

Al Hilal

Love for All Islam on Race



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A Magazine for Children

2021-1

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 Islām and Ahmadiyyat to their daily lives.

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Editor's Note:

The notation (sa) is an abbreviation of the prayer *sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam* (peace and blessings of God be upon him), which we say after the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa). Though the prayer has not been written in full it should nevertheless be understood as being repeated in full in each case.

Similarly the notation (as) is an abbreviation of the prayer *‘alaihi-*

salam (peace be upon him) and is used at the mention of Promised Messiah (as) and all other prophets of God.

The notation (ra) is an abbreviation of the prayer *radiallahu ‘anhu/‘anha/‘anhum* (may Allah be pleased with him/her/them) and is used for the companions of the Holy Prophet (sa) and the Promised Messiah (as).

Dear Reader, As-Salāmu ‘Alaikum!

Racism leaves nothing but tragedy in its path. It was clear to us this summer of 2020 how prevalent racism is in our society and it was shocking. When we started to explore the idea of children writing for this issue on racism we had no idea how much they would have to say, but we felt it was important for the children to join in the conversation. This issue has presented a valuable opportunity for our children to delve into Islam’s distinctive teaching on equality for all mankind.

I am encouraged by our children’s responses with our beautiful Islamic teachings showing us how to be free of prejudice from a young age; to be the change that is needed in our society; to take a stand against injustice and put an end to racism. Please join me in appreciating our children’s contributions towards hope and **Love for All**.

Was-Salām
Saliha Malik
Chief Editor, Al-Hilāl

Editor’s Note continued:

The notation (aba) is an abbreviation of the prayer *ayyadahullahu ta’ala bi-nasrihil-‘aziz* (may Allah be his helper) and is used at the mention of the current Khalifa (aba).

Holy Qur'an

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرُ قَوْمٌ مِّنْ قَوْمٍ عَسَىٰ
أَنْ يَكُونُوا خَيْرًا مِنْهُمْ وَلَا نِسَاءٌ مِّنْ نِّسَاءٍ عَسَىٰ
أَنْ يَكُنَّ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُنَّ ۚ وَلَا تَلْبِزُوا أُنفُسَكُمْ وَلَا
تَنَابَزُوا بِالْأَلْقَابِ ۗ بِئْسَ الْإِسْمُ الْفُسُوقِ بَعْدَ
الْإِيمَانِ ۚ وَمَنْ لَّمْ يَتُبْ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

O ye who believe! let not one people deride another people, who may be better than they, nor let women deride other women, who may be better than they. And defame not your own people, nor call one another by nicknames. Bad indeed is evil reputation after the profession of belief; and those who repent not are the wrongdoers.

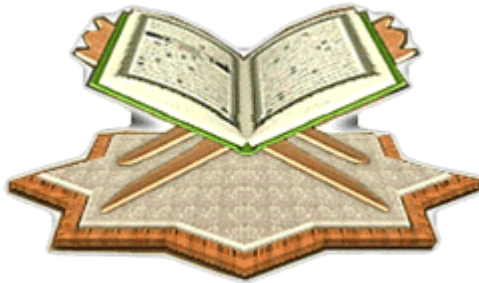
[Holy Qur'an Al Hujurat Ch. 49, V. 12]

Holy Qur'an

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَ
اِخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَالْوَأْنِكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ فِي
ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٣﴾

And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. In that surely are Signs for those who possess knowledge.

[Holy Qur'an Ar Rum Ch. 30, V. 23]



Hadith

Excerpt from The Holy Prophet's Farewell Address:

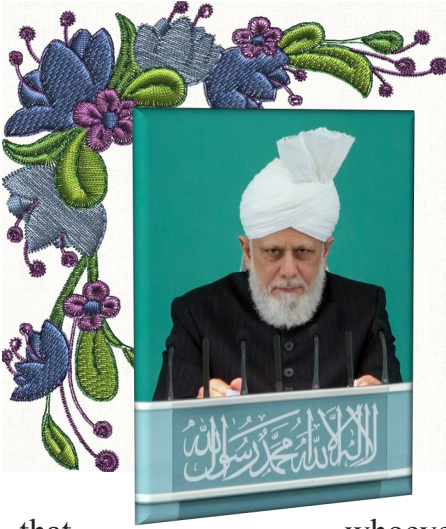
“O men, what I say to you, you must hear and remember. All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold, are equal. Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers.

What I command you today is not meant only for today. It is meant for all time. You are expected to remember it and to act upon it until you leave this world and go to the next to meet your Maker.

What I have said, you should communicate it to the ends of the earth. Those who have not heard me may benefit by it more than those who have heard.”

(Sihah Sittah, Tabari, Hisham and Khamis)

Men of Excellence – Hazrat Bilal September 18, 2020



The Banner of Bilal

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) in his sermon of Friday September 18, 2020, quoted from the writings of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (ra):

[At the conquest of Mecca]
“...the Holy Prophet (sa) arranged a flag for Hazrat Bilal (ra) and said

that whoever stands beneath the standard of Bilal (ra) shall be granted refuge. Even though the Holy Prophet (sa) was the leader, he raised no flag for himself. After him, in terms of the level of sacrifices offered was Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), yet no flag was raised for him either. Following him in terms of the leaders from among the Muslims was Hazrat Umar (ra), yet he too had no flag raised. The worthiest after him was Hazrat Uthman (ra), the son-in-law of the Holy Prophet (sa), yet for him also no flag was raised. Thereafter was Hazrat Ali (ra), who was his cousin and son-in-law, but again, he also had no flag raised for him. Then, Hazrat Abd-ur-Rahman bin Auf (ra), regarding whom the Holy Prophet (sa) stated that as long as he lives, there shall be no discord among the Muslims, yet despite this, he too was not granted a flag...

A flag was only prepared and granted to Hazrat Bilal (ra). What was the reason for this? This was because when a skirmish was about to break out in the vicinity of the Ka'bah, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) saw that the ones who were about to be killed were his brethren. Thus, he went to the Holy Prophet (sa) saying, ‘O Messenger of Allah, will the Muslims kill their own brothers?’ At that point, he had forgotten about the injustices committed against them and overlooking this aspect only saw that they were his brethren...

Even whilst the Holy Prophet (sa) was pardoning them, a thought may have arisen that among them were his uncles, brothers, sons-in-law, relatives and dear ones; thus, if he was to pardon them, it would be better as his relatives would be saved... However, there was only one person who had no relatives in Mecca; he did not wield any influence in Mecca; who had no helper in Mecca and who was tortured in a state of utter helplessness.

The Holy Prophet (sa) knew that on that day, there was only one person who could be pained by him forgiving these people, and that was Bilal (ra), as these people were not his family or tribesmen. The pain he was made to endure was not endured by anyone else. Thus, the Holy Prophet (sa) decided that he would seek retribution for Bilal's (ra) pain, but he would do so in a manner that upheld the dignity of his prophethood, whilst at the same time remaining mindful of Bilal's sentiments. The Holy Prophet (sa) instructed that Bilal's (ra) flag should be raised and the chieftains of Mecca, who used to stamp on Bilal's chest with their shoes; who used to tie a rope to his feet and drag him; who used to make him lay on burning sand, should be informed that if they wish to save their own lives, as well as the lives of their wives and children, they must come and stand under the flag of Bilal.

Just think of the love and devotion Bilal's heart and soul must have felt for the Holy Prophet (sa) in that moment. He must have thought to himself, 'I did not know whether I would ever obtain retribution from the disbelievers, or whether I would even have the ability to do so. Now, I have been able to take retribution in a manner whereby every person who used to stamp down on my chest, their heads have been lowered beneath my feet... He must have felt that there could have been no retribution more magnificent and beautiful than the retribution arranged for him by the Holy Prophet (sa).'" (*Sair-e-Ruhani*, Anwar-ul-Ulum, Vol. 24, pp. 268-273)

Excerpts taken from Al Hakam, translated by Review of Religions.



Love for All, Hatred for None

Afrah Khan / Age 12 / Los Angeles

As an Ahmadi girl growing up, I have been hearing the words *“Love for All, Hatred for None.”* This motto was given to us by our beloved third Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmed (rh).

Khalifat-ul-Masih III (rh) gave a speech in the Basharat Mosque in Pedro Abad. This was the first mosque in Spain in over 750 years. Here is a little part of what our beloved Khalifa (rh) said, “Erecting a mosque is a matter of great importance, and it is always built with the aim that Allah alone be worshiped there. The lesson that it imparts is that all human beings, in the eye of Allah, are one whether they be rich or poor; whether they be learned or illiterate; whether they be residents of Pedro Abad or come from a distance of a thousand miles or more and be residing in Pakistan; as human beings they are all equal. Islam teaches us to live with mutual love and affection and with humility. It teaches us there is no distinction between a Muslim or a non-Muslim. My message to everyone is that you must have *‘Love for All, Hatred for None!’*” This speech has clearly explained that we are all equal and must exactly follow the guidelines stated by our Holy Prophet (sa) in his farewell address in Mecca.

This beautiful motto is so relevant to the current situation that the USA and whole world faces today. Movements like Black Lives Matter are demanding the same equal rights that Islam and our Jama‘at has so long stated and believed. We, as Ahmadi Muslims, have an excellent opportunity to tell our friends, neighbors, and people in our community about this beautiful and meaningful motto, which we Ahmadis strive to live by. We welcome our diversity and differences and unite under the one flag of the Holy Prophet (sa) who set the finest example for all to follow.



The Holy Prophet's (sa) Last Advice

Sabaha Qureshi / Age 9 / Cleveland

In America, there has been a history of racism. Recently there has been the killing of George Floyd, an innocent African American. There have been so many killings of African American people that I cannot list them all. Usually when I think of racism, I think of different races not appreciating each other, which creates hate in our communities. As Ahmadi Muslims, we don't want hate in the communities, in fact our motto, "*Love for All, Hatred for None,*" clearly states our stance.

Our beloved Holy Prophet (sa) said in his farewell address: "All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold, are equal. Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers. O men, your God is One and your ancestor is one. An Arab possesses no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab over an Arab. A white man is in no way superior to a black man nor for that matter is a black man better than a white man, but only to the extent to which he discharges his duty to God and man. The most honored among you in the sight of God is the most righteous among you."

This advice that was given more than fourteen hundred years ago is so important. If all people followed this advice, the world would be a more tolerant and better place.

The Holy Prophet (sa) and Islam teach us to treat everyone with love and respect. No race is superior or better than another. May Allah guide everyone to follow the advice of the Holy Prophet (sa).



Why Diversity is Important

Leeza Sarfraz / Age 15 / York, Harrisburg

Why is diversity important to our society? Firstly diversity comes in many forms like race, religion, age, color, etc. Diversity creates a more balanced world. A well-balanced world will be more open to different opinions and reduce fear of change. The more you experience diversity in everyday life the more normal it becomes for you.

Diversity can expand your knowledge and horizon. People can learn from each other and grow. Hearing about another's experience can shed light on a life different from your own and provide you with a new perspective.



We all have the right and privilege to enjoy the happiness, no matter where you go or who you are with. This is why diversity is important. May Allah Almighty enable us all to always have an open and positive mind and accept all forms of diversity that were created for the benefit of humanity, *Amīn*.



Love for All, Hatred for None

Kamal Rana / Age 13 / Houston

Hatred is amongst many these days without a question, and the more it is not taken care of, the more it manifests itself in other areas. Racism, a form of hatred, is unfortunately very common. I think that it is preposterous for someone to look at someone in a negative way just because of the color of their skin, and even more preposterous to put them in danger because of it. The Prophet Muhammad (sa) said:



“All mankind is from Adam and Eve... a white person has no superiority over a black person nor has a black person any superiority except by piety and good action.”

Racists judge people by the color of their skin, but if they were to look at their personality, then they would appreciate them as they are, regardless of skin color.

Hatred can also be born in misunderstandings and overreactions. It can erupt from the littlest of things, and can break the strongest of bonds, although the problem can be resolved by a simple discussion. With that, love can be reborn.

The Holy Prophet (sa) once said, “Do you know what is better than charity, fasting, and prayer? It is keeping peace and good relations among people, as quarrels and bad feelings destroy mankind.”

