

AHMADIYYA

BULLETIN

September/Oct 2020: (Tabook/Ikha)

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HISTORICAL INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL JALSA SALANA



FRIDAY SERMONS

Summaries of recent Friday Sermons from Baitul Futuh

JALSA SALANA 2020

3 day virtual Jalsa Salana. Huzoor speeches & MTA

VIRTUAL MULAQATS

International meetings from Holland and Canada

SPECIAL EVENT

Virtual fundraising for Baitul Futuh Mosque development

UK NEWS

A gist of some of the many pandemic volunteer tasks.

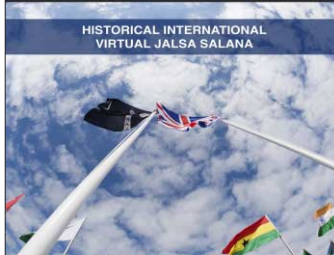
AUXILIARY NEWS

News features from Ansar, Khuddam and Lajna

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious Ever Merciful

AHMADIYYA BULLETIN

September/Oct 2020 (Tabloq/Isht) www.ahmadiyyabulletin.org



FRIDAY SERMONS Sermons of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifa	JALSA SALANA 2020 Continuation of the virtual Jalsa Salana	VIRTUAL MUJAZATS Interviews with the Khalifa and Generals
SPECIAL EVENT Virtual Launching of the 10th Edition of the 'The Message'	UK NEWS A part of news of the many countries, including the UK	AUXILIARY NEWS News from various countries, including the UK

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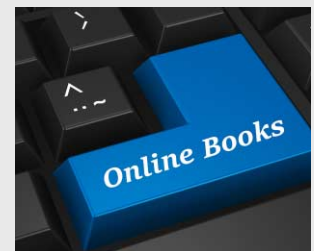
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Quotation from the Holy Qur'an

Recite that which has been revealed to thee of the Book, and observe Prayer. Surely, Prayer restrains *one* from indecency and manifest evil, and remembrance of Allah indeed is the greatest *virtue*. And Allah knows what you do.
(Ch.29:V.46).

أَتْلُ مَا أُوْحِيَ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ
إِنَّ الصَّلَاةَ تَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ
وَ لَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ

Sayings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Hazrat Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said: Allah will have mercy on a man who gets up at night for his voluntary Prayer and awakens his wife for the same purpose, and if she hesitates he sprinkles water over her face to make her get up; and Allah will have mercy on a woman who gets up at night to offer voluntary Prayer and awakens her husband for the same purpose, and if he hesitates sprinkles water over his face to make him get up.

(Abu Daud, quoted in *Riyadh as-Salihin*, p.207, No. 1188)

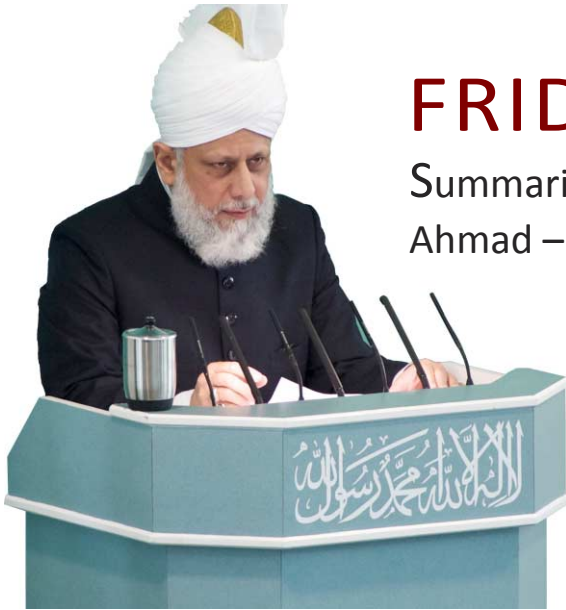


Writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

In this day and age, it is imperative that you learn the modern sciences and study them with toil and effort for the purpose of service to the Faith and the supremacy of God's Word. However, it is my experience – and so I would like to warn you – that those who became entangled in secular knowledge alone, and became so absorbed and engrossed in such study that they did not receive an opportunity to sit in the company of spiritual and saintly people, and were also themselves devoid of spiritual light, they too have usually stumbled. They became distanced from Islam and instead of looking at these sciences in light of Islam, they made useless attempts to bend Islam to secular thought. And by doing so, in their own fancy, they became defenders in the cause of service to country and nation. But remember, no one can accomplish this task, i.e. of serving the Faith, unless they possess within themselves heavenly light.

(Malfuzat, Vol 1, p 67, Second Address at Jalsa Salana Qadian, 28 December 1897)





FRIDAY SERMONS

Summaries of Khutba Jumuah of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad – Khalifatul Masih V

We present a summary of some of Huzoor’s Friday sermons taken with thanks from alislam.org. While every effort has been made to present the salient points as accurately as possible, we take full responsibility for any errors. In order to draw maximum benefit from these sermons, members are advised to listen to them in full on compact disc, audio or video tape.

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SERMON: 5 June 2020 – Men of Excellence

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, *Ta’awwuz*, and Surah Al-Fatihah, Huzoor continued his series of sermons on the lives of the *Badri* companions.

The father of Hazrat Suhaib bin Sinan was sent by Iran as an employee; he was captured by the Romans and made a slave for sometime. He was finally purchased by ‘Abdullah bin Jad’an, a Makkan chieftain, and set free. Hazrat Suhaib was among those early Muslims considered weak in Makkah and as a result, they endured intense persecution. According to one narration, Hazrat Ammar bin Yasir was afflicted with such torture that he became unconscious and unaware of what was being done to him. Same was the condition of other companions. The following verse of the Holy Qur’an was revealed regarding them: “Then, surely, thy Lord — to those who fled *their homes* after they had been persecuted and then struggled hard *in the cause of Allah* and remained steadfast — *aye*, surely, after that thy Lord is Most Forgiving, Merciful.”

Hazrat Sa’d bin Rabi’ participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud. After the battle of Uhud, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

stated:

‘Who will bring me news about Sa’d bin Rabi’?’

