The Ahmadiyya CAAAAATIC TITL March-April 2025 USA



Missionary Khalil Ahmad Nasir leaving Pakistan for his mission to America. He was directed to move US headquarters to Washington DC. (Picture courtesy Alladin family)



The message of Amir Jamā'at USA on Eid-ul-Fitr



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INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS RABWAH, PAKISTAN

March 30, 2025

Dear Members USA Jama'at:

Assalamo Alaikum wa Rehmatullah he wa Barakatahu

I wish you Eid Mubarak. May Allah accept our worship in Ramadan and may we continue to receive His blessings. I am sharing with you a few excerpts from an Eid-ul Fitr address delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} on April 25th, 1925 in Qadian.

"If we wish to succeed, it is incumbent upon us that our courage is high, our resolution is boundless, and our plans are grand. For any nation which does not possess great hope, vast ambition, and complete trust in itself cannot succeed. A nation which yields to despair and death cannot prevail even if it appears to be great and strong and powerful. In contrast, that nation which is determined to be victorious, will surely achieve dominance even if it appears small, insignificant, and inferior. It is for this reason that the Holy Quran repeatedly reminds us that our faith should sit between fear and hope."

"Thus, if you wish to experience Eid, then there is only one means, which is to offer true sacrifice. We should be ready to sacrifice our life, our wealth, our knowledge, our thoughts, our hopes, our relatives, our friends, and our selves in the service of Allah and establish His word and spread the truth He has bestowed upon us."

"For the task you are entrusted with now is much greater than the task given in earlier times. You are charged with crushing Satan and it is in this period when God Almighty appointed Hazrat Masih Maud^{as}. When Satan rules over the hearts of the people of the world and you are weak and oppressed; and the people whose hearts you are to win over are formidable and powerful. No other Prophet's community was tasked to destroy Satan in this environment. The Prophet^{sa} was assigned this mission, but it was destined to be completed in his second advent solely through the holy power of The Prophet^{sa}. So, there is no precedence for the scale of sacrifice needed to achieve our goal. Our sacrifices have not yet reached to the level of the time of the Prophet Jesus^{as}. Thus, I remind my friends to prepare your self for unprecedented sacrifices, without which true Eid cannot be achieved. May Allah enable us to observe both Eids, one which is borne from within our self and the other Eid which God Almighty grants."

May Allah grant us strength to fulfill our obligation and reward us with His pleasure.

Wassalam,

Khaksar

Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad

Congress Inas

Amir Jama'at USA



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Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

S.a./s: Şallallahu '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.

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Mosques

Guidance from the Holy Quran

Say, 'My Lord has enjoined justice. And fix your attention aright at every *time and* place of worship, and call upon Him, making yourselves sincere towards Him in religion. As He brought you into being, so shall you return.'

Some has He guided, and as for others error has become their desert. They have taken evil ones for friends to the exclusion of Allah, and they think that they are rightly guided.

O children of Adam! look to your adornment at every *time and* place of worship, and eat and drink but exceed not the bounds; surely, He does not love those who exceed the bounds.

Say, 'Who has forbidden the adornment of Allah which He has produced for His servants, and the good things of *His* providing?' Say, 'They are for the believers in the present life *and* exclusively *for them* on the Day of Resurrection. Thus do We explain the Signs for a people who have knowledge.'

Say, 'My Lord has only forbidden foul deeds, whether open or secret, and sin and wrongful transgression, and that you associate with Allah that for which He has sent down no authority, and that you say of Allah that of which you have no knowledge.'

And for every people there is a term, and when their term is come, they cannot remain behind a single moment, nor can they get ahead of it.

O children of Adam! if Messengers come to you from among yourselves, rehearsing My Signs unto you, then whoso shall fear God and do good deeds, on them *shall come* no fear nor shall they grieve.

But those who reject Our Signs and turn away from them with disdain, these shall be the inmates of the Fire; they shall abide therein.

Who is, then, more unjust than he who forges a lie against Allah or gives the lie to His Signs? It is these who shall have their lot as ordained till when Our messengers shall visit them to take away their souls, they shall say, 'Where is that which you used to call upon beside Allah?' They will answer, 'We cannot find them;' and they will bear witness against themselves that they were disbelievers.

He will say, 'Enter ye into the Fire among the nations of Jinn and men who passed away before you.' Every time a people enters, it shall curse its sister (people) until, when they have all successively arrived therein, the last of them will say of the first of them: 'Our Lord, these led us astray, so give them a double punishment of the Fire.' He will say, 'For each *preceding party* there shall be double *punishment*, but you do not know.'

And the first of them will say to the last of them: 'You have then no superiority over us; taste therefore the punishment for all that you did.'

Those who reject Our Signs and turn away from them with disdain, the gates of the *spiritual* firmament will not be opened for them, nor will they enter Heaven until a camel goes through the eye of a needle. And thus do We requite the offenders. (Holy Qur'an, 7 [Al-A'raf]:30-41. English translation by Maulawi Sher Ali)

Guidance From the Holy Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him



صَلاَةُ الرَّجُلِ فِي جَمَاعَةٍ تَزِيدُ عَلَى صَلاَتِهِ فِي بَيْتِهِ وَصَلاَتِهِ فِي سُوقِهِ خَمْسًا وَعِشْرِينَ دَرَجَةً وَذَلِكَ بِأَقَ اَحَدَكُمْ إِذَا تَوَضَّأَ فَأَحْسَنَ الْوُضُوءَ وَاتَى الْمَشْجِدَ لاَيُرِيدُ اللَّ الصَّلاَةُ وَلاَ يَنْهَزُ وُلاَّ الصَّلاَةُ كَمْ يَخْطُ خَطْوَةً الاَّ دُفِعَ لَهُ بِهَا دَرَجَةً وَحُطَّ عَنْهُ بِهَا خَطِيئَةً حَتَّى يَدْخُلَ الْمَشْجِدَ فَإِذَا دَخَلَ الْمَشْجِدَ كَانَ فِي صَلاَةٍ مَا كَانَتِ الصَّلاَةُ هِيَ تَحْمِسُهُ وَالْمَلاَئِكَةُ يُصَنُّونَ عَلَى اَحَدِكُمْ مَا دَامَ فِي مَجْلِسِهِ الَّذِي صَلَّى فِيهِ يَقُولُونَ اللَّهُمَّ الْكَهُمَّ الْمُشْعِدَةُ وَلِيهِ اللَّهُمَّ الْحَمْهُ اللَّهُمَّ الْحَمْهُ اللَّهُمَّ تُبْ عَلَيْهِ مَا لَمْ يُؤْذِفِيهِ اذَيْ يُعِدِدُ فِيهِ.

A man's Prayer in congregation adds twenty-five degrees over his Prayer offered at his home or at his business. This is because when any of you performs ablution attentively, and proceeds to the mosque just for Prayers, and his motivation is only Prayer, then his rank is elevated by one degree at every step which he takes for this purpose, and a sin falls off till he enters the mosque. While he is in the mosque for Prayer, he is considered in Prayer. The angels pray for you while you are at the place of worship, O Allah, forgive him, O Allah, have mercy on him, O Allah, accept his remorse while he avoids committing impropriety. (Sunan Abi Dawud [559], Kitab al-Salat)



ٳۘۘ٤ٵؾٷڞۜٵۧػػؙػؙۿڡؘؙۧٛڂۺؾٵٮٛۉؙڞؙۅٷؙۘۼۧڂؘۯڿٳڶؽٵٮڞؖڵٷٙڬۿؽۯڡٛڂڠۯڡڎؙٵٮؿؖۿۼڒۧٷڮڷۜڶۿؙػڗۜٞٷڮڷۜڶۿؙػۺڬۿٞٷڬۿؽڝؘٝڎڠۯڝۘۿٵٮؽۺۯۑٳڵؖػڟۜٙٵۺؖۿۼڒۧٷڮڷ ۼڹٛۿؙڛؾؚؚٮؙٞۼٞۘڣؘڵؽڡٞڗٟڹٱػڎؙػؙۿۯٷڸؽڹۼؚ؞ٛڣؘۯڽٵۜؿٙٵٮٛڝۺڿؚڬڣؘڞڲۧڣۣػڶۿڣٚۯڽڰڣؙۏڽٵؾٞٵؽڝڿٷۊۮڞڐۜۉٵۼۼڞٞٵٷۼؚؿۣؠۼڞ۫ڞؽؖ؞ٵٵڎۯڮٷٵٮۜٛۿٵۼۼۣػڰڽ ڰۮٙڸػ؋۫ۮڝڎٚۮڰڰ

If one performs ablution properly, and proceeds for Prayer, he does not raise his right foot but Allah records a good deed for him, and he does not raise his left foot but Allah drops one of his omissions. Whether you live near the mosque or far from it, when he comes to the mosque and prays in congregation, his omissions will be forgiven. If he comes to the mosque and joins the congregational Prayer in progress, and completes the missed portion, he will be rewarded the same. If he is too late to join the congregational prayer, he will still be rewarded the same. (Sunan Abi Dawud 563 Kitab al-Salat)



Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullāh bin 'Amr bin Al-'Āṣra relates that the Holy Prophet Muḥammadsa used to recite the following prayer on entering the mosque. Traditions describe that if this prayer is recited, Satan says, "This person is safe from me for today."

I seek refuge in Allāh, the Greatest, from the rejected Satan. I seek refuge in His Exalted Countenance and in His Eternal Sovereignty. (Abū Dāwūd, Kitāb-uṣ-Ṣalāt, Bāb Mā Yaqūluh-ur-Rajul 'Inda Dukhūlih-il-Masjid)



 $Hadrat Fatimah^{ra}$, daughter of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad^{sa}, relates that he used to say the following prayer on entering the mosque.

[I enter] in the name of *Allāh*. Blessings and peace be upon His Messenger. O my Lord forgive my sins and open the doors of Mercy for me. (Sunan Ibn Mājah, Kitāb-ul-Masājid, Bāb-ud-Duʻā' 'Inda Dukhūl-il-Masjid)



On leaving the mosque, the Holy Prophet, may peace and blessings be upon him, used to say:

In the name of Allāh. Blessings and peace of Allāh be upon His Messenger. O my Lord forgive my sins and open the doors of grace for me. (Sunan Tirmidhī, Kitāb-uṣ-Ṣalāt, Bāb Fī Mā Yaqūlu 'Inda Dukhūl-il-Masjid)





Islam is a clean and pure religion. The situation of Islam can be set forth as follows. Just as a father expects his children to perform the duties they owe to him, similarly, he desires that the children be mutually helpful to each other and not be at loggerheads with each other. In the same way, where Islam emphasizes the Oneness of God, it also desires that there be love and unity among humanity.

Congregational Prayer is promised to be more rewarding because its purpose is to develop unity. To translate this unity into practice, Islam goes so far as to enjoin with great emphasis that when we line up for Prayer, our feet should be in line, the lines should be straight, and all worshippers should stand close to one another. The purpose of this is to unite the many into one so that the light of one may infuse into the other—so that the divide that causes egoism and selfishness may be removed.

