

Al-Hilal

A MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN



HADHRAT ALHAJ MIRZA
BASHIR-UD-DIN MAHMOOD AHMAD
KHALIFATUL MASHIH II



HADHRAT HAKIM
MAULANA NUR-UD-DIN
KHALIFATUL MASHIH I

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MESSAGE FROM EDITORIAL STAFF

Assalāmu `Alaikum, Al-Hilāl Readers.

This is the first issue of Al-Hilāl, commemorating hundred years of Khilāfat. Throughout the upcoming issues, we will be celebrating the wonderful lives and works of our noble Khalīfahs.

In this issue, children have highlighted some of the accomplishments and major events pertaining to the time of the Promised Messiah and the first and second Khulafā (may Allah be pleased with them), and we look forward to sharing upcoming issues about the third, fourth, and fifth Khulafā (may Allah shower his choicest blessings upon them).

We pray this year proves to be a blessing and a mercy for all our readers, the world over.

Love for All , Hatred for None.

Was-Salām, Al-Hilāl Editorial Staff

QUARTERLY AL-HILĀL. A magazine for children, by children, providing them with a creative opportunity to learn about the world around them, and how to apply the teachings of Islām and Aḥmadiyyat to their daily lives. Al-Hilāl (The New Moon) is published by the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām, under the auspices of the Children's Magazine Committee, and directed by Dr Ahsanullah Zafar, National Amīr, Jama'at Aḥmadiyya, USA. The publication of this magazine was launched by the late Ḥaḍrat Sahibzadah M. M. Aḥmad (1913-2002). The members of the committee are Maulānā Zafrullah Hanjra, Aḥmadī Muslim Muballigh at Houston, TX; Maulānā Azhar Haneef, Aḥmadī Muslim Muballigh in St. Louis, MO; Shanaz Butt, Sadr of Lajna Imā'illāh, USA; Faheem Younus Qureshi, Sadr Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya, USA; Tazeen Aḥmad of Maryland; Musa Asad of Maryland; and Syed Sajid Aḥmad of North Dakota acting as the secretary of the committee.

Al-Hilāl Editorial Team

Aliya Latif, Rabia Chaudhry, Khalid Latif and Shoeb Abulkalam

Graphics: Sumera Choudhary and Shoeb Abulkalam

Submissions: Anesia McRae

Cover by Sumera Choudhary



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Celebrating Hundred Years of Aḥmadiyya Khilāfat
1908-2008

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Front Cover Design Courtesy of Sumera Choudhary

Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn raḍiyallāhu `anhu Mujdah Sadiq ~ Age 14 ~ LA Inland Empire

In our home, a picture of Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, hangs on the wall along with the picture of the Promised Messiah (`alaihi-salām). I sometimes wonder what they were like. It would have been nice to have been born at that time and been able to meet them. As I read on about our beloved first Khalīfah,



I learned more and more of his personality and great achievements. I would like to share some with you.

Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, was the first Khalīfah elected after the demise of the Promised Messiah (alaihi-salām). He was born in the village of Bhera in Punjab in 1841. He was the youngest of 7 brothers and 2 sisters. He was the direct descendant of Ḥaḍrat Umar, raḍiyallāhu `anhu. His father's name was Ḥāfiẓ Ghulām Rasul and his mother's name was Nūr Bakht. Both his parents had great love for the Holy Qur'ān, which they passed on to their children.

In his early years, his mother taught him the Holy Qur'ān. He went to school in Lahore and Rawalpindi and was an excellent student. He was

always in search of knowledge. He learned the Qur'ān and Ḥadīth from a renowned scholar of the time.

He was a talented author and I was amazed to find that apart from all his other talents, he also studied Ḥikmat (medicine). The Promised Messiah ('alaihi-salām) said of him:

"The presence of Maulawī Sahib is quite a blessing; his diagnosis is superb, and the greatest thing is that he prays too for the patient. Where indeed, would one find such physician?" (Malfūzāt, Vol. 9, p. 352)



This shows what a great doctor he was. He had strong faith and was known for his reliance upon God. When he started to practice as a Ḥakīm (doctor), he never demanded a fee from his patients, nor he ever discriminated, and treated everyone with full attention. Because of his beneficial personality, Allah blessed him immensely. In one of his dreams, he saw the Holy Prophet, ṣallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam, asking him, "Would you like to see Kashmir?" He answered, "Indeed, Messenger of Allah," and they both set out for Kashmir.

When the Promised Messiah initiated Bai'at on March 23, 1889, Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, was the very first person to take the pledge of allegiance.

At the demise of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, was chosen to be his first successor on May 27, 1908. During his Khilāfat, he

had many achievements. He laid the foundation for the institution of Khilāfat. He had the translation of the Holy Qur'ān into English started. He established the first foreign mission in London. He inaugurated Nūr Hospital and Masjid Nūr. A number of publications started during his Khilāfat including Al Fazl and Nūr from Qadian, Al-Haq from Delhi, and Paighām-i-Şulḥ from Lahore.

I found one story that really interested me. On the occasion of the coronation of King George V, there was going to be a Darbār (court) held in India. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, decided that this would be a good time to ask the King for a two-hour recess for all Muslim employees to attend Friday Prayer. In the proposal he prepared, he said that Friday was a blessed day in Islām and was looked upon as a festival by the Muslims and that Prayer had to be said in congregation. Although the idea was his, he wanted all the Muslims to participate in submitting the proposal to the king. Someone suggested that the All India Muslim League should submit the proposal and he agreed and gave up his right to submit it in his name. As a result, this facility was granted to the Muslims.

