

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA

50th Jalsa Salana

S O U V E N I R



Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian
The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)
(1835-1908)

June 1998

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

ISLAM, THE PERFECT AND EVERLASTING FAITH FOR MANKIND

Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

الْيَوْمَ اكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَاتَّمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي
وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا (المائدة آیت ۴)

"This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed my favors upon you and have chosen for you Islam as religion." (5:4)

The Holy Prophet (SA) said:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: "كُنَّا جُلُوسًا عِنْدَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِذْ نَزَلَتْ عَلَيْهِ سُورَةُ الْجُمُعَةِ فَلَمَّا قَرَأَهَا: وَأَخْرَجَ مِنْهُمْ لِمَا يُلْحَقُوا بِهِمْ قَوْمًا لَهُمْ هُودٌ، يَأْتُونَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ؛ فَلَمْ يُرَاجِعْهُ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ حَتَّى سَأَلَهُ مَرَّةً أَوْ مَرَّتَيْنِ أَوْ ثَلَاثًا. قَالَ: "وَفِينَا سَلْمَانَ الْفَارِسِيِّ. قَالَ: فَوَضَعَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَدَهُ عَلَى سَلْمَانَ ثُمَّ قَالَ: لَوْ كَانَتِ الْإِيمَانُ عِنْدَ الثُّرَيَّا لَنَالَهُ رِجَالٌ مِنْ هَؤُلَاءِ." (البخارى كتاب التفسير: سورة الجمعة ومسلم)

Hadhrat Abu Huraira (RA) narrates that we were sitting with the Holy Prophet (SA) when Sura Al-Juma was revealed: "And he will appear among others who have not yet joined the companions of the Holy Prophet (SA)." We asked: "Who are they, O Prophet of God." Among us the Salman (RA) of Persia was sitting. The Holy Prophet (SA) placed his hand upon Salman (RA) and said: "If faith ascends to the Pleides some men from among these will bring it back to earth." (Bukhari)

The Promised Messiah (AS) wrote:

"یاد رہے کہ زمین پر کوئی بات ظہور میں نہیں آتی جب تک وہ بات آسمان پر قمار نہ پائے۔
سو آسمان کا خدا مجھے بتلاتا ہے کہ آخر کار اسلام کا مذہب دلوں کو فتح کرے گا۔"

(برائین احمدیہ جلد پنجم - روحانی خزائن ۷: ۴۲۷)

"Remember that nothing happens on this Earth unless it has been so willed in Heaven. And, it is the God of Heaven who has revealed to me that ultimately it will be the religion of Islam which will conquer the hearts of people."

(Braheen-e-Ahmadiyya Vol. 5, Roohani Khazain 21:427)

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY, USA

50th JALSA SALANA (Annual Convention)

SOUVENIR - June 1998



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GLOSSARY:

ABA:	<i>ayyada hullaho taala benasrehil azeez</i> (May Allah, the Exalted, strengthen his hands with powerful support)
AS:	<i>alaihis salaam</i> (Peace be on him)
RA:	<i>radhi Allahu taala anho</i> (May Allah, the Exalted, be pleased with him)
RT:	<i>rahema hullaho taala</i> (May Allah, the Exalted, have mercy on him)
SA:	<i>sal lallaho alaihe wa sallam</i> (May Peace and Blessings of Allah be on him)

<i>Bai'at:</i>	Initiation
<i>Da'wat Ilallah:</i>	Invitation toward Allah
<i>Hadhrat:</i>	Revered
<i>Hazoor:</i>	His Holiness
<i>Jama'at:</i>	Community
<i>Majlis-e-Irfaan:</i>	Q&A Sessin with Hazoor
<i>Mulaqaat:</i>	Audience with Hazoor
<i>Qiyamah:</i>	Doomsday
<i>Tabligh:</i>	Preaching



HADHRAT MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD THE PROMISED MESSIAH AND MAHDI (AS)

Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (AS), the Founder of the world-wide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, was born on 13 February 1835 in Qadian, a small town in Northern India which totally lacked all modern facilities of communication with the rest of the world.

Hadhrat Ahmad (AS) received his elementary education at home. Since his childhood, he showed an extraordinary indifference to material values and dedicated most of his time either in the study of the Holy Qur'an and other Islamic literature or in supplication to God Almighty. Although he accepted some domestic responsibilities entrusted to him, his lack of interest in worldly affairs remained a matter of deep concern to his father.

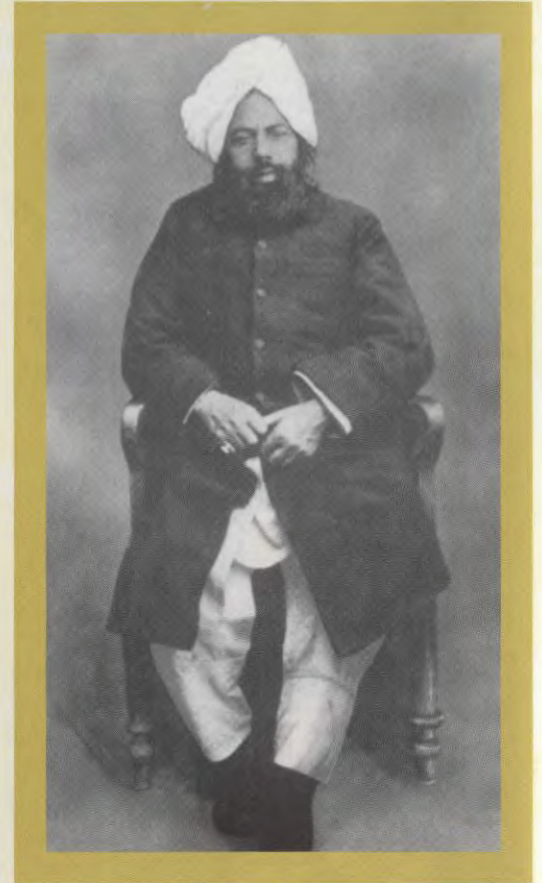
The aggressive and often offensive Christian and Hindu polemics against Islam and its Prophet (SA) was a matter of deep concern and agony to *Hadhrat* Ahmad. He was extremely distressed by the vulgarity of the adversaries of Islam and the pitiable state of the Muslim religious scholars and masses who were unable to defend the honor of their prophet and the glory of their faith.

Hadhrat Ahmad (AS) took over the responsibility to defend Islam and its glorious prophet Muhammad (SA). From about 1872 he began to emerge as a reputable scholar, an eloquent speaker and a distinguished preacher of Islam. He began to receive Divine revelations from God Almighty at the age of 40 which he continued to receive till his last breath.

In 1882, he received a Divine revelation that he had been commissioned as the Reformer of the fourteenth century of the Islamic era to re-establish upon the earth the faith which had vanished from it. In 1889, he claimed that he was the Promised Messiah and Mahdi whose advent in the latter days had been prophesied by the Holy Prophet of Islam, *Hadhrat* Muhammad (SA).

Hadhrat Ahmad's claim to be the Promised Messiah raised a public outcry because the Muslims generally believed that he was to physically descend from Heaven in the person of Jesus Christ (AS). Orthodox Muslim divines condemned him as a disbeliever whose assassination would be an act of high spiritual merit.

On 23 March 1889, *Hadhrat* Ahmad (AS) laid the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The signs mentioned in the Old Scriptures and the Holy Qur'an indicated that the Promised Messiah and Mahdi would complete the task of re-establishing the superiority of Islam over all other faiths. In *Hadhrat* Ahmad (AS) these prophecies were fulfilled. He firmly established the superiority of Islam over all other faiths. He passed away on 26 May 1908 in Lahore.



THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

AN INTRODUCTION



The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a religious organization within Islam, international in its scope, which was established in 1889 by *Hadhrat* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (AS) in a small, remote and unknown village, Qadian, in the Punjab, India. He claimed to be the expected reformer of the latter days, the Awaited One of the world community of religions and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (AS). The movement he started is an embodiment of the benevolent message of Islam — peace, universal brotherhood, and submission to the Will of God — in its pristine purity.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was created under divine guidance with the objective of rejuvenating Islamic moral and spiritual values. *Hadhrat* Ahmad (AS) proclaimed Islam as the future religion of man. With this conviction and prediction, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, within a century, has reached the corners of the Earth. Wherever it is established, it endeavours to exert a constructive influence of Islam through Islamic publications, construction of mosques, social projects, educational institutes, and health services despite being bitterly persecuted in some countries. In pursuance of Islam's true teachings, Ahmadi Muslims have earned the distinction of being a law-abiding, peaceful, persevering and benevolent community.

The Community encourages interfaith dialogue, and diligently tries to correct misunderstandings about Islam in the West. It advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths. It firmly believes in and acts upon the Qur'anic teaching: "There is no compulsion in religion." (2:257) It strongly rejects violence and terrorism in any form and for any reason.

The Community offers a clear presentation of Islamic wisdom, philosophy, morals and spirituality as derived from the Holy Qur'an and the practice (*Sunnah*) of the Holy Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SA). Some Ahmadi members, like late Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan (RA) (who served as the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan; President of the 16th General Assembly of the UNO; President and Judge of the International Court of Justice, at the Hague) and Dr. Abdul Salam (the Nobel Laureate in Physics in 1979), have also been recognized by the world community for their outstanding services and achievements in spiritual and secular fields.

The Promised Messiah writes in his book *Tazkira-tush-Shahadain*

"O mankind, hearken. This is the prophecy of God Who made the heavens and the earth. He will spread this movement in all countries and will give it supremacy over all, through reason and argument. Remember, no one will descend from Heaven.... The third century from today will not have completed when all those who had been waiting for Jesus.... will despair of his coming. . . I came only to sow the seed. . . It will now grow and blossom forth and none dare retard its growth."

(*Roohani Khazain* 20:67)

After the demise of its founder, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has been headed by his elected successors. The present Head of the Movement, *Hadhrat* Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA), was elected in 1982 as the fourth successor. His official title is Khalifatul Masih IV. He has launched several social projects to help poor countries in Africa, and under his personal supervision and guidance the Holy Qur'an has been translated in 52 major languages of the world. He has also initiated a global satellite-based television program (Muslim Television Ahmadiyya) which provides moral and spiritual guidance to millions in more than 150 countries around the clock.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has established branches in 153 countries in Africa, Americas, Asia, Australia, and Europe. At present, its total membership is about 15 million worldwide, and the numbers are increasing day by day. More than 3 million people accepted Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam, during 1997. This is the most dynamic denomination of Islam in modern history.

حضرت مسیح موعود علیہ السلام نے فرمایا

”اس قادر اور سچے اور کامل خدا کو ہماری رُوح اور ہمارا ذرّہ ذرّہ وجود کا سجدہ کرتا ہے جس کے ہاتھ سے ہر ایک رُوح اور ہر ایک ذرّہ مخلوقات کا مع اپنے تمام قوی کے ظہور پذیر ہوا اور جس کے وجود سے ہر ایک وجود قائم ہے۔ اور کوئی چیز نہ اس کے علم سے باہر ہے اور نہ اس کے تصرف سے۔ نہ اس کے خلق سے۔“ (نسیم دعوت ص ۷)

جمال و حسن قرآن نور جان ہر مسلمان ہے
قمر ہے چاند آوروں کا ہمارا چاند قرآن ہے
نظیر اس کی نہیں جتنی نظر میں فکر کر دیکھا
بھلا کیونکر نہ ہو کیسا کلا پاک رحمان ہے
ہمارا جادو داں پیدا ہے اس کی ہر عبارت میں
زور و قوی چمن میں ہے نہ اس سا کوئی بستان ہے
کلام پاک یہ واں کا کوئی ثانی نہیں ہر گز
اگر لوٹوئے عمارت ہے مگر لعل بدشتاں ہے

بریلین النور ص ۱۸۵

”ہمارے مذہب کا خلاصہ اور لبّ لباب یہ ہے کہ لا الہ الا اللہ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُوْلُ اللّٰہِ۔ ہمارا اعتقاد تو ہے ہم اس دنیوی زندگی میں رکھتے ہیں جس کے ساتھ ہم بفضل و توفیق باری تعالیٰ اس عالم گمراہوں سے کٹ چکے ہیں کہ یہ ہے کہ حضرت سیدنا و مولانا محمد مصطفیٰ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم ”خاتم النبیین و خیر المرسلین“ ہیں جن کے ہاتھ سے اکمال دین ہو چکا اور وہ نعمت بمرتبہ تمام پہنچ چکی جس کے ذریعہ سے انسان راہِ راست کو اختیار کر کے خدا تعالیٰ تک پہنچ سکتا ہے۔“ (ازالہ آویا م)

”اللہ جل شانہ نے آنحضرت صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کو صاحبِ قائم بنایا یعنی آپ کو افاضت کمال کیلئے مہر دی جو کسی اور نبی کو سہ گز نہیں دی گئی اسی وجہ سے آپ کا نام خانہ النبیین ہے۔ یعنی آپ کی پیروی کمالاتِ نبوتِ حقیقی ہے اور آپ کی توحید روحانی نبی تراش ہے۔ اور یہ توحید قدیر کسی اور نبی کو نہیں ملی۔“
(حقیقۃ الوحی ص ۹۷ حاشیہ)

”تمام برائتیں اور نبوتیں اپنے آخری نقطہ پر آکر تو ہمارے سید و مولیٰ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کا وجود تھا کمال کو پہنچ گئیں۔“

(۱) اسلامی اصول کی تلاشی صفحہ ۸۰ (۸۱)

”اگر میں آنحضرت صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی اُمت نہ ہوتا اور آپ کی پیروی نہ کرتا تو اگر دنیا کے تمام پہاڑوں کے برابر میرے اعمال ہوتے تو پھر بھی میں کبھی شرفِ مکالمہ مخاطبہ ہرگز نہ پاتا کیونکہ اب تجزّی نبوت کے سب نبوتیں بند ہیں۔“ تجلیات الہیہ ص ۲۲

بعد از خدا بعشق محمد خنجرم گھر کفر این بود بخدا سخت کافر م

SO SAID THE PROMISED MESSIAH (AS)

Our soul and every particle of our being are prostrate before the Mighty, True and Perfect God from whose hand every soul and every particle of creation, together with all its faculties, came into being, and through Whose support every being is sustained. Nothing is outside His knowledge, or outside His control, or outside His creation. (Naseem-e-Da'wat)

Allah, the Lord of Glory, made the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to be bearer of the seal, that is, He granted him the seal for the deliverance of spiritual perfection which has not been granted to any other prophet. That is why he is granted the title of *Khatamannabiyyin*. His obedience grants the perfections of prophethood. Becoming the object of his spiritual attention, turns one into a prophet. This spiritual power has not been granted to any other prophet. (Haqiqatul Wahi)

All qualities of prophethood and messengerhood reached their ultimate and were brought to perfection in our lord and master (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). (Islami Usul ki Philosophy)

The Gist and the essence of our faith is, "La Ilaha Illallah Muhammadur Rasulullah," There is none worthy of worship except Allah; Muhammad is the messenger of Allah" The belief to which we adhere in this world, and with which, by the grace and blessings of Almighty Allah, we will depart this temporary world, is that our Lord and Master Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is *Khatammunnabiyyin* (Seal of the Prophets) and *Khairulmursalin* (the best of all the ones sent by God). Faith has been brought to perfection through him, and the favor of God, which enables man to adopt the right path and reach Almighty Allah, has been conveyed in full. (Izalai-e-Auham)

The beauty and charm of the Holy Qura'n is the light of the existence of every Muslim
The Moon is the beloved of others; our beloved is the Holy Qur'an

We pondered long, but could not find anything like it
Why should it not be unique; it is the holy word of our Gracious Lord

Each of its discourses is pulsating with an eternal spring
Such beauty is not in any orchard; nor is any garden like it.

There is none that can equal the Holy Word of our Lord the Great
Be it a pearl from Amman or a ruby from Badaksh (Brahin-e-Ahmadiyya)

I was

If (it is) not from the the *Ummat* (followers) of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and if I had not followed him, then even if my good deeds equalled all the mountains of the earth, I could not have attained the honor of Divine communication and discourse, because now all prophethoods are closed except the prophethood of Muhammad (SA). (Tajalliyat-e-Ilahia)

After God I am inebriated with the love of Muhammad. If this is infidelity, then by God I am a great infidel.



CONDITIONS OF INITIATION INTO AHMADIYYAT



by

HAZRAT MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD OF QADIAN THE PROMISED MESSIAH AND MAHDI (AS)

THE INITIATE SOLEMNLY PROMISES THAT:

- I. He/She shall abstain from Shirk (association of any partner with God) right up to the day of his/her death.
- II. He/She shall keep away from falsehood, fornication, adultery, trespasses of the eye, debauchery, dissipation, cruelty, dishonesty, mischief and rebellion; and will not permit himself/herself to be carried away by passions, however strong they might be.
- III. He/She shall regularly offer the five daily prayers in accordance with the commandments of God and the Holy Prophet (SA) shall try his/her best to be regular in offering the *Tahajud* (pre-dawn supererogatory prayer) and invoking *Darood* (blessings) on the Holy Prophet (SA); shall make it his/her daily routine to ask forgiveness for his/her sins and to remember the bounties of God and to praise and glorify Him.
- IV. He/She shall, under the impulse of any passions, cause no harm whatsoever to the creatures of Allah in general, and Muslims in particular, neither by his/her tongue or hands nor by any other means.
- V. He/She shall remain faithful to God in all circumstances of life, in sorrow and happiness, adversity and prosperity, in felicity and trial; and shall in all conditions remain resigned to the decree of Allah and keep himself/herself ready to face all kinds of indignities and sufferings in His way and shall never turn away from it at the onslaught of any misfortune; on the contrary, he/she shall march forward.

VI. He/She shall refrain from following un-Islamic customs and lustful inclinations, and shall completely submit himself/herself to the authority of the Holy Quran; and shall make the Word of God and the Sayings of the Holy Prophet (SA) the guiding principle in every walk of his/her life.

VII. He/She shall entirely give up pride and vanity and shall pass all his/her life in humbleness, cheerfulness, forbearance and meekness.

VIII. He/She shall hold faith, the honor of faith, and the cause of Islam dearer to him/her than his/her life, wealth, honor, children and all other dear ones.

IX. He/She shall keep himself/herself occupied in the service of God's creatures for His sake only; and shall endeavor to benefit mankind to the best of his/her God-given abilities and powers.

X. He/She shall enter into a bond of brotherhood with this humble servant of God, pledging obedience to me in everything good, for the sake of Allah, and remain faithful to it till the day of his/her death; he/she shall exert such a high devotion in the observance of this bond as is not to be found in any other worldly relationship and connections demanding devoted dutifulness.

(Translated from *Ishtehar Takmeel-e-Tabligh*,
January 12, 1889)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ تَعَمَّدَ وَصَلَّى عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ

DECLARATION OF INITIATION Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV

Assalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahe Wa Barakatuho

I hereby submit my Declaration of Initiation duly completed and signed. Please accept me into the fold of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at and pray for me.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah. He is One and has no partner.
And I bear witness that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger.

I enter this day the Ahmadiyya Jama'at in Islam at the hand of TAHIR AHMAD. I have firm faith that Hazrat Muhammad Rasoolullah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is Khataman Nabiiyyeen, the Seal of all the Prophets. I also believe that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be on him) was the same Imam Mahdi and Promised Messiah whose advent was prophesied by Hazrat Muhammad Rasoolullah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

I promise that:

- I will always try my best to abide by the ten conditions of Bai'at (initiation) as prescribed by the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).
- I will give precedence to my faith over all worldly objects.
- I will always remain loyal to the Institution of Khilafat in Ahmadiyyat and will obey you as Khalifatul Masih in everything good that you may require of me, Insha'allah.

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ
أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ
أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ

I beg pardon from Allah, my Lord, from all my sins and turn to Him.

رَبِّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي وَاعْتَرَفْتُ بِذُنُوبِي
فَاعْفِرْ لِي ذُنُوبِي فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

O my Lord, My Allah, I wronged my soul and I confess all my sins;
pray forgive me my sins, for there is none else except Thee to forgive. Ameen!

Signature: _____

Date: _____

KHILAFAT IN ISLAM



Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ
الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُم مِّن بَعْدِ
خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ صُفُ
الْفُسِّقُونَ ○ (النور آيت ٥٦)

“Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them successors in the earth, as He made successors from among those who were before them; and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them and that He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear: they will worship Me, and they will not associate anything with Me. Then whose is ungrateful after that, they will be the rebellious.” (24:56)

The Holy Prophet (SA) said:

تَكُونُ النَّبُوءَةُ فِيكُمْ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ تَكُونَ ثُمَّ يَرْفَعُهَا اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ ثُمَّ تَكُونُ خِلَافَةٌ
عَلَىٰ مِنْهَا جِ النَّبُوءَةُ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ تَكُونَ ثُمَّ يَرْفَعُهَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ تَكُونُ مُلْكًا عَاصِيًا
فَتَكُونُ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ تَكُونَ ثُمَّ يَرْفَعُهَا اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ ثُمَّ تَكُونُ مُلْكًا جَبْرِيَّةً فَتَكُونُ
مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ تَكُونَ ثُمَّ يَرْفَعُهَا اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ ثُمَّ تَكُونُ خِلَافَةٌ عَلَىٰ مِنْهَا جِ النَّبُوءَةُ
ثُمَّ سَكَتَ . (مسند احمد جلد ٥ صفحہ ٤٠٣)

“O Muslims, this prophethood will remain with you as long as Allah wishes it to remain. Then it would come to an end, to be replaced with Khilafat which would be on the pattern of prophethood (as it is supplement to it) and would remain as long as Allah wills. Then this Khilafat would also come to an end. The rulers who cut (are cruel to people) will replace them for as long as Allah wills. Then this period will also come to an end. Then there will be the rule of usurpers, and that period too will come to an end. After that Khilafat, on the pattern of Prophethood, would re-emerge. After saying this, the Holy Prophet (SA) did not add any further comments.” (Masnad Ahmad: Vol. 5, Page 404)



In accordance with the promise of Almighty Allah and the prophecy of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SA), Khilafat was established in Islam after the demise of the Holy Prophet (SA). But it lasted only about thirty years and was followed by the kingship and foreign rule. All Muslims eagerly looked forward to the re-establishment of Khilafat on the pattern of prophethood as prophesied by the Holy Prophet (SA).



RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF KHILAFAT IN ISLAM THROUGH THE PROMISED MESSIAH (AS)

In his book *Al-Wasiyyat*, the Promised Messiah (AS) informed his Community that he had received revelations about his demise in the near future. Then he added:

So, therefore, my dear friends, when this has always been the way how the will of Allah works, showing two manifestations of His power, so that He should demolish two false joys of the opponents, is it possible that now He should proceed to alter this long established divine practice?

You should not, therefore, grieve over what I have told you, nor should you let yourselves be heartbroken, for you are destined to see the second manifestation of God's power as well. And the coming of that manifestation would be better for you, for it would be everlasting, of which the chain shall not break until the Day of *Qiyamah*.

(*Al-Wasiyyat*, Page 6)

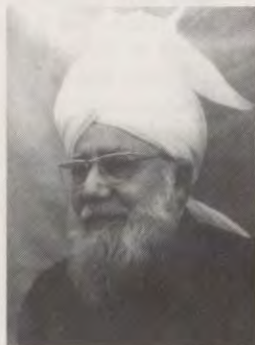
This prophecy was fulfilled in a magnificent manner, when, on the demise of the Promised Messiah (AS) in 1908, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community elected *Hadhrat* Maulana Nuruddin (RA) as the first Khalifa of the Promised Messiah (AS). The blessing of Khilafat has continuously remained with the Community.



Hadhrat Hakim Maulvi Nuruddin, Khalifatul Masih I (RA) was a descendant of *Hadhrat* Umar Farooq (RA), the second Khalifa of Islam. He was a very learned man and studied for a long time at the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. He was also a talented physician and an expert theologian. When the Promised Messiah (AS) initiated the *Bai'at* on march 23, 1889, he was the first to take the pledge. He served as the first Khalifa of the Promised Messiah (AS) for six years. He is well known for the lessons he gave on the Holy Qur'an.



Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (RA) was born in 1889 in fulfillment of a great prophecy vouchsafed to the Promised Messiah (AS). He was elected as Khalifa in 1914 and championed the cause of Islam for 51 years. He is well known for the larger and the shorter Commentary on the Holy Qur'an. He also initiated many schemes and organised the auxiliaries within the Community. He opened the missions to spread Islam throughout the world and opened schools and hospitals in Africa.



Hadhrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (RT), the eldest son of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RA), was elected as the third khalifa in 1965. He committed the entire Holy Qur'an to memory in early childhood. He was educated at Oxford and then served as the head of auxiliary organizations and as Principal of the Talimul Islam College, Rabwah. He initiated the Nusrat Jahan Scheme for the uplift of health and education in six West African countries. He also initiated the centennial Jubilee scheme. He lead the Community for 17 years.