The third Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rh), coined a very good slogan: “**Love for All, Hatred for None.**”

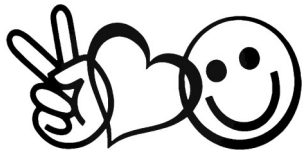
These words inspire us to be better, acquire all of the qualities to bring people together, show love to one





another, be kind to each other, and not find ways to hate one another.

Love is for the betterment of humanity and that is why every soul should possess it. Look not for the color of their skin, but the color of their heart. Let it shine out of you like the light does from the sun.



Awareness From a Young Age

Aqsa Suhail / Age 10 / Virginia Central

We have an event in our school called “Cultural Night”. On that evening families bring different foods, clothes, and other artifacts from their countries to display for everyone to see. The reason we hold this event is to learn about different countries and to celebrate our different cultures. I think this is a great idea because children from a young age learn about different cultures and learn about other people's lives. Hopefully, when they grow up, they won't have prejudices against people from different countries. In the Holy Qur'an it says,



“Surely all believers are brothers, so make peace between brothers.” [Ch. 49, V.10]

This tells us that we are all equal no matter what our backgrounds are. Allah does not look at our races, cultures, or gender to give us a place in heaven.

LOVE FOR ALL, HATRED FOR NONE

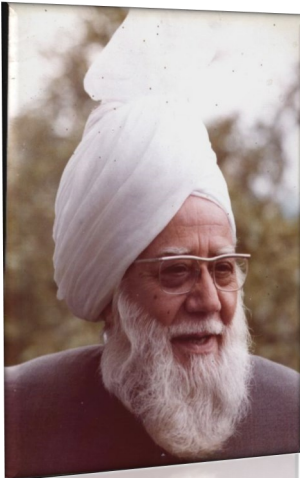
Hamza Jalal Qamar / Age 14 / Virginia Central

The word Islam literally means ‘Surrender to the will of Allah, the Creator.’ So, Islam would mean the path of those who are obedient to Allah and who establish peace with Him and His creatures. The Holy Qur’an says,

“Create not disorder in the earth after it has been set in order.” [Ch.7, V.57]

All kinds of high morals and virtues can be attained by following the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (sa). He invited people to believe in the One and only God, by practical efforts and prayers.

The famous quote *“Love for All, Hatred for None”* was given



by the third Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rh). This is the slogan of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The slogan has a very strong and vivid meaning. Our objective is to develop true comprehension about the Unity of God and to try and practice all of God’s commandments.

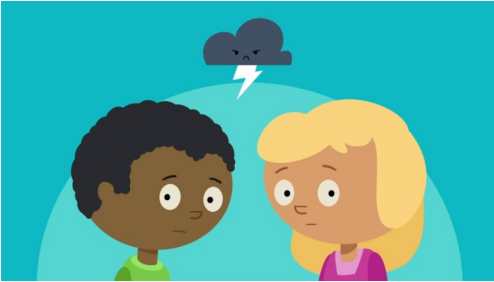
There is a light that shines through this quote from Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rh). He said, *“Islam teaches us to live with mutual love and affection and with humility. It teaches us that there is no distinction between a Muslim or a non-Muslim. My message to everyone is that you must have Love for All, Hatred for None.”*

May God enable us all to understand this! *Amīn.*

RACISM AND HEALTH

Shafia Mallik / Age 9 / Maryland

I read an article written by A. Pawlowski titled, “Why racism can have long term effects on children’s health.” This article discussed how racism can cause both physical and mental health challenges. When children are targets of racism, they experience chronic stress and are flooded with stress hormones like cortisol, leading to inflammatory reactions. Exposure to discrimination was linked with higher rates of attention deficit, hyperactivity disorder, anxiety and depression and decreased general health.



The article spoke about the pressing need for pediatricians to be sensitive to the racism children experience. Where killing one George Floyd has led to killing many, it also reminded me of our urgent duty

as young Ahmadi Muslim citizens to depict the true picture of equality, justice, and fair treatment.

The Holy Prophet (sa) once said: **“An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over a white – except by piety and good action.”** We can only do it by educating ourselves, because:

BLACK LIVES MATTER!



Love for All

Hatred for None

Sajeela Ahmad / Age 9 / Virginia South

“All humans, regardless of their background, are equal as humans. There is no superiority for a white person over a black person and neither is the black superior to the white. No Arab has superiority above a non-Arab and no non-Arab has superiority above an Arab.”

Our beloved Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) mentioned the quote above in his sermon on November 2, 2018, explaining that all humans are equal, and that people don't have the right to hurt people with a different skin color, or religion than them.



Our motto, **“Love for All, Hatred for None,”** says **“Love for All,”** so we should treat everyone with love and kindness, no matter who they are. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) was always kind to people, even his greatest enemies.

We need different kinds of people with different ways of living to make a good society. Different people are good at different things, based on where they are from and their interests. Allah says in the Holy Quran:

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you tribes and sub-tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable amongst you in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch.49, V.14]

In *Sha Allah*, people will realize that we are all brothers and sisters and that we should help each other instead of hating or thinking ill of each other, *Amīn*.

Justice and Equality for All

Zara Ahmad, Age 13, Virginia South

The Holy Prophet (sa) taught us about justice and equality for all human beings. For example, back in the Prophet's time daughters were being buried alive. Slaves and the less fortunate were being mistreated and abused. While reflecting on the Holy Prophet's (sa) teachings, I learned that everyone is equal and no one is superior to another. Specifically learning from someone who faced bloodshed and war, who dealt with discrimination and racism towards gender and people of different ethnicities, I am genuinely amazed.

The Holy Prophet (sa) helped guide people out of the darkness and he drew them to the light of Allah. He preached to make a change for the people that were suffering. The Holy Prophet (sa) helped take the blindfold off the people who hated someone just for their race. In conclusion, Islam teaches us that no matter what race a person is, everyone is equal.



Poster Submitted by:

Attya tul Sabooh
Age 13
Virginia Central





THE IMPORTANCE OF *EDUCATION*

Sabeeka Ahmed Mallik / Age 7 / Maryland

A few weeks ago I read the story of Amy Cooper and her dog. Amy Cooper was walking with her dog unleashed in Central Park, New York when a black man (apparently a bird watcher) reminded her politely that it was against the law to unleash her dog while walking in Central Park. Instead of being thankful, she called the police right away and reported that the black man was threatening her life.



It made me think that even though it is 2020, our society is still trapped in racism, and it shouldn't be like this. We Ahmadi Muslims believe in the true teachings of Islam which is that everyone is equal and only our good deeds set us apart, *“Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you”* [Holy Qur’an, Ch.49, V.14]. Racism, prejudice or discrimination destroys the dignity of people. We can get rid of this problem only by educating ourselves.

LOVE FOR ALL RACES

Aisha Aslam / Age 15 / Maryland

God created all of us and He loves all of his creation. We are all different from each other. In fact, the most unique thing about us is that we are all different. We come from a long line of families. Allah says in the Holy Qur’an: *“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.”* [Ch.49, V.14]



Meaning, we are all different and we should all love each other. We all come from the same source so we should not judge each other about our differences, rather we should appreciate them and find common ground.

Love for All

Tamseela Mumtaz, Age 9, Virginia Central

Islam forbids racism. in the Holy Qur'an Allah says:

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V.14]

By reading this verse we can easily understand that this message is not only for Muslims, it's for all humanity. Islam rejects all man-made marks of distinction. No one can claim any superiority over any other based on race, color or religion. In his last sermon the Holy Prophet (as) said:

“All mankind is from Adam and Eve; an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also, a white person has no superiority over a black person nor does a black person have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action.”

The motto of our community also represents this quality and love for all mankind: ***“Love for All Hatred for None.”***



LOVE FOR ALL, HATRED FOR NONE

Muhammad Adam Zafar / Age 7 / Seattle

My Name is Muhammad Adam Zafar. I was born in America but my mom was born in Pakistan. I speak English and Urdu. Urdu is the national language of Pakistan. My teachers here in America really like that I speak both languages. I am an Ahmadi Muslim and I practice Islam which teaches us to be kind and loving to everyone. I am in second grade and I have friends in school and my neighborhood who are from different cultures. I have Turkish, Brazilian, African American and Pakistani friends at school and in my neighborhood. I love them all as we Ahmadi Muslims believe in “Love for All, Hatred for None.”



It is not okay to hurt or be mean to anyone because of their color, culture or religion. Islam teaches us to be kind and to respect and love everybody. It made me really sad when an African American person was killed because of his different skin color. Muslims don't believe in that. We believe that everyone is equal and that all lives are important.

Hazrat Bilal (ra) was a companion of Prophet Muhammad (sa) and he was African. Prophet Muhammad (as) loved him and the *adhan* [call to prayer] he called. Allah loves us not because of our color but because of the good things we do. All cultures have good things. As Ahmadi Muslims we should respect all cultures, religions and people.



Allah Judges People by their Actions

Fareeha Meher Iqbal / Age 8 / Virginia Central

Islam teaches that all humans are created equal. The Holy Qur'an says,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch.49, V.14]

This means that it does not matter where we come from or what we look like. Allah judges people by their actions, so it's more important for us to focus on ourselves and try to be good Muslims instead of judging others.



Practice

Love For All

Sadaf Ahmad, Age 12, Baltimore

How can we practice *“Love for all, Hatred for none”* in our daily lives? Allah made many different kinds of people. But, a person should not be judged because of their race. We should not treat people differently because of their race, because the color of our skin is what God has bestowed upon us. It does not determine whether someone is good or bad. People of different races all stand equal in the eyes of Allah.

We can practice love for all in our daily lives by being kind to all.

CHOOSE
kindness

LOVE FOR ALL

Feeman Annas / Age 15 / Virginia Central

Islam is based on two principles: The worship of One God, and the unity of humanity which He has created. The Holy Prophet (sa) once said; “O People, your Lord is One, you are the progeny of the same father who was created from dust. Hence it is not permissible for you to discriminate between high and low.”

Islam opposes all discrimination, between societal classes, between castes, between gender and between race. In the world we live in today there are many different people with many different views. Where do our views lie? How do we respond to the world’s problems? The answer can be found in the holy scriptures of Islam, the Qur’an, and in the sayings of the Holy Prophet (sa), the *Hadith*. As mentioned before, Islam does not permit discrimination. It is something cruel and inhumane. The Prophet Muhammad (sa) further explained, “You are brothers and sisters. You are all equal. No matter to which nation or tribe you belong and no matter what your status is, you are equal.”

The Promised Messiah (as) also said, “I do not like the words of those who limit their compassion to their own ethnicity. I advise you again and again to never ever restrict your sphere of compassion.”

These words explain that no matter who you are, or what you look like, you are welcome, and no human is more superior or inferior than you. Discriminating against race and skin color is heartless and unforgiving and it goes against what Islam stands for. After all, the motto of Ahmadiyyat is “Love for all, Hatred for none,” and that is the root of our religion.



KINDESS & EQUALITY

Amelia Bhatti / Age 8 / Maryland

Abu Dharr (ra) reported that the Holy Prophet (sa) said, “Behold! Verily, you have no virtue over one with white skin or black skin, except by favor of righteousness.”

I have learned to treat others with respect and kindness from the teachings of the Holy Qur’an, the Holy Prophet (sa), my Tahir Academy class, my parents and from my teachers at school. When a second grader mocked my friends and I for being a different color, I felt hurt and bullied. I kindly told the girl that being a different color does not make me better or worse than her and we should be kind to one another so we can be friends. After that she started complimenting me on small things and we both found that we liked a lot of similar things. It made me happy that people are good and it is our responsibility as Nasirat to be patient and speak up with kindness to help others.



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MANKIND IS ONE COMMUNITY



Komal Annas Iqbal / Age 12 / Virginia Central

In our current society, it seems as if we cannot go one day without racist actions and words from others. The Holy Prophet (sa) said: “O People, your Lord is One, you are the progeny of the same father who was created from dust. Hence it is not permissible for you to discriminate between high and low. Neither an Arab has superiority over a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab. A white person is not superior to a black person, nor a black is superior to a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is the most righteous.”



mosque. These examples show us that mankind is one community that all of mankind is created equal. No one's status is higher than the other.