Another interesting fact is that he was one of the few narrators of forty Aḥādīth of the Holy Prophet, ṣallallāhu `alaihi wa sallam, which had been transmitted orally down the centuries through an unbroken chain of narrators.

In January 1914, the Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, became ill. His health continued to decline. On March 13, 1914 while Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, was leading the Friday Prayer, our beloved Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I, raḍiyallāhu `anhu, passed away at 2:20 pm. I hope and pray that we can follow in his footsteps. Āmīn.

Ḥaḍrat Al-Hājj Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūr-ud-Dīn

The first Khalīfah of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) loved the Holy Qur'ān so dearly
He finished the beloved many times yearly
He was a Ḥāfiẓ which means he memorized the whole of the book by heart

However, this is only in the beginning of his life
He studied medicine as a doctor around the world
Many diverse people requested that he get them cured
He also loved the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) with all his might

He shared a love for the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) that was strung very tight

He was a king at languages like Arabic, Urdu, and even Persian.

And his accomplishments were from great Taqwā, intelligence's submersion

A simple man is a good word for this great man
For the great successions in this world was his plan
Accomplishments were his hobby in his heart
Free treatment, Arabic teaching, laying many foundation stones were

near the end of his winning start

He fell unfortunately sick near the end of his life's field
However, even THIS would not make his achievements yield.

Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

"How wonderful would it be if everyone from among my followers were to become Nūr-ud-Dīn. It can happen only if every heart is filled with the light of the certainty of Faith."

By: Amirah Aḥmad/11/ Virginia North

A Haiku Poem about the Second Successor

Khalīfah Thānī
The Messiah's Promised Son
In 1905
First Divine Revelation
At the age of 16
In 1907
He was taught commentary
Of the first Sūrah
By an Angel of Allah
He built mosques
Around the world
To spread the message of Islām
He founded Taḥrīk-i-Jadīd
And also Waqf-i-Jadīd
Translations of Holy Qur'ān
Were also published
The Length of his Khilāfat
Was fifty two years

By: Sosan Malik /12/ Virginia North

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad

Dynamic
Intelligent Devoted
Founding Creating Writing
Loving Honest Kind Sincere
Helping Travelling
Raising Poet
Beloved

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad
(May Allah be pleased with him)

By: Maha Malik /11/ Virginia North

Al-Hilāl

Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, radiyallahu 'anhu

Kurat Abaidullah ~ Age12 ~ Philadelphia

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, was the second successor of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Moreover, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) received a



Divine Sign about the truth of Islām as a result of his 40 days' (and

nights) prayers at Hoshiarpur, India. God Almighty told him that a pure son, "Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd," would be born to him within a period of nine years. He published this prophecy on February 20, 1886.

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, started learning the translation of the Qur'ān and Ḥadīth from Ḥaḍrat Maulānā Ḥakīm Nūruddīn, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu. Moreover, he began his independent study of religion, history, literature, and various other subjects. He developed into a great scholar and had mastery over many subjects. On July 25, 1931, he was elected president of the *All India Kashmir Committee* and strived hard for the rights of the Kashmiri people. Later on, in June 1948 he sent a battalion of Aḥmadī volunteers, called the *Furqān Force*, to fight along with the Pakistani Army for the liberation of Kashmir. He wrote a large number of books, including ten volumes of the *Tafsīr-i-Kabīr*, the detailed commentary of the Holy Qur'ān.

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, passed away on June 8, 1965.

A brief History of the First and the Second Successor of the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salam)

Maariyah Khan -- Age 9 -- LA Inland Empire

Hadrat Ḥakīm Maulawī Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, was the first successor of the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām). He came from a family that had a deep love for the Holy Qur’ān and he felt this passion, too. He memorized the entire Holy Qur’ān and became Ḥāfiẓ. He was the first person to take Bai’at at the hands of the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām). He established a clinic in Qadian and gave free treatment to the poor.

After the demise of the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām), Ḥadrat Ḥakīm Maulawī Nūr-ud-Dīn, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu,

was named as the first Khalīfah.

Nearly 1,200 people pledged allegiance at his hands on that day. His important

accomplishments included Masjid

Nūr and Masjid Faḍl, new building

for Ta’līmul-Islām High School,

mission in England, and perhaps

the most outstanding achievement,

the Consolidation of the System of

the Khilāfat. He passed away on

March 13, 1914 while offering

Prayers.



After the death of Ḥadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, Ḥadrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, was elected as Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II. He was

the Promised Son of the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām). All the characteristics mentioned in the prophecy about the

Promised Son were fulfilled in him. He was also known as

Ḥadrat Muṣliḥ-i-Mau’ūd, raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu. He was gifted with

the comprehension of the Holy Qur'ān. He accomplished great things in his life. He performed pilgrimage to Mecca, and started Al-Fazl newspaper in 1913. He started many institutions we know about today, such as Jāmi'ah Aḥmadiyyah (a school for training missionaries), Majlis Anṣārullāh, Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya, Lajna Imā'illāh, Aṭfāl-ul-Aḥmadiyya and Naṣirātul-Aḥmadiyya. He also established Taḥrīk-i-Jadīd and Waqf-i-Jadīd schemes, which he personally believed and took part in. He did not purchase any clothes for over a four-year period and only used the shirts he had at the beginning of the Taḥrīk-i-Jadīd. Even in hot summer, he stopped using ice to cool his drinking water and instructed that when gifts are sent to him, they should be redirected to the needy. He passed away on November 8, 1965.

Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih I

Today, I am writing about Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ I, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, Al-Hājj Ḥakīm Maulānā Nūr-ud-Dīn, because he was a good person. He loved the Holy Qur'ān. He memorized the Holy Qur'ān and was a Ḥāfīz. He was a Ḥakīm and he gave poor people free treatment. He was a pious person. Unfortunately he died on March 13, 1914. May Allah shower His blessings on him, Āmīn.

