

October 2021 – September 2022

Ahmadiyya Gazette

United States of America

Special Issue on
**Inspired
Souls**

Missionaries
Abdur Rahman Khan (left)
Abdul Ghafoor Soofi (right)

Picture courtesy
Dhul-Waqar Yaqub





Jami'a Ahmadiyya students sitting in the front row with *Hazrat* Khalifatul-Masih II, may Allah be please with him, and numerous prominent scholars. The photo was taken between 1953 - 1956. with Sheikh Amri Abedi and Abdul Wahab Adam in Rabwah. Sheikh Amri Abedi is sitting with his legs crossed in the front row, third from the left. Abdul Wahab Adam is sitting with his legs crossed in the front row, seventh from the left or first from the right.
(Picture courtesy Dhul Waqar Yaqub)



With Abdus Subhan. I believe these are members of the early Detroit Jama'at. Photo taken about 1953.
(Dhul Waqar Yaqub)

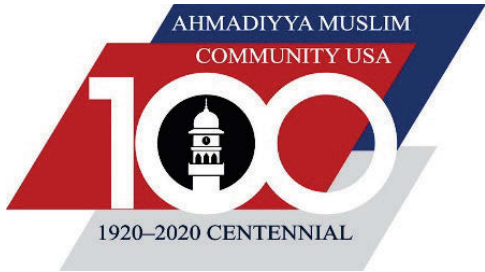


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Special Issue On Inspired Souls

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Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

- s.a./s: Ṣallallahu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam
(may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)
- a.s./a: 'Alaih-is-Salām
- r.a.: Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu/'Anha
(may Allah be pleased with him/her)
- r.h.: Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā
(may Allah shower His mercy on him)
- a.b.a.: Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil-'Azīz
(may Allah support him with His mighty help)

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Verse numbers in the references from the Holy Qur'ān count
Tasmiya at the beginning of a chapter as the first verse.

Inspiring Messages from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V

May Allah aid him with His mighty support



نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ وَعَلَى عِبْدِهِ الْمَسِيحِ الْمَوْعُودِ

خدا کے فضل اور رحم کے ساتھ
ہووا النَّاصِر



اسلام آباد۔ منظور
Z. 16-05-2021

مکرم سید ساجد احمد صاحب

السلام علیکم ورحمۃ اللہ وبرکاتہ

جماعت احمدیہ امریکہ کو سو سال پورے ہونے پر آپ کی طرف سے
احمدیہ گزٹ امریکہ کا خصوصی شمارہ ملا۔ جزاکم اللہ احسن الجزاء۔ ماشاء اللہ اچھا
علمی اور تاریخی مجلہ تیار ہوا ہے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ آپ سب کی کوششوں کو قبول فرمائے
اور اس کی تیاری میں جنہوں نے محنت کی ہے انہیں بہترین جزاء عطا فرمائے اور تمام
پڑھنے والوں کو اس مجلہ سے بھرپور استفادہ کی توفیق دے۔ اللہ آپ کا ہر آن حامی
و ناصر ہو۔ آمین

والسلام

خاکسار



خليفة المسيح الخامس

Respected Syed Sajid Ahmad, As-Salamu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu

Received from you the special issue of Ahmadiyya Gazette USA on the completion of a hundred years of Ahmadiyya Community USA, May Allah reward you the best of the rewards. As Allah desired, a good scholarly and historical magazine has been prepared. May Allah, the Almighty, accept the efforts of all of you and bestow the best reward on all those who worked in its preparation and give full capability to all the readers of the magazine to make full use of it. May Allah help and support you at every moment. Amen.

Was-Salam,

Humble,

Signed

Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

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مکرم سید ساجد احمد صاحب سیکریٹری اشاعت یو ایس اے۔
السلام علیکم ورحمۃ اللہ وبرکاتہ

آپ کی طرف سے جماعت احمدیہ امریکہ کی تاریخ کی دوسری جلد سیدنا حضور انور ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ بنصرہ العزیز کی خدمت میں موصول ہوئی ہے جو 620 صفحات پر مشتمل ہے اور جس میں جماعتی شعبوں اور مقامی جماعتوں کی تاریخ ہے۔ سیدنا حضور انور ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ نے یہ جلد ملاحظہ فرمائی ہے اور تحریر فرمایا ہے۔ ”دعا“

اللہ تعالیٰ تاریخ مرتب کرنے سب احباب جماعت کو جزائے خیر دے اور ان کو اخلاص اور تقویٰ میں بڑھاتا چلا جائے۔ اللہ آپ کے ساتھ ہو اور اپنی ذمہ داریاں عاجزی و انکساری کے ساتھ ادا کرنے کی توفیق بخشے۔ آمین۔

والسلام



ایڈیشنل وکیل التبشیر یو کے

In his letter of 12 October 2021, Additional Wakil-ut-Tabshir UK writes to the Secretary Publications, USA,

“The second volume of the history of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the US has been received by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, may Allah aid him with His mighty support, that comprises 620 pages and contains the history of departments and local chapters. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih, may Allah be his helper, has looked at this volume and has noted, “Du‘ā” (prayers).

“May Allah reward all the members who compiled the history and continue to increase them in sincerity and righteousness. May Allah be with you and may He provide opportunity to discharge your responsibilities with humility and humbleness. Amen.”

Table of Contents

INSPIRING MESSAGES FROM HAZRAT KHALIFATUL-MASIH V	2	MUFTI AHMAD SADIQ	49
INSPIRED SOULS.....	10	SHEIKH MUBARAK AHMAD	50
THE AHMADIYYA GAZETTE USA AND AL-NUR USA PRESENT		ZAFAR AHMAD SARWAR.....	51
HUNDRED YEARS OF AHMADIYYAT IN THE US.....	11	SYED SHAMSHAD AHMAD NASIR.....	51
NOTES ON ANGLICIZED NAMES AND TITLES	11	MUBASHER AHMAD	52
CONVERTS TO THE US AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY AT THE TIME OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH.....	12	DR. MIRZA MAHMOOD AHMAD	52
MUHAMMAD ABD-UL-HAQQ—CHARLES FRANCIS SIEVWRIGHT	13	AZHAR HANEEF.....	53
MIRZA HASAN F. L. ANDERSEN.....	14	MUKHTAR AHMAD CHEEMA	53
DR. GEORGE BAKER OF PHILADELPHIA.....	14	DR. ZAHEER AHMAD BAJWA	54
MOHAMMAD ALEXANDER RUSSEL WEBB.....	15	DAUD AHMED HANIF.....	54
AHMADIYYA CALIPHS AND THE US	17	BILAL ABDUS SALAM—EARNEST MOORHEAD.....	56
HAZRAT MAULAWI NUR-UD-DIN, KHALIFATUL-MASIH I.....	17	IRSHAD AHMAD MALHI.....	57
HAZRAT MIRZA BASHIR-UD-DIN MAHMUD AHMAD, KHALIFATUL-MASIH II.....	18	MOHAMMED ZAFARULLAH HANJRA.....	57
HAZRAT MIRZA NASIR AHMAD, KHALIFATUL-MASIH III.....	20	YAHYA LUQMAN	58
HAZRAT MIRZA TAHIR AHMAD, KHALIFATUL-MASIH IV.....	21	NASEEM MAHDI	58
HAZRAT MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD, KHALIFATUL-MASIH V.....	23	MUHAMMAD SAEED.....	59
AHMADIYYA MISSIONARIES TO THE US	25	SALMAN TARIQ.....	59
DR. MUFTI MUHAMMAD SADIQ	26	ADNAN AHMAD.....	60
MAULAWI MUHAMMAD DIN.....	27	SHEIKH AHMAD SALMAN	60
DR. MUHAMMAD YUSUF KHAN	28	HAMMAD AHMAD	60
SUFİ MUTIUR RAHMAN BENGALĒE	29	NOMAN RANA.....	61
PROF. MUHAMMAD İBRAHİM NASİR.....	30	EHTİSHAM-UL-HAQ MAHMOOD KAUSER	61
MİRZA MONAWAR AHMAD.....	31	FARAN RABBANI	61
DR. KHALİL AHMAD NASİR.....	32	KHAWAJA FAHAD AHMAD	62
CHAUDHRI GHULAM YASİN KHAN.....	33	AZAM AKRAM	62
CHAUDHRI SHUKAR İLAHİ HUSAIN.....	33	TALHA ALİ	62
‘ABD-UL-QADİR ZAİGHUM	34	FEROZ AHMAD HUNDAL.....	63
MAULAWI NUR-UL-HAQQ ANWAR.....	35	SYED MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH	63
SYED JAWAD ALİ	35	HAMİD NASİR MALİK	63
ABDUSH-SHAKOOR KUNZE	36	MALİK TARIQ MAHMOOD.....	63
RASHİD AHMAD AMERICAN.....	36	ABDULLAH DİBBA.....	64
AMİNULLAH KHAN SALİK.....	37	KHALİD KHAN.....	64
SUFİ ABDUL GHAFOR	39	TARIQ NASEEM.....	64
ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN BENGALĒE	39	RIZWAN KHAN.....	64
MAJOR ABDUL HAMİD	40	MATIULLAH JOYIA	65
QURESHİ MAQBOOL AHMAD.....	41	LUQMAN AHMAD GONDAL.....	65
CHAUDHRI SHARİF AHMAD BAJWA	42	FAHEEM AHMAD.....	65
MUHAMMAD SİDDİQUE SHAHİD	42	UMAR NAYYAR.....	65
MIAN MUHAMMAD İBRAHİM	43	QASİD AHMED NASİR	66
MASUD AHMAD JHELUMĪ	43	FRASAT AHMAD.....	66
MAULANA ‘ATA’ULLAH KALEEM.....	44	WAQAS KHURSHİD.....	66
MUHAMMAD ‘ABD-UR-RASHİD YAHYA	46	FARHAD AHMAD RANA	66
SAYYİD MİR MAHMUD AHMAD NASİR	47	USAMA RAHMAN.....	67
İNAMUL-HAQ KAUSER.....	47	TALHA RİAZ BASRA.....	67
MİRZA MUHAMMAD AFZAL	48	QASİM CHOUDHARY	67
CHAUDHRI MUNİR AHMAD.....	48	WAJĒEH-UR-REHMAN MİRZA	67
		MISSIONARIES IN-CHARGE IN THE US.....	68
		US ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP	69
		AMĪRS	69
		SAHİBZADA MİRZA MUZAFFAR AHMAD (AMĪR JULY 1989-JULY 2002)	69



DR. AHSANULLAH ZAFAR	71	ALI IQTIDAR BAJWA	114
SAHIBZADA DR. MIRZA MAGHFOOR AHMAD	72	ADEEL MUNEB	115
NATIONAL PRESIDENTS.....	73	ZAFAR WAQAR KHALON, PH.D.....	115
RASHID AHMAD AMERICAN.....	73	US MEMBERS MENTIONED BY AHMADIYYA CALIPHS	116
DR. MUZAFFAR AHMAD ZAFR.....	73	US MEMBERS MENTIONED BY KHALIFATUL-MASIH II	116
MARTYRS	75	<i>Missionary Sufi Muti-ur-Rahman Bengalee.....</i>	<i>116</i>
MIRZA MONAWAR AHMAD.....	75	<i>Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir.....</i>	<i>116</i>
SYEDA TIINAT WIFE OF US MISSIONARY SYED JAWAD ALI.....	76	<i>Noor-ul-Haq Anwar</i>	<i>116</i>
ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN BENGALEE	77	<i>Missionaries Abdus-Shakoor Kunze and Rashid Ahmad</i>	<i>116</i>
DR. MUZAFFAR AHMAD	77	US MEMBERS MENTIONED BY KHALIFATUL-MASIH IV	117
FAHIM AHMAD	78	<i>Maulawi Muhammad Din</i>	<i>117</i>
MASUD AHMAD JHELUMĪ	79	<i>Mian Muhammad Ibrahim Jamooni.....</i>	<i>117</i>
MUHAIMIN KAREEM	79	<i>Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad</i>	<i>117</i>
DR. ABDUL MANNAN SIDDIQI.....	80	<i>Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr</i>	<i>117</i>
KHALIL AHMAD SOLANGI	80	<i>Rashid Ahmad Suhail and his mother.....</i>	<i>117</i>
HABIB-UR-RAHMAN	81	<i>Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad.....</i>	<i>117</i>
CHAUDHRI NUSRAT MAHMOOD.....	82	<i>Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid, USA</i>	<i>118</i>
DR. MAHDI ALI BASHIR-UD-DIN QAMAR.....	82	<i>Dr. Hameed-ur-Rahman of Los Angeles, USA.....</i>	<i>118</i>
DR. IFTIKHAR AHMAD	83	<i>Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr and Malik Masood Ahmad</i>	<i>118</i>
NOTABLE VISITORS TO THE US.....	85	<i>Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad.....</i>	<i>118</i>
CHAUDHRI MUHAMMAD ZAFRULLA KHAN	86	<i>Dr. Waseem Sayed.....</i>	<i>118</i>
SAHIBZADA MIRZA MUBARAK AHMAD	88	US MEMBERS MENTIONED BY KHALIFATUL-MASIH V	118
PROFESSOR ABDUS SALAM.....	88	<i>Amatul Hafeez wife of Dr. Abdus Salam.....</i>	<i>118</i>
CHAUDHRI HAMEEDULLAH	90	<i>Dr. Mufti Muhamad Sadiq, First Missionary to the US</i>	<i>119</i>
MAHMOOD AHMAD BENGALEE	91	<i>Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum wife of Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad</i>	<i>119</i>
SAHIBZADA MIRZA WASEEM AHMAD.....	91	<i>Masood Ahmad Khursheed Sanoori</i>	<i>120</i>
MUJEEB-UR-RAHMAN.....	92	<i>Sahibzada Rashid Latif Rashidi.....</i>	<i>121</i>
SHEIKH KALUTA AMRI ABEDI	93	<i>Anwer Mahmood Khan.....</i>	<i>121</i>
LIFETIME AND VOLUNTEER DEVOTEES OF AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY USA.....	94	<i>Malik Shafiq Ahmad Architect.....</i>	<i>121</i>
BRO ABDUL QADIR (OTIS FRANKLIN)	94	<i>Nasira Saleema Raza</i>	<i>121</i>
PROF. DR. MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN	96	<i>Sahibzadi Amatul Mateen Daughter of Khalifatul-Masih II.....</i>	<i>121</i>
ABDUL RASHID FOUZI.....	98	<i>Dr. Bashir-ud-Din Usama.....</i>	<i>122</i>
LUTFUR RAHMAN MAHMOOD	98	<i>Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah and Dr. Abdus Salam</i>	<i>122</i>
DR. ANWAR AHMAD KHAN.....	99	<i>Alhaj Asim Zaki Bashir-ud-Din</i>	<i>123</i>
NIGHAT N AHMAD	100	<i>Naima Lateef wife of Jalal-ud-Din Lateef</i>	<i>123</i>
NASIM AHMAD	101	<i>Dr. Yusef Abdul Lateef</i>	<i>124</i>
DR. IMTIAZ A. CHAUDHARY M.D., F.R.C.S.....	103	<i>Intisar Ahmad Ayaz Son of Dr. Iftikhar</i>	<i>124</i>
ANIS AHMAD AQEEL.....	104	<i>Asghari Begum wife of Sheikh Rehmatullah.....</i>	<i>124</i>
MUBARIK AHMAD	105	<i>Nazir Ahmad Ayaz</i>	<i>125</i>
ABDUL RAFIQUE JADRAN (JANUARY 1974 TO JULY 1987)	107	<i>Aminullah Khan Salik.....</i>	<i>125</i>
DR. SYED ABDUL MAJID SHAH.....	108	<i>Lutf-ur-Rahman Son of Mian Ata-ur-Rahman</i>	<i>125</i>
SYED SAJID AHMAD	110	<i>Dr. Salahuddin</i>	<i>126</i>
SYEDA BUSHRA SULTANA AHMAD	111	<i>Bilāl ‘Abdus Salām</i>	<i>126</i>
DR. MUHAMMAD ASLAM NASIR.....	112	<i>‘Abd-ur-Rahman Saleem of Columbus-OH</i>	<i>126</i>
DR. NASEER MOBASHAR	112	<i>Sister Salma Ghani.....</i>	<i>126</i>
DR. NAEEM ULLAH	112	<i>Aliyyah Shaheed</i>	<i>127</i>
KHALED AHMAD ‘ATA	113	<i>Safia Begum.....</i>	<i>128</i>
DR. ABDUL HAFEEZ AND DR. AMTUSH-SHAKOOR.....	114	<i>Hamidah Akhtar Saleem.....</i>	<i>128</i>
DR. MOHAMMAD ASHRAF MELU	114		
MUKHTAR AHMAD MALHI	114		



<i>Naeema Latif wife of Sahibzada Mahdi Latif</i>	129	MUNUM NAEEM	144
<i>Amatul Noor wife of Dr 'Abd-ul-Malik Shamim</i>	129	ZINDA MAHMOOD BAJWA.....	145
<i>Sahibzada Mahdi Latif</i>	129	DR. MASOUD AHMAD MALIK.....	146
<i>Sahibzada Farhan Latif</i>	129	MUNAWAR AHMAD SAEED.....	147
<i>Zubaidah Begum wife of Karim Ahmad Naeem</i>	129	MIR DAUD AHMAD, PH.D.....	148
<i>Dr Mirza Nubair Ahmad and Aisha Amber Syed</i>	129	ABDUL KHALIQ RAJA.....	148
<i>Qanita Zafar wife of Dr Ahsanullah Zafar</i>	130	CHAUDHRI MUHAMMAD RIAZ SAIFI	148
<i>Nusrat Khanum wife of Agha Muhammad Abd-Allah Khan</i>	130	DR. KHALIL MAHMOOD MALIK.....	148
<i>Syed Waqar Ahmad</i>	130	ANWER MAHMOOD KHAN.....	149
<i>Amatul Latif Khurshid</i>	130	ALHAJ DHUL-WAQAR YAQUB.....	150
<i>Chaudhry Aziz Ahmad Vance son of Chaudhry Nazir Ahmad Vance of Dallas</i>	130	DR. ABDUL HAKEEM NASAR.....	151
<i>Muhammad Bashir Ahmad Shad</i>	131	AFTAB AHMAD BISMIL	152
NATIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS	131	DR. WASEEM A. SAYED.....	152
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1948	131	DR. HAFIZ SAMIULLAH CHAUDHARY	153
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1950	131	NAEEM KHAN.....	154
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1951	131	DR. ZAHEERUDDIN MANSOOR AHMAD	154
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1956	131	SHAHID MALIK OF VIRGINIA	155
ADMINISTRATION 1983-1986	131	AMJAD MAHMOOD KHAN	155
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 1983-1986.....	132	DR. FAROOQ PADDER	155
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1986-1989	132	DR. BILAL AHMAD RANA	155
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1989-1992	132	ZAHIR M. AHMAD.....	156
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1992-1995	132	DR. ATIF REHMAN MIAN.....	156
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1995-1998	133	WASEEM MALIK	156
NATIONAL OFFICERS 1998-2001	133	MANZOOR-UR-RAHMAN	157
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2001-2004	134	HAFIZ MUBARAK BOLA KUKOYI	157
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2004-2007	134	ATHAR BASHIR MALIK.....	158
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2007-2010	134	MUBARIK AHMAD MALIK	158
NA'IB AMĪRS 2007-2010	135	DR. 'ABD-UL-MALIK SHAMIM AHMAD.....	158
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2010-2013	135	ALLAH BAKSH CHAUDHRY	158
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2013-2016	135	NASIR MAHMOOD MALIK.....	159
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2016-2019	136	DR. FAZAL AHMAD.....	159
NATIONAL OFFICERS 2019-2022	136	COL. SAEED MALIK.....	160
NATIONAL AMILA JAMĀ'AT AHMADIYYA USA—2022-2025	137	QAMAR AHMAD SHAMS.....	160
APPELLATE QAḌĀ BOARD	138	SHUKOOR AHMED.....	160
APPELLATE QAḌĀ BOARD 2016-19	138	SYED GHULAM AHMAD FARUKH	162
QADI AWWALS USA (TERM 2016-19).....	138	ALI MURTAZA	163
SAHIBZADA M.M. AHMAD	139	DR. KARIMULLAH ZIRVI	163
DR. LAEEQ AHMAD.....	139	DR. MUHAMMAD AMJAD CHAUDHRY.....	164
SAHIBZADA MIRZA MAGHFOOR AHMAD.....	139	HASAN HAKEEM	164
NATIONAL OFFICERS	140	SARDAR HIFAZAT AHMAD.....	166
AHMAD SHAHEED.....	140	MIRZA KALEEM AHMAD.....	166
ALIYYAH ALI (INDIANAPOLIS)	140	OMAR SHAHEED	166
MS. ABDUL LATIF (DAYTON)	140	KHURRAM BASHIR.....	166
SYED ABDUR RAHMAN	140	SYED SHOAB AHMAD	167
ALIYYA SHAHEED	141	SHAHID SAIED MALIK.....	167
LUBNA RAZIA IJAZ.....	141	MIRZA NASEER EHSAN AHMAD	167
MUNIR HAMID	141	SHAFAT FAISAL KHAN.....	167
FALAHUD DIN SHAMS	142	KHURRAM FUAD AHMAD.....	167
HAMID-UR-RAHMAN	143	DR. FAHEEM YUNUS QURESHI.....	167
DR. NASIM REHMATULLAH	144	BASHIR AHMAD MALIK	168
		CHAUDHRY MUJEEB ULLAH.....	168
		NASIR SAEED MALIK.....	168
		FAYSAL ADEEL SOHAIL.....	168
		NASIRULLAH AHMAD	168
		RAFIQ AHMAD SYED.....	169

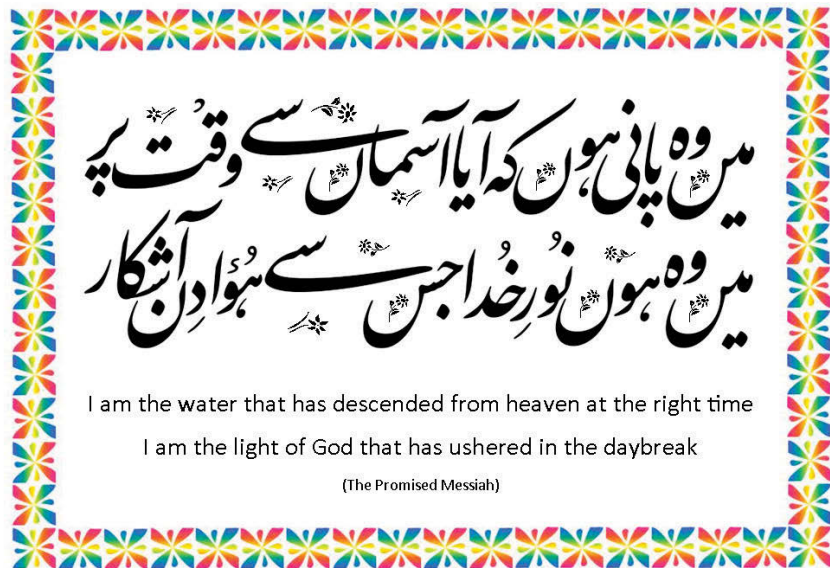
JASON LEONARD ELSEA.....	169	DR. MADEEL ABDULLAH.....	195
ABDUL HADI.....	169	PIONEERS	195
MUHAMMAD OWUSU.....	169	NOTABLE CONVERTS IN 1920-30	195
ABUBAKER BIN SAEED.....	170	HAMID—R.J.H. ROCHFORD	196
AHSAN MAHMOOD KHAN.....	170	MUBARIK—H. ALBERTO	196
AFTAB JAMIL	170	JAMALUDDIN KAHLON.....	196
MUKHTAR AHMAD MALHI	171	SHEIK AHMAD DIN—P. NATHAN JONSON	197
TALHA AHMAD CHAUDHARY.....	171	SHEIKH ASHIQ AHMAD.....	198
MOBASHIR AHMED.....	171	SHAIKH ABDULLAH DIN MUHAMMAD—J.L. MOTT	198
SADR/ZA’IM A’LA ANSARULLAH USA	172	JAMES I. D. SODICK	199
AHMAD SHAHEED.....	172	OMAR—WILLIAM M. PATTON.....	199
SYED ABDUR RAHMAN	172	SHAIKH AKRAM	199
FAZAL ABDULLAH AHMAD.....	173	BASHIR—RALPH TOTTEN.....	199
DR. KARIMULLAH ZIRVI, SADR ANSARULLAH (1993-99)	173	ABDUR RAHMAN—R.R. TORRES	200
NASIR MAHMOOD MALIK.....	174	SHAIKH MUSTAPHA	200
DR. WAJEEH BAJWA, SADR ANSARULLAH USA 2006-2013	174	SHEIKH ABDUS SALAM—REVEREND BD SUTTON	200
DR. FAHEEM YOUNUS QURESHI	175	SHEIKH MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM—AES MONDEZIE	201
DR. IMRAN HAYEE.....	176	EARLY AMERICAN WOMEN CONVERTS	201
PRESIDENTS LAJNA IMA’ILLA USA	176	RAHATULLAH MUSTAPHA THAHA—MRS. GARBER	202
AMATUL HAFIZ NASIR (1949-54).....	176	ALIYYA ALI	203
ALIYYAH ALI (1954-1956).....	176	EDITH SADIQAH SADIQ.....	203
ZAKIYYAH ASHRAF MAHMUD (1956-1957)	177	SAEEDA OF CHICAGO	204
MONEERAH AHMAD (1957-1958).....	178	ABDULLAH OMAR—DENZEL CARR	204
SAEEDA LATEEF (1958-63 AND 1966-7).....	179	MUHAMMAD LATEEF.....	204
ALIYYAH SHAHEED (1963-1966 AND 1972)	179	BASHĪR AFZAL	204
NYCEMAH YAQUB (1967-1969 AND 1972-1975)	181	IBRAHIM KHALIL.....	205
LUBNA RAZIA IJAZ (1969-1971)	181	NOTABLE CONVERTS IN 1931-1950.....	206
RASHIDAH SAEED (1975-1981).....	182	MOHSIN MAHMUD	206
SALMA GHANI (1981-91 AND 1995-2000)	183	SALIHA HANEEF	207
AMATUL HAKIM ABDULLAH (1991-5)	184	MUBARAKA MĀLIK.....	207
DR. SHANAZ BUTT (2000-10)	184	USMAN KHALID	208
SALIHA MALIK (2010-18)	185	AHMAD SAEED—PERCY SMITH.....	209
DHIYA TAHIRA BAKR (2018-PRESENT)	185	ABDULLAH ALI.....	210
REMEMBERING OUR PIONEERS	186	YŪSEF ‘ABDUL-LATEEF—BILL EVANS	211
NATIONAL KHUDDAM LEADERSHIP	190	TALIB DAWUD—ALFONSO NELSON RAINEY	212
NURUL ISLAM (1950-1951).....	190	MUHAMMAD ŠADIQ—HOWARD WILLIAM SCOTT	213
SECRETARY ABDUR RAHEEM (1951).....	190	KHALIL MAHMUD—JOHN STEVENS FREDRICK PETERS.....	214
NATIONAL QA’ID TALIB AHMAD DAWUD (1952).....	190	NOTABLE CONVERTS IN 1951-75	215
MUNIR HAMID—NATIONAL QA’ID 1969-1970.....	191	NASIR RAHMAT JAMAL.....	215
MUZAFFAR A ZAFR—CIRCA 1970-1975	191	DR. BASHIR-UD-DIN USAMA.....	215
NOORUDDIN A LATIF—CIRCA 1970-1975	191	YŪSUF ‘ALĪ	216
YAHYA SHARIF—1975-1979	191	FATIMA MAHMUD	217
ABDUL KABIR HAQQ—1979-1982	192	SHIREEN ALI	217
NASIR MAHMOOD MALIK—NATIONAL QA’ID 1982-1986	192	SALEEMAH AFFUL.....	217
SYED SAJID AHMAD	192	‘UMAR BILĀL EBRAHĪM	217
QAMAR A SHAMS SADR 1990-1994	193	‘UMAR—EVAN WICKS.....	218
MUNUM NAEEM 1994-1999.....	193	HAJJA TAHIRA LATEEF	219
ABDUL SHUKOOR AHMAD 1999-2002.....	193	NAIMA K. LATIF	219
NASEEM AHMAD WASEEM 2002-2006	193	AKBAR TSHAKA AHMADĪ.....	220
DR. FAHEEM YOUNUS QURESHI	194	JALĀLUDDĪN ‘ABDUL-LATEEF	220
RIZWAN ALLADIN	194	YAHYĀ ‘ABDUR RAHMĀN.....	221
DR BILAL RANA (2012-2018)	195		



AMTUL MUID ANDERSEN.....	221	ALPHA BAH, ZION, IL.....	242
NOTABLE CONVERTS IN 1976-90.....	222	AHMAD ANTAR, CHARLOTTE, NC.....	242
LAEEQA S. AHMAD	222	BOREY BASHIR SONG, SILVER SPRING, MD	243
SHAMIM A. SHEIKH	222	TARIQ TAMIR, CHICAGO, IL.....	243
KIRAN KHAN.....	222	AARON GAGE, CHICAGO, IL	244
AṬĀUL JALĀL NŪRUDDĪN.....	223	LUQMAN HECIMOVICH, MILWAUKEE, WI.....	244
AYESHA ALLISON KHAN	223	HAMZA ABD AL-QADIR (WAYNE ELLIS).....	245
ISMAIL ANANI, NAPERVILLE, IL.....	223	YASMIN SIRAAJ	246
DAUD AHMAD—DWAYNE EDWARD ANDERSEN	224	AIDA LELCAJ.....	246
AISHA KHAN.....	224	MIGUEL DAVID CÁLIZ, GUAYANILLA, PUERTO RICO	246
BASHIR ABDUL HAQQ, BRONX, NEW YORK	224	MICHAEL MORRIS, BOSTON, MA	247
NOTABLE CONVERTS IN 1991-2000	225	FOUNDING PRESIDENTS	247
RASHEED RENO, PORTLAND, OR.....	225	ABDUL HAMEED	247
RAFIQ AHMAD LAKE	225	IBN YAMIN—BENJAMIN LEDDBETTER	248
ABUBAKAR MOHAMMAD RANA, QUEENS, NY.....	226	ABDUL MALIK	248
SYED SHAHZAD HUSSAIN, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.....	226	ZUBAIR SALAHUDDIN	248
CAMIL CERIMOVIC, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	227	ABID HANEEF	249
SYED AFTAB ALI	227	ALI RAZAA	251
AASILAH FAHEEM	228	RUSSEL SHAFIQ.....	251
KHADIJA JAMES.....	228	WALI KAREEM.....	252
SHAHINA BASHIR.....	229	MUNIR AHMAD	252
BASIYR RODNEY, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.....	229	ABDUL HAFEEZ.....	253
AHMED MICHAEL JONES, PORTLAND, OREGON.....	230	DR. QAZI MUHAMMAD BARKATULLAH.....	253
AHMAD NURUDDIN, PHILADELPHIA PA.....	230	DR. BASHARAT MUNIR MIRZA.....	254
SAZZAD KHANDAKAR, MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ	231	MUHAMMAD AMIR.....	255
SIRA AHMAD	231	JAMEEL-UR-RAHMAN	255
ALAUDDIN AHMED, CHARLOTTE, NC	232	DR. SALAH-UD-DIN SHAMS.....	255
AMENAH SHAKIR.....	232	ABDUR RAQEEB WALĪ.....	256
FAREEDA MARYAM DADZIE	232	ABU BAKR NOORUDDIN	257
SAFETA CERIMOVIC.....	233	ABU BAKR	257
OMAR LATIF, RACINE, WI.....	233	DR. ABDUL MANNAN KHAN.....	258
EDIN BAJREKTAREVIC, ANKENY, IOWA	233	SOOFI GHULAM ULLAH	259
MUMIN SALAAM ALI, MILWAUKEE, WI.....	234	RASHID ABDUL LATIF RASHIDI	259
EDVIN BAJREKTAREVIC, ANKENY, IOWA.....	234	SYED SHARIF AHMAD.....	260
RONALD ABDUR RAHIM HUBBS, JR., CHINO, CA	235	QURESHI MUHAMMAD ISHAQ.....	261
MICAH TAAIR, OAK PARK, IL	235	NOORUL HAQKHAN	263
ISRAH NURULHAQ SIDDIQUE, LOS ANGELES, CA.....	235	BASHIR-UD-DIN MEHMUD	263
LUQMAN MALIK, CHINO, CALIFORNIA	236	NAZIR AYAZ	264
SALEANA RENO	237	ABDUR RAZZAQ MOMIN	265
NOTABLE CONVERTS AFTER YEAR 2000	237	DR. SYED NAEEM AHMAD	265
MAHERSHALHASHBAZ ALI, OAKLAND, CA	237	DR. MIAN MUHAMMAD ABBAS.....	265
ALEX ALI NAVARRO, GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS.....	238	DR. MUHAMMAD ZAFAR IQBAL.....	266
YASEMIN ZAFAR.....	238	MAHMOOD AHMAD.....	266
TAMARA RODNEY.....	239	NAZEER AHMAD CHEEMA.....	266
HELAI AYOUBI.....	239	KHURRAM FUAD	267
SHOSHANA TIMM.....	239	NAVEED ASHRAF.....	267
SAMIHA HAQQ	239	NAJEEMDEEN DAYSI	267
AEMAN BASHIR.....	240	ABD-UL-KARIM OF CHICAGO	268
PARISA JAFFARI	240	DR. MUHAMMAD ABDUL KHALIQ	269
ANESIA McRAE	240	MOHAMMAD IKRAMUL HAQ JATTALA.....	269
JALIL MUSIDDIQ DESEIGNORIA, PHILADELPHIA, PA.....	241	KAREEM ULLAH KALEEM.....	269
MICHAEL PETERSON, HERNDON, VA.....	241	MUNIR AHMAD MALIK	270
		YUSAF AMIN	270
		2019-2022 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS	271

INTELLECTUALS	274
SCIENTISTS, PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS	274
DR HAMEED AHMAD NASEEM	274
DR. MUJEEB MALIK, PH.D.....	275
DR. MUHAMMAD ZAFRULLAH, PH.D.	275
DR. SOHAIL HUSAIN.....	275
MOHAMMAD ATIF FARID, PH.D.	276
DR. MUNIR AHMAD, PHD, DABR	276
DR. RAFI AHMAD	277
DR. JAMIL AHMAD, DVM, PH.D.	277
DR. SYED AMAAR AHMAD, PH.D.	278
ABDUL RAQEEB.....	278
DR. ARSHAD KHAN	278
DR. NASEER A. TAHIR NY	279
DR. NADEEM AHMAD	279
DR. MUHAMMAD ALI MUMTAZ.....	279
DR. CHAUDHRY LUTF UR REHMAN—NASHVILLE, TN	279
DR. B. K. AHMAD	280
DR. SALAHUDDIN	281
DR. AZIZA RAHMAN.....	281
DR. SYED MOHAMMAD AHMAD	282
DR. MANSOOR A. QURESHI	283
NUSRAT SHARIF	283
IJAZ AHMED KHOKHAR	284
DR. KARIM A. SHARIF, PH.D.	284
DR. ATHAR NAVEED MALIK, MD, PHD	285
MUNAZZA ALAM.....	285
KAMALDEEN MUIJI, PH.D.....	285
BAREAH ALAM.....	286
DR. FURQAN AHMED	286
SYED KHALID JAMIL.....	286
DR. RASHIED BUTT, PH.D.....	287
PROF. DR. AMTUL MUJEEB CHAUDRY	287
TAHA RAHMAN SHAIKH	287
DR. ABDUS SALAM MALIK	288

DR. MOBUSER MAHMUD	289
NAMOODE SEHAR RANA, M.D.....	289
DR. AMTUL A'LA	290
DR. ZAFAR AHMAD QURESHI	290
DR. SYED TANVIR AHMED.....	290
DR. MAHMUD AHMAD NAGI	291
DR. TARIQ MAHMOOD	292
NAEEM AHMAD MD	292
DR.KALEEM-UD DIN, MD.....	293
SYED HAMAAD ALI	293
INSPIRED CONTRIBUTORS	294
SAHIBZADI AMATUL-QAYYUM	294
AMTUL BARI NASIR	294
ANISA BUSHRA SALAM BAJWA	295
HUSSAIN ABDUL AZIZ OF PHILADELPHIA	295
MOHAMMAD HABEEB SHAFEEK JR.	296
JALEEL A. AKBAR.....	297
QASIM RASHID	297
IMTIYAZ AHMED RAJEKI.....	299
USTAZ IBRAHIM DRAMMEH	299
SOOFI AZIZ AHMAD	300
MUJEEBULLAH CHAUDHARY	302
DR. R. MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA SOHNA	304
MIR SHARIF AHMAD.....	305
LABEED AHMED CHOUDHRY.....	305
RAJA AFAQ HAYDER	305
MUBARIK AHMAD MALIK OF DALLAS.....	306
MOHSIN A. NAEEM.....	306
MUZAFFAR IQBAL CHOUDHRY	307
ARMED FORCES	308
MAJOR INTISAR ABBASI (RETIRED OFFICER, US ARMY)	308
MAJOR DR. HARRIS AHMAD ABBASI.....	308
GLOSSARY	309



Inspired Souls

يُنْصِرُكَ رِجَالٌ نُوحِيَ إِلَيْهِمْ مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ

Role of inspired souls in the development and progress of

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the US

In celebration of the Centenary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the United States of America, it is with great pleasure that we present “American Icons of Ahmadiyyat.” This publication pays tribute to those individuals who played a vital role in the history, establishment and advancement of the Community and its ideals.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community serves as a practical model illustrating Islam’s vibrant, peaceful, and tolerant message. These first hundred years as an organized Muslim community within the United States bear testimony to the Community’s record of not only peacefully coexisting with their non-Muslim neighbors, but also serving them in times of need. Loyalty to one’s nation is an integral part of the Faith, and Ahmadi Muslims live up to their standard of serving this nation in every pursuit, be it the arts or sciences or be it times of war or peace.

In recognizing the Community’s success and service within the United States, we have categorized the historical figures and events as follows:

1. **Pioneers**-These are the first Americans who, according to our research and records, embraced the message and mission of the Promised Messiah during the time of the Promised Messiah and succeeding converts through 1950 (i.e., the first half century of Ahmadiyyat).
2. **Missionaries**-These members represent the religious leadership and scholars of the Community. They are individuals who have dedicated their lives for the sake of establishing and advancing the Faith.
3. **Jamā‘at Leadership**-These members served as National Amīrs or as leaders of historic significance.
4. **Intellectuals and Artists**-Ahmadi members of academia or professional pursuits who are widely acclaimed for their advancements in the arts or sciences, their thought leadership, and/or their commanding subject matter expertise.
5. **Other Historical Figures and Events**-Members who have achieved historic milestones for the Jamā‘at as well as events of historic significance for the Community.

We would like to express our special gratitude to Dr. Mahmud Nagi of Columbus, Ohio, who organized the content provided to him and additionally researched, collected and compiled the information concerning the speculated content. May Allah—Holy and High—bestow abundant blessings upon him and all those who contributed to this publication in their various capacities. His efforts were supported by many members including but not limited to Naser-ud-Din Shams, who helped define sections in this compilation, Dr. Syed Abdul Majid Shah, who helped identify recent intellectuals, Dr. Abdul Khaliq and Qudratullah Ayaz. This core group bore my persistent interruption in their daily schedules, attended scheduled meetings, made calls to collect information and made this collection possible.

It was not possible to include every inspired soul who came to aid the mission of the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him, in this small volume. This collection should be considered as a first volume to be followed by additional collections in the future.

Lastly, we pray that the Benevolent Lord make this publication a source of inspiration for the future generations of Ahmadi Muslims to serve this nation and, in doing so, to make their indelible mark upon its history. Ameen.

Syed Sajid Ahmad

National Publications Secretary
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA

The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA and Al-Nur USA Present Hundred Years of Ahmadiyyat in the US

As we were preparing for the 2020 publications, the world was hit by the pandemic that disrupted and adversely affected most routine and planned functions. Budgets of all departments were cut. Decision was made to delay the regular publications and use the reduced funds on the special centennial publications. Businesses were closed that affected printing costs and publications scheduling with presses. Despite these difficulties, Al-Hamdu Lillah that the publications department was able to present significant material during the pandemic years.

Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020 issue was published as the special centennial issue containing an overview of the history of Ahmadiyyat in the US. It covered 336 pages + 4 cover pages making 340 pages.

Al-Nur, April-September 2020 issue was published as the special centennial issue containing an overview of the history of Ahmadiyyat in the US. It covered 272 pages + 4 cover pages making 276 pages.

Ahmadiyya Gazette, October 2020-September 2021 issue was published as the Centennial Souvenir Issue. It consisted of 616 pages + 4 pages of cover making 620 pages. It contained the history of departments and chapters in the US.

The above three publications to this point make 1,236 letter size pages on the history of Ahmadiyyat in the US. May Allah reward all members who helped including the local officers, national officers, auxiliaries, missionaries and the magazine staff. Amen.

Notes on Anglicized Names and Titles

‘Abd (slave, servant, human being) is joined with Allah and the attributes of God to give names to many Muslims. For convenience in general use, the beginning symbol for ‘ain is eliminated. Therefore, we see Abdullah in place of ‘Abdullah, as pronounced from of the as transcribed form ‘Abd Allah.

‘Amah/’Amat (bondmaid, bondwoman) not only loses the character for hamza in general use but as it is written without signs, non-Arabs are liable to eliminate the fath/zabar on mim/meem rendering the word Amt so we observe Amtullah in place of ‘Amatullah or ‘Amat Allah, etc.

The lam of Al in many cases is not dropped in case of Shamsi Huruf so we observe Abd-ul-Rashid in place of ‘Abd-ur-Rashid for ‘Abd Al-Rashid, and Amat-ul-Rashid in place of Amat-ur-Rashid for Amat Al-Rashid.

In some areas zu’ad/du’ad is pronounced closer to z than to d rendering Ramadan as Ramazan. Again, some will drop the fath/Zabr on mim/meem to write Ramzan.

Ya before an alif is dropped many times rendering Diya/Dhiya/Ziya into Zia. Qadiyan, name of the town of the messiah of the last age, has similarly been anglicized into Qadian. Diyafat may be rendered as Ziyafat or Ziyafat by some.

As signs are not commonly used in Arabic scripts, we see Mubarak written as Mubarik, etc.

It is common to replace long u (Nur) with oo (Noor), long i (Pir) with ee (Peer) though the replacement of long a with aa is not as common.

Shaikh/Sheikh is used both as a title (religious teacher) and as a family name. Same is the word Shaheed/Shahīd (Martyr), Imam (leader), ‘Allama (scholar) and ‘Ālim (scholar). Shaheed/Shahīd, Imam, and ‘Ālim are also used as personal names. Fāzil/Fāḍil and Shāhid are both names and earned educational degrees.

Converts to the US Ahmadiyya Muslim Community At the time of the Promised Messiah



In 1889, a spiritual revolution began that changed the landscape of religion in America and the world. The Ahmadiyya Movement, founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, India, was a reformist movement in Islam.

African Americans would find religious freedom and spiritual harmony in Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's Messianic Islamic message. (African American Journey)

Mr. Alexander Russel Webb, an Anglo-American, converted to Islam after corresponding with the Promised Messiah. He wrote:

Mirza completed unprecedentedly great job and enlightened hundreds of souls. Undoubtedly, he was chosen by God to do great things. I am sure that

he will be amongst Prophets. He shall be rewarded what he did for Islam. (Shahna-e-Haqq, 1887, pp. 439 to 444)

He wrote a condolence letter upon the Promised Messiah's demise saying,

"I am sure that he will enjoy the companionship of saints and prophets in heaven." (Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 1, pp. 307-8. Ahmadiyyat Renaissance of Islam by Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan, pp. 175-6, Tabshir Publications 1978)

Mr. F. L. Andersen was the first Ahmadi convert during the time of the Promised Messiah. The Promised Messiah gave him the Muslim name "Hasan." The Promised Messiah writes in Barahin Ahmadiyya, Vol. V:

Similarly, for some time my Jamā'at has been gaining acceptance among the traditional Christians of Europe and America. Only recently a respectable English gentleman of 200-202, Worth Street, New York, in the United States of America, whose earlier name was F.L. Andersen, but who has been named Hasan after he became a Muslim, wrote to me by his own hand to ask that his name be entered into my

Jamā'at. He reads my books that have been translated into English. He can read the Holy Qur'an in Arabic and can also write in Arabic. There are many more Westerners who are full of praise for this Jamā'at and express their agreement with it. There are many more Westerners who are full of praise for this Jamā'at and express their agreement with it. For instance, Dr. A. George Baker of 404 Susquehanna Avenue, Philadelphia, USA, read about me in the Review of Religions, and wrote that he totally agrees with the views of this Imam, who has presented Islam to the world in exactly the same form as the Holy Prophet had done. (Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya Part V, pp. 81-2, Rūḥānī Khazā'in, Vol. 21, pp. 106-7)

Charles Francis Sievwright made a visit to Qadian in 1903; he would now be known as Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq. He took the opportunity to write to the Review of Religions and declare his faith to the world. Many years later, in 1923, Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq also reaffirmed his faith in the Moslem Sunrise. (The Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue 4, pp. 143-146)

Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq—Charles Francis Sievwright

Early Ahmadi Muslim, 1903



Born to Marcus Sievwright and Josephine Lahou in Fitzroy, Victoria in 1862 (Ancestry.com. Australia Birth Index, 1788-1922 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA), Charles Francis Sievwright was bound on a journey of his life that would set him on course to discover the truth of Islam. Charles would grow up to a most prestigious position in Australia as the accredited Representative or Commissioner of the British and Indian Empire League of Australia which set the grounds for him to further his study of Islam. He mentions his endeavor to tour India and the situation prior to it in his own words. He states,

“... in by 34th year of age, on the 23rd of March, 1896, I was led to investigate the Islamic Philosophy. This became the means of converting me from Orthodox Christianity to the natural Religion of which the Holy Prophet Muhammad was the founder. I may here inform the readers of the present day “Moslem Sunrise” as I did those other to whom I addressed my statement in 1906 similarly; “That I am not a Muhammadans in a racial

sense but am a True Believer of Muhammad’s religion. When I visited India in 1903 as the accredited Representative or Commissioner of the British and Indian Empire League of Australia to present a petition to the Indian National Congress at its annual Conference at Madras held in December of that year, my Mission was also for the purpose of completing my Muhammadans Education by means of a tour through Islamic countries. As well as to explain the cruel operations of “The white Australia policy” and the Restrictions of the Alien immigration Act that had been created a constitutional Law by the commonwealth government of that country. To tell you of the result of that historical Journey on my part to India would be impossible in these columns for the incidents of that wonderful mission, if published, would fill a great volume.” (Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue 4, pp. 143-146)

After the historic visit of Qadian in 1903, he would now be known as Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq (may Allāh be pleased with him), Companion of the Promised Messiah. Shortly after historic visit to Qadian he took the opportunity to write to the Review of Religions and declare his faith to the world. Many years later, in 1923, Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq also

reaffirmed his faith in The Moslem Sunrise. He states:

“Finally, after long months of deliberation and separation no wonder then that I made the declaration in the Review of Religions in April 1906 that “I have become a member of the Ahmadiyya Society of Qadian, so as to be associated with the most advanced section of the Muslim Students of all the important religions of the world, as well as to be united in a very active Muhammadans

Missionary association for the spreading of Islamic knowledge.” This was written from far away (New Zealand) I meant every word I wrote in the above paragraph and have been true to my statements ever since I said “Good Bye” to the Master at Qadian now over 19 years ago.” (The Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue 4, pp. 143-146)

He moved to Fresno, California with his family in 1910. In 1930, he decided to move to Los Angeles, CA. His activities with Ahmadiyya Movement increased after the arrival of Mufti Muhammad Sadiq in United States. (The Moslem Sunrise 1922, Issue 4, pp. 143-6)

His grave is located at Forest Lawn, Glendale, CA, section: Acacia, space 4, Lot 179 and map 1. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Vol. 67, No. 3-4, March-April 2016, p. 24)

Mirza Hasan F. L. Andersen

First US Ahmadi Muslim Convert



Mr. Hasan F. L. Anderson was the first Ahmadi convert from the US during the time of the Promised Messiah (‘Alaih-is-Salām). The Promised Messiah gave him the Muslim name of Hasan.

He was a scientist and worked at the First Scientific Station in New York City. The Urdu translation of a letter from Mr. Hasan Anderson was published in *Al-Badr* dated September 14, 1905.

He was in contact with Mufti

Sadiq from the year 1901 and later joined Ahmadiyya Islam on 26 September 1904. He was stationed in First Scientific Station, New York City.

Mr. Hasan F. L. Anderson asked about the health and welfare of the Promised Messiah, noted the news about the earthquakes, noted with pleasure that he had been accepted into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and requested that a certificate be kindly issued, commented favorably on the article which he read in the *Review of Religions* on Polygamy and Veil, gave his views about the international development relating to Russia and Japan, and conveyed his Prayers and salām to all Ahmadis.

About Mr. Anderson, the Promised Messiah (‘Alaih-is-Salām) wrote in *Barahin Ahmadiyya* Vol. V:

Similarly, for some time my Jamā‘at has been gaining acceptance among the traditional Christians of Europe and America. Only recently a respectable English gentleman of 200–202, Worth Street, New York, in the United States of America, whose earlier name was F.L. Anderson, but who has been named Hasan after he became a Muslim, wrote to me by his own hand to ask that his name be entered into my Jamā‘at. He reads my books that have been translated into English. He can read the Holy Qur‘an in Arabic and can also write in Arabic. (*Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya*, Part V, English Translation, p. 131 Islam International Publication Ltd. UK, 2018)

Dr. George Baker of Philadelphia

Joined Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1904



Anthony George Baker, the first convert in Philadelphia who is mentioned in *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya* Part V by the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). He joined Ahmadiyyat in 1904. His earliest known connection with American

Muslim converts was in August 1893 through Alexander Russell Webb’s journal, the *Moslem World*. Dr. Baker began to follow the Ahmadiyya movement in India through the movement’s English-language journal, *Review of Religions*. In his first reply to Mufti Sadiq’s letter dated 28 October 1904, Dr. Baker affirmed the Islamic creed, claimed to be a practicing Muslim and endorsed work of the Promised Messiah. In subsequent correspondences, he was more direct in his affirmation of Ghulam Ahmad’s prophetic role and in his expressions of allegiance to the Ahmadiyya movement.

The Promised Messiah writes in

Barahin Ahmadiyya, Part V:

“For instance, Dr. A. George Baker of 404 Susquehanna Avenue, Philadelphia, USA, read about me in the *Review of Religions*, and wrote that he totally agrees with the views of this Imam, who has presented Islam to the world in exactly the same form as the Holy Prophets had done.” (*Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya*, Part V, English Translation, p. 132, Islam International Publication Ltd. UK, 2018)

Dr. Baker was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on 2

February 1849. (The Bulletin of the Western Theological Seminary, 164) The son of German immigrants, Dr. Jacob Baker and Mary Catherine Platt, he always maintained a keen interest in his heritage and in later years wrote A History of the Germans in America. (Who's Who in Pennsylvania, 2nd Edition (1908), p. 32) Growing up in Pittsburgh he received his early education in the Pittsburgh public schools and in 1869 graduated from the Western University of Pennsylvania (which afterwards became the University of Pittsburgh) with degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts. He then entered the Western Theological Seminary, in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and in 1873 graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Divinity and was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church. (The Bulletin of the Western Theological Seminary, 164)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta‘ālā) while

delivering Friday Sermon from Baitul-Aafiyat on 21 October 2018, narrated that the message of the Promised Messiah (‘Alaih-is-Salām) reached the United States in his own life through the Review of Religions magazine and that a person named Dr. A. George Baker converted to Islam as a result of reading the teachings of the Promised Messiah.

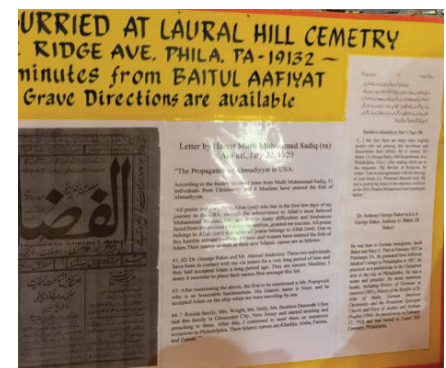
He wrote about the Promised Messiah,

“I totally agree with the views of your Imam. He has presented Islam correctly to the world, just as the Prophet Muhammad (Ṣallallāhu ‘Alaihi Wa Sallam) had done.”

On 20 October 2018, before departing the city of Philadelphia, Khalifatul-Masih V made a brief stop at the historic Laurel Hill Cemetery. There, at almost a 100-year-old grave, he prayed for the soul of a pious and selfless man whose story would most certainly have been lost

to history, had his name not been preserved in the writings of the Promised Messiah. Dr. Baker died on 17 February 1918 and was buried at Laurel Hill cemetery near the Baitul-Aafiyat Mosque, Philadelphia. (Friday Sermon of Khalifatul-Masih V, 21 October 2018)

The Philadelphia chapter of Jamā‘at discovered the grave of Dr. Baker after about 100 years. A banner has been installed on which writings of the Promised Messiah and Mufti Muhammad Sadiq about him are written.



Mohammad Alexander Russel Webb



“There is a very well-known *hadith* of the Holy Prophet, peace be on him, that in the latter days the sun would rise in the west. This has been interpreted as meaning that in the latter days, that is to say, in the time of the Promised Messiah, people in the West would begin to take an interest in Islam and the start of the spread of Islam in the West would be made.

The fulfillment of this prophecy

began with the acceptance of Islam by Mr Alexander Russel Webb. He was born in 1846 in Hudson City, New York State. His father was the owner and editor of a daily paper, and when young Webb graduated, he took up journalism and eventually became the editor of a daily paper in Missouri.

“Mr. Webb was deeply interested in religion, and being dissatisfied with Christianity he ceased to be a Christian in 1872 and began a research into other faiths in his keenness to discover the true religion. He studied Buddhism and did not find it satisfactory. Some time later he came across an announcement of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and started corresponding with him. Through this correspondence he was convinced of the truth of Islam and

accepted it as his faith. He proved a sincere and devoted Muslim and was most eager to do whatever he could to spread the knowledge of Islam and its teachings in the United States of America.” (Ahmadiyyat, the Renaissance of Islam, Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Tabshir Publications, 1978, p. 175. Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 1, pp. 307-313)

He saw a circular from the Promised Messiah in a daily newspaper. The poster from the Promised Messiah created in him interest in Islam and he wrote a letter to him to seek the truth. The Promised Messiah replied to him on 17 December 1886 and then the correspondence continued. All of his queries were duly answered, and he accepted Islam.

Following are the excerpts of his letter published in Rūḥānī Khazā’in

Vol. 2, pp. 439-444 (Shihna-i-Haq, pp. 81-86):

“After reading your circulars an idea occurred to me which I will present to you for your consideration knowing or rather feeling confident that you who are so much spiritual than I, so much nearer to God, will answer me in a way that will be for the best.”

Mr. Alexander Webb became famous in India because of his acceptance of Islam. Some businessmen from Bombay approached him in Philippines where he was appointed ambassador by United States. They persuaded him to quit ambassadorship. They invited him to visit India for which they collected a large amount of Rs. 6,000 through a Muslim missionary Maulawi Ali Baghalpuri who was an eyewitness of the Promised Messiah. Mr. Webb embarked on tour of India. He came to Hyderabad from Bombay and desired to meet the Promised Messiah who was his benefactor in converting him to Islam. Due to extreme opposition to Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may peace be upon him, in the Punjab, Mr. Webb was advised not to meet “Infamous Person” which may cause an unrepairable loss to the propagation of Islam in America. In Lahore, he was again persuaded by some to meet the Promised Messiah, but he returned to USA after touring different cities of India. (Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 1, pp. 306-311)

Mr. Webb started preaching

Islam as prescribed by the mischievous clerics. He failed miserably in his efforts. He was really ashamed of what he did to his mentor the Promised Messiah. This he mentioned in his letter to Mufti Muhammad Sadiq and told the story. He mentioned that the clerics of India had surface assimilative religious knowledge. He was of the view that even if he had succeeded then Islam could have been established in America like the one practiced by them. Anyway, he established link with the Promised Messiah again and remained in contact till his death.

“On 15 January 1901 he [the Promised Messiah] announced the publication of a monthly journal bearing the title of Review of Religions, which was very ably edited for several years by Maulvi Muhammad Ali Sahib, M.A. This journal was welcomed and appreciated both in Britain and in the United States of America...”

“Mr Muhammad Alexander Russell Webb, the first American Muslim, wrote:

“I am sure this journal will prove a powerful instrument for directing religious thinking into certain channels. I believe that in the long run this journal will be the means of removing the barriers which have been erected by ignorance in the way of truth.” (Ahmadiyyat, the Renaissance of Islam, Muhammad Zafrulla Khan,

Tabshir Publications, 1978, pp. 177-178)

“On learning of the death of the Promised Messiah, he wrote a letter of condolence to Mufti Muhammad Sadiq in which he observed:

“Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad accomplished a great undertaking and conveyed the light of truth to hundreds of hearts, which it could not have reached otherwise. More than twenty years ago I started my correspondence with him and ever since then I have been deeply affected by the fearless earnestness with which he continued to spread the truth in the pursuance of his purpose. Without a doubt God Almighty had chosen him for this great enterprise which he fulfilled completely. I am sure that he will enjoy the companionship of the saints and prophets in heaven.”

He followed his letter with another one, which was written only four days later, in which he repeated his condolences to Hazrat Maulvi Nurud Din Sahib and expressed his conviction that Hazrat Maulvi Sahib’s efforts toward the promotion of Islam would be crowned with success.” (Ahmadiyyat, the Renaissance of Islam, Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Tabshir Publications, 1978, pp. 175-176. Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 1, p. 308)

Ahmadiyya Caliphs and the US

Hazrat Maulawi Nur-ud-Din, Khalifatul-Masih I

(May Allah be pleased with him)



First Ahmadiyya Missionary to the US, Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him) received religious education and training from the Hazrat Hakeem Nur-ud-Din, Khalifatul-Masih I (may Allah be pleased with him).

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him) benefited immensely from Hakeem Maulawi Nur-ud-Din (may Allah be pleased with him) throughout his youth. He also learned the translation of Holy Qur'an and got his first employment as a teacher with his interventions where he spent memorable days of his life. Remembering those days, Mufti Muhammad Sadiq writes:

It is the favor of Allah, that since childhood I had the honor of living in the company of Maulawi Hakeem Nur-ud-Din (may Allah be pleased with him). I travelled and stayed with him many times in Jammu and Kashmir which gave me the opportunity to benefit from his righteous soul.

Another relation worth mentioning is that Mufti Muhammad Sadiq's daughter, Saedah, was also married to 'Abd-us-Salam, son of Hazrat Nur-ud-Din. (Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, Tahniyat Nama, Qadian, Page 57)

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him) had the great distinction and honor for being

a student of a Khalifa (Khalifatul-Masih I) and a teacher of a Khalifa (Khalifatul-Masih II). This is a distinction which no other companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) had. (Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, Zikr-e-Habib, Manager Book Depot Taleef-o-Isha`at Qadian, December 1932, Page 2)

During 1910 to 1912 period, there were severe earthquakes in Iran, Greece, Central Asia, Italy, Sicily and America and floods inundated Hyderabad, India and Paris, France. The Khalifatul-Masih I issued a handbill urging the mankind to return to the ways of God.

In 1986, before the Promised Messiah established Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1889, Hazrat Maulawi Nur-ud-Din sponsored a number of students from his personal resources to prepare them for the service of Islam. After their graduation they all chose to pursue personal objectives. The work of the service of Islam was destined to be eventually accomplished through the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him. (Hayat-i-Nur, pp. 142-145. Published by 'Abd-ul-Hadi Zahid from Lahore with no date)

The Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him, had planned to regularly test the members' knowledge of his books so that they themselves understand Ahmadiyyat and can explain to others adequately. After the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih put the plan into action on 23 July 1908. It has since become part of the regular Ahmadiyya activities. (Hayat-i-Nur, pp. 410-412. Published by 'Abd-ul-Hadi Zahid from Lahore with no date)

Review of Religions continued to be published both in Urdu and English during the time of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I. (Hayat-i-Nur, p. 445. Published by 'Abd-ul-Hadi Zahid from Lahore with no date)

Khalifatul-Masih I, may Allah be pleased with him, stated, "The number of the members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community exceeds 400,000. They have recently spread in the towns of Africa, Europe, America, China and Australia. God willing, you will observe in a year how successful they would be." (Translated by Syed Sajid Ahmad from Badr, Vol. 14, No. 10, p. 2, column 2 as referred in Tarikh

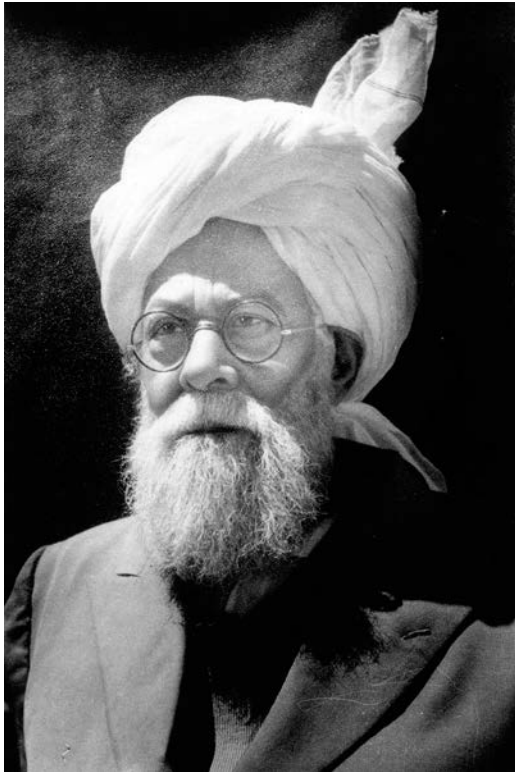
Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 3, p. 611, Edition 2007)

Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Kahn visited Switzerland and Germany during May-June of 1913. He wrote to Khalifatul-Masih I that he met two American ladies who were returning from a visit to Spain, Morocco, Egypt and Palestine. They inquired him about Islam and the Holy Quran and he responded to them. "What will be given in the Paradise?" In response, he explained the philosophy of paradise according the

Ahmadiyya viewpoint. They were astonished and said that their guide in Egypt had told them that all he would get were twelve wives. He also explained the arrangement of the Holy Quran and on their request for help in understanding Islam better, obtained their addresses and mailed the copies of the Teachings of Islam to them later. (Hayat-i-Nur, pp. 621-622. Published by 'Abd-ul-Hadi Zahid from Lahore with no date with reference to Badr, 12 June 1913, p 9)

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih II

(May Allah be pleased with him)



A well-known American missionary came to Qadian soon after Khalifatul-Masih II became caliph of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at. He asked him some important but tedious religious questions. (Shahid, Maulānā Dost Mohammad. 2007. "Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, V. 2", p. 163.)

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq reached Philadelphia on 15 February 1920. He was detained. He was later released and started his missionary work. The first convert was R. J. Richford. (The Moslem Sunrise, July 1921, p. 12)

The Muslim Sunrise started publication from USA on 1 July 1921.

Sent many messages on different occasions to the

US Jamā'at.

A well-known American missionary Mr. Zwaimer came to Qadian on 28 May 1924 to see Qadian, the center of Ahmadiyya Islam, and met Khalifatul-Masih II. He wrote a circular on reaching USA saying that the Christian world should prepare to combat Ahmadiyya Islam. (Al-Fazl, 6 January 1925, p. 5)

Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq was called back and was assigned duties at the headquarters in Qadian, India. (The Moslem Sunrise, October 1923, V. II, No. IV, p. 268, Al-Fazl, 30 October 1923, front page). During his tenure, Detroit, New Orleans, Florida, South Carolina, Indiana, West Virginia and New York Chapters were established. (The Muslim Sunrise, January 1924, pp. 45-6)

Missionary Muhammad Din was given the charge of second missionary to the US on 30 December 1925. (Al-Fazl, 1 January 1926, p. 1)

Sufi Muti-ur-Rahman Bengalee assumed the charge of US mission in 1928. He remained Missionary-in-Charge till 1948 (The Moslem Sunrise, July 1930, Vol. III, No. 3, p. 5). According to the Springfield Union USA (22 April 1940), there were 5,000 to 10,000 Ahmadiyya Muslims in USA.

Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan visited Chicago, Illinois from 29 August 1933 to 7 September 1933. He addressed three public meetings. He gave inspiring lecture on Islam in World Fellowship of Faiths. (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 6, pp. 119-120)

First International Congress was held in Chicago and New York, 199 representatives of all faiths, races and countries, delivered 242 addresses at 83 sessions seeking a solution for the world problems. Sufi M.R. Bengalee read message of Khalifatul-Masih in the conference.

Sufi M.R. Bengalee officially formed Lajna

Ima'illah in USA in 1935. (Urdu History Manuscript by Tabshir)

Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA was officially formed in March 1939 at Chicago. (Al-Fazl, 29 July 1939)

Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir (1946-1959) served as an assistant to Sufi M. R. Bengalee until 1948 and then succeeded him as Missionary in-Charge. In August 1949 bought a house for the Ahmadiyya Mission in Washington. A three-story building was procured for \$42,000 for mosque and mission. In May 1950, headquarter was shifted from Chicago to Washington (2141 Leroy Place, Washington D.C.). (Al-Fazl, 27 June 1950, Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 18, p. 219)

Missionary Mirza Monawar Ahmad died due to tumor on 15 September 1946. He was termed as martyr for passing away in a foreign land as a missionary.

Annual subscription of US Jamā'at reached \$40,000. (Al-Fazl, 17 April 1946)

First Annual Convention of Ahmadīs of United States of America was held in Dayton Ohio on 5 September 1948. Ninety participated from Indianapolis, Cleveland, Youngstown, Homestead, New York and Kansas City. (Al-Fazl, 24-25 September 1948)

Dr. Khalil Nasir launched the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA in 1950. He was the first editor. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, June 1950, p. 1—Edited by Khalil Ahmad Nasir and published by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, 2141 Leroy Place N.W., Washington, D.C.)

A school named “Noor-ud-Din” was opened to teach Islam to newly American converts. Its aim was to impart Islamic Teachings to American people. (Al-Fazl, 21 June 1950, p. 2)

In the year 1951, Muhammad Zafrulla Khan was representing Pakistan in United States. Mr. Truman, President of US gave a message to American nation. The next day a meeting of Muhammad Zafrulla Khan with Mr. Truman was scheduled. He made some comments on his speech during the meeting. He said to

the President that he remembered a few verses from the Holy Qur'an about two principles he mentioned in his message. He narrated those verses to him in English. President Truman took deep interest and wanted to see those verses in Qur'an himself. Zafrulla Khan sent him a copy of the Holy Qur'an with English translation. (Tarikh-i-Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 15, p. 439)

Dr. Khalil A. Nasir attended the World Conference on Religions (Shimizu City, Japan) and the World Council of Churches (Evanston, Illinois) in 1954.

Missionaries Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Nasir and Nur-ul-Haq Anwar delivered lectures in New York American University. Five speeches were also given on radio during the year 1955. (Al-Fazl, 3 July 1955, p. 3)

Prof. Stakman, Agriculture Advisor Rockefeller Foundation USA delivered a speech on “Agriculture and Science” on 31 January 1956 at Rabwah, Pakistan. He had an audience with the Promised Reformer. (Al-Fazl, 1 February 1956, pp. 1-8)

On November 21, 1962, J.F. Kennedy, President of United States of America, met in the oval office with the companion of the Promised Messiah, the President of the UN General Assembly, Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 83)

American Ahmadiyya Mission published 10,000 copies of Qur'an and distributed it all over the country creating renewed interest in Islam. (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 17, pp. 313-4)

The first mosque in a traditional Islamic design was completed in Dayton, Ohio on 23 March 1965. Local Ahmadis contributed \$16,500. (Ref biography of Major Abdul Hamid, Al-Fazl, 13 May 1965)

Newspaper Catholic Telegraph of Cincinnati published large size photograph of the mosque with interview from Missionary A.R. Bengalee on 21 June 1965. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 86)

Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih III

(May Allah shower His mercy on him)



Right at the beginning of the third Ahmadiyya Khilafat, Muhammad Ali, American boxing champion, visited Ahmadiyya Mosque in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1966 and offered Prayers there. (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 23, p. 714)

Ansarullah started publishing Al-Ansar. The second issue was published in August 1969.

On September 30, 1974, Sister Mubaraka Malik, a convert belonging to Lajna Ima'illah Milwaukee, met President Gerald R. Ford of United States at the White House, as a Congressional Candidate for Wisconsin's fifth district, and presented President Ford a copy of the Holy Qur'an. President Ford acknowledged her gift and thanked her saying that he would read it. (Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 93)

At annual conference held on 26-28 December 1975 at Rabwah, Pakistan, Khalifatul-Masih III announced six scholarships, one each for England, USA, Canada and Indonesia. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 93)

Khalifatul-Masih III announced Hundred Year Centenary Jubilee Fund in 1974 and asked members of

the Jamā'at to contribute generously so that the Jubilee could be celebrated with dignity and honor. American Ahmadiyya made pledges to support the scheme and fulfilled their commitments. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, March 1975, p. 2)

Forty-three members from USA attended the 1975 Annual Convention at Rabwah and it was the largest delegation ever from the US. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 93)

Khalifatul-Masih III delivered a Friday Sermon for Americans on January 9, 1976.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III gave a comprehensive plan to accelerate preaching of Ahmadiyya Islam in USA on 10 March 1976. He advised Jama'at Ahmadiyya USA to publish fifty thousand folders and distribute them as per his instructions. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 94)

Arrived in Washington on 25 July 1976 for his first tour of USA. He held eleven press conferences, addressed eleven receptions, and delivered thirteen Friday sermons. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1976, p. 6)

Khalifatul-Masih III asked Ahmadiyya Community USA to procure land in fifteen US States and establish a printing press. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US), p. 96 with reference to Friday Sermon of 22 October 1976)

A strong delegate of 32 US Ahmadiyya headed by Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad of Dayton, OH, left New York to participate in the Annual Conference at Rabwah, Pakistan. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1979, p. 3)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III toured USA for the second time from 11 September to 23 September 1980. He visited San Francisco and Washington areas. A special meeting was held under his chairmanship on 20 September 1980. It was attended by all Ahmadi officials.

In 1983, Khalifatul-Masih III gave a task to US to build five mosques and five mission houses in USA. (Al-Fazl, 17 August 1983)

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV

(May Allah shower His mercy on him)



Soon after the establishment of the Fourth Ahmadiyya Khilafat, Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem inaugurated mosque at Tucson, AZ on 28 January 1983. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, p. 111)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV sent a message to Canadian Ahmadis on 20 March 1983 to leap forward like American Ahmadis and collect 300,000 dollars in the next three years for new mission houses, mosques, and extension of existing mission house. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, p. 112)

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad of USA was martyred on the night of 8 August 1983 by a hired black American. The body reached Rabwah, and Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV led his funeral prayer. He said: O martyr of Ahmadiyyat, peace be on you; You did illuminate the name of Ahmadiyyat. (Centenary Souvenir 1889-1989, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA, pp. 22-24)

In 1983, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV said: “I warn Ahmadis all over the world that even if they were not calling people towards Allah previously, they will have to do so in future. To bring about the victory of Islam all over the world is a tremendous assignment. It requires many sacrifices which are being demanded from the Ahmadiyya Community. From today, let every Ahmadi decide that while he will continue to earn a living, wherever he is, he will give precedence to Da’wat Ilallah (calling people towards Allah). If you do that, you will soon witness that the spiritual revolution which had been eluding us will no longer be moving

away from us.” (50th Jalsa Salana Souvenir, June 1998. (69)).

Asked for donation to build centers across America and Europe in Friday Sermon delivered at Fazl Mosque, London on 29 June 1948. He urged the USA Jamā’at to construct five new mosques and mission houses in major US cities, Washington DC, New York, Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles. He asked members to collect \$2.5 million. He made a personal contribution of \$4200. (Khutbat-e-Tahir, V. 3, pp. 335-6)

In the city of Dowie, Jamā’at Ahmadiyya bought a church building and converted it to a mosque in 1984.

A 7.8-acre plot was procured at Silver Spring, Maryland. He laid foundation stone of the mosque on 9 October 1987.

Toured eleven states of USA from 30 September to 14 November 1987 (one and half month). He inaugurated four mosques in Willingboro, Philadelphia, Tucson and Portland. He laid foundation stone of mosque in Washington D.C. He was interviewed by Voice of America and Daily Jang. The media of N.Y. published his presence. The interview appeared in New York Times, New York Tribune, and some other local papers. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV chaired the Majlis Shūrā. (American Ahmadiyya Centennial Souvenir, 1889-1989, pp. 43-5)

Inaugurated Yousaf Mosque Tuscan, AZ on 21 October 1987. Many Ahmadi families were granted audience. The media covered the event. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, p. 118)

Toured USA for the third time in June 1991. Graced the 43rd annual convention of USA Jamā’at on 28-30 June 1991. About 4,000 people attended the Ahmadiyya convention.

During the Friday Sermon delivered on 5 November 1993 at Fazal Mosque, London, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV said: America in Tahrik Jadid is third by paying 244,440 pounds. America has great potential and if America makes use of its potential fully, it is just possible that they will leave behind all the Jamā’ats of the world. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January 1994, p. 3)

In October 1994, he visited Los Angeles, Seattle as well as Vancouver, Canada. He then returned to the US and visited Washington DC and New York. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA January 1995, pp. 5-8)

Inaugurated Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque in Silver Spring, MD on 14 October 1994. Then he inaugurated the Earth Station. 24-Hour transmission of MTA began. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, January 1995, pp. 5-8)

The 46th Ahmadiyya Annual Convention was held at newly constructed Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque for two days. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih delivered inaugural address on 14-15 October 1994.

Inaugurated the new mosque Masjid Sadiq in Chicago, IL on 23 October 1994. First US missionary Mufti Muhammad Sadiq bought a house and a part of which was converted to Al-Sadiq Mosque in 1922. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, January 1995, pp. 9-11)

Asked Ahmadiyya Community USA on 6 January 1995 to become number one in the world in contributing towards Waqf-e-Jadid. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, September 1995, pp. 21-22)

Addressed the National Amila of USA Jamā'at on 30 June 1996. Announced in his Friday Sermon that Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA contributed more in Waqf-e-Jadid than the rest of the world. Jamā'at USA was second in Tahrik-e-Jadid in 1996. First position was maintained by the USA Jamā'at in Waqf-e-Jadid as well as Tahrik-e-Jadid in 1997. (Khutbat-e-Tahir V. 16, pp. 807-8, Khutba 31 October 1997)

Visited USA for the fifth time in June 1997. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated Ahmadabad Mission House in Boston on 3 June 1997. He laid foundation

stone of Glen Ellyn, IL mosque on 17 June 1997. He graced forty-ninth Annual Convention at Bait-ur-Rahman, Silver Spring, Maryland and delivered four addresses. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 13)

Visited US Jamā'at for the sixth time in June-July 1998. He graced Annual Convention on 26-28 June 1998 at Bait-ur-Rahman, Silver Spring, Maryland. He laid foundation stone of Bait-us-Samee Mosque in Houston, TX on 30 June 1998. He inaugurated Bait-ul-Baseer Mosque at Milpitas, CA on 1 July 1998.

Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA held International Messiah 2000 Interfaith Conference at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin on 11-12 August 2000.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV praised Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA while addressing Majlis Shūrā: "I would like to inform you that I am very happy with the progress of United States of America. I have especially noticed how M.M. Ahmad has ably steered you through difficult times to ever rising heights of achievements. In the area of finance, you have done wonders with the grace of Allah. So, compliments seem to be directed to M.M. Ahmad, he could have not achieved this without your full and loving cooperation which you have extended him unreservedly. And this a blessing from Allah that the Amīr that is guiding a country and is fully cooperated with, fully obeyed not with formal sense of obedience, but with a sense of deep respect and love." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, August 2003)



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) with the workers of the Interpretation Team at Annual Convention 1991, UK. Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi is at extreme left.

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V

(May Allah support him with His mighty help)



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V met the US national executive at the Canadian Annual Convention in 2004. A large number of Ahmadis from the US attended the convention.

Appreciated the efforts of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA for donating \$4 m to establish Tahir Heart Institute in Rabwah, Pakistan in his letter of 22 July 2006.

Delivered concluding address of fifty-eighth Annual Convention held at Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, VA on 1-3 September 2006 from London via MTA. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 2006, pp. 4-12)

Sent message on 8 March 2008 for Centenary Khilafat Jubilee Souvenir. (USA Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 1908-2008, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, pp. 8-9)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V arrived at Washington Dulles airport on 16 June 2008. Graced sixtieth Annual Convention of USA from 20-22 June 2008. He delivered four addresses.

An address was delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih at Khilafat Centenary Celebration Reception/Dinner at Tysons' Hilton, McLean, Virginia USA on 23 June 2008. 302 guests were invited. The guests included four representatives of State Department. The leading newspapers and journals published coverage of the tour. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V clearly mentioned the true teaching of Islam

with reference to terrorism. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, November 2008, p. 51)

A “Khilafat Flight” from Washington to Toronto was arranged on 24 June 2008. “Khilafat Flight-Ahmadiyya Muslim Community,” was written on the boarding card. (Al-Fazl International 22 August 2008, p. 16)

Toured USA for the second time in June-July 2012. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, p. 173).

He visited town of Zion where a major sign of the truth of the Promised Messiah, was witnessed by the world. (Sunday Herald of Boston' on 23 June 1907) and “Sadiq Mosque” in Chicago on 17 June 2012. He inaugurated Bait-un-Nasir in Columbus-OH and grave of Ahmadiyya Missionary to US Mirza Monawar Ahmad (Martyr) at Pittsburgh on 19 June 2012. He was interviewed by D. Merica of CNN on 22 June. Visited American Fazal Mosque in Washington D.C. and Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque on 22 June 2012. He inaugurated Mubarak Mosque in Virginia on 27 June 2012. He graced sixty-fourth Annual Convention on 29, 30 June and 1 July 2012 at Harrisburg. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, pp. 173-192).

On 27 June 2012, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V was welcomed to Capitol Hill, in Washington D.C. where he delivered a keynote address entitled ‘The Path to Peace – Just Relations between Nations’ to an audience filled with more than 30 members of the United States Congress, including Honorable Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic Leader in the House of Representatives. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, August-September 2012). He also inaugurated mosques and graced sixty-fourth Annual convention. He addressed all three days. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, pp. 173, 181-186).

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V toured Los Angeles for his first visit to West Coast of USA from 4-12 May 2013. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 14)

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was interviewed by Tamara Audi of Wall Street Journal on 8 May 2013. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, August-September 2013, p. 12). Delivered the keynote address at a special reception on 11 May 2013 held in his honor at the Montage in Beverly Hills, CA. More than 300

politicians, academics and community leaders attended, including the California Lieutenant Governor, mayoral candidate Eric Garcetti, and several members of the United States Congress. During the event the Los Angeles City Council presented him with the golden key to the city. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, August-September 2013, p. 19)

Dr. Mehdi Ali Qamar, a US cardiologist martyred in Rabwah, Pakistan. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V mentioned his services for the Jamā'at in Friday Sermon on 30 May 2014. He led his funeral Prayer in absentia.

Toured USA for the fourth time on October-November 2018. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, September-October 2018, p. 20). He inspected Masroor Teleport on 16 October. Inaugurated Bait-ul-Aafiyat on 19 October and Bait-us-Samad on 20 October. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, pp. 206-226).

Went to the Laurel Hill Cemetery Philadelphia and prayed at the grave of Dr. George Baker (a pioneer

Ahmadi) on 20 October 2018. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, p. 216).

Visited Ansar Village in Joppa on 30 October 2018. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, p. 216).

Inaugurated Nasir Hospital in Sacatepéquez Guatemala on 23 October 2018. Inaugurated Bait-us-Samee Mosque in Houston, TX on 26 October 2018 and Masroor Mosque in South Virginia on 3 November 2018. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, pp. 217-224).

US Congress House Resolution 1125—Welcomed Mirza Masroor Ahmad to the US from 15 October to 5 November 2018. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, p. 228).

Launched MTA8 America on 27 May 2020 for programs in English, French and Spanish for North American countries. (Friday Sermon, 29 May 2020)



Syed Abdul Aziz as at the left, Munir Hamid to the right. Undated picture.

Ahmadiyya Missionaries to the US

These members represent the religious leadership and scholars of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. They are individuals who have dedicated their lives for the sake of establishing and advancing the Islamic Faith.

وَلْتَكُنْ مِنْكُمْ أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ ۗ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

And let there be among you a body of men who should invite to goodness and enjoin equity and forbid evil. And it is they who shall prosper. [3(Aal-e-Imran):105]

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi (may peace be on him), laid the foundation of Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam in 1889 but his message had reached far and wide in the preceding years. The divine mission of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US started none other than Mirza Ghulam Ahmad himself. He sent many letters to the scholarly communities of the West and the US. He circulated “Review of Religions in English” for English speaking community. It resulted immediate dividend. Many approached him through correspondence and accepted Ahmadiyya Islam. To name a few who accepted Ahmadiyya Islam are:

Charles Francis Sievwright (Muhammad Abd-ul-Haqq)

F.L. Andersen (Mirza Hasan)

Dr. George Baker of Philadelphia

Muhammad Alexander Russel Webb

First Missionary to the US, Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, was sent to the US by Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) in February 1920. In the beginning, there used to be only one missionary at a time. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq was in the US from 15 February 1920 to 8 September 1923.

Maulawi Muhammad Din, second missionary, was in the US from 29 March 1923 to December 1925.

There was a time when there was no missionary in the US. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf was appointed honorary missionary. He served Ahmadiyya Community USA from 20 September 1925 to December 1927 and then 1930-33. Afterwards center in Qadian, India, started sending multiple missionaries at a time. As the Ahmadis and the number of chapters increased, so did the number of missionaries. Now there are dozens of missionaries in the US.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq
2/15/1920-9/8/1923 | 9. Abdul Qadir Zaighum 9/1949-
55 and 6/1958-65 | 17. Major Abdul Hamid 5/1963-
67, 1978-79 |
| 2. Maulawi Muhammad Din
3/29/1923-12/1925 | 10. Maulawi Nurul-Haq Anwar
5/18/1954-7/1957 | 18. Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad
9/6/1967-2/14/1970 and
2/1971-? |
| 3. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan
10/20/1925-12/1927 and
6/1930-1933 | 11. Syed Jawad Ali Shah 12/1954-
7/1960, 1/2/1963-3/1971 | 19. Chaudhri Sharif Ahmad Bajwa
1/28/1973-7/20/1974 |
| 4. Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee
8/18/1928-35, 1936-2/1948 | 12. Abdush-Shakoor Kunze 1955-
56 | 20. Muhammad Siddique Shahid
8/1973-9/1977 |
| 5. Mirza Monawar Ahmad
8/1946-9/15/1948 | 13. Rashid Ahmad American 1955-
1972 | 21. Mian Muhammad Ibrahim
4/4/1974-12/1977, 6/1978-
12/1982 |
| 6. Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir 1946-
7/1959 | 14. Aminullah Khan Salik 3/1960-
63 | 22. Masud Ahmad Jhelumi 1975-
12/1978, 11/18/1980-2/4/1982 |
| 7. Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin Khan
6/1947-9/3/1963 | 15. Sufi Abdul Ghafoor 2/17/1962-
12/27/1963 | 23. Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem
8/1/1977-11/1978, 4/1979-
1983 |
| 8. Shukar Ilāhī Husain 9/1947-
60, 1964-73 | 16. Abdur-Rahman Khan
Bengalee 4/9/1963-
10/16/1967, 10/19/1969-
5/19/1972 | |

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 24. Abd-ur Rashid Yahya 8/1977-5/1981, 6/20/1986-94 | 38. Daud Ahmed Hanif 2/2/1996-11/25/2017 | 57. Hamid Nasir Malik Since 2015 |
| 25. Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir 11/19/1978-12/9/1980,3/1981-3/9/82 | 39. Bilal Abdus Salam 1998 | 58. Malik Tariq Mahmood Since 2016 |
| 26. Inamul-Haq Kauser 4/1981-4/1983, 4/1984-9/2014 | 40. Irshad Ahmad Malhi Since 1999 | 59. Abdullah Dibba Since 2/2017 |
| 27. Mirza Muhammad Afzal 9/18/1981-86 | 41. Mohammed Zafarullah Hanjra Since 1999 | 60. Matiullah Joyia Since 2017 |
| 28. Chaudhri Munir Ahmad, 9/18/1981-1990. | 42. Yahya Luqman Since 2005 | 61. Rizwan Khan Since 2017 |
| 29. Mufti Ahmad Sadiq 9/18/1981-86 | 43. Naseem Mahdi 2010-16 | 62. Tariq Naseem Since 2017 |
| 30. Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad 1983-6/1989 | 44. Muhammad Saeed Since 2010 | 63. Khalid Khan Since 2017 |
| 31. Zafar Ahmad Sarwar Since 1984 | 45. Salman Tariq Since 2012 | 64. Luqman Ahmad Gondal Since 2017 |
| 32. Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir Since 9/1987 | 46. Noman Rana 8/2012-11/2014 | 65. Faheem Ahmad Since 2018 |
| 33. Mubasher Ahmad Since 1988 | 47. Adnan Ahmad Since 2012 | 66. Umar Nayyar Since 2018 |
| 34. Mirza Mahmood Ahmad 9/1989-2000 | 48. Sheikh Ahmad Salman 2013-17 | 67. Qasid Ahmad Nasir Since 11/2018 |
| 35. Azhar Haneef Since 1989 | 49. Hammad Ahmad Since 2013 | 68. Frasad Ahmad Rana Since 2019 |
| 36. Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema 9/1990-2003 | 50. E. H. Mahmood Kauser 2013-18 | 69. Waqas Khurshid Since 1/2020 |
| 37. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa Since 1994 | 51. Faran Rabbani Since 2014 | 70. Farhad Rana Since 8/2020 |
| | 52. Khawaja Fahad Ahmad 11/2014-3/2015 | 71. Usama Rahman Since 8/2020 |
| | 53. Azam Akram Since 8/2014 | 72. Talha Riaz Basra Since 5/2021 |
| | 54. Talha Ali 5/2014-4/2015 | 73. Qasim Choudhary Since 10/2021 |
| | 55. Feroz Ahmad Hundal Since 8/2014 | 74. Wajeeh-Ur-Rehman Mirza Since 10/2021 |
| | 56. Syed Muhammad Abdullah Since 2015 | |

Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq

First Ahmadiyya Missionary to the US (2/15/1920-9/8/1923)



Mufti Muhammad Sadiq was born in Bhera, District Sargodha on 11 January 1872. His father and mother were Mufti Inayat Ullāh and Faiz Bibi. He passed Inter examination in 1890 and was appointed English teacher through the mediation of Maulawi Nur-ud-Din. (Tahdith Bin-Ni'mat by Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, pp. 2-4). He pledged allegiance to the Promised

Messiah in December 1890. Zikr-e-Habib, pp. 4-6, published in 1936). He is placed at No. 69 in the list 313 companions of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. (*Rūḥānī Khazā'in*, Vol. 3, p. 544: Izāla-e-Auham, Part II, p. 821)

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu) was a dedicated and very close companion of the Promised Messiah ('Alaih-is-Salām). He had the honor of recording many of his oral presentations, which have been included in the Malfūzāt. He had a charming personality. Blessed with a vast measure of knowledge, he was well versed in Urdu, Arabic, Persian, English, and Hebrew. Before coming to USA, he had unparalleled propagation record in England.

He prayed to God for three accomplishments in the USA and God rightly fulfilled all of them.

1. Establishment of a community of devoted people who bow before God.
 2. Publication of a magazine for the propagation of the true religion, that is, Ahmadiyya Islam.
 3. Construction of a mosque where the One and the only God is worshipped.
- (Tahdith Bin-Ni'mat by Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, p. 10)

Mufti Mohammad Sadiq arrived in Philadelphia on Sunday 15 February 1920, on-board the Haverford. For religious reasons, he was detained and was not permitted to propagate Islam in this country. On hearing the news of his detention, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu) said:

“America, a country that claims to be the strongest nation, may have

challenged many a nation and may have even defeated them. But if it dares challenge the spiritual kingdom, it will find out that it can never defeat us because the Almighty Allah is on our side. We will propagate Islam in the countries surrounding America and after converting their people we will send them into America. America will not be able to stop them. One day America will resound There is none worthy of worship except Allah.” (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 4, p. 250)

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq was released on 20 May 1920. Even during his detention, he converted many to Islam. (Al-Fazl, 9 October 1923) He stayed in New York for three months. Later, he moved to Chicago and established the first headquarter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community at 4448 Wabash Avenue. He started the first publication of the Movement “The Moslem Sunrise.” (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 4, pp. 250-1)

When he departed to Qadian in 1922, there were 700 Ahmadiyya Muslims in the US.

In propagating the message of Islam, Dr. Sadiq traveled extensively. His spiritually charming personality immediately attracted the media’s attention. He used to be invited to deliver lectures in many towns and shared the pulpits of many churches in different parts of the country. His speaking assignments were announced in local newspapers. The dignitaries of local towns would arrive in large numbers to hear him. Some newspaper editorials commented very positively on his presentations on Islam as the solution of American social ills.

Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq's style of propagation was to write hundreds of missionary epistles weekly to convey the message of Islam to renowned personalities throughout USA and throughout the world on historic occasions.

By July 1921, 646 letters had been received and 2,800 had been dispatched. About 300 books and leaflets had been distributed. Another 1,000 missionary epistles with literature had been mailed to

the main libraries all over USA. 500 letters giving the Message of Islam with sample copies of the Moslem Sunrise, were sent to Masonic Lodges all over the country. His missionary efforts were crowned with great success. He published the names of over 400 persons in the earliest issues of the Moslem Sunrise. The total number of converts ran into thousands during his stay in USA.

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq held weekly meetings for the spiritual training of the new converts every Sunday morning at the Mission House in Chicago. (Muslim Sunrise July 1922, Issue 3, Review of Religions, September 1922, p. 350, Review of Religions, October-November 1922, p. 367)

Dr. Sadiq died on 13 February 1957. He was indeed a model missionary leader, a loving teacher, a prolific writer, an engrossing speaker and above all, a distinguished ambassador of Islam. (Al-Fazl, 16 June 1957, pp. 3-4)

Maulawi Muhammad Din

Second Missionary to the US (3/29/1923-12/1925)



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (Raḍiyallāhu ‘Anhu) appointed Maulawi Muhammad Din, B.A. in

1923 followed by Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq as Missionary in-Charge. Thus, the land of America was blessed with two devoted Companions of the Promised Messiah as pioneering missionaries.

He brought a message from His Holiness Khalifatul-Masih II for brotherhood. The message was, “Strive and excel in the works of faith. Strive hard to acquire the knowledge of Faith. You should see Islam in its true and bright form. Make others see its illustrious face.”

US President Warren G. Harding died in August 1923 and John Calvin Coolidge Jr. was appointed 30th President of the

United States. Missionary Muhammad Din wrote a condolence letter to the wife of the deceased President. He also sent a congratulatory letter to the newly appointed President. He assured the President full support from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA.

The mission and the headquarters moved from 4448 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago Illinois to 56 East Congress St., Suite 1307, Chicago. The location was centrally located and had easy access to people.

A society ‘Ikhwan’ (Brothers) was founded for the active

promotion of Islamic brotherhood among the new converts. The aim of the society was to meet weekly or fortnightly alternately at the house of each other so as to know each. (The Moslem Sunrise, January 1924, Vol. III, No. 1, p. 33)

During the tenure of Maulawi Muhammad Din, 650 Chicagoans were converted to Islam. (The Moslem Sunrise, January 1924, V. III, No. 1, p. 35)

Maulawi Din Muhammad wrote a beautiful article on Islam in which he elaborated the object of a man's life, Cardinal doctrine of Islam, Qur'an is our sacred book, Islam forbids impurity of every kind, The ethics of Islam (The Moslem

Sunrise, Vol. III, No. 1, January 1924, pp. 43-45, The Moslem Sunrise, Vol. IIIc, No. 2, April 1924, p. 78.)

Much of Maulawi Muhammad Din's time was devoted to touring the country to open new avenues of propagation of Islam and training of the new converts. (Edited from 50th Jalsa Salana Souvenir Ahmadiyya Community USA, June 1998, p. 57)

Maulawi Muhammad Din, passed away on 8 March 1983. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV lauded the achievements of Maulawi Muhammad Din in his Friday Sermon of 11 March 1983. He said:

“The Promised Messiah, peace be on him, announced the scheme of life dedication

for the first time in 1907. One of the first thirteen fortunate ones to come forward on the first announcement was Hazrat Maulawi Muhammad Din, may Allah be pleased with him. He fulfilled his covenant with great loyalty. He served as missionary in the US from 1923 to 1925. He called people to Allah for his entire life. He prayed for the success of his tour to Spain. We need person like him to call people to True Islam.”

(Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Khutbat-e-Tahir, Vol. 2, p. 155)

Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan

Honorary Missionary (9/20/1925-12/1927, 1930-3)



Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Khan belonged to Jhelum, India (now Pakistan). He was born in 1900; his father Dr. Yaqoob Khan was a veterinary physician, who accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1901. Dr. M. Yousuf Khan got his early education in Qadian. He arrived in the US from Lahore on April 1921 (List or manifest of alien passengers, Courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad, Hundred years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, the Ahmadiyya Gazette, April-September 2020, p. 52).

Apart from his studies, he gave ample time to missionary work. Mufti Sadiq, in The Moslem Sunrise, along with his picture, writes: “Our young friend in America, who works hard for his living and then evangelizes for Islam in his spare time.” (The Moslem Sunrise, April-July 1923, p. 193)

After Mufti M. Sadiq, he carried on his services for Ahmadiyya mission with Maulawi Muhammad Din. M. Yusuf Khan delivered three lectures on Islam in Rockford, Michigan. (The Moslem Sunrise, April-July 1923, p. 190)

M. Yusuf Khan gained practical missionary experience from missionaries Dr. Muhammad Sadiq and Maulawi Muhammad Din. After the departure of Maulawi Muhammad Din to Qadian, he proved to be a beneficial helping hand especially during the years when there was no missionary in the US. He was made temporarily in-Charge of the missionary work on 20 October 1925. He traveled to

Indiana, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. He established a mission in Cincinnati. He moved from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh in March 1930. Chapters were also established in Braddock, Homestead, PA Youngstown, Akron, Columbus, and Dayton, OH. (The Muslim Sunrise, Vol. XLII, Number 4, December 1975, pp. 14-15).

He visited Qadian from 1927 to middle of 1930. At that time when Khalifat-ul-Masih II, appointed Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee as a missionary in-Charge of Ahmadiyya mission in USA, Dr. Yousuf Khan was also appointed as a missionary to assist him. At this time, Dr. Yousuf also brought his younger brother Ahmad Hayat Khan to USA along with him. As a missionary in-Charge, Sufi Bengalee took charge in Chicago, and Dr. Khan was stationed in Pittsburgh, PA. His younger brother also served as an honorary missionary in Cincinnati, OH.

In 1933 Khalifat-ul-Masih II delegated Sufi Mutiur Rahman

Bengalee and Dr. M. Yousuf Khan to attend the World Fellowship of Faiths conference in Chicago (Al-Fazl, Qadian, August 27, 1933, pp. 1-2). Fortunately, Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan was also in USA for a short tour, all the three addressed the conference. Dr. Khan's topic was "Islam Overcoming Racial and Religious Prejudice." (World Fellowship Edited by Charles Frederick Weller, Liveright Publishing Corporation, New York 1935). Some of his reports of this period are published in Al-Fazl,

Qadian. (Al-Fazl, 9 April 1933, p. 2 and Al-Fazl, 29 October 1933, p. 2)

In Pittsburgh, the women's auxiliary, Lajna Ima'illah (Maid servants of God) was established. It began with women members coming together in what they called "Sewing Circles." In 1933, Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan appointed Aliyyah Muhammad as first President of the women's "Sewing Circle." Many sisters were professional cooks and seamstresses. Their talents inspired beautiful handicrafts and

sumptuous meals for fundraising. (From Nycemah Yaqub, African American Journey to Islam)

Dr. M. Yousuf Khan passed away on January 19, 1979, at the age of seventy-nine years in Detroit, MI and being a Mūsī (Waṣīyyat No. 18845) was buried in Behishtī Maqbarah Rabwah, Pakistan. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July-August 2018, p. 30 and Tabshir Report about USA)

Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee

Third Missionary to the US (8/18/1928-35,1936-2/48)



Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee arrived in the United States as Ahmadiyya Missionary on 18 August 1928. He opened the missions of the Jamā'at at Indianapolis, Dayton, Pittsburgh, Youngstown, Cleveland, Saint Louis, and Kansas City.

He traveled extensively to propagate Islam. His interviews were published in US newspapers with major headlines. Many editorials on contemporary issues giving Islamic perspective were published. He maintained an office on State Street in downtown Chicago from where he established contacts with many people who had found it difficult to visit the Chicago Mosque on the South Side. He started a series of programs for the spiritual and moral training of the new members

of Ahmadiyya Community. New chapters were organized. In 1936, his wife, Mrs. Atiyyah Bengalee joined him in the US; her arrival gave a valuable boost to the organization and activities of the American Ahmadi women.

He wrote a letter to Mr. Herbert Hoover, President of the United States of America, Washington D.C. on assumption of his office. He presented him a book. He received the reply through Lawrence Richey, Secretary to the president appreciating the courtesy of sending him the book.

In the last quarter of 1930, important lectures were delivered in various societies, clubs, and institutions. Dr. Martin Sprenghing, Professor of Semitic Languages and Literature of the University of Chicago, and our missionary, addressed a large crowd. The proceedings of the event were reported in Chicago Daily News and the Chicago Daily Tribune.

Sufi M.R. Bengalee wrote a letter to Mr. Herbert Hoover, President of the United States of America, Washington D.C., congratulating him on assuming the charge of a great office. He also presented him a book.

Sufi M.R. Bengalee received the reply through Lawrence Richey, Secretary to the President, appreciating the courtesy of sending him a book. (The Moslem Sunrise, July 1930, Vol. III, No. 3, p. 19)

In 1929 a high-level authentic organization was established in US by International Christian Society to review religious teachings in Bible. Top 30 Christian researchers worked on it. They concluded after long deliberations that the verses about ascending of Jesus to sky cannot be part of the Bible. So, they recommended the verses to be deleted. (Revised Standard Version of Bible 1929, Published by Thomas Nelson, 1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, p. 55)

In the first quarter of year 1931, Sufi M.R. Bengalee undertook a lecture tour East and the South. Many addresses were delivered at universities and churches. Specially, the Community Church, New York; Bronx Free Fellowship Bronx; New York; Pythian Temple, New York; the First Congregational Church, New York; the Sophists' Club, City College, New York; Morningside Residence Club, New York; Sunday Evening Salon, Greenwich, Conn.; Ethical Cultural Society,

Philadelphia, PA; the Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA.; First Methodist Church, New York.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer Cleveland, Ohio gave this heading in its publication of June 25, 1932. “Seeks converts to Islam here. Mohammedan missionary also wishes to correct wrong ideas on religion.”

Many lectures’ trips to various cities of USA, such as Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Indianapolis, Indiana; St. Louis, Missouri; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Dowagiac, Michigan; Detroit, Michigan; Gary, Indiana were arranged. He also gave

lectures in Chicago and its vicinity before very highly intellectual audience. Special mention may be made of the Washington Boulevard Temple (audience was 2500); the North shore Congregational Israel (audience was 900); the Gary Memorial Hall, the Crane College, Chicago; Hotel Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri; the church of Truth, Grand Rapids, Michigan; the City Club of Chicago; the YMCA Chicago; and the Lincoln School Annex, East St. Louise, Illinois and Fraternal Spiritualist Church, Chicago, Illinois.

Ahmadi Muslims were reported

between 5,000 and 10,000 in the US during his tenure. (Panorama, January 1952, V. 3, No. 20)

Sufi Bengalese’ tenure of historical missionary work ended successfully in 1948. (Edited from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Vol. 69, Nos. 11-12, November-December 2017, p. 46 and American Ahmadiyya Centennial Souvenir 1889-1989, p. 53)

Sufi Bengalee was a literary person. He wrote many articles and books. Two of his distinguished writings are “Life of Muhammad” and “Tomb of Jesus.”

Prof. Muhammad Ibrahim Nasir

(Assigned as US Missionary in 1936 but was denied entry in US)



Prof. Ibrahim Nasir came to New York along with Sufi Mutiur Rehman Bengalee accompanied by his wife and daughter in 1936. Because of his religious beliefs, the immigration officer did not allow him to enter the United States (Missionary Mufti Muhammad Sadiq was also denied entry to the US on his arrival to USA but was later allowed to enter and propagate Islam in USA). On urgent communication during the detention period, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II advised him to leave and go to Hungary. He then embarked on another ship from Liberty Island, New York to Europe to complete his mission.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II selected following fortunate people for foreign missions under the scheme of Tahrik Jadid. It is appropriate to call them front runners of Tahrik-e-Jadid Scheme. They were: Maulawi Ghulam Hussain Ayaz, Sufi Abdul Ghafoor, Chaudhri Muhammad Ishaq of Sialkot, Sufi Abdul Qadeer Niyaz, Hafiz Maulawi Abdul Ghafoor of Jullundur, Chaudhri Haji Ahmad Khan Ayaz, Muhammad Ibrahim Nasir, Malik Muhammad Sharif of Gujrat, Maulawi Ramzan Ali and Maulawi Muhammad Din.



Al-Fazl, Qadian, 3 November 1936

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II

consulted Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) and Chaudhri Fateh Muhammad Sayal (may Allah be pleased with him) for many days on their selection. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih sanctioned third class rail fare, fare for deck ship and six months allowances for the young missionaries. He instructed them to bear other expenses by engaging in some business or any other work.

Thus, these Tahrik-e-Jadid missionaries embarked on foreign journey. (Daily Al-Fazl, Qadian, 3 November 1936, p. 2 and Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat by Dost Muhammad, V. 7, pp. 73-4)

A new development took place and American government did not allow entry to our missionary Muhammad Ibrahim Nasir. The plea was that he had faith in multiple marriages. (Bimonthly Tahrik-e-Jadid, August 1965, p. 7, Col. 2 and Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat by Dost Muhammad, V. 7, p. 82)

(Contributed by Sulaiman Zakaria, Central Virginia and translated into English by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi)

Mirza Monawar Ahmad



Ahmadi Missionary to US
(August 1946-15 September 1948)

Mirza Monawar Ahmad was born in 1916. He was son of Mirza Shafi Ahmad. He graduated from the Punjab University receiving highest degree in Arabic in 1938. He dedicated his life for the Movement immediately after completing his secular education. During his training period in the Center as a missionary, he held some of the topmost positions in the Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, the central youth organization of the Movement. His services in the Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya in different important capacities will go down in its history as a permanent contribution toward strengthening its foundations.

Mirza Monawar Ahmad arrived in United States of America at the end of August 1946. He was posted as missionary in Pittsburgh PA. Initially this region included eastern coast of Baltimore to Dayton including Cleveland and Youngstown. He spent his life for Ahmadiyya Islam and was a torch bearer for any sacrifice for the cause of Ahmadiyya Islam. He was very popular in the region mainly due to his simplicity, love and affection. He induced a stir in the Ahmadis of Pittsburgh. Due to his efforts, this region was declared in

one of the top positions in USA Jamā'at. He had a tumor and was operated in local hospital but could not survive.

He left for the United States in 1946 under the instructions of the Promised Reformer Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih. Shortly before his departure his beloved father expired. Only a year later, during the Punjab massacres of 1947, he received the tragic news that his only brother became victim of the atrocities of the Indian police who shot him to death in cold blood. Only in a short time, Mirza Monawar Ahmad was hit twice with such sad bereavements. A great shock was still to come when a little later, his old mother was compelled to migrate to Pakistan under most staggering conditions along with all other Ahmadis from their beloved hometown, Qadian; the center of the Movement, leaving all their possessions behind.

Mirza Monawar Ahmad bore all these heart-breaking blows courageously and boldly. He kept himself all the busier in the service of Ahmadiyyat until his last illness forced him to his deathbed.

Mirza Monawar Ahmad, was posted as missionary in Pittsburgh PA. Initially this region included eastern coast of Baltimore to Dayton including Cleveland and Youngstown. He spent his life for Islam and Ahmadiyyat and was torch bearer for any sacrifice for the cause of Ahmadiyya Islam. He had a tumor and was operated in local hospital but could not survive and passed away on 15 September 1948. He was related to *Hazrat* Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him), son of the Promised Messiah (‘Alaih-is-Salām) who wrote in detail about him. He would do any work

assigned to him with honesty and diligently.



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V visits the grave of Mirza Monawar Ahmad in Pittsburgh

When the doctors recommended blood transfusion for him, newly converted Muslim men and women offered their blood for him. His blood type was hard to find. Whichever new Muslim's blood would match his, would be extremely happy and would be proud that his blood has matched that of Mirza Monawar Ahmad. As the need for transfusion increased, the doctors asked the donors to donate any blood and they will find matching blood from their resources. Based on this, they offered their blood. This indicates that with the grace of Allah the Almighty, the Jamā'at in America is progressing in sincerity, and this is a testimony to the pious example of the deceased. (Al-Fazl, 15 July 1948, p. 6). Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad, second son of the Promised Messiah, wrote a touching article in the organ of the Movement, the Daily Al-Fazl.

Truly the shock for the Ahmadiyya Movement in America is very great. The gap created by our beloved brother's death will not be easily filled. The loss is tremendous

but as true believers in God, we have unswerving faith that Allah will not let His work suffer. Rather, on the other hand, Mirza Monawar Ahmad's sacrifice will infuse new blood in the mission's work and will expedite its journey toward the destination. The feelings of a real Ahmadi have been best expressed by Mirza Bashir Ahmad in a personal letter. He says:

The death of our dear Mirza Monawar Ahmad has caused us great grief but for a true believer the whole matter centers around the verse of the Holy Qur'an, Inna Lillāhi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'oon. That firstly, all of us belong to Allah, and if Allah takes away what belongs to Him, nobody has a right to grumble. Secondly, all of us will

at last have to gather together with our God. The Promised Messiah, may peace and blessing of God be upon him, has pointed to the very fact in his following words:

"He only is the Most Beloved who has sent for (the deceased); and to Him alone we should offer all our love."

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifat-ul-Masih II, mentioned about his qualities in his Friday Sermon of September 24, 1948 that he was a great missionary and excelled in religious matters related to Jama'at, and that the American Jama'at progressed due to his efforts and that he was an asset to our Jama'at. (Translated from Al-Fazl, 6 October 1948, p. 6, edited

from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, p. 66)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V inaugurated Bait-un-Nasir Mosque in Columbus Ohio on June 19, 2012, and then proceeded directly to Pittsburgh PA where he prayed at the graves of a number of Ahmadi Muslims buried at the local cemetery, including at the grave of Mirza Munawar Ahmad, an Ahmadi Missionary, posted to the city in the 1940s.

(Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, V. 12, p. 125, Daily Al-Fazl, September 19, 1948, p. 3 and Daily Al-Fazl, Oct. 26, 1948, p. 5, Daily Al-Fazl, October 6, 1948, p. 6, The Muslim Sunrise, Vol. XX, Fourth Quarter, No. 4, 1948, pp. 12,13, 32)

Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir

Ahmadi Missionary to US (1946-7/1959) Missionary In-Charge (2/1948-59)



Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir (1946-1959) served as an assistant to Sufi M. R. Bengalee until 1948 and then succeeded him as Missionary in-Charge in February 1948. He established Ahmadiyya mosque in the Nation's Capital, which was named the American Fazl Mosque by Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd and served as the Headquarters for the Community from 1950 to 1994.

He arrived in Rabwah 18 May 1954 (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 23) for a visit.

Dr. Nasir started the Annual Conventions, initiated the elections of the National Executives and the National Auxiliaries, published new books and launched the Ahmadiyya Gazette. He also participated in several international conferences.

Islam was represented by Dr. Khalil in the World Conference on Religions at Shimizu City, Japan and in the World Council of Churches at Evanston, Illinois.

Islam was represented by Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan and Dr. Khalil A. Nasir at the World Religions Conference in Dallas, TX and was attended by world-known leaders such as the Prince of the Netherlands and His Excellency U Nu, the Prime Minister of Burma.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II instructed Dr. Khalil to write a reply to American Firm who wrote derogatory remarks about the Holy Prophet (Ṣallallāhu 'Alaihi Wa

Sallam). The firm was informed accordingly. Timely reply forced the firm to send a written apology.

(Edited from 50th Jalsa Salana Souvenir Ahmadiyya Community USA, June 1998, p. 57 and SHAHID, Maulānā Dost Mohammad, (2007), Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, by Niẓārat Nashr-o-Ishā'at Qadian, V. 18, p. 219)

During first seven months of 1958, he addressed all of the missionaries in US. He gave 23 lectures in churches, clubs and conferences. The main are:

1. Church Peace University, New York
2. Ann Arbor under University of Michigan
3. Missionary Training School at Wesley Theological Seminary

These successful lectures arose interest in the study of Ahmadiyya literature. American Mission distributed 12000 pamphlets of "Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam."

The book “An Interpretation of Islam” by Dr. Laura Veccia Vaglieri was published in a good-looking edition.

The eleventh Annual convention was held on 29-31 August 1958. The Shura was also held on 29 August. (Al-Fazl, 7 June,

11, 23 September and 11, 12 November 1958)

Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir returned to center Rabwah on 10 July 1959 after successful missionary work under the auspices of Tahrir Jadīd. (Record Wakalat Tabshir, Tahrir Jadīd,

Rabwah and Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat by Dost Muhammad, V. 20, p. 548)

He concluded his career as the professor of political science at the University of Long Island, New York.

Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin Khan

Missionary to US (6/1947-9/3/1963), Missionary In-Charge (7/1959-2/17/1962)



Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin reached USA in June 1947 (Al-Fazl, 26 June 1947). He worked mostly for New York Mission for about fifteen years.

He toured new Chapters in Kansas City and St. Louis. He continued to deliver lectures on Islam and Ahmadiyyat in churches, schools and clubs. (Personal file of

Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin 1948, p. 14-15)

In January 1955, a mission started working in a rented house at Harlem of Manhattan (NY).

Mirza Monawar Ahmad of Pittsburgh and Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin from New York helped Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Nasir to establish New York Mission on sound footings. The Mission was already established during the era of Missionary in-Charge Sufi M.R. Bengalee. Early Ahmadis like Talib Daud, Muhammad Sadiq and Abid Haneef from Pittsburgh helped these missionaries wholeheartedly. (Wakalat Tabshir Report on New York Mission)

Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin presented volume 1 and 2 of English Commentary to Secretary

General UNO through Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan. (Wakalat Tabshir Report on New York Mission)

Thirteenth Annual Convention of US Jamā‘at was held New York on 3-4 September 1960. Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin addressed the convention. (Al-Fazl, 23 December 1960, p. 5)

Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Nasir departed from USA in July 1959 and Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin took over the charge of Missionary In-Charge. Later he handed the charge to Sufi Abdul Ghafoor on February 1962. (Wakalat Tabshir Report on New York Mission)

Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin returned to Rabwah from USA in 1963. (Record Wakalat Tabshir, Rabwah)

Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi Husain



Missionary to US (September 1947-60, 1964-73)

Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi Husain arrived from Qadian, India in 1947, only a few months before partition and the founding of Pakistan. He served first as the missionary for St. Louis, Kansas City, and Indianapolis. He traveled between these cities on a rotating basis spending two weeks in each one training the members in Islamic principles. The largest of these Jamā‘ats was St. Louis, one of the cities where Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq had successfully spread the message of Islam during his time in

America. The Muslim Sunrise issues in 1922 document the successful preaching efforts in St. Louis and the growing number of members there, reportedly around 100. Most of these converts were brought in through the efforts of an African American convert, Sheikh Ahmad Din (formerly P. Nathaniel Johnson).

In 1948, a group of members from an Islamic group in St. Louis, the Muslim Brotherhood joined the Jamā‘at and signed over their

organization and a building they owned at 2803 Delmar to be used as a mission house. The growing Jamā'at now required a missionary on a more permanent basis, and in 1949 missionary Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi was posted in St. Louis.

On the transfer of headquarters from Chicago to Washington, the circles were realigned from May 1950. The Missouri circle was given to missionary in-Charge Shukar Ilahi. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA June 1950, V. 1, No. 4, p. 2)

His daughter, Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad, is an active member of the St. Louis Jamā'at, and has preserved records.

Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi was transferred to Chicago in 1953 where he lived with his family in the Sadiq Mosque at 4448 Wabash. Later, in February 1954 he was sent to Los Angeles where he was posted for four years. During this period, a house was rented at 927 Fairfax Avenue, which was used as a residence as well as an office and mission house. Records document activities in Tabligh with outreach to schools, universities, and the media to educate the public about Islam and Ahmadiyyat. During these years, there were not many Muslims of any sect living in the area and many students from Muslim countries, eager for interaction, would visit. Only three

known Ahmadi were living in California in 1954; Brothers Ahmad Jamal and Sharif Ahmad in Los Angeles. and Sister Sakina Nusrat in San Francisco. The reports document that Sister Sakina “had not seen another Ahmadi in 10 years” since she had moved there. The names and occupations of other new members are listed and eventually a larger house on Curson Avenue was rented to accommodate the mission and host public meetings. It must be mentioned that the Jamā'at funds available for this building were not sufficient to cover the cost as the area was quite expensive. Bro. Ahmad Jamal, a devout pioneer member lived in one room in the house with the missionary's family and helped to supplement the rent. (Statement of Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad)

In 1958, Shukar Ilahi was posted to Washington D.C. for about a year and then the family relocated to St. Louis where he was on leave from missionary work for a time. In 1964 he was again assigned the responsibility for the Midwest area, and he and his family moved to Chicago and lived in the historic Sadiq Mosque once again.

They moved to Zion on September 10, 1965. The home they purchased was located at 2209 Elam Avenue in Zion. It was a two-

story farmhouse built by a family who had come to Zion to follow Dowie. Their neighbors were followers from all around the nation and Canada who migrated to Zion to be a part of Dowie's theocracy and his Christian Catholic Church. [Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, p. 360 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

The Waukegan Jamā'at was formally recognized in 1969 and elections were conducted by Missionary Shukar Ilahi. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, Centennial Souvenir 2020, p. 362)

In 1972, the USA Jalsa Salana was held at Lake Forest College. Shukar Ilahi engaged all the members from the region including Chicago, Waukegan, Zion, Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee for the planning of the Annual Convention. [Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April-September 2020, p. 363 (comprising Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

Shukar Ilahi was married to a convert from St. Louis, Bushra Saeeda who passed away in 2010 at the age of 81. They had two girls and a boy: Tanvir ul-Nisa (married to Dr. Naseer Ahmad of St. Louis in 1974), Bashir (deceased) and Kamar. He retired from missionary work in 1973 and died in 1980.

‘Abd-ul-Qadir Zaighum



Missionary to US (9/1949-55,6/1958-65)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II

appointed Mr. Abdul Qadir Zaighum US missionary. He flew from Pakistan in September 1949 and arrived in the US in time to participate in the annual conference (Jalsa Salana). (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, V. 13, p. 108. Al-Fazl, 20 March 1950)

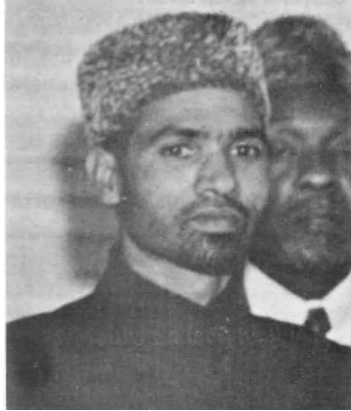
He was posted at Pittsburgh in place of Mirza Monawar Ahmad. He returned to Pakistan in 1955. He left Rabwah on 4 May 1958 (Tarikh

Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 20, p. 296) and was back in the US in June 1958 and took charge of New York Mission from Maulawi Noor-ul-Haqq Anwar.

A very scholarly and aggressive missionary, he held weekly *Tabligh* meetings at Time Square and was extremely good at debates with non-Muslims. (Unpublished History of Ahmadiyyat in the US by Wakalat Tabshir)

Maulawi Nur-ul-Haqq Anwar

Missionary to US (5/18/1954-7/1958)



Maulawi Nur-ul-Haqq Anwar left Rabwah 21 April 1954 and reached New York on 18 May 1954 and took charge of New York

Mission (Al-Fazl, 23 May 1954, p. 1)

Missionary Nur-ul-Haqq Anwar was a *Hafiz* (had memorized the whole Qur'ans) and for the first time in the US the whole Qur'an was recited during the month of Ramadan in Tarawih Prayers.

Our missionaries Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Nasir and Nur-ul-Haqq Anwar delivered lectures in American University New York. Five speeches were given on radio during the year 1955. (Daily Al-Fazl, July 3, 1955, p. 3)

Sultan of Morocco arrived in New York in December 1957.

Maulawi Nur-ul-Haqq met him and introduced Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at and presented him literature of the Jamā'at. (Unpublished Urdu History of Ahmadiyyat in the US by Wakalat Tabshir)

He gave the charge of the New York mission to Missionary Zaigham in June 1958 (Al-Fazl, 23 May 1954. Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 23). He was back in Rabwah on 17 August 1958 (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 20).

Syed Jawad Ali

Missionary to US (12/1954-7/1960, 1/2/1963-3/1971)



Syed Jawad Ali left Rabwah 21 November 1954 and arrived in Washington D.C. on 27 December 1954 and took over as Secretary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA in Washington DC.

His wife and daughter arrived in the US on 5 November 1957. His

wife died on 14 March 1958 in a Pittsburgh hospital and was buried there. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV led her funeral prayer in absentia as martyr. (Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat, Aaghaz-ta-Khilafat-4, p. 131)

Missionary Jawad Ali established mission in Detroit. Majlis Ansarullah USA came into being during Annual Convention (5-6 Sept. 1959) in Chicago. (Personal file of Syed Jawad Ali Shah 1959, p. 28)

His missionary efforts continued for six years. He returned to Pakistan in July 1960. (Al-Fazl, 20 April 1958, Al-Fazl, 30 July 1960, Al-Fazl, 18 October 1994) He returned to US in January 1963 and worked in Washington

DC, Chicago, and St. Louis. He finished his tenure of duty on 14 March 1971. (Souvenir 50th Jalsa USA 1998, p. 57, Al-Fazl, 18 October 1994)

Syed Jawad Ali delivered the message of Ahmadiyya Islam literature to sixty non-Muslims and people from Syria, Egypt, and Libya during two marriage ceremonies at Washington. He wrote forty Tabligh letters and distributed hundreds of flyers in Washington. He delivered a speech in Methodist Church in Arlington and at the end answered questions from public. (Al-Fazl, 17 August, 26 October, 12 December 1963, and 25 February 1964) (Compiled by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi)

Abdush-Shakoor Kunze

Missionary USA (1955-56)



Missionary Abdush-Shakoor Kunze with His Family, (wife and a daughter)

On 5 August 1950, Mr. Kunze’s Nikah ceremony was performed in the Masjid Mubarak in Rabwah by the Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II. He was married to a Pakistani woman. Before he left for Europe, Huzoor’s wife invited Mr. Kunze along with his wife to dinner. Kunze writes,

As we sat there waiting for Hazrat to come, Hazrat’s son, Hazrat Mirzā Nasir Ahmad, Dr. Munawar, Mubarak, Hafiz Anwar and more persons arrived (some when Huzoor arrived) and everyone began to sit for the meal. Huzoor said, “You all are the guests of honor,” and sat alongside with

me.

He left Rabwah on 31 December 1954. Abdush-Shakoor Kunze was appointed as the missionary in-Charge of the Midwest. He was living in with his family in the Chicago Mosque located at 4448 South Wabash Street in the south side of Chicago.

The missionary in-Charge of the United States at the time, Khalil Ahmad Nasir, appointed Abdush-Shakoor Kunze to start a branch of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Missionary Abdush-Shakoor Kunze successfully started the Milwaukee Jamā‘at.

Missionary Abdush-Shakoor Kunze went there and met a Christian preacher who wanted to accept Ahmadiyyat. This preacher accepted Ahmadiyyat along with two or three of his congregational members. Missionary Kunze also encountered some blacks who claimed to be Muslims. They said that they were foreigners. Some of

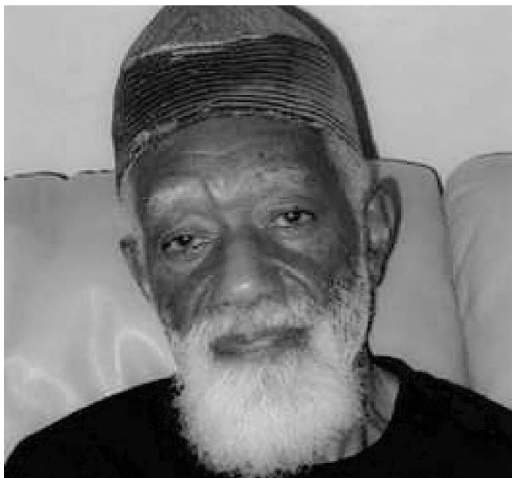
them claimed to be from Somalia, Ethiopia, and one from Qadian. One of these individuals claimed that his grandparents were Jewish.

Missionary Kunze presented lectures and discourses on Islam and addressed any questions from the audience. A group of Muslims in Milwaukee who were blacks regularly attended his discourses. One of the members who accepted was Abdul Malik who passed away several years ago but remained a faithful member of the Milwaukee Jamā‘at and contributed significantly to the organization and training of members.

Chicago Tribune of 23 September 1955 published an interview of Mr. Kunze which encompass the aim and objectives of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya. It also gave total counts of the members of the Jamā‘at. (Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, V. 17, p. 315 by Dost Muhammad) (Compiled by Nafis Ur Rehman of Georgia and Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi of Columbus-OH)

Rashid Ahmad American

First African American Missionary, National President (1955-72)



Rashid Ahmad American was born in St. Louis in 1923. He entered the fold of Ahmadiyya Islam in 1947.

Two years after joining, he went to Rabwah in 1949 to pursue religious education. Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd, Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu, personally received him at the Rabwah Railway Station. After studying at Jāmi'a Aḥmadiyya for five years, he graduated as a qualified missionary. During his stay in Pakistan, he learned Urdu and Punjabi languages. He earned the distinction of being the first student admitted to Jāmi'a Aḥmadiyya from America.



Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd, arranged his marriage with Ms. Sara Qudsiyyah, daughter of an Ahmadi Missionary, Al-Haj Ibrahim Khalil. He was blessed with three children.

After his studies at Jāmi'a Aḥmadiyya, he was sent to the USA as an honorary missionary. Upon his departure, Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd

gifted him a *Kulah* (the cap—a sheet of cloth is wrapped on it to make a turban) of his turban, in which a piece of the sacred garment of the Promised Messiah, 'Alaih-is-Salām, was sewn. He cherished this gift.

He was the first native African American missionary of the Ahmadiyya Community in USA. He performed his missionary duties in Chicago, St. Louis, and various other cities. He also served as the national president for several years. For a long time, he was the president of the Milwaukee Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He also held other offices in Jamā'at.

