

Al-Hilal



* SPECIAL TRIBUTE EDITION *

A MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN

US \$2

2007-1

Message from Editorial Staff

Dear readers and contributors,
Assalāmu ‘alaikum,

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) is our guide in every walk of life. We should strive to mold our lives after his example. A study of his life would reveal the gems that we do not find anywhere else. From his handling of city politics to his dealing with family members, he was the epitome of perfection. We can find a role model in any and every aspect of his life. His example was carried on by his Righteous Khulafa after him, and has been rejuvenated through the advent of the Promised Messiah, ‘alahisslām, and his khulafa.

Wassalām,
Sahibzada Khalid Latif

QUARTERLY AL-HILĀL. A magazine for children, by children, that provides them with a creative opportunity to learn about the world around them, and how to apply the teachings of Islam and Ahmadiyyat to their daily lives. Al-Hilāl (The New Moon) is published by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, under the auspices of the Children’s Magazine Committee, and directed by Dr Ahsanullah Zafar, National Amīr, Jama‘at Ahmadiyya, USA. The publication of this magazine was launched by the late Hadrat Sahibzadah M. M. Ahmad (1913-2002). The members of the committee are Maulana Zafullah Hanjra, Ahmadi Muslim Muballigh at Houston, TX; Maulana Azhar Haneef, Ahmadi Muslim Muballigh in St. Louis, MO; Shanaz Butt, Sadr of Lajna Imaillah, USA; Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, USA; Tazeen Ahmad of Maryland; Musa Asad of Maryland; and Syed Sajid Ahmad of North Dakota acting as the secretary of the committee.

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The late Abdul Muhaimin Karim asking, “Why can’t everyone be like *Hadrat* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (‘alahissalam)?”





Sayings of the Holy Qur'an



لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ
 حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَ
 الْيَوْمَآءَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا ﴿٢٢﴾

“Verily, you have in the Prophet of Allah an excellent model, for him who hopes to meet Allah and the Last Day and who remembers Allah much.”

Chapter 33; verse 22

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was a true example of how Muslims should live their lives. He treated everyone with kindness, especially children. He would share in people’s joys and grief. He was truthful, gentle, and courteous. He was extremely simple in his food and drink. He never drank wine, but liked a cup of milk.

Our Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was a very simple man and did not spend his time gathering wealth. His clothes were plain and had many patches. He never liked the riches of royalty. However, the only luxury he liked was perfume, which he would wear often. Cleanliness was one of the most important things the Holy Prophet desired. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) was very kind to animals as well. He forbade any harsh treatment of them and taught his followers to take care of them.

Our Holy Prophet also taught us to work with our own hands. Nothing was too beneath him to do. He himself showed this example by helping his wives with housework. He did not accept worldly riches and comfort. He showed a great deal of patience and forgave people their mistakes and bad things that they did to him. Also, he was always kind to neighbors. He spent a lot of time praying to Allah for everyone in his community. Our Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) is still the greatest role model and leader for the entire world to follow. I pray that Allah will give me some of the wonderful qualities he gave to our dearest Prophet of Islam Muhammad (peace be upon him), Insha’ Allah.

Sulaiman Yaqub Asad, Age 9
Silver Spring, MD



Baseer Abdul Haqq, Age 10
Philadelphia, PA

ur Khalifah

My role model is Huzur, Khalifatul-Masih V. I would love to become as spiritual as Huzur. Huzur is very powerful and he knows so much about the whole Qur'an. Many people request him to pray for them and children learn from him. Huzur travels around the world to spread the message of Islam Ahmadiyya. Huzur is very nice. I've had the chance to meet him in Canada. The Khalifah lives in London where I hope to soon meet him. I love Huzur and he can teach me so much. I really enjoy watching him on MTA. May Allah bless our Khalifah, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad Khalifatul-Masih V.

My Role Model

Tasveer Kawaja, Age 13 Philadelphia, PA

A role model is someone who serves as an example for you, someone you can look up to. My role model is The Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam**. He was the perfect example for every Muslim to follow. He helped the poor in any way he could and always thought of others before himself. For example when the Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam** married Hadrat Khadija (may Allah be pleased with her) she presented all of her slaves and wealth to him. The Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam** immediately set the slaves free and gave the money to the poor.

Another reason why I chose The Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam** as my role model is because he was always very kind to children. Whenever his daughter Fatima (may Allah be pleased with her) visited him the Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam** treated her with respect. For example when she visited him he would stand up and give her his own seat. This is why I chose the Holy Prophet **sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam** as my role model.

My Role Model

Muneeb Khan, Age 14
South Virginia



Who is your role model? Is it someone famous or unknown? Is it someone tall or short? Whoever he/she may be I do not necessarily mind. My opinion is as long as he/she inspires you, he/she is your role model. My opinion is however; it should be someone whom you have seen. We all are inspired by the Holy Prophet Muhammad sallallahu ‘alaihi wa

sallam. We have also heard of his tremendous actions. However the person whom I have seen and who also inspires me is Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, rahimahullah. The reason I am inspired by Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah is the fact that I have not only seen but also have heard of his numerous accomplishments.

Let me give you some information on this amazing man. Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah was born on December, 18th, 1928. He was born to Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad radiyallahu ‘anhu and Maryam Siddiqua. As a boy Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah was mischievous like an ordinary boy. He would dare his friends and always tried to pull pranks.

His grades were not the best and at one point in his life he questioned the existence of Allah, confusing science and literature. However he knew his faith could not be wrong and stuck to his prayers until Allah showed him in a dream that He did exist. Among some of the things I have read about Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah this is one I liked. The other one I liked best was the incident in Pakistan. It was called the prayer duel.