HADHRAT MIRZA TAHIR AHMAD KHALIFATUL MASIH IV (ABA)



Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA) is the spiritual head of the world-wide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He is the fourth successor of the Promised Messiah, *Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (AS)*.

Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA) was born on 18 December 1928 in Qadian, India. He was educated in India, Pakistan and the UK (at The London School of Oriental and African Studies). He devoted his life to the service of faith and served with great distinction in various capacities under the leadership of the second and the third Khulafa (successors to the Promised Messiah).

In 1982, he was elected as the Head of the world-wide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community following the demise of the third Khalifa. The anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX, imposed on 26 April 1984, by General Zia, the then dictator President of Pakistan, denies the fundamental human rights and religious freedom to Ahmadi Muslims and makes the daily life of an Ahmadi a crime. The Ordinance made it impossible for him to function as the head of his Community while remaining in Pakistan. After due consultation, he decided to leave the country. Three days after the promulgation of the ordinance, he flew from Karachi and came to London where he currently lives.

Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA) is widely traveled and often delivers addresses to diverse audiences from all walks of life and widely differing cultures. He has written many books in Urdu as well as some in English. 'Murder in the Name of Allah' and 'Islam's Response to Contemporary Issues' are two of his recent English publications which the reader may find of interest. He has written extensively in Urdu and occasionally expresses himself in Urdu poetry.

He has recently completed a comprehensive book on the subject of "Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth." He deals with both the scientific discoveries and the different philosophic and sociological schools of thought with a penetrating insight. The book proves conclusively that behind all evolution and progress there is a plan and design of the Almighty Creator. By quoting extensively from the Holy Qur'an, he brings out vividly, how Almighty Allah, who revealed the Holy Qur'an, and who is also the Creator of the Universe, foretold the events which are unfolding in the world now. He has also added his insight into the prophecies made in the Holy Qur'an about the future.

Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA) leads the Community of about 15 million people in 153 countries. Millions watch him over Muslim Television Ahmadiyya — a satellite television network which broadcasts all over the world in eight languages. His addresses and other meetings are often accompanied by 'Question and Answer' sessions. He is always ready to respond to questions agitating the minds of his audience on any topic, religious or temporal, on the basis of the all-encompassing teachings of Islam.



KEEPING COMPANY WITH THE RIGHTEOUS

Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ

“O ye who believe! Fear Allah and be with the truthful.” (9:119)

The Holy Prophet (SA) said:

Hadhrat ibn Abbas (RA) relates that the Holy Prophet (SA) was asked: Whose company is better? He answered: “Of him who reminds you of Allah when you see him, adds to your knowledge when he speaks, and reminds you of the hereafter with his deeds.” (*At-Tarhib wat-Tarhib*).

Hadhrat Abu Huraiah (RA) relates that the Holy Prophet (SA) said: “Allah has angels who travel constantly looking for companies who gather for the remembrance of Allah. When they find one so occupied they sit down with them and cover one another with their wings so that the space between them and the sky is filled. When the company disperses the angels get up and ascend to heaven. Allah, the Lord of honor and glory, asks them (and He Himself knows best): Whence do you come? They answer: We come from some of Thy servants in the earth who proclaim Thy Holiness and Greatness and Unity and praise Thee and supplicate Thee. He inquires: What do they ask of Me? They answer: They ask of Thee Thy Paradise. He inquires: Have they seen My Paradise? They answer: No Lord. Then He inquires: What if they were to see My Paradise? They say: They also seek Thy protection. He inquires: From what do they seek My protection? They answer: From Thy Fire, Lord. He inquires: Have they seen My Fire? They say: No. He inquires: What if they were to see My Fire? They Add: And they ask Thy forgiveness. He says: I have forgiven them, and bestowed upon them what they ask for and have granted them My protection against that from which they seek protection. They say: Lord, there is among them one, So and So, a sinful creature who only passed by and sat down among them. He says: Him also have I forgiven. They are a company whose associate shall not be frustrated.” (*Muslim*)

THE BLESSINGS AND OBJECTIVES OF JALSA SALANA IN THE WORDS OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH (AS)



BENEFITTING FROM THE COMPANY OF THE RIGHTEOUS

One of the objectives is that the love of the world may subside and the love of Allah and His Noble Messenger may overpower the heart... To achieve this objective, it is essential that time be spent in the company of the righteous. You must find occasions to meet. To join in the *Bai'at* and then not to come for *mulaqat* renders the *Bai'at* totally devoid of blessings, and mere formality. (*Aasmani Faislah*)

BUILDING HIGH MORAL CHARACTER AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE FAITH

The real purpose and objective of this jalsa was that the members of our community should cultivate such a change in themselves that their hearts are ever inclined toward the Hereafter and the fear of Allah takes root in their hearts and they become a model of piety, righteousness, sympathy, and tenderness and they become models of brotherhood. That they may be ever prepared and eager for showing humility, hospitality and for making efforts for the sake of the faith. (*Shahadatul Qur'an*)

SPIRITUAL BENEFITS AND REWARD

Do not worry about minor losses in the path of Allah and His Apostle. Allah rewards the sincere believer at every step. He does not let any of their toils and troubles go unrewarded... There are many other benefits which will continue to manifest themselves from time to time.

It is incumbent on everyone who has the means to undertake the journey to come to the Jalsa...

GOOD PLANS FOR THE SUPPORT OF FAITH

One of the objectives of this Jalsa is to make good plans for the propagation of faith in Europe and America, because it has been well established that the white people of Europe and America are getting ready to accept the true faith. (*Ishtehar*)

MEETING NEW MEMBERS

Another temporary advantage of these meetings will be that the members who have newly joined the Community will be able to meet their brothers and thus established ties of brotherhood and mutual recognition. (*Aasmani Faislah*)

TO REMOVE BICKERING AND ALOOFNESS

In this Jalsa efforts will be made to remove mutual bickering and aloofness among the members through the grace and mercy of Allah. (*Aasmani Faislah*)

PRAYING FOR FORGIVENESS OF THE DECEASED

Those members who have departed from this temporary abode will be remembered in prayers and in this Jalsa. (*Aasmani Faislah*)

NOT A WORLDLY CONFERENCE

The conference should not be treated like an ordinary worldly conference. It is an event based solely on the support of the true faith and propagation of the religion of Islam. The foundation stone of the Community has been laid down by Allah Almighty Himself. He has prepared nations to join it in the near future. This has been done by the One Who is All-Powerful. Nothing is impossible for Him. (*Ishtehar*, December 9, 1892)

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO COME TO JALSA

I close this announcement with a prayer that Almighty Allah be with those who undertake this journey solely for the sake of Allah. May He reward them abundantly. May ^{He} ~~he~~ have mercy on them and relieve them of their troubles, pain and anxieties. May Allah fulfill their noble desires and may He raise them, on the Day of Judgement, in the company of His servants who have attained His grace and mercy. May He safeguard them throughout their journey. O Allah! O Ye with abundant Grace and Bounty! O Merciful! Accept all these prayers and grant us a victory over our opponents with glorious signs. ~~Verify~~. Thou hast all power and strength. Ameen! (*Ishtehar*, December 7, 1892)

H. L. Verily



INTERNATIONAL



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 July 1997

I would like to send all the members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association my very best wishes for your annual convention on 25th to 27th July.

This event is of international significance, with 12,000 members drawn from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Associations of 160 countries from across the globe meeting in Tilford, Surrey. Improving race relations and breaking down barriers between people of different faiths is a major priority of my government and I welcome the contribution made by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association toward achieving this goal.

I am sorry that I cannot be with you. I wish you all every success for the future.

Tony Blair

RT HON TONY BLAIR MP

JALSA SALANA, UK





واختر من من لدنك سلطاناً نصيراً

إنا فتحنا لك فتحاً مبيناً



MIRZA TAHIR AHMAD

HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY
IN ISLAM

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

نُحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّ عَلَى رَسُوْلِهِ الْكَرِيمِ

Assalamo Alaikum Wa Ramatullahe Wa Barakatohu:

The souvenir, which the reader holds in his hands, is published under the auspices of Jama'at Ahmadiyya U.S.A. It celebrates the stupendous progress made by the Jamaat during the last 50 years of its annual sessions ending on June 28, 1998. Normally I do not endorse such anniversaries and prefer a constant on going strife which does not spare me enough time to count the rapidly vanishing weeks, months and years into the vast realm of the past; yet I heartily approve of this anniversary which the souvenir is capturing. It will serve, I believe, as an excellent introduction of what the Jamaat stands for, to all muslim and non-muslim readers alike. This souvenir, most faithfully presents the world-wide vision of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat with reference to the ambitions and achievements of the Jamaat in U.S.A. Their 50th Jalsa, to be held in June 1998, will be attended by many important guests specially invited for this historic occasion.

The hosts will enormously benefit from their august presence while they will be no less enriched by this rare experience. The visitors will be able to personally witness the highly charged spiritual atmosphere of this Jalsa and carry back its cherished memories to their respective countries. Thus its beauty, its colour and its fragrance will be disseminated throughout the world. As a result, the U.S.A. Jamaat will be gifted with the unique opportunity to introduce Islam to the entire world as correctly understood and practiced by the world-wide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

I realize, of course, that there still exist flaws and short-comings in various areas of Islamic practices in many chapters there, yet it cannot be denied that the resolve with which they are laboriously engaged in constantly improving their quality of life is a model to follow for the rest of the world. Their gigantic march-forward in offering financial sacrifices at an ever increasing pace, year after year, after year, is a treat for the eye!

Applauds are ordinary things which have no lasting substance but the blessing of sincere prayer, accepted by God, lasts for ever. Please join me in the prayer for the entire U.S.A. Jamaat, and for their humble, yet exceptionally successful Ameer, and for all the office-bearers and workers who have made this miracle happen!

Allah bless them all.

Mirza Tahir Ahmad

MIRZA TAHIR AHMAD
London
11th April, 1998

SOME REFLECTIONS BY
SAHIBZADA MIRZA MUZAFFAR AHMAD, AMIR USA



LET US ALWAYS REMAIN WORTHY
RECIPIENT OF PROMISED MESSIAH'S (AS)
FERVENT PRAYERS FOR THE GLORY OF ISLAM

The Precious Legacy of Sacrifice needs to be Preserved and Broadened



As we celebrate the 50th US Jalsa Salana during the last weekend of June 1998, our mind goes back to the year 1889 when the Promised Messiah, under divine command, claimed to be the Mahdi and the later day Reformer predicted by all principal religions.

How utterly modest indeed was the start when a feeble lonely human voice rose from a tiny unknown village of Qadian, completely cut off from the rest of the world with neither rail or road connection nor even a post or telegraph office or a newspaper. It was in this unhelpful environment that the Promised Messiah (AS) proclaimed that Allah has revealed to him that:

“میں تیری تبلیغ کو زمین کے کناروں تک پہنچاؤں گا”

“I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the earth”

Today that lonely voice resounds all over the world with increasing strength and vigor. A 24 hours telecast of Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTAI), energizes listeners to *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV's (ABA) sermons, addresses and other programs Ahmadiyya Jamaat is now established in 153 countries and all this global progress has been achieved despite desperate opposition by so many - including powerful and resourceful governments.

Few may now remember that at the first Jalsa in Qadian in the year 1891, the total attendance was only 75, and here we are, world apart from Qadian, celebrating our Jalsa with over 7000 participants in our beautiful Baitur Rahman Mosque. It will be remembered that at the last Jalsa Salana held in Rabwah in 1983 the attendance was over a quarter million who were housed and served meals by a very large number of volunteers in Jamaat's best traditions.

~~it aghast. Inshaallah.~~



Stories abound when the Promised Messiah sold his wife's jewelry to serve food to those who had come to attend a Jalsa in Qadian, or when he appealed to his followers in Kapurthala to raise Rupees 60 (less than 2 dollars in current terms) in order to print and circulate a pamphlet. The messenger, *Hadhrat* Munshi Zafar Ahmad (RA), who was also from Kapurthala went to Kapurthala and raised the whole amount himself through sale of his wife's jewelry without telling anyone about it. Later, when the Kapurthala Jamaat heard about it, they were mad that the opportunity to serve the Jamaat was denied to them. Such was the spirit and enthusiasm which prevailed and indeed still prevails. Ahmadiyyat today, with Allah's grace and bounties, stands established in all continents of the world and is ever growing. Here in USA there were only a few chapters of the Jamaat in 1955 with a total budget of less than twenty one thousand dollars (\$20,676) but now the budget exceeds \$ 6 million and has 45 chapters and 31 Mosques and mission houses.

We cannot sit back on the good performance of financial sacrifices by the USA Jamaat. Without similar success in Tabligh and Tarbiyyat, the picture remains incomplete. Both these areas are of critical importance and our efforts so far have not produced the desired results in accordance with Hazur's expectations. Given the basic resistance in the Western countries, a very serious, innovative and sustained all-out effort is needed. A fresh comprehensive Tabligh program is planned to attain Hazur's target of 100,000 Baits around the start of the new millenium. The trickle which started joining the movement now grows into a torrent when last year alone 3 million new members joined the worldwide Ahmadiyya Movement In Islam. Under inspiring, most dynamic and forward-thinking leadership of *Hadhrat* Khalifaful Masih IV (ABA), our future promises to be even more explosive than our past. The fulfillment of Allah's prophecies will dazzle the world and leave it aghast. *Inshaallah*.

Look how those, who made it their life-long mission to stop Jamaat's progress by whatever dubious and sacrilegious means and tactics, failed miserably to frustrate Allah's divine design. Not too long ago an all powerful dictator who claimed that he was determined to completely "eradicate the cancer of Ahmadiyyat" fell ignominiously from the skies, as his aircraft crashed like a pack of cards into dust under the wrath of Allah as indeed as publicly predicted weeks in advance by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA).

Indeed if you listen carefully, you can hear the foot steps of Islam's soldiers marching fearlessly towards their divinely destined goal.

We stand in all humility, determined and dedicated, to spread the message of Islam with all our dedication and resources so that the divine mission of the Promised Messiah (AS), who claimed to be the humblest servant of the Holy Prophet and Khatamul Nabiyeen, *Hadhrat* Muhammad (SA), moves to its inevitable zenith in the ultimate triumph of Islam over all other faiths with mighty signs of Allah.

Our limited and totally inadequate results in Tabligh underline that our efforts need to be broadened to match the phenomenal success achieved by Ahmadiyya Jamaat in other countries (particularly in Africa and Asia) where last year alone a *Bai'at* target of 3 million was attained with Allah's Grace and Bounty. This should be the focus of our special attention and resolve.

Let us then rededicate ourselves afresh with speed and vigor and ever strong motivation to our divinely destined goal with humility in our hearts and prayers on our lips so that the next celebration, 50 years from today, take us closer to our ultimate goal of making Islam, and its true teachings in the service of humanity, the dominant faith and people's free choice all over the world.

SOME JALSA SALANA USA

1st	1948	Dayton, Ohio
2nd	1949	Dayton, Ohio
5th	1952	Dayton, Ohio
8th	1955	St. Louis, Missouri
10th	1957	Dayton, Ohio
11th	1958	New York, New York
17th	1964	Cleveland, Ohio
19th	1966	Dayton, Ohio
22nd	1969	Dayton, Ohio
25th	1972	Lake Forest, Illinois
26th	1973	Lake Forest, Illinois
28th	1975	Wilberforce, Ohio
29th	1976	Madison, New Jersey
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih III (RT) visit</i>
30th	1977	St. Louis, Missouri
31st	1978	Dayton, Ohio
32nd	1979	St. Louis, Missouri
		1980 <i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih III (RT) visit</i> (No Jalsa Salana)
33rd	1981	4-H Center, Washington, DC
34th	1982	Wayne, New Jersey
35th	1983	Lower Huran Metro Park, Belleville, Michigan
36th	1984	University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
37th	1985	University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
38th	1986	Georgetown University, Washington, DC
39th	1987	University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visit</i>
40th	1988	University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
41st	1989	University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visit</i>
42nd	1990	Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
43rd	1991	Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visit</i>
44th	1992	York Institute of Technology, Brookville, New York
45th	1993	York Institute of Technology, Brookville, New York
46th	1994	Baitur Rahman, Silver Spring, Maryland
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) inaugurates Baitur Rahman Mosque</i>
47th	1995	Baitur Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland
48th	1996	Baitur Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland
49th	1997	Baitur Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visit</i>
50th	1998	Baitur Rahman, Silver Spring, Maryland
		<i>Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visit</i>

(BRIEF REPORTS ON SELECTED JALSAS, EXTRACTED FROM THE MUSLIM SUNRISE,
THE REVIEW OF RELIGIONS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS, FOLLOW)

JALSA SALANA CONTRIBUTIONS

1980-81	\$97
1986-87	\$34,792
1987-88	\$24,044
1988-89	\$41,638
1989-90	\$71,186
1990-91	\$68,299
1991-92	\$108,629
1992-93	\$12,1157
1993-94	\$118,029
1994-95	\$138,396
1995-96	\$153,737
1996-97	\$173,511





1st JALSA SALANA -1948- DAYTON, OHIO

Ahmadiyyat Opens a New Chapter in America First Annual Convention of the U.S. Ahmadiyya Missions

The year of 1948 witnessed an important step forward in the history of the Ahmadiyya Movement in the United States. Foundations were laid for consolidated efforts of various American Ahmadiyya missions to further the noble cause of Islam at the first annual Ahmadiyya Convention held at Dayton, Ohio, last September. Achievements at the Convention included a solid program of educational, social, propagational and financial activities. A central secretariat was established with the object of coordinating work of the different missions.



Publication of literature received a particular attention and in this connection wider circulation of the MOSLEM SUNRISE was enthusiastically pledged.

Notes of deep fidelity to Ahmadiyyat and greater drive for the propagation of Islam rang all through the deliberations. One could not help to infer that the sincerity and zeal showing in the faces of the ardent Ahmadies was auguring a blessed era of determined conquest of the wide world around to bring eternal peace and happiness to all the people through Islam.

If American Ahmadies act up to the ambitions to which they pledged their efforts at their first Convention, Allah, according to His promise, is sure to come to their help even as He did when the handful of Faithfuls made similar pledge more than thirteen centuries ago with practically no means available to achieve their purpose: nevertheless in less than half a century they succeeded in conquering major part of the then known world of Islam.



2nd JALSA SALANA -1949 - DAYTON, OHIO

A Message to the Ahmadiyya Muslims on the Second Annual Convention of the American Missions, September 17-18, 1949



My dear friends and spiritual children of the United States of America,

Assalamo Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatohu.

I have been asked by our Missionary-In-Charge in the United States of America, Mr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, to write a message for you to be read in your Second Convention. It is a great pleasure for me to do so. Twenty-nine years ago, I sent Mufti Mohammad Sadiq, an old companion of the Promised Messiah (AS), to introduce the Ahmadiyya Movement in your country. He after reaching the United States of America, chose Chicago as the centre of his mission. His was a lonely voice raised in support of the truth about a quarter of a century back; and probably the people laughed when they heard him preach Islam and call them to Ahmadiyyat—the true and divinely inspired interpretation of Islam. Probably they thought every prophet and his disciples were mad. But those who thought so were mad themselves. The sheep that does not recognize the shepherd is mad and destined for destruction, for it becomes the prey of that old wolf—Satan: and loses all hope for salvation.



My dear friends and children! No country and no people are absolutely without any seekers after truth. The voice which was taken as the babble of a mad man began to attract some of those who were destined to be the pioneers and torch-bearers of truth in the United States of America. May be some of them are still alive, may be none are. Even if all of them have left this world, their spirits might be hovering over your heads just now seeing in you the seed which is being broadcast by God in the wilderness, as well as in some well prepared soil, to grow in time and become a heavy crop to give a new life to millions and millions of people of your country.

My friends and children! Ahmadiyyat is the message of God Almighty and not a scheme conceived by any mortal being. So you should look upon it as such and try to follow it literally and with great care. No good citizen breaks the law of his country and so is the case of a true believer. He knows that the law of God is based upon infallible philosophy and is for his good and betterment. So always try and strive to know more and more about Islam and Ahmadiyyat so that your actions may be in complete accord with the law chosen for you by your Creator. God Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an: "Today I have brought to perfection the spiritual code according to which you have to live and thus I have filled for you the cup of my blessings to its very brim." This verse shows that every order and injunction given by the Holy Quran is for the spiritual uplift of man and not as an arbitrary order to make the human beings feel their serfdom to God. God has nothing to gain if we follow 'The Law'. It is we who benefit from it and so the person who is lukewarm in his obedience to the law, in letter and in spirit, is himself the loser. Woe to him who finds the door of heaven opened for him but turns his face and goes astray. So, I advise you with all the love I bear for you, to avail yourselves of this great opportunity of being pioneers of the truth in your country and set a grand example of true obedience to God and His religion for your contemporaries and for the coming generations, so much so that you become in the eyes of God, the deliverers of your country and your people; and become like the first disciples of the prophets of old. Those disciples had no special claims on God; their only claim was that they were the first to believe, first to make sacrifices and first to live a life which was not in conformity with the lives of their countrymen. They bore and bore well all rebuke; they took with a light heart all ridicule and stuck to the way which God chose for them and thus they became the chosen people of God. Old orders and governments die out giving place to new ones but these disciples good name has been kept alive all along. Mighty nations have perished; strong governments have succumbed but these people never died and are still living in the memories of millions of people who love them more than their own kith and kin.

Dear friends and my spiritual children! Fortunately you have got the same opportunity, being the first bearers of truth in the United States of America, being disciples of the disciples of the Promised Messiah (AS)—beloved of God, His only begotten son, in the same sense as the Christ was. God has no son but those who gain His presence and win His pleasure through steadfast love and never wavering faith, become like sons to Him. Nay even more than that. A father may forsake his son in certain circumstances but God never forsakes His beloved ones. You have a further blessing that you found the time of the Promised Son and so you are not mere disciples of the disciples of the Promised Messiah (AS) but are also like the first disciples themselves. So rise to the grand occasion and act according to your exalted position. Do not forget that everybody is directly responsible to his God. Therefore, do not copy anybody's weaknesses but follow the word of God and His Prophets and try to live a life even more pious and cleaner than the lives of those who have come to teach you. I also hope that my representatives there will set a good example for you and will not act in a way detrimental to the cause of Islam and misleading the seekers after truth. Woe to him who gets the opportunity of bringing people to the fold of God but delivers them to His eternal enemy—Satan. May God help you, your preachers and your country, so that all of you gain the blessings of God and your country, through your untiring efforts and the grace of God, becomes one of the first strongholds of God and His true and living religion Islam, which is truly represented in our time by Ahmadiyyat. AMEEN.

Yours very sincerely,
KHALIFATUL MASIH II

York House, Lytton Road, Quetta, Pakistan
2nd September, 1949



5th JALSA SALANA -1952- DAYTON, OHIO

From The Review of Religions (August 1952)

AHMADIYYA MISSION NEWS

By Ali Muhammad B.A., B.T.

USA: A convention of the Ahmadiyya Jamaats in USA was held at Dayton in which delegates from all the Ahmadiyya Missions in America participated. It was a happy spectacle to see the East and the West meet together in a brotherly spirit and have one and the same object in view, namely, delivering the message of Islam to Non-Muslims. Besides lectures on the beauties of Islam and the inculcation of a brotherly spirit among members of the Ahmadiyya Movement, new schemes for the spread of Islam in the USA were formulated. Mr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, Missionary-in-Charge USA, was the leading spirit everywhere. The convention was brought to a successful close after two days of deliberations.

10th JALSA SALANA -1957- DAYTON, OHIO

From The Review of Religions (September 1957)

USA: In a telegraphic message, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, M.A., Ph.D. reports that the Ahmadiyya Community in America has their Annual Conference, held at Dayton Ahmadiyya Mosque, on August 31, and September 1 and 2, 1957. Members from different places in USA attended and successfully worked out the programme of work for the next year and adopted the necessary budgets for the different branch Anjumans and Associations in USA. Two members of the community offered properties to build a permanent mission house there. A message from the *Vakil-ut-Tabshir* was warmly received and read out to the audience. The proceedings terminated on September 2 amidst enthusiasm.



19th JALSA SALANA -1966 - DAYTON, OHIO

Our 19th Convention, held at our newly built Mosque in Dayton, Ohio, on September 3 and 4, 1966 was, by the grace of Allah, a great success. Delegates from great distances like Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Youngstown, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, Tennessee, etc., attended. It was a cosmopolitan gathering of lovers of Allah belonging to different races, nationalities, faiths and countries. All guests were served with breakfast and dinner daily. The service was done this year very satisfactorily by the Lajna Immallah, Pittsburg. The members of the Dayton Mission and some from other Missions also extended their services. A great enthusiasm prevailed. There were spontaneous expressions of felicitation on every tongue and every face.

