

Hazrat

Memoonah Sofiyah Ustaani Jee







#### Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah

This booklet is a short biography of the inspiring life of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah<sup>ra</sup>, a *Sahaabiyah* of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. She had a great passion for the Holy Quran and taught it to countless girls.

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah<sup>ra</sup> was a great teacher who used to impart academic knowledge to her students and emphasized their moral and religious training. She was a pioneer Lajna member and the first Finance Secretary of Lajna Ima'illah. As an eloquent speaker, she was the voice of Lajna Ima'illah on many occasions.

This booklet commemorates her life as a testament of service and dedication to the Faith.

781848 806566

## HAZRAT MEMOONAH SOFIYAH



# This Book

## Belongs to





#### ISLAM INTERNATIONAL

#### Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah<sup>ra</sup>

Written in Urdu by Bushra Samee

Published in Urdu in UK, 2009 First English translation published in the UK, 2024

#### © Islam International Publications Limited

Published by: Islam International Publications Ltd. Unit 3, Bourne Mill Business Park, Guildford Road, Farnham, Surrey, UK, GU9 9PS

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior written permission from the Publisher, Islam International Publication Ltd. All photo(s) by Makhzan-e-Tasaweer are subject to their copyrights

For further information, please visit www.alislam.org

Cover design by Sabahat Ahmad Cheema

ISBN: 978-1-84880-656-6 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1











## **Table of Contents**

Foreword vii The Book 1 A Pure City 5 Tragedy Strikes 9 Courage & Bravery 13 An Eloquent Speaker 17 Making a Difference 23 A Legacy of Virtue 31

References 39 Glossary 41 Activities 46 Wordsearch 47 Crossword 48 Questions 50 Answers 56 Publisher's Note 65











#### Foreword

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah, also known as Ustaani Jee, was a sahaabiyah of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. She was a great teacher who used to not only impart academic knowledge to her students, but also placed emphasis on their moral and religious training. She had great passion for the Holy Quran and taught it to countless girls.

She was a pioneer Lajna member and the first finance secretary of Lajna Ima'illah. An eloquent speaker, she was the voice of Lajna Ima'illah on many occasions. She lived an energetic life full of dedication and service to her community. This book is a brief biography of her inspiring life.

Bushra Samee wrote the book in Urdu as part of the centenary celebrations of Khilaafat-e-Ahmadiyya. It was translated into English by Aamna Bhatti of the English Translation Section of Additional Wakalate-Tasneef, and was further modified as necessary. We would like to acknowledge the work of Waseem Sayed, Bushra Shahid, Fareha Hamid, Saadia Faruqi, Shaista Malik, Mena Shahid, Sarah Ahmed, and Naser-ud-Din Shams in preparing this book. Thanks are due to the Research Cell for providing the references. We are also grateful to Makhzan-e-Tasaweer for providing the pictures for this book. May Allah bless them all for their hard work and reward them abundantly in this world and the Hereafter.

Readers are encouraged to test their knowledge with the various activities given at the end of the book. A glossary of Islamic terms and other words is also provided.

#### A-Haaj Munir-ud-Din Shams

Additional Wakilut-Tasneef, UK June 2024



Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah

#### THE BOOK

Allah works in mysterious ways. He creates the means for His righteous servants to find the right path in the least expected ways. For example, a book that someone had discarded became a source of guidance for Chaudhary Habib Ahmad, the father of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah.

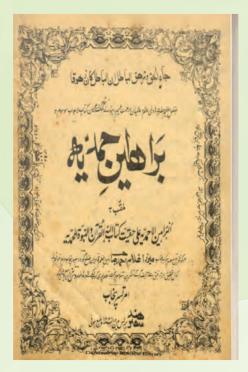
It all began with the illness of her grandfather. Through his illness and subsequent health, Allah Almighty planned not only the physical healing of her grandfather, but also the spiritual healing of her father, Chaudhary Habib Ahmad, and in this way, led him to Islam, Ahmadiyyat.

Chaudhary Habib Ahmad left no stone unturned in the treatment of his father, but nothing came of it. It seemed that the Hand of Allah was working, for someone recommended a certain physician. Chaudhary Habib Ahmad sought his services and started buying medicine from him for his father that came wrapped in paper. The paper was actually the pages from a book which Chaudhary Habib would read after giving the medicine to his father. In a few days, while his father regained his health, Chaudhary Habib Ahmad became fascinated with the marvellous writings on the pieces of paper he had now collected.