When the Ahmadi Muslims were being persecuted in Pakistan, Zia-ul-Haq, the main opponent of Ahmadis encouraged

this persecution. Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah proposed a prayer duel in order to determine who was right. Zia-ul-Haq, though did not accept the challenge directly, but did indirectly through speech and adverse actions. This is because on August, 17, 1988 only five days later when he was on a plane it crashed with a horrendous explosion! When people tried to retrieve his body they could not find it. The blast had incinerated his whole body! The only thing they had to conduct his burial with were his dentures (replacement teeth).

These are only some of the accomplishments of Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah. There are many more and I have only named some well known incidents. This is to prove however what a great influence Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad rahimahullah was and still is to us today. We should all know this man as well as the other khalifahs and prophets that have existed. We should also read the book, A Man Of God. May Allah bless Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad. Ameen!



Who I Admire



Sohail Malik, Age 10, Virginia North

I admire my father because he is intelligent and works very hard. He puts in time for other things he needs to accomplish for the day and always gets the job done. He always prays at the right time and makes sure that my siblings and I pray together. In the morning, he reads the Holy Qur'an. Whenever he is sick he still does some work that has to be done, for example, around the house or maybe in the garage. My father is VERY clean and organized. He has always been a tidy person. He is funny and likes to cheer people up and he is never in a bad mood. He is very strong. He always listens to my ideas and what I have to say and never interrupts. I learn so much from him. He puts a lot of time and effort into things and I hope that one day I will be like that.

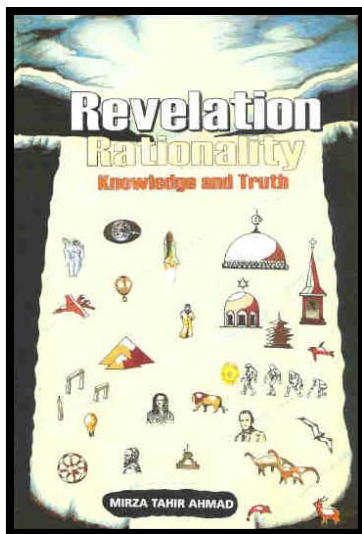


My Role Model

Qasid Sadiq, Age 13~Los Angeles East

What is a role model? A role model is someone who you respect, admire, and look up to. There are many people that can be role models: parents, teachers, or religious leaders. For me it is

Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah); the fourth caliph of Ahmadiyyat. I will list and describe the reasons why Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) is my role model.



The main reason of why Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) is my role model is his influence in today's religious society and how well he has defended Islam and Ahmadiyyat. He has written many books in where he has shown that Islam is a true religion, one of the most famous ones being Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and

Truth. In this book he uses logic and science to prove Islam is a genuine religion.

Another reason that I admire Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) so much is because of his intelligence. After his graduation he earned a Shahid degree from Jami'ah Ahmadiyya. Then he studied in Oxford for two years.

Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) is a very good role model for anyone. If you have heard or read any one of his speeches or books then you would understand why I consider him my role model. He has made a modern society truly understand Islam.

My Role Model The Holy Prophet

sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam

Daanyal Qureshi, Age 10, York/Harrisburg, PA

“Verily, you have in Prophet of Allah an excellent model, for him who hopes to meet Allah and the Last Day and Who remembers Allah much.” Holy Qur’an, 33:22.

Allah tells us that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, is the best role model for all of us. The Holy Prophet’s whole life is the greatest example for us to follow.

The Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, was orphaned as a young child, but even then he was very calm and honorable. He did not get into fights with his friends or waste his time. As a youth he had the best morals and was very serious. Hadrat Abdullah ibn Amr ibn Ās relates that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, did not indulge in loose talk, nor did he listen to it. He used to say: The best of you are those who have the best character (Bukhari and Muslim).

When the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, became a young man he won the title of *Al-Amin* which means the Trustworthy and the Truthful. Hadrat Abdullah ibn Mas‘ud, radiyallahu 'anhu, relates that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, said: Truth guides to virtue and virtue guides to Paradise. A person persists in telling the truth till in the sight of Allah he is named truthful. Lying leads to vice and vice leads to the Fire; and a person goes on lying till in the sight of Allah he is named a liar (Bukahri and Muslim).

When the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, did business, he proved himself to be the most honest and ethical. Hadrat Abu Hurairah, radiyallahu 'anhu, relates that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, said: A hypocrite has three characteristics: when he talks he lies, when he makes a promise he acts contrary to it, and when something is entrusted to him he embezzles it (Bukhari and Muslim).

As a Husband, the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, was the most loving, faithful and caring. He would do his household

work with his own hands. As a father the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, was the most kind, caring and tender. As a friend the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, was the most loyal and cared for their needs.

He never lost faith in times of hardships and never let victory make him forget Allah.

He loved simplicity. He slept on a leather mat and ate only dates and water or barley-bread.

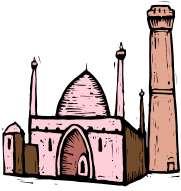
He would spend his nights in the worship of Allah so much so that his feet got swollen. Hadrat Ayesha, may Allah be pleased with her, relates: the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, stood so long during his voluntary prayer at night that the skin of his feet would crack; so I said to him: Messenger of Allah, why do you stand so long in prayer when Allah has suppressed in you in the past and for the future all inclination towards sin? He answered: then should I not wish to be a grateful servant of Allah? (Bukhari and Muslim) Here he has taught us that we must worship Allah to be grateful to Him for all that he has given us and to become the righteous servants of Allah.

The Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, taught us how to spend our time wisely. Hadrat Abu Dahrr, radiyallahu 'anhu, relates that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, said: When you get up in the morning charity is due from every one of your limbs. All glorification of Allah is charity, all praise of Allah is charity, enjoining good is charity, forbidding evil is charity. Two rak'as of prayer in the forenoon equal all this. (Muslim)

The Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, taught us how to treat each other and to take care of each other's needs. Hadrat Abu Hurairah, radiyallahu 'anhu, relates that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, said: He who removes from a believer his distress in this world will have his distress of the Day of Judgment removed by Allah. He who eases the hardship of another, will have ease bestowed upon him by Allah in this world and the next. He who covers up the faults of a Muslim will have his faults covered up in this world and the next. Allah goes on helping a servant so long as he goes on helping his brother. He who treads a path in search of knowledge, has his path to Paradise made easy by Allah

thereby. Whenever people gather in a house of Allah for the purpose of reading the Book of Allah and share its reading between them, serenity descends upon them, and mercy covers them and angels spread their wings over them and Allah discourses about them to those around Him. He who is slow in his conduct will not make it proceed faster by the nobility of his birth (Muslim).

May Allah help all of us to learn and act upon the examples the Holy Prophet, sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, has shown us and may Allah guide all of us on the right path. Ameen.



My Role Model

Adeela Nasreen, Age 15
South Virginia

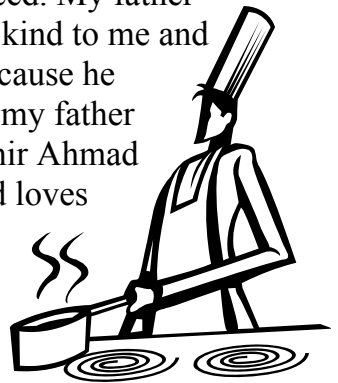
My role model is Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah). He was a remarkable Khalifah, and an even more remarkable human being. In his life he went through a lot, especially during his khilafat. He had devoted himself to the cause of Allah and loved to spend his time in worship. Not because he had to but because he wanted to. By the grace of Allah, he escaped death more than just once. Still after that he lived his life to the fullest. He never let anyone see his fear. In fact he told others to have hope. The strength and ability he showed was only seen in Allah's righteous servants. Every Ahmadi and then some know that Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) went to London for a reason, and a very important reason at that. He went to London to be able to continue discharging his responsibilities as khalifah which has been made impossible through constitutional changes. Laws of the country, and the atmosphere created by them, threatened his life and freedom. But Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) was saved by Allah. The name on the exit list was incorrect so he was allowed to travel safely to London. When the Maulavis and the government realized the mistake, it was already too late for any action to be taken. Look how much Allah loves His Khalifahs! Khalifah Rābi, along with every other Khalifah has such a beautiful

soul and personality that anyone could fall in love with their perspectives and works. Khalifah Rābi almost always had a smile on his face, even when he wasn't smiling, which was hardly ever. His face was naturally like that! When he wasn't making others laugh he was making the world a better place. He has brought so much to Ahmadiyyat, such as worldwide MTA (Muslim Television Ahmadiyya) and much much more. Through MTA we are able to view Huzur's speeches, our Friday Sermons, Urdu Nazms (poems), Tilawat (recitation of the Holy Qur'an), games, and even learn languages like Arabic and French! When I was six years old I finished the Qur'an for the first time. I was so excited that it was my ameen party and that I was going to get a present. I didn't care that I had just finished the Qur'an, I just wanted the presents. But by the grace of Allah I was blessed to have my ameen read by Khalifah Rābi himself at the Jalsa Salana USA 1998. After meeting him, I understood the true meaning of finishing the Holy Qur'an. After all that I have said, I'm sure it makes complete sense that I think Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rahimahullah) is definitely a great role model.

My Father

Azzaz Shah, Age 10 ~ Los Angeles East, CA

In my life there are many important people, and many that I look up to. But my father is the most important person to me. I look up to him because he helps me when I'm in need. My father also helps me at recitation of salāt. He is very kind to me and is always there for me. My father loves me because he does what's best for me. I'm very inspired by my father because he is the nephew of Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad [Khalifah Rābi]. My father is very athletic and loves to play basketball with me. He is very good at cooking because he has been in almost twelve different countries for culinary arts. When I grow up I want to do every thing my father has done and more.



My Role Model

Sumeera (Sumbul) Jattala, Age 11

Los Angeles East, CA

Everyone has a role model—a person they look up to and admire. Sometimes we meet that person only once but remember it forever. Here is the story of my role model. In 2004 at Jalsa Salana Canada, I waited three hours to meet Huzur at Baitul-Islam mosque in Toronto, Canada. When I met Huzur, I said salām to him and Huzur gave me a Twix candy bar. The light I saw in his face is something I will never forget.

The following year in 2005 our family drove to Calgary, Canada from California to meet Huzur. I had to wait about two hours in the hard rain to meet Huzur, but it was worth it.

When I met Huzur I did not know Urdu at that time. He asked me some questions and asked me if I knew Urdu. I said “no”. Huzur said that people of China and Japan come to America from their own country where they speak different languages. Huzur said these people live in America but never lose their native tongue. Huzur said that I should be the same because Urdu is my family’s native tongue. He told me that I should know my language and that Urdu should be my first language and English should be my second language. This mulaqāt with Huzur made me realize that Huzur’s advice encouraged me to learn Urdu even more, and that is how Huzur became my role model in learning Urdu.