The special feature of this year's Convention was the highly inspiring message received from our present Beloved Leader, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul-Masih III (RT), which was read out at the opening of the Convention. Two other inspiring Messages, one from the Acting *Vakil-ut-Tabshir* and the other from the President, Central Khuddamul-Ahmadiyya, were received and read out to the audience. Instructive and enlightening speeches on spiritual, moral and social topics were delivered by some learned members, including Brs. Syed Abdur Rahman, Muhammad Sadiq, Ahmad Shaheed, Bashir Afzal, Muhammad Qasim, Dr. Bashiruddin Usama, Dr. B.A. Munir, and Missionaries, namely Major Abdul Hamid, Syed Jawad Ali and A.R. Khan Bengalee, in the three Sessions presided over by Brs. Ahmad Shahid, Syed Abdur Rahman and Bashir Afzal, respectively. The Conference ended with prayer and a farwell address by the Missionary-in-Charge.

22nd JALSA SALANA -1969 - DAYTON, OHIO

The Missionary-in-Charge, Maqbool A. Qureshi, hoped and expected that each and every member would attend the Convention, which was held on August 30 & 31. This blessed gathering was the image of the Annual Gathering started by the Promised Messiah (AS), 78 years ago in 1891. At that time he himself directed all the members to hold it regularly in the future. Those who, in conformity with his instructions and desire, participated in it will certainly receive blessings and reward from Allah.

The program consisted of 5 Sessions, including Speeches, Mission Reports, Auxilliary Meetings and Panel Discussions. The main speakers were: Br. Maqbool A. Qureshi (Missionary in Charge), Muhammad Qasim (Dayton) Munir Ahmad (St. Louis), Syed Jawad Ali, Bashir Afzal (New York), Dr. Bashiruddin Usama (Cleveland), Ahmad Shaheed (Pittsburg), Abul Kalam (Pittsburg), Yahya Abdullah (Baltimore), Abdul Karim (Chicago), Abid Hanif (Boston), Dr. Khalil A. Nasir (New York), Munir Hamid, (Philadelphia), Ahmad Wasim (Cleveland), Hanif Ahmad (Milwaukee), Muhammad Sadiq (New York), Rashid Ahmad (St. Louis), Abdur Rahman (Baltimore) and Fazl Omar (Waukegan).



25th JALSA SALANA -1972 - LAKE FOREST, IL

This convention was held on September 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The program consisted of speeches, Reports, Majlis-e-Shura, Auxilliary meetings and a visit to Zion, Illinois. The main speakers were Brs. Rashid Ahmad (Millwaukee), Abdur Rahim Zafar (Dayton), Muhammad Qasim (Dayton), Yusuf Ali (St. Louis), Dr. Qazi M. Barkatullah (Jackson, Miss), Abdur Raqib Wali (Boston), Dr. Rab Nawaz Malik (Madison, WI), Jamil-ur-Rahman (Pittsburg), Munawar A. Saeed (Washington, DC), Khalil A. Chaudhary (Toronto), Bashir Afzal (New York) and Abdul Mauuan Malik (Philadelphia).

THE MUSLIM SUNRISE NEWS SUPPLEMENT

FIRST AHMADIYY MAJLIS-E-SHURA USA

For the first time in America, the Ahmadiyya Jamaat will hold a "Majlis-e-Shura" or Advisory Counsel session, which will be part of the 1972 annual convention.

In Pakistan, every year in April, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih convenes a council of the Ahmadiyya delegates for consultation on vital matters of the community. In this way the Ahmadies are given a chance to offer helpful suggestions that may increase and improve the work of Jamaat. We will follow this example in America this year, and hold our first "Majlis-e-Shura." Out of this meeting we hope may come ideas for the solution of our most pressing problems.

The specific projects to be dealt with by this Majlis-e-Shura will each be placed in the hands of a committee. The following Committees will be selected:

- School Committee
- Mosque Building Committee
- Mosque Financial Committee
- Tabligh, Publication and Publicity Committee
- Wasiyyat Committee
- Qadian Service Committee

The committee sessions will begin after the *Juma* prayers on Friday.

26th JALSA SALANA -1973- LAKE FORREST, ILLINOIS

The Inaugural Address

Delivered by *Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad*
Grandson of the Promised Messiah (AS)



It is indeed a great privilege and honor to be asked to inaugurate this Convention. All of us have looked forward to it for months. A great many of us have made special efforts, if not also some sacrifice, to get here and many of us have worked hard to prepare for it and make it a success. It will be a great pity, therefore, if we do not derive full advantage of this great opportunity which comes to us only once a year and which claims so much of our effort and time. Now to derive full advantage from this convention we have to hear in mind:

- a) The supreme divine purpose for which the movement was established.
- b) Within this broader purpose and framework the objectives which such conventions are designed to achieve.

Taking the first objective, namely the divine design and purpose for the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, this is a vast subject which one can elaborate for many hours. But briefly, very briefly, it involves revival of Islam in its true spiritual glory, a great religion which over the past

many centuries has been masked under some tarnishing false notions and lost its purity and its spirit so that only the dry bones remain but not the flesh, only the form and not the spirit.

Ahmadiyyat demands that we so refashion our lives that they are shaped in the right and true spirit of Islamic Values in all their purity, a reflection of God's great attributes, an absorption in our lives of all that is best, a rejection of all that is bad.

The Promised Messiah had himself stated that his primary purpose and mission in life is to show the people the path of virtue and bring man in direct communion with God. He said with great poignancy that if on one hand the people at large describe us as infidels as outside the pail of Islam and on the other hand we fail to refashion our lives in a manner that God acknowledges us as true Muslims (Believers) then surely we are losers on both sides and it will truly be a bad bargain, an unfortunate outcome. It is, therefore, important to keep remembering this main purpose and mission of our lives.

Within this broad main purpose let us look at the primary objectives of this Annual Convention or similar other conventions which Ahmadiyya Community holds the world over. Here let me take you back to the first Convention which was held some 70 years back and to which not many more than the number present today attended (as against 100,000 who attended the last year's convention at the Headquarters of the Movement). In introducing this series of conventions the Promised Messiah stated that it was to be a purely religious gathering; unlike what is common or frivolous. On such occasions the convention's sole purpose would be to purify ourselves, to know and to learn from each other, to dedicate our lives in the service of God and Islam and to become willing and effective instruments of God's will and design.

Let us, therefore, along with the main purpose of the Movement, also remember the specific purpose of these conventions. Remembering both these objectives and keeping them constantly before us we should conduct these conventions (which is a replica of the convention at Headquarters of the Movement) and utilize our time here so that both purposes are advanced and ultimately realized.

There are in this convention four specific thoughts which I would wish to share with you. First, we should all resolve that during the course of the year and before we meet at the next convention each one of us should endeavor to remove one of the failings which may attach to his person as is the lot of human beings. There is a saying of the Holy Prophet that this is a minimum, which one should attempt to achieve during the month of Ramadhan, which is at hand, and provides an excellent opportunity and occasion to attain such a resolve. If over our lifetime we act on it every



year we should succeed in making our lives much more useful to ourselves and to the service of cause to which we have dedicated ourselves.

Secondly, during the convention we should fix specific targets for the propagation of Islam, for publication and distribution of literature, for attaining a figure in our subscriptions, for molding the lives of our children in the way of Islam and similar other fields. We should prepare a scheme for their attainment and at every subsequent convention evaluate our performance, which target we have achieved and which one we have failed to realize and why. This will give a direction to our efforts and make us more vigilant towards the realization of our goals.

Thirdly, as you know, not very far from where we are meeting today a prominent leader of Christianity was the target of the Almighty's wrath as prophesized by the Promised Messiah. We should make this town the special target of our missionary activity, build a center and a mosque to glorify God and perhaps sometime hold a special convention or celebrate a special day to commemorate this great sign of Allah shown in defense of Islam.

Fourthly, it should be our special effort that each succeeding generation of ours should be better Muslims than the preceding generation. This is the only way in which we can equip ourselves for the accomplishment of the task ahead. And may I add that this places extra responsibility in the hands of our women whose training and upbringing in home plays a most vital role in shaping character.

The Ahmadiyya Movement has come a long way from the point it was started. An unknown individual, unknown even among the tiny community of a couple of hundred souls in his own small village, in a locality completely cut off from the world by rail, road, telephone, or telegraph, a person who abhorred publicity and was hoping to continue to live a life of utter seclusion, was chosen to proclaim the divine mission and spread it to all the corners of the world. From any earthly calculation his mission was doomed to failure. And yet, despite tremendous opposition in all forms and from all quarters, the things which he proclaimed have come true, though they looked impossible of attainment, yet they have in fact come true.

The British one time boasted that the sun never sets on the British Commonwealth. This is probably no longer true. However, what is true today is that the sun never sets on Ahmadiyyat. And this is only a beginning, a small beginning of what would come about ultimately.

What looked impossible at the time of Promised Messiah's announcement of his divine mission, has come true today. What looks impossible today namely the total spiritual conquest by Islam will Inshaallah also come true one day.

This was true then. This is true today. This will come about not because we are strong and that this lies within our capabilities. We are admittedly weak, in worldly calculation, almost non-entities but the One Who has willed it, Whose design it is, is all powerful and the fountainhead of all and limitless resources on which He exercises full and undisputed claims. So what appears impossible will come true is because it is the divine will and decree and no power on earth can stop its realization.

It should be our endeavor, our prayers that we should partake in bringing about the realization of this dream, this divine scheme for the welfare and good of a suffering humanity and its moral and spiritual advancement; we should so shape our lives that we become worthy instruments of God's design and worthy recipient to absorb His blessings.

Let us, therefore, start our convention with prayers, rising in unison from our hearts that God's Will be done and prevail, the choice beliefs and teachings of Islam are spread out all over the universe and people reshape their lives in accordance with God's design which requires humanity to live in peace, in harmony and in total equality, and in practicing and propagating the true moral and spiritual values of Islam.

Let us, therefore, begin this convention with renewed dedication and a special prayer for the spread and glory of Islam, for the full and early attainment of the objectives which gave birth to the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam for our own purification and spiritual advancement so that we become the sole instrument of God's design to a degree that our destruction becomes the destruction of God's own design. May we be worthy of it and may our efforts, however, humble, attract and absorb God's mercy, His beneficence and His blessings. We should also offer special prayers for *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih and the missionaries and all those who participate in the struggle which will lead to the triumph of Islam and the welfare of all mankind.

28th JALSA SALANA -1975- WILBERFORCE CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, OHIO



The Convention was held on August 29, 30th & 31st. The program consisted of Speeches, Reports, Amir's Meeting, Auxiliary Meetings and Prize Distribution. The main speakers were Br. Rashid Ahmad (National Amir), Iman Muhammad Siddique Shahid (Missionary-in-Charge), and Brs. Muzaffar A. Zafr (Dayton), Muhammad Qasim (Dayton), Abid Haneef (Boston), Mian Muhammad Ibrahim (Missionary), Ali Razaa (Kenosha, WI), Munir M. Mian (Canada), Yahya Sharif Abdullah (York), Dr. Rab Nawaz Malik (Madison, WI), Dr. Khalil A. Nasir (New York), Bashir Afzal (New York), Muhammad Sadiq (New Jersey), Abdul Kabir Haq (St. Louis), Mubasher Ahmad (Washington, DC) and Salim Nasir (New York).

AGENDA FOR AMIR'S MEETING

Friday, August 29th at 4:00 pm

1. Report about Community Center
2. Preaching Program for the year 1975-1976
3. Organization of the Jama'ats into Circles
4. Next year's convention
5. Any other matter with permission of the Chair

ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING AMERICAN LAJNA IMAILLAH

BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, August 30th at 9:30 pm

- I. Opening:
 - A. Holy Qur'an Recitation/Prayer
 - B. Lajna Pledge
 - C. Opening Remarks/National President
- II. Business Meeting
 - A. Reports
 1. National Officers Reports (circular)
 2. General Lajna Reports (circular)
 3. Report on Summer Schools (Eastern, Central, Midwestern)
 - B. New Lajna chapters and members' introduction
 - C. Streamlining Lajna
- III. Elections & Aud Installation of new National Officers

GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, August 31th at 9:00 am

Welcome Address (Aisha Shaheed, Dayton), Islamic Lifestyle in America (Ayesha Shareef, York), Personal Impressions of Community in Rabwah & Qadian (Hameeda Chambers, Chicago), Nasirat Presentations (Hameeda Ahmad, St. Louis), My Trip to Pakistan & India Suggested Future Protocol (Nasira Rizaa, Kenosha), Philosophy of Prayer in Islam (Adiba Abbas, Washington, DC).



29th JALSA SALANA -1976 - MADISON, NJ DREW UNIVERSITY

Grandson Of the Promised One Terms Islam The Only Way

By JOHN MUELLER

MADISON— Some of the men were moved to tears praying with the solemn, grandfatherly figure. Most of the women delegates never got to see the man who looked sort of Like Burl Ives, though they could hear his voice through a partition in the college gymnasium.

Mirza The man was Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, grandson and third successor of The Promised One, and his message to 600 of his 10 million Ahmadi followers was that there is no hope for humanity outside Islam.

Dressed in flowing robes, saris, or dashikis, with many of the women veiled, the listening believers were delegates to the 29th Annual Convention of the North American Communities in the Ahmadiyya Movement over the weekend at Drew University.

Rubbing elbows with weekend joggers, tennis players and Shakespeare festival stagehands, they gathered Friday and Saturday to pray and exchange ideas about their Islamic evangelical sect in what was described as "a true Islamic society in the midst of an overwhelming materialistic environment."

"The reality is that Christianity has failed to solve the problems of the world," Ahmad said. His grandfather, the Promised Mahdi (Restorer of the Faith), promised he could solve all the problems of the world through Islam, he said.

In a short address Ahmad said Islam is the only remedy to America's problems, droned some melodic incantations for peace, and led the delegates in silent prayer which was punctuated by sobs from members of the audience. To the uninitiated Judeo-Christian it was unclear whether the men were crying with joy on seeing their spiritual leader in the flesh or regretting his imminent departure.

Ahmad's grandfather, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Punjab, founded the evangelical sect in 1889, apparently trying to combine the thrust of major world religions under a universal Islam. Besides the Promised Mahdi, he claimed to be the second advent of Christ, an incarnation of the Hindu Krishna and a *buruz*, or reincarnation, of Muhammad.

Missionary for the Midwest, Mian Muhammad Ibrahim, explained: "What separates Ahmadiyyat from not only the Muslims but from all other religions is a belief in ongoing revelation. If God spoke yesterday, he certainly can speak today. There is also the belief in the universality of prophets. It brings us closer together, closer to world unity."

Another key belief, he said, is Ahmad's reinterpretation of the Islamic precept of *jihad* or holy war, to mean persuasion by the pen rather than the sword, and a submission to temporal authority in temporal matters approximating the Christian "rendering unto Caesar."

Ahmadiyyat is disowned by orthodox Muslims because Ahmad claimed to be an inspired prophet, while in Islam Muhammad is supposed to have been the final prophet.

Ahmad's liberalization of Islam, especially its principles of social justice and egalitarianism, appealed originally to the middleclass Muslims, and while decidedly nonracist, is fairly close to the American Black Muslim social and political outlook.

Men and women entered the auditorium/gymnasium by separate doors and were blocked from each others' view by a partition, although squalling children and an occasional crash were audible from the other section. Speakers, including Ahmad, stood on the men's side of the floor, unseen to the women. A women's exclusive session was scheduled "to deliberate on problems peculiar to the female society."

"A basic tenet of Ahmadiyya Islam is that each person should develop his physical, moral, spiritual and mental faculties to their fullest. This of course necessitates equality of the sexes, said the prophet, who added that in the Qur'an men are commanded to up hold the rights of women," a press handout said. It pointed to a 100 per cent literacy rate in Rabwah, Pakistan, the sect's center, compared to 1 per cent in the rest of the country.

Those surveying the throng outside could hear a mixture of Pakistani, Indian, and a scattering of African and European languages. One black woman dressed in a colorful, flowing outfit was asked if she could explain the separate but unequal facilities and how she felt about them. She turned out to be from Teaneck. "I'm not a delegate. I'm not even a Moslem. I'm the mother of one of the speakers, and my son's friend made me this outfit because she said I had a Moslem body," she explained. "They almost always separate the gentlemen from the ladies. Usually I don't notice it but it does take some getting used to," she said.

The Daily Record
Morris County, NJ
8 August 1976

HEARTIEST WELCOME

Hadhrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Head of the Admadiyya Movement in Islam graces this soil by his holy presence and brings to the people of this country in their bicentennial year an answer to their many problems through the message of Islam, the religion of universal peace and brotherhood, equality, non-violence and safety.

Born in 1909, *Hadhrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad*, spiritual leader of over ten million strong Ahmadi Muslims, committed the entire text of the Holy Qur'an to memory in his childhood. He received his Bachelor's degree and the terminal degree of honors in Arabic from the Punjab University. He pursued his post graduate studies at the Balliol College at Oxford University from which he holds a Master's degree.

Before his election in 1965 as Caliph, the third successor of *Hadhrat Ahmad*, he served the Movement in several eminent positions of responsibility, including principalship of the central educational institution for over two decades.

Since 1965 Ahmadiyya Movement has made spectacular strides under his dynamic leadership. As the world leader of his community he has traveled extensively in various parts of Europe and Africa. In 1970 during his tour of West African Ahmadiyya Missions, he was received by the Heads of States of Nigeria, Liberia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Gambia and was accorded befitting reception in the countries he visited.

The current is his first visit to the United States of America and Canada.

With immense pleasure and deep humility do we accord our heartiest welcome to our revered leader. Ahmadi brothers and sisters across America will thank Allah for giving them this greatest chance of their life to see *Hadhrat Khalifatul Messiah III* in person and to feel for themselves the love and warmth of his personality.

We wish *Hazoor* a very pleasant stay in North America and reaffirm that we will be in the first front at his call for service to the cause of Islam.

(Editorial, The Muslim Sunrise - July 1976)

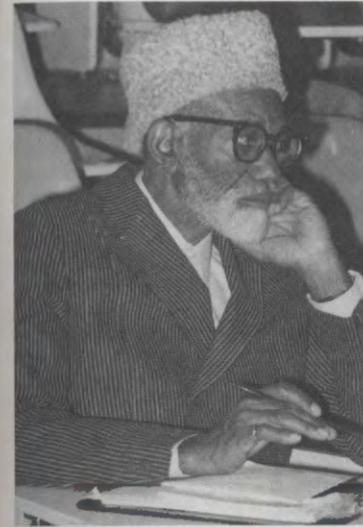




HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASIHI III (RT) VISIT 1980



34th JALSA SALANA -1982- WAYNE, NEW JERSEY WILLIAM PETERSON COLLEGE





35th JALSA SALANA -1983 - DETROIT, MICHIGAN LOWER HURON METRO PARK, BELLVILLE

The 35th Jalsa Salana USA was planned to be held at Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan, on August 12, 13 and 14, 1983. Four days before the Jalsa, on August 8, a devoted worker of the Ahmadiyya Community, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad, was shot and martyred at his home in Canton, Michigan. The same night, the home of another Ahmadi, Mr. Laeeq Butt, was fire-bombed. In the early morning hours of the next day, Detroit Jama'at Mission House was put to fire. Two culprits who had started the fire got entrapped and died in the burning structure. The Oakland University out of fear, did not allow the Jalsa Salana to be held at the campus. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA), on hearing the news instructed the US Jama'at not to cancel the Jalsa which was then held in the Lower Huron Metropolitan Park, Belleville, Michigan. More than one thousand devoted Ahmadis attended the Jalsa on August 12 and 13. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) sent a most moving and motivational message which was read out by *Imam* Ataullah Kaleem, Amir USA.

"See the intelligent insight: Muzaffar is alive even today! Nay, he got a life far greater than that he had! O Muzaffar! Peace be on to you! At your back are millions of Muzaffar ready and anxious to move forward and fill-in your place. O you who quenched the flame of Muzaffar's life, you have given him a cup of everlasting life to drink. To him life is granted, and to you nothing but death!"

(*Khtuba Juma* delivered by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) on 12 August 1983)



Amir Ataullah Kaleem addressing 35th Jalsa Gathering



MISCELLANEOUS JALSA SCENES



1982



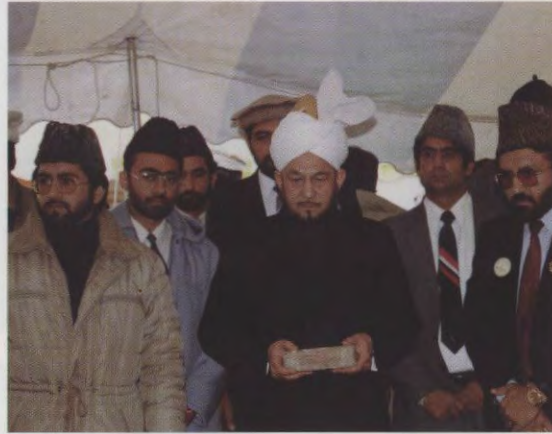
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HADHRAT KHALIFATUL MASHIH IV (ABA) VISIT 1987



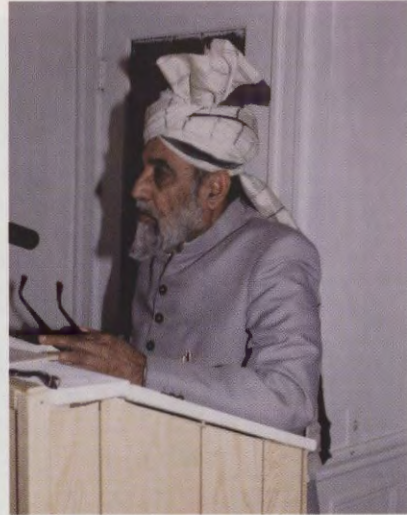
Ground Breaking - Detroit Mosque



Ground Breaking - Washington Mosque



39th JALSA SALANA -1987 - BALTIMORE, MD UNI- VERSITY OF MARYLAND





AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTENNI- AL JUBILEE THANKSGIVING 23 MARCH 1989 CELEBRATIONS



41st JALSA SALANA - 1989 - BALTIMORE, MD UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND





42nd/43rd JALSA SALANA - 90/91 - DETROIT, MI EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, YPSILANTI



1990



1991



1991



1991

LANGAR KHANA USA

IN SERVICE OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH'S GUESTS SINCE 1992
STARTED AT THE 44TH JALSA SALANA HELD IN NEW YORK

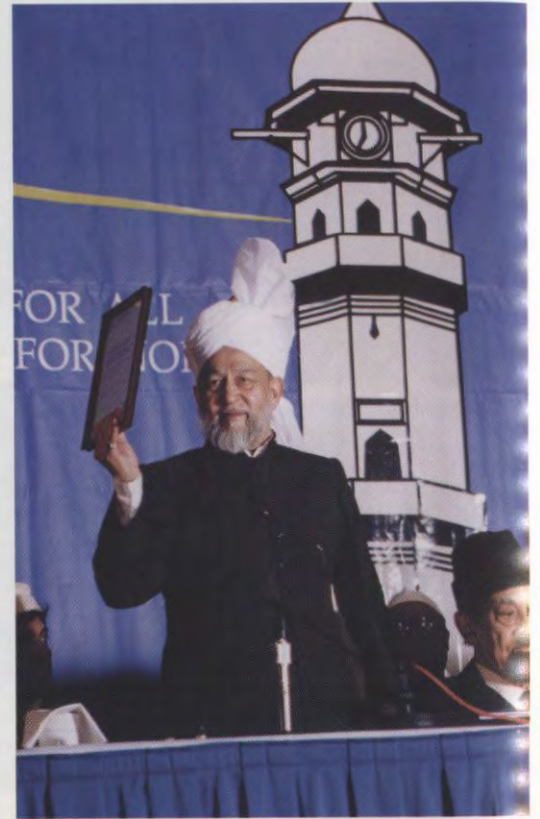


46th JALSA SALANA - 1994 - SILVER SPRING, MD BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE INAUGURATION

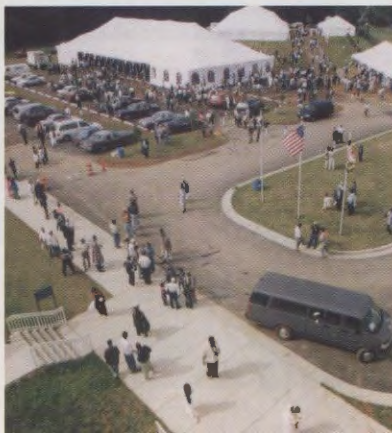




46th JALSA SALANA - 1994 - SILVER SPRINGS, MD BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE



47th JALSA SALANA - 1995 - SILVER SPRINGS, MD BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE

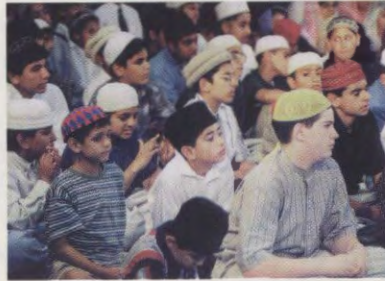




48th JALSA SALANA - 1996 - SILVER SPRING, MD BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE



49th JALSA SALANA - 1997 - SILVER SPRING, MD BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE





JALSA SALANA - WEST COAST, USA

1891 marks the year of the establishment of Jalsa Salana by *Hadhrat Ahmad (AS)*. In the first gathering 75 people participated. Now, a century later, by the Grace of Allah, over 75 nations of the world organize Jalsa Salana attended by millions of people.