Fatima Zahara Siddiqui ~ 7 ~ Laurel MD

Second Khalifah of Khulafa-e-Ahmadiyya & Promised Son

Tooba Ahmed ~ Age12 ~ Philadelphia

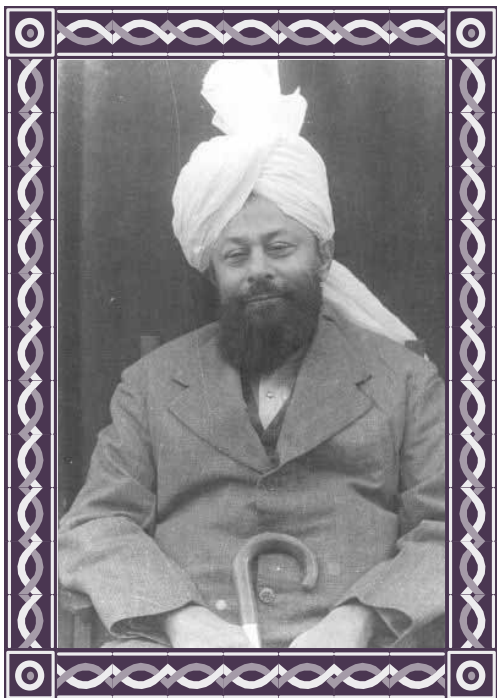
“Give Us Proof, Give Us Proof, We Want Proof Of Your Claim!”

Let’s travel back to late 1800s, when crowds of people asked for the proof of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad’s (alaihis-salām) claim of being the Promised Messiah made in 1890. Allah had already made plans for the Promised Messiah’s (alaihis-salām) proof, for he would give him a special son from his second marriage. In and around the year 1881 the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) received revelations regarding his second marriage, such as:

“We give thee glad tidings of a noble son.”

“Be grateful for my bounty that you have found My Khadijah.”

“I have determined to arrange another wedding for you. I shall make all the arrangements and you will not be put to any trouble.”



Under the Divine Will of Allah, the Almighty, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad (alaihis-salām) married a second time on November 17, 1884 at the age of 49 to Nuṣrat Jahān Begum, from whom he had 10 children.

In January 1886, at the age of 51, The Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām) traveled to Hoshiarpur for forty days and nights; he was given the glad tidings of a

great son to be born to him who was to be known in the history of Aḥmadiyyat as the 'Promised Son' and the 'Promised Reformer,' in the following words during this solitary retreat:

"A sign of power, mercy, nearness to Me is bestowed on thee; a sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to thee and thou art granted the key of success and victory..."

"Rejoice therefore that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed upon thee; you will receive a bright youth who will be of thy seed and will be of thy progeny."

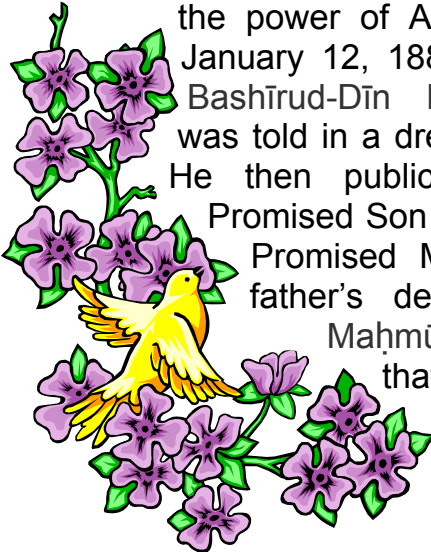
"A handsome and pure boy will come as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and Bashīr. He has been invested with a holy spirit, and he will be free from all impurity. He is the light of God. Blessed is he who comes from heaven."

On March 22, 1886, the Promised Messiah declared that within a period of nine years this glorious child would be born. After his first child, Ḥaḍrat Iṣmat Bībī was born. Many enemies of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad (alaihis-salām) laughed at him, despite the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām) reminding them that the promised child will be born within a period of nine years. Some time later he had a son, *Bashīr* Aḥmad, who died in his infancy. Again his enemies laughed, and he again reminded them of the period of nine years.

By the power of Allah's hand, this son was born on January 12, 1889. In the year 1944, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, was told in a dream that he was the Promised Son.

He then publicly announced that he was the Promised Son who was prophesied by Allah to the Promised Messiah (alaihis-salām). Before his father's demise, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn

Maḥmūd Aḥmad, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, vowed that he would stand by him; and so he did, before and after becoming the second Khalīfah.



Khalifatul Masih Sani & “Musleh Ma’uood”

Sumbul Jattala ~ Age 12 ~ LA-Inland Empire

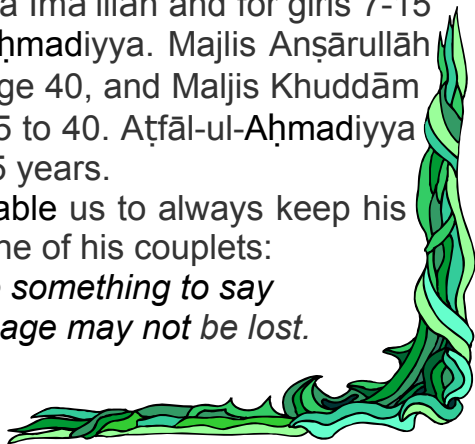
“He will be extremely intelligent and understanding and will be meek of the heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge.”