Since my meeting with Huzur, I have tried my hardest to speak Urdu all the time and I am learning to read and write it as well. Insha Allah I will speak to Huzur in Urdu the next time I will have a mulaqāt with him. Then I will be able to show him all my progress since the last meeting. Ameen.

Sayings of the Promised Messiah, 'alahissalam

I have been made to understand that of all the Messengers, the one who gave the most perfect and purest of teachings full of wisdom, and the one who exhibited in him the noblest of human qualities, is the Holy Prophet Muhammad, our lord and master, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

(Roohani Khaza'in Vol. 17: Arba'een, No. 1, p. 345)

My Mother

My mother is a jewel
And no amount of wind, rain, or age could tarnish her
shine
My mother is a queen
And it is nothing but her heart that makes her so stately
and fine
My mother is a soldier
And she has fought a ten-headed, vicious, growling dog
and walked away without a scratch
My mother is a Victorian lady
And to her elegance and grace, there is no match
My mother is a doctor
And her amazing remedy has never failed me
yet, the remedy of Love
My mother is a woman
And everything I hope to someday be
My mother is my mother
And a source of my understanding, love,
and morality



Salma Azam, Age 14
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

My Role Model

Suneed Ahmed, Age 9~Zion, IL

My role model is Huzur for four reasons. First, he is regular in his prayers and gets to be on MTA and reads the Holy Qur'an daily. Second, he gets to travel worldwide and he always tells people to do good things and he behaves well. Third, he works hard for the jama'at everyday. Finally, our Huzur is my role model because Allah loves him a lot because he is the Khalifah of the time.



I try to be like Huzur by praying five times a day and watching MTA when I get a chance. I read the Holy Qur'an after school everyday as well. I wish I could travel worldwide like Huzur, and whenever he says to do something, I listen to him and behave as best I can. I work hard at school and do my homework on time and respect my teachers, including my Atfal teacher at the mosque. If I try to follow the Khalifah and listen to him, then Allah would love me too.

MY ROLE MODEL: Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam

Faheem Sheikh, Age 14~South Virginia

My role Model is who I look up to.

I copy his actions, I fail and I redo.

My Role Model is what I'm under.

The things about him make me wonder.

The etiquette that he uses in his life.

I try to do with hard work and strife.

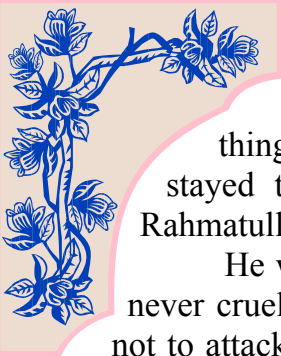
He has taught us many things

Teachings worth more than rubies or diamond rings

The Knowledge he knows is unbelievable.

He teaches me and I'm very thankful.

An Ideal Role Model



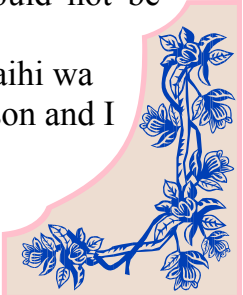
My Role Model is the Holy Prophet Muhammad sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam. The reason is because he has done so many good things. He had faced so many hardships, yet had stayed true to the teachings of Islam. He is called Rahmatullil-‘Alameen (a blessing for the whole world).

He was very kind to children and orphans and was never cruel to anyone. In battles he would tell his people not to attack unless they were attacked first and would tell them not to hurt any women, children or people that were old. When there were prisoners he would treat them with kindness.

The Holy Prophet, sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam, also led a very simple life and was thankful for what he had. With his high position he could have asked anything of the Muslims and they would have probably given it to him but he didn’t. He also never expressed displeasure or complained about food or drink.

Ever since he was a young child, people used to trust him so much that they gave him the epithet *Ameen*, which means the trustworthy, and epithet *Sadiq*, which means the honest. He taught people that women are equal with men and should not be treated like slaves.

This is why the Holy Prophet, sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam, is my role model. He was such a great person and I think we can all learn a lot from him.



Mujdah Sadiq, Age 13, Los Angeles East, CA

Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam)

Before his time, the world was lost
Drinking and gambling, until all was gone
Slavery was rampant throughout the land
And women were buried in the desert sand
Instead of believing in the one creator of land
They worshiped idols made from their own two hands
In the midst of this, a baby boy was born
His name was Muhammad, praise-worthy to all known



He prayed until his feet were sore
Not caring for anything but the one true God
His first revelation came in the cave named Hira
Where he used to meditate for mere pleasure
He received revelations through the angel Gabriel
To guide the people, whose need was severe
They shunned him, calling him a disgrace
What could he do, but leave his home place
He left and traveled far and wide
Spreading the word of God on every site
People didn't believe him, hard as he may try
He asked for guidance, praying until he cried
He stood victorious, in the middle of land
And even then, he was all but grand
He forgave the prosecutors, declaring peace with the non-believers

For who was he to punish them, that only Allah could
He asked no one to worship him, only believe him a messenger

Although he died physically, leaving his body behind
His teachings are everlasting, in the hearts of mankind
He was a man of great character, humble and kind
All he wanted, was to see the unity of mankind
In his lifetime, he was all that one could be
But most importantly he was a Prophet,
A prophet of the Almighty.



Hera Rana, Age 15, Charlotte, NC

A Man of Wonder

Azeem Rahman, Age 12 , Los Angeles East

Have you ever wondered if atomic energy could be used peacefully? My grandfather could tell you, for he discovered and wrote many books about it! That man was none other than Dr. Abdus Salam. What a passionate and generous man he was! The best way to describe his character would be by his intelligence, hard work, ethics, and his successful lifestyle.