Remember well that man is gifted with the power to absorb the light of others. Then, for the realization of unity, we are enjoined to offer daily Prayers in the local mosque of the neighborhood, and after a week to pray in the central mosque of the town, and then after a year, offer the Eid Prayers in a large open space in the city. And, once a year, all the Muslims from all over the world should gather in the House of Allah [the Kaʻbah].

The purpose of all these injunctions is none other than forging unity. (Malfuzat, vol. 8 (English), pp. 132-133)



Our Community is in need of mosques at this time. [Mosque] is a house of God. Consider the establishment of our mosque in a village or a town as a foundation for the progress of Community. If Islam is desired to advance in a village or a town where Muslims are scarce or there are no Muslims there, a mosque should be established there, then God will Himself pull over the Muslims to the place, but the condition is that the intention in the establishment of the mosque ought to be sincere. [The establishment of a mosque] should be carried out just for the sake of Allah. Almighty Allah will bless it if there is no part of personal objectives or mischief in it.

It is not necessary that the mosque be decorated or built very strong, rather a piece of land should be designated and then secure the periphery of the mosque and cover it with bamboo, etc., to be secure it from rain, etc. Almighty Allah does not like formality. The mosque of the Holy Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, was built with some branches of palm trees, and it continued to be so til Hazrat Uthman had it built strong during his time as he was interested in buildings. It passes my thought that Uthman and Suleman rhyme well together. Perhaps this was the reason for their common interests. Anyhow, the Community [at a place] should have its own mosque with its own prayer-leader who conducts meetings [and services], etc., and the members of the chapter should offer their prayers together in congregation in this mosque. There is great blessing in joining together and in unity. Differences cause disunity and this is the time that unity and harmony should be advanced and small matters should be ignored that cause disunity. (Translated from Malfoozat, vol 7, p. 119, 1984 Urdu Edition)

American Fazl Mosque in the US Capital— A Vision of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II

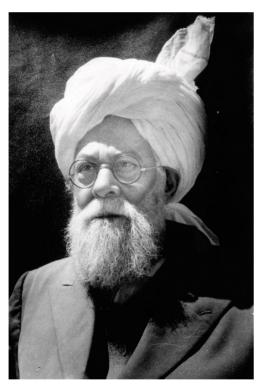
Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, From 1950 to 1994

Compiled by Dr. Mahmud Ahmad Nagi





American Fazl Mosque Washington, D.C.



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II, may Allah be pleased with him

The need for a mosque in the capital of the nation has been felt for a long time. Financially, it was not an easy step to take but our beloved master Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) decided to fulfill this need in spite of the hardships and sacrifices through which the movement has been passing for some years. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, June 1950, p. 2)

Khalifatul-Masih II asked Missionary Dr. Chaudhri

Khalil Ahmad in August 1949 to buy a house for the Mission in Washington. In May 1950, headquarters were shifted from Chicago to Washington. (Al-Fazl, 24 June 1950, p.5)



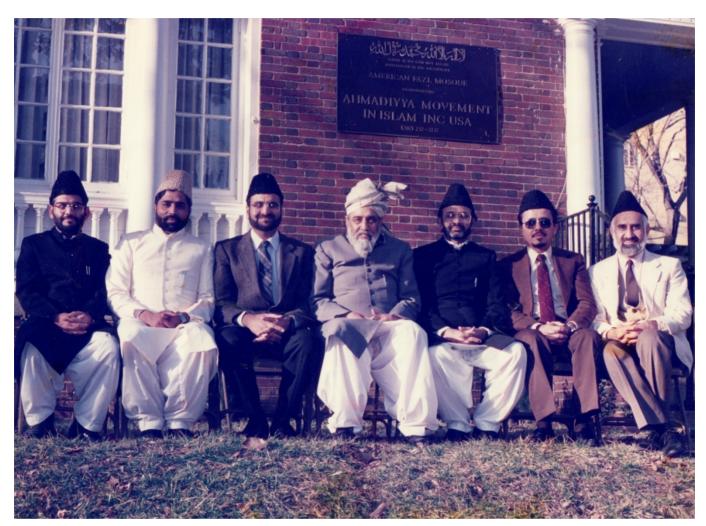
Dr. Chaudhri Khalil Ahmad Missionary to the US (1946-7/1959), Missionary in-Charge (2/1948-59)

The first Ahmadiyya Mosque in the nation's capital was procured as a house for \$42,000 at 2141 Leroy Place, Washington, D.C., on 6 April 1950 with the efforts of Hazrat Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him). The building is located in a diplomatic enclave. It is a three-story building with a basement. The building was converted from a residence to a Mosque and the Ahmadiyya Headquarters. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) named it the American Fazl Mosque. It served as the Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim

Community USA from 1950 to 1994. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette USA, October 1994, p. 19)

The Mosque is located a few minutes from the White House and neighboring several embassies. Fazl Mosque was opened seven years prior to the Islamic Center of Washington D.C. and is one of the longest-

serving mosques in the nation's capital. It was built as a private residence in 1912. The Colonial Revival-style building is designated as a contributing property to the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Above is the 1989 picture of missionaries in the Washington D.C. area on the front lawn of the Fazl Mosque. Seated left to right: Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir, Inamul Haq Kauser, Chaudhry Munir Ahmad, Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Abdur Rashid Yahya, Zafar Sarwar, Mubasher Ahmad.







Left: Interior of the American Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C. Right: An aerial view of the site.





Prayer Halls American Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C. (Pictures courtesy by Kalim Bhatti)

Located in Dupont Circle, it served as the National Headquarters from 1950–1994. Renowned diplomat and jurist as well as a notable scholar of Islam Sir Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, who in addition to serving as President of the United Nations General Assembly and President of the International Court of Justice at the Hague, was a companion of the Promised Messiah, (1835–1908), purchased the colonial walk-up built in 1912 that would serve as the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Headquarters for more than 40 years, and which has hosted venerable guests such as Mirza Nasir Ahmad, third successor to the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).

Khalifatul-Masih III visited it in 1976 and 1980.

Khalifatul-Masih IV visited the American Fazl Mosque on 4 October 1987. The family meeting continued for the next two days. Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA arranged a reception at the Washington Hilton on 7 October 1987. The Mayor of Washington D.C. declared 7 October as Mirza Tahir Day. (The US Ahmadiyya Souvenir 1889-1989, p. 43).

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V came here in June 2012. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 76, nos. 3-6, March-June, 2024, pp. 19-20)

Early Missionary Work

The nature of the missionary work became more complex here than in the previous era in Chicago, taking on an international character, by engaging with the embassies of various countries and the US State Department, as well as continuing with the work of propagation and religious training. Hazrat Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrulla Khan's work at the United Nations in New York also brought him to visits to Washington D.C. and he would travel between New York and Washington D.C. by car, driven by the younger brother of Dr. Khalil Nasir, Jameel Ahmad Akbar, arguably one of the earliest members of the Washington D.C. Jamā'at. During the decade of the 1950s, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir was invited to speak and represent Islam

at several international religious conferences held in Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and several European countries. The literary work of the US Ahmadiyya Jamā'at increased dramatically during this period. The publication of the Muslim Sunrise increased its pace as a quarterly journal hosting articles on comparative religions and current topics. Another major literary development in 1950 was the founding of the Ahmadiyya Gazette by Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir. In addition, more new books were published and made available through missionary work in Washington D.C., such as an American edition of Ahmadiyyat or the True Islam by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II, An Interpretation of Islam by an Italian scholar, Professor Vaglieri, and the Reader's Digest reprint by the US Ahmadiyya Community of a popular and nationally famous writer, James A. Michener, titled Islam, The Most Misunderstood Religion. There also appeared new booklets authored by Dr. Khalil Nasir as part of the preaching and propagation of the true beauties of Islam geared for an American audience. In 1955, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II traveled to Europe and London, during which visit Huzoor held a conference of all missionaries stationed in Europe and America, for which Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir as Missionary In-charge of the United States traveled to and participated in supporting the London Among visit. accomplishments, Dr. Khalil Nasir started the elections of the National Executives and the National Auxiliaries. Prior to his move to Washington D.C., Dr. Nasir had initiated the first ever Jalsa Salana of the United States in 1948, taking place in Dayton, Ohio. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, nos. 10-12 and vol. 73, nos. 1-9, October 2020- September 2021, p. 330)

The Expansion of Missionaries at the Headquarters

The following decades, starting with the 1960s, witnessed several more who served in Washington D.C.

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as Missionary In-charge and assistant or regional missionaries. Chaudhry Ghulam Yaseen served as a missionary in the United States for 16 years and took over as the Missionary In-charge in 1959, and continued to serve in this capacity until 1963. Syed Jawad Ali served in Washington D.C. starting in January 1963 and continued to serve as a missionary until 1971. Aminullah Khan Salik worked as a missionary in Washington D.C., New York, and Chicago from 1960 to 1963. Oureshi Magbool Ahmad served as Missionary In-charge from 1967 to 1971. Chaudhry Sharif Ahmad Bajwa served as Missionary In-charge in 1972. Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri served as Missionary In-charge from 1973 to 1977. He also had the honor to host the visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III in 1976, which was the firstever visit of any Khalifa to the United States. Maulana Ataullah Kaleem served as Missionary In-charge in Washington D.C. from 1977 to 1983. He greatly expanded the religious training and publications of the US Ahmadiyya Jamā'at including the starting of the Urdu periodical An-Noor, and authored the book A Synopsis of Religious Preaching. Abdur Rashid Yahya also served as an assistant missionary to Maulana Ataullah Kaleem starting in 1977 in Washington D.C. and served two tenures: 1977-1981, and 1986-1994. Syed Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir served as Missionary In-charge from November 1978 for two years. Among his accomplishments, he represented the Ahmadiyya Community at the United Nations Conference of World Religions. He also had the honor of hosting Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III's second visit to the United States in 1980. Both Maulana Ataullah Kaleem and Syed Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir took turns to serve as Missionary In-charge in the years 1977 to 1983, the details of which are not given justice in this short article. Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad served as Missionary In-charge from 1983 to his retirement in 1990. Zafar Ahmad Sarwar served as a missionary in the United States including Washington D.C. starting in 1984 and served during the 1980s here. And Sheikh Naseeruddin Ahmad, who previously served in Africa, served at the Fazl Mosque during the 1980s. The accomplishments of these missionaries have not been properly accounted for in this short article, which requires separate detailed writing. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, nos. 10-12 and vol. 73, nos. 1-9, October 2020- September 2021, pp. 331-332)

Washington D.C. Jamā'at History

Compiled by Jaleel Akbar

The history of the Ahmadiyya Community in Washington D.C. began in 1949 when the Missionary In-charge of the United States at that time, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, was instructed by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II^{ra} to move the Jamā'at's headquarters from Chicago to Washington D.C., as the capital of the United States had emerged from the post-World War II era as an internationally important city. A large house was found in the embassy district of the city on Leroy Place, Northwest, acquired with the financial assistance of Hazrat Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), and the move was completed by May 1950. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) was pleased to name the new mosque The American Fazl Mosque.