Hazrat Ubayy bin Ka’b found him wounded among some bodies. Hazrat Sa’d said:

‘Convey my salaam to the Holy Prophet and mentioned to him that I have received 12 spear wounds but my opponents have met their fate. And tell my people: ‘If the Holy Prophet is martyred and any one of them remained alive, they will have no excuses before Allah Almighty.’

Huzoor said the world speaks about upholding the rights of women, raising allegations against Islam by pointing to certain aspects which have no connection with freedom at all. In fact, the restrictions laid in Islam are there to establish the honour of women, peace within households and for the proper upbringing of future generations.

Huzoor prayed that may the world understand this truth and be saved from disorder, and may Ahmadi women also understand this, for at times some of

them follow the world and its definition of freedom. May they understand the true status Islam has granted not given by any other religion or women's rights movement. May Allah enable men to also uphold the rights of women in accordance with the teachings of Islam, so that there may be peace in society.

Huzoor urged to pray for the world to be saved from the coronavirus and that it may be granted the understanding that its sustenance is solely in prostrating to the One God, upholding the rights of others and putting an end to disorder. He prayed that the governments may be given the wisdom to act with justice.

Huzoor then prayed for Ahmadis to be protected from the disorder rampant in America. May people be enabled to present their concerns and obtain their rights. He stated that if African-Americans burn down property, they will only be harming themselves, and some African leaders have also urged them not to do so. They should of course try to obtain their rights, but in a lawful manner, not by burning down their own property. Hence, those protesting should be mindful of this.

Governments should come to realise that all this chaos will not be solved through force, nor is it the answer to all problems. Survival of governments is contingent in its just consideration of the concerns of its citizens. Only then can law and order be established in the land. If the people become restless, then no government can stand against them.

Finally Huzoor prayed that may Allah remove the disorder all around the world, may the governments uphold the rights of their citizens and may people attain their rights through lawful measures. With the increasingly difficulties in Pakistan, Huzoor said the Pakistani government should not allow this to continue out of fear of the religious clerics. They should rather act with justice and learn lessons from history. By oppressing and acting unjustly, no previous government has lasted, nor can any do so now. Hence, they should not be under the impression that this issue will allow their government to survive. In fact, these injustices have allowed Ahmadis to make further progress.

Huzoor stated that this is the work of God, and no one has the power to stop it. May Allah Almighty remove all the injustice, disorder and turmoil in the world. May the world learn a lesson from the current pandemic and make changes within ourselves. May Ahmadis increase in their efforts towards upholding

the rights of God and the rights of humanity, in order to reap greater love of God Almighty.

SERMON: 12 JUNE 2020 - MEN OF EXCELLENCE

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz*, and Surah al-Fatihah, Huzoor continued his series of sermons on the lives of the *Badri* companions.

Hazrat Sa'id bin Zaid was the son of Zaid bin Amr and Fatimah bint Ba'jah and he belonged to the tribe of Adiyy bin Ka'b bin Lu'ayy. According to some, his title was Abul A'war; others contend it was Abu Sawd.

Huzoor said that Hazrat Sa'id was married to the sister of Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him). His father believed in one God even before the advent of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and condemned the worship of idols.

Huzoor related how Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) accepted Islam. While on his way to kill the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), he went to the house of Hazrat Sa'id and his wife after finding out they had also accepted Islam. He heard Hazrat Khabbab reciting the Holy Qur'an and Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) became enraged. After delivering a few blows to Hazrat Sa'id and his wife, he eventually wanted to listen to the word of God. His sister agreed to it, once he had bathed and calmed down. After listening to the recitation of the Qur'an he went straight to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) accepting Islam.

Huzoor said that Hazrat Sa'id was among the first *muhajirin* to migrate to Madinah and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) established the bond of brotherhood between him and Hazrat Raafi bin Malik. According to another narration it was established with Hazrat Ubayy bin Ka'b.

Hazrat Sa'id was unable to participate at Badr since he was sent on a scouting mission. Even so, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) counted him among the *Badri* companions and gave him a share of the spoils of war.

Hazrat Sa'id was among the ten people given the glad tidings of paradise in the next life. These ten individuals were: Hazrat Abu Bakr, Hazrat Umar, Hazrat Uthman, Hazrat Ali, Hazrat Talhah, Hazrat Zubair, Hazrat Abur Rahman bin Auf, Hazrat Sa'd bin Abi Waqas, Hazrat Sa'id bin Zaid, Abu Ubaidah bin Jarah (Allah be pleased with them all).

Hazrat Sa'id passed away in 50AH or 51AH at around the age of 70 in Aqiq, near Medina. He had 13 sons



and 19 daughters.

Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf belonged to the tribe of Banu Zuhra bin Kilab and was among the first 8 to accept Islam. He participated in both migrations to Abyssinia. He was born ten years after the year of the Elephant. He was among the few who had abstained from drinking alcohol even before Islam.

It is recorded that one of his legs was injured in the battle of Uhud.

Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf himself related that Allah had blessed him so much in trade that even if he picked up a stone, he would expect there to be gold underneath.

Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf participated in all the battles alongside the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). At Badr he was approached by two youngsters asking him to point out Abu Jahl. Before he could even lower his hand, he observed the two of them hastening like eagles through the ranks of the Makkans towards Abu Jahl and struck him down. Hazrat Abdullah bin Mas'ud then ended the life of the wounded Abu Jahl. In this way the leader of the opponents was taken down before the battle could properly commence.

SERMON: 19 JUNE 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

In this sermon, Huzoor continued to narrate accounts from the life of Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf who had old ties of friendship with 'Umayyah bin Khalaf. Bukhari recounts that he wrote a letter to 'Umayyah asking him to safeguard his wealth and property in Makkah and he will do the same for his possessions in Medina. 'Umayyah bin Khalaf responded saying that he did not know anyone by that name and asked Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf to share his name from the age of Jahiliyyah. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf

responded by writing 'Abd-e-Amr'.