This means that no race is more superior than the other we are all created equal. We are all brothers and sisters. To set an example, the Holy Prophet (sa) chose an Abyssinian slave to deliver the call to prayer. The Holy Prophet (sa) also once permitted a Christian delegation to conduct their service and worship in his

RACISM & THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM

Eman Mirza / Age 14 / Virginia Central

In today's daily life we all see racism. Racism in America has been one of our society's most horrible social problems. Globally, racism has imprisoned minds and physical beings alike.



Racism is not a new thing. During Holy Prophet's (sa) time, racism and slavery were rampant. In the Holy Prophet's (sa) time, there were many black Muslims. One of them was Hazrat Bilal ibn Rabah. He was one of the most trusted and loyal companions of the Holy Prophet (sa).

For many modern Muslims, Hazrat Bilal is the symbol of Islam's egalitarian message. Islam does not differentiate based on ethnicity or race but rather on personal integrity.



The Holy Prophet (sa) taught us that racism is forbidden in Islam and everyone should be treated equally, *In Sha Allah*.

Love for All Hatred for None

Ayesha Mubasher / Age 12 / Virginia Central

“Love for All, Hatred for None” is a unique phrase, but what does this phrase mean? One might think that it is very easy to comprehend as it is a short phrase. But how can one apply its message?



To me, it means to not banish anyone from anything and to be friends with anyone in or outside of your religion or race. Allah wants us to harm no one. He wants us to live in unity and support each other no matter who we are. Allah wants us to cooperate and wants us to love one another regardless of the color of one's skin or religion. Allah does not judge us on our

appearance; thus, we should not judge others because everyone is beautiful in their own way.

Additionally, *“Love for All, Hatred for None”* doesn't just mean to handpick the ones you love, or the ones close to you. It means to love all of Allah's creation. If we see someone alone in the playground then we should go and talk to them or we should say hello to those we might not typically talk to. I believe that every single one of us can make an amazing impact on one another just by following one simple motto, *“Love for All, Hatred for None.”*





THIS WORLD...

Misbah Mallik / Age 13 / Maryland

Now a days, we are allowed to go to school and we are not separated based on our skin color, but that was not always the case. In America Jim Crow's laws segregated people based on the color of their skin. Even though these laws do not exist now, there is still racism in our country. Many examples have come forward from the police force where the police treated people of color wrongly.

In seventh grade, we read a book titled, "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas, which was about the injustices black people face. The main character Starr Carter first sees her best friend Natasha shot, then her other best friend Khalil who is shot just for reaching into the side part in his car for a hair brush, which was mistaken for a gun. This is sadly a reality for many in the United States. I feel like I keep hearing the same story, but a different name. That is what hurts the most. The



only ones who can bring about a change is the new generation: **us**. We need to be more than non-racist; we must all be anti-racist.

Racism is not just in the 'grown up' world. Students, whether intentionally or not, treat other students differently depending on their color. If we stop our tendencies to treat other people differently depending on what they believe in, who they are, what they look like and how they talk, then this country could be a better place.

SHUN PREJUDICE

Maleeha Bushra /Age 15 / Virginia Central

“Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.”

[The Holy Qur’an Ch.49,V.11]

The Holy Qur’an has beautiful teachings for its followers, effectively shunning any form of prejudice against, ethnicity, culture, color, status, or race. Our beloved Holy Prophet (sa), at the age of 25, released all the slaves given to him by Hazrat Khadija (ra). This was over eleven centuries before the Declaration of Independence was penned. Moreover, it took

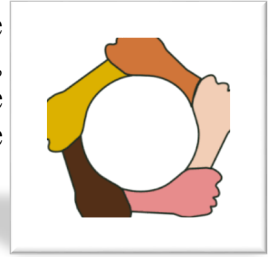


America until 1865 to pass the 13th amendment to actually abolish slavery. The Holy Prophet (sa) understood and acted upon the importance of abolishing slavery in A.D. 595, whereas it took over a thousand years for America to do the same.

In his last address to the Muslim community, the Holy Prophet (sa) left with these parting words showing how strongly he felt on the issue of equality. He said,

“All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold, are equal. Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers. O men, your God is One and your ancestor is one. An Arab possesses no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab over an Arab. A white man is in no way superior to a black nor for that matter, is a black man better than a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is the most righteous.”

In Islam, from the very beginning we are taught to treat people equally regardless of race, culture, ethnicity or gender. Whether they are Muslims or not, we are taught to treat people with equality.



Love for All, Hatred for none!

Manal Ahmad, Age 7, Virginia Central

Love for All, Hatred for None!

What are some ways we can practice this motto?

Our present Khalifa (aba) has said that the slogan often recited by members of the Ahmadiyya Community, *“Love for All, Hatred for None”* is based on the teachings of Islam, because the Holy Qur’an teaches us that people should love and care for each other and respect one another. The Qur’an says that you should be just and fair even with those who oppose you. Thus, Ahmadi Muslims are sympathetic and compassionate towards all of mankind.



Here are some ways we can live by this motto every day:

1. Pray to Allah to make our hearts kind.
2. Read the Holy Qur’an to understand the meaning of kindness.
3. Help each other as Allah helps us.
4. Love each other like Allah loves us.
5. Pray as much as possible for the world to progress.
6. Never hate anyone and avoid conflict.



RACISM in THE WORLD

Armeen Sheraz, Age 11, Maryland

Do you ever question why Allah created many races? Even in 2020 people care about skin color and treat people differently depending on their skin color. The third Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rh) said, *“Love For All, Hatred For None,”* meaning treat everyone with love and never treat someone with hate. This can help solve the issue of racial injustice. One way you can apply this motto in racial equality is by treating everyone well.

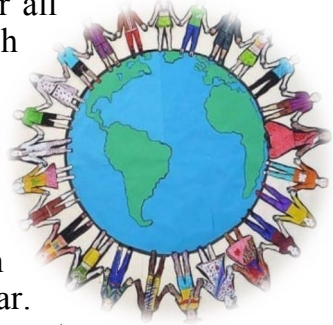
Once I was thinking if Allah made everyone the same race, then we would not have all these conflicts. To solve my concern, I asked my family and they all said that if Allah, the Exalted, made everyone the same then we would not learn from each other. Society would have been very limited as we all would be the same. Having different races, cultures and languages brings diversity which makes the world a better and more peaceful place. After listening to my family’s thoughts I decided to do some research. I found a verse of the Holy Qur’an which says:

“Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.” [Ch. 49, V. 11]

The Holy Prophet (sa) said, “You are brothers and sisters. You are all equal. No matter to which nation or tribe you belong and no matter what your status is, you are equal. Just as the fingers of both hands are alike, nobody can claim to have any distinctive right or greatness over another. The command which I

give you today is not just for today but it is for all time. Always remember to and keep acting upon it until you return to your true Master.”

As a practical example, an African from Abyssinia [modern day Ethiopia] by the name of Bilal was chosen by the Holy Prophet (sa) to deliver the *adhan* in his own mosque. This was such a high honor and a great example for all of us. There are many examples which illustrate racial equality in Islamic history. I wish that kind of history could be repeated today. It is not impossible to conceive that if each one of us would have been alike in culture, language, color, etc., this world would have been very boring, monotonous, and unspectacular. There would have been no particular urge to learn from one another and develop in various facets of life.



Why did Allah Create Different Races?

Maya Almashhadany, Age 7, Buffalo

Allah created many different people. There are Asians, Africans, Native Americans, Europeans and individuals with all different skin colors and features.

I believe Allah created all these differences because He loves all the colors and the variety. It would be boring if there was only one kind of person with the same eyes, ears, teeth, nose, mouth, hair and skin.



Diversity in Islam

Reem Luqman, Age 11, Maryland

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an,

“O mankind, we have created you from a male and a female, and We have made you into tribes and subtribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V.14]

This verse explains that all humans have been declared equal in the sight of God. Islam tells us that we should not view people based on their wealth or social status. We should view people by how they follow Allah's commandments and how they treat others. Allah made us into tribes and different nations to give us better

knowledge of each other's values and characteristics. We do not have to agree on everything, but we still must show tolerance towards each other to live together peacefully.



If we do not understand each other,

we might say some things that are offensive. And if we do not have different races, tribes, or nations, our lives and world would be boring and uninteresting. We should always treat people how we want to be treated and be nice to people, even if they are not nice to us. It is sad what is happening currently in our society regarding race and justice. Islam calls for peace and harmony between people from different cultures, and I as an Ahmadi Muslim, believe that people of different cultures and races can benefit each other and do their best to help each other prosper in one united community.

Love for All, Hatred for None

Muhammad-Jahid Agha Khan, Age 6, Baltimore

How can we apply it in our daily lives?

Islam is a beautiful Religion. It teaches us to love everyone. We have to be nice to our neighbors, friends at school, friends at the mosque, people we meet outside in the park or in the store. And it doesn't matter what their skin color is. The Holy Prophet (sa) said,

“Indeed, Allah does not look at your faces or your wealth. Instead He looks at your hearts and your deeds.” (Sahih Muslim).

So let's love everyone, and not make fun of anyone.



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equity in Islam

Samreen Sheraz, Age 15, Baltimore

Race, unfortunately, is currently a very important factor in our life. It's presence from work to school, from one street to the other, and sometimes in the personal life creates its own issues.

We are living in a society where everyone wants to be respected and seen as better than the other. Unfortunately, factors like poverty and racism diminish this purpose. Islam teaches that everyone is equal regardless of the social barriers such as race and class. For example, Hazrat Bilal (ra) was an African slave but the Holy Prophet (sa) gave him the noble responsibility of calling people to prayers by reciting the *adhan*.



President Jimmy Carter once observed that when people become too involved in their culture and ethnicity, they begin to think, "...I am superior and my beliefs should prevail, and anyone who disagrees with me is inherently wrong, and the next step is they view others as 'inherently inferior.' The ultimate step is viewing them as 'subhuman,' and then their lives are 'not significant.'" As Ahmadi Muslims, we should do everything to put an end to this injustice.



In order to make our society better, we need to act on the commandments of the Holy Prophet (sa) because he came as "*a Mercy for all peoples*" [Holy Qur'an Ch.21, V.108] by

bringing the final religion, Islam. He taught us the basics of Islam, such as brotherhood and treating mankind with equality. Sadly, we do not see this in our world today, as it seems many people are filled with hate and egotism. Not only do we see it among different races, nationalities, or people of different backgrounds, but hate is also present between people from the same culture, same country, and even from the same faith. As an example, in America, since the time of its independence, racism has always been a huge issue. America struggled to get its independence and when it finally did, it was based on the principle, “**All men are created equal.**” However, this did not include people of color or women. Whereas, if we flip the pages to the history of Islam we see that the Holy Prophet (sa) understood the pain and struggles of the slaves and abolished slavery in A.D. 595.



Now as Ahmadi Muslims, it is our responsibility and duty to help make our world a better place. This can only be done if we ourselves bring the right change in our life and show the world the true attributes of a Muslim. When our society talks about equity, we should enlighten their views by telling them what equity is in reality, what Allah has taught us. For example, in the Holy Qur’an Allah, the Almighty, says:

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; We have made you tribes and sub-tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable amongst you in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V.14]

From this verse, Allah taught us that He has created many different kinds of people in order to encourage progress and variety in the world. Everyone is the same in the sight of Allah, then who are we as His servants and creation to create division? A man’s true worth can be seen by how pious he is and what his moral values are, not from his wealth, class or race. The good deeds of a person are what matters in the afterlife.

Therefore, we should teach one another that Islam is a religion of equality. Islam promotes brotherhood as we stand together in prayer shoulder to shoulder with our fellow brothers and sisters regardless of race or status. As an Ahmadi, we also see



another example in the Jalsa Salana where people from all over the world come together and receive the blessings of Khilafat. By these acts, we should become role models for the world so society can be a better place.

Finally, we should remember what the Holy Prophet (sa) stated at the “Farewell Hajj:”

“All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold are equal. Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers. O men, your God is One and your ancestor is one. An Arab possesses no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab over an Arab. A white man is in no way superior to a black nor for that matter, is a black man better than a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is the most righteous.”