The designation "American" in its name helps distinguish it from its sister mosque, the Fazl Mosque, London. Notably, both mosques were the first mosques in the capitals of the U.S. and the UK. Located a few minutes from the White House and neighboring several embassies, the Fazl Mosque opened seven years prior to the Islamic Center of Washington and is the longest-serving mosque in the nation's capital.

The American Fazl Mosque property was built as a private residence in 1912. The Colonial Revival-style building is designated as a contributing property to the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It also had the added advantage of accommodating the new headquarters in a much larger square-footage area, including many more rooms and facilities than the Sadiq Mosque in Chicago. The mosque served as the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Movement in the United States from 1950 until 1994, when it was moved to Bait-ur-Rehman Mosque in Silver Spring, Maryland.

(The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, nos. 10-12 and vol. 73, nos. 1-9, October 2020- September 2021, p. 329)

The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Jamā'at

In addition to its role as the National Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Community in the United States, the Fazl Mosque fully functioned as the mosque and center of activities for the local Washington D.C. chapter. Local American Ahmadi converts worshipped and remained active along with immigrant Ahmadis from Pakistan and India. Among the most prominent early Ahmadi residents of the Washington D.C. area was Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar "M.M" Ahmad, son of Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him) and grandson of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him). During the 1980s and 1990s, immigration of Ahmadis greatly increased and this resulted in a rapid increase in the size of the local Jamā'at, covering the

geographic areas of suburban Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland. The names of all the local converts have not yet been compiled. However, some well-known names can be mentioned. Among the early converts were Ahmad Haleem, Muhammad Ameen, Abdul Raheem Kolade, Noorudin Al-Hadith, Ishmael Hashim, and Mujahid Abdul Azim. The early converts among Lajna Imā'illāh who resided in Washington D.C. were: Sister Rashida Taha (1952-1986), Sister Fatima Haneef Mahmood (starting in 1965), Sister Saeeda Lateef (early 1950s to 1958), Sister Shakura Nooriah (from the mid-1960s onwards), and Sister Nusrat Al-Hadith.

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.

The Washington D.C. Jamā'at has been blessed with many noteworthy and respected guests, both belonging to various parts of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community, including many from the International Headquarters in Rabwah, Pakistan, as well as outside guests. Space does not permit the narration of those visits. However, it will be mentioned that as Hazrat Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrulla Khan was a frequent guest during the 1950s and 1960s, his final visit was in November 1984 when he met with all the local Jamā'at members and spoke at the Religious Founders Day meeting at the University of Maryland in College Park. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, nos. 10-12 and vol. 73, nos. 1-9, October 2020- September 2021, p. 332)



The picture shows a representation of the members of the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Jamā'at on the occasion of Eid in 1973: Among the pictures that the author is able to identify are: seated from left: Jamal Malik, unknown, Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, Muhammad Siddique Shahid, Missionary In-charge, Muhammad Ameen, Yahya Sharif, unknown. In the third row standing: 4th from left is partially obscured; 5th from left: Mubasher Ahmad; 6th from left: Jameel Akbar.

Khalifatul-Masih III Visits American Fazl Mosque

First Visit of a Khalifa to the US

The visit of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) in 1976 was the first ever by any Khalifa to the US and the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA.

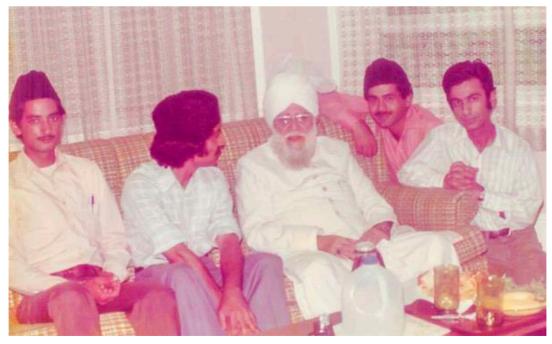
Hazrat Khalifatul-Masīḥ III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) left Rabwah, Pakistan, on 20 July 1976 and via London arrived in Washington on 25 July 1976. He stayed in Washington from 25-31 July 1976, in Dayton from 1-4 August, in New York from 4-6 August, in New Jersey from 6-8 August, and left for Canada on 8 August and arrived back in Pakistan on 20 October 1976. He visited Canada, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, West Germany (in the year 1976, there was an East Germany and a West Germany), and the United States.



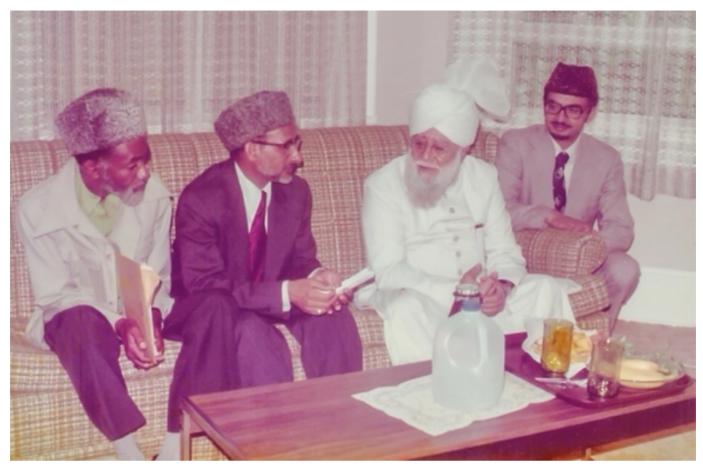




Arrival at Dulles Airport, Washington D.C., on 25 July 1976



Members in the company of the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III at Washington Fazl Mosque.



Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III at the American Fazl Mosque in Washington D.C. with Br. Rashid Ahmad, National President at the time, Imām S.M. Shahid, Missionary In-Charge at the time, and Munawar Saeed, President of the Washington D.C. chapter at the time.



The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) had said about the preaching difficulties in the United States:

"I cannot desist from saying clearly that it is my job, and no one can perform this except me or the one who shall be from my progeny. He shall be what I am."

So, in the eyes of God, Hazrat Khalifatul Masīḥ III (may Allah be pleased with him) was one who could accomplish this task in succession of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). In the United States, he delivered speeches and Friday sermons in mosques and

Jalsa (conferences). He emphasized the need to build community centers and plant fruit-bearing trees there.

He visited Gothenburg, Sweden to inaugurate Nasir Mosque. He also embarked on a trip to Jamā'ats of Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, and the United Kingdom to spread Islam in the Western world through broadcast and print media. He issued instructions to the missionaries of the USA and Canada for the effective propagation of true Islam. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, December 2016, p. 6)





Br. Abd-us-Sami Khaliq captured various moments from the visits of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III to the US. Top right: Missionary-in-Charge SM Shahid in the foreground. Bottom picture: Missionary Mas'ud Jhelumī to the left.

Friday Sermons at American Fazl Mosque

Hazrat Khalifatul Masīḥ III (may Allah shower His mercy on him) delivered a Friday Sermon at American Fazl Mosque, 2141 Leroy Pl. N.W., Washington, D.C. on 30 July 1976.

As Ahmadi Muslims, we believe in Almighty Allah. We believe that He is *Ahad* (the One and Unique God), and that there is none worthy of worship save Allah. We believe that He is *As-Samad*, Independent of all and upon Whom all depend for their support. And, we believe that He is *Al-Hayy*, Ever living and cannot suffer death in any sense of the word; and He is the Source of all life. We believe that He is *Al-Qayyum*, Self-Subsisting, and Self-Sustaining, and is above all physical weakness. Slumber seizes Him not, nor sleep. To Him belongs everything and, for man, He has pressed everything into service. And, He has completed His favors upon man, both visible and invisible. And, He is *Rabbul-'Aalamin*, (the Lord of all the worlds), the

Creator Who sustains and develops and brings to perfection, gradually and by degrees. And He commands us to dye our actions with the sublime heavenly hues of Allah's attributes.

So, it is our duty to look after the rest of creation, the creatures; that we try to help them develop their faculties; that we see that their inner powers are developed to the full; and that this development is brought to perfection.

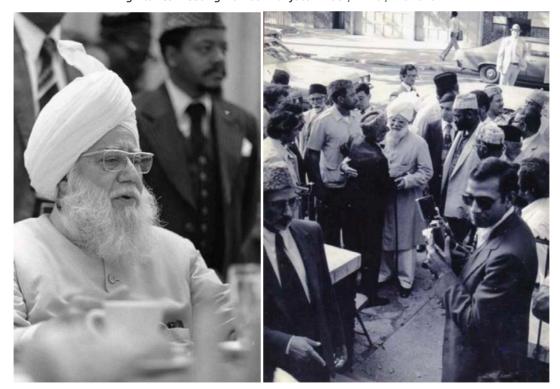
We are the servants of *Rabbul-'Aalamin*, we have no enmity towards anyone. We are servants of all. We have great affection for all mankind and we want peace established in this world. And, as we have to depend for our efforts on *Rabbul-'Aalamin*, we have to pray to Him to grant us the wisdom, the foresight, and the strength to perform our duties in ways, which He commands us. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, December 2016, pp. 22-23)







Dignitaries meeting Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III Raḥimahullāh.



Scenes from the visit of Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III to the US visit in 1976 (Pictures by Abdus-Sami Khaliq)







Dignitaries in the audience of Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III Raḥimahullāh at a reception.



 $\textit{Members meeting Hazrat Khali} \textit{fatul-Masi} \textit{\rlap{h}} \textit{III, Ra} \textit{\rlap{h}} \textit{imahull} \textit{\rlap{a}} \textit{\rlap{h}}.$





Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III (Raḥimahullāh) with missionaries.

Left: (from left) Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, Masood Ahmad Jhelumī, and M. Siddiq Shahid (missionary in-charge).

Right: (from left) M. Siddiq Shahid, Masood Ahmad Jhelumī, and Mian Muhammad Ibrahim.





Meeting Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III (Raḥimahullāh): Left. Mr. Bose, Member Indian delegation to UN. Right. Mrs. Galante, representative of the New York mayor's office.



Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, Raḥimahullāh, at a reception during his tour.





H.E. Mario R Gutierres, Ambassador Bolivia. H.E. Jaime Valdes Ambassador Bolivia.

Donald Lucus, US House of Representatives.





M.K.A. Agyeman, counselor to ambassador of Ghana, at the reception held in honor of Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III in Washington D.C.



Dignitaries meeting Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, Raḥimahullāh.



Dignitaries meeting Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, Raḥimahullāh.

