamed – Mohtamim Umoor-e-Tulaba (Students' Affairs)
Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA*

Under the auspices of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA, The Ahmadiyya Muslim Students' Association Chapters are being established in those schools which are attended by Ahmadi Students. At George Mason University the association has been holding regular Q&A sessions which are open to public. The questions are answered by a panel of members of Jama'at-e-Ahmadiyya headed by a missionary. These sessions are fairly open in that a wide range of topics are discussed here. Most questions are regarding the Ahmadiyya belief system and Hadhrat Jesus^{as}. May Allah bless all Ahmadi Muslim students for their efforts. *Ameen.*

Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA, Gulf Region Ijtema April 15-16, 2006

**Bilal Rana, Regional Qaid, Gulf Region,
Majlis Khuddam ul Ahmadiyya, USA**

Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya's Gulf Region held its Ijtema in Dallas on April 15 and 16, 2006. The event was attended by more than 100 Khuddam, Atfal and Ansar. In addition to the traditional sports and educational competitions, the group also had the opportunity to watch and listen to Hazoor's Jalsa speech live from Australia. Respected Na'ib Ameer and ex-Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA, Munum Naeem Sahib was present on the occasion and delivered an inspirational concluding address to the attendees. Two members of the National Majlis-e-Amila of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA, Brs. Naem Mohamed (Mohtamim Umoor-e-Tulaba) and Nasir Rana (Mohtamim Atfal) also attended the event. While a successful blood drive was held, perhaps the highlight of the occasion was the announcement of a non-Ahmadi attendee to enter the fold of Ahmadiyyat. May Allah bless the region's Khuddam and Atfal for their efforts, *Ameen*.



*Khuddam and Atfal from various
majalis in the Gulf Region of MKA*



*Members at MKA's Gulf Region
Ijtema held in Dallas, April 15-16*



**Ahmadiyya High School Salaga, Ghana
First Class (8th Grade) With Principal and Staff (1975)**



**Ahmadiyya High School Salaga, Ghana
Students are doing 'Waqar-e-Amal' (1975)**



“Restoring Communities, Building a Future”



Humanity First, USA (<http://www.humanityfirst.org>), a 501(c) 3- registered charity, is the US affiliate of Humanity First International (<http://www.humanityfirst.org.uk>), which was established in the early 1990's to serve disaster-struck and socially- disadvantaged individuals and families in the underprivileged communities of the world.

Humanity First USA is a leading non-profit relief organization whose board of directors, management team, and project staff running the day-to-day operations are all unpaid volunteers with diverse professional backgrounds including business, healthcare, and education sectors. All personal expenses are met by the volunteers to maximize the use of funds raised and donated for those in need.

Board Members:

Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar – Chairman
Munum Naeem
Dr. Shenaz Butt
Dr. Hameedur Rehman
Anser Ahmed
Shukoor Ahmed

Core Management Team:

Munum Naeem – Executive Director
Shams Hadi – Managing Director, Finance
Bashir Malik – Managing Director,
Administration and Legal Affairs
Dr. Mahmood Qureshi – Managing Director,
Operations
Muhammed A. Chaudhry – Managing Director
Marketing & Fund Development



Mission:

"To serve disaster struck and socially disadvantaged individuals and families in underprivileged communities of the world."

Approach:

Volunteer driven
Non-partisan service
No religious agenda
International Scope

Objectives:

- Relieve suffering caused by natural disaster and human conflict
- Strengthen people's capacity to help themselves.
- Promote peace and understanding based on mutual tolerance and respect

Programs:

Disaster Relief
Gift of Sight
Our Kids, Our Future (education)
Water for Life
Building a Future (vocational training centers & farming)





Asian Tsunami:

Situation: In December 2004, the South-Asian region was hit by a devastating tsunami, resulting in loss of hundreds of thousands of residents. Indonesia's Banda Aceh got hit the worst being closest to the epic center of the earthquake that caused the tsunami.

- **Humanity First Approach:** Humanity First, USA collaborated with Humanity First, U.K and Humanity First, Indonesia in setting up various food distribution and medical camps in the Banda Aceh region. Within 72 hours several teams of volunteer doctors and other supporting personnel were sent to provide humanitarian services to the disaster struck areas. Critical need supplies were airlifted to the area and several containers of such supplies were immediately shipped. Several rebuilding projects are now underway to help the communities to get back their feet and on with their lives.

Results:

- As part of it's initial disaster relief, Humanity First Indonesia along with the colaberation of Humanity First, UK and USA established and operated relief camps for over 90 day period in the affected areas.
- More than 60,000 free hot meals were distributed through the HF camps.
- A team of three doctors and two supporting staff were sent from US to compliment 90+ other doctors and Volunteers of Humanity First.
- The volunteer teams served seven different refugee camps in the region.
- More than 7500 patients were seen at the medical camps operated by US and UK volunteers in the first few weeks
- Several teams around the country (USA) contributed towards collecting and shipping baby food, medicines and water storage containers.