It was revealed to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) that he would be blessed with a son who would be a great reformer. Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him) was the promised son of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). That is why he is called “Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd”—the Promised Reformer.

Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd was elected as the second successor of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) on March 14, 1914. But, it was on January 28, 1944 when he claimed for the first time to be that “Promised Son” which was revealed to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). He said that it was made clear to him in a dream by Allah the Almighty that he was the Muṣliḥ Mau’ūd.

The Aḥmadiyya Community was growing fast and needed a strong foundation and discipline for better moral training of its membership. He laid the groundwork for establishing a strong organization and order. To achieve this goal he established organizations within men and women of the jamā’at membership. For example, for women above 15 years of age, he established Lajna Imā’illāh and for girls 7-15 years old he created Nasiratul Aḥmadiyya. Majlis Anṣārullāh was established for men above age 40, and Maljis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya for men of ages 15 to 40. Aṭfāl-ul-Aḥmadiyya was created for boys ages 7 to 15 years.

May Allah the Almighty enable us to always keep his advice in mind, in pursuance to one of his couplets:
*O Youth of the community, I have something to say
Provided, however, that my message may not be lost.*



A MIRACLE OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH

(peace be on him)

By: Zafrullah Malik /9/ South Virginia

In 1897, when non-Aḥmadīs saw that the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was gaining ground on them through his excellent preaching and strong arguments, they brought a case against him to try to put him in jail. A Christian missionary named Dr. Martin Clark devised a plan in which he tutored a young man named ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd to falsely accuse the Promised Messiah of murder. ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd was to be witness in court and say that the Promised Messiah had sent him to kill Dr. Martin Clark.



The case was presented in the courtroom of Captain Douglass, the District Magistrate of Gurdaspur. ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd said exactly what he was told and everyone listened carefully.

However, there was something suspicious going on. On the next occasion ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd added more details to his story. Captain Douglass, being a judge, figured out that there was something more to all this madness. To Captain Douglass, Ḥaḍrat Masīḥ-i-Mau‘ūd (peace be upon him) did not look like a murderer but instead a very humble person. Douglass knew that either someone was tutoring ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd or he didn’t want to say what he knew.

Captain Douglass directed that ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd be removed from the custody of the Christian missionaries whom he was living with and instead be given in the custody of Police. That is exactly what happened! And when a British Police Officer questioned ‘Abdul-Ḥamīd, he fell to his feet saying, These people coerced me into falsely accusing him.



Of course, the liars were exposed and the truth came out. This incident was not something ordinary but rather it had happened before as well. More than 2,000 years ago! The Jewish missionaries and elders had tried to falsely accuse Jesus, Son of Mary, the first Messiah, and tried to kill him by putting him on the cross. However, it was a miracle of God as both the Messiahs survived.



About Khilafat

By: Tehmeena Ahmed Khokhar /14/ Las Vegas

The word Khilāfat means *succession*, and the Khalīfah is a *successor to a Prophet of Allah* whose goal is to carry to completion the tasks of reformation and moral training that were seeded by the Prophet. The community of followers of a Prophet of Allah continues to nurture its faith and practices under the blessing of the institution of Khilāfat for as long as Allah wishes. Allah says in the Holy Qur’ān:

“Allah had 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 whoso is ungrateful after that, they will be the rebellious.” (Sūrah Al-Nūr, Verse 56).

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him) writes:

“God Almighty does everything through wisdom and foresight, and there is always a good reason and logic behind it.

According to nature's physical laws, man has only a limited life span, but the task of reformation and training of society requires a much longer time. So, Allah has established the system of Khilāfat after the system of Prophethood. The Khalīfah continues and carries on the task of the Prophet. The seed sown by the Prophet is protected and nurtured by the Khalīfah till it becomes a strong and sturdy tree. It shows that in fact Khilāfat is an offshoot or branch of the system of Prophethood, that is why the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) says that after every Prophet, the system of Khilāfat is established.”

Just as Allah appoints a Prophet, it is He who also appoints a Khalīfah. He chooses the person who is most suitable and guides a group of pious believers into manifesting His Will through a process of selection of the Khalīfah. Thus, it may apparently seem that the Khalīfah is chosen by a group of pious people, but it is in fact the Will of Allah that guides their faculties into choosing the Khalīfah of His Choice. Once a Khalīfah is selected, he remains a Khalīfah for the rest of his life as a living testament to Divine Will.

Khilāfat establishes the authority of Allah on earth, and the Khalīfah strives to uphold that authority within the community of followers. For the believers, Khilāfat is an embodiment of Allah's Unity, as they choose to take divine authority through the person of the Khalīfah. The believers partake of the blessings of Khilāfat by holding firm to their faith and practices, united under him.

***Prophecy of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad
(peace be upon him)***

“Prophethood shall remain among you as long as Allah shall will. He will bring about its end and follow it with Khilāfat on the precepts of prophethood for as long as He shall will and then bring about its end. A tyrannical monarchy will then follow and will remain as long as Allah shall will and then come to an end. There will follow thereafter monarchical despotism to last as long as Allah shall will and come to an end upon His decree. There will then emerge Khilāfat on precept of Prophethood.”



Why I am a Muslim?

Zoya Haroon ~ Age 7 ~ Virginia North

I am a Muslim because I like the teachings of Islām. Islām is a beautiful religion, it teaches peace and love. It teaches us to worship One Supreme God, Allah.

It teaches me to be a good person, and that's why I am a Muslim.