During Badr, when people had left the mountain path and Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf was there, Hazrat Bilal coincidentally saw him and 'Umayyah. Hence, Hazrat Bilal walked to a gathering of the Ansar saying this is Umayyah bin Khalaf. *'If he is saved, then there will be nothing left of me'.*

Upon hearing this, some went to look for the two. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf was trying to provide protection to 'Umayyah. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman states that he was worried of getting caught. Hence he left 'Umayyah's son behind to fight the Muslims and fled the scene with Umayyah. The son was killed in battle. 'Umayyah was somewhat bulkier; therefore, he could not escape fast enough. The Muslims caught them. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman asked Umayyah to sit down, and covered him with his body for protection. They attacked Umayyah from underneath with their swords so ferociously that one of the blows injured Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman's foot.

Huzoor said that in Makkah, Umayyah would torture Hazrat Bilal mercilessly laying him down on the hills of Makkah when the temperatures were boiling hot and would order for a big stone to be placed on his chest. He would continue this treatment unless Bilal recanted but he did not repeating 'Ahad' 'Ahad' ('God is One' 'God is One').

During the caliphate of Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) a plague was rampant in Syria. A decision had to be made whether the Muslim army should proceed or retreat. After much consultation, Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) made the decision to retreat. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman joined this discussion later and advised that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed to not visit a place where a plague is rampant. If someone is stationed there, then they should not leave. This will

prevent such a disease from spreading further.

Huzoor then stated that nowadays there is a lockdown in place. Those who implemented this on time were able to contain it to a large degree. Those who were careless and did not implement this on time are witnessing the further spread of this pandemic. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) established this as a fundamental principal regarding this matter.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) has said that when Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) was wounded, realising his demise was imminent, he nominated six persons and advised them to elect the Khalifah from among themselves. They included Hazrat Uthman, Hazrat Ali, Hazrat Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf, Hazrat Sa'd bin Al-Waqqas, Hazrat Zubair, and Hazrat Talhah (Allah be pleased with them all). In addition, he included Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar as an advisor, but he was not entitled to Khalifat. The decision was to be given within three days, and Suhaib would lead the prayers in the meantime. He appointed Miqdad bin Al-Aswad to oversee the consultation and directed him to gather the Electoral College at one place and to guard them. Moreover, the people should take the *Bai'at* of the person who is elected by the majority of votes, and if anyone declines should be killed. If there be three votes on each side, then Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar would recommend who the Khalifah should be. If the Electoral College disputes the decision of Abdullah bin Umar, then the person favoured by Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf should be appointed as Khalifah.

Huzoor stated that Hazrat Talha was not in Madinah. So the remaining five discussed the matter without arriving at a conclusion. Hazrat Abdur Rahman asked if anyone wanted to withdraw their name withdrawing his own. Hazrat Uthman then two others did the same. Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) was silent. Finally, the Electoral College took a pledge from Hazrat Abdur Rahman that he would be completely impartial, and entrusted him with the final decision. For three days, Hazrat Abdur Rahman visited every house in Medina seeking the opinion of every man and woman about the issue. All of them expressed their agreement to the Khalifat of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). Thus, he gave his verdict in his favour was duly elected the Khalifah.

SERMON: 26 JUNE 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

In this sermon, Huzoor continued first to narrate accounts from the life of Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf.

He was renowned for his generosity and financial sacrifices. His will left everyone who participated at Badr 400 dinars. There were 100 companions alive at the time when this was implemented.

When the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was planning the expedition to Tabuk, he reminded people to spend in the way of Allah and to provide means of transport. Upon hearing this, Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) was the first to submit all of his belongings in this cause. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) inquired if he had left anything behind for his family. Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) responded he had left behind Allah and His Messenger. Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) brought half of all his belongings. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) inquired if he had left anything behind for his family, to which he responded he had left behind half for his family. Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf donated 4000 dirhams in this cause.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) stated that Hazrat Uthman and Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman bin 'Auf (Allah be pleased with them both) are both treasures of Allah on earth, who spent in His cause to attain His pleasure.

On one occasion, Hazrat 'Abdur Rahman spent half of his wealth, which was 4000 dirhams, in the way of Allah. On another occasion, he gave away 40,000 dirhams, and in another incident, he spent 40,000 dinars towards the cause of Allah Almighty. Similarly, once he gave away 5-7 horses for the sake of Allah. He also offered 500 camels in the way of Allah on another occasion.

Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh was the chief of the Aus in Madinah.

According to Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad's book "The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) dispatched Hazrat Mus'ab bin 'Umar to Madinah to propagate the message of Islam. Islam began to spread in Madinah. Sa'd bin Mu'adh disliked this, and endeavoured to stop Islam from progressing. So he sent Usaid bin Al-Hudair to stop Hazrat Mus'ab.

Usaid was from the revered chieftains of the 'Abdul-Ashhal. His father had been the leader of the Aus during the Battle of Bu'ath and possessed significant

influence within his tribe. He went to Mus'ab and told him to stop preaching.

Hazrat Mus'ab addressed him respectfully and lovingly. He asked him to listen to what he had to say with a cool heart before formulating his opinion. He then recited the Qur'an and explained the message of Islam. Usaid was won over immediately and said if Sa'd bin Mu'adh would convert, the entire Aus would accept Islam.

He persuaded Sa'd bin Mu'adh to meet Mus'ab following which he accepted Islam and the entire tribe followed suit the same day.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib writes:

“Sa'd bin Mu'adh received a position amongst the Ansar as did Hadrat Abu Bakr amongst the Muhajirin of Makkah. He turned out to be extremely sincere, remarkably loyal, and exceptionally devoted to Islam and its founder. Since he was also the chieftain of his tribe, he was extraordinarily intelligent as well. He acquired such a position in Islam which was not only distinctive, nay, the most distinctive companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) acquired. No doubt, upon his early demise, the words of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that, 'Upon the demise of Sa'd even the throne of the Gracious God has come into motion,' was based on a profound reality.”

After sharing a few more incidents from the life of Hazrat Sa'd Bin Mu'adh, Huzoor stated he will continue to speak about him in future sermons InshaAllah.

SERMON: 3 JULY 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

In this sermon, Huzoor continued to narrate accounts from the life of Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh.

Apprehension At Badr

Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) said that it is natural that a person who loves someone desires that no harm should be afflicted upon their beloved and such a person does not even entertain the thought of their beloved entering the battlefield. All efforts are exerted to stop their beloved from going to battle. Similar was the case of the Companions; they were opposed to the idea of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) going to war.