In 1998, he performed Hajj. In Milwaukee, he was popular among other religious communities as well.

His second wife was the daughter of a former President of the St. Louis Chapter, Mr. Khalid Usman. From his marriage to Aziza Ahmad, he was blessed with two sons and two daughters.

In 1985-86, he arranged a large gathering of Muslims at the University of Wisconsin. He used to deliver lectures regularly at university campuses.

He was involved in the television program "Islam Live" for over 20 years. Until the last breath of his life, he regularly worked at weekly bookstall. Before his death, as long as he was conscious, he was preaching to the nurses at the hospital.



**Hassiem and Rashid at 7-mile Fair
Tabligh booth**

In the defense of Ahmadiyya Islam, he was always a drawn-out sword. Often, he was referred to as Mr. *Tabligh*.

Al-Haj Rashid Ahmad passed away in Milwaukee, USA on February 7, 2015, at the age of 91. Khalifatul-Masih V led his funeral prayers in absentia after Friday Sermon on 13 February 2015. (Edited from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, March-April 2015, pp. 18-21)

Aminullah Khan Salik



Aminullah Khan Salik worked as a missionary in Washington D.C., New York and Chicago from 1 March 1960 to 1963 (about three years). (Tabshir-General File USA 1956-60, p. 123)

He was married to Bushra Shah, daughter of Syed Iqbal Shah and granddaughter of the companion of the Promised

Messiah (may peace be on him), Dr. Sayyid Wilayat Shah of Nairobi, West Africa.

From his childhood, his parents had dedicated his life to serving the Jamā'at, based on an appeal of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II. In 1949, after completing his middle school education, he was enrolled at Jami'a Ahmadiyya. He completed Maulawi Fāzil degree in 1995.

His first posting in the USA was in 1960 when he was 23 years old. He served as a missionary in the USA from 29 February 1960 to

April 1963. He was a very passionate missionary and utilized many opportunities for preaching through newspapers and radio.

An interview of missionary Aminullah Khan Salik was telecasted in 11-12 night of November 1960 by Indianapolis in which Jamā'at was introduced. The Indianapolis Times published the report. In another interview with the Indianapolis news in December 1960 titled "Islam Missionary Sees Peace Hope," he was quoted as saying that "real peace will come only through a better understanding of the world's religions." He also

emphasized that “tenets of the religion include establishment of true democracy with no discrimination by caste, color or country.”



Missionary Aminullah Khan Salik appeared on TV answering questions. He was asked whether foreigners disliked conversions to Christianity by American missionaries. He replied, “There is no need to get offended. But if someone tries to create disorder in the country, then that would not be liked by anybody.” The program was recorded in our mission house.

At the end of 1960, Missionary Aminullah Salik visited Columbus Ohio where two television stations interviewed him and newspapers headlined his arrival.

The Chicago Sun Times is an important newspaper and had a circulation of 550,000 at the time. On May 8 1961, it published an interview with Aminullah Khan Salik and highlighted achievements and sacrifices of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya. A radio station in Chicago broadcasted his interview lasting half an hour in which he

presented the beauties of the Islamic education. He also delivered speeches in Dayton and Washington churches, and distributed hundreds of pamphlets about the true teachings of Islam.

In December 1961, one of his interviews captured national attention in which he indicated that Christians may be celebrating Christmas on the wrong day as both the Gospel of Luke and Holy Quran indicated that Jesus was born in August and September rather than December. He provided specific evidence from both doctrines. This interview was picked up by various newspapers across the country, including in Tennessee, Ohio, Maine, Oklahoma, and Texas.

He also authored a booklet, “True Christianity and how it leads to Islam” to promote better understanding, closer relationship, peace, and harmony between Muslims and Christians. It addresses that there is no contradiction between Islam and true Christianity. True Christianity, in fact, leads to Islam.

Missionary Aminullah Khan Salik addressed the annual Jalsa Salana of US held on 3-4 September 1960. (Al-Fazl, 6 December 1960, p. 5. Columbus Citizen Journal 20 December 1960-Ansarullah February 1961, pp. 43-4)

In addition to serving as a missionary in the USA, Aminullah Khan Salik served as a missionary in Liberia for 5 years and in England for 2 years. During his service in Liberia, President Tubman would invite him to their monthly meetings and would ask him to lead the silent prayers. When

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) toured Liberia, President Tubman hosted a dinner in honor of Huzoor. During the dinner the President told Huzoor regarding Aminullah Khan Salik that 'he is very forceful.' Huzoor replied 'He is forceful without using any force.' During this visit, President Tubman of Liberia also gifted 100 acres of land to the Jamā‘at.

During his time in England, Aminullah Khan Salik was also interviewed by various British radio programs and newspapers introducing the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, including the Yorkshire Post, Huddersfield Daily Examiner, The Daily Mail making headlines such as “The Second Coming’ Has Happened.” He presented books and Jamā‘at literature to various dignitaries, including presenting the Holy Quran to the Queen and Prince Phillip as well as the former Prime Minister Harold Wilson which was captured by local newspapers.

During his time in Pakistan, he served as Editor of the monthly magazine “Khalid” and was also appointed as the Assistant Editor of Al-Fazl.

After his retirement in 1976, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) directed Aminullah Khan Salik to settle in the USA permanently. He passed away on 28 February 2017 in Virginia. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) led his funeral prayer in absentia on 3 March 2017. (Nafis Ur Rehman, Georgia chapter, Nudrat Salik daughter of Aminullah Khan Salik and Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi)

Sufi Abdul Ghafoor



Missionary in-Charge
(2/17/1962-12/27/1963)

The fifteenth annual conference of USA commenced on 1-2 September 1962 in YMCA Pittsburgh and Missionary Sufi Abdul Ghafoor inaugurated the

conference. A message of Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil Tabshir, was read. The event was reported in American newspapers. (Daily Al-Fazl, October 5, 1962, p. 5).

Missionary Sufi Abdul Ghafoor was missionary in-Charge from 17 February 1962 to 27 December 1963. Under his leadership, Syed Jawad Ali, Chaudhri Abdur Rahman Bengalee, and Major Abdul Hameed were trained for missionary work. He made Tabligh trips to Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington and Youngstown. His statement was broadcasted on

Youngstown Radio.

The annual conference of the Jamā'at Ahmadiyya America was held on 30-31 August in Cleveland. Sufi Ghafoor inaugurated the convention in which 200 delegates from the across the US participated. (Al-Fazl, 17 August, 26 October, 12 December 1963, and 25 February 1964)

During his tenure as missionary, Baltimore, Dayton, Indianapolis, and Philadelphia chapters were established. (Urdu Biography of Missionary Major Abdul Hamid, General file America 1963, p. 423)

Abdur Rahman Khan Bengalee



In the US 4/9/1963-10/16/1967, 10/19/1969-5/19/1972

Missionary Bengalee belonged to a respectable family from Bangladesh. He accepted Ahmadiyyat in September 1929 when he was a student. He was the only Ahmadi in his family. This led to extreme opposition and difficulties for him. Eventually he was expelled from his home. However, he was steadfast in his belief and continued his education. In 1925, he completed his BA from Calcutta University. In 1929 he passed his LLB examination from Dhaka University. He practiced law for a short period of time and was offered to be a judge, but this did not suit his temperament, so he decided against it. He visited

Qadian for the first time in 1931. This visit filled him with a great desire to serve Ahmadiyya Islam.

He returned to Bangladesh and was appointed administrator of a newspaper titled Ahmadi. In 1940, he migrated to Qadian and was appointed as a teacher at Jami'a Ahmadiyya and Ta'limul Islam High School Qadian. He devoted his life on May 12, 1944. He retired from school in 1963 and was chosen to be a missionary in USA. On April 6, 1963, he left Rabwah, Pakistan for America.

Abdur Rahman Bengalee arrived in USA on 9 April 1963. He was stationed at Washington DC followed by Pittsburgh PA. He served with utmost sincerity and devotion. He returned to Rabwah on November 7th, 1967. (General File America 72, 1970, p. 50)

He was given the responsibility of Missionary in-Charge in December 1963 when Missionary Sufi Abdul Ghafoor left USA. He returned to Rabwah on 16 October 1967 after meritorious four-and

half-year service. He was sent back to America on October 16, 1969. He returned to the US after about two years on 19 October 1969 as Missionary in-Charge and lived in Dayton. He served as missionary-in-Charge during both these trips. Along with his usual *Tabligh* activities, he was also the editor of Muslim Sunrise. Various Christian dignitaries were extremely impressed by his work.

During one reporting period, Missionary Abdur-Rahman Bengalee distributed more than 6,000 flyers in US. He delivered speeches in different churches and gave them Ahmadiyya literature. Three local newspapers published his interviews. He delivered a speech in Public High School, Pittsburgh. He delivered Ahmadiyya message to Assistant Superintendent of Board of Education and foreign students of the university. He talked to a judge of a local court in Detroit. (Al-Fazl, 17 August, 26 October, 12 December 1963, and 25 February 1964)

Dayton mosque was completed during his tenure as missionary in-charge on 23 March 1965 at a cost of \$16,500. (Al-Fazl, 13 May 1965). In the middle of 1968, a chapter, Waukegan City, near Chicago, started functioning. (Al-Fazl, 23 November 1968). In 1969, Baltimore, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and Athens missions were reported. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, May 1969, p. 3) Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya started a bulletin named "Khadim." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1968, p. 4)

Mr. Robert Schwartz writes from Pittsburgh: Mr. A.R. Khan Bengalee came here four years ago from Pakistan to serve as missionary in-charge for an area that includes Youngstown, Cleveland, and Detroit. The Ahmadiyya Movement is a purely religious and international movement... The Movement represents true Islam and does not recognize any segregation or discrimination of people based on race, nationality, or class. According to Islam, all men of whatever nation or tribe are equal and brothers. So, according to the Ahmadiyya Movement, there can be no discrimination of Muslims or humanity as black or white. (Souvenir USA 50th Jalsa 1998 and African American Islamic History

Exhibition)

Cleveland, he was offered the key to the city by the mayor. (Al-Fazl, June 6, 1972, pages 4-5) He was then appointed to Dayton Ohio. He was able to generate a very strong connection with the members of the Jamā'at who treated him like their father. Under his supervision, the Cleveland Jamā'at was reinvigorated. He translated the Friday sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā) and published them regularly. He requested members of the Jamā'at to pray for his blessed end. (Al-Fazl, July 26, 1972, pages 4-6) He had the honor of being one of the 5,000 "Mujahideen" of Tahrir-e-Jadid.

Missionary A.R. Bengalee had a stroke in January 1972 and Missionary Maqbool Ahmad acted as Missionary in-Charge. He had another after 4-5 months and died on 16 May 1972. His body was flown to Pakistan. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III led his funeral prayers on 19 May 1972. He was buried at the Bahishtī Maqbarah, Rabwah. (General file America 1970-2, p. 560)

The Muslim Sunrise published details about his life, achievements, illness, and demise. (Contributed by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi and Dr. Mansoor Qureshi)

In 1967, when he visited

Major Abdul Hamid

Ahmadi Missionary to US (5/1963-67,1978-79)

Major Abdul Hamid was a retired military officer who offered his services to the Ahmadiyya Community in 1960. He was appointed missionary at Dayton-OH in May 1963. At that time, Sufi Abdul Ghafoor was missionary in-charge (Biography of Missionary Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, p. 30). He was stationed in New York from

1978 to 1980.

Major Abdul Hamid prepared a vibrant Tabligh group who displayed placards in Dayton depicting messages from Islam. They distributed flyers also. This interesting program created attention to Islam among non-Muslims. (Al-Fazl, 17 August, 26 October, 12 December 1963, and 25 February 1964)



Abdul Qadeer of Dayton had given a piece of land adjacent to his house to Ahmadiyya Community USA for the construction of a mosque.

NEW MOSQUE

Minarets Rising On West Side

By BOB JOHNSON, Daily News Staff Writer

Soon the first minarets west of Washington, D. C., will rise over Randolph St. on Dayton's West Side and the faithful will be called to pray five times each day, to face east and give praise to Allah.

The modest, brick-faced building at 637 Randolph St., erected from the contributions of the 200 believers, lacks only the finishing touches inside and a dome in the center, flanked by minarets, outside.

A minaret is a slender, lofty tower on a mosque, provided with stairs and a platform from which the faithful are called to prayer.

HAMID SAID the Randolph St. minarets will be too small for a man to climb but will be symbols of the grander ones.

Prime mover has been Abdul Hamid, Moslem missionary from Rabwah, Pakistan. He has been in Dayton two years and will return to his homeland this spring, after the mosque is completed.

He is a member of the Ahmadiyya sect of Islam, a missionary order which has converted some 10 million to its faith, especially in Africa and Indonesia.

"WE WELCOME people of all colors and races. We have no connection with the so-called Black Muslims. In fact the heart of our belief is that all mankind are the children of Allah," said the Imam of Dayton's mosque.

He conceded that the jamaat (congregation) is all Negro in the immediate Dayton area, but stressed that this is not because others are not welcome. He said some faithful in the jamaat are in Indiana and Kentucky and a few are Caucasians.

"We believe in prayer five times a day and our Sabbath is Friday. Since Americans have Sunday off, we hold our meetings then."

THE NEAREST mosque is in Washington, D.C., Hamid said. There are about 4,000 or 5,000 members of Islam in the United States, he added.

President of the local jamaat is Mohammad Qasim, a warehouseman at the Defense Electronics Supply Center, whose English name is Nathaniel Quar-miley. Like all members of the faith, he took a Moslem name when he was converted from Christianity 13 years ago.



MOHAMMED QASIM
Heads Local Jamaat

Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Dayton at that time consisted of a few people and were very poor but were sincere. The cost of mosque building was estimated to be 35 to 40 thousand dollars. The center of the Ahmadiyya Community decided not to fund the project.



Major Abdul Hamid (Picture courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad)

Missionary Abdul Hamid convened a meeting of the Jamā'at members and motivated them enthusiastically to sacrifice for the construction of the mosque. He appealed to some people present that they should commit to build the mosque themselves. God shall help. Abdul Qadeer immediately promised to donate \$1,000. Then

other members also followed him.

Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad (Wakil-ut-Tabshir) himself sent a check of \$5,000 without any request from the mosque committee. So, a total of \$16,500 was spent on the building of the mosque and office; furniture, paint included. Abdul Qadeer contributed \$6,000, Wali Karim \$1,000, Lajna America \$1,000 and \$5,000 by the office of Tahrik Jadid. The remaining \$3,500 were contributed by members of Dayton Jamā'at and Ahmadis from the remaining missions in USA. Pakistani Ahmadis donated \$300. God may bless them all. The House of God for two hundred people was completed by the contributions.

Newspaper Catholic Telegraph of Cincinnati published a large photograph of the mosque with interview from Missionary A.R. Bengalee on 21 June 1965. (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, 50th Jalsa Salana Souvenir, June 1998, p. 66 and biography of Major 'Abd-ul-Hamid)

Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad



Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad left Rabwah on 5 July 1967 and arrived in United States on 6 September 1967 and took over charge from

Missionary Abdur Rahman Bengalee. In the beginning, he was stationed in New York and was later transferred to Dayton OH. He made Dayton as his temporary Headquarter. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January 1968, p. 3)

He returned to Headquarter, Rabwah, Pakistan on 14 February 1970. (Al-Fazl, 15 February 1970, p. 1) He left Rabwah on 3 February 1971 and arrived in Washington 9 February 1971 and took charge of the secretary from Syed Jawad Ali.

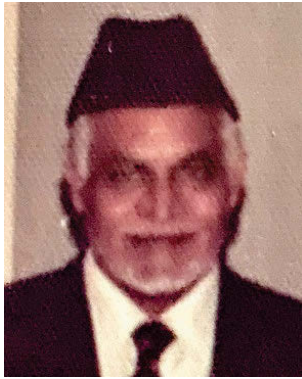
He also remained edited Ahmadiyya Gazette USA.

As Missionary in-Charge, he activated auxiliaries as Na'ib Sadr. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, V, VIII, No. 3, p. 3)

Missionary A.R. Bengalee had a stroke in January 1972 and Missionary Maqbool Ahmad acted as Missionary in-Charge. (General file America, 1970-2, p. 560)

Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad laid foundation of Ahmadiyya Mosque in Athens OH.

Chaudhri Sharif Ahmad Bajwa



Missionary in-Charge
(1/28/1973-7/20/1974)
Chaudhri Sharif Ahmad Bajwa

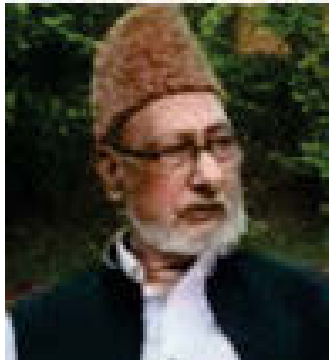
arrived in Washington D.C. on 28 January 1973. He was appointed by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III in early 1973 along with Mian Muhammad Ibrahim Jamooni and Maulawi Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July 1973)

He organized different Ahmadiyya chapters USA. He returned to Pakistan on 20 July 1974 after handing over the Mission charge to Maulawi Muhammad Siddique Shahid. (General file USA

1972-4, p. 329)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III announced Hundred Year Centenary Jubilee Fund in 1974 and asked members of the Jamā'at to contribute generously to celebrate the Jubilee with dignity and honor. US Chapters came forward and contributed generously. Some friends donated \$10,000. Missionary Sharif Ahmad Bajwa toured different chapters and collected an amount worth \$390,000.

Muhammad Siddique Shahid



Missionary to US (8/1973 to 9/1977). Missionary In-Charge (7/20/1974-9/9/1977)

Maulawi Muhammad Siddique Shahid reached Washington D.C. on 12 August 1973 and was assigned propagation work. Missionary Sharif Ahmad Bajwa left US on 20 July 1974, and he took over the charge from him as missionary in-Charge. (General file USA 1974, p. 329 and 390)

Amīrs (chapters heads) of Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New York, Teaneck, New Jersey, York-Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Dayton, Detroit, St. Louis, Waukegan, Athens, Milwaukee, and Portland Oregon met on 8-9 Feb 1975 at Washington Fazl Mosque. Muhammad Siddique chaired the

meeting as Missionary in-Charge.

United States celebrated 200 years of its independence in July 1976. Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri sent a congratulatory letter along with Ahmadiyya literature to US President Gerald Ford. He also wrote letter of congratulation to US President Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri invited Mr. Muhammad Usman Cultural Attaché in Russian embassy on 16 September 1976. He was introduced to Ahmadiyya Islam and was gifted with Ahmadiyya literature.

Mirza Mubarak Ahmad Wakil-ut-Tabshir arrived in Washington on 29 June 1975 on a personal visit. A meeting was convened by Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri. Mirza Mubarak Ahmad gave useful suggestions about Tabligh work.

He dispatched 30 books to Congress Library in Washington on 10 June 1976 which included five copies of English Commentary of the Holy Qur'an. (Memoirs of Muhammad Siddique Shahid

Gurdaspuri, p. 91)

He remained with the entourage of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III along with missionaries Rashid Ahmad American, Mian Muhammad Ibrahim and Masud Ahmad Jhelumī. (Al-Fazl, 17 September 1976 and Al-Fazl, 12 October 1976)

Centenary Jubilee Fund touched \$390,000 mark during his tenure. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA March 1976, p. 2)

An outreach program was arranged at a hotel located on New Jersey Turnpike between New York City and Philadelphia. Members from New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia and some non-Ahmadi guests travel a long distance to attend the program. Muhammad Siddique Shahid, Missionary-in-Charge USA came from Washington, DC to attend the meeting.

A meeting of Amīrs (chapter presidents) was held in Washington DC and Missionary Shahid was on the chair. Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New York, Teaneck, New Jersey, York-

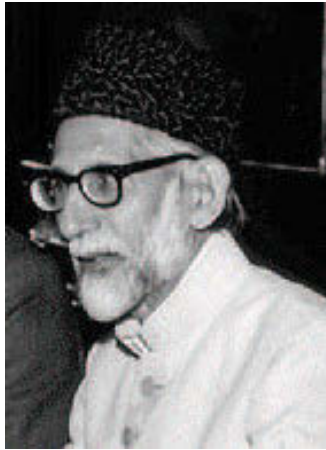
Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Dayton, Detroit (Rahman Karim substituting), St. Louis, Waukegan, Athens, Milwaukee, and Portland OR (The Ahmadiyya Gazette,

March 1976, p. 3)

He served Ahmadiyya Community, USA for about four years and returned to Rabwah,

Pakistan on 9 September 1977. (Memoire of Muhammad Siddique, p. 131)

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim



Missionary (4/4/1974-12/1977, 6/1978-12/1982)

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim Jamooni arrived in New York, USA on 14 April 1973 and took charge of Dayton Mission House on 25 April 1973. After serving the US for about five years, he returned to Rabwah, Pakistan in December 1977. After spending some months in Rabwah, he returned to US for another term in June 1978. He returned to Headquarter Rabwah in December 1982 after serving for another four and a half year.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III directed him during a meeting, “Remember, Maulawi Muhammad Ali (who separated himself from Khilafat when Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad became Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II after the demise of Khalifatul-Masih I) wrongly said that there is no veil of face in Islam. There is a veil of face in Islam. As you are going to the US, take care of this matter.” Mian Ibrahim took this instruction as his important assignment. In Dayton he arranged to follow the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih and planned for men and women of the community to pray separately in the mosque with curtain bifurcation.

Missionary ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem wrote in the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA of December 1977:

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim’s meritorious services as Missionary of the Fazl Mosque, Dayton OH, missionary in-Charge of Midwest area, editor of the Muslim Sunrise and the Ahmadiyya Gazette, and as

general secretary of the Ahmadiyya Movement in USA would be remembered by the entire members of the Jamā‘at.

Obeying the instruction of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, he printed 20,000 copies of Holy Qur’an with translation of Hazrat Maulawi Sher Ali in 1978 and another 20,000 copies in 1983 in Philadelphia.

In 1977, Christian Churches Opelika Alabama awarded him degree in Doctor of Divinity. (Biography of Mian Muhammad Ibrahim)

He served as Editor the Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, and the Muslim Sunrise. During his tenure he was National General Secretary and Secretary Board of Directors. (Biography of Mian Ibrahim, p. 130)

Dayton Daily News dated 9 February 1979 interviewed Mian Ibrahim on phone and published the interview the next day with an introductory note.

Masud Ahmad Jhelumī



Missionary (1975-12/1978, 11/18/1980-2/4/1982)

Missionary Masud Ahmad Jhelumī arrived in Chicago in 1975. He was posted in New York where he was missionary for three years. He returned to Pakistan on 12 December 1978. He again arrived in USA on 18 November 1980 and worked in Brooklyn, New York for one more year. He went back to Rabwah, Pakistan on 4 February 1982.

During his tenure, Missionary Masud Ahmad, US was blessed with the visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III.

Major Abdul Hamid, Missionary-in-Charge Northeast Region left for Pakistan on retirement after rendering meritorious services for two years. This was his second term, He had served the cause of Islam for a few years in his first term at Dayton, Ohio.



Missionary Masud Jhelumī with Khalifatul-Masih III at Waldorf Astoria in New York

Maulawi Masud Ahmad Jhelumī, who returned to U.S.A. on November 18, 1980, after working in the Headquarters, Rabwah, Pakistan as Na'ib Wakil-ut-Tabshir

(Assistant Secretary Ahmadiyya Muslim Foreign Missions) for two years, took over the charge of his former region, Northeast from Major Abdul Hamid.

Missionary Masud Jhelumī presented Ahmadiyya literature to Mr. M.F.E. Bordon, permanent representative of Ghana in United Nations. Mr. Abdul Qadir Kardar Sierra Leon representative in United Nations. Mr. P. Abberto Ricard, first secretary of Argentina. Deputy Permanent representative of Republic of Benin.

Missionary Masud Ahmad Jhelumī was fortunate to have been mentioned by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāh Ta'ālā) as a martyr in his Friday Sermon on June 4, 1999. He said:

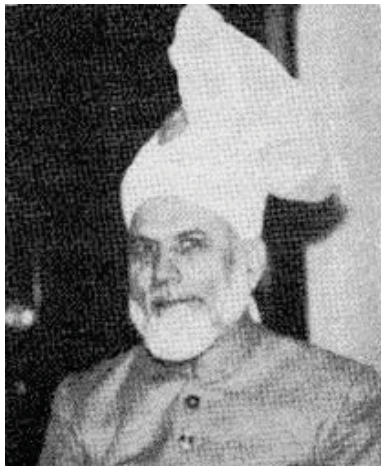
Masud Jehlumī was son of Abdur Raheem Jhelumī, Pakistan and was born in 1934. Passed the

Maulawi Fāzil exam in 1957 and the missionary class in 1960. He also earned bachelors and later Master of Arts in 1965. He had the opportunity to serve in different countries including Nigeria, Liberia, England, Switzerland, and Germany. At the time of his death, he was serving in Germany. He was steadfast in face of trials and always advised his children to stay connected with Markaz with devotion. He secured a place in his heart due to these qualities. He died on August 23, 1992, due to heart pathology. Inna Lillāhi wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'oon. He was buried in a cemetery in Frankfurt. He was loyal to the Jamā'at for sure. He left behind his wife and three children. (Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat by Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV, pp. 110-111)

Maulana 'Ata'ullah Kaleem

Missionary in-Charge (8/1/1977-11/19/1978, 12/9/1980-11/26/1983, left US 12/1983)

Missionary West Coast (4/1979-12/9/1980) — National Secretary Rishta Nata (July 1992-1993)



Born 25 September 1922.

At the beginning of the World War II, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II urged Ahmadi youths to join forces so that they can serve the nation and country. 'Ata'ullah Kaleem complied with the directive of Khalifatul-Masih and joined army.

He served the army from 1942-6 in logistic branch of the army. He was posted at the Burma Front. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, March-April 2018, p. 45) He dedicated his life for the service of Islam in 1942.

He joined Furqan Force (It was a force of volunteers raised by Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Pakistan) soon after the Indo-Pak partition in 1947. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, Marc-April 2018, p. 46)

He Performed Haj (pilgrimage to Mecca) in 1963 when returning from Ghana. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, March-April 2018, p. 52)

Served in Ghana 18 February 1951 to April 1975.

Maulana 'Ata'ullah Kaleem arrived in Washington on first of August 1977 and took Charge of US

Mission from Muhammad Siddique Gurdaspuri. He went to Rabwah for a short visit in November 1978. He returned to US in April 1979. This time he was posted in California (West Coast of USA) living in San Francisco Bay Area. He worked there for one and a half year and was appointed missionary in-Charge. The he reached Washington from San Francisco and took over the charge from Missionary Sayyid Mahmud Ahmad Nasir. (General file America 1977, p. 202 and General file America 1981, p. 38)

He toured West Coasts Jamā'ats, Seattle, Washington, Portland, Oregon, San Francisco, Los Angeles, CA and Tucson AZ. California for two weeks. He addressed meetings and reminded

the members of their obligations and responsibilities. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, December 1978-January 1979, p. 6)

The San Francisco CA held meeting regarding the completion of 14th century and beginning of 15th century with Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem on the chair. Syed Sajid Ahmad presented different aspects of the importance of these two centuries. ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem related the prophecies about the 14th century and glad tidings waiting for the Muslims in the 15th century Hijri. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, March 1981, p. 11)

Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem addressed the students of various institutes and different races on “The second advent of Christ” at Wheaton Room, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh on 7 March 1981. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April 1981, p. 5)

The Ahmadiyya Jamā‘at Philadelphia arranged a one hour discussion on T.V. Network WCAU Channel 10 in Credo Program. The panel comprised of ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem, Br. Bilal Abdus Salam and Major Fazal Ahmad. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April 1981, p. 8)

He published 40,000 copies of the Holy Qur’an with English translation. Thousands of brochures and eighteen books and booklets on Islam and Ahmadiyyat were printed and distributed. The Synopsis of Religious Preaching was authored by him.

He started the Urdu journal Al-Nur and enlarged the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA. His propagational interviews were broadcasted live on Manhattan and East Saint Louis Cable TV and published in The Detroit News, Detroit Free Press, The Community Carrier, and the Canton Observer. He spoke to students at several colleges and

universities.

The 3-story building for the mosque in Philadelphia, the largest city of Pennsylvania was purchased in his time for \$42,000. He inaugurated the mission building. (File General America Diary 1972, p. 77)

Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem wrote congratulatory letter to newly elected US President Ronald Reagan (20 January 1981-20 January 1989) and presented to him Holy Qur’an with English translation. He also met ambassadors of Togo, Mauritius, Madagascar, Senegal, Mauritania, and Mali and presented to all of them “Introduction to Holy Qur’an” in French.

Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem recorded programs for St. Louis TV which were arranged by Missionary Chaudhri Munir Ahmad. (1920-2020—Hundred Years of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US, p. 99).

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, toured the United States in 1980. It was an extremely successful tour. Maulana Kaleem was the Missionary in the West Coast at the time.

A convention on founders of religions was held on 22 November 1981 at University of Maryland Washington. It was publicized by Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan in newspapers. Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem delivered a speech on life of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). (Al-Fazl, 3 May 1982)

The editorship of Review of Religions English was handed over to Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem.

Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem missionary in-Charge telecasted a live program on Islam. He answered questions from public via telephone. Hundreds of people listened to this live show with deep interest. (Al-Fazl, 26 November

1991)

Due to the sheer size of the United States, many Ahmadi Muslims living in the West Coast were not always able to participate in Annual Conventions that are usually held in the east of the country. Missionary Sayyid Mahmud Ahmad Nasir then National Amīr and Missionary-in-Charge, directed Maulana ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem to organize convention on the West Coast. In 1980, the very first convention of the West Coast took place in San Francisco area in Masonic Temple in Berkeley on 25 May 1980. The number of attendees at this convention totaled 75. Missionary-in-Charge came from headquarters and addressed the general audience and addressed the women’s sessions. (Ahmadiyya Gazette, June 1980)

Ata Ullah-Kaleem, Missionary and Amir Jamā‘at USA laid down the foundation brick of the Tucson mosque in 1982. Khalifatul-Masih III declared about this mosque in Jalsa-e-Salana Rabwah in 1983. The mosque was inaugurated on March 13, 1983, by Maulana Kaleem as the First Mosque of Ahmadi Muslims on the west coast. (100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US 1920-2020, p. 287). (The first mosque was demolished due to road expansion. Another larger mosque has been built to the east of the mosque. Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated Yousuf mosque on 21 October 1987.)

‘Ata’ullah Kaleem was appointed missionary in-charge Germany 30 August 1987 to 15 June 1990 and Amir Palestine August 1999 to 22 February 2000. He passed away on January 07, 2001, at the age of seventy-eight years, while still fulfilling his duties with extreme dedication.

Muhammad ‘Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya

Missionary (8/1977-5/1981, 6/20/1986-94)



Muhammad ‘Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya was born on 19 June 1950 at Murad Wal village, District Gujrat (presently Mandi Baha-ud-Din). The name of his father was Siraj-ud-Din Ahmad. He was called in the family and by others as Mian Jee. He was righteous and known for his services to the people of the area. He accepted Ahmadiyyat in the year 1947. The father of Abd-ur-Rashid pledged to devote his son’s life for Ahmadiyya Islam even before his birth.

Abd-ur-Rashid received his early education under the guidance of his father who happened to be the headmaster of the school. After that he was admitted in T.I. College, Rabwah and graduated in June 1969. His father then admitted him to Jami’a Ahmadiyya, Rabwah where he earned his Shahid degree with honor.

First posting of Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya was at Daska, District Sialkot. After some time, Maulana

‘Abd-ul-Malik Khan, Nazir Islah-o-Irshad appointed him missionary in-charge of district Attock where he served Ahmadiyya Community till June 1976.

He arrived in Washington D.C. on 27 July 1977. He started working with missionaries Mian Muhammad Ibrahim and Masud Ahmad Jhelumi. In December 1978, Syed Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir arrived and took over as Missionary in-Charge USA. Muhammad Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya remained in Washington for four years and had the privilege of being in the company of Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him). He left for Pakistan on 21 May 1981.

He was stationed in Rawalpindi and Islamabad in 1982. He was appointed secretary to Mirza Anas Ahmad, Na’ib Nazir Islah-o-Irshad and secretary planning for Tabligh in Pakistan by Khalifatul-Masih IV.

Muhammad Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya was posted again to USA in June 1986 by Khalifatul-Masih IV. His served in Washington for two years. He was asked to serve as in-charge of Chicago West, Chicago East, Zion, Milwaukee and St. Louis in July 1988.

He returned to Pakistan in September 1994 and was posted as missionary in-charge and National President of South Korea for short time.

He was appointed by Khalifatul-Masih IV to South Africa in January 1996 but later was transferred to the office of Wakil-ut-Tabshir, Rabwah. He was asked to go to South Africa to work in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban.

He then assumed the charge in Guatemala and remained there from January 2004 to December 2004.

He was then posted in Toronto, Canada from 11 December 2004. In April 2005, he assumed the charge as missionary in Montreal for three years.

He was asked by Khalifatul-Masih to teach in Jami’a Ahmadiyya Canada. Later he was appointed Vice Principle (Administration).

He worked as editor Ahmadiyya Gazette USA and the Muslim Sunrise for one and half year.

He is blessed with three sons:

1. Tayyab Mubarak Rashid
2. Qasim Rashid
3. Ahmad Rashid

All of them are serving the Jamā’at in different capacities.

(Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Memoirs of Muhammad Abd-ur-Rashid Yahya in Urdu)

I shall give you a large party of Islam

Revelation of *Hazrat* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
Promised Messiah and Mahdi
May peace be upon him

Sayyid Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir

Missionary in-Charge (11/19/1978-12/9/1980) Missionary West Coast 3/1981-3/9/1982)



Sayyid Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir took charge from Missionary ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem on 19 November 1978 and worked as in-Charge for about two years. He was posted as West Coast Regional Missionary in March 1981. He returned to Pakistan on 9 March 1982 after working in California for a year. (General File America 78, p. 158, Diary US Missions 1982, p. 200)

Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir left for Rabwah, Pakistan on December 9, 1980, for a short period. His duties were taken over by Maulawi ‘Ata’ullah Kaleem, Missionary-in-Charge West Coast Region. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January

1981, p. 11)

Hazrat Maulawi Ata Muhammad, a companion of the Promised Messiah, was invited by Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir in September 1979 for a visit to the US. He was in Canada on a private visit. He was given rousing welcome in York, Washington, and Baltimore. He talked about inspiring stories the Promised Messiah. (General File America 1979, pp. 191-2)

He represented the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at at the United Nations Conference of World Religions where his thesis on Qur’an’s invitation to come to the common denominator of worshipping One God was received with great appreciation. At the conclusion of its historic meeting, he was asked to lead the international representatives in collective prayer.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III graced the soil of America once again in 1980 while Sayyid Mahmud Ahmad Nasir was

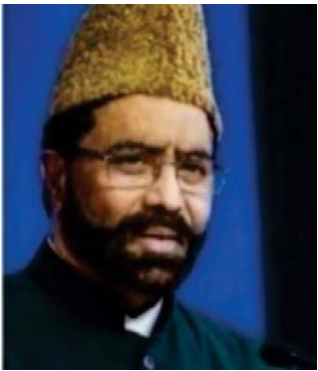
Missionary in-Charge.

He wrote *Tabligh* letters to notables of United States of America which included heads of churches. The famous pastor Billy Graham was one of them. He sent literature of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to these dignitaries.

Chaudhri Hameedullah, Central Na’ib Sadr Ansarullah Rabwah visited Canada and USA for organizing Ansarullah in USA. He also went to West Coast Jamā‘ats where Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir accorded him warm welcome. Chaudhri Hameedullah addressed Jamā‘ats there. (General File America 1981, and letter of Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir dated 17 July 1981)

He also served as the Missionary In-Charge for Spain from 1982 to 1983, and then returned to the international headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at Rabwah to serve at the international headquarters.

Inamul-Haq Kauser



Missionary US 4/1981-4/1983, 4/1984-9/2014.

Graduated on 1 May 1973 from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Rabwah. Missionary at Daska city, Sialkot,

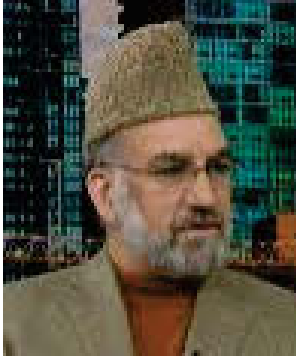
Pakistan from June 1973 to October 1974. Then assigned to learn Baluchi and Persian in Quetta from November 1974 to 1978.

He arrived in Washington D.C. on 18 April 1981. He remained missionary of Northeast region (New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Rochester, Willingboro, and New Jersey) of USA with Headquarter in New York. He returned to Rabwah, Pakistan in April 1983 after three years of missionary work. He returned to US again in September 1984. (Letter from Inamul-Haq Kauser dated 21 November 1981-

Record Tabshir)

In June 1991, he was reassigned to Los Angeles and served there until May 2003. From June 2003 to May 2010, he served in New York area again which included upstate and New Jersey. In June 2010 he was transferred to Chicago where he stayed up to September 2014. After this, he was appointed as Amīr (National President) and Missionary In-Charge of Australia where he is currently serving.

Mirza Muhammad Afzal



Missionary USA (9/18/1981-86)

Missionary Mirza Muhammad Afzal arrived in the US on 18 September 1981 along with Missionary Ahmad Sadiq and Missionary Munir Ahmad. He served Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA till 1986. Then he was transferred to Canada.

He was an eye-witness of the heinous murder of Respected Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Martyr reported in the press with his photograph.

Chaudhri Munir Ahmad



Born on July 17, 1951, in Bashir Abad State, Sind, Pakistan.

Ancestral origin: Ismailia, Kharian, District Gujrat, Pakistan.

1974-*Aseer-e-Rah-e-Maula* (Jailed for following the way of God) in Sargodha District Jail for 80 days without any charge against him. Rabwah Railway Station incident of 1974 happened at that time.

1978. Graduated from Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah, Pakistan and obtained the Shahid degree.

1978. Earned the Maulawi Fāzil degree in Arabic from the Punjab University, Lahore.

1978-1979. Missionary Hafizabad Region, Pakistan.

1979-1980. Missionary District Rawalpindi, Stationed at Masjid Noor Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

1980-1981. *Mu'tamad* (General Secretary) Majlis Khuddam-ul-

Ahmadiyya Markaziyya Rabwah, Pakistan. (Appointed by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III)

Chaudhri Munir Ahmad arrived in USA on 18 September 1981.

1981-1983. Regional Missionary Midwest, stationed in St. Louis MO, USA.

Member Board of Trustees USA Jamā'at. (Appointed by Khalifatul-Masih III)

1983-1984. Missionary and National In-Charge Finance (*Nigran-e-Māl*) at Headquarter. Stationed at Fazl Mosque Washington DC under Amīr and Missionary In-Charge 'Ata'ullah Kaleem.

1984-1990 Missionary West Coast Region stationed in Los Angeles, California.

Under the instructions of Khalifatul-Masih IV, acquired five acres of land in Chino California, planned, and supervised construction of 16,500 Sq. Ft. Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque.

Under Khalifatul-Masih IV's instructions acquired land in Bay Point, CA for mosque and established first mission house named Bait-us-Salam in San Francisco Bay Area, California.

1990-1994. Transferred to

Canada by Khalifatul-Masih IV, appointed as Missionary Eastern Canada stationed in Ottawa Ontario Canada.

Established first mission house in Ottawa Ontario, Canada on a leased property, then under Khalifatul-Masih IV's instructions acquired agricultural land and established permanent Mission house in Cumberland, Ontario, Canada on Dunning Road.

Played important part in Bait-ul-Islam Mosque (construction to completion) in Maple, Ontario, Canada.

Planned, prepared, and presented proposal for the establishment of MTA Satellite Earth Station. It was approved for funds by Majlis Shura Canada 1994. Khalifatul-Masih IV approved it. It was ultimately built and established in Silver Spring, Maryland USA under the instructions from Huzoor.

1994. Under Khalifatul-Masih IV's instructions, planned, designed, and established MTA's Satellite Earth Station (also called MTA Teleport) in Silver Spring, MD in Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque vicinity, a joint venture of Canada and USA Jamā'ats.

1995. Transferred to USA on January 1 by Khalifatul-Masih IV as

Missionary and In-Charge MTA Teleport operations, now called Masroor Teleport, MTA International. MTA International services for North and South

started.

2013. Appointed as Board Member, Director MTA International for North and South

America, and Masroor Teleport. (Contributed by Chaudhri Munir Ahmad, March 26, 2021).

Mufti Ahmad Sadiq

Missionary US (9/18/1981-86)



Mufti Ahmad Sadiq was born on 23 September 1950 at Rabwah. He was son of illustrious first missionary to the US; Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq.

Missionary Ahmad Sadiq arrived in the US on 18 September 1981 along with Missionaries Muhammad Afzal and Chaudhri Munir Ahmad.

As the west coast regional missionary, his region extended from Seattle to Tucson. He was first stationed in Dublin in San Francisco area and then in Los Angeles He attended 23 Tabligh meetings, seven out of them at local level. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, September 1983, p. 10-11)

The Los Angeles, CA chapter hosted the Regional Conference of

the West Coast Region which was held in Culver City Memorial Hall on 26 December 1982. A considerable number of delegates from San Francisco Bay area and Tucson Arizona also participated in the conference. Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV graciously cabled a special message to the participants of the conference, which was read by Maulawi Ahmad Sadiq Mufti, the Regional Missionary of the West Coast Region. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, January 1983, p. 9)

In 1982-83, Mufti Ahmad Sadiq supervised the West Coast Region; Mirza Muhammad Afzal looked after the Great Lakes Region, and Ch. Munir Ahmad was in-charge of St. Louis area. They visited the Jamā'ats in their jurisdictions on a regular basis and helped the local Presidents to activate Jamā'at activities.

In accordance with the directions received from the International Headquarters, Rabwah, Pakistan, Maulawi Ahmad Sadiq Mufti, the Regional Missionary for the West Coast Region, was transferred to the National Headsquare's Washington while Maulawi Munir

Ahmad Chaudhary, the Missionary stationed at Washington Headquarters as Supervisor of Finance has been transferred to Los Angeles to take charge of the West Coast Region as Regional Missionary of that Region. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1983, p. 20)

The Ahmadiyya Gazette reported Missionary Ahmad Sadiq was blessed with second son on 5 Feb 1985. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, February 1985, p. 8)



Nasir Mahmood Malil, Missionary A.U. Kaleem, Arshad Ahmad, Missionary Ahmad Sadiq

Missionary Mufti Ahmad Sadiq passed away on 30 April 2019 at Atlanta, GA. His Janāza passes was offered at Bait-ur-Rahman, Maryland on 3 May 2019 after Friday prayers. The burial took place at Lakeview Memorial Park Cemetery. (Information supplied by Missionary Chaudhri Munir Ahmad on 10 April 2022)

Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad

Missionary in-Charge (11/26/1983-5/5/1991) and Amīr USA (11/26/1983-6/30/1989)



Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad was born in Shujabad, District Multan on 10 October 1910. His father was Hazrat Shaikh Muhammad Din, a companion of the Promised Messiah. Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad devoted his life to the propagation of Islam, beginning as a young boy of just 15. He was a tall, graceful figure with a charming smile and pleasing manners. He was deeply devoted to the study of the Holy Qur'an, which he recited in soft, pensive tones. A prolific writer, he left a legacy of twenty-four works in Urdu, English, Swahili, and Kikuyu.

In March 1960, during one of his renowned visits to Africa made at the behest of President Eisenhower, the Reverend Dr. Graham made negative remarks about Islam. He was promptly challenged to a Prayer Duel by Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad to “determine who it is blessed with God's grace and mercy and who it is upon whom His door remains closed.” He suggested that equal number of terminally ill patients who had been diagnosed of incurable diseases by the medical practitioners of Kenya should be allocated to the reverend evangelist and to the flag-bearer of Islam in Kenya, Shaikh Mubarak. Both the antagonists should pray to the Almighty God for the recovery of their respective group of patients. That party's

religion would be considered as the true religion of God whose patients were cured. If the Reverend Graham declined, Shaikh Mubarak argued, it would be proved to the world that Islam is the religion that is capable of establishing man's relationship with God. This challenge was published in the East African Standard, The Sunday Post, The New York Times, and a host of other papers. However, in spite of repeated cables from his fellow Pentecostals in the US, the Reverend neither picked up the gauntlet nor offered any comment to the press. (USA Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 2008, p. 136)

Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad arrived in the US on 23 November 1983 from UK and took over as Amīr and Missionary-in-Charge USA on November 26, 1983, from Missionary in-Charge Maulana 'Ata'ullah Kaleem. The foremost task assigned to him by Khalifatul-Masih IV Mirza Tahir Ahmad (Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā) was to launch a scheme to establish major Ahmadiyya Centers in the five important cities of Washington DC, New York, Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā) visited USA for the first time in 1987 during the tenure of Maulana Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad. The Thanksgiving Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was held on 23 March 1989. The celebration was held in a par excellence style in every Jamā'at in USA. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV graced this land once again with his historic visit on the occasion of the Annual Convention that year. A special souvenir commemorating the Ahmadiyya Centennial

Celebrations was published. For the first time a large exhibition was set up at the University of Baltimore, Maryland, the venue of the annual convention that year.

The mosques in Cleveland, New York, Los Angeles, Portland and Willingboro and the mission house in Zion were opened and the lands for the mosques in Detroit, Houston, New Orleans, and the national mosque were acquired under his leadership. The foundation stone for Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque and National Headquarters Complex building was laid by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV. Distribution of the audio cassettes of Khutbat (Friday Sermons) of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV were started. Regular dialogues were held with the West Minister Theological Seminary in Philadelphia every month for over three years.

Professor Louis J. Hammond of the Gettysburg College wrote “An Introduction to Ahmadiyyat” at the request of Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad.

The global marketing of the Commentary known as the Five-Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an was launched. The Persecution Cell to help alleviate the oppression of the Ahmadiyya Community was set up under the chairmanship of Sahibzada M. M. Ahmad.

He retired on 5 May 1991 (Kaifiyyat-i-Zindagi, Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad, p. 409) but remained active in the service of Islam in various official and personal capacities. He died on 9 May 2001. (USA-Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 2008, p. 137. 50th Jalsa Salana Souvenir Ahmadiyya Community USA, June 1998, p. 59)

Zafar Ahmad Sarwar

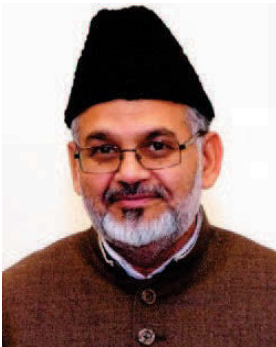


Graduated from Jāmi'ā Ahmadiyya, Rabwah, Pakistan in 1975. Lagos, Nigeria (July 1979-July 1982). Private Secretary office Rabwah (October 1982-April 1984).

He came to USA in April 1984 and since then has served the following Jamā'ats as missionary: St. Louis, MO, Detroit, MI, Chicago, IL, Pittsburgh, PA, Cleveland, OH, Columbus, OH, Dayton, OH, Indiana, IA, HQ Washington, DC. HQ Bait-ur-Rahman, MD, Houston, TX, Austin, TX, Dallas, TX, New Orleans, LA, Miami, FL, Oklahoma City, OK, Rochester, NY, Buffalo, NY, Syracuse, NY, Binghamton, NY, Albany, NY, Boston, MA, Fitchburg, MA, Seattle, WA, and Portland, OR. Currently he is serving in Milwaukee, WI, Oshkosh, WI and Zion, IL.

He is endowed with a melodious voice for the recitation of the Holy Qur'an and Urdu poetry. Khalifatul-Masih IV graced Forty-First US Annual Convention held at University of Maryland, Baltimore from 23 to 25 June 1989. A poem written by Khalifatul-Masih IV for martyrs in Pakistan was read by missionary Zafar Ahmad Sarwar in his melodious voice. Khalifatul-Masih wept quietly as the painful tragedies were recounted in the poem.

Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir



Syed Shamshad A. Nasir was born in 1951 in Goleki, Pakistan. Syed Shamshad A. Nasir devoted his life to serve Islam in 1973 after graduating from Jāmi'ā Ahmadiyya, Rabwah, Pakistan.

Syed Shamshad Ahmad has served in Pakistan, Ghana and Sierra Leone (West Africa) (West Africa) with the distinction bringing as many as 500 Serra Leonians to the fold of Ahmadiyyat in one day! He has been in the US since September 1987.

He was stationed for eight years at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's U.S. national headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Previously, he served in

Houston, Texas and Dayton, Ohio. He has served in the southwest and in the Midwest. On the eve of his departure to Los-Angeles, he was honored with a farewell reception by the County Executive and City council which was broad cast and shown on TV channel for several days.

Missionary Shamshad Nasir came to Chicago in the year 2014. It did not take long for him to realize that paying rent for an apartment is a sheer wastage of money, and thus on his initiative a house was purchased with donations from members and grant from the headquarter, adjacent to the mosque located in city of Glen Ellyn, a suburb of Chicago. One in particular was when the electricity failed in the mosque during a winter month, his house was used for Prayers. Many devoted members availed this opportunity even in the early hours for Fajr Prayers. This follows his intense desire to populate the mosque and delivered various speeches on the importance of offering Prayers in

congregation and attending Jum'ah in the mosque.

Missionary Shamshad Ahmad is a prolific and profound speaker and an experienced writer on spiritual, interfaith, and secular issues. He is well-known for his scholarly knowledge of Islam and for building bridges of understanding, cooperation, and friendship between Ahmadiyya Islam and other faith-based communities.

Missionary Shamshad Ahmad has worked in the U.S. with many community, state, and national leaders to promote the cause of peace through increasing understanding and knowledge of each other. He is a prolific speaker and writer. He is also a regular contributor to many Urdu, English, and Arabic newspapers. His articles have been printed in numerous religious publications as far away as Europe and South Asia.

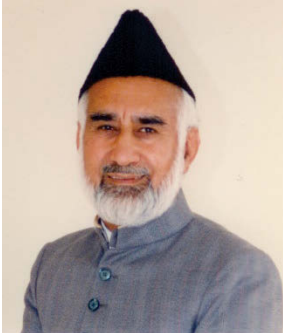
Missionary Shamshad is good in establishing rapport with church hierarchy and other dignitaries

which enabled him to present Ahmadiyya views in churches and

other places not easily accessible. Sometimes in these trips, he was

accompanied by tabligh secretaries and other members.

Mubasher Ahmad



Mubasher Ahmad was born in Qadian, India in 1942, earned his M.A. (English), M.A. (Urdu), and LL.B. (Law) degrees from the University of Peshawar where he served as the President of English and Modern European Languages Literary Society (1963-64). Prior to emigrating from Pakistan to the United States in 1969, he taught English at the College of Agriculture, University of

Peshawar, as an Associate Professor for five years (1964-69).

He has served Ahmadiyya Muslim Community as the President of Washington, DC Metropolitan Chapter in years 1980-84, and National General Secretary for several years. In 1988, he devoted his life to convey the message of Islam by facilitating Islamic information and its relevance to modern societies. He has addressed numerous academic, religious and civic institutions, actively promoting multicultural and interfaith understanding. After serving the U.S.A. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the Southwest, Midwest, Northeast and Central South Regions as Regional Missionary. Presently he is serving, as its National

Spokesperson, a Regional Missionary, and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Muslim Sunrise magazine as the Editor-in-Chief of the Muslim Sunrise magazine, member of the USA Qada Board and Missionary for the Maryland Jamā'at.

He has written and translated numerous religious discourses and articles from Urdu into English, including translations of The Truth About the Alleged Punishment for Apostasy in Islam by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV (rahimahullāh) and Refutation of the Allegations of Insult to Jesus Christ. He has also written a book titled Approaching the West. He is a bilingual poet, with varied compositions in Urdu and English.

Dr. Mirza Mahmood Ahmad



I was born in 1941 in a small village called Rauwal, District Gurdaspur, India, only eight miles away from Qadian. My parents requested Khalifatul-Maseeh II to name me. He named me after his name.

I migrated to Pakistan with my parents and settled in Narowal, District Sialkot. I earned my B.Sc. degree and then moved to Lahore for B.Ed. Then I dedicated my life

and was admitted in Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya, Rabwah. I served as the Za'eem Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya and the Prefect in the Jāmi'a hostel, Rabwah. I also earned Maulawi Fāzil during this time and wrote a thesis on the topic of "Aagha Khani Firqa."

After getting Shahid degree, I served one year as a Murabbi in Chawinda Region. I also got married. I was asked to help late Chaudhri Hameedullah in compiling the reports of the persecution of Ahmadiis at Rabwah Railway Station. Afterwards, I went to Uganda and taught in Bashir High School, Kampala as a science teacher. After two years I was transferred to Kenya as a missionary and served there for four years in Mombasa and Kakamega until 1980. Then I was transferred to England. I served

there in Manchester, London, Birmingham, Huddersfield, and Scotland as the Regional Missionary.

I was transferred to USA on 22 October 1989 and served in Houston, TX. A big area was procured to build mission house and mosque. During my stay there, I had the honor to serve in Mexico where I welcomed Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah showers His mercy on him) in 1991. It was just a few hours visit but was very hectic.

Three years later I was transferred to Dayton, Ohio.

I retired in the year 2001, but, by the grace of Allah, never retired from carrying out Jamā'at work. I worked in different capacities and won the National Award of the Best Da'i Ilallah twice from Ansarullah USA. I lived for seven years in

Columbus, Ohio and was recognized for the Exemplary Service there. Currently I am

serving as local secretary Tabligh, Ta'lim, Ta'līm-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Ardi.

I earned a PhD degree recently.

Azhar Haneef



Missionary Azhar Haneef was born on November 4, 1956 in Bronx, NY to eminent members of the Community, Abid Haneef and Saliha Haneef of Boston. They had a large family; he had three brothers and four sisters—all born Ahmadis, since both the father and

the mother had accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1948.

Bro. Azhar Haneef spent his youth in Massachusetts. He studied at Brown University, RI, for two years on an athletic scholarship (basketball). He graduated from CW Post College, Long Island University with a B.A. in Psychology in 1980.

Bro. Azhar Haneef temporarily dedicated at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III for Nusrat Jahan scheme in 1980 but never served for lack of opening in his field. He worked for Mass. Dept of Social Service Child Abuse from 1980-83.

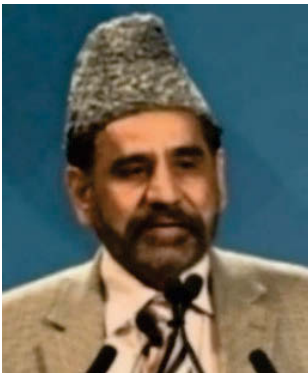
Missionary Azhar Haneef

formally devoted his life at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV in 1982. He entered the Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya in 1983 after last Jalsa there. He successfully completed his studies in 1988, graduating with the Mubashir degree. He then pursued private studies for one year at Jāmi'a.

Bro. Azhar Haneef left Rabwah in August 1989 for missionary work. He served in various regions in the USA before his appointment as the missionary in-Charge and Na'ib Amīr of the US Jamā'at in 2016. (Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, September 1990, p. 31)

Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema

Missionary US (2/1990-10/2003)



I am the first Ahmadi in my family. On the first of September 1971, I had the opportunity to join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the time of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him). Same year I completed my BSc degree from the Punjab University Lahore, Pakistan.

In 1972, I dedicated my life and joined Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah.

With the grace of Allah, I completed my studies in 1979 in Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah and was honored with Shahid degree.

I was married in 1979, and I am blessed with three children—two sons and a daughter.

From 1979 to 1984, I served as missionary in Sargodha, Nawab Shah, Khair Pur, and Tharparkar areas in Pakistan.

In 1984, I was posted as missionary in Ghana, West Africa and served there in the Eastern Region, Ashanti Region and Northern Region for four years.

In 1989, I was transferred as missionary to the United States of America and reached there on 27 February 1990.

I spent about three months in Washington DC, the national

headquarters and then I was posted missionary for Northeast Region of USA, stationed in New York City, where I reported on 20 May 1990.

In Northeast Region, I served about six years and then was transferred to Midwest region of USA from Colorado to Georgia states, stationed in Saint-Louis Missouri, where I reported on 18 July 1996.

In Midwest Region, I served over six years and then was transferred to Bait-ur-Rahman, the National Headquarters as missionary, where I reported on 10 November 2002.

In those days all missionaries were serving independently in their regions without Missionary in-Charge, so I was serving as missionary in DC, Maryland, and Virginia states, stationed at Bait-

ur-Rahman, where I served for about a year.

Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya was opened

in Canada in September 2003. I was transferred to Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada where I reported on 17 October 2003.

Since 2003, I have been serving in Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada.

Dr. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa



Missionary USA since 1994, Na‘ib Amīr (2007-10) National General Secretary (2013-19)

My father, Chaudhri Zahur Ahmad Bajwa was a Waqif-e-Zindagi who died in 2002.

My grandfather, Ch. Sher Mohammad was first Ahmadi from my father’s side. Later, my great-grandfather, Ch. Ali Bakhsh Bajwa also accepted Ahmadiyyat through Maulana Ghulam Rasul Rajeki. My maternal grandfather, Ch. Inayat Ullah Khan was very well-known Ahmadi of District Sialkot. My parent’s Nikah was performed by Maulana Ghulam Rasul Rajeki and the details can be seen in his book, *Hayat-i-Qudsī*.

My date of birth is 1 May 1959. My main motivation for Waqf was

the desire of Hazrat Nawwab Mubarak Begum who in 1970 asked my mother in front of me that she should offer me for Waqf (lifetime dedication to Islam).

I did Intermediate from T. I. College Rabwah, Bachelor of Commerce from Hailey College, Lahore, and MBA from Multan university.

During my second semester, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad reminded me about my intention for dedication. These were the early days of Khalifatul-Masih IV. Then, I signed my Waqf (dedication) letter. Huzoor graciously accepted and directed me to complete my MBA and then report to Ch. Hameedullah, *Wakil A‘la* who wrote, “Many people dedicate but I am very happy with your Waqf (lifetime dedication) because you are continuing what your father started forty years ago.”

In 1984, my father was arrested in a frivolous case and remained in jail for about 72 days along with five others.

I was called for my Waqf interview in November 1984. Ch. Hameedullah was in London and Mir Masoud Ahmad was acting

Wakil A‘la. The interview was conducted by a Board of Naziran and Wukala. After a month or so I received my appointment letter and started working in Wakalat Māl III, Tahrik Jadīd, Rabwah.

During the middle of 1985, I received a scholarship for PhD in USA. I wrote to Huzoor and he graciously granted me leave to pursue PhD studies.

I came to USA as a student in April 1986 via London. My wife and daughter joined me in November 1986.

I completed my DBA (Doctorate in Business Administration) and in September 1994 I was asked to resume my Waqf duties in Washington.

During my 23 years in Washington, I served at the discretion of Amīrs; Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar and Dr. Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad.

From September 14, 1994, to October 26, 2017, I stayed at Fazl Mosque, LeRoy Place, Washington DC. Since October 26, 2017, I have been serving Dallas and Fort Worth Jamā‘ats in Texas.

(Na‘ib Amir 2007-2010)

Daud Ahmed Hanif

Na‘ib Amīr USA (11/17/2009-11/25/2017), Missionary in-Charge (6/17/2004-11/17/2009), Missionary USA (2/2/1996-11/25/2017).

Missionary Daud Ahmed Hanif was born on 3 February 1943. He has four children. He earned Maulawi Fāzil from the Punjab

University Lahore, Pakistan in 1964. He earned Shahid degree from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya, Rabwah, Pakistan in 1965. He earned masters from the Punjab University and Ordained Minister of Religion/Imam on June 12, 1965.

Before arriving in United States of America in 1996, he served The

Gambia, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, and Cape Verde, in West Africa. He served from April 14, 1966, to January 26, 1996, for 30 years.

He was transferred to the USA in 1996. He arrived here on 2 February 1996. Since then, he served as a minister of religion in

Washington DC and later on in New York and had the opportunity to visit all the Jamā'ats in New York., Connecticut, New Jersey, and Rhodes Island and carried out preaching, training, and educational and motivational programs as well as joint events on religious founders' day and various other drives, interfaith harmony programs, and seminars for eight years.

Services as Missionary In-Charge and Vice President the USA



He was promoted as the Missionary In-Charge and Vice President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA. He served in this capacity from 17 June 2004 to 11-17-2009. During this period, he planned to activate members and increase their participation in all the programs organized by Jamā'at officials and sub-organizations and an overall awakening in the membership for education, training and Tabligh fields. It necessitated reaching and meeting them in person. So, countrywide tours were planned, and implementation commenced with immediate effect. When he embarked on the performance of this plan, he came across many difficulties on the way. Nevertheless, it was carried out with determination regardless of those difficulties, and he spared no effort for the service of people. So initially, he toured the Jamā'ats, and, besides holding meetings, reached out to such members who

hardly participated or lacked altogether. All those whom he met were ignited with the message, and their participation began to increase in subsequent gatherings, etc.

Here are the Jamā'ats which were visited for the above purpose: Albany, Baltimore, Binghamton, Boston, Bronx, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Central Jersey, Central Virginia, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Connecticut, Dallas, Dayton, Detroit, Fitchburg, Georgia-Carolina, Houston, Indiana, Long Island, Los Angeles, Maryland, Merced, Miami, Milwaukee, Minnesota, New Orleans, New York, North Jersey, North Virginia, Orlando, Oshkosh, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Research Triangle Park, Richmond VA, Rochester, Sacramento, Seattle, Silicon Valley, South Virginia, St Louis, Syracuse, Tucson, Willingboro, York, Zion.

Introducing Ahmadiyyat to the Elite, the Congressmen, and the Senators

To convey the message to all Americans required extraordinary effort. In this regard, the number of contacts was to increase immensely. Therefore, the Jamā'at was not to rely on general speeches, distribution of literature, etc. It had to augment the effort with the increasing number of close contacts of the influential people, the elite, Congressmen, and the Senators. All these gentlemen and women direly needed to know the Jamā'at. So, with mutual consultation and cooperation, the Missionary In-Charge and the Secretary Umur-e-Kharija, planned to reach the maximum number of the elite of the country for the introduction of the Jamā'at Ahmadiyya. Zinda Mahmood Bajwa, the Secretary Umur-e-Kharija came up with the idea of preparing a dossier for this

purpose. So, a brief introduction and a detailed dossier for this purpose were prepared with the help of Mr. Ataul Quddus (Present Sadr Qada Board USA). Missionary In-Charge and Secretary Umur-e-Kharija met with more than 70 congressmen, senators, and their staffers on the Hill or in their respective home area/state offices and shared information regarding Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at. At the very beginning of this effort, the two men team met Senator Obama and Senator Durban, and many others on the hill.

Similarly, members of different Jamā'ats and `Amila officials too gradually joined in this effort, and the circle of this activity covered all the states, and they carried it on their own very devotedly. It proved a very effective method for infusing a new spirit in the Jamā'at members as well as an introduction to the elite. We reached the State Department, human rights organizations, international communities like foreign missions, and even representatives of the UNO. In due course, a Day on the Hill became an annual event. So, I would say it was not just achieving the primary purpose of the introduction of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at, but also many other issues that the Jamā'at was facing were highlighted /discussed and even solved through these efforts by Allah's grace, Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V in 2008

Hazrat Khalifatul Messiah V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) arrived in the USA with his entourage on 16 June 2008, by Air Continental at Dulles International Airport and was received by the Amīr and his wife. All the missionaries and many members from Washington, New

York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, Dayton, Los Angeles and Cleveland Jamā'at were present at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque for welcoming Huzoor. In this tour, Huzoor graciously prioritized family meetings to those who were meeting him for the first time and, thereafter, the others were blessed with personal meetings on their turn. In these private meetings, members individually and in families also discussed their complex issues and sought his advice and prayers. These are the moments that bring spiritual changes in the lives of individuals as well as families. It infuses new life in them, activates them, paves the way for advancement and progress, and makes the community a well-knit community. For the children and youth, these meetings provide a new experience in their lives, and they always remember them and try to remain in direct touch with the Khalifa.

It is a qualification, a certification, which they mention when they compete in some merit

competition, and it keeps them away from bad influences, and their search is always for a company of the righteous. A private meeting with Huzoor was an opportunity of a lifetime for many people and, they had waited for it for a long time. So, they were overjoyed.

The impact of the visit was great. The parents, the presidents, and other office-bearers were all congratulating each other on an infusion of new life in the members and the awakening that had taken place due to the visit of Huzoor. They had been working to bring such changes and to activate them, but nothing had worked. However, after the visit, it all changed, Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Na'ib Amīr USA and In-Charge of Pacific Countries

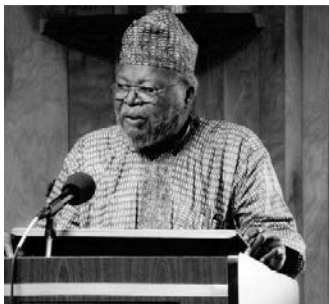
He served as a Na'ib Amīr USA and In-Charge of 9 Pacific countries from 11-17-2009 to 11-26-2017. Additional Wakil-ut Tabshir was sent with Hafiz Ehsan Secunder for shifting the responsibility of these countries to him. So, they toured all these countries with him and, after

that, began planning a strategy of work for Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martine, French Guiana, Dominican Republic, and Haiti as these were included in his charge. There were only individuals who had enrolled as members in these countries and had scant information on Ahmadiyyat. They needed education, training, and grooming in the discipline. These areas had tourist resorts and were very difficult places for spiritual transformation work.

Moreover, these are all French speaking except the Dominican Republic, which is Spanish, and he knew none of these languages. So, on his request Huzoor graciously appointed a very senior missionary Muhammad Saeed to assist him for translation, etc. The two missionaries visited all these places and tried to impart information to increase their knowledge of Ahmadiyya-Islam.

Khalifatul-Masih V was pleased to appoint him as the principal of Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada on November 26, 2017.

Bilal Abdus Salam—Earnest Moorhead



[National Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid (2004-7)]

I was born in 1934 in the state of Florida. My birth name was Earnest Moorhead. I changed this name in 1976 to Bilāl 'Abdus Salām.

In 1953 I started studying religion. I became a minister of the Gospel in 1957.

My first contact with Islām was

in 1960, one year after my marriage. I met an old army buddy Shaikh Muḥammad who was a Sunnī Muslim. He told me about Islām, the fundamentals of Islām, Muḥammad (peace be upon him) being the prophet for all mankind.

I went to the Aḥmadiyya bookstore. The first thing that I saw was the photograph of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, and I asked the person there, who was an Aḥmadī named Zafar Bashīr, who is he?

I met Munīr Ḥāmid. We became very brotherly. I myself being a new Aḥmadī, he gave me some books on Aḥmadiyya in Islām. The first was the Philosophy

of the Teachings of Islām. When I read this book, it gave me a real understanding of the true Islām.

My most exciting moment was when I went to Rabwah and Qadian. This was in 1974-75. Visiting those places made my conviction in Aḥmadiyyat, the true Islām, even firmer.

I had a great wish to devote my life for the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at and thank God my request was formally accepted by Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tahir Aḥmad, Fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah in 1997. I served the Philadelphia Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at as its vice president from 1983 to 1998. In 1998 I was appointed Missionary

for Baltimore.

Huzoor (may Allah be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of



Graduated from Jāmi'a Rabwah in March 1981. Served in Pakistan from May 1988 to October 1988. Served in Sierra Leone from November 1988 to April 1997.

the sad demise of Mr. Bilal Abdus Salam, an African Ahmadi residing in USA. He led his funeral Prayer in absentia after the Friday Prayer on

Irshad Ahmad Malhi

Wakalat-e-Tabshir Rabwah: May 1997 to May 1999.

Arrived in USA on May 27, 1999 and stayed in Washington for a few months.

Served as Northwest Regional Missionary from November 1999 to June 2010. Bay Point was center and following Jamā'ats were in the region: Bay Point, Silicon Valley, Sacramento, Merced, Portland, and Seattle.

Served as East Midwest Regional Missionary: July 2010 to

22 Sept 2017. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 130-4-Al-Nahl, Vol. 14, No. 1, 2003).

June 2014. Dayton was center and following Jamā'ats were in the region: Dayton, Columbus, Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, Indiana, and Pittsburgh.

Served as East South Regional Missionary from July 2014 to September 2017. Chapters served were South Virginia, Richmond, RTP, Charlotte and Atlanta, Georgia.

Serving as the Southwest Regional Missionary: October 2017 to Present.

Mohammed Zafarullah Hanjra



I was born in 1958 in a small village called Samundar, near Chiniot District of Pakistan. It was my parents' wish for one of their sons to dedicate his life to the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at, so in fulfillment of the wish I decided to go to Jami'a in 1975. I completed my education in 1982 from Jami'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah.

My first posting was in Chund Bhurwana, District Jhang, where I spent three years. Then I was transferred to Sillanwali District Sargodha in 1987. In 1987 I married and was transferred to Chak Mangla, Distt Sargodha where I

spent four years. Under Huzoor's guidance I was then transferred to West Africa, Sierra Leone. I spent 3 months at Office Tabshir in Rabwah in preparation to go to Sierra Leone. On 11 September of 1991 I arrived in Sierra Leone and posted to a northern town called Gbendembu. I was the first Ahmadi missionary in this area. A mission house and mosque were built during my time there. I traveled from village to village and met many people. Arab people tried really hard to establish themselves in the same area, but, with the grace of God, I was able to remove all the misunderstandings stemming from the Arabs and bring the local people closer to Ahmadiyyat. It was an excellent experience working in Sierra Leone.

In 1994 I had the opportunity to attend Jalsa Salana UK and Germany and spend two months there. Then I traveled to Pakistan for vacation and spent four months there. After arriving back in Sierra Leone, I was transferred to another

northern town called Bo where I was stationed as a missionary and primary school manager. In those days, the Rebel War was going on in the country and there was no peace. All these areas were under attack. However, with the grace of God I was able to complete my tenure.

In 1997, I arrived back in Pakistan and received a new appointment to America. I spent two years in Office Tabshir in Rabwah during the visa process.

On 11 July 1999, I arrived in the United States. I was stationed in Washington, DC for five months where I learned about American culture and adjusted to life in America. Then in 2000, I was sent to Dayton, Ohio. This region included Columbus, Cleveland, Athens, Detroit, and Indiana. During my time there, a church was bought in Columbus that was converted into a mosque. In 2004 my family arrived from Pakistan and we were transferred to Houston, Texas. This region included Austin, Dallas, New

Orleans, Miami, and Tulsa. I spent ten years in Texas and in those years a community center was bought in New Orleans and a church was bought in Austin and both were converted to mosques.



Then in 2014, I was transferred to Los Angeles, California. This region included San Diego, Las Vegas, and Arizona.

Three years later, in October of 2017, I was transferred to Chicago,

Yahya Luqman

Missionary US since 2005.

Missionary Yahya Luqman has served Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA since 2005. He was posted at Rochester New York, Dayton OH, Columbus OH and Marshall Islands.

Illinois. I currently reside in Glen Ellyn, Illinois serving Bait-ul-Jami' Mosque. I organize interfaith meetings, hold children's classes, and am heavily involved in PR (Public Relation) activities.

Naseem Mahdi



homeland.”

He delivered speech Zikr-e-Habib-remembrance of Hazrat Aqdas Masih Mau'ūd on 25 December 2011.



He gave a speech on “A Common Spirit—Two Eras of Companions” at Annual convention 2013 on 30th June 2013.

He delivered a speech on “Ancestry of the Holy Prophet Muhammad during 29th West Coast Annual Convention of USA Jamā'at 2014. (Research and compilation by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi)

Missionary Nasim Mahdi passed away on 24 May 2022 in Canada. In his Friday Sermon of 27 May, His Holiness Khalifatul-Masih V (a.b.a.) mentioned his venerable qualities and led his funeral prayers in absentia after the

Friday Services. Huzur said,

Naseem Mahdi, a missionary and son of Ahmad Khan Naseem Sahib. He is survived by his wife, four sons and two daughters. He served as a missionary in Pakistan, Switzerland. He served for some time as the Private Secretary in London. He was then stationed in Canada where he served as Amir and Missionary In-charge. He was then stationed in the USA and served as Missionary In-charge. He was again stationed in Switzerland, however, on the advice of doctors, he was advised to rest, upon which His Holiness (a.b.a.) advised him to tend to his health and that services would be taken from him again when he recovered, however his illness only increased.

During his time in Canada, 24 acres of land for the Bait-ul-Islam Mosque and mission house was purchased, and many Ahmadis moved to Canada during this time. In his tenure, mosques were established in Toronto and Calgary, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada was established, and he also rendered great service in the establishment of MTA North America. His

Missionary Naseem Mahdi was Na'ib Amīr and missionary In-Charge from 2010 to 2016. He was a good administrator and eloquent speaker. Some of his achievements are as follows:

Missionary Naseem Mahdi published My take: Why Americans should care about Ahmadiyya Muslims? The article was published in CNN belief blog on 23 July 2010.

Missionary Naseem Mahdi delivered a speech on “How to establish a living relationship with Allah” at the Annual Convention of USA 2011.

He delivered speech on “The Promised Messiah and Mahdi” at 25th West Coast Jalsa Salana USA at Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque.

He also delivered speech on US Annual Convention 2011. The topic was “Islam and Loyalty to the

Holiness (a.b.a.) prayed that may Allah accept all of his services. He possessed many virtuous qualities in his family life and as a missionary. He would never bear to hear anything against the Community. He met and served people selflessly and was extremely hospitable. He ensured to pay special attention towards reciting Durood Sharif (prayer for invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet (s.a.)). He would advise his children to do the same, saying that if this prayer was accepted then all other prayers would be accepted as well.

Once, while he was in Switzerland, a woman accepted Ahmadiyyat and later went to Rabwah to attend Jalsa Salana. Whilst there, she visited Naseem Mahdi's home asking to meet the

mother of a person who was so intelligent and attained mastery over so many languages in such a short time. He advised his children to recite the Holy Qur'an and ponder over its meanings as it would open the doors to blessings. He would prepare lessons on the Holy Qur'an during Ramadan with great effort. He was excellent in establishing friendships and relationships which he then used for the benefit of the Community. His Holiness (a.b.a.) said that Ma-Sha'-Allah Naseem Mahdi truly had this quality within him and even upon his demise many non-Ahmadis expressed their condolences. He also received the Order of Ontario which is given to a person who attains the highest levels of success in any field. He would help those in need silently so

that they would not feel embarrassed. He had a great deal of love for Khilafat. He also played a pivotal role in the establishment of Peace Village. Many people established love for Khilafat and the Community through the efforts of Naseem Mahdi. Whilst in the USA, he rendered service in spreading the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat through various media outlets, and also played a hand in the establishment of a mission house in Mexico. His Holiness (a.b.a.) prayed that may Allah grant him forgiveness and mercy, elevate his station, grant him a place among His beloved, grant patience to his family and enable them to carry on the legacy of his virtues. May they remain loyal, just as he lived a life of loyalty. (From alislam)

Muhammad Saeed



Missionary Muhammad Saeed is son of Missionary Muhammad Siddiq Shahid who was missionary-in-charge in USA.

Missionary Muhammad Saeed completed his education from Jami'ah Ahmadiyya Rabwah in 1988. His first posting was in Attock then Dulmial and Gaggoo Mandi in Pakistan. He served in Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast from 1994 to 2000.

He worked at the Wakalat Tabshir offices in Rabwah 2000-2010.

He was assigned to the US in 2010. He worked with Missionary Daud Hanif covering Haiti, Dominican Republic, Saint Martin, Martinique, Guadalupe, French Guiana while he also was missionary in Miami for seven years. He was transferred to NJ in January 2018.

Salman Tariq



Graduated from Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2010.

August 2012-October 2017: Posted to Saint Louis Missouri in August 2012 where I served five Jamā'ats: Saint Louis, Kansas City, Tulsa, Kentucky, and Alabama/Tennessee

October 2017 to Present Assignment: Posted to New

England region in October 2017, here I am serving in Connecticut, Fitchburg, Boston, and Albany Jamā'ats.

Adnan Ahmad



Adnan Ahmed is a graduate of

Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada. He was part of the first ever class of missionaries that graduated from Jāmi‘a Canada in 2010.

He taught in Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada for a semester and then was sent to Tanzania where he served for six months.

After returning from Tanzania, he served in Canada for a few months and then was transferred to

USA in 2012. He was posted in Pittsburgh, PA and Cleveland, Ohio from 2012-2017. During this time, he was also coordinator for the Review of Religions USA. Since 2017, he has been serving in the Upstate New York area where he covers Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse and Binghamton Jamā‘ats. He is currently based in Rochester, New York.

Sheikh Ahmad Salman



Missionary US (2013-17)

I was born on 26 September 1984 in Faisalabad, Pakistan.

I migrated to Canada in 1999 at the age of fourteen with my family. After graduating from high school, I joined Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya and earned my Shahid degree.

I have visited (Ghana) Africa, UK, India, and Pakistan for

missionary work. I have also worked as the Regional Missionary in Western Ontario Region in Canada, besides serving as a volunteer with Humanity First, a sister organization of the Community that serves disaster struck and socially disadvantaged individuals and families in the poorer communities of the world.

Hammad Ahmad



Was born in Sierra Leone in

1986. Moved to Toronto, Canada in 1987 and was raised there. Was granted admission to Jami‘a Ahmadiyya Canada after completing high school in 2004 and graduated with Shahid Degree in 2011 after completing a 7-year course of studies.

From 2011 - 2013, was sent to the following locations: Vancouver BC, Winnipeg MB, Rabwah, and Uganda.

Was appointed to USA in 2013.

From 2013 - 2015, was assigned to the National Tarbiyat Department in Baltimore MD. From 2015 - 2017, was assigned to National Headquarters at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque in Silver Spring MD. From 2017 - 2019, was assigned to the American Fazl Mosque in Washington DC. From 2019 - PRESENT, currently assigned to Atlanta GA, serving as regional missionary for Georgia and the Carolinas.

Noman Rana



Missionary US (8/2012-11/2014)

Father's name: Rana Muhammad Zakria

High School name: Cedar brae Collegiate Institute in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Jāmi'a studies: Shahid degree was completed in 2010 from Jāmi'a

Ahmadiyya Canada.

Appointments in USA:

Zion: October 2012 to June 2014

New Orleans: June 2014 to October 25, 2014

Current appointment: Mexico City.

Ehtisham-ul-Haq Mahmood Kauser



Missionary US –N.Y. Metro

West (2013-18)

Born in New York City in 1987. Moved to Los Angeles at the age of 3.

Joined Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2005 and graduated in 2012 after completing 7-year course and obtained Shahid degree.

Served in Tanzania (Aug 2012

to Jan 2013), Philadelphia (Jul 2013 to Aug 2013), Marshall Islands (Sep 2013 to Oct 2014), Kiribati (Oct 2014 to Jul 2015), and Federated States of Micronesia (Jul 2015 to Jan 2018).

Currently serving as missionary for Queens and Long Island New York.

Faran Rabbani



Missionary US Since 8/2014

Faran Rabbani is a regional Missionary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He is based in Chantilly, Virginia covering the entire state of Virginia and it's four

chapters. From 2014 to 2017, he served as the regional missionary for the upper Midwest region where he covered northern Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota.

He has an OSSD from the Toronto District School Board and Shahid Degree from Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada [2005-2012], which was awarded to him by Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) in 2012.

He has received his formal training as a missionary from Canada and for post-graduation, he

was sent to Pakistan and then to UK to gain further training. He has served in the Gambia [2012-2013], West Africa and Canada [2013-2014] before finally being appointed to the United States. He is also serving as the Deputy Director of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Boys Association (Na'ib Muhtamim Atfāl) USA and is also on the board of directors as the Chairman for ANN USA [Atfāl News Network]. Also, he is serving as the national director (Muhtamim) for Tabligh in Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya (Muslim Youth association) of USA since 2015.

Khawaja Fahad Ahmad



Missionary US (11/2014-3/2015)

I graduated in 2014 from Jami'a Canada with Shahid Degree.

On Khalifatul-Masih's direction, I delivered flyers about Islam Ahmadiyyat in California, Arizona and Nevada for a month.

I served in Mexico for four

months. Currently serving in The Republic of Kiribati from July 2015-Present.

Azam Akram



Missionary US Since 8/2014

Missionary Azam Akram was born in Ghana, West Africa and

grew up in Toronto, Canada. His father, Mohammad Akram, and mother, Saleema Akhtar, served as teachers under the Nusrat Jahan Scheme in West Africa and Salaga in Ghana.

After graduating from Jami'a Ahmadiyya Canada, he was trained in Ghana and Pakistan and then was posted to the Northern part of Ontario, Canada with Bradford, Newmarket, Barrie Jamā'ats. Prior to being posted to the USA in May

2014, he served a short stint in Belize.

He was posted to serve the Jamā'ats of Dayton, Columbus, Detroit, Indianapolis from 2014-2016. He also served Masjid Sadiq in Chicago and Ahmadiyya-Muslim Community Center in the south side of Chicago from 2016-2018. From then onwards he is currently serving the Pacific Northwest Region with Jamā'ats including Portland and Seattle.

Talha Ali



Missionary US (5/2014-4/2015)

Talha Ali was born on 25 August 1988 in Karachi, Pakistan

and immigrated with his family to Chicago, USA in 2002.

By the grace of Allah, he is part of the blessed scheme of Waqf-e-Nau and had the honor of being the first Waqf-e-Nau from the US Jamā'at to graduate from Jami'a Ahmadiyya.

As part of the Chicago Jamā'at, he served as Local and Regional Nazim-e-Atfal.

He was accepted in Jami'a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2007 and graduated in 2013. After

graduating from Jami'a, he served in Ghana for six months as part of the training program.

His first assignment was in Washington, DC in June 2014 as the Murabbi of the local Jamā'at and member of the National Public Affairs team.

In June 2015, he was appointed as the President and the Missionary In-Charge of Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Philippines. He is still serving in that capacity.

Feroz Ahmad Hundal



Missionary US Since 8/2014

I was born in Faisalabad, Pakistan on 1 January 1988 and moved to Canada in 1991. My parents enrolled me in Waqf-e-Nau Scheme launched by Khalifat-ul-Masīh IV (Raḥimahullāhu Ta‘ālā).

Upon graduating high school in 2005, I joined Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada and completed 7-year course in July 2012 and obtained Shahid Degree.

After completing Jāmi‘a, I

served in Liberia (September 2012–January 2013), Humanity First Office Canada (July 2013–December 2013) and Marshall Islands (January 2014–November 2017).

I am currently serving in Tulsa Jama‘at which covers the states of Arkansas / Oklahoma / Kansas / Colorado / Wyoming, since February 2018.

Syed Muhammad Abdullah



Missionary US since 2015.

I graduated from Jāmi‘a Pakistan in 1986.

I served for 2 years in District Sialkot, Pakistan. I served for four years in Wakalat-e-Tabshir, Rabwah, Pakistan. From 1992, I served in Spain, till 1995. From 1995 till 2001, I served in Portugal.

From 2001 till 2011, I served in Spain again.

From 2012 till 2015, I served in Chile. From 2015 to the present-day, I am serving in the USA:

My first appointment in the USA was in Tucson, AZ.

My second appointment in 2018 was in Miami, FL, to date.

Hamid Nasir Malik



Missionary US Since 2014.

Hamid Nasir Malik grew up in Calgary Alberta which is in the west coast of Canada. Then he moved to Peace Village around 2001. This is the headquarters of Canada Jamā‘at which is located in eastern Canada.

He completed two years of

computer engineering at a community college before leaving it all behind to dedicate his life to Islam and Ahmadiyyat and joining Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyyat Canada.

He graduated Jāmi‘a in 2012. He joined US Jamā‘at as missionary in 2014.

Malik Tariq Mahmood



Missionary US Since 2016.

Malik Tariq Mahmood, son of Malik Khalil Ahmad Abid, Mu‘allim Waqf e Jadīd.

Date of Birth: 6 August 1976.

Graduation from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Rabwah in 1998.

Worked in Khana Mianwali, Kanjroor and Narowal City, Distt:

Narowal and Hafizabad City, Distt: Gujranwala at that time.

Reached Spain: 11 May 2004.

Arrived in USA: 16 March 2016.

Posted at Los Angeles: 6 April 2016.

An office rented for Tabligh in Huntington Park CA on 13 October 2016.

I was blessed to search a place for the mosque. I was able to work there from day one.

Eventually, a church was purchased for \$950,000 in December 2018 located at 7419 Passions Blvd. Pico Rivera, CA and

Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) approved the name as “Masjid Masroor.”

Abdullah Dibba



Missionary US Since 2/2017

Abdullah Dibba is from the Gambia. He is a born Ahmadi. He

completed his high school education in his home country, The Gambia and went to university to study Economics and Management. He quit college in The Gambia in 2007 after developing taste for reading commentary of the Holy Quran and writings of the Promised Messiah (a.s.) and dedicated his life to the service of Islam Ahmadiyyat. He joined Jāmi’a UK in 2008 to become a missionary and earned Shāhid degree in 2015.

He temporarily served in the UK and The Gambia after which he was posted to the USA. He arrived here along with his wife, Mrs. Isatou Trawally, on Saturday February 11, 2017.

He served in Baltimore Jamā’at till the completion of Philadelphia Mosque and thereon he is stationed in Philadelphia PA since November 2018 appointed to serve the Pennsylvania East Jamaats of Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Lehigh Valley.

Khalid Khan

Missionary US since 2017

I am serving as Missionary in Northern California. I am originally from Fiji Islands. I graduated from Jāmi’a in 2016. Went for training in London, Ghana, and Pakistan.

I was posted in the USA in

August 2017 and this is my first posting and serving since then.



Tariq Naseem

Missionary US since 2017

Tariq Naseem was born and raised in California. He received his Shahid Degree from Jāmi’a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2017. He currently serves in the National Tarbiyat Dept as well as the missionary of Baltimore Jamā’at.



Rizwan Khan

Missionary US since 2017.

My name is Rizwan Khan. Originally from Silver Spring, Maryland. Graduated from Jāmi’a Canada in 2011. Was posted to USA in 2013 and was assigned to

Northern Virginia in the same year. Have been posted in Houston since 2017.



Matiullah Joyia



Missionary US since 2017.

Missionary Matiullah Joyia graduated with the first batch of Jāmi'ā Ahmadiyya Canada in 2010.

Under the directive of the Khalifat-ul-Masīḥ V (may Allah be his Helper), his class was sent to Rabwah, Pakistan for three months and Africa for six months for

training after graduation. He was sent to Liberia for another six-months training.

Then, he was assigned to USA. He served in Pacific-Island country Marshall Islands for five years from 2012-2017. He was transferred to the state of Hawaii in July 2017.

Luqman Ahmad Gondal



Missionary US since 2017.

Born in Pakistan 1988. Moved to the US in 2007. Completed High School in Brooklyn, NY and then joined Jāmi'ā Ahmadiyya Canada in 2009 and received Shahid degree after successfully completing 7-year course in Islamic Theology and

Comparative study of religions in 2016. He had the honor to serve in Mali in West Africa, Santiago de Querétaro city in Mexico and London UK before starting his journey to the US. He has been serving in Minnesota and Iowa Chapters since September of 2017.

Faheem Ahmad



Missionary US since 2018.

I was born in Okara, Pakistan and after a few years moved to Virginia. I grew up in the South Virginia Jamā'at and then went to Jāmi'ā Ahmadiyya Canada in 2010. After graduating in 2017, I underwent training in different countries including the UK, Kenya, Mexico, and Pakistan. I was officially posted in 2018 to my first

assignment in the Southwest Desert Region which includes Phoenix, Tucson and Las Vegas; I am currently still serving these Jamā'ats.

Umar Nayyar



Missionary US since 2018.

My Name is Umar Nayyar, son of Mirza Muhammad Yusuf Nayyar *Marhoom* (Late). I Received my Shahid degree in 2018. I have served in Liberia and Guatemala. I was posted to USA Jamā'at in November of 2018 and have been serving under the department of Wasaya in USA Headquarters since

then.

Qasid Ahmed Nasir



Missionary US since 11/2018.

My name is Qasid Ahmed Nasir, son of Nasir Ahmed. I was born in Sialkot Pakistan and moved to Chicago USA in 2008. I graduated from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada and received my Shahid degree in 2018 from Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ V (may Allah be his Helper).

Under the directive of Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ V, I was sent to Rabwah, Pakistan for 6 weeks for training after graduation. I had the honor to serve in Ghana, Africa and UK. My first and current assignment in the USA as of November 2018 is for the regions of Pittsburgh PA, and Cleveland OH.

Frasat Ahmad



Missionary US since 2019.

After graduating from university in 2011, Frasad Ahmad devoted his life to the service of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He graduated from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2018, and after field training in the UK, Africa, and Pakistan, he received his Shahid degree in 2019 at the

blessed hand of Khalīfatul-Masih V (May Allah be His Helper). He was posted to the United States in June 2019 and has since been serving in the Office of the National General Secretary in USA Headquarters.

Waqas Khurshid



Missionary US since 2020.

My name is Waqas Khurshid. I graduated from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2019 and was posted in the USA by Khalīfatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) in 2020. I was assigned to the Additional Waqf Jadīd Tarbiyat Nau Muba‘in Department while stationed in

Maryland. Following this, I was assigned to South Virginia Jamā‘at for a few months before being posted to Willingboro Jamā‘at alongside my department work.

Farhad Ahmad Rana



Missionary US since 8/2020.

My name is Farhad Ahmad Rana. I was born in the year 1991 in Laurel, MD USA. I graduated from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2019.

My first assignment as a missionary is in the office of Dar-ul-Qada. I have served in Private Secretary Office London and Islamabad UK during some of the

summer breaks from Jāmi‘a and have been graced with the opportunity to meet Beloved Huzoor on various occasions.

Usama Rahman



Missionary US since 8/2020.

I was born in Raleigh, North Carolina and lived my whole childhood in the southern part of The United States. I was blessed to be part of the Waqf-e-Nau Scheme. After finishing High School, in 2013, I decided the best way to dedicate my life and go to Jāmi'a and become a Missionary to serve the Jamā'at. After studying for seven years in Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada, by the grace of Allah

Almighty, I graduated in 2020. I was assigned to the USA and served in the National Tabligh Department for about eight months. During this time, I was able to meet with all regional and local Tabligh Secretaries and work on different projects to enhance Da'een Programs and Tabligh in the USA. In late August 2021, I was assigned as Missionary to Dayton Jamā'at.

Talha Riaz Basra



Missionary US since 5/2021.

My name is Talha Riaz Basra, son of Riaz Ahmad Basra (Martyred). I was born in Sialkot, Pakistan on 20th April 1995. My village name is Ghatyalian. After completing my school in 2011, I joined Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya in September 2011 and after completing my seven years of study I received my Shahid degree in

2018. In 2018 my first appointment was in Arabic Desk Rabwah Pakistan. At the end of 2018, I was appointed in Shu'ba Decoration (*Taz'een*) Rabwah Pakistan. I moved to the USA on 5 May 2021. In the same month Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) appointed me in the National Tarbiyat Department USA.

Qasim Choudhary



Missionary Austin, TX since 10/2021.

My name is Qasim Choudhary.

I was born in the year 1995 in Calgary, Alberta Canada.

I graduated from Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada in 2020.

By the grace of Allah, my first assignment as a missionary is in

Austin, Texas.

Wajeeh-Ur-Rehman Mirza

Missionary Albany and Binghamton since 10/2021.

My name is Wajeeh-Ur-Rehman Mirza. My father's name is Mirza Lutf-Ur-Rehman and my mother's name is Razzia Mirza. I was born on 3 June 1995 in Toronto, Canada and I am in the blessed scheme of Waqf-

e-Nau.

My grandfather is late Mirza Fazl-Ur-Rehman who was a pioneer member of Canada Jamā'at. He was son of Hazrat Bhai Mirza Barkat Ali (may Allah be pleased with him), and my grandmother late Syeda Hamid Mirza is the daughter of Hazrat

Hamid Hussain Khan (may Allah be pleased with him).

From my mother's side, I am the great grandson of Hazrat Sheikh Muhammad Ahmad Mazhar, Amīr Jamā'at Faisalabad, and was that servant of Jamā'at who took forward the works of the Promised Messiah

(may peace be on him) in regards to proving how Arabic is the mother of all languages, by proving through approximately fifty languages that their origin is indeed the Arabic language, through extensive research work. He is also the son of an extremely well-known companion of the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Munshi Zafar Ahmad of Kapurthala, who was the twelfth among the first forty members that pledged allegiance (Bai'at) at the hands of the Promised Messiah. May Allah enable me to develop the colors of these esteemed elders and pious individuals to the best of my abilities, also may Allah accept all their prayers they had made for their progenies. Ameen!

Since childhood my father and mother always kept me connected to the Jamā'at and instilled love in me for the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him), the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) as well as Khulafa-e-Ahmadiyyat. I am the eldest of four children.



Since young age, I always desired to go to Jāmi'a and become a Missionary, as I saw firsthand love Huzoor had for them, also they stood out to me and were amazing individuals. I had also developed many friendships with those pioneer elder Jāmi'a students even though they were many years older to me.

As I got to grade 12, I had already made my mind up that I would dedicate my life for the Jamā'at. In a

Friday Sermon in 2013, Huzoor (may Allah support him with His mighty help) desired more boys to enter Jāmi'a and become Missionaries and help Jamā'at, which was the final motivational factor. I entered Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada in September of 2013, and by the sheer grace and blessings of Allah the Almighty, graduated alongside ten of my closest brothers in July of 2020, Al-Hamdu-Lillah!

By the sheer blessings of Allah, I also got married in August of 2020 to Shazia Sabahat Mirza of Norway Jamā'at.

In December of 2020, I received instructions from beloved Huzoor of my posting to be in the USA Jamā'at, after which a short while later I received instructions from Respected Amīr USA for my first posting to be in Albany and Binghamton NY Jamā'ats. I request for prayers that may Allah enable me to fulfill my Waqf (Life Devotion) to the best of my capabilities. Amin.

Missionaries in-Charge in the US

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq
2/15/1920-9/8/1923 | 7. Sufi Abdul Ghafoor 2/17/1962-
12/27/1963 | 8/1/1977-11/1978, 12/9/1980-
83 |
| 2. Maulawi Muhammad Din
3/29/1923-12/1925 | 8. Abdur-Rahman Khan Bengalee
4/9/1963-10/16/1967,
10/19/1969-5/19/1972 | 13. Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir
11/19/1978-12/9/1980,3/1981-
3/9/82 |
| 3. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan
10/20/1925-to end of 1927 | 9. Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad
9/6/1967-2/14/70, 2/1971-? | 14. Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad
11/26/1983-6/1989 |
| 4. Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee
8/18/1928-35, 1936-2/1948 | 10. Chaudhri Sharif Ahmad Bajwa
1/28/1973-7/20/1974 | 15. Daud Ahmed Hanif
6/17/2004-11/17/2009 |
| 5. Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir
2/1948-59 | 11. Muhammad Siddique Shahid
7/20/1974-9/9/1977 | 16. Naseem Mahdi 2010-16 |
| 6. Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin Khan
7/1959-2/17/1962 | 12. Maulana 'Ata'ullah Kaleem | 17. Azhar Haneef Since 2016 |

US Administrative Leadership

وَنُرِيدُ أَنْ نَمُنَّ عَلَى الَّذِينَ اسْتُضِعُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَنَجْعَلَهُمْ أَئِمَّةً وَنَجْعَلَهُمُ الْوَارِثِينَ

And We desired to show favor unto those who had been considered weak in the earth, and to make them leaders and to make them inheritors of *Our favors*, (Holy Qur'an 28 [Al-Qasas]:6)

Amīrs

Initially, Missionaries in-Charge (such as Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, Maulawi Din Muhammad, Sufi M.R. Bengalee, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir and Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin Khan and others) were administrative Charge of the US Jamā'at as well as missionaries. Rashid Ahmad American was the first African American missionary and was also appointed National President (1955-72) working in the US under the guidance of the missionaries in-charge. The title Amir has also been applied to local or regional leadership in the past. From February 1975, in-charge of the chapters were called Amīrs and were under missionary in-Charge. Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr was National President from 1978/79-1983. Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad was National Amīr and missionary in-charge from 1983 to June 1989 following previous Amirs and missionaries in-charge.

Due to the increasing numbers of members and expanding activities, elected officials were made responsible for administration starting July 1989. Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad was appointed Amīr by Khalifatul-Masih IV. He remained Amīr from July 1989 to 22 July 2002. After Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad passed away, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar was appointed Amīr on 19 August 2002. He remained on this post till June 2016. Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad is presently Amīr since July 2016.

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad (Amīr July 1989-July 2002)



Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad was born in Qadian on February 28, 1913, to Mirza Bashir Ahmad and Sayyida Sarwar Sultana Begum, making him a grandson of the Promised Messiah. He acquired

his early education in Qadian and law degree from Government College, Lahore. Afterwards, he passed a prestigious Indian Civil Service Exam. Then he headed to the United Kingdom for higher studies

at Oxford University.

He took over as the Amīr of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA in July 1989 after retiring from a distinguished career in public service, which included assignments

as Additional Chief Secretary, West Pakistan, Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission, Pakistan, Economic Advisor to the President of Pakistan, Financial Advisor to the President, Executive Director of the World Bank and Deputy Executive Secretary of the Joint Ministerial Committee of Board of Governors World Bank and IMF.

After his appointment as Ameer, he immediately started strategic planning in the areas of finance, building of new mosques, improved supply of literature, opening of new chapters, training, and propagation. The number of chapters increased to forty-five. The hallmark of his tenure has been the glowing compliments paid by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāhu Ta‘ālā) for the unprecedented and even globally unparalleled achievements in finance.

In 1994, Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, designed in the traditional Islamic architectural style with a permanent exhibition, library, and Headquarters’ Offices, was built and inaugurated in an internationally attended and globally broadcast ceremony. Numerous publications have been launched in the fields of training, propagation, and in the commemoration of landmark events. Exhibitions have been held in Detroit (Michigan), New York and in Silver Spring (Maryland). Permanent exhibitions have been built in New York, Dayton, Chicago, and Silver Spring (in the Masjid Bait-ur-Rahman). All major chapters have their own newsletters. The system of international transmission of the sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV, starting with weekly transmissions in 1993, blossomed into the establishment of an earth station, jointly sponsored by the US and the Canadian Ahmadiyya Muslim Communities, culminating in the Internet

transmissions in 1998. Muslim Ahmadiyya Television-USA’s Studio, built in the American Fazl Mosque, in 1996, started its production and shipping its tapes to the Center that year.

Khalifatul-Masih IV visited USA six times in 1989, 1991, 1994, 1996, 1997 and 1998 during his tenure as Amīr USA.

Messiah 2000 Interfaith Conference was organized by Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, USA on 11-12 August 2000 at Carthage College, Kenosha, WI (located near Ahmadiyya Mission, Zion IL.). The conference was held to commemorate the great incidence which resulted in the killing of Dr. Alexander Dowie in 1907. Sixteen hundred delegates participated from which 500 were non-Muslims. Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad Amīr Jamā‘at USA delivered keynote address.

As the Amīr of the USA Jamā‘at, he organized and consolidated the Jamā‘at while working towards moral and spiritual training of the members. He was able to achieve significant financial progress. At the time he took over the US Jamā‘at, the budget was \$1.35 million. Within a short period of time, it soared to \$8.7 million.

Khalifatul-Masih IV asked Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya USA to build five mosques and mission house in America. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette March 1989, p. 20) The mosques were to be built in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, and Detroit. He asked members to collect \$2.5 million. He made a personal contribution of \$4200. (Khutbat-e-Tahir, V. 3, p. 336)

Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated four mosques in Willingboro, Philadelphia, Tucson and Portland. He laid foundation stone of mosque in Washington D.C.

(American Ahmadiyya Centennial Souvenir 1889-1989, pp. 43-5)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque in Silver Spring, MD on 14 October 1994. Then he inaugurated the Earth Station initiating 24 Hour transmission of MTA. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January 1995, pp. 5-8)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated the new mosque Masjid Al-Sadiq in Chicago, IL on 23 October 1994. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January 1995, p. 9-11)

Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated Ahmadabad mission house in Boston on 3 June 1997.

Khalifatul-Masih IV laid foundation stone of Bait-us-Samee in Houston, TX on 30 June 1998 and inaugurated Bait-ul-Baseer on July 1. He graced forty-ninth Annual Convention and delivered four addresses.

Khalifatul-Masih IV during one of his speeches at the U.K. annual convention said, “You all know M.M. Ahmad with all he has done in this world, his spiritual achievements are far greater than his worldly achievements.”

He died after protracted illness on July 22, 2002.

Khalifatul-Masih IV paid tribute: “He was a complete devotee to the Ahmadiyya Khilafat and his unwavering love, obedience and devotion to the institution was of such a high magnitude that as a younger brother, I often felt embarrassed.”

Washington Post in its publication dated July 28, 2002, gave short summary of his activities and services to Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya. Different organizations of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya passed resolutions on his death. (Edited from USA—Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 2008, p. 140).

Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar

Amīr Ahmadiyya Community USA (19 August 2002-July 2016), Na'ib Amīr (1991-1998)



Ahsanullah Zafar was born in Sargodha, Pakistan on 15 April 1943 to Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan and Nazir Begum. His early childhood was spent mostly in the United Provinces of India and Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Starting at a young age, his parents consciously emphasized the importance of Islam, education, and hard work to all three children. One of his earliest memories is reciting Namaz (prescribed Prayer in Arabic) to his mother, which was followed by a treat, such as a banana, and permission to play outside.

He studied at King Edwards Medical College, Lahore, Pakistan, from 1961-1966 where he obtained his MBBS. During one summer vacation at King Edwards, he experienced his first spiritual awakening during a trip to Gilgit. For six weeks he and a friend hiked through the Himalayas, often without seeing another human for days. Against this backdrop, he began to reflect in earnest on the relationship between man and God.

Shortly before leaving for the US in December of 1967, he married Qaneta Azam who joined him one year later. By the time he completed his radiology residency in 1974, he

was also the proud father of three children, Subooha, Abraham Ikramullah and Hanna Maryam. Subsequently he joined the staff at Palisades General Hospital in North Bergen, New Jersey, where he eventually became the Chairman of the Radiology Department. In 1991 he left Palisades General Hospital to join a private practice.

Dr. Ahsan Zafar is a nuclear medicine specialist in Hamilton, New Jersey and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area.

Khalifatul-Mash IV appointed Dr. Ahsan Zafar as Amīr of USA in 2002 after Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad passed away. (Fax message dated August 19, 2002). (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, November 2002, p. 29).

Through his work with the Jamā'at, his reflections on the relationship between man and God, which began so many years ago in Gilgit, have evolved into a deeper understanding of the mystery. Much of this evolution is stimulated by the writings of the Promised Messiah which he tries to incorporate into his everyday life. He believes the teachings of the Promised Messiah reflect the divine and as such are not only universal but relevant to contemporary life. The inherent challenge in understanding God is that He is not readily accessible to us, but we are readily accessible to Him. Because of this discrepancy we require ways to understand Him, not only through worship, but through the ways He displays Himself in human interactions.

Since immigrating to the US, he read the New York Times almost every day. As proof of this one need look no further than the floor of the

backseat of his car. He remembers reading an article soon after he came to this country in the late 1960s about a man who took his son out every winter in one of the New York boroughs to distribute food to the homeless. The image of a father teaching his son empathy and compassion, by example and participation struck a chord that remains with him even now. He believes part of our enjoyment in helping other people is that it allows us, in some measure, to emulate the role of God. Subsequently we understand His perspective better which enriches our relationship with Him. Naturally, we seek to share such specific experiences with our children so that they may better their understanding of God.

The actions of caring for a baby or helping the less fortunate illustrate basic human interactions. We perform them instinctually without ascribing any higher purpose or thought. However, their significance lies in that they mirror the relationship of man and God in a way that is personal and therefore meaningful. He sees this as Allah's way of revealing some of His dimensions to us. This nature of revelation has inspired him to find a deeper relationship with God and an enhanced understanding of Ahmadiyya. He hopes that others in the Jamā'at will find similar inspiration through actively searching for insight in the everyday, as well as through prayer and reading. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 1908-2008, Ahmadiyya Community USA, pp. 146-167)

Sahibzada Dr. Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad

Amīr Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya USA Since July 2016



Dr. Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, a great-grandson of the Promised Messiah, was born in 1947.

Dr. Ahmad graduated from the Nishtar Medical College, Multan, Pakistan, in 1971.

After three years of service with Pakistan Army, he proceeded to the

US in 1976.

He was in a surgical residency in Dayton OH 1977-1982.

Dr. Ahmad practiced surgery in Maryland and Indian before moving to Kansas in 2000.

He was the president of Baltimore chapter of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community from 1981 to 1984.

He was the third Sadr of Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA. He has been the longest serving Sadr of Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA (2001-2016).

He has been the Amir of the US Jama‘at since 2016.

He has accompanied Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V in his tours of the US since then including the opening of the Nasir Hospital in Guatemala.

Numerous projects have been completed or are in progress during his tenure as Ameer US.

One significant project that has been completed in 1922 is the historical Fath-e-Azeem Mosque complex in Zion IL. The complex has a two-story spacious mosque with activity areas and offices. There is an exhibition hall related to the fulfillment in the US of a grand prophecy of the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him. Right next to the mosque has been built a missionary’s residence. The complex has been raised at a busy intersection with a tall minaret that is a replica of the Manarat-ul-Masih in Qadian, India. Funds for the project were raised in advance.



Sahibzadah Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad presiding a session at the 2016 US Annual Convention. (Picture by Abdus Sami Khaliq)

National Presidents

Initially Missionaries in-Charge (such as Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, Maulawi Din Muhammad, Sufi M.R. Bengalee, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir and Chaudhri Ghulam Yasin Khan and others) were administrative Charge of the US Jamā‘at. Rashid Ahmad American was the first African American missionary and was also appointed National President (1955-72) working in the US under the guidance of the missionaries in-charge. The title Amir has also been applied to local or regional leadership in the past. From February 1975, in-charge of the chapters were called Amīrs and were under missionary in-Charge. Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr was National President from 1978/79-1983. Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad was National Amīr and missionary in-charge from 1983 to June 1989.

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Rashid Ahmad American

First African American Missionary and National President (1955-72)

The detail can be seen in missionaries’ section.



Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr

Alhaj Dr. Muzaffar A. Zafr (ظافر) accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1955 and played a very active role in serving the Jamā‘at in various capacities since accepting Ahmadiyyat. He was the National President of USA Jamā‘at, for about ten years (Circa 1978/79-1983) and also served as Nā‘ib Amīr (Vice President) for about a decade. His devotion to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (Raḥimahullāhu Ta‘ālā) and Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāhu Ta‘ālā) Masih was exemplary.

He held a Ph.D. in Public Administration and was the founder and executive director of Project CURE in the city of Dayton, Ohio and received prestigious awards for public services.

Dr. Zafr led American delegate to annual conventions at Rabwah and Qadian three times. He worked with several dignitaries, particularly members of the Promised Messiah’s

family, and engaged in service of the movement. He expressed his feelings after attending Annual Conventions at Rabwah and Qadian in 1975:

impression on me. I now clearly realized the impact of divine leadership and the influence and authority he holds over his worldwide community.”

“The character of the Ahmadis of Qadian is one we in America should emulate. Our beloved Khalifatul-Masih III, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, has said, “We should pattern ourselves after Qadian.” (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, February 1976, p. 5)

Sahibzadah M. M. Ahmad paid tribute to Dr. Muzaffar Zafr and he wrote: “It was in November 1983, at the Holiday Inn in Georgetown, that Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Amir and Missionary In-Charge, USA, bonded some expatriates from Asia and other countries with local African American Ahmadis. I had the good fortune to be knit together in the bond of brotherhood with Muzaffar. This sacred bond was of infinite value and a matter of joy and pride to



“There is no Number 2. The wonderful and unique qualities of Huzoor which had been hidden from my sight and comprehension on the earlier visit made a deeper

me. We lived hundreds of miles apart, but our brotherhood bond remained strong and grew with the passage of time. The mutual affection constantly cemented the tie which remained for both of us a source of strength and pride.”

He was a dedicated worker and self-effacing leader and a first-class orator. His robust personality and eloquent speech kept his audiences mesmerized with his effulgent words inspiring them to work with greater zeal for spreading Islam and Ahmadiyyat in America while at the same time he would exhort them to look inwardly with a critical eye. He had a sharp eye for security and was keenly aware of the problems of Americans.

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1977, p. 5)

Khalifatul-Masih IV sent condolence letter:

I am deeply grieved at the demise of our dear and respected brother Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr. Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilāhī Raji’oon. May Allah grant the shadow of His mercy on him and grant him an exalted

station in paradise. He was a very sincere and faithful member. He was granted the opportunities to serve the Jamā’at in a magnificent manner. He was keenly devoted to the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). His death leaves behind a feeling of a vacancy, but we are reconciled with the Will of Allah, in whatever way it is manifested.



Please convey my heartfelt condolences to the very sincere wife of Brother Muzaffar and to all his relatives. May Allah grant them His mercy and grant them patience and perseverance of the highest degree. My dearly loving Salam and prayer to them all.

Today I led the funeral prayer in

absentia for him. ((The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1977, p. 7)

Khalifatul-Masih IV paid tribute to him in Friday Sermon, 20 November 1996:

“He was so active that whenever I visited over there (USA), he was always in-Charge of my security, as far as human efforts were concerned. It appeared he never slept in those days. Whenever I came out, he was always there.”

He served the Ahmadiyya Community USA as National President and then the Na’ib Amīr for a long time, sometimes acting as the Amīr. Internationally, he represented North America in the International Bai’at and assisted Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV during the International Majlis-e-Shūrā.

He died on Friday, 15 November 1996 in his hometown of Dayton, Ohio at the age of 60 after short illness.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1997, pp. 5-8)

Br. Rashid Ahmad is addressing audience.

Sahibzadah MM Ahmad can be seen seated on the stage.

(Picture by Abdus Sami Khaliq)



Martyrs

Compiled by Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Qureshi and Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ
وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ

Translation: O ye who believe, seek help with patience and Prayer; surely, Allah is with the steadfast. And say not of those who are killed in the cause of Allah that they are dead; nay, they are living; only you perceive not. (Al-Baqarah 154-155)

When the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) asked Muslims their opinion about confronting the Meccans before the battle of Badr, they were willing to offer any sacrifice. For instance, Miqdad bin Amr (raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu) submitted: ‘Messenger of Allah, we are not like the companions of Moses (peace be on him) so that we should tell you, “Go thou and thy God and fight the enemy, but here we shall sit.” We affirm, “Go forth wherever you wish, we shall be with you and shall fight on your right and on your left and in front of you and behind you.”

The Muslims at that time were small in number and poorly equipped for warfare, however, they had the willingness to sacrifice. They were so inebriated in the love of Allah the Almighty and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) that they were willing to offer their lives for the cause of Islam. History tells us these devotees inscribed a tale of devotion, sacrifice and valor, parallel of which is hard to find. They changed the course of history and ensured the victory of Islam with their blood. Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his helper) has mentioned their sacrifices in detail in a series of recent sermons.

The companions of the Holy Prophet were like guiding stars and the companions and followers of the Promised Messiah took on their example and to this date have shown the same courage and willingness to sacrifice. They are also changing the course of history and enriching the foundation of Islam Ahmadiyyat with their own blood.

Jamā‘at USA has been fortunate that blood of its members has also kept the 1400-year-old tradition alive in this continent. At this juncture in our history when Jamā‘at USA is stepping into its second century, it is important to remember and pray for the Martyrs of Ahmadiyyat from USA.

Following is a brief description of their martyrdom and their life. ★

Mirza Monawar Ahmad

Mirza Monawar Ahmad was the first Ahmadi Muslim martyr in USA. He was born in 1917. He was the brother of wife of Mir Mohmmad Isma‘il (may Allah be pleased with him) and related to Hazrat Maryam Siddiqā, wife of Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with them).

He came to America in 1946 and was appointed as a missionary in Pittsburgh, PA. At that time Cleveland, Youngstown, Dayton, and Detroit were included in Pittsburgh Circle. He worked hard

to spread the message of Ahmadiyya Islam and soon established himself in the local Muslim community.

Unfortunately, he fell ill and developed stomach cancer. Despite his illness, he used to conduct educational classes from his bed and encouraged members not to miss annual convention due to his ailment. On September 15, 1948, thousands of miles from his home, this servant of Ahmadiyyat breathed his last. He was about 31 years old at the time of his demise.

It was his mother’s wish that he be buried in the same country where he was serving the cause of Ahmadiyya Islam. Thus, he was buried at the Greenwood Cemetery in Pittsburgh, PA.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) made a beautiful mention in his Friday Sermon of September 24, 1948. “Mirza Monawar Ahmad performed high quality work and his Jamā‘at loved him dearly. During a recently held conference in America, it was accepted that the

area where Mirza Monawar Ahmad was the missionary, has excelled other areas in the field of Tabligh. His Jamā'at proved their love for him. When the doctors recommended blood transfusion for him, newly converted Muslim men and women offered their blood. His blood type was hard to find. Whichever new Muslim's blood would match his, would be extremely happy and would be proud that his blood has matched that of Mirza Monawar Ahmad. As the need for transfusion increased, the doctors asked the donors to donate any blood and they will find matching blood from their resources. Based on this, they

offered their blood. This indicates that with the grace of Allah the Almighty, the Jamā'at in America is progressing in sincerity, and this is a testimony to the pious example of the deceased" (Al-Fazl, July 15, 1948. Page 6).

During his tour of USA in 2012, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (aba) visited his grave and prayed for him.

Please see section on missionaries for additional information. (Qureshi)

Mention by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV:

Mirza Monawar Ahmad went to USA in late 1946. After staying in

Chicago for a month, he was posted in Pittsburgh (comprising big areas from Baltimore to Dayton including Cleveland). He made his mark in all these chapters due to love and high moral character. This chapter was considered at top position among all the American Mission. He was beautiful, tall and healthy person. He was diagnosed tumor. He was operated in a local hospital on 14 September 1948. Tumor spread in his intestine which resulted in weakness. He died the next day. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat Aaghaz-ta-Khilafat-4, p. 89) ★

Syeda Tiinat wife of US Missionary Syed Jawad Ali

Syeda Tiinat Jawad Ali was wife of Missionary Syed Jawad Ali who died on 16 March 1958 in Pittsburgh hospital and was buried in United States. She joined his husband in USA in October 1957. (Al-Fazl, 19 March 1958, p. 1)

Missionary Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Nasir, In-Charge Ahmadiyya Mission in USA wrote a note on her death:

Khusilat Ali Shah (may Allah be pleased with him) of Sialkot, the maternal grandfather (Nana) of Syeda Tiinat, was an earlier companion of the Promised Messiah. In 1929, his father was residing in a village near Jarranwala. Syeda Tiinat was the youngest among his brothers and sisters. She was well known in her family due to nobility, respect and well mannered. I know her and her family since my childhood due to close contact. I was really impressed with her simplicity and cordiality. Her parents got settled in Sialkot a few years after her birth. Syeda Tiinat started taking part in Jamā'at activities in childhood. She remained Secretary

Nāsirat Sialkot City for a long period of time. Then she took part in the affairs of local Lajna Ima'illa. She acted as a volunteer nurse to needy immigrants during Indo-Pakistan partition. She was respected by allied organizations due to her untiring service.

She often had true dreams. Based on her dreams, it was thought that she would die in the US. She pointed many times about this matter that she had been forced to come in the United States. She had problem with her heart from the childhood caused by Typhoid. The disease was the cause of her death. Khalifatul-Masih II and members of US Jamā'at were informed. The people from Washington, New York, Baltimore, Negus Town, Cleveland, Dayton, Chicago, Detroit, and St. Louis reached for funeral prayer. She was buried in the same cemetery where Mirza Monawar Ahmad Martyr was buried. (Al-Fazl, 4 May 1958, p. 3)

She devoted her life for the service of Ahmadiyyat in 1952. Her request was accepted by Khalifatul-Masih II (raḍiyallāhu 'anhu). In

1953 she was married to a life devotee, Syed Jawad Ali Shah. In 1954, he was sent to America as a Missionary. In December 1957 she was sent to her husband in America along with her daughter. She developed heart problems in March 1958 and was under treatment in the hospital when she developed pneumonia and passed away, Inna Lillāhi wa Innā Ilaihi Raji'oon. She left behind her daughter. Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāh Ta'ālā) named her as a martyr in his Friday sermon. (Friday Sermon of Khalifatul-Masih IV, June 11, 1999) (Nagi)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV said: She was a learned lady. Her education was up to Matric level. She devoted her life in 1952 for Ahmadiyya Islam which Khalifatul-Masih II accepted. Khalifatul-Masih II arranged her marriage with missionary Syed Jawad Ali Shah in 1953. Syed Jawad Shah was sent to USA as a missionary in 1954. She was sent to US in December 1957 with her three years old daughter. She was hospitalized due to Cardiac arrest in March 1958. She suffered a severe pneumonia

attack in the same hospital. She could not survive. She passed away on 16 March 1958. She was buried

in United States. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat, Aaghaz-

Ta-Khilafat-4, p. 131) ★

Abdur Rahman Khan Bengalee

He belonged to a respectable family from Bangladesh. He accepted Ahmadiyyat in September 1929 when he was a student. He was the only Ahmadi in his family. This led to extreme opposition and difficulties for him. Eventually he was expelled from his home. However, he was steadfast in his belief and continued his education. In 1925, he completed his BA from Calcutta University. In 1929, he passed his LLB examination from Dhaka University. He practiced law for a short period of time and was offered to be a judge, but this did not suit his temperament, so he decided against it. He visited Qadian for the first time in 1931. This visit filled him with a great desire to serve Islam.

He returned to Bangladesh and was appointed administrator of a newspaper titled Ahmadi. In 1940, he migrated to Qadian and was appointed as a teacher at Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya and Ta'lim-ul-Islam High School, Qadian. He devoted his life on May 12, 1944. He retired in 1963 and was chosen to be a missionary in USA. On April 6, 1963, he left Rabwah, Pakistan, for America. He was stationed at

Washington DC followed by Pittsburgh PA. He served with utmost sincerity and devotion. He returned to Rabwah on November 7, 1967. He was sent back to America on October 16, 1969. He served as missionary-in-Charge during both these trips. Along with his usual Tabligh activities, he was also the editor of Muslim Sunrise. Various Christian dignitaries were extremely impressed by his work. In 1967, when he visited Cleveland, he was offered the key to the city by the mayor. (Al-Fazl, June 6, 1972, pages 4-5)

He was then appointed to Dayton, Ohio. He was able to generate a very strong connection with the members of the Jamā'at who treated him like their father. Under his supervision, the Cleveland Jamā'at was reinvigorated.

He translated the Friday sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) and published them regularly. He requested members of the Jamā'at to pray for his blessed end. (Al-Fazl, July 26, 1972, pages 4-6) He was listed in the 5,000 "Mujahideen" of Tahrir-e-

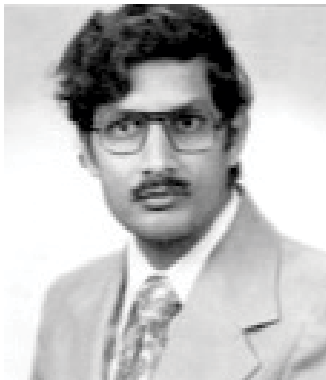
Jadīd.

On May 16, 1972, he passed away. His body was brought to Rabwah on May 19. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) led his funeral prayers. He was buried at the Bahishti Maqbarah, Rabwah.

The Muslim Sunrise dedicated a portion to him and presented details about his life, achievements, illness and demise. (Qureshi)

Khalifatul-Masih IV said: I used to take homeopathic medicine from him at very early stage. He was kindhearted and lovely person. He went to US in 1963 and was residing in Pittsburgh. He diligently performed missionary work for nine years He was posted in Dayton in the year 1972 when he passed away on 16 May 1972. His one daughter Hiba-tun-Noor is the wife of Amīr Holland, and their daughter is the wife of our Naveed Marti. By grace of God, this family is also very sincere. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat Aaghaz-ta-Khilafat-4, p. 97-8) (Please see his biography in detail on other pages.) ★

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad



Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad was the first Ahmadi Muslim whose blood was shed on American soil for the sake of his faith.

He was born in Mahilpur, District Hoshiarpur. His father's name was Rasheed Ahmad. His family migrated to Pakistan. He attended Ta'lim-ul-Islam College Rabwah and obtained MBBS from King Edward's Medical College

Lahore, Pakistan. He spent some time in the Army medical core in Pakistan. He came to America in 1976 and completed residency training in Chicago. He later settled in Detroit, Michigan and worked as an anesthesiologist at Wayne State Medical Center.

He was a pious individual and regular in his worship and financial contributions. He had a passion for

service of the Jamā'at. He soon became an integral member of the Detroit Jamā'at. He served the Jamā'at in various capacities including Qa'id Majlis. He had a passion for spreading the message of Islam. He used to discuss differences between Islam and Christianity with his colleagues.

In 1983, the Detroit Jamā'at was busy in preparing for the Jalsa Salana USA to be held in Detroit. Several members were in the mosque performing various tasks when the phone rang. There was an unfamiliar voice on the other end. A young man wanted to know more about Ahmadiyyat. President Detroit chapter, Nasir Malik, wanted to know who wanted to attend to this gentleman? Dr. Muzaffar offered his services without hesitation. He talked to the young man in detail and even invited him to his home.

He spent several hours in explaining him the truth about Ahmadiyyat. As this young man left Dr. Muzaffar's home, he left his cap either inadvertently or

intentionally. Next day, this man returned to pick up his cap. By this time, Missionary Mirza Afzal had also arrived at the home of Dr. Muzaffar as a guest of Jalsa Salana. Dr. Muzaffar introduced Missionary to him and requested prayers. As the young man was leaving, he turned around and shot Dr. Muzaffar point blank. One bullet hit the back of his neck and other hit his face and arm. Dr. Ahmad passed away on the spot.

Khalifatul-Masih IV led his funeral on August 12, 1983, in Rabwah Pakistan and he was buried there. Dr. Muzaffar left behind his wife Asya Begum and two sons. The second one was born two months after his death.

It is interesting to note that the perpetrator died trying to burn the Ahmadiyya Mosque in Detroit. (Qureshi)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV said: Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad was the first martyr on the soil of United States of America. He was born in 1946 at Mahilpur District Hoshiarpur. He was thirty-seven

years old at the time of martyrdom. He was son of Rashid Ahmad. He did intermediate examination from T.I. College, Rabwah and medical degree from King Edward medical College, Lahore in 1971. He joined Army Medical core. He came to USA in 1975 and started work in Detroit, Michigan. He was not only a good physician but a successful Dā'i ilallāh. He was General Secretary and Qa'id 'Alaqa (region). A black person came to his house. He introduced the man to Ahmadiyyat. When Dr. Muzaffar bade him farewell, the person fired at him from the back. He was martyred on the spot. The terrorist tried to blast Jamā'at center with a bomb. The center caught fire and the assailant was burnt in the same fire there and then.

Khalifatul-Masih IV led his funeral prayers on 16 August in Rabwah. He was buried in Bahishtī Maqbarah on the same night, (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat Aaghaz-ta-Khilafat-4, p. 178) ★

Fahim Ahmad



Joey Isbell, who was harassing young black boys in Shiloh Park. He was shaking the bikes as the boys were riding them and flashing a gun at them. Fahim said that he was not afraid of him nor his gun. The murderer then shot him at point blank range with a 0.357 caliber gun. Fahim died on the spot. He was sixteen years old.