Khalifatul-Masih III at American Fazl Mosque in 1980



A child presenting flowers to Hazrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, raḥimahullāh, on his arrival in San Francisco CA from Calgary Canada on September 11, 1980. Khalifatul-Masih III proceeded to Washington D.C. on September 15. (Photo:

Syed Sajid Ahmad)

Khalifatul-Masih III toured the USA for the second time from 11 September to 23 September 1980. He stayed in San Francisco for four days. On 15 September 1980, he flew to Washington, D.C., for a week, where he convened meetings with 1,000 people in 112 groups, instructed missionaries on matters of interest, and conducted meetings with other missionaries.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III in Washington D.C.

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, General Secretary

The local Jamā'at received Huzoor at the Dalles Airport at 9:00 p.m. on the 15th of September in a befitting and organized manner. Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad had the honor and privilege of hosting Huzoor and Hazrat Begum Sahiba, his entourage enjoyed the equally generous hospitality of Doctor Shamin Ahmad and Mir Daud Ahmad. Although physically exhausted due to a hectic and crowded schedule in San Francisco, Huzoor nonetheless chose to see his admiring and loving followers rather than rest. Informal meetings continued for the first three days until Friday, September 19th, which marked the beginning of a crowded and heavy schedule which only our Khalifatul-Masih with God-given power could implement. An uncommonly large crowd (larger than ever in the Washington Mosque) attended the Jumu'ah prayer. The inspiring and scholarly sermon was heard with due attention and reverence. Private interviews were granted after the Jumu'ah prayer and lasted from 3:00 until almost 8:00. About a hundred families had the unique blessing of meeting with Huzoor. The audience was comprised of several enthusiastic

followers across the country, mainly from the Southeast Region. Huzoor, absorbed in conversation with persons seeking his advice on private matters, suggested his anxiousness to help his community in solving their respective problems and join in their joys and sorrows. His words were a sort of balm for his ardent followers. Children accompanying their parents received recognition through pats and kisses from their caring and spiritual father. The five-hour interview made a great day for each one of his ardent followers.

Saturday, September 20th, found the members of the Board of Directors and the Jamā'at Presidents in Huzoor's august company for about 3 hours at Mian Muzaffar Ahmad's residence. Huzoor graciously led the deliberations of the meeting and gave the participants specific guidelines to be implemented into their programs for the propagation of Islam in this country. Mian M.M. Ahmad entertained all forty participants with a sumptuous dinner.

Mirza Farid Ahmad, in his capacity as Nai'b Sadr of Central Khuddāmul Ahmadiyya, also addressed the National Officeholders (Khuddam) on how they could escalate their activities in an effective manner. He gave them guidelines and goals to keep in view for the next year.

That afternoon, representatives of the press, radio and television, several members of the diplomatic corps, statesmen, scholars, and dignitaries were thrilled by meeting with Huzoor at a reception given in his honor at the Washington Hilton. Huzoor's words of wisdom and grace, his vision and farsightedness, enthralled and impressed everyone.

Almost synchronizing with the reception for Huzoor at the Hilton, the Executive Board of Lajna Imā'illāh gave a reception at the American Fazl Mosque in honor of Hazrat Begum Sahiba. This memorable function was attended by National and Regional officeholders of Lajna and local Lajna Presidents who expressed their appreciation for Hazrat Begum Sahiba's devotion to the cause of Islam and the womenfolk.

The Shoreham Americana Hotel was the setting on September 21st for all Jamā'at's day. Devoted followers from across the country had arrived in the hundreds just to cast a glance at Huzoor and seek his blessings. Women and children, men young and old, made great personal sacrifices of time and money to reach Washington just for a day to receive Huzoor's blessings. It was physically impossible for all to have private interviews with Huzoor so they contented themselves with dining in his company and having the benefit of his faith-increasing speech. Seated on a long table with his

entourage and distinguished members of the community, he addressed them on topics of special interest to the community and the need for improving spiritually in order to become exemplary Ahmadies. There was time for him to shake hands with all the brothers and to greet the sisters who were seated separately behind a screen. Some sisters, however, felt they did not have their fill due to the shortage of time scheduled for them. The function concluded with the Zohar and Asr prayers, led by Huzoor to the delight of a mammoth congregation.

Earlier, Huzoor graced a luncheon party given in his honor by Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad on the World Bank premises and was also gracious enough to have a session with the five Missionaries on 22 September to discuss our missionary activities and suggest ways and means to make it more effective and successful.

In short, Huzoor's visit to Washington was the greatest event for years. The pleasure and delight everybody felt were unique and the benefits we derived were immeasurable. From the administrative point of view, it was really a success as everything was well planned and excellently executed. Thanks to the leadership of Mir Sahib, the Missionary-In-charge, ably assisted by Missionary A.R. Yahya, National Regional and Local President. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, November 1980, pp. 7-8)

Khalifatul-Masih III arrives in Washington D.C. from San Francisco, CA

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III arrived in Washington D.C. on 15 September 1980, along with his entourage, after spending four days in the West Coast region of the USA. He and his wife were given a tumultuous send-off at San Francisco airport. Khalifatul-Masih III led the prayer by raising hands before departure. He was received by Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, US missionaries and presidents of some chapters. A large number of people were awaiting Khalifatul-Masih III in the lounge. They all were given an audience individually and conversed with them. Khalifatul-Masih III went to the residence of Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad about twenty miles from the airport and stayed there.

Friday Sermon and activities on 19 September 1980

Khalifatul-Masih III delivered a Friday sermon on 19 September in English. He asserted that members of the community should lead their lives in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Quran. He advised them to become an example for others as they have benefited from the Promised Messiah.

Khalifatul-Masih III overviewed the activities of missionaries and presidents of chapters in a specially convened meeting and showered pearls of advice. The Ahmadiyya Mission USA arranged a reception to which important literary personalities were invited. Khalifatul-Masih III talked with them on matters of mutual interest. He said, "It is imperative to act on the teachings of Islam to solve the problems of the world." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 104)

Sightseeing at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania

Khalifatul-Masih III along with his wife and other family members went to Longwood Gardens Pennsylvania about 120 miles from Washington D.C. The place has artificial lakes, ponds, fountains and falls. Khalifatul-Masih III saw glass conservatories. He visited the beautiful 'Main Fountain Garden.' More than 600,000 tourists visit this place every year. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 106)

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad arranges a Dinner at the World Bank

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad arranged a dinner at the World Bank Building in which some officials and top officers participated. Khalifatul-Masih III had a dialogue with the invitees on the socio-economic system

prevalent in the West. He presented to them Islamic Teachings on the subject. Sahibzada Mirza Anas Ahmad, Private Secretary, Sahibzada Mirza Fareed Ahmad, Na'ib Sadr Majlis Khuddāmul-Ahmadiyya, Chaudhri Anwar Husain (Amir Sheikhupura), Syed Mahmud Ahmad Nasir, Missionary in-Charge US missions, also participated. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 106)

Instruction from Khalifatul-Masih to Presidents of US Chapters

The Presidents of different chapters of the USA presented to Khalifatul-Masih III reports about their financial and propagational activities. Khalifatul-Masih III guided them and gave them important instructions as follows.

Try to increase contacts and invite friends of children for a picnic on Eid congregations. There is no need to deliver long speeches on propagation. Educate children on Islamic etiquette of how to eat together. They should be told to eat in the name of Allah. They should be asked to eat with their right hand. They should be told to eat whatever is placed in front of them. Children should be told about the Islamic injunction not to call names or bad words. They should be taught basic etiquette with love and affection.

Prepare literature about moral ethics within a year. It should be such that a child could easily read it.

Procure land for Eid congregations. I had instructed US Jamā'at to procure land and establish community centers at different places when I came here last time in 1976. But the Jamā'at has not acted on my advice. Now I have made a change in the scheme and ask you to establish places for Eid gatherings. Make arrangements to complete this at the earliest. (Khalifatul-Masih III gave reasons for the project.) The land needs to be procured in each state whether there is no Ahmadi. formed Eid (Khalifatul-Masih III Committee.) Missionary in-Charge shall be its President and National President secretary. The progress report should be intimated to me.

Propagation and Literature distribution should be

Reception in the Washington D.C. Hilton

Ahmadiyya Mission USA hosted a reception in the Washington Hilton on 20 September 1980 at 6:15 P.M. Large dignitaries from universities, professors, and media, people came to participate. All of them were introduced to Khalifatul-Masih III. They asked questions and Khalifatul-Masih III replied to them in light of Islamic teachings. Prof. Hammond asked about socio-economic problems and after getting due answers, said: Khalifatul-Masih III solved economic problems and made my stay beneficial. I am thankful to him. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 106)

Welcome from the Mayor of Washington D.C.

The Mayor of Washington was invited but he could not come. He sent his assistant executive secretary, Mr. Luis Anthony, and presented Khalifatul-Masih a present. He said: It is an honor for the people of Washington that such a noble dignitary arrived here. I welcome you. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 107)

Tribute to the Ambassador of Peace

During the reception, a retired army general, General Roland Delmar, made an impression. He requested that Khalifatul-Masih III should stay a bit longer in Washington so that more people could meet him. You have come here to eliminate hatred. You should give us more time so that we listen to your pearls of wisdom. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 106)

given due importance. The Holy Quran in English should be distributed with priority. In the first phase, collect the names and addresses of one thousand Americans. Then, afterward, make the list of four thousand Americans to whom it shall be beneficial to provide them Holy Quran. (Khalifatul-Masih III asked the Missionary in-Charge about the distribution of 40,000 copies of the Holy Quran. In reply, the missionary informed Khalifatul-Masih III that 3,000 such addresses are saved in a register and the work is continuing. Presidents gave Khalifatul-Masih III many advice.) The wall between you and non-Ahmadis is obstructing propagational activities.

Make plans to publish propagational folders in all well-known languages and distribute them to tourists at all recreational sights. (He advised US Jamā'at to publish 50,000 such folders and distribute them as instructed.)

Publish 50,000 copies of short English commentary in the US.

Khalifatul-Masih III talked about matrimonial difficulties and advised that Islam makes the husband responsible for earning. He also instructed that the law of the land about marriage should be followed.

Khalifatul-Masih III explained the importance of mandatory contributions. The people should try to achieve the standards for which they should be educated accordingly. The session continued for more than three hours. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 106)

Reception in honor of the wife of Khalifatul-Masih III by Lajna Imā'illāh

On the same day, that is., On September 20, afternoon, Lajna USA hosted a reception in honor of the wife of Khalifatul-Masih III on the upper floor of the Ahmadiyya Mission USA. This was attended by ladies from the family of the Promised Messiah and a large number of ladies from the local chapter. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 107)

Farewell Reception at Washington D.C.