It was the sheer will of Allah that all the pieces of paper put together made up a complete essay which had intrigued him so deeply. Chaudhary Habib Ahmad returned to the physician who had sold him the medicine and asked him about the book from which the pieces of paper had come. He was also eager to know if the physician still had the remaining book. The physician handed Chaudhary Habib Ahmad the first volume of *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya*, the first book that the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> wrote. When Chaudhary Habib Ahmad read the book, it had such a powerful impact on him that immediately after, he took *Bai'at* (the Pledge of Allegiance) at the hand of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and entered into the fold of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

The daughter of Chaudhary Habib Ahmad was Memoonah Khaatoon Sofiyah, who is known by the nickname *Ustaani Jee*, which literally means 'Madam Teacher'. This was related to her profession and the immense respect and eminence she earned as a teacher in the Jama'at. She was also a *sahaabiyah* of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

This is how Ahmadiyyat was introduced to this family. So, when Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was born, she was born an Ahmadi.



Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya was first published in 1880 in Qadian, India

#### **A PURE CITY**

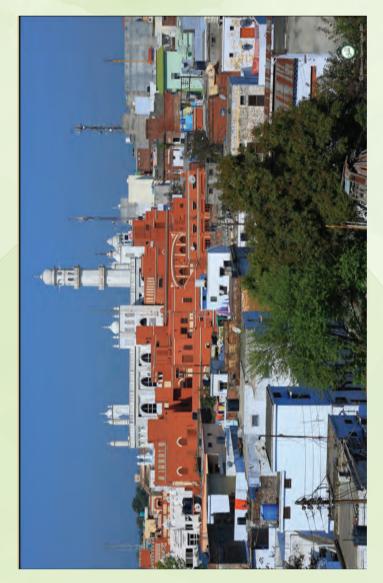
Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was born on 1 January 1900, in Dodli, District Saharanpur, India. When she was 7 years old, she had the opportunity to go to Qadian—the birthplace of Islam Ahmadiyyat—for the first time with her family for her sister's wedding.

She stayed in Qadian for around two months and fell in love with its spiritual atmosphere. While in Qadian, she had the privilege of staying in the *Gol Kamrah* [Round Room], which is a room in the house of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, and in this way, she had the good fortune of visiting the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> every day. Perhaps it was this early influence of the company of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> that her later life was filled with such active service to his Community. When Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah came back home, she missed Qadian terribly and prayed every day to return to that holy city. She even prayed that she would end up getting married to someone from there. It wouldn't matter if her future husband was rich or poor as long as he was from Qadian. This way, she would get to live in the spiritual environment of Qadian. These prayers must have come from a very sincere heart because Allah accepted them.

At the age of 15, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah got married to a pupil of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I<sup>ra</sup>, Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad, and did, in fact, end up moving to Qadian.

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was the daughter of a successful and rich businessman and had lived a life of luxury in her father's home. However, this righteous lady preferred living a humble life in Qadian—the hometown of her beloved Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>—over a life of luxury back at home.

Allah blessed her with two children. Her son, Ghulam Ahmad Ata, later became a *waaqf-e-zindagi;* that is, he dedicated his life to the service of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. She also had a daughter, Sadiqa Begum. They were living a contented life, but Allah intended something else for this humble and righteous family.



Daarul-Masih in Qadian, India.

#### **TRAGEDY STRIKES**

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband, Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad, was a physician, but he used to travel to villages to counter the Shuddhi Movement upon the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>. The Shuddhi Movement was started by the Arya Samaj, and their objective was to convert people from other religions to Hinduism. The goal of their group was to stop the conversion of Hindus to Islam and Christianity, which was happening at the time.

Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad fell ill during his travels, and all kinds of treatments were sought. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah also took very good care of him and tried nursing him back to health, but Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad's condition kept deteriorating. Eventually, he stopped going to his clinic.

9

At a difficult time like this, Allah gave Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah much courage and enabled her to make some difficult decisions. She put their current house, which was too big for them, on rent and moved the family to a smaller house. However, her husband's illness continued to worsen, and he passed away on 22 February 1926.