In USA, we have been successfully organizing these gatherings for the last 50 years. Due to the sheer size of the continental United States, many Ahmadi Muslims living in the West Coast were not always able to participate in our National Jalsa Salana. In order to address this situation, Maulana Ataullah Kaleem, then Amir, permitted Missionary Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir to organize Jalsa Salana in the West Coast. In 1982, the very first convention of the West Coast took place in San Francisco at a rental hall. Interestingly enough, the number of attendees at this convention totaled 75. Prior to 1990, these Annual Conventions used to be organized at rental Halls but since the establishment of Baitul Hamid Mosque, these gatherings are held at the Mosque in Los Angeles in the month of December. The dates usually correspond to the dates of Qadian Jalsa Salana. In this regard it must be added that our beloved Imam made a gracious mention of our Jalsa Salana in one of his addresses to the audience of Jalsa Salana Qadian.

Last year marked the 14th Annual Convention of the West Coast and was attended by about 600 people. We have been fortunate to have among us the prominent members of Ahmadiyya Jama'ats outside USA as well as many members of the National *Majlis-e-Amla* USA. A brief list is presented below:

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, (Amir, USA), Maulana Nasim Mehdi (Amir, Canada), Mr. Fazal Ahmad (Amir Bihar Province, India), Maulana Ata Ullah Kalim, Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir, Tariq Islam (Missionary Vancouver, Canada), Sharif Lubus (Amir, Indonesia), Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad, Nasir M. Malik (then National Tabligh Secretary USA), Late Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafar (Naib Amir, USA), Dr. Ehsanullah Zafar (Naib Amir II, USA), Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah (President Ahmadiyya Medical Association) and Munawar A. Saeed (National Secretary Ta'leem, USA).

We have been fortunate to listen to or watch *Hazoor's* addresses live from London or Qadain. In the very first Jalsa, we heard *Hazoor's* Audio Message when *Hazoor* launched the blessed scheme of 5 New Mosques for USA. We have been trying to follow the pattern of UK Jalsa Salana where our beloved Imam is personally present. In this regard, we invite many Non-Ahmedi guests from the Government and people from important walks of life. Included in these dignitaries are Congressmen, State Assemblymen, Mayors, Writers of famous books and the President of Lithuania. One complete session in each Jalsa is dedicated for this purpose and has been successfully attended by over 700 people. A display exhibition on Islam and other religious activities is an important feature of our annual gatherings. We strive to uphold the traditions of the annual gatherings held during the time of *Hadhrat Ahmad (AS)* by presenting the best hospitality and comfort to our guests. Many Ahmadi from different countries of the world schedule their overseas trips to include the attendance at our Jalsa, e.g., visitors from England, Arabian countries, South Africa and other European communities have participated in our Jalsa while visiting Los Angeles on vacation. Every Jalsa that is held anywhere in the world is a picture perfect proof of the Truth of the Promised Messiah (*AS*), Righteousness, Piety and Brotherhood for which this institution was established a century ago. *Alhamdulillah*.



SALIENT FEATURES

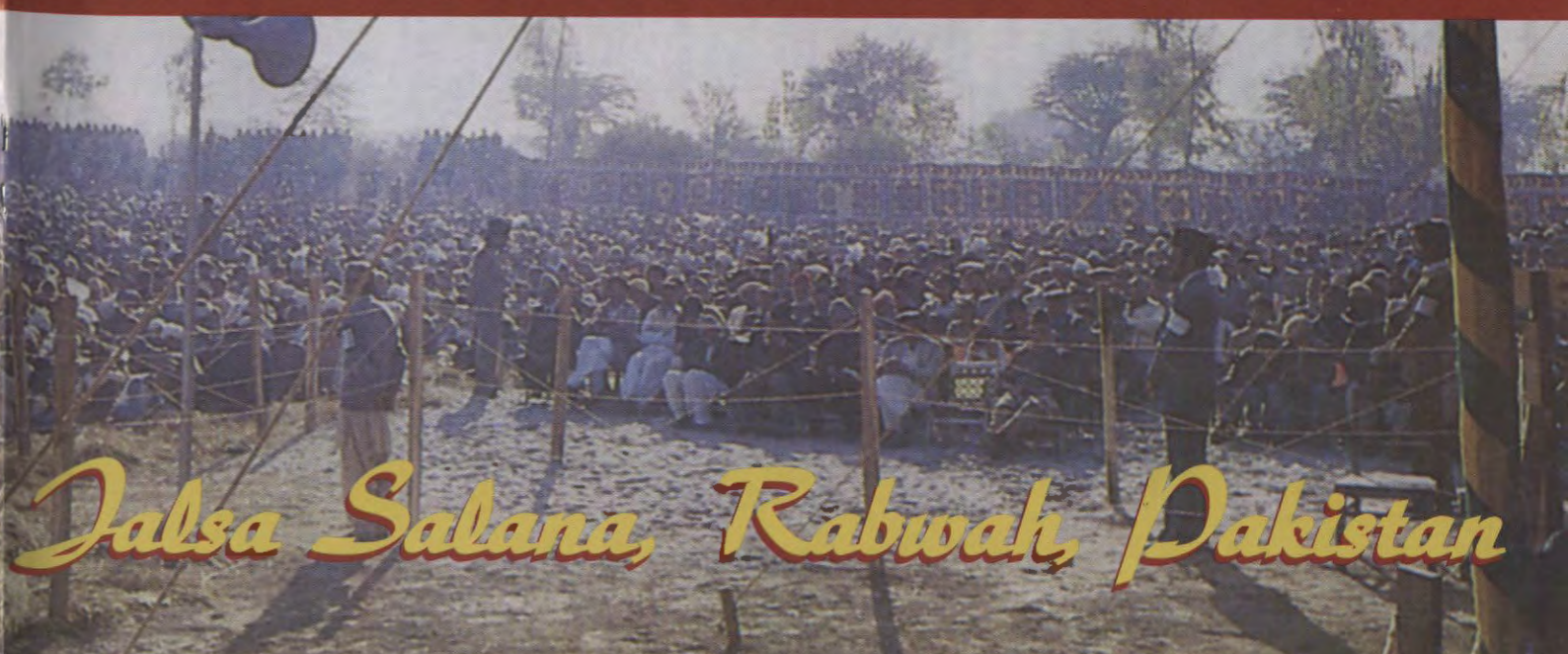
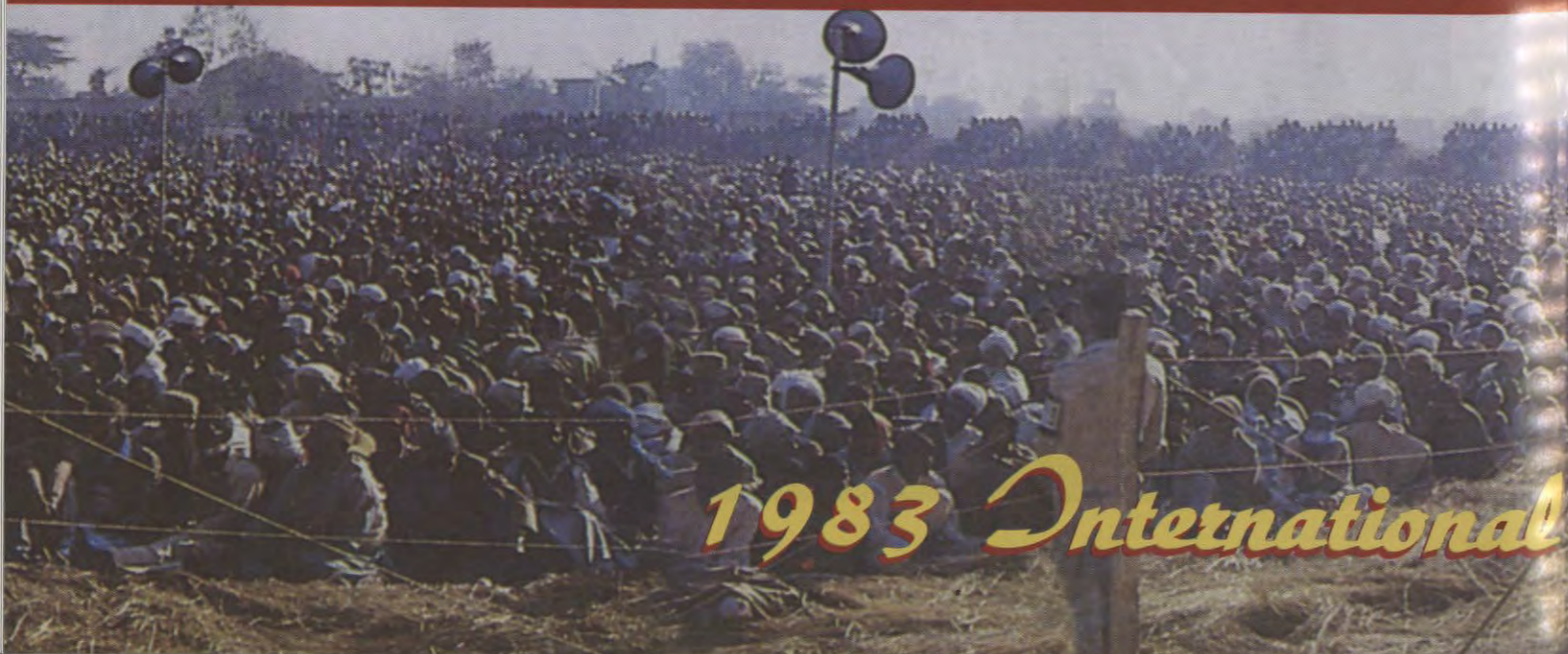
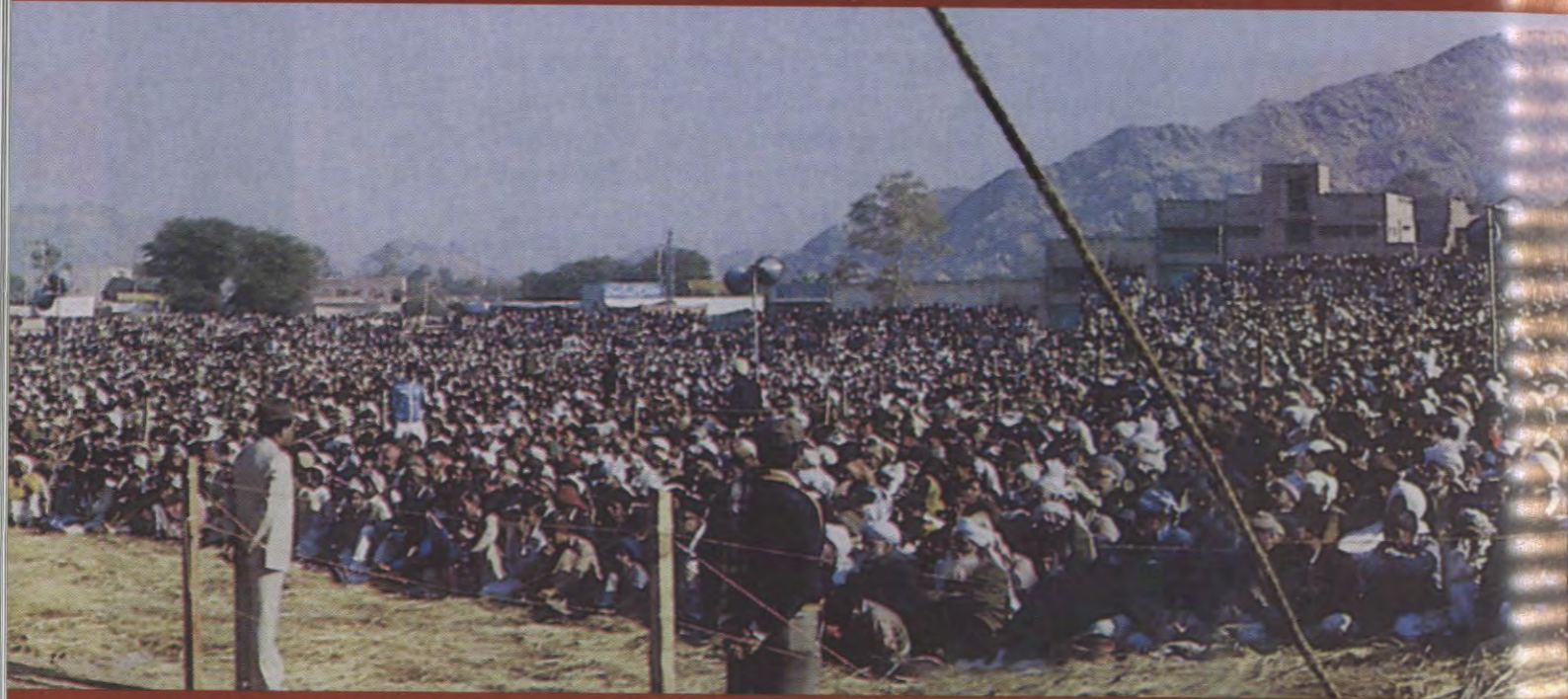
- ***Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (RA) graces the Jalsa with his presence**
- ***Hazoor* leads *Juma* prayer, inaugurates the Jalsa, address the Lajna and delivers the concluding address**
- **Members get the opportunity to have personal "*Mulaqaat*" with *Hazoor***
- ***Hazoor* holds several *Majalis-e-Irfan***
- ***Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (RA) meets with important American leaders**
- **Guest Speakers from the United Kingdom, Germany, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia and Pakistan are invited**
- **Delegations from more than 30 countries are invited**
- **More than 7000 Ahmadi members and hundreds of their guests attend**
- **A Special Souvenir to commemorate the 50th Jalsa is published**
- **An Exhibition covering Islamic topics and History of Ahmadiyyat**





*Last Jalsa graced by
Hadhrat Khalifatul
Masih IV (ABA) in
Rabwah prior to his
migration from Pakistan
in April 1984.*

(Attendance: 250,000 plus)



1983 International Jalsa Salana, Rabwah, Pakistan

The State of Maryland



Governor of the State of Maryland, to

AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM

, Greeting:

Be it Known: That on behalf of the citizens of this State, in recognition of the dedicated efforts of your respected organization to promote Intern-Faith dialogue on topics of mutual interest and the successful volunteer work which has been achieved for the benefit of those in need... in honor of the occasion of your 50th National Annual Convention; and as an expression of our sincere best wishes and warm regards, we are pleased to confer upon you this

Governor's Citation



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,

this 26th day of June

One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-eight

Parviz N. Ahmadi
Governor

John J. Willis
Secretary of State

STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive Office John Engler
Governor

Certificate of Special Tribute

Governor John Engler
Hereby Issues this Special Tribute
in Recognition of

AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is a religious organization with branches in 143 countries and a membership of over ten million people; and

WHEREAS, established in 1889, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam seeks to increase public awareness of the Islamic faith through social projects, educational institutes, health services, Islamic publications and construction of mosques; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam encourages interfaith dialogue and advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among all faiths; and

WHEREAS, members of the Ahmadiyya Movement engage in humanitarian efforts to aid those in need, which include working with social services organizations, homeless shelters, the American Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is pleased to recognize the spiritual guidance and philanthropic services the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has provided to the citizens of our state and nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Engler, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby issue this Special Tribute in recognition of AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM.

Given under my hand on this twenty-sixth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight and of the Commonwealth one hundred and sixty-one.


Governor



STATE OF NEVADA

A Proclamation

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam will hold its 50th National Annual Convention June 26 - 28, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1889; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths and rejects of the use of force in matters of faith according to the teachings of the Holy Quran; and


WHEREAS, the worldwide Ahmadiyya Movement is established in over 150 countries and started its work in the USA in 1922; and

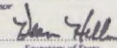
WHEREAS, the American Ahmadiyya Muslim communities participate in supervision of homeless shelters, organization of food drives for the needy, assistance to refugees from war and oppression in cooperation with their Christian brethren, and ecological improvement efforts, among other contributions to society at large;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, BOB MILLER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim June 26 - 28, 1998 as

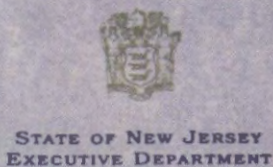
Days in Honor of
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM
"50th National Annual Convention"

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 28th day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.


Governor

Attest: 
Secretary of State





STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, a religious organization with over ten million members worldwide, was founded in 1889 in Qadian, India; and

WHEREAS, this Islamic Movement advocates peace, tolerance, love, and understanding among followers of different faiths and rejects the use of force in matters of faith according to the teachings of the Holy Qur'an; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam will hold its 50th Annual National Convention during June 26, 27, and 28, 1998, at "Bait-ur-Rahman" Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, during this convention members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam will gather together to rejuvenate Islamic moral and spiritual values; and

WHEREAS, Ahmadi Muslims in New Jersey have made, and continue to make, immeasurable contributions to the social, cultural and economic life of the Garden State through the incorporation of their rich spiritual and cultural heritage and their dedication to the principles and responsibilities of good citizenship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize the

50TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM

and extend best wishes to everyone attending the convention.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this nineteenth day of February in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight and of the Independence of the United States, the two hundred and twenty-first.

Christine Todd Whitman
GOVERNOR



BY THE GOVERNOR:

Lonna R. Hooks
LONNA R. HOOKS, SECRETARY OF STATE



GEORGE V. VOINOVICH
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS 43266-0601

FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR GEORGE V. VOINOVICH JUNE 26, 1998

SALAMU ALAKIUM!

I am pleased and honored to extend my warmest greetings to the officers, members and friends of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc. on the occasion of your 50th National Annual Convention at the Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, June 26, 1998.

Ohio and the United States are proud to be called home by many people of the Islamic faith — individuals who contribute daily to the vast spirituality and social fabric of America and Ohio through dedication to the values of family, hard work, faith, and education. This office recognizes the importance of the rich cultural heritage, family values, and the sense of community which are passed along to future generations through the many Islamic religious, social and cultural organizations such as the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

I would like to acknowledge and recognize the National Executive Committee, and other officers and members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, and the citizens of Ohio who have your common Islamic faith, for their efforts toward the success of this annual event and for contributing to the multicultural diversity of Ohio and the United States of America through your advocacy of peace, tolerance, love, social and community service and understanding among followers of different faiths.

On behalf of all Ohioans, especially those who will join you at this special celebration, best wishes for a most enjoyable convention in the greatest Islamic religious and family traditions.

On this 26th day of June, 1998:

George V. Voinovich
George V. Voinovich
Governor



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

The Governor
of the
State of Rhode Island

Extends His

Greetings and Congratulations to

Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam

In Recognition of

Your 50th National Annual Convention

In recognition whereof, I have hereby set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations to be hereunto affixed this 17th day of February, 1998



Lincoln Almond
Lincoln Almond
Governor



GOVERNOR PETE WILSON

June, 1998

TO: AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, INC.

Gayle and I are delighted to extend our congratulations on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Jalsa Salana USA.

California has become a global leader because we have successfully tapped the abilities of our varied ethnic populations and reaped the benefits that result from a rich, diverse culture. Your organization embodies the spirit of service and achievement for which the Ahmadiyya Muslim community is known, and we are confident that you will continue to instill this same spirit in future generations.

We trust today's celebration will provide a wonderful opportunity for you not only to look with optimism toward the next 50 years and beyond, but reflect upon your many accomplishments thus far.

Please accept our best wishes for an enjoyable anniversary and every future success.

Sincerely,

Pete Wilson
PETE WILSON



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CHICAGO 60601

JIM EDGAR
Governor

May 1, 1998

Greetings:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone gathered for the 50th National Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, to be held on June 26-28, 1998, at "Bair-ur-Rahman" mosque in Silver Spring, Maryland.

This convention is a unique opportunity for many of you to exchange new ideas and promote social and cultural awareness. It is truly an honor to recognize Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam for its charitable work and the many contributions they have made to our country. We have been enriched by the Islam culture, traditions and talents. This special time allows you to come together to set new goals to meet the challenges of the years ahead, while taking pride in the accomplishments you have already achieved.

Please extend my personal welcome to all of your members, and may your symposium be an outstanding success.

Best regards,

Jim Edgar
GOVERNOR

JE:pm



Frank Keating
Governor

June 26, 1998

GREETINGS FROM OKLAHOMA!

I am proud to extend Oklahoma's official greetings as you gather for the 50th National Convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque. Your central message -- that all men are brothers in God's abiding love -- is a powerful counter to the forces of hate and violence who would corrupt the Prophet's message.

May Allah bless your convention.

Sincerely,

Frank Keating

fak:mb

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105 • (405) 521-2342 • FAX (405) 521-3353



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

GREETINGS:

It gives me great pleasure to extend my congratulations to the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam as you gather for your 50th annual National Convention at "Bait-ur-Rahman" mosque.

Throughout the world, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has overcome discrimination and persecution to spread the world of peace and morality. On a local level, you have remained committed to the community in a variety of educational and service oriented projects. As a Commonwealth, Pennsylvania values religious freedom and community involvement as symbols of our future and as icons of our commitment to personal freedom. It is essential that we continue to learn, comprehend and vigilantly pursue a time in which we, as a global community, recognize the value of religious diversity and the intrinsic capacity of difference.

Moving into an always uncertain future, it is important that we remain focused on our moral heritage and endeavor to build upon these foundations. As Governor, I am always pleased to take time to thank dedicated groups who work to promote religious heritage, community involvement and peace in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States of America and the world.

Best wishes to you as you gather for your 50th annual National Convention.



TOM RIDGE



STATE OF TENNESSEE

Don Sundquist
Governor

June 26, 1998

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Great State of Tennessee, I want to extend my personal greetings to The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. Your dedication toward the enrichment of our global community is to be commended.

I know you are proud of the integrity of your organization. Please accept my gratitude and encouragement for your continued good work in our nation and around the world.

Again, my best wishes to you all. I hope your 50th convention is both enjoyable and successful.

With warmest regards,

Don Sundquist


DS/lf

Special Recognition
Presented To

Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam

On the Occasion of
**The 50th Anniversary of
Jalsa Salama, USA**

Greetings and Congratulations!



By The
Hon. George E. Brown, Jr.
42nd Congressional District

George E. Brown

JULY 1998

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 14, 1998

Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc.
11941 Belmont Avenue
Chico, CA 95726

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for including me to your program. Congratulations on the 50th anniversary of Jalsa Salama USA. I commend the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for the great success the past year and wish continued success in the upcoming years.

I am very proud to be associated with people like yourself, who are active, dedicated, hardworking individuals who contribute greatly to the community. Both devotion and determination are the keys to a successful future as they will help guide you through the challenges of life.

Again, I would like to express my congratulations to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for the 50th Anniversary of Jalsa Salama USA. May your upcoming year be filled with much success and prosperity.

Sincerely,
Jay Kia
Member of Congress

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Proclamation . . .

WHEREAS, Representative Gregory W. Meeks of the United States Congress extends his greetings to His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, USA will hold its 50th Annual Convention June 20 - 26, 1998, and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, is a religious organization established in 1909 by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, and


WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, is international in its scope with established branches in more than 190 countries worldwide and began its work in the USA in 1922, and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam advocates peace, tolerance, love, understanding and unity among its followers and those of different faiths and has earned the distinction of being a law-abiding, peaceful, preserving and benevolent community who contribute to society at large through the supervision of homeless shelters, organization of food drives, health information seminars and neighborhood cleanup projects.

WHEREAS, members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam have further extended themselves through the following efforts: Fostering for the Victims of the Oklahoma Bombing, Organizing Food Drives with the American Red Cross, and providing substance to Santa Claus,

RESOLVED, that Representative Gregory W. Meeks of the United States Congress commends the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam for its contributions to the community and takes this opportunity to congratulate the club on its 50th Annual Convention.

May 20, 1998
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress


HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 26, 1998

GREETINGS!

I am pleased to congratulate the **Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam** on the occasion of your **50th National Annual Convention**.