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

A farewell reception in honor of Khalifatul-Masih III was arranged at the Shoreham Americana Hotel on the sixth day in Washington D.C. A stage was decorated. The hall was divided into two, one for men and the other for ladies. Missionaries and central officeholders were asked to sit with Khalifatul-Masih III on the stage. There were 400 chairs each for men and ladies. On the arrival of Khalifatul-Masih III, slogans of Allahu Akbar, Khatam-ul-Anbiya Zindabad, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Kee Jay and Khalifatul-Masih Zindabad erupted. After recitation from the Holy Quran by Syed Mahmud Nasir, Khalifatul-Masih III led a silent prayer. Afterward, he delivered a speech in English. Khalifatul-Masih III said: The Holy Prophet was sent for all human beings of all times. He gives glad tidings for the righteous.

He also said that you should become an example for others. You should not be such to follow other's examples. God says in Surah Al-A'rāf, verse 32, "Eat and drink but be not immoderate." This injunction is being violated in the USA. Food is being wasted. It is said that due to the increase in population, food will be scarce in the world. There is enough food in this world if it is not

wasted.

Khalifatul-Masih III stressed the need to take care of parents, especially old parents.

He also explained the true aim of human birth. He said: We should have live contact with God so that He guides us and bestows on us his blessings and favor. You should strive to attain this objective. He also narrated events that happened in 1974 and how God helped the Community to overcome the difficulties.

In the end, Khalifatul-Masih III reminded us of our responsibilities. You are witness to it that God sent his messenger, the Promised Messiah, in your age. God is with His Community and He is helping the victory of Islam over all others. The victory is near. So, become good Muslims so that you become custodians of the treasure.

Lunch was served and Khalifatul-Masih III shook hands with people present. The Zuhr and Asr Prayers were offered. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 72, April-September 2020, p. 107)

Khalifatul-Masih IV Visits American Fazl Mosque in 1987

Arrival at American Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C.

Khalifatul-Masih IV arrived in Washington on 4 October 1987 and proceeded to the American Fazl Mosque, where many families had an audience with him. The family meetings continued for the next two days.

Reception at Washington Hilton

Jamā'at Ahmadiyya USA arranged a reception in the Washington Hilton on 7 October 1987.

The Mayor of Washington D.C. declared 7 October as Mirza Tahir Day. He was presented with an insignia by Senator Vance Hartke. Khalifatul-Masih IV thanked all of them. He pointed out that materialism had prevailed in American society.



The Washington Metropolitan Area Jamā'at of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A., arranged a magnificent reception in honor of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (May Allah strengthen his hands) at the Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington D.C., on Wednesday, October 7, 1987, at 7:00 p.m. Nearly 300 ladies and gentlemen attended. There were about 250 non-Muslim or non-Ahmadi guests, who came from different strata of society and included top Executives of the World Bank and IMF and other international organizations, University professors, senior government and business leaders, physicians, lawyers and other professionals, diplomats, church leaders and elected representatives of the people.

Br. Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, Nai'b Amir, introduced the Holy Guest to the audience. He used the text of Mayor Barry's Proclamation, declaring Wednesday, October 7, 1987 "Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad Day," in which a brief life sketch of Mirza Tahir Ahmad and his tremendous achievements in promoting harmony among the followers of different faiths and among people of different colors, creeds, and ethnic origins as well as the services of Ahmadiyya Muslim community to the suffering humanity all over the world in general and the people of the United States and the residents of Washington D.C. in particular were recognized.

Thereafter, Dr. Charles Vetter, an Educationist and retired officer of the United States Foreign Service,

expressed his deep gratitude to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community for being a source of strength and immense help to the residents of the Leroy Place neighborhood. He informed the audience that during his tour of duty in Pakistan in 1956, he visited Rabwah and had the opportunity to meet Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd (may Allah be pleased with him). He stated that his meeting with Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd left such an infallible mark on his mind that after that, wherever in the world he went, he kept some contact, some association, with Ahmadiyyat. He mentioned in detail the human services being rendered and harmony, peace and peaceful coexistence being promoted by Ahmadiyya missions and other institutions of the Jamāʻat the world over.



Mr. Vance Hartke, former US Senator, welcomes Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad

Senator Vance Hartke, who has been a United

States Senator from Indiana for over 18 years, welcomed Huzoor and paid glowing tributes to the tremendous social, educational and health services being rendered by the Jamā'at in different regions of the world. He presented an Insignia of the United States to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih in recognition of his outstanding services to humanity and for his struggle towards mutual understanding and harmony among and love for people belonging to different religious, political, and cultural orientations and beliefs.

While addressing the audience, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih pointed out how Materialism was prevailing overwhelmingly over moral and spiritual values. He gave the example of the period of Prophet Noah (peace be on him), while everything, including mountains, was submerged in water. He said that a similar flood is taking over the world today. This flood is not the flood of water, it is rather the flood of dry sand of Materialism which is swaying human beings. It seems as if helpless people are boarding the floating boards of sand and are being driven away from place to place, without being aware of what is happening to them.

He explained and elaborated on the concept of Materialism, how it is destroying life in the realm of religion as well as the social and economic fabric of the society. He advised his audience to judge each injunction advice or action emanating from any religious leader, and for that matter from any leader, on the touchstone of their conscience. He asserted that the Holy Ouran has clearly stated that human beings have been granted the capability to distinguish between right and wrong. He deplored the tendency among some religious leaders who prefer to have a large number of hollow and spiritually dead followers. He exhorted the audience to listen to the voice of their conscience and follow it. He stated that whatever God you believe in, His teachings have a reflection on your heart and conscience. Evaluate every stimulus on this touchstone and follow it. In the end, he gave an illustration of a great Muslim saint and explained how a small incident changed the entire course of his life. Khalifatul-Masih's

scholarly address was followed by some very interesting questions from the audience. He gave exhaustive and fulfilling replies to each questioner. The questioners had the liberty of asking questions on any topic or concern agitating their minds. Some asked a series of follow-up questions. Huzoor kept his usual pleasant repose and gave detailed replies, quoting extensively from the Holy Quran, writings of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and the scriptures of other religions. He reproduced various historical facts in support of his assertions. At the end, he took a round of the room and very informally met with the guests. He staved among the guests till very late in the evening and exchanged views on a variety of subjects. The guests were entertained with hot and cold drinks. Most of the guests enjoyed the delicious refreshments.



The organizers received scores of telephone calls from the guests, congratulating and thanking them for providing such an inspiring and rewarding occasion to them. Most of them expressed a pleasant surprise and deep appreciation of Huzoor's insight into the most intricate and complex spiritual, scientific, social, and cultural issues facing human beings today. Most members of the Jamā'at are unanimous in their view that such a successful and fruitful Tabligh event has never been held in Washington D.C. before. The numbers, caliber, and diversity of the guests have also been unprecedented. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, September to November 1987, pp. 16-18)

Jang and BBC correspondents interview at the Fazl Mosque

The representative of Voice of America interviewed Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad on 7 October 1987. He was also interviewed by a reporter from the Daily Jang, which was published in Lahore and Rawalpindi.



Left: Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad was interviewed by the representative of Voice of America. Right: Daily Jang interviewed him which was later published in Lahore and Rawalpindi.

Khalifatul-Masih V Visits American Fazl Mosque in 2012



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V coming out from the present American Fazl Mosque Washington D.C. (Pictures by Kalim Bhatti)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) visited the American Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C., on 27 June 2012. He was welcomed by Mian Ismail Waseem, the President of the Washington D.C. chapter, and was blessed with a handshake by Khalifatul-Masih. Khalifatul-Masih went inside and inspected the interior of the mosque. He instructed that it should be properly renovated. Then Huzoor went outside and inspected the lawns on both sides of the building. Khalifatul-Masih was told that these grassy plots could not be used for the extension of the building. It is a three-story building apart from the basement. The building houses offices of the Jamā'at and the library. There are separate prayer halls for men and women.

On the third floor, there is a residence for Missionary Zaheer Ahmad Bajwa who is also Nai'b Amir USA Jamā'at. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih very graciously went to his house. Afterward, the visit and inspection of the American Fazl Mosque, Khalifatul-Masih V left for Virginia, which is forty miles from Washington D.C. (Adapted by Mahmud Ahmad Nagi from Al-Fazl International, 31 August 2012, p. 1)



Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V talking to Mian Ismail Waseem, the President of the Washington D.C. chapter





(Pictures courtesy of Kalim Bhatti)



Seated L to R: (name unavailable), M. M. Ahmad (Washington D.C.), Rashid Ahmad (National Amir), Imām M. S. Shahid (Missionary in-Charge, Imām Fazl Mosque), M. M. Ibrahim (Midwest Regional Missionary), Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr (Dayton), Abdul Hafiz (Baltimore), Bashir Afzal (New York).

Historical Events at the American Fazl Mosque

After the move of the national headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in USA from Chicago IL to the American Fazl Mosque in Washington DC in 1950, the American Fazl Mosque became a hub for the national, regional and local activities. It remained so until Masjid Bait-ur-Rahman complex started taking shape in Silver Sprint MD in 1984. Events listed here are only a selection, but they provide information about the kind of activities at the mosque. The mosque continues to serve as an important venue for meetings and exhibits. The resident missionary serves as a liaison and contact with the vast networks of public, governmental and non-governmental organizations at the nation's capital. A small selection of activities are presented here in chronological order that provide a glimpse into the function and role of the American Fazl Mosque.

New Arrangement of Circles

Due to the transfer of our headquarters from Chicago to Washington D.C., it has become necessary to make some changes in the present set-up of our organization from May 1950. The following division of missions will be effective:

- The New York Circle in-Charge of Br. Ghulam Yasin will include all missions in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Maryland.
- 2. Pittsburgh Circle, in-Charge of Br. Abdul Qadir will

- include all missions in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan.
- 3. Missouri Circle, in-charge Br. Shukar Ilahi will include all missions in Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana.

The members and office-holders are requested to co-operate fully with the new arrangement and to make it a success. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 1, no. 4, June 1950, p. 2)

Washington Mission Report

Friday Prayers and Sunday meetings were regularly held. In the absence of the Missionary, Br. Abdul Wadud led the Friday prayer and also conducted the Sunday Meeting. The financial secretary of the mission submitted his report and also handed over the dues to the headquarters. The mission arranged a party to say farewell to Br. Syed Jawad Ali and welcome to Br. Maqbool A. Qureshi. The missionary in-charge and some other members from Philadelphia and New York also participated in the function. The missionary in-

charge of the circle, Br. Maqbool A. Qureshi in addition to performing his enormous duties as secretary, accompanied the Chief Missionary during his tour of the eastern court from Washington to Boston. We also had to take care of Br. Muhammad Haroon Isa, a sincere member of the Washington Jamā'at suddenly had an attack of mental disease. Members are requested to pray for his speedy and perfect recovery. Amen (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, vol. 10, no. 5, May 1971, p. 3)

Amīrs USA meet at Washington Fazl Mosque

Amīrs of the following Jamā'at met on February 8-9, 1975, at Washington Fazl Mosque, with Imām Shahid, Missionary In-charge, in the chair.