Have you ever heard of a boy who was six years old and in the fourth grade? You probably have, but not one from Pakistan like my grandfather. He excelled in science and math, for he was an intelligent boy. He did not go out to play with the other village boys very much. Then, as he got older, he researched in the same school where Albert Einstein's worked at the time. His mind was outstanding.

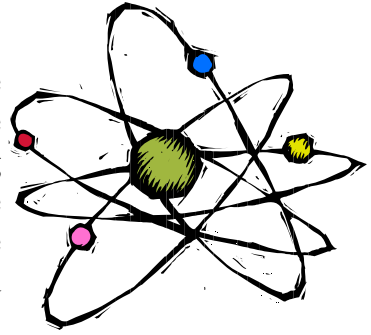
If you didn't think a person could go to bed at 8 o'clock and wake up at 3 o'clock just to study, you don't know what hard work means. He would always repeat his favorite phrase which was "early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise." If you don't think that was cool, you should know that he talked to the UN in an assembly and lectured them about poverty and poor education in third world countries. He even received permission to set up universities in poor countries sponsored by the United Nations.

He was not only successful himself, but he also spread success to those around him. His hard work paid off, and he was awarded the Nobel Prize in quantum physics. My whole entire family joined him in Sweden where he accepted his prize from the King of Sweden and Queen Sophia. He was also the first man to ever win the Atomic Peace Prize.

He was so famous that he made his own university in Trieste, Italy called the ICTP. This stands for the International Center for Theoretical Physics. It is now called the Salam Center in his honor. He invited many famous scientists to teach there. He also

helped establish Atomic Energy Commission in Pakistan to work towards providing a new source of energy.

Dr. Muhammad Abdus Salam was a great and talented scientist who was also a great humanitarian. He was the perfect pioneer and a great Pakistani. He was also the greatest and most amazing grandfather whom I wish I knew more about. My mother told me that best advice he always gave her was “do your best and then leave the rest to Allah.”



Our Leader
Muhammad sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam

Our Leader Muhammad
The perfect man
He brought us Islam
Under Allah’s command
He was honest and trustworthy
As-Sādiq and Al-Ameen
He helped the poor and the needy
The best example we’ve ever seen
He lived a simple life
Fulfilling Allah’s call
We must follow in his footsteps
The bravest of them all!

Sabrina Asad, Age 12
Silver Spring, MD

Sayings of the Holy Prophet sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam Abu Huraira, may Allah be pleased with him, relates that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said: “He who calls people to guidance has the same reward as those who follow him without any decrease in the reward of the latter, and he who calls people to sin carries the same burden of sin as those who follow him without any decrease in the burden of the latter.” (*Muslim*)

This skit takes place at school during geography/world cultures class. The class is learning about world leaders and needs to select one leader that each group will talk about for their project.

Kim: Zubda, do you have any ideas about who we can do for our project?



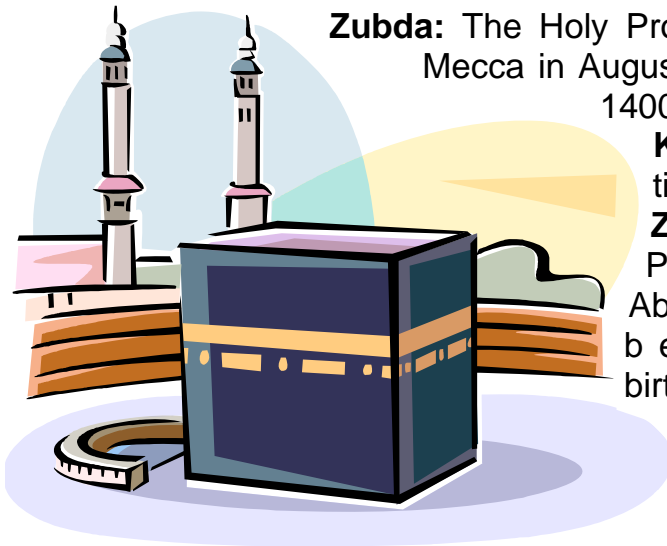
Zubda: Umm, How about the Holy Prophet Muhammad sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam?

Kim: Who is he?

Zubda: The Holy Prophet was born in Mecca in August, A.D. 570, about 1400 years ago.

Kim: That’s a long time ago!

Zubda: The Holy Prophet’s father, Abdullah, died a little before his birth. Muhammad’s mother Amina had seen a vision before her



Zubda Khokar, Age 11, Silver Spring, MD

son's birth. In the vision she had seen an angel telling her to name her son Muhammad and there was a light coming from her that spread all over the world.

Kim: But, how was he a leader?

Zubda: Oh, I forgot that part. Well one reason is that he was commanded by Allah (God) to begin preaching about the oneness of God to people who worshipped over 360 idols in the Ka'ba! Can you imagine what he must have had to do to gather people around him to believe in one God?

Kim: That must have been impossible for him to do, but wait a minute—What's a Ka'ba?

Zubda: The Ka'ba is the first house of worship built by Adam and later rebuilt by Prophet Abraham in Mecca. Muhammad was told by Allah to have the face towards the



Ka'ba when they pray. Another reason Muhammad was a great leader is that he led the Muslims in battle against the Meccans who refused to listen to his message and threatened to kill him and his followers. He fought battles to defend Islam and Muslims against persecution. Muhammad led the Muslims to victory and was even able to return to his own city Mecca after being driven out and forgave the Meccans their cruelties, excesses and wrongdoings.