At a time when spiritual guidance and social responsibility are critical, I look forward to your continued commitment to this community. As a strong advocate for breaking down barriers that divide us, I applaud your efforts to promote peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths.

You have my best wishes for a productive convention.

Sincerely,
Eleanor H. Norton
Eleanor Holmes Norton

State of New York
Legislative Resolution

Assembly No. 2241

BY: M of A. Aubry

COMMEMORATING THE 50th Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A. June 20-26, 1998

WHEREAS, This Assembled Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A. to be celebrated June 20-26, 1998 in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, To help celebrate the auspicious occasion, a series of events have been planned including a special evening with His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, the worldwide spiritual leader of 15 million Muslim believers in over 190 countries around the world on June 24, 1998 at the Rayburn House Building, Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1909; and

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths and rejects the use of force in matters of faith according to the teachings of the holy Quran; and

WHEREAS, The worldwide Ahmadiyya Movement is established in over 190 countries and started its work in the U.S.A. in 1922; and

WHEREAS, The American Ahmadiyya Muslim communities participate in supervision of homeless shelters, organization of food drives for the needy, assistance to refugees from war and oppression in cooperating with their Christian brethren and ecological environmental efforts, among other contributions to society at large; therefore, be it


RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body passes in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Annual convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A. to be celebrated June 20-26, 1998, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ismail K. Hazyir, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, New York.

ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON
May 20, 1998

By order of the Assembly,
Francine M. Mizzoni
Francine M. Mizzoni, Clerk




भारत का राजदूत
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA
3017 WASHINGTON BLVD, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

NARESH CHANDRA

April 21, 1998

Dear Mr. Mubashar Khan,

Thank you for your letter of April 15. Congratulations on your 50th Annual Convention, which coincides ingeniously with the celebration of the 50th year of India's freedom. India, home to the world's great religions is also the land where the Ahmadiyya movement had its origin.

I regret that it will not be possible for me to be present because of a prior commitment. I have asked Mr. Wajidul Habibullah, Minister, Community Affairs in our Embassy to represent us.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Narash Chandra
(Narash Chandra)

Mr. Mubashar A. Khan,
Office of Public Relations,
Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam,
6800 Willow Creek Road,
Bowie, MD 20720

Telephone No. (302) 493-7616/7617 • Fax (302) 493-9972


AMBASSADE DU SENEGAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

April 22, 1998

Mr. Mubashar A. Khan
Office of Public Relations
6800 Willow Creek Road
Bowie, MD 20720

Dear Brothers in Islam,
Salamu Alaikum.

On behalf of the Republic of Senegal I am pleased to extend my congratulations and best wishes to the Ahmadiyya family as they celebrate their 50th National Annual Convention.

May God bless and strengthen our Islamic Ummah and give us wisdom to choose the right path.

Sincerely,
Mouhammad Mansour Seck
Ambassadeur / Ambassador




EMBASSY OF SIERRA LEONE
1301 NINETEENTH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20039

April 22, 1998

TEL: (202) 611-6241 / 6242
FAX: (202) 463-1793

The Public Relations Officer
Annual Conventions Organization Committee
Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam
1500 Grand Hope Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam,

On this auspicious 50th annual convention of your movement, I wish, on my behalf and on behalf of the government and people of the Republic of Sierra Leone to salute you all in the name of Allah the Greatest and the Most Gracious.

I am proud of your movement which has opened no paths in spreading Islam in Sierra Leone as well as identifying itself with the developmental efforts of the people of this country.

Please accept, therefore, my personal gratitude and that of the government and the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone. May Allah continue to guide and bless your efforts.

Sincerely yours,
John E. Leigh
John E. Leigh
Ambassador / Ambassador

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND

Proclamation

WHEREAS The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in India in 1889; and

WHEREAS Established in 1922 in the United States, the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is now in over 150 countries; and

WHEREAS Ahmadiyya Islamists in Islam encourage interfaith dialogue and advance peace, love, tolerance, and understanding among all faiths; and

WHEREAS Members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam engage in humanitarian efforts to aid those in need, which include working with local service organizations, homeless shelters, the American Red Cross and others for humanity; and

WHEREAS The national headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is located in Silver Spring, Maryland and is the largest mosque in the Washington Metropolitan area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Council of Montgomery County, Maryland hereby proclaims:

JUNE 28 - JUNE 30, 1998
50th NATIONAL ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM

Signed this _____ day of _____, 1998.

Sheldon S. Leffler
Sheldon S. Leffler
County Executive

THE COUNCIL CITY OF NEW YORK

Proclamation

WHEREAS From June 26 to June 30, Madison Avenue across the United States will host members of the 50th Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A.; and

WHEREAS The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, which was established in 1889 by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in Ghazipur, India, was created to reformulate Islam, moral and spiritual values, the government and all facets of life in the 19th century and to bring about a renaissance in the modern world; and

WHEREAS The movement was to be instrumental in peace, with devotion to Islam, with a commitment to a world population of 5 billion people; and it was to be the greatest movement of the 19th century; and

WHEREAS Ahmadiyya Islamists have engaged and participated in a variety of volunteer service and charitable projects which have improved the physical, moral, and intellectual life and understanding among people of all faiths; and

WHEREAS Followers of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam have, day after day, united together in faith, hope and love; and they have, through their efforts, helped to bring about a renaissance in the modern world; and

WHEREAS The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has, through its efforts, helped to bring about a renaissance in the modern world; and

WHEREAS The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has, through its efforts, helped to bring about a renaissance in the modern world; and

BE IT ENACTED that the Council of the City of New York do hereby proclaim and recognize the

50th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, U.S.A.

Signed this 27th day of June in the year Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight.

Sheldon S. Leffler
Sheldon S. Leffler
Mayor of the City of New York

CITY OF CHINO

In recognition of
Jalsa Salama
50th Anniversary
Best wishes to the Ahmadiyya Movement
in Islam, Inc. for continued growth
and future success

Eunice M. Ulloa
Eunice M. Ulloa, Mayor

CITY OF CHINO HILLS

2901 GRAND AVENUE
CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA 91709-4969
(909) 590-1511 • (909) 590-5646 FAX

CITY COUNCIL:
BO M. GRIGAM
GARY D. LARSON
OWEN E. NORTON-PERRY
JAMES S. THALMAN
MICHAEL G. WICKMAN

May 14, 1998

TO: AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

CONGRATULATIONS on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary of Jalsa Salama USA!
On behalf of the City Council of the City of Chino Hills, I wish to extend our best wishes for a most successful celebration.

We are pleased to have members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community as active citizens of Chino Hills. It is through the dedicated efforts and cooperation of all members of our community which makes Chino Hills a wonderful City in which to live, work, play, and raise our families.

Again, best wishes on the 50th Anniversary of Jalsa Salama USA!

Very truly yours,
Owenn Norton-Perry
OWENN NORTON-PERRY, MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FRANK P. CASULA

CITY OF LAUREL
8103 SANDY SPRING ROAD
LAUREL, MARYLAND 20707-2502

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam will be celebrating their FIFTIETH CONVENTION at the Bait-ur-Rahman mosque June 26-28, 1998; and

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement is now established in over 150 countries and started its volunteer work in the United States in 1922; and

WHEREAS, The City of Laurel is pleased to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Ahmadiyya Movement to promote inter-faith involvement in our global community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANK P. CASULA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM June 26-28 in celebration of the

FIFTIETH NATIONAL ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam and ask all citizens to join in recognizing the outstanding efforts of this world-wide organization.

Frank P. Casula
Frank P. Casula
Mayor

SHeldon S. LEFFLER
COUNCIL MEMBER
2380 DAVENPORT SQUARE SUITE 200
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

May 21, 1998

Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, USA
National Headquarters
13000 Good Hope Road
Silver Spring, Md. 20905

Dear Members:

I want to congratulate the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, USA during its 50th Annual Convention on June 26-28, 1998 in Washington, D.C. and welcome His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad on this auspicious occasion.

The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has been established in the United States since 1922 and has been helping to improve each community where it exists by advocating peace, tolerance, love and understanding among its citizens.

In my capacity as a NYC Councilman, I have worked with the members of the Ahmadiyya Movement and always look forward to their assistance.

Once again, congratulations.

Sheldon S. Leffler
Sheldon S. Leffler

City of Pomona State of California

A PROCLAMATION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA, COUNTY OF SAN ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OBSERVING AND RECOGNIZING THE 50th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, U.S.A.

WHEREAS, Ahmadiyya Islamists in Islam were founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1889; and

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was established in 1922 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam encourages interfaith dialogue and advance peace, love, tolerance, and understanding among all faiths; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam engage in humanitarian efforts to aid those in need, which include working with local service organizations, homeless shelters, the American Red Cross and others for humanity; and

WHEREAS, The national headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is located in Silver Spring, Maryland and is the largest mosque in the Washington Metropolitan area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pomona, California hereby proclaims:

JUNE 26 - JUNE 30, 1998
50th NATIONAL ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, U.S.A.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 1998.

Sheldon S. Leffler
Sheldon S. Leffler
Council Member

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY SOME CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICES



To disseminate and implement teachings of Islam, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is engaged in a variety of projects. The Community so far has:

- Participated in numerous humanitarian and charitable services, offering food, medicine, clothes, and shelter to the poor, war-victims and drought-stricken nations.
- Constructed 5,787 new mosques around the world.
- Established 602 Islamic mission houses in 72 countries.
- Published the Holy Qur'an with translations in 52 main languages of the world.
- Published selected verses from the Holy Qur'an in 117 languages of the world.
- Constructed 31 medical clinics and hospitals in underdeveloped countries.
- Published a very comprehensive Five Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an in English, including a biography of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SA), exhaustive index and a general introduction with cross-references to the verses.
- Published a selection of Ahadith, the Sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SA) in 117 languages.
- Instituted 373 schools in 8 countries in Africa.
- Established a Global Islamic Outreach Program through satellite communication system, relaying Friday Sermons (*Khutbat-e-Juma*) in seven languages, and featuring daily program for Asian, European, North American and Far Eastern Countries.
- Established Worldwide Branches in 153 Countries

وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِيْنَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلَنَا وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ
لَمَعَ الْمُتَّقِينَ

"We will surely guide in Our ways Those who strive after Us. Verily Allah is with those who do good."

(Al Qu'ran 29:70)

THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN THE EYES OF OTHERS

- "Ahmadiyyah is one of the most active messianic movement in modern Islam. It has sustained its activities for more than a century and has been unrivaled in its dedication to the propagation of the faith. Ahmadi mosques and missionary centers have been established not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in numerous cities of the western world, Africa and Asia,has primarily engaged in defending Islam and depicting it as a liberal, humane, and progressive religion that has been systematically slandered by non-Muslims.One of the essential differences between them and other contemporary Muslim movements is that the Ahmadis consider the peaceful propagation of their version of Islam."

(The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World)

- "The activities of the community, apart from their zealous and efficient propaganda, include such internal matters as the establishing and running of schools and colleges (the former center Kadiyan, appears to have been the most literate town in India, with almost total feminine literacy). They produce great quantities of literature... have their own exclusive mosques; and sustain a telling *esprit de corps*."

(The Encyclopedia of Islam)

References:

- Esposito, John L, The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World, New York; Oxford University Press 1995.
Gibbs, H.A.R., J.H. Kramers, E. Levi-Provencal and J. Schacht et. al. The Encyclopedia of Islam, London.



MESSAGE OF ISLAM IN AMERICA DURING THE TIME OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH (AS)

“I will give you a large party of Islam.” This revelation received by the Promised Messiah (AS) in English was first published in *Braheen-e-Ahmadiyya*, in 1880. The Promised Messiah (AS) interpreted this divinely received prophecy in the following words:

“One group in that party will be from among the Muslims and the other will be from the other nations, that is, from the Hindus, or the Christians of Europe and America.”

The Message of Islam started to reach Americans through the blessed efforts of the Promised Messiah (AS) himself. He first conveyed the message to the American people through a pamphlet mailed to thousands of laymen and clergy in the year 1885.

On 28 December 1892, at the occasion of the Second Jalsa Salana held in Qadian, consultations were held made on how to spread the message of Islam in Europe and America and to promote the welfare of Muslims in these lands. It was decided that a magazine be published that should contain the essentials of Islamic faith presenting the beautiful face of Islam in a rational manner. The *Review of Religions* was, therefore, initiated by the Promised Messiah (AS) and was mailed to American readers regularly.

Dr. Mufti Mohammad Sadiq (RA) translated Promised Messiah’s announcements and letters into English and mailed them to prominent persons and newspapers in America. Their response indicated that the American people were ready to join the Ahmadiyya Community. Mr. F.L. Anderson (New York), Dr. A. George Baker (Philadelphia) and Mr. Alexander Russell Webb (St. Louis) were the first converts to Islam through correspondence with the Promised Messiah (AS). About the Americans, the Promised Messiah (AS) wrote: “they regard it (the faith of Islam) with great honor and respect. They express their joy just as a hungry or thirsty person, at the brink of death, does at the sight of food or drink.”

The most significant event that took place in the United States of America was the resounding victory of the Promised Messiah (AS) in a prayer-duel (*Mubahilah*) over John Alexander Dowie, a renowned evangelist and a claimant to be the Elijah. Newspapers across America carried the news about the prayer-duel and finally proclaiming victory for the Promised Messiah (AS) when John Alexander Dowie died a miserable death in 1907 in the life of the Promised Messiah (AS).

The Papers that printed the Dowie story were:

The Literary Digest, The New York Mail and Express, The Herald of Rochester, The Herald of Boston, The Democratic of Rochester, The Albany Press, The Buffalo Time, The Record of Boston, The Pilot of Boston, The Pathfinder of Washington, The Detroit English News, The Burlington Free Press, The Chicago Inter-Ocean, The Baltimore American, The Richmond News, The Houston Chronicle, The Telegraph, The Groonshire Gazette, The Argonaut of San Francisco, The Sunday Herald of Boston, The New York Commercial, The New York Advertiser and The Truth Seeker.



America Witnessed the Fulfillment of A Grand Prophecy



Great Is Mirza Ghulam Ahmad The Messiah

FORETOLD PATHETIC END OF DOWIE,
AND NOW HE PREDICTS PLAGUE,
FLOOD AND EARTHQUAKE



John Alexander Dowie, born in Edinburgh 1847, founder and uncrowned king of Zion City, rich industrialist, bitter enemy of Islam announced in LEAVES OF HEALING (his paper): "Islam and Muhammadanism must be destroyed" (May 26 1900). He also claimed to be Elijah sent by Jesus. Sept 1902: Hazrat Aqdas (the Promised Messiah, peace be on him) pointed out the false-hood of Dowie's claim, that it was Hazrat Aqdas himself whom God Almighty had commissioned as the Promised Messiah, challenged Dowie to prayer duel: may God destroy the false claimant within the life-time of the other. On 14 Feb 1903 Dowie said in his paper "O God destroy Islam" but ran away from the challenge. 23 Aug 1903 the Promised Messiah and Mehdi again challenged Dowie to prayer duel to pray to God to destroy the false claimant within the life-time of the other. Many USA papers like Dunville Gazette, Literary Digest, Burlington Free Press, Argonaut publicized the debate. After the debate one wrote: The Qadian man predicted if Dowie accepted the challenge he would die before (Ahmad) in torment and if Dowie declined death awaited him just the same and Zion would fall. THE TRUTH SEEKER (June 15 1907). It went on:-

"That was the grand prophecy: Zion would fall and Dowie would die before Ahmad."
The HERALD OF BOSTON wrote on June 23 1907:

"Dowie died a miserable death with Zion city torn and frayed by internal dissensions."



Dowie before and after the grand prophecy of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.
Dowie is working up his audience(center). He also boasted of the then largest camera.



AHMADI MUSLIM MISSIONARIES IN USA

1. *Hadhrat Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA)* was a dedicated and very close companion of the Promised Messiah (AS). He had the honor of recording many of his oral presentations, which have been included in the *Malfoozat*. He had a charming personality. Blessed with a vast measure of knowledge, he was very well versed in Urdu, Arabic, Persian and Hebrew. Before coming to USA he spread the religion of Islam in England and set an unparalleled propagation record.



Hadhrat Dr. Mufti Mohammad Sadiq (RA) arrived in Philadelphia on Sunday, 15 February 1920, on-board the *Haverford*. For religious reasons he was detained in the Ellis Island and was not permitted to propagate Islam in this country. On hearing the news of his detention, *Hadhrat Mirza Bashir-ud-din Mahmood Ahmad (RA)*, *Kbalifatul Massih II*, delivered a prophetic speech. He said:

“America, a country that claims to be the strongest nation, may have challenged many a nation and may have even defeated them. But if it dares challenge the spiritual kingdom, it will find out that it can never defeat us because the Almighty Allah is on our side. We will propagate Islam in the countries surrounding America and after converting their people, we will send them into America. America will not be able to stop them. And we hope that one day America will resound with the proclamation: “There is none worthy of worship except Allah.”

On 20 May 1920, *Hadhrat Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA)* was released by the order of the Secretary of the State. Even during his detention, he made many converts. He stayed in New York for some time and continued to preach Islam. Later, he moved to Chicago and established the first headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, at 4448 Wabash Avenue, giving it the name “Al Masjid” — a part of that building served as the Ahmadiyya Mission House.

In propagating the message of Islam, Dr. Sadiq traveled extensively. His spiritually charming personality immediately attracted the media’s attention. He used to be invited to deliver lectures in many towns and shared the pulpits of many churches in different parts of the country. His speaking assignments were announced in local newspapers. The dignitaries of local towns would arrive in large numbers to hear him. Some newspaper editorials commented very positively on his presentations on Islam as the solution of American social ills. Even Christian clergymen could not withhold their admiration of him. Converts came into the fold of Islam from far and wide.

Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq’s particular style of propagation was to write hundreds of missionary epistles weekly to convey the message of Islam to renowned personalities throughout USA and also throughout the world on historic occasions. For example, he wrote to General Smuts, on successfully suppressing the Johannesburg rebellion; Mr. Montague, sympathizing with him on his resignation; Viscount Peel, on his accepting the office of Secretaryship of State for India; King Fuad I of Egypt, on his inaugurating the New Regime; Sarwat Pasha, on making the first cabinet of the Egyptian Kingdom; “Wacinyanpi” — Leader of Sioux Tribe; Professor Robert H. Goddard, the Scientist who intended to make a trip to the Moon aboard a rocket; Sir Arthur J. Balfour, on an earldom conferred on him; Attorney Untermeyer, on his stopping grain gambling in the Corn Exchange; Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala, congratulating him on his being elected a member of the British Parliament; Prince of Wales of British Empire; Mr. Henry Ford of Detroit; President Harding; Mr. Edison, the Inventor; Lord Northcliff, on his visit to America; Ex-President Taft, on his appointment as the Supreme Court Judge; and Prince Regent Alexander of Servia, on his escape from death when a bomb exploded in Belgrade.

By July 1921, 646 letters had been received and 2,800 had been dispatched. About 300 books and leaflets had been distributed. Another 1,000 missionary epistles with literature had been mailed to the main libraries all over USA. 500 letters, giving the Message of Islam with sample copies of the *Moslem Sunrise*, were sent to Masonic Lodges all over the country. His missionary efforts were crowned with great success. He published the names of over 400 persons in the earliest issues of the *Moslem Sunrise*; the total number of converts ran into thousands— from New York to Florida to Wisconsin — during his stay in USA.

Hadhrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) held weekly meetings for the spiritual training of the new converts every Sunday morning at 11 o’clock in the Mission House in Chicago. Three rooms were joined together for the purpose, and some sat on the staircase, but still many had to stand for want of accommodation.

After extensive missionary work in USA, he returned to the International Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Community at Rabwah, Pakistan. He died on 13 February 1957. He was indeed a model missionary leader, a loving teacher, a prolific writer, an engrossing speaker and, above all, a distinguished ambassador of Islam. May the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful Lord of Honor and Glory shower him with His infinite grace and mercy in *Jannatul Firdous*.

2. **Hadhrat Maulvi Muhammad Din (RA) (1923-1926)** followed Dr. Sadiq as Missionary in Charge. He too was a notable Companion of the Promised Messiah (AS). Thus, the land of America was blessed with two devoted Companions of the Promised Messiah (AS) as pioneering missionaries. Much of *Hadhrat* Maulvi Muhammad Din's time was devoted to touring the country to open up new avenues of propagation of Islam and training of the new converts.

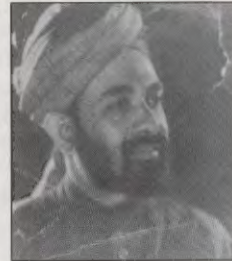
3. **Sufi Mutiur Rahman Khan Bengali (1928-1948)** provided a new momentum to the activities of the mission during his twenty year term. Besides editing and publishing *Moslem Sunrise*, he authored two books, *Tomb of Jesus and Life of Muhammad*. He traveled extensively propagating Islam. His interviews were published with major headlines. Many editorials on contemporary issues giving Islamic perspective were published in major newspapers. He maintained an office on State Street in downtown Chicago from where he established contacts with many people who had found it difficult to visit the Chicago Mosque on the South Side. He started a series of programs for the spiritual and moral training of the new members. New chapters were organized. In 1936, his wife, Mrs. Atiyyah Bengalee joined him in USA; her arrival gave a valuable boost to the organization and activities of the American Ahmadi women.

4. **Mirza Monawar Ahmad (1947-1948)** was the first to breathe his last in the service of Islam, in USA. On 15 September 1948, he died in a Pittsburgh hospital. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RA) personally led the prayers for the deceased in Lahore and wrote a special article on his invaluable services and dedication to Islam.

5. **Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir (1948-1959)** served as an assistant to Sufi M. R. Bengali until 1948 and then succeeded him as Missionary in Charge. He established the first mosque in the Nation's Capital, which was named the American Fazl Mosque by *Hadhrat* Musleh Mau'oud (RA) and served as the Headquarters for the Community until 1994. Dr. Nasir started the Annual Conventions, initiated the elections of the National Executives and the National Auxiliaries, published new books, and launched the *Ahmadiyya Gazette*. He also participated in several international religious conferences.



Hadhrat Maulvi M. Din



Sufi M.R.K. Bengali



S. Jawad Ali



Major A. Hamid



**Chowdhery Ghulam Yasin, Dr. Khalil A. Nasir,
Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengali and Mirza Monawar Ahmad,**





6. **Chandry Ghulam Yaseen (1947-1963)** served as missionary in USA for about 16 years. He took over as Missionary in Charge in 1959 and continued to serve in that capacity until 1963.

7. **Maulvi Abdul Qadir Zaighum (1949-1958)** administered the Ahmadiyya chapters in the Pittsburgh Circle for several years after the sad demise of Mirza Monawar Ahmad.

8. **Nurul Haq Anwar (1954-1958)** took over charge of the New York mission on 18 May 1954 and propagated Islam until 28 July 1958 when he returned back to Pakistan.

9. **Syed Jawad Ali (1954-1960; 1963-1971)** took over as Secretary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA in 1954. His missionary efforts continued for six and half years. He returned to Pakistan in July 1960. He came back to USA in January 1963 and worked in Washington, DC, Chicago and St. Louis. He established the mission in Detroit in 1956. He finished his tenure of duty on 14 March 1971.

10. **Aminullah Khan Salik (1960-1963)** worked as a missionary in Washington, DC, New York and Chicago from 1960 to 1963.

11. **Sufi Abdul Ghafoor (1960-1963)** served as missionary for 3 years.

12. **Major Abdul Hamid (1963....1979)** arrived in USA in 1963. He worked in Dayton where he built the first mosque of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in USA in the traditional design with a minaret. He also served in New York before returning to Headquarters in Rabwah, Pakistan.

13. **Abdur Rahman Bengali (1963-1972)** arrived in USA in 1963, and worked in Pittsburgh. He gave his life while serving the cause of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA on 16 May 1972, in Dayton, Ohio.

14. **Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad (1967-1971)** was appointed as Missionary-in-Charge in 1967.

15. **Chaudry Sharif Ahmad Bajwah (1972-1974)** was appointed as Missionary-in-Charge in 1972.

16. **Mian Muhammad Ibrahim (1973-1981)** mainly served in Dayton and was instrumental in organizing the first delegation from USA to the International Jalsa Salana.

17. **Muhammad Siddique Shahid Gurdaspuri (1973-1977)** started spiritual education and training classes. He expanded the activities and strengthened the organizational structures of the local chapters. Among the many missionary efforts that embellished his tenure, the highlight was the blessed visit of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih III (RT) in 1976. It was the first visit of a Khalifa to USA.

18. **Masud Ahmad Jehlami (1975-1978; 1980-1982)** worked as a missionary in New York from 1975 to 1978. He came back to work as missionary in USA in November 1980 and remained till February 1982.