No other words can explain this more beautifully, and we all should act upon the message given by the Holy Prophet (sa).



You are Special

Alina Ahmad, Age 8, Austin

"Love for all, Hatred for none" is our motto. This means you have to be good and kind to all people, no matter what race they are or where they are from. Allah created different races because it's important to have diversity and learn about different cultures. At school we have "Culture Day" where every child tells about their culture. We share food from countries around the world.



We learn about different holidays, clothing, music, festivities and traditions. By doing this, we realize that our differences make us special and everyone is connected.



Diversity =

Discover

Include

Value

Encourage

Respect

Support

Important

Trust

You Are Unique



Allah put beauty in all of us..

Fateha Upal, Age 14, Rochester

Although I'm not "fair," I do think I am lovely. My grandma bought me a skin-lightening product called Fair and Lovely, which made me sad. I've been told to stay out of the sun or come inside at noon because of my elders' fear of tanning. Even some matchmaking websites are under controversy today for having selectable preferences based on skin tone. Although we like to talk about racism as though it's simply between races and different groups of people, even within our own community, a form of racism is prevalent: colorism. Colorism is against Islam's fundamental values. Allah says in the Holy Qur'an,



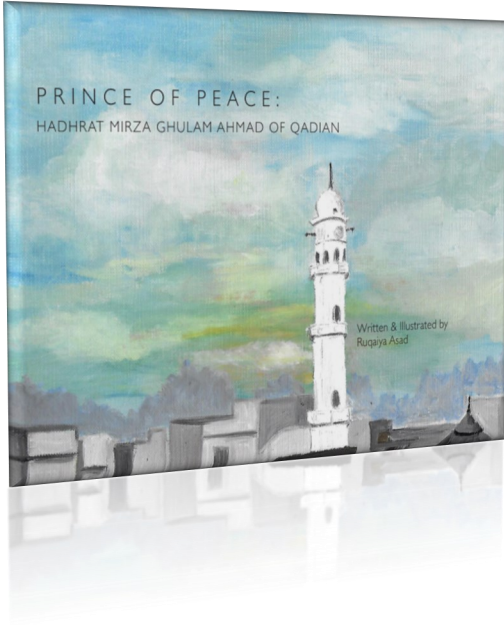
“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V.14]

In this verse, Allah says that all humans should be understanding of one another instead of spreading hate. This means that we are all the same despite the color of our skin, and therefore we should be treated equally as well. Allah put beauty in all of us, and we should be grateful for this.



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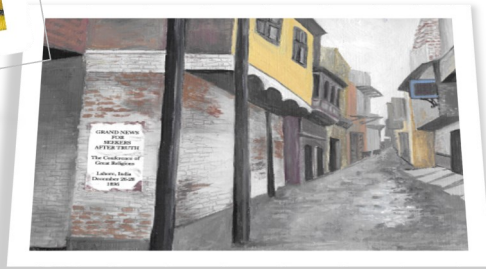
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STAND UP FOR THEM.

Aleeza Malik, Age 10, Maryland

Allah has said in the Holy Qur'an,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch.49, V.14]

Why did Allah create such diversity? He made it so we can recognize each other. Since there is diversity, we are able to recognize each other because we all look different, and we all are different. The Holy Qur'an states:

“Surely all believers are brothers. So, make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.” [Ch.49, V.11]

Allah is saying in this verse that we should respect each other, because Allah has created us all! We are all different people and should not judge each other! Allah created us differently and we should not



judge, but support, compliment, and help each other. If someone is being criticized because they are different, stand up for them, and encourage everyone else to help each other.



Aroob Latif / Age 10 / Houston

In my fifth-grade class at school I have classmates from many backgrounds. They may look different, eat different food, speak different languages, but they are all special and amazing in their own way. Many of my classmates have been at school with me since kindergarten. I know I'm the only Ahmadi Muslim in my class, but I'm lucky to be surrounded by their contrasting views. Even though religion is not something we discuss in class, I respect everyone's religious beliefs. The Holy Qur'an states,



“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V. 14]



This verse tells us to act righteously and shun bad things. Our background does not matter to Allah, but it is our good deeds that reflect our beauty.

STAND AGAINST RACISM IN OUR SOCIETY

Mahnour Khan, Age: 12, Virginia Central

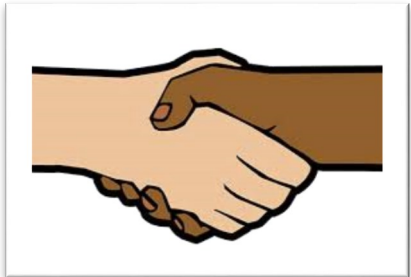
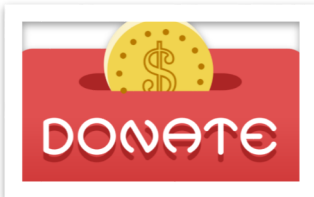
As James Baldwin stated, “Not everything that is faced can be changed but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”

“Love for all, Hatred for none” is an important phrase. My duty as an Ahmadi Muslim girl is to spread love, peace, and kindness to everyone, regardless of their race, gender, or class. One should never be afraid to speak up and spread awareness about racism. Staying quiet about a major issue makes you a part of the problem. It does not matter how you speak up; whether you use writing, social media, donations or even just a simple conversation educating someone about racism can help.

Posting informational videos and links to petitions about racism on social media is one very easy way you can spread awareness. Online links and videos are very easy to find but always make sure they are from credible resources. Donations can help by supporting big causes and companies that work against racism; such as Ben and Jerry’s who use their profits to support their partners “Color of Changes” and “Dream Corps.”

Racism can only be eradicated if every individual of the society speaks against it. People need to vocalize their concerns, fears and thoughts about other races because only then can we all come out of our comfort zone and really look at racism in its eye instead of hiding from it. Writing an article is just a small effort towards it.

As our beloved Prophet Muhammad (sa) advised, “O People! Certainly your Lord is One, your





father is one. An Arab possesses no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab over an Arab. A white man is in no way superior to a black nor for that matter, is a black man better than a white, except through *Taqwa* [righteousness].”

Practicing Love For All

Ali Ahmad Khan, Age 9, North Jersey

“Love for All, Hatred for None.” This is a perfect message to the world. Islam means peace and it teaches us to live with mutual love, affection and with humility. Allah says in the Holy Qur’an:

“And worship Allah and associate naught with Him, and show kindness to parents, and to kindred, and orphans, and the needy, and to the neighbor that is a kinsman and the neighbor that is a stranger, and the companion by your side, and the wayfarer, and those whom your right hands possess. Surely, Allah loves not the proud and the boastful.” [Ch. 4, V. 37]

As an Ahmadi Muslim, spreading love and peace means helping people and respecting them so everyone is happy. One way that I can do this to respect my family members, neighbors, and classmates. If people feel respected, they will want to give respect back. This is how love and peace works.



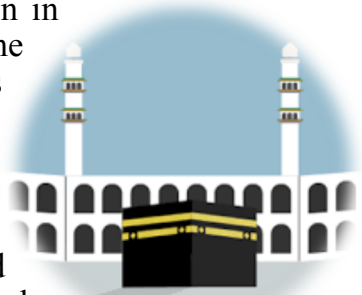
THE STRONG ADVOCATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Zara Laiq, Age 11, Virginia Central



Our faith teaches that what we preach to others we should practice ourselves first. Thomas Jefferson wrote the “Declaration of Independence” stating that all people are equal but an interesting fact is that Thomas Jefferson himself owned more than 600 slaves. Our beloved Holy Prophet (sa) was a strong advocate of human rights. He was very kind to slaves and was strongly against slavery. When the Holy Prophet (sa) married Hazrat Khadija (ra), she gave the Holy Prophet (sa) all of her wealth and slaves. The Holy Prophet (sa) set all those slaves free. Among them was Zaid (ra). Zaid (ra) was kidnapped when he was young and then became a slave. Zaid (ra) loved the Holy prophet (sa) because of his kind treatment towards everyone. When the Holy Prophet (sa) granted freedom to Zaid (ra), he refused to leave. One day Zaid’s (ra) father came because he had found where he was. His father wanted to bring him home but Zaid (ra) refused to go because he didn’t want to leave the Holy Prophet (sa). This was such an amazing incident because it showed how a freed slave preferred the Holy Prophet (sa) over his own parents because he (sa) was so affectionate and kind.

Hazrat Bilal (ra) was another person in Islamic history during the time of the Holy Prophet (sa). Hazrat Bilal (ra) was an Abyssinian slave and he was one of the first people to accept Islam. Hazrat Bilal (ra) was one the nine blessed souls who first accepted Islam. Because he was a poor slave and accepted Islam he was beaten and tortured brutally but Allah enabled him to stay steadfast. Later Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) bought him from his



cruel master and set him free. Hazrat Bilal (ra) loved the Holy Prophet (sa) and served him devotedly for eleven years. Hazrat Bilal (ra) fought alongside the Holy Prophet (sa) in all the battles and wars. His love for the Holy Prophet (sa) was unlimited and he made sure he was always around him. And the Holy Prophet (sa) loved him and always treated him with utmost kindness and affection. The Holy Prophet (sa) also gave Hazrat Bilal (ra) the blessed opportunity to deliver the first *adhan* in Mecca.



Allah loves His creation and in order to be the recipients of the love of our Creator we should always treat everyone the same way for a better and united future.



“Love for All, Hatred for None.” How can we practice this motto in our daily lives? Be positive, because when you are positive it is hard to share hate but easy to share love. Keep this motto in your mind all the time wherever you are and whoever you’re with; **“Love for All, Hatred for None.”**

Everyone is equal, so, don’t hate other people because they have a different skin color. Give love to them to make them feel good about themselves. Make a goal to share love and stand up for those who are getting hate.

Systemic Racism in our Society

Nyla Upal, Age 12, Rochester

Islam teaches us to be charitable and kind people. The Holy Prophet (sa) said, **“Do not show lethargy or negligence in giving alms and charity till your last breath”** (Bukhari and Muslim).



With these values, we can help those who are struggling. For example, this coronavirus pandemic disproportionately hurts the poor in America. Black and Indigenous people make up almost half (46.2%) of the people in poverty despite only making up 15.7% of the population, according to 2018 US Census Data. This is due to institutional and systemic racism. As individual people and as children especially, it may feel like these are huge things we don't have any control over. However,

those of us who are able to should be supporting ones who are in need during these times. We can encourage our parents to buy from their local shops instead of large corporations. We can also continue to donate, and look for implicit biases in ourselves. May Allah enable us all to grow as moral people and be the best we can be, *Amīn*.



LOVE FOR ALL HATRED FOR NONE

Insia Ahmed, Age 14, Virginia Central

Sadly, all around the world, there is still a lot of racism. People are mocked or made fun of because of their skin color, ethnicity, or culture. They can be physically assaulted, verbally abused, or murdered. However, Islam is against racism. We have to let go of our prejudices and love everyone equally. This is self-evident in our Jama'at's motto: ***“Love for all, hatred for none.”*** We should not mock or harass anybody because of their skin color. In the Holy Qur'an we are taught,

“O ye who believe! let not one people deride another people, haply they may be better than they; nor let one group of women deride other women, haply they may be better than they. And do not defame your people or call one another by nicknames. It is an evil thing to be called by bad name after having believed; and those who repent not, such are wrongdoers.” [Ch. 48, V. 12]

This verse from the Qur'an clearly shows that we should not mock or make fun of anyone who is different from us and we should treat everyone with love and respect. Islam also says that Allah has created many different kinds of people to show diversity and promote progress and that everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah. Thus, we should not focus on a person's race, but rather notice their good qualities and how righteous they are.



Love For All Hatred For None

Soha Ahmad, Age 10, Virginia Central

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's motto is *“Love for All, Hatred for None.”* But, what does this mean? In the Holy Qur'an we read,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V. 14]

Allah says this to make us realize why He made us into different tribes and nations. So that we can recognize each other, appreciate our differences and know that all human beings are equal in the eyes of Allah. I hope that all those around me absorb, understand, and implement these teachings into their lives. People should treat each other equally, as Allah has commanded it.