Word got out in the Black Community that this racially motivated homicide should not go unanswered. Community rebel rousers were attempting to retaliate with violent riots. These individuals started attending some of our meetings in order to form an association with us and intended to create mischief under

our organization's name. They were going to use Fahim's funeral as a springboard to their troublemaking activities. They planned to smash windows, loot and damage cars after the funeral proceedings.



In 1986, an Ahmadi youth, Fahim Ahmad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hanif and Nafia Ahmad (Laeega Ahmad was Fahim's stepmother), was martyred in Zion, Illinois. The murderer was a Caucasian man,

Eventually the Zion Police Department gained knowledge of their intentions and wanted to

ensure they had a presence at Fahim's funeral. The Chief of Police and an alderman attended the

funeral. ("Perseverance—The story of al-Haj Rashid Ahmad American," pp.189-190) ★

Masud Ahmad Jhelumī

Please see the details of Masud Ahmad Jhelumī (Martyr) in the section on missionaries.

Khalifatul-Masih IV says: It is a strange coincidence that most of the Waqifeen being mentioned are my class fellows. Masud Ahmad Jhelumī was much junior to me. He was son of Abdur-Raheem, resident of New Mohalla, Jhelum. Masud Ahmad was born in April 1934. He passed Maulawi Fazil examination in 1957 and completed missionary classes in 1960. Then he earned his masters in 1965. He was sent to Nigeria, Liberia, England, Switzerland and Germany for missionary work. I stand witness that he had to undergo

many hardships. I was angry with him on certain matters. He never complained. He advised his progeny to keep contact with the center. His affection with the Jamā'at and Khalifa fascinated me. He died on 23 August 1992 due to heart ailment. He was buried near Frankfort mission. He always advised his progeny and friends to associate with the Jamā'at. I thought to inscribe this couplet of Khalifatul-Masih II on his tombstone:

بے وفاؤں میں نہیں ہوں، میں وفاداروں میں ہوں

He was really faithful. I led his funeral Prayer in absentia on the same Friday. He has three sons and

two daughters. His elder son Luqman has devoted his life for Ahmadiyya Islam and is studying in USA. His second son Salman Ahmad is a bank manager in Washington. His third son Muhammad Zabeeh is also studying. His elder daughter Mansoura Asad is married and lives in Washington. The other daughter of Masud Martyr is also studying.

(Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Shuhada-e-Ahmadiyyat, Aaghaz-ta-Khilafat-4, pp. 110-1)-(Please see his biography in missionaries section.) ★

Muhaimin Kareem

Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil Azīz) called him a martyr and led his funeral prayer.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V said: Young Muhaimin Karim owned a barber shop in Chicago. Muhaimin was pious and gracious individual. He led his life according to the principles of Islam Ahmadiyyat. He lived by the pledge of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya to be willing to sacrifice his life, wealth, time, and honor and died by it also. He was a brave and bold individual and openly practiced his faith without any hesitation.

He was well known and well liked among people of all color, religion, and creed. He always had a cap on while at work and it was forbidden to use foul language at this shop. He was very active in the

Jamā'at and served as the Qa'id Majlis as well as Secretary finance. Very fond of Waqar-e-Amal and in the Ramazan of 2003 set up the whole library in the Mosque. He would clean the mosque every week keep others engaged due to his friendly and jovial manner. He also had a passion in spreading the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat. He had a large number of *Tabligh* contacts and on one occasion was able to gather about 50 individuals in a program. He was very regular in financial sacrifice and used to spend whole heartedly despite having limited means. He joined the blessed scheme of Waṣiyyat at the direction of Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil Azīz)

One evening, someone attacked two of his non-Muslim employees

with a gun. He intervened without hesitation. The two employees escaped unharmed but unfortunately, he received a fatal shot and became a martyr on December 26, 2006.



(Compiled by Dr. Mansoor Qureshi) ★

Dr. Abdul Mannan Siddiqi



He was the son of Dr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi. Got his medical degree from Sindh Medical College Karachi. He accomplished part of his training in USA and decided to settle down. He served humanity with a passion and did so till his last breath. He was shot in his clinic on May 27, 2008. Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil Azīz) gave him a great tribute in his Friday Sermon and led his funeral prayers. Following are excerpts from the Friday Sermon of September 12, 2008.

Huzoor talked about two martyrs in that Sermon and said, one of them was our very dear brother Dr. Abdul Mannan Siddiqi.

He was the first martyr after 27th May 2008 and the great martyr gave his life as a testimony that our faith is just as resolute in the second century of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat as it was in the first century and beyond and we are just as ready and willing to sacrifice our loves. This martyr was only forty-six years old and with his young martyrdom he has

generated a spirit in the youth as if giving them a message that loss of life notwithstanding, no dishonor should be brought on the Bai'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and one should be ever prepared for every sacrifice for the Ahmadiyya Khilafat. He had a charming temperament.

Huzoor knew him personally from earlier on. His father, Abdul Rahman Siddiqi, was an acquaintance of Huzoor's father and would come and visit. He served as Amīr of Mirpur Khas region for forty years. After the partition of India when he arrived in Pakistan Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) instructed him to settle in the Mirpur Khas region which he promptly followed. Abdul Mannan was born after eleven years of marriage. In 1988 he went to USA for further/post graduate medical studies and later started work there. However, his father wrote him to return to Pakistan saying the purpose of his education was to serve the poor and the needy of the area. He immediately returned to Pakistan and started serving there. Dr. Abdul Mannan Siddiqi's maternal grandfather was Hashmat Ullah Khan, a companion of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace). Dr. Abdul Mannan served the Community in several capacities and was currently the Amīr of Mirpur Khas region. He took care of the hospital after his father passed away. He would personally organize a medical camp in the [remote]

Tharparkar region where he would personally visit and heal thousands of people. At his martyrdom people came from far and wide to pay respects. Allah had granted this servant of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) the power of healing. He was known in the entire province of Sindh. He was a very popular person who was most keen on *Tabligh*. By taking his life the enemy imagines he has taken away a source of *Tabligh*, but the foolish do not realize that by sacrificing his life Dr. Abdul Mannan will generate several more Abdul Mannans to rise.

Huzoor said what greatly endeared him to Huzoor was his ever-smiling face. He was utterly humble with no presumptions about his high education, ownership of a hospital, presidency of the region etc. Huzoor said not only did he treat his needy patients free of charge; he also gave them some financial help. Huzoor said in his opinion Dr. Siddiqi was an embodiment of a devotee of Khilafat and was among the best of Huzoor's partners. May Allah also grant steadfastness to his wife; she has demonstrated exemplary steadfastness and has been supportive to her mother-in-law as well as her children. Despite being born and bred in the USA she supported her husband with complete sincerity. May Allah grant her a long life and may she experience the delights of her children. ★

Khalil Ahmad Solangi

Khalil Solangi's family migrated to Gujranwala, Pakistan at the time of partition of India. After becoming an Electrical Engineer, he held a job at the Water and Power department in Pakistan for about five years.

Following that, he joined in his father's business. After his father's demise, he started his own business. About a year before his demise, he moved to America and started garments import business. He was a

very active members of the Jamā'at and served in various capacities including District Qa'id and Regional Qa'id Gujranwala as well as general secretary district Lahore. He was also the head of the consultative

body of trade and industry. He was a Musi and was 51-year-old at the time of his martyrdom. He was visiting Lahore for business and was at Dar-uz-Zikr Lahore for Friday prayers. During the attack on the mosque, he was under the stairs trying to save a brother when he got shot on the right side of his chest. He lay injured for a while and ultimately passed away and achieved martyrdom.



Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil Azīz) gave him a great tribute in his Friday sermon. Huzoor said that he had personal relationship with him and had known him from his time in Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya. He was a symbol of obedience to the system of Jamā'at. He would respond promptly to any ask from the

Markaz. Huzoor said that Khalil Solangi met him in London on his way to Pakistan. Huzoor appreciated the level of financial sacrifice of Khalil Solangi and gave many examples. He also praised the amount of time Khalil Solangi dedicated to Jamā'at work. Huzoor personally testified to humility of Khalil Solangi.

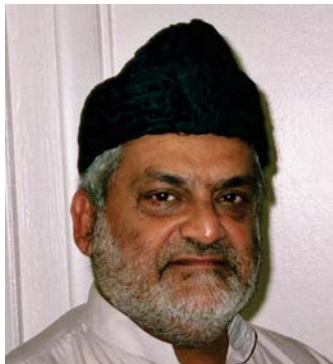
Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V said: His father's name is Naseer Ahmad Solangi. He belonged to village Khara near Qadian. His grandfather Master Muhammad Buksh was companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). Missionary Abdul Qadir Sodagar Mal was his relative. After Indo-Pakistan partition they settled in Gujranwala. Martyr Khalil Solangi did Electrical Engineering from Lahore and was employed for five years in WAPDA. Then he started business with his father. He came to Lahore in 1997 and started business there. He started garments import from United States just a year back and was stationed in the US.

He served Jamā'ats in Pakistan as Nazim Atfāl. He was elected Qa'id District and 'Alaqa of Khuddam-ul-

Ahmadiyya Gujranwala. He was then President and member Central Consultative Board of trade and industry. At the time of martyrdom, he was 51-year-old. He was martyred when terrorists attacked Dar-uz-Zikr, Lahore.

He was sincere worker and was always contributor in financial sacrifices. He built a mosque in Mohalla Baghwanpura Gujranwala. He contributed for building reception at Dar-uz-Ziyafat Rabwah. He will always ask guidance from Khalifatul-Masih before starting any work. He was exemplary in obedience. I asked him to wind business in Pakistan and settle in USA. He immediately acted on my advice. His wife said that he was exemplary father and husband and would care all of us admirably. When Khalifatul-Masih IV asked donation for Bait-ul-Futuh, he responded immediately by fax. He promised certain amount and paid the amount promptly. He was always ready for any financial sacrifice for the Jamā'at. (Huzoor's comments translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 25 June 2010, London, UK) ★

Habib-ur-Rahman



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V said: He was born in 1950 at Sanghar Pakistan. He obtained his education in Rabwah, Pakistan. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, may Allah be his Helper, gave a summary of his life during his

sermon that he was with him during the early education. Habib-ur-Rahman was of jovial and pious personality. On August 19, 2010, at about 10:30 in the morning while he was driving from his home to the agricultural lands, he was shot by two unknown motorcyclists. He died on the spot.

He moved to America in 1990 with his family. Prior to that he served the Jamā'at in various capacities including Qa'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Sanghar as well as regional Qa'id in that area. He also served as secretary finance for the Jamā'at. In America he worked for alislam.org website

and was a very active and efficient worker. In 2006, his brother, Dr. Mujibur Rahman, was martyred, and he had to move back to Sanghar to look after his elderly father. He married the widow of his martyred brother at the request of his family. His first wife had already passed away in the past. He was very regular in Salat and offering financial sacrifices. He had a tender heart and used to help out the needy. He had a strong relationship with Khilafat.

At the time of his demise, his father was alive at the age of 91. He left behind four sisters and two brothers. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih

V led his funeral Prayer after his Friday Sermon on August 20, 2010. (Qureshi) ★

Chaudhri Nusrat Mahmood

Khalifatul-Masih V said: I, In-Sha'-Allah, shall lead funeral Prayer of Chaudhri Nusrat Mahmood (Martyr) son of Chaudhri Manzoor Ahmad Gondal. In his family, Chaudhri Anayatullah was a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). They remained in Mandi Bahauddin for 30 years. He came to Long Island New York in 2008.

Nusrat Mahmood was born on 6 March 1949 in Sialkot. He graduated from Murray College, Sialkot and was employed in Shah Taj Sugar Mill Mandi Bahauddin. He worked there for thirty-five years as a manager. Then he shifted to USA.

He went to Pakistan in

September 2012 in connection with the marriage of his younger daughter. Her husband was martyred on the third day of the marriage. On 19 October 2012, some unknown people fired at him. He remained in hospital for 38 days. His wounds could not be cured. He died on 27 November 2012.

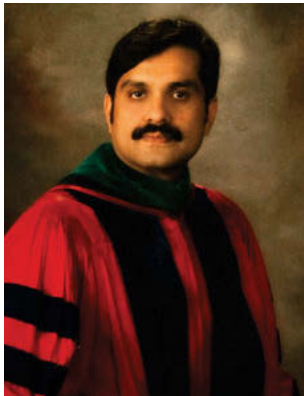
He was a Musi and was fond of Tabligh. He served Mandi Bahauddin Jamā'at as Secretary Rishta Nata, Secretary Da'wat Ilallah. In long Island New York he served as Secretary Tarbiyat. He was given honesty award from the company where he worked.

His son Kashif Ahmad Danish writes: My father was a loving

person. He cared about his progeny from childhood to the youth. He helped them educated. He was soft spoken and talked in a decent manner. He shall inquire from children about daily prayers. The son Nusrat Mahmood is now settled in Canada and is serving as Na'ib Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya.

Muhammad Munir Shams states: I remained Murabbi in Mandi Bahauddin for approximately eleven years and worked with him. God may enable his progeny to follow in his footsteps. Amin. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 13 November 2012, London, UK) ★

Dr. Mahdi Ali Bashir-ud-Din Qamar



Another member of US Jamā'at who earned the title of a martyr was our beloved Dr. Mahdi Ali Qamar. He was visiting Rabwah and was on his way to Bahishtī Maqbarah after Fajr Prayers on May 26, 2014, when two motorcycle riders shot him multiple times. He died on the spot.

Khalifatul-Masih V gave him a beautiful tribute in his Friday Sermon May 30, 2014. We will present portions of the sermon.

Today, I shall mention a sincere friend having many

qualities. His name is Dr. Mahdi Ali Qamar Son of Chaudhri Farzand Ali. He (Martyr) belonged to Gogohwal District Faisalabad. He was martyred in Rabwah on 26 May 2014. He was heart specialist and went to Tahir Heart, Rabwah on a two-week Waqf-e-'Aridi. He had a residence there. He was going to Bahishtī Maqbarah with his wife and son after offering Fajr prayers. Two people came on motorcycle and fired at him. Then they escaped towards Sargodha He was martyred on the spot.

His father took oath of allegiance at the hand of Khalifatul-Masih II in his early youth. His paternal grandfather was also martyred in 1974 at Sargodha Station and was first martyr of Rabwah.

Mahdi Ali Qamar was born on September 3, 1963. On the day he was born, Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (raḍiyallāhu 'anhu) Qamar-

ul-Anbiya passed away. His father named him Qamar in his memory. Dr. Qamar's maternal grandfather added Bashir-ud-Din to his name. Hence his full name was Mahdi Ali Bashir-ud-Din Qamar.

He obtained his initial education from Ta'lim-ul-Islam School and College, Rabwah Pakistan and was considered an intelligent student.

He was then admitted to Medical College in Faisalabad. He faced persecution while in medical college. His books and belongings were burned. He came back to Rabwah. When the situation improved, he went back to complete his studies. Eventually, he earned his MBBS degree.

He served at Fazl-e-'Umar Hospital for about two years. He moved to Canada with his mother. He passed medical examinations in Canada and then did House Job. Then he went to Brooklyn

University New York for higher studies. He specialized in Cardiology there.

After completing his training, he took a job in Columbus, Ohio and settled there.

He did Waqf-e-Aridi at Tahir Heart institute and was visiting Rabwah for this reason when he died. He went on Waqf-e-'Aridi two times before his martyrdom.

He was soft spoken. He possessed high moral character.

He was an extremely gentle, compassionate person who never had any disagreements with anyone.

His wife says that he was extremely gentle and loving with her and always overlooked any errors and took great care of his family. He was extremely affectionate to his children and gave time to their education and training and had a most obliging temperament. His wife says if she got annoyed at something, he would always say to her not to be angry. He was extremely humble. His deportment with his in-laws

was very kind.

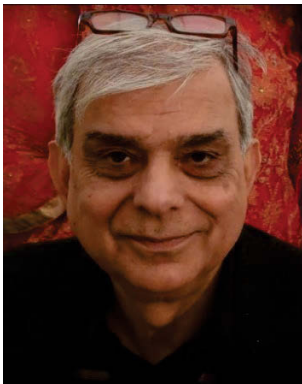
His mother-in-law says that she once stayed with them for five years and she never heard him raise his voice and he always treated her like his mother. He was very hospitable, and guests would stay at their place during Jamā'at events. He would also fetch guests from the airport. He helped the disadvantaged a great deal.

Dr. Mehdi also had artistic flair and was a very good poet. His poetry collection entitled 'Burg-e-Khayal' is in the stages of publication. He was also a skilled calligraphist.

He had great love and devotion for Khilafat and always keenly complied when exhorted towards good causes. He gave most generously to donations and financial schemes and donated a large sum towards the mosque in Columbus. Likewise, he donated generously towards the mosque in his ancestral neighborhood in Rabwah. He was also at the forefront of donating to Tahir Heart Institute.

He was intensely keen on

Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad



Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad of Hot Spring, California was martyred in March 2019 in Pakistan.

Dawn Newspaper Pakistan reported on March 18, 2019:

The bodies of two doctors who had gone missing last week have

been found from a dam in Fatehjang tehsil of Punjab's Attock district, police said on Monday.

The bodies of Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed and Dr. Aziz Ahmed bore gunshot wounds and signs of torture, according to police, who suspect the involvement of their employees in the murders.

Three men have been arrested in connection with the double murder.

As per the First Information Report (FIR) registered when the two doctors went missing on March 13, Dr. Iftikhar, who lived in the United States, owned some land in Fatehjang and had delegated Dr.

calling people to God and was very well read in terms of religious material. Dr. Mehdi used to give most effective responses to allegations and objections on YouTube.

He was also responsible for opening the first blood bank in Rabwah along with Dr. Sultan Mubashir and Dr. Mahmood.

He was very pleasant and had a lasting smile on his face. In fact, some noticed that even after his death, he appeared to have a calmness on his face.

This martyr had a successful life and spent it serving humanity and met death that gave him eternal life with God. May God give this dear brother of ours a high station in Paradise and may his station be ever elevated; may he be granted a place in the feet of God's beloveds. May God keep his wife and children in His protection and may all the wishes and prayers of Dr. Mehdi Ali for his children be fulfilled." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July-August 2014, pp. 32-35 and The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2014) ★

Aziz to look after the property.

While on a visit to Pakistan, Dr. Iftikhar and Dr. Aziz had on March 13 drove from Islamabad to Fatehjang to oversee work being done on the said property, which is located in the Ali Jahangir area.

The duo had subsequently gone missing on the same evening during their commute back to Islamabad. An FIR was registered at Fatehjang police station on abduction charges.

On Monday, their bodies were recovered from a small dam in Dhok Suba and were subsequently shifted to hospital for a postmortem examination.

Although the two doctors belonged to a religious minority community, police have dismissed reports that their murders were a hate crime.

Speaking to *Dawn News TV*, Fatehjang Station House Officer Abid Munir said Dr. Iftikhar owned forty-six Kanals of farmland in Fatehjang, which he wanted to sell.

He said it had transpired during the initial police investigation that after coming to know of the deceased's plan to sell the land, three of his employees hatched a plan to murder the doctors.

According to the SHO, the three employees, who worked at the property, first murdered Dr. Aziz, and then forced Dr. Iftikhar on gunpoint to sign an affidavit to transfer the ownership of the land in their names. They subsequently shot Dr. Iftikhar in the head, the police officer said.

The suspects then dumped the two bodies in a small dam near the farmhouse and covered them with sand.

All three of the suspects have been arrested from Peshawar and Mansehra, SHO Munir said, adding that their four-day remand was obtained from a local court on Monday.

He said police have also recovered the stamp paper that the suspects had Dr. Iftikhar sign, while efforts are underway to recover the weapon used by them to murder the two doctors.

Rabwah Times reported:

HOT SPRINGS – Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, a physician who worked as a hospitalist at the Hot Springs VAMC for over three years, was abducted and killed in his home-country of Pakistan last month, according to a recently published report by the Rabwah Times of Pakistan.

The VA Black Hills Healthcare System confirmed the report last week and issued a statement, that said, “Our deepest sympathies go out to the family, friends and coworkers of Dr. Ahmad. He provided compassionate care to Veterans for over three years throughout VA Black Hills Health Care System. We are grateful for his service to Veterans.”

Police officials said that Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad had returned to Pakistan from the United States a few days back while Dr. Tahir Aziz resided in the capital Islamabad. The pair drove from Islamabad to Fatehjang on March 13, however went missing the same evening during their commute back to Islamabad.

Fatehjang Police official, SHO Abid Munir said Dr. Iftikhar owned some land in Fatehjang and three of his employees, who are were later arrested, hatched a plan to murder the doctors.

Local man Michael Steinecker, an outpatient at the Hot Springs VA who said he had utilized Dr. Ahmad's services in the past, said he remembered him as friendly, courteous, and professional.

Khalifatul-Masih V said in his Friday Sermon on 10 May 2019:

After the Friday prayers, I shall lead two funeral prayers in absentia. Although they passed away two months ago but the details were not before me until now. The first funeral Prayer is of respected Dr. Tahir Aziz Ahmad, son of late Arshadullah Bhatti, from Islamabad [Pakistan] and the second funeral Prayer is of Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, son of the late Dr. Khawaja Nazir Ahmad from the USA. They both had travelled to the area of Fatah Jang in order to deal with some matters regarding their land, when Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad's workers kidnapped them on 13

March and later brutally killed them – To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.

In Pakistan, people who commit such murders have no fear of being caught if they kill an Ahmadi. This is because according to them, killing an Ahmadi is an act of virtue and also, they have the full support of the Maulawis [Muslim clerics] who will then try their utmost to set them free. Therefore, being Ahmadi also played a factor in their killings, and so in one way we can say that they attained martyrdom.

Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad belonged to Teregari, which is in the district of Gujranwala. He was the maternal grandson of Muhammad Jamal, a companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). Ahmadiyyat entered his family through his grandfather, Khawaja Jalāluddīn, during the era of Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him). His father, Khawaja Nazir Ahmad, had the opportunity to serve as a chemistry teacher in Ta'lim-ul-Islam College Rabwah. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad acquired his MBBS from King Edward Medical College Lahore and after that served for three years in an Ahmadiyya clinic in Kano, Nigeria. After three years in Nigeria, he moved to USA where he completed his MD and then after spending almost fifteen years in USA, he returned to Pakistan. He spent fifteen years in Pakistan and moved to California, USA three years ago. However, he returned to Pakistan because of his daughters. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad greatly looked after the needy and was passionate for serving fellow mankind. He would take part in financial sacrifices and was a very devout person. He leaves behind his wife and three daughters. (Friday Sermon of Khalifatul-Masih V dated 10 May 2019) (N) ★

Notable Visitors to the US

Members who have achieved historic milestones for the Jamā'at as well as events of historic significance for the Community.

زمین کے لوگ خیال کرتے ہوں گے کہ شاید انجام کار عیسائی مذہب دنیا میں پھیل جائے یا بدھ مذہب تمام دنیا پر حاوی ہو جائے مگر وہ اس خیال میں غلطی پر ہیں۔ یاد رہے کہ زمین پر کوئی بات ظہور میں نہیں آتی جب تک وہ بات آسمان پر قرار نہ پائے۔ سو آسمان کا خدا مجھے بتلاتا ہے کہ آخر کار اسلام کا مذہب دلوں کو فتح کرے گا۔
(براہین احمدیہ حصہ پنجم، روحانی خزائن جلد ۲۱ صفحہ ۷۷۷)

People of the world may be inclined to think that it is Christianity which may ultimately spread throughout the world, or it may be Buddhism which will prevail in the end. But they are certainly wrong in these conjectures. Remember that nothing happens on this Earth unless it has been so willed in Heaven. And it is the God of Heaven who revealed to me that ultimately it will be the religion of Islam which will conquer the hearts of people. (*Barahīn-e-Ahmadiyya*, Pt. 5: *Rūhānī Khazā'in* Vol. 21, p. 427)

God the Almighty revealed to the Promised Messiah (Alaih-is-Salam):

خدا تعالیٰ نے مجھے بار بار خبر دی ہے کہ وہ مجھے عظمت دے گا اور میری محبت دلوں میں بٹھائے گا۔ اور میرے سلسلہ کو تمام زمین میں پھیلانے گا اور سب فرقوں پر میرے فرقہ کو غالب کرے گا۔ اور میرے فرقہ کے لوگ اس قدر علم اور معرفت میں کمال حاصل کریں گے کہ سچائی کے نور اور اپنے دلائل اور نشانوں کے رُوسے سب کامنہ بند کر دیں گے۔ اور ہر ایک قوم اس چشمہ سے پانی پیئے گی اور سلسلہ زور سے بڑھے گا اور پھولے گا یہاں تک کہ زمین پر محیط ہو جاوے گا۔ (تجلیات الہیہ صفحہ ۲۱، روحانی خزائن جلد ۲۰، صفحہ ۴۰۹، اسلام انٹرنیشنل پبلیکیشن لمیٹڈ، اسلام آباد پوکے)

God has informed me again and again that He will grant me great glory and will instill my love in people's hearts. He shall spread my Movement all over the world and shall make my sect triumphant over all other sects. The members of my sect shall so excel in knowledge and insight that they will confound everyone with the light of their truth, and by dint of their arguments and signs. Every nation will drink of this fountain, and this Movement will spread and blossom until it rapidly encompasses the entire world. (*Divine Manifestations* (Tajalliyāt Ilāhiyyah), page 24, First English Edition: 2006, London, Islam International Publications Ltd.)

The above prophecy has been fulfilled in various forms many times over and will continue to do so. In-Sha'-Allah. During the blessed reign of the Third Caliphate this prophecy was magnificently manifested in the person of Professor Dr. Abdus Salam. He was a renowned scientist who received the highest award of Nobel Prize in physics in 1979 from King of Sweden. He was the first Muslim and in fact first Pakistani to receive the prestigious award. The President of Pakistan sent him a message of congratulation in which he stated that the honorable Dr. Salam had brought honors to his native land.

The Noble Personalities who visited United States and talked with members of the Jamā'at in religious meetings. They are: Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil-ut-Tabshir, Mirza Wasim Ahmad, Amīr and Nazir e A'la Qadian, Maulana Abdul Malik Khan, Dr. Abdus Salam, Hafiz Saleh Mohammad Alladin, Mr. Lubus, Amīr Jamā'at Indonesia, Abdullah Wagishauser Amīr Germany, Hafiz Jibr, Nā'ib Amīr Ghana, Mahmood Ahmad Bengalee Amīr Australia, Mujeeb Ur Rahman Ex-Amīr Rawalpindi, Pakistan and famous Ahmadi advocate from Pakistan, Hafiz Muzaffar Ahmad from Rabwah, Ata-ul-Majeed, Imam London Mosque, Muhammad Ahmad Jalil, Rabwah, etc.

Here we mention some of them.

Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan



Chaudhri Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (6 February 1893–1 September 1985) was a Pakistani jurist and diplomat who served as the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan.

The son of the leading attorney of his native city, Zafrulla Khan studied at Government College in Lahore and received his LL.B. from King's College, London University, in 1914. He practiced law in Sialkot and Lahore, became a member of the Punjab Legislative Council in 1926, and was a delegate in 1930, 1931, and 1932 to the Round-Table Conferences on Indian reforms in London. In 1931-32 he was president of the All-India Muslim League (later the Muslim League), and he sat on the British viceroy's executive council as its Muslim member from 1935 to 1941. He led the Indian delegation to the League of Nations in 1939, and from 1941 to 1947 he served as a judge of the Federal Court of India.

Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan visited Chicago, Illinois from 29 August 1933 to 7 September 1933. He addressed in three public meetings. He delivered two speeches

in Chicago Mission. He inspected Ahmadiyya Mission Chicago and gave valuable suggestions. He also informed the center about difficulties the mission is facing. (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat, V. 6, pp. 19-20)

Zafrulla Khan, B.A. LL. B., M.L.C., Bar at Law, former President of the All-India Moslem League, made a profound impression by his modest but masterly address at the evening session, Friday, September first, on "Islam Promoting World Unity, Peace and Progress." His leadership was also helpfully manifested in the intimate conference of speakers from many lands who helped to form the new Working Committee in India of the World Fellowship of Faiths. Mr. Khan pleased us all by accepting membership in this Indian Working Committee and in the International Committee which is to be developed – with His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda, India, as International President. Mr. Khan's promised leadership and labor on behalf of the World Fellowship of Faiths is an appreciated, great acquisition of the cause. (The Moslem Sunrise, November 1933,

Vol. VI, No. 3-4, pp. 43-4)

Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan attended second Annual Convention of USA held on 17-18 September 1949 and delivered two speeches. (Al-Fazl, 6 October 1950, p. 2)

In the Fourth Annual Convention held in Cleveland from September 1-2, 1951, it was reported that the American mission published Moral Principles as the Basis of Islam by Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan.

Muhammad Zafrulla Khan presented the Holy Qur'an the US President Mr. Truman. (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat Vol. 15, p. 439)

An Italian atheist Dr. Laurav Vagile wrote an essay on "An Interpretation of Islam." The essay portrays true representation of Islamic values and believes. He gave respect to the Holy Prophet. The essay became very popular and was published many times. Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan wrote a preface to it. He gave due respect to the author. The American mission published five thousand copies of the essay. (Al-Fazl, 12 January 1952)

Chaudhri Zafarulla Khan was a permanent representative of Pakistan in UNO in the year 1955. He used to take part in chapters' activities. He was regular in offering Friday Prayers at the mission house and used to deliver Friday Sermon as well. It was a morale booster for newly converted Muslims. He delivered many lectures on the beauty of Islam at different societies of New York. It helped mission in Tabligh efforts. (Tabshir Report USA)

He came to USA to live here for few months in 1957 (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat V. 18, p. 744). He delivered message of Ahmadiyya Islam to elite class in the country. He inaugurated new mission in New York and delivered an impressive Friday sermon. He led 'Id-ul-Fitr prayer. During his stay, he delivered several lectures on Islam to different universities, colleges, clubs and associations and answered questions from packed audience.

The lectures in Columbia University and the northeastern state Maine were as follows:

Bernard College for Women on "Islam."

Muslim Association on "Islamic Faith" on 26 February 1957.

Muslim Association on "The moral and spiritual values of Islam" on 2 March 1957.

Muslim Association on "The social and economic values of Islam" on 7 March 1957.

Bowdoin College on "Universe, design or accident" on 7 March 1957.

A speech to American Friends of the Middle East on 26 March 1957.

He gave a speech in YMCA Breakfast Club, Washington on Easter Day on 21 April 1957 and elaborated crucifixion and journey of Christ to Kashmir, India. He delivered another lecture in Washington mosque on the topic "Islam and modern life" the next day. The mosque was filled to its capacity. Apart from this, he participated in two seminars of Columbia University on the topic of "World Peace." On April 4, 1957, he was invited on lunch in Church Peace Union. Daily Al-Fazl, June 16, (1957), pp. 3-4 (Report Syed Jawad Ali, Secretary American Mission)

Islam is represented by Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan and Dr. Khalil A. Nasir at the World Religions Conference in Dallas, TX in 1959. It was attended by world-known leaders such as the Prince of the Netherlands and His Excellency U Nu, the Prime Minister of Burma. (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Fiftieth Jalsa Salana USA, (65).

On the election of Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan as the President of General Assembly of the United Nations, the American press reacted positively. New York of September 19, 1962, said in an editorial that in electing Chaudhri Mohammad Zafrullah Khan of Pakistan as President of the General Assembly, the United Nations had chosen "an outstanding veteran diplomat."

On November 21, 1962, J.F. Kennedy President of United States of America met in the oval office with the companion of the Promised Messiah, the President of the UN General Assembly, Sir Muhammad

Zafrulla Khan.

Mohammad Zafrullah Khan delivered a speech on Islam at Harvard College when he was appointed Judge of International Court of Justice which was widely admired by many students who happened to meet him after the speech. A professor of Department of Political Science thanked Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan. (Tabshir report USA)

In early 1964, he came to Washington D.C. and stayed there for three days. Missionary Syed Jawad Ali gave a reception in his honor in which many non-Ahmadi participated. Zafrulla Khan spoke for about one and half hour on Islam and Ahmadiyyat. (Al-Fazl, 23 May 1964)

A grand meeting was held in University of Maryland on founders of religions which was chaired by Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan. It was widely publicized, and representatives of newspapers, radio, professors, doctors and elite of the city were invited by invitation cards. More than 150 non-Ahmadi friends participated. The representative of four religions Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and Jewism delivered speeches. Zafrulla Khan addressed on the second coming of Messiah. (Al-Fazl, 3 May 1982) p. 44)

Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan passed away on 1 September 1985. The UNO flag was lowered. The news of his death was published in Washington Post, New York Times and some other newspapers. (File Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad 1985)

Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad

Wakil A'la and Wakil-ut-Tabshir



Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil A'la and Wakil-ut-Tabshir, undertook detailed visit to Europe and America in the middle of 1961 and held series of meetings to organize preaching efforts (Tarikh Ahmadiyyat V. 21, p. 187)

The fifteenth annual conference of USA commenced on 1-2 September 1962 in YMCA

Pittsburgh. Missionary Sufi Abdul Ghafoor inaugurated the conference. A message of Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil-ut-Tabshir, was read. The proceeding of the conference was reported in American newspapers. (Al-Fazl, 5 October 1962, p. 5)



Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, In-Charge International Missions with Missionary S.M. Shahid, Missionary In-Charge in the US.

During the first visit of Khalifatul-Masih III to the US in 1976, Mirza Mubarak Ahmad also arrived in Dayton.

Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak also

delivered a speech on Islam in Africa which was also published and distributed. (Al-Fazl, 28 October 1976)

He along with his wife visited Washington on a private visit on 4 November 1977. He went to Dayton from New York for a day visit on 4 November 1977. Missionary in-Charge Muhammad Siddique Shahid, Missionary Mian Muhammad Ibrahim and National President Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr welcomed him. Many people from nearby chapters came to see him. A reception was arranged in which Honorable Mr. James H. Megaeae participated. Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak was presented with the key to the city. The mission arranged a meeting of officials. He praised local chapter because the rate of crime there was almost zero. He gave useful tips to enhance Tabligh efforts. He made important decisions. (Al-Fazl, 3 December 1977)

Professor Abdus Salam



Mohammad Abdus Salam (29 January 1926–21 November 1996), was a Pakistani theoretical physicist and humanitarian. He shared the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics with

Sheldon Glashow and Steven Weinberg (both American) for his contribution to the electroweak unification theory. He was the first Pakistani to receive a Nobel Prize in science.

Abdus Salam was an Ahmadi Muslim, who saw his religion as a fundamental part of his scientific work. He once wrote that “the Holy Qur’an enjoins us to reflect on the verities of Allah’s created laws of nature; however, that our generation has been privileged to glimpse a part of His design is a bounty and a grace for which I render thanks with a humble heart.”

During his acceptance speech

for the Nobel Prize in Physics, Salam quoted verses from the Qur’an and stated: “Thou seest not, in the creation of the All-Merciful any imperfection, Return thy gaze, seest thou any fissure? Then Return thy gaze, again and again. Thy gaze comes back to thee frustrated and fatigued.” [67:3–4] This, in effect, is the faith of all physicists; the deeper we seek, the more is our wonder excited, the more is the dazzlement for our gaze.

Dr. Salam was responsible for sending at least 500 physicists, mathematicians, and scientists from Pakistan, to study for doctorates at the best institutions in the UK and

the

USA. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdus_Salam - cite note-
[chowkbio-118](#)

Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Amīr Jamā‘at USA, asked the Ahmadiyya Gazette and Al-Nahl to publish a joint issue on the achievements of Dr. Abdus Salam. The legacy of Dr. Salam is precious and worth preserving. Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad said: The torch which he lit and carried so proudly for Pakistan will no doubt glow once we shed our prejudices and bring back the lost glory of Islam in acknowledge and advancement of science and technology and above all its moral excellence.

While he remained occupied in unravelling the mysteries of nature, he displayed a deep love for his religion at the same time. He saw no contradiction between science and religion. (Al-Nahl 1997, V. 8, No. 4)



Abdus Salam died on 21 November 1996 at the age of 70 in Oxford, England, from progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP). He was buried in Bahishtī Maqbarah next to his parents' graves. The epitaph on his tombstone initially read "First Muslim Nobel Laureate." The Government of Pakistani has had the word "Muslim" painted over, leaving

the rest as is.

The Majlis Aamila of the US Jamā‘at passed condolence resolution on the demise of Dr. Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureate on 23 November 1996. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, November-December 1996, p. 24)

Prof. Frederick Reins, University of California-Irvine, Department of Physics, Irvine, CA presented a tribute to Dr. Salam at the closing ceremony of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), founded by Professor Abdus Salam in Trieste, Italy, in 1964 and renamed the 'Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics' in 1997, a year after his death:

From the East there came a man
Who thought to divine the
cosmic plan

To unify the hearts of man
And make whole, concepts deep
and grand.

From out of the East there came
such a man

Whose heart and mind did most
nobly span

Man's highest hopes and dreams
and plans

Transcendent with love and
humility.

From out the depths of human
soul

Came this man so well crafted
for this role

Came this man who would make
That which is fragmented whole.

The following are some awards, memberships and assignments Professor Abdus Salam received from U.S. universities/institutions and from the United Nations Organization:

1. Atoms for Peace Medal and Award on 14 October 1968 from

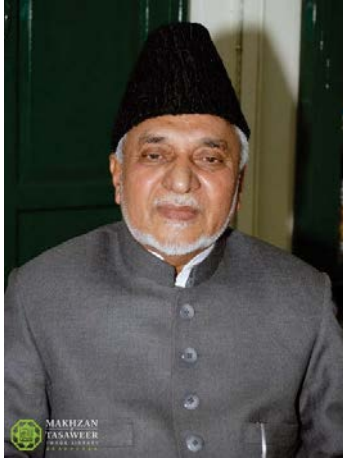
U Thant, Secretary General of the United Nations Organization

2. Oppenheimer Memorial Prize from the University of Miami, USA in 1969.
3. John Torrence Tate Medal from the American Institute of Physics in 1978.
4. The Einstein Medal, 1979, awarded by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
5. Elected, Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1971)
6. Elected, Foreign Associate, USA National Academy of Sciences (Washington) (1979)
7. (In the early/mid-seventies Abdus Salam was the only person to be a member of the U.S., USSR, and Chinese Academy of Sciences)
8. Elected, Distinguished International Fellow of Sigma Xi (1988)

United Nations Assignments:

1. Scientific Secretary, Geneva Conferences on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy (1955 and 1958)
2. Member, United Nations Advisory Committee on Science and Technology (1964-1975)
3. Member, United Nations Panel and Foundation Committee for the United Nations University (1970-1973)
4. Chairman, United Nations Advisory Committee on Science and Technology (1971-1972)
5. Member, Scientific Council, SIPRI, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (1970)
6. Vice President, International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (1972-1978)

Chaudhri Hameedullah



Chaudhary Hameedullah was born on 4 March 1934 in Qadian to Babu Muhammad Bakhsh and Aisha Bibi. His father had accepted Ahmadiyyat five years before his birth, upon seeing a dream, in which the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) directed him to accept Ahmadiyyat.

When the Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) made an appeal for people to devote their lives in service to the faith, his mother took him to the Second Caliph and presented him as a life-devotee. Upon this, the Second Caliph gave certain instructions with regards to his education.

Chaudhary Hameedullah taught in the TI College in Rabwah, and upon the instruction of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, he left the college and came into the service of the Community in 1974. He was then appointed by the Third Caliph as the Nazir Diyafat 1977-1987, and Afsar Jalsa Salana in 1973. In 1982, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV appointed him as the Wakil-e-A'la of Tahrik-e-Jadid Rabwah. He was appointed as the Sadr Majlis Tahrik-e-Jadid in 1989. He served in these capacities till his demise. He also served as Amir Muqami for some time during

the era of the Third Caliph.

Chaudhary Hameedullah had the honor of serving as the President of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association, 1969-1973, at the time when the headquarters for the Youth Association were central in Rabwah for the entire world.

After the Fourth Caliph (rh) migrated to London, upon his instruction, Chaudhary Hameedullah resided in London for over a year where he played a vital role in establishing the central offices in London.

Chaudhary Hameedullah also served as the Global President of Majlis Ansarullah, the Ahmadiyya Elder's Association, 1982-1989, and the president of the Majlis Ansarullah Pakistan 1989-1999.

He also had the honor of rendering various services pertaining to Jalsa Salana.

After the demise of the Fourth Caliph (rh), Chaudhary Hameedullah had the honor of serving as the Chairman of the Khilafat Committee in 2003. He was also appointed in 2005 as the President of the Khilafat Jubilee Committee.

Chaudhary Hameedullah, passed away in Rabwah, Pakistan on February 7, 2021.

Chaudhary Hameedullah visited the US a number of times in relation to his various responsibilities.

Chaudhri Hameedullah toured US June 15 - July 18, 1981, as Na'ib Sadr of Global Ansarullah to strengthen the Ansarullah organization in the US. He met members of Jamā'ats, addressed meetings and informed local chapters about their responsibilities.

June 16: Boston

June 17: North Jersey

June 18: Willingboro

June 19: Philadelphia

June 20: New York

June 21: Washington with 100 in attendance (Appointed National 'Amila)

June 21: Baltimore (York joined here)

June 29: Dayton

After attending Annual Ijtimā of Canada, he arrived in Dayton with Missionary Muhammad Ibrahim on 30th June. Jamā'at Dayton honored him with dinner. He informed Dayton Jamā'at about objective of his tour. He met Mr. James Megaea Mayor of Dayton and presented to him English translation of the Holy Qur'an. The Mayor welcomed him and presented the key of Dayton.

He went to Saint Louis on 1 July and to Chicago on 3 July. He also visited West Coast Jamā'ats (Portland) and addressed them as well. (General File America 1981, Letter of Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir dated 17 July 1981) (Tarikh Ansarullah, Vol 2, pp. 467-468).

... Ansarullah Ijtimā was held in Washington on 9 May 1983 in which about 50 Ansar participated. The message of Chaudhri Hameedullah Sadr Majlis Ansarullah, Rabwah was read. (Al-Fazl, 31 May 1983)

Chaudhri Hameedullah Wakil-e-A'la Tahrik Jadid toured the US missions in February 1987. He reached New York on 9 February and from there he went to Philadelphia, Boston and some other chapters and inspected new mission houses and gave valuable instructions. (File No. 3, London p. 2 and p. 5)

Mahmood Ahmad Bengalee



Mahmood Ahmad was born on 19 November 1948 in a Bangladeshi village Char Dukhiya in Chandpur

district. His father's name was Maulana Abdul Khair Muhammad Muhib Ullah and his mother's name was Zebunnisa. His father had accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1943. Mahmood Shahid had his elementary education in his hometown and joined Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya, Rabwah in 1962 at a very young age. He obtained his Shahid degree in 1974.

He sent a message for the U.S. Khuddam at their annual Ijtimā this year. The Urdu message and its English version were read at the Ijtimā by Nasir Mahmud Malik, National Qa'id. (The Ahmadiyya

Gazette USA, November 1985-Tariq page 13)

He visited Europe, Africa and United States of America to organize Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya.

He attended the Annual Ijtimā of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya in New York in 1987. He had several meetings with Qa'ideen Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya and visited many cities and Khuddam branches in the US [including Milwaukee, York, New York, Waukegan, St Louis]. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, May-June 2014, p. 65).

Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad



American visitors with Sahibzada Mirza Wasim Ahmad in Qadian



Khalifatul-Masih V paid tribute

in his Friday Sermon of 4 May 2007 to the extraordinary life of Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad who passed away in Qadian last week. Mian Waseem was the grandson of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and the son of Hadrat Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). Huzoor felt that in light of the services, sacrifices and the

excellences of Mian Waseem certainly Allah would elevate his station in Paradise. For about thirty years he served most humbly and sincerely as an ordinary member of the Jamā'at. In 1977 when he was made the Nazir e Ala, he fulfilled his obligation most meticulously. He had assumed the role of a dervish and spent his life accordingly.



Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad, Nāzīr A'lā, Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya, India, is seated in the center with Dr Karimullah Zirvi, Sadr Majlis Ansarullah, USA, on his left and Mujeebullah Chaudhry to his right, at the 1998 US Ansar Shura/Ijtima at the Baitur-Rahman Mosque in Silver

Spring MD. Standing in the back, from left to right, are Shahid Malik, Saud Khan and Kalimullah Khan while Habibullah Sadiq Bajwa is seated to the left.

Mian Sahib had stayed on in Qadian at a young age. From a worldly point of view, he was the owner of the property in Qadian and was the son of the Khalifa of the day. However, his obedience to the administration of the Jamā'at was exemplary. His father had advised him to be mindful that he was the grandson of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and that he had to shape his life in accordance to that. Huzoor remarked what inspired him as the grandson of the Messiah, and quoted the revelation of the Promised Messiah. He has liked your humble ways. This is what he based his life on and this is what he inculcated in the Qadian and the Indian Jamā'at. (Excerpts from Friday Sermon of Khalifatul-Masih V published by alislam.org)

Mujeeb-ur-Rahman



Mujeeb ur Rahman was a senior advocate of the Pakistan Supreme Court, and a founding partner at Rahman and Rahman Law Associates in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. In more than half a century of legal practice, Mr. Rahman established himself as one of Pakistan's most renowned advocates. He was born in 1934. He belonged to a very respectable Bengali family and was related to Sufi Mutiur-Rahman Bengalee.

In 2014, Mujeeb-ur-Rahman, who is famous for appealing Pakistan's anti-Ahmadi laws in the court, visited the United States. He gave an extensive talk on the plight of Ahmadi in Pakistan, drawing comparisons from prominent US judicial cases and leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr.

He delivered a talk on Pakistan's Ahmadi: Blasphemy, Identity and Persecution. It was recorded by MTA and is available on YouTube. The talk was given at Columbia Law School Jerome Greene Hall, room 105 on 23 October 2014.

Mr. Rahman also had occasion to travel extensively in connection with his human rights work. Both the United States and the German governments invited him to testify regarding his work and to consult with them regarding issues of international religious freedom and human rights. He also delivered numerous lectures, and held dozens of meetings, with non-governmental organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, around the world (including in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Bangladesh, and Nepal).

A delegation of AMLA (Ahmadiyya Lawyers Association USA) accompanied him on his historic lecture tour, during which he spoke about Pakistan, human rights and Islamic jurisprudence at

Harvard Law School, Princeton University, Columbia Law School, New York University Law School, University of California Irvine and the U.S. Library of Congress. In addition, in 2016, Mr. Rahman was invited as a guest of The Boniuk Institute at Rice University (Houston USA) to deliver a keynote lecture on "The Qur'an and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community," which was recently published by Professors Emran El-Badawi and Paula Sanders, *Communities of the Qur'an: Dialogue, Debate and Diversity in the 21st Century*.

Mujeeb-ur-Rahman died on 30 July 2019. Mr. Rahman was a distinguished jurist, eminent Islamic scholar, courageous advocate, eloquent orator, beloved lecturer, intrepid commentator, adoring father and, above all, a devoted a loyal Ahmadi Muslim servant. Truly, he was among the most brilliant legal minds in the history of Pakistan. His dedication to humanity and the just rule of law continues to be a guiding light for our legal body. May Allah rest his soul: "We belong to Allah, and to Allah shall we return."

Sheikh Kaluta Amri Abedi



Sheikh Amri Abedi, one of the earliest Ahmadiyya missionaries in Tanzania, played a key role towards the independence of Tanzania.

Sheikh Kaluta Amri Abedi came to the U.S. on a State visit in the 1960s. He visited the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Philadelphia and took a group photo with them.

A new book has just hit the market titled: A Diamond of Africa: The Illustrious Life of African Ahmadi Sheikh Amri Abedi. It just so happens that I had these group photos of the early Phili community, in which he was in two of them.

Yahya Muhammad: Please note this person because he is present in two other photos when visiting Philly.

Bakri Abedi: This picture was taken between 1953-1956.

Picture below: With A.G. Soofi and Sheikh Kaluta Amri Abedi in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A. G. Soofi is third from the left top row. I believe this photo was taken in New York about 1964.

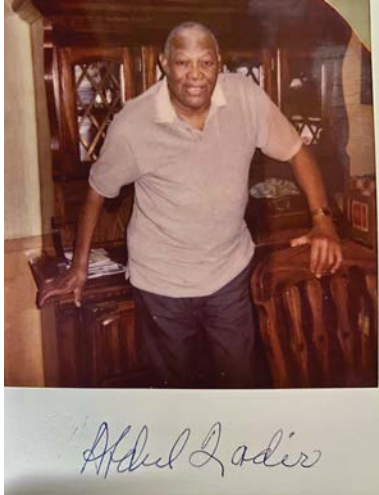


This page courtesy Haji Dhul-Waqar Yaqub

Lifetime and Volunteer Devotees of Ahmadiyya Community USA

Bro Abdul Qadir (Otis Franklin)

Jazz musician who devoted his life for Ahmadiyya Community in 1948



Bro. Abdul Qadir, on August 9, 1997

Bro. Franklin was born in Memphis, TN on 6 November 1928, to Mr. Crosset Franklin and Mrs. Kizanna Franklin. At the age of 13 years, he moved with the family to East St. Louis, where he completed his secondary school education. He was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. On discharge from the Army following completion of his service, he joined the US Air Force. While in the Air Force, stationed at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, he met his future wife, Miss Wanda Greene, in July 1968, in Xenia, OH. They wedded six months later, on 14 December 1968. The following year, 1969, Mr. Franklin was deployed to Japan. The young couple moved to Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan. Two years later, in 1971, they were back on the US soil, at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, NE. He served in the military for twenty years, during which he fought

in the Korean War and Vietnam War. He finally retired from the military, the US Air Force, in 1975. On discharge from the military, he worked for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for about ten years. He moved to Kansas City, MO in 1976 and was joined by his wife the following year. They have lived in their current home in Prairie Village, KS since 1979.



Some members of St. Louis Jamā‘at in 1950 or 1951: Bro. Abdul Qadir is second from the left. Starting from the right are Bro. Wali, Bro. Ibrahim Khalil Senior, Bro. Usmaan Khalid, Bro. Abdul Qadir, and Bro. Ibrahim Khalil Junior; the Ibrahim Khalils are not related. (Picture by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad, wife of Dr. Naseer Ahmad and daughter of the then missionary in St. Louis in 1951).

Mr. Franklin loved jazz music and was a drummer. He played as a professional musician in small towns, including East St. Louis, IL, Dayton, OH, Kansas City, KS and Okinawa, Japan. He was a tall man at 5’-11.5” with heavy body build. He was an African American with some White and Native American

ancestry. He converted to Islam in East St. Louis, IL in 1948 at the young age of twenty after listening to a talk by one of our missionaries and attending the Annual Ahmadiyya Convention, USA. On joining the Jamā‘at, Mr. Otis Franklin adopted the Islamic name Abdul Qadir.

Bro. Abdul Qadir was very active in the Jamā‘at, especially in Tabligh activities, right from when he joined the Jamā‘at. He used to go out propagating Islam and distributing Jamā‘at literature on the streets of St. Louis, MO, often targeting public gatherings and areas with large numbers of pedestrians. On one such occasion he was distributing Jamā‘at literature to Christians who had gathered for a meeting in a school in East St. Louis, IL, across River Missouri from St. Louis, MO. Out of the blue, a deputy sheriff appeared and confronted him for distributing Islamic literature. Bro. Abdul Qadir was arrested without any explanation as to which law he had violated; he spent the night in a jail despite efforts by the Jamā‘at to secure his release. He was released late the following day. This event is documented in a report received from Sister Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad, wife of Dr. Naseer Ahmad of St. Louis, MO. Her father was the missionary in St. Louis, MO at the time and the incident is narrated in his weekly missionary report of May 26, 1951, sent to the Wakilut-Tabshir in Rabwah, Pakistan.

A TRIP TO JAIL:

ON THE SAME EVENING, ABDUL QADIR, ONE OF THE YOUNG MEN FROM ST. LOUIS WHO HAS DEDICATED HIS LIFE, TOOK SOME HANDBILLS AND WENT ACROSS THE RIVER TO EAST ST. LOUIS TO DISTRIBUTE THEM HE FOUND THAT A BOUNDLESS CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS MEETING WAS BEING HELD AT ONE OF THE LOCAL SCHOOLS, AND WENT THERE TO PASS OUT THE HANDBILLS. HOWEVER, AFTER SOME TIME HE WAS STOPPED BY THE DEPUTY SHERIFF AND TAKEN TO JAIL WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION. HE WAS KEPT THERE OVERNIGHT AND RELEASED LATE THE NEXT DAY.

AS SOON AS I LEARNED OF THIS INCIDENT I CALLED THE SHERIFF IN EAST ST. LOUIS AND ENQUIRED. I WAS TOLD THAT ABDUL QADIR HAD BEEN ARRESTED ON A CHARGE OF "DISTURBING THE PEACE". I ASKED IF THERE WASN'T A LAW REQUIRING A WARRANT, ETC. OR AT LEAST REQUIRING THE OFFICIALS TO GIVE SOME REASON FOR SUCH AN ARREST. WITH THIS, THE SHERIFF BECAME ANGRY AND ABUSED ME VERY BADLY. HE TOLD ME THAT IF I WOULD COME INTO HIS SHIRTY HE WOULD ARREST ME TOO.

THE NEXT DAY ABDUL QADIR WENT BACK TO EAST ST. LOUIS AND MET THE JUDGE THERE. THE JUDGE TOLD HIM THAT CERTAINLY HE SHOULD HAVE A TRIAL IF HE WANTED ONE, BUT THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY SEE TO IT THAT HE WAS FOUND GUILTY AND SENT TO JAIL.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EAST ST. LOUIS IS MONROUS ALL OVER AMERICA. IT WOULD BE USELESS TO TRY TO FIGHT SUCH A CASE SINCE WE HAVE NEITHER TIME NOR MONEY. ALL OF THE CITY OFFICIALS INCLUDING JUDGES ARE SO CORRUPT THAT THEY DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE. THEY HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE CITY, INCLUDING THE SELECTION OF JURIES, ETC. SO THAT EVEN LEGAL MEANS CANNOT DEFEAT THEM. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I THOUGHT IT BETTER TO LET THE MATTER SLIDE, AND TO PRAY BOUNDLESS THAT ALLAH WILL HELP TO KEEP US OUT OF THE HANDS OF SUCH PEOPLE.

LITERATURE WAS DISTRIBUTED ALL WEEK IN VARIOUS PARTS OF ST. LOUIS.

Bro. Abdul Qadir was a Mūsi; he dedicated his life to the Jamā'at soon after converting to Islam, as shown by an entry in the missionary's weekly report cited above. He was very active in Kansas City Jamā'at, and he paid his dues (Chanda) regularly, at the rate for Mūšis. Before the formation of Kansas City Jamā'at, he used to send his Chanda directly to the Jamā'at office in Washington, DC.

Our local financial secretary put him up as a model for us to emulate, on account of his unflinching regularity in the payment of his dues/Chanda. He is remembered by our Jamā'at members as a courteous, jovial, and friendly person, very hospitable and quite unassuming. He and his wife offered their house many times for the Jamā'at to hold our monthly general meetings; Kansas City

Jamā'at had no mosque and no Mission House. Bro. Abdul Qadir was always very punctual at all events, probably reflecting his military background. He had a burning desire to meet a Khalifa in person, but was, unfortunately, unable to meet Khalifatul-Masih V, Hazrat Masroor Ahmad^{aba} during his visit to the US in 2008, due to being hospitalized for a chronic illness. He continued to engage in

outreach activities, distributing Jamā'at literature, until his last days.

I have a touching memory of Bro. Abdul Qadir. When we, my wife and I, immigrated to the US in 1994 and contacted our headquarters in Washington, DC to link us with Jamā'at members in Kansas City, Bro. Abdul Qadir was the member who came to visit us. He and his wife became the only friends we had at the time, and they

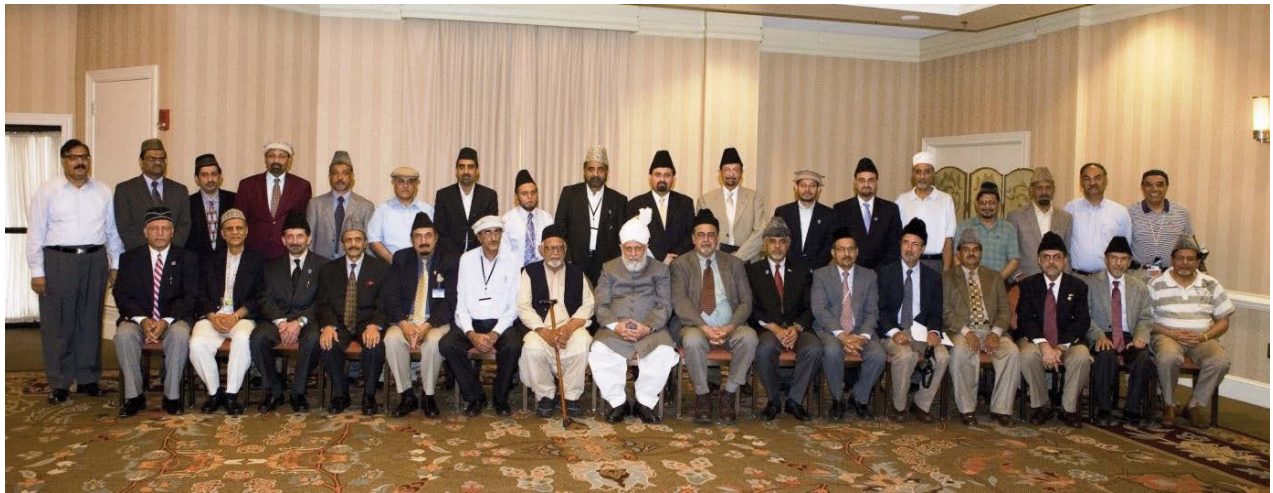
helped us to settle in our new home away from home, Kansas City, KS. Six years passed before we met another Ahmadi, in 2000, as there was no Jamā'at in Kansas City at the time.

Bro. Abdul Qadir passed away on May 25, 2010, after a protracted illness. He was 81 years old. Following an Islamic funeral service, including Janāza prayers in an open field by members of Kansas City Jamā'at, he was buried on May

27, 2010, in the veterans' cemetery Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, KS. He was survived by his wife, Mrs. Wanda Franklin, his junior sister, Ms. Lois Tibbs, and his stepson. May Allah bless him with a lofty position in Paradise, Amin. May Allah bless the family he left behind with the fortitude to bear his loss, Amin. (Written by Sultan Habeebu, MD, Ph.D., Za'im Ansarullah, Kansas City Jamā'at)

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sharif Khan

President T'alim-ul-Islam College, Alumni 2012



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V with alumni of T.I. College at Sheraton Hotel Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA, 2 July 2012

Sitting (R-L): Irfan Ahmad Khan (Germany), Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad, Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa (Naib Amir), Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Syed Sajid Ahmad, Dr. Zafar Iqbal, Wasim Ahmad Malik, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amir Jamā'at USA, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, Dr. Muhammad Sharif Khan (President), Raja Nasir Ahmad (General Secretary), Pervez Aslam Chaudhri (Finance Secretary), Mukhtar Ahmad, Dr. Khalid Ahmad Ata, Syed Muhammad Ahmad and Abdul Haleem Chaudhri.

Standing (R-L): Ejaz Khan, Rizwan Akbar, Habib-ur-Rahman Zirvi (Pakistan), Mirza Umar Ahmad (Pakistan), Muhammad Idrees Munir, Falah-ud-Din Shams, Mirza Ehsan Ahmad, Dawood Munir, Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Chaudhry Mujeeb Ullah, Muhammad Azeem Qureshi, Masroor Sajid, Syed Abdus-Shakoor, Muhammad Saeed, Mubarak Tanveer, Wasim Ahmad, Muzaffar Ahmad Malik and Laiq Ahmad.

Born in 1939, my father Dr Habib Ullah Khan, worked for 31 years as doctor in the health system of East Africa. I did B.Sc. from Islamia College civil lines in 1960, and joined Govt College for M.Sc. Zoology. Started career as Lecturer in Zoology in Ta'lim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah in 1963, retired as professor of Zoology and head

department 1999. I topped list of successful candidates, was awarded Sir W. Roberts Gold Medal.

I devoted my life when I was student of 8th class, and I was instructed to report in Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah, after matriculation. However, when I went to Rabwah, Jāmi'a was closed due to game holidays, so I was

advised to join F.Sc. first year premedical class in Ta'limul Islam College, in 1956.

I was instructed by the principal Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad to join teaching staff of Ta'limul Islam College, Rabwah, as lecturer in Zoology. I lectured in the college from 1963 to 1999, was retired at the age of 60 years.

Since I was a life-devotee, I performed honestly my duties in the college. Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Research interest: I worked on herps (amphibians, lizards and snakes) of Pakistan, at the time when the knowledge about herps in Pakistan was about nil. My first research article was published in 1965. I pioneered the study of herps in Pakistan. I searched almost every corner of Pakistan to collect and record herp species. I redescribed all species, discovering thirty-four new species: eleven snakes, fifteen lizards and eight amphibians.

I have worked on different research projects with WWF-Pakistan and Pakistan Science Foundation. Supervised a number of M.Sc. theses. After retirement and moving to USA, I donated all my collection to the Natural History Museum, Government College University, Lahore, which includes countless number of species of amphibians and reptiles.



I trained several young scientists who are now forwarding my mission. Presently I am spending retired life in USA with my son, where I am as active as before, guiding students from Pakistan, Iran and other countries for identification of the species they are working on and, supervising their research papers and theses.

Awards:

i) Awarded “Sir William Roberts Gold Medal” for first

position in M.Sc. in order of merit.

ii) Awarded “Zoologist for the year 2002” by Zoological Society of Pakistan,

iii) Awarded “Life Achievement Award” in 2013, by Zoological Society of Pakistan.

Publications: I have published more than 300 research papers on Amphibians and Reptiles of Pakistan in different scientific journals throughout the world. Authored twelve books on amphibians and reptiles of Pakistan in English, Urdu and German languages:

i) Amphibians and Reptiles of Pakistan. Krieger Publishing Company, Melbourne, Florida 32902, USA, 2006

ii) Die Schlangen Pakistans, Bucher-Kreth GmbH, Frankfurt, Germany, 2002,

iii) The Snakes of Pakistan, Bucher-Kreth GmbH, Frankfurt, Germany, 2002,

iv) A field guide to the identification of Herps of Pakistan. Part-I: Amphibia. Biological Society of Pakistan, Lahore 1987,

v) A field guide to the identification of Herps of Pakistan. Part-II: Chelonia, Biological Society of Pakistan, Lahore, 1990

vi) Venomous terrestrial snakes of Pakistan and snake bite problem, In: Snakes of medical importance (Asia-pacific region), pp. 419-446, P. Gopalakrishnaonc and L.M. Chou (eds). National University of Singapore 1990,

vii) Endangered species of reptiles of Pakistan and suggested conservation measures, pp. 42-45, In: Handbook published to mark second seminar on “Nature Conservation and Environmental Protection,” 12

March 1991, Islamabad, Wildlife Conservation Foundation, Islamabad,

Herpetology of Pakistan. Published by Zoological Society of Pakistan, university of the Punjab, Lahore 2021.

Urdu Books include

1. Amphibians and reptiles of Pakistan, Urdu Science Board, 299-Upper Mall, Lahore, 2000 Urdu,

2. Snakes of Pakistan, Urdu Science Board, 299-Upper Mall, Lahore pp. 299,

3. Amphibians, Lizards, Turtles and Snakes. Chapter 2 In: Wildlife of Pakistan, Urdu Science Board, 299-Upper Mall, Lahore 1991,

4. Pakistan ki hawamiat: Vol. 1, Amphibians. Nia Zamana Publishers, Lahore, 2011.

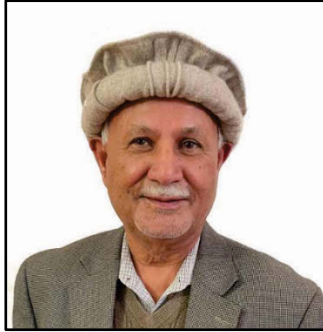
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URL:

<http://muhammadskhan.wildlifeofpakistan.com>

Abdul Rashid Fouzi

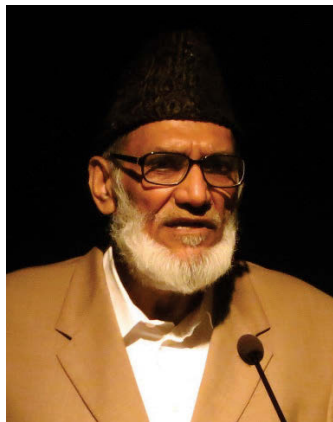


Abdul Rashid Fouzi graduated from Ta'lim-ul-Islam (TI) College, Rabwah in 1960. In 1962, he completed his master's in history

from the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan. He joined Rahim Jan and Company, an accountancy firm, engaging in chartered accountancy. In October 1962, he joined the faculty at TI college as per orders from Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, then principal of TI College. In October 1966, again following orders from Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih III, he went to Sierra Leone, West Africa to teach at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Secondary School in Freetown. He remained in

Freetown, Sierra Leone until 1990. He migrated to the United States with his family in 1990. He resides in Baltimore, Maryland and has had the privilege to serve as president of Baltimore chapter from 1992 to 2001. Since 2001, he has been the Finance Secretary for the Baltimore chapter. In addition, he has been working with the National Secretary Finance since July 2019. He retired from CVS Pharmacy in March 2021.

Lutfur Rahman Mahmood



Born in 1938, he was the son of Prof. Mian Ata-ur-Rahman, vice principal of Ta'lim-ul-Islam College Rabwah and grandson of Mian Karim Din, a companion of Promised Messiah. He completed his early education up to 10th grade in Bhera. He then attended Ta'lim-ul-Islam College in Rabwah and completed his B. Sc. in Chemistry and Physics. He went on to earn a B. Ed. degree from Central Training College, Lahore where he earned a gold medal. He completed his master's degree in Urdu Literature from the Punjab University Lahore.

He joined Waṣiyyat system at the age of 22 in 1960. As a young man, it was his habit to visit the

companions of the Promised Messiah after Fajr Prayers on Fridays and learn from them. He had the honor to be in the company of several companions of Promised Messiah including Dr. Hashmat Ullah Khan, Hafiz Mukhtar Ahmad Shahjahanpuri and Ali Muhammad, B.A. B.T. among others.

He had the great honor to teach at Ta'lim-ul-Islam high school Rabwah from 1960 to 1964. During this time, he also served as the editor of Al-Manar for four years.

He served in various Jamā'at roles throughout his life. He was member of Majlis-e-Amila of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Markaziyya and also served as the editor of monthly Khālid. In 1967, Jamā'at sent him to Sierra Leone as a high school science teacher. He served as the founding principal of Nasir Ahmadiyya Secondary School, Kenema, as well as Regional Missionary of Kenema Region at a time. He later became the principal of Ahmadiyya Secondary School in Bo Town. He had the honor of serving as Missionary In-Charge of Sierra

Leone in the absence of Maulana Khalil Ahmad Mobashir. After 30 years of dedicated service, he retired in 1995 and migrated to Austin, TX, USA.

Even after retirement, he continued to serve the Jamā'at in many capacities. He regularly led Jum'a Prayers and Eids. He was an excellent orator and a scholar of Islam and Ahmadiyyat and was frequently invited to speak at interfaith events, throughout the South region. He was also a regular contributor to various Jamā'at publications. Over the years, he served the local Jamā'at as Za'im Ansarullah, Secretary Tabligh, Wasaya, and Ishā'at. He was one of the pioneers of Austin Jamā'at. Members of Austin Jamā'at affectionately called him Murabbi Sahib.

He had a great love and deep knowledge of the Holy Qur'an and regularly gave Dars-ul-Qur'an not only in Ramadan but throughout the year. Even when his health was failing and members would request him to take a break, he would recall the wish of Khalifatul-Masih I that the Dars-ul-Qur'an should always

continue in Jamā'at. Despite his accomplishments and knowledge, he was a very humble man and would always shy away from the limelight.

He had deep love for Khilafat

and Nizam-e-Jamā'at. He always advised members to write letters to Huzoor for Du'a and that we were a chosen people to be blessed with Khilafat. He was extremely hospitable to guests, especially those who served the Jamā'at.

He was survived by his wife, three sons, two daughters and many grandchildren. He was buried at the Ahmadiyya Cemetery in Austin, Texas on May 28, 2017.

Dr. Anwar Ahmad Khan



I was born in Peshawar, British India on 26 October 1944. My family was blessed with service of Jamā'at. My father was the Provincial Amīr and my mother was the Provincial Lajna President of NWFP (now Pakhtunkhwa). I had all my education in Peshawar which culminated with MBBS degree from Khyber Medical College in 1968. After graduation I was posted as a Medical Officer in Dadar. Dadar was 40 miles north of Abbottabad where Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III used to stay in the summer.

In the summer of 1969, it was announced in Al-Fazl that doctors were needed to serve in West Africa. There was specific need for a TB specialist in one of the locations. Next Sunday I went to Abbottabad, and I offered my services to the Khalifatul-Masih III which he accepted. In the March of 1970, I proceeded to Banjul along

with my wife. We rented a double story building on Picton St. We resided on the 2nd floor while the Clinic was on the first floor. The Jamā'at named the Clinic as Nusrat Jahan TB and Medical Center. The clinic was started with minimal equipment but was a success from the beginning. Later on, it was equipped with complete lab and an X-ray Machine. We had patients not only from Banjul but the whole country, and patient from the bordering Senegal and Guinea-Bissau were also served. An employee of Guinean Embassy had a Chest X-ray and we diagnosed TB. Following this, they sent all the staff for X-rays.

Sometimes in 1973, I received a phone call from the President House that President's infant daughter was ill and there was no improvement from the treatment by the Government doctors. They asked if they could bring the child to our Clinic. Although I volunteered to go to the President House, they indicated that will not be necessary. After a few minutes, to everybody's surprise, President's wife personally brought the baby. After the check-up, medicine was prescribed. In 2-3 days, we received a call from the President House that the child had improved.

From the Gambia, I proceeded to US in June 1975. From 1975 thru

1985, I worked in the Chicago area. Then I moved to Michigan and Mississippi and returned to Illinois in 2006. In Chicago, I was elected to finance secretary and then president of the Chicago Suburban Jamā'at, then called Streamwood. During 1983, with the help of Missionary Mirza Mohammad Afzal, we were able to purchase the land in Glen Ellyn, IL. This became the future site for Bait-ul-Jami Mosque. With the permission of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV, I was able to finance the printing of the Holy Qur'an's Pushto translation.

My wife, Raufa, resides with me. I have three grown up children. Both daughters were born in The Gambia. The older one, Attiya is married to Shuaib, the grandson of Maulana Jalāluddīn Shams. They have four children and live in Northern California. The other daughter, Ghazala, is married with four children and lives in Ashburn Virginia near Washington DC. My son Iftekhar is a cancer doctor (Radiation Oncologist). He has three children and lives in the Chicago suburbs. He is an active member of Chicago Jamā'at. He has been Qa'id Khuddam and now PR Secretary. In conclusion, Allah has been very kind to us. All is His blessings. "*Ghar say to kuchh na laai* (brought nothing from home)."

Nighat N Ahmad



Nighat N Ahmad, with her students at Nusrat High School, The Gambia

By the grace of God, my husband, Nasim Ahmad, and I had the opportunity to work in The Gambia, as Leap Forward volunteers of Nusrat Jahan Scheme for the period 6 October 1971 to July 1976, to work at Nusrat High School. We then continued living in other African countries; Sierra Leone (1976-78) returned to the Gambia in 1978-91, went to Namibia in 1991-92 and finally to USA in December 1992. I am honored to be the first female volunteer of the Scheme and recipient of countless blessings and bounties of Allah, The Almighty has bestowed on us, our children and grandchildren.

I am from an Arian family settled in Darganwali, Sialkot. My grandfather, Munshi Mohammad Abdullah of Sialkot was a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) and among a few very fortunate ones that appeared in a group photograph with he Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). My father, Choudhry Abdul Ghafoor Nasir, and my mother Jamila Khanum were both Musis and are buried in Rabwah. I am a Musiyya too. I have a master's degree in science and a professional degree in education specializing in teaching of science.

The committee that selected us for this assignment knew that we were engaged, and both of us were fully qualified for the job. Since the school was going to be a co-educational institution, they wrote to Nasim, on the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III that he should get married before coming to Islamabad to meet Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih-III, before they officially authorize our departure for The Gambia. We got married and met Huzoor. Those were very blessed moments of our lives. He prayed for us and said that we should do our best to love those whom we were going to serve. That was the purpose of sending us there. Within a couple of days, we arrived in Africa, our new

home for next 21 years. Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

گیمبیا

سیدنا حضرت خلیفۃ المسیح الثالث نے ۴ مئی ۱۹۷۰ء کو باٹھرسٹ (Bathurst) میں جماعت احمدیہ گیمبیا کی پہلی درسگاہ ”احمدیہ نصرت ہائی سکول“ کا سنگ بنیاد رکھا تھا۔ ۲۰ ستمبر ۱۹۷۱ء کو اس میں باقاعدہ کلاسیں جاری کر دی گئیں۔ سکول کے پہلے پرنسپل جناب نسیم احمد صاحب ایم۔ ایس۔ سی۔ بی۔ ایڈمقرر ہوئے اور طالبات کی نگرانی کے فرائض ان کی نیکم محترمہ نگہت ناصر صاحبہ ایم ایس سی انجام دیئے گئے۔

Gambia: On 4 May 1970, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III laid the foundation stone of the first educational institution of the Ahmadiyya Community in Bathurst. Regular classes started here on 20 September 1971. Nasim Ahmad, M.Sc., B.Ed., was appointed the first principal of the school. His wife, Nighat Nasir took charge of overseeing the girl-students.

(Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol-28, page 406)

On our arrival to Bathurst, The Gambia, some of the Jamā'ats members were there to receive us, and brought us to the Mission house, which was on the Perseverance Street, in Bathurst (Currently called Banjul). This mission was a very small two storied building. The lower portion had three small rooms. One room was given to us and other two rooms were used as mosque. The school is situated about 12 miles from Banjul, at a place called Bununka Kunda. The school was in session when we arrived. The students and the two teachers Mr. Ebrima MBowe and Mr. Momodu Cessay, warmly welcomed us. The Amir introduced both of us to the students and staff and then Nasim responded by explaining our mission of coming to The Gambia in light of the advice we had from Khalifatul-Masih III. At that time there was only one block of three classrooms, and a few small rooms which we temporarily used as an office, staff room and storage. In the next five years, this school developed in huge structures including labs, an assembly hall, basketball courts, etc.

During our stay there, God blessed us in so many ways that it is not possible to even numerate. The dream of Ahmadi parents is always that their children get the best education, and develop best habits, excel in progress, and remain attached and committed to the service of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat. God is Rahman and Raheem. He, by His Grace and Mercy, granted each of these wishes. Al-Hamdu-Lillah. Both of my sons got first positions in 'O' levels in The Gambia, both graduated from University of Minnesota as electrical engineers, both got excellent jobs and most reputed

companies, and both remained dedicated to the cause of Jamā‘at and love for Khilafat.

One of the great blessings of Allah, the Almighty, on me is that I was in The Gambia, when Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV and his wife, came there in 1988. For three days, I was lucky to be in a very close company to Hazrat Begum Sahiba, and took her around to see the City.

From time to time, our family would travel upcountry to visit other Ahmadi families there or to attend Jamā‘at functions there and so on. We had a great time on trips like these. Since there were no phones and very few communication options, we would hear someone knock on the door, and upon opening the door we would see visitors, guests. Sometimes they would bring food with them, and other times they would just come in with their families, so you would have to cook and serve them with their help. Some families would only stay the day and other families at the last moment would decide to stay overnight then we would make some quick arrangements for them. Men would sleep on the floor with whatever was there, and ladies would sleep on the carpets and children wherever they found a place. We were young and energetic, and it was not a problem and we always had great fun. It was always like a “family reunion” and a

great period of enjoyment, living and working together and the blessings of God showering on the Jamā‘at and us. Ahmadiyyat spread quickly all over the country.

As men were working and performing their assigned duties in their professions and taking part in the propagational activities, ladies were not ignoring their own part in helping out and supporting them, especially in propagation. Sadr Lajna would lead outreach expeditions to different parts of the country. I recently saw one reported in Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat.

25 دسمبر 1983ء کو سالیکینی کے مقام پر خدام الاحمدیہ گیمبیا کا پہلا سالانہ اجتماع منعقد ہوا جس میں ملک بھر سے 75 نمائندے شامل ہوئے۔ یہ اجتماع بہت کامیاب رہا۔ اس موقع پر 24 دسمبر کی شب کو ایک تبلیغی جلسہ بھی منعقد کیا گیا۔ اجتماع کے بعد لجنہ کی تنظیم کو مضبوط کرنے کے لئے صدر لجنہ گیمبیا مسز نسیم احمد صاحبہ اور مسز داؤد احمد صاحبہ نے دس مقامات کا دورہ کیا جس کے دوران 6 مستورات احمدی ہوئیں۔

The first annual rally (Ijtima) of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, the Gambia, was held at Salikene on 25 December 1983. 75 members attended from all over the country. The rally was very successful. A propagational meeting was held on night of 24 December. After the rally, Sadr Lajna, Mrs. Nasim Ahmad and Mrs. Dawood Ahmad toured ten localities. Six ladies joined Ahmadiyyat during the tour.

(Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat by Dost Muhammad, Vol. 21, page 137)

Nasim Ahmad



Left: From L to R: Omar Ali Tahir, Ijaz Ahmad, Mirza Abdul Haq, Mohammad Mahmud Iqbal (Principal of the school), Hazrat Khalafat-ul-Masih IV, Daud Ahmad Hanif, (Amir and Missionary In-Charge), Nasim Ahmad (Former Principal), and Mahmud Ahmad (Principal, Nasir Ahmadiyya School, Basse).

Right: From L to R: Dr. Hafeez Khan, Maulana Daud Ahmad Hanif, Muhammad Ahmad, Dr. Captain Tahir Ahmad, Hazrat Sir Choudhry Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, Dr. Anwar Ahmad Khan (wearing glasses), Ebrahima MBow, Mirza Mohammad Iqbal, Amir and Missionary In-Charge, Hafiz Bashir-ud-Din Ubaidullah, Al-Hajj Sir Farimang Mamdi Singhateh, Dr. Saeed Ahmad, Principal Nasim Ahmad and Mahmood Anjum.

Nearly 50 years ago, at the call of the Khalifa of the time, I was landing with my wife, at airport of

The Gambia to witness the blessings of God, whose Mercy and Grace had brought me there. Young, energetic, resolved and fully

committed to the service of the people whom Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III had told me (and my wife) to “LOVE” during my final

Mulāqāt with him, in Islamabad in 1971. I am the first, at least from Karachi, to say Labbaik as a Waqf-e-Aridi teacher, in Nusrat Jahan Leap Forward Scheme.



My Background

I was born in a small village, Kakrali, Gujrat, but an early center of Ahmadiyyat in 1948 in that area. My grandfather, Hazrat Choudhry Muhammad Deen, accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1903, was a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), a Musi, and buried in Qadian. He is mentioned in Haqiqatul-Wahy as a witness to the fulfillment of Shahb-e-Saqib prophecy. My father Ch. Ghulam Ahmad (MA-Economics 1932) and Mother Kalsoom Begum were both Musis and buried in Rabwah. I have a master's degree in statistics (1968), a bachelor's in (physics, mathematics 1966), and a bachelor's in education (1970).

I have worked in Pakistan, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Namibia and USA. I was a United Nations Volunteer for two years before moving to USA.

Some of the numerous blessings of God during the stay in The Gambia

- The greatest blessing is that I

was able to complete three years of my term of Waqf-e-'Ardi, and continued for another two years to complete some of the important tasks that Jamā'at asked to complete by the grace of Allah. I was able to do that. (It is mentioned in Tarikh-Ahmadiyyat) This was 1971-1976, Al-Hamdu-Lillah. I was able to meet and learn from the early Ahmadi of the Gambian Jamā'at and people who made great sacrifices, including their lives, and bore extreme hardships. These included Mr. Sheikhu Dampha, Alhaji Kausu Kijera, Sidi Mukhtar Hydra, Alhaji Jikini, Ashmalik N'Doye, Alieu Bah, Haroona Newlands, Lang-Janghteh Singateh, Pa Mohammad Jane, Imam Arafang Trawalley, Salifu Keita, Omar Sonko, Sana Cham (Martyr), Ustaz Ismaila Trawally (Martyr), Ustaz Abubakar Touray (Martyr), Ustaz Hamid M'Baye, Alha and many others. I was able to be in the close company of with Sir Al-Hajj Sir Farrimang Mamadi (Muhammad) Singhateh, and Sir Choudhry Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (Two Ahmadi only that I know of, who received the title of SIR from the United Kingdom).

- I remained throughout the years of my stay in The Gambia, In-Charge of Catering for all large gatherings like Jalsa Salana, Ijtimas, which including the visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV in 1988.
- There is long list of accomplishments in The Gambia, to mention a few; I

was blessed to be on President's Awards Committee, Curriculum Development Panel, Members of the National Technical and Commercial Examinations. While in The Gambia wrote, in 1982, Mathematics and Statistical tables published jointly by Edward Arnold Publishers, London England and in a separate edition by African Universities Press, Nigeria. Had a unique experience of working with different religious denominations such as Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, at their schools, as well as State institutions, as an administrator and educator.

Some of the numerous blessings of God after arrival in USA

I and my family came to the United States on the immigrant visa, granted to us in Botswana and landed in Minnesota, at the end of 1992. This was our home until 2014 when we moved to Texas. Trained as a tough Nusrat Jahan veteran, experienced in taking hardships as routine matter, with Prayers, Trust in God, we adjusted relatively easily by the grace of Allah. It was challenging and different, but we all did well. Al-Hamdu-Lillah. In USA, by the grace of Allah, I have always been blessed with some form of office in various local Jamā'ats, such as General Secretary, Secretary Tabligh, Audio Video, Public Relations, Property, Additional Secretary Tarbiyat, Rishta Natta and had been Za'im Ansarullah four times in Minnesota. Al-Hamdu-Lillah. I was able to go to Mecca and together with my wife, performed Umrah.

Dr. Imtiaz A. Chaudhary M.D., F.R.C.S.

Served Leap Forward Nusrat Jahan Scheme 1971-1976, President AMMA-USA (1988-92)



I came from a tiny but well-known village Bahlolpur, District Sialkot. It is said that Bahlol Lodhi had made a short stop there during his expeditions.

I matriculated from high school Qila Sobha Singh, did Pre-Med in 1954 from T.I. College Lahore. I joined Nishtar Medical College, Multan 1954, graduating in 1959. I did government service till April 1966 (including surgical registrar and anatomy demonstrator, a year each); before proceeding to United Kingdom. I did FRCS from Edinburgh in 1968 and returned to Pakistan in 1969.

I was posted as District Surgeon in Sheikhpura. Extreme fortune knocked at my door. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III announced leap forward program (Majlis-e-Nusrat Jahan) in 1970 during his tour of West Africa.

In August 1970, I was one of the first group of fortunate doctors and teachers, responding to the call of the Khalifa, Labbaik. It took me eight months for getting relieved from the government.

The late Mohammad Ismaeel Munir, the then secretary Majlis Nusrat Jahan was the driving force which energized us to come to Arze-Bilal (land of Bilal, Africa), sooner rather than later, Jazak Allah Ahsan al-Jazā.

I, with my wife and three

children, reached to Sierra Leone in late 1971. Before departure from Lahore, my wife and I both had agreed that while in Sierra Leone, we will not recall Pakistan or United Kingdom. We will do in Rome as the Romans do. Al-Hamdu-Lillah, we stood with the commitment. Late Dr. Aslam Jahangiry had arrived a few days ahead of us.

The Amīr offered to show me the proposed sites for the clinics. I said, “I will see but later (please assign me first. I have come as a Waqif/devotee).” I, being most qualified and a surgeon, I was assigned to Boajibu, meaning foot of the hill (the hometown of the late Paramount Chief N.K. Gamanga, Esq., National President). Boajibu is a small town about 250 miles from the capital Freetown. There was no running water, no electricity, phone, or post office. Boajibu is famous for 4 multiples of 24, i.e., 24 miles off the main highway, 24 wooden plank bridges without side railings, 24 villages on the way, and at least 24 bends in the road.

We were given 300 pounds as seed money for starting of clinics. In 3-4 days, after collecting basic household things, we were on the way to Boajibu. The journey was interestingly adventurous (the car tires went flat three times). We Made it to Boajabu via Bo by midnight. Allah thus saved us from the traditional Juju welcoming dance. People had dispersed after the long wait.

We were given upper floor of late Pa Fawaz’s house to live. My respected and very dear Bashir Akhtar, the principal and his colleague teachers Latif Jumaat, A.R. Hamid, K. Habib came out to

receive us. We immediately felt at home and forgot one and all uneasiness encountered. We were home.

The honorable Chief had donated 4-bedroom new house with large parlor for the use as a clinic, about 500 yards from our house. It was the rainy season pouring rain (cats and dogs). It was difficult to promptly attend the patients, so we moved the house using half as clinic and half for our lodging. In a few days our daughter Saima started running high fever of 105 degrees. Now we moved the clinic activities to the courtyard in front of the house, leaving one room in the back for surgery (Operating Room). Half of the space was the waiting area. One half of the other half was the consultation area, and the rest was for treatment (partitioned with bamboo curtains, the roof was bamboo, straw and hay). We used to boil the nylon syringes in the sterilizer in our kitchen.

Three months later, I received the surgical instruments which had been blocked at Lahore airport. Now I could start doing surgery. Thanks to Naseeb Jawab, a rich diamond dealer, out of being thankful for treatment by us. He donated 300 Leones (equivalent to \$300). I immediately called Mohammad the plumber and we got the water tank and plumbing done, being able to get water to my operating room (the only available sink).

My wife prepared aprons, masks and caps. We were using large cooker as autoclave. In fact, my wife tried to assist in minor surgery (ingrown toenail) but she could not face the red blood and fainted. There being no electricity, I

did all surgeries under Torch light with 4 batteries. Everything went well because the prayers of the Khalifa and the favors of Allah were with us. We were open every day and every time except when I had to go to meetings, and functions. I had to use public transport (*poda poda*) to fetch medicines from Kenema thirty-six miles away. Three years down the line, Khalifatul-Masih III granted me to buy a car and build our own clinic. The chiefdom leased us nine acres of land outside the town. I did not have experience of such undertaking but I had to do it and I did with the guidance of the Amīr and the giants of the Ahmadiyya secondary school. I planned it, got the building materials. Allah the Almighty blessed us with a 180 feet by 60 feet building consisting of outpatient, inpatient 24 hospital beds and operation block. On November 15, 1974, it was inaugurated by the President of the country, Dr. Siaka Stevens, accompanied by the Health Minister, Dr. Margaret Davis. We acquired the latest surgical instruments from China including operating table, real

operating light, portable X-ray machine, and a large Autoclave. This cost us \$4,000. Now we had the generator for real lighting for the first time.

I was the only doctor, physician, surgeon, anesthesiologist and everything. I trained one person Maiwa Abduli Sheiku. He had passed only 8th or 9th grade of schooling. I trained two other men and a lady. I did lot of surgery under local anesthesia and spinal anesthesia. I used to hold the clinic in the AM and surgeries in the afternoon. Major surgeries there were huge, hernias and hydrocele. A.R. Hamid used to assist me after school hours.

I have been eternally grateful to Allah that I could render service to thousands of patients and perform hundreds of big and small operations. It was the golden period of my life, 1971 to 1976.

Lo and Behold! On the advice and guidance of Khalifatul-Masih III, I did my ECFMG and emigrated to the USA in January 1977, landing and staying in New Jersey. I am an orthopedic surgeon. The favors of

Allah have not stopped. In fact, the following are its signs:

1. Jamā'at President North Jersey and Central Jersey for 30 years.
2. Acquired the first Mosque, Bait-ul-Wahid in February 1988.
3. Ahmadiyya graveyard in 1988 (Late Brother Mohammad Sadiq, an angel in human disguise, was the first one buried there).
4. Acquired Bait-ul-Hadi in 1998 (both were inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV^{RH}).
5. Lajna hall with two apartments on top in 2008.
6. I had the honor of translating the homeopathy book of Khalifatul-Masih IV into English.
7. In February 2012, I had the honor of being the chief quest and representative of Khalifatul-Masih V at the annual convention in Sierra Leone.
8. These days I am the Vice President of Central Jersey Jamā'at.

Anis Ahmad Aqeel



Syed Sajid Ahmad with Anis Ahmad Aqeel at Nusrat High School in Banjul, The Gambia, in 1976.

Anis Ahmad Aqeel, son of Choudhry Zahoor Ahmad (Auditor and Nazir Devan Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya), born October 1946 in Qadian and lived most of my student life in Rabwah until went to FC College Lahore to seek masters of Economics and later Masters of Education from the Punjab University for a second master's degree. After completion of my education, I offered my services to Jama'at Ahmadiyya for three years on my father's advice (actually my father wanted me to dedicate my whole life after I am convinced myself to do so). Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Messih III (rh) graciously accepted my request and was sent to Nusrat High School The Gambia as an economics teacher in 1973. As economics and statistics were new subjects (thanks to the Principal Nasim Ahmad Gujrati who introduced them there for the first time) for The Gambian School system, it became unique and practical as only our school taught them. As far as I remember there

was no shortage of jobs for our school graduates and were hired immediately by either the government or by the private commercial sector.

In 1981, I desired to leave as the Principal Nusrat High School for personal reasons when Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Messih III asked me to continue and was sent to Nigeria till the end of school year 1984.

Although there are so many other events, but I will just mention a few major ones.

We started our School Speech Day in 1977 and key speakers always have been the most prominent Gambian Scholars and top position holders in the Government as I never had any problem to approach them as majority of them were my colleagues in National Cricket Team or their admirers. For that President of Gambia visited in 1978 and in 1980.

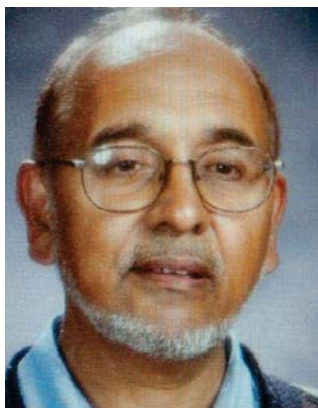
Coverage of our speech days were carried out by local press and

Radio Gambia that always covered these events in full speeches.

I currently lives in New Jersey. I served Nusrat High School, for a number of years as a teacher, and on completion of my term became the principal of the school. I played a great role in the popularity of the school. I myself being a recognized athlete during my days at T.I. College, Rabwah, used my talent in sports and education to bring the school at its highest level. I was also a member of Gambian National Cricket team. I had great public relation skills and was best at using them as well. The President of The Gambia, Sir Dawooda Kairaba Jawara, in 1978 came to Nusrat High school twice at my invitation. Among my achievements, the most memorable is the construction of Nasir Mosque in the school. Its foundation was laid down by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III in 1970. President Sir Dawooda Jawara inaugurated this mosque in 1980.

Mubarik Ahmad

Served Leap Forward Nusrat Jahan Scheme



I was born in Qadian and migrated to Pakistan with my parents when I was two years old. My father was a calligrapher of Promised Messiah's books, Rūḥānī Khazā'in for 23 volumes. I was active in prayers and a reader of daily Al-Fazl. After my high school

graduation in 1964, I read admission notice in the Al-Fazl that Ta'lim-ul-Islam college would offer scholarship to those having over 700 marks. I decided to be admitted at T.I. College and persuaded my parents to move to Rabwah for my college education.

Our family moved to Rabwah. I accompanied my father to T.I. College and met the principal, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad. I was admitted with scholarship. I passed F.Sc. with Govt. scholarship. After I passed B.Sc., I was admitted in the very first M.Sc. physics class that started in 1969 at T.I. College and graduated in 1971. We had best education as our professors were dedicated and interested in

students' success. Once my physics professor Mian A.U. Rahman was sick while taking our lab. I requested him to rest and take leave, but he did not like this and said, "Let me die in this laboratory." Rabwah was a good spiritual experience. I had the chance to attend Ramadan dars and participated in all Khuddam and Ansar Ijtimas.

In the winter of 1964, I listened Sir Zafrulla Khan's speech at Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya, about how to preach. Giving an analogy, he said, If a foreign visitor to Pakistan tells us some facts about Qa'id-e-A'zam, we will say, how true he is!, so the message he brought must be true. Similarly, as our missionaries go

abroad, they should speak to the people about their personalities they love most. By listing to the missionary, the people will say; how true the missionary is; so the massage he brought must be true.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III in 1971 started Nusrat Jahan Scheme to establish hospitals and school in Africa. He asked doctors and teachers for three-year Waqf-e-Aridi to work in Africa. I offered myself. I was selected for Ghana as a founding principal of Ahmadiyya school at Asokore after MSc in Physics in 1971. I met Khalifatul-Masih III who advised me to love African people and remember God. I went to Ghana in November 1972 and was received at Accra airport by the Amīr, A.U. Kaleem, and some other people.

Ghanaians are early risers. I travelled with Amīr from Accra to Kumasi by bus after Fajr Prayer. We were transported to Asokore by driver of Dr Syed G. Mustafa of Asokore Ahmadiyya Hospital. Dr. Mujtaba showed me the school, introduced me with some people and arraigned two rooms in a house for my stay. I established the new school by hiring the staff and did some other administrative work. I did get some help from TI Ahmadiyya High School Kumasi for establishing the new school. A video visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V can be seen by googling TI Ahmadiyya Asakore and also on Wikipedia.

Sir Zafrulla Khan visited Kumasi in 1973. He spoke at T I Ahmadiyya school Kumasi by reciting verse 3:104 and advised the gathering to hold fast the rope of Allah and spread the love of brotherhood, which is established by the Islam and Ahmadiyya. He then travelled to Asokore where we have a hospital and a school. I have the honor to have lunch with Hazrat Zafrulla Khan at Dr.

Mujtaba's house. While eating Papaya, I remember he said this fruit is useful for all ailments of chest.

Khalifatul-Masih III announced Nikah of Mubarik Ahmad with Shamim Nusrat, daughter of Abdul Malik Khan of Lahore on 15 February 1974 at Mubarak Mosque, Rabwah on Rs. 10,000/-dowry money. He said: I shall announce Nikah of our devotee. The person with whom she is being married is also a devotee and serving Jamā'at Ahmadiyya as a teacher in a school in Africa. She will accompany him and serve there as well. I pray that God bless them. {Register Khutbat-e-Nasir (unpublished)}

After working for two years at Asokore, I was transferred to Ahmadiyya school at Salaga in June 1974. This school was established on the borrowed building. As a principal, I supervised the construction of new building for school administration and teaching.

I was married in March 1974. My wife Shamim Nusrat Ahmad joined me in Accra, moved to Salaga and was appointed as a vice principal of this school. God blessed us our first child, named Ata-ul-Wahhab by Khalifatul-Masih III. Amīr A. Wahhab told me he likes the name of my son as he has taken names of both Amīrs, 'Ata'ullah and Wahhab.

For construction of the school building, a foreman was appointed. To start the building, cement blocks were made by using a borrowed machine from the catholic mission nearby. My foreman made required number of cement blocks. He prepared the school foundation according to the building plan and asked me that someone needs to put the foundation stone. With the permission of Amīr, I had the honor to lay down the foundation stone of

Salaga school. By Allah's grace the building was ready within a year in summer of 1975 with six-classroom block plus the office of principal for administration.

The regional headquarters of Salaga had built low cost 2-bedrooms housing for their workers which had running water and flush system. The principal's present residence lacked these facilities. I requested the regional commissioner to let me have one of the quarters on rent for principal's residence. With some hesitance he did so. This is the same blessed house where our beloved Khalifatul-Masih V lived during his stay as a principal. The picture of this house is displayed in Makhzan Tasaweer library.

Salaga school held parent and prize distribution day at the new school building in the spring of 1976. Amīr A Wahhab Adam was a keynote speaker, who invoked Allah's blessing to enable us to build this school in a most cost-effective manner. He also appreciated principal's efforts and hard work. Our Guest speaker was Mr. S.S. Fusainnie, an ex-minister of the first Ghanaian. president Mr. Nkrumah. He spoke about the good work Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at is doing in the field of education and health. I spent two years at this school. It was now a time for me to return to Pakistan after four years of Waqf-i-Aridi.

In July 1976, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Ghana arranged a farewell ceremony attended by the Amīr Wahhab Adam, the president of the Ghana Jamā'at, the senior missionary Sultan Mehmood Anwar and some other present. I was given a Ghanaian dress and a beautiful wooden table lamp. Ghanaian president said, Mr. Ahmad, whenever you light this lamp always think this light is coming from Ghana. Sultan

Mehmood Anwar very graciously took me to airport to see me off to Pakistan.

As a math/physics teacher, I worked for nine years in Adeola College at Ijebu-ode Nigeria from 1976 to 1985. Next nine years from 1985 to 1994, I taught A/O levels math/physics at Bloom-Field Hall in Lahore, Pakistan. We had filed a petition for US immigration since 1985 that was approved in 1994, and we moved to USA.

We came as a family of seven to US in June 1994 and settled in Portland OR. One day I walked in Portland Community College and was hired as a math tutor. Before college closes for the summer break, the head of mathematic department offered to teach two math classes in the fall of 1994. Later I got a job in laboratory as instructor in the summer of 1995.

I have the honor for working as a Financial Secretary for Portland Jamā'at from 1996 to 1999.

Later I have been elected as a Secretary for Tehreek-i-Jadid and Waqf-i-Jadid since 2001 to Present.

Za'im Majlis Ansarullah for

Majlis Dar-uz-Zikr Lahore and for Majlis Portland OR, USA.

After having worked as a Za'im Ansarullah for Dar-uz-Zikr Lahore Pakistan from 1989 to 1994. I also have been elected by Allah's grace, Za'im Ansarullah for Portland Majlis for about six terms from 2008 to present.

I met Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III with my wife and 6-year son in London while coming from Africa. I felt a miraculous spiritual face from which love was radiated that affected us considerably. My wife requested Huzoor to pray for our son who has swollen eyes to which doctors say he has allergy. He responded, "If a doctor doesn't know a disease, he says it is allergy." He advised for homeopathic medicine.

I met Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV in Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque USA with my wife and three sons while our girls were at home in Vancouver, WA. My wife asked Huzoor to pray as we have left our daughters in Vancouver WA under the protection of God. He replied, "You too are here under His protection here."

At another time I met Huzoor

with my two daughters in London in December 2000. He asked me if I had become Dada-Nana? With my negative response, he at once saw his watch and said, "Go to Rishta Nata office, it might be open and give them today your daughters' particulars." While he was speaking, I saw a paternal love that was radiated from his face. I felt Khalifatul-Masih's love more than parents.

I had the opportunity of meeting Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V in 2004 in London after Jalsa. I mentioned that I was a principal at Salaga school, (Huzoor was also a principal there). Upon listening, Huzoor responded, "I know you were at Asokore before." What a wonderful memory to remember where I was before.

Recently my son Ata W. Ahmad met Huzoor after Jalsa in London. Huzoor asked him, "Ata, have you come from Pakistan?" He replied, "Huzoor I was born in Ghana." Upon hearing this Huzoor responded, "then are you a son of Mubarik." I was very pleased to realize that Huzoor remembered me.

Abdul Rafique Jadran (January 1974 to July 1987)



I am Abdul Rafique Jadran originally from Kazi Ahmad District Nawabshah, Sindh, Pakistan and currently residing in Rochester Minnesota serving as Secretary

Wasāya and Za'im Majlis Ansarullah Minnesota.

By the grace of Allah, I was able to serve under Nusrat Jahan Leap Forward Scheme in Ghana from January 1974 to July 1987. In 1977, I married my wife who also moved to Ghana. I was blessed with four children in these years, three of which were born in Ghana. During my stay, I served for five and half years as a Science Teacher at Nusrat Jahan Academy, Wa, which is now a Nusrat Jahan Teachers Training College, Wa, and also at the Government Wa Secondary

School as a Chemistry Teacher.

I was transferred to Ahmadiyya Secondary School at Gomoa Potsin Central Region to take the administration of the school and serve as principal for eight years. During my administration, the school was established with the recognition by the Government of Ghana Education Services and they started paying all the expenses of the school and also for the development projects.

The chiefs and people of the town decided to honor me in a ceremony with the title of

Asafohene of Gomoa Potsin Traditional Area. I am among the very few foreigners and first Pakistani to be honored by the people of Ghana with such a title.

In 1980, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III visited Ghana. Huzoor graciously also visited my school. Huzoor laid down the foundation stone of the new classroom block and also opened the newly built principal's residence within school premises (see picture).

I would travel with Amīr to different outreach and Jamā'at events and capture it with my newly purchased video camera. Every year during Jalsa Salana Ghana, I would play my recorded movies for others to view that year's history of events of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at

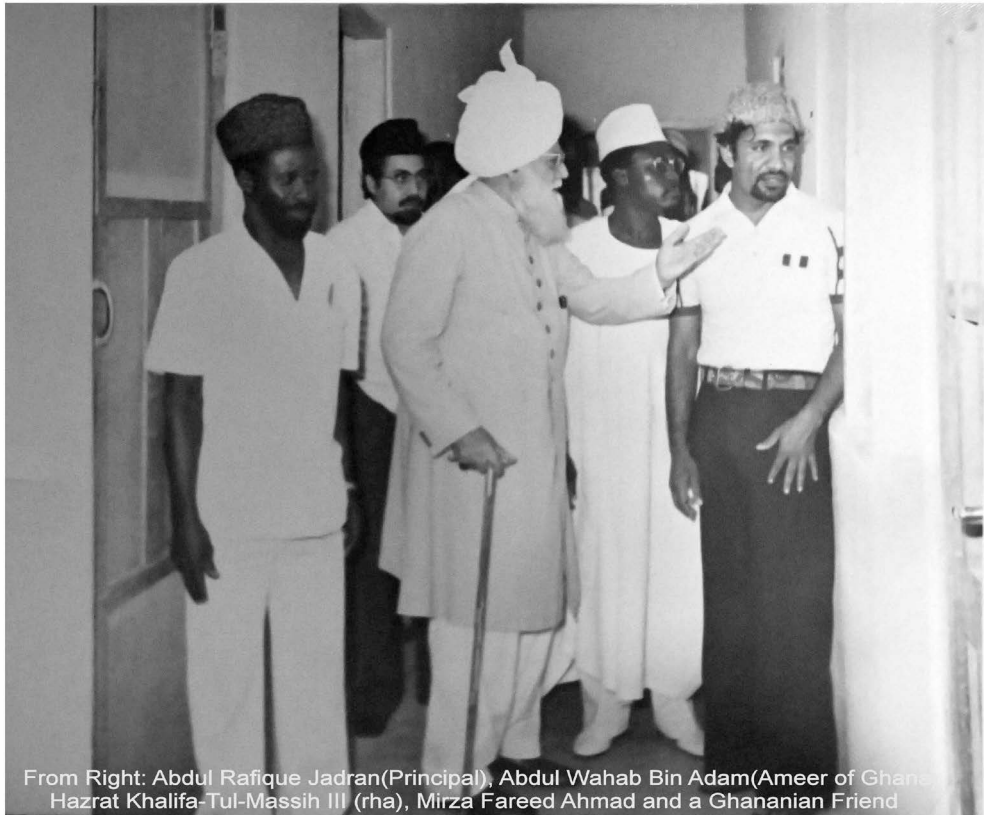
Ghana. Among our many different trips would be a trip to the Northern Region where also Hazrat Mirza Masoor Ahmad (Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (aba)) resided. During one of our visits to the Northern Region, Amīr Ghana and I visited the farm where wheat was planted and grown successfully by Hazrat Mirza Masoor Ahmad (Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V) and prepared a video documentary.

For a short term in 1977, I also headed the Ahmadiyya Secondary School, Salaga, Northern Region.

Once the school was fully established, I requested permission from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV to leave Ghana, which was graciously granted with the advice that I migrate to Canada. I left Ghana in

July 1987 and gave administration to Yousuf Kobina Agyare, an Ahmadi Superintendent of Education, who then became Assistant Director of Education (Principal). In Canada, I served as National Secretary Audio/Video under Nā'ib Amir Missionary Naseem Mahdi.

In 1989, I joined the Canada Jamā'at Computer Committee under the supervision of Danial Khan. I started developing Jamā'at Tajneed and financial systems with Computer Committee members Ailyas Khan, Mansoor Muzaffer and Nadeem Mahmood on IBM AS400 which is now called power systems.



From Right: Abdul Rafique Jadran(Principal), Abdul Wahab Bin Adam(Ameer of Ghana), Hazrat Khalifa-Tul-Masih III (rha), Mirza Fareed Ahmad and a Ghananian Friend

Dr. Syed Abdul Majid Shah

Nusrat Jahan Scheme in Sierra Leone (1974-76). National Sec. Finance (1986-88), Wasaya (1989-95) and President North Virginia

(1996-2005).

I was born and raised in Samundri, a small town in Punjab, Pakistan. My grandfather accepted

Ahmadiyyat at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) in early 1930s. Growing up in Samundri I watched

severe opposition to Ahmadiyyat and witnessed the burning of our newly built mosque in riots of 1952-53.



Luckily, I attended the summer Tarbiyati class in Rabwah, offered by Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, when I finished my High school, on the persuasion of Quaid Zila. Being in company of other Ahmadi boys, we developed a strong bond of brotherhood in the special atmosphere of Rabwah. Together we learned the basic tenets of Ahmadiyyat and practiced our religion that deeply impacted my outlook and left lifelong positive impressions.

In 1962 I got admitted to West Pakistan Agricultural University, Lyallpur. Soon the number of Ahmadi students grew at the campus, and we became organized and a University Halqa was created, I served as a Zaeem. We started offering daily Maghreb prayer in congregation and meetings on Campus at the residence of a devout Ahmadi, respected Choudhry Rashid Ahmad (Deputy Registrar), now residing in Los Angeles, CA. With the absolute blessings of Allah, I completed my education with academic merit scholarships, became Captain of university Swimming team, won the championship of all Pakistan Inter-University Swimming competition, and served Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Faisal Abad as Zaeem, Mu'tamad, Nazim Talim and Naib Quaid.

After graduation in 1968, I was appointed as a lecturer at the same

university. During this period, a special blessing was to meet and know closely Sahibzada Mirza Masroor Ahmad, our beloved Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help), when he joined the university as a graduate student in Agriculture Economics in 1973. Now I realize how lucky I was, that Allah the Almighty put me there to welcome him on his first arrival, as I was the resident warden of the same students' residential (Babar) Hall, where he resided. We all witnessed the deep spirituality and piety in him and enjoyed his grace and sincere affection towards us, Al-Hamdu Lillah.

Nusrat Jahan Scheme was initiated by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah be pleased with him) in early 1970s, and I offered myself to serve under this Scheme. In 1974, I was accepted to serve, and sent to Sierra Leone (W. Africa) as principal of a newly established Secondary School in Masingbi. I got married before leaving the country. Upon my arrival the school had already been started with one class of in a house. We needed a permanent place for the school. With Allah's blessing we were able to acquire 20 acres of land from Chieftom and started to plan for the building of school within few months. My wife joined me four months later as well. Students' population started to grow, and new classes were added quickly, as Ahmadiyya schools were popular and there was no other secondary school nearby. New school building was constructed, with six classrooms and a boarding house, within a year. We also built a mosque in the school compound for students, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (May Allah shower His mercy on him) graciously named it Mahdi Mosque. Allah the almighty, blessed us with our first child, our

daughter in 1975 and Huzoor Aqdas named her Bintul Mahdi.

Jamā'at already had an Ahmadiyya Medical Clinic in Masingbi that was established by Dr. Tahir Mahmood Mallick and his wife Dr. Kausar. They both worked very hard and served humanity in this remote area and were great support for the school. With the Grace of Allah, the school was flourishing, more classes were added, and three more teachers came from Pakistan. My wife supported me through all stages of the school's development including teaching of classes. Masingbi was a remote place, 100 miles away from capitol of Freetown, without electricity and no running water, no post office or phone (nearby). We are very grateful to Allah for providing us this opportunity to serve the Jamā'at in spreading Islam. We completed three years of Waqfe Ardi gracefully and migrated to USA for further education at the end of 1976.

I received my M.S. from Ohio State University, Columbus, OH and earned my Ph. D from Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN., in the areas of Renewable (Solar) Energy and Biological Systems Engineering respectively. I joined the U. S. Civil Service in the Department of Defense in California, after completing my PhD program in 1984.

After working one year in California, we moved to Washington DC area in 1985 to be close to Jama'at headquarter. With Allah's Grace I was able to become an active part of the Headquarter Jamā'at of Washington DC and served at local and national levels. As Jamā'at grew rapidly, the Washington DC Jamā'at was divided into three Jamā'ats of Washington DC, Maryland and Northern Virginia. I was given the responsibility to serve as Sadr of

this newly established Jama'at of Virginia in 1996 through 2005. Serving this Jama'at we had many blessings including the following favors of Allah:

Purchased 5 acres parcel of land for the first Ahmadiyya mosque in state of Virginia at a very desirable location. The full development plans of the mosque were approved within few months.

Named the street leading to Mubarak Mosque "Ahmadiyya Dr." through County's street naming process.

Acquired first Ahmadiyya Qabristan, in Fredricksburg, VA, (donated by an Ahmadi) and named it Maqbara-tul- Salihin.

At national level Allah the

Almighty enabled me to serve the Jamā'at at various positions such as National Secretary of Finance (1986-88), National Secretary Wasaya (1989-95), 'Umur-e-'Ammā, Tahrik Jadīd; Na'ib Afsar Jalsa Salana. member of National Finance Committee.

Allah has blessed me immensely throughout my professional carrier as well. I worked thirty-five years at the Department of Defense, retired as Deputy Director, DoD Laboratories and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in Office of USD (Research and Engineering). During my career, I provided scientific leadership and technical expertise, policy

guidance, strategic planning, and management oversight for major programs in the Military Depts. and NATO. Lead and pioneered research and development of innovative next generation Defense Information Systems and communications networking in mobile deployed environments. I directed joint interoperability demonstrations and critical technologies readiness assessments for major programs. With the Grace of Allah, I organized and chaired technical meetings, authored numerous technical publications, received honors, meritorious special act awards and the DoD Exceptional Civilian Service Medal, Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Syed Sajid Ahmad

Syed Sajid Ahmad, son of Syed Sajjad Haider (1921-1990) and Syeda Riaz Fatima, was born on August 11, 1948, in Gujrat, Pakistan. His paternal grandfather, Syed Muhammad Yusuf (1908-1965) son of Muhammad Shah of Ferozpur in India was the first person in the family to accept Ahmadiyya Islam at the young age of sixteen and was then disinherited by his parents as a punishment for his courageous conversion. Syed Muhammad Yusuf volunteered both to counter the Shuddhī movement and as a soldier for the Furqan Force to liberate Kashmir. Syed Muhammad Yusuf moved to Rabwah after retirement and served in the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya offices as Mukhtār-i-'Ām for the Jā'idād office. Syed Muhammad Yūsuf arranged for sanitary and cleaning aspects of the Annual Conventions at Rabwah.

Syed Sajid Ahmad earned his master's in experimental physics from the University of the Punjab in 1972, master's in theoretical

physics from Qā'id-i-A'zam University, Islamabad, in 1974, and doctorate in engineering from NDSU in 2020.

His marriage to Syeda Bushra Sultana Ahmad was announced at the 1976 US convention held on August 6-7 in the presence of Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih III, rahimahullah, by Br Muhammad Sadiq and his papers were cosigned by Br Abid Haneef. They are blessed with three daughters and a son, Aamra, Aisha, Yusuf and Samra.



Syed Sajid Ahmad served the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan

as Sa'iq (Gujrat) circa 1960, Nāzim Atfāl (Hafizabad) 1964-65, Nāzim Ta'lim (Gujrat), Mu'tamad Zil' (Gujrat) 1967 and Za'im for Khuddām of the Fazl-i-'Umar Hostel. He had the blessing to start Khuddām branches at the New Campus in Lahore and at the Islamabad University Campus 1973-74.

He was the first National Finance Secretary of the Peoples Student Federation (PSF) in Pakistan.

Syed Sajid Ahmad devoted 3½ years of his life for the service of Islam in West Africa (26 May 1974 (riots started against Ahmadis in Pakistan after an incident on Rabwah railway station on 29 May 1974)-December 1977) and taught at the Ahmadiyya Secondary Schools in Ghana at Fomena, Gomoa Potsin, and Salaga. Before departing Ghana for the US in 1977, he handed over the charge of Salaga School to Şāhibzādah Mirza Masroor Ahmad, now Khalifat-ul-Masih V, ayyadahullahu ta'ala bi-nasrih-il-'aziz. He lived in the same

house with Sajid and his wife Bushra for a number of months.

In the US, as an engineer, scientist, manager and executive, he has worked in the semiconductor industry, at a university and with a city. He was involved in the production of pre-PC “sol” personal computer at Processor Technology (1978-79) in California. He contributed to quality and reliability enhancement of assembly processes, especially gold wire bond, at Intel (1979-89) in California and Arizona. He contributed to packaging development at National Semiconductor (1990) in Washington, and managed quality at GigaBit/TriQuint (1991) in Southern California. His major work at Micron Technology (1991-2003) in Idaho involved the development and implementation of advanced semiconductor packaging. He was manager of engineering services at the Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering at the North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota, until June 2015 where his focus was on enhancing research and manufacturing capabilities at the center in the areas of thin film, thick film, chip scale packaging (CSP) and surface mount technology (SMT). He supported DARPA and NSF projects 2015-2018 and taught at ECE/NDSU. With CrossFire Technologies as Director of Advanced Packaging in 2018 and as its CTO in 2019. With

City of Jamestown ND as Utility Operations Director for two years.

He holds 54 patents and has published or presented 42 papers and numerous professional development courses internationally.

He has held the offices of Finance Secretary, General Secretary and Chairperson of the Boise section of world’s largest society of engineers, IEEE. He was awarded the IEEE Third Millennium Medal in recognition for his services to the organization. He is founding member of WMED annual conference in Boise ID and of the Red River Electronics Summit in Fargo ND.

In the US, he served Majlis Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya as Qa’id West Coast Region (1978-85), Editor Tariq, Nā’ib National Qa’id (1984-1986), National Qā’id, (1986–1989) and then as the first Sadr, Majlis Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA (November 1989-February 1990).

He served Majlis Anṣārullāh, USA as Nā’ib Ṣadr I 1994–1999, editor Al-Naḥl 1993-2011, Qā’id Ishā’at 2000-2011, Qā’id Tabligh 2012-13, Qā’id Ithār 2014 and Special Member since 2015. Recipient of Lifelong Service Award in 2015.

He served the San Francisco Jamā’at (inclusive of Sacramento, Bay Point, Oakland, San Jose and Merced) as its Financial Secretary, then General Secretary, and then during 1982-84 as its President. He

was the President of the Phoenix Jamā’at during 1986-89. He was the President, Seattle Jamā’at during 1990–1991.

He has served the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community USA as Editor, Muslim Sunrise, 1998-2004. He has been the Secretary of the Children’s Magazine Committee since 2001 which publishes Al-Hilal. He has been Member of Qaḍā Board USA for numerous years, is a member of the history committee since 2012 (its chairman presently) and is the national publications secretary since July 2013.

He has served the St. Paul/Minnesota Jamā’at as its Secretary PR (2003), Secretary Waqf-i-Nau (2008-2010), Secretary Ta’līm-ul-Qur’an and Waqf Aridi (2010-2013), Secretary Publications and Audio/Video (2013-16) and Secretary Wasāyā (2016–2019). He was the Za’īm, Majlis Anṣārullāh, St. Paul during 2003–2005.

He has published or edited Tariq (English), Tariq Jr. (English), Aḥmadiyya Gazette (English) and Al-Nur (Urdu) previously, has co-authored the Hadith book, Words of Wisdom, and compiled, edited the stories “Why Islam is my choice” and has translated booklet of stories “Points to Ponder” and “A Gift for the Queen.” He has written and translated articles for a number of magazines and newspapers, and about 100 letters and columns in the Fargo Forum.

Syeda Bushra Sultana Ahmad

Born to Syed Sharif Ahmad and Salma Shah in Pakistan, she moved to the US in 1964. She earned a bachelor’s in education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

She was married to Syed Sajid Ahmad in 1976 in the presence of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III at the

annual convention during his US tour.

She served at the Ahmadiyya Secondary School in Salaga during 1976-1977 as assistant principal teaching courses in commerce. She was honored to host Mirza Masroor Ahmad (Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V now) for some time before she

moved to the US.

She served as Lajna president in San Francisco, Seattle and founding Lajna president in Phoenix.

She earned a bachelor’s in social work and a master’s in counseling both from the Boise State University.

Dr. Muhammad Aslam Nasir



Born in Rabwah in May 1953. My father Muhammad Ishaque Anwar (1932-1971) was a Devotee.

Attended Ta'lim-ul-Islam School till March 1969. Attended T. I. College 1970-1974 B.Sc.

1975-77 M.Sc. in Applied Mathematics at Quad-i-Azam University Islamabad Pakistan.

1978 Lecturer T. I. College Rabwah.

Feb 1979-Feb 1982 Ghana with Nusrat Jahan Scheme.

March 1982 married.

March 1982-Oct 84 Ph.D. from Otago University, Dunedin, New Zealand. Became citizen of New Zealand in late 1985.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV appointed me the first Amīr of New Zealand in 1985.

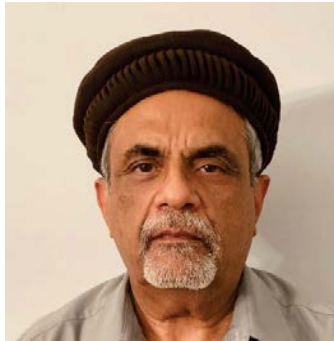
In March 1986, with the

permission of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV, I left New Zealand for Kenya. In April 1987, we left for Perth Australia. In early 1991, went to Fiji Islands.

In Sept. 1996, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV directed me to go to USA. Then I stayed in USA NJ until July 1999. Then back to Australia Sydney NSW.

During my stay in USA, I submitted my remaining life to Jamā'at. I have also worked and served Jamā'at in Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania. Now retired in New Zealand. ★

Dr. Naseer Mobashar



I am currently residing in Charlottesville Virginia. I am a graduate of King Edward Medical College Lahore, Pakistan. I am a physician and have been practicing in Virginia since 1996.

Currently serving as President of Richmond Jamā'at.

I served under Nusrat Jahan in West Africa from 1980 to 1987.

Served in Ahmadiyya Hospitals in Asokore and Swedru, Ghana, from 1980 to 1983.

Established the Ahmadiyya Clinic in Monrovia, Liberia, in 1983 and served there from 1983 to 1987. ★

Dr. Naeem Ullah

My Name is Naeem Ullah, son of Chowdhry Ehsaan Ullah. I was sent to West Africa in 1984 to be In-Charge of the Ahmadiyya Medical Center. It was located in the small town of Kaur, Gambia. It was a blessing and great experience. I currently live in Bensalem, Pennsylvania.

I graduated in 1981 from Liaquat Medical College in Hyderabad, Pakistan. After graduation, I worked in general surgery, orthopedic surgery, and internal medicine in Hyderabad. I then worked at Fazl-e-Umar

Hospital in Rabwah. From there, the Jamā'at appointed me to the Medical Center in the Gambia.

Before departing, I was able to meet Khalifatul-Masih III. He told me that I was not going there for money, but to help those in need. When I arrived and was heading to the medical center, one of our missionaries told me that there had been a drought for a few years. But that year, there had been enough rain for some healthy new crops to grow.

During the second year of my stay, there was another drought.

People were worried that it would destroy all the crops again. After a discussion with the local Jamā'at president, we all went outside after Asr Salat to an open field, we offered a special Prayer for rain to come. God listened and shortly after we had enough rain to preserve the crops for the whole year.

It was challenging to live and actually perform surgery there, as there was no electricity. There was also no clean drinking water where we lived, but we had somebody who rode a donkey to a nearby well to

bring fresh water. There were some struggles, but we enjoyed a simple life.

I was actively involved in propagation, and there were about fourteen new converts during that time. One of them was the chief of a town.



During another preaching visit, the Imam of a town told me that when Imam Mahdi shall arrive, the

female chicken shall say Adan similar to roosters, who say something at twilight of the morning. During that same conversation, a female chicken appeared and shouted. He didn't know what to say.

There was a shipyard in Kaur, and one of the employee's sons was unconscious for about three days. He was admitted to another hospital, but they were unable to treat him. They came to our medical center, but the manager of the shipyard did not want him to be admitted with us. He thought he would never be treated properly. We treated and prayed for him, and he was doing much better that same night. Manager came to us and thanked us, and their family continued to visit us for years.

Another patient came to us from Senegal with a seriously infected wound. He was being treated by local clinics without much success. His friends told him

that he should visit an Ahmadi hospital to receive the best treatment. We started treating him, but he needed a skin graft for complete recovery. We did not have proper arrangement for skin graft, but he wanted us to treat him anyway. A hook is needed to complete a skin graft, and we had to use a fork. We were able to treat him, and whenever he visited us, he shared his story with everyone.

During a visit of Khalifatul-Masih IV, my wife and I had an opportunity to serve him and his guests at two locations, Farafini and Jwaray. She prepared food for over 200 guests. During his visit to Kaur, he came to our home for tea, and he was very happy with the setup of our home. When he returned to London, he wrote us a hand-written letter thanking us for everything. While he was in Farafini hospital, he laid a foundation stone, and I was able to as well.★

Khaled Ahmad 'Ata

National Secretary Wasaya (2005-Present), Na'ib Sadr Saff Awwal 2013.

The known history of the family of Dr. Khaled Ahmad 'Ata begins with Ahmadiyyat nearly 100+ years ago. His grandfather (paternal) Ḥaḍrat Ghulam Mohammad (may Allāh be pleased with him) was a Companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). He came to Qādiān from Amritsar. Ḥaḍrat Khawaja Abdul Qayyum (may Allāh be pleased with him), his maternal grandfather, was also a Companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). He hailed from Sialkot. His father, Ghulam Ahmad Ata, M.Sc. (1921-1982) was a Waqif-e-Zindagi (life devotee), and retired as Wakīl-uz-Zarā'at from the Tahrik-i-Jadīd headquarters in Rabwah.



Dr. Khaled Ata was born in Karachi, Pakistan and had his early education in Ta'limul Islam School, Mohammad Abad, Sindh. As a pre-med student, he spent two years at Ta'limul Islam

College, Rabwah. After graduating in medicine in January 1979, he served as Captain in the Pakistan Army Medical Corps for

two years. He volunteered for the Nusrat Jahān Scheme on January 1, 1981, which Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ III (may Allāh shower His mercy upon him) very graciously approved the same day. Before departing for Tanzania in January 1985 as a missionary doctor at the Ahmadiyyat Nusrat Jahān Clinic, Morogoro, he served at the Fazl-e-'Umar Hospital, Rabwah and later worked in a private surgery. In September 1985, he got posted to Sierra Leone as medical officer In-Charge of Ahmadiyyat Nusrat Jahān Clinic in Boajibu. Returned to Pakistan in May 1988 and worked again in private surgery until April 1991 when he left for Uppsala University, Sweden to specialize in surgical pathology. While at the University, he joined a PhD program in 1995 and received his 'Doctor of Medicine' degree in

October 1999. He came to the U.S. in January 2000 and was involved in basic medical research for several years first at the Johns Hopkins University and later at the National Institutes of Health.