Aansa Haroon ~ Age 8 ~ Virginia North

I am a Muslim because I like Islām. Islām teaches us modesty and to wear decent clothing. Islām also teaches us to believe in one God, the One who is Supreme and it is everywhere. Islām also teaches us to be kind and compassionate to others and to all of God's creatures. I am also proud of being an Aḥmadī, which is the true Islām: Our motto is, "**Love For All, Hatred for None.**" Of all the religions In the world, I know Islām is the best, and that is the path that leads to Allah's Love. That is why I am a Muslim.

Zoha Aḥmad ~ Age 6 ~ Virginia North

I am a Muslim, because Allah made me a Muslim.

Muslims go to a mosque and pray.

Muslims have two festivals called Eid

You cannot lie, steal or cheat

You cannot say or do bad things

You have to wear clothes that cover you properly

Cleanliness is a part of my faith

That is why I love being a Muslim

Islam in the News

Saira Bhatti ~ Age 14 ~ Virginia North



Islām. What comes to mind when one hears the word “Islām?” Well, as an Aḥmadī, I take the name Islām with pride, and proudly say that I am a Muslim. But for others, one word will go through their head when they hear the word Islām, “violence.”

Ever since the horrible attacks of September 11, 2001, people have come to think of Islām as a harsh and cruel religion. The media is constantly putting Islām down, and instead of showing the good things of this faith, the media only shows the bad: the terror, the horror. This is what makes their headlines, their stories. They blow our name out of proportion and even when they try to sound kind and respectful about Islām, there is always a hint of insecurity and fear as well as hatred.

The media today in the western world sometimes gets quite out of hand, and instead of bringing real stories and news, they bring their own opinions for people to follow. That is not the job of the media. The media is supposed to be accurate, trusted, and inform us of the truth. Today sometimes they diverge from these principles. Often, without proper investigation, Islām is incorrectly blamed for the misdeeds of some Muslims.. While reporting on wars, there is little concern or care for the civilians or other people in those situations. I find it sad and unbelievable to see how Islām is portrayed in newspapers, magazine and on the television.

Muslims themselves take advantage of the media, but not necessarily for the right reasons. For example, terrorist groups think that if they can show responsibility for a hostage killing or bombings through the Internet, they will be

propagating Islām and helping spread its true message. But they only degrade themselves even more. They cause Islām and its followers more humiliation and pain. They cause more hatred against Islām among people in the world.



Today in America, there are many different views of Islām. For most people that I have met around Washington D.C. area, people are pretty tolerant. Nobody minds that I cover my head or seems alarmed by my appearance. But there will always be that small number of people who think that all Muslims are terrorists, or that Islām is all about *Jihād* and fighting. There are still so many things that people do not know about, and so many negative and incorrect assumptions about us. It is our job to clear up the misconceptions and false accusations against Islām. We need to know what the media is saying and be ready to defend our faith no matter what. Now that doesn't mean that when an influential figure, like the Pope, says something ill about Islām that we all start rallies and think of ways to degrade the Pope and his people, but we do need to know how to respond to such incidents. It is important that we have more people informed about Islām and also that **we** know about Islām. What is the point in defending your faith, when you do not have a clue as to what it is about? Islām is all over the news these days, but we have to find a way to turn the negative into positive.

Disclaimer:

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Allah - The Gracious

Syeda Afroze ~ Age 10 ~ Maryland



The attribute “Gracious” means that Allah provides everything for us, even the things we do not ask for. Allah is gracious because He gave us air to breathe even when we did not beg for it. He is also gracious because He gave us water to drink, to wash our dishes with, to bathe in,

to water our plants, and to wash our clothes. If we didn't have water we would not be able to do these things and we would die, or be very unclean. He continues to be gracious by providing us with food to eat. If we did not have food, we would starve to death. Allah is also gracious because He has given us a shelter in case of a hurricane, tornado, typhoon, cyclone, or a tsunami. If we did not have a shelter then all of those disastrous external forces would destroy us and our possessions. Additionally, Allah has provided us with a loving family that takes care of us, plays with us and has fun with us. If we did not have a family then life would be very boring and lonely.

Last but not least, Allah is also gracious by providing us with an education, so we may grow and learn. And if one is not smart, then one may miss out on a lot of opportunities.

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Send all requests to Syed Sajid Ahmad at his e-mail: syedsajidahmad@yahoo.com

**National HQ: Al-Hilāl, 15000 Good Hope Road,
Silver Spring, MD 20905 USA**

Islam – A Religion of Peace

Zoya Malik ~ Virginia North

Islām is the most complete and comprehensive religion as it stands at the forefront of all the religions. Islām has many meanings, but one of the most common meanings is peace.

The Holy Qur’ān provides us with an example of peace: “And good and evil are not alike. Repel evil with that which is best. And lo he between whom and thyself was enmity will become as though he were a warm friend.” (Holy Qur’ān 41:35). Through this verse, we are advised to exercise patience and try not to retaliate even in the most difficult situation.

Another example of peace is the story of the treaty of Ḥudaibiyah. There was an incident when the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and his companions wanted to go to Mecca to perform Ḥajj. Once they reached Mecca, the Meccans told them that they could not perform Ḥajj since it was their territory. The Muslims were ready to fight them, but the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) ordered them not to fight but to negotiate with the Meccans. In that particular year, they couldn’t perform Ḥajj but by settling it peacefully they were able to perform Ḥajj in later years.

The victory of Mecca is an excellent example of tolerance in the history of mankind when bloodthirsty enemies of Islām were at the mercy of the Holy Prophet of Islām. They were all forgiven without taking revenge. This noble characteristic of the Holy Prophet needs to be practiced in this modern age to establish peace and harmony.