19. **Maulana Ataullah Kaleem (1977....1983)** published 40,000 copies of the Holy Quran with English translation. Thousands of brochures and 18 books and booklets on Islam and Ahmadiyyat were printed and distributed. The Synopsis of Religious Preaching (Parts I, II and III) were authored by him. He started the Urdu journal *Al-Noor* and enlarged the Ahmadiyya Gazette to its present size. His propagational interviews were broadcasted live on Manhattan and East Saint Louis Cable TV and published in *The Detroit News*, *Detroit Free Press*, *The Community Carrier*, and *the Canton Observer*. He spoke to students at several colleges and universities. The building for the mosque in Philadelphia was purchased in his time. Similarly, the land for the mosque in Chicago was purchased, and the mosque in Tuscon, Arizona was inaugurated. *Maulana Kaleem* is currently serving as Missionary in Charge in Germany.



Aminullah Salik



Sufi Abdul Ghafoor



Rahman Bengali



Sharif A. Bajwa



Mian Ibrahim



M. Siddique Shahid



Masud Jehlami



A.U. Kaleem

20. **Abdur Rashid Yahya (1977-1981; 1986-1994)** worked in USA as a missionary from July 1977 to May 1981. He returned for a second tenure in June 1986 and served till

21. **Syed Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir (1978-1982)** served as Missionary-in-Charge from November 1978 for two years. He served in California for another year. He represented the Ahmadiyya Jamaat at the United Nations Conference of World Religions. His extending the Quranic invitation to come to the common denominator of worshipping One God was received with appreciation. At the conclusion of its historic meeting he was asked to lead the international representatives in collective prayer. He returned to Pakistan in March 1982. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih III (RT) graced the soil of America once again in 1980 while Syed Mir Mahmud Ahmad Nasir was Missionary-in-Charge.

22. **Mirza Muhammad Afzal** started his missionary duty in 1981 and mainly served in the Chicago area.

23. **Maulana Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad (1983-1990)**. *Hadhrat* Khlaifatul Masih IV (ABA) visited USA for the first time in 1987 during the tenure of Maulana Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad. The Thanksgiving Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was held on 23 March 1989. The celebrations were held in a par excellence style in every Jama'at in USA. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) graced this land once again with his historic visit on the occasion of the Annual Convention that year. A special souvenir commemorating the Ahmadiyya Centennial Celebrations was published. For the first time a large exhibition was set up at the University of Baltimore, Maryland, the venue of the annual convention that year.



Syed Mir Mahmud
Ahmad Nasir



Maulana Shaikh
Mubarak Ahmad

The index of the 5-Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an was prepared by the Lajna Imaillah USA. The mosques in Cleveland, New York, Los Angeles, Portland and Willingboro and the mission house in Zion were opened and the lands for the mosques in Detroit, Houston, New Orleans and the National Mosque were acquired under his leadership. The foundation stone for Baitur Rahman Mosque and National Headquarters Complex building was laid by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA). Distribution of the audio cassettes of *Khutabat* of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) were started. Thousands of flyers and brochures were printed and distributed in a well planned Tabligh campaign. Regular dialogues were held with the West Minister Theological Seminary in Philadelphia every month for over three years. Lectures were delivered to schools, churches, and at the University of Pennsylvania and Gettysburg College. Professor Louis J. Hammond of the Gettysburg College wrote "An Introduction to Ahmadiyyat" at the request of *Maulana* Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad. The global marketing of the Five Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an was launched. The Persecution Cell to help alleviate the oppression of the Ahmadiyya Community was set up under the chairmanship of Sahibzada M. M. Ahmad. *Maulana* Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad retired in 1990, but has remained active in the service of Islam in various official and personal capacities.



Syed Shamshad A. Nasir, I.H. Kausar, Chaudry Munir Ahmad, *Maulana* Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad, M.A.R. Yahya, Zafar A. Sarwar and Mubasher Ahmad





CURRENT AHMADI MUSLIM MISSIONARIES IN USA

Mirza Mahmud Ahmad has served the Ahmadiyya Mission in America since 1989 and is presently the Midwest — East Regional Missionary.

Mubasher Ahmad came to USA in 1969 and devoted his life to serve the Jama'at in 1988. He started to serve as a translator of the *Khutbas* of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) from Urdu into English. Presently he is serving as the Southeast Regional Missionary.

Chaudhry Munir Ahmad came to USA in September 1981 and served as missionary till May 1990 when he was transferred to Canada. He is currently serving as the Managing Director of the Ahmadiyya Earth Station, North America.

Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema arrived in USA in 1990 and is currently serving as the South Midwest Regional Missionary.

Azhar Hanif, an African-American trained in *Jami'a* Ahmadiyya, Rabwah, Pakistan is serving as missionary in USA since 1989. He is currently serving as the West Midwest Regional Missionary.

Daud Hanif, the past Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of the Gambia Jama'at where he served for 30 years, arrived in USA in 1996. Presently, he is the Northeast Regional Missionary.

Inamul Haq Kausar started serving as a missionary in USA from April 1981 for three years in his first term. He came back in September 1984 and is currently the Westcoast Regional Missionary.

Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir has performed missionary service since 1987. He is currently the missionary at the headquarters.

Zafar Ahmad Sarwar arrived in USA in April 1984 and is presently the South Regional Missionary.

Bilal A. Salaam, Jalal Nurudin and Syed Zainul Abedin are serving in Baltimore, Milwaukee and San Francisco respectively.





Publications

Hadhrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) distributed Ahmadiyya literature extensively in the early twenties. He started the quarterly magazine, *The Moslem Sunrise*. Some of the earliest books/magazines were: *The Holy Quran Part I* with Arabic text, English translation, exhaustive notes and commentary, *Claims and Teachings of Ahmad*, the Muslim Prophet of India, *Mighty Signs of the Living God*, and *Ahmad, the World Reformer*. Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee authored two books, which became the earliest publications of the Ahmadiyya Community in USA; namely: *The Tomb of Jesus* and *The Life of Muhammad*. The famous American author, James A. Mitchner wrote an excellent article in *The Reader's Digest* (June 1955) entitled: *Islam - the Misunderstood Religion*. It was later reprinted in the form of a booklet by the Community. The *Ahmadiyya Gazette* was launched by Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir to provide members with the news, activities and new programs of the Movement. The year 1951 was noteworthy for the publications of the American edition of the outstanding exposition of Islam, "*Ahmadiyyat or the True Islam*," written by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RA). *The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam*, a masterpiece written by *Hadhrat* Ahmad (AS), the founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, was published in USA in 1953. *The Holy Qur'an*, with English translation by Maulvi Sher Ali, was reprinted in USA in 1979 under the auspices of Maulana Ataullah Kaleem. 20,000 copies were printed and distributed worldwide, followed by a reprinting in 1982. The index to "*Revelation, Rationality Knowledge & Truth*," the latest book written by *Hadhrat* Khalfiatul Masih IV (ABA) was undertaken by the Ahmadiyya Community in USA. Several publications were also prepared by the auxiliary organizations. Several flyers and pamphlets have been extensively published for free distribution.

Marketing and Distribution

- Commentary of the Holy Qur'an: Under the directions of *Hadhrat* Khalfiatul Masih IV (ABA), between 1989 and 1993, Ahmadiyya Community USA successfully placed 300 sets of the Five Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an in the Reference Sections of University, College, Public and Private libraries throughout the world, including libraries in countries such as Greenland, South Africa, Australia, Canada, UK, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan. In this service to the Holy Qur'an, led by Dr. Col. Fazal Ahmad, the national book trade professionals, book distributors and book sellers were introduced to the Holy Qur'an through advertisement in their magazines such as the *American Library Journal*, *Choice*, the *American Book Seller*, *New York Review of Books*, *Foreign Press Review*, *The Book Reader*, *Books in Print*, the *National Geographic* and the *Smithsonian*. The Holy Qur'an page in these trade journals was published, as a full page advertisement, for two consecutive years for over a million book trade professionals and won third position in its graphic design and appeal at the national level.

- Other books marketed were: *Murder in the Name of Allah*, *Short Commentary of the Holy Qur'an* and *The Holy Qur'an with Translation* by Maulana Sher Ali.

Participation in Book Fairs and Book Stalls

In 1990 the Ahmadiyya Community in USA was represented in the International Book Fairs in Japan, Moscow and in the United Kingdom. Since then Ahmadiyya publications have been displayed in the Annual National Book Fairs of the American Library Association, Society of Bible Literature, American Book Sellers Association and the American Academy of Religion. Its stalls have been annually set up at book fairs in New York, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Saint Louis, Houston, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Dayton.

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— Muhammad Zafarullah Khan, President of the UN General Assembly 1962, President of the World Court of Justice

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SOME PROMINENT AHMADI MUSLIMS IN USA

Mr. Hasan F. L. Anderson was the first Ahmadi convert during the time of the Promised Messiah (AS). The Promised Messiah gave him the Muslim name of Hasan. He was a scientist and worked at the First Scientific Station in New York City. The Urdu translation of a letter from Mr. Hasan Anderson was published in *Al-Badr* dated September 14, 1905. He asks about the health and welfare of the Promised Messiah (AS), notes the news about the earthquakes, notes with pleasure that he has been accepted into the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and requests that a certificate be kindly issued, comments favourably on the article which he read in the *Review of Religions* on Polygamy and Veil, gives his views about the international development relating to Russia and Japan, and conveys his prayers and salam to all Ahmadi. About Mr. Anderson, The Promised Messiah (AS) wrote in *Brahin Ahmadiyya* Vol. V: "Very recently a very respected English speaking gentleman who lives in USA, whose previous name is F. L. Anderson ... and who has been named Hasan after his acceptance of Islam, has joined our Community . . . He reads my books which have been translated into English. He can read the Holy Quran and he can also write in Arabic. Similarly there are several others who admire our Community and express their agreement."

Dr. George Baker of Philadelphia wrote about the Promised Messiah (AS): "I totally agree with the views of your Imam. He has presented Islam correctly to the world, just as the Prophet Muhammad (SA) had done."

Mr. Alexander Russell Webb from Hudson City, New York, accepted Islam through correspondence with the Promised Messiah (AS). He was the editor of a daily paper in St. Louis, Missouri. Later, he was the US Ambassador to the Philippines. In his correspondence to the Promised Messiah (AS), he expressed his dissatisfaction with Christianity and affirmed the truth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SA). Mr. Webb visited India, but did not visit the Promised Messiah (AS), nor did he join the Ahmadiyya Community. But he remained an admirer of the Promised Messiah (AS) and wrote a condolence letter upon the Promised Messiah's demise saying that: "I am sure that he will enjoy the companionship of saints and prophets in heaven."

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad laid down his life for Ahmadiyyat when an assailant, who had posed as a visitor, shot him in his home in Canton, Michigan, only three days before the Annual Convention in 1983. Dr. Muzaffar was a fearless *Da'ee Illallah*, a dedicated worker of the Jamaat.

Br. Muhammad Sadiq was a very sincere, humble and a devoted servant of Ahmadiyyat. His hallmark was his true love of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. The mark of prolonged prostration before the Almighty Allah was distinctly visible on his forehead. He knew many verses of the Holy Quran by heart. He would not miss any opportunity to provide loving advice to the members of the Community - whatever the occasion - quoting profusely from the Holy Quran. The themes of his favorite verses of the Holy Quran were *taqwa* (the fear of the Almighty Allah) and sacrifice in His cause. His exhortations would reorient any discussions towards these two themes. His pleading tones would charm his listeners and leave them spell bound as long as he spoke. Born in Newark, New Jersey, on 29th October, 1912, Br. Sadiq accepted Islam after reading the books written by Missionary Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengali during the time of Missionary Ghulam Yasin. He had the opportunity of visiting both Rabwah and Qadian. "His voice is music to my ears," said *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA). Br. Sadiq died in Newark on the 18 August 1996. Over 350 members attended his *janaza* (funeral) prayers led by Missionary Daud Hanif. The burial took place in the Ahmadiyya section of the Laurel Grove Cemetery in Totowa, New Jersey.

Br. Bashir Afzal was another one of the early converts. He was a Baptist minister before he became an Ahmadi Muslim. His love for Prophet Jesus Christ (AS) was replaced by an even greater love for the Promised Messiah (AS), when he learnt that the Second Coming had been fulfilled in the blessed person of the Promised Messiah. This love took him to Qadian and Rabwah in the fifties. Br. Afzal devoted the rest of his life in humble service to Ahmadiyyat. As the president of the Ahmadiyya Community in New York for thirty years, Br. Afzal worked very hard in the areas of spiritual training of the new converts. He also served as the *Za'eem* of the North Jersey circle of *Majlis Ansarullah*. He passed away on the 18 July 1993, at the age of ninety.

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr, Naib Ameer, was a dedicated worker and self effacing leader and a first class orator. Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr was a noble leader, a tireless worker and a devoted servant of the Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. His robust personality and eloquent speech kept his audiences mesmerized with his effulgent words inspiring them to work with greater zeal for spreading Islam and Ahmadiyyat in America while at the same time he would exhort them to look inwardly with a critical eye. He had a sharp eye for security and was keenly aware of the problems of Americans. Of him the *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said: "He was so active that whenever I visited over there (United states) he was always in charge of my security, as far as human efforts were concerned. It appeared he never slept in those days. Whenever I came out he was always there." He served the Ahmadiyya Community USA in magnificent capacities. He was the National President and then the Naib Ameer for a long time, some times acting as the Amir. He had the good fortune of leading the American delegation to Rabwah and Qadian frequently. Internationally, he represented North America in the International *Bai'at* and assisted *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV during the International *Majlis-e-Shura*. He died on Friday, 15 November 1996 in his home town of Dayton, Ohio.



Dr. Mohammad Sadiq


 THE
Moslem Sunrise
(Registered under Act No. 101 Mich. Public Acts 1907.)

 27 LABELLE AVENUE HIGHLAND PARK, U. S. A.

 No. 2 OCTOBER, 1921 Vol. 1



MIRZA AHMAD F. L. ANDERSEN

The First American Ahmadi Moslem. First corresponded with me in the year 1901 and joined our faith. He is in the First Scientific Station, New York City.



Dr. Bashir Afzal

Mirza Ahmad F.L. Anderson



Dr. Muzaffar Shaheed



Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad



LANDMARKS IN THE HISTORY OF AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY USA

1920

The first Missionary *Hadhrat* Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA), a devoted companion of the Promised Messiah (AS), arrives at the port of Philadelphia on February 15.

1921

The first Ahmadiyya Mosque in America is established by *Hadhrat* Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) in Chicago and the *Moslem Sunrise* (a quarterly magazine) is started.

1923

The second missionary, *Hadhrat* Maulvi Muhammad Din (RA), arrives in USA.



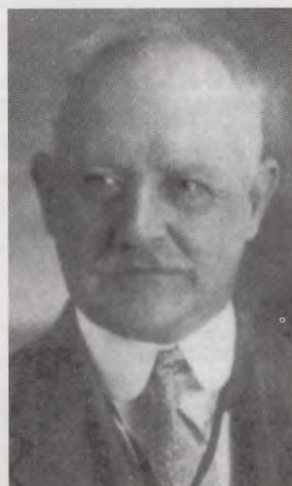
Abdur Rahman
R.R. Torres



Omar
William M. Patton



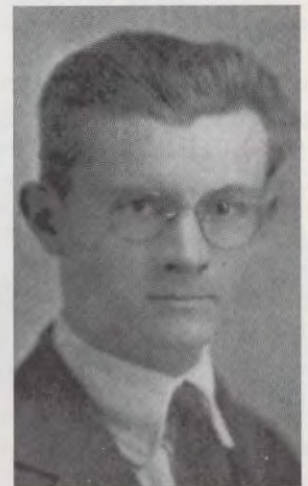
Bashir
Ralph Totten



Shaikh Abdullah Din Muhammad
J.L. Mott



Sheikh Ahmad Din
P. Nathaniel Johnson



Abdullah Omar
Denzel Carr

Early Converts. *Hadhrat* Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) published their photographs in the *Moslem Sunrise* dated October 1921, July 1922 and January 1923.



1933

Hadhrat Chaudhery Muhammad Zafrullah Khan (RA) visits USA to address the "World Faiths Congress" in Chicago.

1948

The first Annual Convention is held in Dayton on September 5.

The first election of the National Executives is held during the Annual Convention.

1949

The first message of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II, Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (RA), is received at the Second Annual Convention.

1950

The first mosque in the nation's capital is established at 2141 Leroy Place, Washington, DC. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RA) names it the American Fazl Mosque. It serves as the Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA from 1950 to 1994.

1954

Islam is represented by Dr. Khalil A. Nasir in the World Conference on Religions (Shimizu City, Japan) and in the World Council of Churches (Evanston, Illinois.)

1959

Islam is represented by *Hadhrat* Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrullah Khan (RA) and Dr. Khalil A. Nasir at the World Religions Conference in Dallas, TX and is attended by world-known leaders such as the Prince of the Netherlands and His Excellency U Nu, the Prime Minister of Burma.

1961

The *Vakil-ut-Tabshir*, *Sahibzada* Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, tours USA.

1965

The first mosque in a traditional Islamic design is completed in Dayton, Ohio. Br. Wali and Sr. Lateefa Kareem donate a plot; missionary Major Abdul Hamid supervises the construction of the mosque.

1972

The first *Majlis-e-Shura* is held during the Annual Convention, in September, in Lake Forest, Illinois.

1973

The first delegation of 16 members visits Rabwah and Qadian under the leadership of Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zafr.

1976

The first visit of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih III, Mirza Nasir Ahmad (RT), to USA (July 25 to August 15).



1978

The first visit of *Hadhrat Sahibzada* Mirza Tahir Ahmad (later Khalifatul Masih IV) to USA.

1979

Hadhrat Maulvi Ata Muhammad (RA), a companion of the Promised Messiah (AS) visits USA.

1980

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih III, Mirza Nasir Ahmad (RT), revisits USA.

1982

- A delegation of USA Ahmadi Muslims, led by *Maulana* Ataullah Kaleem, participates in the inauguration of the Basharat Mosque in Spain.
- *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) launches a program for accelerated construction of mosques/mission houses in USA.

1984

Regular distribution of the audio cassettes of the Friday Sermons of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) starts.

1987

The first visit of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV, Mirza Tahir Ahmad (ABA), including extensive tour of local chapters. He also presides over the *Majlis-e-Shura* in New York.

1988

- A team of Lajna Imaillah prepares the index for the Five Volume Commentary of the Holy Qur'an.
- Under the chairmanship of *Vakil-ul-Ala*, Choudhery Hameedullah, five members of the USA Jama'at comprise the Ahmadiyya Muslim Centenary Thanksgiving International Committee, *Sahibzada* Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad being its Chairman II.
- A delegation of Ahmadi doctors visits Africa.

1989

- The Ahmadiyya Centennial Jubilee is celebrated with great fervor on March 23.
- *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visits and presides over the Annual Convention.
- Ahmadiyya Exhibition of the US Jama'at is established.

1992

- The US Jama'at supports the International Exhibition in Spain.
- Langar Khana is introduced at the Annual Convention held in New York.

1993

- Three hundred Ahmadi Muslims represent USA at the worldwide celebration of the 100th Jalsa Salana at Qadian, India, under the leadership of Dr. Colonel Fazal Ahmad of Philadelphia.

1993 cont'd

- Regular satellite transmission of the *Khutbat-e-Juma* of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) to North America is started.

1994

- The current Headquarters of the USA Jama'at, at Masjid Baitur Rahman, is inaugurated in October by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA), with about 6,000 guests participating.
- The Earth Station, a joint effort of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Communities of Canada and USA, is inaugurated.
- The centennial celebrations of the fulfillment of the great prophecy regarding the Eclipse of the Sun and the Moon at the time of *Imam Mahdi* is observed throughout USA.

1995

Al-Islam web site on the Internet is established; and one year later, it starts transmitting the *Khutbat-e-Juma* of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA).

1996

- MTA Production Studio is inaugurated in the American Fazl Mosque, in Washington, DC (relocated, in 1998, closer to the Baitur Rahman Mosque).
- First position is attained by the USA Jama'at in *Waqf-e-Jadid*.
- Second position is attained by the USA Jama'at in *Tahrik-e-Jadid*.

1997

- Public meetings, commemorating the centenary publication of 'The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam,' a divinely inspired writing of the Promised Messiah (AS), are held in USA throughout the year.
- First position is maintained by the USA Jama'at in *Waqf-e-Jadid*.
- First position is attained by the USA Jama'at in *Tahrik-e-Jadid*.

1998

- *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) visiting USA to grace the 50th Annual Convention of USA, inaugurate mosque in New Jersey and San Jose, California and for the ground breaking of a mosque/mission house in Houston, Texas.
- Index to *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV's (ABA) book "Revelation Rationality, Knowledge & Truth" is prepared by the US Jama'at.
- A Mobile Tabligh Exhibition, equipped with satellite dish and other necessary material is prepared by the Philadelphia Jama'at.





DA'WAT ILALLAH IN USA

The Promised Messiah (AS) introduced Islam into the United States during his life. He also initiated a monthly magazine in English, The Review of Religions, which was sent to the Western countries starting 1901. The Promised Messiah (AS) addressed many religious scholars and leaders and invited them to Islam. His challenge to Dr. Alexander Dowie received a great deal of publicity in the American press. The pathetic end of Dowie was covered very extensively.

In 1920, *Hadhrat* Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) was sent to USA by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih (IV) (RA). He converted hundreds of Americans into Islam, and started a quarterly magazine, The Moslem Sunrise. Since then scores of Ahmadi missionaries and hundreds of Ahmadis in their personal capacity, have conveyed the message of Islam in USA over the last seven decades. Some highlights of the activities in the recent years are given below:

- Religious Founders' Day celebrations are held annually in all major communities, including Chicago, Dayton, Houston, Los Angeles, Maryland, New York, North Jersey, Philadelphia, Portland, San Francisco, San Jose, Willingboro, and York. In the tradition of these celebrations all over the world, eminent scholars of different faiths are invited to speak on these occasions.
- Centennial anniversary of the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam was celebrated with meetings in several chapters ranging from group discussions to general public meetings. Public meetings were held in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Maryland, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, and York. The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam was presented as a gift to over 2000 Professors, and national and international dignitaries.
- Islamic books are placed in public libraries by Khuddam and Lajna Imaillah, including the Holy Quran, Life of Muhammad (SA), Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, and Jesus in India.

Various chapters regularly participate in local, regional, and international fairs and exhibitions in which volunteers distribute pamphlets and answer questions of the visitors.

- Holy Qur'an has been presented to President Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and the President of Lithuania.

- USA Jama'at continued to support the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Jamaica, which was originally established through the efforts of Ahmadi Muslims from USA. Individual efforts during the year led to *Bai'ats* in Dominican Republic and Peru.

- Television and Internet are becoming important in our Tabligh efforts. More than a dozen communities have local TV programs which show the addresses and Question and Answer sessions by *Hazoor*. Local communities also host local radio talk programs on occasion. Internet is becoming popular especially with the young students. Two *bai'ats* have so far taken place through Internet, one in Milwaukee and the other, during the current year, in Utah.

In 1983, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) launched a new divinely inspired scheme to call people towards Allah in the following words:

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

Thousands of Ahmadis around the globe have responded to the call of *Hazoor*. Internationally, the results have been phenomenal, even miraculous. There were more than 200,000 *bai'ats* in 1993, over 400,000 in 1994, over 800,000 in 1995, over 1.6 million in 1996, and over 3 millions in 1997. Such amazing progress has not yet been seen in USA. Only a small number of Ahmadis are actively participating in propagation. Our *bai'ats* are only in hundreds. This is far lower than the expectation of *Hazoor*, who would like to see 100,000 Ahmadis in USA by the turn of the century or soon thereafter. The nominal activities in the area of Tabligh, which are listed above and which are basically followed with some variation every year, still have to produce the desired results.

The divine message of the Promised Messiah (AS) remains dominant and carries its own guarantee of success as indeed was proved by 3 million *bai'ats* in one year in other parts of the world. If, here in USA, the *bai'ats* so far are only in 100's, it must be attributed to insufficient efforts or approach in an overly materialistic world largely indifferent to religion. This resistance has to be brought down through a sustained all-out effort involving all Jama'at members.





MTA IN NORTH AMERICA

Muslim Television Ahadiyya, International (MTA) is the first worldwide Muslim Satellite Broadcasting Channel. It is being run by a volunteer staff. MTA is another very powerful sign of the fulfillment of the Divine Promise of Almighty Allah to the Promised Messiah (AS):

“I Shall Cause Thy Message to reach the Corners of the Earth.”

In 1994, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah IV (ABA) established the MTA as a satellite Television Station to spread the Unity of God throughout the world with objectives to unite the mankind and to educate and train the Ahmadi Muslims who are increasing in numbers every year.