Next Steps:

Several rebuilding projects are underway, including setting up water wells, providing tractors and fishing boats to the local farmers and fishermen, helping orphans in collaboration with local government and schools.



Guyana Flood Relief:

Situation: The South American country of Guyana was hit with record rainfall and resulted with flooding in the early weeks of 2005. Hundreds of thousands of Guyana citizens were affected by this natural disaster. The coastal region was hit the hardest with over 300,000 people displaced from their homes.

Humanity First Approach: Humanity First, USA collaborated with Humanity First Guyana and helped setup food distribution and medical camps in the Annandale at East Coast Demerara and the Plaisance region. Three teams of volunteer doctors and other support personnel were sent from USA to staff and operate medical camps to address the risk of water borne infectious diseases and other medical treatment to injured victims. These teams along with the Volunteers of Humanity First, Guyana operated medical camp of relief shelter for over 60 days.

Results:

- Humanity First, USA immediately sent more than \$10,000 worth of medicine along with the first batch of volunteer doctors to provide relief in the medical camp.
- Three teams of volunteer doctors and other support personnel operated medical camps to address the risk of water borne and infectious diseases. These teams were able to treat approximately over 4,500 patients.
- Food and shelter were provided to 1,000 families in the effected area.
- Over 8,362 boxes of meals were distributed among affected residents immediately after flood.

- In conjunction with the Guyanese Embassy Humanity First USA shipped three containers of supplies for flood victims. These containers carried over \$700,000 worth of medical and food supplies.
- Another large consignment of supplies in a 40-foot container was sent to Guyana from the HF-UK on behalf on Humanity First USA carrying emergency food and medical supplies.
- The President, Prime Minister, Minister of Health, and other dignitaries all expressed their appreciation of Humanity First's relief efforts in Guyana for flood victims.
- A container full of medical/hospital equipment with the collaborative efforts of HFUSA was provided to the Health Ministry of Guyana.

Next Steps: As a result of Humanity First's relief efforts to Guyanese flood victims, a donor has donated a complete building to Humanity First for the benefit of the local residents. Humanity First is also in the process of opening a computer-training center in the year 2006.



Hurricane Katrina:

Situation: Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast region of USA on August 29, 2005 as a Category 4 storm. With storm surges up to twenty feet high, levees broke around New Orleans and flooded the city for weeks, killing thousands of people and leaving millions more displaced. Mississippi and Alabama were also hit by the hurricane, destroying whole towns and leaving wreckage at every corner.

Humanity First Approach: Humanity First USA acted quickly in this disaster, sending in teams of medical personnel and cartons of tents, food, and water to help those in need within 72 hours after the hurricane. With thousands needing medical care, Humanity First joined services with the Red Cross in Gonzales, Louisiana and the National Guard to set up temporary relief clinics. **Humanity First operated its relief camp from this location for over 6 weeks.** Humanity First also collaborated with Continental Airlines to provide free tickets and suitcases to help displaced victims with their transportation needs.

Results:

- Teams of physicians flew in from around the United States and provided care to 1,084 victims. 18 doctors and over 50 volunteers provided countless hours of service.
- Humanity First made 55 supply runs to the Mt. Zion Baptist church and other area shelters, providing food, water, diapers, paper products, etc.
- Humanity First initially delivered 8 truck loads of relief supplies from Dallas, Houston, Atlanta and Austin. Also assisted other charities in food distribution.

- Humanity First provided transportation to several hundred displaced victims by transporting them to government offices, bus stations, and places of employment and their damaged cars repaired.
- Humanity First received \$118,000+ from generous donors, including one \$20,000 donation
- Humanity First donated and installed a Wireless Network and computer hardware to the Baker City School system in Louisiana to accommodate displaced students in the flood effected areas.
- Humanity First donated \$10,000 to buy winter coats for 300 students at Plaquemine Parish in Louisiana to accommodate displaced students in the flood effected areas.

Next Steps: Humanity First is currently working on it's Phase Two relief initiative called Restoration of Life, which includes helping two schools assisting families in the rebuilding process. Volunteers are assisting in finding families to adopt displaced victims as well as starting a program to assist schoolchildren affected by the disaster.





Pakistan Earthquake:

Situation: On October 8, 2005 a 7.6 magnitude earthquake shook Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan. The region of Kashmir was the most devastated area affected and left towns in splinters and killed thousands of people of Pakistan. Over 84,000 people were killed and over 3.1 million people were displaced in the aftermath of the earthquake. The aftermath of this earthquake was just heart-wrenching as weather and rocky terrain delayed relief efforts and the approaching winter threatened thousands of more victims without shelter.