Kim: Wow! I really like your leader Muhammad! Let's pick him for our research project! He sounds like he was an incredible leader and man.

Zubda: He still is considered the best leader in the world by all Muslims who still follow his every teaching and obey the Holy Qur'an (Our Holy Book sent by Allah to Muhammad).

Kim: I can't wait to learn more about Muhammad. Let's go tell the teacher who we selected.

The Person I Admire

I admire many people. One of the people I admire is the Holy Prophet sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam. I admire him because he did a lot of good deeds. So if we do good deeds like him we'll become a good person just like the Holy Prophet sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam. I also admire him because he always listens to Allah. If we listen to Allah, Allah will be EXTREMELY happy! Lastly is that he was always kind to everybody. If we want to be kind to people we have to learn it from the right people. This is why I admire the Holy Prophet sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam.

Hania Mahmood. Age 10



Long Island, NY

MY HERO

Fareed Sanusi, Age 12~Queens, NY

My hero is my Fasasi A. Sanusi . He did not come from an Ahmadi family but he gradually became an Ahmadi. He was born October 1, 1964. He was born in Nigeria. He came from half Christian half non-Ahmadi family. His father did not like Ahmadiyyat and he would always say something negative about Ahmadiis but his son Fasasi did not feel the same way. He started to sneak away to Ahmadi summer camps when he was in his early twenties. He always got in trouble for going and he sometimes got kicked out of the house, but that didn't stop him. He kept going and this led to his family turning against him. He continued to study Ahmadiyyat for three more years then he finally signed the bai'at. He started learning Qur'an in his late twenties. Even when he had problems with his family he still respected them and would help them in

certain ways. He was one of the first people who greeted the third and the Fourth Khalifahs when they visited Nigeria. He read almost every single book (translated in a language he could read) written by Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may Allah be pleased with him. Without Fasasi Sanusi I would not be here right now. He taught me that the real reason I am here is to worship Allah.



Brother Muhaimin Lived Up To His Pledge



At the beginning of Atfal and Nasirat meetings, everyone makes a pledge. Similarly, at Khuddam meetings, every Khadim stands up and makes a very important promise: “I solemnly pledge that I shall always be ready to sacrifice my life, wealth, time and honor for the sake of my faith, country and nation. Likewise, I shall be ready to offer any sacrifice for guarding the institution of Khilafat-i-Ahmadiyya. Moreover, I shall deem it essential to abide by any Ma‘roof (known, eminent) decision made by Khalifatul-Masih. Insha’ Allah (God-willing).”

Well, Brother Muhaimin did a great job of fulfilling that promise throughout his life.

Honor: In a country where being a Muslim is not always easy, Brother Muhaimin always proudly told everyone he was a Muslim, and was always wearing an Islamic cap on his head. But instead of losing any honor, he gained the respect of his entire community. He made friends with everyone in his neighborhood, young and old, black and white, but was careful not to engage in un-Islamic behavior. For example, he welcomed everyone to his barbershop, but had a rule that nobody, customers and employees alike, could use foul language. This way, he made friends with non-Muslims, but also gained their respect for his values. In fact, hundreds of his Christian friends came to his funeral.



Brother Muhaimin at Atfal Ijtima

Time: Brother Muhaimin spent countless hours doing Jama‘at work. He had served as the Qa‘id for Khuddam, Finance Secretary, and so on. While always ready to spend time in the cause of Allah, in Ramadan (Islamic



Brother Muhaimin donating blood

month of fasting), Brother Muhaimin was especially keen to go to the Mosque to participate in Waqar-i-Amal (Dignity of Labor). In Ramadan 2003 he organized the entire library system, cleaned out the offices, kitchens, bathrooms and vacuumed everywhere (even on tile!). He did all this in just a few hours a week, Masha' Allah (by the Grace of Allah). He used to tell stories and laugh all the time, which made working with him a lot of fun.

Brother Muhaimin also spent a lot of time in Tabligh (spreading the message of Islam). This was one reason he loved his job as a barber. He could, and did, talk to so many people about Islam. In fact, people from his neighborhood and customers respected his character so much that they gladly came to the mosque for special Tabligh events. Once he invited over 50 guests to an event! One such person, who used to do bad things and use foul language prior to meeting Brother Muhaimin, became his friend and gave up these bad habits and even accepted Islam!

Wealth: Brother Muhaimin was not rich, but he loved to give Chanda (financial contributions). He would say that sacrificing a portion of your wealth would purify the whole of it, and even when he was not sure if he had enough money to get by, he always gave his Chanda. He would set aside the appropriate amount from every week's earnings from his barbershop, paying at the end of the month, right on time. He had complete trust in Allah that his needs would be met, and they always were.

Life: When an armed gunman attacked two of his employees late one evening, Brother Muhaimin ran out to protect them. Indeed the meaning of "Muhaimin" (one of Allah's attributes) means "The Protector." Well, he fought off the attacker and saved their lives, but gave up his own in the



Brother Muhaimin Helping Isha'at department

process, becoming a shaheed (martyr).

Khilafat: Last year Huzur (ayyadahullah) asked American Ahmadis to think about joining Nizam-i-Wasiyyat (Administration of Last Will). Brother Muhaimin had so much love and respect for Khilafat (Successorship) that he responded by starting an application, which was completed and approved, making him a Moosi (certified holder of a Will), al-hamdo lillah! (All praise belongs to Allah!). Huzur (ayyadahullah) was so pleased with the life of Brother Muhaimin—and the manner of his honorable death—that he even offered Namaz-i-Janazah gha'ib (Funeral prayer in absence of the deceased) for him.