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ISLAM ON RACISM

Amna Khalid, Age 13, Baltimore

The Holy Prophet (sa) said, “All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over a white except by piety and good action.”

In the Holy Qur’an Allah says, “*O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.*” [Ch. 49, V. 14]

The Holy Prophet (sa) chose his beloved companion Hazrat Bilal (ra), an Ethiopian, to deliver the *adhan* in his own mosque. This was a high honor and a beautiful example. There are many examples which illustrate tolerance and racial equality in Islamic history. Once a Christian delegation was allowed to hold their worship and service in the Prophet’s (sa) mosque. Another example worth noting comes from Spain. After arriving on the soil of Spain, the Muslims published an edict assuring full liberty to all subjects of all races and backgrounds.

All were placed on an equal footing. It is recorded in history that the Jews, for example, profited most from the Muslim rule and administration. Many centuries

later when Spain was reconquered by Ferdinand and Isabella, many Jews preferred to go to Islamic lands rather than stay in Christian Spain. I wish that kind of history could be repeated today!



WHY DO YOU THINK ALLAH CREATED DIFFERENT RACES?

Malaika Khan, Age 11, North Jersey

One of the most important principles of Islam is Unity; Allah is One and mankind is one community. Allah Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V. 14]

Humans of different races were created to worship only Allah and live in peace with everyone. Islam teaches the importance of respecting everyone, togetherness, and being tolerant of people who might think differently from you. In Islam all races are equal and no one is superior just because of their complexion. The Holy Prophet (sa) said:

“O People, your Lord is One, you are the progeny of the same father who was created from dust. Hence it is not permissible for you to discriminate between high and low. Neither an Arab has superiority over a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab. A white person is not superior to a black person, nor a black is superior to a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is the most righteous.”

An example that shows this in Islam is when the Holy Prophet (sa) chose Hazrat Bilal (ra) who was an Ethiopian slave to deliver the *adhan*. We as Ahmadi Muslims, must support everyone and help each other and fight for justice and equality.



Love for All, Hatred for None

Jaziba Ahmad, Age 11, Austin

As an Ahmadi Muslim, when I think about my Ahmadiyya motto, *“Love for All, Hatred for None.”* I think of loving and treating everyone as if they are my own brothers and sisters. I think of not judging anyone by race, color or ethnicity. I think of respect and equality for all human beings. Allah has created us all equal. No one is better and no one is superior than the others.



“Love for All, Hatred for None” also reminds me of the Farewell Address of our beloved Holy Prophet (sa) when he explained the equality of all humans in these words:

“All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white has no superiority over a black, nor does a black have any superiority over a white; none have superiority over another except by piety and good action.”

We can create love, peace and justice in the world if we all practice *“Love for All, Hatred for None.”*





Ishmal Nasir/Age 14/San Diego

Racism has been around for many years. Recently there has been protesting about this very topic and people are fighting for their rights yet again. As an Ahmadi girl in the United States, I am here to encourage you all to spread the message that our Prophet (sa) has already established years ago.

I believe Allah the Almighty created different races so everyone would have a unique difference from where they came from. It is something that everyone could be proud of but still live equally amongst each other. The Holy Qur'an states,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V.14]

Sometimes, little things we say could offend someone. It's important to think before you speak. Little precautions like these can help us stop the hate and help us practice our motto ***“Love for All, Hatred for None.”*** Another way to practice is by being kind and respectful. Sometimes, people get an urge to shout and become mad. Sometimes you have to step up and help someone in need, even if it's not your problem, simply because we should help others.

I believe that people should stand up for what they believe. They should stand up for their religion, culture and their race. Peaceful protests are very important. We have to learn ways to take

a stand against racism in our society. Listen to the voices shouting and standing up for their beliefs. Try to understand them. Learn fairness and equality. It is our role as Ahmadis to bring back peace. I am doing my part and so should all of you.



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E-mail Submissions to: al-hilal@ahmadiyya.us

Why I think Allah created different Races

Rameen Noor / Age 8 / Virginia South



I think Allah created different races, so that everyone could be unique. Allah created different races so everyone wouldn't be the same and can be recognized. Not only is skin color unique, but all kinds of things are too. For example, some people have different shaped eyes. That's unique.



African girls sometimes wear long braids. Everyone is unique and that's why Allah created us so.

Allah Almighty also taught in the Holy Qur'an that all men are equal regardless of race, status or wealth. He judges them only on their good deeds. The last sermon of the Holy Prophet (sa) contains these beautiful words:

“O ye men! your God is One and your ancestor is one. An Arab possesses no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab over an Arab. A white man is no way superior to a black, nor for that matter is a black man to a white, but only to the extent to which he discharges his duty to God and man. The most honored among you in the sight of God is the most righteous among you.”

Love for All Hatred for None

Anum Latif/Age 7/Houston

The motto ***“Love for All, Hatred for None”*** means to me that we must love and respect all people from all of the different places in the world. Every year at my elementary school, we have a multicultural festival. People set up tables to show their culture, history, dress,



and food. When I walk around and visit different tables, I see interesting things about each culture. When I ask about their culture, they are happy to explain it to me.



In the Holy Qur’an it states,

“Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.”

[Ch. 49, V. 11]

Islam teaches us to live with mutual love, affection and with humility. It teaches us that everyone is equal in the sight of Allah.





Racism in Today's World

Haala Masroor /Age 12/ Central New Jersey

What does racism mean to you? How do you think we should deal with it? What are some ways that eliminating racism will change our society? These are questions to think about, ponder over and answer, as well as take action to address. It is our



responsibility as Ahmadi Muslims to change the way people view our world and create bonds of brotherhood within our society. When you think of racism you might think of something related to judging someone by their skin color or background. In light of recent events, the true face of many Americans has been shown, especially

following the death of George Floyd. His death has caused an uproar all across the world and there are riots all over the United States. Each day there seems to be something else that has gone wrong. There are shootings all over the country. Protests all across the



globe. Tension is omnipresent. No matter what, one thing is for sure; these recent events have changed the way that we look at the world.

Due to current events, many people have changed their outlook on America and perhaps even regarding the world. Some people are taking a stand. They are trying to stop this injustice based on race. Murder is iniquitous,

but when based on race, it is worse.

Racism not only affects the world, but it also affects the lives of the people who are targeted. In many cases their lives are affected forever. Their self-esteem lowers, and the injustices of hatred begin to seep into them. In the Holy Qur'an, God Almighty says,

"And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. In that surely are Signs for those who possess knowledge." [Ch. 30, V. 23]

Although the Holy Qur'an was revealed over 1400 years ago, it still provides us with advice to help us with issues that we are facing today. The reason for this is that God Almighty has guaranteed that this Holy Book will forever stay in effect and will always provide advice regarding all issues, until the end of this world. No problem is new. For most problems the solution lies within the moral improvement of an individual's character.



Islam has taught peace and equality. In his Farewell Sermon, the Holy Prophet (sa) is recorded to have said,

"An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action."

What this means is that no individual can exceed his fellow brothers except through righteousness and connection with God Almighty.

In the end, we all need to take action against these brutal acts of racism through the universal slogan of "Supreme Justice." We cannot leave the work to be done by others. Take action! Even if it's as simple as helping someone to stop judging others. We all need to come together to fight racism.

LOVE FOR ALL HATRED FOR NONE



Hazeem Ahmad/Age 7/ Virginia South

To me *“Love for All, Hatred for None”* means everyone is equal. I think everyone should be loved! To practice this motto we must be kind, respectful, and caring to others. We should practice love every day. We must do it because we want to make everyone our friend. We must practice it wherever we are. It can be in our homes, school, mosque and just everywhere!

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Arissa Jaswal/Age 11/San Diego

Racism is a serious problem in our world and it is up to our generation to fix it. Many people of color have been shot this year by the police. Although this is the middle of a pandemic, racism has been going on for centuries. In the 1850s there was slavery. In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was fighting once again for the lives of black people, and now in the 21st century we are still fighting for freedom for black people.



You can make a change! Become well-informed, watch documentaries, make a sign and stick it in front of your house. If we don't talk about racism just because it might make us feel uncomfortable, then it will never go away. So we have to make ourselves feel uncomfortable to make progress. Take a stand and fight racism.

Educating yourself is another important thing you can do to fight racism. Read pertinent articles and spread the word. It is wrong that people still judge others by their skin color. The color of your skin isn't a weapon, so stop acting like it is! Be the change and end racism.



**Aateka Maaz Mirza/Age 7/Virginia South
With assistance from Naira Mirza**

I want to share my thoughts about the different races that are actually the beauty of our earth. I love to play and collect different kinds of stuffed toys. I have different varieties that keep me busy playing and having fun.



My room looks very colorful because of the different colors of stuffed toys. If I had similar looking stuffed toys the same shape and color, it would be boring and my room would look dull. In the same way, my dear friends, Allah, the Wise, the All-Knowing, has blessed this world with different races, cultures, and colors that make the earth beautiful.



Abia Usman/Age10/Maryland



I believe this world is big enough for all races. We are all human and we are all beautiful and unique in our own way. Why can't we get along? You should be grateful that you look different from other people because that makes you stand out.

Almighty Allah says in the Holy Qur'an,

“Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you...” [Ch. 49, V.14].

Everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah. Prophet Muhammad (sa) said, *“All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor is a black superiority to a white, except by piety and good actions.”*



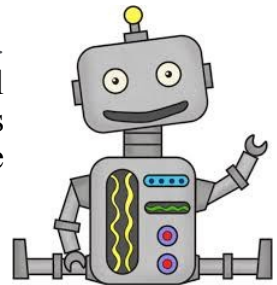
Sabeeka Ahmad /Age 9 /Austin

We all are different in many ways. We are of different colors and have different features and we all have different abilities and talents, and different personalities and natures. Allah has made all of us different from each other, so that we all can be distinct as Allah says in the Holy Qur'an,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition...”

[Ch. 49, V. 14].

It would not have been interesting if we all were the same like robots. Our differences make us beautiful, unique, and special just like the colors of a rainbow.



Racism

Sara Syed/Age 11/Albany

Since I was little, I have never understood why people dislike others based on their skin color. My parents always emphasized to me the motto given to us by Khalifat-ul-Masih III (rh), **“Love for All, Hatred for None.”** I think people shouldn’t be treated differently because of how they act, how they look or their lifestyle. My best friend is an African American and she is really sweet and kind. Her skin color is part of who she is and she is my best friend. Skin color is nothing to hold against someone. In his last public speech, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) said,



“All humans have descended from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, or a non-Arab over an Arab. A white person has no superiority over a black person nor a black person over a white person, except on the basis of personal piety and righteousness.”

This was from the *sermon of Hajjatul-Wida'* [Farewell Sermon], which is a complete charter of human rights where he (sa) spoke clearly that racial supremacy is unacceptable and all human beings are equal.

The Holy Qur’an states, **“O mankind, We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you...”** [Ch. 49, V.14].

This year in America we have seen many incidents of racism. The unjust killing of Breonna Taylor in her sleep, the killing of Ahmaud Arbery as he jogged through his neighborhood, the brutal murder of George Floyd, and Jacob Blake who was shot seven times. Sadly, the list goes on. I think that in America racism has always been a problem and cannot be ignored.

On the other hand, in Islam, we see that the most eloquent call to prayer was uttered by a black man, a former slave, whose name was Bilal (ra). He was a beloved companion of our Holy Prophet (sa) and the first *muezzin* [caller to prayer]. Bilal ibn Rabah's (ra) place in Islam shows us that Islam advocates for equality, justice, and freedom.



WHAT THE PROPHET (SA) TAUGHT US ABOUT JUSTICE



Dania Mansoor /Age 9/ Los Angeles

The Holy Prophet (sa) taught us about justice. He taught us that the government should take care of poor people, give them food, water, and housing and other necessities. Jewish people used to come to him (sa) for their disputes since they believed in his justice.

The Holy Prophet (sa) would not differentiate between poor or rich while acting with justice. He taught us that we should treat slaves with justice. He (sa) wanted us to treat others the same way we would like to be treated.