Amīrs-Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New York, Teaneck, N.J., York-Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Dayton, Detroit (Rahman Karim substituting), St. Louis, Waukegan, Athens, Milwaukee, and Portland OR. (Br. Khalil Mahmud of Boston) Col. M. Ata Ullah of Lahore, Pakistan, on a casual visit, participated on request.

a) The Ahmadiyya Gazette be published once a month. Amīrs should collect the annual subscription of \$ 5 for the Gazette and quarterly Muslim Sunrise and send it to Washington

Mission.

- b) Illustrated history of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam USA be published by the next National Convention (Aug 30-Sept 1, 1975), for which photos and articles be sent to the Editor by 31 May 1975.
- c) Jamā'ats shall submit reports on their activities and financial positions every month on the prescribed forms circulated among the Amīrs.
- d) At the recommendation of the convention committee, it was adopted that the next convention be held in Dayton, Ohio. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, March 1975, p. 4)

Muslih Mau'ūd Day at Washington D.C.

Muslih Mauʻūd Day was celebrated in Washington D.C. The missionary in-charge, Imām Shahid presided over the function, in which Munawar Saeed, Mubashar Ahmad and Yusuf Ali were the speakers. Delegates from Baltimore, Yor, and other places participated. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, March 1975, p. 5)

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors meets at Washington Mission House

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors was held on 25 May 1975 at the Washington Mission Headquarters with Imām Shahid in the chair. The following attended:

The missionary Midwest Circle, Imām Ibrahim, the national Amir, Rashid Ahmad, National Financial Secretary, Munawar Saeed, the Midwest Regional Amir, Alhaj Muzaffar Ahmad, co-opted and the East Coast Regional Amir, Bashir Afzal, Co-opted.

An up-to-date financial report (ending April 1975) presented by the financial secretary is being published elsewhere for general information. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, June 1975, p. 1)

Amīrs decide at Fazl Mosque USA

Decisions were taken by Amīrs during a meeting held under the guidance of Missionary In-Charge Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri on 6-7 February 1976.

- a) Subscriptions to the Ahmadiyya Gazette be increased from 5 to 7 dollars.
- b) A suitable piece of land be obtained for building a mosque at Zion.
- c) Br. Rashid Ahmad was elected unanimously as the National Amir
- d) Missionaries Mas'ud Ahmad and Mian Muhammad Ibrahim are required to look after the Jamā'ats in the East Coast region, Midwest, and Lakes, respectively. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette March 1976, p. 3)

Lajna Imā'illāh Washington D.C. holds "Muslim Women's Unity Hour" at Fazl Mosque

Seventy women attended "Muslim Women's Unity Hour" at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C. on 18 December 1976. The meeting established friendly relations among Muslim women. Representatives from "The World Community of Islam in the West" (formerly known as the Nation of Islam) as well as Sunni sisters from other D.C. Muslim groups attended.

Aisha Badru Nisa from N.Y. gave an enlightening talk on the "Nature of the Soul and Life after Death" as presented in the Holy Qur'ān. Adiba Abbas, D.C. Lajna President, spoke on Islam and Peace, comparing Islam's approach to establishing peace between the nations to that of the United Nations. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette February 1977, pp. 7-8)

Washington D.C. chapter holds Tabligh event at American Fazl Mosque

A Tabligh meeting was held on 30 July 1978. Br. Munawar Saeed gave a summary of the book of the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) entitled "Parūrat-ul-Imām (the Need for an Imām)." Br. Mubashir Ahmad spoke of the importance of financial sacrifices, followed by some practical suggestions for effective Tabligh by Daud Malik. Twenty copies of the Holy Qur'ān were distributed to the people with other literature on Islam. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette September-November 1978, p. 9)

Imām A.U. Kaleem addresses students of University of District Columbia

Islam does not admit that sin is innate in our nature and that we are by our own actions, incapable of freeing ourselves from this bondage. "It categorically refutes the inheritance of sin," declared Imām A.U. Kaleem, addressing the students of the history department of the University of D.C.

In the end, he answered questions from students. The students were given free literature: Muhammad in the Bible, A Messenger of Peace, and a World of Warning, Why I Believe in Islam, and The Contribution

of Islam to the Solution of World Problems. A set of fifty books on Islam, including the Holy Qur'ān translated into English with short commentary, Introduction to the Study of the Holy Qur'ān, the Life of Muhammad, Ahmadiyyat or the True Islam, Jesus in India, and Invitation to Ahmadiyyat, was presented to Dr. Muhammad Al-Khawas, the professor of history, to be forwarded to the university library. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette December 1978- January 1979, p. 3)

Missionaries and Presidents of Jamā'at meet American Fazl Mosque

The following presidents of Jamā'ats and missionaries in the USA attended a meeting with Missionary in-Charge Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir in the chair:

Muzaffar Ahmad, National President Dayton

Rashid Ahmad, Regional President Milwaukee Abid Hanif, Boston

Major Abdul Hamid, Missionary East Coast (NY)

Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, Missionary MW and Lakes (Dayton)

M. Abdur Rashid Yahya, Missionary, S. East Region (Washington)

Muhammad Sadiq N.J Syed Sharif Ahmad, Concord, CA Munir Ahmad, St. Louis, Missouri Jamilur Rahman, Pittsburgh, PA Jamil Ahmad, Cleveland, OH Abdul Hafiz, Baltimore Ali Razaa, Kenosha, WI Abdul Kabir Haque, Chicago Yahya Sharif, Dover, PA Mubashar Ahmad, Central Financial Secretary Dr. B.A. Munir, Athens OH Yusaf Amin, Troy-OH Hussain Abdul Aziz, Philadelphia, PA Dr. Abdul Mannan Malik, Willingboro, NJ Umar Bilal Ibrahim, NY Abu Bakr, Racine, WI Nasir M. Malik (V. President) Detroit, MI

Among the 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 April 1979, p. 5)

Dr. Abdus Salam delivers a lecture at the American Fazl Mosque





1980: Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir, Missionary-in-Charge, is standing next to Dr. Abdus Salam.

Jamā'at holds Muslih Mau'ūd and Masih Mau'ūd Days at the American Fazl Mosque

The Jamā'at held a Muslih Mau'ūd Day meeting on February 22, 1981, at the American Fazl Mosque, with Ch. Allah Bukhsh the President in the chair. After the recitation of a portion of the Holy Qur'ān by Br. Munir Ahmad Khan and a poem of the Muslih Mau'ūd by Br. Mubarak Ahmad Malik, speeches were delivered by Br. Noor-ud-Din Alhadith, Maulawi Ata Ullah Kaleem and Syed Mahmud Ahmad Nasir, on The Life and Works of Muslih Mau'ūd; He will be saturated with secular and spiritual knowledge; and His fame shall reach the corners of the earth, respectively.

The tape of a portion of the speech delivered by Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd, Khalifatul-Masih II, to the participants of Jalsa Salana, 1953, at Rabwah, Pakistan, was played to the audience and its English translation was presented by Br. Mubashir Ahmad.

Masih Mauʻūd Day was held on March 22, 1981, at the American Fazl Mosque, with Maulawi Ata Ullah Kaleem in the Chair. After the recitation of the Holy Quran by Br. Munir Ahmad Khan and a poem of the Promised Messiah by Br. Hamid Ahmad Bhatti, The Heavenly Signs for the Promised Messiah; The Regenerator of the Universal Faith; Renaissance of Islam Through the Promised Messiah; and Some Prophecies of the Promised Messiah; were explained by Br, Noor-ud-Din Alhadith, Br. Yahya Sharif, M.A. Rashid Yahya, and Br. Munawar Saeed, respectively. Maulawi Kaleem in his chairman's remarks, elaborated on the topics spoken by speakers. Br. Naseer Ahmad Khan presented his own poem under the title of

Manifestation of Nature. The members from Baltimore, Harrisburg and York attended the meeting in considerable numbers. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette April 1981, p. 6)

Lajna Imā'illāh holds a conference on "Women in Religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam" at the American Fazl Mosque

Fifty-six ladies participated in the subject conference, out of which seventeen were non-Muslims and non-Ahmadis. Sisters from York, Harrisburg, and Baltimore attended the function. After the recitation of a portion of the Holy Quran by Sis. Mehr Nigar and its English translation by Sis. Nusrat Alhadees, three speakers explained the viewpoints of their respective religions. Rev. Frances Turner of the Christian Holiness Church represented Christianity, Ms. Amy Goott of Brith Anti-Defamation League represented Judaism, while Sis. Hameeda Haleem represented Islam.

The Ahmadi sisters, during the question and answer period, put various questions to the non-Muslim

speakers, such as, how can an innocent baby be born in sin? Can a spirit eat, walk, talk, and be touched in the flesh as Jesus did after coming out of the sepulcher? The Ahmadis pointed out that Jesus, being a righteous Prophet of God, was saved from the accursed death of the cross. Both the non-Muslim speakers were asked to identify the Prophet mentioned in Deuteronomy 18:15 and 18: 18-19, to which they failed to give a satisfactory answer. All the non-Muslim participants of the function were presented with sets of Islamic Books, including the Holy Qur'ān and the Philosophy of the Teaching of Islam. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette July 1981, p. 4)

Zafrulla Khan Speaks at American Fazl Mosque

On the request of the Washington D. C. Chapter, Hazrat Chaudhri Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan very kindly agreed to address the members of the local Jamā'at. He arrived at the Fazl Mosque in Washington, D. C., at 5 p.m. and remained with the members till 9 p.m. With the grace of God, the meeting was very fruitful, and the entire Jamā'at enjoyed and took full benefit of his presence. He expressed his opinion on various topics of interest in a very attractive way. The first half of this meeting was spent by him expressing the excellence of the Holy Quran. Responding to an inquiry regarding the fatherless birth of Hazrat Isa Bin Maryam, Jesus son of Mary, he referred to the relevant verses of the Holy Quran and explained that the Holy Qur'an is the only divine book that throws a flood of light on all the important aspects of his miraculous event. For example, how under divine command Hazrat Maryam became pregnant, staying untouched by any man. The Bible is vague, but the Holy Quran is very specific on this issue. The Holy Quran has resolved this difficult point in a brief statement full of wisdom. This session was concluded with the dinner prepared by Lajna of the Washington D.C. chapter.

In the second session which started after the dinner, Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan in his exhortation made the Ahmadi members realize most effectively that the Promised Messiah is in fact a complete and perfect reflection of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him) for us who are living in the later days. The Holy Quran and the Sayings of the Holy Prophet give us the happy tidings of the revival of Islam through the Promised Messiah; hence, as a blessed community of the Promised Messiah, we should discharge our duties accordingly.