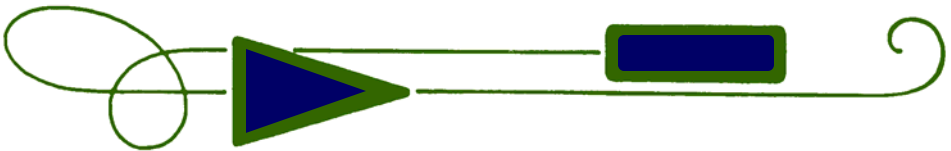
Brother Muhaimin truly lived up to every aspect of the Khuddam pledge throughout his life. May Allah bless Brother Muhaimin and enable all Atfal and Nasirat to follow his shining example, and so they try their best to live up to their pledges, Ameen (be it so).

By: Brother Naveed Malik, Chicago East

Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam I Love You

Alyssa Asad, Age 5 ~Silver Spring, Maryland

Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam is great
Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam is true
Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam I love you
You always help the poor and needy
You never are greedy
Muhammad sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam I love you!



Abdul Muhaimin Karim

-A Father

By Amtush Shakoor Karim

Muhaimin was born to be a father. Al-hamdu lillah, Allah blessed us with two waqf-i-nau children, Nailah Wahab Karim (9 years) and Amatul-Haleem Karim (3 years). From the day we found out I was expecting, Muhaimin always told me to look at pictures of healthy children, read the Holy Qu'ran, do the right thing, and just be happy because I do not want to bring an angry child into the world.

Muhaimin took me to all my appointments, read books on pregnancy and childbirth and made sure I ate healthy foods. He prepared the meals himself and would juice fruits and vegetables everyday so that I could get in all the nutrients for the well being of the child. He loved doing this and really loved it when I ate or drank all his preparations. He would prepare salads and cut up fruit for my meals for the rest of the day. Muhaimin started work at 3 pm so that he could be home to assist with anything that the family needed and so that he could take care of jama'at duties and other community projects.

From the time I went into labor and when they were born, Muhaimin was with me no matter the number of hours I was in the delivery room. Immediately after the child was born, he called the adhan and the iqamah in their ears. He was quick to take pictures and show them off. He loved his children and he could talk about them for hours.

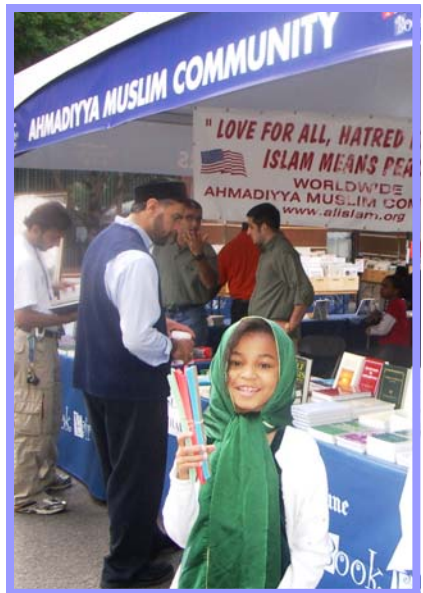


He truly enjoyed learning

different prayers in Arabic with their translation. When he was taking the children to school, instead of playing the radio, he would teach them a prayer on the way to school and the meaning on the return. He would always read a bedtime story and tell them a story of a prophet of God or Islamic history before they went to sleep. After Fajr (early morning) prayers, Muhaimin would talk about an attribute of God. He started with our names so that the children would know the meaning of the names of their family and went on to the others. He would select a Hadith and explain it based on readings from the writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) or the Khulafa. Muhaimin never wasted time but spent each moment reading and teaching his children. He was always in awe of the responsibility of being a waqf-i-nau parent and never wanted to waste a second. He went through life, as if he knew he would not be around very long.

He spent time in the backyard on the swings with the girls whenever he wanted to have quiet time. After playing on the swings, they would sit and talk. Nailah loved those moments and looked forward to them. Two minutes before she went to school, she would have daddy push her on the swing. I always worried that she would be late for school but Muhaimin would push her so high they would both laugh and enjoy that short moment. In the winter, he would have snowball fights in the backyard or build a snowman with the children.

Haleem loved to sit out and watch the moon. Muhaimin would sit out with Haleem in the evenings and talk about the moon and what it does and doesn't do and why Allah created the moon.





These moments with the children were documented into many books that Muhaimin wrote but never saw published. These books had a twist of nature and the Supremacy of Allah and the wonders of His Creation written all over them. It was a way to reflect on Allah's many bounties.

On weekends, sometimes, he would leave me a note, after he had fed the children and take them out for a walk. He loved nature and the environment. He called himself an environmentalist and a citizen of the world. He would skim through the garbage to make sure everything that needed to be recycled was put in a blue bag for recycling.

Muhaimin encouraged the children to contribute towards every jama'at scheme and he would make sure when they are given monetary gifts or he gives them money for something, a percentage is used for that purpose. He taught the girls how to save and earn money in an honorable way. He always used his work as a barber as an example; it was enough for him to take care of his family, pay his chanda and live a simple but honorable lifestyle.