The Holy Prophet (sa) advised us to be kind to others; your neighbors, siblings, rich people, and poor people. The Holy Prophet (sa) also said to be kind and forgive others' mistakes. In order to be just, we should study his life in detail. One way of doing that is to regularly listen to the Friday Sermon given by Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba).

This Beautiful Teaching

Iman Ali Qureshi/Age 13/York/Harrisburg

Let's say that you were put in a room with ten people. Imagine that all of these people were exactly like you. They came from the same place as you, they looked just like you, and their history was a copy of yours. Imagine you were asked to talk to these people about your background. What would you talk about?

Now imagine being put in a room where everyone was different! The things and topics you could discuss could go on and on! No one in this world is exactly the same as you and that is great! All our differences allow us to come together and share all of the beautiful cultures from around the world! It is said in the Holy Qur'an,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V. 14]



Fourteen hundred years ago, Islam told us to respect our differences and learn from each other.

In his farewell sermon, the Holy Prophet (sa) said, “An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; A white person has no superiority over black person, nor does a black have any superiority over white, except by piety and good actions.”

Islam gives us clear guidance that Allah has made all people different in terms of skin color, culture, customs, and beliefs so

that we can learn to respect one another and live in peace. Only piety and righteousness make anyone superior in the eyes of Allah. I pray that everyone in the world can understand and follow this beautiful teaching, *Amīn*.

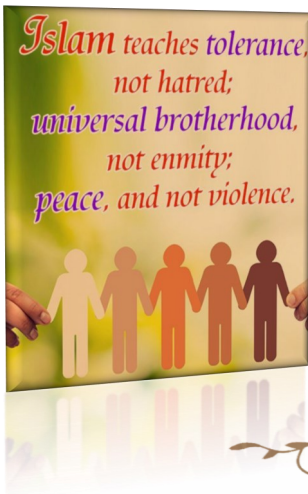


Ruhaab Fatima/12 years/Los Angeles

Every day we see people with different hair, eyes and personality, which raises the question, why did Allah create different races? The reason is that Allah wants us to know that everyone is unique and special in their own way. In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says,

“And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. In that surely are Signs for those who possess knowledge.”

[Ch. 30, V. 23]



Being different means that you can share your expressions and strive with each other in ways of goodness. If you are different, you make Allah's creation more beautiful and more amazing. So, the next time you wonder about this question, think about the talents Allah has granted you, even if it makes you different.



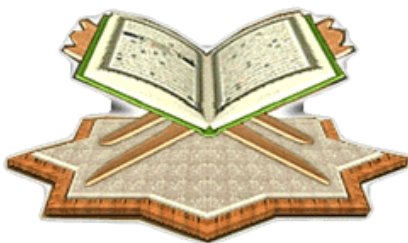
LOVE FOR ALL ISLAM ON RACE

Sara Choudhary/Age 14/Virginia Central

Today's ongoing events have brought up issues about race to the forefront. Ever since we can remember, there has always been a division between the races. From the beginning of civilization, there has always been prejudice. These issues have never been completely resolved and have once again been brought up in today's world. As Ahmadi Muslims, we should follow the teachings of Islam despite what other people may tell us to follow.

In Islam, we believe that all people are equal and that we should treat everybody with kindness and compassion irrespective of their race, religion, or gender. In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49, V. 14]



God tells us that He has created all human beings, and we should always treat each other with kindness and equality, despite having a certain skin color.

The Holy Prophet (sa) also made a statement on the topic of

race and stressed the same points mentioned in the Holy Qur'an. The Prophet Muhamad (sa) said,

“O People, your Lord is One, you are the progeny of the same father who was created from dust. Hence it is not permissible for you to discriminate between high and low. An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab. A white person is not superior to a black person, nor is a black superior to a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is the most righteous.”

It is clear that not only is racial discrimination not acceptable, but any discrimination between people is not acceptable.

In light of current events happening in the world, we should make sure that our decisions and words are aligned with Islamic teachings. Today's events and topics are very distressing and we should always listen to what our beloved Huzoor (aba) is saying, as well as read books written by the Promised Messiah (as), and

previous Khulafa to increase our knowledge and understanding of Islam. This is the only way we can be agents of change and bring about peace in

our communities, *In Sha Allah*.

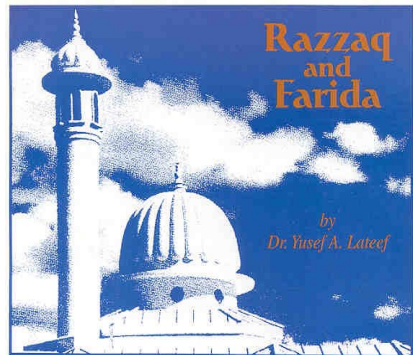


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BE KIND TO EVERYONE

Naba Abbas, Age 7, Virginia Central

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HOW WE CAN PRACTICE LOVE FOR ALL IN OUR DAILY LIVES?

Aariz Ahmed/Age 9/Virginia South



Racism is being cruel, unfair, or judgmental. *“Love for All”* starts in our own house. If we learn to deal nicely with our family, friends and neighbors, then we can learn to treat everyone fairly. Allah the Almighty guides us on this topic in the Holy Qur’an:

“Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.” [Ch.49, V. 11]

Many people have been killed or have been severely injured by cruel acts of racism like George Floyd and Jacob Blake. However, our Master Prophet Mohammad (sa), Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, and many more taught us not to give up on it because of other people’s opposition. But this requires a lot of persistence and patience. A Golden Rule that applies to everyone is, **“Treat others the way you want to be treated.”**

During this time of pandemic, we can still connect with each other and write articles, fulfilling the expectations of Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) to promote

Love for All, Hatred for None. But

we must remember that racism is not only a responsibility for me or you to stop it alone, but it is everyone’s responsibility to end it together. We must try to make as many friends as

we can of all races. Our own good

behaviors may convince others to join us, as we Ahmadis slowly and calmly make a difference in the world. Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) has told us many things about racism, so it’s our responsibility to reflect upon Huzoor’s (aba) words. May Allah guide us through this time, Amīn!



ISLAM ON RACE

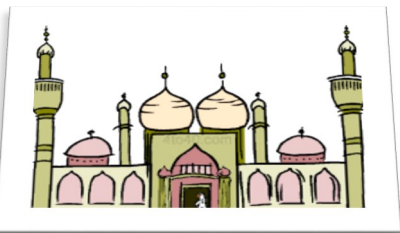
Sereena Malik/Age 10/Austin



The word Islam means peace, which is non-violence. As an Ahmadi Muslim, I strongly believe that no one can claim any superiority over the other based on race, color, language, or wealth. This is emphasized in the last sermon of Prophet Muhammad (sa) showing his high regard of humanity irrespective of color or race. He (sa) said,

“All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action.”

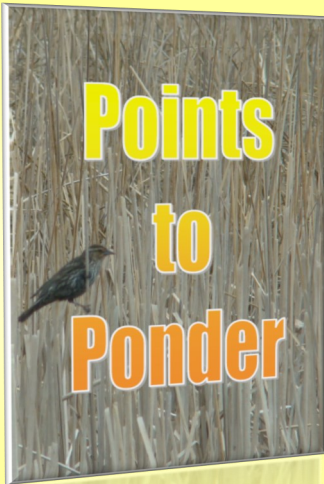
A man once visited the Prophet’s mosque and saw a group of people including the Persian Salman (ra), a Greek called Suhaib (ra), and an African named Bilal (ra). The man said, “If the tribes of Aus and Khazraj support Muhammad (sa), they are his people. But what are these people doing here?” The Prophet (sa) became angry when this was reported to him. He went to the mosque and summoned people to prayer where he addressed them saying, “O people know that the Lord and Sustainer is One. Your ancestor is one, your faith is one. The Arabism of anyone of you is not from your mother or father. It is no more than a tongue (language).”



Racism divides people into ‘us’ and ‘them’ based on one’s color and caste. And it happens when people feel that it’s acceptable to treat others badly as they go about their daily lives. The Holy Prophet (sa) taught,

“Whoever has arrogance in his heart equal to an atom’s weight shall not enter Paradise. A man inquired about a person who likes to wear beautiful clothes and fine shoes, he answered: ‘God is beautiful and likes beauty’ and explained pride as rejecting truth because of self-esteem and looking down on other people” (Muslim).

We learn that the idea of universal responsibility is the simple fact that, in general terms, all other people desire the same things as you. Everyone wants happiness and does not want suffering. If we, as intelligent human beings, do not accept this fact, there will be more and more suffering on this planet. If we constantly try to abuse others for our own self-interest, we may gain temporary benefits, but in the long run we will not succeed in achieving even our own personal happiness and world peace will be completely out of the question.



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Islam on Race



Haya Ahmed/Age 13/Baltimore

Islam says that everyone is equal, independent of their gender and race. Sadly, because of acts of violence against people of color, this has not been the case in the streets of New York, Seattle, Tucker, Jacksonville, and so many more places across the country. These include the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmuad Arbery, Brianna Taylor, and many more killings of people of color by police. Our own Huzoor (aba) has even spoken about it, saying,



“How could this be possible in a country that claims to be the most advanced nation on earth; a paragon of virtue and the so-called land of the free?”

Remember everyone is equal in the eyes of God. The only way to be different is in our spirituality. Do as many good deeds as possible. Learn not to judge people in general. Everyone has the same blood as you, so there is no reason to judge them.



The Importance of Justice

Asifa Malik/Age 9/Austin, TX

In the Holy Qur'an Allah states,

“O ye who believe! be steadfast in the cause of Allah, bearing witness in equity; and let not a people's enmity incite you to act otherwise than with justice. Be always just, that is nearer to righteousness. And fear Allah. Surely, Allah is aware of what you do” [Ch. 5, V. 9].

We should think about the meaning of this verse and act upon it by treating each other fairly. In our daily lives, we might see that people are not treated fairly. We should speak up and come to the aid of those unjustly treated. Whether in school or elsewhere, our religion teaches us to treat everyone with kindness, promoting a peaceful outcome. If we can practice this and teach others the same, it will be a lot easier to have justice in the world.

“Treat Others The Way You Want To Be Treated” is an important quote that guides me every day. Some ways we do this include helping an elderly person or playing with your friends nicely. Your friends will be happy if you treat them with kindness and they will also treat you back the same way. I pray that justice will be seen everywhere, *Amīn*.



The Importance of Diversity

Sahibzada Nabeel Ahmad/Age 9/Virginia North

According to the Oxford Dictionary, “diversity is a range of many people or things that are hugely different from each other.” This means that we all grow up in different environments and all have different ideas. Because of diversity we celebrate different holidays, festivals, and get to learn about each other. Diversity makes our communities more enjoyable because of all the differences coming from all different cultures. Islam also promotes diversity and asks its followers to live peacefully with everyone. Learning about different religions, we learn about how people from those religions think about life and death, and how other things worked. In the Holy Qur’an, Allah says,

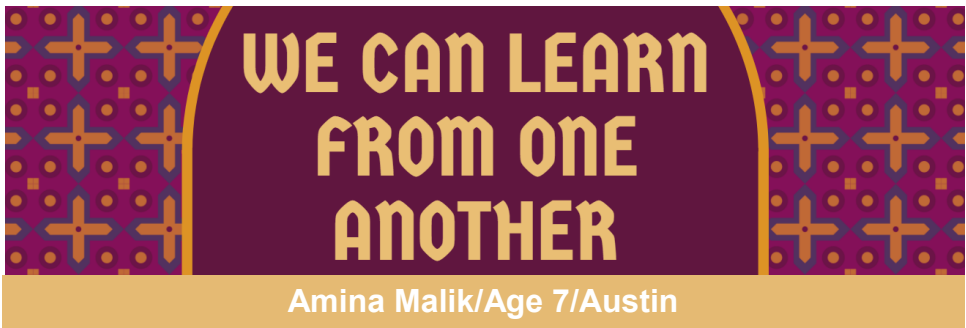


“Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between brothers, and fear Allah that mercy may be shown to you.” [Ch. 49, V. 11]

It means that we should have peace with other religions and people. When we say *As-Salamu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatohu*, it means may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you all. It does not just mean the people you said it to, it means everyone, every religion, every skin color, every person.