While in Sweden, he served, with the grace of the Almighty Allāh, as president of Uppsala and Stockholm Jamā'at. In the U.S., he has served as Assistant National General Secretary and Za'im

Ansarullah of Potomac Majlis. He is currently serving as National Secretary Wasayā and Nā'ib Sadr Awwal, Majlis Ansarullah, USA. (Taken from Al-Nahl magazine)

Dr. Abdul Hafeez and Dr. Amtush-Shakoor

They live in New Jersey. Both served at Ahmadiyya Hospital in Talinding, which is a few miles

from capital Banjul. This hospital is considered as the “best” in the Gambia and has almost all facilities

of a small hospital. Dr. Laeeq Ansari also worked here. ★

Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Melu

Dr Melu currently lives in Washington DC. He served at the Jamā'ats Medical Center at a far-off place, Kaur. He also ran another clinic at Farafenni. Kaur's Medical Center was first established by Dr. Saeed Ahmad, who came to The Gambia in sixties, under Tahrir Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya, many

years before Nusrat Jahan Scheme, volunteers came. Dr. Ashraf also built a small mosque in Kaur. Once I visited him and at the time of Prayer, he gave me two water cans for ablution. He said to use one when washing face and mouth and the other when washing arms and feet, because the water there was

not that good, and he brought water from Farafenni for drinking, cooking, and washing face. You can imagine from this example what type of challenges the volunteers faced. Dr. Ashraf also served in Ghana, West Africa. ★

Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi



He was born in Gujranwala on 1 October 1962.

He earned his BA and LLB degrees from Lahore, Pakistan. He practiced law in Pakistan for twenty years as attorney in the Gujranwala District Court and in the Lahore High Court.

He was the Ameer of the Gujranwala city and district for 16 years. He was a member of the

Qada Board in Pakistan for 14 years. He worked in the office of the Fazl-i-Umar Foundation for 14 years.

He migrated to the US in 2009. He dedicated his life to Ahmadiyya cause in 2010. He was appointed the National Headquarters. He has been the National General Secretary since 2016.

Ali Iqtidar Bajwa



Ali Iqtidar Bajwa, son of Shahid

Ahmad Bajwa and grandson of Chaudhry Ahmad Hussain Bajwa, is in the blessed scheme of Waqf Nau. Youngest of the three brothers, he spent his childhood years in Rabwah. After completing his education at Nusrat Jehan Academy and Nusrat Jehan Inter College in 2005, he went to the National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences, Islamabad Pakistan and earned Bachelor of Business Administration degree in

2009. From July 2009 to December 2010, he had the privilege to serve in the Administration and Accounts Department of Tahir Heart Institute Rabwah. He moved to the USA in January 2011. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Michigan in 2015. In fulfillment of his pledge of Waqf Nau, he submitted a request of Waqf (dedication) in 2016 which was

graciously approved by Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih V Ayyadahullahu Ta'ala Be Nasrihil-'Aziz in January

2017. Respected Amir Sahib USA appointed him as Assistant National General Secretary USA

Jama'at on March 17, 2017, and he has since been serving USA Jama'at in that capacity.

Adeel Muneb



He was born on 25 January 1989. His parents dedicated him to the Waqf-i-Nau Scheme. He came to the US in 2015. He earned an associate in civil engineering. In accordance with his parents' desire and his own desire, He dedicated his life to Ahmadiyyat in 2017. Respected Ameer US assigned him

to the National Property Department. While serving the Jama'at, he continues to study architecture.

Zafar Waqar Khalon, Ph.D.



From a small village Miankhana Wali, Sialkot, Pakistan without any school for boys, did matriculation from Baddomalhi, F.Sc. from Narowal, and B.Sc. from Islamia College Lahore. After

completing M.Sc. Physics from T.I. College Rabwah, did MPhil in Semiconductor Physics from Qa'id-i-Azam University Islamabad.

Being Waqif-e-Zindagi (Life Devotee), went to Russia under Jamā'ats instruction and completed Ph.D. in Physics/Mathematics from renowned Joffe Physical-technical Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint Petersburg.

Ph.D. research work on Hydrogen storage in Graphene received best research work of the

year 2001 award.

After Ph.D., worked with Chemistry Noble Laureate Prof. John Polanyi at Toronto University from 2002 to 2009. He performed groundbreaking work on hydrogen storage in graphene followed by experimental research work on graphene films on metals, Si, Ge, GasAs, InP and from the past two years have been at Thorlabs in Jessup, Maryland. He has over 60 publications and designs. He submitted many patents from semiconductor research work. ★



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV with members. Picture by Abdus Sami Khaliq.

US Members Mentioned by Ahmadiyya Caliphs

The mention of martyrs by caliphs is added to the respective biographies in the Martyrs' Section.

This listing is not exhaustive. Gazette intends to publish missed information in upcoming issues.

US Members Mentioned by Khalifatul-Masih II

May Allah be pleased with him

Missionary Sufi Muti-ur-Rahman Bengalee

We spent Rs. 12,000 when Sufi Muti-ur-Rahman Bengalee

returned. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 30, p. 393, 25 November 1949

at Lahore, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.) ★

Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir

Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir went to United States few days back and his one-way ticket was Rs. 9,000. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 30, p. 393, 25 November 1949 at Lahore, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

makes the city deserted. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 36, p. 257, 2 December 1955, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir of USA is here (Rabwah, Pakistan). I told him one day and remind him again to concentrate more on Tabligh to the white people. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 36, pp. 179-80, 7 October 1955, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

I have diverted the attention of Jamā'ats many time to increase your membership which shall result in the increase of our income. I have sent back Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir with the instructions that such ways should be adopted to strengthen the US Jamā'at which shall increase financial sacrifices. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 36, p. 233, 4 November 1955, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

Khalil Ahmad Nasir told me that annual contribution of US Jamā'at is \$ 40,000 i.e., Rs. 200,000. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 37, p. 21, 20 January 1956, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir of USA is here (Rabwah, Pakistan) these days. I have asked before and now I again divert his attention towards increasing Chanda contribution of the US Jamā'at. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 36, p. 204, 21 October 1955, at Rabwah,

When I returned from England, Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir of USA also came with me. He told me that a UNO envoy visited Rabwah and praised Ahmadiyya organization for building a city in short time. But there is no proper arrangement for sanitation. There are no flowers and no trees which

Khalil Ahmad Nasir is a good missionary. Now I am receiving complaints that US mission has gone weak. Perhaps, they may mend their ways when my sermon shall reach them. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 37, p. 83, 17 February 1956, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

Noor-ul-Haq Anwar

I received a letter today from Maulawi Noor-ul-Haq Anwar of USA saying, "You asked us to propagate to white race. God has accepted your intention and helped

us in this regard. Therefore, I send to you letter of Bai'at of a Canadian friend. He is employed in army and is from a white race." Maulawi Noor-ul-Haq has also sent his

photograph. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, Vol. 36, pp. 179-80, 7 October 1955, at Rabwah, published by Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation.)

Missionaries Abdus-Shakoor Kunze and Rashid Ahmad

The people who came to Rabwah for studies are much more

than in Qadian. Mr. Abdus Shakoor Kunze from Germany, Rashid

Ahmad from America, some young men from China, Mr. Rangotee

from Indonesia, another one from Egypt, a person from Sudan who is still here, Mr. Rizwan Abdulla from Abe Sinai, a youth from Borneo, one from West Africa arrived in

Rabwah. God has blessed Rabwah much more than Qadian because we were hurt in Rabwah and God sympathized with us. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud Vol. 31, p. 268, 22

December 1950 at Rabwah, published by Fazle Umar Foundation)

US Members Mentioned by Khalifatul-Masih IV

Maulawi Muhammad Din

Maulawi Muhammad Din was among the first thirteen fortunate who dedicated their lives on the call of Promised Messiah (peace be on him). He remained dedicated throughout his life. He was sent to United States as second missionary in 1923. He discharged his duties with devotion till 1925. He shall be remembered on account of purity and devotion. He had absolutely no

arrogance. He led his life in accordance with the tenants of God Almighty. Khalifatul-Masih IV said that when he returned from Spain and met Maulawi Muhammad Din, the first thing he said was that he had been constantly praying for the success of the tour. Huzoor responded to him, “Your prayers were reaching me, and I was witnessing God’s bounties from the

Heaven.” Khalifatul-Masih IV added, “We need millions of Muhammad Dins for our Jamā‘at.”

He died on 8 March 1983. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon, 25 March 1983, Rabwah, Pakistan) (Please see his biography in detail in other sections.)

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim Jamooni

“I want to announce Prayer for Mian Muhammad Ibrahim Jamooni, Missionary to the US. He served there for a long period of time. His vision was affected and he was operated upon. When he was called back, his one eye was

severely affected. He was then hospitalized in Rawalpindi. I received news that after the operation he had cardiac arrest. Now he is in intensive care ward and in serious condition. I request prayers for his early recovery.”

(Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 21 October 1983, Rabwah, Pakistan) Please see his biography in detail on other pages.

Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad

Khalifatul-Masih IV said: I received a letter from Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad asking for more financial donations for mosque funds. There are many Ahmadis in

the US who are not responding to my call for donations to the mosque fund. Those Ahmadis who already contribute enhance their promise, but others do not pay heed to my

call. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 29 June 1984, London) Please see his biography in detail on other pages.

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr

I remember Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, National President Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya USA. He came to Rabwah in 1974. It was the last night of the convention when he was asked to address for a few minutes and give his impressions.

He started weeping profusely. He was shivering and was unable to express. Then he said with lot of interruptions, “What are my impressions? We were feeling so bad in 1974 and now I am seeing all of you. I am satisfied that God took

away all miseries from you. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 12 October 1984, London, UK) Please see his biography in detail on other pages.

Rashid Ahmad Suhail and his mother

The son of Respected Nasira (from Karachi) who lives in United States has informed that his mother has died in Karachi. Rashid Ahmad Sohail has also recently died in USA. We shall pray for the departed

souls. The details could not be found. Please include Rashid Ahmad Sohail in your prayers.

Nasira was sister of our Missionary ‘Ata‘ullah Kaleem. His

brother-in-law also died sometimes back. I shall lead eight funerals in absentia. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 18 March 1988, London, UK)

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad

America is worth mentioning from leap forward countries.

Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Amir Jamā‘at USA, expressed his desire

which he discussed in his Amila that they should excel at least in

some department of the Jamā'at. They opted for Waqf-e-Jadid. They worked very hard to increase financial contributions of Tahrik-e-

Jadid. They collected \$50,000. I admire their exceptional efforts in the collection of Waqf-e-Jadid. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud

Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 25 December 1992, London, UK) Please see his biography in detail on other pages.

Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid, USA

Now I read summary of report of Amir Sahib USA:

“.— The text of Friday Sermons of six years about Waqf-e-Jadid was sent to all the missionaries so that they draw attention of Ahmadi in the light of this. Fourteen Jamā'ats held week of Waqf-e-Jadid. Anwer Mahmood

Khan toured east and west coast Jamā'ats and drew special attention to the Ahmadi by his speeches. One hundred and twenty Ahmadi pledged and paid at least one thousand dollars. The Lajna USA also co-operated extraordinarily. Five hundred and sixty-one children of less than twelve years of age entered the

scheme by the efforts of Lajna. The overall payment was \$ 78051 which is 216% more than the contribution of 1991. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Khutbat-e-Tahir, Vol. 11, p. 934, Friday Sermon 25 December 1992, London, UK).

Dr. Hameed-ur-Rahman of Los Angeles, USA

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) led the funeral Prayer in absentia of Qazi Bashir Ahmad of

Sahiwal who was maternal uncle of Dr. Hameed-ur-Rahman, Amir Los Angeles, USA.

(Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Khutbat-e-Tahir, Vol. 13, p. 767, Friday Sermon 7 October 1994, Calgary, Canada).

Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr and Malik Masood Ahmad

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV mentioned Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Amīr Jamā'at USA, Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, Na'ib Amīr

Jamā'at USA, and General Secretary, Malik Masood Ahmad, for their tiring efforts during his US visit. (Friday Sermon 28 October

1994, London, UK) (Please see biographies in detail on other pages.)

Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV mentioned Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad for his

suggestions regarding Corn Fields. (Friday Sermon 16 December 1994,

London, UK) (Please see his biography in detail on other pages.)

Dr. Waseem Sayed

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) mentioned Dr. Waseem Sayed for presenting \$1.5 m for mosques in Eastern Europe:

“And similarly, there is another of our sincere friends Waseem Sahib, he also has been made by Ch. Ilyas Sahib and Waseem has also undertaken some such works on his

own which by the Grace of Allah, the Exalted, occupy a station of great sacrifice. He presented from himself the pledge of a sum of \$1.5 million for the construction of mosques in Eastern Europe and insisted on my accepting it. In this also, the condition was that others may also contribute, I will not deny them. Thus, by the Grace of Allah,

the total of that amount, when all contributions are added up, has now exceeded three million dollars and our needs have also grown to that level...” (Khutbat-e-Tahir, Vol. 16, p. 729, Friday Sermon of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) dated 3 October 1997)

US Members Mentioned by Khalifatul-Masih V

Amatul Hafeez wife of Dr. Abdus Salam

Khalifatul-Masih V said: I am announcing a sad news of passing away of Amatul Hafeez wife of Dr. Abdus Salam (Noble Laureate). She died on 13 March in United States. Her body shall be transported to Pakistan via London. In-Sha'-Allah. She was cousin of Dr. Abdus

Salam and daughter of Chaudhri Ghulam Hussain who was an honest man. He dreamt before the birth of his daughter that Nawab Amatul Hafeez Begum arrived on a transport and stopped in front of him. Then a girl came out and said, “As-Salamu 'Alaikum Wa

Rahmatullah.” When the daughter was born I named her Amatul Hafeez. She originally belonged to Jhang, Pakistan and got her education there. Khalifatul-Masih II announced her Nikah with Dr. Abdus Salam. Then Dr. Salam came here (UK).

She served Lajna UK for long. She served as President Lajna UK for twenty-eight years and organized Lajna very well. She was soft spoken and give training efficiently. She used to take part in all financial matters. She had a

profound relation with the Khilafat. Her sentiments were adorable. She always remained patient. She would constantly pray. I felt satisfied when asked her for prayers. God may bless her lofty status in the Heaven. She has

three daughters and a son. They have been trained very nicely. God may bless her progeny to follow her footsteps. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 16 March 2007, London, UK)

Dr. Mufti Muhamad Sadiq, First Missionary to the US

Khalifatul-Masih V said that the book “Women Embracing Islam” alludes to the fact that the first ever Muslim missionary to USA was an Ahmadi, and his designation was a direct reaction to the work carried out by the Christian missionaries in India. Huzoor said they seem to have imagined that his task was to create an environment conducive to the Muslim immigrants to USA and for this purpose efforts were made to convert the Caucasian population but only a few of these people could be converted. The book says the immigrants who this mission was seeking to ‘populate’ in USA expelled them (Ahmadis) from the pale of Islam. This is when the Ahmadis decided to focus their attention to the African American

community in terms of converting them to Islam by telling them that their roots were in the religion of Islam and that African Americans and African-Muslims could unite as a force. Other Muslim groups also took advantage of this, and this is the reason why Islam is spreading among the African American community. The book says the second biggest group to convert to Islam is that of Caucasian women. Huzoor said although they have twisted the facts about our community, it is clear their research is good but their citation is not accurate. Huzoor said when a Caucasian lady who had newly converted to Islam was asked for her reasons for the conversion, she replied that by saying the Shahada one becomes as innocent as a

newborn baby. Huzoor said indeed it is facts like these that the anti-Islamic sections cannot tolerate. Huzoor said it also appears that a section of society among them is questioning the concept of ‘penance.’

Huzoor said the onslaughts on Islam are carried out systematically and as this compilation of essays has some positive things to say about Islam and as long as such positive aspects are brought to the fore it was essential for the anti-Islamic elements to organize themselves, which they have. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 7 March 2008, London, UK)

Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum wife of Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad

Khalifatul-Masih V remembered Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum, who passed away a few days ago. She was the second daughter of Muslih Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with her) and wife of late Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad. She was born in 1916 and took her *Maulawi Fāzil* (Islamic scholarship) as well as passed F.A examination. She served as Sadr Lajna Washington, USA for four years. Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him) appointed her as an honorary member of the USA *Majlis e Mushāwarat*. Huzoor said with the grace of God she was mentally alert till the end. She would relate early incidents and about Muslih Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). She was most charitable and

regularly supported widows and orphans. She also gave to various international charities. She offered her Salat with deep devotion. Huzoor said he had the occasion to witness her offering her Salat many times. She had a special bond with God. Despite her husband’s high office, she was most humble and modest. In their condolence letters to Huzoor many women have expressed about her humility. She had a great sense of honor for religion and for Khilafat. She was very particular about her purdah and if she did not recognize a visiting youngster relation, she would maintain her purdah until the introduction was made.

She did not have any children of her own but had adopted the son

of her Sahibzadi Amatul Jameel Begum. She gave him a lot of love and always undertook his Tarbiyat. He has written to Huzoor that she would relate brief stories with reference to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) in his childhood and also to his children. Huzoor said Zāhir Ahmad (her adopted son) has written that she would read the Holy Qur’an with great reflection and had made notes on pages upon pages. She had a particular love for Khilafat. Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him) was her elder but she had a very special bond with him as the Khalifa of the time. Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on her) was her

younger brother, yet after his Khilafat she showed him the utmost of respect. During the first Jalsa Salana at Islamabad Tilford, she was told that Huzoor was asking for her. She promptly got up and started walking and the person who was to accompany her had to run to catch up. Huzoor said this is reminiscent of her maternal grandfather (Khalifatul-Masih I) who would run when beckoned by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

Huzoor said he was her nephew. When he was made Nazir-e-A'la of Pakistan and she came for a visit from USA Huzoor noted clear deference in her deportment towards Huzoor, such was her regard for office-holders of the Community. Huzoor said this aspect about her unfolded to him at that time. After Huzoor's Khilafat this connection further developed. Huzoor said when he thinks about it there was no difference whatsoever in the respect and regard she accorded to Khalifatul-Masih III and that she accorded Huzoor. Her regard was so heightened that at times Huzoor would be embarrassed. Huzoor said when he went to USA [last year] his residence was at the mission house due to Community matters. She had wanted Huzoor to stay at her place. When Huzoor went to visit her, she was overjoyed. Huzoor said it is due to the deep connection she had that her family also has a very close connection with Khilafat. Huzoor said she had read the books of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) nine times. Huzoor said during her illness he had the chance to speak with her a few times. Zāhir Ahmad has told Huzoor that once he tried that she would eat her meal

before telephoning Huzoor; which she did not. After the phone call it was said to her that now that she had spoken with Huzoor she may eat her meal. After this he got busy somewhere. Shortly afterwards he noticed the food was eaten. Huzoor said he thinks she may have misheard and assumed that Huzoor had asked her to eat her meal and that is why she ate it despite, due to ill health, not wanting to eat. Huzoor said such was the level of her obedience.

Huzoor said during her illness she called her nephew/son, daughter-in-law and the children and counselled them for three hours and then thanked them for serving her although what they did for her was nothing compared to the way she had served them. May God enable her family to continue with the piety of the Tarbiyat of Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahamad and Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum and may they be the recipients of their prayers and stay firm on their humility.

Huzoor said she was very close to her father. On her marriage he wrote to Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar that he had cared for his daughter like one care for a blister on one's palm...and now he entrusted her to him. If she was pained in any way, he would not be able to bear it. This is the model that the families who have conflicts should observe. When they bring someone else's beloved daughter into their family, they should be most careful about her feelings, mindful that she is someone's daughter.

Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum once dreamt [in childhood] that a person said to her that he has come to get her mother. She pleads with him weeping not to take her. The

person then says he would take her father. She again pleads with him not to take him. She is then given an option to either let her mother or father go. Upon insistence that under no circumstances could she keep both, she agreed to let her mother go. As a result of this dream, she became very clingy with her mother. Her mother passed away when she was ten years old. Huzoor related that earlier Amaan Jan would say to her that she was always hugging her mother why did she not hug her father. Once she responded to this by saying: I will cling [to my father] and will do so all my life. Amaan Jan would relate this incident with tearful eyes.

Huzoor read a couple of Urdu poetic verses that Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote on the occasion of his daughter's marriage. They broadly translate as:

May His love never diminish
His connection never breaks;
No matter who else breaks off
His devotion is never abandoned.

Huzoor said someone has written to him from USA that twenty-five years ago they dreamt hearing a voice that said 'Bibi Amatul Qayyum is a *Waliullah*' (friend of God, saint). Huzoor said she indeed had a deep relationship with God and was very pious. This was only because she always put the teachings of her great father in practice. May God elevate her status. Huzoor said he would lead her funeral Prayer in absentia after Jum'a Prayer. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 26 June 2009, London, UK)

Masood Ahmad Khurshid Sanoori

Khalifatul-Masih V said: I shall lead funeral Prayer in absentia of Masood Ahmad Khurshid Sanoori

after Friday prayers. Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilaihi Raji'oon. He died two months back.

He has the one who has served the Jamā'at in Pakistan and the US. His daughters are serving Jamā'at

here (UK). His progenies are also serving Jamā'at in different

capacities. God may elevate his status. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud

Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 12 November 2010, London, UK)

Sahibzada Rashid Latif Rashidi

Sahibzada Rashid Latif Rashidi of USA passed away on 27 April in Los Angeles Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilāhī Raji'oon. He was the grandson of Sahibzada Abdul Latif (Martyr) and son of Sahibzada Muhammad Tayyab. He got his early education from Bannu, Pakistan and then studied further from T.I. College, Lahore. Then he went to Afghanistan and remained there for

some time. He had a very profound relation with the Jamā'at. People used to offer prayers at his home. He proceeded to the US in 1965 and got higher education. He decided to settle in the US. He was President of Seattle Jamā'at. He also resided in California. He used to deliver speeches at the Annual Conventions of United States. On the instruction of Khalifatul-Masih

IV (may Allah have mercy on him) he translated Tadhkirat-ush-Shadatain in a regional Afghan language "Darree." He left behind wife, a daughter and two sons. May God alleviate his status. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 13 May 2011, London, UK)

Anwer Mahmood Khan

Anwer Mahmood Khan who is the son of Maulana 'Abd-ul-Malik Khan and lives in USA and is a member of the national Amila, has

written an article about the reviews of the politicians. Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih thinks he should have it printed in Al-Fazl and other

magazines. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 20 July 2012, London, UK)

Malik Shafiq Ahmad Architect

Malik Shafiq Ahmad architect passed away on 6 January in New Jersey. He was in good health and had gone to a wedding where he was preparing to offer Salat before the event. He suffered a heart attack. He was attended by a cardiologist who was there and then taken to hospital, but Malik passed away on arrival. He was an engineer by profession and had served in the ministry of defense. After retirement he had moved to

the USA. He had served the Jamā'at in many projects. When Khalifatul-Masih IV made some changes regarding the construction of Bait-ul-Futūh in 2001 he had Malik come over for consultation and he stayed here for some time in this regard. He was currently working on the construction of a few mosques, although he was not a Waqf-e-Zindagi (life devotee), he served in the spirit of it. He would not listen to a word contrary to the

Jamā'at or Khilafat and experienced deep pleasure in worship of God. Khalifatul-Masih said he had personal experience of overseeing Malik's work who would come promptly when asked even though at the time he was in civil service. May God elevate his station and keep his progeny connected to the Jamā'at. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 6 January 2013, London, UK)

Nasira Saleema Raza

Khalifatul-Masih announced that he would lead a funeral Prayer in absentia Nasira Saleema Raza of Zion, USA who passed away on 18 February. She was an African American Ahmadi. Born in 1927 to the family of a Baptist priest she did not take any interest in Christianity. She accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1949 and was married to late Nasir Ali Raza in 1951. She served the Jamā'at over a long period and was the regional Lajna Sadr for many terms. She was very keen on Tabligh work and would distribute leaflets and

arrange for books and copies of the Holy Qur'an to be placed in libraries. By virtue of her Tabligh efforts more than fifty people accepted Ahmadiyyat. She was a cheerful person and was very well-liked among the ladies who visited her in great numbers and looked up to her as a mother figure. She exuded love of Islam. She would coach young girls about Purdah and other Islamic moral teachings and how to deal with bad customs of the West. She did Tabligh to her mother for several years until her mother accepted

Ahmadiyyat at the age of 85 which delighted her. Nasira Saleema was a very efficient worker who had great love for Khilafat and the Jamā'at. She had a Mulāqāt with Khalifatul-Masih last year. May God elevate her station in Paradise. She leaves behind nine children and twenty-one grandchildren. May they stay firm on piety and be the recipients of her prayers. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 1 March 2013, London, UK)

Sahibzadi Amatul Mateen Daughter of Khalifatul-Masih II

Khalifatul-Masih announced that he would lead funeral Prayer in

absentia after Friday Prayers of Sahibzadi Amatul Mateen. She was a

daughter of Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased him) and wife of

Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir. She passed away around midnight on 14 October in Rabwah. Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilāhī Raji'oon. The burial took place on Eid day.

She was born on 21 December 1936 in Qadian at Darul Masih. Amaan Jan (may Allah be pleased with her) and Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) had prayed a lot for her. She was the only daughter of Syeda Maryam Sadiqah. Dr Mir Muhammad Ismail (may Allah be pleased with him) was her maternal grandfather. Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote poems for his daughter which are printed in Kalam e Mahmood.

Khalifatul-Masih said that he has observed that especially daughters of Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him), although all his children, were very close to God and offered Salat with great regularity and fervor. As her husband, Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir is a Waqfe Zindagi and has served as missionary in Spain and USA, she also had the opportunity to stay there and fulfil her obligations as wife of a missionary. When Masjid Basharat was constructed in Spain the family was there and worked

extremely hard for the inauguration ceremony. Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) related that during those days if the family had the chance to retire at 3 am they would be happy to get some sleep. With God's grace the ceremony was very successful. Sahibzadi Amatul Mateen had the food in general and that of Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) prepared under her personal supervision as at the time there was no other arrangement in place. The family also stayed in California for a long time. At that time the resources of the Jamā'at could not afford household amenities like washing machine etc. Sahibzadi Amatul Mateen undertook all household chores herself and always declined any help offered in this regard.

She also served in the central Lajna in various capacities and had a sincere connection with Khilafat. She was an aunt of Khalifatul-Masih but after his Khilafat her respect, love and reverence grew immensely and when she first met him after his Khilafat she told someone that she could not even talk openly to Huzoor anymore. She was not very well but did come to Jalsa Salana UK this year and met with Huzoor.

She leaves behind four sons and a daughter. Her two sons are Waqfe Zindagi. Dr. Ghulam Ahmad Farrukh who did PhD in Computer Science from USA but is now working in the offices of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya, Rabwah and the other Waqfe Zindagi left his employment in USA and came to London and works with Khalifatul-Masih, Muhammad Ahmad. He was with Huzoor at the Australian tour but left a few days ago for Rabwah to see his mother. Both the brothers work with great sincerity, may God continue to enable them. May God elevate the station of the deceased! She has one daughter who lives in Holland. One son is a doctor in Dubai, and another is in USA. May God enable all of them to stay connected with the Jamā'at and Khilafat! Mir Mahmood Ahmad is feeling quite alone, may God with His grace grant him tranquility and God's grace alone can make good his loss. Longstanding togetherness leaves such feelings. May God elevate the station of the deceased! (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 18 October 2013, London, UK)

Dr. Bashir-ud-Din Usama

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) announced that he would later lead a funeral Prayer in absentia. Dr Bashir ud Din Usama passed away on 2 November at the age of 82 in USA. He had accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1955 and was among the early African American Ahmadi. He was very regular in his Salat and was a loyal and sincere Ahmadi. He was an honorable man with great love for Khilafat. He was prayerful and passionate yet very humble and meek of nature. He had the honor to

visit Rabwah and meet Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) and Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him). He met Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) many times and had great love for him. Huzoor also had a special connection with him. He had performed Hajj with his wife and had served as the naib sadr of Cleveland for the past 20 years. He had great fervor for Khidmat-e-Khalq (social welfare) and in particular took great care of African

American brothers. In 1950 he wrote a booklet on the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). He was a dentist by profession. His wife Fatima Usama had also served as Sadr Lajna in Cleveland. He is survived by two sons who have a deep connection with the Jamā'at. May God elevate the station of the deceased and always keep his family connected to the Jamā'at. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 22 November 2013, London, UK)

Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah and Dr. Abdus Salam

Khalifatul-Masih V talked about Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah and Dr.

Abdus Salam of Ohio in connection with the martyrdom of Dr. Mahdi Ali

Qamar.

Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah writes that Dr Mehdi Ali Shaheed was a very humble person who always had a smile on his face.

Sadr of Columbus Jamā'at, Dr.

Abdus Salam writes that Dr. Mahdi Ali Shaheed arrived in Columbus ten years ago and had always been a very active member. He had great sense of obedience of the Jamā'at and always greeted others cheerfully. He

never declined any task given to him and had a passionate love of Khilafat. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 30 May 2014, London, UK)

Alhaj Asim Zaki Bashir-ud-Din

The funeral is of Alhaj Asim Zaki Bashir-ud-Din of USA which will be in absentia. He passed away on 22 June 2014 after suffering from cancer for a few years during which time he did not ever show any sign of despondency. He fought his battle with illness with great courage and patience.

He was born to a Christian family on 26 May 1929 and was drawn to religion from childhood. He was introduced to Ahmadiyyat through personal study and interest and with the grace of Allah the Exalted accepted Ahmadiyyat at the age of 19 or 20. He had resolute belief in the existence of God the Almighty and had very strong faith. He was a very patient and grateful person, an embodiment of a true believer. He met many elders of the Jamā'at and it was in 1940 when he first met Chaudhry Zafrulla Khan. He had the honor to meet Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him). Asim said during his first

Mulāqāt with Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him) he felt as if he had a halo of light around him; he said he could still picture it.

He was enabled to serve in the national Amila of USA and was also a local President as well as Tabligh secretary and also served as Za'im Ansarullah. He worked at the port in Seattle, USA for which he had to be away from home for two to three months. His job was well paid but once Jalsa fell during his working days and he left work to attend Jalsa. He always participated in Jamā'at programs. Once he was speeding as he drove to some Jamā'at work and police stopped him. He had his Prayer Cap on, so the police asked him if he was going to church, meaning the mosque as he wore a Muslim Prayer Cap. He said, yes, he was. The police officer happened to be a good person he told him that he could go but asked him to donate the penalty that he was going to charge him to the mosque. As soon as he

reached the mosque, he very honestly paid \$85, the penalty amount, as Chanda. When the Seattle mosque was built he was the highest contributor towards it. This was in 1970 and it was said that his donation amount could have bought a new car at the time. He was very fond of Tabligh and always kept a folding table, some books and flyers in his car. Wherever he went he would set up stall and do Tabligh and distribute literature. He had Jamā'at publications and flyer placed in the public library in Seattle. He was concerned about the progress of Jamā'at till his last breath. He had great love for the Jamā'at and for Khilafat and always advised people to serve the Jamā'at. He leaves behind his wife and four children. May Allah the Exalted elevate his station and also enable his children to stay firm on piety. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 11 July 2014, London, UK)

Naima Lateef wife of Jalal-ud-Din Lateef

Al Hajja Naima Latif wife of Alhaj Jalal-ud-Din Latif, President of Zion Jamā'at and Na'ib Amīr of USA passed away on 23 September after an illness. She was born in 1939 to a Christian family and was educated at West Virginia University. She worked as a volunteer in the medical department of USA military. She accepted Ahmadiyyat Islam in 1974 and developed in faith very swiftly through personal study so much so that when she met Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) at Jalsa Salana UK in 2000 he remarked that it appeared as if she was a born Ahmadi Muslim.

Naima Latif did not ever miss Friday Prayers and was regular in attending Jamā'at programs. She never missed fasting in Ramazan and in line of Sunnah kept optional fast every week. She also had experience to perform I'tikaf. She was at the forefront of serving others and always provided lift/ride to the elderly and the infirm who could not go to the mosque. She performed Hajj with her husband in 2002. Naima made her children take leave from school to attend Friday Prayers and promoted the practice of recitation of Holy Qur'an after Fajr Prayer in her family. Neighborhood children used to join her children

during Maghrib Prayer.

Naima Latif was at the forefront of making financial sacrifice. She would give any jewelry that her husband bought her as a gift to the mosque and in later life she told her husband that since she donated all the jewelry he bought her, rather than buy her gifts he should directly donate to the mosque fund. She had a very obliging nature and hated back-biting. If she ever heard any woman say something negative about someone, she would openly say she did not wish to eat anyone's flesh. No one dared back bite in her presence. Huzoor remarked if only all our women as well as men

adopted this way many of our problems and rifts would be resolved.

Naima Latif had an ardent love of Khilafat. She promptly adopted hijab after listening to an address by Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him) on the significance of purdah! At the time she was the only woman in her area who wore Islamic

hijab. She regularly wrote Huzoor for prayers and whenever she came for Jalsa, she met Huzoor and had a connection of extreme devotion. She served national Lajna USA in many capacities and was a Musiyya. She leaves behind her husband Jalal ud Din Latif, one daughter and three sons. Her family is very sincere and devoted to the Jamā'at, perhaps her daughter is more enhanced in

sincerity than the others as she comes for Jalsa Salana UK every year. May God elevate the status of Naima Latif; may He forgive her and keep her in His loving grace. May He grant steadfastness to her family and always remove their difficulties! (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 3 October 2014, London, UK)

Dr. Yusef Abdul Lateef

Dr. Yusef Abdul Lateef was a renowned musician of USA. After accepting Ahmadiyyat, he left music and served Ahmadiyya Jamā'at. He led simple life after quitting music.

He was regular in daily prayers and Tahajjud. The change resulted in shedding tears on the name of Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

(He died 23 December 2014). (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 10 October 2003, London, UK). (Please see his biography in detail on other pages.)

Intisar Ahmad Ayaz Son of Dr. Iftikhar

Present funeral was of Intisar Ahmad Ayaz who passed away on 28 March at the age of 50 in Boston, USA. He was a maternal grandson of Maulana Abul Ata Jullunduri. He was born in Tanzania. He was a pious person, regular in reciting the Holy Qur'an and offering Tahajjud.

He was devoted to Nizam e Jamā'at and Khilafat and had served the Jamā'at in various capacities. He was very fervent about Tabligh and had facilitated Bai'ats. He was an exemplary son, brother, husband and father. He is survived by his parents, sisters, widow and a nine-

year-old son. May God forgive him and elevate his station and grant steadfastness to the bereaved. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 3 April 2015, London, UK)

Asghari Begum wife of Sheikh Rehmatullah

Funeral Prayer in absentia was announced for Asghari Begum, wife of Sheikh Rehmatullah, Amīr Jamā'at Karachi. She passed away on 27 March at the age of 90 in USA following brief illness. Her nikah to Sheikh Rehmatullah took place in 1943 and she accepted Ahmadiyyat in Lahore in 1944 at the hand of Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). She accepted Ahmadiyyat before her husband. She fulfilled her pledge to Khilafat with complete honesty all her life and always advised her children to remain connected to Khilafat. She had great reverence for Khilafat. Since its inception, watching MTA was her favorite pastime. She was a mūṣṣiā, a most steadfast person with keen sense of gratitude. She was prayerful, observed Tahajjud and was regular in observing Salat and fasting and recitation of the Holy Qur'an.

During the time her husband was privileged to serve in Karachi she also served shoulder to shoulder with him. She was a most hospitable person. When Sheikh was Amīr Jamā'at Karachi, among all other activities she fulfilled the responsibility hosting guests a great deal and had the honor to play host to Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) Khalifatul-Masih III and Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on them).

She was at the forefront of making financial sacrifices. Once in 1950 the Jamā'at went through a time of financial constraints and Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) made special appeal. Following this her husband gave a large portion of his income to the Jamā'at and she was also regular in making sacrifices with him. She lived a very simple life free from

affectations. Her son writes that she always advised her children to write letters to Khalifatul-Masih requesting prayers. She leaves behind five sons and two daughters and forty-three grandchildren and great grandchildren. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Na'ib Amīr USA and in-Charge of our website alislam is one of her sons. Her son-in-law Rehmani has lived here in UK for a long time and served as Secretary Waṣiyyat UK Jamā'at for a long time. His wife Jamila Rehmani has served as Secretary Finance in her local branch and has also served/or is serving in other capacities. A son, Farhatullah Sheikh is Na'ib Amīr of Faisalabad, Pakistan. May God elevate the station of the deceased and keep her children and generations connected to Khilafat! (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 15 April 2016, London, UK)

Nazir Ahmad Ayaz

Nazir Ahmad Ayaz was President of New York. He died on 3 July 2016 at the age of sixty-nine years. Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilaihi Raji'oon. He was born on 23 July 1947 in Tanzania. He reached New York in 1977 and started serving Jamā'at. In the beginning he was Secretary Finance. Then he remained president of New York Jamā'at for thirty-five years. He used to go to every Prayer Center with the missionary. He tried to take part in all financial sacrifices. He

used to send letters and emails to the members of New York reminding to fulfil their financial obligations. He would do every work of the Jamā'at with responsibility. He imparted training to Jamā'at workers. He had made arrangement of different sports activities at the Prayer Center to attract boys and girls. The education was held on Saturday or Sunday every week which now continuing as Tahir Academy. He was also Director of Humanity First for which he did lot of work. He used

to clean the center himself and put the trash in the dustbin in spite of the President of the chapter. He was Musi and was buried in Maqbarah Mūsiyan. He left behind wife and a daughter. God may elevate his station. Khalifatul-Masih IV said about him: He is an exemplary President. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 29 July 2016, London, UK)- (Please see his biography in detail on other pages.)

Aminullah Khan Salik

Khalifatul-Masih V said: The second funeral in absentia is of Respected Aminullah Khan, former missionary USA. The deceased was enabled to serve as missionary in the USA, Liberia and England. From childhood his parents had dedicated his life to serving the Jamā'at, based on an appeal of Khalifatul-Masih III. In 1949, after completing his middle education he enrolled at Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya. In 1955 he completed his Maulawi Fāzil education. From 29 February 1960 to April 1963, he was enabled to serve as a missionary

in USA. His first posting in the USA was in 1960 when was twenty-three years old. He was a very passionate missionary. He had many opportunities for preaching through newspapers and radio. During his service in Liberia, he would be invited to the monthly meetings in and he would be asked to lead silent prayers. When Khalifatul-Masih III toured Liberia then a dinner was held in honor of Huzoor and the host said regarding Aminullah Khan, "He is very forceful." Huzoor replied, "He is forceful without using any force."

Aminullah Khan was also posted to England where he served until 1970. Then he had to retire due to ill health. He was married to Bushra Shah, daughter of Iqbal Shah, and granddaughter of Wilayat Shah, companion of the Promised Messiah.

Huzoor prayed that may Allah the Almighty elevated the status of all of the deceased. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 3 March 2017, London, UK)

Lutf-ur-Rahman Son of Mian Ata-ur-Rahman

After the prayers, I will lead two funeral prayers in absentia. The first is of Mr. Lutf-ur-Rahman, from USA. He was the son of Mian Ata-ur-Rahman. He passed away on 27th May 2017; to Allah we belong, and to Him shall we return.

He belonged to Bhera and his grandfather was Mian Karim Din (may Allah be pleased with him), companion of the Promised Messiah. He pledged his allegiance in 1984. His wife and grandmother Talay Bibi took Bai'at with her husband, but perhaps she was not sure about the Promised Messiah. Her name was Talay Bibi. She dreamt and the Promised Messiah said after listening to her dream, "The woman who saw in the dream does not have full faith in me (She

saw some dream which shows that she does not have faith in the advent of the Promised Messiah). The Promised Messiah said, "If she puts faith in me, then God shall give her boy." Thereafter, they pledged allegiance at the hand of the Promised Messiah and God gave them boy. The Promised Messiah named that boy "Ata-ur-Rahman." He was the father of Lutf-ur-Rahman. He taught sciences in Ta'lim-ul-Islam School for a very long period. I was also one of his students in my school years. He served central Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya. He was editor of magazines "Al-Manar" and "Khalid." Then he went to Sierra Leon and remained there for a long time. After retirement, he came to United

States. He was proficient in writing and was also an eloquent speaker. His many articles were published in Al-Fazl.

Mahmood Mujeeb Asghar says: Once he came to Pakistan and was searching for references in Khilafat Library. When asked, he replied that he prepared articles to counter the allegations published in American newspapers on Islam and Qur'an. They normally publish my articles.

Ata-ul-Mujeeb Rashid writes: He was literary and had a critical eye on the religious matters. He had command both in English as well as in Urdu. He used to write scholarly research articles. He was fond of searching literary points. He always studied Ahmadiyya literature. He

was a studious writer. He would answer promptly.

Khalil Mobusher, Amīr and Missionary in-Charge of Sierra Leon Mission says: We spent more than twenty years together and I judged him very closely. He was a unique person. He was humble. I have no words to say about his humbleness. He was a selfless and it is not exaggeration. God bestows in him proficiency in writing and delivering good speeches.

He became first teacher and then principal of Ahmadiyya School.

He performed all the administrative work efficiently. He used to offer prayers with great concentration. He was always thankful of the blessings of God on him. He was regular in obligatory contributions and charity donations. He had a deep love for Khilafat. During trip of Khalifatul-Masih IV to Sierra Leon, he got ample opportunity to serve him. He always respects me which was an example for others. He was an example for others. I knew him since long but after my Khilafat, his attitude changed altogether.

Missionary Fazal Shahid says: Once a Christian pastor gathered large people in Bo and presented to the people false miracles. Lutf-ur-Rahman presented to him written reply and they were stunned. On this non-Ahmadis also expressed happiness. May Allah the Almighty grant him forgiveness and show him mercy by elevating his station. May his progeny continue his virtuous deeds. (Translated by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Friday Sermon 9 June 2017, London, UK)

Dr. Salahuddin

The second funeral is of Dr Salahuddin Sahib who resided in New Jersey, USA. He was the son of Maulvi Imam-ud-Din Sahib, the missionary of Indonesia. He passed away on 10th September 2017 after suffering a heart attack. *To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.* The deceased completed his PhD in the field of science from New Jersey In the time of Khalifatul-Masih IV

(rh) he would visit frequently and aside from the Private Secretary office, he also worked as part of the Security Staff. Whether it was office work or his security duty, he always completed his duties with full responsibility. He had such noble qualities that would attract people towards him and made him popular amongst the people. Despite these qualities he had a very humble and

meek nature. He had the quality of being able to hold a conversation with people from all walks of life. I knew him from Rabwah from my childhood and even after my Khilafat, I saw that he maintained a special relationship of loyalty, which was a relationship of love and affection for Khilafat. (Friday Sermon, 15 September 2017)

Bilāl ‘Abdus Salām

Khalifatul-Masih V said: After the prayers, I shall offer a funeral Prayer in absentia for one of our African Ahmadis, respected Bilāl ‘Abdus Salām. He lived in Philadelphia, USA and passed away on 13th September –To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return. He was a very active member of the

Jamā‘at in America. He was extremely kind, friendly and a loving person. He would always help others and would always be at the forefront in Jamā‘at activities. He was extremely devoted in his attachment with Khilafat. Whenever he would meet me, he would have a very distinctive smile on his face and his

sincerity and devotion was evident from his eyes. May Allah the Almighty elevate his status and grant him forgiveness and enable the rest of his family members to also accept Ahmadiyyat. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 22 September 2017, London, UK)

‘Abd-ur-Rahman Saleem of Columbus-OH

Khalifatul-Masih V led funeral Prayer in absentia of ‘Abd-ur-Rahman Saleem on 22 November 2017. He passed away on 10 November 2017 at Columbus-OH.

His father Maulawi Ghulam Rasool belonged to Kotli Afghana, District Gujrat, He accepted Ahmadiyyat during the era of

Khalifatul-Masih II. He served Indian Government and later Government of Pakistan. He was retired from Ministry of Defense, Pakistan as Deputy Secretary in 1976. He migrated to USA in 1987 and started living with his children in Detroit and Columbus. His house in Karachi, Pakistan remained “Prayer Center” for a long time. He

was devoted Ahmadi and had strong affiliation with Khilafat. He was a Musi. He left behind two daughters and five sons. (He was buried in Columbus Jamā‘at Cemetery marked for Musiyān.) (Al-Fazl International, 15 December 2017, p. 15)

Sister Salma Ghani

Khalifatul-Masih V mentioned Sister Salma Ghani of Philadelphia in his Friday Sermon of 1 December

2017 who passed away on 20 November 2017 at the age of eighty-three years. Huzoor led her funeral

Prayer in absentia. Huzoor said about her:

Amīr USA Jamā‘at writes that

she performed the Bai'at and joined the community in 1960 or 61 at the age of 24. She was a schoolteacher by profession. In 1975/76 she attended the Jalsa in Rabwah where she met Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him). She served as President Lajna for fifteen years with great diligence and took the Lajna Ima'illah to whole new level. She also served as the President Lajna for Philadelphia Jamā'at on numerous occasions. Aside from the five daily prayers, she was regular in Tahajjud prayers. She had a great desire for the construction of the mosque to be completed in Philadelphia and would pray for this profusely. This will soon be completed In-Sha'-Allah. According to the local president she showed complete obedience and co-operation to the local Jamā'at. She was diagnosed with cancer of the stomach two months ago. She told him of her will saying that according to the doctors she had four to six months to live, but she knows she only had a few days left. She left instruction for her funeral prayers and coffin that had already been organized.

She did not have any children or any other Muslims in her family but had very good relations with her siblings and other members of the family. The Sadr Lajna USA writes that her upbringing had taken place in a Christian environment, but she started questioning Christian beliefs from an early age. She studied Catholicism, as well as other religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism and also other Christian sects. One of her friends gave her a pamphlet that Prophet Jesus (upon whom be peace) did not die on the cross. It contained answers to all her questions. She then went to the mosque and bought various books. She studied those books and eventually took the pledge of allegiance in Philadelphia where she lived until her death.

She lived 54 years of her life as an Ahmadi, during which she displayed the highest standards of love, affection and loyalty for the Ahmadiyya Community and Ahmadiyya Khilafat. During the time of Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) she served as Sadr Lajna of USA for

fifteen years, after which she also served as an honorary member of Lajna Ima'illah. She also served as the head of the Lajna advisory committee for the African desk, as well as the American desk.

She was always inclined to propagate the message of Islam. Due to her Christian background, she would propagate the message to the Christians in a scholarly manner. Many people accepted Ahmadiyyat due to her efforts, and thus she became the source of guidance for many people. After several tours of Ghana and Nigeria, she became known as Auntie Salma Ghani. She will always be remembered in the USA for her piety and chastity as well as her popularity.

May Allah the Almighty elevate the status of the deceased and grant steadfastness to those who accepted Ahmadiyyat due to her. May Allah enable the Jamā'at of USA and the American people in general, to listen and accept the true message of Islam. (Taken from English Summary of Friday Sermon 1 December 2017, London, UK)

Aliyyah Shaheed

I will now mention about a pioneering noble Ahmadi woman from America and will also lead her funeral prayers after the Friday prayers. Her name was Aliyyah Shaheed, wife of the late Ahmad Shaheed. She passed away on 26 December. God the Almighty had bestowed her with a long life and enabled her to serve [the Jamā'at] and also protected her from any handicap. She was 105 years old. May Allah the Almighty exalt her rank. To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.

Amīr USA has written about her that she pledged allegiance in 1936, and from 1963-66, served at Sadr Lajna [National President of the Ladies Auxiliary Organization].

Similarly, her services spanned 50 years in which she had the opportunity to serve in various capacities, ranging from General Secretary to Secretary Ta'lim and Secretary Finance, Sadr Lajna Muqāmi, and Secretary of Khidmat Khalq. She always maintained a strong connection with the Jamā'at and Khilafat, and always remained vigilant and ready for every type of sacrifice. She was an extremely kind and loving woman. She had committed to memory the early accounts of the Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA, which she often used to narrate.

She was always in search of knowledge. She spent her time in the upkeep of the Mosque, cooking,

offering daily prayers. It was not the case that she only tried to gain knowledge, but she humbly used to perform Waqar-e-Amal and serve the Jamā'at with her own hands. Cleaning the Mosque and cooking were her roles.

She strived to her utmost in promoting unity and sisterhood of the members of Lajna, for which she wrote numerous individual letters to members of Lajna in her final days." Sadr Lajna writes that there was one verse of the Holy Qur'an which she used to often repeat which I've heard from her as well, [Arabic] She reports that she would always repeat this. That is, Verily, Allah loves those who fight in His cause arrayed in solid ranks, as though they were a

strong structure cemented with molten lead.

The Sadr Lajna has written “Aliyyah would tell us that—during her time—as 98% of Lajna members had only recently joined the Jamā‘at by way of pledging allegiance, in the beginning, they would only enjoin them to offer the five daily prayers and keep fasts in the month of Ramazan. Likewise, instead of making them wear the Hijab from day one, we would start by bringing their attention to wearing appropriate clothing, telling them to first make their clothing suitable. Then the next step would be to wear the Hijab.” Unlike a trend that has commenced nowadays that those even wearing the Hijab have begun taking it off. She—on the other hand—would guide them from one step to the next striving to provide spiritual training. Then, Aliyyah put great effort in teaching basic recitation of the Qur’an by preparing daily teaching programs. Like this, those Lajna members who would finish learning the basic recitation of the Holy Qur’an, she would bring their attention daily towards covering some commentary of the Holy Qur’an. ‘On 23rd March 2008 she spoke to the members of Lajna stating that all the followers of the Promised Messiah around the world gathered in the mosques and mission houses on 1st January to offer the Tahajjud prayers as an act

of thanksgiving, so why can we not do this once again this year, as it marks one hundred years since the Khilafat of our beloved Promised Messiah was established?’ She further writes, ‘O my Allah! Remove all hurdles in the progress of Ahmadiyyat and grant us that victory which You have promised us. Our Promised Messiah has laid the foundations for this Jamā‘at and united us all as one body. It is due of him that we Ahmadis feel the pain of one another, help each other in times of difficulty, pray for one another, partake of the happiness of another and are aggrieved by the suffering of another. By the grace and mercy of God the Almighty we are one.’

She then wrote in her message to the new converts in Lajna Ima‘illah there, “It is God Almighty’s special favor, and I am extremely fortunate to have witnessed the progress of the Jamā‘at with my own eyes. God the Almighty has graced us by choosing our Jamā‘at for the propagation and service of Islam. Every week we have the opportunity to listen to the Khalifa of the time and advance in our worldly affairs and progress in our faith by acting upon his is instructions.” In the end she wrote, “I pray O my Master! Remove all hurdles in the progress of Ahmadiyyat. Make us the true portrayal of our faith and grant us countless helpers.” Thus, she played a special role, with the

circumstances there, in keeping the African American new converts together.

Another Ahmadi, Dr. Rashida Ahmad, who is also originally from America, states: “She herself would strictly adhere to the teachings of Islam but would advise others in a very loving manner. The love of God the Almighty was reflected from her every action and deed.”

Another Lajna member, Khulat, writes: “I became acquainted with Aliyah when I first came to USA in 1949. I was eight years old at the time when I first met her. She was extremely loving and friendly and had a personality that would leave a positive impression on others. She had an extremely long held and firm bond with Khilafat. She would mention about her correspondence in letters with Muslih Mau‘ūd. Her services for Lajna Ima‘illah USA will always be remembered. She had an astounding spiritual persona and despite being a hundred years old, she would attend the Jalsas [annual conventions] which serves as a model for us.”

May God the Almighty elevate her status. And the spirit and passion she had to serve the Jamā‘at – which her son also mentioned—may God the Almighty instill that in her progeny as well. (English Summary of Friday Sermon 11 January 2019, London

Safia Begum

Safiya Begum passed away on 27 June. She was the wife of late Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, a missionary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. She was the daughter of Qazi Abdus Salaam Bhatti, a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). She had an exemplary

relationship with Khilafat which she also instilled in her progeny, many of whom are serving as life devotees in the community. She was extremely supportive of her husband’s work as a missionary, no matter where he went. Khalifatul-Masih V expressed that there are very few wives of

missionaries who support their husband as she did. He also remarked that her relationship with Khilafat was so strong and so unique that he has seldom seen before. (Friday Sermon 10 July 2020, London, UK)

Hamidah Akhtar Saleem

Hamidah Akhtar wife of Abd-ur-Rehman Saleem who passed away on 19 January 2021. She served the women’s auxiliary organization in

Pakistan for about fifty years. She loved Khilafat a great deal and she was always regular in offering Prayers, reciting and teaching the

Holy Qur’an. She is survived by five sons and two daughters. Many people from her family are serving the Community in an excellent

manner. Huzoor (may Allah support him with His mighty help) prayed

that may Allah treat the deceased with forgiveness and mercy. (Friday

Sermon 9 April 2021, London, UK)

Naeema Latif wife of Sahibzada Mahdi Latif

Naeema Latif of the USA who was the wife of Sahibzada Mahdi Latif. She passed away on 10 March 2021. Her husband is the grandson of Sahibzada ‘Abd-ul-Latif Shaheed

(may Allah be pleased with him). She studied and worked in the field of Botany. She served the Community in various capacities, including as the National Vice-President of the

Women’s Auxiliary Organization in the USA. (Friday Sermon 23 April 2021, London, UK)

Amatul Noor wife of Dr ‘Abd-ul-Malik Shamim

Amatul Noor wife of Dr ‘Abd-ul-Malik Shamim and daughter of Sahibzadi Amatul Rashid Begum and Mian Abdur Rahim Ahmad. She passed away in Washington, USA on 15 June 2021. She was the great-granddaughter of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), as well as Hazrat Hakim Maulawi Nooruddin (peace be on him). She is survived by two daughters. Her Nikah [Islamic marriage announcement] was led by the Third Caliph (may Allah support him with His mighty help). She served the Community in various capacities in the Women’s Auxiliary Organization. She was regular in offering her Prayers as well as the Tahajjud Prayers [pre-dawn voluntary Prayers]. Her husband

passed away in an accident and she was a widow for 20 years, a period of time which she endured with great patience and forbearance. She was very kind and caring to others, her neighbors and her relatives. She always wished to help others and would be anxious to help knowing that someone was in need. There was a lady by the name sister Shakura who saw in a dream that Amatul Noor’s home was in Makkah. When she returned, she related this dream, after which she would go on to stay with Amatul Noor for 18 years. Sister Shakura was ill and bed-ridden for 8 years, during which time Amatul Noor took great care of her. Huzoor said that he himself saw how she cared for sister Shakura, and she

even brought her in a wheelchair to meet him when he was visiting the United States. She would propagate the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat with love and affection. She was an excellent example for women, young and old alike. Huzoor prayed that may her children continue her virtuous deeds and always remain attached with Khilafat. Huzoor said that she was extremely attached to Khilafat and presented herself with great respect and humility before him. Huzoor prayed that may Allah treat the deceased with forgiveness and mercy and elevate her station in Paradise. (Friday Sermon 25 June 2021, London, UK)

Sahibzada Mahdi Latif

Sahibzada Mahdi Latif of USA. He was the grandson of Sahibzada ‘Abd-ul-Latif Shaheed. He had studied the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) in great

depth. He was regular in offering Prayers as well as voluntary Prayers. He loved Khilafat a great deal. He was humble and had a great passion for propagating the faith. Huzoor

prayed that may Allah treat him with forgiveness and bestow His mercy and elevate his station in Paradise. (Friday Sermon 9 July 2021, London, UK)

Sahibzada Farhan Latif

Sahibzada Farhan Latif of Chicago, who was the great-grandson of Hazrat Sahibzada ‘Abd-ul-Latif Shaheed (may Allah be pleased with him). He was always

ready to render his services. He is survived by three children and his parents. He was 45 years of age at the time of his demise. His Huzoor prayed that Allah Almighty grant

him mercy and forgiveness and enable his children to remain firmly attached to the Community. (Friday Sermon 20 August 2021, London, UK)

Zubaidah Begum wife of Karim Ahmad Naeem

Zubaidah Begum wife of Karim Ahmad Naeem from USA. She was devoted to Khilafat and possessed many virtuous qualities. She is survived by three sons and two daughters. One of her sons is the

Chairman of Humanity First USA. She treated everyone with love and affection. She was kind to the poor and took care of family members. She was always mindful of her monetary contributions. Huzoor

prayed that may Allah treat her with forgiveness and mercy and enable her progeny to adopt her virtuous qualities. (Friday Sermon 22 October 2021, London, UK)

Dr Mirza Nubair Ahmad and Aisha Amber Syed

Dr Mirza Nubair Ahmad and Aisha Amber Syed both of whom passed away in an accident in

Milwaukee, USA. Dr Mirza Nubair Ahmad was a Musi and serving as the local Qaid Majlis. Of the

members in the local community, he had presented the largest donation for purchasing a property for a new

mosque. He is survived by His parents, a sister and two brothers.

Aisha Amber Syed was the sister of a missionary in Japan, Syed Ibrahim. She too passed away two days after her husband due to the same accident. She was an active

member of MTA International and would translate the Friday Sermon into Japanese. She is survived by her parents, three brothers and a sister. She helped her brother in his Jamā'at work, and was an excellent translator. She had a diary in which she wrote about two things, her

worldly life, and her spiritual life. She would propagate the message of Islam to her friends. Huzoor prayed that may Allah treat both with forgiveness and mercy and elevate their station. (Friday Sermon 12 November 2021, London, UK)

Qanita Zafar wife of Dr Ahsanullah Zafar

Qanita Zafar, wife of Ahsanullah Zafar, former Amir of the USA Jamā'at. She passed away in a car accident. She possessed many great qualities. She was very loyal to

Khilafat and had a great deal of love for the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and the Promised Messiah (peace be on him). She is survived by her husband

and two daughters. Despite being a PhD, she was extremely humble. She always ensured that the mosque remained clean. (Friday Sermon 17 December 2021, London, UK)

Nusrat Khanum wife of Agha Muhammad Abd-Allah Khan

Khalifatul-Masih V led funeral in absentia of Nusrat Khanum wife of Agha Muhammad Abd-Allah Khan (Marhoom) (America). She passed away on 29 October 2021. Inna Lillāhi wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'oon.

She belonged to a respectable, famous Iranian tribe Bukhtiar. She served Nawab Shah, Sind, Pakistan for 9 years as Sadr Lajna. She was a sympathetic, pious, hospitable, jolly lady who was regular in Tahajjud

Prayer. She was Musiyya. She left behind seven sons and three daughters. She was mother of Hidayyat Ahmad Khan of Washington. (Al-Fazl Online 6 January 2022)

Syed Waqar Ahmad

Khalifatul-Masih V led funeral Prayer in absentia of Syed Waqar Ahmad of USA on 28 January 2022. He said, "He passed away on 17 January due to a heart attack. His wife is the great maternal granddaughter of Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) and the great paternal granddaughter of Mirza Sharif Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with

him). He was an exemplary husband and father and led a selfless and simple life. He would say that when he went to the mosque, he would repeat his oath. He himself observed, that even when faced with a great trial, he maintained his oath of giving precedence to the faith over worldly matters. He was always obedient to Khilafat. His son Syed Adil Ahmed is a missionary, and also

echoes that his father lived a simple life and gave precedence to his family's needs over his own. He possessed many virtuous qualities. Huzoor prayed that may Allah, the Almighty treat him with forgiveness and mercy and enable his children to carry on these virtues. (Friday Sermon 28 January 2022, London, UK)

Amatul Latif Khurshid

Khalifatul-Masih V said that he would lead the funeral Prayers of Amatul Latif Khurshid who resided in Canada, and was the wife of the late Sheikh Khurshid Ahmad, the Assistant Editor of Al-Fazl Rabwah. She is survived by three sons and two daughters. One of her grandsons, Waqas Khurshid is a missionary in the United States of America. Huzoor said that the entire family is very scholarly. She served the Community in various capacities, in Qadian, Rabwah and in Canada. She taught all of her children that if

anything is ever said against the Community or Khilafat, then they should never listen to it, and even if they do come to hear it, they should never repeat such things. She possessed a great deal of knowledge and would also render great assistance to families migrating to Canada. She had a great deal of love for Khilafat and enjoined her children to always pray for the Caliph. She was also able to teach many children the correct recitation of the Holy Qur'an. She would often tell stories about the history of the

Community, thus teaching the newer generation of its history. She taught her progeny how to safeguard their faith whilst living in the Western society. Huzoor said that she was an example of how to raise and protect our future generations living in the West, whilst saving them from any sort of inferiority complex. Khalifatul-Masih V prayed that may Allah the Almighty treat her with forgiveness and mercy and enable her progeny to carry on her virtuous qualities. (Friday Sermon 11 February 2022, London, UK)

Chaudhry Aziz Ahmad Vance son of Chaudhry Nazir Ahmad Vance of Dallas

Khalifatul-Masih V led funeral in absentia of Chaudhry Aziz Ahmad

Vance, son of Chaudhry Nazir Ahmad Vance of Dallas, USA. He

passed away in February 2022 at the age of 90 years. Inna Lillāhi wa Inna

Ilaahi Raji'oon. He served in Furqan Force. He went to the United States in 1981 where he served as Qadi and nazim Dar-ul-Qada USA. He was particular in recitation of the Holy Qur'an and study of the books of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on

him). He had a melodious voice and remembered thousands of verses. His life revolved around Prayers and the Holy Qur'an. He was hospitable and had great love for Ahmadiyya Khilafat. He was noble person and trained his progeny very well. He

enjoyed hunting and was a skilled marksman. He represented Pakistan in the Olympics. He was a Musi. He left behind two sons and three daughters. (Al-Fazl Online 14 March 2022)

Muhammad Bashir Ahmad Shad

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V led funeral Prayer in absentia of Muhammad Bashir Shad of USA on Friday, April 1, 2022. Huzoor said,

“Muhammad Bashir Shad who was a retired missionary residing in the USA. He served as a missionary in Pakistan, Sierra Leone (where he also established a printing press),

Nigeria and Benin. Once while the Third Caliph (may Allah shower His mercy on him) was visiting Africa, Muhammad Bashir Shad presented him with a gift of a hundred new Ahmadis. When the Fourth Caliph (may Allah shower His mercy on him) was about to migrate from Pakistan, Muhammad Bashir Shad was the one who delivered the Friday

sermon in the presence of Khalifatul-Masih IV. He is survived by his wife, a son and four daughters. I pray that may Allah the Almighty grant His forgiveness and mercy and enable his children to remain attached to the Jamā'at and Khilafat.” (From summary of 1 April 2022, Friday Sermons of Khalifatul-Masih V)

National Office Holders

National Officers 1948

Following National secretaries were elected.

1. Rashid Ahmad (Chicago), Secretary Tabligh (Preaching)
2. Ahmad Shaheed (Pittsburgh), Secretary Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat
3. Aliyah Ali (Indianapolis), Financial Secretary
4. Ms. Abdul Latif (Dayton), Secretary Social Service

(Daily Al-Fazl, Rabwah, 25 September 1948, p. 5)

National Officers 1950

Ahmad Saeed, St. Louis, Propagation (Tabligh)
 Ahmad Shaheed, Pittsburgh, Education
 Abdul-Qadir, St. Louis, Finance Secretary
 Aliyyah Shaheed, Pittsburgh, Cooperative Society
 Maryam Sadiq, New York, Social Secretary
 Basheer Afzal, Cemetery Arrangements

National Officers 1951

Muhammad Rafi, New York, Education
 Basheer Afzal, New York, Cemetery
 Maryam Sadiq, New York, Social
 Amatul Latif, Dayton OH, Muslim Sunrise
 Ahmad Shaheed, Pittsburgh, Financial

Aliyyah Shaeed, Pittsburgh, Cooperative Committee

Lateefa Kareem, Dayton OH, Washington Mosque

Lateefa Kareem, Dayton OH, New Scheme (Tahrik Jadid)

Ghulam Ullah Choudhry, Lansing MI, Literature Circulation

Abdul Qadir, St. Louis, Tabligh

National Officers 1956

Muhammad Sadiq, Secretary Tabligh

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, 1956, First Quarter, pp. 8-9)

Administration 1983-1986

The current administrative body for the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at is the Managing Committee which has the following members:

1. Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Amīr and Missionary in-Charge
2. Mufti Ahmad Sadiq, Missionary
3. Mirza Muhammad Afzal, Missionary
4. Munir Ahmad Chaudhary, Missionary
5. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, National President
6. Mubasher Ahmad, General Secretary
7. Abdul Khaliq Raja, Finance Secretary
8. Munir Hamid, Secretary Tabligh (Preaching)
9. Abid Haneef, Secretary Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat

10. Falahud Dīn Shams, Secretary Tajneed
11. Rashid Ahmad, Secretary Public Relations
12. Munawar A. Saeed, Secretary Rishta Nata
13. Mir Daud Ahmad, Secretary Properties

The members of Finance Committee are:

14. Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Chairman
15. Abdul Khaliq Raja, Secretary
16. Mubasher Ahmad, General Secretary
17. Mufti Ahmad Sadiq
18. Falahud Din Shams

The following are appointed Auditors:

19. Munawar A, Saeed, Central Region
20. Dr. Karimullah Zirvi, Northeast Region
21. Muhammad Azim Qureshi, Southeast Region
22. Sher Ali Basharat, Great Lakes and MO
23. Muhammad Arshad Chaudhry, Midwest Region
24. Ramzan Ali Mahmud, West Coast Region

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1983, p. 19)

Management Committee 1983-1986

Following are the Office holders of the management committee of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association USA

Alhaj Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, National President

Mr. Mubasher Ahmad, General Secretary

Mr. Abdul Khaliq Raja, Secretary Finance

Mr. Kaleemullah Khan, Additional Secretary
Finance

Mr. Munir Hamid, Secretary Preaching

Mr. Abid Haneef, Secretary Education and Training

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, January 1983, p. 13)

National Officers 1986-1989

The General Council of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, USA, held its annual meeting at Bait-uz-Zafar in New York on 15-16 November 1986. The meeting was chaired by Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, the Amir and Muballigh In-charge. Following National Secretaries presented reports.

1. Dr. Masud Ahmad Malik, Tabligh
2. Dr. A.M. Shamim Ahmad, Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat
3. Ch. Allah Baksh, Social Services
4. Mr. Rashid Ahmad, Rishta Nata

5. Dr. Syed Abdul Majid Shah, Finance
6. Ch. Mohammad Riaz Saifi, Wasaya
7. Mr. Mubashar Ahmad, General
8. Dr. Mir Daud Ahmad, Property (He was out of country. His report was read by the secretary)
9. Raja Abdul Khaliq, Internal Audit
(The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, December 1986, pp. 4-6)

National Officers 1989-1992

From Majlis Shura 1990, the following national officers presented annual reports or read Shura proceedings of last year (1989).

1. Dr. Masud Ahmad Malik, General Secretary
2. Mr. Mubarik Ahmad Malik, Finance Secretary

National Officers 1992-1995

Mr. M.M. Ahmad, Amīr

Dr. Muzaffar A. Zafr, Na'ib Amīr

Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Na'ib Amīr

Dr. Masoud A. Malik, General Secretary

Mr. Kalim Ullah Khan, Asstt. General Secretary

Mr. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tabligh

Br. Munir Hamid, Asstt. Secretary Tabligh

Dr. Khalil Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
(Religious Training)

Br. Abid Haneef, Secretary Ta'lim (Education)

Dr. Fazal Ahmad, Secretary Ishā'at (Publication)

Dr. Abdul Hakim Nasir, Secretary Ishā'at Sam'i
Basari (Audio-Video)

Maulana Attaullah Kaleem, Secretary Rishta Nata
(Matrimonial)

Al-Haj Dhul Waqar Yaqub, Secretary Umur-e-
Kharija (Public Relation)

Mr. Allah Bakhsh Chaudry, Secretary Umur-e-
'Amma (Social Services)

Mr. Rashid Ahmad, Asstt. Secretary Umur-e-'Amma
(Human Services/Khidmat-e-Khalq)

Mr. Mubarik A. Malik, Secretary Maal (Finance)

Syed Shoaib Ahmad, Additional Secretary Finance

Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Additional Secretary
Finance

Dr. Syed Abdul Majid, Secretary Wasaya (Will)

Mr. Falahud Din Shams, Secretary Tahrik Jadid

Mr. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid

Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Secretary Mosque Fund and Africa/India Fund

Athar Bashir Malik, Secretary Tajneed (Census)

Dr. Hamid ur Rahman, Trustee

Br. Abid Haneef, Trustee

Br. Rashid Ahmad, Trustee

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, August-October 1992, p. 20)

National Officers 1995-1998

1. Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad (Washington), Amīr
 2. Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr (Dayton), Na'ib Amīr
 3. Dr. Ahsan Zafar (Willingboro), Na'ib Amīr
 4. Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman (Los Angeles), Trustee
 5. Brother Abid Haneef (Boston), Trustee
 6. Brother Rashid Ahmad (Milwaukee), Trustee
 7. Mr. Masoud Ahmad Malik, General Secretary
 8. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tabligh
 9. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
 10. Mubarak Ahmad Malik, Secretary Finance
 11. Munawar Ahmad Saeed, Secretary Ta'lim
 12. Dr. Khalil Mahmood Malik, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
 13. Abdul Shakoor Ahmad, Secretary Umur-e-Kharija
 14. Syed Ghulam Ahmad Farukh, Secretary Wasāya
 15. Falahud Dīn Shams, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
 16. Dr. Waseem Ahmad, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
 17. Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Secretary Mosque Fund/Africa India Fund
 18. Qamar A. Shams, Secretary MTA Production
 19. Col. Fazal Ahmad, Secretary Publication
 20. Ch. Allah Baksh, Secretary Umur Amma
 21. Syed Shoaib Ahmad, Additional Secretary Finance
 22. Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa, Secretary Satellite Fund
 23. Col. Saeed Malik, Secretary Property
 24. Athar Bashir Malik, Secretary Tajneed
 25. Dr. Abdul Hakeem Nasar, Secretary Audio Video
 26. Aftab Ahmad Bimal, Secretary Rishta Nata
- (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, August 1995, p. 23)

National Officers 1998-2001

Amīr: Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad

Na'ib Amīr: Dr. Ahsan Zafar

Na'ib Amīr: Munir Hamid

Trustee: Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman

Trustee: Rashid Ahmad

Trustee: Abid Haneef

Missionary: Daud Ahmed Hanif

Missionary: Inamul Haq Kauser

Missionary: Zafar Ahmad Sarwar

Missionary: Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema

Missionary: Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir

Missionary: Mubasher Ahmad

Missionary: Azhar Haneef

Missionary: Mirza Mahmud Ahmad

Missionary: Bilal A Salaam

Devotee Headquarters: Dr. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa

Secretary Mosque and Africa/India Fund

General Secretary, Masoud Ahmed Malik

Asst. General Secretary: Kalimullah Khan

Secretary Tabligh: Answer Mahmood Khan

Add. Secretary Tabligh: Ali Murtaza

Add. Secretary Tabligh: Dhul Waqar Yaqub

Add. Secretary Tabligh: Abdur R. Wali Rashid

Secretary Tarbiyat: Nasir Mahmood Malik

Add. Secretary Tarbiyat: Abdul Karim

Add. Secretary Tarbiyat: Asim Zaki Bashir-ud-Din

Secretary Ta'lim: Munawar A. Saeed

Secretary Finance: Mubarik Ahmad Malik

Additional Secretary Finance: Syed Shoaib Ahmad

Additional Audio-Video Secretary: Dr. Nasim Rehmatalullah

Secretary Satellite Fund: Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa

Secretary Tahrik-i-Jadid: Falahud Din Shams

Secretary Waqf-i-Jadid: Dr. Syed Waseem Ahmad

Secretary Wasaya: Syed Ghulam Ahmad Farrukh

Secretary Public Relations: Abdul Shukoor Ahmad

Secretary Rishta Nata: Aftab Ahmad Bismil

Secretary Social Services (Umur-e-'Amma): Dr. Mirza Amin Baig

Secretary Publication: Dr. Lt. Col. Fazal Ahmad

Secretary Property: Lt. Col. Saied A. Malik

Secretary Audio and Satellite Dish: Dr. Abdul Hakeem Nasar

Secretary Tejneed and I/C Computer: Athar Bashir Malik

Secretary Waqf-i-Nau: Dr. Khalil Mahmood Malik

Secretary MTA International Production: Peer Habibullah

Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya: Munum A Naeem

Sadr Ansarullah: Dr. Karimullah Zirvi

National Officers 2001-2004

1. Mr. M.M. Ahmad, Amīr
2. Masoud A. Malik, General Secretary
3. Mubarik A. Malik, Secretary Finance
4. Brother Ali Murtaza, Secretary Preaching
5. Karim U Zirvi, Secretary Education
6. Nasir M. Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
7. Munawar Saeed, Secretary Umur-e-‘Amma
8. Amjad Choudhry, Secretary Hospitality
9. Anwer M. Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
10. Nasim Rehmatullah, Secretary Sam‘i Basari
11. Brother Hasan Hakeem, Secretary Ishā‘at
12. Mir Daud Ahmad, Secretary Property
13. Hafiz Sami Ullah, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
14. Mirza Kaleem Ahmad, Secretary Wasaya
15. Waseem Syed, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
16. Zinda Mahmood Bajwa, Secretary Umur-e-Khārijīyya
17. Syed Shoaib Ahmad, Auditor (Internal)

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, July-August 2001, p. 54)

National Officers 2004-2007

1. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amīr
2. Mr. Masoud Ahmad Malik, General Secretary
3. Mubarak Ahmad Malik, Secretary Maal (Finance)
4. Haji Dhul Waqar Yaqub, Additional Secretary Maal (Finance)
5. Ali Murtaza, Secretary Tabligh
6. Karimullah Zirvi, Secretary Ta‘lim
7. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
8. Munawar Saeed, Secretary Umur-e-‘Amma
9. Amjad Chaudhry, Secretary Ziyafat
10. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
11. Nasim Rehmatullah, Secretary Sam‘i wa Basari
12. Hasan Hakeem, Secretary Ishā‘at
13. Sardar Hifazat Ahmad, Secretary Ja‘idad

14. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
 15. Mirza Kaleem Ahmad, Secretary Wasāya
 16. Waseem Ahmad Syed, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
 17. Bilal Abdus Salam, Additional Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
 18. Zinda Mahmud Bajwa, Secretary Umur-e-Kharija
 19. Falah-ud-Din Shams, Auditor (Internal)
 20. Khurram Fuaad Ahmad, Secretary San‘at-o-Tijarat
 21. Mirza Ahsan Naseer Ahmad, Muhasib
 22. Shafaat Faisal Khan, Amin
- (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, July-August 2004, p. 48)

National Officers 2007-2010

1. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amīr
2. Mr. Masoud Ahmad Malik, General Secretary
3. Ali Murtaza, Secretary Tabligh
4. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
5. Dr. Khalil M Malik, Secretary Ta‘lim (Education)
6. Hasan Hakeem, Secretary Ishā‘at
7. Zinda Mahmood Bajwa, Secretary Umur-e-Kharija (External Affairs/Public Relations)
8. Shahid Saied Malik, Secretary Umur-e-‘Amma (General Affairs)
9. Dr. Amjad M Chaudhry, Secretary Dīyāfat (Hospitality)
10. Mir Daud Ahmad, Secretary Ja‘idad (Properties)
11. Khurram Fuaad Ahmad, Secretary San‘at-o-Tijarat (Industry, Trade and Employment)
12. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
13. Dr. Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasāya (Wills)
14. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
15. Waseem Ahmad Syed, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
16. Dr. Basiyr Rodney, Additional Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid (For new Ahmadis)
17. Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad, Secretary Maal (Finance)
18. Haji Dhul Waqar Yaqub, Additional Secretary Maal (Finance)
19. Dr. Zaheedruddin Mansoor Ahmad, Ta‘lim-ul-Qur‘an and Waqf-e-Aridi
20. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Secretary Ishā‘at Sam‘i

wa Basari (Audio and video)

21. Khurram Bashir, Muhasib (Accountant)
 22. Shafaat Faisal Ahmad Khan, Amin (Treasurer)
 23. Falah-ud-Din Shams, Auditor (Internal)
- (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, July-August 2007, p. 73)

Na'ib Amīrs 2007-2010

1. Munir Hamid, Philadelphia
2. Hamidur Rahman, Los Angles
3. Nasim Rehmatullah, Cleveland
4. Munum Naeem, Houston
5. Zinda Mahmud Bajwa, New York
6. Daud Hanif, Silver Spring
7. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa, Washington D.C.
8. Wasim Malik, San Jose

National Officers 2010-2013

1. Dr. Ahsan Ullah Zafar, Amīr
2. Naseem Mahdi, Missionary in-Charge and Na'ib Amīr
3. Azhar Haneef, Na'ib Amīr, Missionary Central East
4. Daud Ahmad Hanif, Na'ib Amīr, Missionary NY, in-Charge US and French Block Counties
5. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Na'ib Amīr and Secretary Sam'i wa Basari (Audio-Video and MTA)
6. Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman, Na'ib Amīr and Trustee
7. Munum A. Naeem, Na'ib Amīr and President Humanity First
8. Wasim Ahmad Malik, Na'ib Amīr and President Silicon Valley
9. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa, Na'ib Amīr and Missionary Headquarters
10. Inamul Haq Kauser, Missionary Midwest Region
11. Zafar Ahmad Sarwar, Missionary Upper Northwest
12. Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir, Missionary Southwest
13. Mubasher Ahmad, Missionary Northwest
14. Irshad Ahmad Malhi, Missionary East Midwest Region
15. Muhammad Zafarullah Hanjra, Missionary South

16. Yahya Ahmed Luqman, Missionary Southeast
 17. Muhammad Saeed, Missionary Florida and US and French Block Counties
 18. Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi, Missionary HQ and in-Charge Bait-ur-Rahman
 19. Masoud Ahmad Malik, General Secretary
 20. Ali Murtaza, Secretary Tabligh
 21. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Tarbiyat
 22. Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi, Secretary Education and Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya
 23. Hasan Hakeem Secretary Publication
 24. Dr. Farooq Ahmad Paddar, Secretary Rishta Nata
 25. Amjad Mahmood Khan, Secretary Public Relations and President Ahmadiyya Muslim Lawyers Association
 26. Shahid Saied Malik, Secretary Social Affairs
 27. Dr. Muhammad Amjad Chaudhry, Secretary Dīyāfat (Hospitality)
 28. Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad, Secretary Finance
 29. Alhaj Dhul Waqar Yaqub, Additional Finance Secretary
 30. Dr. Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasāya
 31. Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad, Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi
 32. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
 33. Waseem Ahmad Syed, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
 34. Abu Bakr, Additional Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid (New Ahmadi)
 35. Mir Daud Ahmad, Secretary Ja'idad (Properties)
 36. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
 37. Chaudhry Mujeebullah, Secretary Agriculture
 38. Khurram Fuaad Ahmad, Secretary San'at-o-Tijarat
 39. Khurram Bashir, Muhasib
 40. Bashir Ahmad Malik, Amin (Treasurer)
 41. Falah-ud-Din Shams, Auditor (Internal)
 42. Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa, Sadr Ansarullah
- (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, August-September 2010, p. 80)

National Officers 2013-2016

1. Dr. Ahsan Ullah Zafar, Amīr
2. Dr. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa, General Secretary
3. Hassan Hakeem, Secretary Tabligh

4. Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi, Secretary Tarbiyat
5. Nasir Mahmood Malik, Secretary Ta'lim (Education)
6. Syed Sajid Ahmad, Secretary Ishā'at (Publication)
7. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Secretary Ishā'at Sam'i wa Basari (Audio and video)
8. Amjad Mahmood Khan, Secretary Umur-e-Kharija (Public Affairs)
9. Shahid Saied Malik, Secretary Umur-e-'Ammā (Social Affairs)
10. Dr. Muhammad Amjad Chaudhry, Secretary Diyāfat (Hospitality)
11. Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad, Secretary Finance
12. Saad Ahmad Mian, Additional Secretary Maal (Finance)
13. Dr. Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasāya (Wills)
14. Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad, Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi
15. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
16. Waseem Ahmad Syed, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
17. Abu Bakr, Additional Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
18. Dr. Mir Daud Ahmad, Secretary Properties
19. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
20. Nasir Saeed Malik, Secretary Agriculture
21. Faysal Adeel Sohail, Secretary Industry and Trade
22. Khurram Bashir, Muhasib (Accountant)
23. Bashir Ahmad Malik, Amin (Treasurer)
24. Falah-ud-Din Shams, National Auditor
(The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, July 2013, p. 43)

National Officers 2016-2019

1. Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, Amīr
2. Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa, General Secretary
3. Dr. Waseem Syed, Secretary Tabligh
4. Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi, Secretary Tarbiyat
5. Dr. Atif Mian, Secretary Education
6. Syed Sajid Ahmad, Secretary Publication
7. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Sec. Ishā'at Sam'i Basari
8. Amjad Mahmood Khan, Secretary Umur Khārijīyya
9. Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi, Secretary Umur-e-'Ammā

10. Dr. Amjad Chaudhry, Secretary Hospitality
11. Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad, Secretary Finance
12. Saad Mian, Additional Secretary Finance
13. Dr. Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasaya
14. Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad, Secretary Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi
15. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
16. Nasrullah Ahmad, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
17. Raheem Latif, Additional Secretary Tarbiyat and WJ (Nau Muba'ī'in)
18. Rafiq Ahmad Syed, Secretary Property
19. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
20. Jason Elsea, Secretary Agriculture
21. Abdul Hadi Ahmed, Secretary Industry and Trade
22. Muhammad Owusu, Muhasib
23. Bashir Malik, Treasurer
24. Abu Bakr Bin Saeed, Internal Audit
(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July-August 2016, p. 49)

National Officers 2019-2022

1. Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad, Amīr
2. Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi, General Secretary
3. Dr. Waseem Syed, Secretary Tabligh
4. Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi, Secretary Tarbiyat (Religious Training)
5. Dr. Atif Mian, Secretary Education
6. Syed Sajid Ahmad, Secretary Publication
7. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Secretary Ishā'at Sam'i Basari
8. Amjad Mahmood Khan, Secretary Umur Khārijīyya
9. Bilal Ahmad Rana, Secretary Umur-e-'Ammā (General Affairs)
10. Dr. Amjad Chaudhry, Secretary Hospitality
11. Talha Ahmad Chaudhry, Secretary Finance
12. Nasir Mahmood Ahmed, Add. Secretary Finance
13. Dr. Khaled Ahmad Ata, Secretary Wasaya
14. Mubarak Bola Kukoyi, Secretary Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi
15. Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Tahrik Jadid
16. Nasrullah Ahmad, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid
17. Abdur Raheem Latif, Additional Secretary

- Tarbiyat and WJ (New Ahmadis)
18. Rafiq Ahmad Syed, Secretary Property
19. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhry, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau
20. Jason Leonard Elsea, Secretary Agriculture
21. Mobashir Ahmed, Secretary Industry and Trade
22. Muhammad Owusu, Muhasib
23. Bashir Ahmad Malik, Treasurer
24. Aftab Jamil, Internal Audit
- (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, July-August 2016, p. 49)

National Amila Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA—2022-2025

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) has graciously approved the USA Jamā'at National Amila for 2022-2025 term.

Amir.....	Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad
General Secretary	Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi
Secretary Tabligh.....	Waseem Ahmad Sayed
Secretary Ta'lim	Atif Rehman Mian
Secretary Tarbiyat	Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi
Secretary Umoor-e-Kharija	Amjad Mahmood Khan
Secretary Isha'at Sami' wa Basari.....	Faheem Pall
Secretary 'Umūr 'Ammā	Bilal Rana
Secretary Diyāfat	Mohammad Amjad Chaudhry
Secretary Mal	Talha Ahmad Chaudhry
Additional Secretary Mal	Nasir Mehmood Ahmad
Secretary Wasaya.....	Khaled Ahmad 'Ata
Secretary Ta'limul Qur'ān & Waqf 'Ardi.....	Hafiz Mubarak Bola Kukoyi
Secretary Tahrik Jadid	Anwer Mahmood Khan
Secretary Waqf Jadid	Nasirullah Ahmad
Add. Secretary Tarbiyat and Waqf Jadid Nau Muba'in	Junayd Latif
Secretary Ja'idad	Niaz Butt
Secretary Waqf Nau.....	Mirza Harris Ahmad
Secretary Zara'at.....	Shoukat Pervaiz Choudhry
Secretary San'at-o-Tijarat	Mujeeb Ijaz
Muhasib	Muhammad Owusu
Amin	Bashir Ahmad Malik
Internal Audit	Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad

(Ahmadiyya Gazette Online USA, July 2022)

Na'ib Umara from 2019-2025

Azhar Hanif (Missionary in charge)

Masood Malik

Nasim Rehmatullah

Hameed-ur-Rehman

Falah-ud-Din Shams

Waseem Malik

Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi

Appellate Qaḍā Board



Members of the Qada Board USA with Khalifatul-Masih V

Seated: Falah Shams, Missionary Dr. Zaheer Bajwa, Missionary Mubasher Ahmad, Mubarik Malik (Nazim Dar-ul-Qada), Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad (Amir USA), Khalifatul-Masih V, Aṭāul Qudus Malik (Chairman Qada Board), Missionary Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir, Mobashir Ahmad Khan, Qasim Rasheed, Syed Sajid Ahmad

Standing: Saleem Bhatti, Usman Nasir Chaudhary, Mujeeb, Missionary Salman Tariq, Missionary Adnan Ahmad Bhalli, Dr. Rashid Warriach, Missionary Yahya Luqman, Bashir Shams, Kalimullah Khan

In the U.S., Dar-ul-Qaḍā was first established by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV during the Imarat of Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad in 1984. Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad (1984-1990) was appointed as the first Sadr of Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA. Dr. Laeeq Ahmad was its second Sadr and he served from 1990 till 2001. Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad served as the third Sadr of Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA. He was the longest serving Sadr of Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA and he served from 2001 till 2016. Aṭāul Qudus Malik is serving as its current President and Mubarik Ahmad Malik Nazim.

Appellate Qaḍā Board 2016-19

No.	Name	Region	Jamā'at	Qaḍā Board Assignment
	Aṭāul Quddus Malik	Headquarter	Central Virginia	Chairman
	Mubarik Ahmad Malik	Headquarter	Silver Spring	Nāzim
1.	Falahud Din Shams	Headquarter	Silver Spring	Member
2.	Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa	Headquarter	Devotee Washington D.C.	Member
3.	Mobashir Ahmed	Headquarter	Silver Spring	Member
4.	Karim Ullah Zirvi	North East	North Jersey	Member
5.	Qasim Rashid	South East	Southern Virginia	Member
6.	Mubasher Ahmad	South	Muballigh Houston	Member
7.	Shamshad A. Nasir Syed	West Mid-West	Muballigh Chicago	Member
8.	Dr. Abdul Waheed Khan	West Mid-West	Chicago SW	Member
9.	Syed Sajid Ahmad	Mid-West	St. Paul	Member
10.	Saif-ur-Rahman	Southwest	Los Angeles East	Member

Qadi Awwals USA (Term 2016-19)

Name	Region	Jamā'at
Mubarik Ahmad Malik	Headquarter	Silver Spring
Mujibur Rahman Malik	Headquarter	Northern Virginia
Usman Nasir Choudhary	Headquarter	Central Virginia

Kalim Ullah Khan	Headquarter	Laurel
Noorudin Mahmood Ahmad	Headquarter	Washington D.C.
Bashir-ud-Din Shams	Headquarter	Silver Spring
Salaam Bhatti	Northeast	New York
Adnan Ahmed	Muballigh	Pittsburgh
Mahmood Ahmad	Southeast	Georgia/North Carolina
Yahya Ahmed Luqman	Muballigh	Dayton
Imran Tahir	Mid-West	Detroit
Dhul Waqar Yaqub	West Mid-West	Milwaukee
Salman Tariq	Muballigh	St. Louis
Rashid Waraich	Northwest	San Jose
Dr. Ataul Karim	Northwest	Seattle
Chaudhary Abdul Ahad Khan	Southwest	Los Angeles East
Muhammad Munir	Southwest	Los Angeles Inland
Asim Ahmad Ansari	Southwest	Los Angeles Inland
Abdul Latif	South	Dallas
Miān Noman Yousef	South	Houston North

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 2016, p. 58)

Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad

First Sadr Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA (1984-1990)

Dr. Laeeq Ahmad

Second Sadr Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA (1990-2001)



Dr. Laeeq Ahmad is a Thoracic Surgeon. [Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 165 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

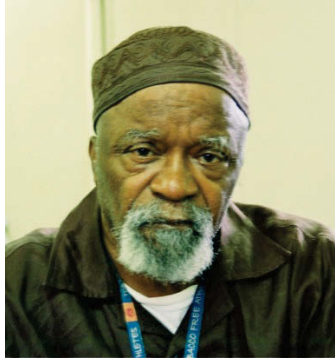
Sahibzada Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad

Third Sadr Dar-ul-Qaḍā USA (2001-2016)

Biography provided earlier.

National Officers

Ahmad Shaheed



National Secretary Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat 1948, President Pittsburgh 1930s.

It was 1934, Ella Louise Lynn, and her fiancé, William Frank Browning, were members of the African Methodist Church and were planning their wedding when

Ahmadiyyat was introduced to their Pittsburgh community. Suddenly, his parents, who had just accepted Ahmadiyyat, were proselytizing to their son. Attracted to new faith, he begged her to attend an Ahmadiyya meeting with him. “He was so enthused,” she says, “but I just could not go. I could tell he would soon accept Ahmadiyyat.” Aliyyah was a Christian and her family was adamant that she remains one.

William Browning formally accepted Ahmadiyyat and took the name Ahmad Shaheed. The couple decided to marry in 1935, despite their religious differences, promising to respect each other's

faiths. Years later, Ahmad Shaheed became an outstanding President of the Pittsburgh Jamā'at and an influential figure nationally (Personal file of Syed Jawad Ali Shah 1959, p. 28). The couple would have one son, Omar Shaheed who also became the president of the Pittsburgh Jamā'at, continuing the tradition of service to the Jamā'at set by his parents.

Majlis Ansarullah was formed at the Twelfth Annual Convention of US held in Chicago on 5-6 September 1959. First President was Ahmad Shaheed of Pittsburgh and Secretary Muhammad Sadiq of New York (Personal file of Syed Jawad Ali Shah 1959, p. 28)

Aliyyah Ali (Indianapolis)

National Finance Secretary 1948. Please see details in Lajna Officeholders section.

Ms. Abdul Latif (Dayton)

National Secretary Social Service 1948

Syed Abdur Rahman



President Ansar 1962

Aliyya Shaheed

National General Secretary, Secretary Education, Secretary Finance, National President Lajna Ima'illah (1963 and 1972. Please see details in Lajna office holders' section.

Lubna Razia Ijaz

National Secretary Education and General Secretary (1963-9), President Lajna Ima'illah (1969-71), Solar Scientist. Please see details in Lajna office holders' section.

Munir Hamid



Munir Hamid was not only an iconic figure within the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community but also a selfless leader within the greater Philadelphia community, and his loss will be felt by Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis alike.



Born June 1, 1938, Munir Hamid grew up in Pennsylvania as the only one of ten children to embrace Islam, and that too at the tender age of 15. All his life he committed himself to the cause of spreading the Islamic message of

love, peace, tolerance, and spirituality. After serving in the United States Air Force Munir Hamid returned to Philadelphia. For twenty-five years, he worked as a supervisor at a facility owned by Temple University, where he was dedicated to helping at-risk children. He states:

“My first introduction was around 1954 or 1955. My sister was in the singing group called the Capris. She met Lynn Hope, and he was a Sunni Muslim and a saxophone player who was very well known and had several albums out. He would wear a turban and say, “As-Salaam ‘Alaikum.” He had some moral qualities the other musicians didn’t have. I became interested and started to read as much literature as I could. I was fifteen years old. I met a friend. Instead of hustling money, he gave me a book to read, *Our Promised Messiah*. He was having a meeting in his house in West Philadelphia on Hobart Avenue. The Ahmadi missionaries, Nur Haq-Anwar and Muhammad Sadiq were teaching a bunch of brothers in Philadelphia. The rituals made an impression on me so that when I went home, I decided to become Muslim. But I hesitated.

In Washington, D.C., I was stationed on Andrews Air Force Base. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, the Ahmadi missionary, invited me to come out for Friday Jum‘a, 1955—I

was in Washington, D.C. (1950s), sixteen. I converted then.”

In 1969 he was appointed the first national Sadr Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA, where he was instrumental in establishing the first ever leadership committee for the Ahmadiyya youth. He served as the President of the local Philadelphia Chapter for twenty-four years. In 1997 he was appointed Nā’ib Amīr of USA. During his life, he toured several countries such as India, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom and attended Jalsa Salanas of many of these countries. Renowned for his ability to inspire people, he was a frequent speaker at annual conventions.

On February 27, 2009, after Friday Sermon Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta‘ālā) announced that after Friday Prayers he would lead funeral in absentia. About Munir Hamid Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta‘ālā) said: “An eminent elder Munir Hamid, an Afro-American passed away on 21 February (at the age of 70). He was an extremely sincere Ahmadi who had joined Ahmadiyyat at the age of fifteen. He was the first Qa’id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA and was the president of the Philadelphia Jamā‘at for more than thirty years. Currently he held the position of Nā’ib Amīr of USA. Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta‘ālā) said his parents were not

Muslim, his mother was a practicing Christian. From ten siblings he was the only religious one. At the time of his Bai'at the rule was to have the Bai'at form attested by a family elder. His mother refused to attest his form but acknowledged that he was the most spiritual among all her children. At that time, he also wrote to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II and said the reply he received changed the course of his life. Khalifatul-Masih V said he had met him and found him to be most courteous. His ardent love for the Holy Prophet^{saw} was such that each time

he mentioned his name he would be in tears. He had great love for the Promised Messiah and devotion to the Khulafa. Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā). said the first time he met him he was on his way to attend Jalsa at Bangladesh. On his way back to USA, he met Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā) again and said that after the Jalsa in Bangladesh and meeting with Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā). he was recharged. Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā) said he could not attend the USA Jalsa last year due to ill health. Khalifatul-

Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā). said had he known the details of his illness he would have made time to visit him at his home. He leaves behind a widow, two daughters and a son. Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā) said he was one of those people who are especially guided by Allah. (Edited from USA-Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 2008, p. 156 and African American Islamic History Exhibition)

Secretary Preaching 1983.

Falahud Din Shams



Na'ib Amīr USA, National Secretary Tajneed 1983, Tahrik Jadid (1991-8), Auditor (2004-16), Member Qada Board (2016-9), President Zion City, IL, and Editor The Muslim Sunrise.

Since 2001, the Jamā'at in the Marshall Islands had not been able to file the annual report to the government to renew the organization and the corporate filings, so the Jamā'at was then put in a situation in which it had to be re-registered and due to that re-registration new office holders were appointed and approved. The by-laws of this constituted, with approval of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, that Falah Shams would be the

national President and Inamul Haq Kauser as the Vice President, Sam Nena as the General Secretary, and Kinja Jivirak as the financial secretary.

Falah Shams made his first visit in May of 2011 and the purpose was to sign the lease for the land of the future mosque. As Falah Shams, Sam Nena and Missionary Inamul Haq Kauser were in the attorney's office to sign the lease, Senator Alik Alik happened to walk into the attorney's office at the same time. At this Missionary Kauser and Sam Nena approached Senator Alik to finally say hello and talk to him. While gone only for a short time, Missionary Kauser came back to Falah Shams and said, "Do you want to see a sign of God." He took Falah Shams to the other room where Senator Alik was seated with a pen and paper. To their surprise they discovered that he couldn't speak and was using the pen and paper to communicate. He wrote on that piece of paper, "I am normal. I just can't speak." This was a great sign indeed because it was his own mission to eliminate Islam, but Allah took away his only means and

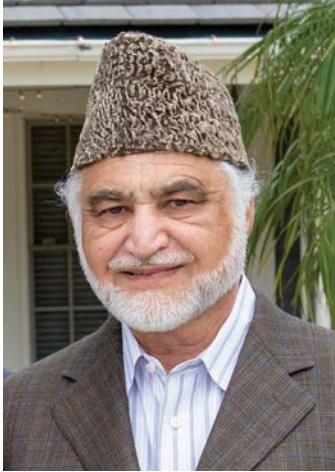
stopped the problem from its very core.

Flyer distribution is considered one of the oldest and basic tenants when distributing information among the masses. In 2011 Falah Shams also prepared various leaflets in the Marshallese language and printing them to be distributed to the general public. Many of these flyers facilitate as the basic introduction about Islam which was otherwise not possible to the many residents of these islands.

Amīr USA formed a book review committee under the chair of Respected Falah Shams. This committee has expedited the book review and approval process.

Under the guidance of Khalifatul-Masih, Amīr Jamā'at USA gave directives to start a Jamā'at in the neighboring country of FSM (Federated States of Micronesia). By the grace of Allah in September 2013, the Jamā'at was officially registered in the state of Kosrae. A mission house consisting of a Mosque and Missionary residence was built under the supervision of Falah Shams in 2014.

Hamid-ur-Rahman



Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman has been a member of the USA Jamā'at since 1976 and has been blessed to serve as the President of the Los Angeles Jamā'at from 1989 to 2013, and as National Naib Amīr USA since 1994.

He is blessed to have been born in an Ahmadi family. His paternal grandfather, Abdur Raheem Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) of Kohath, Afghanistan, together with his elder brother came to Ahmadiyyat through Hazrat Sahibzada Abdul Latif Shaheed and accepted Ahmadiyyat in the time of Hazrat Masih Mau'ūd (may peace be on him). Abdur Raheem Khan migrated to Qadian for the sake of Ahmadiyyat in 1916 with his sons Habib-ur-Rahman and Khalil-ur-Rahman, who was the father of Dr. Rahman. Dr. Rahman was born in Qadian, and later Khalil-ur-Rahman settled in Peshawar where Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman graduated from Khyber Medical College in 1968. He then trained in the UK and obtained his FRCS, Fellowship of Royal College of Surgeons, from Edinburgh, Scotland in 1975. In 1976, he married Aziza Salam, daughter of Professor Abdus Salam and moved to the USA.

Dr. Rahman completed his residency in orthopedics at the State University of New York at Stony

Brook, NY in 1981 and moved to Orange County, California the same year.

At that time, there was no mosque or mission house to serve the Los Angeles Jamā'at. Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman was appointed as Mosque Committee Chairman and with Allah Almighty's blessing and the guidance of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him), a 5-acre parcel of land was bought in Chino, California.

In 1987, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV visited Los Angeles and laid the foundation stone of the Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque. Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman continued to oversee the construction of the mosque and in 1989 Los Angeles was blessed with a second visit by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV to inaugurate the Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque. This event was attended by a large gathering of dignitaries, including Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad Amir Ahmadiyya Community, USA, Missionary in-charge Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad and local city officials.

Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman was elected as President of Los Angeles chapter in 1989 and served in this office for a period of 24 years until 2013. Al-Hamdu-Lillah during this time, the Los Angeles Jamā'at made progress and was very active in holding interfaith events, meetings, classes, etc. and the West Coast Annual Convention was held at Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque for the first time in 1990. After the formation of the LA West Jamā'at, a mission house was acquired for the use of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community living in Los Angeles in 1996.

In 1994, Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman was appointed as National Naib Amīr and in the same year, Los

Angeles Jamā'at was blessed with a third visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV. Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman has been blessed with the opportunity to host and serve Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV in his home during all these visits.

Following the fire which partially destroyed Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in 2003, Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman, as Mosque Committee chairman worked actively for the collection of funds and in planning and overseeing the reconstruction of the mosque. The mosque reopened in 2008 with the addition of a second hall for ladies, a second-floor addition with conference rooms and library, as well as a separate missionary residence with guest quarters, a Langar Khāna, basketball court and paved parking for 200 cars.

In 2013, the Los Angeles Jamā'at was honored with a visit by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) and an historic event was held at the Montage Hotel in Los Angeles where Huzoor addressed many dignitaries and officials, including the Mayor of Los Angeles and the Lieutenant Governor of California. Following Huzoor's guidance, another property, Bait-ul-Masroor Mosque, was purchased in Pico Rivera in 2018.

In addition to his service to Ahmadiyya Community, USA, Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman has been blessed with the opportunity to participate in financial contributions; including the construction of Serai Tahir guesthouse in Qadian for the service of the Jamā'at. He has also been blessed to perform Hajj and Umrah and participate in the scheme of Waṣīyyat.

Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah



Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah son of late Sheikh Rehmatullah (Amīr Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Karachi) has been residing in USA since July 4,

1975. He graduated from King Edward Medical College, Lahore, Pakistan in October 1974. He did internship from Cleveland Charity Hospital Ohio from July 1975 to June 1976 and residency at University Hospitals New Jersey July 1976 through 1981 Newark, NJ.

Day Job: He practices as Orthopedic Surgeon in private practice Conneaut, Ohio from July 1981. This practice is affiliated with University Hospitals, Conneaut Medical Center.

Jamā'at Cleveland, Ohio: He is

serving Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA as President Cleveland Chapter from 1987 till today. He was Assistant National Finance secretary during period 1992-1994 and President Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association during 1992-2003. He is in-Charge alislam.org 1995 to present; National Audio-Video Secretary 1995 to present and Na'ib Amīr USA 2003 to present. He is also in-Charge Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA Media, and Social Media Communications 2008 to present.

Munum Naeem



Na'ib Amīr (2004-2017), Sadr MKA USA (1994-1999), Executive Director Humanity First USA (2003-Present), Afsar Khidmat Khalq (1997-1999), Presidents Houston (1994-2004), Chicago Southwest (2013-2016)

Munum Ahmad Naeem (also known as Munum Ahmad Khan) is the grandson of Dr. Hashmat Ullah Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), who was a companion of Hazrat Masih-e-Mau'ūd (peace be on him) a lifelong devotee to Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) as his personal physician. His father, Karim

Ahmad Naeem, was Amīr Jamā'at of District Mianwali, Pakistan for fourteen years, moving to the United States in response to the severe religious persecution meted against Ahmadi Muslims in the mid-1970s. Munum moved to United States of America in 1978.

Munum Naeem studied Aeronautical Engineering at College of Aeronautics, New York and has been an Airline Aircraft Maintenance Executive for thirty-seven years. For the past two years has been serving the United States Navy as an executive at Naval Air Command.

After living in New York and Los Angeles, Munum Naeem moved to Houston, Texas in 1988. He served the Houston Jamā'at from 1988-1994 in various capacities including Secretary Centenary Jubilee, Secretary Ta'lim, and Qa'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya. He then went on to serve as the President of the Houston Jamā'at during the years of 1994 through 2004. By the grace of Allah, the Houston Jamā'at enjoyed rapid growth during those years, including the good fortune of

building a complex of Community Halls, a Missionary residence, and ultimately a beautiful mosque with a historic inauguration in 2004.

On a national level, Munum was elected Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA in 1994 and served the majlis in that capacity for five years until 1999 when he progressed to Majlis Ansarullah. He implemented the Majlis-e-Shura process, created the annual Qaideen Refresher Course (now Fazl-e-'Umar Qaideen Conference), strengthened the overall administration of the organization and increased membership participation rates. It was during his tenure in 1996 when, for the first time in USA's history, Khalifatul-Masih inaugurated an Ijtimā of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA. Munum Naeem also served as Na'ib Afsar Khidmat-e-Khalq at Jalsa Salana USA in 1995-1996 and Afsar Khidmat-e-Khalq in 1997, 1998 and 1999. He was also given the honor of accompanying Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) throughout his visits to the United States in 1996, 1997,

and 1998.

From 2000 to 2003, Munum Naeem served Majlis Ansarullah as Na'ib Sadr and Nazim Tahrik-e-Jadid. In 2004, he was appointed as Na'ib Amir and served the Jamā'at in this capacity for thirteen years until a career move took him overseas in 2017. Munum had arranged the historic and exclusive "Khilafat Flight 2008" from USA to Canada during the first visit of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V^{aba}, to the US for the Khilafat Centenary. Munum had moved to Chicago in 2011, where he was conferred the unique honor of hosting Huzoor (may Allah support him with His mighty help) in his home during Huzoor's visit to the United States in 2012. Munum also served the Chicago Southwest Jamā'at as President from 2013 to 2016.

Munum Naeem was appointed as the Executive Director of Humanity First, USA in November 2003 with the task to formally register the charity and build its infrastructure on a global scale. In April 2004, Humanity First USA was formally registered and commenced its operations. Today, Humanity First is registered in sixty countries and its USA branch manages operations in thirteen countries, serving millions across the globe. Munum has been serving Humanity First USA since its inception for the past 17 years. He currently resides in Northern Virginia with his wife. He has three

children and four siblings.

Throughout these years, Munum Ahmad has experienced numerous faith inspiring incidents. Back in 1994, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Germany had organized an international Ijtimā where they invited the Presidents of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya from many countries. As the President of MKA USA (Dr Qamar Shams) was unable to travel, he had asked Munum Naeem to attend on his behalf. At the flag hoisting ceremony there was a live MTA broadcast (MTA had only recently begun its satellite operation). During the broadcast of that grand occasion, Khalifatul-Masih IV had erroneously referred to Munum Naeem as the Sadr of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA. However, as Munum Naeem was not the Sadr, his discomfort grew at the thought of being accredited with something he was not entitled to.

Later that evening, a meeting was organized with Huzoor for MKA Germany's National Amila and the Presidents of other countries. Munum was seated in the front row and was very nervous about this mistake. When Huzoor arrived and sat down before the program started, Munum anxiously raised his hand out of panic. Huzoor graciously asked, "What is it?"

Munum replied, "Huzoor, there was a mistake made in the earlier MTA broadcast that I was

the Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA, but I am not."

Huzoor then asked, "Who are you?"

Munum replied pointing towards his badge (where he had crossed out *Sadr Majlis* and wrote *representative*), "I am only a representative—not even a national Amila member, and nothing but a representative."

Huzoor, taking note of Mamun's humility and the nervousness upon his face, stared at him for a few long seconds with a distinct pause, ultimately saying, *Acha koi baat nahee—Sadr bhi bun jao gey* ["Okay, that's no problem—you will also be a Sadr"].

Being naive, Munum took this as Huzoor comforting his anxiety. In those days, Munum recalls that he was not even a local Qa'id and not many people knew him on the national MKA level. Nevertheless, he would later say, "Little did I know, shortly thereafter the election of Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya was held and out of the blue someone proposed my name and I was elected and approved as the Sadr Majlis." It was then that Munum said, "It dawned upon me this was the Khalifah of Allah and when he made that comment it was not—and never shall be—just a hollow comment. When the Khalifah speaks, it is nothing but the truth. Huzoor made that statement after a pause during which The Almighty Allah inspired his heart to say what he said."

Zinda Mahmood Bajwa



National Secretary External Affairs (2001-10).

Khalifatul-Masih V approved Zinda Mahmud Bajwa as Na'ib Amīr in USA Jamā'at from 2007 to 2010 according to the circular of Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amīr Ahmadiyya Community USA dated

28 June 2007. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July-August 2007, p. 74)

In the picture below, Zinda Mahmood Bajwa is with President Obama and Missionary Daud Hanif.



Best wishes!

Dr. Masoud Ahmad Malik

Sadr Ansarullah USA 1981-1985. National General Secretary (1988-2013).



Dr. Masoud A. Malik was born in Pakistan. He received his degree in Veterinary Medicine from Punjab University, Pakistan in 1958. He

earned Master of Science in Poultry Science from Colorado State University in 1964 and Ph.D. in Nutrition from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE in 1973. He was married in 1967 and is the proud father of three children who now serve the Jamā'at in various capacities across the U.S.

He taught undergraduate and graduate-level and supervised the university's dairy farm. He also taught poultry science to agricultural trainees from Japan. He then also taught Avian Physiology at both the graduate and undergraduate levels for the University of Nebraska from

1970 to 1975. He did research work in the carbohydrate nutrition lab of USDA (Beltsville Agricultural Research Center). From 1980 to 1981, he was the Veterinary Medical Officer at the biggest poultry plant in the Northeast United States, Perdue at Accomack, VA, and supervised up to 40 inspectors. He then worked as the Veterinary Medical Officer and Veterinary Epidemiologist with the Epidemiology Branch of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) from 1981 to 1994.

His professional honors and awards include:

- Won American Egg Board, Egg

Science Award for effective presentation of high-quality research in 1975 for his paper “Relationships of Egg Shell Thickness and Specific Gravity to Quasi-static Compression Tests.”

- Membership in the American Society of Animal Science, World’s Poultry Science Association, Poultry Science Association, Nutrition Society, Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Sigma Xi.
- Presented 9 research papers between 1964 and 1990.
- Attended Fact-Finding Conference, AAAS Conference, and ASAS Meeting between 1963 and 1973.
- Resource member of the

microbiology committee at the 2nd National Food Protection Conference in Washington, DC in 1984.

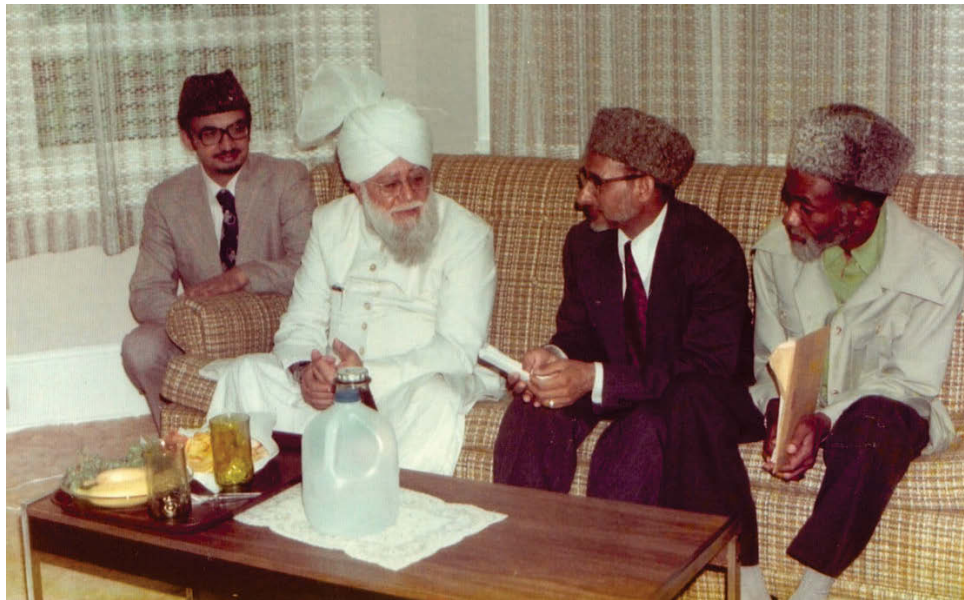
- His interviews regarding his investigations and work were published by the Washington Post, New York Times, and Boston Globe.
- More than 40 publications in various scientific journals.
- He was awarded with many distinguished awards and certificates during his services by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

From 1966 to 1969, he served as the Provincial Qa’id Khuddamul Ahmadiyya for Pakistan’s North-West Frontier Province (Now Pakhtunkhwa). He also

simultaneously served as Secretary Umur-e-‘Amma in Peshawar Jamā‘at from 1968 to 1969

In the U.S.A. he had the honor of being the first Sadr Ansarullah USA from 1981 to 1985. He was also the General Secretary of Washington Metropolitan Jamā‘at from 1981 to 1984. In 1988 he was elected as the General Secretary USA Jamā‘at, which he served until 2013 (25 continuous years). He had the honor of regularly sending Khalifatul-Masih IV copies of research papers, including Scientific American journal. Khalifatul-Masih IV was also provided with citations and references for his book Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth for which Huzoor acknowledged on page ix of the book’s acknowledgement section

Munawar Ahmad Saeed



Seated (L to R): Munawar A. Saeed, President of Washington DC Jamā‘at; Khalifatul-Masih III; Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri, Missionary In-Charge; Rashid Ahmad, National President.



Munawar Saeed in 2011

National Finance Secretary, Auditor, Rishta Nata/Auditor (1983), Ta’lim (1995-8), Umur-e-‘Amma (2001-7), President of Washington D.C.

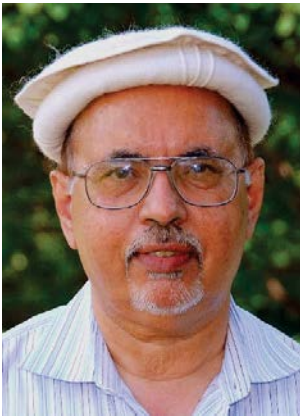
Respected Munawar Saeed and a large cadre of Maryland Chapter

members have translated many books of the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him, and Khalifas of Ahmadiyyat.

The Washington Metropolitan Jamā‘at was led by the following Presidents: Muhammad Ameen, Munawar Saeed, Mubasher

Ahmad, Chaudhry Allah Bakhsh, Masoud Ahmad Malik, Dr. Hidayat Khan, and Abdul Shukoor Ahmad.

Mir Daud Ahmad, Ph.D.



National Secretary Property (1983-6, 2007-16)

Born 1942, son of Dr. Mir Mushtaq Ahmad, a world-renowned Hydraulic Engineer; grandson of Mir Qasim Ali, a companion of the Promised Messiah and managing editor of Al Farooq, Qadian.

Education: B.Sc. (Hons.): 1964, UET, Lahore; M.S and PhD: Civil

Engineering, 1970, Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

Areas of expertise: Infrastructure Development, Institutional Development, Project Implementation etc. In depth experience of such operations in: China, S. Korea, Philippines, Thailand, Laos, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Tanzania, Bangladesh and the Caribbean.

Professional Experience: Worked in the operations complex of the World Bank during 1972 to 2000, in different technical, managerial and advisory capacities. During 1976 ~ 1997, worked extensively on development operation of South Korea and China--two modern day success stories.

After retirement from WB in 2000, worked as independent

development consultant, advising the Governments of Afghanistan, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Liberia etc. on a verity of development issues.

Currently associated with the Burki Institute of Public Policy, as a Managing Director, which focuses on economic development issues of Pakistan.

Service to Jamā'at Ahmadiyya: During 1961 ~ 1965 served in Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Lahore as a Nazim and Mauvin Quaid. For most parts of 1980 to 2016 served as Chairman National Mosque Committee and Property Secretary of the USA Jamā'at. During this period, nearly a dozen new mosques and over 40 mission houses were acquired/ developed.

Abdul Khaliq Raja

National Secretary Finance / Secretary Finance Committee (1983), Internal Audit 1986.

Chaudhri Muhammad Riaz Saifi

National Secretary Wasaya 1986

Dr. Khalil Mahmood Malik

Dr. Khalil Malik, son of Mr. Abdur Rahman Saleem, was born on February 11, 1952, in Karachi, Pakistan. He has four brothers and two sisters. He is blessed with three children, two boys and one girl (the two boys being Waqifeen-i-Nau). Born as an Ahmadi Muslim, Khalil became a Musi in 1966. In his younger days he played tennis, and ping-pong. These days he enjoys walking. His hobbies include reading, writing, and public speaking.

Khalil received a Gold Medal/1st position in his Higher Secondary School Education from the Karachi Board of Education in 1969. After earning his medical (M.B.B.S.) degree from the Dow Medical College, Karachi, in 1976, he migrated to the US. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at St. Josephus Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, Michigan, from 1978 to 1981, and his Allergy and Immunology Fellowship at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,

Michigan, from 1981 to 1983. He also held a teaching position at the Wayne State University Medical Center, Detroit, in the Allergy and Immunology department from 1983 to 1986. In 1986 he moved to Philadelphia and has since been in private practice in Allergy and Immunology in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.



In Pakistan, Khalil served the

Jamā'at as Sa'iq for Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Karachi. In Detroit, he held local Jamā'at offices most of the time he was there including Secretary Maal. In Philadelphia, he has served the Jamā'at as General Secretary and Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat Secretary. He has also served for one term as Quaid, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Philadelphia.

1987-1988: General Secretary, Ahmadiyya Medical Association, USA.

1992-1995: National Secretary Tarbiyat, USA.

1995-2001: National Secretary Waqf-i-Nau, USA

2007-2010: National Secretary Education

(Al-Nahl, Q 3-4, 2003, p. 30)

Anwer Mahmood Khan

Anwer Khan, son of late Maulana Abdul Malik Khan and grandson of Maulana Zulfiqar Ali Khan Gohar (who accepted Ahmadiyyat at the hands of the Promised Messiah in 1899), was born on June 12, 1944, in Hyderabad, India. He received his M.S. degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of Karachi in 1965. He also completed his M.B.A. at the Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, in 1975. He has traveled to 90 countries for Beckman Instruments. His hobbies include reading, writing, and public speaking.

Anwer served Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Karachi, as Muntazim Atfāl, Nazim Ta'lim, Nazim Ishā'at, Nazim Islah-o-Irshad, Na'ib Qa'id II, Na'ib Qa'id I, Qa'id, and Regional Qa'id. In the US, he has served the Jamā'at in various capacities including:

1992-1995: National Secretary Waqf-i-Jadid, USA

1995-2001: National Secretary Tabligh, USA

2001-to date: National Secretary Tahrir-i-Jadid, USA

2003-2006: Qa'id Tahrir-i-Jadid, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

In 1992, Anwer was instrumental for achieving for USA, the First position in Waqf-i-Jadid in the Worldwide Jamā'ats. Khalifatul-Masih IV, rahimahullāh,

made a gracious mention of his achievements in his Khutba of Waqf-i-Jadid New year announcement.

In 1993/1994, Anwer published a mosque Pictorial entitled "Mosques Around the World" at the occasion of the construction of Baitur Rahman mosque in Maryland.



In 2000, Anwer arranged a state-of-the-Art Exhibition on John Alexander Dowie for "Messiah 2000 Conference" held in Zion and also published a book entitled Fulfillment of a Grand Prophecy under the auspices of Jamā'at USA. Huzoor Aqdas sent his commendation letter for the publication. Translation of this book in Hebrew and Dutch are underway in the respective Jamā'ats.

In 2003, Anwer wrote a scholastic article published in Muslim Sunrise entitled Metaphoric Light and Literal Darkness.

In 2003, Anwer prepared a special Issue for the Ahmadiyya Gazette entitled Tahrir-i-Jadid Issue describing the accomplishments of Tahrir-i-Jadid worldwide. Huzoor Aqdas sent a commendation letter of appreciation.

In 2004, Anwer prepared and published a Special Issue of Al-Nahl for Waṣiyyat scheme.

In 2006, Anwer published a Special Issue of the Ahmadiyya Gazette for Tahir Heart Institute and helped raise \$4.5 Million dollars for this Institute. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, Ayyadahullāh, sent a commendation letter for the publication. (Al-Nahl 2006, Q-4, p. 22)

In 1977, the LA Chapter was graced with a special visit from Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil-ut-Tabshir, in-Charge of foreign missions. A gathering was held at Anwer Mahmood Khan's house where the special guest advised members to unite and remain productive in the cause of Allah to foster continued growth. Towards the end of this decade, in 1978, Los Angeles Jamā'at received two additional auspicious visits: one from Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad just four years before his becoming Khalifa. Here, he met with members in a garage established as a makeshift Prayer Hall. During his visit to Los Angeles, Hazrat Mirza

Tahir Ahmad stayed at the residence of Dr. Gulzar Ahmad and his family at their home Culver city.

As the Ahmadiyya Movement in America started enjoying some financial independence, the then acting Amir of the USA, respected Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, proposed to Khalifatul-Masih IV that the US

pick the Waqf-e-Jadid Scheme to compete in the world in terms of financial sacrifices to which Khalifatul-Masih IV readily agreed. In the later 1980s when the USA took on the responsibility to compete on the worldwide stage, US had collected only \$27,000 for Waqf-e-Jadid. Sahibzada M.M Ahmad made a vow that the USA

would excel in this scheme in the world. Under the leadership of Anwer Mahmood Khan, Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid USA at the time, the Jama'at went from \$27,000 the first year to \$87,180.00, and stood first in the world that first year, Al-Hamdu Lillah.

Alhaj Dhul-Waqar Yaqub

Na'ib Qa'id (Awwal) (1977-8) Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya. National Secretary Public Relation (1991-4).

Leland Jacobs lived in Troy Ohio. But today he was in Dayton, a city about twenty-five miles away, searching for a mosque he had no idea how to find. The address he had was of no use. As he randomly drove up one empty street and down another, he finally saw a man walking up the street and he asked for directions. The man responded, "Wait here. I'll take you there." He returned driving a car saying, "Follow me." The stranger took Leland straight to the Ahmadiyya Movement Mosque. As it so happened the stranger was Rafiq A. Salam, an Ahmadi Muslim. Being taken to the Ahmadiyya mosque by a stranger (rather than a mosque of another denomination) was the second miracle of this story. The first miracle began in 1954 when Leland was eight years old. He was in his backyard one night looking at the stars when suddenly, inexplicably he addressed himself to God, "If you send a prophet I will accept him." Recalling the incident as an adult he had no idea why he said it nor, as the years passed, did he remember the promise. But God remembered. He remembered the promise of an innocent child and guided him. It turned out that Leland Jacobs' future was to be shaped by that promise.



Dhul-Waqar Yaqub with Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV during a US Shura

Leland had no idea what he was getting into as he stepped into the mosque on that summer day in 1969. He simply wanted to find out what Islam was about. He thought he would check it out, leave, and that would be the end of that. He had no plan whatsoever of becoming a Muslim.



He had read The Teachings of Islam by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, purchased from a bookstore, and just wanted more information. Leland met the

missionary and an African American member, asked many questions which were satisfactorily answered, and after an hour he left. Imagine his surprise when a week later, the missionary, and three members came to his home in Troy. They invited him to an event at the Dayton Mosque where a new missionary was being welcomed. After the festivities ended the missionary asked Leland, "Would you like to become a member of our community?" In a dream the night before, Leland had seen himself in a mosque that had colorful geometric designs covering its walls. The dream had deep meaning for Leland. So now the dream and the question merged, causing Leland to respond, "Yes," Later, as he read and signed the Bai'at, he was amazed at how far he had traveled within a week. He had simply read the "Philosophy" and thereafter, Grace caught him in its Iron Grip and would not let go. Leland Jacobs took the name Dhul-Waqar Yaqub. He was twenty-three years old. The completion of God's response to Leland's long-ago promise, to accept a prophet sent by God, had come to fruition. The signing of the Bai'at was the completion of the first miracle.

Though Dhul was raised a Catholic and was even an altar boy, his nuclear family accepted him as a Muslim. Dhul had a rocky childhood in Flint, Michigan where he grew up. So much so he was on his own at

twelve years old, with a job and a rented room. Though without much parental support, in 1964 at eighteen years old he graduated from high school. It was the era of the Vietnam War and he was drafted into the army soon thereafter. He fared well in the army receiving a medal for good conduct and a sharpshooter commendation. He was honorably discharged two years later.

When Dhul accepted Islam, he was married with a job, and was in school. Despite this load he was assigned an office in the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at soon after his affiliation.

From 1970 to 1973 he was national propagation secretary for Khuddamul Ahmadiyya. From 1973 to 1978 he was the national Vice President of the Khuddam. Meanwhile through the efforts of Dhul and others, Troy, Ohio established its own Jamā'at and Dhul was President from 1975 to 1979. During this period, in 1973 Dhul performed Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca) and became known as Haji Yaqub. In 1976 he visited the Jamā'at international headquarters in Rabwah, Pakistan. Haji Yaqub and his family, he now had two sons, emigrated to Ghana, West Africa in 1979 where they lived for one year. After returning to America Hajji Yaqub moved to Chicago, Illinois where he took a job in 1980 as Director of Education of a proprietary school. He was promoted to CEO five years later. In 1995 he received a call to interview for a CEO position at a non-profit organization in Milwaukee, WI. He

remained in that post for ten years. From there he worked in quality control for five years as an ASME Code Inspector in heavy metal manufacturing until his retirement in 2014.