At the time of Badr, when the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) told his party that it was no longer the caravan they had to confront but the army from Makkah, he asked everyone for their counsel. One after another, his Makkah followers stood up. Every time the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) heard a Makkah Muslim, he asked for further counsel and advice.

Hazrat Sa'd's Total & Absolute Devotion

When the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) insisted on more and more counsel, Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh stood up and said,

‘O Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) of Allah, you have received much counsel, but you continue to seek more. Perhaps you refer to us, the Muslims of Medinah. Is that true?’

‘Yes,’ said the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

‘You ask for our counsel,’ he said,

‘because you think that when you came to us, we agreed to fight on your side only in case you and your fellow emigrants from Mecca were attacked in Medina. But now we seem to have come out of Medina, and you feel that our agreement does not cover the conditions under which we find ourselves today.

‘But O Messenger of Allah, when we entered into that agreement, we did not know you as well as we do now. We know now what high spiritual station you hold. We care not for what we agreed to. We now stand by you, whatever you ask us to do.

‘We will not behave like the followers of Moses, who said, “Go you and your God and fight the enemy, we remain here behind.”

‘If we must fight, we will, and we will fight to the right of you, to the left of you, in front of you and behind you. True, the enemy wants to get at you. But we assure you that he will not do so without stepping over our dead bodies.’

Loyalty and Devotion

Huzoor then shared an incident which highlights the loyalty and devotion of Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). At the time of Badr a tent was pitched for the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon

him) upon the proposal of Hazrat Sa'd. Then Hazrat Sa'd said to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him):

'O Messenger of Allah! Take a seat in this tent, and we shall fight the enemy in the name of Allah. If Allah grants us victory, then this is our very desire. But if God-forbid, the matter takes a turn for the worse, then take your mount and reach Medina in any way possible. There you shall find our brethren and kindred, who are no less than us in love and sincerity. However, since they were unaware that they would be confronted by war in this campaign, they have not come along. Otherwise, they would never have remained behind. When they become aware of the state of affairs, they shall not desist in laying down their lives to protect you.'

Love of Hazrat Sa'd's Mother for the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Huzoor then shared a very moving incident narrated by Hazrat Musleh Mau'd (Allah be please with him). This incident took place after Badr when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was returning to Medina and reads,

'The cord of his dromedary was held by Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh, a chief of Madinah. Hazrat Sa'd was leading the dromedary pompously. He seemed to proclaim to the world that Muslims had after all succeeded in leading the Prophet back to Madinah hale and hearty. As he was advancing he saw his own aged mother advancing to meet the returning party of Muslims. This aged woman was very weak-sighted. Sa'd recognised her and, turning to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), said,

"Here, O Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), is my mother."

"Let her come forward," replied the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

The woman came forward and with a vacant look tried to spot the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) face. At last, she was able to spot it and was glad. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) seeing her said,

"Woman, I grieve over the loss of thy son."

"But," replied the devoted woman,

"After I have seen you alive, I have swallowed all my misfortunes."

SERMON: 10 JULY 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

In this sermon, Huzoor continued to narrate accounts from the life of Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh.

The Treachery of Banu Quraizah

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) to give Banu Quraizah a warning and have them acknowledge their treachery. However, rather than accepting their mistakes and expressing remorse, they retorted with profanities and foul language directed towards the wives of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) returned and informed the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), upon which he, along with the Muslims marched towards the castle of the tribe laying siege to it.

Finally when the Banu Quraizah realized there was no other way, they asked that Abu Lubabah should be sent to negotiate their surrender. He went and urged them to surrender and accept the judgement of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). They refused. Instead, they instead of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), they wished for Sa'd bin Mu'adh leader of the Aus an earlier ally to them, to decide their fate. Thus anticipating his leniency, they insisted that whatever their fate may be, it should be decided by Hazrat Sa'd.

The verdict of Hazrat Sa'd bin Mu'adh

Huzoor further recounted that when Hazrat Sa'd arrived, first he ensured that all those present; the Aus, the Banu Quraiza and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), would accept his decision; to which they all agreed. Then he presented his decision according to the following Biblical teaching:

When you march up to attack a city, make its people an offer of peace. If they accept and open their gates, all the people in it shall be subject to forced labour and shall work for you. If they refuse to make peace and they engage you in battle, lay siege to that city. When the Lord your

God delivers it into your hand, put to the sword all the men in it. As for the women, the children, the livestock and everything else in the city, you may take these as plunder for yourselves. And you may use the plunder the Lord your God gives you from your enemies. This is how you are to treat all the cities that are at a distance from you and do not belong to the nations nearby. However, in the cities of the nations the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. Completely destroy them—the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—as the Lord your God has commanded you. Otherwise, they will teach you to follow all the detestable things they do in worshiping their gods, and you will sin against the Lord your God. (Deuteronomy 20:10-18)



Certain people allege that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) rendered an extremely harsh punishment. But as history bears testament, the decision was made by Hazrat Sa`d; before making his decision he confirmed with all involved parties, including the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), if they would accept his decision to which they all agreed.

No Blame on the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Huzoor further recounted that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed that for the execution, each person should be brought separately, they should not be executed in front of one another. He was also present, so that if an appeal of mercy was made by anyone about to be executed, he may hear and accept it.

Huzoor emphasised that this was not the decision of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), but that of Hazrat Sa`d bin Mu`adh.

Huzoor noted how even the orientalist Margoliouth,

who in no way can be considered a supporter of Islam, had no choice but to declare that, in light of the events that had transpired and the treachery of Banu Quraizah, the decision made cannot be considered harsh.

Huzoor further stated that one of the conditions in the treaty broken by Banu Quraizah, was that the fate of the guilty party would be decided according to their own scripture. The decision made by Hazrat Sa`d was exactly in line with the teachings of the Torah for such an instance.

SERMON: 17 JULY 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Huzoor continued relating incidents from the life of Hazrat Sa`d bin Mu`adh.

Wounded in the Battle of Ahzab

Huzoor quoted Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad who writes that not many were martyred at Ahzab. However Hazrat Sa`d was fatally wounded.