In a speech at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in France,

His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba), while talking about the role of diversity and respect for each other in the thriving state of Medina under the Holy Prophet (sa), said, “During the seventh century, under the government led by the Prophet of Islam (sa), astonishing progress was made in Medina to advance the cause of individual and collective rights. Indeed, for the very first time amongst the Arabs, an orderly and civilized society was established. In many ways, it was a model society – in terms of infrastructure, services and, more importantly, in terms of the unity and tolerance displayed in what was a multicultural society.” When we live in a diverse society where we accept each other the way we are, we make the world a better place.



Allah created people with many differences so that we can learn to treat all people equally and so that we can learn from one another, regardless of one’s race or color.



In the Holy Qur’an Allah says, *“Allah has promised those who believe and do good deeds that they shall have forgiveness and a great reward.”* [Ch. 5, V. 10]

We should always treat all people with kindness and justice. I pray we all learn to be loving and kind with one another, Amīn

LOVE FOR ALL ISLAM ON RACE

Anoosh Rizwan/Age 12/Virginia Central

Islam teaches us to live with mutual love, affection and humility. It teaches us that there is no distinction between Muslim and a non-Muslim. Islam means peace. Addressing a large gathering of people, Prophet Muhammad (sa) said,

“O people, your lord is one, you are the progeny of the same father who was created from dust. Hence, it is not permissible for you to discriminate between high and low. An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab. A white person is not superior to a black person, nor a black person superior to a white. The most honorable among you in the sight of God is the one who is most righteous.

You are brothers and sisters. You are all equal. No matter to which nation or tribe you belong and no matter what your status is, you are equal. Just as the fingers of both hands are alike, nobody can claim to have any distinctive right or greatness over another. The command which I give you today is not just for today but it is forever. Always remember to keep acting upon it until you return to your true Master.”

As Ahmadi Muslims, we can show kindness, love, peace, and patience and compromise with each other. Kindness is any element which is revealed by a person’s good morals and actions. Your kindness can make a difference. Inspire others to stand up for those facing injustice. Respect our elders, respect others.

Al-Hamdu Lillah, throughout the world, Ahmadi Muslims are renowned for their commitment to peace, their law-abiding nature and determination to create a



harmonious society for all people regardless of their nationality, ethnicity or faith. I made a poster of *Love for All, Hatred for None* and put it outside the window so



everyone can see. One of the neighbors asked me about it. I think this is silent *tabligh*.

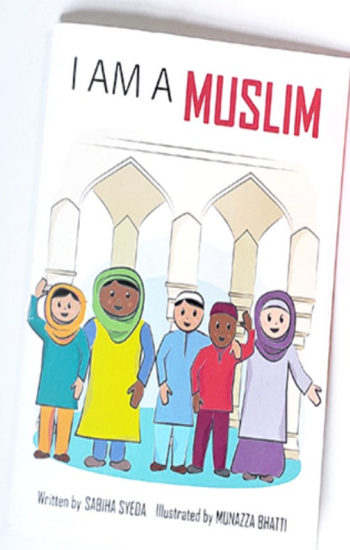
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Holy Prophet (sa) & his Work To End Racism

Kashif Latif, Age 12, Zion

The Holy Prophet (sa) fought hard to end racial injustices in his community. He not only established equality in his tribe, but he also respected all races and all people no matter where they were from, or what their background was. Even when he had to migrate to a different city, he encouraged his followers to treat the citizens of the new city as brothers. When it was time for the first *adhan*, the Holy Prophet (sa) asked Hazrat Bilal (ra), a former African slave to call it. This showed that no matter what background you are from you deserve the same as any other human being. In his farewell address the Holy Prophet (sa) said,



“An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action.”

The Holy Prophet (sa) gave everyone a chance to accept Islam as he was preaching to communities. He respected all races and was most forgiving. The Holy Qur’an says,

“Whosoever killed a person — unless it be for killing a person or for creating disorder in the land — it shall be as if he had killed all mankind...” [Ch. 5, V.33].

We should also keep in mind the comment of Hazrat Khalifat-ul-Masih V (aba) that, **“Innocent Lives Matter.”** This shows that just because anyone committed a crime in desperation, they have the right to a fair trial with their circumstances considered.

These are just some of the ways that the Holy Prophet (sa) fought to end racial injustice. The Holy Prophet (sa) has taught us many ways to treat our fellow human beings with justice in this world.



ISLAM ON RACISM

Rawiya Zia, Age 12, Laurel

In a sermon known as the Farewell Address, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) said

“All humans are descended from Adam and Eve. An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab, and a white person is not superior over a black person nor a black person over a white person, except on the basis of personal piety and righteousness.”

In the current time the words of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) are something that we should remember. We are all descended from two people, but we look, talk and act differently. Being different is a good thing and we should be proud to be a part of such a diverse community and never call someone out about how they look, act, or talk, because, at the end of the day, we're all human beings.



Love For All People

Hadi Latif /Age 9/ Zion

The Holy Prophet said, “Shake hands with one another and rancor will disappear. Give gifts to each other, you will love each other and enmity will disappear” (Malik/Awjazul Masalik). This teaches us to be kind and make friends and be good to all people. The Holy Qur’an states,



“Surely, Allah loves those who do good.” [Ch. 2, V. 196]

We should all be ready to make sacrifices in our lives to help people. In a press conference in UK on August 14, 1980, the third Khalifa of Ahmadiyyat, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rh), announced the golden motto of our community, **“Love for All, Hatred for None.”** As an Ahmadi Muslim, I make prayer and I pray for everybody out of love. **Love for All, Hatred and Racism for None.**

Love for all, Hatred for none

Tahaani Khan/Age 13/York/Harrisburg

“Love for All, Hatred for None.” You have probably heard of this motto many times and that is because it is a beautiful Ahmadiyya saying made by our beloved third Khalifa (rh). Saying or hearing this motto is not important; it is important that you apply this motto to your everyday life. Racism is one of the most common ways hatred is expressed. One of the ways racism is shown is when a person makes fun of or discriminates against people of color. Not only does this affect one person, but it affects

the entire community. Islam teaches that every life is beautiful and that we should refrain from being racist or hateful towards someone. No matter what race you are, you should have the right to live your own life in peace. Yet for many people of color, this is not the case. We read in in Holy Qur'an,

“O ye who believe! be steadfast in the cause of Allah, bearing witness in equity; and let not a people’s enmity incite you to act otherwise than with justice. Be always just, that is nearer to righteousness. And fear Allah. Surely, Allah is aware of what you do.” [Ch. 5, V. 9]

In the United States, being white allows for privilege. This is why the Holy Prophet (sa) gave this invaluable reminder in his Farewell Sermon for all times to all of humankind,

“Allah has made you brethren one to another, so not be divided. An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab to an Arab; nor is a white one superior to a black one, nor a black one to a white one.”

In the time of the Holy Prophet (sa), Arabs thought they were superior over every other person. The Holy Prophet (sa) pointed out 1500 years ago that skin color and ethnicity should not lead to injustice.



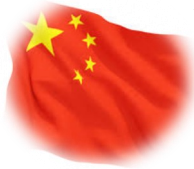
An Ahmadi Muslim should never do or say anything to hurt someone intentionally and we should also be careful about unintentional pain we can cause. Our beloved Huzoor (aba) has advised us, ***“...do not sit in any bad company... It should be that you do not intend to cause or convey any harm or loss to any religion, or to any man belonging to any nation or group”*** (Jalsa Salana Uganda, 2005).

If you witness someone being racist, don't be scared to speak up. You should not yell at them. Rather, you should educate them on the topic. It is your responsibility as an Ahmadi Muslim to not only refrain from being racist or mean to someone, but also educate people on being kind and tolerant whether they were racist or hateful towards you or someone else. As an Ahmadi Muslim, we must spread the motto and act accordingly. No matter who you are or what color your skin is, always remember,

“Love for All, Hatred for None.”

LOVE FOR ALL, ISLAM ON RACE

Sitwat Rasheed/Age 11/Austin



I have a lot of friends in school, who are from different countries. One of them is from Saudi Arabia and I always enjoy it when she tries to teach us Arabic. One is from China and it is interesting to see her write in Chinese. I am from Pakistan and I love to tell them about my language and culture. Some are African American and some are white, but all my friends



are beautiful and kind. A few months back I heard about the murder of George Floyd. After that I was introduced to the terms of racism, slavery, hatred, inequity, human rights violation, etc.

The best source of guidance for mankind is our Holy Qur'an. In the Holy Qur'an Allah says,

“Dost thou not see that Allah sends down water from the sky and We bring forth therewith fruits of different colors; and among the mountains are streaks white and red, of diverse hues and others raven black; And of men and beasts and cattle, in like manner, there are various colors? Only those of His servants who possess knowledge fear Allah. Verily, Allah is Mighty, Most Forgiving.” [Ch. 35, V. 28-29]

Allah is the Creator and the diversity in this universe is the reflection of His wisdom and creative power. In the Holy Qur'an, He clearly declares that the best amongst you is most righteous. Our Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) said in his last known public speech,

“An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab, and a white person is not superior to a black person nor a black person over a white person, except on the basis of personal piety and righteousness.”



These words give us the light which help us to get rid of the darkness of racism and inequality.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community’s motto, **“Love for All, Hatred for None,”** should resonate deeply today, because racism creates discrimination and hatred, which can disturb the balance of society. The world needs peace, harmony, care, and love, which can only be fulfilled by **Love for All and Hatred for None**. As Ahmadi Muslims, we should not only respect the diversity and cultural values of other people, but celebrate them. We should organize cultural, art, and food events to raise awareness and initiate conversations about the many colors of humanity.

Our skin color is also a part of the beauty of diversity. **“Ethnicity should enrich us; it should make us a unique people in our diversity and not be used to divide us.”**

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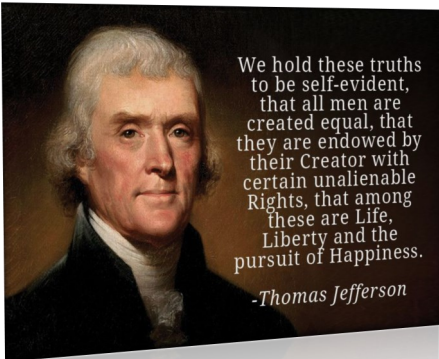


DIFFERENT RACES, SAME GOD

Amna Ali/Age 10/Brooklyn/Staten Island

What is racism? Racism is when one person feels that they are better than others because of skin color or background. Racism is very hurtful and cruel. We should always remember to be kind to everyone. We should always help people, show kindness and support them. We were all created by the One God and we are all equal. In his last sermon, the Holy Prophet (sa) said,

“All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold, are equal. Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers.”



These words might remind us of the USA Declaration of Independence: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Sadly, people are not following the rules made by their own forefathers. People are still being discriminated against due to their color, race, and religion.

As Ahmadi Muslims, we strongly believe in our motto, **“Love for All, Hatred for None.”** We have to remember what matters is that we are all created by the One God Who has instructed us to be loving and kind to everyone.



THIS BEAUTIFUL GIFT

Meher Rehman / Age 8 / Houston

If you look at the world around us, Allah has given us a great gift: color. When we see the sky, we witness all kinds of different colors. If we look at the plants, animals, bodies of water, sea life, even in our own eyes you will see all different colors. So, if everything around us has color, then why wouldn't Allah give us humans different colors?



If we all had the same skin tone, this world would be a very boring place! And we couldn't learn from one another and about each other's cultures. Allah made us different in color, but the value is the same. One purple flower isn't better or more important than a yellow flower. They are equal, but also very different. Each flower has its own beauty and scent. Together, they make the garden so

pretty.

Look at the rainbow in the sky. Is the green color more beautiful than the red one? No. In fact, sometimes when we see the rainbow and not all the colors are shown, we get very sad and wish that it would be a full rainbow. Why? Because we know that once all the colors are seen, then it would be a truly beautiful sight to see.

This is just like humans. A white person isn't better than a black person or a black person better than a white person. They are equal and beautiful. So please do not judge a person by his or her skin tone. Let us all enjoy this beautiful gift of color that Allah gave to us!