His wasiyyat number was 2 showing that he was one of the earliest people to take part in the Wasiyyat Scheme, which the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> had initiated. Naturally, he was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah, Qadian, which is the graveyard established by the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> for the burial of those people who have fulfilled the conditions of Wasiyyat. Every person who is part of this scheme, promises to try to spend his or her life according to the true teachings of Islam and donate at least one-tenth of his or her property and other wealth for the service of Islam. The tombstone of Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad is engraved with:

This is the final resting place of the favourite pupil of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I<sup>ra</sup>, Hakeem Maulawi Ghulam Muhammad Sahib.

As Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband was a physician, he must have realised from his symptoms and sickness, that he did not have much time left. So he had prepared a detailed will for his wife and children. According to the will and through mutual agreement, it was decided that the son of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> would be the guardian of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah and her family after her husband had passed away.



Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> was the guardian of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's family after her husband passed away.

#### **COURAGE & BRAVERY**

Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>12</sup> decided that to take better care of a young widow and her young children, he would have to move them closer to his home. He arranged for a home for her in a neighbourhood of Qadian called Daarul-Fazl. That rental home was within the perimeter of his house. In addition to the front door, the apartment had another door, which opened into his personal quarters.

In this way, Ustaani Jee and her children got the opportunity to grow and learn under the guidance of Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> and his wife, Bu Zainab Begum, while at the same time living an independent and dignified life.

In 1918, before her husband's death, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah started teaching at Madrasatul-Binaat, the girls' school in Qadian. She was a great teacher who not only imparted academic knowledge to her students, but also placed emphasis on their moral and religious training.

She had a great passion for the Holy Quran and very much enjoyed reciting it in a loud and melodious voice. She also taught the Holy Quran to countless girls. She was such an expert that she could tell from a distance if a girl was correctly pronouncing the Arabic words of the Holy Quran by simply observing the movement of her lips. Another gift she possessed was that even though she hadn't formally committed the Holy Quran to memory, she had almost all of it memorized just because she recited it so frequently.

When Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup>, the Second Khalifah, established Lajna Ima'illah, or the women's auxiliary organisation in the Jama'at, in 1922, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had the honour of being in the

14

group of the fourteen initial members. These pioneer members honoured all their promises to the service of Islam till their last breath. These fourteen members were the pioneers of Lajna Ima'illah and can also be called the first *Majlis-e-Aamilah* or office-holders. They were assigned different tasks, which are called offices within the auxiliary organisation.

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was the first Finance Secretary for Lajna Ima'illah and held this office until 1961. In this role, she was extremely careful of how each penny of the Jama'at was spent and kept a careful watch on all expenses. Other than this, in the early days of Lajna Ima'illah, she also did much work in the Daarul-Fazl neighbourhood of Qadian. She helped in resolving issues among women and handled them very wisely. She collected *Lajnah chandah*—which is the subscription for Lajna Ima'illah—as well as donations for Tahrik-e-Jadeed with zeal and dedication. She always tried to be the first to turn in her neighbourhood's contributions and preferred to exceed the initial pledge amount. Because of this, she often received praise from the Secretary of Finance, Tahrik-e-Jadeed, and even from Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup> himself.

## AN ELOQUENT SPEAKER

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah enrolled as a student at the Madrasatul-Khawaateen (School for Women) in 1925. This school was initiated by Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood, Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, to provide a means for the education of women in Qadian. In 1930 Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah obtained the Maulawi Faazil certification.

She was always very good at delivering speeches. During her time in Madrasatul-Khawaateen she led many speech workshops. After the split of the subcontinent and the creation of Pakistan, the Lajna Ima'illah leadership felt that its members, and especially office-holders, needed to be trained in delivering speeches so that they could make the Lajna Ima'illah



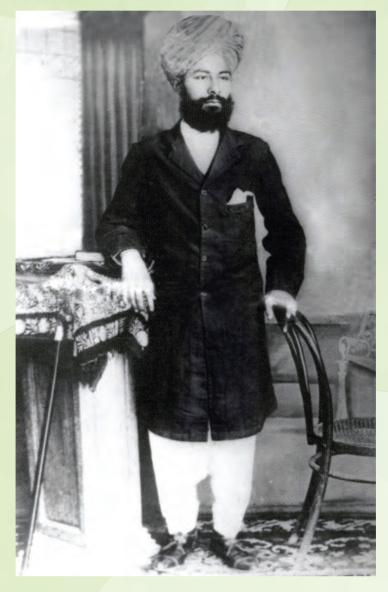
A scene from a Jalsa Salana in Qadian

organisation even stronger. This would make it easy for the office-holders to carry out the responsibility of the moral and educational training of Ahmadi ladies. A committee of fourteen members was formed for this purpose, and Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was also a committee member.<sup>1</sup>

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was a very brave lady and expressed her opinions very confidently. During the Majlis-e-Mushawarat of 1928, the issue of opening a ladies' hostel came up for discussion, for which Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>Ta</sup> invited the women to present their point of view. After getting Huzoor's permission, the women unanimously chose Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah to represent them on this occasion.