Final Moments

Huzoor said, that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had a tent erected near the mosque in which Hazrat Sa`d was being tended, so that he could visit him. As his wound started to heal, Hazrat Sa`d prayed,

'O God! I love nothing more than to fight in Your cause. It is my own belief that now You have ended our battles with the Quraish. If the wars

are still to be fought against the Quraish then keep me alive so that I may serve Islam, but if our battles with them are done, then I am happy even if this wound opens and continues to bleed till my demise.'

That same night, the wound open and bled profusely. Ibn Abbas relates that when he began bleeding, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) went to him and held him close, to the point that Hazrat Sa`d's blood came onto his beard. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) prayed,

'Sa`d fought in Your cause, he proved the truthfulness of Your Prophet and fulfilled whatever was assigned to him, so accept his soul.'

When he still had a little life in him, Hazrat Sa`d opened his eyes and said,

'Peace be on you O Messenger of Allah.'

To all the family members present at the time, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that *'I pray for there to be just as many angels present at the time of Sa`d's demise as there are people present now.'*

Demise and Funeral

Huzoor related that the death of Hazrat Sa`d was a great shock; he was regarded with the same respect among the *Ansar* as Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) was among the *Muhajireen* (migrants). His death was also a shock for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), but he displayed exemplary patience. While carrying Hazrat Sa`d's body to the grave, some companions expressed how light his body seemed. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that this was because angels were also carrying his body.

Hazrat Sa`d bin Abi Waqas

Huzoor said the father of Hazrat Sa`d bin Abi Waqas was Malik bin Wahaib and his mother was Hamna bint Sufyan. He was from the Banu Zuhra tribe of the Quraish. He was of the ten companions to whom the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave the glad tiding of heaven.

His Acceptance of Islam

It is narrated that he saw a dream in which it was dark, then all of a sudden the moon rose, and he headed towards it. Along the way he saw that Hazrat Zaid, Hazrat Ali and Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with them) were also moving in the same direction. He asked when they had got there, to which they replied they had just arrived. By that point, he had heard of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the message he was propagating. Thus he went to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and accepted Islam.

His Mother's Reaction & Lesson of Obedience to Parents

Huzoor related that upon his conversion to Islam, his mother told him that she would not eat until he reverted from Islam. She said that *'your faith tells you to obey your parents, and so I command you to leave Islam.'* This continued for three days. Hazrat Sa`d said that he loved his mother very much. After the first day he told her that *'even if you had a thousand lives and they went one by one due to your not eating, I still would never leave Islam.'* It was then that the following verse was revealed:

وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ حُسْنًا
وَإِنْ جَاهَدَكَ لِتُشْرِكَ بِي مَا لَيْسَ
لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ فَلَا تُطِعْهُمَا

'And We have enjoined on man kindness to his parents; but if they strive to make thee associate that with Me of which thou hast no knowledge, then obey them not.'

(Ch.29: V.9)

Hazrat Sa`d Endured Great Hardships

He was subject to persecution like the other Muslims in Makkah. He later related that during the boycott one night he was walking when his foot touched something. His state of hunger was such, that he picked it up and ate it. He did not know what it was then and he still did not know what it was since.

SERMON: 24 JULY 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Huzoor said that Hazrat Sa'd bin Abi Waqas took part at Badr, Uhud, Khandaq, Khaibar and also in the treaty of Hudabiyyah and the conquest of Makkah. He was a very skilled archer.

Sariyya [expedition] Ubaida bin Harith

Hazrat Sa'd was the first to shed blood in the cause of Islam and first to let an arrow fly in the way of Islam during the Sariyya of Hazrat Ubaida bin Harith.

Sariyya Abdullah bin Jahsh

Huzoor stated that Hazrat Sa'd took part in this Sariyya. Again, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) desired to gain more knowledge of the secret planning of the Makkans and improve precautions to protect Madinah. In fact, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had not even told this party of eight where they were going and for what purpose. Instead he gave them a letter to be opened after travelling for two days. It is then they learnt that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) wanted them to go to Nakhla and find out about the planning of the Meccans. On their way, Hazrat Sa'd and another companion, Hazrat Utbah, lost their camels. The remaining group continued on and was confronted by a group of Makkans, who attacked and killed one of them. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was very displeased, as he had not sent them to fight, that too in one of the sacred months.

Rider of Islam

Huzoor said that during Badr, despite being on foot, Hazrat Sa'd fought very bravely – to the extent that he became known as *Faris-ul-Islam* (Rider of Islam).

Bravery at Uhud

Huzoor said during Uhud, Hazrat Sa'd's brother was fighting on the Makkan side and injured the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) causing him to lose two of his teeth. Hazrat Sa'd said that after this, he desired to kill his brother in battle with such fervour as never felt before. He only abandoned this pursuit when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) stopped him.

'May my parents be sacrificed for you'

It is stated that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would hand Hazrat Sa'd arrows during Uhud and he would continue to launch them.

It is also narrated that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to him, *'May my parents be sacrificed for you, continue to launch arrows.'*

A Lesson in Giving Alms

At the time of Hudaibiya, Hazrat Sa'd signed the treaty as a witness. During the conquest of Makkah, Hazrat Sa'd was holding one of the three flags of the Muhajireen. At the time of the farewell pilgrimage he fell ill. When the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) went to visit him, Hazrat Sa'd only had one daughter as heir, and asked if he could give 2/3 of his wealth in alms. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) refused. He asked if he could give half of his wealth in alms which was refused. When asked if he could give 1/3, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) agreed saying that even 1/3 was plenty.

Battle of Qadsiyya

Huzoor related that once while hunting, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) placed his hand on Hazrat Sa'd and prayed *'O God, let his aim never miss.'* Hazrat Sa'd also played a significant part in Islam's victories in Iraq. He was elected to lead the Muslim army to fight against the Kisra [Chosroes] during the time of Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) who praised him saying, *'He is a brave man and excellent archer.'* He led an army of nearly 30,000 to Qadsiyya.