The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) says, “Being truthful and justified in your stand, be humble in your demeanor as if you were wrong, so that you may be pardoned.” May Allah help us in this regard. (Āmīn)

Islam in the News

By: Anam Malik ~ Age 13 ~ Virginia North

When “Islām” is mentioned, different people have different perspectives about it. Nowadays, since so many Muslims have strayed from the right path, many people think Islām is a religion of hate. This theory is greatly affected by the media. The media plays a big role in the way people think. The media is everywhere you go, whether it’s television, radio, newspaper, or the Internet. It is a source of biased information.

In the Muslim countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, there is a war going on. In 2001, there was a devastating attack on America, destroying the lives of thousands of Americans. After this moment in history, many sources of media have become biased against Muslim countries, only presenting the negative that is occurring.

However, not all media is biased. It distinguishes Aḥmadīs from other Muslims. Whenever Aḥmadīs are shown in the US media, we usually see a positive image.

There can be good that comes out of Islām being in the news though. There are many people out there that want to learn more about the true Islām, and every so often, the media displays the pristine and noble teachings of Islām too.

In this era of high tech, it is so easy to spread the word of Islām. It is so important for us as Aḥmadīs though, to go out to the world and spread the right message, and correct the misunderstandings that the media has spread.

Islam – A Religion of Peace

Farah Azam ~ Age 13 ~ Research Triangle, NC

As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum. That is the traditional Muslim greeting. It means ‘peace be on you’. Everything about Islām is peaceful. The word ‘Islām’ itself means ‘peace and obedience’. So Islām means complete submission to God’s will and being at peace with all His creatures. Islām is the only religion whose name tells its followers what to do (and how to do it). Islām teaches us all to find a peaceful way to solve all problems. Muslims should also avoid fighting and violence. Muslims should be at peace with everyone and everything. Being at peace with everyone means that we make sure no one gets hurt by our actions.

Islām teaches us to be peaceful all the time. Muslims spread peace in their everyday lives. For example, they greet each other with, “As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum,” which, as stated above, means “peace be on you.” Muslims also say “Jazākallāh,” which means ‘may Allah bless you’. Muslims are also taught to make the Holy Qur’ān a part of their daily lives. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) lived his life according to the teachings of the Holy Qur’ān. The teachings of the Holy Qur’ān promote peace. Islām says that even if you are unkind in your treatment to another, you are a cause of destroying the peace and harmony of the world. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) refrained from uttering any curses on his enemies, even though they were extremely cruel to him. You should be kind to everyone in the world, and spread the peace of Islām.

Our beloved Khalīfah, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor Aḥmad (may Allah be his support) said in a lecture in Africa, “The question arises that if the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) or his Companions did not hold the sword in one hand and



the Qur'ān in the other nor destroyed the peace of the world, what are these holy wars and what is this thing called Jihad which is on everyone's lips and for which every Muslim is being blamed for causing mayhem in the world? The amazing thing is that it is believed that these wars started during the time of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him). The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) endured so much pain and suffering at the hands of the disbelievers, but he never raised a sword, nor replied to their harsh words with harshness. Whenever he fought in battle, he ordered that no women or children be killed, that the elderly not be impeded, that nothing be said to the refugees, monks or hermits, that no person be set on fire, no animals be killed and no trees be cut down. Unlike your enemy, no person's nose or ear be cut off." As you can see from the countless examples of the founder of this religion, Islām is very peaceful and all Muslims should try to follow the excellent example of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him).

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A Historical Challenge

**By: Shan Faizi, 12, Sohaib Ahmed, 13,
Moiz Ahmed, 9, Ameen Faizi, 7, Charlotte**

In 1902, there was a Christian priest in Zion, USA, who challenged Islām and prophesied that Islām will be wiped off of earth unless Muslims accept Christianity. That priest who claimed to be an Elijah was Dr. Alexander Dowie. In the same year and on the other side of the world, the Promised Messiah, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad (peace be upon him) from Qadian, heard about Dr. Dowie's attack on Islām and he wrote to him to stop him. But, Dr. Dowie increased in his attacks claiming that he was a prophet of God. The Promised Messiah challenged him and invited him to a prayer-duel, that the liar die before the truthful. The Promised Messiah said in his invitation, "There is a very easy way of determining whether Dowie's God is true or our God. That way is that Mr. Dowie should keep me alone in his mind and should pray that of the two of us, the one who is false may die before the other... If the false god of Mr. Dowie possesses any power, he will certainly permit him to come forth against me." (Review of Religions, Vol. 1, No. 9, pp. 342-8)

Dowie accepted the prayer-duel challenge by making a defiant statement. Dr. Dowie started losing all his glory in this world. In 1905, he got paralyzed and he became disabled. He was fired from his own Church for stealing money and drinking problems. His family left him. His followers started decreasing day by day. He used to claim to be a healer, and when he was disabled he could not heal himself so his followers called him a hypocrite. He lost his mental balance and became insane. And finally he died in March 1907 in disgrace affirming the truth and the acceptance of the prayer of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. That was a prominent miracle of Ḥaḍrat Aḥmad (peace be upon him) to foretell the death of Dowie in that way. It has been one hundred years to the fulfillment of the prophecy of the Promised Messiah This event shows the mission of the Promised Messiah who came to defend and to reform Islām.

Welcome the First Hundred Years of the Aḥmadiyya Khilāfat with Prayers and Supplications

A Spiritual Program Announced by *Ḥaḍrat* Mirzā Masroor Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V, ayyadahullāhu ta‘ālā binaṣrihil-‘azīz

①

Keep a nafl fast, adults only,
(non-obligatory, optional fast)
in the last week of every month.

②

Offer two raka‘āt nafl Ṣalāt
before dawn or after Zuhur or
after ‘Ishā.

③

Recite Sūrah al-Fātiḥah
at least seven times a day.