At the next Majlis-e-Shura in 1929, the issue of giving the ladies the right to have representation in Shura came up for discussion. Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup> again wanted the women to have a voice. He told them that

19



Ustaani Jee took notes during various lectures of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>14</sup>, pictured above.

he would wait for four minutes to see if any Lajnah member would like to speak or not.<sup>2</sup>

At this time, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah took the opportunity to deliver a speech. She argued that if so much attention is being paid to giving women moral training and increasing their knowledge by establishing places where they acquire education, then wouldn't it be detrimental to women's progress if they were not considered worthy of representation at the Shura? She further argued that when Ahmadi ladies preach to other women, why would they listen to us when they could object that our religion doesn't even give us a voice in the decision-making process?<sup>3</sup>

Ustaani Jee had a loud voice, and for this reason she was usually the one to make announcements at the Jalsas. After establishing Lajna Ima'illah, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>TA</sup> placed the responsibility of organising the Jalsa Salana upon Lajna Ima'illah which the members carried out beautifully. At this Jalsa Salana, Ustaani Jee was second-in-command of the stage and venue set up.<sup>4</sup> Ustaani Jee attended every single Jalsa Salana during her lifetime and, for as long as her health allowed, she also addressed the ladies at every Jalsa Salana.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

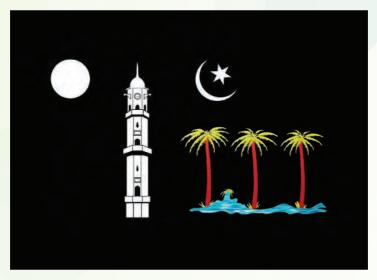
In 1935, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup> used to deliver lectures on the Holy Quran to the ladies on Saturdays, and many women used to come to listen to them. However, at the same time, the opposition and hostilities against Ahmadis also increased, and the enemies started creating mischief and panic in the community. On this occasion, Lajnah decided that it was necessary for women to provide security during these lectures and not allow any stranger or a suspicious woman to sit close to the stage. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was one of those women who were assigned these security duties. She was also given the task, along with other women, of taking notes during the lectures of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup>.

In the same year 1935, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah brought attention to the fact that the Nusrat Girls School in Qadian had no arrangements for the students to perform ablution. Money was raised by Lajna Ima'illah to install water taps at the school so that the girls could perform ablution.

Hazrat Sayyedah Umme Mateen, the wife of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood, used to say that Ustaani Jee played a very important role in the proper training of girls. She did not tolerate even the slightest bad habit and would immediately correct it on the spot. She also used to lead *Zuhr* Prayer in congregation at her school.

In those days, the Ta'leem [Education] Department used to conduct exams about the books of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah used to personally take it upon herself to hold classes for girls and teach them the books of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. As a result, all her pupils used to achieve very high marks, even higher than Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah herself!

On the occasion of the Khilaafat Jubilee in 1939, the flag of Lajna Ima'illah was introduced for the first time. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was one of the fortunate ladies who wove the fabric from which the flag was made. Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup> graced the ladies' Jalsa-gah with his presence at this historic occasion and



Flag of Lajna Ima'illah

raised the Lajna Ima'illah flag while the air echoed with cheerful slogans.<sup>5</sup>

In the same year, 1939, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood<sup>ra</sup> organised a gathering to explain the significance of Tahrik-e-Jadeed. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah strongly encouraged all the ladies to take part in this blessed



Noor Hospital in Qadian

scheme. During this gathering, she worked hard to collect funds for the Noor Hospital in Qadian.<sup>6</sup>

At the time of the creation of Pakistan, Qadian ended up being part of India. While many from Qadian migrated to Pakistan, some devoted Ahmadi men, upon the guidance of Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>Ta</sup>, remained behind in Qadian to protect it. These men are known as the *Darveshaan*. Their families, wives, and children, however, migrated to Pakistan to be safe. In Rabwah, a facility called Daarul-Khawaateen was built to provide shelter and care for these women and children. The expression *Daarul-Khawaateen* basically means the house for ladies. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was one of the ladies who was appointed to oversee this facility.