SERMON: 24 JULY 2020 – THE PURPOSE OF THE ADVENT OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH (PEACE BE UPON HIM)**Not Enough to Simply Write 'Seal of Prophets'**

Huzoor said that he had selected a few narrations of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in which he explains that purpose of his advent, his obedience to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and acceptance of him being the Seal of Prophets and explaining the coming of a prophet after him. The opponents of this Community raise issues on this point. They deem it a great service that they have passed laws under which *'Seal of Prophets'* must be written beside the name of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Huzoor commented that this would have been good if they truly acted upon the example of the Holy

Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Yet the reality is they are increasingly running further away from that example. Had they truly loved the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), they would have come running to accept the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

Purpose of the Advent of the Promised Messiah

Huzoor presented a quotation of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in which he explained that there were two purposes for his advent. The first was to bring about purity amongst the Muslims, and second to break the cross re-establishing the Unity of God. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) asked that had he been a liar, could he have thrived, flourished and been successful as he was? A liar's lies are enough to ruin him. But when God Himself initiates a mission, He sends angels to help see it through. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) challenged that if he was false, then his Community would fail. But if was true, then no matter how harsh the opposition may be, this Community will flourish. It has never happened that a person sent by God was accepted without opposition.

Huzoor then said that we observe people have accepted the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in over 200 countries. Thus, according to the sayings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), it is our responsibility to purify ourselves.

His Love and Obedience for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Huzoor presented another quotation of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in which he emphatically declared that he and his Community are believers in One God and His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He clearly said that the only way for one to attain actual nearness to God is through absolute obedience and love of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). All paths to righteousness are through the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) also declared that Jesus (peace be upon him) did not ascend to the heavens bodily, nor will he return bodily. He said he could not accept this because this would be a disservice to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who has passed away. How can it be said that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) passed

away, yet Jesus (peace be upon him) is alive in heaven? If it can easily be accepted that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) passed away, then what difficulty do Muslims find in accepting Jesus (peace be upon him) to have passed away. It would have been more appropriate for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to remain alive, for he was the greatest of all prophets, a man of whose stature there has been no one since the world was created.

Upon the demise of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) recited the verse,

'Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him.'
(Ch3:V.145)

Why did he recite this verse? He saw the companions in a state of shock, disbelief and grief. It was difficult for them to comprehend the fact that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had passed away. But by reciting this verse, he consoled them saying that all Prophets before had also passed away. These companions loved the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) immensely. How could they have accepted their master to have passed away, while Jesus (peace be upon him) was still alive?

Then Huzoor presented a quote of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in which he wrote about the esteemed stature of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He wrote that had the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) not come to this world, then we would not have had proof for the truth of any other prophet. It is only through him that we came to know of their truth. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) prayed,

'God! Accept our prayers for him, send him peace, bless him and his progeny and all his companions with Thy blessings.'

SERMON: 14 AUGUST 2020 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued to speak about Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas.

Service to Islam

Huzoor said during the course of a war there was a prisoner in the custody of Hazrat Sa'd, being held for the crime of drinking alcohol. He would express his regret for not being able to help the Muslims in battle. One day, Hazrat Sa'd's wife was passing by and heard him expressing this regret. She went into the room and released him on the condition that he would be going to help the Muslims in battle. And so, he went to the battleground, and helped the Muslims advance in battle through his brave efforts against the enemy.

Fulfilment of a Prophecy

Huzoor then explained how the Muslims conquered Midian, crossing the Tigris and as a result of their victory, obtaining the grand white castles of Kisra. Thus, the prophecy which the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) made during the Battle of the Ditch regarding Hazrat Sa'd that he had seen the white castles of Midian falling – came true. Observing this, Hazrat Sa'd recited the following verses:

كَمْ تَرَكُوا مِنْ جَنَّاتٍ وَعُيُونٍ
وَزُرُوعٍ وَمَقَامٍ كَرِيمٍ
وَنَعْبَةٍ كَانُوا فِيهَا فَاكِهِينَ
كَذَلِكَ وَأَوْرَثْنَاهَا قَوْمًا آخِرِينَ

How many were the gardens and the springs that they left behind! And the cornfields and the noble places! And the comforts wherein they took delight! Thus *it was destined to be*. And We made another people inherit these things.

(Ch.44: Vs. 26-29)

False Allegation

Huzoor mentioned that once some people made false complaints against the way in which Hazrat Sa'd led the prayers. Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) investigated the matter. Hazrat Sa'd responded that he led the prayer exactly as he had seen the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) do. When Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him) sent men to Kufa to investigate, they went to all the mosques where Hazrat Sa'd used to lead prayer and all appreciated the way in which he led prayers.

Huzoor related that Hazrat Sa'd was a member of the board from whom the Khalifa after him was to be selected, as they were those whom the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had given the glad tidings of heaven.

Hazrat Sa'd's Support

Huzoor said that whether it was during the disorder or dissension which started during the Caliphate of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him), or in the conflict between Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) and Mu'awiyah. Hazrat Sa'd stood to defend the Caliphate and defended Hazrat Uthman and Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with them).

Demise

Huzoor related that the son of Hazrat Sa'd expressed his sadness and fear of his father departing. Hazrat Sa'd comforted him, saying that he had been promised heaven, and that God does not let the efforts of a believer go to waste. Hazrat Sa'd passed away in 55 AH. Some of the wives of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) also took part in the funeral. He was buried in *Jannatul Baqi*. He expressed his desire in his Will to be buried in the same manner as the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), He was the last of the men from the *Muhajireen* to pass away. He also expressed his desire to be buried in the same garments he wore at Badr.



Jalsa Salana 2020 UK

This year Jalsa Salana UK could not take place as normal due to restrictions imposed following the pandemic. However a virtual programme was held over the 3 days scheduled for the event as MTA International broadcasted a series of Jalsa Salana speeches delivered by Huzoor Aqdas in previous years along with some special live programmes.

In addition, on 7th and 9th August 2020, Hazrat Amirul Momineen delivered a two-part address in which he recounted the blessings and continued progress of the Jama'at during the past year. This was transmitted throughout the world via MTA as millions tuned in to listen.

The first part of the report was delivered during Huzoor's Friday sermon from the Mubarak Mosque while the second part was presented as a special Jalsa Salana address from the Masoor Hall in front of a small gathering of members.