- **Humanity First Approach:** Humanity First USA immediately collaborated with sister organizations in the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, and Pakistan to setup up relief efforts. Humanity First Int'l was successful in setting up its **relief camp in the effected area the very next day after the earthquake.** Teams of doctors, nurses, and pediatricians gathered in Kashmir to see and care for earthquake victims. Various countries gathered tents, medical

supplies, food, and water to send to the devastated area. Humanity First is still in the region, helping with the rebuilding process and procuring shelters for homeless victims in desperate need.

Results:

- Humanity first has sent volunteer doctors from Pakistan, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Holland, USA, and the UK to Pakistan to provide medical relief to over **50,000** earthquake victims. In Muzaffarabad over 25,000 patients have been seen and treated.
- In Bagh over 22,000 patients have been seen and treated.
- In Hardama over 2,000 patients have been seen and treated.
- To date over 21,000 earthquake victims have been served meals with up to 2,200 hot meals being served daily.
- Humanity First has worked in conjunction with pharmaceutical companies, international governments, and individual donors to provide victims with medicines, hospital equipment, satellite phones, and electricity.



- Thousands of tents, blankets, clothing items, and medical supplies have been collected and distributed to the victims of the earthquake along with survival kits, aqua boxes, ration packets, crutches, walking aids, wheelchairs, and patient bed lifts for a total of over 286 tons of aid.
- Temporary shelter has been provided to over 27,580 people through tents and alternate temporary housing.
- Humanity First has provided over **260 tin shelters** houses in the Balakot / Bagh area. In addition, HF has also distributed over 7,000 corrugated metal sheets to assist earthquake victims in building for temporary housing

Next Steps: We will be building permanent housing, school facilities, and a neurosurgical facility (due to the high demand driven by the earthquake injuries) in various selected areas.



Our Kids, Our Future:

Situation: Elementary education is the foundation for future education and development. Many impoverished communities in the US are unable to provide quality education for their children. Consequently, these bright minds drift towards social ills for which society ultimately pays a heavy price. In addition many schools are not equipped with proper teaching support, library needs, and other programs to raise the standard of education to match these schools of higher financial standards.

Humanity First Approach: The Our Kids, Our Future initiative identifies the neediest of schools in large metropolitan areas in the US, and partners with the local community to provide a combination of services as per the local need. Some areas of service include:

- Library books and teaching tools
- Mini-grants to motivate elementary school teachers
- Academic awards for outstanding and deserving students
- School supplies such as paper, pencils, backpacks, etc.
- Preventive health services through trained volunteers
- Teaching support, computers, internet access, wireless infrastructure, etc.

Results:

Humanity First Silicon Valley supports Franklin Elementary in San Jose:

- Provided support to setup a portable computer lab and video broadcasting system benefiting over 500 students
- Provided mini-grants for teachers to improve English language learning

- Donated books worth over \$5,000 for 32 classroom libraries.

Significant improvement in student tests scores (state mandated) was observed in direct result of these efforts.

Humanity First Chicago supports Fuller Elementary in Chicago:

- Supported the school's Science Fair event by providing judges for the competition
- Humanity First Chicago has successfully provided computer equipment and text books to their adopted school.



Income:

Income Distribution CY2005:

Asian Tsunami:	\$ 334,748.52
Hurricanes Katrina & Rita:	\$ 118,177.36
South Asian Earthquake:	\$ 355,048.19
General/Membership :	\$ 223,116.87
Logo Merchandise:	\$ 3,952.00

Humanity First Baltimore, MD and Portland, OR each support a local school:

- Donated \$2,500 for school supplies, books, and other necessary supporting infrastructure

Humanity First Houston, TX and Philadelphia, PA are working to be partners with local schools



Income Highlights:

Total number of donors:	4,941
Donors who donated online (website):	992
Donation amount collected online:	\$ 182,631.00

Total funds raised in CY2004:	\$ 131,411.00
Total funds raised in CY2005:	\$ 1,035,042.94

Total funds raised since startup:

\$1,166,453.94



Humanity First Donors & Gift Matching Programs:

A & R Market	Marquette University
Advanced Internal Medicine INC	Melcenia Williams
Ahmad Law Offices P.C.	Mentor Graphics
All Chicago, Inc.	Merle Barmoy
Alliance Service Group Inc,	Micheal Drobot Devocable Trust
Americas Charities	Michigan Neurodiagnostics P.C.
Back to Nature Food Inc	Microsoft Giving Campaign
Bliss Leather	Microsoft Matching Gift Program
Blue Scope Steel	Mighty Enterprise, INC
Bremond Croup Inc	Miles Exploratory Learning Center
Buddha Teaching Development Ass. Ltd.	Money Line America
Cambell Dental Associates	Montgomery High School
CCI	Montgomery Printing Service
Clarksandler Group	National Sports Services Inc.
Cold Ware Refrigeration	New Hartford Central School
Convergence	New Medica Inc.
Corina Pediatrics	Off the Record Research LLC
Corning Foundation Challenge Grant	Oracular Milwaukee Inc
Cumberland Radiation Oncology	Pasadena Schools Federal
Danny's Electric Inc.	Prime Star of Ft. Myers Inc.
Danyal Chaudhary Foundation	Quality Auto Reconditioning
Data System Inc.	Right-time Trucking
Dav Jones & Company	South Asian Law Student Association
Decorative Services	Story Brook University
DePaul University Student Groups	Stoy Malone & Co.
Dept of Oncology 9th FL	Sudhavan Inc
Division of Infectious Diseases	Texan National Guard FST
Enterprise Trust and Investment Co.	The Kiplinger Foundation INC
Exxon-Mobil Inc.	The McGraw Hills company, INC.
Family Clinic	Ticketweb Inc.
FM Global Foundation	Triangle Automotive
Ghandi Cuisine of India	Uniglobe Resources Inc.
Gracious Patrons of Hairstyles	United Central Bank
Happy Panda Restaurant	United Way
Harman Consumer Group	University of Arkansas
Hartz Mountain Industries	Upper Chesapeake Medical Center Inc
Heart to Heart LLC	Valley Pharmacy SR Inc.
HSBC	V-Empower Inc.
J. D. Bean & Associates	Verizon
Just Give	Viking Computers
Karim's Kutz	Vita Mart
Kentucky Cardiology	Wells Fargo & Company
Leopard Lounge	West Franklin Elementary
MAR Construction	Wrapped Brain Child



Humanity First, USA is a leading humanitarian relief and development organization. It seeks to provide disaster relief and community development services to several poverty-affected communities in the United States and around the world. It supports deserving communities by providing provisions of basic human and social needs of the moment, with the goal to build self-sustaining community models in the long run.

Volunteer Program
Do you have a passion to serve humanity? [\[more\]](#)

Hurricane Katrina Updates:
See how Humanity First has helped hurricane victims. [\[more\]](#)

South Asian Earthquake Updates:
See how humanity first has helped earthquake survivors. [\[more\]](#)

Spread the Word
Refer your friends to the Humanity First website. [\[invite them\]](#)

Receive updates
Sign up for Humanity First updates. [\[more\]](#)

Donate
You can make a difference. [\[more\]](#)

Even the smallest amount of money can mean the difference between life and death! - Naeem Lughmani [Click here for more information](#)

Powered by: WebEmpower Inc.

HUMANITY FIRST™, USA is registered under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (EIN# 20-0464012) or Copyright by Humanity First™, USA 2006. All rights reserved.

Humanity First's New Website:

Humanity First Volunteer Services:



9039 St. Landry Rd
Gonzales, LA 70737
225-647-0611

October 27, 2005

Greg O'Ryan, Client Services Director
American Red Cross National Headquarters
2025 East F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006


Dear Mr. O'Ryan:

I am writing on behalf of Usman Choudhary, a Humanity First volunteer who has been working with his staff at the Lamar-Dixon Shelter in Gonzales, LA. His team has been providing exceptional services to our Hurricane Katrina clients for approximately one month. The Executive Director, Munim Naem, has indicated that their international organization would like to become more closely affiliated with the International Red Cross in order to respond more effectively and in a timely manner when the Red Cross has future disaster relief needs.

Humanity First has provided doctors, client transportation, and a program to assist clients repair their vehicles while being housed in the shelter. They have been tremendous support for the Red Cross volunteers and have helped provide some services that otherwise would not have been delivered. All of the volunteers have worked in a professional manner, and have adhered to the American Red Cross principles and values for client care. I recommend that you observe the Humanity First web-site (www.humanityfirst.org) for further information.

Missy Stehr-Wood, Shelter Manager and I among others recommend that the Red Cross consider engaging Humanity First as an affiliate organization and partner to assist clients in the future.

Sincerely,


Rick Huber
Shelter Supervisor
Lamar-Dixon American Red Cross Shelter
Cell Phone: 1-225-371-7064

No numeric value can adequately capture the true value our dedicated volunteers bring to so many causes and communities.

Humanity First takes pride in being a 100% volunteer managed and run organization.

The volunteers of Humanity First USA in the year 2005 have provided over 33,000 hours of volunteer work. These volunteer hours equate **over 16 full-time employees!**

Humanity First volunteer hours worldwide exceeds 100,000 hours.

Humanity First social dollars in volunteer hours equals: **\$589,817.80**