Immediately after migrating from India, at the time of the creation of Pakistan, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah moved to Karachi with her daughter Sadiqa Latif.

There, she was elected as president of Lajna Ima'illah Karachi.

On 25 April 1949, when Nusrat Girls School was inaugurated in Rabwah, she moved to Rabwah but would still visit Karachi from time to time. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah taught religious studies and Arabic for a very long time at Nusrat Girls School.

At the time of her retirement in 1959, the school staff organised a farewell party in her honour. Many Lajna who had come to attend Ijtema in Rabwah from other Jama'ats in Pakistan were also present at this party, and Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was presented with a gold ring as a parting gift.

On 31 May 1950, she participated in the ground-breaking ceremony of the offices of Lajna Ima'illah as an honourable and respected female companion of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. She laid down one of the first bricks and joined in the prayer.

On 23 May 1952, the central Lajna Ima'illah administrative body decided that since Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had retired from her service at the Nusrat Girls School, it would be appropriate to hire her as a salaried employee of the Lajna Ima'illah administration. Hence, she was hired as an inspector. She started touring and inspecting many different Lajna Ima'illah branches. In the process, she formed many new branches.

In October 1952, Hazrat Umme Nasir, the mother of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rta</sup> inaugurated a general store, which was established by the central Lajna Ima'illah administration. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah ran that store very successfully. Every year the profit earned from that store was equally distributed amongst the stakeholders of that store. However, in 1972, due to Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's bad health, the store had to be closed.

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah also taught a class on

the Holy Quran and other moral issues organised by the central Lajna Ima'illah administration in Rabwah. In addition, she also taught and participated in moral training classes in Lahore and Faisalabad.

She loved participating in projects that served humanity. She would gladly go shopping for fabric whenever the Lajnah needed to make duvet covers for needy people or needed to make clothes for distribution on Eid. When Lajna Ima'illah completed its 50 years, many members were given certificates of appreciation. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was at the top of the list of such members.

#### **A LEGACY OF VIRTUE**

Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah gladly gave precedence to faith over worldly matters and fulfilled the Lajna Ima'illah oath she took in 1922 with all sincerity and proved to be an exemplary member of Lajna Ima'illah. On 19 June 1980, she passed away at the age of 80. May Allah elevate her status in the Hereafter, and may He enable us to follow in her footsteps to serve our religion with the same zeal. *Aameen*.

Hazrat Umme Mateen, the wife of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>Ta</sup>, was a student of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah in Madrasatul-Binaat in Qadian. She had fond memories of Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah, describing her as an avid worshipper who stayed up at night to make countless supplications. She was widowed at a very young age, worked hard to earn to provide for her family, and never thought it appropriate to ask for help. She gave her children pious training, and even though she had only one son, she still dedicated him to the service of religion. She respected Khilaafat immensely and would not tolerate any objections against Khilaafat. She led a very pure life and faced all hardships bravely.

In addition, Allah had given her a very good memory. She recited the Holy Quran very frequently. By the end of her life, she had memorized most of the Holy Quran. There was never a conflict between her word and her deed. She lived her life gloriously and then left the world to be with her Creator.<sup>7</sup>

Her granddaughter, Bushra Samee, writes about her:

Ever since I can remember, I saw *Ammaa Jee* [meaning 'Respected Mother'] travelling a lot for the work of Lajna Ima'illah. On one of these journeys, I accompanied her as well. We travelled to a rural chapter in the Faisalabad District, and when we arrived there, we were greeted with much love.

Ammaa Jee advised all ladies and girls in the audience to recite the Holy Quran daily. She also listened to these women's problems, and then she prayed for them the whole night. She not only kept a close eye on the religious education of the ladies, but also on their moral and spiritual training.

She was dedicated to getting orphaned girls educated and married at the right time. She used to go out of her way to help needy people. She used to advise us children to join her in these good works as well, but she also used to say that I won't tell you the names of the needy people because I don't want them to feel embarrassed before you, so help them without knowing their identity. And her way of helping people was so beautiful that when she gave with her right hand, her left hand wouldn't know about it.