Haji Yaqub's secular positions did not reduce his commitment to the work of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at; that continued unabated. Within a year of his move to Chicago, Haji Yaqub was elected president of the Chicago Jamā'at. He served until 1982 after which the Amīr appointed him financial secretary of the Jamā'at. He held the position for thirteen years. When Hajji Yaqub accepted the Chicago post the Jamā'ats, nationwide were maintaining their financial records manually. Haji Yaqub changed that in Chicago. Much to the disapproval of some missionaries, who laughed at the idea calling it unworkable, he introduced a computerized system for record-keeping in the Chicago Finance Department. Personal computers were just being introduced to the American public and Dhul was excited about their use. Most of the members in Chicago loved the new system. Though membership was in the hundreds, Haji Yaqub kept each member abreast of his/her donations by quarterly computerized reports. The results were that within the first year, the Chanda donations increased by 30% and never returned to their pre-computer level.

In 1995, when Haji Yaqub relocated to Milwaukee, Wisconsin he was directed by the Amīr to audit

the Milwaukee Jamā'at's finances and was then appointed financial secretary. He has since then been elected to the office for the last twenty-five years. Since that appointment Milwaukee's finance department has never missed hitting its annual budgeted collection targets. In addition to the local finance secretary position, for years Haji Yaqub also served simultaneously as additional national finance secretary, and regional finance secretary until the position was abolished.

Haji Yaqub was appointed to the Ahmadiyya Qada Board in 1984, which position he continues to hold in 2020. This board handles jurisprudence (legal) issues. As a Qazi he must adjudicate litigant disputes of various kinds. In 2017 he was appointed national vice president of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Movement Association (PAMMA). He served two years.

From 1969, when Haji Yaqub first pledged the oath of allegiance to the Ahmadiyya Community until now, August 2020, except for one year spent in Africa, he has not been without an essential office. That is a stretch of 50 years. Sometimes he wanted to withdraw from the intense ordeals of service and just become a "bench member." Often the trials were just too great. But Grace said, No! Instead, IT strengthened and encouraged and trained and loved until Haji Yaqub surrendered to its Force and submitted completely, committed now to remain in harness if called upon, until the end.

Dr. Abdul Hakeem Nasar

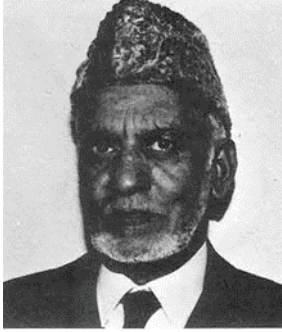


National Secretary Audio-Video (1991-8), President Syracuse Chapter (2003-7, 2010-13)

Dr. Abdul Hakeem Nasir was elected as the President of Rochester Chapter in 2001. More members had migrated to the cities in the northeast of New York State, and the

numbers of the members had increased. So, it was decided to make new chapters. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, pp. 500-1 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

Aftab Ahmad Bismil



National Secretary Rishta Nata (1993-8)

Aftab Ahmad Bismil was the son of Muhammad Alam Qureshi, Amīr Jamā‘at Rawalpindi, who had accepted Ahmadiyyat on his own at the age of 18 and disowned by his family. Aftab was born on August 19, 1919. His father who as accountant by profession, died of heart attack when Aftab was only twelve years old.

Aftab worked for Radio Pakistan, in Peshawar, which was All India Radio at that time. At midnight on August 14, 1947, Aftab Bismil was the first one to make the announcement, “This is Radio Pakistan,” instead of “All India Radio.” This was a moment of celebration as Pakistan had just gained independence from India.

Soon after, Karachi became the capital of Pakistan. Aftab moved to Karachi to set up Radio Pakistan and was in-Charge of the news department. When Islamabad became the capital of Pakistan, he was transferred there. In Islamabad, when he was required to report on anti-Ahmadi propaganda, he refused, and resigned.

Once when he was visiting Karachi, Hazarat Khalifatul-Masih III requested a special poetry session with him. In 1983, when Hazarat Khalifatul-Masih IV had to leave Pakistan, Aftab decided to leave Pakistan as well, and moved to Brooklyn NY. Here he was delighted to participate in Jamā‘at activities, as they had been banned in Pakistan for many years. He served as Vice President in Brooklyn NY for a few years before moving to Detroit. Here he had the honor and privilege of giving Dars in Ramadan and leading Jum‘a and Tarawīḥ prayers. It was during this time the Detroit Mosque was burned down, and the Detroit Jamā‘at continued to hold local activities at various community

centers, libraries etc. From 1993 to 1998 he served as National Secretary Rishta Nata.

Aftab was loved and admired by Jamā‘at members for his knowledge and sense of humor. He would travel by car to Ijtimas with Jamā‘at members and they enjoyed his poetry, jokes and narratives of anecdotes. He was fondly given the title of “walking encyclopedia” – you could ask him about anything and get a detailed informative answer. He was an avid reader of both Jamā‘at and non-Jamā‘at literature.

He compiled souvenir of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya New York in 1989.

He was honest and hardworking and had high morals. He has written several poems in reference to Islam, Ahmadiyyat, Khilafat, and the Promised Messiah; as well as some light humorous poems about religious fanatics and politicians.

He passed away on September 27th, 2004, from complications of cancer and stroke. He is buried at Lakeview Memorial Park in Sykesville, Maryland.

Dr. Waseem A. Sayed



National Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid (1995-8, 2001-16), Preaching

(2016-Present).

I was blessed to work with Ḥaḍrat Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) from 1973 to 1976 on and off—taking dictation while I undertook my BSc in physics studies at Imperial College in London, England. Then I worked for my PhD, from 1976 to 1980, in Theoretical Physics under Professor Abdus Salam, of blessed memory. During this time, I published several research papers

in leading scientific journals. I have been involved in Jamā‘at work since the earliest age I can recall—taking classes for children as early as 1970 or thereabouts in Croydon, England, briefly serving as Acting President of that Jamā‘at. Then I served as Assistant Editor of the Ahmadiyya Bulletin in the UK from 1973 to 1976.

In 1982 I was asked to work on the Italy Mosque Project briefly before leaving for Canada in 1983 where I served as local and

Regional Qa'id Majlis Khuddamul-Ahmadiyya, Edmonton, Alberta Canada for several years. In 1987 I was sent to Bolivia for six months on a Jamā'at assignment from May to November. In 1988 I was given the task of executing the work of building of the first mosque in Guatemala and in 1991 the Jamā'at Clinic. Both were inaugurated by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV (may Allah be pleased with him) and I was made in-Charge of Huzoor (may Allah support him with His mighty help)'s both visits and arrangements.

I moved to Calgary in 1989 and was appointed President Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Calgary in 1990. I moved to Dallas, TX in 1991 taking classes for children and moved to Los Angeles in 1992 where I assumed similar duties and served as Qa'id and later as various Jamā'at positions in the local Jamā'at—eventually Vice President of LA East Jamā'at till 2012. I served as National Secretary Waqf-e-Jadīd, a position I was blessed with the first time in 1994 till June 30, 2016. In Tabligh effort, Holy Qur'an exhibitions receiving print media included but were not limited to Tucson, AZ, Paola, KS, DeSoto, MO, West Chester, PA, De Pere, WI, Alvin, TX, Eureka, IL,

Carver, MA, Cincinnati, OH, Bastrop, TX, Sycamore, IL, Martinsville, IL, Akron, OH, Paris, IL, Watertown, WI, Rockton, IL, Sterling, VA, Largo, MD, Shorewood, IL, Ankeny, IA, Greensburg, PA, Logan, OH, and Chantilly, VA. As a result of these 100+ Holy Qur'an Exhibitions nationwide, more than 50 different Newspapers and media outlets covered these events and the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat resonated from coast to coast. In Sha' Allah, this year, we intend to hold more than 200 Holy Qur'an Exhibitions nationwide.

1991 our Respected Amīr, of blessed memory, had expressed the desire of the US Jamā'at to become #1 in the field of financial sacrifices towards the Waqf-e-Jadīd Scheme. Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ IV, Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā, welcomed this idea and prayed and watched, with loving affection, as the US Jamā'at made strides towards this goal.

I was appointed Administrative Liaison for the USA Jamā'at by Respected Amīr and in that capacity assist wherever assigned any job by the Tabligh, Media and Finance departments since 2010 till July 1, 2016 when I assumed the duties of National Tabligh

Secretary USA. During this period, I was directed to go to Mexico in November 2014 and for almost eighteen months thereafter to help establish the Jamā'at in that country. I worked for a year in Merida and then went to the city of Mexico where I assisted in the work of establishing a center in that city and also assisted in the acquisition of our first property. Ahmadu Lillah.

I also served for a while as Country Director for Guatemala with Humanity First USA—establishing a branch in that country in record time. In this capacity, I assisted with fundraising efforts and in the execution of our Humanity First USA's Water for Life, Gift of Sight, and other programs. I was given responsibility early in the project to build the hospital in Guatemala and worked on that project for some two years. I was bestowed the National Secretary Tabligh office as of July 1, 2016. I am involved with the USA Translation Team that works under the guidance of Markaz in UK. I also assist in coordinating the weekly translation of Friday Sermons of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ, may Allah be his Helper.

Dr. Hafiz Samiullah Chaudhary



National Secretary Waqf-e-Nau (2001-2022)

Samiullah Chaudhary, son of Chaudhary Attaullah Warriach and grandson of Hafiz Chaudhary

Raheem Bakhsh Warriach, was born in Rabwah, Pakistan. He is the youngest of four brothers and two sisters. He is blessed with two children, a boy and a Waqf-i-Nau girl. Born as an Ahmadi Muslim, Sami became a Musi in 1984. He completed his Hifzul-Qur'an at age thirteen from the Madrasa-tul-Hifz, Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya, Rabwah. Ever since, he has led the Traveeh Prayer in various mosques in Rabwah and the US. Currently, he teaches Tajweed in various Ta'limul-Qur'an classes.

Sami completed his high school education from T.I. School and College, Rabwah, and his M.B.B.S. from the King Edward Medical College, Lahore, in 1984. He was President of the Ahmadiyya Students Association, King Edward Medical College in 1983-1984. After working in the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, from 1985 to 1987, he moved to the US in March 1987 and joined the Philadelphia Jamā'at. In February 1989, he joined the Willingboro Jamā'at. He has been

in the North Jersey Jamā‘at since October 1990.

Sami has had the good fortune to serve the US Jamā‘at in various capacities as follows:

2001-to date: National Waqf-i-Nau Secretary, USA

2000-to date: Sadr, North Jersey Jamā‘at

1999-2003: Na‘ib Sadr Saf-i-Do‘am, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

1994-1996: Mu‘tamad, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

1992-2000: Secretary Ta‘lim-o-Tarbiyat, North Jersey Jamā‘at

1992-1997: Regional Qa‘id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

1989-1989: Mohtamim San‘at-o-Tijarat, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA (Al-Nahl 2003, Q 3-4, p. 27).

At the auspicious occasion of Jalsa Salana USA, seven events are held every year including Waqf-e-Nau boys’ and girls’ special programs, rededication workshop

and stalls for Waqf-e-Nau children and parents, test, and interview for Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya Canada applicants. Wāqifāt-e-Nau hold their own sessions along with rededication workshop on Lajna side.

Department reaches out to all Wāqifin-e-Nau who have completed their education to submit professional particulars form. After careful review, their information is sent to London Markaz for further guidance.

Naeem Khan

National Secretary Rishta Nata (2002-5)



Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad



As the new department was established, under the recommendation of Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amīr USA, Khalifatul-Masih V approved the appointment of Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad as the first National Secretary of TaQWA. He served TaQWA during 2005-2019.

Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad is the great-grandson of both the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him) and Khalifatul-Masih I, Hakeem Nooruddin. He is the grandson of Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd,

and the son of Sahibzadi Amat-ur-Rasheed Begum and Mian Abd-ur-Rahim Ahmad. His paternal grandfather, Hazrat Ali Ahmad, may Allah be pleased with him, was a companion of the Promised Messiah.

Dr. Zaheeruddin received his basic education From Ta‘lim-ul-Islam High school and College in Rabwah, Pakistan, and completed his medical degree in 1976 from Nishtar Medical College, Multan. He has served the Jamā‘at in various capacities including Qā‘id Ta‘lim-ul-Qur‘an of Majlis Ansarullah Pakistan and has also served as a physician at Fazl-e-‘Umar Hospital in Rabwah.

When he was young, Khalifatul-Masih II, Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd, used to say to Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor’s mother, Sahibzadi Amat-ur-Rasheed, that he would grow up to become a

doctor and would teach the Holy Qur‘an like his great grandfather Khalifatul-Masih I, Hakeem Nooruddin. By the grace of Allah, those blessed words were fulfilled.

Befitting the progeny of the greatest servants of the Holy Qur‘an, ever since his childhood, Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad has had great passion and enthusiasm for learning this divine scripture and spreading its message. He learned basic Arabic language skills to master the meanings and knowledge of the Holy Book and spent his entire youth serving this cause. When he was assigned to establish the new department of TaQWA, he utilized all his talent, aptitude, and experience to accomplish this challenging assignment. Everyone who has worked with Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor finds his passion for the Holy Qur‘an.

Shahid Malik of Virginia

National Secretary General Affairs (2007-16)

Amjad Mahmood Khan



National Secretary Umur Kharijiyya (Public Affairs) (2011-Present), President Ahmadiyya Muslim Lawyers Association (AMLA) (2010-Present).

Boston Chapter has had five Harvard graduate students. He was the first Ahmadi Muslim at Harvard Law School. Amjad Mahmood Khan currently serves as National Umur-e-Kharija (Public Affairs) Secretary.

2010-Present: Public Affairs Department institutes an annual “Day on the Hill” event, bringing local Public Affairs secretaries from

all Chapters to meet hundreds of Congressional offices at U.S. Capitol Hill.

2014: First ever bi-partisan “Ahmadiyya Muslim Caucus” launched in U.S. Congress.

Dr. Farooq Padder



Secretary Rishta Nata (2009-19), President Willingboro (2000-19).

Dr. Farooq Padder was appointed Secretary Rishta Nata in 2009. During his 10-year tenure, the Rishta Nata department further expanded and included the development of an online registry and premarital counseling services, along with creation of educational content and dedicated Rishtā Nata

weekends on the national calendar to promote dialog and understanding.

Dr. Bilal Ahmad Rana



Sadr MKA USA (2012-2018). National Sec. General Affairs (2019-Present).

MKA’s National Secretary for Propagation in 2004.

In 2012, Bilal Rana is elected Sadr. For the first time, in 2015, National Ijtimā is concluded by an address by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (a.b.a.). Khuddam across the

states travel to London to see Khalifatul-Masih V.

Zahir M. Ahmad

National Secretary General Affairs (2016-19)

Dr. Atif Rehman Mian



National Secretary Education (2016-Present), Professor of Economics Princeton Univ. USA

Atif Mian is a Pakistani-American economist who is the Professor of Economics, Public Policy, and Finance at Princeton University and is the Director of the Julis-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy and Finance at the Woodrow

Wilson School.

In 2014, when Atif was only thirty-nine years of age, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) listed him as one of twenty-five economists who would be instrumental in driving thought leadership for the global economy.

Atif grew up in Pakistan and moved to the United States in 1993. He earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science from MIT and in 2001, he completed his doctorate in economics there as well. He worked as a faculty member at the University of Chicago from 2001 to 2009, and the University of California, Berkeley from 2009 to 2012.

He authored the book “House of Debt” with Amir Sufi, in which

they established debt to be the primary culprit of the Great Recession, as opposed to the failing banks, which was the widely held theory. The book won the Gordon J. Laing Prize of the University of Chicago Press.

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, selected Atif Mian to be a member of Pakistan's Economic Advisory Council (EAC). However, the Pakistani government caved in to pressures citing Atif's faith as an Ahmadi Muslim. Atif was later removed from the Council on September 7, 2018. In solidarity with Atif, Harvard Professor Asim Ijaz Khawaja and Economics Professor Imran Rasul of University College in London resigned their EAC posts in protest.

Waseem Malik



Bashir Shams and Dr. Khalid Minhas with Chairman Majlis-e-Şihhat Wasim Malik in Miami

In 2009, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, directed Nā'ib Amīr, Respected Wasim Malik to establish Majlis-e-Şihḥat in the USA. Since that time, Majlis-e-Şihḥat has been established with initial focus on developing a national cricket team to represent the USA Jamā'at. Department of Majlis-e-Şihḥat is listed on www.Ahmadiyya.US under Departments. Links to Masroor Cricket Club, Masroor Hunting and Gun Club, Noor Hiking Club and

Muslim Biking Club are available on the USA Jamā'at Website which include membership sign up pages. The goal is to connect members from different regions having same interest to share information and visit each other's area for joint activities.

Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya (MKA) USA has been continually active for sport activities. There is a need to establish coordination

between MKA and Majlis-e-Şihḥat to enhance collective efforts.

Khalifatul-Masih V approved Waseem Malik of San Jose as Na'ib Amīr in USA Jamā'at from 2007 to 2010 according to the circular of Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Amīr Ahmadiyya Community USA dated 28 June 2007. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, July-August 2007, p. 74). He continues to serve in this position.

Manzoor-ur-Rahman

Property Secretary. President (1994) Ahmadiyya Architect and Engineers Association.

Hafiz Mubarak Bola Kukoyi

National Secretary TaQWA and Waqf-e-'Aridi (2019-Present)

A new chapter began for the Department of Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi in 2019 when Respected Hafiz Mubarak Bola Kukoyi was elected as National Secretary for the Department and now serves in that position.

Hafiz Mubarak Bola Kukoyi was born in Nigeria into an Ahmadi family. He is married and blessed with three children. Hafiz has served as the Local Ta'lim Secretary (circular) and the Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an Secretary and Waqf-e-'Aridi for the Chicago Chapter for the nine years preceding 2019. He has been teaching in Tahir Academy since its inception.

Hafiz Mubarak's father decided to send him to Hifz (Holy Qur'an Memorization) school after meeting in Makkah with Sahibzada Mirza Rafi Ahmad who was his friend and advised him to send one of his eleven sons to Rabwah for the Hifz program. His father instead decided to send two of his sons to make the sacrifice no less than 10% as he was a Musi. Hafiz's brother (Hafiz Abdul Quddus of Baltimore) joined the Hifz school two years

after him.



Hafiz Kukoyi recalls his first meeting with Khalifatul-Masih III during the Nigerian delegate's meeting with Khalifatul-Masih III at Jalsa of 1976. When Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III was informed that the young boy was staying back for Hifz school, Khalifatul-Masih III told him that he should come to him should he need anything.

Hafiz Kukoyi says being the only black kid in Rabwah at that time was not easy for him. He was lonely, and homesick and would get beaten up by the other kids. Before leaving for Pakistan his mother had admonished him not to get into trouble as he was always getting into fights at school in Nigeria. So, he was surprised when he went and reported the situation with the boys at school to Hazrat Khalifatul-

Masih III and his advice was to fight back. Hafiz recalls, after that he started doing well in Hifz class.

During his Hifz education in Rabwah, he would visit Qasr-e-Khilafat (residence of the Khalifatul-Masih) anytime he wished, especially on Fridays as most students went home, and would get Eid presents ('eidi') from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III like all other kids in Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III's family. Hafiz mentions that he would go horseback riding with Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, recalling his favorite horse 'Ashkar.' Hafiz fondly remembers that Mirza Tahir Ahmad (who was not a Khalifa then) was blessed with daughters and so would take him along to the farm like a son, and taught Hafiz how to shoot and how to fish.

After completion of Hifz, in 1981 Hafiz Mubarak Kukoyi left Pakistan at the age of 14, finishing his secondary education in Ahmadiyya Secondary School in northern Nigeria. Hafiz was studying medicine in Egypt's Einushams University in Cairo when political turmoil forced him to leave. He tried to resume

medicine in Greece, but they did not have sufficient seats for non-nationals, and so Hafiz studied Electrical Engineering and learned Greek. He lived in Montreal, Canada, for two years, serving majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya in

sports, and learned French.

Hafiz came to the USA in 1992. In 2006 he went to the Caribbean Island of St. Lucia to study Medicine, graduating in 2011. In 2016-17 he did postgraduate

studies in Lagos teaching hospital in Nigeria, and then returned to the USA. Having travelled and lived in so many countries, Hafiz speaks six languages including Urdu and Punjabi.

Athar Bashir Malik

National Secretary Census (1991-8)

Mubarik Ahmad Malik

National Secretary Finance (1991-1998, 2001-2007)

Dr. ‘Abd-ul-Malik Shamim Ahmad

Nazim A’la Ansarullah 1983. National Secretary Ta’lim-o-Tarbiyat 1986.

Dr. ‘Abd-ul-Malik Shamim Ahmad was from a family of companions of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and the son of Professor Maulawi ‘Abd-ul-Baqi. He attended Talim-ul-Islam High School in Chiniot and then Rabwah. He was a bright student, earning full academic scholarships throughout his educational career. After F.Sc. (higher secondary school in science), he attended Nishtar Medical College for his graduate degree in medicine and then went to London to earn F.R.C.S. He returned to Pakistan and practiced as a surgeon in Kunri, Sindh,

Pakistan. He was married in the family of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him).



He came to the U.S. in 1973 for specialized medical training at Buffalo and then Georgetown University, Washington D.C. He had the opportunity to serve the Jamā’at in many capacities on a local as well as national level. He served Ahmadiyya Muslim

Community, USA as National Secretary Ta’lim-o-Tarbiyat. The “Synopsis of Religious Preaching” book series was published under his auspices. He knew many portions of the Holy Quran by heart and was regular in morning recitation. He had a deep knowledge of Fiqh Ahmadiyya and served as member of Qada board.

Despite being highly trained, he insisted on serving a wide population of patients regardless of income or ability to pay. He volunteered time for a free medical clinic in D.C as well as after every Jum’a Prayer at the Fazal Mosque and later at Bait-ur-Rahman. He passed away on the last Friday of Ramadan 2001. (Courtesy Dr. Majid Shah)

Allah Baksh Chaudhry

National Sec. Umur-e-‘Amma (1986, 1991-8), First Nazim Dar-ul-Qada. First President NVA (1995)

There were many members who had established fruitful and successful lives in this region. Many volunteered countless hours to the Jamā’at. In those early years around 1995 when the new Jamā’at had been established, members of

NVA would attend Jum’a prayers at either the Fazl Mosque in Washington, DC or at someone’s house in Virginia. The members who offered their houses during this period were Afzal Chaudhry in Centreville, Allah Baksh Chaudhry in Chantilly, and Syed Majid Shah in Herndon. These members volunteered their homes for Jum’a prayers during a difficult period for

the NVA Jamā’at.

Allah Baksh was the longest serving Nazim of Dar-ul-Qada USA and he served from 1984 to 2007. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 166 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

Nasir Mahmood Malik



Personal:

Born and raised in Karachi, Pakistan (1950-1968)

Moved to the United States of America for post-graduate studies (1975)

Got married to Nuzhat Haq in 1978 and had four children (Two boys – Ahmad and Athar and two girls – Lubna and Atiya) with her in Michigan.

Moved to Los Angeles, California in 2006

Moved to Urbana, Ohio in 2015

Moved to Silver Spring, Maryland in 2016

Education:

Earned B.Sc. from the D.J. Science College, Karachi, Pakistan (1964-1968)

Earned B.Sc. (Mechanical Engineering) from the West Pakistan University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan (1968-1973)

Earned M.S. (Mechanical Engineering) from the Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan (1975-1976)

Earned M.B.A (Finance) from the Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan (1976-1978)

Professional:

Worked at the Airports Development Agency, Ltd., Karachi, Pakistan, as Assistant Engineer (1973-1975)

Worked in various Research, Design, Development and Validation departments at Fruehauf Corporation, Detroit, Michigan, and General Motors, Detroit, Michigan (1978-2006)

US Patent: #4,470,378 in 1984 (Engine with sidewall mounted, isolated Intake Manifold)

Worked as Product Manager at Honeywell Aerospace, Torrance, California and then Urbana, Ohio (2006-2016)

Teaching on-line as Adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland, Global Campus (2018-to-date)

Community (Jamā‘at) Service:

2020 – to-date Za‘im, Maryland Majlis Ansarullah

2013 – 2016 Ta‘lim Secretary, USA

2007 – 2016 Tarbiyat Secretary, LA-West

2000–2006 Sadr, Detroit Jamā‘at

2000–2006 Sadr, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

1995–2013 Tarbiyat Secretary, USA

1989 – 1995 *Tabligh* Secretary, USA

1990 – 1991 Officer Jalsa Salana, USA

1983 – 1983 Officer Jalsa Salana, USA

1982–1986 National Qa‘id, MKA-USA

1978 – 1990 Sadr, Detroit Jamā‘at

1976 – 1978 Acting Sadr, Detroit Jamā‘at

Hobbies: Mentoring, Coaching, Teaching, Traveling, Home Improvement

Sports: Soccer, Volleyball, Racquetball, Badminton, Ping-Pong, Biking, Walking/Jogging

Dr. Fazal Ahmad



National Secretary Publication

(1991-8), First Historian USA Jamā‘at

Senior Fellow, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

First Historian and Publication Secretary, Ahmadiyya Jamā‘at, USA.

First **Student President**, T.I. College Union.

Professor of Criminology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law, Bioterrorism, International Terrorism, Counterterrorism, Mathematics, Economics, Statistics, Intelligence Analysis at University of Pennsylvania, Widener University Law School, Dickinson Law School, Pennsylvania State University, T.I. College, Rabwah.

Awards: Outstanding and Distinguished Service Awards, Federal DOJ. Excellence in Teaching Awards at teaching institutions.

Groundbreaking research:

Behavioral Sciences: Terrorism as a Rational Tactic – An Sadr/Za'im A'la Ansarullah

International Study. Pre-9-11 seminal research that led the way for worldwide study.

International Law: Cybermedicine-Futuristic Research on The Law of the Practice of Medicine in Cyberspace.

Education: S.J.D. Widener

University Law School. **Ph.D.** Criminology. University of Pennsylvania. **LL.M.** Comparative Laws and International Law, Dickinson Law School. **MA** Economics. **MA** Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.

Col. Saeed Malik

National Secretary Property (1995-8)

Qamar Ahmad Shams



National Secretary MTA (1995-8), Sadr MKA USA (Feb 1990-4)

Khalifatul-Masih IV appointed Mr. Qamar Ahmad Shams as the Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA with effect from 20 January 1990. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Jan-Feb 1990, p. 4)

He sent a message as Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA:

The Ahmadiyya Community is destined to bring about a spiritual revolution The last phase of the revolution brought by the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, had been inaugurated by the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, and the world is witness to the momentum which our community has gained during the last century It is now up to us not only to maintain this momentum but to increase this

momentum for the complete victory of Islam Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya being the most active section of the community has to bear the greatest burden of the task.

Mere words will not bring about any change in the world. Sacrifices are greatly needed and everybody is expected to sacrifice everything that is required for the furtherance of Islam May Allah enable us to fulfill demands of the time. Amen. (Centenary Souvenir of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, p. 19)

Shukoor Ahmed



I arrived in the U.S. on March 23, 1988 and served as Nazim Waqar-e-Amal of the Washington, DC Majlis under the leadership of Qa'id Shahid Malik. It was a fairly challenging work considering I had

been in the country for only eight months and did not have many friends in the Majlis and/or Jamā'at. We scheduled a weekly clean-up on Thursday evening to prepare the mosque for Friday Prayers.

Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya

- Sadr Majlis, USA 1999-2002
- Na'ib Sadr Majlis, USA 1997-1999
- Regional Qa'id 1995-1997
- City Qa'id (Virginia and Maryland) 1993-1995
- Local Qa'id (Washington

Combined) 1991-1993

- Mohtamim Tabligh, USA 1992-1993
- Nazim Tabligh, Washington Majlis 1990-1991
- Nazim Waqar-e-Amal, Washington Majlis 1988-1990

Accomplishments:

- Developed the first ever online reporting system in 2000
- Facilitated and Established formation of Majlis-e-Sultan-ul-Qalam with Amjad Khan (LA) in 2000 (www.muslimwriters.org)
- Developed online presence for

MKA the only auxiliary after www.alislam.org in 1999 with a team of developers lead by Muhammed Chaudhary of San Jose/Silicon Valley

- Enhanced MKA USA's reporting
- Initiated Flu Shot Drive with Dr. Naeem Lughmani and activated San'at-o-Tijarat Department with Iftikhar Ahmad
- Initiated Adopt-a-Highway Program in 1999 with Ahmad Qawi of Zion
- Initiated Entrepreneurs/Business Conferences (held all three years) with the help of Iftikhar Ahmed of San Jose/Silicon Valley
- Developed the Logo of MKA and Tag Line (with Salman Sajid)
- Developed online Tajneed with Developers and Waqar Islam Bhatti of Silver Spring
- Lead the Finance Committee in Shura 1997 to increase MKA Chanda Ijtimā from \$ 12 to 1 percent of one month income (Rejected by Huzoor)
- As Sadr MKA, passed and got it approved by Huzoor to increase Chanda Ijtimā from \$ 12 to 1 percent of one month income (2001)
- Helped obtain over 1000 Proclamations/Citations to community members and Community over seventeen years from 1994
- Established Ahmadiyya Cricket Club with Usman Ijaz of Northern Virginia in 1990 as part of Washington Cricket League and lead the team in 1990 and 1991 season
- Successfully obtained 11 Proclamations/Citations for

Munum Naeem for his service to MKA USA as Sadr (1994-1999)

- Successfully obtained twelve Proclamations/Citations for Naseem Waseem for his service to MKA USA as Sadr (2002-2006)

Ijtimā Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya

Nazim-e-A'lā 1999, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1993

Jalsa Salana

Nazim Reserve I (Non-Ahmadi Guest) 1994

Na'ib Afsar Jalsa Salana 1995

Afsar Jalsa Salana 1996 and 1997

Na'ib Afsar Jalsa Salana 1998

Afsar Jalsa Salana 1999 to 2005

Accomplishments:

- Helped mature processes and aligned departments to work efficiently
- Mentored team members and had over 80% Khuddam in the leadership in 1997 Jalsa Team
- Introduced Survey in 1995 and enhanced the results to identify challenges and opportunities
- Assisted Munawar Saeed in obtaining over 40 Proclamations from various states for Bait-ur-Rahman
- Inauguration Souvenir in 1994 (first every in the United States)
- Obtained over 60 Proclamations/Citations on 50th Jalsa Salana in 1998
- Got a special cancellation approved by the US postal service for 50th Jalsa in 1998

Local Jamā'at

Public Relations Secretary, Laurel 2007-2010

President, Laurel 2007-2009

(July 07 – Feb 09)

Public Relations Secretary, Laurel 2004-2007

President, Maryland (Now three Chapters) 1996-1998 (July 96-Feb 98)

President, Washington Metro (Now 7 Chapters) 1996-1996 (Apr 96-Jun 96)

Additional Finance Secretary 1992-1996

Accomplishments:

- Developed a year book of Maryland Jamā'at in 1997 and 1998 respectively as "State of Maryland Jamā'at."
- Initiated First Organized Mushaira in USA and organized them in 1996 and 1997 at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque (1996) and University of Maryland, College Park (1997)
- Developed relationships between Jamā'at Poets and Aligarh Alumni Association (1997)
- Initiated Jamā'at Picnics with fun activities in 1996 and 1997
- Introduced Robo Calls in 1996
- Initiated first ever Text Messaging Service and eMail Blast in the US for a local chapter in 2007 as President of Laurel Jamā'at

National Jamā'at USA

Rishta Nata Secretary 2005-2009 (Apr 05-Feb 09)

Public Relations Secretary 1995-2001

- Organized the 1st ever press conference by Huzoor in 1996 at National Press Club attended by over thirty-five media outlets in 1996
- Organized a reception for Huzoor in 1997 at Capitol Hill (attended by three House Members)

- Organized a reception for Huzoor in 1998 at Capitol Hill (attended by 11 House Members)
- Organized a reception by Montgomery County at County Administration building for Huzoor in 1998 (attended by 7 council members)
- Tried and promoted to establish a PAC in 1997
- Coordinated an interview of Huzoor at Voice of America with eight Correspondents (1998)

Miscellaneous / Other Projects

- Assisted and worked with Anser Ahmed to get the by-laws of Humanity First
- Assisted Munum Naeem in getting 501 (c) three done for Humanity First
- Helped several candidates in

elections on behalf of our community that includes Ike Leggett (current county executive of Montgomery County) and several Federal and Local candidates

- Coordinated Political/Grassroots outreach for the Walkersville Project and door knocked over 4,000 homes in about two weeks
- Provided opportunities with Irfan Chaudhary to hire over 20 Ahmadi Engineers in Seattle
- Provided job opportunities to over 60 Ahmadi's in India who started at entry level positions at \$ 200 per month and in about six years were earning about \$ 2000 per month
- Funded/Mentored five small Businesses by granting loans of \$ 5,000 each in Hyderabad, India. 4 of them failed in less

than one year and 1 business is doing well

- Provided Communication/Language Skills to over 40 Ahmadi's in Hyderabad to acquire skills and obtain Call Center Jobs in 2005-2006. The cost of training was about \$ 600 per person.
- Assisted numerous Ahmadi's to find/facilitate/nominate for Jobs/Internships/White House Internships/White House Fellowships/Service and/or Community Service Award.

Humanity First (2004-2012)

Serves as the founding member on Humanity First Board from 2004 and have requested to be relieved from the board several times.

Syed Ghulam Ahmad Farukh



National Secretary Wasaya (1995-8)

I took responsibility of this office from Dr. Abdul Majid Shah on July 01, 1995. This is the usual start of the fiscal year of the Jamā'at. I had the experience of this department since 1990 as Secretary Wasaya of the Washington Metropolitan Jamā'at.

The first task was to contact all Mūshīs in the country to encourage and help them complete their annual returns [Schedule C Forms] as per Waṣīyyat Rules. There were

more than one thousand Mūshīs at that time in different chapters. Once the financial closing of the previous year was done, financial records were sent to all Mūshīs. By the grace of Allah, I was able to update records of all Mūshīs within the first four months of the fiscal year. Regular communication with them was established. Office of Wakalat Mal II, Rabwah was also contacted on regular basis.

All local chapters were provided with useful information, and importance of System of Waṣīyyat was highlighted to Mūshīs as well as local Wasaya Secretaries. A sample Waṣīyyat form was prepared so that prospective Mūshīs could fill out Waṣīyyat application forms easily. Mūshīs were continuously encouraged to pay Waṣīyyat dues according to their earnings.

Amīr US appointed a

committee at the national level to assess values of Mūshīs' properties. This committee consisted of National Secretary Wasaya, National Secretary Finance, and National Secretary Properties. So, if a Musi wanted to pay Hiṣṣa-e-Ja'idad (dues on property), the National Secretary Wasaya would ask the local president to make an evaluation of the said property with the consent of local Majlis-e-Āmila. That valuation would then be presented to this committee at the national level and its report presented to the National Amīr. Recommendation would then be sent to Wakalat Mal II, Rabwah for approval by Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya, Pakistan.

In 1992, Khalifatul-Masih IV approved establishment of Maqbarah Mūshīan (*cemeteries for Mūshīs*) all over the world including the USA. A management committee

was also approved by Khalifatul-Masih IVth whose first meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar who was a member as well as Na'ib Amīr, US Jamā'at at the time. It was formally decided that twenty five percent of all gravesites in all Ahmadiyya graveyards will be reserved for Mūṣīs.

By the grace of Allah, number



National Secretary Preaching (2001-13).

I was born on May 18, 1952. I live in Brooklyn, New York.

It was during my younger years in North Carolina that I started to question the concept of the divinity of Christ.

Akbar invited me to have dinner with him at a local Indian restaurant. This was the first time I

of Mūṣīs increased substantially during this period, both by immigration and new members joining the System of Waṣīyyat.

In 1998, Khalifatul-Masih IV sent a very strong message to Jamā'at that all Ahmadis should pay dues according to their earnings, especially the Mūṣīs. A committee worked under the chairmanship of respected Amīr to

Ali Murtaza

had ever tasted Indian food, and I fell in love with the food instantly. We ate and talked about the world and Islām. As I did not know anything about Islām, Akbar gave me a book, as a gift. The book was entitled, "The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islām" by *Ḥaḍrat* Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad of Qadian. I developed a thirst for knowledge about Islām, and I started to read anything I could find on the subject.

I felt an intense need to take control of my life and decide if I was going to be a Muslim or something else. So, I prayed to Allāh for guidance. Prior to this I had a dream during Ramaḍān of 1984. In the dream, I saw the Holy Prophet Muḥammad, peace and blessings be upon him, laying his hands on the afflicted people and healing

review Chanda payments of Mūṣīs during the preceding five years. This exercise not only highlighted importance of Waṣīyyat dues on members but also enabled them to pay their arrears. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 90 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)]

them one by one. I had been summoned to be among the people being healed. I always remembered this dream and its details.

One day Akbar informed me that the Ahmadiyya Community was having a Qur'anic exhibition at a hotel in New York City and suggested we get together and attend.

I accepted Ahmadiyyat through *Maulānā* Mukhtār Aḥmad Cheema, during the Khilāfat of our beloved Khalifatul-Masih, *Ḥaḍrat* Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad, Fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah.

Since becoming an Aḥmadī I have had the blessings from Allāh to meet the Khalifa several times. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice? pp. 56-61-Al-Naḥl, Summer 1995).

Dr. Karimullah Zirvi



Sadr Ansarullah (1993-9). National Secretary Education (2001-7). First President of

Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientist, Chief Editor the Ahmadiyya Gazette.

I came to America to join University of Louisville, KY as Ph.D. student. At that time Syed Jawad Ali was Missionary. He was the only Missionary in America. While I was in Louisville, I had the opportunity to convert one woman and a young man to Ahmadiyyat. While I was living in a nice building in which nice apartments were allotted to students, these new

Ahmadis used to come to my apartment to learn more about Ahmadiyyat. All the residents of the building were white. When these two black Ahmadis used to come to my apartment, all other residents used to stare at them. I took the new Ahmadis to Jamā'at's Annual gathering.

When Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad came to America as missionary, he visited me at Louisville KY. I took him to the editor of the main newspaper of

Louisville KY. The editor of the newspaper interviewed him and published his views in the

newspaper.

He was President of

Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists USA from 1995-99. ★

Dr. Muhammad Amjad Chaudhry



National Secretary Hospitality (2001-Present).

I came to the USA on Aug. 9, 1980 with a DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) degree

completed. I joined the US Army in March 1981 and kept on preparing for the DVM exam and passed the exam in 1990 and decided to remain in the Army as a Veterinary officer. I had two overseas tours, one was in Germany, I got married in Germany also and the second was in Sicily, Italy. From Sicily I was selected to have higher education, Master of Public Health and Lab Animal Medicine, both these courses were in DC. I bought a house near Baitur Rahman Mosque. I retired from the Army in 1998 and in 1999 I was selected to have a job in NIH (National Institute of Health). I will retire

from NIH in 2018. I am working at Glen Burnie Animal Hospital.

I was selected to be a Ziyafat Secretary in 1997 and continue serving by grace of God. In the time I have in Montgomery, I have done many volunteer services to the County, I was on the East Montgomery Advisory Committee, Middle Easton Advisory Group, and now Faith Community Advisory Group. I am involved in many civic committees, Burtonsville Day committee, Colesville Council Community Congregations called C-4. Many Interfaith Groups.

Hasan Hakeem



(National Secretary Publication (2001-13), Preaching (2013-6))

I was born and raised in Waukegan just near Zion. My parents were Christian. They had eight children. Five accepted Ahmadiyyat. 'Abdul was the first to take the name Hakeem. I was given the name Hasan. I accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1967. The preaching in the neighborhood was one-on-

one. They did not have a mosque or a building. Raheem was very inclusive of everybody. He led a clean life. Everyone wanted to be like him. We knew nothing until he started teaching. He would come all the way from Milwaukee to teach and preach.

I was involved in community politics. When I accepted Islam, those who were with me also accepted Islam. Many of them left. I still see some of them in streets, but they are no longer active. They left due to lack of attention and connectivity, and because no one reached out to them. They became Muslim as it was fashionable in those days. The 1960s were a time of revolution. The ones who were unsatisfied with Christianity stayed.

Not many Muslims went to college those days. I attended the Lake Forest College.

In my college, I founded

Muslim Student's Association. The non-Ahmadi do not realize that an Ahmadi Muslim founded that organization. A Jewish Libyan, myself and Hashim Sanusi were involved in the organization. The Jewish person was interested in Islam and was tolerant and claimed that he would support a cause which would increase knowledge and understanding.

I attended Waukegan High School. I was always interested in printing and publishing. I majored in graphic arts. I had vocational printing in mind. After I completed my degree, something very terrible dawned on me. I had never before felt this power against black people. I was told that I never will become a printer as they never hired a white as printer. There was no room for me in the printer union after graduating from school with honors. I was crushed.

It actually became a blessing.

My mother told me to go to college. I went to the Southern Illinois University. I did not do well due to more partying than anything else. Watt Frasier of New York Nicks was there. I went back home. I thought I was finished.

I was still very active in the community. Then I accepted Islam. I was publishing underground newspapers. We felt the revolution was on. What is right and wrong about the government? Power of the word became apparent.

A newspaper called that they needed a black journalist. I studied journalism myself, reading and looking at style. I worked for the paper for seven years. That is the longest I worked at any place. I was controversial. I left because they did not let me write.

I convinced the paper to send me to Pakistan. I was in the first American delegation to Jalsa Salana, one of the seven. The picture in the American centenary souvenir is wrong. Someone has the real picture. Rashid, Muzaffar, Hasan, Wali, Fazl Umar were from this area and there were two more. This was my first trip to Pakistan.

I was attracted to travel to the West Africa. I visited Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria and Ghana. I was looking for Ahmadiyyat. I saw the Nusrat Jahan Scheme at work. I did not know what missionaries did. This was the first look at the missionary work there. One thing I saw was that the Ahmadis were more a part of the Ghanaian society at all levels while Christians were an outpost and were distanced. Ahmadis were involved in community work in the villages. I visited mission houses and was very impressed that people were always there. They could come in any time for clothing or eating. We are trying to model the Zion project after that mission concept.

I went with the newspaper Sun. They paid for my education from sophomore to graduation. They sent me to Pakistan. I ran the pictures of the Khalifatul-Masih III. They gave me a whole page. I can find the 8-page small newsletter about second trip to Pakistan. From Pakistan, I went to Egypt. Sanusi invited me to Egypt. They were thrown out by Ghaddafi. The wives were very close and Sanusi was from King's family. I became as a brother to Hashim Sanusi. I named one of sons after him. He never accepted Ahmadiyyat, but he always agreed with me.

I became the president of the Waukegan Jama'at at the age of 19. Zion Jama'at had not been established. I knew nothing about Ahmadiyyat. I am still the president though not continuously. I have been president for more than twenty years.

The involvement in Messiah 2000 was inspirational. Until then I really did not realize what Zion meant. I delivered the first speech on Dowie in the late nineties. The speech actually belonged to Ali Murtaza. I asked to exchange, and that was my first speech at a Jalsa Salana. I invited everyone to come to Zion. The prophecy is still alive in Zion even today. Four thousand people came to Zion. More than 500 were non-Ahmadis. I worked with Anwer Khan. I learned a lot about the Jama'at during the process. Sahibzadah M. M. Ahmad was very instrumental in bringing the event to Zion. He asked everyone to come to Zion.

I have been honored. God has blessed me. If I had not become an Ahmadi, I would have lost my life in this country. Beauty of Ahmadiyyat is evident in the brotherhood among Ahmadis. It is impressive that they come from so many countries yet create a harmonious group. For someone to say it is not

Divine, they have to be blind and dumb. We live an example of the truth of Ahmadiyyat.

Dr Salahud-Din Shams was a wonderful man. He moved his family here. He never turned away anyone from his clinic because of money or any other reason. He started the Jama'at here. His home was the center of Ahmadiyyat.

In 1966, as a high school teenager, I was attracted to Islam mainly because of Muhammad Ali, the boxer. I had contact with activist Muslims who were involved in civil rights and social work in the community. I saw that Islam opened the door to help people who could not help themselves. I was a Baptist but knew nothing about religion. Going to church was only a ritual. I was not involved in studying the scriptures. Islam taught me more about religion than the church. Islam taught me to study how these religions related to Islam.

Ahmadis were active. Ali Raza worked in Kenosha. His wife is still there. Their house was the center of Islamic activities. It was a sort of Mecca of the area. They treated everyone like a family.

Zion project disburses social services. A 70-80 percent of people in jail are men. They are there predominantly due to non-violent crimes, mostly drug charges. We saw a need to reach out.

I received a call from the Lake County jail, which is not a prison. They asked me to come and provide Friday Prayer Services. We provided Islamic education. 'Id services were held. Non-Muslims were attracted. Many non-Muslims came just to listen.

Officials were impressed and baffled as to why people from gangs were coming together acting like brothers. The group swelled from two to more than fifty. The officials

were worried as to what was happening. They got involved and became supportive and helpful. Last year we had twenty in the group, this year we have eighty. This year in jail we had some fifty converts.

We also work with the families of the inmates. Their families have seen change and they are affected in many ways. Family ministry group meets weekly with the families interested in Ahmadiyyat. It is a great area for Tabligh.

We continue to grow services. Our services have taken us to Kinoshia because of an Ahmadi was picked up in Chicago for an immigration violation and was sent to Kinoshia. Maulana Mubasher Ahmad helped him released. After 9/11, even those have been picked up and detained who have been here for thirty years. We offered our services as assistant chaplain in the jail. In three months, the woman

chaplain decided to retire. They asked me to apply. They are hiring me. It has been an incredible part of my journey and jama'at's journey. There have been 12 initiations in Kinoshia. People tell me that they want to be part of our community, and that we have actually the Messiah, and they sign Bai'at form. Inmates there come from Somalia, Jordan, Palestine, Pakistan, India, Yugoslavia, etc.

There are more than two million people incarcerated in the US. One out of nine from black families is in jail showing the importance of maintaining presence in the jails. Work needs to be done in jails to transform the lives of people there. There are no distractions in the jail, so you got their full attention. They will read the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam and the Holy Qur'an page to page.

We do not have affordable

Qur'an. Hard-cover books cannot be brought in the jail; they are not allowed. We are missing out for not having inexpensive copies. In four days, a box appears with 100 copies of the Holy Qur'an in paperback from the non-Ahmadis. (Tens of thousands of copies of softcover Holy Quran have been printed and distributed specifically for this purpose by the Ahmadis in the years afterwards.)

It is easy to talk to young people in jail. If met in street, they would never pay attention. When they see visitors, they ask, "Did you bring any new books to read?" In prisons, Islam is a mixture of Sunnis, Shias, and Black Muslims. Inmates who become Ahmadis in jail, and have chance to learn enough, become Muballighs as they leave. They come out strong Ahmadis. (Related to Syed Sajid Ahmad in 2008)

Sardar Hifazat Ahmad

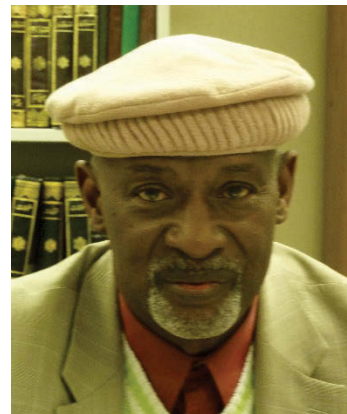
National Secretary Property (2004-7)



Mirza Kaleem Ahmad

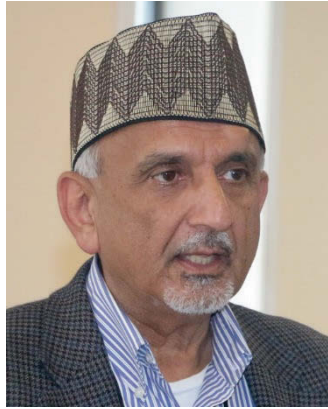
National Secretary Wasaya (2001-7)

Omar Shaheed



Khurram Bashir

Auditor of US Jamā'at (2007-13)



Syed Shoaib Ahmad

Internal Auditor of US Jamā'at (2001-4)

Shahid Saied Malik

National Secretary Social Services (2007-16)

Mirza Naseer Ehsan Ahmad

National Auditor (2004-7), National Secretary Finance (2007-2019)



Shafaat Faisal Khan

Treasurer US Jamā'at (2004-10)



Khurram Fuad Ahmad

National Secretary Industry/Trade (2004-13)

Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi



Na'ib Ameer (2016 – Present), National Secretary Tarbiyat (2013 – Present), National Secretary Ta'leem (2010 – 13), President Baltimore Jama'at (2013 – 2018)

and served on the board of Humanity First USA (2008 – 2019).

Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi is the youngest of the four children of the late Muhammad Younus Qureshi and Najma Younus. His maternal grandfather, Sheikh Abdul Aziz was a companion of Hazrat Masih-i-Mau'ood (a.s.) and his paternal grandfather Muhammad Sadiq Qureshi accepted Ahmadiyyat when the divine sign of plague manifested.

He is blessed to serve Jamaat Ahmadiyya USA in various

capacities, from a local Nazim of Khidmat-e-Khalq in Central Jersey to National Secretary Ta'leem in 2010. His team built a database of nearly 2,000 US students, started the Munir Hamid educational scholarship for African American students, and provided college application help for Ahmadi students. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih-al-Khamis blessed about 100 US students with a group Mulaqat in Masjid Bait-ur-Rehman Maryland and Masjid Bait-ul-Hameed CA in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

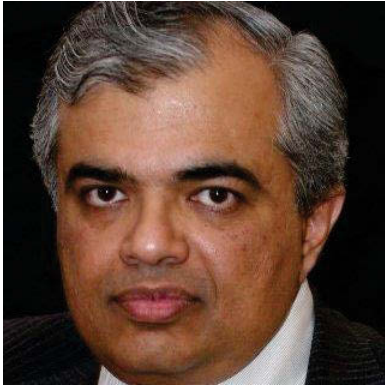
He was Baltimore Jama'at

President from 2013 – 2018. Al-Hamdu Lillah, the Baltimore Jama'at acquired its new mosque, Bait-us-Samad in 2015 which was inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih al-Khamis on October 20, 2018 in the presence of 1,700 Ahmadis. During those years, the hard work of Baltimore Jama'at members was blessed by Allah with 34 converts, a 25% increase in its Tajneed, and about 50% increase in its financial sacrifices. US and state senators, city mayor, four-star General, and other dignitaries were honored to visit Masjid Bait-us-Samad between 2015 – 18.

Since 2013, he has been serving

Bashir Ahmad Malik

Treasurer US Jamā'at (2010-Present)



as the National Tarbiyat Secretary. Our major areas of focus include populating our mosques for daily prayers, establishing 300 salat centers nationwide, inculcating the love of the Holy Quran among 100% of our members, and raising a generation that is devoted to khilafat. Our signature program for the Tarbiyat of children, Tahir Academy, was established in 2014 and is functioning in nearly 50 chapters nationwide, serving the needs of 2,500+ students.

In his role as Na'ib Ameer, he assists respected Ameer USA on special projects.

He moved to the United States

with his wife in June 1996 and is currently working as the Vice President/Chief Quality Officer and Chief of Infectious Diseases at the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health. His COVID-19 pandemic-related public health service reached nearly 2 billion people across 50 countries in the world. He was awarded the "Presidential Volunteer Service Award" by the White House in 2008. He was also named a "Baltimore Top Doctor" four times since 2017. He lives with his wife and four children in Baltimore MD.

Chaudhry Mujeeb Ullah

National Secretary Agriculture (2010-3)

Nasir Saeed Malik

National Secretary Agriculture (2013-6)

Faysal Adeel Sohail

National Secretary Trade and Industry (2013-6)

Nasirullah Ahmad

National Sec. Waqf-e-Jadid (2016-Present), Na'ib Qa'id MKA 1977-8



Nasirullah Ahmad was born on January 27, 1948, in Antia-Orenta, Cuba, to a Cuban father and a Jamaican mother. After a few years in Cuba, he moved to Jamaica,

West Indies, where his aunt took care of him through his elementary school years. In those years he played cricket, soccer, ping pong and track. Then he migrated to the US and stayed with his parents. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, with a B.S. in community education.

Nasirullah accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1971. He is blessed with five children, three girls and two boys. He worked for the Milwaukee County Transit System. His hobbies and interests include

reading, teaching, traveling, public speaking and spending time at the lake. He enjoys walking and bicycling with his grandchildren.

Nasirullah has been serving the Milwaukee Jamā'at all along. His services include: 2000 – 2006: Na'ib Sadr I, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

1992 to 2020: Sadr, Milwaukee Jamā'at

1978–1993: General Secretary, Milwaukee Jamā'at

1976–1988: Regional Qa'id,

Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Milwaukee

1972–1976: Qa'id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Milwaukee

(Al-Nahl, 2006, Q 4, p. 14)

National Sec. Waqf-e-Jadid

(2016-Present), Na'ib Qa'id MKA 1977-8

Nasirullah Ahmad received prestigious Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Lifetime Commitment Award for the year 2012. The award is given on behalf of MKA USA to

honor individuals who symbolize the spirit of Mufti Muhammad Sadiq. These are individuals who entered the fold of Ahmadiyyat at a time when the Ahmadiyya community was still in its infancy in the US in many respects.

Rafiq Ahmad Syed



National Secretary Property (2016-Present), President Dallas 1989-93

The Dallas Chapter was officially established in 1989 serving the entire Dallas-Fort Worth Metro area. Rafiq Sayed was the first president who served until 1993.

Dallas Chapter has long served

as the hub for technologists, and in early years Rafiq Sayed was instrumental in recruiting many engineers into Nortel and this resulted in a significant portion of the Jamā'at working in the telecom sector.

Jason Leonard Elsea



National Secretary Agriculture (2016-Present)

Abdul Hadi



National Sec. Trade and Industry (2016-9), President Silver Spring 2010-15, President RTP (2016-Present)

Muhammad Owusu



Muhammad is married with four children, three girls and a boy. He was Business Management Officer for the City of Richmond, VA. Qā'id Tarbiyat of Majlis Ansarullah, USA.

His services to the Jama'at include National Secretary Publication, National Auditor, Qā'id Tarbiyat, Majlis Ansarullah,

USA, Auditor, Majlis Ansarullah, USA, President Richmond (2008-2017) ★

Abubakar Bin Saeed

National Internal Auditor (2016-19)

Abubakar Bin Saeed was born in December 1969 in Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana, West Africa. He was born to a Muslim family and is the youngest of eleven children born to his father from two wives. His father's name is Abubakar Babzuda and mother's name is Ayeshetu Acheu. He has seven brothers and three sisters.

Abubakar attended T. I. Ahmadiyyat Primary and Middle school in Tamale and T. I. Ahmadiyyat Secondary School in Salaga, also in the Northern Region of Ghana. He graduated as a teacher from Bagabaga Teacher Training College in Tamale.

He was married to Ayesha Saeed of Milwaukee in 1999 and moved to the U.S. in December 2002. He is blessed with two children, Juwairiyah Saeed and Waleed Saeed. He works in the

health industry.

In Ghana, Abubakar served Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya as Secretary Atfal and Secretary Waqar-e-'Amal (Dignity of Labor). He also served on Işlahî Board (Conflict Resolution) and Secretary Ta'lim of his Jamā'at. He has received the Best Khadim Award in Ghana. His Jamā'at services in the U.S. are as follows.



Tarbiyat Secretary, Milwaukee

Jamā'at

2011–2012: Qā'id Tahrîk-i-Jadîd, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

Regional Nazim, Midwest region, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

Nā'ib Za'im, Şaf Dom, Milwaukee Majlis

2002–2006: Qā'id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Milwaukee

2006–2009: Regional Qā'id, Midwest Region, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

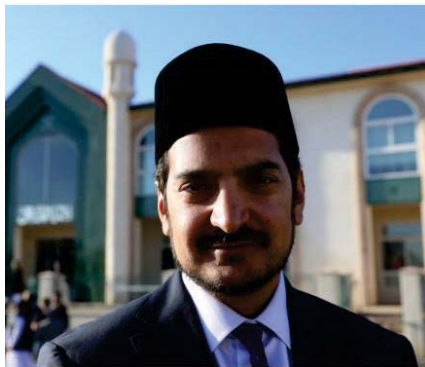
2009: Nazim-e-A'la, National Ijtimā' of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

2001 – 2006: Secretary Ta'lim, Milwaukee Jamā'at

(Al-Nahl, 2014, Q 1-4, p. 60)

National Internal Auditor (2016-19)

Ahsan Mahmood Khan



National Secretary Rishta Nata

(2019-Present), President LA East (2013-2019)

His father is Anwer Mahmood Khan, National Tahrîk-e-Jadîd Secretary USA, and he is the grandson of Maulana Abdul Malik Khan (Missionary and Nazir Işlah-o-Irshad, Rabwah Pakistan).

He was born in Portland, Oregon in 1976 and have lived most of his life in Southern California. He is an ophthalmologist (eye

surgeon) in practice in Orange County, California since 2005, having completed his training from UCLA Medical School and then residency/fellowship in Chicago.

He has served as President of the Los Angeles East Jama'at as well as Director of the Gift of Sight program for Humanity First USA. Secretary Rishta Nata USA.

Aftab Jamil

National Internal Auditor (2019-Present)

Aftab Jamil has been a member of the Silicon Valley chapter since 1998. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with 30 years of

experience in the field of accounting. He is a partner at an international CPA firm. After his undergraduate degree from the Punjab University Lahore, he went to England to complete his study

and training as a chartered accountant and worked in England and Singapore several years. During his stay in England, he served as the National Finance Secretary of Majlis Khuddam-ul-

Ahmadiyya United Kingdom from 1991 to 1994.



Since coming to the USA in 1998, with the grace of Allah the Almighty he has been blessed with opportunities to serve the Jamā‘at in various capacities. He was the national auditor of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA and regional Qa‘id of the Pacific

Northwest region. He served Silicon Valley Jamā‘at as Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid for three years, Secretary Umur-e-‘Amma for three years and the Vice President for over 10 years. He is an active member of Majlis Ansarullah and is the general secretary of Majlis Ansarullah Silicon Valley. He also had the blessed opportunity to be the Afsar Jalsa Salana West Coast for two years when the Jalsa was held in the Silicon Valley Area. He is currently serving as the USA Jamā‘at national internal auditor. In that role he also serves as a member of the National Finance Committee. Jamā‘at’s overall financial system has a very effective system of checks and balances to ensure the accuracy and integrity of Jamā‘at’s accounting system. As

the Jamā‘at internal auditor he is responsible to assess whether Jamā‘at financial affairs are being conducted in accordance with Jamā‘at regulation and conduct audits at the Center as well as coordinates with local chapter auditors for audits. He also works closely with various departments including National Finance, National Muhasib and National Treasurer to identify ways to make Jamā‘at financial systems as effective and efficient as possible to ensure that all Chanda collection and expenditures are accounted for in accordance with applicable Jamā‘at regulations with an appropriate degree of accountability by all those who are involved in handling Jamā‘at’s financial affairs.

Mukhtar Ahmad Malhi

General Secretary (2019-Present). Bio in missionaries’ section.

Talha Ahmad Chaudhary

National Secretary Finance (2019-Present)

Mobashir Ahmed

National Secretary Trade and Industry (2019-Present)

Sadr/Za'im A'la Ansarullah USA

Note: Until 1989, the missionary in-charge of a country was Na'ib Sadr of auxiliaries in the country. Auxiliary heads were elected or appointed by him with the approval of the global head of the auxiliary organization. Since 1989, heads of auxiliaries report directly to international headquarters.

Ahmad Shaheed

Elected Za'im A'la at 1959 Annual Convention



Biography entered in previous pages.

Syed Abdur Rahman

Elected Za'im A'la Ansarullah at 1962 Annual Convention



There were two men who helped shape the Cleveland Jamā'at. The first was Syed Abdur Rahman, who came to the U.S. in the mid-1920s. His family was from Kapurthala, India and who later migrated to Qadian. His grandson, Dr. Mikal Rahman, reports his grandfather jumped ship in New York harbor, where he was confined but later released. "Before he started the long journey, he got into some well-meaning, but mischievous trouble in Qadian.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) took him under his wings. Appreciating his kindness, Syed Abdur Rahman remained grateful to Sahibzada for the rest of his life" said Dr. Rahman.

During the journey, he earned some money running errands on the ship. When he reached the USA, it was a dark night in New York, and he lost his way and finally ended up in Harlem. Syed Abdur Rahman mentioned that he was very confused as to where he had landed and seriously wondered if the ship captain made a mistake and instead of taking the ship to America, had landed them in Africa. He was dressed in Shalwar Kameez, did not speak English, and was worried about his situation. He was soon reassured by a fellow Indian living in New York who convinced him that he was in the right place. This caring stranger took Rahman to his home. In a few days he found a job. Eventually, he was able to set up a

perfume and a cosmetic company in the 1940s and 1950s through his entrepreneurial nature and named it Zabe Perfumes and Cosmetics. His business did well for decades and withstood a potential buyout by the Helen Rubenstein Company. Due to his financial success, he was able to help those in Qadian during the partition time (1947).

Abdur Rahman's perfume-making business also became a guiding light for another missionary in Spain. In those days, before the onset of World War II, many countries were struggling with financial problems. A pioneer missionary, Karam Ilahi Zafar, sent to Spain by Hazrat Muşliḥ Mau'ūd, was going through financial issues as there was a lockdown of money transfer from India. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II, Muşliḥ Mau'ūd advised Karam Ilahi Zafar to replicate Abdur Rahman's perfume business. Missionary Karam Ilahi Zafar was able to employ this in his livelihood and

missionary work and remained in Spain for the rest of his life.

Rahman married Aleema Ahmad (Elois Ziegler) from Pittsburgh Jamā'at, who was raised by an early Ahmadi Syrian family. They had seven children, two boys (Lutf ur and Hameed) and five girls (Saleha, Maryam, Amina, Saleema and Siddiqa).

Syed Abdur Rahman was elected Za'im A'la Ansarullah at the

annual convention of 1962. (Al-Fazl, 5 October 1962)

Cleveland's pioneer Lajna members, sisters Medina Strickland and Kamila Kelley said that Rahman used to conduct most of the activities of the Jamā'at, including monthly meetings, running a primary school, conducting Qur'an classes, and delivering Dars in Ramazan.

Rahman was a very hospitable

man. He hosted Missionary Khalil Nasir, Professor Rasheeduddin Ahmad Khan of Hyderabad Deccan, and Dr. Hafiz Saleh Muhammad Alladin when they visited Cleveland. Syed Abdur Rahman was a Musi. He passed away on July 26, 1978 and was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah in Qadian India.

Fazal Abdullah Ahmad

Za'im-e-A'la of Majlis Ansarullah from 1987-1992

Fazal Abdullah was born a Catholic and later converted to Islam Ahmadiyyat. He was a very active member of the USA Jamā'at. As a member of Boston Jamā'at, he was active in many activities and later continued that in the Fitchburg Jamā'at. He served as

Za'im-e-A'la of Majlis Ansarullah from 1987-1992. In 1992, Fazal Ahmad formally started a magazine for Majlis Ansarullah, USA and named it 'Al-Nahl' based on the chapter from the Holy Qur'an. This magazine continues to run to this day, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh. He was awarded the Mufti Muhammad

Sadiq Award from MKA, USA on October 15, 2011. Due to old age, he has been unable to visit the Fitchburg Mosque in many years. He currently resides in Vermont. May Allah bless him with a long and healthy life. Ameen.



Dr. Karimullah Zirvi, Sadr Ansarullah (1993-99)



Please see detail in National Secretaries.

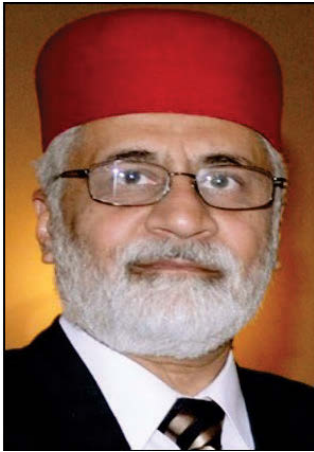
Nasir Mahmood Malik

Sadr Ansarullah (2000-2005)



Please see detail in National Secretaries.

Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa, Sadr Ansarullah USA 2006-2013



Dr. Wajeeh Bajwa is grandson of Hazrat Chaudhry Muhammad Hussain Bajwa (Waṣīyyat No: 7), an early companion of the Promised Messiah (Alaihis-Salām), who accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1891 and moved his family to Qadian in 1891 from Talwandi Inayat Khan, Sialkot. Dr. Bajwa is son-in-law of Prof. Sir Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureate.

Dr. Wajeeh is married to A. Bushra Salam Bajwa, daughter of Professor Sir Abdus Salam. They are blessed with four children, three sons, a daughter (the

youngest son being a Waqf-e-Nau), two granddaughters and a grandson (all three have been accepted as Waqf-e-Nau).

In his younger days, Wajeeh played cricket (at university level), soccer, and table tennis. His hobbies include computers, Do-it-Yourself projects, and gardening.

Wajeeh earned his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Glasgow in 1981 and went on to do post-doctoral work on yeast expression systems with Dr. Albert Hinnen, first at the Freidrich Meschier Institute (Basel, Switzerland) and then at Ciba-Geigy Biotechnology Center (Basel, Switzerland). Dr. Hinnen was the first molecular biologist to develop a yeast transformation system.

Dr. Bajwa joined Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylvania State University in 1985 for more post-doctoral research. This led to his working for a biotechnology company, Strohtech Inc, in Detroit, MI, (which in 1993 converted to Apex Bioscience, Inc. and moved to

Research Triangle Park, North Carolina) where he was part of the team to successfully express functional human hemoglobin in yeast.

In 1998, Dr. Bajwa moved to Duke University Medical Center, North Carolina. Based on Dr. Bajwa's work at Duke, the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) initiated the Research Subject Advocate program for all General Clinical Research Centers (GCRCs) in 2001. Dr. Bajwa was the founding member of Society of Research Subject Advocates.

He joined Duke University Medical Center in 1998 as Research Subject Advocate and Regulatory Consultant.

In 2008, he joined the University of Florida as Director of Regulatory Affairs and in 2010 became Director, Regulatory Knowledge and Support Program, Clinical and Translation Science Institute, University of Florida. In July 2017, Wajeeh joined the University of Florida –

Jacksonville, FL as Research Regulatory Manager. He is among the leaders in the field of protection of human subjects who participate in clinical research/trials. Dr. Bajwa's work spans a breadth from molecular and genetics work to animal studies and human clinical trials. For more than 35 years, he has focused on the GxP regulations with emphasis on the drug development and compliance activities related to human subject projection.

Wajeeh was blessed at the age of thirteen to serve Majlis Atfāl-ul-Ahmadiyya in Model Town, Lahore, Pakistan. Since then, he has been blessed with the opportunities to serve at the local and national levels. He was also a member of the International Computer Committee, formed in

1991, by Khalifatul-Masih IV (rahimahullāh), to assess Jamā'at's computer needs and requirements. Some of his services to the Jamā'at include:

2019 – to date: Member of the support team to the Centennial Committee 2020

2019 – to date: Secretary Tarbiyat, Orlando Jamā'at

2019 – to date: Accountant, Orlando Jamā'at

2010-2018: Editor The Muslim Sunrise

Since 2018: Senior editor The Muslim Sunrise

2010-2019: President, Orlando Jamā'at

2006-2013: Sadr, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

2001-2005: President, Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists, USA

2000-2005: Qa'id Umūmī, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

1995 – to date: Member of the translation teams in the Jamā'at (USA and International)

1995 – 2008: Founding President, Research Triangle Jamā'at

1995-1998: National Satellite Fund Secretary, USA

1992 – 1994: Na'ib Sadr, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

1991 – 1993: General Secretary, Detroit Jamā'at

1990 – 1991: Na'ib Officer Jalsa Salana, USA

1989-1991: Qa'id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Detroit. Majlis won 'Alam-i-In'ami.

1987-1990: General Secretary of Detroit Jamā'at

Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi

He served as Sadr Majlis Ansarullah from 2014 – 2018. Due to the guidance and prayers of Huzoor-e-Aqdas, Majlis Ansarullah crossed the critical mark of 1,000 in the total number of Moosiyan, National Ijtimā attendance, monthly meetings combined attendance. The Majlis crossed the 2,000 mark in terms of total chanda-paying members and participants in the blessed schemes of Tahrik-e-Jadid and Waqf-e-Jadid. In 2014, it was our honor to fund two new buses (>\$110,000) for the special needs children in Rabwah, Pakistan. Over \$50,000 a year was spent on social services annually and our Qaid Health started a free medical hotline, serving nearly 100 patients a year with free medical advice and prescription services. Nearly 100 Zo'ama and National Amila members were blessed to fly out to the UK twice (in 2015 and 2017) for

a special Mulaqat with Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih al-Khamis. By following Huzoor's advice, the finance team increased our income budget by 40% in one year, putting the Majlis on track toward a million-dollar budget.

In 2015, Huzoor-e-Anwar blessed the scheme of establishing an Ansar Housing Complex (AHC) in Maryland, constituting 48 homes and a 10,000 square ft community center for five daily prayers.

Huzoor-e-Anwar purchased the first home in AHC, which was nearest to the community center. After facing Islamophobic discrimination by local politicians and the county for nearly two years, we prevailed at the federal government (HUD) and the US Federal court in 2019 and 2020, respectively. The AHC was completed in October 2022 when all homes were purchased by

Ahmadis living in various US states and the community center was completed. Huzoor-e-Aqdas visited the AHC in 2018. Allah granted us success at every level due to the prayers of Khilafat.

We humbly narrate these facts so that our future generations know that despite such meager efforts, our faith in the ultimate success of Islam Ahmadiyyat is total. We pray that the second century of American Ahmadis witness more signs of "... three centuries from now shall not have passed when ... shall prevail only one religion over the whole world and there shall be only one religious' leader. I came only to sow the seed, which has been planted by my hand. It shall now grow and flourish and there is none who can hinder its growth." (Tadhkirat-ush-Shahadain, Ruhani Khazain, Vol. 20, p. 67)

Dr. Imran Hayee



Dr. Imran Hayee is a professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Minnesota Duluth. He completed his Ph. D. in

electrical engineering from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles in December 1998. He worked in industry for almost six years before joining the Electrical Engineering department of the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2004. Dr. Hayee holds 18 US patents and has published more than 70 research articles in peer reviewed journals and conferences. His research interests are in the areas of optical fiber communication and intelligent transportation systems.

Dr. Imran Hayee has been serving as Sadr Majlis Ansarullah USA since Jan 2018. He has previously served the Majlis Ansarullah as Na'ib Sadr (Saff Dom) and Qa'id Umūmī. He has previously served Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA as Mohtamim Tajneed, Mohtamim San'at-o-Tijarat and Mohtamim Atfāl. He has also served his Minnesota Jamā'at in various roles.

Presidents Lajna Ima'illa USA

Amatul Hafiz Nasir (1949-54)

Amatul Hafiz Nasir was the first National Lajna President, appointed in 1949 by the Missionary in-Charge who also happened to be her husband. She worked tirelessly for Lajna members in the first Majalis (chapters) in USA including Dayton, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Chicago, New York and St. Louis (USA Khilafat Centenary Souvenir 2008).

At the third Annual Convention in 1950, in Pittsburg, Missionary Khalil Nasir advised the Lajna delegates that it was time to “elect” a National Sadr (President). The delegates unanimously agreed that

since Amtul Hafiz Nasir had lived at the Central Headquarters in India (later Pakistan), she was more familiar with Lajna procedures than American sisters (USA Khilafat Centenary Souvenir, 2008). She was elected and then re-elected twice at the following conventions. It led to formal definition and execution of Lajna auxiliary at national and local level.

The National Lajna Meeting at the 1950 Jalsa (convention) also introduced the first formal Lajna National Program structured around education, propagation of

Ahmadiyyat, and Lajna finances. This program emphasized the teachings of modesty in dress. Lajna was asked to hold different events to introduce the true Islam in their respective non-Ahmadi women communities. Under this Program, Lajna also crafted and sold different household articles to meet the financial needs of a growing Jamā'at. Our younger membership today, can understand the essence and history behind the “Handicrafts” department in Launa and gain inspiration from these stories of adversity and sacrifices by early sisters. ★

Aliyyah Ali (1954-1956)

Aliyyah Ali of Indianapolis, Indiana accepted Islam through the first American missionary of Islam, Mufti Muhammad Sadiq. Sisters remember that though her manner seemed firm she was also gentle and loving. Her contemporary, Sister Aliyyah Shaheed said of her, “She

could do some of everything.” A devout Ahmadi Muslim, she dedicated all her talents to furthering the cause of Islam.

Records document that at the first USA Jalsa, held in Dayton Ohio in 1948, Sister Aliyyah Ali of Indianapolis was elected as the USA

Jamā'at's National Financial Secretary. Aliyyah was an innovative fundraiser, a gifted speaker, a persuasive writer, a committed preacher of Islam, an organizer, and a leader. At one time, for four years, she was even President of the entire Jamā'at in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The brothers, including her husband, who was also a dedicated Ahmadi were comfortable with this, recognizing that she was the best qualified for the job. The international Lajna Ima'illah history records give testament to her work, "It is her effort and dedication that keeps the Indianapolis Mission going."

She held weekend socials and teas where she introduced attendees to Islam, gave them literature and sold them dinners to raise money for Jamā'at needs. Sister Aliyyah was diligent about serving the needy and sick and insisted that Jamā'at members do the same. With the members' help, Sister Aliyyah donated Holy Qur'ans to individuals, as well as to university libraries

throughout Indianapolis. She also helped raise money to build a mosque in The Hague, Holland, and for the Qadian, India Relief Fund.

At the same time as her local Jamā'at presidency, Aliyyah was elected Lajna's second National President. She was the USA first American National President, succeeding Amatul Hafiz Nasir who was from Hyderabad, India.

International Lajna records document and describe her presidency: "During this time [1954-1956] Sister Aliyyah Ali (Indianapolis) was elected National President. During her tenure, there was a strong spirit among the local Lajna chapters to organize more effectively. Sister Aliyyah Ali was looked upon with great respect by

her peers."

She held this position from 1953 until her death in 1956. She was only in her late 40s.

International Lajna Ima'illah records state: "Respected Aliyyah Ali is an active member of Lajna Ima'illah America and first and foremost in all types of Jamā'at work, passed away this year (1956). To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return. She had been the Financial Secretary of the American Jamā'at and she was the Secretary Lajna USA [and Lajna President]. She would do her work with great vigor, responsibility, and perfection. Lajna Ima'illah Markaziyya sent their sympathies to Lajna Ima'illah USA. ★

Zakiyyah Ashraf Mahmud (1956-1957)

Zakiyyah Ashraf became Lajna's third elected president at the premature death of the preceding President, Aliyyah Ali. Sister Zakiyyah's Lajna Program centered on education. Believing education to be a lifelong process, she did not define education in strict academic or religious terms only. Her vision for Ahmadi women was that education should embrace creative expansion in every discipline. For those sisters who were academically inclined, she emphasized pursuing that talent. Her own special interest was home economics.

Sister Zakiyyah emphasized that there was nothing more precious than living in a Muslim family environment in which moral, spiritual and ethical values are the lifestyle practiced. These values come from understanding and following the Qur'an. She argued that training in Islamic cultural mores, and solidifying these values in self and children, began at home in the right atmosphere of love and harmony. Sister Zakiyyah believed

that in order to achieve these goals, the home must be managed efficiently. The physical environment should create an atmosphere that complements the religious and cultural training. Social services and the propagation of Islam to others is a worthy activity, but in terms of assimilating Islamic values personally, it should begin at home. She strongly pushed home economics in her Lajna program, education in parenting and the domestic arts, cleanliness, housekeeping management, cooking, sewing, household finances, childcare skills, etc. Her program emphasized creative domesticity as an art form. She believed that those who grew up in such an environment would benefit for a lifetime. Zakiyyah emphasized that those sisters in Lajna who were already outstanding in these areas should teach those who were willing to learn.

During her term as National Lajna President, USA, she married Khalil Mahmud, of the Boston

Jamā'at. She thus became Zakiyyah Mahmud. Khalil Mahmud and Zakiyyah relocated to Nigeria in 1962 where Brother Khalil obtained a position as an Arabic cataloger. Sister Zakiyyah worked as a secretary in the library and later in the School of Librarianship.

Although Sister Zakiyyah's involvement in America's Lajna ended, she continued to help the Muslims of her new country and improve herself through education. She decided to register for a bachelor's degree in Home Economics at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. At the time, she was already forty-eight years old and felt shy about competing with students, most of whom were young enough to be her children.

She wrote to Khalifatul-Masih III for prayers. When Huzoor answered her letter, he said, "Congratulations on your new career." Zakiyyah says that she was "ecstatic yet humbled by these words." It gave her renewed energy

each time she read his reply. Four years later, after graduating with a B.Sc. in Home economics, Sister Zakiyyah opened a nursery school. Several Ahmadis sent their children to her school, where she taught them reading, writing, math, and other fundamental academic skills.

A bonus of Sister Zakiyyah life abroad, was the opportunity to travel extensively. In 1972, while they lived

in Nigeria, she and her husband performed Hajj. She had visited Rabwah, Pakistan, Qadian, India, and other cities in Pakistan and India. She also visited Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Morocco, England, Germany, Holland, France, Spain, the Canary Islands, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Togo, Dahomey, the Sudan, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico.

Sister Zakiyyah and her husband remained in Nigeria for twenty-seven years, returning permanently to America in 1989, when Brother Khalil accepted a position at Lincoln University as an Archivist and Professor of Religion. (Information provided by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad taken from the unpublished History of Lajna, USA) ★

Moneerah Ahmad (1957-1958)

Moneerah Ahmad, born Vernell Hall, on March 31, 1930, in Springdale, Mississippi, was the USA Lajna's fourth National President, serving from 1957-1958. She married James Carr in 1948 and the couple migrated to St. Louis, Missouri in 1951. They accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1953 adopting the names Munir and Moneerah Ahmad. Moneerah and her husband, would become dedicated members of the St. Louis Jamā'at. Munir Ahmad became the St. Louis Jamā'at President, holding this position for more than forty years.

In 1957, when she was elected National President of Lajna, Sister Moneerah said that she was "primarily a homemaker," and this had been her focus up to then. At the time she had three young children to care for and unfortunately experienced some health problems shortly after taking office. Because of this she explained, "this accounts for some of the inactivity of National Lajna during my one-year tenure."

During her presidency, she reported that there were ten functioning Lajna Chapters, no new Lajna were established, and none became inactive under her administration. Moneerah said, "One of the most important accomplishments, during my term, was the appreciation and respect I had for each officer's duties as outlined in the "International Rules

and Regulations" Handbook." She emphasized that, though she was not able to visit any of the local Lajna, "through correspondence I was able to maintain a good relationship with my officers and the local membership."

After her national presidency ended, she continued to serve the Lajna in various capacities both locally and nationally. She had an appreciation and respect for the cultures of all her Ahmadi sisters and she inculcated deep bonds of mutual love with all the St. Louis Lajna sisters.

Among the things Moneerah hoped to accomplish in her lifetime, was to expand her secular education and to travel outside the United States. She accomplished one goal in 1984 when she acquired an associate degree in Human Services. Achieving her desire to travel outside the United States, she attended the Inaugural Ceremony of the Toronto, Canada Mosque in 1992. She died in 1996. She and her husband left behind a legacy of service and devotion to the faith which their family members in the St. Louis Jamā'at continue to follow today.

A loving tribute written and read in the October 1996 St. Louis Lajna meeting by then local President, Tanvir Ahmad, gives insight into her character.

My dear sisters, "As you know,

we have lost one of our dear sisters, Moneerah Ahmad, after her long, brave struggle with leukemia. Allah alone knows why He puts any of us to trials. Our greatest struggle is to be able to face our trials with faith, dignity and trust in His Perfect Knowledge and Absolute Will. Sister Moneerah has given us the example of living a pure Islamic life in health, and then in facing her illness, and death, with such patience, faith, dignity and trust in Allah, that all of those whose lives she touched were amazed.

"It has been a blessing for us to have such a sister among us. She was one of those special people that Allah led to Ahmadiyyat in this country, as a young mother. In these days, we can see Ahmadiyyat spreading throughout the world with our own eyes, but just imagine that you are a convert to Islam forty-four years ago, when there were only a handful of members and a few missionaries in America. You have accepted the Promised Messiah, and you are told that his message will spread around the world. At that time, those who believed this when it was not readily apparent, who believed on faith alone were special people.

From the beginning, Sister Moneerah believed this with all her heart. She loved Islam, the Promised Messiah, and the Khalifatul-Masih. She brought her children up in the faith, and was a prime example to

them, and to her grandchildren, of living Islam. Sister Moneerah practiced Islam in all aspects of her life. She was a role model as a Muslim wife, mother, grandmother, neighbor, friend and sister to us all.

“We will miss her kindness, good example, sense of humor, and all those little ways that were part of Sister Moneerah. May Allah have mercy on her soul and grant her a special place in Paradise. May He give strength to her family and

friends, and comfort us all in our great loss. Ameen.”

(Information provided by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad taken from the unpublished History of Lajna, USA) ★

Saeeda Lateef (1958-63 and 1966-7)

Saeeda Lateef was born as Nellie Stone in North Carolina. After her election in 1958, under her leadership, the USA Lajna worked to support the National Jamā‘at programs. For example, in 1959, Lajna donated its entire national treasury to meet the publication expenses of the Muslim Sunrise.

In 1961, because of her requests to the International Lajna Ima‘illah headquarters in Rabwah, Saeeda Lateef received the English Translation of the Lajna Constitution, rules, and regulations. Previously it had only been available in Urdu. The implementation of the Lajna Constitution is a major milestone in USA Lajna history as it provided the formal organizational structure and functional framework of Lajna Ima‘illah as we know it today. It provided structure to Lajna programs, and the expansion of national officer categories from four to eleven, with eleven counterpart officers in each local Lajna. The same year (1961), the Nāsirāt-ul-Ahmadiyya (young girls aged seven to fifteen auxiliary), was organized nationally. Jameela Hamid, of Philadelphia, was appointed as the first National Nāsirāt Secretary from

1975-1978. Since then, Nāsirāt is fulfilling its mission under the guidance and maternal umbrella of Lajna.

Another effort was to educate Ahmadi Muslim children. While neither Lajna nor the Jamā‘at were able to start a fully organized and functioning school, it was possible to offer some type of classes on a limited basis. It was decided to follow the old American tradition of holding camp sessions to teach the basics of Islam, and the beauties of nature at the same time. This would become known as the “Camp Program.” In 1962, the USA Lajna held its first camp-school session for Ahmadi Muslim children in Lothian, Maryland. It was named “Camp Jalal.” Ahmadi children came from all over the East Coast and Midwest. Saeeda was the Chairperson of the Camp-School Program and even after her term as Lajna President was completed, the camp continued. The children enjoyed Ahmadiyya summer camp for eight consecutive years (1962-1970). There they experienced an almost pure Islamic environment, enjoyed nature, and were provided strong religious training by missionaries who came

as teachers.

Another important contribution of Saeeda was that she compiled the early history of the American Lajna. For years, she researched, held interviews, and collected the records of Lajna Ima‘illah in America. Her records document the development of Lajna Ima‘illah USA and the stories of its pioneer members. International Lajna entrusted this task to her as documented in the records translated from Urdu:

“Respected Maryam Siddiq, Sadr Lajna Ima‘illah Markaziyya, wrote to respected Saeeda Lateef who is an active member of Lajna Ima‘illah USA to organize and send the history from 1947-1958 for Part II of the Lajna Ima‘illah history book. She has written the history notes below which shed light on the exemplary sacrifices of pioneer members.”

(From the book: “History Lajna Ima‘illah” Part II, 1947-1958, (Under the guidance of Maryam Siddiq Sadr Lajna Ima‘illah Rabwah) Compiled by Amtul Lateef (Secretary Publications Lajna Ima‘illah Markaziyya) Daftar Lajna Ima‘illah Markaziyya Rabwah Published January 1972) ★

Aliyyah Shaheed (1963-1966 and 1972)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V commented on her passing away: I will now mention about a pioneering noble Ahmadi woman from America and will also lead her funeral prayers after the Friday prayers. Her name was Aliyah Shaheed, wife of the late

Ahmad Shaheed. She passed away on 26 December. God the Almighty had bestowed her with a long life and enabled her to serve [the Jamā‘at] and also protected her from any handicap. She was 105 years old. May Allah the Almighty exalt her

rank. To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.

Amīr USA has written about her that she pledged allegiance in 1936, and from 1963-66, served at Sadr Lajna [National President of the Ladies Auxiliary Organization].

Similarly, her services spanned fifty years in which she had the opportunity to serve in various capacities, ranging from General Secretary to Secretary Ta'lim and Secretary Finance, Sadr Lajna Muqāmi, and Secretary of Khidmat-i-Khalq. She always maintained a strong connection with the Jamā'at and Khilafat, and always remained vigilant and ready for every type of sacrifice. She was an extremely kind and loving woman. She had committed to memory the early accounts of the Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA, which she often used to narrate.

She was always in search of knowledge. She spent her time in the upkeep of the mosque, cooking, offering daily Prayers. It was not the case that she only tried to gain knowledge, but she humbly used to perform Waqar-e-Amal, and serve the Jamā'at with her own hands. Cleaning the mosque and cooking were her roles.

She strived to her utmost in promoting unity and sisterhood of the members of Lajna, for which she wrote numerous individual letters to members of Lajna in her final days." Sadr Lajna writes that there was one verse of the Holy Qur'an which she used to often repeat which I've heard from her as well,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الَّذِينَ يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِهِ
صَفًا كَانَهُمْ بَنِيَانٍ مَرْصُوصٍ

She reports that she would always repeat this. That is, Verily, Allah loves those who fight in His cause arrayed in solid ranks, as though they were a strong structure cemented with molten lead.

The Sadr Lajna has written "Aliyyah would tell us that –during her time-as 98% of Lajna members had only recently joined the Jamā'at by way of pledging allegiance, in the beginning, they would only enjoin them to offer the five daily prayers

and keep fasts in the month of Ramadan. Likewise, instead of making them wear the Hijab from day one, we would start by bringing their attention to wearing appropriate clothing, telling them to first make their clothing suitable. Then the next step would be to wear the Hijab." Unlike a trend that has commenced nowadays that those even wearing the Hijab have begun taking it off. She-on the other hand-would guide them from one step to the next striving to provide spiritual training.

Then, Aliyyah put great effort in teaching basic recitation of the Qur'an by preparing daily teaching programs. Like this, those Lajna members who would finish learning the basic recitation of the Holy Qur'an, she would bring their attention daily towards covering some commentary of the Holy Qur'an. "On 23 March 2008, she spoke to the members of Lajna stating that all the followers of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) around the world gathered in the mosques and mission houses on January 1 to offer the Tahajjud Prayers as an act of thanksgiving, so why can we not do this once again this year, as it marks one hundred years since the Khilafat of our beloved Promised Messiah was established?" She further writes, "O my Allah! Remove all hurdles in the progress of Ahmadiyyat and grant us that victory which You have promised us. Our Promised Messiah has laid the foundations for this Jamā'at and united us all as one body. It is due of him that we Ahmadis feel the pain of one another, help each other in times of difficulty, pray for one another, partake of the happiness of another and are aggrieved by the suffering of another. By the grace and mercy of God the Almighty we are one."

She then wrote in her message to the new converts in Lajna Ima'illah

there, "It is God Almighty's special favor, and I am extremely fortunate to have witnessed the progress of the Jamā'at with my own eyes. God the Almighty has graced us by choosing our Jamā'at for the propagation and service of Islam. Every week we have the opportunity to listen to the Khalifa of the time and advance in our worldly affairs and progress in our faith by acting upon his instructions." In the end she wrote, "I pray O my Master! Remove all hurdles in the progress of Ahmadiyyat. Make us the true portrayal of our faith and grant us countless helpers." Thus, she played a special role, with the circumstances there, in keeping the African American new converts together.

Another Ahmadi, Dr. Rashida Ahmad, who is also originally from America, states: "She herself would strictly adhere to the teachings of Islam but would advise others in a very loving manner. The love of God the Almighty was reflected from her every action and deed."

Another Lajna member, Khulat, writes: "I became acquainted with Aliyah when I first came to USA in 1949. I was eight years old at the time when I first met her. She was extremely loving and friendly and had a personality that would leave a positive impression on others. She had an extremely long held and firm bond with Khilafat. She would mention about her correspondence in letters with Hazrat Muslih Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him). Her services for Lajna Ima'illah USA will always be remembered. She had an astounding spiritual persona and despite being a hundred years old, she would attend the Jalsas [annual conventions] which serves as a model for us."

May God the Almighty elevate her status. And the spirit and passion she had to serve the Jamā'at—which her son also

mentioned—may God the Almighty instill that in her progeny as well. ★

Nycemah Yaqub (1967-1969 and 1972-1975)

Nycemah Yaqub, a second-generation American Ahmadi Muslim grew up in the Chicago Jamā'at, when the USA membership was more than ninety-eight percent American converts. Her father converted in 1933. As a young girl, she is present in the historic pictures of the early Jamā'at members taken with Missionary Soofi Mutiur Rehman Bengalee. Under her father's guidance her Islamic education included the fundamentals; a regime of salat and a strict mosque attendance requirement.

Nycemah was first elected to the Lajna USA National Presidency in 1967. She advanced Lajna to a more efficient, organized, and cohesive level. Her first term as National President lasted two years, ending in 1969. The themes during her two years in office were, "Greater Efficiency in Lajna" and "Deeds, not Words."

An important Lajna initiative under President Nycemah was to establish gender separation (purdah) in Ahmadi Mosques in America. Soon after Sister's Nycemah's election, she, along with Sister Amina Khalid (National Moral Training Secretary) requested each Jamā'at to arrange for women and men to meet and pray in the mosque in separate rooms. Separation of sexes was established in all US

Ahmadi Mosques by late 1969.

During her second term as USA Lajna President (1972 to 1975) she developed twenty-two pages of Bylaws to Lajna's Constitution, Rules and Regulations to help the USA Lajna implement the Constitution more effectively. The Bylaws were eventually approved by the Central Lajna Headquarters in Rabwah and went into effect for America's National and local Lajna in 1973. The Bylaws introduced a new concept at that time, dividing Lajna into three Regions (Circles). The Bylaws improved office administrative procedures; efficient record keeping and storage for history writing; the smooth transition of outgoing and incoming administrations.

Under President Nycemah's direction, the National Social Secretary, Aziza Ahmad was instrumental in having the book, Handbook for Women, translated from Urdu into English and later published. The translation of this book was supervised and approved by Respected Chhotē Apa, the International Lajna Ima'illah President.

In 1974, the first delegation of eight women representing Lajna Ima'illah USA attended the International Jalsa at Rabwah. Sister Nycemah Yaqub led the delegation as the USA Lajna President and was

required to address the fifty thousand members of Lajna Ima'illah International.

During the height of anti-Ahmadiyya fervor in Pakistan in 1974, soon after the Pakistan government had declared Ahmadi non-Muslim, Khalifatul-Masih III requested that Nycemah travel through the Punjab to witness the conditions facing Ahmadi under persecution. It was a challenging task and foreshadowed that American Ahmadi woman would play a major part in publicizing the treatment of Ahmadi in Pakistan in the world press in the future.

Later, after her presidential terms, as an aspiring journalist, Nycemah was blessed to serve the Jamā'at in various editorial projects. Some of these included serving as Chairperson for the International Media Kit that represented Khalifatul-Masih during his historic 1989 Ahmadiyya Centenary visit to the US. She also served on the all-women committee that compiled the index for the Five-Volume Holy Qur'an, with English translation and commentary. She was also a member of the committee assigned to write the book on the history of Lajna Ima'illah in America and wrote much of the text of the first draft which was completed in 2000. (Courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad) ★

Lubna Razia Ijaz (1969-1971)

Born in Pakistan in 1936, Sister Lubna lived most of her life in the United States. Dr. Ijaz was the daughter of Nazir Hussain, a noted Pakistani mathematician. She was the granddaughter of Hakim Mohammed Hussain, companion of the Promised Messiah and great

granddaughter of Mian Chiragh-ud-Din whose family built the Lahore Railway Station under British-ruled India. Nazir, Hakim and Chiragh-ud-Din were three of the first 313 converts to Ahmadiyyat.

She began her service to Jamā'at Ahmadiyya at a young age, serving as

an officer in Nasirat before she left Pakistan. Upon her relocation to America, she became very active in Lajna during different periods of her life. Before her term as National President, Sister Lubna held several positions as local president in various Lajna, as well as national

positions, including that of National Education Secretary from 1963 to 1969 and National General Secretary.

Lubna Ijaz was elected to the office of National President of Lajna Ima'illah, USA in 1969. Lubna and her national officers developed a robust program for Lajna. During her Lajna presidency, Sister Lubna was a practicing scientist, a teacher (Professor of Solar Physics), a wife, and a mother of five children. She was able to fulfill her responsibilities by planning and utilizing every moment of time effectively.

Lubna's presidency had a major impact in promoting education. Her goal was to raise awareness among Lajna sisters of the necessity of education, as well as provide opportunities for higher education among the Nasirat (young girls). To this end, she instituted a Lajna Scholarship Fund for Ahmadi girls. She worked with Sisters Saeeda Lateef, Aliyyah Muhammad and the Lajna National Camp Committee for the promotion of an Ahmadiyya Camp-School, originally begun in 1962. During the 1960s and 1970s, the Camp-School remained a viable

institution for almost a decade and became the forerunner of Jamā'at local and regional schools and camps nationwide.

She was also successful in placing great emphasis on the full significance and implementation of purdah. She pushed for adherence to Islamic values, against dating, and other social interactions with men. Overall, Lajna is indebted to Dr. Lubna for her efforts to encourage sisters to uplift themselves intellectually, as well as morally and spiritually – to strive to realize their full potential as women.

Lubna Razia Ijaz, a solar scientist and retired professor of solar physics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, died on January 8 at her family's home in Los Altos Hills, California. She was 80 years old.

Her research work at Virginia Tech resulted in several patents in photovoltaic solar cell designs, with particular emphasis on sputtering technologies (the process by which chemical layers are added to a solar cell's surface). Her later patents focused on thin-film technologies

employing nano particles, the first of its kind in the 1980s as nanotechnologies were first being developed.

In 1975, Dr. Ijaz was recognized as Woman of the Year in Education for her innovative doctoral thesis work by the Bicentennial Women's Committee in Washington, DC. She used the award's monetary proceeds to endow The Lubna Award, a scholarship recognizing excellence in physics education at Virginia Tech, which has been awarded annually since 1996.

This also provided her with opportunities to teach Islām by demonstrating the connection between "green energy resources" technology and teachings in the *Holy Qur'ān*. In addition, it opened up opportunities to explain Qur'ānic teachings as a complete way of life. And, while on the subject, she would distribute Ahmadiyyat literature to people who knew nothing of the Promised Messiah and the work of the Ahmadiyya Movement.

(Information provided by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad. The information was taken from the unpublished History of Lajna, USA) ★

Rashidah Saeed (1975-1981)

Sister Rashidah Saeed converted to Ahmadiyyat in 1965 in her hometown, Chicago, Illinois. After her marriage to Brother Ahmad Saeed (a Pioneer St. Louis member) in the early 1970s, she moved to St. Louis, Missouri where she resided till her death in 2003. A teacher by profession, from her earliest days as a new member she was highly motivated to learn all she could about Islam and Ahmadiyyat and share that knowledge with others. Within a few weeks after joining and attending the Sadiq Mosque, she had organized Arabic lessons for other new members and was observed meticulously writing the alphabet

out on the blackboard. (Memory of Tanvir Ahmad, St. Louis)

Her natural leadership qualities were recognized, and she was elected as the USA National Lajna President in 1975, serving till 1981. With a master's degree in education, Sister Rashidah had many talents which she used effectively to organize and improve the USA Lajna's programs and to monitor the progress of Lajna Chapters. She began her presidency with efforts to implement the Bylaws of the Lajna Constitution which were written by the previous Lajna President.

During her tenure, Lajna was

organized on a regional level with the appointment of Regional Presidents, and Ijtimas and Nasirat summer schools began to be held. To improve the training of the young girls, the first National Nasirat Secretary, Sister Jamila Hamid of Philadelphia was appointed. The Nasirat were divided into different levels by age and an award/incentive program was devised. A Nasirat program was organized and presented at the National Convention where the young girls were required to wear coordinated uniforms.

Sister Rashidah implemented several new initiatives during her

tenure. A census system was established to record Lajna member's birth, death, and membership information. Information packets were developed for new members. A National Hospitality Committee was formed to provide childcare and a first aid station at Jalsa. Quranic recitation, speech and handicraft competitions were held at Jalsa, with an awards presentation. A National Social Fund was established with donations being sent to the Guatemalan Relief Fund and the Guadalupe Center for children during her term. Other activities such as the first National Propagation Day, National Lajna Day and National Nasirat Day were planned.

Lajna activities increased in all areas including the Publication Department. The Ayesha Magazine was published for the first time in typeset. The Lajna News was mailed directly to member's homes. The Lajna Handbook along with the Lajna Bylaws was printed and distributed to members. A President's handbook was compiled and printed as a guide for local presidents. A booklet, Treasures of Al-Fātiḥa, compiled from various articles was published. Speeches from the Jalsa Salanas in Rabwah and Qadian were made available to members.

Propagation efforts to the community were accelerated through workshops, interviews, newspapers, magazines, conferences and radio and television appearances in addition to the distribution of pamphlets and handbills. The Holy Qur'an was donated to libraries. Taped cassettes were developed to accompany the

study of the Yassarnal-Qur'an and prayer book. Islamic tapes on various subjects were made available and special committees were established to respond to articles on Islam found in newspapers, magazines, and books. Lajna sponsored the printing and distribution of bumper stickers announcing, "The Promised Messiah Has Come."

There is no doubt that Lajna's overall organization and activities increased immensely during the presidency of Sister Rashidah Saeed. Her greatest efforts, however, were on a more human and personal level, to promote love and respect among individual Lajna members. The motto promoted worldwide by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) "Love for all, hatred for none" was her guiding principle. An emphasis on love in the USA Lajna came at just the right time. After 1974, when discriminatory laws were enacted in Pakistan, large numbers of Ahmadis from Pakistan began to emigrate to America to escape persecution there. Pakistani Ahmadis became a new majority in a Lajna membership that had been largely African American for fifty years. Love would be needed on both sides as Ahmadi sisters from two distinctly different cultures came together and adjusted to each other's ways. Sister Rashidah was determined that love would neutralize discord of any kind and bring Lajna members together in sisterhood. To promote this goal, she traveled to different regions to activate Lajna chapters, to increase sacrifice and sisterhood, and of course, love.

Sister Rashidah described her

six-year presidency as "active." There were also many precious personal memories. In 1976, an article written by Sister Rashidah was published in the magazine, Tahrik-e-Jadid. In 1978, she was a delegate to the International Convention at Rabwah, Pakistan, and visited Qadian, India. Sister Rashidah found her presidency "gratifying," and there was joy in knowing that the honor of placing first among foreign Lajnas had been awarded twice in her terms; 1975-76 and 1977-78.

Her list of accomplishments is long, but her character, warm personality, and her example as a faithful Muslim woman and role model are her memorable qualities. Her St. Louis Lajna sisters knew her well, and they reciprocated the love she showed them, whatever their background. They were all her Ahmadi sisters. The testimony of St. Louis member Sister Aliyyah Aziz Ladd (now deceased) captures the spirit of Sister Rashidah Saeed:

She loved to laugh and make others laugh. She was generous even when she could not afford to be. She was one of the first sisters to don the full burqa and never took it off, even covering her hair at work.

Words cannot describe the love Sister Rashidah Saeed had for Ahmadiyyat and Khilafat. When she went to Lajna Ijtimas, she took me with her. It was there that I began to forge lasting relationships with the sisters of Ahmadiyyat. She is at the top of the list of people responsible for me "hanging in there". (Aliyyah Aziz Ladd, St. Louis)

(Courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad from un-published History of Lajna Ima'illah USA) ★

Salma Ghani (1981-91 and 1995-2000)

I was born and reared in the Bible belt area of North Carolina. At the young age of 15, I began to

question the concept of Jesus dying on the cross for my sins.

One day a friend who had

recently accepted Islam gave me a pamphlet and asked me to read it. It was entitling JESUS DID NOT DIE

ON THE CROSS. As I read the pamphlet, tears ran down my cheeks. I felt alive, as if a part of me had been dead for years. The pamphlet gave me answers to all of the questions related to the death of Jesus. Several days later, I visited the mosque and purchased other books on Islam and finally became a Muslim. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 80-1)

During the 1980s, Lajna

experienced tremendous growth in numbers as large number of Ahmadi immigrant families arrived in USA. Salma Ghani became National Sadr in the 1980s. She faced the huge task of bringing Lajna together as new sisters were migrating from Pakistan to America. Salma Ghani pooled Lajna resources, talents and experiences and paired Pakistanis and American sisters together to become true sisters. American sisters were encouraged to become informed about Pakistani culture,

language (Urdu), and lifestyle and vice versa. Salma established a “Target-City Preaching Program” in Zion (IL) and Washington D.C. Sisters in these cities held numerous propagation programs for the public which included appearances on radio, and advertisements in newspapers. As Ahmadi immigrants from Africa, Europe, and other Asian countries gradually became part of the American Lajna, they easily melded into the already working intercultural sisterhood. ★

Amatul Hakim Abdullah (1991-5)

Amatul Hakim Abdullah was elected the National President USA Lajna in June 1991. When she assumed office, there were 31 active Lajna Chapters. Five additional Lajna were established during her four-year term: North Carolina, West Los Angeles, Alabama/Tennessee, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Portland, and Oregon was re-activated. The 36 Chapters were divided into seven regions, under seven Regional Presidents.

Under her presidency, Lajna Ima’illah USA pledged \$300,000.00 towards the Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque Fund (USA Headquarters), and significantly exceeded their

pledge, by paying \$533,660 into the fund.

Another accomplishment during her term was the publishing of the first issue of the Urdu periodical, Al-Ma’ida. In addition, a committee of six Lajna members prepared a propagation book targeted towards new converts, as well as existing members. The book, Pathway to Paradise, is an excellent reference of Ahmadi Muslim terminology and protocol. Initiated during her presidency, the book was published during the subsequent Lajna President, Sister Salma Ghani's term.

Lajna Ima’illah USA’s first

exhibition, “Women in Islam,” was displayed on the Lajna side at the 1994 Annual Convention. One of the goals of the exhibition was to counter the negative image that some non-Muslims mistakenly associate with Muslim women. The exhibition effectively refuted the false concept that the ill-treatment of women common in the culture of some countries is part of the Islamic teachings about the treatment of women.

(Information provided by Tanvir ul-Nisa taken from the unpublished History of Lajna, USA) ★

Dr. Shanaz Butt (2000-10)

First President of AWSA-Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology

October 2010-letter from Khalifatul-Masih V to Dr. Shanaz Butt, then Sadr Lajna Ima’illah-USA, to consider the feasibility of forming an Ahmadi Women Scientist Association. Khalifatul-Masih V approved Dr. Shanaz Butt as Founding President of Ahmadiyya Women Scientists Association (AWSA) following elections at Annual Convention of 2011. AWSA Constitution was prepared in 2012. Science booth (experiments for children) and open Forums were

held in the first two years at Jalsa to encourage participation and membership.

Education:

Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

PhD, Medical College of Virginia
MBA, University of the Sciences

Expertise:

Reputed researcher in translational research of psychiatric disorders; utilizing skills and

expertise in neurochemistry, physiology, pharmacology and behavior.

Academic/ professional accomplishments (Listing a few):

Research contributions that have positively influenced the field:

Developed ³H-Nisoxetine as a marker of brain noradrenergic integrity. Now commercially used by neuroscientists worldwide.

First to provide quantitative

evidence regarding the integrity of the noradrenergic system in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease patients.

Established Wistar-Kyoto rat as an effective translational model for studying mechanisms implicated in psychiatric disorders.

Correlated fragmented Rapid Eye Movement sleep patterns in rat brain with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, reported in war veterans and trauma victims.

Authored 55+ publications and 115+ research presentations.

Received millions of dollars in competitive grants.

Expert reviewer for NIH grants study section.

Speaker/presenter at 50+ national/international conferences.

Awards/Recognitions (Listing a few):

Gold Medal in Chemistry, University of Bombay

Best Performance Award, Central Education Board, India

Excellence in Teaching

Gold Medal (Talent Award),

Khalifatul-Masih V

Service to Jamā'at (Listing a few):

National President, Lajna-USA (2000-2010)

President, Ahmadi Women Science Association (2011-2014)

Director, HF USA's Feed the Hungry program (2012-2015)

Global Strategic Leader, Knowledge for Life, HF International, (ongoing) ★

Saliha Malik (2010-18)

Having signed Bai'at, I approached the mosque to attend a meeting. Abdur-Raqueeb Wali, of San Francisco, greeted me with a broad smile. His face revealed the sense of awe and humility he felt at having experienced the wonders and blessings of Allah.

I came to Islam in 1987, nervous, shy, and with no inner strength. I had grown up in Africa and boarding schools in England. I did not know much about Islam, before being introduced to it by future husband. He spoke about Islam from his heart. From him I also learned that Jesus did not die on the cross and the Promised Messiah (Peace be on him) had come. My vague impression of Islam was of a violent religion where-in women are deeply oppressed and forced into special segregation and garment as Purdah (a type of clothing that covers a woman's body from head to toe, preventing any interaction with men).

I started out reading three books: the "Holy Qur'an,"

"Conference of the Birds" and "Our Teaching" by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian. Conference of the Birds immersed me in the metaphor of submission to Allah. When it came to the book "Our Teaching," I could not imagine a better society than the one so intensely described by this Messiah. How amorously the spoke of God! My one stumbling block was the inescapable detail of women and Purdah. Other than this, I found myself totally attracted to the teachings and tenets. Then I had a dream. Because of this I accepted Islam and began my spiritual journey. In the dream, I was wearing full Burkah (outer coat (برقع) and hijab (head covering), including veil, and I experienced complete peace in that garment. In the morning I was so surprised, both by the dream and the power of the dream. I took it as encouragement from Allah.

When I first entered into the women's hall of the mosque, Raqueeb Wali called the prayer and the words of Surah Al-Fātiḥa soared over the confusion of activities. All

became quiet including children. I knew I had come to the right place; I knew I had found home. I was very taken by the idea that Islam is a continuous inner revolution, an inner Jihad (struggle) until the clamoring desires of the ego become quiet. I realized that observing Purdah reminded me not to fall into my cultural ways or personal habits. I felt liberated, and my subconscious needs to prove myself through fashion or display slowly dropped away.

Soon after I joined Ahmadiyyat, Khalifatul-Masih IV visited our Jamā'at. I sat in his company for a long time, with his loving and vivacious presence reassuring me. The impact of this meeting profoundly affected my commitment to Islam. I listened to his Friday sermons, soaked up his wisdom, and resolutely dedicated myself as a worker in his cause. After that, I never did look back and all kinds of doors opened for me. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 141-144) ★

Dhiya Tahira Bakr (2018-Present)

Dhiya (ذبيها) Tahira Bakr is currently serving as National Sadr Lajna Ima'illah – USA, the Women's

Auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Before I ever considered

becoming a Muslim, there was a day when I quietly said to myself, "There is no God." Observing the

incongruence in life and religion—lack of family moral teachings, promiscuity, teen pregnancy, adultery, and surrounded by many dysfunctional families, I felt an inner pain and struggled to segregate myself from social practices exhibited as the norm. A discourse on, “How What WE Eat Influences Our Spirituality,” presented by the infamous black Muslim Missionary, Warith Deen Muhammad, shaped my first lifelong impression about Islam. I was twelve and in the audience only because my mother decided to hear for herself what these “black Muslims” were all about.

My next significant encounter occurred when I was twenty-three years of age, while travelling in Ghana, I suspect that its true purpose was in fulfillment of Allah’s planned exposure for me to Islam in living practice. I witnessed countless

numbers living lives of Islamic peace and contentment. These two pivotal situations culminated in my acceptance of Ahmadiyya Islam while in Ghana. The year was 1984, when I could not have foreseen that the life goal of a 23-year young lady was merely the stepping off point for the woman and life to be.

After signing Bai’at, there were many personal obstacles to overcome. One of my favorite activities, public dancing, is denounced in the Holy Qur’an. I had to cover my hair. Islam altered my dietary intake as no pork consumption was allowed. My mother was concerned that I had joined a cult. Learning that dating was not permitted, family and friends suspected that I was a lesbian. How would I ever marry?

My religious affiliation prior to Islam was Baptist. I knew of no similarities between Islam and the

Baptist faith. However, I saw many similarities to Islam and my upbringing by parents and grandparents. They taught me to be good person, i.e., obedience to and respect of parents and other elders.

After accepting Ahmadiyyat, an Ahmadi couple, Nycemah and Dhul Yaqub, accepted me as a part of their family. Now married to Abu Bakr, of Zion, IL Jamā’at, we have three children. I came to know God is alive, in us and around us. Through communion with Allah, there is peace and contentment in every situation. I found God is my best friend and answerer of prayers. And following the perfect example of the Holy Prophet, I am treading on the straight path to the final culmination, complete submission to God and belief in True Islam. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 148-150) ★

Remembering Our Pioneers

Dhiya Tahira Bakr

The definition of a pioneer is one who goes before, preparing the way for others. (Webster Elementary School Dictionary, a pioneer lexicon, copyright 1914)

Lajna Ima’illah USA has so many pioneer sisters to acknowledge. However, I have only enough time to present a few of them today. *Inna Lillāhi wa Innā ilaihi Raji’oon* – Surely to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return (Qur’an, 2:157).

Allah has given us this decree and explains in Sura Al-Mu’min, “He it is Who created you from dust, then from a sperm drop, then from a clot; then He brings you forth as a child, then He lets you grow that you may attain your full strength; then he lets you-become old, though some among you are caused to die before-and He lets

you live that you may reach a term appointed and that you may learn wisdom.” (Qur’an, 40:68)

Remembering our pioneer sisters: The times were challenging in the United States in the years when Ahmadiyyat was being established. There was economic depression, racism, and blatant social injustices. The early Ahmadis had to weather these challenges as they became the pioneers for Jamā’at Ahmadiyya. Sister **Atiyya Bengalee** came to America from Qadian India as a bride at the age of 20 years, married to our third missionary in the USA, Dr. Sufi M.R. Bengalee.

When they arrived in America in 1936, they were detained initially at customs but were shortly released. At this time, Sister Atiyyah Bengalee was the only

Asian Ahmadi female in the USA. As her husband, the missionary performed Tabligh/preaching. Eventually he appointed his wife, Atiyyah, to assist with educating women in Islam and teaching them to read Arabic and learn the prayers. She traveled with her husband to Dayton, Pittsburg, Cleveland, and Indianapolis; she knew the converts to Islam.

The women of the Ahmadiyyat Muslim Community USA had not taken the name Lajna Ima’illāh in the early years. The dedicated sisters during this time were in an informal group known as sewing circles.

Initially, the converts to Ahmadiyyat were mainly from the African American community such as sister **Aliyyah Shaheed** who accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1936. As a

Lajna member she served the Jamā'at and Lajna by cleaning the mosque, cooking, hosting guests, fundraising, taking care of the sick and making financial sacrifices. She served as Local Sadr of Pittsburg, National Finance Secretary, National Education Secretary and became National Sadr Lajna in 1963. In 1992 at the Central Lajna International Golden Jubilee in Pakistan, the International President Maryam Saddiqa praised sister Aliyyah Shaheed for thirty-five years of outstanding service to Lajna. Throughout the years she also wrote letters of encouragement to Lajna members.

Sister **Hydiyyah Goude-lock** recently passed away in Pittsburg. Inna Lillāhi Wa Innā Ilaihi Raji'oon. She was born Ahmadi in 1948, second generation from a large family. She served Lajna as local handicraft secretary, local finance secretary and local President. Her knowledge of the Holy Qur'an enabled her to comfort others using verses from the Qur'an. Members recall her being one of those people who could put you at ease and one of the first in a Lajna meeting to give valuable input. Our pioneer sisters were paving the way for Ahmadiyyat to spread the message, that the Promised Messiah Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^{as} of Qadian has come, which would revolutionize a new way of thinking and conducting their lives.

It is a reality that we live in the present. But it is uncertain what we will do between now and the appointed time. In Sura Al-Asr. Allah reminds us why we receive His mercy:

“By the fleeting Time, surely, man is in a state of loss, except those who believe and do good works and exhort one another to accept truth and exhort one another to be steadfast.” (Qur'an

103:2-4)

Our pioneers learned this. Therefore, they placed all their efforts and faith in learning Islam and spreading it to others. They served the religion of Islam, emulated the examples of the Holy Prophet Muhammad saw and the Promised Messiah as. But most importantly they prayed and held our Jamā'at Ahmadiyya together. The pioneers made sacrifices of their time, money, and children for the sake of Islam. It was sister **Lateefa Kareem** and her husband who donated their land for the construction of the first Ahmadiyya Mosque built in the USA by converts during 1955 to 1965, located in Dayton Ohio.

In the 1960s, sister **Syeda Latif** became the National Lajna Sadr. One of her outstanding accomplishments were that she organized the sewing circles into an auxiliary of the Jamā'at. She contacted Rabwah Pakistan, the headquarters for Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and persistently asked for the Lajna constitution to be translated into English and sent to America. Once received, sisters learned about Lajna Imā'illah. Sister Syeda Latif assigned Lajna members to offices with responsibilities, the electoral process was established, and department programs were created.

Syedah Latif was an Ahmadi Muslim woman who also showed leadership qualities in her African American secular community.

Lajna member, Sister **Mubaraka Malik**, is well known for her photo as the African American sister who presented a Holy Qur'an to United States President Gerald Ford. This was a great accomplishment for a black woman and an Ahmadi Muslim.

There was also sister **Lubna**

Ijaz, a Pakistani sister who migrated to America as a young girl. She served as National Sadr Lajna from 1969 to 1971. A professor of Solar Physics; She received numerous merit awards such as the Outstanding Scientist of the 20th Century and the Albert Einstein Award. However, it was her oratory skills and passion for Tabligh (preaching) that inspired sisters to become active in our religion. During the 1990s, she served United States President Bill Clinton as an advisor to promote solar and renewable energy technologies for Third World countries. While she traveled in this capacity, she also propagated Islam.

From 1975 to 1981 sister **Rasheeda Syed** from St. Louis served as National Sadr Lajna. She was a teacher professionally. She continued in the footsteps of sister Syeda Latif by working endlessly to organize Lajna Imā'illah USA; she established regional presidents, regional Ijtimas, Nasirat summer schools and a census system for counting Lajna and Nasirat births, deaths, and general membership. One of her most memorable characteristics was her image: she was an African American woman dressed in black purdah with a veil across her face. Several sisters followed her example in a time when women in general were pushing through the Women's Liberation Movement. Sister Rasheeda Syed despite appearing in contrast to being liberated, moved through society with strength and grace observing the purdah that Allah prescribed for the wives of the Holy Prophet^{saw}.

In Sura Al-Ahzab, Allah says:

O Prophet! tell thy wives and thy daughters and the believing women that they should draw close to them portions of their loose outer coverings [to cover their

heads and part of their faces]. That is more likely that they may thus be distinguished and not molested.... (Qur'an, 33:60)

For 50 years, the early pioneers, primarily African American converts to Ahmadiyyat baked and created handicraft items to raise funds to provide financial support for the progress of Jamā'at Ahmadiyyat USA.

Also, in 1976 and 1990s, Sister **Ayesha Sharif** passionate about educating our youth started the Nuruddin Ahmadi school along with her sister Zainab Asad in York Pennsylvania.

Additionally, in the 1990s, she brought to light the concern for the health and well-being of Lajna Imā'illah USA. She would counsel and provide resources to Lajna Members to work on their diet, physical exercise and meditation. She had a very loving nature. I am sure that her being an American European Jewish woman convert to Islam astonished many. But one of her everlasting contributions to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was when Khalifatul-Masih IV, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadth, asked her to index the Holy Qur'an being compiled into five volumes. She selected a team of sisters to help her carry out this precious task to fruition. Sister Ayesha Sharif's name along with the name of each sister who assisted was written in the first volume of the five-volume Holy Qur'an in gratitude. Khalifatul-Masih IVth then gifted a set of the five-volume Holy Qur'an to her and her team of sisters with his personal written acknowledgement of appreciation and signature.

Another pioneer sister, most of us saw during Jalsa Salana, making sure we were exemplifying the etiquettes of conduct taught by the Promised Messiah^{as} Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, was

sister **Latifa Ilyas**. If you were negligent (made noise or talked during Jalsa speeches), she was swift at moving to your location and giving you the look and sometimes the discipline finger. She ensured that we listened to the words of the Promised Messiah^{as} being shared through the speeches given. We learned how to keep discipline in the ladies main Jalsa Gah.

In remembrance of our pioneers, I would like to give special mention to the longest serving National Sadr Lajna, our dear Sister Salma Ghani, who served in that office for fifteen years. She accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1963 and served in many capacities: such as local secretary of finance, propagation, education, and social services. 1981 to 1991 and from 1995 to 2000 she served as National Sadr Lajna. During her years as National Sadr one of her aims was to involve Lajna members effectively in delivering the message of Islam: Lajna members appeared on cable TV shows and radio talk shows; letters were written to the editors of newspapers, women organizations, social service agencies; members gave lectures at college campuses; Lajna members mailed the Ayesha magazine annually to women in general and advertised Islam on public buses.

In addition, three national ijtimas were established.

Several times between 1987 and 1991 Umme Salma was reappointed National Sadr by the International Lajna President in Pakistan and in 1995 she was appointed again as National Sadr by Khalifatul-Masih IV.

I called her Umme Salma. I watched her from a distance like a child watches and looks toward their mother. She was a strong Ahmadi woman who had a distinct presence in the room. I would say

she was a gentle lion, who held Khalifat in very high regard. When it came to Khalifat, it was *sami'na wa ata'na*; We hear, and we obey. As a matter of fact, if Khalifat could be visualized as a building, then she was definitely one of its pillars. To her side was sister Khadija El Haq National General Secretary until her demise and sister Shakoora Nuriah, Lajna Tabligh Secretary, who although currently very frail, if you ask sister Shakoora today, a question about Tabligh, she lights up and responds like a rooster awakening the people in the early morning.

As a new convert, I watched these three sisters serve Islam and Lajna Imā'illah USA. In my eyes they were the dynamic trio. Umme Salma also travelled, visiting members, in particular to Africa.

She shared her knowledge of Islam, insight on Jamā'at affairs and wisdom on preaching. During an interview on one of her travels, she shared that Jalsa Salana used to have 300 attendees and that was considered good during those early years in America. Tabligh was her spirit, being a servant to Allah was her modus operandi. She was very knowledgeable of Christianity as she was born and raised in North Carolina, which is known as the Bible belt. When she did Tabligh, you would see a light glow from her face and her whole being seemed to be energized. Umme Salma had no biological children. However, unofficially she adopted a few of us. Sister Atiya Ahmad was one of her daughters and later me. Sister Atiya took great care of Umme Salma prior and during her illness.

I spent several precious moments with Umme Salma serving Islam; I remember us talking about Tabligh while she was in my kitchen cooking fish, showing me how to prepare large meals for the family and sharing her recipes

such as potato soup. During the 1990s Khalifatul-Maish IVth instructed Umme Salma as National Sadr Lajna to take up the assignment to increase subscriptions to the Review of Religion. Umme Salma had enough faith in me as a neophyte, to assign me this task. And by the grace of Allah and her prayers, subscriptions from Lajna Imā'illāh USA increased significantly. I also remember another time when she come to my home to work on a Tabligh project. She didn't want me to help her. She expressed concern that I had too much to do with raising three young children while performing in the role of local Lajna Tabligh secretary, other general Lajna responsibilities and being a wife. Like a caring mother, she did not want to overburden me. I watched how she mentored Dr. Shanaz Butt, who served as Umme Salma's General Secretary and later Na'ib Sadr and after her became National Sadr Lajna. There was a particular time, when Dr. Shanaz first became National Sadr and she was holding her first national Lajna meeting. I was in the audience. Umme Salma was also in the audience but on the other side of the room. Dr. Shanaz became emotional and tearful as she began to facilitate her first meeting. I saw Umme Salma lean forward in her chair, wait a little bit and then slowly rose to her feet to lend an image of support to Dr. Shanaz. But Dr. Shanaz gained control of this grand task; then quietly and inconspicuously Umme Salma sat back in her seat with a straight posture, proudly gazing on Dr. Shanaz, who took her lead position in Lajna Imā'illāh USA. This was the motherly nature of Umme Salma Ghani.

She was also very generous with her belongings, love and compassion. However, if you were heading down the wrong path in thought or action, just like a mother lioness, she would clearly redirect you to that straight path. She shared a little of her concerns with me, but her greatest was hoping, praying and working to develop Lajna Imā'illāh members as servants to Khalifat and sisters to each other. According to dictionary.com; sisters can be from a religious community of which the females observe the simple vows of chastity, obedience, and living meagerly (poverty). This Jalsa Salana is an appropriate time to perpetuate (sustain) the hope of Umme Salma that we become true sisters in Lajna Imā'illāh USA.

During Umme Salma's last year of life, I asked her to serve with me on the AMC African American Desk. I needed the gentle lion support, wisdom, and passion for Tabligh. She was there for me. A few months later the Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA) was launched in the USA by Khalifatul Maish V Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (a.b.a.). She was asked to serve as the first PAAMA Lajna Head. She asked, why me? She explained to me and others that she was old and could barely walk for this responsibility. She told me that the reply to her question was, they did not need her legs nor her feet; it was her wisdom and spirit. Therefore, she accepted the responsibility and her appointment as PAAMA Lajna Head at the age of eighty-four years was approved by Khalifatul-Masih V a.b.a., Ma-Sha'-Allah. As the Lajna head of Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, she created her

national and regional executive teams with a vision. As with any new endeavor there were challenges she faced but she worked through them with *hikmah* (wisdom) and humility. Without knowing it, Umme Salma was mentoring many of us. Through the years of observing and working with Umme Salma Ghani, in my opinion, she was the Umme (mother) of Lajna Imā'illāh USA. *Inna Lillāhi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'oon.*

Allah decrees that we are not meant to live in this world forever. But if we leave good examples then our life here is remembered as a legacy.