When the children made a mistake and he needed to speak to them, he had a different look on his face, of disappointment and pain and you would think he would scream and yell. Instead, he would bring them closer to him or carry them on his lap and tell them that they were special because they were waqf-i-nau and that they were representatives of their parents and grandparents and he would ask them who their parents and grandparents were. At this time, the children would be so upset at erring; they would have tears in their eyes. Nailah would write a note to apologize and promise to be good afterwards. He taught

them that it did not take yelling to discipline a child but a lot of love and patience. He would ask what type of punishment they wanted, and when they would say, “smack me, Daddy”, he would reply, “The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) always said to pray for our children instead of smacking them so I would rather pray for you.”

Muhaimin took care of other children too. Many of whom he took to ijtimas (gatherings) or represented their families at important occasions such as graduations, speech day, etc. He would counsel children on the street to do the right thing and not give in to peer pressure. He gave meaning to the phrase “it takes a village to raise a child.”

His last words to his children were, “Remember you are waqf-i-nau that means you are very special. You should also know that paradise lies at the feet of your mother so you should be respectful to her and listen to her. Do not lie and always pray.”

In Nailah’s words, “My father was a good man, he was trying to protect his friend from dying and Allah called him. I will miss you very much daddy,” and in Haleem’s words “Mummy if Allah is calling daddy, let him go. Don’t cry because if you cry Allah will not bless you.”

The world has lost a great father in Muhaimin. He lived and died submissive to the will of Allah. Oh Allah, forgive



Abdul Muhaimin Karim, bless him with your Choicest blessings and grant him paradise, Amen.

Until we meet again, Daddy, we’ll continue to love, miss and cherish the time that we had with you. Peace!

ALLAH LOVES ME

It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.
So much so He gave us the sun and moon as light to
guide thee.

My every need always provided for,
Like mountains of sand on the seashore.
It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.

So much immense love that he showers on me everyday,
So I show love for Him, fall down on my knees and pray.
It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.

How can I show appreciation for this
Overflowing fountain of love bestowed upon me?
By submitting to the plan of Allah laid by the Holy
Prophet sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam
Through the Messiah and Mahdi.
It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.

Sufficient is Allah as a companion and a friend,
His Remembrance is the key for the nearness to Him.
It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.

The greatest gift of love Allah gave to man
Was the one called Muhammad, peace be upon him,
With the Holy Qur'an in his right hand.
It is very clear to see that Allah loves me.

Through these gifts of love one can truly understand,
Where one fits in His ultimate plan.
It is very clear to see that Allah,
The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful
Loves me.
And he loves you too, wouldn't you agree!

By the late Brother Muhaimin Karim, Chicago, IL



Dedicated to the memory of Abdul Muhaimin Karim—Na'ib Sadr Khuddamul-Ahmadiyya (vice president of the USA's young men's auxiliary) who served the jama'at tirelessly and lost his life protecting another, living up to the meaning of his name; The Protector, the Bestower of Security, the Guardian, the Safe Guarder.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ You might have a lot of friends in this ★
★ world, but there is One true friend that ★
★ is your most precious friend and that is ★
★ Allah. Ar-Rafeeq is an attribute of Allah and it ★
★ means best friend. In Holy Qur'an (Chapter 4 verse ★
★ 46) Allah says: "And Allah knows your enemies ★
★ well. And sufficient is Allah as a friend, and ★
★ sufficient is Allah as a Helper." You can always ★
★ depend on Allah but you are not always sure if you ★
★ can trust your friends. You can ask Allah for things ★
★ and He can provide them for you. Most of the time ★
★ Allah gives us things without us asking for them. He ★
★ does not want anything in return except that we ★
★ worship Him, thank Him and remember Him. But ★
★ that is not the case with our friends. Allah is with ★
★ you all the time, through good times and bad times, ★
★ everywhere and anywhere. Your friends can turn ★
★ their back on you, but Allah never does that. There ★
★ is a hadith which says that if you take one step ★
★ closer to Allah, Allah will approach two steps ★
★ towards you, if you walk towards Him, He will run ★
★ towards you. It is therefore very important not to ★
★ take this friendship for granted and turn to Him only ★
★ when we need Him, but remember Him all the time. ★
★
★ **Ameerah Ahmad, Age 10** ★
★ **Virginia North** ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We want to hear from you!

Children are encouraged to send their writings for publication in this magazine. Please mention your full name, age, city and state. If you want to send a picture or artwork, please send the original. If you want the original back, please write your address on the back of the artwork with the note: "Please send this back to" followed by your address. The Children's Magazine Committee, under the supervision of the Amīr, Jamā'at Ahmadiyya, U.S.A., will review and approve all submissions before publication.

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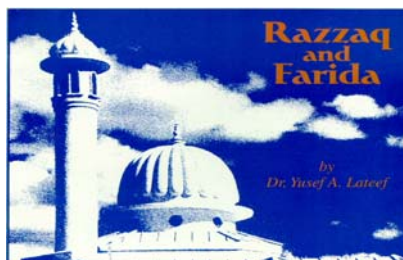
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Razzaq and Farida

A story for children written by Dr. Yusef A. Lateef. Published by Majlis Ansarullah, U.S.A. Children and new Muslims, all can read and enjoy this story. It makes a great gift for the children of Ahmadi, Non-Ahmadi and Non-Muslim relatives, friends and acquaintances. Every page of the story is accompanied by a colorful drawing.

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Parents...

Mueezay Khan, Southern Virginia

Priceless no matter what
Always hard-working
Righteous in every possible manner
Encourage you all the time
Never bad at finding out what is good for you
Talented in every way
Super nice as they always are!

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Al-Hilal
(Published by The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A.)
15000 Good Hope Rd, Siver Spring MD 20905
Postmaster: Send address changes to
P.O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719

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