My dear *Ammaa Jee* practised what she preached. She was a lover of truth and was never afraid to speak the truth, no matter whom she was speaking to. Once, we were having a family mulaaqaat with Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>ra</sup>, during which he turned to me and said, 'You are the granddaughter of a woman who never shied away from speaking the right thing even in front of the Khalifah. And even I feel that if I were to make a mistake in front of her, she would not hesitate to correct me.'

Her zeal for speaking the truth was for the benefit of Ahmadiyyat and not for criticism. Her love and respect for the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and his family was immense. She would take us to meet the blessed ladies of his family again and again.

Ammaa Jee had the honour of being the wet nurse of Sahibzadi Amatur-Rasheed Begum, who was the granddaughter of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. Allah the Almighty had increased Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah in humility and meekness. At the same time, she was a very determined woman who had firm faith in Allah.

Her son, Ghulam Ahmad Ata, once got very ill when he was a child, so much so that his survival was difficult. She saw in a dream that she was slaughtering him as a sacrifice. Upon waking up, she sacrificed an actual lamb, but upon the advice of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>TA</sup>, also dedicated her son to the service of Islam. This intelligent and dedicated son fulfilled his promise of service to Islam Ahmadiyyat beautifully till the very end.

Whenever in our youth we visited *Ammaa Jee*, she would get teary-eyed upon seeing us. She would give each one of us a present and send us off with lots of prayers. The standard of mercy and compassion that she set, was indeed, rare. At the time of the partition of India, when she was migrating to Pakistan, she left the ownership of her husband's estate to his relatives and never asked for anything in return. Allah accepted her sacrifices and rewarded her with so much more.<sup>8</sup>

The name of Ustaani Memoonah Sofiyah will stay forever alive in the history of Lajna Ima'illah, and her sacrifices will always be remembered and admired, *inshaAllah*—God willing.





## REFERENCES

- Tārikh Lajna Imā'illāh, vol. 2, First Edition, p. 223– 224, published by Lajna Imā'illāh Markaziyya Jan 1972
- 2. *Tārikh Lajna Imā'illāh*, vol. 1, First Edition, p. 239– 240, published by Lajna Imā'illāh Markaziyya
- 3. *Tārikh Lajna Imā'illāh,* vol. 1, First Edition, p. 239– 240, Published by Lajna Imā'illāh Markaziyya
- 4. *Harāwal Dastah,* p. 106, Published by Lajna Imā'illāh Lahore
- 5. Mișbāh, February 2010, Urdu
- 6. *Harawal Dastah,* p. 110, Published by Lajna Ima'illah Lahore
- 7. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah Sahiba, by Bushra Sami,
  p. 12, published by Islam International Publications UK, 2009
- 8. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah Sahiba, by Bushra Sami,
  p. 15, published by Islam International Publications UK, 2009



## GLOSSARY

- **Ablution** The act of washing some parts of the body according to the prescribed way shown by the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup> to prepare oneself for *Salat*. Also known as *Wuzu*.
- **Bahishti Maqbarah** In a booklet of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> titled *al-Wasiyyat (The Will)* written in 1905, he gave the news of his impending demise and the glad tidings of Khilaafat. In a vision, he saw the site of his grave, and was shown a place called Bahishti Maqbarah, which translates into 'the Heavenly Graveyard'. He was told in the dream that this place would contain the graves of righteous members of the Jama'at. The Heavenly Graveyard was established by the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> for

the burial of those Ahmadis who would join the scheme of *wasiyyat*. The conditions to be buried in the Bahishti Maqbarah are that one would live a righteous life, and also contribute at least 1/10th of their income/property for the service of Islam.

Jubilee Particular anniversary of an event.

- Khalifah Means 'Successor'. A Khalifah is the Successor of a Prophet and leads the community after the demise of the Prophet. The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup> had four Successors (Khalifahs). Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, the Promised Messiah, has so far five Successors. The current and Fifth Successor is Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>.
- **Khalifatul-Masih** The Successor to the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. The present Khalifah is Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>.

**Majlis-e-Mushawarat** A meeting for consultation consisting of elected members of the Jama'at that function directly under Khalifatul-Masih. They advise the Khalifah on important matters related to different aspects of the system of Jama'at.