Remembering Umme Salma and the other pioneer sisters should cause our minds and hearts to reflect on Sura Al-A'rāf:

“But as to those who believe and do good works and We task not any soul beyond its capacity, these are the inmates of Heaven; they shall abide therein. And We shall remove whatever rancor may be in their hearts. Beneath them shall flow rivers. And they shall say,

‘All praise belongs to Allah who has guided us to this. And we could not have found guidance, if Allah had not guided us. The Messenger of our Lord did indeed bring the Truth. And it shall be proclaimed unto them, “This is the Heaven which you have been given for an inheritance as a reward for what you used to do.” (Qur'an 7: 43 and 44)

Inna Lillāhi Wa Innā Ilaihi Raji'oon – Surely to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return. (Qur'an, 2:157) ★

National Khuddam Leadership

Nurul Islam (1950-1951)



Nurul Islam standing on extreme right (Photo courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad)

The first National Meeting of the Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya was held on Saturday evening, 2 September 1950, in a tent on the lot adjoining the mosque, 4448 South Wabash, Chicago, IL. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Ghulam Yasin, missionary in-Charge of the New York Circle. Mr. Ghulam Yasin reviewed, in a brief introductory speech, the history of the organization of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, its activities and its aims. Nurul Islam of Chicago, Qa'id for 1950, was called upon to present a report of the activities of the Khuddam in America during the past year. He reported that during the year he had contacted the local organizations and supplied them with instructions and suggestions

as to how they might carry on their activities to the best advantage. The local secretaries were asked to send monthly reports. He observed that the Khuddām showed a fine spirit of cooperation and were well organized.

It was proposed by Mohsin Mahmud of New York that the members of the Khuddam should be asked to pay one Dollar per month in dues to the organization. A discussion followed. Abdul Qadir, missionary of the Pittsburgh Circle, suggested that if dues were collected it would be better not to specify a limited amount, but to ask each member to pay a certain percentage of his income. He proposed that the amount be fixed

at 1% of income, or 1 cent to every dollar. Muhammad Rafi of New York proposed that if this method were accepted one percent would not be enough. Instead, he suggested that the amount be fixed at 2 cent per dollar instead of 1 cent. The question was put to vote, and it was decided that members of the Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya will be required to pay dues at the rate of 1% of their individual incomes, or 1 cent per dollar.

Election of Qaid, 1951

Names of Ahmad Saeed of St. Louis and Nurul Islam were proposed for nomination for Qa'id for the coming year. Nurul Islam was elected by majority vote.

Secretary Abdur Raheem (1951)

National Qa'id Talib Ahmad Dawud (1952)

Al-Fazl, Lahore, 13 February 1953, p. 5

Munir Hamid—National Qa'id 1969-1970



Muzaffar A Zafr—Circa 1970-1975

Nooruddin A Latif—Circa 1970-1975

Yahya Sharif—1975-1979



Qa'id MKA 1977-8, President of York/Harrisburg .

York/Harrisburg Chapter of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at was set-up by Yahya Sharif who was the first President of the Jamā'at. In those days, Islam had almost no visible presence in the York area. Although there was a large Sunni population in Harrisburg, the only Muslims in York were mostly members of the Nation of Islam.

With the conversion of Zainab Assad, a trained teacher, in 1975 Aisha's (wife of Yahya Sharif) goal of founding a full-time Ahmadi Muslim school was realized. Thus, the Nuruddin School was created, with the help of Yahya Sharif and Aisha Sharif. The school was the first of only two such schools in the

United States at that time. It was housed in Zainab Assad's large spacious home and soon became the focal point for the York Lajna and the Jamā'at.

Young families with small children began to migrate to York for the purpose of sending their children to the school. Among these new families were: Tahir and Amtul Hakim Abdullah, who migrated from New York in 1976. Shortly thereafter, Ahmad and Ayesha Bashir also migrated from New York, followed by Salim and Shahida Muhaimin, who migrated from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It should be mentioned here that all these families left the secure comfort of their jobs and homes for the sole purpose of their children being able to attend a Muslim school. These families faced great hardships in trying to establish themselves in a new community, but their sacrifices proved to be well worth it. Around the same time, two families migrated from East Africa.

The school, which served as a catalyst to draw members to the

York area, caused the Jamā'at members to become extremely close. They came for the school, and in turn got a close-knit community. The school was the center of all activities and all the members worked diligently for its success. Jum'a services were held at the school every Friday.

On March 25, York hosted the Southeast Regional Masih Mau'ud Day. More than 100 participated. The program was held at the Billy Budd Inn, the main signboard of which announced, "Welcome Ahmadi Muslims."

The Jamā'at meeting on April 1 was joined by a local man of affairs, Mr. Edward Hollinger who is also a Scout official and presented award to seven of the Ahmadi youth. Among them, Yasin Sharif received the Life Scout rank, and Tariq Sharif received an Islamic Scout medal from the National Islamic Committee on scouting. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April 1979, p. 8)

Abdul Kabir Haqq—1979-1982



Jamil Ahmad, Saleem Muhaimin, Yahya Shariff, Abdul Kabir Haqq, Abu Bakr Ladd, Jalāluddīn Abdul Latif, Nasirullah Ahmad, and Sardar Rafique Ahmad Jamali.

In 1975, the first Atfāl Summer School was held in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1976, the first issue of a new Khuddam magazine, *Al-Tariq*, appears. In 1979, a new National Qā'id, Abdul Kabir Haq, is elected from Chicago.

Munir Ahmad and A. Kabir Haqq spoke at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Feb. 17. Three groups were to be represented: Ahmadis, Shiites, and Bilalians (Black Muslims). The Shiites speaker did not show. The Bilalians came while A. Kabir was speaking but did not join the speakers table –stayed for approximately 15 minutes and left.

Professors and students asked Ahmadis to come back. Plans are being made to speak again March 10. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette*, March 1976, p. 5)

Missionary In-Charge Muhammad Siddique Shahid conducted the election of the National Qā'id for the ensuing 2-year period (1977-8) and Abdul Kabir Haqq was elected Nazim/Khuddam Services. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA*, June 1977, p. 7 and October 1977, p. 7)

During the Pope's visit to Chicago, we had an opportunity to present him with a copy of the Holy Qur'an through his command post.

It was accepted and a letter of thanks was sent to our President, Kabir Haqq. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette*, November 1979, p. 7)

Missionary in-Charge Mir Mahmud Ahmad convened a meeting of Presidents of Chapters. Abdul Kabir Haqq of Chicago attended the meeting. Among terms discussed were the feasibility of establishing schools for children, training of American Ahmadis as honorary missionaries and prospects of holding an International Conference on the Crumbling of the Cross in America in 1980. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA*, April 1979, p. 5)

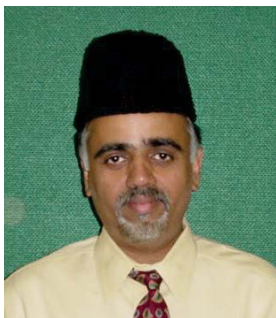
Nasir Mahmood Malik—National Qā'id 1982-1986

Syed Sajid Ahmad

National Qā'id 1986-1989. Sadr November 1989-February 1990

Qamar A Shams Sadr 1990-1994

Munum Naeem 1994-1999



Sadr MKA USA (1994-9).

Please see his detailed profile in an earlier section.

Abdul Shukoor Ahmad 1999-2002

Naseem Ahmad Waseem 2002-2006



Sadr MKA USA (2002-06),
First President Lehigh Valley 2010.

Naseem Ahmed Waseem, son of Naim Ahmad Waseem, was born in 1965, in Karachi, Pakistan. He has two brothers and a sister. His grandfather, Hajī Mohammad Din Tehalvi, Darwish Qādiān and Sahabi (Companion) of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), was the first person in the family to accept Ahmadiyyat at the hands of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him).

Naseem is married to Faiza Ayesha. They are blessed with two daughters (both are in the scheme of Waqf-i-Nau). In his younger days, he played Cricket, Field Hockey, and Track. His hobbies include gardening, computers, and

Do-it-Yourself projects.

Naseem earned his B.Sc. in Chemistry, Zoology, and Botany from the University of Karachi in 1986. Then he did post-Graduation in Aviation and earned Diploma of Air Traffic Controller. In 1988, Naseem joined Civil Aviation and worked as Air Traffic Controller and Airport Manager at different locations in Pakistan. In 1995, Naseem moved to USA and worked with IBM Global Services and Microsoft in different computer fields. He is currently at Social Security Administration as Systems Administrator.

In 1974, at the age of 9, being an Ahmadi Muslim, Naseem was beaten in school due to his faith. Naseem assumed his first Jamā'at office as Nā'ib Za'im at Nazimabad, Karachi, Pakistan in 1978. Since then, he has held several offices at the local and national levels. Naseem started the project of Qur'an with translation on alislam.org website with search engine which was completed in two years. Naseem also developed online report form for Zu'amā and Nazimin for Majlis Ansarullah,

USA. Other services are as follows.

2012 to date: Mu'awin Sadr (Information Technology), Majlis Ansarullah, USA
2012 to date: Nazim, Central East Region, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

2010 to date: President, Lehigh Valley Jamā'at

2010 – 2011: Nā'ib Sadr Şaf Dom, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

2008 – 2009: Mu'awin Sadr, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

2007: Nā'ib Sadr Şaf Dom, Majlis Ansarullah, USA

2003 – 2006: Sadr, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

2001 – 2002: Nā'ib Sadr, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

2000: Qa'id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Central Jersey (Majlis won 'Alam-i-In'āmī.)
2000: Muhtamim Khidmat-i-Khalq, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA

1998 – 1999: Qa'id, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, North Jersey/Central Jersey (Majlis won second Best Majlis Award)
1997: Nā'ib Qaid, Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, North Jersey/Central

Jersey

1995: Nāzim Finance, North Jersey/Central Jersey

1987: Nā'ib Nazim, Khidmat-i-Khalq, Nazimabad, Karachi,

Pakistan

1986: Nā'ib Nazim Tarbiyat, Nazimabad, Karachi, Pakistan

1985: Hifazat (Security) Duty in Sukkur, Pakistan

1980 – 1983: Za'im Halqa Naziabad South, Karachi, Pakistan

1978 – 1980: Nā'ib Za'im Halqa, Nazimabad South, Karachi, Pakistan. (Al-Nahl)

Dr. Faheem Younus Qureshi



He was blessed to serve as Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya from 2006 – 2010.

During those years, Allah the Almighty granted a special, “all for Allah” brotherhood to Khuddam which resulted in amazing fruits. National Ijtima attendance crossed 1000, Atfal rallies were started, Finance team developed an online software (El-Hisaab) and Allah Ta'ala increased our chanda participation from a little over 900 to over 2,000, and the total budget increased by about 100%. Defending Islam with the pen, Majlis Ansar Sultan-ul-Qalam started publishing hundreds of articles in leading US newspapers

potentially reaching millions of people. International bonds of brotherhood were strengthened through the Masroor International Sports Tournament (MIST) which, with the help of the late Nazir Ayaz, became Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya's signature sports event. A comprehensive Ahmadiyya business directory was published by the San'at-o-Tijarat team. In 2008, the Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Lifetime Commitment award was established to honor the pioneer American Ahmadi converts. In 2009, the Majlis published a collection of 40 stories of young American Ahmadi converts titled, *By the dawn's early light*.

This “Fazl-e-Ilahee” (God's blessing) we believe, was the result of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V's direct guidance to Sadr Majlis Faheem Younus Qureshi during the many undeserving, official mulaqats he was fortunate to have with Huzoor-e-Anwar.

The year 2008 was vital as the US soil experienced the presence of a Khalifa after a drought of almost

two decades. Khilafat team was established. It constituted of about a hundred Khuddam from various parts of the country who dedicated 2-3 weeks at a stretch to serve during Huzoor-e-Aqdas' blessed trip to the US in June 2008. The Majlis adopted 50 highways across the nation to commemorate the Khilafat Centenary.

He would like to leave this message for Khuddam of the second century of Islam and Ahmadiyyat in the United States, in the words of Hazrat Muslih Mau'ood (r.a.): “The meaning of Khilafat is that as soon as the Khalifa of the time says something, all other schemes, proposals and plans are discarded; and it is kept firmly in mind that only that scheme, proposal and plan is useful which has been instituted by the Khalifa. Until the Jama'at is filled with this spirit, all khutbas are useless, all schemes are deceptive and all plans are doomed to failure.”

Rizwan Alladin



My very first Jamā'at office was serving as Secretary for Ta'lim-o-

Tarbiyat for Atfāl-ul-Ahmadiyya NY. This was a post you hold as a Ṭifl. I used to make puzzles to put in our Jamā'at newsletter. I made a few puzzles but couldn't keep up with it. When I entered Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya, I was assigned as a Saiq for my area in Long Island.

I feel that Qā'ideen are the blood of MKA and Khilafat is the heart. My biggest challenge was motivating Qā'ideen to lead their

Majalis. Don't get me wrong, the Qā'ideen serving during my tenure were amazing. My challenge was how I as a Sadr can effectively support and motivate them to lead their Majalis.

He is elected Sadr Majlis in 2010. A nationwide walk-a-thon is held, collecting over \$80,000 for charity. MKA USA produces its first iPhone application.

In-Charge Career Counseling,

National Convention of College Students for seventeen and above Waqf-e-Nau Boys and Girls.

Rizwan Alladin's Letter to the Editor was published in Time magazine in 2012.

Dr Bilal Rana (2012-2018)

Dr. Madeel Abdullah



Sadr MKA USA (2018-Present). The biggest challenge I've

faced is how our Khuddam and Atfal can stay connected to Khilafat and each other during the Covid-nineteen pandemic where many of our Mosques are closed. Al-Hamdu Lillāh, with the guidance of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih, we are able to stay connected via MTA in which we can see Khalifatul-Masih's Khutba every Friday. We also are able to hold virtual sessions locally, regionally, and nationally.

However, we all yearn for those days when we can have an Ijtimā.

A challenge that we have always faced in the United States is the vast distances between each other. Los Angeles to Silver Spring is 3,000 miles and three times zones away. Keeping our goals in mind of following the teaching of Hazrat Masih Mau'ūd is what helps bridge these distances.

Pioneers

These are the first Americans who embraced the message and mission of the Promised Messiah from 1920 through 1930, and succeeding converts through 1950 (i.e., the first 30 years).

مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ۗ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ أَشِدَّاءُ عَلَى الْكُفَّارِ رُحَمَاءُ بَيْنَهُمْ تَرَاهُمْ رُكَّعًا سُجَّدًا يَبْتَغُونَ فَضْلًا مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرِضْوَانًا سِيمَاهُمْ فِي وُجُوهِهِمْ مِّنْ أَثَرِ السُّجُودِ ۗ ذَٰلِكَ مَثَلُهُمْ فِي التَّوْرَةِ ۗ وَ مَثَلُهُمْ فِي الْإِنْجِيلِ ۗ كَزَّرَعٍ أَخْرَجَ شَطْأَهُ فَآزَرَهُ فَاسْتَغْلَظَ فَاسْتَوَىٰ عَلَىٰ سَوْقِهِ يُعْجِبُ الزَّرَّاعَ لِيغِيظَ بِهِمُ الْكُفَّارَ ۗ وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ مِنْهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا

Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. And those who are with him are hard against the disbelievers, tender among themselves. Thou seest them bowing *and* prostrating themselves *in Prayer*, seeking grace from Allah and *His* pleasure. Their mark is upon their faces, being the traces of prostrations. This is their description in the Torah. And their description in the Gospel is like unto a seed-produce that sends forth its sprout, then makes it strong; it then becomes thick, and stands firm on its stem, delighting the sowers — that He may cause the disbelievers to burn with rage *at the sight* of them. Allah has promised, unto those of them who believe and do-good works, forgiveness, and a great reward. (Holy Qur'an 48 [Al-Fath]:30)

Notable Converts in 1920-30

In this section those early converts are mentioned who embraced Ahmadiyyat during the second Khilafat of visionary Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu). He sent Companions of the Promised Messiah ('Alaih-is-Salam) as missionaries to United States like of Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, Maulawi Muhammad Din and Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan. These missionaries worked day and night and laid foundation of Ahmadiyyat in this country.

Hamid—R.J.H. Rochford



MR. R. J. H. ROCHFORD
(Brother Hamid)

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq writes

in the Moslem Sunrise:

Hamid is my first convert to Islam after landing in America. Under curious circumstances we got acquainted in the closed walls of the Detention House. Watching me praying and reciting Holy Book, Mr. Rochford inquired of my religion which I explained to him and gave him some books to study. Very soon he was convinced of the truth of our religion and being converted was named Hamid. He caused many others to join our faith whose names were reported in No. 1 of this

magazine. Unfortunately, he was returned to Europe, and his beloved wife followed him, and thus proved the sincerity of her love for him. In one of his letters he writes, “I have found your movement the brotherliness and your teachings the soundest of any organization that I have come in contact with.”

This dear brother is zealous in speaking the truth to others and we gather from his letters, his wife will soon be one of his converts to the blessed faith. (The Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue No. 2, p. 77) ★

Mubarik—H. Alberto

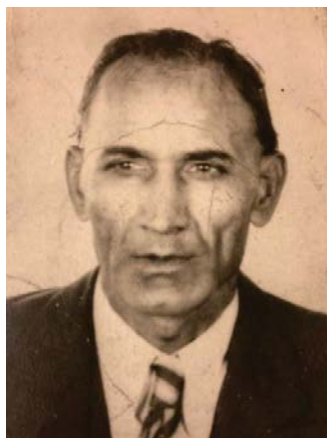


Mufti Muhammad Sadiq writes in the Moslem Sunrise:

We have the pleasure of giving on this page the photo of our Mr. Alberto (Mubarik) of Tampa, Florida. This good brother and his wife our Berket (Mrs. B. Alberto) have been zealously trying ever since they joined our faith to bring others

to the fold of Ahmad, the Reformer of the day. They have secured ten new converts during last three months and are endeavoring to convince many others to the sacred truth. May God bless them both and their friends ever and ever. (The Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue No. 1, p. 66) ★

Jamaluddin Kahlon



A pioneer member of Cleveland Jamā’at, a contemporary of Syed Abdur Rahman was Kamal Uddin Kahlon (1881-1975). He was originally from Sialkot Punjab British India. He arrived in the USA

in the early 1920, as his grandchildren Dr. Jameel Strickland and Naseer Wasim remember. Kamal Uddin lived modestly and worked for Sherwin Williams. He also worked at a laundry cleaning business. In 1925, he married an African American woman whose Muslim name was Habiba. He was affectionately called “Kaloo” (Black) in the community. He and his wife joined the Jamā’at in 1930. They had seven children, one boy Ibrahim who passed away in infancy and a daughter Jameel who passed away at age eight. Their other children were five girls—Sisters Zainab, Maryam, Fatima, Medina, and Kareema, all of whom had been brought up in Cleveland. Ahmad Wasim, who

married Zainab used to say, “Dad impressed me so much, that I became a Muslim. He was small, but giant of a man. He was always helping out people in need.”

Anyone who was coming from India or Pakistan, regardless of religious belief, would get help from him. In 1947, the partition of British India took place. Kaloo lost contact with his family during that chaotic period in human history. He tried to locate them but to no avail. He always remembered his childhood ventures with teary eyes as his family recollects. Kamal Uddin passed away in 1975 at age 92. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p.

Sheik Ahmad Din—P. Nathan Jonson



P Nathaniel Johnson (Ahmad Din) was a stalwart and early pioneer of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the USA. He was born in Hempstead County, Arkansas on 10 June 1888 (other reports have mentioned 29 May). Johnson attended and graduated from Philander-Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas. It has been suggested that he was from African or Arab ancestry and converted to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community taking the name, Ahmad Din. He has been characterized in history as a religious seeker who experimented with many religions before coming to Islam (*The Columbia Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States*, pp. 54-58).

Ahmad Din’s conversion to Ahmadiyyat was most likely between April 1922 and July 1922. (*Correspondence and Assorted Files*, DW, January 2012, Milwaukee)

Mr. P. Nathaniel Jonson, a zealous worker for Islam, was appointed a sheik to work among his people in the district of St. Louis and its vicinity.



In 1922, Sheik Ahmad Din led a group of devout Muslims that included African Americans, Turks, and a small number of Whites. An article about Ahmad Din in the St. Louis Post Dispatch reported that he had acquired 100 converts during the first six months of his mission in St. Louis. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan made him “Imam” of the St. Louis chapter. (The Moslem Sunrise, April-July 1922, p. 270)

“In the language of a writer of popular songs, Ahmad Din is the kind of Sheik who does his sheiking once a week. Not before a movie camera, but before a devout group of Negroes, Turks, and a sprinkling of Whites, who gather at Sheik Ahmad

Din’s Moslem Mission at 2658 Olive Street on Sunday nights to hear him preach the doctrine of ‘Al Hamdu Lilah Rabbil Ālamīn’ or ‘All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of the Worlds.’ (St. Louis Post Dispatch, published 1922)

Sheikh Ahmad told the St Louis Dispatch, “We must worship God alone. Christ is worshipped by many as the Son of God. He is but a prophet. He did not die on the cross. He was taken down from it, revived and carried to Srinagar.” (*The Post Dispatch*, “*Negroes Taught Arabic By Olive Street Sheikh*.” 16 July 1923, p. 21)

Sheikh Din was able to attract a multi-racial congregation. Naturally, as an African American, he attracted African Americans to the fold of Islam Ahmadiyyat. Brother Hakim is a case and point of this. Sheikh Din left a chapter consisting of African Americans and whites in St Louis, Missouri. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette*, “*Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam*”, April 1977, pp. 47-48)

During the next two decades, the Ahmadiyya Movement would continue to grow and influence the African American community. African Americans continued to struggle through the Great Depression, discrimination, Jim Crow laws and racial inequities. Through the challenging years of the 1930s, Ahmadiyya communities remained committed to uplifting and spreading the message of Islam. Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq instituted a system of training local, indigenous members to be preachers and leaders. These “Sheiks” were vital to the spread of Ahmadiyya in burgeoning African American communities. Robert Danin takes note, “Before returning to India in 1922, Sadiq had ordained at least a

dozen indigenous “sheiks” who, in his opinion, were doing their utmost to promote Ahmadiyya doctrine. Their efforts have spread throughout a network of approximately sixteen missions in cities stretching from the Mississippi to the Atlantic. Besides Sheik Ahmad Din, Sheik Ashiq Ahmad and their protégé Wali Akram, one must include Sheik Nasir Ahmad and Sheik Saeed Akmal of Pittsburgh, Sheik Ahmad

Omar of Braddock, Pennsylvania, Abdullah Malik of Columbus, Ahmad Rasool of Dayton, and Shareef Ali of Cincinnati. The largest contingents were in Cleveland and Pittsburgh, each with approximately three hundred converts.” – Black Pilgrimage to Islam (The Moslem Sunrise, 1922, Issue No. 3, p. 119 and African American Islamic History Exhibition 2017)

He did indeed have an ecumenical approach. He told the *St Louis Dispatch* that Zoroaster, Confucius, Jesus and Muhammad were all prophets in line with Ahmadi teachings. His affection for Islam was apparent, as he stated “... the Holy Qur’an is the healthiest plant with the hardest stalk, produces the sweetest bloom and yields the most wholesome fruit.” ★

Sheikh Ashiq Ahmad

“Sheikh Ashiq Ahmad was another convert ordained by the Mufti and possessed better knowledge of Arabic in the Holy Qur’an than others. Sheikh Ashiq Ahmad travelled between Cincinnati and Dayton tending to several thousand contacts. He helped formulate an itinerary that aimed to

spread Islam in America and also wrote letters and flyers that were sent from St Louis, Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, Carrington and Cleveland. Sheikh Ashiq also turned towards the Garveyites [supporters of Marcus Garvey] to preach; Mufti Sadiq had fostered amicable relations with Garvey’s Universal

Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), so much so that the latter would even rent meeting halls to Ahmadi Muslim missionaries for a nominal fee. Both organizations were working towards a similar goal of racial equality.” (Black Pilgrimage to Islam, p. 96) ★

Shaikh Abdullah Din Muhammad—J.L. Mott

An influential gentleman of very respectable (Franco-Irish) American family; a zealous and sincere Ahmadi Moslem, a political leader in the city, educated as a lawyer and engaged in secret service work; a member of the United Spanish War Veterans, the Masonic and several other fraternal organizations. The proprietor of the Ahmadi American Asiatic agency (export and import) at New Orleans, an esteemed friend of the editor of this magazine.

The Moslem Sunrise, second issue of 1921, p. 45 writes about him:

Shaikh Abdullah Din Muhammad (Mr. J.L. Mott) has been busy in distributing literature among the people to arouse their interest in Islam. He writes to me in some of his recent letters. Literature is well distributed. It has gone from one end of Louisiana to the other and will eventually bear fruit; not all of it, of course, but enough to prove to you that I have not been idle. The hardest

part of this work is to induce people to read up on the subject. The masses of the people have a very crude idea, some no idea at all, of what Islam really is and many appear to be afraid of it. It is a blessed thing that the Ahmadi Movement was started and sent out its Missioners to explain in plain, simple language—the Western mind would never have accepted the old methods.”



“Your splendid work in this country is beginning to tell; thinking men and women are beginning to sit and ask “WHAT ABOUT THIS MUHAMMADAN RELIGION? WHAT IS THIS AHMADIA MOVEMENT? Many of them will be sufficiently interested to read up on the subject and a good percentage of these people will come to us.”

“I cannot praise ‘Moslem Sunrise’ too highly; it is a clean-cut exposition of your mission in this country; it is nicely printed, attractive, convenient size, and should interest any fair-minded person. I predict for it a long useful and prosperous existence; It will remain as a monument to your splendid efforts in this Western World long after you and I have crossed to the “Great Beyond.” So be it.”

Shaikh Abdullah Din Muhammad is planning to build an Ahmadi Moslem Mosque in New

Orleans. Some of his American friends have promised considerable help and he himself intends to put \$500 into the funds out of his own pocket. May Allah assist him to accomplish this wonderful task. (The Moslem Sunrise, second issue of 1921, p. 36)



Honorary Missionary to US, Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan writes about Shaikh Abdullah Din Muhammad:

“He is young and energetic newly convert Muslim and does propagation work all the time and in every meeting. When he gets time,

James I. D. Sodick

“In the last 15 months 4000 letters were received. The letters dispatched from the mission was 15000. Mufti Sadiq was assisted in the correspondence by James Sodick, Yousaf Khan, Sheikh Abdullah (J.L. Mott) and Rahatullah. He was thankful to them.

he goes for Tabligh in villages around Cleveland on his Automobile. He writes in one of his latest letters that he is always determined to crush infidelity and I deliver the message of God whoever comes in my way.” (Al-Fazl, 6 January 1925) ★

James I.D. Sodick—our young Russian Tartar Ahmadi—is enthusiastically figuring over securing a magnificent Ahmadi Moslem House in Chicago. He also helped procure a mosque in Chicago.” (The Muslim Sunrise, 1921, p. 12-14 and the Muslim Sunrise 1921-II, p. 36) ★

Omar—William M. Patton



Brother Omar (William M. Patton) was an energetic Moslem who tried his best to bring others to

the fold of Islam. He owned a lamasery shop where he sold religious garments, prayer rugs, roots, herbs, incense etc. (The Moslem Sunrise 1923-I, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 175, *Black Pilgrimage to Islam*, pp. 93-94).

It is interesting to note that decades later, the Nation of Islam became renowned for businesses, bakeries and land ownership. This was a trend amongst Muslims in America, started initially by Ahmadi

missionaries such as Brother Omar and later missionary Dr Yusef Khan who would sell Islamic merchandise. Brother Omar took on the mantle of the Mufti; he said, “the Bible is not for the Negro because it does not belong to him.” (*Black Pilgrimage to Islam*, p. 280)

After accepting Islam, Brother Omar re-directed his missionary efforts toward spreading Islam. (*The Moslem Sunrise*, Issue 2-3, 1923, p. 190) ★

Shaikh Akram

Shaikh Akram belonged to Indianapolis Jamā‘at. Honorary Missionary to US, Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan writes about Shaikh Akram, “He is sincere and hard

working. He propagates Islam vigorously wherever he goes for employment purposes. He lost his job due to propagation work. He says, I shall keep Islam above

worldly matters. Nobody can shut my mouth from preaching the unity of God.” (Al-Fazl, 18 January 1927) ★

Bashir—Ralph Totten



Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, may Allah be pleased with him, writes in the Moslem Sunrise, October 1921-Vol. 1, No. II, p. 45:

Mr. Ralph Totten who was named Bashir writes from New York: “Through you dear Doctor, and the Ahmadiya Movement in Islam, have I received new hope for the future,

new courage and strength with which to meet worldly trials which confront me daily.”

This young man had met me first in New York, when I was staying in that city last year. As he is fond of visiting Orient, no wonder our Indian Brethren will someday see him there. ★

Abdur Rahman—R.R. Torres



Mr. Abdul Rahman was born in North Carolina on December 22, 1909 and moved to Baltimore at the age of 20 when he joined the Army. He accepted Ahmadiyyat around 1937 and ever since had been a devout member of the Jamā‘at with an unshakeable bond to the Ahmadiyya Khilafat and the Ahmadiyya Jamā‘at.

He served as the first President of Baltimore Jamā‘at and remained in that role for many years. He was the brain and force behind organizing the Baltimore Jamā‘at in its infancy when the newly converted members first purchased a storefront on Freemont Ave. as a place of worship. Brother Rahman

then purchased a house on 4406 Garrison Blvd. that has been serving as our place of worship and mission house till this day.

He dearly loved Jamā‘at members in general and Baltimore Jamā‘at in particular. He was loved and respected by hundreds of Ahmadis and Non-Ahmadi Muslims. Over the years, he had served as an ambassador of Baltimore Jamā‘at in the local community.

Despite his old age, he lived a very active and exemplary life that was full of passion and zeal for Tabligh and social work. He had earned the respect of all his neighbors where he lived.

At 2008 national Ijtimā of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA, Brother Rahman was presented the Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Award for his long service to Islam in the U.S.

He is survived by a son, five daughters and many grand- and great-grandchildren. His youngest daughter, Mrs. Haleema Aina, is a very active and devout member of Lajna Ima‘illah Baltimore. In

addition, he raised four children as his own.

Abdur Rahman, a pioneer member of Baltimore Jamā‘at, passed away on 3 February 2009. He was ninety-nine years old. (Al-Nahl 2009, Q-3-4, p. 73)



It is written in the Moslem Sunrise in second issue of 1921, p. 37 about Mr. R.R. Torres (Abdur Rahman), of Laredo, Texas: This young man had met me first in Toledo. He is very sincere and is helping others to reach the Truth. His Moslem name is Abdur Rahman. ★

Shaikh Mustapha

Sheikh Mustapha was a resident of New York. He converted to Islam. He was sincere and used to preach vigorously. (Report of Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan, 1929) ★

Sheikh Abdus Salam—Reverend BD Sutton

Sheikh Abdus Salam was originally Reverend BD Sutton. He converted between October 1922 and January 1923. Hazrat Mufti

Sadiq delivered five lectures in Detroit at the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) meetings; out of the 40 converts, one

of them, Mufti said, was an enthusiastic young man with the name Rev Sutton. After his conversion, he took the Muslim

name, Sheikh Abdus Salam, and was appointed the leader of that congregation. (The Moslem Sunrise, Vol. 2, Issue I, 1923, p. 167)

Mufti Sadiq (may Allah be

pleased with him) cites Sheikh Abdus Salam and Sheikh Ahmad Din as prolific proselytizers (The Moslem Sunrise, Vol. 2, Issue 2-3, 1923, p. 190).

Sheikh Salam went on to become one of the principal preachers in Detroit. He was described as “busy bringing others to the fold of Islam.” (The Moslem Sunrise, Issue 2-3, 1923, p. 190). ★

Sheikh Muhammad Ibrahim—AES Mondezic

AES Mondezic was born in Prince Town, Trinidad and later migrated to the United States. He came into contact with the Ahmadiyya movement and joined Islam in January 1923. He studied Islam for two years, most of which was likely under Mufti Sadiq (r.a.). It was Maulawi Muhammad Din who

wrote of him when he was appointed as a Muslim missionary at Princes Town, Trinidad. He took the Muslim name Muhammad Ibrahim. There were around 15,000 scattered Muslims over the island, which he was working to bring together. Din wrote that he was successful in converting several individuals to the

movement. Sheikh Ibrahim also continued to use the ecumenical approach to bring together Muslim delegates from the island for cooperation. (The Moslem Sunrise, Vol. 2, Issue 4, 1923, p. 270) (Mahmood Kausar, Early Ahmadi Converts of North America, Jāmi‘a thesis, pp. 81-82) ★

Early American Women Converts



1923: (Right to left)-Khairat (Mrs. Thomas), Zeineb—Mrs. Watts, Ahmadiya—Mrs. Robinson, and Ayesha—Mrs. Clark.

Before the early 1930s, women worked synchronously with men in developing, teaching, and preaching Islam. Among the first to accept and promote Ahmadiyya in America, they worked at the helm of this new spiritual movement. These sisters were the epitome of the liberation in a western society where women’s rights socially, politically, and economically were still being

defined. The pioneering spirit of these women in the formation of Muslim communities across the country is worth mentioning.



Ayesha—Mrs. Augusta Atkinson—A zealous Ahmadi Moslem lady (of Hermosa Beach, California), who embraced Islam about a year and a half ago. (Mufti Sadiq, Moslem Sunrise, 1922, V. 1)

In Pittsburgh, the women’s auxiliary, Lajna Ima‘illah (Maid servants of God) was established. It began with women members coming together in what they called “Sewing Circles.” In 1933, Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan appointed Aliyyah Muhammad as first President of the women’s

“Sewing Circle.” Many sisters were professional cooks and seamstresses. Their talents inspired beautiful handicrafts and sumptuous meals for fundraising.



American ladies in Rabwah in 1970s

Meetings were held in sisters’ homes where they reviewed lessons on Islam, developed fundraising schemes and socialized.



Chicago mosque 1952. Mubarika Malik, Mahmooda Malik, Hameeda Chambers, Aliyya Ali, Suleiman Saeed, Nurul Islam, Hanif Ahmad, Abdul

**Malik, Mubarak Ahmad, Rashid
Ahmad, Kunze and Khalil Nasir**

When the name, “Lajna Ima’illah, was introduced in United States in 1936, Aliyyah Muhammad became Lajna’s first elected local President in America.” (From Nycemah Yaqub, African American Journey to Islam)



**Noor—Mrs. Ophelia Avant. An
enthusiastic Moslem Lady from St.
Louise, Missouri ★**

Rahatullah Mustapha Thaha—Mrs. Garber



Rahatullah wife of Mr. Mustapha Thaha (previously Mrs. Garber) was one of the early Ahmadi Muslim convert of America. She devotedly worked with Mufti Muhammad Sadiq in missionary spirit. She was controlling the activities of the Mission House in New York diligently. She was instrumental in converting many thirsty souls to Ahmadiyyat. She was educated and a competent lady. She was a writer, poet and delivered many excellent speeches on Islam.

Mufti Muhammad Sadiq wrote in Moslem Sunrise 1921, No. 2 on page 36:

“Madam Rahatullah has been busy in New York making people interested in Islam and has already secured one American convert to Islam and one Moslem to the

Ahmadiyya order. Her enthusiastic little article on Islam appears in this magazine. Madam will start lecturing in New York assisted by Mrs. Emerson (Allahdin) of Oriental Shop there.”

She wrote and published following poem and short article in the Muslim Sunrise 1921, No. 2 at page 39.

The Beauties of Islam

I stood upon the threshold of despair.

Hope had taken flight I knew not where;

When lo! A door was opened wide to me.

I entered – and Islam made me see

The truth behind the clouded veil.

And now upon her waves I said,
Guided by the Prophet’s sacred hand

Under Heaven’s canopy to that Holy Land.

The word Islam means—The pure unadulterated divine intelligent existence. This intelligence is embedded within the heart of each and all. It is the true spark of life which naught can extinguish. Islam conveys a message to us through the Holy Prophets. If we will open our heart to their words of wisdom as they drop from on high. They are filled with beauty which will awaken the smoldering spark wherein lies

the destiny of mankind. If you will attach yourself to the chain of illuminated souls, you will find the beauties of Islam, you will soar beyond the struggles and pains; true life will reveal itself to you wherein you shall see beauty in action in its most refined form – the beauty in wisdom as it guides you on through life’s journey. The beauty in faith which ever holds you aloof from the destroying elements.

O Faith thou art my friend

My cause thou doest defend.

Islam will bring—Peace, Bliss, and Wisdom to those who seek it in truth, one writer says:

“Thou canst measure out thousands of measures of wine

But till thou drink it no joy is thine— “

Rahatullah (Mrs. Garber) NY City, August 1921.

She authored:

1. The Power of Truth
2. The Secret Camp of the King
3. A Mother’s Dream
4. My three Visions
5. Transition Smoke
6. Beautiful Islam
7. Philosophical and Religious Articles
8. Articles on Psychology

She also wrote in the Moslem Sunrise:

The Muslim Sunrise is scattering seeds upon the desert sand

And with each is mingled a drop
of rain

Thy mind is but a desert without
the sacred truth

Receive, O blind one, the seed

and rain the Moslem Sunrise gives
you

After two years of ceaseless labor
Sowing seeds in hard baked soil,

Here and there a flower is

blooming

To gladden the Mufti's heart.

(Compiled and edited by Dr.
Mahmud Ahmad Nagi, from The
Moslem Sunrise Issues) ★

Aliyya Ali

In 1921, she was visiting relatives in Chicago from Kenner, LA. She received a flyer on Islam that was distributed by Mufti Muhammad Sadiq. She went to the mosque and accepted Islam and is considered among the earliest African Americans. In 1933, Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Khan appointed

Aliyya Muhammad as the women's "Sewing Circle" president. Many sisters were professional cooks and seamstresses. Their talents inspired beautiful handicrafts and sumptuous meals for fundraising. Meetings were held in sisters' homes where they reviewed lessons on Islam, developed fundraising

schemes and socialized. When the name, "Lajna Ima'illah," was introduced in US in 1936, Aliyya became Lajna's first elected local president in America.

(African American Islamic History Exhibition) ★



Chicago Mosque 1952 – Mubarika Malik, Mahmooda Malik, Hameeda Chambers, Aliyya Ali, Suleiman Saeed, Nur Islam, Hanif Ahmad, Abdul Malik, Mubarak Ahmad, Rashid Ahmad, Kunze and Khalil Nasir

Edith Sadiqah Sadiq

Missionary Mufti Muhammad Sadiq married to an American named Edith Hoffman in December 1922. She was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania in 1895 and had served abroad in the Red Cross in 1921 during the Greco-Turkish war. After she had returned and

had embraced Islam in October-November of 1922, she was given the name Sadiqah Sadiq. She remained loyal to the faith and sought to not only preach Islam but also serve mankind in every possible way. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with

him) in the second quarter of 1923 in the Muslim Sunrise mentions that "Mrs. Sadiqah Sadiq, being a graduated registered nurse and having vast experience in that branch of medical science, will be glad to help the Moslem sisters in the country by her valuable advice

personally or through correspondence. Address all communications to 4448 Wabash Ave. Chicago Ill.” In addition, she also contributed to the Berlin Mosque that has now been built in only recent years and has been named Khadija Mosque. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq also mentioned her contribution to the Moslem Sunrise in the following words:

“I gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by M. Mohammad Din, B. A., and Sadiqah Sadiq, R. N. in the preparation of this issue of the

magazine.”



1 - Sadiqah Sadiq (Edith Hoffman) wife of Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (ra) holding their one month old daughter Edith Nurmahal Sadiq (Source - The Philadelphia Inquirer 31 August 1923 Page 6)

This union was further blessed when in August of 1923 Allah the Almighty blessed Mufti Muhammad Sadiq and Sadiqah Sadiq with a beautiful daughter. Two newspapers in fact captured the moment Mufti Muhammad Sadiq came to Philadelphia to see his daughter for the first time at the tender age of only two weeks old. (Edited from article by missionary Mahmood Kauser) ★

Saeeda of Chicago

She was an early converted Ahmadi lady. She helped second missionary Maulawi Muhammad Din a lot. Due to her efforts many converted to Ahmadiyyat. (Al-Fazl, 9 November 1929) ★

Abdullah Omar—Denzel Carr

A zealous American Moslem in San Francisco, California. (The Moslem Sunrise January 1923, Vol. II, No. 1, p. 163) ★



Muhammad Lateef

Dr. Muhammad Yusuf, an honorary missionary to US wrote about Muhammad Lateef in his report of October 1925:

Out of fifty-three newly converts, there is one whose name is Muhammad Lateef. He is a dashing

young man from Philippine Islands. He graduated from Chicago University. He was interested in preaching Christianity. He attended our meetings and conventions. He studied our books and accepted the truth of Islam. He was converted to Islam and Ahmadiyyat and started

preaching Islam instead of Christianity.

He lost his job after accepting Islam and was forced to vacate his house within 24 hours. He was dealt harshly but was never stumbled. (Al-Fazl, 19 February 1926) ★

Bashir Afzal

Bashir Afzal was born in 1902 in Randolph County, Alabama. His parents were devout Christians. They belonged to the Baptist Church. He was raised in a very religious environment at home and used to attend the church regularly ever since his childhood.

As he grew older, he became a missionary of the Baptist Church and his desire to find and meet Jesus Christ became ever stronger.

One day, a colleague at work with who he had been discussing religious matters, came to him and informed him of a new religious

organization in town. He urged to attend their meeting as he thought he was going to like it. Little did he know that this organization was the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām.

He was told that a Muslim speaker by the name of Mr. Yūsef Khān was going to speak. He started

listening to the speaker with great attention. He heard him say that Jesus Christ never died on the cross and that he died a natural death much later. He spoke about the prophecy of the second advent of Jesus Christ. He said that this prophecy was to be fulfilled in the appearance of another person whose mission would be the same as that of Jesus Christ: the revival of religion.

What struck him was when he said that this prophecy had already been fulfilled in the person of Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad of Qadian India, and that he had lived, completed his mission, and passed away.

After the meeting he met with Mr. Yūsef Khān who told him all about the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at. He explained about the Khilāfat and the organization of the Movement. Eventually he invited him to join Islām. He felt a kind of satisfaction which he thought he had always sought after. He realized that his Creator, the Almighty God, had after all answered his prayer.

He requested Mr. Yūsef Khān for his initiation into Aḥmadiyyat. Mr. Yūsef Khān very politely told him not to rush into the initiation. He wanted to pray and think of all the consequences before he did that. Thus, by the grace and blessings of Allāh, the Almighty, he became a Muslim and an Aḥmadī that very night.

He said:

After my becoming a Muslim, my mother, who

loved me a lot, thought that I would not visit her anymore. When she mentioned this to me, I told her that I was going to love her more than before as the Holy Prophet of Islām, Muḥammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, had laid great emphasis on the love and obedience of one's parents, especially one's mother.



I began to read as much as I could about Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him—his character, personality, and teachings. The more literature I read, the stronger I felt about my newfound faith. I got to a point in my life when I thought I was completely engrossed in the love of Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, peace be

on him. His love took me to visit Qadian and Rabwah in the 1950s.

He stated:

Allāh has been very kind to me. I have witnessed many signs in my own person after becoming a Muslim. The Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at has always been very good to me. I became president of Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya, New York and by the grace of Allāh, held that position for 30 years.

He visited Rabwah and Qadian and attended Annual Convention in 1975. His impressions were:

“In the morning we were awakened by the call to prayer. I made my way to the mosque in the dark and said prayer in the yard at Masjid Mubarak. When the prayer started it wasn't long before most of the men were crying like babies. I cried along with them.”

My visit to Qadian was a dream comes true. I have wanted to go all my life, and by the grace of Allah, my prayers were answered.

Bashīr Afzal died on July 18, 1993. Innā Lillāhi Wa Innā Ilaihi Rāji'oon. He was the President of the NY for thirty years and Za'im, Majlis Anṣarullāh, North NJ for about ten years.

(Edited from “Why Islam is my choice, pp. 6-9, Al-Naḥl, Summer 1993). ★

Ibrahim Khalil

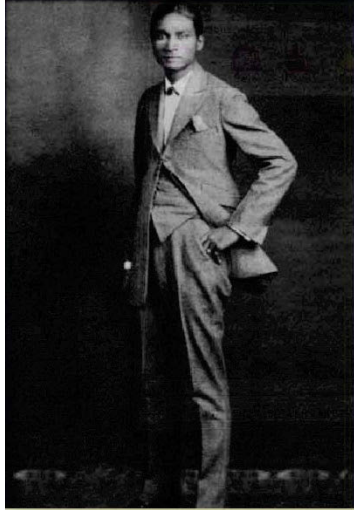
When Ibrahim Khalil heard about the Ahmadiyya Movement and the claim of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, he went to Chicago to meet Sufi M. Rahman Bengalee. Khalil owned the Pyramid Barbershop that featured Arabic writing of Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim,

(In the Name of Allah the Most Gracious, Most Merciful) and La Ilaha Illallahu Muhammad-ur-Rasūlullāh (There is no God but Allah) in the front window. It also hosted a sign “Jesus Did Not Die on the Cross.”

Ibrahim Khalil, according to

Missionary Chaudhri Shukar Ilaḥi Husain report, joined Ahmadiyya Community in 1948-1949. He was the member of the Muslim Brotherhood Society along with Ibn Yamin. This group had contact with the Jamā'at from 1947 before Sufi Bengalee left the

USA. Missionary Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi Husain reported an “American Indian” convert so likely he was Ibrahim Khalil. (Report supplied by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad)



According to Black Pilgrimage to Islam:



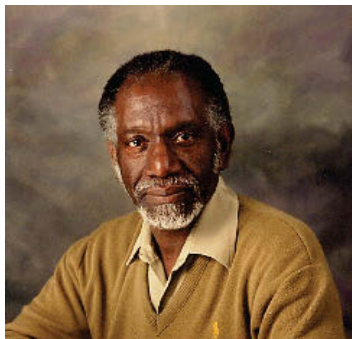
During the next two decades, the Ahmadiyya Movement would continue to grow and influence the African American community. African American continued to struggle through the Great Depression, discrimination, Jim Crow laws and racial inequities. Though the challenging years of 1930s, Ahmadiyya communities remained committed to uplifting and spreading the message of Islam.

Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq

instituted a system of training local, indigenous members to be preachers and leaders. These “Sheiks” were vital to the spread of Ahmadiyya in burgeoning African American communities. Robert Danin takes note, “Before returning to India in 1922, Sadiq had ordained at least a dozen indigenous “Sheiks” who, in his opinion, were doing their utmost to promote Ahmadiyya doctrine. Their efforts have spread throughout a network of approximately sixteen missions in cities stretching from the Mississippi to the Atlantic. Ahmad Omar of Braddock, Pennsylvania, Abdullah Malik of Columbus, Ahmad Rasool of Dayton, and Shareef Ali of Cincinnati. The largest contingents were in Cleveland and Pittsburg, each with approximately three hundred converts. ★

Notable Converts in 1931-1950

Mohsin Mahmud



My name is Moḥsin Maḥmūd. I am seventy-three years old and I live in Queens, New York. I am the seventh of eight children. My parents were from Barbados. But due to family problems and economics, I was orphaned at age 3.

My parents were Protestants and I guess Ms. Gladden was too. As a foster child you just did what you were told, and tried to stay out of trouble, especially if you had a good

foster home.

I joined the U.S. Army in 1944 during World War II where I served as a cook in New Orleans. I became employed in the hospital as a porter, and later having passed a civil service test, worked with the Department of Sanitation for about thirty-four years. During this time, I had married and had two children.

I lived in Harlem, New York during the period of Renaissance when the Nation of Islām had started to become a controversial organization, and Malcolm X had just started to become known.

There was a jazz musician most popularly known as Art Blakey, whose Muslim name was ‘Abdullah Bin Hannah. He was a drummer and lived with his wife Zainab on 117th

Street between 5th and Lenox. When he was in town, he used to hold meetings at his place. These meetings were informal discussions that revolved around various themes. The one that hooked me was “Who are You?” As this question caused me to look inside of myself to find out who I was, I became actively involved in these discussions. Eventually, I came to realize that my roots were from Africa and Islām.

‘Abdullah was an Aḥmadī Muslim and was also the president of the New York Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at at the time. Back then there were not a lot of foreign Muslims, and Aḥmadiyyat was not very controversial. Islām, however, was controversial, as it seemed to be the religion of the Renaissance movement. I saw the answers to my

curiosity in Islām. At last, on the urging of ‘Abdullāh, I accepted Aḥmadiyyat, the true Islām. I am thankful to all the brothers and sisters who helped me to get to where I am today. I am very grateful for their help and their caring.

The mission house at that time was in a loft on 116th Street between Lexington and 7th Ave. Missionary Ghulām Yāsīn was the Aḥmadiyya missionary. At that time many African American musicians were Ahmadīs, such as Hassan Ḥakīm, Ḥalīm Rashīd, Şāhib Shahad, Mckoy Tyner and others would come to the mission house when they were in town and especially on Jum‘a or Friday for Prayers. However, some would soon fade away as the missionary admonished them to find suitable occupations, as the money

from their occupations was not acceptable, that of playing music in bars where their profession was promoting all sorts of unacceptable behavior. To some of them, however, the attraction to Islām was so strong that gradually they had to make the change and eventually became very good members of the Aḥmadiyya Community.

There were some hard times for the movement in those days. Through misunderstanding and hurt quite a few brothers dropped out of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at. But there were also quite a few who stayed. I can only repeat how grateful I am to all the brothers and sisters who helped me.

I had the opportunity to meet Muḥammad Zafrullāh Khān, Khalīl Aḥmad Nāsir and ‘Abdul Qadir

Zaighum. These meetings were very inspirational and were of great benefit to me.

In this short glimpse I hope that it has become clear that I came into Aḥmadiyyat because it was the True Islām. All the people, who were intellectually motivated, nationally motivated, and spiritually motivated, were all Aḥmadī Muslims, and they became my mentors, my tutors, and my friends. I pray for them, and I thank Allāh for bringing these people in my life. I will always be grateful to them for the path they showed me, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāhi Rabbil-‘Ālamīn.

(Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 100-103. Al-Naḥl, 1999, Vol. 10, No. 2-4). ★

Saliha Haneef

I shall always regard 1948 as the pivotal year of my life. So many life-altering events occurred for me during that year that I consider it to be the year of my redemption.

I was born in Charlotte, NC to a devoutly religious Christian mother. Some of my earliest and happiest memories are about attending religious services with my mother. My youth became a time of turmoil, as I attempted to

sort through the myriad of new ideas with which I was confronted. I hesitated to do anything that would upset or hurt my mother. So, I began to study Bible in search of answers to my dilemma.

A fellow student introduced me to a young man at my high school. During his Army service, he had met a young recruit who was related to the Ahmadiyya Jamā‘at President of New York. In 1948, I

married the young man. Allah blessed us with the gift of Islam. This I regard to my prayers in my youth time. We simply heard the voices of the early “Callers to Faith,” and Allah in His mercy allowed our hearts to be inspired and captivated by their message. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 71-72) ★

Mubaraka Mālik

September 30, 1974: Mubaraka Malik met with President Gerald R. Ford at the White House, as a Congressional Candidate for Wisconsin’s 5th District, and prioritized presenting President Ford with a copy of the Holy Qur’an.



Sister Mubaraka Malik was one of the founding members of the Milwaukee Jamā‘at, along with her

husband, Brother Abdul Malik, and Brother and Sister Fazal and Nasira Omar, both deceased. The foursome first heard of Ahmadiyyat in 1946. Upon deeper investigation, Brother and Sister Malik learned the Ahmadiyya Movement's headquarters was in Chicago, Illinois, and so it was to Chicago they went, a city about 100 miles south of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They drove, and in 1946 there were no expressways interlinking cities. The drive on local roads was tedious and slow, but once smitten with the love of Islam, the couples made the trip almost every week for two years.

The Maliks and the Omars pledged allegiance in 1946, soon after their first exposure to Islam. The couples continued to commute between Milwaukee and Chicago for two years to participate in the lessons taught by missionary, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir. Finally, in 1948, having confidence in their Islamic knowledge, the couples opened an Ahmadiyya Mission in Milwaukee, and Brother Omar (a

former Christian minister), became first president of the Jama'at.

In 1950, Sister Mubaraka organized the Milwaukee Lajna branch and became its first president. Sister Omar, and Mubaraka's mother, (who took the name Mahmooda Malik), were its first members. Sister Mubaraka served as Lajna president until 1955.

Sister Mubaraka had a passion for propagation and merged that with another passion—business. As the co-owner, with her husband, of a clothing/gift store, she took advantage of opportunities to preach Islam to customers. Through these sessions, Sister Mubaraka became directly, or indirectly, responsible for the conversion of twelve women into the Ahmadiyya Movement.

She was also active in city politics. According to one published account, she was vice-chairperson of the 17th Assembly District for four years, a member of the Women's Political Caucus for two years, and a member of the

League of Women Voters for two years.

Sister Mubaraka received an award in 1970 for running for Assembly woman of the 17th Assembly District. In 1972, she was publicly recognized for her work with the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation. She ran for Congress in Milwaukee's 5th District in 1974. Later that year, the President of the United States, Gerald Ford, honored Sister Mubaraka at the White House, for outstanding work in her community, spanning over thirty years. At this ceremony, she was able to personally present the Holy Qur'an to the President.

Sister Mubaraka set a standard of leadership and faith that served as a foundation for the distinguished work that subsequently came to characterize the Milwaukee Lajna. Sister Mubaraka Malik died in 1996. (Information provided by Sister Nycemah Yaqub, Milwaukee for the Lajna History book) ★

Usman Khalid



In 1948, Usman Khalid accepted Ahmadiyyat through Ibrahim Khalil. Usman was a member of the Muslim Brotherhood. He is listed among the group of members who had

joined Ahmadiyyat after the annual convention of 1948. (From missionary report of Shukar Ilahi supplied by his daughter Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad).

His mother and siblings did not accept his new religion, but our father became stronger in his faith. Seeing his dedication, resolve and positive change in him, they ceased saying anything about his faith.

During those days there were not any official missionaries visiting St. Louis. Ibn Yamin and Ibrahim Khalil worked diligently to spread the message of Islam in the area. Usman became an active and dedicated member. His wife, Aminah Khalid, became so

impressed with his complete moral change and dedication that she also accepted Islam. Usman and Aminah Khalid would serve and support the St. Louis Ahmadiyya community for decades to come. They worked as Presidents and counselors to countless members, neighbors, and friends. Their legacy lives on with three generations of Muslims continuing to serve.

Usman Khalid always had a thirst for knowledge. He studied Ahmadiyyat, learned how to read the Holy Qur'an in Arabic as well as his Prayers. He memorized Suras from the Holy Qur'an and helped teach others what he learned. He became the educational secretary,

and later the president of the St Louis Jamā'at. He was the president for a number of years.

He was an advocate for Islam, always preaching about Ahmadiyyat. On Sundays, he would go out with the other brothers wearing sandwich signs, saying —JESUS DID NOT DIE ON THE CROSS, HE IS BURIED IN SHRINAGAR, KASHMIR—THE PROMISED MESSIAH HAS COME, ACCEPT HIM. The signs were heavy, yet he wore them and passed out literature on the streets of St Louis, Missouri, a very prejudiced state. We remember hearing our father say, People would spit on us, curse us, and throw away the literature. Usman loved preaching so much.

His faith in Allah was immense. He worked for the Mount Santo Chemical Company. My uncle, by marriage, also worked there. He was against Islam and always spoke ill about Ahmadiyyat whenever he could. Well, Usman Khalid was fired from his job. And my uncle

said, —You were fired from that job because you preached your religion on the job. Usman replied, —Allah gave me that job and he will give me another.

It was not long before he was blessed with a job at Southwestern Bell Telephone Company where he worked until he retired. Our father said, Al-Hamdu Lillah, this is from Allah.

He was very dutiful in giving money to Allah. Whatever a scheme needed, he contributed to it. He told us, Subscription is like one of your bills. You pay it every paycheck. Allah gives us the money and we must give a portion back to Allah. Also, never make a pledge that you cannot fulfill. Allah says why do you say what you do not, therefore, pledge whatever you feel you can pay, because it is a promise to Allah. You can always pay more later.

In his later years, he could not prostrate for Salāt, yet he was always praying. We remember hearing him saying Sura Al-Fātiḥa

in his 96th year. He often thanked Allah for letting him live long enough to spend time with his daughters, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He was always thankful to Allah.

After our mother, Ameena Khalid, also a devout pioneer Ahmadi, passed away, our father went to live with his daughter Jameela Hamid, wife of Munir Hamid (Nā'ib Amīr, may Allah have mercy on him), Usman Khalid went to Philadelphia in 1995. In 2009 he breathed his last breath.

We acknowledged the most valuable thing he has given us in life, it was not diamonds and it was not gold, it is Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam, which showed us how to develop closeness with our Creator. We thanked our father for this. We are very grateful to Allah for allowing us the years that we had with our father, Usman Khalid. (African American Islamic History Exhibition), (Al-Nahl, 2009, vol. 20, No. 3-4, pp. 70-1) ★

Ahmad Saeed—Percy Smith



Bro. Ahmad Saeed (formerly Percy Smith) lived in California at some time. He converted to Ahmadiyyat in St. Louis in 1948. He was one of the earliest members who is present in photos of the St. Louis Jamā'at from 1949. According to the missionary report of Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi, he is mentioned in Tabligh activities of St. Louis. He also was the National Tabligh Secretary of the USA in

1950 (documented from the 1950 Jalsa report).

According to the First National Election of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya for Qa'id for the year 1951 held on 2 September 1950 at 4448 South Wabash, Chicago, IL, Bro. Ahmad Saeed of St. Louis and Abdul Raheem of Chicago were proposed for the post and Nurul Islam of Chicago was elected as Qa'id Majlis.

Brother Ahmad Saeed served the St. Louis Chapter in many capacities. He was Financial Secretary and Tarbiyat Secretary for many years. He was most dedicated to teaching the youth, was a mentor to many of them, and was beloved by the entire Jamā'at.

He was married to Sister

Rashidah Saeed of Chicago (National President of Lajna Ima'illah USA from 1975-1981) in 1972. They both lived in St. Louis and were active members until their deaths. Their son, Hafiz Nasiruddin, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are still part of the St. Louis Jamā'at. (Information provided by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad, from missionary reports of her father)

Percy Smith was known to host popular jazz musicians at his home in California. There they would practice and discuss spiritual revolutions and religion.

Ahmad Saeed (Percy) returned to East St. Louis to become an integral member of the St. Louis Ahmadi community. During the

1970s and 1980s, absent of a missionary, Saeed took the lead on educating the young and old in Arabic and Islamic studies. During summers, he would feed the neighborhood kids around the

mosque and involve the Ahmadi youth in various activities. Every Friday and Sunday he would consistently hand out a hearty smile and candy to the young. His commitment to the youth, Islamic

education and service to the community has developed a legacy of Ahmadi in St. Louis. (African American Islamic History Exhibition) ★

Abdullah Ali



Abdullah Ali was one of the

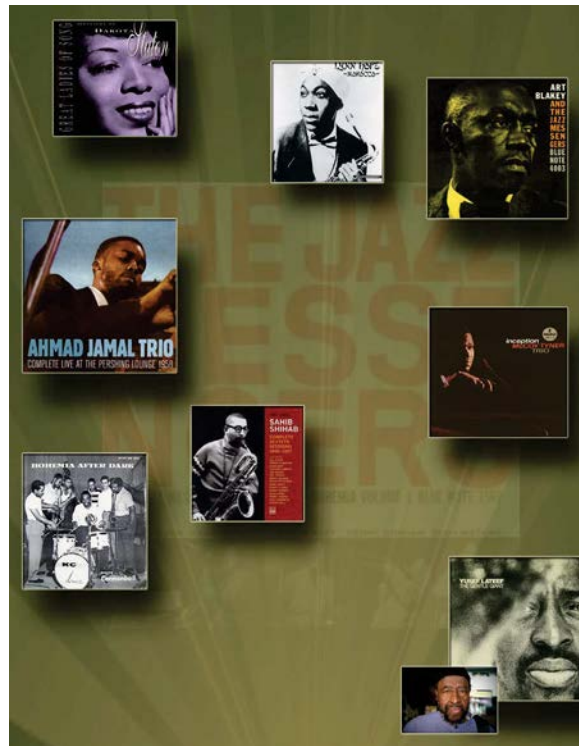
eldest living members of Ahmadiyya Community. It is said he died at the age of 99. The actual date of his joining Ahmadiyyat is unknown. But his dedication and commitment are unparalleled. In the 1950s, Abdullah and his wife, Almas, would provide residence for the first official missionary and family assigned to St. Louis.

The Alis would hold Friday service (Jum'a) at their home and provide support for community members. Abdullah was well known for his call to Prayer (Adan). Every New Year's, when neighbors would shoot their firearms,

Abdullah would go to the top of his roof and call his most melodious Adan.

St. Louis Community in 1950s.
Abdullah Ali, Ali Razaa, Ibn Yamin,
Abdul Ghaffur, Abdullah Aziz,
Ibrahim Khalil and Habibullah Aziz
 (African American Islamic History Exhibition 2017) ★

Musicians turning to Islam



From top left clockwise: Aliyah Rabia (Dakota Station), Hajj Rashid (Lynn Hope), Abdullah Ibn Buhaina (Art Blakey), Suleiman Saud (McCoy Tyner), Yusef Lateef (Bill Evans), Liaqat Ali Salaam (Kenny Clarke), Sihab Shihab (Edmond Gregory) and Ahmad Jamal (Frederick Russell Jones)

A distinctly Islamic culture that was highly visible in African American urban centers between 1917 and 1960—these musicians were major propagators of Islam in the world of jazz even though the subject of music was often a source of debate with the subcontinent Ahmadis. Some even developed a distinct jargon—a unique blend of bebop and Arabic.” –African American Islam.

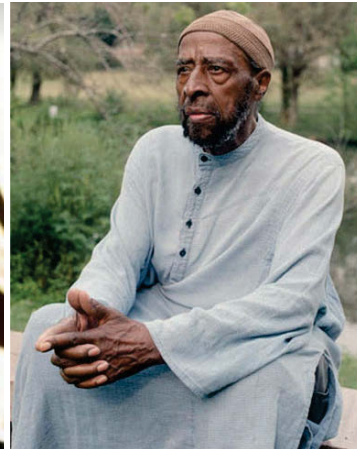
“... Gillespie’s big band was a training ground for many of the great names in modern jazz... Curiously, it also proved to be

fertile soil for Islamic da’wa.

In Philadelphia, Rainey met Sheik Nasir Ahmad. He soon converted to Islam, taking the name Talib Dawud. The band’s young tenor saxophonist, Bill Evans, followed him, taking the name Yusef Lateef, as did Lynn Hope, who became Hajj Rashid after making pilgrimage to Mecca in 1958. The drummer, Kenny Clarke, changed his name to Liaquat Ali Salaam and Oliver Mesheux became Mustafa Dalil.” – Black Pilgrimage to Islam, by Robert Danin.

“Islam was a force which directly opposed the deterioration of the mind and body through either spiritual or physical deterrents. Among musicians the religion began to grow when Art Blakey, Talib Daoud, Yusef Lateef, Ahmad Jamal, Sihab Shihab and other musicians raised money to bring Moslem teachers of the Ahmadiyya movement from Pakistan to the United States...”- Coltrane: A Biography, C. O. Simpkins. (African American Islamic History Exhibition 2017) ★

Yūsef ‘Abdul-Lateef—Bill Evans



From an early age, in fact as far back as my pre-teens, I was, although I believed in God, obsessed, and not clear about the idea of God, heaven, hell, and His creation. My parents, may Allāh bless their souls, were Christians, adherents of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Therefore, they raised me within that religious discipline, which they believed to be good for me. They sent me to Sunday School and many other church activities, and after I became a grown man and began to travel, I always carried a Bible with me, which I would read not infrequently.

Throughout my teens, into my twenties, I intuitively believed in

the benevolence of God and the goodness and brotherhood of mankind. I continually searched for religious and spiritual understanding. When I read something in the Bible that I didn’t understand or when I heard something preached in church that I didn’t understand, I would ask for explanations from elders of the church.

My somewhat perplexed state of mind concerning my position as one of God’s creations continued into my late twenties. At the age of 27, while living in Chicago, Illinois, I met by chance, Ṭālib Dawūd, an Aḥmadī Muslim. There was something about his appearance and mannerisms that prompted me

to ask him “What are you into?” as was the colloquial expression at that time. Without hesitation, he said that he was Muslim, and that he was a member of the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām. From that moment we became friends and within a few hours of meeting him, he gave me some literature, which contained some of the writings of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, Promised Messiah and Mahdī (peace be on him), and Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, Second Successor to Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah (may Allāh be pleased with him).

During that year, which was 1947, I continued to read the

various literature published by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām, and from time to time I would attend Islāmic classes at the mosque in Chicago located at 4448 South Wabash.

In 1948 I moved to New York, where I found myself visiting the mosque and continued to read Islāmic literature published by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām. Finally, in candor I can say, I believed that, as a result of reading the writings of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, and Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, Second Successor to the Promised Messiah, the angels of God descended on me. What I am trying to say is that at that point, I believed in my heart that the message of Islām promulgated through the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islām was true. Subsequently, in 1948, I became Muslim, and accepted Ahmadiyyat. I believed that it was incumbent on me to do so. At that moment I felt that to not embrace Islām was equivalent to turning my back on God or the truth. I was convinced then, as I am now, that the way of Ahmadiyyat is the path of truth, the path followed by the Holy Prophet Muḥammad (peace

be on him). I am convinced that it is the path where I and my family can find salvation. I am convinced that it is the true Universal Brotherhood for all mankind.

I believe in Islām because Islām does not compel me to accept enigmatic matters of religion merely on authority. Islām has furnished me with convincing arguments in support of its doctrines, one of which leaves no doubt, in my mind, that Allāh alone is the Lord of all the Worlds. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh that I am no longer perplexed about Divine Law and its benefits, revelation and its importance, resurrection and the life after death, heaven, and hell. I am convinced, Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh that Islām which is embodied in the Holy Qurʾān, the Ḥadīth, and Sunnah gives detailed answers to all the questions I have ever entertained. Islām furnishes me with the faith and understanding I have searched for early on in life, and as well it satisfies my spiritual nourishment and my intellect. In fact, I perceive Islām as the perfect religion, perfected by God and offered to mankind through the Holy Prophet Muḥammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) for mankind’s eternal evolution. Al-

Ḥamdu Lillāh.

Dr. Yūsef A. Lateef teaches at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. After becoming an Ahmadi Muslim, Yūsef has experienced, Divine Signs, firsthand.

(Edited from “Why Islam is my choice, pp. 2-5, Al-Naḥl, No. 2, Winter 1993/Spring 1993).

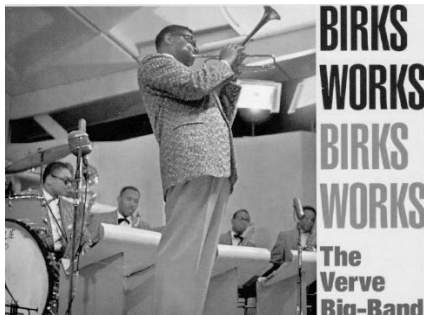
He passed away on December 23, 2013, at the age of 93. May Allah elevate his status in heaven. Ameen.

He was a Grammy Award winning composer, performer, recording artist, author, visual artist, educator, and philosopher. In recognition of his many contributions to the world of music, he was named an American Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V led his funeral prayers in absentia during his Friday Sermon on January 3, 2014. Khalifatul-Masih V said:

“After the Prayer I will also lead a Janāza of Yusuf Lateef of Boston, USA. He passed away on December 23, 2013, at the age of 93. Inna Lillāhi wa Innā Ilaihi Rajiʾoon.” ★

Talib Dawud—Alfonso Nelson Rainey



In 1947 Talib Dawud (Alfonso Nelson Rainey), a well-known Jazz Trumpeter, converted to Islam through meetings with Sheikh Ahmed Nasr. Among the converts that Talib Dawud himself brought to Islam were reed player Yusuf Lateef and drummer and band leader Art Blakey. In the late 1940s Dawud was invited to join Dizzy

Gillespie’s big band, the proving ground for many jazz greats of the twentieth century. As historian Robert Dannin noted, Gillespie’s band “also proved to be fertile soil for Islamic Da’wa,” (proselytizing), and at one point in the early 1950 the band featured many Muslim musicians. (African American Islamic History Exhibition 2017) ★

Muḥammad Ṣādiq—Howard William Scott



In one of his addresses during the 1993 U.K. annual convention, Hazrat Mirzā Tahir Aḥmad, Fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah made a special comment about Muḥammad Ṣādiq, that Bro. Ṣādiq had lost the light of his eyes but Allāh had increased the light of his heart.

My name is Muḥammad Ṣādiq. Before accepting Islām, my name was Howard William Scott. I was born in Newark, New Jersey, on October 29, 1912.

My family, by tradition, had a very keen interest in the profession of music. I became a good jazz musician, and it started to pay well, also. So, I decided to make it my career and pursued it further. I stayed with music until I accepted Islām.

I never had any kids from my marriage. However, my wife asked me to adopt some abandoned children. I gladly accepted that suggestion. In the end, we had three children, all from the same mother. Although I still stay in touch with them, but it is very disappointing to see that they have no interest in

Islām.

One day in 1947, a friend gave me a book, “The Life of Muḥammad,” written by Ṣūfī M.R. Bengālī. I was in tears after reading that book. Then I was introduced to some people who brought Islām to Harlem. One of those men, Ṭālib Dawūd, explained many things to me. I was then brought to Missionary Ghulām Yāsīn, who formally initiated me into Aḥmadiyyat by having me fill out a form.

My wife was very happy to see me accept Islām. She, later, became a very prominent lady in Islām.

The same year, after accepting Aḥmadiyyat, I saw Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, the Second Successor to the Promised Messiah, in a dream.

Then, in 1974, I visited Pakistan and India for the first time. That began a warm relationship with Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Third Successor to the Promised Messiah. I had been to Qadian and Rabwah so many times that the border guards on both sides would ask me, “How are you sir, this year?”

In the early days of my acceptance, ‘Ābid Haneef and I would go to New York city and pass out pamphlets as a means of propagation. By doing so we brought many people into Islām, but unfortunately, most of them have not stayed with us. Once, Bro. ‘Ābid Haneef and I were arrested for passing out literature by the New York police. The police beat us and took us to the court where we were acquitted of all charges.

Accepting Islām and Aḥmadiyyat has been the greatest achievement of my life. Had I continued my profession as a musician, I would have made much more money, but I would not trade my faith for all the wealth in the world. I found in Aḥmadiyyat what I could not find anywhere else.

I would like to thank Missionary Ghulām Yāsīn for his efforts in training me and teaching me the Holy Qur’ān.

In the end, I would like to mention that there is none better a person in the world than Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, Fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah. He is extremely sweet. Today, if there is a way to reach the hearts of people, it is through his sermons and speeches. He speaks the truth and his message touches my heart every time I hear him.

While I was attending the London Annual Jalsa (convention) this year, during his address, he said something that touched my heart and I could not help but call out, “na’ra’-i-takbīr.” The Khalīfatul-Masīḥ immediately recognized my voice.

The next thing I heard was a very loving comment about me by the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ. He named me in the presence of the whole audience, switching abruptly from Urdū to English. “Bro. Ṣādiq! Your voice was music to my ears.”

(Edited from “Why Islam is my Choice, pp. 10-15, Al-Naḥl, Winter 1994). ★

Khalil Mahmud—John Stevens Fredrick Peters



I was born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 7, 1929. My family was from the West Indies. My father, John Steven Drewry Peters, came to the United States in 1903, and my mother, Josephine Maud Blanchard Peters, came later. At the time of my birth, my name was John Stevens Fredrick Peters.

I was brought up in a very religious environment. My parents were of a very conservative background. They belonged to the Anglican Church in the West Indies, but after moving to the United States, they joined the Church of Christ in Harvard Square (Cambridge, MA).

I started taking interest in music, and even played with some groups in the Boston area. I was very fortunate, rather, blessed, that by the

time I graduated from high school in 1946, the War had ended. It was then that I was re-acquainted with my friends, who had gone overseas for the War. These friends brought back some of their unique experiences. I instantly became attracted to Islām.

I soon learned of a teacher, Chaudhri Ghulām Yāsīn. Then, through Missionary Yāsīn, I was introduced to Bro. ‘Alī Muġtabā who would later become my mentor.

Islam’s message of Universality impressed me the most. When I found out that Jesus Christ was only a messenger of Allāh, it felt a little strange, but when I saw the love, the Muslims displayed for him and how they gave life to his teachings, it immediately became clear to me that Islām had to be the right path for the humanity.

I must narrate another incident that deeply affected me. I once went to visit Bro. Hameed in his house. There I first saw a prayer book on his desk and then I saw three men, one of them was Šūfī Mutiur-Rahmān Bengālī (the then missionary of New York region), performing Salāt together. When I saw the three of them pray in unison, I realized that this was a true brotherhood. It was a real pretty sight and that left an everlasting mark on me. (Incidentally, it was during this time that I met Malcolm Little, later known as Malcolm X.)

After I became a Muslim, I spent much of my time with other Aĥmadī Muslims (in those days, most of the Muslims in the United States were Aĥmadī Muslims).

I enjoyed my stay in Rabwah very much. From Pakistan, I decided to go for Ḥajj. During the Ḥajj

rituals, I had a very pleasant surprise. I was on Mount ‘Arafat when I was informed that there was a certain individual who knew me and wished to speak to me. Much to my surprise, it was our dear brother, Dr. Yūsef Lateef: Just another one of Islam’s sign of universality. Later, in 1974, I had the opportunity of visiting Qadian, the birthplace of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aĥmad, the Promised Messiah peace be upon him. This visit had such a great impact upon me that even volumes may not be enough to express my feelings. To walk and pray at the spots where once my Master did, was an unbelievable experience.

My message to all those who oppose Islām and Aĥmadiyyat is that they should sincerely pray for true guidance. When I talk to Muslims about Aĥmadiyyat, I ask them of their belief in the coming of Jesus. They try to avoid this question on the pretext that it was not important to the faith. On the contrary, I want to tell them, that the belief in the second coming of the Son of Mary is of prime importance as therein lies the answer to our salvation.

My message to those who are sitting on the edge—those who do not oppose the Aĥmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at but are not willing to join it—in the words of the Holy Qur’ān, is say, “Everyone acts according to his own way, and your Lord knows full well who is best guided.” (17[Banī Isrā‘īl]:85)

May Allāh enable all of them to open their eyes and see the true beauty of Islām.

(Edited from “Why Islam is my choice and Al-Naĥl, Spring 1994). ★

Notable Converts in 1951-75

Nasir Rahmat Jamal



Jamāl was born into a Baptist Christian family.

He embraced Islām a few years later at a very young age and moved to Los Angeles in 1951 and has been at the forefront of our [local Ahmadiyya Muslim] Jamā‘at activities ever since.

When I started studying about Islām, I found out, much to my surprise, that all of the things—that these scientists that Christianity had made themselves so superior with—the Muslims had no such idea of any kind [of] superiority as far as your race or your color is concerned. And that it is based upon your abilities and your character and the kind of character you have, that’s where your

“superiority” is, and nowhere else.



Members Los Angeles circa 1956

L to R: Unknown, Bro Sharif, Bro Rahmat Jamal, New convert Name Unknown (Courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad from her father’s record)

There were two friends of mine, who had been exposed to people who knew about Islām. Well, I hadn’t. So, they became Muslim. So, they were finding converts. They said, “This is the thing to do. You got to become one. You got to come and find out about Islām. You got to get out of this system that you’ve been in for so long.” But they didn’t know much. So, I got

interested and went to a couple of meetings in meeting halls that were built by a Dr. Khān, and he was a Pakistani. And he established three mosques, centers. One in Cincinnati, [one in] Dayton and [one] someplace in Philadelphia or Pittsburgh.

Afro-Americans, by and large, have an identity problem. People were taken from Africa and brought here as slaves. Whatever they were called, or whatever their names were, whatever their family names.

By following Islām man can attain that peace which he has been working so hard to try and attain. May Allāh, enable all of us to understand and practice that true teaching of Islām which can lead all of us to live peaceful and enjoyable, prosperous lives here on Earth. May Allāh enable us to do this...

Transcript of an Interview with Waseem Sayed, Secretary *Tabligh*, USA (Edited from *Why Islam is my choice*, pp. 104-129-*Al-Naḥl*, Vol. 13, No. 2, 2002.) ★

Dr. Bashir-ud-Din Usama



Dr. Bashir-ud-Din Usama

accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1955 and was among the early African American Ahmadis. He was very regular in his Salat and was a loyal and sincere Ahmadi. He was an honorable man with great love for Khilafat. He was prayerful and passionate yet very humble and meek in nature. He had the honor to visit Rabwah and meet Khalifatul-Masih II and Khalifatul-Masih III. He met Khalifatul-Masih IV many times and had great love for him. Huzoor also had a special

connection with him. He had performed Hajj with his wife. He served as Na’ib President Cleveland for 20 years. He had great fervor for social welfare and took great care of African American brothers. In 1950, he wrote a booklet on the Holy Prophet. He used to deliver speeches at Annual Conventions of US Jamā‘at. He was a dentist by profession. His wife Fatima Usama had also served as Sadr Lajna in Cleveland. He is survived by two sons who have deep affiliation with

the Jamā'at.

Dr. Usama passed away on 2 November 2013 at the age of 82.



I am just a simple poet, Joseph was my name
 And after I accepted Islām, Yūsuf it became
 God gives gifts, and when he gave me mine
 It was Him and His prophets plus rhythm and rhyme
 How I accepted Islām, many people ask
 Therefore, let me explain to you this heartfelt task
 My family were God-leaning people so they would say
 Yet, I often wondered why not in God's name we should pray
 My mother would prepare our meal, and that was very nice
 Yet, I would wonder why not thank God instead of Jesus Christ
 I only read the Bible because I needed God
 Yet all I did get was an indecisive mental plod
 When I heard the name Islām, I said, oh let me try that
 Because I searched through Christianity, and still I wasn't

Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) led the funeral Prayer in absentia of Dr. Bashir-ud-Din Usama of Bedford Height, Ohio

Yūsuf 'Alī

standing pat
 The first Islām presented to me was surely out of place
 Because it emphasized, only, how to love one race
 And the God I sought created man no matter what his color
 And if in fact He created us all then we all must be brothers
 My sister I do believe was a very special gift
 Because it was through her my heart became humble, and started that upward lift
 All my life I wanted a good wife, and through my sister I found Jameel
 Yet by far, I found Allāh, and am blessed with the companionship of her charisma
 Ahmadiyyat Praise to God is where it all began
 All of the strife that was in my life walked out when Muzaffar and her walked in
 Muzaffar Ahmad married my sister, and I am most pleased to say
 I do not know why I started to cry; it all just happened that way
 He was more than a brother to everyone, and I loved him from my heart
 It hurt me so that he had to go yet we all must part
 He presented to me a true Islām far different from the first
 To my surprise, it opened my eyes, and yes it quenched my thirst
 The Promised Messiah, without a doubt, was close to me
 A fatherly love, purer than a Dove

after Friday prayer. (Centenary Souvenirs USA Jamā'at and Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Souvenir) ★

could ever be
 Seeing his picture to me was an outstanding thing
 I had to hear the message he did bring
 The message he brought was of a prophet named Muḥammad
 Yet, I was receiving the same message from a prophet named Ahmad
 I am just a simple poet Yūsuf is my name
 I seek not fortune nor do I seek fame
 I struggle every day to follow the Promised Messiah, this I don't deny
 Over the years I spilled my tears I guess you wonder why
 God our Lord, the merciful, the kind, and all Supreme
 Was a hidden treasure Who desired to be Seen
 I am not for pomp nor am I for show
 But I tell you people this much I do know
 If you truly want that God be seen then follow this plan
 Follow the Messiah and take his Khalifa's hand
 His name is Ṭāhir Ahmad, and I am sure you'll find
 His arms wide open loving and kind
 I am just a simple poet, Yūsuf is my name
 Yet many will think that I'm insane or at the least vain
 (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 89-92. Al-Naḥl, Vol. 9, No. 1). ★

Fatima Mahmud

I was born in Arlington, VA, and raised in Washington, D.C. I accepted Ahmadiyyat in August 1965.

I grew up going to a Baptist Church. I never embraced Baptism because there were numerous things about it with which I wasn't satisfied. The ministers seemed to be more concerned with collecting money and flirting with the women though they were married.

My mother, the core of my

being, passed away in January 1965 of cerebral hemorrhage. Just then, a friend and co-worker who had recently converted to Islam approached me and invited me more than once to come to mosque. I agreed. It happened to be the day of Eid-ul-Fitr. What a wonderful experience that was! The people were so warm, welcoming, and full of religious fervor. They prayed one God—Allah. The missionary gave me book “The Philosophy of the Teaching of Islam” by the Promised

Messiah (peace be on him). It totally changed my life. It answered every question that I had about God.

By the grace of Allah, I signed Bai'at on 1 August 1965. I felt like I had come home—Islam and Ahmadiyyat. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 82-5)

She was Secretary Detroit Chapter. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA May 1971, p. 8) ★

Shireen Ali

My first introduction to Islam happened in the late summer of 1967 in Augusta, Georgia. That was when my fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Wingfield, taught us about the subject of Islam, the Prophet Muhammad, Mecca, and Medina. At that time, I was member of the

Macedonia Baptist Church in Augusta; earlier I had belonged to A.M.E. Zion Church in Johnstown, NY.

Years became decades, and Allah led me to embrace Islam. I first heard about Ahmadiyyat when

I was at a difficult point in my personal life. Friends reminded me that Allah had everything under control. The decision to become an Ahmadi is the most important choice I have ever made in my life. (“Faith Affirmed,” p. 27) ★

Saleemah Aful

My first introduction to Ahmadiyyat came through William Tatum (Irfan Malik), the son of Abdul and Mubaraka Malik. I was introduced to my future husband's parents in 1968. His mother, Mubaraka, told me about the Promised Messiah and Mahdi. I could only ask, “Who is that?”

I was invited to attend a Lajna and Sunday meetings. In September 1969, Allah, the Most Gracious, allowed me to sign Bai'at (declaration of allegiance) under Khalifatul-Masih III.

Over the years I met many wonderful sisters (mentors). All of them taught me about Islam and Ahmadiyyat. My mother-in-law, Mubaraka Malik, sister Latif and Nasira Razaa taught me teachings of Islam; like Wudu, reading the Holy Qur'an, how to pray at proper times and how to become regular attendee of all Lajna meetings. Salma Ghani taught me what it means to be humble, by telling me that the word pride is a negative emotion. The women with whom I traveled to Rabwah and Qadian, taught me to be grateful for many

favors of Allah, especially in times of extreme adversity. Also, Rasheeda Sa'eed taught me the pleasure of giving gifts for the sake of Allah. The Holy Prophets gave gifts because it was pleasing to Allah.

I am grateful and thankful to Allah for all of His guidance and helpers He has brought to me. We are truly mirrors for one another and I am a witness to it. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 136-8) ★

'Umar Bilāl Ebrahīm

I was born in Roseboro, North Carolina on the 18th of February 1942. I am a professional barber and I work in Harlem New York. And I believe for Ahmadiyyat to

become rooted in America among African Americans, it will start from Harlem.

How I accepted Ahmadiyyat is by Allāh's Grace alone, starting

with the family, the mother (Mattie Culbreth) and Father (Elvie Culbreth), Allāh blessed me with.

Around 1967, being a neighborhood barber, I met

‘Uthmān ‘Abdus-Salām who managed a local bookstore. Sometimes he would be my customer and sometimes I would be his. During a period when he was ill he sent word to me to make a house call to cut his hair. On this occasion we got into a discussion about Revelation and the Bible. He explained to me how Sūrah Al-Fātiḥa was represented in the Book of Revelations in the Bible, and then he asked me, “Do you know that after the Bible revelation continues?” When he said that I wanted to get to the source of this knowledge because this information was powerful and inspiring. He then introduced me to Ahmadiyya literature and I agreed with all that I read from the Ahmadiyya perspective.

My relationship with ‘Uthmān ‘Abdus-Salām continued to grow. He would invite me to have dinner with him at his home every Sunday and would give me more books to read on Islām.

I dreamt that, in the process of my making Wuḍū, a voice from someone next to me said, “Come on

and join the Prayer.” I saw a number of people dressed in different colors, lined up for Prayer along the ocean front and out over the ocean the leader of the Prayer was a man that was hovering over the ocean as if he was sitting on the clouds and a bright light was glowing where his face was supposed to be.



After this experience, I again pushed the issue onto ‘Abdus-Salām to take me to the source of knowledge that he had been giving me piecemeal so far. That is when he took me to meet the Ahmadīs, the most beautiful people I ever

met. This was at the Archer St. Mission house in Queens.

I finally signed the Bai‘at form in 1969 under Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Third Successor to the Promised Messiah.

Now I have been an Ahmadi Muslim for about twenty-nine years. I have witnessed the growth of Ahmadiyyat in America. The symbol of that growth is Bait-ur-Rahmān, the Central Mosque in Silver Spring, Maryland. Through these 29 years, I have been elected to several offices in the Ahmadiyyat Movement including local Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at president.

In conclusion all I can say about my acceptance of Islām is Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh. Who would have thought that I would be able to join the Community of Jesus’ Second Coming when he was to appear among the followers of Prophet Muḥammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 93-99-Al-Naḥl, Vol. 10, No. 1, 1998-99) ★

‘Umar—Evan Wicks



I’d been married for about 11 years or so when one day, I noticed my son getting all dressed up. I asked him where he was going. He replied that he was going to the Mosque. “What’s that,” I asked.

“It’s an Islamic house of worship,” he said. “What are you going there for?” I asked. He told me that he was converting to Islām. “WHAT!!!!!!” I got so mad at this point (being a good Christian and all) that I told him in not so nice a tone that if he ever mentioned the word Islām, or Muslim, that I would kick him out of the house. Stupid kid, what did he know? But, for the next while (not sure of the duration here) he would sneak out on Fridays and Sundays to the Mosque. He even got my wife and her father to go once. (I thought they were going shopping.)

One day I heard my son upstairs talking. No one was home

and he wasn’t on the phone, so I wondered what was going on. I went to the stairs and listened. Something about, “Has the Messiah already come?” I don’t know what it was that made me keep listening but I did. He came downstairs and asked me if he could practice his speech in front of me. I said, ok, and he proceeded to give his speech to me. It was pretty good. I told him that he just needed to slow down a little and he’d be fine.

He asked me if I’d like to go with him to the mosque and listen to him give the speech. Mmmmm, I thought, this would be the perfect chance for me to go and set these people straight. I’d show these

camel jockeys a thing or two about religion. These terrorists weren't going to corrupt my son. So, I went.

My son gave his speech (Has the Messiah already come?) and he did very well. Then this gentleman (a Dr.) got up and gave a speech about the beauties of Islām. He was reading from "The Essence of Islām." This man was so passionate about what he was talking about,

I was born Christian and underwent a life changing moment when I accepted Ahmadiyyat in the spring of 1971 in Chicago.

Before I became an Ahmadi Muslim, my life was in constant turmoil. I had been on the verge of divorce numerous times. The state of chaos lasted for greater part of a decade, from 1960 to 1971. My soul sensed that there was one true religion. During this search, I visited multiple churches, synagogues, and mosques, analyzing the basic teachings of each.

Miraculously, in 1971, shortly before graduating, I was introduced to Ahmadiyyat. I left my name and address at the Mission House for Ahmadiyya literature. I received books, pamphlets and copy of the Holy Qur'an. I started reading the

I was born in Washington, D.C. I accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1972 and currently reside in North Carolina.

With the blessings of Allah, I was introduced to Islam in 1972, when my husband, Jalāluddīn A. Latif, joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Queens, NY. After he joined the Jamā'at, I was greatly impressed with his transformation in thought and deeds. He started attending the mission house and spent many

that he had me captivated.

I was learning things that were completely different from what I was taught growing up.

I've read books by Armstrong, Sponge, Burton Mach, Freidman, just to name a few. As well as books about Islām. And with each book I read the madder I got. I felt like I was lied to all my life and everything I knew was all based on

Hajja Tahira Lateef

literature. I was not opposed to any of the ideas in the books. Then I visited the Sadiq Mosque for the first time in 1971. I noticed that the people were so polite, well-mannered, pious, attentive, and helpful. This all affected me positively. In the spring of 1971, I signed Bai'at and under the guidance of Missionary Abdul Karim, studied prayers and the Holy Qur'an.

Inevitably, my home life became problematic since my husband was a Roman Catholic. Our marriage eventually ended in divorce. By the grace of Allah, I married an Ahmadi in 1973, relocated to New Jersey and was blessed with a son in 1975. From day one, the life as an Ahmadi Muslim was a new flavor of being. The rhythm of peace became my

Naima K. Latif

hours trying to understand Islamic beliefs, never coming home empty-handed.

My husband when initially talked to me about Islam, he mentioned the Islamic concept of God and it was hard for me at first to grasp the concept that Jesus was not God. As I pondered over what I read in books on Islam, I was drawn to the believer's prayer—"Our Lord! We have heard a Crier calling us unto faith! Believe ye in your Lord,

a lie.

But as I kept reading I kept learning. My life has taken on a new meaning since finding Islām. I pray each day that I never stop learning and never stop finding meaning in my life. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 135-8 and Al-Naḥl, Vol. 14, No. 4, 2003) ★

existence. Family members and old friends questioned me about the changes in my dress and behavior. I explained to them that I had learnt real values by developing love for God, and that had made me different-and better.

By the grace of Allah, I performed Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca) in 1973. Our family has attended UK Annual Conventions four times. I have been blessed to pray in India, Ghana, Zaire, Nigeria, Spain, Canada, and all over the US. Allah has been Most Gracious to me and my family, extending bounties too numerous to count.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 33-5) ★

and we have believed"-and with the blessing of God, I was able to memorize the Prayer with meaning. My heart slowly began its transformation and I found myself drawn towards Islam, even though the beliefs contradicted what I had been brought up to believe.

Two years later, I attended a program in New Jersey, organized by the Jamā'at.

This is when my journey to

Ahmadiyyat, began in earnest, Al-Hamdu-Lillah. In 1974, after studying Ahmadiyyat for two years, I pledged Bai'at at the hands of Khalifatul-Masih III.

My lifestyle changed drastically after I accepted Ahmadiyyat, Starting with congregational Prayers at home and learning to read the translation of the Holy Qur'an. Other changes came when I

became more active in Lajna. In 1981, Sister Salma Ghani, the President of the US Lajna, appointed me to be local Lajna President, since I was practicing proper Purdah. And when Khalifatul-Masih IV came to the United States, my family had the honor of meeting him several times.

In 2000, I met Huzoor again,

and he asked me who my father was. I responded that he was a Christian and that his name was Perry Robinson. I will never forget Huzoor's comment: "You look like you have always been a Muslim."

The best years of my life have been spent in Ahmadiyyat. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 28-32) ★

Akbar Tshaka Aḥmadī



Akbar Tshaka with *Hadrat* Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, Fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah.

I am originally from Atlantic City, New Jersey. I was born August 11, 1939. I was educated in Atlantic City High School. My family's background is from the Christian faith. Following is a synopsis of how I became an Aḥmadī Muslim.

Aḥmadiyyat the true Islām is so lucid, so brilliant and sublime that a seeker after truth has no problems in discerning its pure beauty, thus it makes acceptance of Aḥmadiyyat easy in the sense that it furnishes the seeker with verified

proofs of its genuine and increasingly glowing spiritual reality.

One day back in 1972, I was in Weisers bookstore buying "The Sufi Message" by Ināyat Khān, the famous Šūfī mystic. I was a few feet away when I noticed a book titled "The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islām." Under the title it said, "by the founder of the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām." Now, for some strange reason, knowing nothing about Aḥmadiyyat, I thought that Aḥmadiyyat was so ancient a *dīn* that there was no current information about it. I immediately grabbed the book and turned the page.

When I saw the face of *Hadrat* Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, peace be upon him, I was immediately wonderstruck. I had never seen a man so handsome wherein one

could easily gaze at the spiritual demeanor that the photo presented. I read the brief information under his photograph that gives the reader a short outline about him. Then proceeded to my flat to read this book that I felt was a precious gem.

The outstanding spirituality and widespread literary dimension of the explanation of *Hadrat* Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah (peace be on him), along with the sacredness of his personality and character poured into his writings with such force of accuracy, that I said to myself, "I have finally found the true Islām that I was searching for in my studies." (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 86-8-Al-Nahl, Spring 1997). ★

Jalāluddīn 'Abdul-Lateef



I first heard about Islām from a follower of Elijah Muḥammad of the Nation of Islām. I didn't hear much more about Islām until much later in my life, when I had moved to New York. There I was reacquainted with some of my old friends from New Jersey. One of them, Akbar Tshaka, who had turned to be a very religious person, started preaching me Islām.

In August of 1971, I got a

serious exposure to Islām and its philosophy. By now, my friend Akbar would read a particular book and then give it to me. Then one day Akbar came across a book by the name of the Teachings of Islām. He read the book and was greatly impressed by its contents and the author. After some time, I was convinced that I should go to the Ahmadiyya Brooklyn mission house myself. The first event that I

attended was a Khuddām meeting.

One day, I mentioned my desire to be formally accepted into Islām to Muḥammad Ṣādiq, who was the president of our New York Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at. He expressed a great deal of joy and asked me to fill out the Bai‘at form. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, on that day in

May 1972, at the Archer Street Mission House in Jamaica, New York, Bilāl Sunni ‘Alī and I signed the Bai‘at forms. Since that day, I have never looked back.

I met with Miān Ṭāhir Aḥmad, in Rabwah. I was so highly impressed by him, that when I heard that Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir

Aḥmad, Third Successor to the Promised Messiah, may Allāh shower His mercy upon him, had passed away, I immediately felt that Miān Ṭāhir Aḥmad was going to be the next Khalifa. Today, he is the leading source of my moral training and education. (Edited from “Why Islam is my choice? pp. 24-30-Al-Naḥl, Summer 1994). ★

Yaḥyā ‘Abdur Rahmān



I was born on 5 December 1939 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Bro. Kabīr gave me some literature published by the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām, and told me that if I was interested in the study of Islām then I should

take it from the real Muslims, meaning the Aḥmadī Muslims. I was so impressed by the literature that I requested Bro. Kabīr to provide me with more. He did and soon I was reading the English Translation of the Holy Qur‘ān.

I was convinced that God wanted me to join Islām, lead my life according to its teachings and do what I could to propagate Islām to others. With prayers in my heart, I decided to formally join the fold of Islām.

Islām has completely changed my life. Ever since I embraced Islām I never feel upset about anything. Through this faith I have learned that all hardships come

from Allāh, but if one remains steadfast then He removes those difficulties, as Allāh Himself says in the Holy Qur‘ān about the believers: When they are afflicted with pain, they say, from Allāh have we come and to Allāh shall we return. (2[Al-Baqarah]:157)

After I became a Muslim, I wanted to give myself a Muslim name. My Christian name used to be John Douglas Scott. I changed my first name, John, to the Arabic, Yaḥyā.

(Edited from “Why Islam is my choice, pp. 31-36, Al-Naḥl, Fall 1994) ★

Amtul Muid Andersen

I was reared in the household where Christianity was the accepted religious belief. My mother dutifully took her children to church and Sunday school as her parents had done.

I married at the age of seventeen with Baptist preacher. Soon after, we learned of Ahmadiyyat through an old

acquaintance of mine. Her name after conversion was Khadijah Malik. She studied with my husband and me. Our first book was “Philosophy of the Teaching of Islam” by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. I asked her many questions, so many that she became annoyed, but she never left me. She consoled us to pray to God. I did so and became a believer.

My heart was in Islam but my body still went to church. I continued my search, while my husband did not. He kept preaching Christianity, and we eventually parted. At nineteen years of age, I found what my soul had searched for my entire life, Islam. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 63-6) ★

Notable Converts in 1976-90

Laeqa S. Ahmad

By the grace of Allah, one of my parents converted to Islam during my early adolescent years. My father, Mansa Musa Khan, was the first to choose Islam as his faith, and I remember that day so very well.

My hometown of Gary, Indiana had a large population of Muslims from the Nation of Islam, but very few, if any, from other Muslim sects. It was some eight to ten years later before I learned of Ahmadiyyat.

Truth has its own light, and I recognized it in a young man that I saw walking across the Northwest Indiana University campus. The young brother, Muhammad

Ismaeel, now my late husband, was distributing literature as many Muslim brothers did in those days, but it was a propagation technique particularly identified with the Nation of Islam. The brother, a current student at Northwest University, approached me, politely introduced himself, and handed me pamphlets describing Ahmadiyyat. I asked, “What makes your religion better than anyone else’s?” He answered, “It is not what I believe that makes my religion the best. It is that you believe in God and all His prophets and the message that they brought from God.” Then he told me about Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Reformer for all mankind. I did not understand

my father’s concept of Elijah Muhammad as a modern-day leader and prophet; it sounded contradictory and left me totally confused. The Ahmadiyya Islam interpretation of Islam offered everything an individual needed to live a moral, physical, and spiritual healthy life.

Finally, I turned to prayer, praying for assurance that this was the right religion, and that God wanted this religion for me. I took the initiation of Bai’at in 1977, in Waukegan, Illinois. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 126-9) ★

Shamim A. Sheikh

I was brought up as a modest Sunni Muslim. Having neither an adequate knowledge of Islam, nor having an optimistic perception of it, I did not feel strongly about my faith.

My friend prepared to leave to attend her Jalsa in Rabwah, and we decided to accompany her to attend the Ahraari Convention in Chiniot. The Jalsa at Chiniot was observed at night, so we planned to attend Ahmadiyya Jalsa in Rabwah with our friend. I was fascinated by the charismatic decorum, valiant declarations, authentic claims,

genuine assertions, dauntless arguments, as well as the reverence and courteousness in which the presentations were made. In comparison, at the Chiniot Convention the only perceptible motive of their convention appeared to be to slander and smear the Ahmadiyya belief, with no effort to put forth any substance to illustrate the beauties of Islam. I was startled by the quoted revelations and proclamations of the Promised Messiah. I saw Islam enlightened in the Ahmadiyya Convention.

I read a book “Wasāl-e-Masih Ibn Mariam” written by Mirza Tahir Ahmad. The explanation given in the book on the topic finality of the Prophethood and that on the subject of Jesus Christ—his natural death with all the related verses of the Holy Qur’an—were astonishing. I heard the heavenly cry, recognized the divinely appointed crier, and I laid down myself to procure that invaluable treasure. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 104-108) ★

Kiran Khan

After my physical birth, my conversion to Ahmadiyyat has been the most important event in my life. That conversion signaled my spiritual rebirth and made me feel that I would now be saved from the

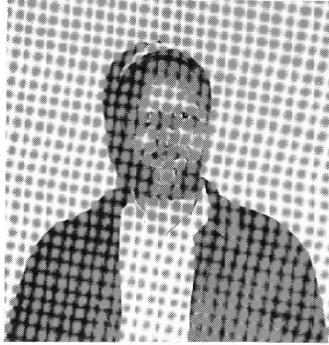
evils of this world. I have been member of this Jamā’at for the last eight years, and each day has brought learning and enlightenment.

My first priority became

signing the Bai’at (conversion at the hand of the Khalifa) because my faith had deepened so much through my research. I felt that I had to seize this opportunity.

The concept I had of Purdah

also changed. I started to realize that wearing Purdah didn't create hurdles-instead, it strengthened and empowered women.



In 1978, one day, in my state of extreme anxiety, I suddenly remembered to turn to God for help. This thought was so powerful that I felt as if some external force was leading me into that direction. That day I prayed to God in my own way. At the end of the prayer, I felt very relaxed.

My mother also became an Ahmadi after seeing heavenly light. She saw Khalifatul-Masih IV. He saw her and called her to come join him in prayers. In the end, we

received the best reward anyone could wish for, the true Islam, a faith that changed my life. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 59-61) ★

Aṭāul Jalāl Nūruddīn

One of the Aḥmadī friends met me and took me to Muzaffar Aḥmad Zafar. Muzaffar gave me a copy of the Holy Qur'ān saying that if I read that book on a regular basis then I would definitely find peace. I accepted the book thankfully, came home and started reading it. When I read the first chapter, Sūrah Al-Fātiḥa, I started pondering over its meanings.

At the mission house, I met with a very kind-hearted and noble old man, Maulawī Muḥammad Ibrāhīm, who was the missionary to Dayton. I signed the Bai'at form and started living in the mission house.

Love for the Aḥmadiyya

Community started to grow in my heart. Soon the urge to meet with Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Third Successor to the Promised Messiah, may Allāh be merciful to him, grew very intense in my heart. I, therefore, decided to visit Rabwah and started saving for the journey. In 1980, Allāh provided me the opportunity to visit both Qadian as well as Rabwah. While in Rabwah, I also met with Ḥaḍrat Miān Ṭāhir Aḥmad, who later became the fourth successor to the Promised Messiah, who was then in-Charge of Waqf-i-Jadīd. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 68-75. Al-Naḥl, Spring 1996). ★

Ayesha Allison Khan

In 1985, I was walking at the University of Waterloo Library when I heard a voice in my right ear inform me that I would be in a car accident that day. I ignored the voice. Sure enough, later that day, I found myself in a car accident. After that, I told myself if I ever heard the voice again, I would pay attention.

I was born on Good Friday, baptized on Good Friday, and confirmed into the church on Good Friday. I never understood why it was called Good Friday because Jesus was put on the cross that day.

Two students in my class

impressed me with their truthfulness and dignity, I discovered they were Ahmadi Muslims. One of them gave me a book, Muhammad, and the rights of women. The title surprised me since I had always assumed that Muslim women were deprived of their rights. The first book about Ahmadiyyat I read was Ahmad, the Guided one by Iain Adamson. It touched my heart. I saw Khalifatul-Masih IV in my dream and gave him a gift.

Finally, I heard the voice again. Walking one Sunday at Fajr time, I

heard a bell ring three times, and I heard the voice say, "Turn to the left for Islam!" Turn to the left mean turn towards the Ka'aba and pray as a Muslim. I met another Ahmadi, Amtul Saboor, at the Canadian Jalsa. I asked her to write any question about Holy Qur'an which she shall present to her husband, Pir Waheed Ahmad. I wrote 2-pages of questions. Pir Waheed answered all questions patiently. I accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1995. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 40-5) ★

Ismail Anani, Naperville, IL

My journey to Islam began in 1982 while in Kumasi, Ghana, when I first came in contact with some Ahmadi Muslim families who lived

in the same housing complex that my father, brother, and I had moved into. There, I befriended a person named Ghulam Ahmad

Edusei.

On one occasion, Ghulam asked me to attend an event that some Ahmadi Muslims were having

in the neighborhood.



From that point on, I began attending all the local Ahmadiyya

events that I could. I also began secretly joining my friends in offering prayers.

A local missionary initiated me into the Community and asked me to pick a new name for myself. I had already picked the name “Ismail,” on the account of its meaning and significance.

After signing the pledge on February 27, 1990, I asked the missionary if there was a place where I could go to acquire Islamic

knowledge. He told me about the missionary training college in Salt Pond, Ghana.

In 2005, I moved to the Chicago suburbs. Here I have served as the leader of MKA’s local chapter.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 146-150) ★

Daud Ahmad—Dwayne Edward Andersen



I was born in Racine, Wisconsin to Charles and Naomie Andersen.

The Autobiography of Malcolm X impressed me. This book

changed my life and put me on a whole different path. I believe that Malcolm X is directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion of thousands of African Americans to the religion of Islam. At sixteen years of age, I declared myself to be Muslim.

It was May or June when I signed pledge, at the age of 17.

Abu Bakr asked if I wanted to attend the upcoming Annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention, and I said yes.

This was a very special convention in that the Fourth Khalifa would be in attendance.

To my born Ahmadi brothers and sisters, I would say to have patience with converts. Make it your duty to ensure that converts get proper training and treat them with humility. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light—Short stories by American Covets to Islam.” ★

Aisha Khan

I was born into a Hindu Family. Though my mother was a practicing Hindu, the rest of the family was not particularly religious.

As a young girl, I often turned into weekend radio programs where the Holy Qur’an was being recited.

It was during those sessions that my love and admiration for the flawless Book began. Of my many friends, the company that I most enjoyed was that of my Muslim friends as I conversed with them

about Islam. I dreamt at the age of seventeen that I was praying on a Muslim Prayer mat with my head covered. I felt that God was calling me to Him, and it was my duty to find Him. A year before converting to Islam and Ahmadiyyat, I learned how to offer Salat and began reading the translation of the Holy Qur’an.

After learning Salat and reading Qur’an, I was introduced to Ahmadiyyat. I began reading Ahmadiyya literature. In 1990,

when Khalifatul-Masih IV was visiting NY, I was blessed to be at the mosque in Queens. A member of Lajna introduced me to Huzoor. I was the first to receive Salam from him. There was nothing holding me back from converting. During this visit, at the age of 19, I converted to Islam and Ahmadiyyat. My family members severed relations with me but God gave me strength to withstand these pressures. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 46-50) ★

Bashir Abdul Haqq, Bronx, New York

It all started on August 31, 1979. That was the day Theodore Williams was born to the late

Andrea Williams and Curtis Slaughter in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

One day, my uncle and I went to an Islamic store on 52nd Street, in search of a book that could teach

us Arabic. A sister came out and asked if we needed some help. After showing us the book, the sister told us we could go to the mosque located on 5120 N. 10th Street in Philadelphia to learn Arabic. She said that a brother by the name of Rashid taught Arabic classes every Sunday. So, my uncle's whole family and I went to the class on the following Sunday.

I remember feeling at home in this mosque. Several months later, we were invited to a general meeting at that mosque. My family and I arrived at the mosque and saw the Fourth Khalifa on the television. When we asked who he

was they said that he was the Khalifa. The brothers then explained that the messiah had come, and that this was an Ahmadiyya mosque.



As we were walking out, brothers said, "We ordered pizza

and we would like you to join us." Since my cousins were hungry, and I must admit I was hungry as well, my uncle decided to stay. This is when we were taught about Ahmadiyya beliefs. I remember watching the Fourth Khalifa's question and answer session and I was so amazed. I never heard anyone answer questions in the manner His Holiness did.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 14-18) ★

Notable Converts in 1991-2000

Rasheed Reno, Portland, OR



I was born and raised in Portland, Oregon and continue to live there today.

This was entirely coincidental and further fueled my desire to learn more about Islam. I read a couple of books and continued to be impressed. I then contacted a couple of mosques to get some more information. The first one I called was the Ahmadiyya Muslim

Mosque in Portland, which invited me to attend an upcoming seminar on the life of the Prophet Muhammad.

I was attending a number of mosques in order to help me decide which particular direction to take. It did not take me long to learn that Ahmadi Muslims had some different beliefs than others, and that other Muslims rejected Ahmadi Muslims, considering them to be heretics and non-Muslims.

I thus began reading books about Ahmadiyya beliefs and the Promised Messiah. I studied his life skeptically, just as I had studied the life of the Prophet. I found many of the accomplishments in his life to

be phenomenal and again was unable to find fault in his character, or in his teachings. In particular, his writings on the life of Jesus, had a great impact on me.

I came to the realization that Islam Ahmadiyya was the path for me. On March 31, 1992, Mirza Luqman presented me with the initiation form. I read through it and then without hesitation I signed it and was at peace in my decision to join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 54-9) ★

Rafiq Ahmad Lake

I was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on July 18, 1944.

It was either the late sixties or early seventies, when I met, John Douglas Scott, now known as Yaḥyā 'Abdur Rahmān. I met him through

another dear friend, Ron Bacon. Ron had told me that he also had a Muslim name, Aḥmad Ḥakīm. He further disclosed to me that he attended the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at's meetings and also the

Jum'ā Prayers whenever he could. This brother recently attended our annual convention in Washington DC as a guest. He was much impressed by Masjid Baitur-Rahmān and speeches of the

Khalīfatul-Masīh.

I mentioned to ‘Ābid Haneef about my desire to get initiated into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at. In February 1992, on a Sunday afternoon, after a regular Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at meeting, a short ceremony was held, in which I repeated the vows of the Bai‘at.



I love reading the Holy Qur‘ān,

the Ḥadīth and Sunnah and the books of Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. I had read some of these books before Islām but the same words touch me in a different way now. After the Bai‘at, on my request, the Khalīfatul-Masīh very affectionately gave me the name Rafīq Aḥmad of which I am very humbly proud of. (Edited from “Why Islam is my choice, pp. 52-6- Al-Naḥl, Winter 1994-95). ★

Abubakar Mohammad Rana, Queens, NY



I was born into a Sunni Muslim family in 1980.

I was truly searching for God during that period of my life, and my brother-in-law Ghulam Rabbi began to give me some literature to read. It was through him that I was introduced to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

I began to visit the Ahmadiyya mosque in Queens frequently for

the Friday Prayer service and during Ramadan, the month of fasting.

My brother-in-law gave me a book to read entitled Life of Muhammad written by the Second Khalifa, and it was the first time that I actually learned facts about the life of the Prophet Muhammad, including a brief history of early Islam. The second book I read was Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian by Iain Adamson. Before reading this book, I did not know who Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was, or what he represented. After I read about his life, I felt very impressed with this pious man, whose life resembled the Holy Prophet Muhammad.

Just before I joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, I

got my first real job with a small private company and was able to make financial sacrifices for my faith. The financial contribution that I was able to give in the cause of Allah made me feel very good since I was not able to sacrifice my service to the Community any other way, at the time. At first, I did not understand the institution of Khilafat, but I did find the Fourth Khalifa lovely and felt proud to have him as our spiritual leader and felt very safe to be in association with his religious Community. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 158-162) ★

Syed Shahzad Hussain, Baltimore, Maryland



I was born in Kashmir but spent most of my childhood and early adulthood in Lahore,

Pakistan.

While I was attending college in 1991, a friend of mine named Ghulam Hussain came to me and suggested I meet an Ahmadi Muslim friend of his.

I was interested in learning more about Ahmadiyya teachings. We talked some more and Rashid gave me the famous treatise of the Second Khalifa, Invitation to Ahmadiyyat.



Syed Shahzad Hussain accepting an award for “Best Midsize Youth Chapter” from His Holiness, Mirza Masroor

Ahmad, during the 2008 Annual Convention of the USA Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Over the course of a year, I would read a great deal of Ahmadiyya literature, including, *The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam and Noah's Ark*.

Throughout this period of approximately one year, I secretly

attended Friday service at the Ahmadiyya mosque, Dar-uz-Zikr.

One night I had a dream that on the one side of the road stood a pack of jackals, barking, and on the other side was Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. His face was radiant and magnetic. He was lovingly calling me to him, saying that if I came to him, I would be safe from the

jackals. After experiencing this dream, I went to Dar-uz-Zikr Mosque and took the pledge, in 1993.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 122-5) ★

Camil Cerimovic, Syracuse, New York



I was born and raised in a village called Sebiocina in District of Vlasenica, which is in the eastern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina. All 500 residents of my village are all Hanafi Muslims.

It was in the refugee center where I met a Bosnian man named Salih Drljic. I greeted him with "Salaam" and he replied with the whole of his heart.

We started a conversation about Islam, and it surprised me that he knew a lot. I thought, "This is the man whom I can invite to my home," so I invited him.

A couple of weeks after he came to visit me, we had coffee together and began a conversation about Islam.

He told me right away, without hesitation, that he is an Ahmadi Muslim. I was confused as I heard this word "Ahmadi" for the first time in my life.

I asked him to tell me more about his Ahmadiyya faith. During our conversation I learned that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is the Promised Messiah and Mahdi.

I remembered my wish from

1994. I said to myself, "You cannot return to the time of the Prophet Muhammad, but you can accept his servant, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, in this age and time."

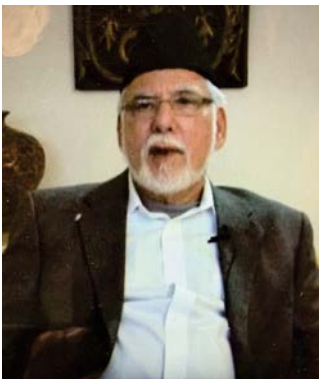
I turned to Salih Drljic and asked, "How can I join the Ahmadiyya Community?"

From this point on, our conversation became even more interesting.

After I became an Ahmadi Muslim, my life changed drastically. My spiritual life has improved, and I started looking at things more rationally.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 140-4) ★

Syed Aftab Ali



Syed Aftab Ali accepted Ahmadiyya, the real Islam, after thorough research on religions. He had been benefitting from telecasts

of MTA. He carved his way to success by his noble intensions.

He was born in Lahore, Pakistan in April 1945. He practiced Shia sect in Islam.

He got his education from Christian Missionary School and College of Lahore. The Christian teachers would always say bad things about the Prophet of Islam. They would particularly raise questions on multi marriages of the Prophet and many more such controversial matters. He would always ask answers of those questions from his parents and

Maulawī who used to come at his residence to first time reading of Holy Qur'an.

He was married in the year 1971 and in the same year visited Calcutta in India with his spouse. He was fond of Indian films and saw many of them. He went to see as few Hindu temples to observe Hinduism. It included those where monkeys, snakes and rats were at rampage. All of those places were filthy and it further increased aversion to that religion.

He was fortunate to visit Prophet's Mosque and Ka'ba. These

are peaceful places, and he went there quite often to offer Friday Prayers.

He also performed Hajj. Then he migrated to US after eight years of stay there.

He had a habit of surfing different channels on dish network in leisure times. Accidentally he noticed a bearded man with a turban, sherwani and shalwar. He could speak simultaneously in English, Urdu and Punjabi. He was fluently answering questions in English. He and his wife got answers of all the queries. To cut story short, he started offering Jumu'a in Ahmadiyya mosques.

He one day went to London to see that man. He was astonished when that man stood for him. Our scholars or Maulawīs would never do so. His daughter was not facing him for which he was confused and disturbed. That man noticed this and asked her to go upstairs and meet his daughter.

He then addressed him, “When did you arrive in United States? Are you going to Pakistan, or you are on business trip?” Mr. Aftab said, “No, I have come here to meet you.”

I began studying Ahmadiyyat thirteen years ago while in medical school. I was born and raised in a staunch Wahhabi family. I began with a couple of introductory books on the basic beliefs of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at.

I went from one scholar to another but was useless. I honestly prayed and begged Allah for true guidance. I then opened my mind and black areas in Ahmadiyyat

Suddenly his attitude changed like a two-three years old kid. A serene smile appeared on his face. He asked questioningly, “You have come to meet me! Why you come here from far to meet me?” Mr. Aftab then replied that he had been watching MTA programs for quite some time. Then he got up from his chair and hugged and patted his cheeks. The time of meeting ended and Huzoor himself opened the door and waited his exit.

Mr. Aftab waited outside for a while for her daughter to arrive and could see the same light in her eyes. She described the daughter of Huzoor as an angel like women.

She asked Huzoor what to recite for peace and tranquility and started crying. Huzoor took out a handkerchief from his pocket and wiped her eyes and said, “Keep this handkerchief?” They remained in London for three days and had another audience with Huzoor on the last day. He got everything for which he never desired.

It was our luck that Huzoor arrived in US for three years in a row, i.e., 1996, 1997 and 1998 and we were afforded opportunity to offer prayers behind him. He used to meet Huzoor almost every day.

Aasilah Faheem

started appearing white. I went to an Ahmadi missionary, he answered all of my questions. He explained Hadith queries from the Holy Qur'an. I became fully convinced that the anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda by mainstream Islam is based on sheer hatred and ignorance. Al-Hamdu-Lillah, I signed my Bai'at in April of 1996.

I came to USA in the summer of 1996. God provided me with an

Khadija James

It has been some twenty years

since a dear friend first told me

The son and daughter of Mr. Aftab ultimately embraced Ahmadiyyat after three and six months respectively.

Huzoor found a match for her daughter. Now he starts crying whenever he happens to talk with Huzoor. He described another incidence when her daughter could not conceive even after one and a half years of marriage. He asked Huzoor for prayer. Huzoor prayed and told him that God shall bless her. To our happiness she became pregnant next month for which she never took any medicine or consulted a doctor.

Mr. Aftab recorded a message for youth in Ahmadiyyat. It says: “I worked hard throughout my life. I was fortunate to have an employment in IT. I was running around in search of annual increments and promotions etc. I wished I had not wasted my time. Those who are after this world are good for nothing. He advised his progeny and young generation to obey office bearers of Jamā'at and cling to Khilāfat. These blessings they shall cherish throughout their lives.” (Edited From the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Vol. 67, 1-2, January-February 2016, p. 64) ★

extremely kind American Lajna and in-laws. Ahmadiyyat has given me contentment of my soul and peace of mind. It also introduced me to a way of applied thinking, and it is a fulfillment of all promises and hopes that are expected from the Divine Messiah of the latter days. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 100-103) ★

about Islam.

I met and began working for Abdul Raqueeb Wali. I was privileged enough to develop a close acquaintance with his kind and loving family. He introduced me to Ahmadiyyat. He gave me two

books of note, “Life of Muhammad” and “Philosophy of the Teaching of Islam.” I read everything and asked questions which he responded with comprehensive and logical answers. He became my mentor,

guiding me slowly but steadily to true Islam and Ahmadiyyat. I signed Bai’at in 1996. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 145-47) ★

Shahina Bashir

I was born a Sunni Muslim in Dhaka, Bangladesh. I cannot really remember my parents offering their Prayer on a regular basis or reading the Holy Qur’an.

My Parents lived near an Ahmadi mosque, Bait-ur-Rahman. I asked him to explain who the Ahmadis were, and he gave me the same answer as before.

My heart began inkling more and more towards Allah, and the desire to worship Him continued to grow. At the same time, my marriage started to fall apart. One day we separated. I went to live

with my parents. Through this trial my faith in Allah became stronger.

One day I received an email from my Muslim Colleague in which he quoted a verse of Holy Qur’an in Surah Ale Imran. The moment I read this verse, I thought to myself that if Jesus had died a natural death, then how was he supposed to come back alive? I immediately went across the hallway to my colleague and asked him the truth. We both started to research Ahmadiyyat, and he brought me a lot of literature on Ahmadiyyat. He gave me

“Invitation to Ahmadiyyat.”

Although it was easy to understand the death of Jesus, I was having some difficulty understanding the concept of Khatam-e-Nabuwat (finality of Prophethood). He explained me and asked me to pray. After studying and praying, I finally felt in my heart that the time had come to sign the Bai’at. So, in April 1996, I went to Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque and became an Ahmadi. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 121-5) ★

Basiyr Rodney, St. Louis, Missouri

Additional Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid (2007-10)

Abdul Samad at 48 Cool Shade Drive explained to me the history of Islam and the life of the Holy Prophet. He then explained to me that I was now responsible (to God) for this knowledge. I accepted Islam. On that bright sunny Sunday afternoon, I walked from Masjid Razzaaq (as he called his home), with a spring in my step and the beginnings of love in my heart for God and his Messenger.

One Sunday evening I saw an advertisement in the paper: “Islam the Religion of Peace or Islam the Religion of Mankind” (or something to that effect). I followed up by writing to the North Carolina address from which it originated. I received a response that included pamphlets and writings of the Promised Messiah. The authors, Nadeem Faizi and Nasir Ahmad, informed me that they would be

coming to Jamaica to meet with people to share the message.

One Saturday afternoon I questioned them for nearly eight hours straight about this Promised Messiah. Nadeem withstood the challenge and on that same day, by Allah’s grace I became one of the foremost of those who submitted to the Messenger’s call, In-Sha’-Allah.

And I had been reading books by the Ansarullah community about the Sudanese Mahdi so it was not difficult for me to understand and accept the concept of Imam Mahdi. My heart had already been softened by Allah. Abdul Samad used to remind me of the Hadith in which Allah said, “O My servant! If you take one step toward Me, I will take ten towards you.”



I arrived to the U.S. for the first time in 1996, to attend the annual convention of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. My brothers had arranged for me to travel to Washington and then to travel around the Midwest to see the Community. I was moved by the entire experience and made the intention to spend some time in the Midwest, if Allah would allow it. I returned to the States for educational and personal reasons

in 1997, and have remained here since. I now live in St. Louis where I am an Assistant Professor of Educational Technology at a local university. By Allah’s grace, I am

also working with Missionary Azhar Haneef on a special project for the Community.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad

Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 50-3) ★

Ahmed Michael Jones, Portland, Oregon



I went to college at Portland State University. It was there that I learned what a “Muslim” is.

In the winter 1997, the same year I took the pledge, I was honored to meet the Fourth

Khalifa. I met him with one of my mentors, Mr. Mustafa Thabit. I was so nervous and excited to meet Khalifatul-Masih. During our conversation, I asked him to give me a Muslim name. Interestingly enough, he said that I already have a Muslim name because I have the name of an angel.

Islam Ahmadiyya opened my heart in a way I would have been unable to do. I am far from perfect; I make the wrong choices in life as often as I make the right ones. But the biggest and most important moves I have made in my life have been right, with the help of Allah.

Our challenges are far from over but with the help of Allah we know that all will be well. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community continues to play a vital role in my life. I have been the Director of Volunteerism in our local chapter of MKA for several years now and am grateful to be able to serve Allah through the Community He has led me to.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 40-4) ★

Ahmad Nuruddin, Philadelphia PA

I was born Noel Durham in Philadelphia, PA in 1972.

I began studying Islam and the Holy Qur’an. I noticed that if I had problem, I would open the Qur’an and eventually arrive on something that addressed the problem. Before I had finished half the Qur’an, I knew it was a living book this is the truth, God, please guide me and allow me to fully understand and implement its teachings. One day, after a game of basketball with my cousin Rashid and some of his friends, three of the brothers asked if we would like to visit the mosque to offer prayers and eat. I did not know that these three brothers, Idrees Mahmood, Daud Mahmood, and Usman Abdul Karim, were Ahmadi Muslims at the time.

After we had offered prayers and eaten, we began a discussion on Islam and I was very

impressed that they took an interest in my education of Islam. I learned Surah Al-Fātiḥa that very day. Over a three-month span, I learned the fundamentals of Islam, the true story of Jesus Christ, and who the Promised Messiah and his successors were. I also became firmly grounded in the life of Prophet Muhammad. In fact, the first book I finished was *Life of Muhammad* by Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmood Ahmad, the Second Khalifa.

About a month after my first visit, in 1997, I joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, under the watchful and loving eye of Missionary Mubasher Ahmad.

Initiation into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has made me a much more refined and spiritually awakened human being. Our youth group, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, is a

beautiful organization that allows the youth to quickly mature into men – becoming educated in both religious and secular studies.



I entered the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community during the time of the Fourth Khalifa. I met the Fourth Khalifa at the 1998 Annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention, along with two other brothers.

On June 18th, 2008, I was blessed to have a meeting with the present Khalifa, Mirza Masroor Ahmad. I had a wife and three daughters with me! His Holiness

asked, “What do you do?,” so I replied I was a middle school guidance counselor. He gave my eldest daughter a pen.

I now serve as the Vice President of the Philadelphia chapter. It is due to the training of the late Munir Hamid that I was able to uphold this responsibility.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 2-6) ★

Sazzad Khandakar, Monroe Township, NJ



I was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

I migrated to the States in the late 1980s for higher education.

As I was doing my research, I also started praying more regularly. I picked up a few more books written by Promised Messiah – one being The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam. After I read these books, it became clear in my mind that only a person with Divine connection could write with such

authority. My wife was also studying Ahmadiyya beliefs and she received a compelling dream, after which she was convinced of the truth of the Messiah and immediately joined the fold. My only remaining confusion centered on the generally held view that Prophet Muhammad was the “last” prophet. However, after reading the book Invitation to Ahmadiyyat by the Second Khalifa, I was fully convinced and joined the fold in the spring of 1997. I still recall submitting my initiation form to Missionary Daud Hanif in Queens, New York.