In these addresses, Hazrat Amirul Momineen announced that, despite the great and unexpected challenges posed in spreading the message of Islam by COVID-19, a total of 112,179 people had entered the fold of the Jama'at during the past year. Some faith inspiring accounts of people who had joined after witnessing Divine signs testifying to the truth of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) were mentioned.

Narrating the story of how one lady came to join in Argentina, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said:

"An Argentine lady passed by our mission house in Argentina, where she saw a picture of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) with a

quote next to it stating that 'The Messiah has come'. This image and quote had a deep impact on her because she was a practicing Catholic. Before this she had no interest in Islam and nor did she personally know any Muslims."

"She began learning about Islam and contacted the local Missionary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Subsequently, she began to attend the classes and meetings organised by our Community. Her husband found out about this and did not approve, yet despite this, she secretly kept in touch and carried on her study of Islam. Then, a year later, on the 28th December 2019, her heart was satisfied and she decided to join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community."

Huzoor Aqdas also spoke about the work of the Foreign Missions of the Jama'at, as well as the output of its official websites such as *Alislam.org* and periodicals such as *Al Fazl*, *Al Hakam*, *Al Taqwa*, *The Review of Religions* amongst others.

Speaking about *The Review of Religions* magazine, Huzoor said:

"The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) himself established The Review of Religions, and its first edition was published in January 1902. By the Grace of God this magazine has been running for 118 years. It is being printed in English, French, Spanish and German accompanied by a website and social media channels for each language. The Review of Religions has played a

Key Facts & Figures from the Annual Report of the Jama'at 2019-2020

- 112,179 people joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community from 98 countries.
- 7 million people were given the message of Islam through 9.3 million leaflets.
- 217 new Mosques and 97 mission houses of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community were established across four continents.
- More than 360,000 books were printed from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's printing press in the UK (Raqeem Press).
- £5.2 million was saved by volunteer work in 41k sessions across 114 countries.
- 288 new branches of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community were established.
- 42 million publications produced in 42 languages across 93 countries.
- 520 million people reached through news reports and media across 2,544 outlets in 12,453 articles.
- 310 English and 1,000 Urdu Books available on the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's website **alislam.org**
- 145 new Arabic publications.
- 230,000 people were treated in 345 free Humanity First medical camps.
- Humanity First is established in 54 countries.
- 496 workers in MTA International including 417 unpaid volunteers.
- MTA is now broadcasting over 8 channels globally.
- 7,540 exhibitions were held across the world, through which 343,000 people received the true message of Islam.
- Over 5,000 bookstalls and book fairs were held across the world, through which 774,000 people received the true message of Islam.





“Know for certain that this Community is a plant established by God, He will never let it perish, nor will He be content until He has caused it to reach ultimate success.”

very important part in conveying the message of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) to the English speaking community.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih also spoke about the humanitarian work being carried out across the globe by *Humanity First* and the *International Association of Ahmadi Architects and Engineers (IAAAE)*. He said that, thus far, the IAAAE had installed 2,800 water facilities providing benefit to 250,000 people. The IAAAE had also now established 19 model village projects in nine countries and was working on various other humanitarian projects.

Speaking of *Humanity First*, Huzoor Anwar said that the charity was now registered in 54 countries and amongst its humanitarian efforts, it had arranged for 15,315 free eye operations. Furthermore, 345 medical camps had helped over 230,000 vulnerable and under-privileged people.

Huzoor spoke about MTA and how it had continued to develop and expand its reach. It had increased its number of channels from five to eight in the past year and was now regularly translating its broadcasts into ten languages and furthering its efforts to propagate the true and peaceful teachings of Islam online and through social media.

Huzoor Aqdas concluded by reflecting on the progress of the Jama'at and how it continues to be supported by Allah Almighty despite the false allegations that are often levelled against its founder. Huzoor declared,

“Today, even after 130 years, we are seeing that those signs of support of God Almighty for the

Community of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) continue to be manifested.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) had announced:

“Know for certain that this Community is a plant established by God, He will never let it perish, nor will He be content until He has caused it to reach ultimate success.”

Ending with a quote of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said:

“God Himself manifests the honour of those who are sent by God and enlightens their truthfulness. Those who are not from God and forge a lie against Him are eventually disgraced and destroyed.”

The special address was brought to a close with a silent pray.

Adapted from a press release issued by the Press & Media Desk

Virtual Meetings with Hazrat Amirul Momineen

In recent weeks Huzoor Aqdas has graciously held meetings with various groups of the Jama'at. The process was started off on 15th August when over 220 members of Majlis Atfalul Ahmadiyya Canada were able to enjoy an audience with Huzoor Anwar.

In this way, it heralded the dawn of a new avenue for members to meet with and to seek guidance and prayers from Hazrat Amirul Momineen.

Canadian Atfal had been due to visit the UK earlier in the year to meet Huzoor but the trip had to be cancelled owing to COVID-19. Thus, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih graciously permitted for a virtual online meeting to take place instead.

Huzoor Aqdas chaired the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the Atfal were seated over 3,500 miles away, at the Baitul Islam Mosque complex in Peace Village, Canada linked via satellite.

The event started with the recitation and translation of verses of the Holy Qur'an, followed by a poem. Thereafter, a report was presented by the National Secretary Majlis Atfal-ul-Ahmadiyya of Canada.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen acknowledged and appreciated the fact that progress had been made but also stated that they should ensure that whatever the improvement it needs to be built upon. He said it was imperative that all efforts were made to ensure the continued religious development of Ahmadi Muslim youth.

Thereafter, for the rest of the one-hour meeting, members of Majlis Atfal-ul-Ahmadiyya had the opportunity to ask Huzoor a series of questions.

Responding to a question whether Huzoor will visit Canada once the world was free from the harmful effects and risks of COVID-19, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih replied:

"It is up to all of you and Ahmadi Muslims around the world to pray that the world is soon rid of the threat of COVID-19. We must all fervently seek the Grace and Mercy of Allah. Once this period passes, I will, inshallah, resume my journeys and travels abroad so I can meet Ahmadi Muslims in



different countries. Nevertheless, through the means of this meeting, I feel as though I am in Canada. I can see the Mosque and the exact spot where I was interviewed by a Canadian journalist. I can see the hall where many of you are sitting. It is as if I am with you!"