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ رَبِّ الْعٰلَمِیْنَ

مَلِكِ یَوْمِ الدِّیْنِ

اِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِیْمَ

صِرَاطَ الَّذِیْنَ اَنْعَمْتَ عَلَیْهِمْ

غَیْرِ الْمَغْضُوْبِ عَلَیْهِمْ وَ لَا الضَّالِّیْنَ

bis·mil·lā·hir·raḥ·mā·nir·ra·ḥīm
al·ḥam·du lil·lā·hi rab·bil-
‘ā·la·mīn
ar·raḥ·mā·nir·ra·ḥīm
mā·li·ki yau·mid·dīn
iy·yā·ka na‘·bu·du wa iy·yā·ka

nas·ta·‘īn

ih·di·naṣ·ṣi·rā·tal·mus·ta·qīm
ṣi·rā·tal·la·dhī·na an·‘am·ta
‘a·lai·him

ghai·ril·magh·ḍū·bi ‘a·lai·him
wa laḍ·ḍāl·līn

In the name of Allah, the
Gracious, the Merciful.
All praise belongs to Allah,
Lord of all the worlds,
The Gracious, the Merciful,
Master of the Day of Judgment.
Thee alone do we worship and
Thee alone do we implore for
help.

Guide us in the right path—
The path of those on whom
Thou hast bestowed Thy
blessings, those who have not
incurred Thy displeasure, and
those who have not gone astray.

[1:1-7]

④

Recite at least eleven times a
day the supplication:

رَبَّنَا اَفْرِغْ عَلَیْنَا صَبْرًا وَّ ثَبِّتْ اَقْدَامَنَا

وَ اَنْصُرْنَا عَلٰی الْقَوْمِ الْكٰفِرِیْنَ

rab·ba·nā af·riḡh ‘a·lai·nā
ṣab·rañw·wa ṭhab·bit

aq·dā·ma·nā wan·ṣur·nā
 ‘a·lal·qau·mil·kā·fi·rīn
 O our Lord, pour forth
 steadfastness upon us, and
 make our steps firm, and help
 us against the disbelieving
 people. [2:251]

5

Recite at least 33 times a day
 the prayer:

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا

وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ ﴿٥﴾

rab·ba·nā lā tu·zigh qu·lū·ba·nā
 ba’·da idh ha·dai·ta·nā wa hab la
 nā mil·la·dun·ka raḥ·mah—
 in·na·ka an·tal·wah·hāb

‘Our Lord, let not our hearts
 become perverse after Thou
 hast guided us, and bestow on
 us mercy from Thyself; surely
 Thou art the Great Bestower.

[3:9]

6

Repeat at least 11 times a day
 the prayer:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَجْعَلُكَ فِي نُحُورِهِمْ

وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شُرُورِهِمْ

al·lā·hum·ma in·nā naj·‘a·lu·ka
 fī nu·ḥū·ri·him wa na·‘ū·dhu
 bi·ka min shu·rū·ri·him
 O Allah, we make Thee our

shield against them, and take
 refuge in Thee from their
 mischief.

7

Repeat at least 33 times a day
 the prayer:

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ

as·tagh·fi·rul·lā·ha rab·bī min
 kul·li dhan·biñw·wa a·tū·bu
 i·lāihi

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

8

Repeat at least 33 times a day
 the prayer:

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ الْعَظِيمِ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

sub·ḥā·nal·lā·hi wa bi ḥam·di·hī
 sub·ḥā·nal·lā·hil·‘a·zīm—
 al·lā·hum·ma ṣal·li ‘a·lā
 mu·ḥam·ma·diñw·wa ā·li
 mu·ḥam·mad

Holy is Allah, worthy of all
 praise, Holy is Allah the great.
 Allah, bestow Thy blessings on
 Muḥammad and the people of
 Muḥammad.

9

Repeat darūd at least 33 times a
 day:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ
إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

al-lā·hum·ma ṣal·li ‘a-lā
mu·ḥam·ma·diñw·wa ‘a-lā ā·li
mu·ḥam·ma·din,
ka·mā ṣal·laj·ta ‘a-lā ib·rā·hī·ma
wa ‘a-lā ā·li ib·rā·hī·ma,
in·na·ka ḥa·mī·dum·ma·jīd
O Allah, bless Muḥammad and
his people as Thou didst bless
Abraham and his people. Thou
art indeed Praiseworthy, the
Exalted.

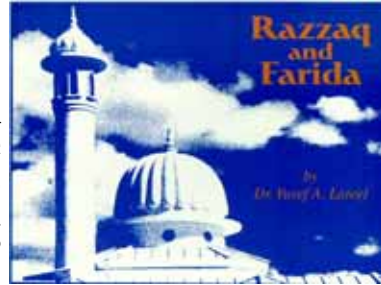
اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ
إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

al-lā·hum·ma bā·rik ‘a-lā
mu·ḥam·ma·diñw·
wa ‘a-lā ā·li mu·ḥam·ma·din
ka·mā bā·rak·ta ‘a-lā ib·rā·hī·ma
wa ‘a-lā ā·li ib·rā·hī·ma
in·na·ka ḥa·mī·dum·ma·jīd
O Allah, Prosper Muḥammad
and his people as Thou didst
prosper Abraham and his
people. Thou art indeed
Praiseworthy, the Exalted.