After the speech, Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan

encouraged the audience to ask questions on any matter of their concern. Answering a question related to the upbringing of Ahmadi children in an un-Islamic society, he stressed upon the basic responsibility of parents to create an Islamic atmosphere within the home. The parents should act upon the commandments of Allah and teach Islam to their children by giving a practical example. He mentioned a particular family living in London and elaborated that excellent moral training is possible under any circumstances if the parents decide to do so. The mother, in particular, can play a very important role in discharging this duty, but the father also has to participate in a significant way. The men have to find time for the training of their offspring. Answering a question related to food, he said though he is neither a doctor nor a dietician, he may recommend whatever lawful food is taken it should be wholesome and should not be eaten in excess. He quoted an old saying that the Muslims do not eat unless they are hungry and they quit eating before the hunger is fully gone.

Commenting on the opposition of Ahmadiyyat in Pakistan and the end of the opponents, he said that the truth of the Promised Messiah's prophecy in this regard has been manifested, and the Ahmadiyya Community as a whole has gained progress and strength in Pakistan. For those who called the believers non-Muslims, their dreadful end is clearly explained in the Holy Quran, and we are an eye-witness to its truth. Even the bitterest enemy of our community is forced to say that the progress of Ahmadiyyat cannot be hindered. We feel sorry for those who do not take advantage of God's merciful concessions granted to them and force themselves to fall into the death pit. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette December 1981, p. 11)

Lajna Imā'illāh holds a seminar on the "Concept of God in Islam and Christianity" at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C.

The Washington, D. C. Lajna Imā'illāh hosted a seminar at the American Fazl Mosque on 12 December 1981. The theme was "Concept of God in Islam and Christianity." The purpose of the activity was to invite Christian women from local churches for an exchange of views and to promote knowledge of Islam and Ahmadiyyat in a social setting.

The program opened with a reading from the Holy Quran and a translation of the first part of Surah Al-Fātiḥa, Ayat Al-Kursi and the last three Ayats of Surah Al-Hashr. President of Lajna Nusrat J. Ahmad stated the purpose of the meeting in her warm welcoming address: To increase knowledge of the Most High and to exchange different concepts of God.

She said, "We believe in One Source; we are all awed by the Creator whether you are Muslim, Jew, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, or Sikh. Creation was not by accident. We come together to honor the Creator."

The first speaker was Lisa Battle, a medical student and member of the United Methodist Church. She stated her belief in the Bible and in Jesus as God in the Holy Trinity, that God showed Himself to man through Jesus.

The second speaker was Ann M. English of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (Roman Catholic). Her beliefs were similar to Miss Battle's: Jesus was god and man. She said Catholic Christianity is changing to recapture tradition which emphasizes the Bible and human reason in speculating on the Bible. Some early Church writings are important, even though they are not Scripture and should be re-examined.

The third speaker was Azra Ahmad, who stated that "Our belief in God must remain imperfect if it is not backed up by a true conception of Him. Islam refuses to acknowledge, Azra Ahmad continued, the incarnation of the Divine Being. That the highest aim of religion is communion with God is a fact universally recognized. According to Islam, this communion is not attained by God assuming a human shape in the sense of

incarnation but by man rising gradually towards God by spiritual progress and the purification of his life from sensual desires and low motives. The perfect one who reveals the face of God to the world is not the Divine Being in human form, but the human being whose person has become a manifestation of divine attributes by his own personality having been consumed in the fire of the love of God. He serves as an incentive and is a model for others to follow. He shows by his example how a mere mortal can attain communion with God.

The fourth speaker, Nuzhat Khalid, discussed "Allah, God of Islam." She declared that abstractions are not relevant to the knowledge of God; His attributes are distinct from Allah. He chooses to reveal some of His attributes to man, the 99 attributes in the Quran were revealed because they were suited to the level of human understanding of the time. He is Lord of all the universes. Allah is in the Bible and the Torah; all of God's Prophets are respected in Islam; He is the Unseen, the High, the One.

In summarizing the discussion, Shakura Nooriah recited Surah Al-Ikhlas and commented that the cushion of the "Concept of God in Islam and Christianity" had fulfilled the purpose of the meeting: to explore the knowledge of both faiths and begin to build bridges of understanding and respect for each other. Allah has endowed the participators with the ability to act according to their own conclusions, but constant supplication for guidance will lead to the right path of Islam. She emphasized such similar beliefs in the two faiths as belief in all the Prophets of the Bible, Scripture, worship of God, and service to man. She said that Islam is the prescription for times of adversity and prosperity and the hearers should be diligent in remembering God gratefully and moving among His creatures with humility, peace, and love, always seeking His forgiveness and guidance. (Shakura J. Nooriah, General Secretary) (The Ahmadiyya Gazette December 1981, p.

The Southeast Region of the US Jamā'at holds "Children/Parents Day" at the American Fazl Mosque

The event was held at the American Fazl Mosque on December 25, 1984. The Amir of the US, Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, delivered the inaugural address. He said, "We believe in a living God who speaks even today and that is a point of difference between us and others."

Then, there was a contest of Tilāwat, impromptu and prepared speeches.

Ch. Allah Baksh spoke on the psychological aspects of how a child learns and how his physical and mental faculties develop.

Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad distributed prizes to the winners of the competition. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette February 1985, pp. 12-14)

The US Jamā'at holds a general meeting at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C.

The General Monthly Meeting of the Jamā'at was held on Sunday, January 4, 1987, at the Fazl Mosque with Dr. Masoud Ahmad Malik, President of the Jamā'at in the chair. Keeping up the tradition of the

previous years, this being the first meeting of the year 1987, it was devoted to the review and assessment of the activities of the Jamā'at during 1986 and to discuss plans for the new year. Wherein eleven office bearers

presented their reports for 1986 and submitted plans for 1987.

Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, the Amir and Missionary In-charge, in his concluding remarks, read out a letter received recently from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (May Allah strengthen his hands) and exhorted the members to accelerate their efforts in the area of Da'wat Ilallāh.

He appreciated that the local Jamā'at had accomplished its budgetary goal. He also drew the attention of the members towards the moral and spiritual training of their children. He emphasized that 100% of children should be enrolled in the Ta'līmul Islam Academy. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette February 1987, p. 11)

Students from Durham Academy, NC, visit the American Fazl Mosque

A teacher, along with four students of his class from Durham Academy, North Carolina, visited the American Fazl Mosque in Washington D.C. Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Amir & Missionary In-charge spent about two hours with them discussing various subjects about Islam in particular and about the state of religion in general. They watched the congregation while offering Jumu'ah Prayers and. remained in the mosque for quite some time, introducing themselves to Islamic Literature. At the time of their departure, they were all given the Holy Quran, the Philosophy of the teachings of Islam, Jesus in India, and some other literature on Islam. Mr. William Johnson, the teacher of the Academy who visited the mosque, wrote back while commenting and recalling his visit to the mosque:

"Thank you once again for your hospitality during our class's visit to your mosque. You made us feel especially welcome. The class really appreciated the time of conversation following the prayer service and continued to talk about many of the things which we discussed long after we had left Washington." (The Ahmadiyya Gazette March 1987, p. 10)



The Amir and missionary in-charge, Sh. Mubarak Ahmad with students from North Carolina in front of the American Fazl Mosque.

Jamā'at holds Muslih Mau'ūd Day at the American Fazl Mosque

On Sunday, Feb. 21, 1988, in commemoration of Muslih Mauʻūd Day, a meeting was held at the American Fazl Mosque, in Washington, D.C. Members from S~E. Region participated enthusiastically in great numbers. The meeting was presided over by Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad. It was opened by a recitation of the Holy Quran by Kaleem A. Bhatti of York. Then Mubarik A. Malik read a poem written by the regional President, Mubashir Ahmad in honor of Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd.

Abdur Rashid Yahya, missionary, in Washington, D.C., explained the background of the prophecy. He quoted from the Holy Quran, Hadith, sayings of the prophets and saints, prophecies about the advent of the Promised Messiah, Alaihis Salam, and his promised son, Razi Allaho Anho. He also stated that the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, went to Hoshiarpur and secluded himself for forty days. There he prayed to Allah earnestly for a great sign to be given to him. Accordingly, Allah accepted his prayers and gave a glad tiding about the birth of the Promised Son within nine years. Later on, Allah fulfilled His promise and the Muslih Mauʻūd was born.

Following this, Kaleemullah Khan recited the Urdu text of the prophecy, and its English translation was given by the President of Baltimore Jamā'at, Bro. Hamza Zainuddin. Then Alhaj Munawar A. Saeed threw

light, especially on one aspect of the prophecy, that is, "He will procure the release of those held in bondage." He explained that this aspect has many applications but he would take only one of them, that is, Colonialism. He explained in detail how Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd himself participated in and guided the Muslim leaders of India in establishing Pakistan. He also guided through Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) to free other Muslim countries of the bondage of colonialism.

Next, Bro. Hameed A. Bhatti recited a poem of Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd melodiously. Then the Amir and Missionary In-charge, Sh. Mubarak Ahmad explained how the prophecy was literally fulfilled in the person of Hazrat Mirza Mahmood Ahmad. He refuted the arguments of non-believers in Khilafat and proved from the wording of the prophecy that no one but the son of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, was the real and only person to whom this prophecy could be applied. He also stated in detail that the words "Allah's shadow will be on his head" were fulfilled many times in his person as he was saved on many occasions by Allah miraculously. The words "Fazl-i-Umar" in the prophecy pointed out that the Muslih Mau'ūd would survive the attacks, whereas Hazrat Umar could not survive the fatal attacks. He also enumerated different similarities between Hazrat Umar and the Muslih Mau'ūd.

This speech was followed by Ch. Allah Bakhsh, the President of Washington Jamā'at, who made different announcements, especially about the approval of new officeholders.

In the end, Sahibzada M. M. Ahmad presented his personal experiences and those of his wife as son-in-law and daughter. He narrated that the Muslih Mauʻūd always treated them kindly and respectfully. Rather, he advised him to be mindful of the feelings of people,

especially the needy ones. He also mentioned that Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd, in spite of being Khalifatul-Masih, always respected Umm-ul-Mu'minīn (may Allah be pleased with her), and treated her kindly. The meeting came to an end with collective Duʻā. May Allah enable us all to follow Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd's example and fulfill his desires. Ameen! (The Ahmadiyya Gazette March 1988, pp. 9-10)

Southeast Lajna holds regional Ijtima at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C.

Ijtima was held on 26-27 March 1988. The welcome address was given by the Amir and Missionary incharge, Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad. He explained that the purpose of the Ijtima is to revive and regenerate the values that are in the Holy Quran and the teachings of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. He also said that Khalifatul-Masih's Friday sermons are guidance for today's Ahmadi members and it is essential that all listen to the tapes.

Sister Amina Khan (Canada) spoke on the realistic, everyday guidance that Islam offers us. Hameeda Haleem commented on the idea that Lajna members should be involved in work for the poor and needy. Lateefa Iyas said that we should write a paper on the problem of incest so that we may know what to answer when people ask us. Sis. Shakura Nooriah spoke on Jehad of the tongue and how we should all be active in propagating Islam.