- **Qadian** A town in India and the birthplace of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. This is the original headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.
- **Sahaabiyyah** A female companion of the Holy Prophet<sup>sas</sup> or the the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.
- **Tahrik-e-Jadeed** Under Divine guidance, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ood, Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>Ta</sup> introduced a scheme in 1934 called *Tahrik-e-Jadeed* (New Scheme). The main purpose of this scheme is to spread the message of true Islam and open new missions and construct mosques around the world.

Anyone can contribute to this scheme by donating any amount that he can afford to pay.

**Umm** Arabic for 'mother'.

**Zuhr** The name of the noon *Salat*.



# Activities

## WORD SEARCH

NTVNHIQIATHHL R D ALAWANWHAAK HFA D ЕНЈ RMRFRMS Л H B A T V SCWWRAUI E YWD A R OAD Ι LQXL F Ν J R V L U WDGIHAK Q D YW Х R S L TLR YLHR LΕ XLT A AF BK NGQV JAO O B Y T A D MAKLOGLA H A R ХН RZ ANWE V V Т Q A D Ι D F K L V U GCNNAELBJC E O B WNA ΕI DMKAUU S Ι E F LAJ NAIMAI LL A H K D YAXZ DWNYU JY Ι 0 V Z ZGALHANJ XWU A L Ν 

#### Find these words:

Qadian Gol Kamrah Daarul Fazl Holy Quran Taleem Tahrik-e-Jadeed Lajna Darvesh Rabwah Ahmadiyyat Lajna Imaillah Eid Jalsa

### CROSSWORD

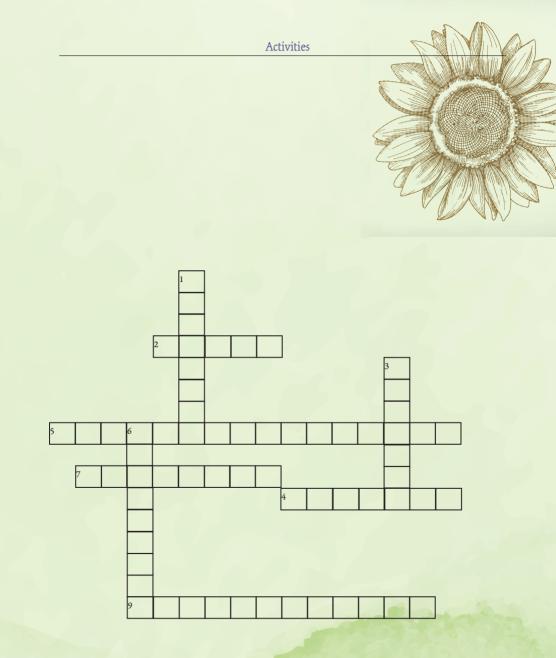
#### DOWN

- 1.Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was very good at making...
- Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was the first
   Secretary and held its office until 1961.
- 6. Gol Kamrah means...



#### ACROSS

- 2. How old was Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah when she first visited Qadian?
- 4. How old was she when she got married?
- 5. Where did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah teach in 1918?
- 7. Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had the honour of being in the group of \_\_\_\_\_\_ initial Lajnah members.
- 9. Ustaani Jee means...



## QUESTIONS

## Find the answers to the questions below:

**QUESTION 1** – When did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah visit Qadian?

ANSWER

**QUESTION 2** – Where did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah stay for the duration of her two-month trip to Qadian?

**QUESTION 3** – Who did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah get married to and what was his profession?

ANSWER

**QUESTION 4** – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had two children, what were their names?

ANSWER

QUESTION 5 – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband passed away on \_\_\_\_\_. His *wasiyyat* number was \_\_\_\_\_and he was buried in \_\_\_\_\_. **QUESTION 6** – According to his will, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband appointed \_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_ of his family.

**QUESTION 7** – Where did Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> arrange a house for Ustaani Jee?

ANSWER

**QUESTION 8** – What was the name of the wife of Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>?







**QUESTION 9** – When did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah obtain the Maulawi Faazil certification?

ANSWER

**QUESTION 10** – What was the number of the initial members of Lajna Ima'illah?

ANSWER

**QUESTION 11** — After the creation of Pakistan, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah taught religious studies and Arabic at a school for a very long time. What was this school called?