One of my very first impressions of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was that people were making an honest effort to practice what they

preached – in stark contrast to what I have seen with other religious groups.

By the grace of God, our desire to inculcate Islamic values in our lives for the sake of our children came true. In 1997, and again in 2000, I had the opportunity to meet the Fourth Khalifa. Meeting him only strengthened my faith in the Messiah and his Khulafa. Since accepting the Promised Messiah. Our family also met our present Khalifa in 2008. My children completed their “Ameen ceremony,” upon finishing the first reading of the Qur’an, at the hands of His Holiness. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 136-8) ★

Sira Ahmad

I had a vision. At first, I saw many stars which had descended upon my home and covered all of it. I then saw the ocean and in the middle of the sea, I saw a dot which resembled a cloud. Soon the cloud started to form into a shape and I noticed the face of a man wearing a turban. This man was calling me towards him. When I saw the man, I realized he was a holy person, because when he called me in the dream, I prostrated in the Sajdah position and began to pray. The dream left me with a feeling of happiness. When I got up from prayer, the man began to wave goodbye. I saw his face very clearly.

I also saw in the dream that I moved to America. The day I was leaving my home country, I felt so sad and was crying in front of my mirror. I prayed “Oh God of Abraham, please don’t leave me at this time.” When I finished the prayer, I clearly heard a voice say to me, “As of today, your name is Sira.” I was overwhelmed with happiness and kept repeating, “My name is Sira.”

My initial exposure to Islam and Ahmadiyyat came during a subway ride in NY. I was reading Bible when a man sitting nearby started speaking to me about

religion. He told me that he was the follower of the new Christ. He showed me a picture of the Promised Messiah. When I saw the Messiah’s photo, I was shocked. I replied “Oh my God! I saw this man calling me in a dream two years ago in Trinidad.”

In another dream I saw Rabwah and a river flowing near it. The man gave me more books about Islam and Ahmadiyyat. Eventually, I married him, and I entered the fold of Ahmadiyyat. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 55-8) ★

Alauddin Ahmed, Charlotte, NC



I was born and raised in a liberal Sunni Muslim family from Bangladesh.

At the time, I was living in Dallas, Texas. There, I met a family from Houston who I later learned were actually from my hometown, Chittagong, Bangladesh. They called themselves Ahmadi Muslims. I learned about the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, the death of Jesus, the power of prayers and the concept of the Living God.

One day while I was at their house trying to find answers to my countless questions, a TV show caught my attention. I saw an elderly person with white beard and

white turban reciting Surah Al-Fātiḥa. I was mesmerized by his melodious voice and his holy appearance. I later learned that this holy man was Mirza Tahir Ahmad, the Fourth Khalifa, and Head of the Community.

I got a book from my friends called A Man of God. Undoubtedly, this book changed my view about Ahmadi Muslims and made me more interested in them. I kept on reading; Invitation To Ahmadiyyat, The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam and Murder in the Name of Allah – just to name a few.

My call was answered. Allah the Almighty granted me enough courage to accept the Truth and to announce it to the world. Al-Hamdu-Lillah, I signed the pledge and came into the fold of Ahmadiyya, the True Islam in 1997.

I have been blessed with opportunities to experience Islam Ahmadiyya by attending the international and national

conventions, both in person and on MTA. I met our Fourth Khalifa during the international conventions in 2000 and 2001 (held in England and Germany, respectively). My first meeting with His Holiness was one of the greatest moments of my life.



His Holiness, Mirza Masroor Ahmad, marking the opening of the 2008 Convention of the USA Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, is presented with the American flag to be hoisted. Alauddin Ahmed (left) is serving on flag detail.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 60-4) ★

Amenah Shakir

I first heard of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam in the summer of 1998, and by 4 November 1999, I had signed the Bai’at form.

We moved to Atlanta and met a Muslim, who would later become my husband. He gave me books which agreed with my views. In 1991, I declared myself a Muslim by declaring the unity of God with Muhammad as His messenger. In 1998, I traveled to Los Angeles to visit my brother and his family. We looked for a mosque to offer Friday Prayer. After the Prayer service, we

were invited to sit in the office with a man who explained that this was the Ahmadiyya sect of Islam, and described the differences. I never heard of this group and everything I heard was new to me. He gave us some literature, and we left. One thing did stand out for me. There was Prayer Duel between the Promised Messiah and Alexander Dowie. The Promised Messiah prayed that whoever of the two was a false claimant should die in disgrace before the other. This was a very strong act of personal belief, and I could not get this out of my

mind.

My husband and I attended many Ahmadiyya functions when we returned home to Atlanta, Georgia. My husband understood and accepted the truth right away, but it took me quite a while. I kept reading and listening, and eventually I came to understand the difference between the Sunnis and the Ahmadis. I signed the Bai’at form in 1999. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 67-70) ★

Fareeda Maryam Dadzie

I developed a great love for learning and graduated as the

valedictorian of my high school.

I found a job with local

community rehab program. I did receptionist work for some

Muslims who were trying to get a drug abuse program funded. I became a friend with a Muslim councilor who gave me books, *The Life of Ahmad*, *Tadhkirah*, *Holy Qur'an* and *The Life of Muhammad*. I developed feeling of

love for the Prophet of Islam. Some Ahmadi sisters wrote words of encouragement for me. While still incarcerated, I signed Bai'at and joined Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Islam has given me a new life. Later, I received my

Master's degree in adult education. I am now married to a pious Ahmadi from Ghana. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 16-20) ★

Safeta Cerimovic

I am originally from Bosnia, and I was seven years old when the war in my country began. We moved from town to town depending on where there were safe locations. Mostly we had shelter in schools where there was an option of congregational prayer room. After the war, I attended an Islamic school in Bosnia. We moved to United States in 2000 as my father's property was destroyed, lost, or stolen.

I was born in a Muslim family, I felt that the teachings were

incomplete. We were knowledgeable but lacked practical aspects. My brother's friend came to visit us. I heard them talking about Ahmadiyyat. That fellow is now my husband. He was thrilled that I was enquiring about Ahmadiyyat. I asked for literature on Ahmadiyyat. He gave us Holy Qur'an which I read with translation in seven days. I began to see purpose of my life as a member of the Ahmadiyya community.

I accepted Ahmadiyyat two months after meeting my future

husband. It happened because all of my questions were answered. We were married after five months. We attended Annual gathering. I listened to beautiful speeches and my heart was cleansed of doubts once more.

As a final note, I thank my sisters of the Syracuse Jamā'at for their support. May Allah give us the strength of righteousness, Ameen. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 131-135) ★

Omar Latif, Racine, WI



I was born in 1970 in Racine, Wisconsin.

In 1992, I began looking towards Islam and seeking out

literature that appealed to me. While I didn't understand the differences between Sunni, Shi'a, Ahmadiyya and so on, I just wanted to learn what Islam had to offer.

It was during this time that I came across the book entitled *The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam* by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in my school library. This is when I first inclined towards the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community,

albeit on a more subconscious level.

I have experienced a positive change in my life since converting to Islam in 1998. Since then, I have been a member of the Zion chapter and serve in various capacities. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 130-4) ★

Edin Bajrektarevic, Ankeny, Iowa



I was born in 1978 in Bosnia

and Herzegovina. I grew up in a Muslim family, but we did not practice religion at all. We only celebrated Eid festivals and that was it.

I first learned of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1997.

In late 1996, I would come to know more about Islam Ahmadiyya.

In Sarajevo, for the first time, we visited the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, where we met Missionary Wasim Ahmad.

My brother continued to visit the Community and soon after, he became an Ahmadi Muslim, but even then, I did not pay too much attention to his decision.

I continued to visit the Sunni

mosque daily. Fortunately for me, from 1992-1997, Germany had taken in many Bosnian refugees (roughly 500,000). You see, the German chapter of the Ahmadiyya Community was producing Q&A sessions with the Fourth Khalifa that were geared specifically towards the Bosnian refugee community in Germany. The

Community distributed these videotaped Q&A sessions, and I was able to watch many of them, and learn about Ahmadiyya teachings.

I was reading some books now, doing some research, and on Eid in 1998, I signed the initiation form!

Another blessing of Allah came in May 2008 during the Fifth

Khalifa's Centenary Address from Great Britain, marking 100 years of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat. By the grace of Allah, I got to meet the Khalifa. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 126-9) ★

Mumin Salaam Ali, Milwaukee, WI



I was born in 1977, and my parents named me William Lee Thomas III.

I did not become interested in Islam until high school.

I wasn't the best of students but I tried my best. My TC, Muhamin Malik, happened to be an Ahmadi Muslim. He was more than a T.C. to me – he was a good friend. I feel Allah used him as an instrument to help me, as along the way, he introduced me to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

After a couple of weeks, I go to

the mosque, and after Friday service the first person I see is Sabir. I said to him, "I want to be a Muslim.

I am very grateful to Allah because I am still an Ahmadi Muslim,

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 118-121) ★

Edvin Bajrektarevic, Ankeny, Iowa

I was born in 1976 in Dobo, Yugoslavia (present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina). While I was born into a Muslim family, I had not been raised in a religious manner. Sure, I knew about Ramadhan, Prophet Muhammad, and the Qur'an, but like my parents, I never practiced Islam as a religion.

Nonetheless I continued a cautious study of Ahmadiyya beliefs. For a year I read up on the Community's beliefs – the first books I read were the Ahmadiyya commentary of the Qur'an, as well as The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam.

I took the pledge and joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1998. I was the first Ahmadi Muslim in all of Sarajevo. I began spreading the message by speaking with my brother and friends.

My brother and I were the only Ahmadi Muslims in Iowa. We tried our best to share the message of Islam but people in America seemed less interested in religion.



Edvin Bajrektarevic meeting Khalifatul-Masih V while he inspected the site of the 2008 Annual Convention of the USA Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

A few years later, in 2004, we decided to rent a separate

apartment reserved only for offering prayers. As Ramadhan was around the corner (and no mosques around any corners of our town) it proved to be very successful. Muslims started coming to offer prayers at the apartment because the next closest place was 12 miles away. From then on, before and after prayers, we would have coffee, juice, or soda and discuss Ahmadiyya beliefs, the Muslim world, the latter days, and so on. By the grace of Allah, three whole families joined the Community. That apartment is still in use to this day.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 180-4) ★

Ronald Abdur Rahim Hubbs, Jr., Chino, CA



I am originally from St. Louis, Missouri, and was born and raised in the Catholic Church.

I was surprised, however, to learn that Islam was very simple and comforting. The five pillars of faith and six articles of belief were refreshingly simple and easy to grasp. I was even already practicing most of them, as I was fasting and praying and knew that God was

One. I stayed up all night in prayer begging God to help me make the right decision, until I actually fell asleep in prayer. When I woke that morning, December 13, 1998, I knew without a shadow of doubt that Islam was my path.

After accepting Islam Ahmadiyya, I began to pray to Allah to inform me what I should do with my life. Within a short time, I found myself becoming more and more interested in holistic health. I studied several different schools of thought and attended workshops and classes all around the country until concluding that Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture were the best foundation for me pursue in the holistic health field.

Islam has given me a much-needed code and discipline to live by, without being overly rigid and stifling.

One of the purely fun things I enjoy about being a Khadim is the brotherhood and camaraderie. We usually play football Saturday mornings (I never thought a bunch of Pakistanis could be so good at an American sport!). MKA has helped me make many friends across the country, and even the world.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 8-12) ★

Micah Taair, Oak Park, IL



I was born and raised in Oak Park, a westside suburb of Chicago. I first became conscious of Islam in junior high school.

During the first two years of my college career, I went to a school that was not far from the city of Zion. It just so happened that there were several Ahmadi Muslims who worked and studied there. One, who was an older gentleman, was a part-time student. His wife also worked in the library. This

gentleman would hold informal “Learn about Islam” workshops. So, I went. While at this one class, he basically covered the five pillars of Islam and added general commentary.

Still knowing nothing about Ahmadiyya beliefs I walked into the library one day and there was another Muslim who was working there. I had met him before briefly outside the library, but on this day we talked a little bit more at length.

The missionary in Chicago at that time, Missionary Azhar Haneef, was one of two reasons why I eventually joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

The other reason was because I read 90% of the Community’s English books prior to joining.

Even before I accepted Islam, I was aware of the tradition, particularly among African Americans, of changing their names.

Since joining the Community, I have been blessed to meet the Fifth Khalifa on several occasions in London and America. Meeting the Khalifa is rejuvenating and revitalizing. Whenever I write to him and receive a letter back, my spirit is uplifted. He has helped me with his prayers and his genuine concern for me. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 198-201) ★

Israh Nurulhaq Siddique, Los Angeles, CA

I was raised in the Inland Empire area of Los Angeles.

When I was thirteen years old,

I began searching for what was the right religion. The thing that made me look outside of Judaism was the

fascination of other things and cultures. I spent a lot of time studying other religions, such as

Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Mormonism, and Jehovah's Witnesses.



I went to a mosque which happened to be close to my house called Bait-ul-Hameed. I had no idea it was an Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, and I didn't even know what Ahmadiyya meant. At that

time, I believed as mainstream Sunnis did. I knew about Muhammad, Moses, Adam, and so on, but I did not know about who this messiah was. The first person I met was the missionary of the mosque. I noticed the picture of the Promised Messiah so the missionary told me about him. I decided to study up on him to see what was behind his teachings.

But as I read about Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, I did not find this pattern of destruction anywhere. When I initially started learning about the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's theory of Jesus, it made sense to me logically.

I was continuing to go to the Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque to offer my prayers, and I would speak with the missionary when I was there. We began to build on our previous discussions and talk about any new questions I had. I finally decided to take the initiation and officially join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. It was a life-changing moment. Emotionally, I felt at peace and happy. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 98-101) ★

Luqman Malik, Chino, California



I was born Eddie Mendez, the second youngest of eight siblings (Rosa, Ruben, Ramon, Letty, Richard, Lucy, Carol, Jose), in Chino, California.

I happened to be driving past Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in Chino and felt this sudden urge to go in and find out about Islam. So, I enter the mosque and meet an American convert from Hawaii with an easy smile, Abdul Ghaffar. I asked him bluntly, "Tell me, what's going on?" Our conversation began around noon. Ghaffar slowly went through all the basics of Islam, then moved onto the concept of jihad, then explained how terrorism and Islam are incompatible.

During our conversation I heard this loud cry and wondered what it was. Ghaffar told me it was the Adhān or call to prayer. I

watched Ghaffar and other Muslims pray and then asked questions about how they prayed afterward.

Missionary Inamul Haq Kausar, invited me for dinner to his house that night with his entire family. We talked about many things, and it was a very friendly atmosphere. Before I finally left, at 9PM, Ghaffar gave me a ton of books.

That night I read through The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam and Jesus in India. After reading these books, along with Christianity: A Journey from Facts to Fiction, various other pamphlets, and the Qur'an, I felt Ghaffar was absolutely right.

Ghaffar gave me an initiation form of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's. During this period, I also began to develop an intense admiration for Prophet Muhammad.

I signed the initiation form on December 21 but did not go back to the mosque until January. I wanted to be sure about my decision. That evening, I stood before the congregation and declared

Shahadah, that there is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is His Messenger.

Accepting Islam Ahmadiyya has changed my life. My character and demeanor have become far more refined, a fact to which even my family bears witness.

My meeting with our present Khalifa at Canada's 2004 Annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention was amazing. The atmosphere in "Peace Village," the neighborhood surrounding Bait-ul-Islam Mosque in Toronto, where thousands of Ahmadi Muslims reside, was unbelievable. Ahmadi Muslims from every walk of life had gathered.

When meeting His Holiness, he affectionately put his hand on my shoulder and asked me my name, hometown, and where my family was from. I still remember at the end of the talk he said, "I will keep you in my prayers and we will talk soon."

However, I also met His Holiness in 2008 in Maryland. He remembered me from our meeting in Canada four years ago, and as I had my son Jasim with me, he also

gave him a pen. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the

dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by

MKA, USA, pp. 84-8) ★

Saleana Reno

I was born in May 1977 in Tacoma, Washington. Our parents were strict Pentecostal Christians and raised us in the same faith. After my father retired from military, we moved to Vancouver, Washington, where I graduated from high school. Growing up, I had a lot of questions about our religion. I got no answers.

In December 1999, a friend of mine introduced me to her husband-in-law and presently, my

husband, Richard Reno. He told me he was a Muslim. We discussed a lot about religion. He answered my questions that I had on the differences between Islam and Christianity. Islam became very clear to me. Richard invited me to the mosque on Eid, so many friends and I went. We did not join the prayers but sat and observed. I was mesmerized by the sound and how beautiful prayer was in Islam. Food was served. We were welcomed by all. The very next Friday, I went to

Jum’ā, and I kept going every Friday after that.

In May of 2000, I had grown to love Islam and knew in my heart that I wanted to be a Muslim. After going to the mosque and learning all about Islam, I decided in October, 2001 to sign the Bai’at. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “Faith Affirmed,” pp. 77-9) ★

Notable Converts after Year 2000

Mahershalalhashbaz Ali, Oakland, CA



I was born Mahershalalhashbaz Gilmore in 1974. My family is from Oakland, California and I was raised as a Christian.

I began reading different books: Seat of the Soul by Gary Zukav, which was about reincarnation, being one. I went to a Baha’i meeting in San Francisco. I even went as far as beginning to believe that religion was created by man out of fear of death. But before this belief took hold, I was introduced to Islam.

My schoolmate, Amatus Karim, invited me to the mosque. At the

time, I had no idea that there was a difference between Ahmadi Muslims and other sects. I just went to the Friday prayer. As I followed the motions of the brothers – standing, bowing, prostrating – I began to cry. For the first time in my life, I knew where I was, spiritually speaking.

I told Amatus what had happened, and she called her father, respected Abdul Karim, in Chicago, and respected Ali Murtaza, also in New York.

It took me some time to actually understand what the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was.

I converted to Islam in my final year at graduate school, and I began to work soon after graduation.

A year and a half later, on June 23, 2001, I joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community at the 53rd Annual Convention in Silver Spring, Maryland. It was through

reading Invitation to Ahmadiyyat by the Second Khalifa, specifically the portion on prophecies, along with very simple, logical answers by Ali Murtaza, to what I had believed were difficult questions, that convinced me of the truth of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

I met the Fifth Khalifa when he visited Toronto a few years back. I was so nervous that I did not give proper salaams! I have also written him a letter. I realize that I have done myself a disservice by not cultivating a stronger relationship with His Holiness. I pray my relationship will go beyond prayers and develop into a consistent correspondence. All praise is due to Allah, Lord of all the worlds.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 80-3) ★

Alex Ali Navarro, Glen Ellyn, Illinois



Meeting in London with Khalifatul-Masih V are Qasim Rashid (left), Alex Ali Navarro (middle) and Kashif Qaderi (right)

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago in a strong Christian Latino family.

I began talking to a good Ahmadi friend of mine, Qasim Rashid. Qasim and I had actually met during elementary school. His younger brother Ahmad was in my class and I would always head to their house after school. At their house we would stop playing whenever it was time for prayer. They would show me the Qur'an and explain to me about their prophets. We talked about a wide variety of topics.

I wanted things to go back to the way they were before we began talking about religion, but they would not. It was never the same again. When I went to Church, I no

longer felt a spiritual connection and as the pastor spoke, I found fault with everything he said. I knew I could not go on living like this, so I eventually put my own fears aside and finally answered Qasim's call. He began taking me to classes at the mosque where all the questions I had about Christianity were answered, from the Islamic perspective. In the months that followed I began to learn about Islam Ahmadiyya, the Five Pillars of Islam, and the return of Jesus in the form of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

Suddenly on the day of April 4, 2001, I felt more spiritually connected to God, to Allah, then I ever had before.

In 2008 I traveled to London to

Yasemin Zafar

I am from a Turkish family, but I was born and raised in Berlin, Germany. I was raised in a western manner and was never taught anything about Islam.

In May 2001, when I was 21, I was searching information on Islam. I came across German website, where a very well-known German Ahmadi Muslim named Hadayatullah Hübsch was

answering questions about Islam online. I became interested in this website and spent a great deal of time reading through all categories of questions. The message sounded practical and reasonable. I concluded that the Promised Messiah and Mahdi had come.

The next day, I found Ahmadiyya Community Chapter in Berlin. I told them that I want to

attend Qasim's wedding function. There was a group of us standing outside the Mosque, ready to receive His Holiness, who would be attending. When he got out of the car, there was a whole row of people standing along the sidewalk waiting to shake his hand. When His Holiness got to about where I was, he not only noticed me standing there, behind everyone, but he must have known I was too shy to move up front, so he stopped, moved the people in front of me aside, reached out and shook my hand. That is one of the greatest moments of my entire life. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 26-9) ★

enter your community. He asked me some questions. I made an appointment to come to submit my Bai'at. A couple of days later, I went to the Ahmadi mosque and filled out the Bai'at form. I was given access to as many Jamā'at-published books as I wanted. Soon, I began attending Jum'a Prayers, Lajna classes, and three months later, I attended my first Jalsa in

Mannheim, Germany.

After receiving a marriage proposal through Khalifatul-Masih

It seems to me that Islam found me to a pivotal time. Islam has revolutionized my understanding of religion. I had become disillusioned with the doctrine of my former religion. I decided not to traverse that path.

Why Islam? Because as the Promised Messiah says in his book

I met a Pakistani in one of my classes at the university. He identified himself as an Ahmadi. I never heard about Ahmadiyyat and Masih Mau'ūd before. One day I insulted my friend and used language of which I am still ashamed. But he listened patiently. That very night I had a very unusual dream. I dreamt that a middle-aged man wearing a black coat and a white turban was standing on an elevated stage and addressing thousands of people standing in a desert. He said "Allah is the witness that I only speak the truth and only the truth. I am in the right path and

In the fall of 1999, a friend invited me to an event at the mosque. The atmosphere was very good and peaceful. A few weeks later an Ahmadi lady, invited me to dinner. We discussed Islam.

As I began learning about Islam-and reading "Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and

I converted to Ahmadiyyat in the year 2002. Amidst much confusion and anxiety, the true path of knowledge and the one way

V, I agreed to marriage in 2005. I am now living in US peacefully as an Ahmadi Muslim, Al-Hamdu-Lillah. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud

Tamara Rodney

"The Philosophy of the Teaching of Islam." It lays down rules for the reform of the natural condition of man and then lifts him gradually upwards and desires to raise him to the highest spiritual level.

I believe that Allah gave me Islam because Islam would, in turn, give me the tools necessary to

Helai Ayoubi

inviting all the people of the world towards it. I saw my friend asking me to join. My heart and mind were telling me to follow him, that he was on the right path, and I started running after him. When I got up, I was shivering and crying.

When I woke up in the morning, I called my friend and told him about the dream. I asked to see a picture of the founder of Ahmadiyyat. As it turned out, the man in my dream was none other than the Promised Messiah. This was the final proof-now I had no doubt that Ahmadiyyat was the

Shoshana Timm

Truth"-I finally felt that I had found the perfect religion-one that integrated the scientific and spiritual in such a way that everything made sense and nothing seemed contradictory or unbelievable.

On April 15, 2001, which happened to be Easter Sunday, I

Samaha Haqq

of Allah was shown to me.

My husband, Abdul Haqq, enabled my first encounters with

Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 111-115) ★

transform my life and revive my soul. Islam found me because as early as I can remember, I truly desired to understand God and why He placed me here on this earth. Islam has given me the answer. JazakAllah. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 36-8) ★

renaissance of Islam. Over the next few days, I learned more about Masih Mau'ūd and signed Bai'at form in 2001. That man proved to be sincere friend, righteous guide and is my loving husband for the past three years.

Not only Ahmadiyyat given me contentment of soul and peace of mind, it has also introduced me to a way of applied thinking, and it is a fulfillment of all the promise and hopes that one expected from the Messiah of the later days. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 51-4) ★

signed the Bai'at. And I officially became member of the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). Now remarried, I have been blessed with fraternal twin sons. I ask for prayers for all of my family and for me as well. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 24-6) ★

Islamic principles and Ahmadiyyat by way of fasting. My curiosity and Abdul's mentorship guided me further towards inquiry,

observation, understanding, and finally acceptance of Ahmadiyyat. After signing Bai'at, I quickly realized that comfort and peace is only found through dedicated

My story of conversion is similar to that of most converts. Through years of searching, I arrived at a logical order—Ahmadiyya Islam. I was an excellent student at school, editor-in-chief of the yearbook, layout editor of the literary magazine,

Ever since I was child, I prayed that Mahdi would come during my lifetime. Born in Shia family, I believed the Mahdi of the time (Twelfth Imam) had not yet come.

I was introduced to Ahmadiyyat through one of my friends. I met Pakistani Ahmadis. They were so kind and loving, and they talked about Islam with great fervor and passion. My visits to the mosque increased and I started to develop a sense of belonging to this Jamā'at.

My conversion to Ahmadiyyat is similar to the children's tale of Goldilocks. I found that Ahmadiyyat is just right. There are numerous qualities that make Islam so beautiful, but what attracted me most was the truth, logic, and most of all peace.

As my father began studying Islam, I began to learn too. During college, I began spending more time with Sunni Muslims and attending Muslim Student Association programs. I decided to convert to Islam. The simplicity of the message and Unity of God appealed to me on every level, and finally I was free of frustrations

devotion to Allah and His commandments.

I have found the true faith and true religion. I have found a

Aeman Bashir

writer for school newspaper, co-founder of the environmental society and member of a National Honor Society.

I joined AmeriCorps located in Washington D.C. Here I was introduced to Islam. My

Parisa Jaffari

I started reading the book Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, Life of the Promised Messiah by Lain Adamson. I was left in total awe by the time I reached the end of the book. Then I read the Holy Qur'an with commentary. I listened to the question and answers by Mirza Tahir Ahmad. The more I learned about Ahmadiyyat, the more evident the truth of Ahmadiyyat became and weaker grew my conviction in the belief I used to hold. The impeccable logic of Ahmadiyyat left my mind with no

Anesia McRae

about Trinity. One Ahmadi Muslim friend I'd known since I was 14, understood my desire to seek out my own faith and separate myself from the views of my father. In all religious transitions, my best friend Aliya Latif, was always in the shadow. She invited me to events but never pushed her point of view.

The first year I went to an Ahmadi Jalsa, I was a college student and Aliya and I had spent all our money at the book stall. I lost my book bag. I felt discouraged that someone would take my books, here at a spiritual gathering, when suddenly a sister came and said my books are in the "Lost and Found"

community that accepts me with open arms. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 139-140) ★

understanding of Islam grew day by day. May He continue to illuminate the path towards Him and continue to guide us. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 21-3) ★

option other than to accept it. During Ramadhan I performed Istikhāra (prayer for guidance regarding a matter) and started reading the Holy Qur'an. I got answers to my prayers in Holy Qur'an. I knew in that moment that I was an Ahmadi, and after I said my morning Prayers, I performed Bai'at. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 95-9) ★

tent. I found all my books.

I met a sister, Amatul Rashid and discussed Ahmadiyyat. She sent me an article "The removal of the Misunderstanding." It was as if he was talking directly to me and clearing up any misconceptions I had about Prophethood and the Prophet Muhammad. With this new seed planted, I felt consumed. I ran with Ahmadiyyat. The morning I signed Bai'at, Aliya and I read a portion of "Our Teachings" written by the Promised Messiah, and it brought us both to tears. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 116-120) ★

Jalil Musiddiq Deseignoria, Philadelphia, PA



I was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania along with my brother and sister.

In the middle of 2003, my friend told me of a nearby mosque. I told my friend that we should attend Friday service there. At the time I did not know that Nasir Mosque was an Ahmadiyya Muslim mosque, nor did I know the teachings of the Promised Messiah. During that first Friday sermon, an intense feeling of solace and contentment came over me, and after the Sermon was over, I was in tears and my heart was trembling. I had no idea what the teachings of this Community were but I knew

this was the mosque I had to attend. I had the blessed opportunity to learn from the late Munir Hamid, Rafiq Ahmad, and Missionary Azhar Haneef.

In addition to speaking with these and other brothers about the teachings of the Ahmadiyya Community, I continued my study of Islam using any literature I could get my hands on. Aside from the purity of its teachings, what attracted me most to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was the unparalleled brotherhood I experienced, and, of course, the Khalifa (about whom I will speak on later).

Al-Hamdu-Lillah, in the summer of 2003 I was blessed with the opportunity to take the pledge. Entering the Community was a huge blessing, and the transition to life as an Ahmadi Muslim was not difficult. I suppose I was living as an Ahmadi Muslim even before my

initiation.

I had the blessed opportunity to meet the Khalifa on two occasions. The first time was a quick meet and greet during the 2005 Canadian Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention. I can still recall walking by His Holiness and shaking his hand; I immediately noticed a glow on his face and an indescribable energy about him. The second time was during the 2008 Convention in England. I was part of an American delegation that traveled to England to partake in the blessings of the Convention. His Holiness asked me what duties I had in the Philadelphia chapter and I informed him that I was in-Charge of spreading the message of Islam Ahmadiyya for MKA since 2006, and asked for his prayers. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"-Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA", USA, pp. 186-8) ★

Michael Peterson, Herndon, VA

I was born in New Jersey in 1984 to Ruth and Michael Leonard Peterson.

Upon my return to New Hampshire after graduation, my mom had informed me that my older sister had moved in with a Muslim Family. As I arrived in Virginia, my sister contacted me and asked me to visit her. I decided to go meet her. As divine plan would have it, I was walking up to the doorsteps of Malik Munawar's home. Driving a 1976 Mercury Comet, sporting long hair with a matching long beard and a U.S Marine Corps shirt, having driven over 500 miles while blasting the timeless music of Queen, I pulled into the driveway. As the Hadith states, "Allah says: 'When [man]

comes to Me walking, I go to him running,'" it can be said that I was in for a surprise.

As soon as I walked into the house, everyone said "As-Salamu 'Alaikum." At first, I was taken aback. I did not know what that meant. This was just the beginning of my journey to Islam.

In 2004 I found work in Virginia and upon Mr. Munawar's offer, I moved into his home. Here I was in the company of Ahmadi Muslims all the time unaware of the overwhelming evidence of the truth of Islam Ahmadiyya, and its influence. Mr. Munawar's son and I worked at the same place, so during our drive into work, we would talk about the similarities and differences between Christianity

and Islam Ahmadiyya, particularly the death of Prophet Jesus.



A few weeks later, I accepted Islam. What appealed to me the most was logical understanding of the escape of Jesus from the cross. There was no denying the Promised Messiah, for he is the one who brought forth all this evidence.

After some thought and consultation, I decided to dedicate my life to the service of Islam. In

2006, I began my service by enrolling at Jāmi'a Ahmadiyya Canada, where I continue to study Islam, Arabic and Urdu to this day. I am eager to serve God in any capacity I can.

Becoming an Ahmadi Muslim has brought structure to my life. My lifestyle as a Muslim is a complete contrast to my life before Islam. The change was sudden and not without some difficulties. All in all, I am satisfied with being an Ahmadi

Muslim because I know what I believe in is right and I understand my beliefs. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 70-3) ★

Alpha Bah, Zion, IL



Joining the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 2004 helped to strengthen my faith in Islam. As a born Muslim in West Africa, I inherited Islam. Due to my own complacency, I did not make Islam a way of life.

In 2004 I came to America, in search of a permanent home for my family. At the time I was in the Chicago area. By the grace and mercy of Allah, my journey took me to Zion, about 45 minutes north of Chicago. At first, because I didn’t know there were Muslims in Zion, I continued to travel more than 40 miles to Friday service on the south side of Chicago.

I now believe the main reason I

came to America was to join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The first day I came to the mosque, I met Junayd Latif. It was like I knew him all my life; we instantly connected and have stayed connected ever since.

The following year was the next best I ever had. I took the pledge in 2005, after the holy month of Ramadhan. It was easy for me to join the movement because I knew I needed to reform myself and I knew my people in West Africa (Guinea in particular) needed reformation.

In 2008 I traveled to Ghana to celebrate 100 years of Khilafat. I also had the opportunity to meet the Khalifa. I introduced myself to him and told him I was new convert. He asked me how long I had been an Ahmadi Muslim and I replied, “four years,” and he said you are not new anymore! Everyone laughed. Khilafat is special to me for two reasons

I have decided to dedicate some of my time to share the teachings of Islam with others. Our mission is to improve the moral and religious knowledge of inmates, and help with their family issues, all through the teachings of Islam.

Since joining the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community I have improved in my own religious knowledge and spiritual development as well. I hope to continue in this transformation my entire life, In-Sha’-Allah. I have dedicated my life to spreading the true teachings of Islam. May Allah bring the followers of the Holy Prophet Muhammad into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. May Allah bless the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in its effort to bring the message of True Islam to the world. (From “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 194-6) ★

Ahmad Antar, Charlotte, NC



I grew up in Sidon, Lebanon prior to my arrival in the United States in 1999.

Prior to joining the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, I was already a Sunni Muslim [Ahmadi Muslims are also Sunni as they follow the sunnah of Prophet Muhammad]. I practiced the basics of Islam but kept to myself about religion. I regularly fasted in Ramadhan (starting at about the age of twelve years), and I did not drink alcohol or eat pork. I also prayed daily.

I kept on visiting the Research

Triangle chapter and became more and more comfortable with each visit. I also read the Promised Messiah’s speech, published as a book titled The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, and the content of the speech was very meaningful to me. You could say, it “clicked” with me in a major way, such that I became firmly convinced of the truth of the Promised Messiah, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, as well as

the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

I was very fortunate, by the grace of Allah, to meet our present Khalifa, Mirza Masroor Ahmad,

during his first visit to the United States in 2008, on the occasion of the 60th Annual Convention in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It was a simple meeting, and I was able to introduce myself to him. Yet it was

a spiritually uplifting and emotional experience for me. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 114-7) ★

Borey Bashir Song, Silver Spring, MD



I was born in July of 1981 in Cambodia. My parents had become refugees while fleeing from the Communists who had taken over the country. My family stayed at the refugee camp for many months before we were sponsored to come to the United States.

I left Hawaii and came to Silver Spring, Maryland to stay with my aunt and her family in 2003. It was here that I first learned about Islam.

I used to wonder why I had

listened so attentively, and eventually came to understand that I too had questions about Christianity. I felt guilty about questioning my faith, but I was impressed with the reasoning she had applied. I also noticed that she did not insult other religions; rather she respectfully listened to others and then presented the Islamic perspective. I asked her about Islam, and after a brief introduction to the faith, she said I should speak with her brother and invited me to attend Friday service at Baitur Rahman Mosque.

Rizwan and others gave me literature in stages, over time. I continued attending Friday services and met with members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, the young men’s group. Rizwan and his family also invited me to their home to help me study and explain

the truth about Islam Ahmadiyya. The more I studied, the more I came to respect and understand Islam. I gradually came to love it. That religion was Islam—the pinnacle of religions.

In July of 2005, I accepted the conditions of initiation. I decided to accept Islam. I remember the most prominent reason I decided to accept Islam Ahmadiyya was because it is logical and it makes sense.

Whenever possible, I spend my free time volunteering with MKA. Other than that, I spend my time between work and family. I have started learning Urdu and Arabic. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 94-7) ★

Tariq Tamir, Chicago, IL

I am from Chicago, born and raised, more or less.

I attended my first service in June of 2005 and knew this was the place for me. I did not know it was an Ahmadiyya mission house at the time, but I knew it was home. It was not the teachings that led me to join the Community – it was the people. The people were so warm and gracious and took me in. Initially I saw that they were praying like I was praying (in the Sunni style), they were offering Tahajjud (optional early morning) Prayers like me, and I was like, yeah, this feels right. But then I met Naveed

Malik, and he just became the voice of the Ahmadiyya Community for me. I said to myself, “Look at him up there, he’s preaching a good game, and I said, this is it. This is where I have to be.”

I wanted to sign the initiation form right away, but Atif Mian, a convert himself, advised that I spend some time studying and thinking about it. I joined the Community the following month at Atif’s home, with a group of brothers. It was July 2005. In truth, I signed it on blind faith that this is what Allah wanted me to do, and I did. Four years later, I do not regret

it.



In June I had attended the Canadian Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention, which was presided over by the Fifth Khalifa. It was the best convention ever. I was in a community of people I had just

met, but even then I felt a real kinship. It was really nice. And you know that other family we used to study Arabic with every week? All these years later I ran into them again: they had become Ahmadi Muslims as well. I took that as another sign.

Aside from the speeches, prayers, and brotherhood, we got to meet the Khalifa. When I met him, I immediately felt that he was a genuine man of God.

Three years into the Community, despite all the good, I had built up some bad karma, and began looking for a way out. Yet every time I tried to leave; I kept ending up right back to being a humble servant of Islam in the Ahmadiyya Community. No matter what I said to myself, “These folks aren’t genuine, etc.,” I could not make myself leave. Once I was driving, and I came to a fork in the road: one road led to certain fun and the other Al-Sadiq Mosque.

Well, I opted for fun, and guess what: I got pulled over by the police! I thought to myself, “If I had just gone to the mosque, I would not have gotten in trouble.” These sorts of signs helped me realize that this was the place to be. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 164-7) ★

Aaron Gage, Chicago, IL



At the 29th Annual Youth Retreat of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA in Hudson Valley, New York, Aaron Gage tells the story of how he found Islam.

My story starts in one of the corners of our Nation, at the Homestead Air Force Base in Homestead, Florida.

When I did accept Islam, my

mother was not initially approving of my choice. When I asked my mother how her Jewish identity manifested itself, she mentioned her support for Israel. I told her that I still supported Israel, although that did not mean I agreed with all of the State’s decisions.

Since accepting Islam, I have had changes of mind and heart, in my secular life as well as my religious life.

I formally accepted Islam and took the initiation in March 2005. I feel like a lot has changed as a result of it. I think that accepting Islam has made me more mature and driven. I have been involved with the Community on several levels and have made great friends in

Chicago and across the country.

A highlight of my experience in the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has been the chance to meet the Fifth Khalifa, Mirza Masroor Ahmad. I was at Canada’s 2005 Annual Convention and waited in line with hundreds of other Muslims, all anxious for their chance to spend just a few minutes with him. As I stood in line, I could sense the excitement of others around me. It was infectious. I expected him to be intimidating. Instead, I found him to be kind, I was with at ease. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 152-6) ★

Luqman Hecimovich, Milwaukee, WI



I was born and raised in Marinette, Wisconsin.

My teacher assigned me to do a report on any topic, so I chose Islam. This was just after 9/11 so I

thought it would be interesting. I gave a very brief presentation on the religion of Islam: Allah, Muhammad, the five pillars, and so on. In my research, I said to myself, wow, this is really interesting. From that point on, I had developed an interest in Islam.

About a year later, in 2005, I called my landlord’s youngest son, Hanan Shahid. I said, “I’ve been reading up on Islam and I agree with everything, Hanan. I think I’m a Muslim.” I still remember the

date: October 1, 2005. Through my research I had found out about Ramadan, the month of fasting, and Hanan told me, Ramadan started that very same day. I felt that was also a Divine sign.

Over Ramadan I got to learn more about the Community. I learned how Prophet Jesus did not die on the cross, and how the Bible shows this as well. I also realized how mainstream Muslims rejected Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, just like mainstream Jews rejected Jesus.

During that first full year that I had spent studying Islam on my own, I had created a picture in my mind of what Islam was supposed to be. And in terms of both belief and action, Islam Ahmadiyya was exactly that picture. After attending Ahmadiyya Muslim functions for a full year, I accepted Islam, just

before Ramadhan in 2006.

I was truly blessed to have found the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, and I feel that I have the perfect opportunity to serve as a light for the United States. I am also learning Urdu, Arabic, and a little Spanish. I have been guided to

God, and indeed dedicated myself to Him. May Allah guide my father and all else to the truth. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 20-24) ★

Hamza Abd Al-Qadir (Wayne Ellis)



Born Wayne Ellis on June 2nd, 1976. I spent my entire childhood in Hempstead, Long Island in the State of New York.

I had a strange dream one night in which I was in the basement of my childhood home, rummaging through a box in search of books. I selected one and suddenly a voice announced: “God is coming.” I quickly ran behind a pillar because when I was growing up we were taught that you couldn’t see God and live. However, my curiosity got the better of me and I peeked to see what He looked like. He was not there but the stairs that He started to descend were filled with light and illuminated the dark basement I was in. As I rarely dreamt before I found this strange. One day I visited my mother back at my childhood home and as was my habit, I went down into the basement to look through my father’s boxes for any interesting books. Lo and behold, I found a copy of the Qur’an!

After a few visits to the mosque, it occurred to me that there was something I needed to do to be a part of this community known as the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. I met up with Rabbi at the mosque that Friday. After Isha prayer, he, another elder respected member, Mohsin Mahmud and myself went upstairs to the library. He wanted to read what turned out to be the initiation form, and I wanted to declare my adherence to the Community. Mohsin sat in the middle, imploring us both to let the other speak. Finally, I noticed his paper, took a hold of it, and signed it, saying, “What do you need, a signature? Fine, here you go!” It was Friday, June 2nd, 2004.

Later that month I attended the Canadian Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention. I had the tremendous pleasure of meeting the Fifth Khalifa. He pulled me back and said, “Remain steadfast.”

Walking down the street I exclaimed aloud “O God, if this man was the second coming of Jesus, and if he was true, please make it clear to me, help me understand. I had a dream. When I woke up, there was no doubt that Allah sent the Promised Messiah.

I spent my free time studying and keeping company with Missionary Inamul Haq Kauser. By the grace of Allah, on January 9th

2006, we established a mosque in Bronx, New York. My wife had difficulty adjusting to the change in our lifestyle until finally, I was asked to choose. I chose Islam.

On many occasions, I would see the Khalifa in my dreams reassuring me. After about seven or eight months, I was asked to be the caretaker at my beloved Bronx Mosque. I happily agreed.

One month later, I was offered a position as a VP at a large bank. That summer, in 2007, I remarried and moved to Brooklyn. As quickly as I could, I hired an attorney and legally changed my name to the name given to me by the Khalifa, Abd Al-Qadir Jilani.

As it turned out, this was my third year as an Ahmadi Muslim. I received a call from a brother who was putting together a delegation to meet the Khalifa at the UK Convention. Thus, the Khalifa’s words to me at the 2005 Canadian Convention rang true. And all praise belongs to Allah alone. May Allah help my family and me serve Islam Ahmadiyya, help us act upon the teachings of the Holy Qur’an, and shade His Khalifa and Community in His Love and Protection. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from “By the dawn’s early light”—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA”, USA, pp. 34-8) ★

Yasmin Siraaj

In 1967, I became disillusioned with my Catholic faith. Every question I asked the priest always had a mysterious answer, or he could not explain it. I began attending the Islamic Center of St. Louis and took declaration of faith in the early seventies. I only became Ahmadi in 2006 under the Tabligh of Sisters Najma and Rashidah Rafat.

I signed Bai'at on June 2006 with fifth caliph Mirza Masroor Ahmad. It took me 38 years to find the true Islam. What really attracted me to the Ahmadiyyat Community in their commitment to Salat. Our Holy Qur'an class and Lajna are awesome.

The sisters and brothers here are truly a family and that is how I feel in this St. Louis Community. I

still have a lot to learn about my religion, but I stay excited about it. Islam is truly Peace.

She was a member of St. Louis Chapter until her death in 2017.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 109-110 and information supplied by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad) ★

Aida Lelcaj

By the grace of Allah, I took my Bai'at on 31 December 2006 (Eid-ul-Adha day) and officially became an Ahmadi Muslim.

I was born a Catholic in the tiny village of Vermosh in northern Albania. We did not practice Christianity regularly. I specifically recall the day when we learned about the concept of Trinity. We questioned but failed to get answer.

Our teacher kept on saying, "God is three in one and it's mystery that we will never understand."

In one of my classes in college I became friends with one of my Ahmadi Muslim classmates. We discussed religion. I found out that this new friend knew more about Christianity that I did. I started to read Bible in detail but could not find answers. I was more confused

than ever before. My Muslim friend was right after all. Islam is the only religion that gave me the satisfaction of the heart that I was searching for. That is why I am grateful and proud to be part of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. All praise belongs to Allah. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "Faith Affirmed," pp. 73-6) ★

Miguel David Cáliz, Guayanilla, Puerto Rico

I was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico in 1980. I currently live in my hometown of Guayanilla, Puerto Rico, where I am a graduate student. I was born into a Christian family, and I was raised a Catholic. I studied in Catholic schools until high school.

The only sect of Islam which ... defends and preaches the true teachings of Islam – knowing with full faith that Islam is the key to mankind's prosperity – is the one which carries the motto, "Love for all, hatred for none," the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

The first Muslim that I met was actually Ahmadi. I met him when I was a student at UWM. I used to tutor him in math, which was my job at the time.

Then I met an Ahmadi

Missionary named Rashid Ahmad. His devotion, love for God, defense of Jesus from false accusations and perceptions, and his wisdom truly amazed me. They invited me to their mosque, so I went with no fear and no doubt. In the mosque I met great, loving people who treated me with tenderness.

This love and affection kept me attending. At the beginning I was not very interested in the misconceptions of Jesus or the prophethood of the Promised Messiah. What I wanted to know was, who was Muhammad? And what kind of God do they believe in?

In 2006, I went to the MKA Ijtimā –their youth retreat. There I experienced something special; the love and the unity that I saw was a

sight to behold. There I learned that Islam was not only a religion, but a way of life, designed to help you get closer to God.



At the 2006 Youth Retreat of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA, Miguel Caliz with another convert to Islam, Rashid Ahmad.

I accepted the Conditions of

Initiation before leaving for Puerto Rico, still feeling uncertain. This feeling wore off quickly. I read just three pages of the Holy Qur'an and I recognized that this was the work of the Almighty.

I attended the annual convention in 2008, which was special that year because we were going to be in the presence of the Khalifa. I also got a rare chance to meet the Khalifa. I met him with my

personal teacher, Missionary Rashid Ahmad. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 168-172) ★

Michael Morris, Boston, MA



I was born and raised in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. Mostly Black and some Hispanics make up its residents.

In 1990, my mother was introduced to Islam by a Sunni Muslim, converted, and was married to him. The three of us then moved to Baltimore. I was sixteen and it was my freshman year of high school. This is when I first learned about the tenets of Islam and fell in love with its concepts – the One God, prayer and so on. It took until 2006, when I met Rafiq Lake of the Boston chapter.

Rafiq asked me if I knew about Islam and I said yes, I had been

introduced to Islam when I was sixteen years old. Then he asked me if I knew Ahmadiyya. I said negative, I had never heard of that. So, he said if you are willing to learn, I will teach you. He also said Ahmadiyya challenges you to do your own research. Read up on it, come up with questions and ask me. So, I did just that. I read the Ahmadiyya commentary of the Qur'an, the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, and a few small booklets, and it all made sense to me.

At that Friday's staff meeting, I got up and recited all seven principles from memory and everyone was very impressed and even applauded my effort. But I finally made it to Friday Prayers with Rafiq, and it was a great feeling.

I continued my study of Islam Ahmadiyya and continued going to Friday Prayers whenever I could. In the summer of 2006, I took the pledge. I was ready to begin living my life according to the teachings of Islam. I read several books while I

was at TC – Conditions of Bai'at, Jesus in India, Where did Jesus Die?, to name a few. But it was The Essence of Islam by the Promised Messiah that had an amazing effect on me. Essence is so powerful that I had to put the book down and walk away from it for a minute, just because it was so overwhelming. No one had ever described God in the way the Promised Messiah had.

Since the pledge, life has gotten much better. I got a good job, with an Ahmadi brother as a matter of fact, as a merchandiser and a salesman – just like the Holy Prophet of Islam. I finished my time at TC and started renting a room for a while.

Still, becoming a good Ahmadi Muslim is a process. I know I can do better but at times, my laziness gets the better of me. (Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from "By the dawn's early light"—Short stories by American converts to Islam by MKA, USA, pp. 102-6) ★

Founding Presidents

Abdul Hameed

Abdul-Hameed served as the first acting president of the Boston area from the 1940s-1956. At this time, the Boston Chapter was not formally recognized as a mission in the US Jamā'at. Hameed was therefore a prominent member of the community who took on the responsibilities of a president and

was viewed as such by members. Hameed was described by Khalil Mahmud as "an extremely pious man with a tremendous collection of books." Mahmud further narrates, "I once went to visit Bro. Hameed in his house. There I first saw a prayer book on his desk and then I saw three men, one of them

was Šūfī Muftī'-ur Rahmān Bengālī (the then missionary of New York region), performing Salāt together. When I saw the three of them pray in unison, I realized that this was a true brotherhood. It was a real pretty sight and that left an everlasting mark on me." Hameed had a passion for propagation,

often going to prisons where he preached to inmates. Through his preaching, he met Malcolm Little, later known as Malcolm. ★

Ibn Yamin—Benjamin Leddbetter



First President of St. Louis Jamā'at

(1948)

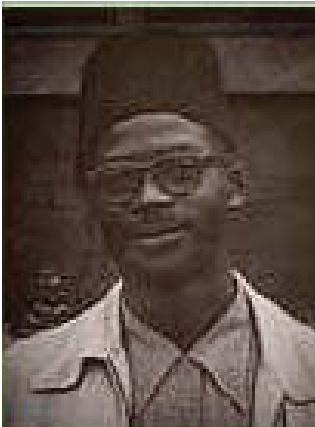
Ibn Yamin was the head of the Muslim Brotherhood Society, a Sunni group under an Arab who was taking advantage of the members for money and services. In 1948, Missionary Chaudhri Shukar Ilahi Husain was sent to teach these members in St. Louis and they studied under him for some time before becoming Ahmadi. Members of the group converted in the period 1948-1949 and by 1949 all of them had converted and brought along a building which they owned. When the St. Louis Jamā'at was organized, Ibn Yamin became the first Jamā'at President. (Missionary report of Shukar Ilahi Husain 1948-1949 sent

by Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad)

He was an eyewitness, on the American continent to the solar and lunar eclipses prophesized in Ahādith (sayings) of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) concerning the advent of the Mahdi.

“When the eclipses were shown in the American skies (1895 in western hemisphere), a small child who saw it and kept in his memory all his life, he said, he felt it to be very special. Many years later, he happened to read the claim of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who said God sent the eclipse as a sign in his favor. Astonished, he took it as a sign of truth and dedicated his life.” ★

Abdul Malik



While serving in the U.S. military in North Africa, Abdul Malik met an Ahmadi Muslim. After returning home, he found the U.S. Ahmadiyya headquarters in Chicago, IL. For two years he would drive from Milwaukee, through “Jim Crow” counties to the Chicago Mosque. There he received lessons and orientation into Islam from the then Head Missionary, Khalil Ahmad Nasir. After accepting Ahmadiyya in 1946, he was given

permission to start an Ahmadiyya mission in Milwaukee.

(African American Islamic History Exhibition 2017)

He was President of Milwaukee. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, May 1971, pp. 8) ★

Zubair Salahuddin



Left: Zubair Salahuddin on the left with Ali Razaa.

Brother Zubair Salahuddin (originally from St. Louis was a convert from 1950s and later was a part of Milwaukee Chapter) was also a martyr. He died in Mecca while performing Hajj in the late 1980s or early 1990s. Some of his family is still living in the Chicago

area. ★

Abid Haneef



Left Abid Haneef. Right: Abid Haneef (the father of Azhar Haneef, Na'ib Amīr USA) seated in the center with other Jamā'at members of Boston

Abid Haneef embraced Ahmadiyya on August 13, 1948 and since then he has never looked back. He stayed in New York from 1948 to 1961 and was the president of the Jamā'at during 1956-1959. Before that he served the Jamā'at as financial secretary and as vice president from 1950 to 1954. He also served as Qa'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya in late 1950s. In 1961, he left for Boston, where he lives now and was the Regional

President of Northeast.

He began working in New York City to further the message of Islām and by the 1980s, he had moved to Boston where he and his family established the first iconic "Peace Village" of North America.

After much study and contemplation, Haneef accepted the message of Mirzā Ghulām Ahmad, the Promised Messiah. Concerning his conversion, Haneef mentioned, "People usually convert

after a traumatizing event." Consequently, he states that he converted on either June or July 13, right after his mother's death.

Shifting from his position of a complete stranger to Islām to an utterly devoted servant is truly astonishing. In fact, when Abid Haneef was given his name by Khalifatul-Masīḥ II, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, he said, "Abid Haneef doesn't sound like an Arab name, but then once

Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II told me what it meant, a humble servant who is ever inclined to God, I realized that it was a goal to live up to.”

In 1973, he went to the Holy Land of Mecca from Pakistan after meeting Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nasir Ahmad. He had given him one of his turban as a gift and Haneef cherished it dearly. While in Mecca, he relates, “After a couple of days, I didn’t have any more money and my hotel booking was over. Again, me being very naive, I told my predicament to this one Pakistani young gentleman. He said, “Why don’t you leave your bags here and pray to Allāh, and Allāh will take care of your stuff.” After indulging in prayer for a while, he realized that his bags had been snatched. His bags full of his personal belongings and most importantly, the turban. In bewilderment, he quickly went back to that same gentleman and told him his issue about losing his bags. Upon hearing about his loss,

the hotel management allowed him a room for a day. He earnestly prayed in that room and began to weep and cry that, “O Allāh! All I want is this turban; I don’t care for much of anything else,” because this was a turban gifted to him by Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III. It was a sheer miracle that shortly after his prayer, he went to his window of the hotel and looked towards Haram. He says, “I looked outside the window towards Haram and saw my turban and [some] stuff there.” God had answered his prayers.

His greatest service was his passion to comply with the request and desire of Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nasir Ahmad, to build a small village, a mosque, and a community for the members of Boston. He said, “Khalīfa III gave guidelines on the location in his book A Message of Peace and a Word of Warning (20 miles away from the city of Boston), so we drew a circle and saw the city of Sharon,

MA.” They had proposed the village to be called Qadian Village and in the original blue print it has been named as such, but when Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV, Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmad, had come to know of the proposed name, he said that there is only one Qadian village and one Rabwah city, instead it should be called “Ahmadabad.” On the other hand, the upside was that to acquire the land, the price was only \$27,000. This was an excellent deal, even at that time. There were hidden charges. When they finally exited City Hall, having made all the necessary payments, they were only left with 50 cents.

The stunning future mosque has even been named by Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V, Mirzā Masroor Ahmad, as “Bait-un-Nāsir.”

(Edited from Interview of Abid Haneef and Saleha Haneef on February 06, 2011, by Missionary Ehtishamul-Haq Kauser, published in The Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada, April 2013, pp. 10-12.) ★



Abid Haneef is standing third from the left. Maulana Azhar Haneef, Na’ib Amīr and Missionary USA, son of Abid Haneef is standing first from the left.

Ali Razaa



Ali Razaa with his and other children. (Source: Hanif Razaa)

Ali Razaa (March 17, 1922-July 8, 1996) and his wife Nasira Razaa (April 13, 1927-February 19, 2013) were pioneers of Ahmadiyyat in the US, and were instrumental in spreading the message to others. They originally hailed from St. Louis, MO, but moved to Kenosha, WI, where they lived until their deaths. Ali Razaa accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1947.

Abdul Malik (president

Milwaukee 1946) convinced several members to move to Milwaukee in the hopes of finding better employment. Ali Razaa who accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1947, and his wife Nasira Razaa moved to Milwaukee from St. Louis, MO, where Ali Razaa was the president circa in 1955. However, when Ali could not find employment in the Milwaukee breweries, he eventually moved to Kenosha, WI, where he took up employment in the

American Motors manufacturing plant (founded in 1954). This devout couple was instrumental in spreading the Message to others in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. They were pioneers of Islam in the Zion area and were involved in the conversions of Muhammad Sadiq of Kenosha, Fazl Omar (Sep 22, 1945 to Oct 8, 2020) of Zion, and Ahmad Khalid of Milwaukee. Ali Razaa died on 8 July 1996. ★

Russel Shafiq

The Dayton Chapter started in 1933 and a few noble souls accepted Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. Abdul Lateef was the first to enter this blessed Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and some other members followed. One of them was Russel Shafiq and his wife Karim Shafiq.

The other prominent figures were Wali Kareem and his wife Lateefa Karim and Abdul Qadir. Due to these gentlemen and ladies, Dayton chapter is now considered to be one of the sincere and well-nurtured chapter of the US Jamā'at. Russel Shafiq died in 1959. He remained president of the chapter for quite some time. (Al-Fazl, 13 May 1965) ★

Wali Kareem



Wali, an African American from Baltimore, was the first known Jamā'at President in the 1960s. It is not clear how Kareem, the first Ahmadi in Baltimore, was introduced to the message of Ahmadiyyat.

During the 1940s, Ahmadis would congregate with and meet each other in their homes. Then, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, Ahmadis acquired their first separate space to worship and congregate at 716 Fremont Avenue in Baltimore City. This space was

rented; Wali used to collect money to pay the fees. It is not known who initially obtained this property, though it is speculated that credit is likely due to a concerted effort by the families of Brothers Muhammad and Abdul Hafeez and Rahman. At this time, the Baltimore Jamā'at had ten or less members. One individual who was still alive from this time period but passed away during this U.S. Centennial year was respected Lateef Ahmad. There were continuous gatherings at this property. Two non-African American families which go back to the 716 Fremont Avenue era include the Asad sisters. Ayesha Sharif and Zainab Asad, had converted to Ahmadiyyat from Judaism. Ayesha Sharif's children include Ya Sin, Ruqaiyyah, Safiyyah, and Tariq. Zainab Asad's children include Musa, Bashir, Sharif, and Sumaira. It is

interesting to note here that Baltimore has a historic Jewish population which has neighbored the city's African American population.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is deeply rooted in Baltimore from the early 1960s. Back then, a handful of largely African American families converted to Ahmadiyya Islam and started congregating at a rented place on Freemont Avenue. Wali was the first president. Men and women from the families of Kareem, Abdur Rahman, Muhammad Hafeez, Hamza Zainuddin, and others were among the pioneers. Our sisters Amina Parker, Kareem, and Latifa Ilyas were among the earliest women leaders of the community. (Compiled from Chapters history)

★

Munir Ahmad



Bro. Munir Ahmad on right with Pioneer member Bro. Abdullah Ali

Munir Ahmad, who joined in 1953, has the distinction of serving the St. Louis Jamā'at as its third President for more than 40 years until 2007. Under his wise leadership the community remained united and steadily progressed down through the years. One of the highlights of his long life were the trips he made to Rabwah and Qadian which only strengthened his faith and dedication to Ahmadiyyat and his love of Khilafat. He practiced the Qur'anic injunction "Hold fast all together to the rope of Allah"

himself and used this philosophy to keep the community together while President. Building a mosque was his cherished goal from the time he entered the Jamā'at and he was able to see it realized before his death in 2015. He was a pillar of the St. Louis Jamā'at and was loved and respected in the wider community as well. His wife, Moneerah equally dedicated would serve as a National Lajna President from 1957-1958. Their large family remains dedicated Jamā'at members today. (Courtesy Tanvir ul-Nisa Ahmad) ★

Abdul Hafeez



President/Amīr Baltimore
1971-75

The first known Ahmadi, then, in Baltimore—again, according to oral history—were Kareem and his family. Names of other Ahmadi from this early period include Wali, Abdul Hafeez and Muhammad Hafeez (who were siblings), Samir Sultan, Rahman—about whom more will be discussed below.

Abdul Hafeez, Muhammad Hafeez, and Rahm were all originally from North Carolina. Abdul Hafeez, and his sibling, Muhammad Hafeez, were cousins to Rahman. There was a Pakistani Ahmadi Muslim missionary, missionary Saeed, with these early Ahmadi. Ayesha Sharif and her Zainab and their children Bashar Assad, Tariq Sharif, and Musa Assad were also among the pioneer families to establish a chapter in Baltimore. In fact, missionary Saeed lived in the home of Rahman for some time. Another Pakistani Ahmadi missionary, missionary Sharif, was also in contact with the community during these early times, but he only visited Baltimore, and did not stay long term.

It is not clear how Kareem, the first Ahmadi in Baltimore, first learned about the message of Ahmadiyyat. However, there are two theories for how Abdul Hafeez learned about and subsequently accepted Islam Ahmadiyyat, leading to his Muhammad Hafeez, and his cousin, Rahman becoming Ahmadi Muslims. It is thought that Abdul Hafeez learned about Ahmadiyyat while living in Pittsburgh, later on moving to Baltimore where his brother and cousin lived and imparting the message to them. The other theory is that these three learned about Islam Ahmadiyyat from missionary Saeed in Baltimore. The first theory is given more weight. (Compiled from history of Baltimore chapter)

★

Dr. Qazi Muhammad Barkatullah

Amīr of Jackson, MS Chapter
(Circa 1955-1972)

Dr. Qazi Muhammad Barkatullah was born in Lahore, Pakistan on 15 April 1931. He obtained his B.A., B. Ed., M.A., and M.O.L. (Master of Oriental Learning) degrees from the Punjab University, Lahore., Pakistan. He came to the United States to further his education and enrolled in Indiana University-Bloomington, where he earned his MS and Ph.D. degrees.

Dr. Barkatullah an Ahmadi from Pakistan sent Ahmadiyya literature to 40 students of Indiana University. A delegate from a church in Kingston arrived in our mission house and Dr. Barkatullah gave them religious information and Ahmadiyya Literature. (Al-Fazl, 17 August, 26 October, 12 December 1963, and 25 February 1964)

Dr. Barkatullah's extensive teaching experience included professorships in Pakistan and America. He had administrative experience as department head and principal in Pakistan and as an academic dean in Holly Springs, MS and Jackson, TN.

He settled in Jackson, MS in 1970, where he taught in the Education Department at Jackson State University for twenty-seven years.

Dr. Barkatullah published a number of literary and research works in Pakistan and America. His body of work includes:

Introduction to Educational Measurement and Evaluation (1971), Islam, the Religion for Mankind (1972), Jesus Son of Mary (1973), Education During Middle Ages Under the Muslims (1974), The Lady Mary (1975). Educational Opportunities in USA for Overseas

Students (1976), and Basic Concepts in Statistics (1979).

He was a member of the editorial board of The Review of Religions in 1984-1985 and published monthly articles in the Syrian-Lebanese Star newsletter from 1989 to 2006.

Dr. Barkatullah remained a faithful member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at in New Orleans until his death on October 4, 2006. He was survived by his wife Nasira, three sons (Zia, Noaman, Rizwan), three brothers, and three sisters. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Feb. 2007, p. 51)

Dr. Qazi was prolific writer and orator. Some of his articles on Islam, Christianity and Islam in Russia can be seen in Review of Religions (V. LXXXV, No. 12, Dec. 1990, p. 12; V. LXXXIII, No. 12, Dec. 1988, p. 14; V. LXXXII, No. 9, Sept. 1988, p. 35; V. LXXXIII, No.

8, Aug. 1988, p. 44; V. LXXXII, No. 3/4, March-Apr. 1987, p. 40 and V. LXXX, No. 1, Jan. 1985, p. 35).

In USA there were only a few Chapters of the Jamā'at in 1955. He was President of Chapter Jackson, MS. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, May 1971, p. 8) and Amīr of the Jackson Mission (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, June 1973, pp. 5-8).

I remember him when he was

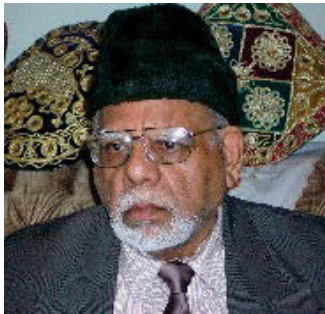
Na'ib Qa'id in the Aamila of my father Mian Muhammad Yahya, Qa'id Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Lahore, Pakistan in 1956-1957 (Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat Lahore by Shaikh Abdul Qadir, p. 619). He used to deliver speeches on almost all function of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Lahore.

The 50th Jalsa Salana-1988 Souvenir of USA describes him on

page 22:

The 25th Jalsa Salana 1972 was held at Lake Forest, IL on 1,2, 3 September 1972. The program consists of speeches, Reports, Majlis Shura, Auxiliary meetings and a visit to Zion, IL. Dr. Qazi Barkatullah was one of the speakers at the convention. (Research and compilation by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi) ★

Dr. Basharat Munir Mirza



Dr. Basharat Munir Mirza was born on May 26, 1934, in Qadian and passed away on February 2013. He was the only son of the late Master Nazir Husain Mirza and the late Amtul Aziz Mirza who were both companions of the Promised Messiah. He was the grandson of Hakeem Mohammad Husain (Marham-e-Isa) and Miyan Abdul Aziz Mughal, both historical figures in the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at.

Dr. Basharat Munir completed his M.Sc. in Physics with distinction. He earned PhD in Physics from Birmingham University in England. He was married to Amina Begum, daughter of Deputy Mohammad Sharif and Bismillah Begum, both Sahabi and of Rabwah Pakistan.

He taught at Florida State University in Tallahassee Florida in the US. Till his death he was Professor of Physics at Ohio University.

During the 1960s he was the only one Ahmadi in Athens. However, soon another family

moved to Athens and a chapter was established in 1962 and he served the chapter as its president.

He started a newsletter in his local Jamā'at called the Ahmadiyya Gazette. In order to avoid high costs, Dr. Basharat Munir was able to purchase a hand cranked spirit Duplicator to print this newsletter. It is amazing to note that this newsletter has survived many decades.



As the President of a Chapter, Dr. Munir persuaded HQ in Washington D.C. to start republishing the Muslim Sunrise again which had stopped since 1959 due to the high cost of printing. He was able to purchase a small offset printer in order to provide printing for the both the Muslim Sunrise and the Ahmadiyya Gazette. During the National Amila meeting in 1964, he was voted to become the editor. He began publishing the Ahmadiyya Gazette, Al-Nahl (Ansar), Ansar Newsletter, Al-Mujahid (Khuddam) and Ayesha Magazine. It is important to note that the costs associated with the printing were significantly less than what would have been due if all

such publications were done by a third-party company.

Dr. Basharat Munir was dedicated to the Jamā'at but he also showed the same level of dedication to fellow human beings. He started a food pantry in 1990 in Chauncy Ohio to cater to the underprivileged. He supported adult education in Ohio and during a difficult time when the state was ready to close down such a service, he offered to provide space in Chauncy and even taught some of the courses himself. It was clear how much the community appreciated his efforts since he was elected as Town Council President and eventually, in 2009, he became the Mayor of the town. Khalifatul-Masih on hearing this said, Al-Hamdu-Lillah, and prayed that May Allah empower Dr. Basharat Munir to discharge his duties efficiently and May Allah enable him to continue to offer his services to the Jamā'at and humanity.

Dr. Basharat Munir Mirza was a Musi and is laid to rest in Maqbarat-us-Salam, Lake View Memorial Park, 2724 Liberty Road, Sykesville Maryland USA. It was by the grace of Allah that most national office holders of the US Jamā'at were present at Bait-ur-Rahman on that day including Amīr Jamā'at and Missionary in-Charge, due to a previously scheduled meeting. The news of Dr.

B.A. Munir Mirza was relayed by the Amīr Jamā'at to Khalifatul-Masih who led his funeral in absentia.

(Edited by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 2013, p. 47- Pictures provided by Asaf Mirza,

Columbus-OH) ★

Muhammad Amir

Three presidents served Maryland Chapter when it was named the Washington Metro Area Chapter. Their names include

Muhammad Amīr (President before 1965), Masoud Ahmad Malik, Dr. Hidayat Ahmad Khan, Abdul Shukoor Ahmed, and Dr.

Laeq Ahmad. Later, the Chapter was later split into three chapters, Silver Spring, Potomac, and Laurel. ★

Jameel-ur-Rahman



President of Pittsburgh in 1970s.

Many of the pioneering members of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA traveled to Rabwah, Pakistan in 1975 on the occasion of Jalsa Salana (Annual Convention). In the picture above one can see Ḥaḍrat Mirza Nasir

Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih III (center) are: Sadiq Muhammad, Hanif Ahmad, Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, Jalal Nuruddin, Abu Bakr of Zion, Jameel-ur-Rahman, and Ahmad Khalid.

Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd Day, was celebrated on the 25th of February with the brothers and sisters from

Cleveland and Dayton in attendance. Omar Shaheed chaired the program. Speakers were Abu F. Murtaza, Bro Manzur Ahmad, Jameel-ur-Rahman and Habeeb Shafeek, M.M. Ibrahim, who was the main speaker, gave an inspiring speech. Afterwards Prayers were offered, and we had dinner. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, April 1979). ★

Dr. Salah-ud-Din Shams

First President of Zion Chapter.

Dr. Salah-ud-Din Shams (22 February 1934 to 31 January 1991) was born in Qadian, India and was the eldest son of Khalid-e-Ahmadiyyat, Hadrat Maulana Jalal-

ud-Din Shams (may Allah be pleased with him). His paternal grandfather, Hadrat Khawaja Imam-ud-Din Sekhwani (may Allah be pleased with him), is listed as the 32nd of the 313 companions of the Promised

Messiah (may peace be on him). The family had known the Promised Messiah when he was but a child growing up and was well aware of his integrity and flawless character. They immediately accepted him

when he made his claim.

Maulana Jalal-ud-Din Shams was sent to England in 1936 to be the Imam of the London Mosque, and owing to World War II, he wasn't able to return to Qadian until October 1946. Thus, Dr. Salah-ud-Din Shams had not seen his father until he was twelve years old. Maulana Shams was the last Amir of Qadian prior to the Indo-Pak partition in 1947 and he led the last contingent of Ahmadi Muslims from Qadian to the newly established borders of Pakistan. He proposed the name "Rabwah" for the new town wherein the Ahmadi Muslims would predominantly settle. The name was approved by Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him), and Rabwah was inaugurated on 20 September 1948.



Dr. Salah-ud-Din Shams pursued his medical education at

King Edward Medical College (now University) in Lahore, Pakistan. In 1963, he went to Chicago, IL for his internship at Columbus Hospital located in downtown Chicago, and after one year, he pursued his residency at Louis A Weiss Memorial Hospital. Upon completion of his residency, he moved to Zion, IL with his wife and kids in 1970. At that time, the Jamā'at would meet in Waukegan, IL, but Dr. Shams would eventually arrange for the Jamā'at to relocate to Zion, IL. All members from Waukegan, IL; Kenosha, WI; and Racine, WI were absorbed into the Zion Jamā'at.



Dr. Shams was the first

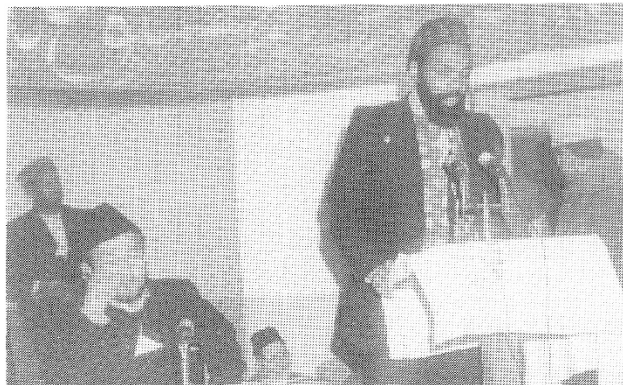
president of the Zion Jamā'at, and meetings were initially held in his home located on 2407 Elim Avenue in Zion. In 1984, he arranged for the purchase of the historical Booker T. Washington Club (located at 2103 Gabriel Avenue) as the Community's first mission house in Zion, IL.



Dr. Salah-ud-Din Shams (left) is pictured with his younger brother, Al-Hajj Maulana Munir-ud-Din Shams, Additional Wakil-ut-Tasnif, London.

When Dr. Shams passed away in 1991, he was the first to be buried in the Chicago area Ahmadi Cemetery located in Chapel Hills Garden (Oakbrook Terrace, IL). His mother, Saeeda Bano Shams (1913-2007), was also buried there later. May Allah confer His mercy upon them both. (Courtesy Naser-ud-Din Shams, Zion, IL) ★

Abdur Raqeeb Walī



Left: Walī is addressing a function, while Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, later Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV, is presiding.



Right: Abdur Raqeeb Walī with Mas'ūd Aḥmad Dehlvi, then Editor Al-Faḍl Rabwah. (Pictures by Syed Sajid Ahmad)

Second President of Boston Chapter (1974).

I was born in Chester, Pennsylvania, in 1932. My parents were Christians and belonged to the

Church of God and Saints of Christ. The members of this church considered themselves to be the Lost Tribes of the House of Israel.

My early education was

through the Public School system. I was doing fine until I got into the high school. At this stage, I somehow lost interest in my studies and eventually dropped out of the high school in 1949 without

graduating. That same year, I moved to Boston where I joined a group of musicians, who used to play in a night club. I learned from somebody that there was a Muslim by the name of Khalīl Maḥmūd, who worked in the Harvard University. After only a few moments of our introduction, I felt as if we had always been very close friends. He got me the Holy Qurʾān. I started visiting Khalīl Maḥmūd often.

Once Missionary Zaighum debated with a non-Aḥmadī Muslim from Harvard University about Khātām-an-Nabiyyīn. In the end, the missionary left his opponent speechless.

This debate had the greatest impact upon me. I was so impressed that I decided to join the Movement. I visited Khalīl Maḥmūd and requested him to accept my initiation into Islām. He was immensely pleased and brought me a Baiʿat or initiation form, which I filled out and signed away without any hesitation.

After the Baiʿat, I felt that it was only the beginning. Islām demanded that I became a good Muslim not merely by name but indeed as well.

I received a bachelor's degree in 1974. During this time, I was also elected the president of Boston Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamāʿat. One of the brothers, Bashīr by name and who was originally from India, once asked me to visit Qadian. This brother had seen in a dream that I was to sign my Nikāḥ papers within the following six months. Exactly six months later I visited Qadian. Bashīr had arranged my meeting with my would-be wife's parents. In short, I got married in a simple ceremony. After our marriage, I found out that my father-in-law was slightly reluctant about our marriage, but my mother-in-law had seen a dream in which she was shown the words, I shall protect your daughters, written on a green banner. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh, we have had a very successful marriage. Allāh has rewarded us with four

beautiful children. I moved to San Francisco in 1977 and eventually to Merced, California, where I am currently living with my family. I work as a Muslim Chaplain in three of the State's prisons.

I am convinced that the quiet and peaceful revolution that is being brought about in the whole world today is the direct result of the true Messianic touch of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah and his Khulafā (Successors). I am convinced that by reviving the institution of Khilāfat in Islām, Allāh has demonstrated his ultimate virtue of mercy upon the mankind. I have met Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, third Successor to the Promised Messiah, may Allāh have mercy on him, and Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, fourth Successor to the Promised Messiah, several times. (Edited from Why Islam is my choice, pp. 62-7-Al-Naḥl, Fall 1995.). ★

Abu Bakr Nooruddin

First President Willingboro (1976-1978).

The first election of Willingboro Jamāʿat was held at the house of Syed Manzoor in the summer of 1976. Missionary in Charge Masood Ahmad Jhelumī presided over the election

proceedings and Brother Abu Bakr Nooruddin was elected as the first president of Willingboro Jamāʿat. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 475 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] More

Ahmadis kept arriving in Willingboro and the search for a place to build a mosque also intensified. During that time reportedly family of Abu Bakr Nooruddin of Trenton New Jersey generously offered his home for congregational Prayers and Jamāʿat meetings. ★

Abu Bakr

Abu Bakr, of Zion, IL Jamāʿat married to Dhiya Tahira and have three sons. He is son of an Ahmadi couple, Nycemah and Dhul Yaqub.

Daud Ahmad (Dwayne Edward Andersen) writes: Abu Bakr asked if I wanted to attend the upcoming Annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Convention, and I said yes. He then

went to my parents to discuss my conversion, and the convention trip. My parents were comfortable with Abu Bakr and his wife Dhiya, and were appreciative of their visit. As such they granted me permission to attend the convention.

This was a very special

convention in that the Fourth Khalifa would be in attendance. The convention was being held at Eastern Michigan University. We were really exhausted, but at the same time energized by the opportunity to meet the Khalifa.



This was the most amazing personal experience of my life. When I entered the room, he gave me salaams, and hugged me. I then requested a new name, so he asked me if I had recently converted, and I said yes. He replied, “Ma Sha’ Allah,” kissed me on the forehead, and gave me the name Daud Ahmad. President Zion (2016-

Present). ★

Dr. Abdul Mannan Khan



Khalifatul-Masih IV with Dr. Abdul Mannan Khan and his youngest son Dr. Abdul Wali Khan



Dr. Abdul Mannan Khan was born in Amritsar, India on 15 April 1939. The name of his parents is, Abdul Malik and Asghari Begum. He married to Nasim Farhat and Galina Rybalko (Russian). He has three siblings namely Salman Khan, Salma Khan, and Abdul Wali Khan.

He was the first Ahmadi to

receive master’s degree with honors in Mechanical Engineering from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1963. Then he studied at MIT and received his Ph.D. in 1969. He was the first Ahmadi to receive Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering. He became the Director of Nuclear Power Division, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) in 1973. He taught at the University of Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil, and worked at scores of nuclear projects in Korea, Pakistan, and the USA, retiring in 2019.

When he came to the USA in 1964, there were hardly a few dozen Pakistani Ahmadi in America. He was a member of Boston/Cambridge (1964-66) and dozens of other chapters in the US. He was elected the first president of Long Island, New York chapter. He held that position from 1976 to 1980. In those days Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir lived in Long Island. The members of the Long Island chapter included Air Marshal Zafar Chaudhri and his family, son-in-law of Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir and a few more. Monthly meetings were mostly held at Abdul Mannan’s house. Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) also graced the meeting once and made a speech.

General Zia-ul-Haqq’s violent death in a plane crash and the persecution of Ahmadi in Pakistan

was memorialized in an article in the Huntsville Times, Alabama on 3 September 1988. The editor added a cartoon of General Zia as a token of his appreciation as well.



The late Gen. Mohammed Zia Ul-Haq

Muslim minorities find solace in tyrant’s death

Zia’s violent death in a plane crash has left some indelible prints on the sands of history. He dethroned Bhutto, his mentor, in a military coup and delivered the death-knell to democracy in Pakistan.

He was the founding member of the Ahmadiyya Islamic Center, Tokyo, Japan in 1961-63. President of Satellite Town, Rawalpindi, Pakistan in 1969-71. He was also President of Halqa F-7, Islamabad,

Pakistan in 1973-75.

Although he promised elections within a few months after take over, no elections were held in the following eight years. When elections did take place, all the political parties but his own boycotted these “controlled” elections. And lately a few months before his crash, he dissolved that hand-picked assembly too.

Being a nephew of the fundamentalist Islamic Party Chief, Zia resorted to narrow-based Islamization (like Ikhwanul-Muslemeen of Egypt who murdered Sadat, or Hezbollah in Iran). Using the holy name of Islam, most un-Islamic deeds were committed — minority Muslim communities were persecuted, their mosques desecrated and holy inscriptions (Kalima) removed from the walls.

Indeed, Zia did just the opposite of what the founder of Pakistan, Mohammad Ali Jinnah, had envisioned — a democratic state based on broad-based Islamic Principles of equality and justice for all. These fundamentalists had opposed Mr. Jinnah also and branded him an infidel.

In the face of tough opposition, established the Ahmadiyya Islamic Center in the International Student House in Tokyo in 1961. Weekly meetings were held. About a dozen Japanese became its members. Sir, Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, and Professor Abdus Salam visited Tokyo and recorded messages for

the members. Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan lauded these efforts and, in the 1964 Jalsa Salana speech at Rabwah, he urged the Ahmadiyya Youth to follow the example.

Corruption, bribery and tyranny became the hall-marks of Zia era. United Nations Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International underscored these deplorable events in Pakistan.

Should America continue to support or prop dictatorial regimes in Pakistan or go for a broad-based democracy? The emphatic answer is the latter one. America’s strategic interests lie in nurturing and side with democracy. Of what good is Afghanistan to the United States if the big trophy — Pakistan — is lost to Russia?

Whether Zia’s crash is plotted by the disgruntled army generals or Afghan Secret Service or Indo-Russian Intelligence, the downtrodden masses of Pakistan and the persecuted Muslim minorities find solace in the fact that the wrath of God has cut down this tyrant. Alas, he did not listen to the call of Hazrat Ahmad.

MOHAMMAD AL-MANNAN KHAN
Athens, AL. USA

HUNTSVILLE TIME
88 13 25

Community literature was translated in Japanese and published. Of particular interest is the Japanese translation of the Promised Messiah’s writing: Our Teachings. One thousand copies were published at the Tokyo University and disseminated. Published an article entitled, “Concept of God in Islam” in the well-known Japanese Newspaper, Mainichi News, Tokyo in 1962. Visited Ukraine and Russia in 1999 and 2012 with his Russian wife and preached to the people of Russia and Ukraine.

(The detail was sent by Dr. Abdul Mannan Khan, Houston, Tx. Edited and compiled by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi) ★

Soofi Ghulam Ullah

President Houston TX (1979–1985) ★



Rashid Abdul Latif Rashidi

The first President of Seattle from 1979 until the mid-1980s. Rashid Abdul Latif Rashidi, grandson of Sahibzada Abdul Latif

(Martyr), was the first President from 1979 until the mid-1980s. After his relocation to Los Angeles, Abdul Haye Siyal became the Jamā’at

President and served for more than a decade. ★

Syed Sharif Ahmad



Syed Sharif Ahmad seated to the right with happy and inspired souls at a gathering.

First President San Francisco CA.

Sayyid Rasool Shah of Pindori Sayyidan District Jhelum (1893-1953) son of Sayyid Waliyyullah Shah accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1920 when he was 27 or 28. He had two sons, Syed Abdul-Aziz (born 1921) and Syed Sharif Ahmad (born 1928). Both studied at Qadian starting 1938 for some time and at the Engineering College in Rasool (The Punjab, Pakistan). Syed Sharif Ahmad helped in the survey of the land and initial planning of Rabwah.

After his marriage with Syeda Slama Shah, they moved to Karachi in 1949 where he built a house for the family.

Syed Sharif Ahmad came to the US in 1956. Syed Abdul Aziz followed him in 1957 and settled in the Willingboro area after completing his education.

Syed Sharif Ahmad lived in the areas around DC initially. Both brothers were living in New York when Sahibzadah MM Ahmad visited in 1958. He came to their place for dinner accepting their invitation and rolled up his sleeves to help them do the dishes after dinner.

He graduated from Virginia Tech with master's in

engineering in 1960. Then he lived in Chicago and then Boston. He moved to San Francisco on the suggestion that there was a need to establish a chapter there.

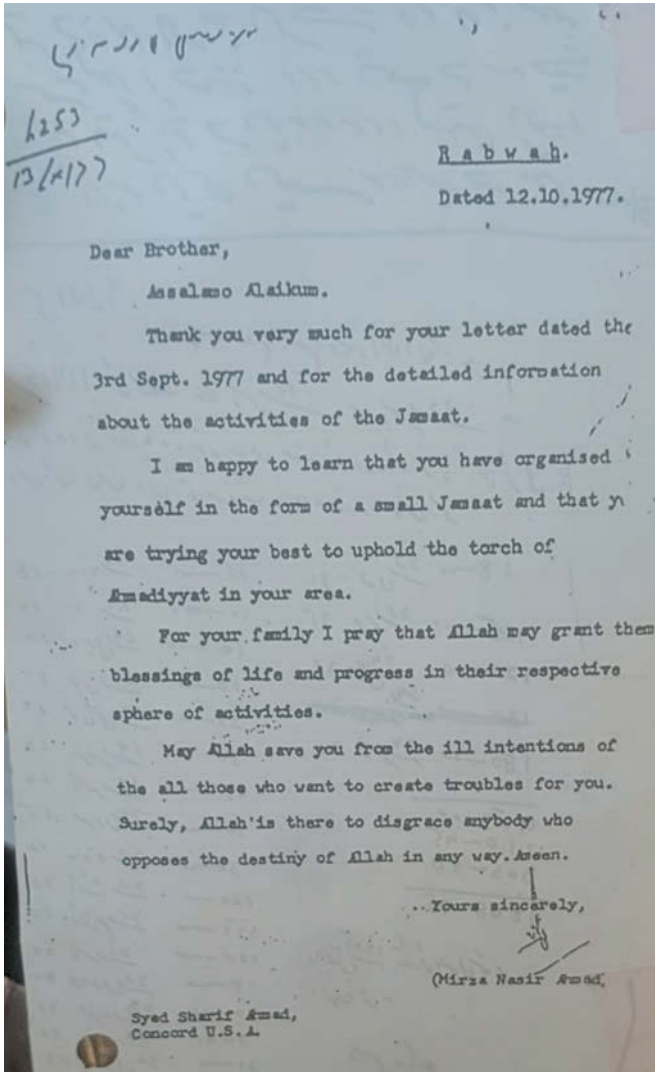
He was an engineer and travelled worldwide to Argentine, Brazil, Middle East, Indonesia, etc.

San Francisco chapter was formed by Syed Sharif Ahmad in 1974 which consisted of all areas between Bakersfield and Oregon border including Reno, Nevada.

Syed Sharif Ahmad served as the first President of the San Francisco Chapter. His home on Newton Way in Concord served as the center for many years. Missionary Siddique Shahid visited there and Sahibzadah Mirza Mubarak Ahmad with his wife who addressed the local Lajna. In 1978, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad visited the west coast and stayed with Syed Sharif Ahmad in Concord and Dr. Tahir Ahmed in Oregon. A meeting was also held in the house of Anwar Shah in West Pittsburg which was presided by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad.

Syed Sharif Ahmad of San Francisco CA was one of the presidents who attended meeting of presidents of Jamā'ats and missionaries in USA with Missionary in-Charge Mir Mahmud Ahmad in the chair. Among terms

discussed were the feasibility of establishing schools for children, training of American Ahmadi as honorary missionaries and prospects of holding an Int. Conf. on the Crumbling of the Cross in America in 1980. (Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1979, p. 5)



The migration of Syed Sharif Ahmed from California to Buffalo and Choudhry Abdul Majid from Pakistan in early 1980s to northwest New York state was a consequential event. It became the main stimulus that resulted in the formation of the Rochester Chapter. Albany was already a separate Chapter by the time. It was decided that members living in all other towns in upstate New York will be included in Rochester Chapter.

Syed Sharif Ahmad first retired in Beverly in NJ where his brother, Syed Abdul-Aziz, lived and then moved to Chantilly VA where most of his children lived, Syed Naiem Ahmad in Chantilly, Syeda Azra Ahmad in VA and Aziza Khan in MD. He lived there to his last days.

He passed away in 2012 and was buried in Maqbarat-us-Salam in Sykesville MD. His eldest daughter, Syeda Bushra Sultana, lives in ND and his youngest son, Syed Nasiem Ahmad, lives in Dallas next to the Ahmadiyya Mosque in Allen, Texas. ★

Qureshi Muhammad Ishaq



A very historical group photo 1960s. Qureshi Ishaq is the second person from the right. Only His face is in view



He was born in Delhi in India on September 16, 1933. He returned to his creator on 15 May 2021.

His love and dedication for the Jamā‘at began when he was a student in Qadian, India. He moved to Pakistan where he lived in several cities, such as Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi. Eventually, he settled in Wah Cantt (District Rawalpindi, Pakistan). He served the Jamā‘at in different capacities, such as Qa‘id, Secretary of Finance, General secretary, President.



Construction of the original Yousuf Mosque. Ishaq Qureshi is watching construction.

In Pakistan he faced prejudice, discrimination, and threats. Once a mob came to his house and yelled in abusive language and threw rocks at his house. His wife and kids also faced similar abusive treatment in their schools and their neighborhood. Although he was up for promotion, which meant that he could have retired with a decent retirement from the Pakistan

Ordinance Factory, he gave it all up for the safety and welfare of his family and moved to the United States in 1977.

When he was about to move to the United States, he went to visit Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him), who then advised him to establish a Jamā‘at in Tucson, Arizona.

He was elected as the president and served as the president of the Jamā‘at of Tucson for 25 years. He would have remained in this position for a longer time, but due to his deteriorating health, he asked to not be elected for the next term. His accomplishments are as follows:

He purchased land for the mosque. The construction of the original Yousuf Mosque took place, but due to eminent domain, it had to be demolished and then the present Yousuf Mosque was constructed. After the present Yousuf Mosque was constructed, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) inaugurated it himself. He helped in the purchase of 40 acres of land in Benson, Arizona. He also bought a parcel in South Lawn Cemetery, which has the capacity for 200 graves. This area was then named Ahmadiyya Muslim Cemetery. While he was in office, talks had begun about obtaining almost 500 acres of land 60 miles away from Tucson, with hopes of it being turned into an “Ahmadiyya City.” The proceedings of the ownership of this land were then completed by his successor. Several people joined Ahmadiyya while he was in office. In the thirty years that have passed since, these members are still a part of the Jamā‘at.



A note he wrote in Al-Fazl about the visit of Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) to Wah Cantt., Rawalpindi District.

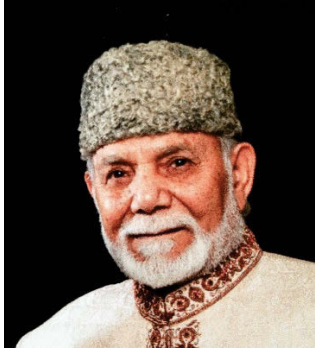
After his presidency, he managed affairs of the mosque. The most notable being the construction of a recreation hall. This hall was constructed to the east of the Yousuf Mosque, and it was named the Hajra House. From the outside, Hajra House appears to be an exact replica of the Yousuf Mosque, but it is almost double in square footage.

He served the Jamā‘at wholeheartedly and with dedication. He was a great role model for the Jamā‘at and for the community. He was loved and respected by all the Jamā‘at members. He was not only looked up-to as the president of the Jamā‘at but also as an elder of the family and friends. Everyone called him Papa, even Missionary I. H. Kausar.

He became a widower in 2006. His wife’s name was Amatur-Rasheed Qureshi. She also served the Tucson Jamā‘at as the President Lajna and she also held a regional office.

His progeny includes one son, two daughters, four grandsons and three granddaughters. (Written by Sohail Qureshi, son of Muhammad Ishaq Qureshi) ★

Noorul Haq Khan



The first President of Columbus-OH (1980-90).

Noorul-Haq Khan was born near Qadian and was the son of Hazrat Mubarak Ali Sultan Bakhsh of Theh Ghulam Nabi, (1880-1961), who attended Jalsa Salana Qadian 1892 during the time of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). Noorul-Haq Khan migrated to East Africa, later returning to Qadian for education at the age of 10 in response to the demands of Tahrik-e-Jadid. It was there that he had the opportunity to live among many companions of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), including Hazrat Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him). He had the fortune of meeting Hazrat Amman Jan (may Allah be pleased with her) and had spent many years close to

Hazrat Muslih Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him). He was a student in Qadian when Sahibzada Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (Khalifatul-Masih III) (may Allah shower His mercy on him) was headmaster of the school. He was also classmate of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) in Qadian.



He graduated from Lyallpur (now Faisalabad) Agricultural College in 1950 and worked as an education officer in East Africa for 30 years. In 1987, he and his family moved to Columbus, OH, and, at the request of then Amir Shaikh Mubarak Ahmed, founded the

Columbus Chapter. Around 1990/1991, Noorul Haq Khan excused himself due to advanced age and Naseer Wasim became the president of Columbus chapter.

During his 33 years in Columbus, he spent his time occupied in the study of the Holy Qur'an. In 2020, he completed a commentary of the Holy Qur'an, comparing and contrasting 15 commentaries in a single source (noorulhaq.com/holy-quran-commentary/).

During the partition of India, while in Qadian, he saw refugees setting old papers on fire in the house of Hazrat Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him). He recognized many handwritten notes and writings of Hazrat Masih Mau'ud (may peace be on him), which he saved and sent to Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah support him with His mighty help) in 2018. Included amongst those was the Ilhaam "Inni Ma'aka Ya Masroor."

He died on 13 January 2021 at the age of 95 and was buried in Maqbarah Mūsiyān Columbus Cemetery. (Information supplied by Mrs. Dr. Shahzaib Anwar) ★

Bashir-ud-Din Mehmud





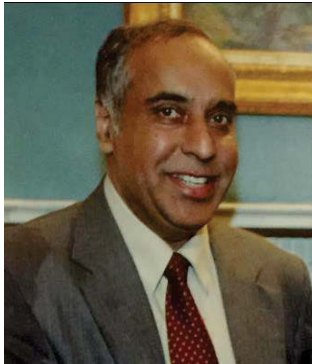
Ahmadi Muslims have lived in Fitchburg and surrounding areas for several decades. The earliest Ahmadi Muslim families in the area were the families of Bashir Mehmud and Khadim Shah. Fitchburg became a Halqa (subchapter) of Boston Chapter in 1982, and Bashir Mehmud was appointed as Halqa leader.

Members gathered regularly in members' homes for Jumu'ah prayers and Halqa meetings. In the area of *Tabligh*, he was not hesitant to present the Jamā'at message. He would often hand out fliers with his family, visit churches and synagogues to deliver lectures on Islam and Ahmadiyyat, and even participated in the annual 4th of July Parade holding a "Love for All, Hatred for none" banner. He was interviewed by the local newspapers many times and was even featured in a Sentinel and Enterprise article on the "Twenty-five most fascinating people in 2015" in the area. He ran for city councilor but did not win. However, this allowed him to introduce Islam and Ahmadiyyat in

the civic circles in Fitchburg. More families moved into the area and outreach efforts were increased through flier distribution. The first Ahmadi Muslim convert in Fitchburg was the late Farida Mehmooda Mian in 1992. The local newspaper published article in 1996 with a picture of the Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him).

Bashir Mehmud served as President Fitchburg Jamā'at for six years. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 412-14 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] ★

Nazir Ayaz



Nazir Ahmad Ayaz was born on May 23, 1947, at Tanga, Tanzania. His father Mukhtar Ahmad Ayaz was a renowned member of the Community who served the Jamā'at at various places in the subcontinent of India and in East Africa.

He was first elected to the office of President in 1983. Before his election as President, he served the Community as the Financial Secretary. He was also a member of the International Ahmadiyya Centenary Committee appointed by Khalifatul-Masih IV. Ayaz was very unassuming by nature and always kept low profile and generally tried

to involve as many members in the Jamā'at activities as possible.

Khalifatul-Masih IV (Raḥimahullāhu Ta'ālā) sent him an appreciation letter of which he had every right to be proud and thank the Almighty Allah for His beneficence. Huzoor wrote: "I am happy to say that in my opinion you are an exemplary President of the Jamā'at out of all the U.S.A. Jamā'ats by the grace of Allah. I pray that may Allah enable you to maintain that distinction always."

Nazir Ayaz can be described as a model of simplicity, humility, and as a self-effacing servant of God and Humanity. Apart from his righteous pride in being an Ahmadi Muslim, he claimed no superiority due to his office or accomplishments. He was the first to enter the mosque and invariably the last to leave.

Many would bear witness regarding his financial assistance, direct or through others, counseling, and affectionate care that he freely gave to those in need.

His other passion was to find the best deal for the Jamā'at. He was always on the lookout for a bargain as to him Jamā'at funds were sacred.

He met or exceeded the financial targets; he successfully brought out the Ahmadiyya Calendar every year, he supervised the distribution and subscription of the Review. But his greatest triumph was creating the team of selfless workers that keep the largest Ahmadi Mosque and chapter running. Indeed, the acquiring and financing of the present Bait-uz-Zafar on the contributions of ordinary folks, with no specialist doctors, no business millionaires or rich members was in itself a great success.

He never complained, engaged in backbiting, or expressed displeasure at anyone. He was the personification of "Love for All, Hatred for none." The example of service, contentment, obedience, and good cheer that he left behind

will light up the way for many to follow. He died on July 3, 2016.

(Edited from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Vol. 67, No. 9-10,

Sept-Oct 2016, p. 39) ★

Abdur Razzaq Momin



The First President of Tulsa (1986-98).

1986 was the year when there were enough members in this area that a formal election could be held for the establishment of a Jamā'at [local chapter]. Some pioneer members who were present at this inaugural election was, Dr.

Hameed Naseem, Malik Afzal Husain, Abdur Razzaq Momin, Qamar Shams, Dr. Abd-ul-Khaliq just to name a few. Some members who lived in Stillwater, OK [~60 miles West of Tulsa] participated as well. "The first president who was elected and approved was Mr. Abdur Razzaq Momin."

In 1989, it had been 100 years since the first Bai'at [Initiation] was initiated by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah & Mahdi [may peace be upon him], and celebrations were ongoing in other Jamā'at's of USA, as well as around the world. "Tulsa Jamā'at also held an event commemorating this historic milestone of the Jamā'at by organizing a program at the University of Tulsa. Alongside members from the Jamā'at, many

non-Ahmadi & non-Muslims were invited. Around 40-50 people attended this event.

Considering the occasion, the Jamā'at decorated the hall with lights, flowers, banners, etc. A program was formulated bringing the audience's attention to the significance of this event, which was followed up with an open Q & A session.

Many Arab students who were enrolled in University of Tulsa also attended this historic event and asked many questions. President Tulsa Jamā'at, Abdur Razzaq Momin answered all questions very knowledgeably." (Voice Recorded of Dr. Hameed Naseem, Dated Nov. 21, 2020, Received via WhatsApp message at 2:30 pm CST record with Murabbi Feroz Hundal) ★

Dr. Syed Naeem Ahmad

First President Las Vegas 1990.

It was 1980 when Ahmadis started coming to Las Vegas. The first ones were Dr. Syed Naeem Ahmed, Nadeem Kausar, and Raees Abid. They accidentally met in a restaurant, and they were happy to

find another Ahmadi in town.

In March 2003, Las Vegas Jamā'at was officially established and registered with Clark County Nevada. Quite a few Ahmadis moved in 1990s, and Dr. Syed Naeem Ahmed was the first

President of Las Vegas Jamā'at. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 456 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] ★

Dr. Mian Muhammad Abbas

In 1987, Dr. Mian Muhammad Abbas moved to Huntsville, AL with his family. Two other families lived in Huntsville at that time.

In the state of Tennessee and Alabama, a total of five Ahmadi families were living in the late eighties. They started meeting in

houses on monthly basis just like a Jamā'at meeting. Religious presentations were made, and instructions were provided to children. In 1992 Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Alabama/Tennessee chapter was officially initiated. A missionary traveled from Washington headquarters and

conducted elections of Jamā'at. Dr. Mian Muhammad Abbas was elected President and served until 1999. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 281 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] ★

Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal



In 1990 Rochester NY chapter was split into three Halqa (circles, subchapters), Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse. Syracuse Circle included Syracuse, Binghamton, and Utica. Halqa In-Charge was Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal. Halqa meetings were held in different member's houses by rotation. Regular Friday services were started in 1994 at the house of Dr

Muhammad Zafar.

He completed matriculation from Ta'lim-ul-Islam high school Rabwah in 1964 and F. Sc. from Ta'lim-ul-Islam college Rabwah in 1966. Completed medical education from Nishtar medical college Multan in 1971. During 1971 war he joined Pakistan army and retired as Captain in April 1975. Worked as medical officer at DHQ Faisalabad from September 1975 through July 1976. Later he served in Iran from July 1976 through December 1980.

From July 1981 to June 1985, he completed his post graduate medical training in Radiation Oncology Chicago Il. He has practiced mostly in Syracuse NY where he was active in different

state organizations.

He served as secretary of UNYSTRO (Upstate New York Radiation Oncology Society) between 2009- 2012. He had the opportunity to serve my (Cayuga) County Medical Society in various capacities for several years including its president between May 2009 and May 2011.

He is member emeritus of Cayuga County medical society (CCMS), New York State Medical Society (MESSNY) and society of my specialty ASTRO (American Society of Therapeutic Radiologists and Oncologists. In 2017 I relocated to Buffalo NY in connection with the new job. ★

Mahmood Ahmad



Mahmood Ahmad, son of Raja Bahadur Khan, was born on November 20, 1948, in Mong (Rasul), District Mandi Bahauddin, Pakistan. He is second of three sisters and four brothers; the youngest, Hafiz Zahoor Ahmad, is a missionary. He is blessed with four children, one boy and three girls (the youngest, a Waqf-i-Nau, who recently spent two years in

Rabwah).

Mahmood completed his high school from Jhelum; F.Sc. from T. I. College Rabwah in 1966; B.Sc. Mechanical Engineering from UE&T Lahore in 1970; and his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from University of Buffalo in 1980. He says without any doubt that the golden years of his education and life were those spent at T.I. College Rabwah. In his professional career, he has been on the faculty and taught at UE&T Lahore (1971-77), Penn State University, Erie, PA (1984-88), and at Alfred University, Alfred, NY (1988-89). Since 1989, he is working as a Principal Engineer with Westinghouse in South Carolina.

Mahmood is Ahmadi by birth

and has become Musi in response to the call of Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu). Mahmood and family moved to Augusta, GA. In the same year Mr. and Mrs. Mohammad Iqbal Waliullah also moved from Pakistan in 1989. He was President of the chapter from 1996 to 2001.

He is fortunate and honored to serve the Jamā'at in various capacities as follows: Qa'id Tabligh Ansarullah, USA. Regional Secretary Waqf-i-Nau, South Midwest. Secretary Waqf-i-Nau, Georgia Jamā'at. Nazim Ansarullah, SE Region. President Georgia Jamā'at. Secretary Finance, Rochester Jamā'at.

(Al-Nahl, 2004, Q 3-4, p. 13) ★

Nazeer Ahmad Cheema

In this thriving borough of human diversity, Bronx, the

Ahmadiyya Mission house was established in 2005 as a result of

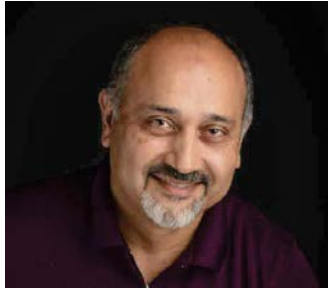
the bifurcation of the Queens Chapter. The mission house was

purchased and is located at 3421 White Plains Rd. Bronx New York 10467. The first president of the Bronx Chapter was the late Nazeer Ahmad Cheema. He remained President for seven years. During

his era, the regular Dars and Jum'ah prayers and regular activities were started in the Bronx Mission House. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA,

October 2020-September 2021, p. 478 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] ★

Khurram Fuad



He was the founding president

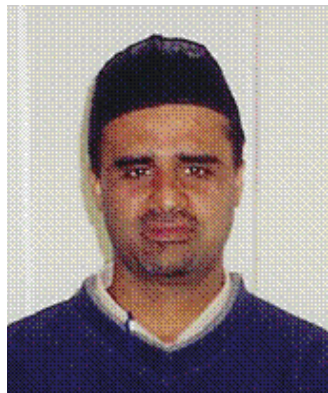
of Oshkosh in 2000. By then there were about thirty-five to forty Ahmadis living in Oshkosh.

Before year 2000, the closest Jamā'at available to them was Milwaukee, Wisconsin, about 1½ hour away from Oshkosh towards the south.

Since the beginning of Oshkosh

Jamā'at, the president had offered his house's basement to Jamā'at for daily congregational and Jum'a Prayers, so, it becomes the Salat Center until the mosque was established in 2010. He always made sure that there was enough room to comfortably accommodate everybody who came for Prayers. ★

Naveed Ashraf



Naveed Ashraf was the first

president of Bay Point CA chapter. He served Bay Point from 2003 to 2010. Missionary Irshad Malhi served as the regional missionary based in the town of Bay Point formerly part of West Pittsburg residing in the mission house at 520 Pacifica Ave, Bay Point, California. During this period, a major project for the re-beautification of the mission house and mosque property was undertaken. A new lawn was

installed, fencing was replaced, and the parking lot was completed that was a dirt area. A new asphalt parking lot was installed. [Centennial Souvenir, Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 2020-September 2021, p. 291 (comprising 100 Years of Departments and Chapters of Ahmadiyya Islam in the US)] ★

Najeemdeen Daysi



Najeem started his professional career as a project engineer with Etteh Aro and Partners, Nigeria in 1994 after graduating from the University of

Lagos. He joined Accenture three years later as a process and technology consultant in their financial services practice where he participated in numerous projects spanning multiple countries involving various clients in the banking and financial services.

After his MBA (Finance and MIS) at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2004, Najeem joined the finance team at Caterpillar where he held various positions in Corporate Treasury before becoming the Internal Funding Administrator responsible for

Europe, Africa, Middle East and CIS and later Supervisor of the Treasury Process and Technology team which supports the Treasury Workstation and other system tools for the Global Treasury team and their customers all over the world. He is currently the Global Solution Lead for Caterpillar's Treasury and Accounts Receivables Enterprise Systems.

Alongside his professional obligations, Najeem takes equal joy in community activities. He is the lead recruiter for Finance at the University of Illinois at Chicago for

Caterpillar; he is a Past President of Professional Communicators Club (Toastmasters) of Peoria, IL, the current President of the Effective Communicators Club (Toastmasters) of East Peoria, IL; the President of Yoruba United

Association of Central Illinois; and the Chair, Development for Africa Business Resource Group, Caterpillar Inc. He has been a Junior Achievement volunteer for the past nine years.

Najeem has held various positions within the USA Jamā'at including Nā'ib Qa'id MKA, Secretary Tabligh, Secretary Ta'lim, Secretary Ishā'at, Za'im Ansarullah, and President for Bloomington, IL Jamā'at. ★

Abd-ul-Karim of Chicago



Abd-ul-Karim was president of Ahmadiyya Jamā'at Chicago East (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA May 1971, p. 8). He is a well-travelled researcher. He spent lot of his time learning religions. He was born and grown up in Mississippi. Now lives in Chicago. He was from Baptist Christian family.

On 63rd street, he used to see a missionary, Amanullah Khan. There was a Muslim barber named Sultan who used to cut hisy hair.

He was considered being drafted into Cuban crises. He got specialization in ammunition storage. One day he decided not to stand with the flag as he was not comfortable with the job. After serving the military, he educated himself about Islam. He studied Elijah Muhammad's speeches.

Then he met Masood Khan Latif. One day Masood Khan said to him, "Why don't you go to mosque with me"? He went to the mosque. It was Sunday. There was Adhān. They all prayed and then dinner was served. That mosque was at 4448 South Wabash Chicago. That was the time he embraced the teaching by reading books. The

book that influenced him was "Islam in Africa." It was written by late Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad.

Another book he read was "Islam and Slavery." It was written by Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad, may Allah be pleased with him. He was making a comparison between slaves freed in US and slaves freed at the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), i.e., slaves freed during Islamic times and during the life of the Holy Prophet (Ṣallallāhu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam). He made sure that when slaves go elsewhere, they are on their own. They were given skills and their needs. They were able to make their life. But in the Emancipation Proclamation (of USA), they just freed the slaves. Look when the animals are freed from the lockups, they just take off and run. They have no direction. That happened during the time of the Emancipation Proclamation Process. It was mind blowing.

John Coltrane never accepted Islam or Ahmadiyyat but Suleiman Saud was an Ahmadi Muslim, a black drummer who started the Messenger. There were others like Talib Dawud and Shihab. He remembered Shihab. Then there were Ahmad Jamal and Yusef Lateef. There were many who embraced Islam because of the environment they were in. Yusef was one who stayed and progressed. Some of the musicians played music for a short time. But one thing if you accept Islam, then adopt all values Islam offers, and

then you don't give up.

If the Muslims had not gone astray, there was no need for anyone to come to correct Muslims. Then the Messiah would never have appeared. But they had gone astray, and Mahdi appeared to correct them.

We are globally united. Now we have fifth caliph of the Ahmadiyya Movement. We have done as a community translation of the Holy Qur'an in over 70 languages, which has never been done by any other community before. This is an Islamic test.

Our Khalīfa says every day that the world is on the brink of destruction. From time to time our Khalīfa is speaking to the heads of states, scholars, religious people, all types of other people. He is telling them exactly where the world is today and where we stand in the world today. If we do not amend our ways, we are doomed to destruction.

We have no concern about that whether we are Muslims or not. We are there to serve humanity. That is what the Ahmadiyya Muslims have to offer to the world. We are in 207 countries now. The prophecy that Islam, i.e., Ahmadiyyat, would spread to the four corners of the earth, has happened. The prophecy during the time of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the founder of Ahmadiyya Muslims Community, may peace be upon him, was fulfilled correctly. He said that he is from God. God communicated to him. God spoke to him that His

message shall spread to the four corners of earth. We have actually accomplished that so far.

(Edited from the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Vol. 68, No. 9-10, September October 2017, pp. 44-52). ★

Dr. Muhammad Abdul Khaliq



Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, research in Microelectronics and Nanoelectronics, started graduate

courses in Microelectronics and Nanoelectronics, established Microelectronics Program in the Department, and directs Microelectronics Fabrication Laboratories. I have a few patents, published in research journals and presentations in conferences. Roll of Honor from Government College Lahore, Excellence in Teaching Award, President Teaching Scholar Fellow, IEEE Life Senior Member, IEEE EDS and Education Society Member, AAEE member, British Council Scholarship, Fazl-e-'Umar Foundation Scholarship, Scholarship from Atom for Peace

Award of Professor Abdus Salam, former President of IAAAE (USA), First President Minnesota Jamā'at (1988-2019), founding faculty member of MS Physics program at Ta'lim-ul-Islam College Rabwah, served as Nazim (Director) of Electricity and Lighting (Roshni) and Na'ib Nazim (Assistant Director) for accommodation, Reserve-2, Inspection, Hospitality for International Annual Convention (Jalsa Salana) Rabwah, member of Bait-ul-Hamd committee-the first Scheme started by Khalifatul-Masih IV. ★

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala was born on December 4, 1930. He had been a member of the Los Angeles Jamā'at for the past forty-five years and was one of the pioneers of the Los Angeles Jamā'at.



He served in the Pakistan Air Force and later established an

import and export business before moving to the U.S. in 1970. He was the first Pakistani Ahmadi to settle in the Los Angeles area. At the time, there was only one African American Ahmadi in Los Angeles, Late Rahmat Jamal. Together, these two pioneer members set out to build the Los Angeles Jamā'at.

Having served as Qa'id Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Montgomery (now Sahiwal), Pakistan, in the 1960s, he had the good fortune of serving the Jamā'at in the Los Angeles area in various capacities. He has been the longest serving Secretary Wasaya for the Los Angeles area. He has been also blessed to serve as President of the Santa Maria Jamā'at in the 1990s

and Vice President of Los Angeles Inland Jamā'at during the 2000s. He was a Musi serving as Secretary Wasaya of LA Inland Jamā'at at the time of his passing. He is also known for his service in the building of the Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in Chino, CA from start to finish.

Mohammad Ikramul Haq Jattala, a man of strong principles, was a true lover and servant of Ahmadiyya Khilafat. He is survived by two sons, four grandchildren, and a younger sister. Three of the four grandchildren are Wāqifin-i-Nau in the U.S. of LA Inland Majlis. He passed away on February 1, 2016 at the age of 85. (From Ansarullah website) ★

Kareem Ullah Kaleem

Current SVA Jamā'at was formed in 2004. Previously, it was mostly a Woodbridge Halqa

(subchapter) of greater Virginia Chapter until 2004. Kareem Ullah Kaleem was secretary Tahrik-e-

Jadīd, who became the first president of new Jamā'at. ★

Munir Ahmad Malik



Munir Ahmad Malik, son of Malik Bashir Ahmad, was born in December 1943 at Chakwal, Pakistan. His paternal grandfather, Malik Gul Mohammad of Khushab, accepted Ahmadiyyat, and his maternal grandfather Khawaja Mohammad Amin of Dera Doon, India, accepted Ahmadiyyat. Both of his grandparents accepted Ahmadiyyat at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II.

Munir earned his M. Com. (Master of Commerce) and degree in law LLB from University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan. He also received Diploma Associates of

International Bankers of Pakistan (DAIBP).

Munir Worked as Manager National Bank of Pakistan at Lahore till his migration to USA in 1979. Married to Fauzia Malik, daughter of Dr. Ahmad Ghulam Mohammad, and the granddaughter of Hazrat Hafiz Sufi Ghulam Mohammad, who was the companion of Hazrat Masih Mau'ud and had the honor to be the first missionary in Mauritius appointed by Hazrat Muslih Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him)

Munir migrated from Pakistan to USA on April 7, 1979, with his wife and children. In USA Munir worked as Manger Tax Research Department at the Corporate Headquarter in Phoenix Arizona with an international mining company, Phelps Dodge Corporation, for thirty years till his retirement. Currently Munir is working as Tax Consultant with Freeport McMorrnan Copper and Gold, Inc. in Phoenix.

Munir with his family moved to Phoenix Arizona from Douglas in 1982. Munir and his family were the first Ahmadi Family in Phoenix Arizona. A chapter was established in 1986 after two other Ahmadi families had moved to the area later.

Munir has had the opportunity to serve the USA Jamā'at in various capacities. Some of his services include the following:

2014-To date: Qa'id Ta'limul Qur'an, Majlis Ansarullah USA

2011-2014: Za'im Majlis Ansarullah, Phoenix Arizona USA

2004-2008: Nazim A'la Southwest Region, Majlis Ansarullah USA.

2002-2008: Za'im Majlis Ansarullah, Phoenix Arizona.

2001-2006: Secretary Ta'lim-o-Tarbiyat, Phoenix Jamā'at.

1989-1999: President, Phoenix Jamā'at.

1986-1989: General Secretary Phoenix Jamā'at, USA. ★

Yusaf Amin

Mr. Yusaf Amin of Troy OH was one of the presidents who attended meeting of presidents of Jamā'ats and missionaries in USA with Missionary in-Charge Mir Mahmud

Ahmad in the chair as President Dayton. Among terms discussed were the feasibility of establishing schools for children, training of American Ahmadis as honorary

missionaries and prospects of holding an Int. Conf. on the Crumbling of the Cross in America in 1980. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1979, p. 5) ★



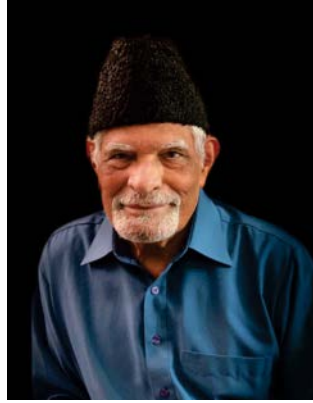
Anser Ahmad
President Potomac 2007-13,
2016-19



Atif Zeeshan
President Laurel 2013-4,
2016-9, Maryland 2019-...



Ahmad Malik
President Silver Spring
2017-19



Kalimullah Khan
President Laurel
2004-2007

2019-2022 Chapter Presidents



Maaz Bajwa San Diego



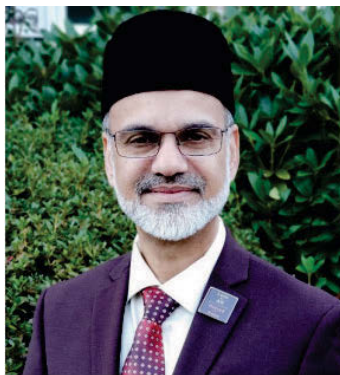
Halim Chaudhry Baltimore



Ijaz Khokar Fitchburg



Fazal Ur Rehman Qureshi Orlando



Dr. Karim Sharif Boston



Maqbool Ahmad Tahir Detroit



Rafiuddin Malik Columbus



Naeem Ahmad Chaudhri Syracuse



Hamid Rahim Dallas



Dr. Nasir Tanauli Houston North



Tariq Mahmood Miami, FL



Haris Raja North Virginia



Chairul Bahri Atlanta GA



Muhammad A. Chaudhri Silicon Valley



Dr. Rehan Amir Las Vegas



Atif Zeeshan Maryland



Dr. Younas M. Ismail Tennessee



Syed Khalid Jamil, Bay Point



Muhammad Zafar Iqbal Buffalo



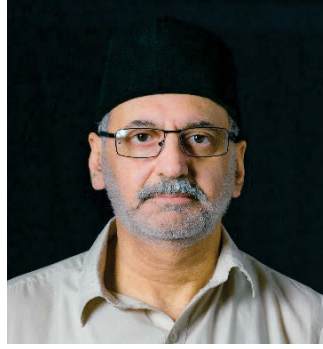
Jamil Ahmad Minnesota



Tariq Gulzar Bronx New York



Dr. Naseer Ahmad Mobasher
Richmond



Saeed Ahmad Indiana



Waseem Mahmood North Jersey



Abdul Nasir Central Jersey



Erfan Ahmed Cleveland-OH



Zaheer Sajid Phoenix



Saleem Ahmad Hayat.
President Tennessee (1999-2003)-Orlando (2005-10).



Abu Bakr Nooruddin Zion, IL



Rafi Ahmad Brooklyn, NY



Abdul Hadi Ahmed, RTP



Rizwan Alladin, Long Island

Intellectuals

Ahmadi members of academia or professional pursuits who are widely acclaimed for their advancements in the arts or sciences, their thought leadership, and/or their commanding subject matter expertise.

یقیناً سمجھو کہ یہ خدا کے ہاتھ کا لگایا ہوا پودہ ہے۔ خدا اس کو ہر گز ضائع نہیں کرے گا۔ وہ راضی نہیں ہو گا جب تک کہ اس کو کمال تک نہ پہنچا دے۔ اور وہ اس کی آپدائی کرے گا اور اس کے گرد احاطہ بنائے گا اور تعجب انگیز ترقیات دے گا۔ کیا تم نے کچھ کم زور لگایا۔ پس اگر یہ انسان کا کام ہوتا تو کبھی کا یہ درخت کاٹا جاتا اور اس کا نام و نشان باقی نہ رہتا۔ (انجام آتھم، روحانی خزائن، جلد ۱۱، صفحہ ۶۳)

Rest assured that this is a tree planted by the Hand of God. He will never permit it to go to waste. He will not be satisfied until He has seen it through to its fullness. He will see to it that it is well irrigated and will build a protective fence around it. Thus, God will bless my followers with astounding progress and prosperity. Have you left any stones unturned? Had it been the work of man, this tree would have been cut and felled since long and no trace of it would have remained. (*Anjām-e-Ātham: Rūḥānī Khazā'in*, Vol. 11, p. 64)

Scientists, Physicians and Surgeons

This section covers only a handful of members. Future volumes will list additional members.

Dr Hameed Ahmad Naseem



Teaching Interests: Solid-state physics, material science and electronic packaging.

Hameed A. Naseem is a University Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He joined the University in 1985 as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1990 and Full Professor in 1995. He was awarded the rank of University Professor in 2016.

Dr. Naseem received his B.Sc. Honors in 1975 and M.Sc. Honors Degrees in Physics in 1976 from Panjab University, Chandigarh, India. He received his M.S. (Physics) and Ph.D. (Materials Science and Engineering) from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, in 1980 and 1984, respectively.

He worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, in 1984-85.

Dr. Naseem has received numerous teaching and research awards including College of Engineering Research Award (2018, 2017, and 2016), College of Engineering Outstanding Teacher Award (2016), Ahmadiyya Talent Award and Gold Medal (2014), William and Margaret Brown Faculty Excellence Award (2014), University of Arkansas Vice-Provost for Student Affairs—Golden Tusk Award (2012), Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineering

Outstanding Faculty Award (2000, 1996, 1993, and 1988), Texas Instruments Outstanding Faculty Award (1998 and 1996), Haliburton Outstanding Teacher Award (1992), and Philips Petroleum Company Outstanding Researcher Award (1994).

In 2014, Dr. Naseem was inducted into the National Academy of Inventors as a Life Fellow. He is a Life Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and a Life Member of the Electrochemical Society (ECS).

In 2020, he was inducted as Eminent Engineer in Tau Beta Pi (Engineering Honor Society). He is a member of Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics Honor Society), Eta Kappa Nu (Electrical Engineering Honor Society), and Phi Beta Delta (International Scholars Honor Society).

He has published nearly 300 research papers in refereed

journals and proceedings. He has made over 200 presentations at national/international conferences that include several invited/keynote speeches. He has received nine U.S. patents, and several are pending.

Dr. Naseem is has been president of Tulsa Chapter, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA. He regularly teaches the Holy Quran translation online through Ta'lim-ul-Quran program of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

He is engaged in higher studies of the Arabic language to be able to contribute to Arabic-related work in the Ahmadiyya Community. ★

Dr. Mujeeb Malik, Ph.D.

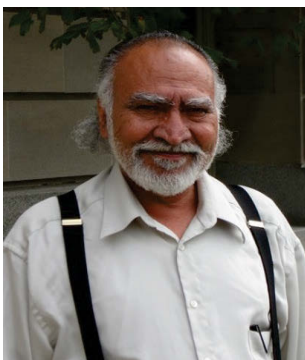


Dr. Mujeeb is the Senior aerodynamicist at NASA, where he leads research in advanced computational technology

development, which involves mathematical modeling of complex aerodynamic flows and solution of the associated challenging problems by use of the latest supercomputing hardware. The computational technology developed by him, and his research group is used by aerospace industry in the design of aircraft and rockets as well as in various NASA missions. He studied at T. I. College, Rabwah; University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore; University of Toronto; Imperial College, London; and at

Iowa State University where he received his PhD degree, specializing in computational fluid dynamics. Dr. Malik is a Fellow of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, American Physical Society and American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He was awarded NASA's Exceptional Service Medal and Silver Achievement Medal. He has over 150 papers published in archival journals and conference proceedings. ★

Dr. Muhammad Zafrullah, Ph.D.



He earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of London, UK, in 1974. He had taught at Ta'lim-ul-Islam College Rabwah,

between 1970 and 1972. He taught in the UK and Libya before coming to the United States in 1987. He worked for MTA between 1996 and 1998 in a semi-technical capacity. He taught at many universities throughout the US from 1998 until his retirement in 2012.

Dr. Zafrullah is a world-renowned mathematician with over 120 publications and over 3,000 citations of his work. His area of expertise is factorization theory and multiplicative ideal theory. His

research has influenced other scholarly works such as the book "Rings, Modules and Closure Operations," published in 2019. Although retired from teaching, he actively publishes new research.

Dr. Zafrullah lives in Vermont with one of his sons. He is an avid reader of the Holy Qur'an. He enjoys the pranks of his grandchildren and the company of his family. ★

Dr. Sohail Husain

Dr. Hussain serves as Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Stanford University in California, USA. He is a physician-scientist whose lab focuses on determining three broad

areas related to the exocrine pancreas: (1) The crucial signaling pathways that initiate and transduce pancreatitis; (2) the factors that turn on pancreatic regeneration and recovery after pancreatic injury; and (3) the mechanisms underlying

drug-induced pancreatitis. He has authored over 80 scientific papers, 10 book chapters, and has filed several patents related to pancreatic disorders. He serves as Chair of the North American Pediatric GI Society's (NASPGHAN) Pancreas

Committee and a Councilor on the American Gastroenterological Association's (AGA) Pancreatic Disorders Section. He has been consistently recognized over the years in Best Doctors in America.

On a personal level, Dr. Husain enjoys spending his free time in writing and mentoring youth in the sciences. He has served as mentor for over two dozen research trainees in his lab.



On a Jamā'at level, Dr. Husain serves as President of the Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists USA and Health Secretary for Ansarullah Silicon Valley. He has had the honor of serving in various capacities in the past, including as a local Za'im, local Qa'id, National MKA 'Amila, and in medical trips with Humanity First USA. ★

Mohammad Atif Farid, Ph.D.



Dr. Mohammad Atif Farid is a professor of Artificial Intelligence at North Carolina University. He

has completed his doctoral degree in Scientific Computing from University of North Dakota in 2019. He also received his Ph.D. in "Cloud Security" from University of Quebec in 2015 and is also a recipient of two MS degrees in Computer Science and Software Engineering.

Dr. Farid has 51 research publications, published in national and international journals since 2008.