Love for All, Islam on Race

Zainab Rasheed/Age 13/Austin

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says,

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware.” [Ch. 49: V. 14]

This quote makes it clear that we all have the same origin and that our conduct is the only thing that matters to our Creator. The Holy Prophet (sa) said, “All people are the children of Adam, and Adam was created from dust” (Tirmidhī). In another *Hadith* Holy Prophet (sa) said, “Being black did not degrade Bilal (black freed slave) and being Arab did not save Abu Lahab (a chief of the Quraish).” This demolishes the concept of arrogance and pride in one’s status or background.

Equality is a basic concept of Islam, which declares that all mankind are equal regardless of one's skin color, language, gender or ethnic background. Islam, with its global concept of brotherhood, rejects all false and man-made marks of dissimilarity.

Islam rejected the idea of slavery. The first person to recite the first *adhan* in Muslim history was a freed African slave, Hazrat Bilal (ra). Islam is strongly against Racism. The racism we’re fighting against today was prohibited by Islam more than 1400 years ago. Racism is like poison

SAY NO TO RACISM!



which can kill the concept of humanity, while our motto says, **“Love for All, Hatred for None,”** which is quite the opposite. We’re taught to treat everyone with affection, kindness, fairness and respect. Our concept of love is based on equality and brotherhood. Racism is born from discrimination and arrogance. Prophet Muhammad (sa) also said, **“Whoever has arrogance in his heart equal to an atom’s weight shall not enter Paradise”** (Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood, Ibn Majah).

Allah created this universe and decorated it with different colors. The peaceful blue color of sky, charming colors of flowers, beautiful colors of fruits, eye catching colors of wings of butterflies and the different skin color of humans are the beauty and diversity of this universe. Now being an Ahmadi Muslim, it’s our duty to promote the message of love and equality from one corner of the earth to the other, not only by our words, but also by our actions.



Art Submission By :

**Anna Amtulrehman ,
Age 11, Maryland**





Why did Allah create



different races?



Aneelah Kauser/Age 13/Houston

Allah created the human race. We are all one race, the human race. Why should the color of our skin decide who we are? According to the Prophet Muhammad (sa), it does not matter how many good deeds a person's parents or grandparents may have carried out during their lifetime. He or she should not be content to rest on their laurels. The only way an individual can secure entrance to paradise is by carrying out good deeds themselves. The Holy Prophet (sa) said. **“All of the people are the children of Adam, and Adam was created from dust”** (Tirmidhī).

We are all equal, all created by Allah. In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says,

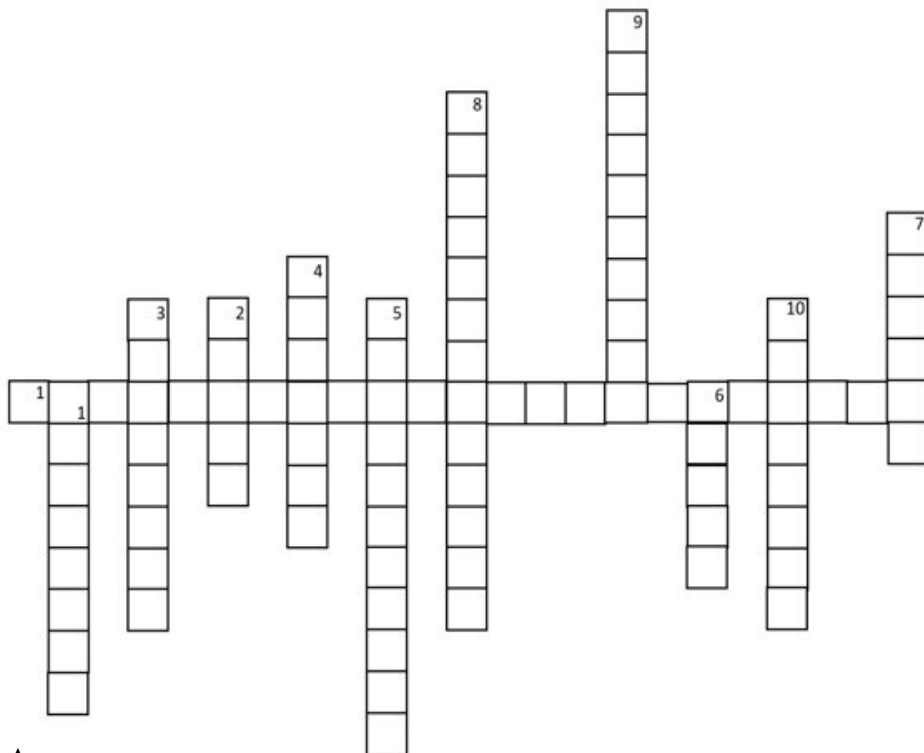
“O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-knowing, All-Aware” [Ch. 49, V. 14].

In this verse Allah declares that diversity among mankind is no accident. It was created, as all things are, by design. Allah does not want us to keep our distance from those who are not like us, but rather we should come to know one another. When we explore and embrace cultural differences in this manner, we are introduced to new ideas and learn lessons upon which we can build and make progress.



LOVE FOR ALL

Aleena Ahmed, Age 11, Virginia Central



Across

“self evident, all men are created equal” July 4th 1777

Down

1. State of being equal
2. Compassion or forgiveness shown to someone
3. Someone with religious faith
4. Just behavior or treatment
5. Relationship between brothers
6. Freedom from disturbance
7. Spiritual communication with God
8. Love for all...
9. Relationship between sisters

IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY!

Mairah Kauser/Age 10/Houston

If we experience diversity in our everyday life, we will have regular exposure to people, cultures, traditions, and practices that are unlike ours. Diversity comes in many forms: gender, race, religion, age, culture. What if everyone who surrounded you was exactly like you? What would be the fun in that? We need new ideas, views, and practices to inspire us. These are some reasons why diversity is important.

1. You will learn the skills to communicate with each other.
2. Together, our differences make a strong, beautiful world and community.
3. Bringing together people of various backgrounds with different experiences can generate ideas.
4. This will prepare you to be a part of a global society, by traveling, working or learning.
5. Diversity will enhance your social development and you will also increase your understanding of the world.
6. Even in the face of intolerance and violence, you must not forget to spread the word about the importance of diversity and to respond to hatred with love and a celebration of our differences.





EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL

Hana Suhail/ Age 8/Virginia Central
With assistance from her mother

In America, people had to fight for equal rights. Rosa Parks had to stay in her seat in the bus until the police came and arrested her. Martin Luther King Jr. had to protest with thousands of other people in the streets. Sojourner Truth, an African American slave, had to run away from her owner and fight for her son in court. These were some of the sacrifices the African American people made to get equal rights.



Left: Rosa Parks
Right: Martin Luther King



In the sixth century when Prophet Muhammad (sa) brought Islam he taught us that no one race is better than another race. He treated all people fairly. He chose Hazrat Bilal (ra), who used to be an African slave, to do a very important



task. He chose him to be the first person to call the *adhan*. This showed the people that a person's background or race does not decide their worth and in the eyes of Allah everyone is equal.



EVERYBODY IS EQUAL IN ISLAM

Tanzeela Khan/Age 9/York/Harrisburg

Everyone has a right to be treated kindly and respectfully. It's a serious issue that people are being discriminated against because of their background or color of their skin. In Islam, we are taught to treat all humanity kindly, and everyone is welcome in the mosque. The Holy Prophet (sa) said,



“By God who holds my life in His Hand, none of you can be truly faithful Muslim, unless he likes for his brother what he likes for himself.” (Bukhari)

This means that every Ahmadi Muslim should treat everyone how they would like to be treated, no matter their color or their background. Martin Luther King Jr. said, **“Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.”**



Everyone should be welcome anywhere they would like to go. Sometimes it's hard to avoid hurtful words and actions. Always remember when you are feeling down, turn towards Allah. Turn to happiness because every day is a new day to start something new.



Your Race

Aariz Ahmed / Age 9 / Virginia South

**You belong to a different race,
but we can all learn together,
how to give each one their space.**

**Have hope,
and hold on to Promised Messiah's
(as) rope.**

**Whether you are
white, black, or brown,
have a smile, not a frown.**

**Make it fair,
and treat others with care.**

**Be as strong as a tower,
but as gentle as a flower.**

**Love Huzoor (aba), and care
for the poor.**

**Follow what Muhammad (sa) said,
and make ISLAM,
our true religion, spread.**

Unity

The Islamic concept of Unity also inculcates in man the realization of the oneness of the human species, and does away with all such barriers as divide man into racial, ethnic and color denominations. This gives birth to the universal concept of equality in Islam, which is its distinctive feature. Hence, from the vantage point of God, all human beings, wherever and in whichever age they were born, stand equal in His sight.

The belief in Unity... requires a consistency between man's views and actions, a consistency between his relationship with God and his fellow beings, thus binding creation in a single chain of unbreakable unity.

An Elementary Study of Islam,
Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifat-ul-Masih IV (rh)

Answer Key

BE KIND TO EVERYONE

E	N	O	Y	R	E	V	E	T	T
V	N	T	O	L	A	T	H	O	N
Y	T	U	X	A	L	L	A	H	E
P	N	S	O	U	Q	F	D	E	R
E	A	M	H	A	O	Q	I	A	F
P	L	E	M	O	N	A	T	D	F
O	Z	R	P	E	W	T	H	I	I
I	N	C	R	E	A	T	E	D	D
E	X	Y	Y	C	D	E	F	G	H



LOVE FOR ALL

Across

Declaration of independence

Down

1. equality
2. mercy
3. believer
4. justice
5. brotherhood
6. peace
7. prayer
8. hatred for none
9. sisterhood
10. kindness



Glossary

Abū Dāwūd ابو داود : A collection of Aḥadīth. The author of this collection.

Adhan: The call to prayer

Al-Ḥamdu Lillāh اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ : All praise belongs to Allah.

Al-Hilāl الهلال : The new moon.

Āmīn [Āmeen, Aameen] آمين : So be it. Amen. Ceremony to commemorate the completion of the first reading of the Holy Qur'an.

As-Salāmu 'Alaikum اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ May peace be upon you. (The formation assalam-o or assalam-u is incorrect as there is no waw و after mīm م, hence the abbreviation AoA or A.O.A. or A-o-A is also incorrect.)

Bukhari: A collection of Ahadith. The author of this collection.

Chanda: چنده Monetary contribution, donation. (The ha at the end is to indicate a fath on dal, and is not pronounced, so should not be explicitly written in the transliteration of the word.)

Ḥaḍrat حضرت [Hadhrat, Ḥaḍrat, Hazrat]: His Holiness

Aḥmad, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor (1950-...) حضرت مرزا مسرور احمد, may Allah be his Helper: Fifth successor (2003-...) to the Promised Messiah (peace be on him).

Ḥuḍūr [Ḥudhūr, Ḥuzūr, Huzoor] حضور : His Honor, His Holiness, Your Honor, Your Holiness. In Urdu, it is spelled Ḥaḍūr [Ḥaḍoor, Ḥadhūr, Ḥadhoor, Ḥazūr, Ḥazoor].

Iftār افطار : breaking the Islamic formal fast at sunset

Iftārī افطاری : eating to break Islamic formal fast.

Ijtima: gathering

Jalsa Salana: Annual Convention

Jama`at: Community

Muezzin: caller to Prayer

Nāsīrāt ناصرات : helpers (feminine). A member of Majlis Nasirat -ul-Ahmadiyya, association of young Ahmadi girls.

Sadaqah صدقه : alms

Tabligh: Preaching

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Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud
Ahmad, the Promised Reformer
(may Allah be pleased with him)

Hadhrat Safiyyah
(May Allah be pleased with her)

Ḥaḍrat Nuh (peace be on him) and
the Great Flood

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad
(may Allah have mercy on him)

Ḥaḍrat Hud (peace be on him)

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(may Allah be pleased with her)

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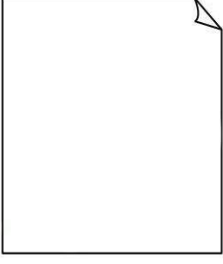
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