Currently, the MTA can be watched in all five continents with over 150 countries utilizing this divine blessing of Almighty Allah. MTA is broadcast in several languages and some of its programs are simultaneously broadcast in 7 different languages.

At the direction of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah IV (ABA), the Canadian Jama'at took the initiative, with mutual efforts of the USA Jama'at, to provide access of MTA to North America. The Earth Station, located in the vicinity of the Baitur Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland, provides the link through three satellites, to the North, Central and South American viewers. This signal is received directly in the home of Americans and Canadians using a custom digital receiver system 24 hour a day. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah IV (ABA) inaugurated this Earth Station in October 1994 at the inauguration of the Baitur Rahman Mosque.

In addition to the Dish & Receiver System, people in America and throughout the world can listen to or watch MTA programs on the internet.



How Do You Bring 16 Million Followers Together? CREATE A WORLDWIDE RELIGIOUS TV NETWORK VIA INTELSAT

Early in 1996, Syed Naseer Ahmed, chairman of Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA), faced a daunting task. The network was a mixed bag of time-shared satellite capacity and full-time services on aging satellites. It had to be upgraded quickly to meet the increasing needs of a rapidly growing group of followers around the world.

“Our goal is to build and support the global Muslim Ahmadiyya community through MTA. At the time, we had to find a better way for our supreme leader to reach out to followers around the world... to bring them together as one group, and to foster a sense of community and belonging,” said Ahmed. “Our solution was to consolidate the network on the INTELSAT system.”

Today, MTA uses INTELSAT satellites to unite the fastest growing Muslim sect in the world, with over 16 million members. Approximately 10 million tune in to the religious services delivered live from London every Friday by the Supreme Head of the community, His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad.

MTA uses a global beam on the INTELSAT 703 at 57°E to reach Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. In addition, a spot beam on the INTELSAT 601 at 325°E allows direct-to-home broadcasting throughout Europe. North America is covered by an SCPC MPEG-2/DVB service from the MTA Teleport in Silver Spring, Maryland. When the INTELSAT 806 is operational in May, MTA will expand their reach into South and Central America and the Caribbean.

“Through Muslim Television we are trying to portray the real image of Islam which is peace, co-existence and love for humanity,” explains Ahmed. All of the original religious, educational, cultural, health and language programs are broadcast out of London, where the group is currently headquartered. Programming is also contributed from Muslim Ahmadiyya facilities in Canada, the United States, Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Germany, Sweden and other countries.

For more information on Muslim TV, contact Syed Naseer Ahmed, Chairman, Muslim Television. Tel: +44 181 870 0922, Fax: +44 181 870 0684.



Intelsat VideoVision - April, 1998



AHMADIYYAT ON INTERNET

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has reached practically every corner of the earth. Initially the missionaries and devotees of the Promised Messiah (AS) physically carried the message of Ahmadiyyat to all these countries. Today Allah has provided new technologies to spread the message of Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA) was established as a satellite television station in 1994. Jamaat Ahmadiyya USA started its Internet Services in April 1995.

In 1995, Brs. Athar Malik, Mureed Nazir and Latif Nazir started the Internet Services with one station at the Baitur Rahman Mosque in Silver Spring, Maryland. Initially the services were limited to the World Wide Web. Due to extreme popularity among young and enthusiastic Jamaat members, and its potential to reach an entirely different and influential audience, these services were expanded to include a wide variety in a short period of 1 year, upgrading from a slow 28.8 Kbps connection to a very fast 1.54 Mbps connection. The site was named Al-Islam.

USA Jamaat also introduced Audio Services using Real Audio. Friday Sermon by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) of May 10th, 1996 was broadcasted live from England via MTA Satellite Services over Internet for the first time. This service, in particular, was very instrumental in reaching far areas such as Japan, Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and South American countries, where MTA Satellite services could not be reached. In February 1997, MTA Video over Internet was started. Today CyberMTA reaches about 1500 listeners weekly from around the globe. CyberMTA not only broadcasts MTA live 24 hours a day but has archived all the Friday Sermons since May 10th, 1996. It has also provided live coverage of Annual Conventions in England, Germany, Canada, USA, and Qadian since May 10th, 1996.

Al-Islam site provides a comprehensive library for the study of Islam. It has is a translation of the entire Holy Quran, by Maulvi Sher Ali, with a search engine to locate verses of the Holy Qur'an on any subject. It also includes a wide variety of Ahmadiyya literature on different topics.

Al-Islam site is also the home of AMNI, Ahmadiyya Muslim Network International. This is an organization for Ahmadi Muslims worldwide who are connected together by electronic mail. Currently there are close to 200 members of this organization around the globe.

Al-Islam site is very active in responding to the objections commonly raised against Ahmadiyyat on the Internet. The work is very closely coordinated with the Ahmadiyya site in Canada and other Ahmadiyya web pages.



WAQF-E- NAU (NEW DEDICATION) SCHEME IN USA

At the beginning of the second century of Ahmadiyyat, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) launched a new scheme called *Waqf-e-Nau* (New Dedication), under divine guidance and inspiration, in his Friday Sermon of 3 April, 1987. He asked Ahmadi couples to dedicate their yet unborn children in the way of Allah to serve Islam during the second century of Ahmadiyyat, which is destined to usher major victories.

Thousands of Ahmadi families all over the world have dedicated their children under this noble scheme. In the United States, there are 197 children under the scheme, distributed by regions as follows:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Northeast	34	22	56
Southeast	47	29	76
Midwest	21	9	30
West Coast	<u>24</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>35</u>
Total	<u>126</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>197</u>

A comprehensive program of moral and spiritual training has been prepared for these children under *Hazoor's* direction and is being implemented. Parents of *Waqf-e-Nau* children have been exhorted to bring about a pure change in their lives and to raise these children in a manner that they become models of righteousness and sincerity. *Hazoor* said: "Your hearts should be full of love for Allah and His Prophet Muhammad (SA). Unless this love is running through your veins as the energy of your lives, you cannot pass it on to the next generation of these devotees."

Detailed instructions on the training and moral development of these children are provided in *Hazoor's* Friday Sermons of 10 February 1989, 17 February 1989, 8 September 1989, and 1 December 1989.



Waqf-e-Nau Children with *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) during the 1997 Jalsa Salana USA

FINANCIAL SACRIFICES BY AHMADI MUSLIMS IN USA



Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:
 The similitude of those who spend their wealth for the cause of Allah is like the similitude of a grain of corn which grows seven ears, in each ear a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies it further for whom-soever He pleases; and Allah is Bountiful, All-Knowing. (2:262)

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلٍ فِي كُلِّ سُنْبُلَةٍ مِائَةٌ حَبَّةٌ وَاللَّهُ يُضَعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ

Dearly Respected Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad Sahib
 (Amir Jama'at Ahmadiyya, USA)

Assalamo Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakotuhu.

I have received your Annual Financial Report for 1996-1997. Jazakum Allahu Ahsanal Jaza. Masha Allah. Alhamdo lillah. May Allah safeguard you from the evil eye. You are, by the Grace of Allah, rapidly strengthening the financial system of Jama'at Ahmadiyya America. May Allah bless the wealth and properties of the members of the Jama'at and continue to grant them the capacity to spend in the way of Allah. This year your Jamaat has achieved a marvelous increase in the subscriptions. May Allah make this a source of blessings for you all.

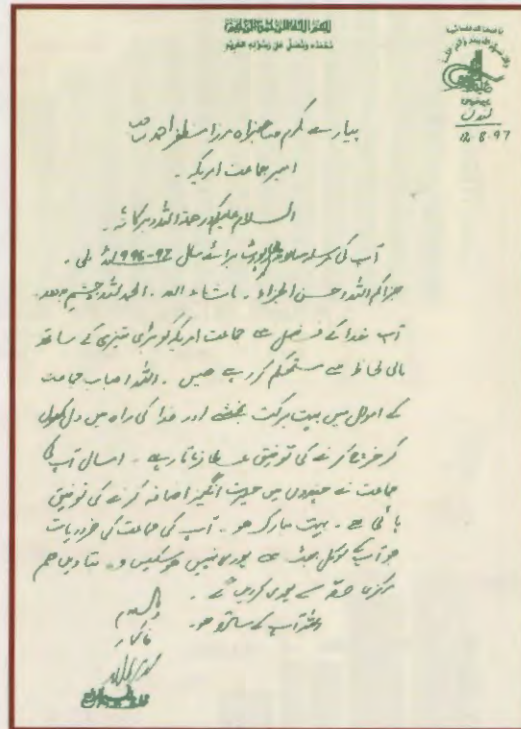
Please inform me of any needs of your Jama'at which cannot be met from your local budget; we will make them up from the share of the Center.

May Allah be with you.

Wassalam

SIGNED:

Mirza Tahir Ahmad
 Khalifatul Masih IV



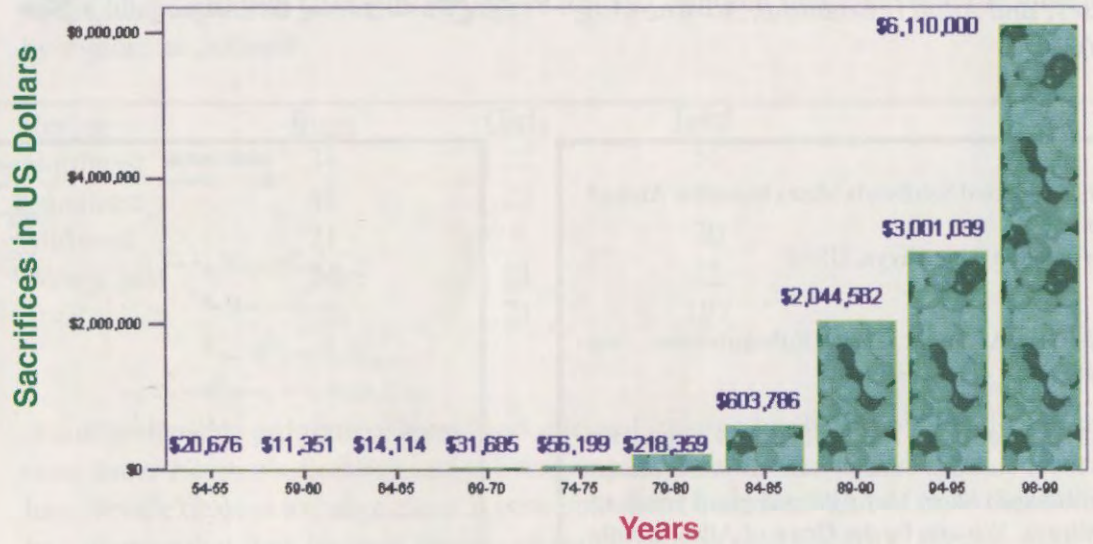
FINANCIAL SACRIFICES					
(29451% INCREASE IN THE LAST 45 YEARS)					
Fiscal Year	1954-1955	1959-1960	1964-1965	1969-1970	1974-1975
Collection	\$20,676	\$11,351	\$14,114	\$31,685	\$56,199
Fiscal Year	1979-1980	1984-1985	1989-1990	1994-1995	1998-1999*
Collection	\$218,359	\$603,786	\$2,044,582	\$3,001,039	\$6,110,000

FINANCIAL SACRIFICES			
(1443% INCREASE IN THE LAST 16 YEARS)			
SUBSCRIPTION HEAD	COLLECTION		
	1980-1981	1996-1997	INCREASE
Chanda Wasiyyat	\$70,974	\$727,296	925%
Chanda Aam	\$115,314	\$1,447,396	1155%
Jalsa Salana	\$97	\$173,511	178777%
Tehrik-e-Jadid	\$9,472	\$537,540	5575%
Waqf-e-Jadid	\$4,496	\$866,749	19178%
Zakat	\$3,024	\$43,892	1351%
Others	\$128,073	\$492,315	284%
SUB-TOTAL	\$331,450	\$4,288,699	1194%
Mosque Fund	\$6,573	\$925,478	13980%
TOTAL	\$338,023	\$5,214,177	1443%

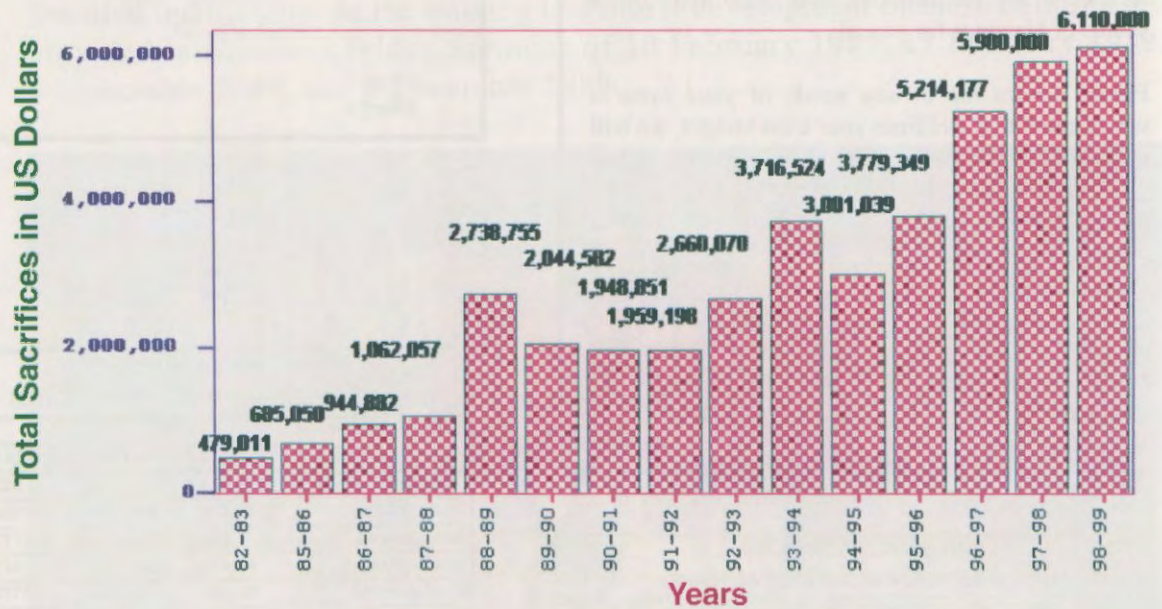


PROGRESS IN FINANCIAL SACRIFICES BY AHMADI MUSLIMS IN USA

45 Years Financial Sacrifices of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA



16 Years Financial Sacrifices of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA



PROGRESS IN FINANCIAL SACRIFICES BY AHMADI MUSLIMS IN USA



16 Years Financial Sacrifices of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA



16 Years Financial Sacrifices of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA



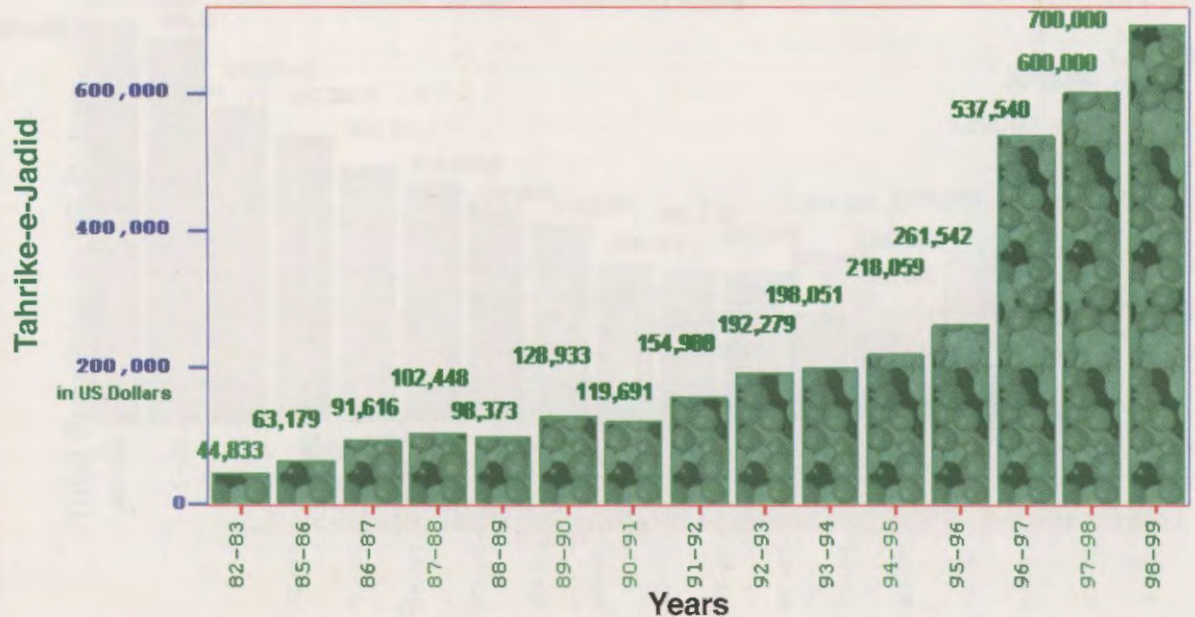


TAHRIK-E-JADID - USA

In 1934, *Hadhrat* Kilalifatul Masih II, (RA), introduced a scheme called *Tahrik-e-Jadid* (literal meaning the New Scheme) for the propagation of Islam and Ahmadiyyat throughout the world for the spiritual transformation and training of Ahmadis to become model Muslims in practice. There are twenty five demands of *Tehrik-e-Jadid* which in essence call for all Ahmadis to live a simple life and focus on their lives for the propagation and spread of Islam. A part of the sacrifices demanded under *Tehrik-e-Jadid*, of course, is the financial sacrifice. Without the funds, it was not possible to send missionaries overseas, print the Holy Qur'an in various languages and print books for presenting the beautiful religion of Islam to the world.

In 1996-97, the Amir Jama'at USA, Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, decided that we should try to become number one in the world in *Tahrik-e-Jadid* collections. By the Grace of Allah, the Ahmadiyya Jama'at USA responded to their Amir's call in an exceptionally sacrificing manner. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of the United States stood second in the entire world in 1996-97 and took the first position in 1997-1998. May Almighty Allah be praised for this honor and may He grant the USA Jamaat further opportunities to sacrifice in His cause. *Ameen.*

16 Years Financial Sacrifices



WAQF-E-JADID - USA



Fifty years ago, when the First Jalsa Salana of the USA Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was held, the *Waqf-e-Jadid* Scheme was introduced by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RT) in Pakistan. It was initially restricted to sacrifices in terms of financial contributions from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan but was later extended to other countries in 1985.

Between 1985 and 1991 the progress of collection was slow. It was in 1992 that our special efforts increased the contributions from \$90,000.00 to \$900,000.00 and the contributions of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA exceeded the collections of the entire world. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA), evaluating the progress of the USA Ahmadiyya Community in a global context, in his Friday Sermon of 9 February 1993, said:

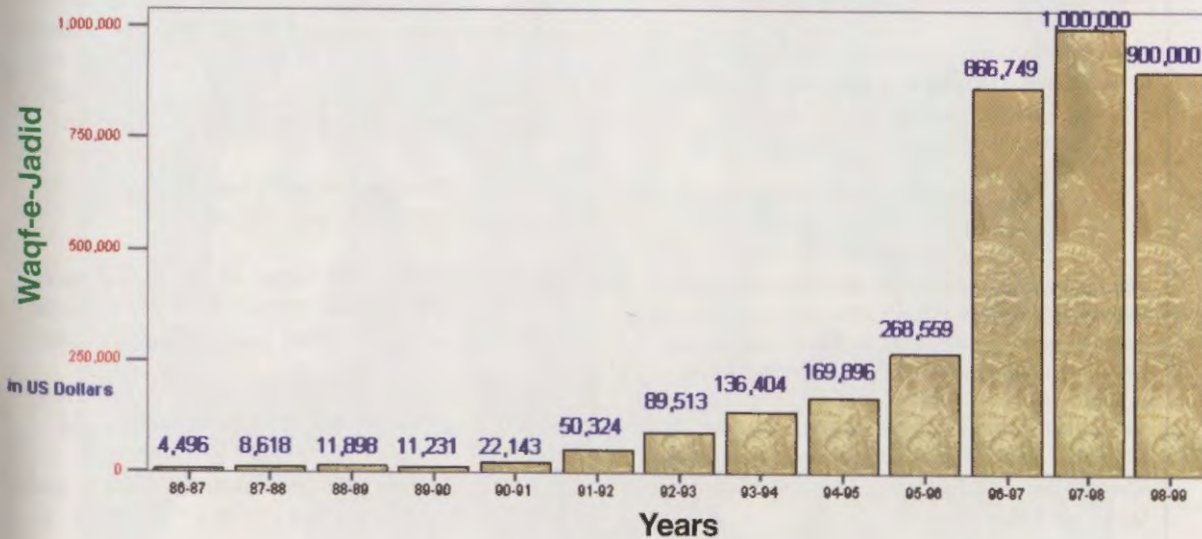
“Now, remember this well that the total collection from the whole world is one million, ninety-four thousand three hundred and sixty-one pounds sterling. In this is included the receipt from America of five hundred and sixty-four thousand one hundred and sixty-one pounds sterling. That is to say it has exceeded the entire world in the collection of this chanda on its own. Last year I was praising that they (USA) had defeated Germany and even gone ahead of Pakistan, but the race was still a close one. Now they have left everyone so far behind that the rest will just have to pray for them and can do nothing more than this. And the situation of America itself is such that just ten years ago, that is to say just two or almost three years after my migration to London from Pakistan, their total chanda was about this amount.”

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih further said: “Ten years ago, the total budget of the US Jamaat was \$835,000! Now their *Waqf-e-Jadid* budget alone has become \$936,800 and they have collected their data so accurately that they have included with this number 30 cents also! So the figure is \$936,800.30”

In complimenting the humble efforts of the US Jama'at, excellently planned by the Amir of the USA Jama'at, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) stated, in his Friday Sermon of December 1997: “So, today America stands in the first row amongst the Jama'ats of the entire world. If we talk in terms of pounds sterling, their collections amount to five hundred sixty-four thousand”.

Note: In the chart below the figures relate to the fiscal year (July to June), while collection year of the *Waqf-e-Jadid* Scheme follows the calendar year (January to December). There is no discrepancy between the figures in the chart and in the text above.

14 Years Financial Sacrifices of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA





LAJNA IMAILLAH, USA

Lajna Imaillah into the 21st Century

Lajna Imaillah USA was organized according to the Constitution Rules and Regulations in 1962. However, before 1962 female Ahmadiis used to meet in one another's homes (known as circles) to study the religion, learn the prayer, and to learn reading the Holy Quran. These pioneering women also stitched clothes, cooked pies, cakes and even full course meals to raise funds for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

In 1962, Lajna Imaillah USA published its first issue of Lajna News, a monthly newsletter consisting of activities of local Iajnas, announcements, and directives from National Aamla members. In 1965, the *Ayesha* magazine was started, specifically as a tool for tabligh. The magazine made rapid progress. In 1985, it was mailed to more than one hundred women colleges in USA. Also in the mid-60's, Lajna prepared a "Handbook For Women" for new female converts. It included portions of *Fiqah-e-Ahmadiyya* which was rendered into English by *Hadhrat* Maryam Siddiq.

The first Ahmadiyya summer camp for children was established in 1965. Children, mothers, and missionaries participate in this camp, which has become a regular feature of Lajna activities.

Sister Mubarak Malik, a convert belonging to Lajna Imaillah Milwaukee, presented a copy of the Holy Quran to President Gerald Ford at the White House in 1974.

"I will not Allow the work of any worker from among you, whether male or female, to be lost." (Holy Qur'an 3:196)

Lajna Imaillah USA was judged to be the "Best Foreign Lajna" in 1974, 1975, 1981, and 1984. Lajna Imaillah USA was selected as the second best Lajna in 1963, 1982, and 1985.

From 1982 to 1985, posters were placed in 100 public buses in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and in 35 buses in Zion, Illinois.

During 1985, over 1500 letters were mailed to government officials demanding basic human rights to Ahmadi Muslims living in Pakistan.

In 1988, during the preparation of the second edition of the historic 5 Volume Commentary of the Holy Quran, Lajna Imaillah USA was asked to prepare an index. Eleven sisters (supported by many other



helpers) prepared a comprehensive index. Their labor of love was recognized by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah IV (ABA) in his Jalsa Salana address and recorded in the introduction to the second edition in the commentary itself. *Alhamdulillah* (all praise belongs to Allah).

The first National Ijtema of Lajna Imaillah USA was held in 1989 in Zion, Illinois.

In 1991, five hundred copies of the speech made by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) to Lajna Imaillah on June 29, 1991 were printed and sold.

Lajna Imaillah USA collected more than half a million dollars for the USA National Mosque Fund.

Lajna Imaillah USA researched, wrote, and published 3000 copies of the "Pathway to Paradise" in 1996.