On 27 March 1988, Lajna held a speech competition on "The Holy Qur'ān—A basis for women in everyday life." Later Amir Sheikh Mubarak distributed prizes to the winners. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, April/May 1988, p. 22)

Dr. Laeeq Ahmad speaks at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C. on "AIDS"

The monthly General Meeting for the Jamā'at was held on October 2, 1988. The theme of the meeting was "AIDS" and a scholarly presentation was made by Dr. Laeeq Ahmad. He spoke for more than 45 minutes, giving the Medical, Psychological, Social and Spiritual implications of AIDS's scourge. He explained in detail how the immune systems fail as a result of the disease. He also discussed the preventive precautions that a

normal, healthy individual can take to protect oneself from the infection. He also reviewed the prophecies of the Holy Quran and the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) regarding this plague. This lecture was very informative. The speech evoked a volley of questions and comments which were replied by Dr. Laeeq. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, November 1988, p. 10)

William Miles, the Chief of the American Indian Reservation visits the American Fazl Mosque

William Miles, the Chief of the American Indian Reservation (located about 150 miles south of Washington D.C.) paid a visit to the Fazl Mosque on 15 January 1989 at the invitation of Lajna Washington. He was greeted by seventy-five Ahmadi brothers and sisters. The honored guest made a personal presentation on the original features of Native American Culture and religious beliefs. He responded to questions from the audience. He invited Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad to visit his people. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, March 1989, p. 18)

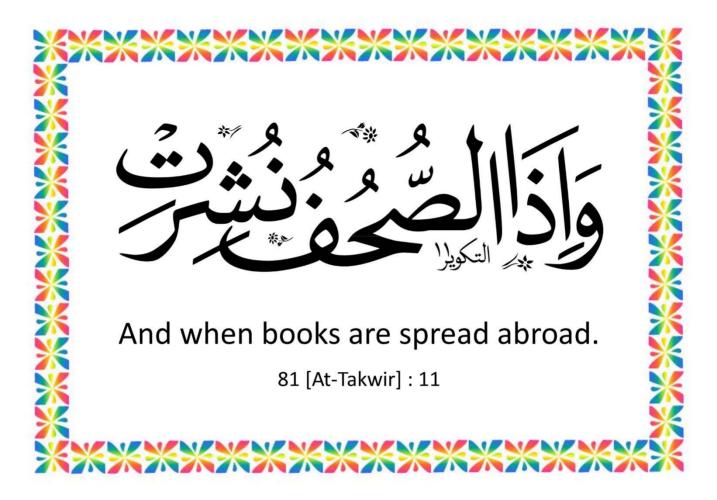
Jamā'at holds Muslih Mau'ūd Day at the American Fazl Mosque

The event was held on 23 February 1992 at Fazl Mosque. The Amir M.M. Ahmad presided over the function.

Missionary Zafar Ahmad Sarwar spoke on Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd as "A Great Healer, His Messianic Qualities" and missionary Maulana Ata Ullah Kaleem deliberated on "Knowledge of the Holy Qur'ān in Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd."

The closing address was by M.M. Ahmad, the Amir USA. He gave a very moving account of his personal experience with Hazrat Muslih Mauʻūd. Hazrat Muslih

Mau'ūd was always in control of his emotions and never let his sentiments show. The few times that he let his emotions show were mainly when the opponents of Islam tried to impede the progress of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. He stated: "I have met a large number of people all around the world and I can say with total confidence that I have never met a man greater than Hazrat Muslih Mau'ūd." It is our duty to implement his mission, program, and advice. (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, March-April 1992, pp. 18-19)



Lajna Imā'illāh hosts Interfaith Forum at Fazl Mosque, Washington D.C.

Lajna Imā'illāh sponsored an Interfaith Forum on 10 March 2012 at the American Fazl Mosque. The theme was "Peace, Tolerance, and Human Values in Religion." The program featured speakers from Christian, Buddhist, and Islam.

Reverend Emily Guthrie represented the Christian who is assistant Director at St. Margret's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C. She stressed the need for the Church to always return to the early place and the actions and words of Jesus. She spoke about the concept of reconciliation, and respect for all people, their ethnicity, creed and sexual orientation. She also mentioned the great influence a Muslim worker had on her when she was in Indonesia, by making her see what real poverty is and what sacrifice means.

Mrs. Fujie Ohata represented Ekoji Buddhist Temple, Fairfax Station, Virginia. She is the CEO and owner of Ohata Group, a business dedicated to providing subject matter and management expertise on immigration matters to the public and private sectors. The practice of compassion is essential to the Way and it should be manifested in one's everyday life. Emphasis is on mutual help and control over one's life, making for a culture of learning awareness and sharing. "There is no God-Creator command to convert everybody," she said.

Attorney Lubna R. Malik represented the Ahmadiyya Islamic faith. She emphasized that the word Islam means peace, but that it doesn't just end there. She referred (3:9) verse of the Our'an. She explained Islam's stance on peace, tolerance and human values. She referred Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad's (may Allah be his Helper) message to Pope Benedict. He said, "There is an urgent need for mankind to recognize its Creator as this is the only guarantor for the survival of humanity. If any church or other place of worship needs protection, they will find us standing shoulder to shoulder with them." The Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, said, "Until your dealing with each other is in order, your dealing with God cannot be in order". (The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA, May-June 2012, pp. 53-55)

National Calendar 2025 Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA

DateJanuary	Event	Local/Region/National.	Venue
•	New Year's Day		Federal Holiday
4-5 Jan Sat-Sun	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities Review of 2024 and	Plan 2025 activities	Local/Aux/Jamāʿat
11 Jan. Sat	National Amila Meeting	National Jamā'at	Houston, TX
	Quran Talks		
	First Khuddam Refresher Course		
	Ansar Leadership Conference-2025		
	Seerat-un-Nabi Day		
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Long Weekend		
25-26 Jan, Sat-Sun	God Summit – Review of Religions	Worldwide	•
February			
	Salat Ashara		
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	18th Annual National Public Affair Seminar		
	14 th Annual 'Day on the Hill'		
	Quran Talks		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Imāʾillāh National Mentoring Conference, National/Regio		
	CKnow Your History		
	Presidents' Day Long Weekend		
	Ashra Wasiyyat		
	Quarterly Flyer Distribution		
	Garments for Each Other		
= :	Muslih Mauʻūd Day	Local	Jamāʿat
March			
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	Ramadan		
	Masih Mauʻūd Day		
- '	Eid-ul-Fitr	Local	Jamāʿat
April		- 11	
	Salat Ashara		
	Local MKA Ijtima (Khuddam and Aṭfāl)		
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Quran Talks		
	Local Qur'an Conference		
	Waqf-e-Nau Career Expo		SVA and NVA Jamā'at
	Wasaya Webinar 2025		Webinar
	Ashra Wasiyat		Jamāʻat
	Majns Shura – OSA Jama at	Jen. Secretary Officebalt th	Railman Mosque, MD
May	Regional MKA Ijtima (Khuddam and Atfāl)	Mailic Khuddamul Ahm	adiana Pagianal
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	Waqf-e-Nau Awareness Day		
	ACE-Ahmadiyya Conference of Entrepreneurs		
	Quran Talks		
	Regional Majlis Ansarullah Ijtimas		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Quarterly Flyer Distribution		
	na Imā'illāh National Mentoring Conference for Regional, l		
	Khilafat Day		
	Masroor International Sports Tournament (MIST)		
	T Know Your History		
	Memorial Day Long Weekend		
	Garments for Each Other		
June		года года года года	
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities	Local/Aux	Jamāʿat
	Salat Ashara		
	Khuddam Khilafat Day		
,			, ,

6 Jun, Fri	Eid-ul-Adha	Local	Jamāʿat
	Quran Talks		
	National Amila Meeting		
14-18 Jun, Sat-Wed	National Waqfe-e-Nau Summer Camps (Boys)	Waqf-e-Nau Dept Bait ur R	ahman Mosque, MD
14-18 Jun, Sat-Wed	National Waqfe-e-Nau Summer Camps (Girls)	Waqf-e-Nau DeptS	South Virginia Mosque
	Spiritual Fitness Camp		
	Midwest Tarbiyat Conference		
	Regional Majlis Ansarullah Ijtimas		
	National Youth Camp	Taʻlīm Dept Bait ur	Rahman Mosque, MD
July			
4 Jul, Fri	Independence Day		Federal Holiday
	Jalsa Salana USA	National	Richmond, VA
4-6 Jul, Fri-Sun			
	National Hifz-ul-Quran Camp		
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	Khuddam Regional Camps / Regional Atfal Rallies		
. =	Jalsa Salana UK		
August	Salat Ashara	Tarbiyat Dapt	Inmā 'nt
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
8-10 Aug. Fri-Sun	12th Annual Quran and Science Symposium/MSLM25	National	Washington DC Area
	Quran Talks		
16 Aug, Sat	National Amila Meeting	National Jamāʿat	Zoom Meeting
16 Aug, Sat	Quarterly Flyer Distribution	Tab, WQN, Aux. Depts	Jamāʻat
21-30 Aug, Thu-Sat	Ashra Wasiyyat	Wasaya Dept	Jamāʻat
	MKA- Khuddam National Shura		
	Spiritual Fitness Camp		
	Tahir Academy Conference	Tarbiyat DeptAnsar Ho	using Complex, Joppa
September	I don Do I am Madam I		P. J 1 17 . 1; J.
1 Sep, Sat-Mon	Labor Day Long Weekend Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities	I cool/Aux	Federal Honday
	National Amila Meeting		
	Quran Talks		
	East Coast Tarbiyat Conference		
	Wasaya Webinar 2025		
	Lajna Majlis-e-Shura		
	Know your History	Ishaʻat Dept	Webnar
October			
	Salat Ashara		
	Ansar National Ijtima		
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities Lajna USA 3 rd Annual National Ijtima		
	MKA National Ijima (Khuddam and Atfāl)		
	Columbus Day Long Weekend		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Quran Talks		
	Quarterly Flyer Distribution		
	Ashra Wasiyyat		
9 ,	West Coast Tarbiyat Conference	, I	*
-	National TaQWA Conference	TaQwa Dept	Virtual
November			
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
	Garments for Each Other		
	Waqf-e-Nau Regional Ijtimaʻat		
	Quran Talks		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Majlis Ansarullah Shura		
	Thanksgiving Long Weekend		Federal Holiday
December		m 11	.
	Salat Ashara		
	Local Jamāʿat/Auxiliary Activities		
b Dec, Sat, 6 P.M. EST	Wasaya Webinar 2025	wasaya Dept	Webinar
	Fazl-e-Omar Qa'ideen Conference/Atfāl Refresher Cour		
	National Amila Meeting		
	Jāmi'a Inspiration and Orientation Camp and Open Ho		
	Know Your History		
	Christmas Day		
26-28 Dec, Fri-Sun	West Coast Jalsa Salana (Tentative)	National Jamāʿat	Chino, CĂ