**QUESTION 12** — At the occasion of Khilaafat Jubilee in \_\_\_\_\_, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was one of the ladies who introduced the flag of Lajna Ima'illah.

**QUESTION 13** — What was the facility in Rabwah, Pakistan called, in which wives and children of the Darvesh migrated to?

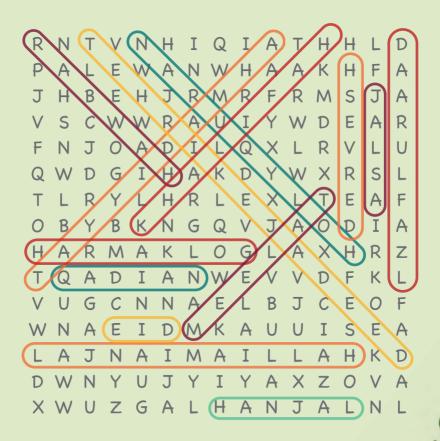
ANSWER

**QUESTION 14** – On what date did Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah retire?

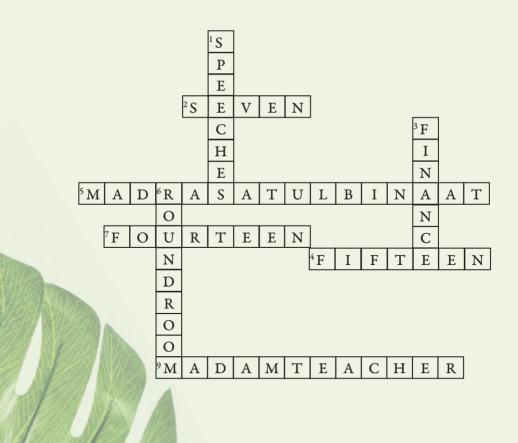
**QUESTION 15** — What was Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah hired as by the Lajna Ima'illah administration?



## Wordsearch Solution



## Crossword Solution





## Answers to Short Questions

**ANSWER ONE** — Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had the opportunity to go to Qadian for the first time with her family, at the age of seven, on the wedding of her elder sister.

**ANSWER TWO** – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah stayed in the *Gol Kamrah* for the two-month duration of her trip to Qadian.

**ANSWER THREE** – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah got married to Hakeem Ghulam Muhammad who was a physician.

ANSWER FOUR – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah had two children, a son Ghulam Ahmad Ata, who devoted his life to the service of the Community, and a daughter, Saadiqah Begum

ANSWER FIVE — Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband passed away on 22 Februrary 1926. His wasiyyat number was 2 and he was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah, Qadian.

ANSWER SIX – According to his will, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah's husband appointed Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> as the guardian of his family.

ANSWER SEVEN – Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> arranged for a house for Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah in Daarul-Fazl, Qadian.



**ANSWER EIGHT** — The name of the wife of Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> was Bu Zainab Begum.

ANSWER NINE – Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah obtained the Maulawi Faazil certification in 1930.

**ANSWER TEN** — The number of the initial members of Lajna Ima'illah was fourteen.

ANSWER ELEVEN — After the creation of Pakistan, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah taught religious studies and Arabic at a school for a very long time. This school was called The Nusrat Girls School.

ANSWER TWELVE — At the occasion of Khilaafat Jubilee in 1939, Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was one of the ladies who introduced the flag of Lajna Ima'illah. **ANSWER THIRTEEN** – The facility in Rabwah, Pakistan, in which the wives and children of the *Darvesh* migrated to, was called Daarul-Khawaateen.

**ANSWER FOURTEEN** — She retired in 1959.

ANSWER FIFTEEN — Hazrat Memoonah Sofiyah was hired as an inspector by the Lajna administration. She started touring and inspecting many different Lajna branches.







## **Publisher's Note**

Salutations are recited out of respect when mentioning the names of Prophets and holy personages. These salutations have been abbreviated and inserted into the text where applicable.

- sas sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, meaning 'may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him', is written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup>.
- as *'alaihis-salaam,* meaning 'peace be on him', is written after the names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup>.

- ra raziyallahu 'anhu/'anhaa/'anhum, meaning 'may Allah be pleased with him/her/them', is written after the names of the companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup> or of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.
- rta rahmatullah 'alaihi/'alaihaa/'alaihim, meaning 'may Allah shower His mercy upon him/her/them', is written after the names of those deceased pious Muslims who are not Companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sas</sup> or of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.