An index and the following listings have been added to the present edition at the end of the fifth volume:

- Table of Contents
- Alphabetical listing of Chapters of the Holy Qur'an.
- Important Arabic words and expressions explained in the Commentary
- The Index of subjects

The Publishers acknowledge and sincerely thank the following members of USA Jama'at in particular and their helpers in general for the careful and the hard work in preparing these listings and the index so exhaustively:

Aisha Sharif, Nyceemah Yaqub, Aisha Hakim, Shakura Nooriah, Salma Ghani, Kadija el Hadi, Rafia Ramah, Khulat Alladin, Dhiya Tahira, Uzma Saeed, Farzana Qader and Fatima Haneef.

Publishers Note: 5-Vol. Commentary of the Holy Quran, 2nd Edition

SOME OUTSTANDING LAJNA MEMBERS



Sr. Aliyya Muhammad

Hajia Aliyya Muhammad was born in 1906. She had one son, but often said that she feels like the mother of all jamaat children. She was a woman of many talents. A cook by profession, her home was the center of many meetings and classes. The beginning of an organized sisterhood is an honor that is hers alone. She was the first elected American local president of Ahmadi women in the USA. She also served nationally as Vice President, Nasirat Secretary, and Handicraft Secretary. She was instrumental in organizing and spearheading the Islamic Camp School for Ahmadi Children in USA. Her favorite words of wisdom were: "Hold on to the rope of Allah" May Allah reward her abundantly. *Ameen.*

Sr. Aliyyah Shaheed

Sr. Aliyyah Shaheed was a pioneer among Lajna Imaillah USA. She became the President of the Lajna in 1946. She served as President of Lajna in Pittsburgh from 1969 to 1971, in 1973, and from 1978 to 1979. She has also held the offices of General Secretary, Finance, Education, and Social Secretary. She was the National President of Lajna Imaillah USA from 1963 to 1966. For over fifty years, she served with great dedication in various capacities. She sponsored new institutions, the first American Mosque Fund and the first Muslim Student Scholarship Fund. She published reprints of the Lajna Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and the booklets entitled "The Path of Faith" and "Our Duties." Under her exhortation, the US Lajna contributed handsomely to the building of the Denmark mosque, and refurbishing of the mission houses in Dayton, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Chicago. As the National Financial Secretary for six years (1969-1975), Sr. Aliyyah received high commendations for her ability to move sisters for financial sacrifice, and her clear, consistent, prompt and excellent record keeping. The secret of her success was simple; to put it in her own words: "I always tried to establish unity between my sisters."

Sr. Saeeda Lateef

Sr. Saeeda Lateef was elected President of the Ahmadi Women's group in 1959. She played a strong role in organizing Lajna Imaillah. She was instrumental in getting the Lajna Imaillah Constitution from the Center and implementing it in USA in 1962. The "Central Lajna Report" of August 1963 stated: "Lajna America is the second best Lajna (world-wide). This Lajna has been making rapid strides on the road of progress for the last two years. . Saeeda Lateef has awakened Lajna to activity. She is a zealous worker..."

Some Early American Ahmadi-Muslims





MAJLIS ANSARULLAH, USA

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II (RA) founded a number of subsidiary organizations to foster the spirit of moral excellence and to provide specific framework for the ethical and religious education and training of different segments of the Jamaat. Majlis Ansarullah was inaugurated by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih II (RA) in 1940; it includes all male Ahmadi Muslims over the age of 40. In the beginning the Ansar organizations all over the world were under the supervision of Sadr Majlis Ansarullah with its head offices at the Center, first in Qadian and then at Rabwah. The Head of Ansarullah in each country was called Nazime A'la. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA), in his Friday Sermon delivered on November 3, 1989, announced that in the future he will himself supervise all the Auxiliary Organizations, all over the world and at the National level the heads of the Auxiliary Organizations shall be designated as Sadr (President). In USA, we have had three Nazime A'la/Sadr to date, namely, Dr. Masoud Malik (1981-1986), Mr. Fazal Ahmad (1987-1991) and Dr. Karimullah Zirvi (1993-98).



Dr. Karimullah Zirvi Sadr
Majlis Ansarullah USA

IJTEMAAT AND MAJALIS-E-SHURA

The National Annual Ijtema of Majlis Ansarullah, USA has been held every year since 1982. Besides the National Annual Ijtema, several local and regional Ijtema'at have also been held regularly. In 1993, the first Majlis-e-Shura of the Majlis Ansarullah USA was held. *Hadhrat* Khalifa-tul-Masih IV (ABA) kindly gave a special message for the occasion during his Friday Sermon. Since then the Ansarullah Majlis-e-Shura has been held each year regularly. Regarding one of the Shura proceedings, *Hazoor* was very pleased to see the reports on the deliberation of Majlis Shura. *Hazoor* (ABA) commented. "The traditions of this important institution is being followed admirably."

TALIM-O-TARBIYYAT PROGRAM

Comprehensive Talim programs are prepared which include Talimul Quran classes so that the members could learn translation and commentary of the Holy Quran and study of certain books of the Promised Messiah (AS). Quarterly tests are held. Participation has increased every year since 1995.

TABLIGH PROGRAM

A Tabligh program, recommended by Majlis Shura in 1995, was sent to *Huzoor* for approval. *Hazoor* was very pleased to note that a comprehensive program has been chalked out to inculcate spirit of Dai Ilallah in all Ansar. He wished that, as well as helping Jamaat in achieving their target of Baits of 2000, Ansar (with the permission of Amir Sahib) should apportion and fix a target for themselves and share the challenge.

ALAME INAMMI AWARD

In 1996, it was announced that the top three Majalis with best activities during the year in the areas of Talim/Tarbiyyat, Umumi, Tabligh, Ithar and Finance will be recognized and the Majlis which came first will be given the Alame-Inaami. Based on the activities during the period from July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997, the following three Majalis obtained the top three positions and Milwaukee Majlis was awarded the Alam-e-Inaami by Respected Amir Sahib, USA: 1. *Milwaukee* 2. *Dallas* 3. *Research Triangle Park*.

PUBLICATION PROGRAM

Al-Nahl (A quarterly publication of Majlis Ansarullah, USA): In 1992, by the grace of Allah, Br. Fazal Ahmad, Sadr Ansarullah, started a magazine for Ansarullah and named it 'Al-Nahl' as that was the name of a chapter in the Holy Quran. The bee does not care while it is getting old; it continues to carry out its assigned task until its last breath. Ansarullah, Br. Fazal Ahmad thought, needed to follow that example more than anyone else. Since then, Al-Nahl has been published regularly. The following special issues of the magazine were published:

- i. Centenary of the fulfillment of the prophecy of solar and lunar eclipses.
- ii. Baitur Rahman Mosque number at the occasion of inauguration of the Mosque.
- iii. Khilafat Number.
- iv. Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (RA) number.
- v. Philosophy of the teaching of Islam number.
- vi. Professor Dr. Abdus Salam number.

The other publication activities are as follows:

1. A monthly newsletter, entitled *Ansarullah News*, was started in January, 1995. By the grace of Allah, the newsletter has since been regularly published. The Newsletter is sent to all Members.
2. A *Prayer Chart* with pictures and English translation was published. Tarbiyyat Department of UK Jama'at purchased 500 Prayer Charts. Seeing the Chart, *Hazoor* commented: "*Jazakamullah* for the Prayer Chart that you have compiled. It was delightful. *Masha Allah*, and very useful. Here in UK it will be utilized to our benefit."
3. A children's book, *Razzaq and Farida*, written Dr. Yusef A. Lateef, was published in 1997.
4. The books "Synopsis of Religious Preaching, Part I and II," by Maulana Ata Ullah Kaleem were reprinted after reviewing the book.



4-6-93

Dear Editor Sahib, Al-Nahl, America:

Assalamo Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatohu.

I have received Ansarallah's magazine, Al-Nahl, which you have sent to me. Masha-Allah, you have published a very beautiful magazine. May God Almighty give you best reward both in the world and in the life after death. May God give best reward to all of your companions also for the service in publishing this magazine and may God increase and enlighten further mental and physical capabilities of all of you. To all those who served in this cause, my loving salam and may God be with you.

Wassalam, Khaksar,

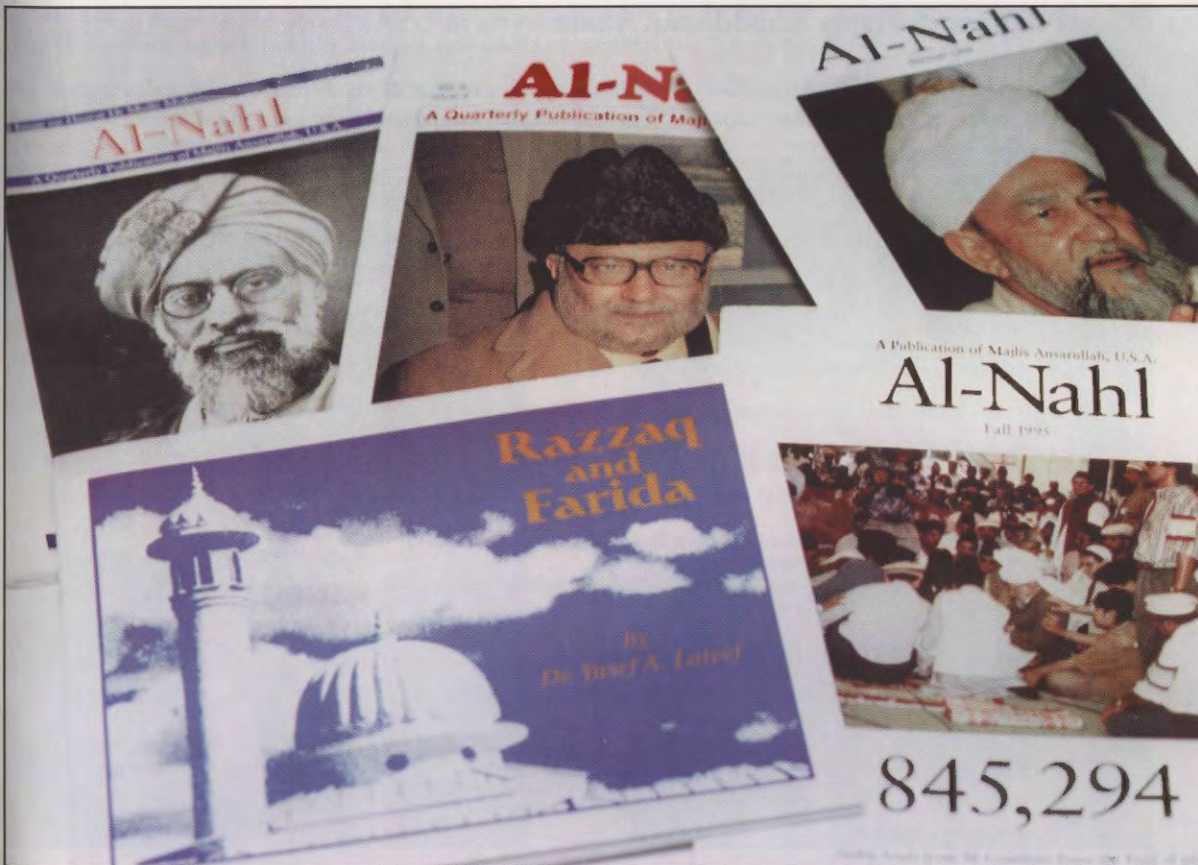
Signed: Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul

Masih IV

کراچی
۱۱/۱۱/۱۹۹۳ء
۶۴

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ
اے محکم اسلام اور حق تعالیٰ کے نام سے
آپ کی طرف سے العار اللہ کے رسالہ النہل کا ناز بہ شمار
ملا۔ ماشاء اللہ انجیا جو حضرت رسالہ ساتھی کیا ہے
حضرت امیر المؤمنین الحسن المجتہد علیہ السلام و الاخرہ اللہ آپ کے
علم و اجیروں کو ہی اس خدمت کی ہمہ گیرین جزاء دے
اور آپ سب کی دینی اور ملی صلاحیتوں کو مزید مستعمل
رہائے۔ عرض کرے والوں کو حسب ہوا سلام بخدا
عاطفہ نامور ہا

والہ
حاکم
میرزا تھیر احمد





MAJLIS KHUDDAM-UL-AHMADIYYA, USA

Establishment of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya:

Over sixty years ago Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya was established by *Hadhrat* Khlifatul Messiah II (RA), Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, to save young men from modern trends of materialism and imbibe in them with the spirit of true Islam. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah II (RA) stated "the very name of the organization indicates that its members are Ahmadi servants of mankind."

In an address at the first Khuddam Ijtema, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul II (RA) said: "The success of a nation is dependent on its youth. If the youth of a nation become true custodians of its tradition then that nation can survive for centuries upon centuries. However, if the generations of the future are negligent then a nation can never achieve success and even the progress it makes can be transformed into failure."

Khuddamul Ahmadiyya in USA:

In USA, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya was organized in late 1960's. Initially, the only National Khuddam Officer in USA was a Mo'tamad (Secretary) and Missionary-in-Charge was the Naib Sadr (Vice President) of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya under the International Sadr, at the Headquarters, in Rabwah, Pakistan.

In 1969, the Missionary-in-Charge, Imam A.R. Khan Bengali, appointed Munir Hamid of Philadelphia as the First National Qaid of USA. Therefore the first National Amla (cabinet) was setup in 1969. The following is a list of the National Quaideen of USA in chronological order:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Munir Hamid | 2. Mohammad Ismail | 3. Muzaffar A. Zafar | 4. Yahyah Sharif |
| 5. Abdul Kabir Haq | 6. Nasir M. Malik | 7. Syed Sajid Ahmad | |

On November 3rd 1989, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Messiah IV (ABA) announced that: "in the future, all the auxiliary organizations of all countries will have a president in the same way as in Pakistan and they will send their reports directly to me." The first National Sadr (president) of the USA Majlis was: Dr. Qamer A. Shamas (1989-1994). Bt. Munum A. Naeem is currently the National Sadr, Majlis Khuddamul-Ahmadiyya, USA since 1994.

Progress of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya in USA:

From just a few Majalis and handful of Khuddam, by the Grace of Allah, there are now over 44 majalis in USA with over 2,000 Khuddam and Atfal. The following is a brief overview of some of the activities and historical events:

- Appointment of First National Qaid, Br. Munir Hamid in 1969.
- First National Amila meeting and National Ijtema held on April 26th, 27th, and 28th, 1969 at Dayton, Ohio.
- First Atfal Summer School held in 1975.
- First issue of Tariq, a new Khuddam magazine published in 1976 in conjunction with the Ahmadiyya Gazette.
- August 8, 1983 the National Motamid, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad of Detroit was martyred.
- In 1987, the "Tariq" magazine was separated from the Gazette as an independent magazine.
- The First National Majlis-e-Shura of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya was held in 1990.
- During 1989-1994 Financial Contributions of khuddam increased by 600%.
- February 1995, First Annual Quaideen Refresher Course was held.
- In 1995, Qaid Hand Book and Finance Management System was deployed which has since been maintained as annual guideline.
- August 1995, the first National Annual Tarbiyyati class was held.
- 1995, the Home Page of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA was setup on Internet with cooperation of Al-Islam Services.
- 1997, a Tele-Conferencing System was deployed to further improve communication and organization.
- 1994-1997 several hundred Food, Clothing and Blood drives were carried out in several chapters to serve the mankind.

Future Plans:

In the area of Tabligh, under the guidance of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) through the Friday sermons of June 6th & 13th, 1997, a comprehensive Tabligh plan was developed. The future plans include: a) One-on-One Tabligh, b) Monthly Tabligh Days, c) Placing books in libraries, d) Coordinating seminars at universities, e) Participating at book fairs.

In the area of education & Training, a very comprehensive syllabus has been developed and deployed. Beside a regular and continuous emphasis on parents and regular training classes at our centers, an individual follow-up system was implemented which will remain a part of the future plan.

Upon request of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA, in the Friday sermon of 10 October 1997, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) gave a specific Tarbiyyat program & challenge to USA. *Hazoor* asked that *Salat* should be given a very high importance. Every member of the majlis should know the *Salat* with its translation and should offer five daily prayers. Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya is aggressively focusing in making improvements in the *Salat* practice. A 7-point action plan to follow up on these instructions will remain a top priority of the future Tarbiyyat plans.

Another area where Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya will focus is the training and guiding of new Ahmadi youth as directed by *Hazoor* (ABA) in the inaugural address of 1996 National Ijtema of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA (on MTA).

Hazoor (ABA) said:

“...I want you to keep in mind the growing number of youth through preaching. When new blood comes into the Jamaat, when people from all colors and shades and hues and previous religious belongings come over to the Jamaat, they expect to be assimilated with special care. It is that area in which we seem to be remiss, unfortunately.

...We also must participate in all efforts to help them and to have a new sense of belonging, developed with a full loving attempt. What I have to say is simply that our welcome to them should not be formal expression; when you see a newcomer your heart should be filled with genuine love for him.

...I want you to prepare in advance and welcome them with all your hearts with open arms. Replace what they have lost with a better love and assimilate them into the Ahmadiyya Society in a manner that they should forget all the feelings of void, suffering and loss which naturally comes after one changes a society for any sake. But when it is done for the sake of God then, those who belong to God, it is their prime responsibility to play their hosts...”

In the area of *Khidmat-e-Khalq* (service to mankind), the majlis is serving with clothing, food and blood drives. The future plans include to bring these efforts under the umbrella of “Humanity First”.

For Atfalul Ahmadiyya the system of four educational levels: 1) Sitara-e-Atfal, 2) Hilal-e-Atfal, 3) Qamar-e-Atfal and 4) Badr-e-Atfal has been implemented.



National Ijtema - 1996



National Ijtema - 1997





MOSQUES AND MISSION HOUSES IN USA

Historical Dateline (1922-1998)

1922-1982

- Chicago, IL: First mission house is established at 4448 Wabash Street.
- Washington, DC: A building at 2141 Leroy Place is acquired in 1949 and renamed the American Fazl Mosque; it serves as the National headquarters until 1994.
- Dayton, OH: Site is acquired in 1952 and is reconstructed as mosque in 1978.
- Pittsburgh, PA: Mission House is acquired in 1950.
- St. Louis, MO: Mission House is acquired in 1972.
- Baltimore, MD: Mission House is acquired in 1975 by local Ahmadis.
- Detroit, MI: Mission House (Bait-ul Muzaffar) is acquired in 1980; it is gutted by arson in 1983.
- Philadelphia, PA: Mission House is purchased in 1982.
- Land parcels owned in Athens, OH; Indianapolis, IN; Houston, TX; St. Louis, MO; and Zion, IL.

1982:

- *Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA)*, in a taped message, urges the USA Jamaat to construct 5 new mosques/mission houses at New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, DC and Detroit. A National Mosque Fund (NMF), with an initial target of \$2.5 million, is launched. *Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA)* makes a personal contribution of US \$4,200.

1983:

- York, PA: A two-story building is acquired for \$24,900.
- Willingboro, NJ: New Jersey members acquire a 3 1/2 acre plot for \$62,500.

1984

- Chicago, IL: At Glen Ellyn (a Chicago suburb), a residential property on a 5-acre parcel of land is acquired for \$262,500 and is used as a place of worship and a mission house. Moreover, the house adjacent to the first Ahmadiyya mission house at Wabash Street is purchased for \$20,000 for future extension.
- Detroit, MI: A building on a 7-acre parcel of land is purchased for \$125,000 for a mosque and mission house.
- New York, NY: A nursery school building is purchased for \$457,500 and is renamed as Bait-ul-Zafar Mosque.
- Zion, IL: A mission house is acquired for \$30,000.
- Boston, MA: A 2-acre parcel is donated by local Ahmadis for a mosque.

1985:

- New Orleans, LA: A building is purchased for \$43,000 to be used as a mission house.
- Tucson, AZ: A mosque is built.
- Los Angeles, CA: A 4.75 acre parcel of land is purchased for \$350,000; plans are initiated to build a mosque with a 10,920 square feet constructed area.

1986:

- A 8.7 acre parcel of land is purchased for \$300,000 in Montgomery County, MD, 5 miles out-side Washington National Beltway, for construction of the Washington National Mosque.

1987:

- *Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA)* visits USA and lays the foundation at the Los Angeles, CA, Detroit, MI and Washington, DC mosque sites.
- Cleveland, OH: A mission house building is acquired (Baitul Ahad) for \$140,000.



MOSQUES/MISSION HOUSES IN USA

BUILT IN 60 YEARS (1922-1982) = 8

BUILT IN 15 YEARS (1983-1998) = 23

CURRENT TOTAL = 31

1988:

- A 1-acre plot, adjacent to the Washington Mosque, with a house, is acquired.
- Pittsburgh, CA: A mission house property is acquired for \$250,000 near San Francisco, CA.
- San Jose, CA: Local Ahmadis purchase a mission house for \$875,000.
- Boston, MA: Mission house is completed.

1989:

- Los Angeles, CA: Masjid Bait-ul-Hameed is completed at a total cost of \$1.3 million. On August 7, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) inaugurates the mosque and makes an appeal of \$2.5 million for the Washington National Mosque.
- Rochester, NY: A property is purchased for \$91,000 to be used as a Mosque and Community Center.
- Portland, OR: Local Ahmadis build a mosque at a cost of \$300,000 and dedicate it to the Jama'at.

1990:

- Houston, TX: A building is purchased for \$50,000 to be used as a mosque, mission house and missionary residence.

1992:

- St. Louis, MO: A property is purchased for \$350,000 for use as mission house.
- Charlotte, NC: A property is purchased on a 4-acre plot to be used as a place of worship and mission house.
- Milwaukee, WI: A large building is purchased in a commercial area for \$200,300 to be used as a mosque and community center.

1993:

- Miami, FL: A spacious building is purchased for \$160,000 as a place of worship and a mission house.

1994:

- Washington National Mosque is completed at a cost of \$4.2 million. On Friday, October 14, *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) inaugurates Masjid Bait-ur-Rahman.
- Chicago, IL: An additional building, the Van Buren Center, is purchased for \$85,000 for Friday prayers and community meetings.
- Chicago, IL: The Sadiq Mosque is completed at the historic location of the first Ahmadiyya Mosque in the USA. *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) inaugurates the Sadiq Mosque on October 23.

1996:

- San Jose, CA: Local Ahmadis purchase a mission house for \$875,000.
- Boston, MA: Mission house is completed.

1997:

- Old Bridge, NJ: A church building, under construction, is purchased for \$350,000 and is a mosque and community hall.
- Dallas, TX: A 4.75 acre plot is acquired.

1998:

- Albany, NY: A group of Ahmadis purchase a renovated school building and dedicate a part of the building as mosque and mission house, with the pledge that the whole building will be donated to the Jama'at when the loans are paid off.

(Some Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosques around the world shown on pages 84 & 85)





CURRENT AMIR AND EXECUTIVES OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY USA

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad - Amir

Sahibzada M. M. Ahmad, a grandson of the Promised Messiah (AS), took over as the Amir of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA in 1989 after retiring from a distinguished career in public service, which included assignments as Additional Chief Secretary, West Pakistan, Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission, Pakistan, Economic Advisor to the President of Pakistan, Financial Advisor to the President, Executive Director of the World Bank and Deputy Executive Secretary of the Joint Ministerial Committee of Board of Governors World Bank and IMF. He immediately started strategic planning in the areas of finance, building of new mosques, improved supply of literature, opening of new chapters, training and propagation. The hallmark of his tenure has been the glowing compliments paid by *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV (ABA) for the unprecedented and even globally unparalleled achievements in finance. The number of chapters has increased to forty five.

In 1994 Masjid Baitur Rahman, designed in the traditional Islamic architectural style with a permanent exhibition, library and Headquarters' Offices, was built and inaugurated in an internationally attended and globally broadcast ceremony. Numerous publications have been launched in the fields of training, propagation, and in the commemoration of landmark events. Exhibitions have been held in Detroit (Michigan), New York (New York) and in Silver Spring (Maryland). Permanent exhibitions have been built in New York, Dayton, Chicago and Silver Spring (in the Masjid Baitur Rahman). All major chapters have their own newsletters. The system of international transmission of the sermons of *Hadhrat* Khalifatul Masih IV, starting with weekly transmissions in 1993, blossomed into the establishment of an earth station, jointly sponsored by the US and the Canadian Ahmadiyya Muslim Communities, culminating in the Internet transmissions in 1998. Muslim Ahmadiyya Television - USA's Studio, built in the American Fazl Mosque, in 1996, started its production and shipping its tapes to the *Markaz* (Center) that year.



1998 National Executive Committee (*Majlis-e-Amla*)

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (MAJLIS-E-AMLA)



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Naib Amirs: Munir Hamid, Dr. Ahsan Ullah Zafar

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