He has presented his research papers at various conferences. He has been a keynote speaker at South Sound Conference on "Cyber Security" at Tacoma, WA and Data Science Conference on "The use of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare" held in Raleigh, NC. He also chaired the "Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Conference" held at Strata San Francisco in 2019. ★

Dr. Munir Ahmad, PhD, DABR



Appointments:

Chief Physicist, William W. Backus Hospital (1998-2017)

Senior Physicist, Yale-New Haven Hospital (1998-2014)

Assistant Clinical Professor, Yale University School of Medicine (YSM), Department of Therapeutic Radiology (2005-2013)

Associate Clinical Professor, Yale School of Medicine (YSM), Department of Therapeutic Radiology (2013-2015)

Staff Physicist, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York (1993-97)

Assistant Professor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECM), Department of Radiation Oncology (1993-97)

Chief Physicist, Faxon Hospital, Department of Radiation Oncology, Utica, New York (1990-93)

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), New York (1987-89)

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Tri-University Meson

Facility (TRIUMF), Vancouver, B.C. Canada (1985-87)

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Ohio University Accelerator Laboratory (OUAL), Athens, Ohio (1982-85)

Scientific Officer, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), (1966-76)

Certifications/Honors:

Roll of Honors (in M.Sc. Physics) from Government College, Lahore, Pakistan (1966)

Excellent GPA (3.98 out of 4.00) in Ph.D. Program (1977-82)

ABR – Certified in Radiation Oncology Physics (1997)-Member ID: P 1570

Member, American Physical Society (APS) (1978-1987)

Member, American

Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) (1990-present)

Member, American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) (2004-present)

Member, Radiation Safety Committee, William W. Backus Hospital

(Department of Therapeutic Radiology Representative) (1998-2017)

Reviewer, Medical Physics Journal (Guest Associate Editor, since 2002)

Reviewer, Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics (JACMP) (Guest Associate Editor, since 2006)

Reviewer, Technology in Cancer Research and Treatment (TCRT) (Guest Associate Editor, since 2010)

Member, [JACMPE] Board of Editors, JACMP (since 2020)

He is well-published in the Physics literature: has coauthored sixteen peer-reviewed articles in clinical medical physics, twenty-six peer-reviewed articles in experimental nuclear physics and

78 presentations in various national scientific conferences including international symposia.

Service to Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya:

He has served the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Connecticut Chapter as:

1. Zaeem Ansarullah for three terms from 2005 to 2011.
2. Public Relations Secretary from 2007 to 2018.

Currently, he continues serving the Jamā‘at as Assistant Secretary for Public Relations. ★

Dr. Rafi Ahmad



Rafi Ahmed is a computer scientist, who has an M.S. in applied mathematics from the

University of Bihar, India, and a Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Florida. He received a Gold Medal for graduating at the top his class in his M.S. program.

Currently, he is a Consulting Member at Oracle Corporation. He previously worked for many years at Hewlett-Packard Laboratories.

He has published over thirty research papers in peer-reviewed conference proceedings and journals in the area of database management system. He has written several book chapters and

an encyclopedia article. He gave an invited keynote address at the 19th International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management, 2010. He is the inventor of twenty-five U.S. patents.

He regularly writes and speaks on theological subjects. He has published numerous articles and presentations in Review of Religions, London, U.S. Ahmadiyya Gazette, Silicon Valley Ahmadiyya Newsletter, and on www.alislam.org. ★

Dr. Jamil Ahmad, DVM, Ph.D.



Jamil Ahmad received his degree in Veterinary Medicine from the Agriculture University,

Faisalabad, Pakistan in 1980. He then received his MSc (Honors) in Microbiology in 1983. He taught Virology and Immunology at the Veterinary School of Medicine. He then joined the National Agriculture Research Center where he conducted research in developing vaccines against food-animal diseases. In 1987 he competed a foreign scholarship for higher studies. In 1988 he joined the University of Minnesota for a PhD program and received his PhD in Microbiology (Virology and Immunology) in 1993. He also

completed Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Minnesota. During his doctoral program, he developed a unique mutant virus in-Ovo vaccine against New Castle Disease in Poultry and received a Patent on this vaccine. He was the first Pakistani student to receive a Patent from this University. He has published twenty-four research articles in reputable scientific journals and has presented his research at national and international forum. Currently, he is working as a Cytogeneticist in

pre-natal and Cancer Cytogenetic Laboratory, Pathology Department

at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minnesota.

He is currently the President of the Minnesota Chapter. ★

Dr. Syed Amaar Ahmad, Ph.D.



Dr. Ahmad is currently working as an engineer with Ford Motor Company on connected vehicles technology. He received his PhD in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech with concentration in wireless networks. He is a senior IEEE member and has published over a dozen research papers in technical journals and conferences.

He has served as Nazim Umur-e-Tulaba for students in Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya and is currently Waṣiyyat Secretary in the local Detroit Jamā‘at Amila. ★

Abdul Raqeeb



Abdul Raqeeb received his M.Sc. in Zoology in 1998 from University of the Punjab, Lahore,

Pakistan. He received Ph.D. in Physiology and Neuroscience in 2007 from University of Pavia, Italy. He studied calcium signaling in endothelium in response to injuries due to turbulent blood flow and free radical damage. He continued his post-doctoral studies in renowned institutions such as University of Toronto, University of Calgary, University of British Columbia and Mayo clinic Minnesota. He also published 10 articles in reputable scientific journals. In 2014, he joined the

Mayo Clinic Laboratory at Rochester, Minnesota and acquired certification in Molecular Biology from American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). He is committed to develop new automated molecular diagnostic tests and conducting their FDA clinical trials for clinical application.

He is currently serving the Minnesota chapter as Secretary Ta‘lim-ul-Qur’an, Waqf-e-Ardi, and principal of Tahir Academy since 2019. ★

Dr. Arshad Khan



President AAMS-USA (2005-12)

Dr. Khan is an Associate Professor of the Biological Sciences

at the University of Texas at El Paso, USA, and he also serves as the Director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Baccalaureate Program.

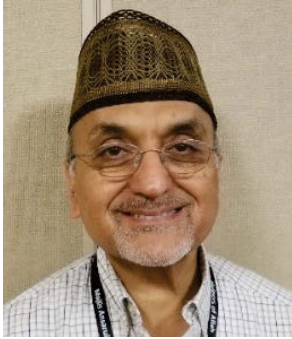


Dr. Khan directs the Systems Neuroscience Lab, and simply put, his research utilizes both state-of-

the-art and classical technologies to map brain circuits.

2021 Award for Education in Neuroscience: The award recognizes his efforts to mentor eighty-six undergraduate students and fifteen graduate students in his lab, since joining the University in 2011, and his success in garnering major funding to “educate and retain students in STEM tracks” by creating a laboratory course, now in its eighth year, that teaches incoming first-year undergraduates how to map the brain. ★

Dr. Naseer A. Tahir NY



In 1983, Dr. Naseer Tahir became the first president of the newly formed Rochester Chapter in NY. ★

Dr. Nadeem Ahmad



President AMMA-USA (1986-8)

Dr. Muhammad Ali Mumtaz



President AAMS-USA (2003-10)

Dr. Chaudhry Lutf ur Rehman—Nashville, TN



I was born on October 22, 1960, in Lahore, Pakistan. My father is Chaudhry Ata ur Rehman and my mother is Bushra Begum. Both are moosis and by the Grace and Mercy of God have served jama'at in many different capacities. My father is an

engineer and worked for Pakistan Government in WAPDA for more than forty years. After retirement, he devoted 10 years of his life (waqf) and was closely involved in the planning, construction and supervision of the new Jami'a Ahmadiyya in Rabwah, Pakistan.

My Grandparents on both sides were devout Ahmadis and lived in Rabwah. Our family has a long tradition of high education. My grandfather on paternal side was an MA in Arabic in the 1920s. My father is an engineer and specializes in ground water management. He has written many books on this subject. Some of them were included in the course of the Engineering University in Lahore Pakistan in the 1970s. My parents also have a house in Rabwah

and lived there after retirement until they moved to the USA. We are three brothers and one sister, all moosis and all are physicians. Among us we have 13 children, out of which 10 are physicians, two lawyers and one IT.

My initial education was in Lahore. My medical education was from King Edward Medical College, Lahore, Pakistan. After completing medical education, I came to Britain and specialized in Surgery. In 1994, I came to the USA and trained as an Abdominal Organ Transplant Surgeon. I worked as a renal transplant surgeon in Nashville, TN for almost 20 years and then retired from surgery. By the Grace and Mercy of God, I am the first ever Ahmadi transplant surgeon in the world.

I have been honored and humbled by the opportunities to serve jama'at in various capacities over the years. While I was in Ireland in 1988 to 1992, I was the first Sadr Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya in that country. The jama'at was newly established and a house was bought in Galway and jama'at mission was established.

In 2003, I was elected President of Jama'at Ahmadiyya Alabama/Tennessee and remained in that position until 2019. In 2022 I was elected again to this position.

I was elected President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association, USA in 2010 and remained in that position until 2022. During this time, several new initiatives were started. Annual meetings of the Association were established. The Association was closely involved in the planning, construction and management phase of the Nasir Hospital, Guatemala. The Association

collaborated with Humanity First USA, not only in fundraising, but also in humanitarian medical missions to various countries. The Association also established a program to provide medical consultation to anyone in the USA over the phone.

During my tenure as President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association, USA, I have been a board member of the Board of Directors of Humanity First USA.

I have also been blessed in working with jama'at literature. After September 2001, I was asked to translate the book of the Promised Messiah (as) "Government Angrezi aur Jihad." By the Grace and Mercy of God Almighty, I was able to translate this small book in one week. It was published by jama'at and is still available from the jama'at bookstore.

I started the project of making audio books in the USA in 2003. Ten books of the Promised Messiah (may

peace be upon him) which had been translated in English were read professionally and made into Audio Books. These were initially sold on CDs and then uploaded online. These books are still available on www.alislam.org audio books library.

I have three children. My son is training to be a Cardiologist. He is newly married. One of my daughters is in third year dental school and is happily married. My other daughter is in third year of medical school and is looking to get married soon. In-Sha'-Allah.

By the Grace and Mercy of God, I have been lucky throughout my life and have been able to have a good, peaceful family life as well as opportunities to serve jama'at in many different capacities. I am grateful to God Almighty for his blessings and humbly request prayers of everyone. ★

Dr. B. K. Ahmad



Dr. BK Ahmad was born in London in 1950 and spent his childhood in Pakistan. His father, Col (Dr.) Mohammad Ramzan was a radiologist and accepted Ahmadiyyat in the early 1940s. Dr. BK studied at Cadet College Hasan Abdal and was awarded a silver medal for 2nd position in F.Sc. pre-medical group in the Punjab province. He graduated from King

Edward Medical College, Lahore in 1974, leaving Pakistan immediately after the infamous National Assembly decision to declare Ahmadis as non-Muslim. He married and migrated to the USA in 1975.

He lived in New York for three years where he completed his residency in Internal Medicine. This was followed by a 3-year residency in Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and a fellowship in EMG and Neuromuscular Diseases at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. DR. BK started his career as a neurologist specializing in neuromuscular diseases at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan in 1982. He built the neuromuscular program and served as Clinical Vice Chairman of

the department. In addition to seeing patients, he was involved in neurosurgical intra-operative monitoring, clinical research and education of medical students, residents and fellows.

He left Detroit in 2000 to experience private practice of Neurology in Roanoke, Virginia for seven years. When the new Henry Ford Hospital was built in West Bloomfield, MI in 2008, he was recruited back as the Neurology Service Chief. He served in that capacity for ten years.

He has been honored to serve the Jamā'at in various capacities over the years. In the late 1970s, he served as the first finance secretary of Houston Jamā'at. After moving to Detroit, he served as Qa'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, General Secretary and President, the latter

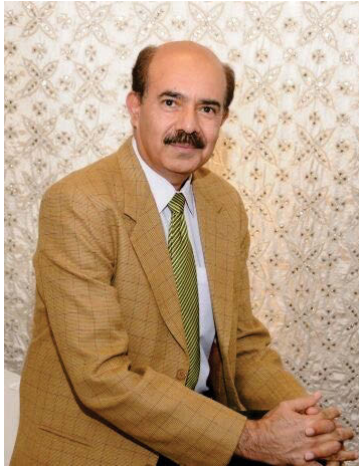
from 1990-2000. Since 2008 he has been blessed to serve in Detroit as Na'ib Sadr, Secretary Tarbiyat, Ta'lim and Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-'Aridi (TAQWA). He has been honored to serve Majlis Ansarullah as Qa'id Zahanat and Sihhat-e-Jismani, Nazim-e-A'la HQ and Midwest regions and local

Muntazim TAQWA.

At the national, level he served as assistant National Secretary Rishta Nata, in-Charge of pre-marital counseling for a few years. Presently, Dr. BK is serving as Assistant National Secretary (Qur'an Education) TAQWA. In

addition to local Tahir Academy, he teaches and organizes Yassarnal-Qur'an, Nazirah and Tarteel-ul-Qur'an online classes for Atfal, Khuddam and Ansar all over USA. As male faculty lead at Al-Furqan, his focus is on preparing male Qur'an teachers for our next generation. ★

Dr. Salahuddin



When we were bidding farewell after the conclusion of Annual Convention 1991 of USA held at Detroit, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV said: "There should be Langar (Public Kitchen) from next

convention of USA." Some executive members started explaining to Huzoor the inabilities to cook. Huzoor said, "If permission to hold the convention can be granted in tents, then Langar can also be started." Imtiyaz Ahmed Rajeki and Dr. Salahuddin raised their hands and assured Huzoor that they shall start Langar In-Sha-Allah.

Dr. Salahuddin once said to Imtiyaz Rajeki, "I am extremely pleased that 50 years have completed today serving for the Ahmadiyya conventions. I was ten-year-old when I served for the first time to quench the thirst of participants of Jalsa. I was never deprived of this service whether in Rabwah or in USA. Salahuddin had

deep love to serve the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah. He used to prepare delicious dishes for the guests of the Promised Messiah but himself ate the leftovers of the guests. His services need to be written in golden words. His efforts resulted in saving thousands of dollars every year. Catering service was 7-8 dollars per person which was reduced to 69 Cents per person."

Dr. Salahuddin passed away on 10 September 2017 at Chambersburg, PA. Missionary in-charge, Maulana Azhar Hanif led his funeral prayer on the next day at Bait-ul-Hadee, Old Bridge, NJ. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, Jan-Feb 2018, p. 13-19, by Imtiyaz Ahmed Rajeki) ★

Dr. Aziza Rahman

National Secretary Tahrik Jadid (2008-10), General Secretary LA Lajna 1983, Second Sadr LA Lajna 1990, West Coast Regional Sadr (1985-96), Editor Ayesha Magazine (2000-2).

Dr. Aziza Rahman has been a member of the USA Jamā'at since 1976 and has been blessed to serve Lajna Ima'illah USA in several different capacities, Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Dr. Aziza Rahman is blessed to be a born Ahmadi and is the daughter of Professor Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureate and Amtul Hafiz Salam, who served as National Sadr

Lajna UK for over 25 years. Both her grandfathers, Chaudry Ghulam Husain (maternal) and Chaudry Muhammad Husain (paternal) performed Bai'at at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I (may Allah be pleased with him), and her father's maternal grandfather, Hafiz Nabi Baksh, was a companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him).

Dr. Aziza Rahman was born in Pakistan but grew up in England. She attended the University of London, where she earned her B.Sc. degree and a doctorate in Biochemistry. In 1976, after marriage to Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman,

she moved to the United States and lived in New York for five years. During this time, she worked as a Research Assistant in the Cancer Research Institute at Columbia University. In 1981, the family moved to Orange County, California.

Dr. Aziza Rahman's service to Lajna Ima'illah USA began in 1983, when she was appointed to serve as General Secretary of the Los Angeles Lajna. In 1984, she was elected to serve as the second Sadr of LA Lajna and served in this capacity until 1990. She was also appointed West Coast Regional Sadr in 1985 by National Sadr Lajna Salma Ghani and served as Regional Sadr until

1996.

During this time, the Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque was constructed and the Los Angeles Jamā'at was blessed by three visits by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him) in 1987 for laying the foundation of the mosque, the inauguration in 1989 and in 1994. Dr. Aziza Rahman was blessed with the opportunity to host and serve Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih and his family in her home for each of these visits, and was also honored to lay a foundation brick for the mosque as Lajna Sadr in 1987.

From 1996 to 2000, she served in the national publication department, as well as serving as local general secretary. Under National Lajna Sadr, Dr. Shanaz Butt, she was appointed as editor for Lajna USA Ayesha magazine from 2000 to 2002 and was then reelected

as Sadr of Los Angeles East Lajna and served for the next two years. From 2004 to 2006, she served on the National Translation Review Team, working on translations of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II's (may Allah be pleased with him) addresses to ladies, "Orhni Waliyon Ke Liye Phool," and Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III's (may Allah shower His mercy on him) addresses in Al-Masabeeh, as well as serving as local Tarbiyat Secretary. In 2006 she was appointed as National Honorary Secretary for Wāqifāt Nau, and from 2008 to 2010, she served as National Tahrik Jadid Secretary.

In 2010, she was appointed National Tarbiyat Secretary by National Lajna Sadr, Saliha Malik, and served in this office for eight years. She was also appointed the National Lajna Liaison to the Rishta Nata Department in 2010. Currently,

under National Lajna Sadr, Dhiya Bakr, Dr. Aziza Rahman is serving as National Na'ib Sadr-3, National Umur-e-Talibat Secretary and Liaison to Rishta Nata Department.

In addition to serving in various departments, Dr. Aziza Rahman has spoken on Islam and women's role in Islam at Orange Coast College, University of California at Irvine and taught a class on Islam at Chapman University, as well as delivering speeches at interfaith events and Jalsa Salana. She has also chaired the committees for publication of three Lajna books, Pathway to Paradise, Garments for Each Other and Paradise under Your Feet, working on compiling, editing and printing.

She has been blessed with the opportunity to perform Hajj and Umrah and is a Musiyya. ★

Dr. Syed Mohammad Ahmad



I was born in Jhang, Pakistan after my parents migrated from their birthplace of Qadian. All four of my grandparents were companions of The Promised Messiah. Both of my grandmothers were daughters of Munshi Abdur Rahman of Kapoor Thala, India who entered Ahmadiyya Jamā'at on March 23, 1889. My paternal grandfather was Syed Hasan Shah of Medina, Gujrat, Pakistan who

also entered Jamā'at at the hands of the Promised Messiah with the prayers of my elders, Allah has blessed me with much more than I could have imagined in my earlier life.

My final academic destination for Ph.D. was Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University where I taught as graduate instructor for three years and was awarded David Ross Fellowship to work on my dissertation. Just before completing Ph.D. in 1986, I was appointed Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics at Purdue.

During my academic career, I published research in the Financial Review and the Global Finance Journal and presented research papers at the annual Financial Management Association Conference, and the Eastern and Southern Finance Association conferences. I also served as

Program Committee Member and chaired sessions at various finance association conferences.

My interest in working for industry led to my next endeavor as I joined the Financial Administration at the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHL Bank) of New York in late 1994 and served as Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor.

I still remember serving as Secretary Majlis Sultan-ul-Qalam that was established for Atfāl-ul-Ahmadiyya by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III. The next period of continuing service started when I joined College and served as Mu'awin (Helper) to Afsar Jalsa Salana (Respected Chaudhry Hameedullah) in Rabwah for many years. This extended to the whole year during Khuddām Ijtimas, Majlis Shura, and other Jamā'at events in Rabwah. During the crisis period of 1974 when Jamā'at

members faced extreme violence and social boycott in Pakistan, I had the privilege of serving for three months with 18-hour workdays. I frequently made 24–36-hour trips to Lahore to facilitate coordination with lawyers representing Jamā‘at in front of Justice Samdani Commission that was set up by the Prime Minister to investigate the Railway Station incident. This was the time when an Ahmadi could not board a train or bus to or from Rabwah. During one trip back from Lahore, it was the grace of Allah to save me at Chiniot Railway Station when I was recognized by a fellow non-Ahmadi student from another nearby town (Lalian). He was with a group of approximately ten Mullahs that were returning from an anti-

Ahmadiyya violence training session in Chiniot. They all ran out of the station to find me but could not see me or figure out where I disappeared in ten seconds. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III also testified in front of Samdani Commission, and I traveled to Lahore during his stay there to deliver the daily Jamā‘at report for his review that included details of violence and social boycott in Pakistan.

During the crisis period, the National Assembly proceedings were ongoing in Islamabad where Jamā‘at delegation was led by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III. On many nights I would sit in Private Secretary Office and wait for the midnight or later phone call from Islamabad requesting historical

material (literature/documents) that were needed for the next day presentation at the National Assembly. I would arrange for the needed material from Jamā‘at Archives, a volunteer from Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya provided by Mir Mahmood Ahmad, and some travel money from Jamā‘at Treasury and dispatch all this to Islamabad before returning home around 2:00 AM. There was at least one occasion when no Jāmi‘a student was available and then Chaudhry Hameedullah would ask me to travel to Islamabad. I have continued to serve in USA Jamā‘at as In-Charge of Jalsa Gah for two years in New York and as Assistant General Secretary for 11 years. ★

Dr. Mansoor A. Qureshi



Dr. Mansoor Qureshi was born in Karachi in 1966. Married and father of three children, Hania, Hasan and Moonis. Obtained basic education from Karachi, Pakistan. Obtained MBBS from Dow Medical College, Karachi. Moved to the USA in 1992. Finished Internal Medicine residency and Fellowship in Cardiovascular disease from New

York. Moved to Michigan and completed fellowship in Interventional Cardiology and Peripheral Vascular disease in 2000. Joined private practice in Ann Arbor Michigan in 2000. Obtained many awards during education and training. In medical college, received distinctions in Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology and Pathology and eventually was declared as one of the best students. Chosen as Chief Interventional Cardiology fellow at William Beaumont Hospital in 1999. Has had various leadership positions at the hospital including member of IRB, Director of Research, Director non-invasive Vascular program, co-director of structural heart

program and Director Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor Michigan.

Has served Jamā‘at in various capacities including Qa’id Majlis Bronx, Regional Qa’id great lakes, President of Detroit Jamā‘at for thirteen years, Assistant National Secretary Rishta Nata for several years and Na’ib Sadr Ansarullah. In Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical association, has served in various capacities including the Vice President. He drafted the current constitution of AMMA. He has delivered speeches at Jalsa Salana USA. ★

Nusrat Sharif

Dr. Nusrat Sharif works as a Senior Principal Scientist in the Inflammation and Immunology Research Unit of Pfizer Inc, at Cambridge, MA. She leads a team of

scientists that explore the molecular mechanisms of finding durable treatments for patients with Autoimmune and Inflammatory diseases such as Rheumatoid

Arthritis and Intestinal bowl disease (IBD). She has earned her PhD in Molecular Immunology from City University of New York and her post-doctorate in the field of Immunology

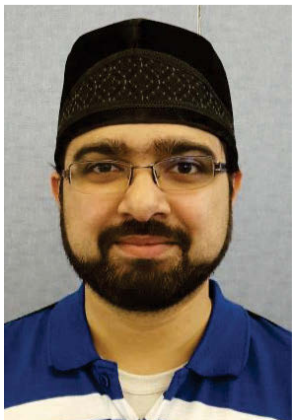
and Inflammation from Hospital for Special Surgery (Weil Medical College of Cornell University) in NY. Her breakthrough contribution to the field was to demonstrate a change in functional paradigm of interleukin 10 (IL-10), from being an anti-inflammatory cytokine to a pro-

inflammatory and pathogenic role in autoimmune diseases such as Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Dr. Nusrat Sharif has consistently published her research in peer reviewed journals.

On a Jamā'at level, Dr. Nusrat

Sharif serves as President of the Ahmadi Women Scientists Association, USA (AWSA-USA). Locally in Boston, she is currently serving as acting Boston Lajna Sadr, as well as Ta'lim and Finance Secretaries. She is also a member of Talent Award Committee. ★

Ijaz Ahmed Khokhar



I am son of Tahir Ahmed Khokhar of Rochester Jamā'at. I am the second oldest of four siblings and was born in Brooklyn,

NY.

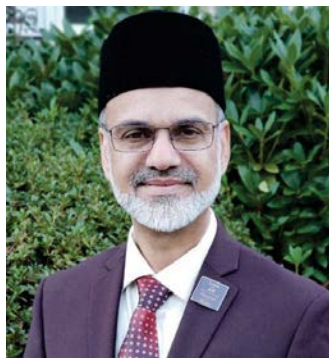
I have a PhD in Organic Chemistry from Syracuse University (2015) in the area of Organic Chemistry, which was followed by a post-Doc appointment at WPI in Massachusetts. He has worked in the areas of medicinal chemistry and process development at GlaxoSmithKline, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and Wave Life Sciences. He received the MKA Talent Award in 2014 for his publication on the rapid synthesis of BINOL derivatives.

By the grace of Allah, I have been a member of various Jamā'ats, including Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Philadelphia.

I have been blessed to serve the Jamā'at in various capacities over the years, such as Regional Qa'id and Regional Nazim Atfal.

Currently, I am serving Ahmadiyyat as President of Fitchburg Jamā'at, National Tabligh Follow-up Team Lead, and General Secretary for the Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists, USA (AAMS-USA). ★

Dr. Karim A. Sharif, Ph.D.



Karim A. Sharif was born in Rabwah to a Waqf-e-Zindagi (Life Devotee). By the grace of Allah his grandfather was blessed to be a

Sahabi (companion) of Hazrat Promised Messiah. He received his early education from Ta'lim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah. Later, he attended Forman Christian College, Lahore completing the bachelor's degree from Hunter College, NY. He earned a Ph.D. from the City University of New York and continued his career in the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and then Cornell Medical College, New York to perform scientific research in the field of cancer and gene regulation.

Currently he is a Professor of Biology at the Massasoit Community College. His research involves comparative genomic analyses of fruit fly species. He has authored several scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals. He has had the honor to serve the Jamā'at in various capacities at the local and national levels. Currently he serves as the Sadr (President) of Boston Jamā'at and Vice President of the Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists (AAMS). ★

Dr. Athar Naveed Malik, MD, PhD



Dr. Malik is a neurosurgeon and neuroscientist. He completed his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from The Johns Hopkins

University in 2005. He then enrolled in the Medical Scientist Training Program at Harvard Medical School and subsequently completed his Ph.D. in Neurobiology in 2013 and his M.D. in 2015. His Ph.D. thesis entitled “Genome-wide identification and characterization of stimulus-responsive enhancers in the nervous system” led to scientific publications in prestigious journals including *Nature*, *Nature Neuroscience*, *Nature Genetics*,

and *Neuron*. He is currently a resident physician in neurosurgery at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, and a postdoctoral research fellow at Harvard University. He has won numerous awards and grants for his research and plans to pursue a career in academic neurosurgery. He completed Hajj in 2018, is a *mūsī*, serves as Imam-us-Salat of the Cambridge Halqa, and has served MKA at local, regional, and national levels. ★

Munazza Alam

Munazza Alam is an astronomer, National Geographic Young Explorer, and PhD student in the Department of Astronomy at Harvard University.

She majored in physics and astronomy at CUNY Hunter College in New York City and worked in the Astrophysics Department at the American Museum of Natural

History.

Her work involves using data from the Hubble Space Telescope to infer the presence of different molecules in their atmospheres. Munazza has used world-class telescopes at the Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona; the Mauna Kea Observatories in Hawaii; and the Las Campanas Observatory in

Chile.

Munazza has contributed to children's books published by National Geographic Learning, collaborated with Mattel for the Explorer Barbie collection, and was featured in the March 2020 issue of the National Geographic magazine. ★

Kamaldeen Muili, Ph.D.



Kamaldeen Muili is a scientist and an educator. He completed a Clinical Laboratory Science degree in Nigeria, M.Sc. Biomedical Science with distinction in Manchester UK, and a Ph.D. Health

Sciences in USA.

His specialty is in the area of immune inflammation and redox signaling. He has used his expertise to publish landmark discoveries that enable better understanding of diseases like acute pancreatitis, glioblastoma, and multiple sclerosis as evident at <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Wmstad8AAAAJ&hl=en>. His contribution to developing humanity is also evident at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kamaldeen-a-muili-a2620441/>.

Currently, Dr. Kamaldeen is a Chartered Scientist, an Adjunct

Professor of Biomedical Laboratory Science at the George Washington University, and a Clinical Laboratory Supervisor at Exact Sciences, a cancer diagnostic Biotech.

Dr. Muili has served the Jamā‘at in the following capacities:

Current: Coordinator, Rishta Nata USA, President PAAMA Central 1, Na’ib Nazim Ansarullah Midwest

Previous: Secretary *Tabligh* Columbus and Pittsburgh, Secretary Waṣīyyat Pittsburgh, Jamā‘at. ★

Bareah Alam

Bareah Alam is a Research and Development chemist in the petroleum industry. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and minors in History and English from Wagner College, and a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). Bareah has received numerous awards

throughout her academic career, notably the Dreyfus Prize in Chemistry, the Joseph T. Gabriel line Memorial Award for academic and co-curricular excellence, and the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. She has been recognized for projects she has supported, such as the Low-Speed Pre-Ignition project, and Employee of the Month for expanding the

capabilities of her team. Bareah supports safety and diversity initiatives at her company through the site's Incident Analysis team and the Inclusiveness and Diversity team, respectively. She has served the Jamā'at as the local Mu'awina President Media Watch, and informally mentors Jamā'at students. ★

Dr. Furqan Ahmed

Dr. Furqan Ahmed was awarded his Ph.D. (Engineering Sciences) in 2015 from the University of Luxembourg. His doctoral research was focused on the applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) observations in numerical weather prediction (NWP) and climatology. Furthermore, he possesses MS and BS degrees in Radio and Space Science, and Telecommunication Engineering, respectively. In 2017, he received an educational award (a medal and

a copy of Holy Qur'an) on completing his Ph.D. from the blessed hands of Khalifatul-Masih V at Jalsa Salana United Kingdom.

The goal of his doctoral research was to help improve the quality of short-term weather forecasts (specifically precipitation) and long-term study of climate in relation to the atmospheric water vapor. He picked this field of research due to the fact that it has the potential to directly benefit the mankind and

the society. He served as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Center for Space Research of the University of Texas at Austin where he participated in various projects that were partially or fully funded by NASA and were focused on studying the characteristics and dynamics of the planet Earth. He has disseminated the findings of his research in form of peer-reviewed articles, and several oral and poster presentations in international conferences. ★

Syed Khalid Jamil



Area of expertise and highest level of education Electrical Engineering, BE, MBA, Ph.D.

General Manager / Dy. Managing Director The Karachi Electric Supply Corporation, Karachi, Pakistan.

International Observer Department of Peace Keeping

Operations (DPKO) United Nations Organization. (UNO)

Chief Technical Advisor UNDP,

Worked in Iraq, Cyprus, Kuwait, Jordan, East Taimoor, Sudan. As International Civil Servant Staff of UNO.

Fellow Institute of Engineers Pakistan (FIE).

Chairman Institution of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Karachi Pakistan.

Significant research, discoveries, technical publications/patents: Research Paper on Corrosion of Transmission Line Towers in Karachi and suggested remedial

measures, which were adopted as official manual in KESC. Environmental studies of Karachi and suggested Painting Procedures as Prevention from Corrosion, which was later adopted as official document.

Awards, special recognitions: Pride of Performance (Tamgha-e-Husn-e-Karkardagi) awarded by Government of Pakistan (Ministry of Water and Power), UN Letter of Appreciation awarded by Secretary General (Kofi Annan) and UN letter of Appreciation awarded by Head Regional Bureau of Arab State (Michael Guitart).

Chairman International

Boxing Organization for three years. Organized three international boxing tournaments in Karachi.

Secretary Finance in Nawab Shah (Sind). Na'ib Qa'id in Nawab Shah (Sind). Secretary Wasaya in Karachi.

Conducted Khuddam and Atfāl Classes in Karachi. Vice President in Bay Point California. ★

Dr. Rashied Butt, Ph.D.



Education: PhD, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, B. Pharm., University of the Punjab, Lahore—First graduating class with distinction, LLB, University of Punjab.

Expertise/Accomplishments: Entrepreneur, established Seena

Laboratories, Lahore, Pakistan (specializing in pharmaceutical raw materials) and investment real estate in Philadelphia, PA.

Service to Jamā'at: Early pioneers of Philadelphia Jamā'at (forty-four years)

Served in various capacities such as Secretary Rishta Nata and Secretary Ta'limul-Qur'an

His father, Khawaja Muhammad Din Butt (may Allah be pleased with him) was a companion of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). His mother, Alam Bibi used to cook for the family of Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him).

Whenever he was in the house of Muslih Mau'ūd and Huzoor passed by, Huzoor would gently put

his hand on Rashied's head and give him one or two Anna (a coin sixteenth of a Rupee) each time.

His devotion to the Holy Qur'an was exemplary. Taught the Holy Qur'an to children and adults and non-Ahmadi Muslims every Sunday for almost fifteen years, until his health failed him.

Rashied Butt passed away April 16, 2018. At the end, when he could barely speak due to his health condition, Dr. Muhammad Sharif Khan would recite the Holy Qur'an to him by speaker phone every day at an appointed time. The Holy Qur'an remained a source of knowledge and comfort to him throughout his life. ★

Prof. Dr. Amtul Mujeeb Chaudry

Dr. Amtul Mujeeb Chaudry is a professor at the University of La Verne in California. In the field of 'Condensed Matter Physics,' she has a Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics from the University of Oxford (England) and post-doctoral research from Harvard University (USA). She has research publications in this field and in the field of "Creative Ways of Teaching Physics" also, presentations at American Association of Physics

Teachers, European Physics Society and NATO conferences.

A gold medalist all throughout, she created new records in BSc and MSc, the Punjab University, Pakistan. She received the special gold medal from Khalifatul-Masih IV, reading: "For Maintaining Islamic Values During Higher Studies at Oxford."

Dr. Mujeeb has worked on research assignments by Additional

Wakalat-e-Tasnif (London), served on the three-member Lajna (Pakistan) core panel for Jamā'at Centennial Celebrations, as speech interpreter for foreign Lajna delegates at Annual Jalsas in Rabwah, and as National Sadr Lajna Dubai. Currently she serves as Local Sadr Lajna LA East after having completed a 6-year term earlier. She has been teaching Tarteel-ul-Qur'an to Lajna, Nāsirat and Atfāl since 2017. ★

Taha Rahman Shaikh

Profession: Emergency Medicine Physician

Became member of Miami Jamā'at: Jan. 2006

Offices held: Secretary Umur

Khārijīyya (past), Secretary Umur-e-'Ammā, General Secretary Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Miami, Ambassador, Humanity First USA, Miami Chapter, Secretary Ta'lim

(current), Secretary Umur Khārijīyya (current), Na'ib Za'im Saff-Divum, Majlis Ansarullah, Miami (present).

I was born in the United States,

in Newark, NJ on 8 October 1974. My parents immigrated to this country from Karachi, Pakistan. I am a born Ahmadi. My great-grandfather was Shaikh Munshi Habib-ur-Rahman, a companion of the Promised Messiah, who was among those companions who performed Bai'at on the very first day. Both my grandfather and my father have also served the Jamā'at in various offices.

I finished my undergraduate studies at Rutgers University, medical school at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (now known as Rutgers Medical School), and my residency at the University of Maryland/Shock Trauma Center

in Baltimore, MD. I was married in my last year of medical school, and we now have five children.



I have fond memories of helping to serve others after Hurricane Irma made landfall on the west coast of Florida in 2017 as

part of a Humanity First relief team. I am currently serving as Secretary Ta'lim for the Miami Jamā'at for the last several years, and was also recently elected as Secretary of Public Affairs. One of the initiatives which I am most proud of implementing in Miami is our Ramadan Scholarship competition. Each Ramadan, we assign a book of the Promised Messiah to high school or college students which they then summarize and present in a PowerPoint presentation to the Jamā'at. I pray that Allah blesses this initiative to become a tradition for the future, In-Sha' Allah. ★

Dr. Abdus Salam Malik



Dr. Abdus Salam Malik was born in 1958 to Abdur Rahman Saleem and Hamidah Saleem in Karachi, Pakistan. He is the sixth of the seven siblings: five brothers and two sisters. His grandparents on both sides (paternal and maternal) accepted Ahmadiyyat. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil-Aziz) led Funeral Prayer in absentia of his mother after Friday Sermon on 9 April 2021. She passed away on 19 January 2021.

Dr. Salam Malik got his early education in Karachi, Pakistan and graduated from Dow Medical College (now University), Karachi, Pakistan.

Dr. Malik migrated to USA on 5

February 1985. He completed his higher medical education from Mt. Sinai Medical Center, NY, NY in 1993 specializing in Nephrology. He was married with Nudrat Rehmatullah, the youngest daughter of Ex-Amīr Jamā'at Karachi, Sheikh Rehmatullah. Allah has bestowed them with two daughters, Samiah Salam and Tooba Salam and two sons Dr. Kamil Salam and Dr. Akmal Salam. He moved to Ohio in August 1993 and started his private practice and is still in active practice to date.

Dr. Malik started his service to Ahmadiyya Islam from the age of 12, worked as *Sa'iq* (Messenger) in Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, PECHS, Karachi, Qiyādat and then as *Za'im*. In 1982 he moved to Islamabad, Pakistan and served as *Qa'id* Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Islamabad West till 1984 until he moved to UK.

From 1985 to 1988 Dr. Salam Malik served in National Amila of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA.

From 1993 to 2019 (for twenty-seven years), Dr. Salam served as

President Jamā'at, Columbus, Ohio.

In 1998-9, he served in National Amila, Majlis Ansarullah, USA.

From 2019 to date, Dr. Salam is serving as Na'ib Sadr, Secretary Ta'lim, Secretary Ta'lim-ul-Qur'an and Waqf-e-Ardi, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Columbus, Ohio.

In 2018 and 2019, he served in Nasir Hospital, Guatemala.

Dr. Salam had the good fortune of being a member of the entourage of Khalifatul-Masih IV (Rahimullah Ta'ālā) in the perilous journey from Islamabad to Rabwah in April 1984 just before his migration to UK. He also had the good fortune to serve him as one of his personal physicians in his last days of illness in 2003 in London.

In 1998, the Columbus Chapter had the blessing of purchasing a church at Toy Road, Groveport-OH 43125 and completed a purpose-built beautiful mosque in 2008 which was subsequently inaugurated and blessed by Khalifatul-Masih V (Ayyadahullāhu

Ta'ālā Bi-Naṣrihil-'Aziz) by his personal visit in June 2012. ★

Dr. Mobusher Mahmud



Dr. Mobusher Mahmud was born in Lahore, Pakistan in 1974 as an Ahmadi Muslim. His great grandfathers Mian Muhammad Musa (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu) and great grandmother Rahmat Bibi (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anha) were Companions of the Promised Messiah ('Alaih-is-Salam). Their sons Mian Muhammad Hussain and Mian Abdul Majeed were companions of the Promised Messiah. Jan Muhammad of Bhadiar (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu), Amritsar, India, father of his grandmother Firdaus Begum was also a companion of Masih Mau'ūd 'Alaih-is-Salam. From his mother's side, Chaudhri Alaa Din (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu) of Jhelum was

a companion of the Promised Messiah; that is, God blessed this family with six companions of Masih Mau'ūd. Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh.

Dr. Mahmud did his undergrad from Islamabad, Pakistan and professional medical education from King Edward Medical College in 1999. He immigrated to USA in 2000.

He was married in 2001 to Dr. Aneela Khan, daughter of Mohammad Shafi Khan and granddaughter of Maulawi Shahzada Khan. They have two sons, Rehan Mobusher who is Waqf-e-Nau and Usman Mobusher, both are studying in high school.

He completed residency from University of Pennsylvania, and then got research postdoctoral fellowship in cardiovascular diseases from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Clinical Cardiology fellowship from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in NY. Thereafter, he started practicing in 2011 in Atlanta, GA and currently has been in private practice in Interventional Cardiology in Columbus, Ohio since 2014.

Dr. Mahmud served Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya in Islamabad, Pakistan as Nazim Khidmat-e-Khalq in 1999.

Dr. Mahmud served Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA as Qa'id Majlis in Bronx, NY during 2008-2010. He later served as regional Qa'id MKA Southeast Region from 2012-2014. He served as secretary for foreign affairs in Atlanta, GA in 2012-2014. He was also a member of the mosque committee for building new mosque in Atlanta, GA. During 2018-2019, Dr. Mahmud served Majlis Ansarullah, Columbus, OH as Za'im Ansarullah.

Dr. Mahmud served Columbus Jamā'at as Secretary Ta'lim in 2017-19 and pioneered Tahir Academy in Columbus, OH, and is currently serving the Columbus Jamā'at as Secretary Tahrik-e-Jadīd and Secretary Wasaya.

Dr. Mobusher Mahmud had planned and assisted then President of Columbus, OH in establishing Jamā'at Cemetery/ Maqbarah Mūsīyan adjacent to Bait-un-Nasir Mosque in 2017. ★

Namoode Sehar Rana, M.D.

Dr. Namooode Sehar Rana received her medical degree from Sindh Medical College, Karachi Pakistan and completed her residency training in Psychiatry and Neurology at the St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Boston, MA. She then completed a fellowship at the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute in Boston, MA and Geriatric-Psychiatry fellowship at

the Brown University in Providence, RI.

Dr. Rana is currently working as an in-patient attending at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital and provides comprehensive outpatient Geriatric services at the Tufts Medical Center, Community Care. Her major interests are neuro-cognitive disorders, traumatic

brain injuries, behavioral changes in different kinds of dementias, mood disturbances and co-morbid medical illnesses in the elderly population.

Dr. Rana also teaches the resident physicians in training at the Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA. ★

Dr. Amtul A'la

I am a physician and my area of expertise is kidney disease and transplantation.

I graduated from Rawalpindi Medical College and completed internal medicine residency at Mount Sinai School Medicine. Later I completed a 2-year Nephrology fellowship at Brown University and did a sub-fellowship in Transplant Nephrology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. I joined Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) as faculty; transplant Nephrologist in 2018. I am currently appointed as Instructor in Medicine and

Nephrology at the Harvard Medical School.

I am directly involved in clinical care of transplant patients. I have keen interest in helping increase the interest of young trainees in the field of Nephrology and Transplant. I am involved with teaching and direct supervision of the American Society of Transplantation fellows, renal fellows and internal medicine residents at Harvard Medical School.

My areas of research include investigation of biomarkers of kidney transplant rejection, quality

improvement in live donation, and frailty in renal transplant recipients. I have presented various posters and research work at major Nephrology and Transplant conferences and have won awards.

I am also involved in patient education and humanitarian work in the field of transplant. I am the physician leader for the Live Donor Task Force at BIDMC Transplant Institute.

I am currently serving as Boston Lajna Majlis health secretary and general secretary. ★

Dr. Zafar Ahmad Qureshi

Dr. Zafar Qureshi, a prominent anesthesiologist served and retired from American Navy as Lt. Commander, moved to Tucson to practice here. Dr. Qureshi is the son of Qureshi Mohammed Yousuf of Bareilly and grandson of Hafiz Sakhawat Husain, a learned scholar of Islam.

As per instructions of Khalifatul-Masih III, Maulana Ata-Ullah-Kaleem, Missionary and Amīr Jamā'at USA laid down the foundation brick of the mosque in 1982. Then the building was rising

over the ground and those moments were being preserved in pictures. When these pictures were shown to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, he desired to put a dome over the mosque. Khalifatul-Masih III announced this mosque during 1983 Annual Convention in Rabwah.

The total expenditure of the cement-block mosque was borne by Qureshis. The mosque was named Yousaf Mosque. The mosque was inaugurated on 13 March 1983 by Missionary 'Ata'ullah Kaleem. (General file America 1983, p. 49)

This mosque had to be replaced by a new design after the city widened the road. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV inaugurated the replacement mosque during his tour in 1987. This mosque was smaller than the original mosque due to the reduction in land caused by road expansion. To meet the needs of the growing membership, Dr Zafar Qureshi built another larger mosque to the east of it that is a copy of the same design. ★

Dr. Syed Tanvir Ahmed

Syed Tanvir was born in the city of Bhagalpur India on Friday, February 22, 1963, 27th of Ramadan (his father recorded my birth on a plain piece of paper).

Syed Tanvir's grandfather Syed Mohi-ud-din Ahmed accepted Ahmadiyyat during the Khilafat of Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd and served the Jamā'at as a fearless lawyer in important cases.

Syed Tanvir's father Syed Laique

Ahmed was a devout Ahmadi and he spent a great deal of time in Prayers and Qur'an and nothing made him happier than to go for Jum'a Prayers. Indeed, he was martyred during the Friday Prayers at the Model Town mosque on May 28, 2010.

Syed Tanvir's parents migrated to East Pakistan in the late sixties but after only two or three years had to return to India, after East Pakistan became Bangladesh. Our family in

India tried to convince my father to stay in India but he decided against it and after a few months he migrated to (West) Pakistan. In Pakistan, they settled in Lahore and that's where Syed Tanvir obtained his high school and Pre-Med diplomas and then moved to Islamabad and graduated from Rawalpindi Medical College and M.Phil. in Endocrinology from Quaid-e-Azam University,

Islamabad. Fortunately, he received a scholarship to study at the University of Oslo (Health Care System). After graduation he returned to Pakistan and practiced Medicine in Islamabad. He also held a teaching position at the Pakistan Institute of Medical sciences where he taught medical biotics to graduate students. He also coordinated several WHO sponsored projects.

Syed Tanvir came to USA in 2001 and graduated from Residency in 2004 from the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi USA. By the grace of Allah alone, he holds

fellowships both in USA and Canada and he practices both in US and Canada.

Since 2012, he has been living in Detroit, Michigan.

Allah has blessed him to serve in many offices throughout his life

Za'im Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Islamabad

Qa'id MKA Islamabad Pakistan

Qa'id MKA New Orleans, USA

Gen Secretary New Orleans USA

Za'im Ansarullah New Orleans USA and also several other offices being in a small Majlis

Na'ib Qa'id Sihhat-e-Jismani,

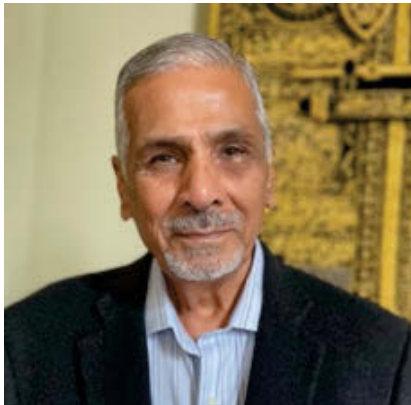
Majlis Ansarullah USA

Qa'id Health, Majlis Ansarullah

He had the honor to serve as a volunteer physician for Humanity First Canada and Humidity First USA. He served in New Orleans after Hurricane Karina and had the honor to serve in Haiti after that earthquake.

By the grace of Allah, he had the honor to accompany Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V on several of his tours to USA, Canada, Japan and Guatemala. ★

Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi



Editor the Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA since February 2019.

Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi son of Miān Muhammad Yahya was born in Lahore, Pakistan on 12 December 1944. He is proud to be the grandson of Hadrat Haji Muhammad Musa (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu) of Nila Gumbad, Lahore, a companion of the Promised Messiah ('Alaih-is-Salām). He served Jamā'at Ahmadiyya Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Lahore from 1958 to 2012 and Atlanta GA and Columbus-OH Jamā'ats from 2012 to 2022 in different capacities.

He earned his M.Sc. in Physics from Government College (now University), Lahore, Pakistan in 1968. He was awarded academic Roll

of Honor and a merit from the university.

He earned a scholarship to pursue Ph.D. in England in 1974 but was forced to disembark from the plane by the orders of the then Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. His ticket and passport were seized and was asked to refute Ahmadiyyat for the permission to proceed. He spurned the offer saying that he could sacrifice his life for Ahmadiyyat rather than compromise his faith for temporal progress. Downcast, but not heartbroken, he approached Khalifatul-Masih III for prayers and was assured for his bright future during a meeting with him in 1974. The man of God said, "Don't worry! You shall get your Ph.D. for which Allāh, the Almighty shall provide help." Lord behold, indeed it happened.

He obtained his Ph.D. degree in Experimental Nuclear Physics in 1988. He served Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission for 37 years and retired in December 2004 as Chief Scientific Officer. After that, he taught Physics at National University of Computer & Emerging

Sciences, Lahore for about seven years. He authored/co-authored fifty-three publications in journals of international repute and fourteen presentations in conferences.

Allāh, the Almighty afforded him ample opportunities to actively engage in various activities of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The detail is as follows.

Services to Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Pakistan

Za'eem Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya (MKA), Halqa Qila Gujjar Sing, Lahore (1958-68), Za'eem MKA, Satellite Town, Rawalpindi (1971-8), Secretary Mal (Financial Secretary) F-8, Islamabad, Pakistan (1979-80), Nazim Tahrik Jadid, MKA, Islamabad (1981-2), President Sector F-8, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Islamabad (1981-4), Ameen Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Islamabad (1983-5), Nazim Tahrik-e-Jadid, MKA, Islamabad (1983-4), Auditor, Secretary Computerization of Chandajat, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Islamabad (1985-2004), Auditor, Secretary Standing Finance Committee, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Islamabad (1991-8), Secretary Mal (Finance), Secretary Standing

Finance Committee and Auditor, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Islamabad (1996-2004), Additional Secretary Finance, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Lahore (2005-7), Secretary Finance, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Lahore (2007-9), Ameen Halqa Johar Town, Lahore (2007-9) and Secretary Finance, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, Lahore (2009-12).

Services to Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA

Additional Secretary Finance, Atlanta, GA (2012-6), Auditor & Secretary Waqf-e-Nau, Columbus-OH (2016-19), Assistant Editor the Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA (January 2016 to February 2019), Editor the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA (Since February 2019), Secretary Waqf-e-

Nau, Columbus-OH (2019-22), Editor the Muslim Sunrise (since March 2022) and Mu'awin Editor Al-Nur (since January 2022).

He wrote books on his grandfather "Biography of Hadrat Mian Muhammad Musa (Raḍiyallāhu 'Anhu)" in Urdu and English. The Urdu book is available on alislam.org. He also translated "Pleasing Stories" narrated by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, founder of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The book is being printed by Wakalat-e-Tabshir, London.

He was one of the few fortunate who were asked by the Isha'at Department, USA to compile and edit three voluminous souvenirs on

hundred years history of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, hundred years history of departments and chapters and Inspired Souls (1920-2020).

His Bio cannot be complete without mentioning the most amazing favor bestowed by Allāh Almighty on him. It is his miraculous escape from imminent death due to murderous attack of the terrorists during Friday Prayer at the Dār-udh-Dhikr Mosque, Lahore on 28 May 2010, which resulted in the martyrdom of 87 Ahmadi devotees. May Allāh grant them a lofty place in heaven and give the opportunities who are left to serve the cause of Ahmadiyyat and Islam with far more vigor and zeal. *Amen.* ★

Dr. Tariq Mahmood



Dr. Tariq Mahmood son of late Sheikh Nasir Mahmood Vohra. I am originally from Karachi,

Pakistan and immigrated to the United States in 2003. Initially, I resided in Brooklyn, NY where I attended Bait-ut-Tahir Mosque for two years. Afterwards, in 2005, I relocated to Baltimore, MD for three years to complete my internal medicine residency. I transitioned from Baltimore to Miami during 2008 and got my first job as a physician.

Since 2008, I have been an active member of Miami Jamā'at.

Al-Hamdu-Lillah, I served as Nazim Atfāl, Qa'id MKA, General secretary, and currently serving as President Miami Jamā'at.

My wife, two beautiful children (Talha Mahmood eighteen years old and Sophia Mahmood fourteen years old), and I are so grateful to be a part of this wonderful Miami Jamā'at/Bait-un-Naseer mosque. ★

Naeem Ahmad MD



Physician (Family Medicine)

Education & Training: Government College (University), Lahore Pakistan. AIMC, Lahore,

Pakistan. UPMC Pittsburgh Family Medicine Residency Program

Work Experience: Primary and Urgent Care, Fredericksburg, VA. Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group, Acute Care Services (Current)

Family History: Father's Name: Naseer Ahmad (served as Chief Librarian Punjab University Library, Lahore 1987-1995 and has been a source of reference for reputed Jama'at Historian, Ulema &

Students)

Grandfather: Munshi Subhan Ali (1902 -1958) accepted Ahmadiyyat during Hadrat Muslih Mau'ud's (r.a.) Khilafat around 1920 and served Jama'at mostly as Kaatib (Scribe) of daily Al-Fazl & other Jama'at magazines.

Mother's Name: Nasira Akhtar (Late) daughter of Malik Bashir Ahmad (1911-1988) both of them were very devout born Ahmadi Muslims and had a very strong

impact on my upbringing.

Services in Jama'at: Dr Naeem had the honor of serving Jama'at in

various capacities since age of Atfal ul Ahmadiyya in Model Town, Lahore Pakistan. More recently served as Vice President and

Currently as Secretary Tarbiyat of SVA.

Dr.Kaleem-ud Din, MD



Dr. Kaleem-ud Din, MD Internal

Medicine was born in Rabwah, Pakistan and completed his medical studies from Punjab Medical College Faisalabad, Pakistan. Migrated to USA in 2005, completed internal medicine residency and has been serving in Virginia ever since.

Currently, he is serving SVA Chapter of Jama'at USA as accountant.

Family History: Dr Kaleem-ud Din is son of Ch. Rasheed ud Din who was a missionary and served in

Africa and other areas of Pakistan. He also served different Jama'at departments, like Dar-ul-Qaza, Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya Rabwah and Fazl-e-Umar Foundation.

His elder brother Dr Aleem ud Din of Ireland has served Ireland jama'at as Sadr for many years. His other brother Saleem-ud Din is in Pakistan and serving Umooor-e-Amama Department of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadayyia Pakistan.

Syed Hamaad Ali



Syed Hammad Ali, Chief Digital Officer EPA (Environment Protection Agency) was born in USA and raised in Rabwah before returning to USA at age 15. He completed his high school and was admission in University of MD

where he completed his graduation in political science and philosophy.

As a fresh graduate, he worked with Senator Chris Van Hollen as intl. legislative aid for around one year but later joined EBA as a civil servant. In EPA, he has worked in Chemical Safety & Pollution prevention for several years before recently promoted as Chief of Digital Officer EPA.

Family History: Syed Hammad Ali is son of Maulana Syed Jawad Ali who served as missionary in-charge USA for fifteen years and then

returned to Rabwah as a personal secretary to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III where Syed Hammad Ali spent his first 15 years of life. He is great-grandson of the well-known companion of Hazrat Masih-e Maud(as), Hazrat Mir Hamid Ali Shah of Sialkot whose brother Mir Hassan (Shamsul-'Ulama) was the teacher of Sir Allama Iqbal (national poet of Pakistan).

Hazrat Hakim Mir Hassam-ud-Deen was Promised Messiah's father's friend. Hazoor always stayed with him when he visited Sialkot.

Inspired Contributors

Sahibzadi Amatul-Qayyum

Sahibzadi Amatul Qayyum passed away on 22 June 2009. She was the second daughter of Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) and wife of late Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad. She was born in 1916 and took her Maulawi Fāzil (Islamic scholarship) as well as passed intermediate examination. She served as Sadr Lajna Washington, USA for four years. Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah have mercy on him) appointed her as an honorary member of the USA Majlis-

e-Mushāwarat. She would relate early incidents and about Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). She was most charitable and regularly supported widows and orphans. She also gave to various international charities. She offered her Salat with deep devotion. She had a special bond with God. Despite her husband's high office, she was most humble and modest. She had a great sense of honor for religion and for Khilafat. She was very particular about her purdah and if she did not

recognize a visiting youngster relation she would maintain her purdah until the introduction was made.

Bibi Qayyum and Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Amīr USA, and the entire family of the Promised Messiah in the USA were extraordinary in their hospitality, evidence of their piety, sincerity, simplicity, and fellow feeling. (USA Khilafat Centenary 2008, p. 165) ★

Amtul Bari Nasir

Amtul Bari Nasir, daughter of Mian 'Abd-ur-Raheem Diyanat, Darvish Qadian, was born in Qadian, India in 1941. She graduated from Jami'a Nusrat, Rabwah, Pakistan and stood first in Urdu. The University of the Panjab, Lahore Pakistan awarded her a scholarship for higher studies.

She earned her Master's in Urdu from the Punjab University, Lahore and stood third in the university. She was appointed as a lecturer in Jami'a Nusrat, Rabwah. She compiled first magazine of the Jami'a "Al-Nusrat." She served as National secretary Nasirat-ul-Ahmadiyya, Lajna Ima'illah, Pakistan.

She was married to Nasir Ahmad Qureshi and settled in Karachi. She served Lajna Ima'illah Karachi from 1980. Lajna Karachi planned to publish hundred books on hundred-year thanksgiving celebration of the Jamā'at in 1989 and she was appointed Secretary Tasnif-o-Isha'at. The work was in accordance with her ability and taste. She started the work with the

prayers of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV. Many persons joined the work. God, the Almighty, miraculously helped her in each and every step. She managed to publish one hundred and one books. The books were appreciated, and multiple editions were published of many of them. Now the books are being published from Qadian, India, instead of Karachi, Pakistan under the direction of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V.

She compiled twenty-one books, among them is Durr-e-Samin Urdu with glossary and dictionary, Durr-e-Samin Persian with transliteration; Urdu translation, glossary and dictionary, Kalam-e-Mahmud with glossary and dictionary, Kalam-e-Tahir with glossary and dictionary, Bukhar-e-Dil Mazameen (articles) Vol. 1 and 2, Biography of Hazrat Mir Muhammad Ismael, Raḍiyallāhu Anhu, Kar-Na-Kar, Tawareekh Bait-ul-Fazl, London; Al-Mihrab—Hundred-year thanksgiving Edition. 1989, Al-Mihrab—Hundredth Jalsa Salana

Edition 1991, Hawwa ki Baitiyan aur Jannat Nazeer Ma'ashara (Addresses), Advices for officeholders (addresses), Hundred year History of Ahmadiyyat (with the help of some members of Lajna Karachi and Majalis Irfan—Blessed Meetings with the help of some members of Lajna Karachi).

She herself wrote twenty-two books, some of them are:

Syllabus for Children

History of a Blessed Person

Mirza Ghulam Qadir—First Martyr from the family of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, may peace and blessings of Allah be on him (the book was published by Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA after due permission from Lajna Ima'illa, Karachi, Pakistan)

Zinda Darakht (Live Tree)

Umm-ul-Mo'mineen Hazrat Hafsa, may Allah be pleased with her

Umm-ul-Mo'mineen Hazrat

Umm Habiba, may Allah be pleased with her

Hazrat Sayyeda Amatul-Hayee Sahiba

Ilham Kalam Us Ka (published from London)

Nami Ka 'Aks (Her poetry collection)

Sailab-e-Rahmat

She did about hundred programs for MTA on difficult words of Durr-e-Samin and correct pronunciation that were aired many times from MTA.

Prepared following Audio Books for alislam.org

Durr-e-Samin Urdu, Kalam-e-Mahmud, Kalam-e-Tahir, Durr-e-'Adn, Bukhar-e-Dil, Durr-e-Adan and Muqaddas Wirsa, etc.

Publication of articles and poems was started from Misbah magazine and is still continuing in Urdu newspapers and magazines of Jamā'at Ahmadiyya. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (may Allah shower His mercy on him)

appreciated and prayed with great passion on her writings and poems. She thanks God and considers this her wealth. She chaired many meetings on life and character of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and deliver speeches. She also recited her poems in Musha'ira (gathering for poem recitation).

She has been in Detroit, USA since 2010 and is serving the magazine "Al-Nur."

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV mentioned Lajna Ima'illa Karachi on the second day of the Annual Convention UK, 1997:

By the grace of Allah, Karachi deserves extraordinary appreciation. Sister Saleema is their Sadr (President Lajna). She is virtuous and charming personality. God has blessed her with unusual capability of management. One of her helper ladies, Hoor Jahan Bushra has passed away. God may bless her. She used to help her immensely. Now Amatul Bari Nasir

and Mrs. Nasir Malik are her integral parts and are serving exceedingly well. These ladies are very skilled in the publication of books. Under Amatul Bari Nasir, many small magazines on different topics which are good magazines, had been published and are being continuously published every year.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V, may Allah support him with His mighty help, mentioned her (Amatul Bari Nasir) while leading funeral prayer in absentia of her elder sister, Amatul Latif. Huzoor said:

"She belonged to a well-educated family. One of her sisters Amatul Bari Nasir Sahiba also renders various services in line with her field of expertise." (Al-Fazl International, 4 March 2022, pp. 5-9. Translated by the Review of Religions.) [Compiled by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from the material supplied by Amatul Bari Nasir in Urdu] ★

Anisa Bushra Salam Bajwa

Anisa Bushra Salam Bajwa, daughter of Prof. Sir Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureate. A. Bushra Salam Bajwa has been blessed to serve as local Sadr Lajna Ima'illah for Majalis: MI-Detroit (1992-93), NC-Research Triangle (2000-2004 and

2006-2008), and FL-Orlando (2009-2016). She has been serving as Regional Sadr Lajna Southeast from 2010 to present. Her Jamā'at service is ongoing with Urdu-English translation work and since 2010 as an editor for the 'Muslim Sunrise'

magazine; she has also been enabled to serve as a facilitator for the Jamā'at National Rishta Nata Department from 2011 to present. ★

Hussain Abdul Aziz of Philadelphia

Started Khuddam Magazine "Khadim"

News of Ahmadiyya American Missions: Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya will be glad to know that Hussain Abdul Aziz Philadelphia has started their Bulletin named "Khadim." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, December 1968, p. 4)

In 1968, Dr. Abdul Mannan Malik migrated to USA. Around the same time, Dr. Ahsan Ullah Zafar

(ex-Amīr USA) had also moved to the south Jersey area. During this period Ahmadi families living in Philadelphia and Willingboro used to hold their meetings and congregational Prayers jointly in Philadelphia and this practice continued till 1978. Hamid Munir (ex-Nā'ib Amīr USA), Bilal Abdus-Salam, Hussain Abdul Aziz and

Zakaria were among the most notable members of Philadelphia Jamā'at.

Missionary in-Charge, Mir Mahmud Ahmad, convened a meeting of Presidents of Chapters. Hussain Abdul Aziz of Philadelphia attended the meeting. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, April 1979, p. 5)

Received prestigious Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Lifetime Commitment Award for the year 2010. The award is given on behalf of MKA USA to honor individuals who

symbolize the spirit of Mufti Muhammad Sadiq. These are individuals who entered the fold of Ahmadiyyat at a time when the Ahmadiyya community was still in

its infancy in the US in many respects. ★



Khuddam from America visited Rabwah, Pakistan, in 1973. Seen here are Abdus Sami Khaliq, Muhammad Habeeb Shafeek, and Hussain Abdul Aziz.



Mohammad Habeeb Shafeek Jr.



Brother Mohammad Habeeb Shafeek Jr. has been a lifelong active member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim

Community (AMC) USA.

He was born in Dayton Ohio, in 1952 to parents of Habeeb Muhammad Shafeek Sr. and Willa Pearl Shafeek.

Habeeb earned his bachelor's degree in Business Management from Antioch university and completed his graduate studies at Troy state university and earned his Master's in Public Administration as well as Professional Life Coach Certifications.

Habeeb has been a life-long career advocate and practitioner in

the field of social justice and public service. He has enjoyed a successful career as a dynamic social service/ political consultant, motivational speaker, public administrator, and a certified professional disaster and performance coach.

Habeeb is a 25-year resident of Lake County Florida. He is currently a Public Administration Consultant, and a practicing Certified Life Coach, specializing in Holistic Personal Performance-Wellness and Disaster Relief.

Habeeb Shafeek has been

honored to serve in numerous capacities within the AMC including local, regional, and national office appointments; as well international delegations to: India, Bangladesh, Ghana, West Africa, the United Kingdom. Brother Habeeb has performed the Holy Pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia. In addition, brother Habib has made five visits to Rabwah, six to Qadian. He was graced to meet Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III and many other blessed

souls during his visits in the early 1970s and mid-1980s. In addition, he had an honor to serve on the personal security of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III, IV and V. Al-Hamdu-Lillah.

Brother Habeeb served diligently in Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, National Amila of Ansarullah USA as Qa'id Social Services. He received Mufti Muhammad Sadiq award as well as

“Lifelong Service Award 2018” at the 38th National Majlis Ansarullah USA Ijtimā. Ma-Sha-Allah.

Over the years Brother Habeeb addressed many times at Annual Conventions of USA Jamā'at. He was also a frequent guest on numerous MTA programs. Currently he is an active member of Alliance for Absolute Justice, PAAMA, USA. ★

Jaleel A. Akbar

As a young boy in the early 1960s, I witnessed missionaries who worked in the American Fazl Mosque. I had a perfect vintage point because my family lived on the same block as the mosque and I frequented the mosque even at that age, since the mosque was just a 2-minute walk from my home. As the whole mosque area was accessible to my playful activities, I interacted with the missionaries and their children.

Their history must go back much further, probably to the 1940s, since they published the first editions of the 5-volume commentary. The Fazl Mosque in Washington DC was the direct beneficiary, among all the major missions around the world, of their publishing activity. So, as a result, a larger selection of books was made available to visitors of the mosque in the main office of the Missionary In-Charge, whose room not only had his desk, but was open to the public as a welcoming library-like environment. Nice bookshelves

adorned two of the walls. There was a beautiful fireplace in the room, along with the missionary sitting at his desk working. There was the bay window with a beautiful view of the outside garden, two comfortable sofas, and a coffee table for visitors to enjoy. One could browse through all the multitude of books on the shelves, and the missionary would also take interest in helping, playing the role of a librarian, explaining the value and contents of the books. When a visitor sat at the sofa, there would be found the latest periodicals on the coffee table, like the Daily Al-Fazl from Rabwah. A visitor could have hours of a very pleasant time reading any books he liked, any newspapers and periodicals, and the missionary was a friendly host with whom you could strike a conversation as well. For example, that is how I learned about the persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan through the troubles of 1974. At any rate, through that pleasant environment, a visitor could learn a lot about Islam, and that was the

extremely pleasant environment which sparked my interest in Islamic literature, which formed my early childhood character, and to which I credit my interest in the pursuit of knowledge to this day.

The later 1970s saw the arrival of the missionary, Sayyid Mahmood Ahmad Nasir. I developed a close friendship with him, as the mosque was such a peaceful and pleasant place to be all the time, and I started assisting him in his missionary work. I became close friends with his son, Sayyid Muhammad Ahmad Nasir, who had worked as a *waqif-e-zindagi* (life devotee) for Khalifatul-Masih IV and now currently for Khalifatul-Masih V (aba) in their *Hifazat-e-Khas* (Special Security) team in London. He was in college at that time, and in his spare time, Muhammad Ahmad took charge of the books in the mid-1980s and transformed it into an operating bookstore for the first time, and I was fortunate to work as his assistant. ★

Qasim Rashid

Rashid was born in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, on July 21, 1982. His father was an Ahmadiyya missionary. In 1987, he moved with his family to the United States, where they lived in Washington, D.C. and Chicago,

Illinois. In Chicago, Qasim completed his grammar school, high school and undergraduate studies—completing his Bachelor's of Science in Marketing from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2006. After

working since the early 2000's in the telecommunications and education sector, Qasim pursued and received his juris doctorate from the University of Richmond School of Law in 2012. He served as executive

editor of The Richmond Journal of Global Law and Business.

From 2006 to 2009, Rashid served as the Associate Director of Admissions for Kaplan University. In October 2010, Rashid rallied a group of Muslim youth to march on Washington, raising slogans of “Love for all, hatred for none” as a part of the “Muslims for Peace” campaign. In August of that year, The New York Times ran a feature story on Rashid, covering his outreach efforts in the American Midwest.

Qasim’s other childhood passion is running, and he is an avid runner to this day.

Rashid has written for numerous outlets including Time, NPR and The Independent. His essay “I believe in love for all, hatred for none” was featured on NPR’s This I Believe. As a freelance author, he has written on Donald Trump’s so-called “Muslim ban” and other current affairs, such as the 2019 Christchurch shooting and the subsequent debate on gun control. Rashid has testified before the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

In 2019, Rashid announced his candidacy for the 28th district of the Virginia Senate. He defeated Laura Ann Sellers in the Democratic primary but lost to incumbent Republican Richard Stuart in the general election.

On January 20, 2020, Rashid announced his candidacy for Virginia’s 1st congressional district in the 2020 election. On June 23, 2020, Rashid defeated Vangie Williams in the Democratic primary for Virginia’s 1st congressional district. He lost to incumbent Republican Rob Wittman in the general election.



Rashid has authored three books, *The Wrong Kind of Muslim*; *Extremist: A Response to Geert Wilders & Terrorists Everywhere*; and *Talk to Me: Changing the Narrative on Race, Religion, and Education*, and has co-authored and co-edited two books, *Towards a Greater Jihad* and *By the Dawn’s Early Light*.

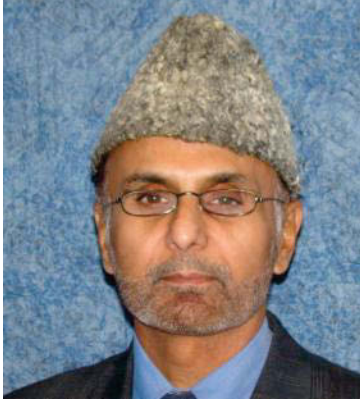
Rashid is an Ahmadi Muslim, is married with three children, and lives in Stafford, Virginia. He is the younger brother of Tayyib Rashid, a United States Marine who runs a social media outreach brand as “the Muslim Marine”. Tayyib Rashid has also given media interviews and raises awareness about Muslims living in the United States. Rashid grew up with actor Lamorne Morris.

Rashid has defended his Ahmadiyya faith against criticism.

He states (24 May 2022): The Promised Messiah (a.s.) performed innumerable services to the Jama’at. Most notably, he reestablished a link between humanity and Allah. A link that had been lost to the ages due to Muslims moving away from the pure and final message of our Master Prophet Muhammad (s.a.). The Promised Messiah (a.s.) instead

came to revive Islam, reunite humanity, and establish the truth about his claim. He revived Islam by demonstrating miracles and the fulfillment of prayer. He showed, by his example, that the Islam taught by Prophet Muhammad (s.a.) was not only alive but thriving. In doing so, he established Jama’at-e-Ahmadiyya to serve as a community of Muslims dedicated to the pure and pristine Islam revealed in the Holy Qur’an. Furthermore, the Promised Messiah (a.s.) established this jama’at to reunite humanity under one flag of peace. It is truly a fulfillment of the prophecy revealed to the Promised Messiah, “I shall give you a large party of Islam,” that today we see Jama’at-e-Ahmadiyya spread throughout every nation on Earth. And by the grace of Allah, this Jama’at continues to grow in both numbers and influence. Finally, the Promised Messiah (a.s.) established the truth about his claim, by demonstrating powerful arguments through more than eighty books and thousands of lectures and letters. Allah ordained him Sultan-ul-Qalam, because it was with the bloodless Jihad of the Pen that the Promised Messiah (a.s.) conquered false dogmas and ideologies and removed innovated misinformation from the pure teachings of Islam. Thus, the services provided by the Promised Messiah (a.s.) to Islam and indeed to all humanity cannot be overstated. His arrival fulfilled the promise of the Prophet Muhammad (a.s.) and ignited the era of reunification of humanity with God, and humanity with our fellow humans. May Allah enable us to hold fast to this jamaat through the rope of Khilafat, and enjoy the blessings of Islam and Ahmadiyyat for centuries to come, In-Sha’-Allah. ★

Imtiyaz Ahmed Rajeki



Imtiyaz Ahmed Rajeki, son of (late) Barakat Ahmed Rajeki, a life devotee, Darvish Qadian and Ex. Nāzīr Umūr Amma and Umūr Khārijīyya, was the grandson of Ḥaḍrat Maulana Ghulam Rasool Rajeki (may Allah be pleased with him), a famous companion of Ḥaḍrat Promised Messiah (peace be on him) was born on 2 February, 1952.

In his youth, Imtiyaz was a star athlete of T.I. High School, Rabwah. He participated in different sports, especially he played cricket up to divisional level. He was also a brilliant Ṭīfl. On one occasion, he won five first prizes. His academic career was also outstanding. He stood first in high school in matriculation exams. His college subjects were Economics, Statistics, Political Science and History. He earned master's in history from the University of the Punjab, Lahore.

Imtiyaz joined Allied Bank (then Australasia Bank) on May 23, 1974, just one day after the first incident of

hooliganism took place at Rabwah railway station. After that he was a target of hatred, demotion, transfers and persecution throughout his 14 years banking career in Pakistan. During that period, despite severe persecution, Imtiyaz had great opportunities to serve Jamā'at; especially from 1985 to 1987 in Gojra, District Toba Tek Singh. He worked diligently with Amir, Qā'id and Murabbi of the Zil'a.

He had the honor of being the member of National Majlis-i-Shūrā, Rabwah in 1986 and 1987.

With the permission of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV, Imtiyaz migrated to the USA and sought asylum in December 1988. Since then, he has been an active member and office bearer of the US Jamā'ats along with his wife, Bushra [daughter of (late) Major Arif Zaman, ex. Nazir Umur-i-Amma]; son, Monawar and daughter-in-law, Salma.

Imtiyaz was blessed with a unique distinction as being the pioneer member of National Langar Khāna, USA since 1992. He was one of the two Khuddām (2nd: Dr. Salahuddin) who said LABBAIK to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV's call to establish USA's own Langar Khāna at the end of Jalsa Salana 1991 at Detroit.

Imtiyaz was an inspiring figure in sports as well as education competitions in Anṣārullāh

Ijtimā'āt. He had special interest in Arabic language and Qur'anic Tajwid. He compiled some good programs in this regard. Urdu literature was his other passion. He wrote some literary essays, worth reading. Some of his recent services include:

He held the offices of Za'īm Anṣārullāh, Philadelphia, Secretary Tarbiyat, Philadelphia, Secretary Wasaya, Philadelphia.

2006—2010: Assistant National Secretary Ta'līm-ul-Qur'an (Research & Development)

2000—2002: Regional Nāzīm Anṣārullāh (NE region)

1996—2000: National Qā'id Waqf Jadīd Anṣārullāh

1994—1996: Secretary Ḍiyāfat, Tablīgh, San Jose/Bay Point.

1990—1994: Secretary Wasaya, Philadelphia

1988—1990: Assistant Secretary Tarbiyat, Detroit

1988—1988: Muntazim Aṭfāl in Qiyādat Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya, Rabwah

1985—1987: Na'ib Qā'id Zil'a Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya, District Toba Tek Singh; Qā'id Ta'līm Zila

National Shūrā representative of Gojra for 1986 and 1987.

(Al-Nahl, Q-3-4, 2010, p. 70).

He passed away on 27 October 2021 in Georgia. ★

Ustaz Ibrahim Drammeh

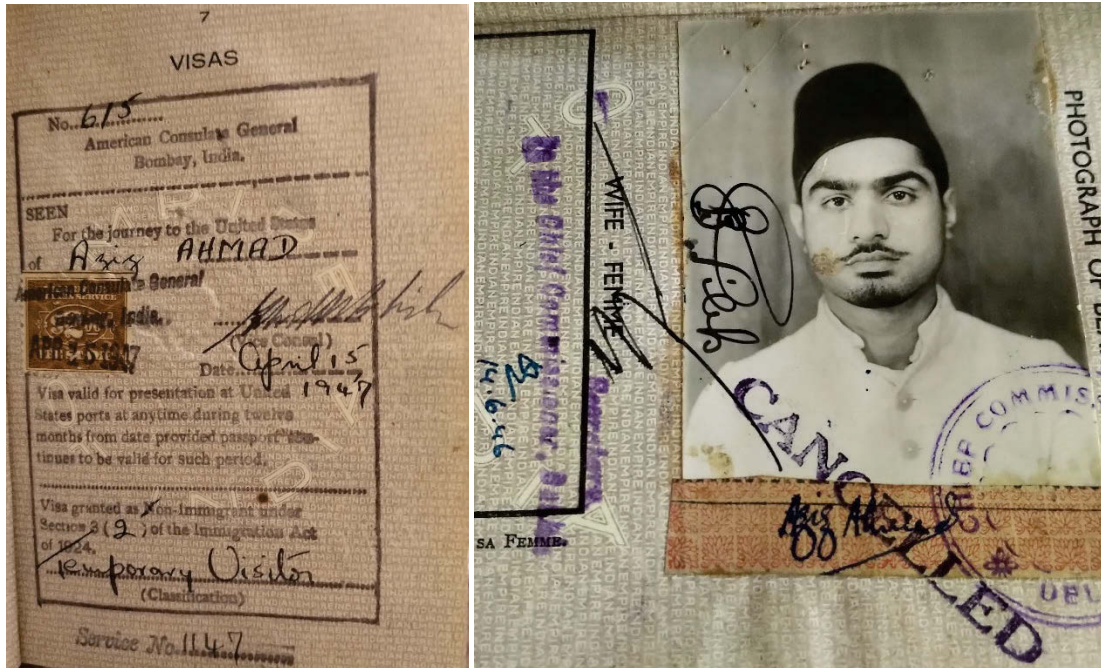
He served as a missionary in The Gambia. He was among three missionaries who were trained in Jāmi'a College in Ghana. He lives in

Maryland.

The other two missionaries were Ustaz Abubakar Touray and Ustaz

Ismail Trawaly. Both devoted young missionaries became martyrs while in the service of Jamā'at. ★

Soofi Aziz Ahmad



I wanted to highlight a silent pioneer in USA Jamā'at. My uncle (my father's older brother), Soofi Aziz Ahmad was born January 22, 1922, in Meerut, India. He was one of those early Ahmadis that heard the call of the Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) to go to foreign lands to preach Ahmadiyya Islam. Uncle Aziz was a pioneer of USA Jamā'at and decided to go to USA with the approval Khalifatul-Masih II.

He got his Visa to USA dated April 15, 1947, and left for USA from the port of Bombay (Mumbai), India. He travelled via passenger ship and arrived on May 14, 1947, passing under the famous Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco, CA.

From there, he went on to Cleveland where he worked at a perfume shop managed by an Ahmadi. Then Uncle Aziz went to Akron, OH and was a door-to-door salesman. Those were difficult times for Uncle Aziz. He spent some time

in Pittsburgh as well. He had requested Markaz to send some help and two more dedicated Ahmadis came to USA. All had to earn their own living.

Uncle Aziz sought approval from Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) if he could go to Canada. Uncle Aziz got the approval to go to Canada, he arrived in Windsor, Canada on June 15, 1953, thus becoming the second Ahmadi to land on Canadian soil but was the first to introduce Ahmadiyya to the Canadians.

Uncle Aziz joined the Canadian Armed Forces and settled in Ottawa, Canada but he was able to visit different parts of Canada and lived in Germany and Denmark for a short period. He lived to the ripe age of eighty-six years and passed away on June 30, 2008. He is survived by Auntie (Nasim Farhat), his beloved wife of 62 years. Also, he is survived by his loving sons Mansoor (Nabeela) and Dr. Qadeer (Gelena);

his brother Nasir (Soofi). His grandchildren Azeem, Jo-Anne and Maryna.

Uncle Aziz was fond of offering five daily prayers and preaching. Also, he opened his house for Salat including Friday Prayers. Uncle Aziz was a great storyteller and told many jokes. He was fond of donuts and would take me to a nearby donut shop whenever I visited him.

Meanwhile, my great-grandfather, Soofi Karam-Ilahi, performed his Bai'at in 1894/1895. Also, he was a companion (Sahabi) of the Hadrat Promised Messiah (may peace be upon him), his number was 290 amongst the first 313 companions. Also, my grandfather was listed 62nd amongst 101 companions that contributed to the white Manaratul-Masih in Qadian. My great grandfather left Meerut for Qadian at the time of partition in 1947. ★



Form 1415
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

List 5

ADMITTED CLASS

ALL ALIENS arriving at a port of continental United States from a foreign port or a port of the insular possessions of the United States, and all aliens arriving at a port of said insular possessions from a foreign port, a port of continental United States

S. S. MARINE ADDRESS Passengers sailing from BOMBAY, APRIL 17 19 47

1 No. on List	2 HEAD-TAX STATUS (This column for use of Government officials only)	3 NAME IN FULL		4 Age		5 Sex	6 Race	7 Calling or occupation	8 Able to—		9 Nativity (Country of which citizen or subject)	10 Race or people	11 Place of birth		12 Immigration Visa, Passport Visa, or Transit Permit number	13 Issued		14 Date concerning verification of landings, etc. (This column for use of Government officials only)	15 Last permanent residence			
		Family name	Given name	Yrs.	Mos.				Ind	Read what language for if cannot speak			Vis	Country		City or town, State, Province or District	Place		Date	Country	City or town, State, Province or District	
1	105.1	ABRAHAM	O. HEVIL	44		M	M	SMITH	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIAN	INDIA	TIRUVELLA	TY-602	BOMBAY	4-24-47	India P.P. 151835	Admitted to U.S. on 5/11/47	INDIA	POONA	
2	105.1	ADDISON	REBECCA GAIL	62		F	M	MARY	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	U.S.A.	GURENIE IOWA	TY-366	BOMBAY	3-27-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	KALIMPONG BENGAL
3	105.30	ADDISON	WINNIE	9		F	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	JAGDALPUR	TY-366	BOMBAY	3-27-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	KALIMPONG	
4	105.30	ADARVAL	D.P.	23		M	S	ENGINEER	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	AMBALA DIST	NTV-305	BOMBAY	4-28-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	INDIA DIST	
5	105.3A	AGRAWAL	KULDEP SINGH	29		M	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	RAWALPINDI	NTV-590	BOMBAY	4-21-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	TRELLIN	
6	105.1	AKHROD	ARIS	23		M	M	BUSINESS	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	AKHROD	NTV-615	BOMBAY	4-15-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	DELHI	
7	105.30	AITER	KRISHNA VAIDYANATH	28		M	M	METAL-WORK	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	MADRAS	TC-27	MADRAS	3-13-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	MADRAS DIST	
8	105.1	ANDERSON	ELVIN VICTORIA	53		F	S	MARY	YES	ENGLISH	YES	SWEDISH	SWEDISH	SWEDEN	ANDERJO	TY-482	BOMBAY	3-13-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	THIRUPUR
9	105.1	ANI	GEORGETTE R.	50		F	M	HOUSEW	YES	ENGLISH	YES	IRKEREV	IRKEREV	IRAQ	BAHAD	TY-228	BOMBAY	31-20-46	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
10	105.1	ANI	MARCELLE	25		F	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	IRKEREV	INDIA	BOMBAY	TY-467	BOMBAY	3-10-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
11	105.1	ANI	HENRY PEURCE	21		M	S	BUSINESS	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	IRKEREV	INDIA	BOMBAY	TY-604	BOMBAY	4-15-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
12	105.1	BALARISHANAN	A.V.	24		M	S	TEACHER	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	PALGHAT	TY-46	MADRAS	11-12-46	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	PALGHAT	
13	105.3	BALARISHANAN	B.	24		M	M	ENGINEER	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	TIRUVANMI	TY-128	MADRAS	4-22-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	PALGHAT	
14	105.1	BANWAR	PURAN CHANDRA ANAND	35		M	M	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIA	CHAMPA	NTV-310	BOMBAY	4-24-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	CHAMPA	
15	105.1	BAPUJI	K.M. JHANSI	18		M	S	BOB ADOP	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	PARSEE	INDIA	BOMBAY	TY-588	BOMBAY	4-21-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
16	105.1	BARRETT	WALTER JESIAH	19		M	M	FOREMAN	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	INDIA	SARAWATY	NTV-57	BOMBAY	2-20-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
17	105.1	BARRETT	EUGENE WALTER	19		M	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	INDIA	BOMBAY	NTV-58	BOMBAY	2-20-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
18	105.30	BARRETT	SHIRLEY KATHLEEN	13		F	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	INDIA	BOMBAY	NTV-59	BOMBAY	2-20-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	BOMBAY
19	105.1	BARRETT	LENA	41		F	M	HOUSEW	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIAN	INDIAN	INDIA	CALCUTTA	PUBLIC LAW 271 14 112043	INDIA	3-28-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	CALCUTTA
20	USC	BARRETT	DANRELL SAMUEL	7		M	S	INFANT	NO	INFANT	NO	U.S.A.	ANGLO IND	INDIA	CALCUTTA	CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH U.S.	INDIA	3-28-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	CALCUTTA
21	105.30	BLACKALLER	DAVID	33		M	M	CHAPLAIN	YES	ENGLISH	YES	CANADIAN	ENGLISH	CANADA	MONTRAL	TC-258	BOMBAY	4-16-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	SHALCOV
22	105.30	BLACKALLER	MARJORIE	32		F	M	HOUSEW	YES	ENGLISH	YES	CANADIAN	ENGLISH	CANADA	VANCOUVER	TC-259	BOMBAY	4-16-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	PALANPUR
23	105.30	BLACKALLER	DOROTHY ANNE	3		F	S	CHILD	NO	CHILD	NO	CANADIAN	ENGLISH	INDIA	KAMBRA	TC-259	BOMBAY	4-16-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	PALANPUR
24	105.30	BLACKALLER	SUBAN	1		F	S	INFANT	NO	INFANT	NO	CANADIAN	ENGLISH	INDIA	QUETTA	TC-259	BOMBAY	4-16-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	PALANPUR
25	105.30	BLANCHETTE	VIVIAN ASHLEY	34		F	M	CUSTOMS	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	INDIA	RAIDILU	TC-256	CALCUTTA	3-28-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	CALCUTTA
26	105.30	BLANCHETTE	PHYLLIS MAY	28		F	M	HAIRDRESS	YES	ENGLISH	YES	BRITISH	ENGLISH	INDIA	CHITTAGONG	TC-61	CALCUTTA	4-24-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	CALCUTTA
27	105.30	BOLSP	MAXINE MYRTLE	40		F	S	HOUSEW	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	BRITISH	INDIA	RAOPUR	TY-534	BOMBAY	3-27-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	SHARJI
28	105.30	BOLSP	JANE	12		F	S	STUDENT	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	ENGLISH	INDIA	BOMBAY	TY-534	BOMBAY	3-27-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	SHARJI
29	105.1	BURNAN	SAFAYAT	25		F	M	HOUSEW	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIAN	INDIA	LYALPUR	NTV-311	BOMBAY	4-24-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	NEW DELHI
30	105.1	CHANDRASEKHARA	O. SUBBA RAO	26		M	M	ENGINEER	YES	ENGLISH	YES	INDIA	INDIAN	INDIA	MYSORE	TY-69	MADRAS	1-27-47	India P.P. 5415	Admitted to U.S. on 7/21/45	INDIA	MYSORE

Line 1 thru 30, admitted as above. Henry E. Parvins acting immediate superior MAY 12 1947
 * LINE 3 - change status to sec. 4(e) C.A. letter, serial 110440-A-157705 - change file # 0001551/10
 Total passengers
 U. S. citizens
 Aliens
 * Permanent residence within the meaning of this manifest shall be actual or intended residence of one year or more.
 † List of names will be found on the back of this sheet.



1300-53360
List 5

STATES IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR AT PORT OF ARRIVAL

States, or a port of another insular possession, in whatsoever class they travel, MUST be fully listed and the master or commanding officer of each vessel carrying such passengers must upon arrival deliver lists thereof to the immigrant inspector

The entries on this form must be made in the English language and must be typewritten or printed with pen and ink.

Arriving at Port of SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 12 1947, 19

Table with columns 16-27 containing names, addresses, destinations, and immigration status. Includes handwritten notes and stamps.

Note.—Full text of question 26 is as follows: Whether a person who believes in or advocates the overthrow by force or violence of the Government of the United States or of all forms of law...

Line _____
Owners _____
Local Agents _____

Contributed by Tahir Ahmed Soofi, Zion, USA (June 2020) ★

Mujeebullah Chaudhary

My name is Mujeebullah Chaudhary. I was born in Hafiz Abad in 1948, Pakistan. I finished my college in 1966 from T.I College, Rabwah. I studied in the Punjab University and graduated with a bachelor's in pharmacy in 1970. I migrated to Philadelphia, USA, in 1972. I opened a Pharmacy in North Philadelphia in 1979 and ran it until 2006. During that time, I was able to

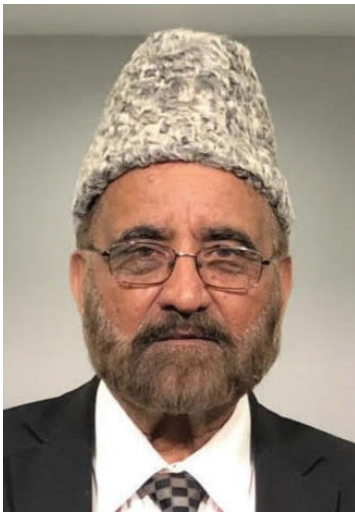
help the poor residents of the neighborhood with their prescription needs and motivated young African Americans to go to college and try to uplift their families.

Mayor Nutter appointed me as a member of the city's Police Advisory Commission, on which I had an honor to serve the city of Philadelphia for 8 years. The

purpose of this commission was to be a bridge between police and local communities and keep an eye on police misconduct.

My first contact with the Jama'at was in 1972, at which time all we had was a corner store at 51st & Arch St. to serve as our jamaat center. Philadelphia jama'at comprised of around 100 members at that time, around 60 men and the rest were

ladies and children. Hussain Abdul Aziz was the president, and there were many Ahmadis of foreign origin, who came to Philadelphia for their education or training. By the grace of Allah, I feel as though that I have had a unique honor of staying here since the day I came, which is around 50 years now. For a long time, all the Ahmadis in Philadelphia were African American, but now the ratio has drastically changed. By the grace of Allah, in the last half a century, I have had the honor to serve the Jama'at in different capacities, as a Secretary Property, Secretary Waqf-e-Nau, Za'im Ansarullah, National Secretary Agriculture, and the best honor I had, was to serve the local jama'at as president. In 1999, Respected late Ameer, M.M. Ahmad, appointed me as interim president after our local president, Munir Hammad, had to move to St. Louis for a long period. I was able to serve this Jama'at of the Promised Messiah for 19 years, which is one of the longest serving period for a president in Philadelphia.



One of the biggest honors of my life was to build a mosque, which was the first purpose-built Mosque in Philadelphia. This process started in 2007, and with all its ups and downs, it took us eleven years to complete this project. It is one of the biggest mosques in Philadelphia which can

accommodate 700 worshipers at the upper level and 700 in the basement. To our surprise, Bait-ul-Aafiyat Mosque is exactly in the center of the city of Philadelphia. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (A.B.A.) graced us with his presence and inaugurated this mosque himself. Hazoor stayed in Mosque's residential apartment for four days. It was a great spiritual experience for the local jama'at members as they were able to offer five daily prayers behind Hazoor. The local Police department gave Hazoor V.I.P protocol during his stay.



July 7, 2013, was the groundbreaking ceremony of Bait-ul-Aafiyat mosque. On that morning I felt in my heart an urge. The words "Jao Dr. Baker ki qabar talash karo" (Go and find Dr. Baker's grave) came to my mind and I left my house along with my son without knowing where to go. I called Bilal Abdus Salam, a senior member of our Jama'at, and asked him if he knew about Dr. Baker's grave. He said he was not sure but, he thought it is in Trenton, New Jersey. Then I called Hussain Abdul Aziz and he said that his grave in one of the cemeteries on the bank of Susquehanna River. So,

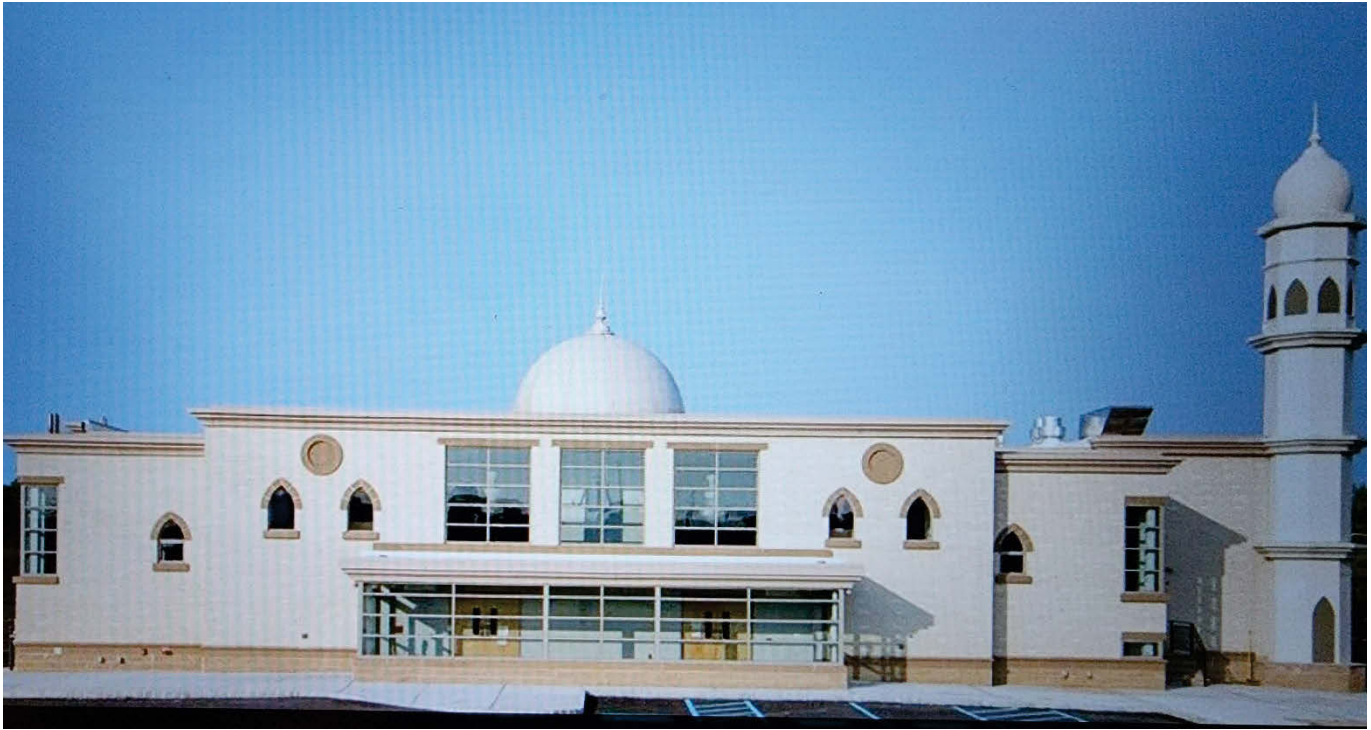
my son and I, went to the first cemetery we found, and unknowingly entered from the exit. We spent a good amount of time in the cemetery but did not find anything. When we were leaving, we saw the office and decided to see if they had information. We asked the clerk regarding Anthony G Baker and I was asked when did he die. I told him, according to my knowledge in 1918. The clerk went into an alley and brought back an envelope and asked me to check if that was the person I was looking for. I opened the envelope in which I found a certificate from the funeral home, stating that it was for A. G. Baker who resided at 404 Susquehanna Avenue. Reading the address, I knew this was the correct grave, because this same address was mentioned by the Promised Messiah (A.S.) himself in his book Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya. I shared this information at the groundbreaking event with all Jama'at members as well.

During Hazoor's visit in 2018 to inaugurate the Mosque, Hazoor's plan was to leave for Washington on 20 October from Philadelphia. A day before his departure, I humbly requested Hazoor to visit two historical locations, the cemetery of Dr. Baker, and the pier where Hazrat Mufti Sadiq Sahib arrived in the USA. Al-Hamdu Lillah, he accepted my request. The first stop was the grave of Dr. Baker. When Hazoor reached there under the canopy, he asked that the name George Baker is so common, what proof I have that it was the same Dr. Baker. In response, I asked Hazoor for a few minutes of his time and explained to him the whole events that took place on July 7, 2013, and how I was able to locate the grave. After listening to evidence, Hazoor was satisfied and then lead the silent prayer at the grave. 100 years after his death, Dr. Baker's grave was blessed with prayers of the Khalifah of the

Messiah that he had accepted. Al-Hamdu Lillah. Witnessing this was a very special experience and I will always hold it very dear. After this visit, Hazoor's caravan left from Mt. Laurel cemetery with police motorcade towards the Delaware River Port. This is located at the

intersection of Washington Lane and Delaware Avenue as was an immigration center. Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq landed there in February 1920. Hazoor saw the pier and then left from there for Bait-ur-Rahman.

I humbly pray that the Jam'at continues to grow in numbers, as well as spiritually attain the higher levels of righteousness and that we may see the days of the victory of Islam here in Philadelphia, In-Sha'-Allah.



Dr. R. Muhammad Mustapha Sohna



He served as the President of the Jamā'at for many years. Now-a-days he lives in Arlington Virginia.

During the early period of his administration, Prime Minister Dawda Kairaba Jawara, received our delegation from Jamā'at Ahmadiyya appointed by the Amīr, Daud Ahmad Hanif, for the primary purpose of meeting and exploring opportunities to obtain land and build schools and health centers in The Gambia. As representatives of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at in the Gambia, members of

the delegation felt a strong sense of duty and responsibility to offer their services and thus, promote the general welfare of humanity at large.

When Hazrat Khalit-ul-Masih III, paid a courtesy call to Sir Dawooda Kairaba Jawara, the President of The Gambia, at the State House, Dr. Sohna was also in the delegation. When Dr. Sohna left for America, (Late) Alhaji Ebrahim MBowe was elected as the president. Alhaji's son Ousman MBowe lives in Zion, Illinois. ★

Mir Sharif Ahmad



Served as President Central Jersey (CEJ) Chapter from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2019.

During his time of service, CEJ organized four “Muhammad, Messenger of Peace Conferences” at Rutgers University NJ.

CEJ also initiated in 2014, an ongoing “Annual Old Bridge Service Awards” to recognize members

(non-Ahmadi) for their services as nurse, veterans and serving the special needs community.

Local chapter also participated with local community in many events.

CEJ also bought self-funded graveyard in 2015. ★

Labeed Ahmed Choudhry



Name: Labeed Ahmed Choudhry, Qa'id Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya.

Father's Name: Muzaffar Iqbal Choudhry

Date of Birth: December 24, 1985

Part of Miami Jamā'at: 1994

Offices Held: Qa'id Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Internal Auditor, Secretary Publications.

My name is Labeed Ahmed Choudhry. I became a part of Miami Jamā'at when I migrated to America along with my family in 1994 at the age of 7. I remained an active part of Miami Jamā'at along

with my family until 2004 when I left the area to attend college at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida where I earned my undergraduate degree in Political Science and stayed at the University of Florida to complete law school. In 2012, I returned to the South Florida area to practice law and re-joined the Miami Jamā'at where I have continued to serve the Jamā'at in whatever capacity I am able. ★

Raja Afaq Hayder



My name is Raja Afaq Hayder. I was born in Karachi Pakistan on December 10, 1958. My father is Raja Bashir Ahmed. I am married with two kids. My son Umer Raja is living in New York and my daughter Sabeen Raja is going to law school at Villanova close to Philadelphia

I'm currently involved in real estate business mostly doing investments in bank owned foreclosed houses, buying from them and remodel and upgrade them for resales through my real-estate company that I own and manage in the city of Miramar, Florida.

Mostly I have worked in accounting and sales jobs and enjoyed doing that. Then in 1998, I started a mortgage company and shortly after opened a real-estate company.

I also have investments in rental housing that I manage myself mostly in Miami-Dade and Broward County.

I moved to Miami in 1980 and at

that time I found out about only one Ahmadi Haq family. Later when Aziz family moved to the Miami area, we formed a Jamā'at. Due to limited people we all were part of Amila. I worked as Umur-e-'Amma and helped members with immigration issues placing bail and later when we bought a mosque, I took over as property secretary and was involved in selling the mosque in southwest ranches and purchase of a new mosque in Hallandale.

After the purchase, I worked on the mosque remodeling for almost two years converting the building from a church to a mosque.

During the time we didn't have the mosque, I managed Jum'a

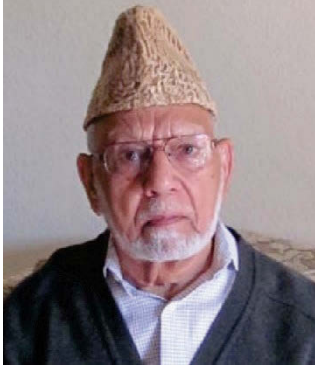
Prayers at my residence for over two years.

I have also worked as assistant

secretary Public Affairs, visiting government officials and inviting them to our mosque and also made three visits to Washington DC

representing Miami Jamā'at on Day at Hill. ★

Mubarik Ahmad Malik of Dallas



Mubarik Ahmad Malik of Dallas Majlis, father of Munawar Malik, Vice President of Dallas Jamā'at and former Qā'id Tajnīd, Majlis Ansarullah, USA, passed away on February 15, 2013 at the age of 82. He had been a member of Dallas Jamā'at since 1994.

He was born on December 25, 1930. His grandfather, Ḥaḍrat Maulawī Allāh Ditta of Nat Batala, was among the first 313 companions of the Promised

Messiah (may peace be on him). His services to the Jamā'at started as early in his age as thirteen when he served as Za'im Halqa in Bāghbān Pura, Lahore. On the call of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ II (may Allāh be pleased with him), he joined Khuddam Force to go to Qādiān during partition of the Indian Subcontinent to protect and bring the convoy of women, children, and old people safely to Pakistan. He was also part of the battalion of Ahmadi volunteers sent by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ II to aid Pakistan army in Kashmir in 1948.

He served the Karachi Jamā'at for a long time in various capacities starting from Za'im Halqa Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya (Ram Swāmī), Nā'ib Qā'id, and then Qā'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Karachi. During his tenure, the Majlis was

awarded 'Alam-i-In'āmī. He served as Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid Karachi from 1962-1994 under Imarat of Chaudhry Abdullah Khan, Sheikh Rehmatullah, Chaudhry Ahmad Mukhtar, and Nawab Maudood Khan. After emigrating to the U.S., he served the Dallas Jamā'at as Finance Secretary for ten years and as Secretary Ta'līmul Qur'ān for three years.

He brought up his children in a pure and spiritual environment. One of his sons, Munawar Malik, has served as Vice President of Dallas Jamā'at and Qā'id Tajnīd of Majlis Ansarullah, USA and the other son Mansur Malik as Secretary Tabligh.

In recognition of his services to the Jamā'at he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Majlis Ansarullah, USA in 2011. He was a Mūsī. (Al-Nahl magazine) ★

Mohsin A. Naeem



I am the son of Karim A. Naeem and the grandson of Hazrat Dr. Hasmatullah Khan, the personal physician of Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd (may Allah be pleased with him). I was born in Lahore, Pakistan and joined the Miami Jamā'at in 1990.

I am a registered pharmacist by profession and am currently self-

employed doing consulting work for pharmacies and are for my elderly mother full-time at home.

While serving Miami Jamā'at, I have served as the Chairman of the mosque Committee, Za'im Ansarullah, *Tabligh* Secretary, Finance Secretary, and assistant Ziyafat Secretary. ★

Muzaffar Iqbal Choudhry



My name is Muzaffar Iqbal Choudhry, son of Abdul Ghani Choudhry. I am currently 60 years old and work as a small business manager, specializing in pharmacies. I have been part of Miami Jamā'at since June 1994, shortly after my family and I emigrated from Pakistan. Since 1995, I have served in various

offices, including Qa'id Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Tahrik-e-Jadid Secretary, Waqf-e-Jadid Secretary, Ziyafat Secretary, Wasāya Secretary, and am currently serving as Umur-e-'Amma Secretary. ★



At the 50th US Annual Convention, A Wahab Adam, Amir Ghana with Sahibzadah MM Ahmad, Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad and Missionary Siddique Shahid all seated in the middle in the front row with Missionary Mubasher Ahmad and Missionary Shamshad Nasir standing in the back to the right. Picture by Abdus Sami Khaliq.

Armed Forces

Major Intisar Abbasi (Retired Officer, US Army)



Maj. Intisar Abbasi (USA, Ret) is a pharmaceutical expert with more than 30 years' experience with the U.S. Army, which includes thirteen years of experience in DoD acquisition, program management,

and pharmaceutical product development, specifically as a product manager for medical countermeasures against chemical and biological threats. Portfolio of products supported included Nerve Agent Antidotes, Cyanide Pretreatment, Multi-chambered Autoinjector, Advanced Anticonvulsant, Botulinum antitoxin and toxoids, legacy Anthrax vaccine, Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Device, Antimalarial Drugs, Assay for Plasmodium Infected Mosquitoes, Diagnostic Device for Scrub Typhus, Dengue Tetraivalent Vaccine to name a few.

Maj. Abbasi completed his

undergraduate studies at Government College Lahore, a master's in pharmacy from the Punjab University, Lahore, a master's in healthcare administration from Chapman College, CA and doctoral studies at University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters). Currently, he is serving as Na'ib Za'eem Ansarullah for Maryland West and has served as Frederick Halqa Leader and Secretary Ziyafat for Potomac Jamā'at. ★

Major Dr. Harris Ahmad Abbasi



Maj. Abbasi OD, MHA, FAAO, LSSBB (US Army) graduated from the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina and was commissioned as a Second

Lieutenant into the US Army. He earned his Doctor of Optometry Degree from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico (Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico), and a Master of Healthcare Administration from Baylor University. He successfully took command of the 33rd Medical Detachment (OP) and led them through a 12-month combat tour in Iraq. He has also served as the Deputy Commander for Clinical Services for the 349th Combat Support Hospital's Joint Readiness Training Center rotation at Ft. Polk, LA as well as the Executive Officer for the 115th Combat Support Hospital (Provisional). His military education includes the US Army

Command and General Staff College, US Army Medical Department Advanced Officers Course, and Northern Warfare School Basic Military Mountaineering Course. MAJ Abbasi is a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry, a member of American College of Healthcare Executives, Certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, and a life member of The National Eagle Scouts Association. He has served on Humanity First missions to Kashmir, Peru, Hurricane Charley, Hurricane Ivan and Hurricane Ike. He also served as the president of the Muslim Students Association at The Citadel on 9/11. ★

Glossary

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd (1889-1965) حضرت مرزا بشیر الدین محمود احمد : Second successor (1914-1965) to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām (1835-1908) حضرت مرزا غلام احمد , peace be on him: The Promised Messiah. Claimed to be the Second Advent of Jesus.

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor (1950-...) حضرت مرزا مسرور احمد , may Allah strengthen him with His mighty support: Fifth successor (2003-...) to the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir (1909-1982) حضرت مرزا ناصر احمد , Allah's mercy be on him: Third successor (1965-1982) to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir (1928-2003) حضرت مرزا طاہر احمد , Allah's mercy be on him: Fourth successor (1982-2003) to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

Aḥmadī, Ahmadi : احمدي A member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community founded by Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad (1835-1908), the Promised Messiah and Imām Maḥdī, may peace be upon him.

Aḥmadī Muslim احمدي مسلم : see Aḥmadī

Aḥmadīs: Plural of Aḥmadī

Aḥmadiyya احمديه : see Ahmadiyyat

Aḥmadiyyah احمديه : see Ahmadiyyat

Aḥmadiyyat احمديت : Muslim sect believing Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad to be the Promised Messiah (second coming) and the Maḥdī awaited by Muslims, peace be on him.

‘ālim or alim عالم : a (religious) scholar.

Amīr, Ameer امير : Commander, Head. National head of the Ahmadiyyah Community.

Aseer-i-Rah-i-Maula (Jailed for sake of Ahmadiyyat)

Bai‘at, Bay‘ah بَيْعَت : homage, pledge of allegiance, covenant of allegiance, pledge of initiation, covenant of association.

bait بيت : house

Behishtī Maqbarah بهشتي مقبره : heavenly graveyard.

Graveyard established by the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).

Ch.: Chaudhari, Chaudhri, Chaudhry, Chaudhay

dā‘ī ilallāh داعي الى الله : caller towards Allah

da‘wat ilallāh, Da‘wa, Da‘wah : دعوت الى الله : calling towards God

Dar-ul-Aman

Fāzil/Fāḍil: an earned degree

Ḥaḍrat (RAS) حضرت [Hadhrat (LOC), Hazrat]: Mr., His

Holiness

Ḥāfiẓ Qur‘ān حافظ : A person who has memorized the Arabic text of the Holy Qur‘ān.

Ḥajj حج : Formal pilgrimage to Mecca during appointed time of the year.

Halqa: Circle. Subchapter.

Ḥazrat حضرت : See Ḥaḍrat

Ḥuḍūr [Ḥudhūr, Ḥuzūr] حضور : His Honor, His Holiness, Your Honor, Your Holiness. In Urdu, it is spelled Ḥaḍūr [Ḥaḍoor, Ḥadhūr, Ḥadhoor, Ḥazūr, Ḥazoor].

Ḥuzūr Huzoor حضور : see Ḥuḍūr

imām امام : leader, chief, guide

Jamā‘at, Jamā‘ah جماعت : Community, Organization. community of believers.

Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyyah جماعت احمديه : The Ahmadiyyah Community. Ahmadiyya Jama‘at

Jāmi‘a Ahmadiyya جامع احمديه : Ahmadiyya University, training missionaries from members who have devoted their lives for the service of Islam.

Khalīfah, khalīfa خليفة : Vicegerent. Successor. Also calif, caliph, kalif, kaliph, khalif.

Khalīfatul-Masīḥ, Khalīfat-ul-Masīḥ خليفة المسيح : Successor to Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad of Qadian (1835-1908), the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him.

Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II: Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (1889-1965): Second successor (1914-1965) to the Promised Messiah, may peace be upon him.

Kulah (the cap—a sheet of cloth is wrapped on it to make a turban

Lajnah Imā‘illāh لجنة امام الله : Committee of bondmaids of Allah. Organization of Ahmadi Muslim ladies above 15 years of age.

Majālis مجالس : plural of Majlis

Majlis مجلس : Society, organization.

Majlis Anṣārullāh انصار الله (Literal meaning: Organization of Helpers of God): The organization of all Ahmadi men over 40 years of age.

Majlis Aṭfāl-ul-Aḥmadiyya (society of Ahmadi children) مجلس اطفال الاحمديه : The organization of all Ahmadi boys between 7 and 14.

Majlis-i-Mushāwarat مجلس مشاورت : Advisory council. Consultative Committee. Shūrā.

Majlis Khuddāmul-Aḥmadiyya مجلس خدام الاحمديه (Organization of Servants of Ahmadiyyat): The organization of all Ahmadi men from 16 to 40 years of age.

Malfūzāt مَلْفُوزَات: sayings of the Promised Messiah, ‘alaihissalām.
 masjid مَسْجِد: mosque
 Maulānā مَوْلَانَا: our master, our lord, our chief. Title of respect for Muslim religious scholars. Revered person.
 Maulawī مَوْلَوِي: Muslim priest, Muslim divine.
 Maulawi Fazil: an earned degree in Islamic knowledge
 Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat حضرت مرزا بشیر ماحمūd احمد: See Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd.
 mūṣī, moosee, musee, moosi مَوْصِي: one who has willed.
 mūṣiyah مَوْصِيَة: feminine mūṣī
 mūsiyān, moosian مَوْصِيَان: plural of mūṣī
 Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd, Muṣliḥ-i-Mau‘ūd, Musleh Mau‘ood: مُصْلِح (The Promised Reformer): Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (1889-1965), Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, who fulfilled the prophesy of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, about the advent of a Reformer.
 Mu‘tamad مَوْتَمَد: A person relied upon by others.
NASHAR-O-ISHĀ‘AT
 Nazārat: jail, prison.
 Nizārat نِظَارَات: Supervisory organization.
 Nūr-ud-Dīn, Ḥaḍrat Al-Ḥājj Maulānā نور الحاج مولانا نور: حضرت الحاج مولانا نور
 نوري (May Allāh be please with him): First successor (1908-1914) to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him)
 Qādiān قَادِيَان: A town in northwest India where Ḥaḍrat

Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah and Mahdī, ‘alaihissalām, lived.
 salām سَلَام: Greeting of peace.
 Shaheed, Shahīd شَهِيد: Martyr; also, witness
 Shahīd/Shahēed (Martyr)
 Shāhid: an earned degree from Ahmadi seminaries.
 Shaikh/Sheikh is used both as a title (religious teacher) and as a family name.
 Ṣūfī صُوفِي: A follower of Sufism.
 Sufism: Being a Ṣūfī. A simple life of righteousness and service to the cause of man and God.
 tabliḡ تَبْلِيغ: preaching, propagation
 Tahrik-i-Jadid, Tahrik Jadid, Tahreek Jadeed, Tahreek-i-Jadeed تَحْرِيك جَدِيد: new scheme. A scheme among Ahmadi Muslims started by their second successor to arrange for propagation in countries other than the subcontinent of India.
 Tarawih tarawīḥ تَرَاوِيح: An alternative to tahajjud offered after ‘Isha in congregation during Ramadan.
 Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat
 Tehsil: County. Subdistrict.
 Wakīl وَكِيْل: representative
 Waqf-i-Nau وَقْف نَو: New Devotion. Ahmadi Muslim children dedicated to Islam during their childhood.
 waṣīyyat وَصِيَّة: will. In Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, willing one-tenth to one-third of one’s income and property for the cause of Islam.
 Wukalā: plural of Wakīl

Corrections

Ahmadiyya Gazette USA April-September 2020

Page 111: The first west coast annual convention was organized by Missionary West Coast Region Ata Ullah Kaleem in San Francisco area and Amir and Missionary In-Charge Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir travelled from Washington DC and presided over men’s and women’s sessions. Additional details are listed in the Ahmadiyya Gazette USA October 2020-September 2021, pp. 295 and 313.

Ahmadiyya Gazette USA October 2020-September 2021

Page 233: Nasir Malik was the Sadr of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya 1982-1986 (1966 is a typo).

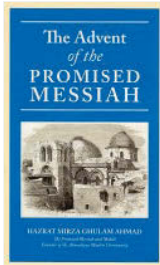
Page 237: Naseem Ahmad Waseem was the Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya USA 2002-2006. Please check the Khuddam section in this issue.

Page 283: Munir Ahmad Malik moved from Douglas AZ to the Phoenix AZ area in 1982 (not 1981). Phoenix was part of the Tucson chapter until the establishment of the Phoenix chapter. (Personal communication with Munir Ahmad Malik, 22 March 2022)

Have you read all the books of the Promised Messiah?

May peace be upon him

Promised Messiah and Imam Mahdi, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may peace be upon him, says, “Our books are compiled after due research and after a full analysis of facts. They are designed to draw seekers after truth to the path of truth. They must reach people who happen to have been infected by hostile writings, some of them on the brink of spiritual ruin. Especially must those countries receive our books and receive them soon which happen to have been infected most dangerously by the poison of misguidance, so that all those interested in a search of truth have the books soon enough in their hands. This purpose cannot be served if we decide to push the publication and circulation of books only through sales. A business outlook in such a matter in any case seems unworthy and objectionable.” (Victory of Islam, Page 45, Published in 1891)



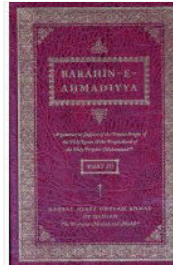
The Advent of the Promised Messiah



Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya 1-2



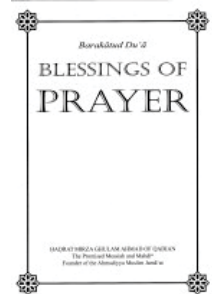
Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya 3



Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya 4



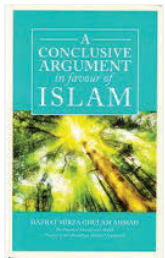
Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya 5



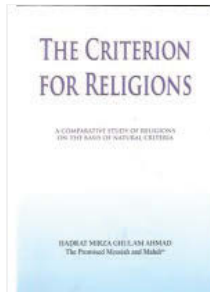
Blessings of Prayer



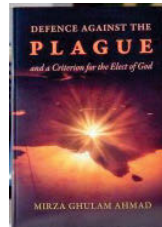
The British Government and Jihad



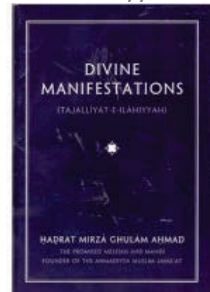
The Conclusive Argument in Favour of Islam



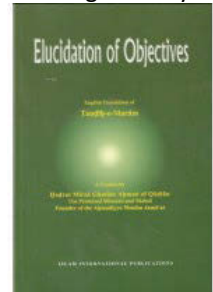
The Criterion for Religions



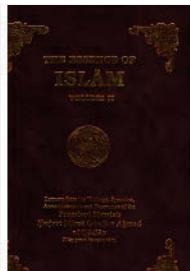
Defense against the Plague and a Criterion for the Elect of God



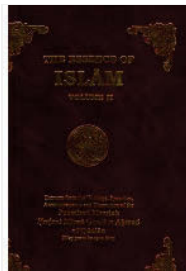
Divine Manifestations



Elucidation of Objectives



The Essence of Islam Volume 1



The Essence of Islam 2



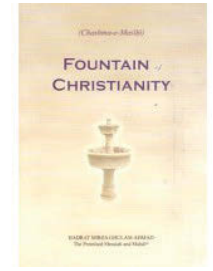
The Essence of Islam 3



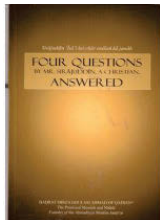
The Essence of Islam 4



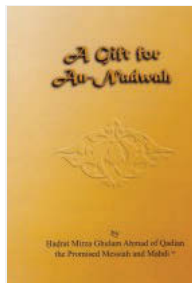
The Essence of Islam 5



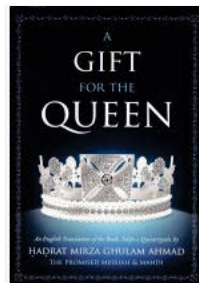
Fountain of Christianity



Four Questions by Mr. Sirajuddin, A Christian, and Their Answers



A Gift for Al-Nadwah



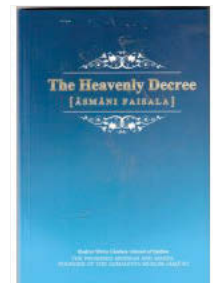
A Gift for the Queen



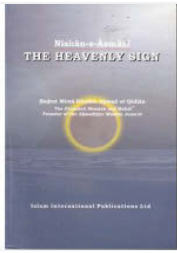
The Green Announcement



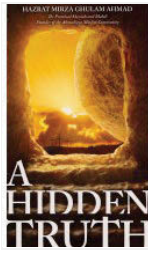
Haqiqat-ul-Wahi



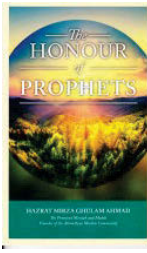
The Heavenly Decree



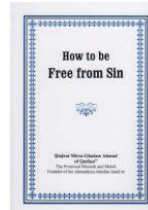
The Heavenly Sign



A Hidden Truth



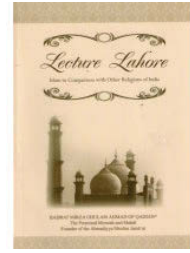
Honor of Prophets



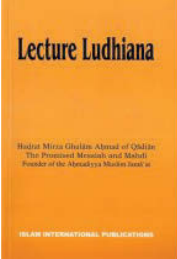
How to be Free from Sin



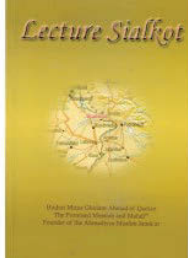
Jesus In India



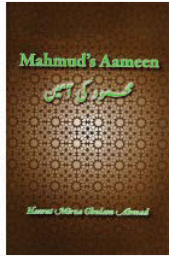
Lecture Lahore



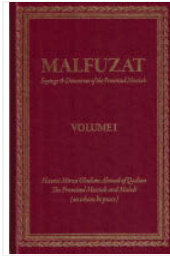
Lecture Ludhiana



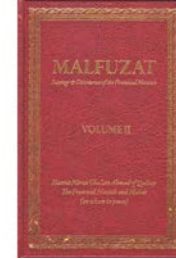
Lecture Sialkot



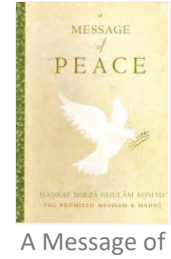
Mahmud's Aameen



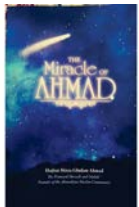
Malfūzāt Volume 1



Malfūzāt Volume 2



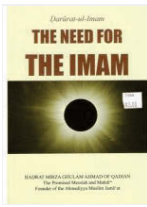
A Message of Peace



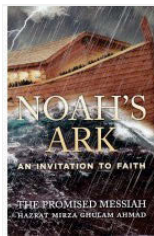
The Miracle of Ahmad



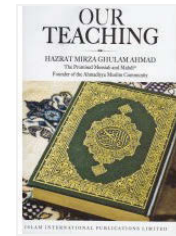
A Misconception Removed



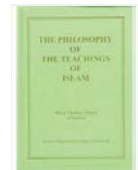
The Need for the Imam



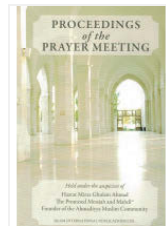
Noah's Ark



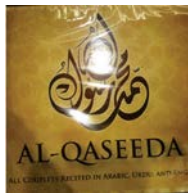
Our Teaching



The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam



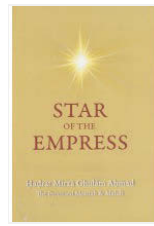
Proceedings of the Prayer Meetings



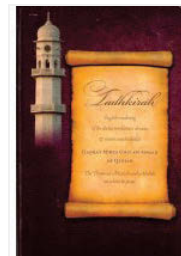
Al-Qaseeda Audio



A Review of the Debate Between Batalavi and Chakrhalavi



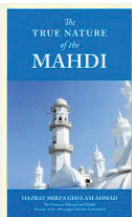
Star of the Empress



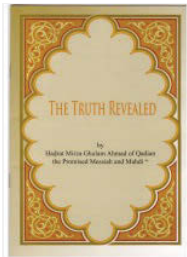
Tadhkirah



Three Questions by a Christian and Their Answers



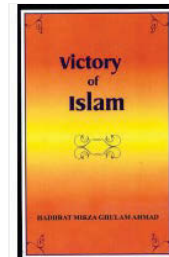
The True Nature of the Mahdi



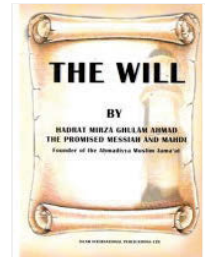
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- The Holy War
- Selection from the Writings of the Promised Messiah



Missionary Magbool Qurashi, Munir Ahmad, St. Louis, Muhammad Qasim, Dayton and Ahmad Shaheed. This photo was taken in the Dayton Mosque. (picture courtesy Alhaj Dhul-Waqar Yaqub)



Missionary A.G. Soofi and Sheikh Kaluta Amri Abedi in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A. G. Soofi is third from the left top row. I believe this photo was taken in New York about 1964. (Picture courtesy Dhul-Waqar Yaqub)

Special Issue on Inspired Souls



Brother Muhammad Sadiq

Picture courtesy Dhul-Waqar Yaqub