Razzāq and Farīda

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

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Glossary

- ‘alaihi-salām ﷺ : peace be on him
- al-Ḥājj, El-Ḥājj ﺍﻟﻬﺎﺟﺞ : a person who has performed the prescribed
Islāmic pilgrimage to Mecca during its appointed days. Ḥājjī
Āmīn [Āmeen] ﺍﻣﯿﻦ : So be it. Amen.
- Amīr, Ameer ﺍﻣﯿﺮ : Commander, Head. National head of the
Aḥmadiyyah Community.
- As-Salāmu ‘Alikum ﺍﻟﺴﻼﻡ ﻋﻠﯿﻜﻢ : Peace be on you.
- Darbār ﺩﺍﺭﺑﺎﺭ : court
- Hadhrat: See Ḥaḍrat
- Ḥaḍrat ﺍﻟﻬﺎﺩﺭﺍﺕ [Hadhrat, Hazrat]: His Holiness
- Ḥafīz ﺍﻟﻬﺎﻓﯿﺰ : A person who has memorized the Arabic text of the
Holy Qur’ān.
- Haiku: A special form of Japanese poetry
- Ḥakīm ﺍﻟﻬﺎﻛﯿﻢ : wise person, physician
- Ḥikmat ﺍﻟﻬﯿﻜﻤﺔ : wisdom, foresight, practice of medicine
- jazākallāh ﺍﻟﺠﺎﺯﯨﻜﺎﻟﻠﻪ : may Allah reward you (one male).
- jazākallāh ﺍﻟﺠﺎﺯﯨﻜﺎﻟﻠﻪ : may Allah reward you (one female).
- ﻟﺠﺎﺯﯨﻜﻮﻟﻠﻪ jazākumullāh: may Allah reward you (plural, male or
female or both). Also used to address a single person to show
respect.
- Khalīfah, khalīfa ﺍﻟﺨﻼﯨﻔﺔ : Vicegerent. Successors to Ḥaḍrat
Muḥammad, ṣallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam, and the Promised
Messiah, ‘alaihi-salām. Also calif, caliph, kalif, kaliph, khalif.
- Khalifatul-Masīh, Khalīfat-ul-Masīh, Khalīfah al-Masīh ﺍﻟﺨﻼﯨﻔﺔ ﺍﻟﻤﺴﯿﻪ :
Successor to the Promised Messiah, ‘alaihi-salām.
- Khilāfat, Khilāfah ﺍﻟﺨﯿﻼﻓﺔ : succession, caliphate
- Khilāfat-i-Aḥmadiyya ﺍﻟﺨﯿﻼﻓﺔ ﺍﻟﺤﻤﺪﯨﻴﺎﺗﯿﺎ : Aḥmadiyyah Khilāfat.
- Khulafā ﺍﻟﺨﻼﻓﺎﺀ : Plural of khalīfah.
- Masīh-i-Mau‘ūd, Masīh Mau‘ood ﺍﻟﻤﺴﯿﻪ ﺍﻟﻤﺄﻭﺩ : The Promised Messiah
(Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, ‘alaihi-salām)
- Maulānā ﺍﻟﻤﻮﻟﺎﻧﺎ : our master, our lord, our chief. Title of respect for
Muslim religious scholars. Revered person.
- Maulavī, Maulvī ﺍﻟﻤﻮﻟﻮﻳﺎﺕ : Muslim priest, Muslim divine.

Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, Muṣliḥ-i-Mau'ūd, Musleh Mau'ood: مُصْلِحُ مَوَاعِد (The Promised Reformer): *Ḥaḍrat* Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (1889-1965), Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, who fulfilled the prophesy of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, about the advent of a Reformer.

raḍiyallāhu 'anhu: $\text{رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ}$: May Allah be pleased with him.

Sānī: see Thānī

Thānī ثَانِي : second in sequence

was-salām (wassalām) وَسَّالَام : and (greetings of) peace.

Al Hilāl presents...



**100 Years
of Khilāfat**



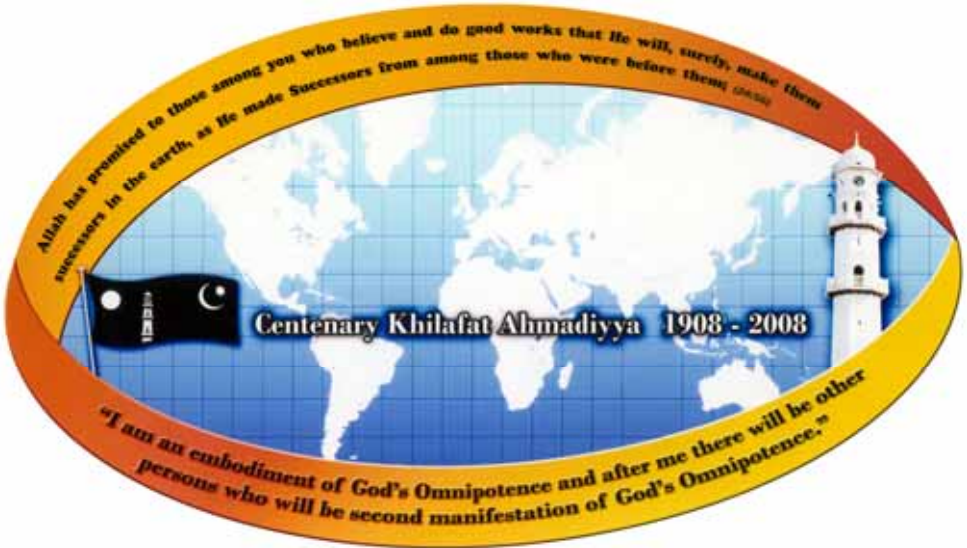
Themes & Deadlines:

Khalifatul-Masih V

May Allah be his support [4/30/08]

A Guide to Qadian [8/15/08]

thealhilal@yahoo.com



**Celebrating Hundred Years of
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