Another question posed was about the way children could develop their relationship and bond with Allah the Almighty while one child enquired about the life after death, another about organ donation and yet another regarding the possibility of life on other planets. Huzoor listened to each question patiently, and the graciously and lovingly responded to each.

Above all, every person present felt joy and happiness at meeting Huzoor and being the very first group to enjoy such an audience.

Following the meeting, on behalf of the Canadian group, Sadr Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada, Zubair Afzal said:

"It was a truly faith-charging and life changing occasion, that shone as beacon of light for our Atfal and all of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada, during this pandemic. The fact that His Holiness took so much time to speak to our Atfal, to be with us, was so moving for us. All of the Atfal were so happy and filled with joy. No doubt can be left as to how pivotal this once in a lifetime opportunity for our Atfal was. They all said that

it was as if His Holiness was sitting right in front of us and was among us. Given everything going in the world, and especially in light of the travel restrictions, this was even that much more special, and made the joy of this meeting even

more heightened. We can never thank Allah the Almighty enough for this divine blessing, and we can never thank Allah the Almighty enough for this divine blessing, and we can never thank Allah enough for the divine gift of Khilafat.

Huzoor Aqdas Graciously Grants Virtual Audience to the National Amila Lajna Imaillah Canada

On 16 August 2020, the National Amila (Executive) of Lajna Imaillah Canada was granted a virtual official meeting and audience with Hazrat Amirul Momineen.

Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the Lajna joined from the auditorium of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada in Vaughan, Ontario over 3,500 miles away.

During the hour-long meeting, the Amila members had the opportunity to present a report about their respective departments and to seek guidance and instructions from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih over a range of issues.

To ensure new converts were well integrated, Huzoor instructed that meetings and events should be held in which recent converts are encouraged to actively participate. Furthermore, it was imperative that the new converts should be supported and helped by other members of the Jama'at with sensitivity and consideration. Furthermore, Huzoor pointed out that greater efforts should be made to spread Islam's true and peaceful teachings through outreach events and through cultivating personal contacts.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen also gave detailed guidance regarding the moral and religious training of members and said Lajna Imaillah had a major role to play in this regard. He said that the Lajna administration ought to treat all members with love and respect and to strive to forge friendships with younger members of Lajna Imaillah.

Huzoor explained:

"Ahmadi Muslim mothers should seek to develop



a true friendship with their children as this will enable them to guide them better. Furthermore, Amila members should also establish friendship with Ahmadi Muslim girls and guide them. Advise them to pursue whatever education they desire but at same time remind them that they should forever hold fast to their pledge of giving precedence to their faith over all worldly matters. The best way to thank Allah the Almighty for the blessings He has bestowed is to remain firmly attached to one's faith."

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih instructed the Lajna to hold seminars and forums in which Ahmadi girls and young women are able to easily raise any questions they may have in relation to matters of their faith and religion. Following the meeting, Mrs Amatul Salam, the National President of Lajna Imaillah Canada commented:

"The National Majlis Amila was supposed to travel to London for this Mulaqat on March 27,

2020, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, this plan was put on hold and we were saddened but it was understandable. However, when we learned that Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (May Allah be his helper) had not forgotten and granted us an opportunity to have a virtual Mulaqat, we were overcome with excitement and gratitude. We were greatly humbled that His Holiness had kept

our Mulaqat request in mind and through the blessing of Allah the Almighty, it has become a reality in a way that no one could have foreseen, Alhamdulillah! This virtual visit far exceeded our expectations and it truly was as if our beloved Imam was sitting with us. All members of National Majlis Amila are grateful for this blessed

Lajna Imaillah Holland Honoured with two Virtual Meetings with Hazrat Amirul Momineen

On Saturday 22nd August 2020 and Sunday 23 August 2020, Hazrat Amirul Momineen held separate virtual online meetings with members of Lajna Imaillah Holland (Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Auxiliary).

On Saturday, members of the National Amila of Lajna Imaillah Holland were granted an audience with Huzoor Aqdas, while on Sunday, over 30 Lajna students and converts had the opportunity to meet with Huzoor and to ask him questions and seek his guidance on various religious matters and contemporary issues.

As with similar meetings held before, Huzoor chaired both from his office in Islamabad, Tilford. The Lajna were gathered at the Lajna Hall of the Baitun Noor Mosque complex in Nunspeet, Holland.

In the meeting on Saturday, Lajna were able to present a report of their respective departmental activities and proposed future plans. Huzoor gave detailed instructions regarding the moral and religious training of Ahmadi.

In relation to Hijab, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih stated:

"It is important to make it clear to Lajna members that Hijab is not something that was initiated by the Jama'at but is a clear commandment written in the Holy Qu'ran and instructed by the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace and blessings be upon him)... The crucial point that needs to be reinforced is that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) taught that modesty is a fundamental part of one's faith as a Muslim."

Huzoor urged Lajna Imaillah who had interest or

aptitude in writing to author articles highlighting the merits and benefits of Islam's teachings and to refute allegations commonly laid at Islam's door, particularly in relation to women's rights.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen counselled:

"Even one person can bring about real transformative change for the better and so do not worry if you are starting with just a few members who are writing in defence of Islam. If your team works passionately and diligently it will inspire others to join this effort to defend the true and peaceful teachings of our religion."

Huzoor Aqdas also encouraged Lajna Imaillah Holland to increase its service to humanity and to strive to fund humanitarian projects in deprived villages of Africa. For example, he suggested they ought to fund some projects designed to provide water in remote areas of the world through the installation or rehabilitation of water pumps. Huzoor Anwar said that serving others and those in need was a fundamental part of Islamic teaching. Furthermore, Huzoor encouraged Lajna to produce thousands of face masks that could be given to local charities supporting people through the coronavirus pandemic.

As the meeting drew to a close, Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated:

"At all times seek to do justice to your work and to fulfil the pledge you have made to give precedence to your faith over worldly matters. If you believe in the Hereafter and consider that God Almighty is watching over you at all times



“During this Huzoor was asked if Ahmadis should continue to engage in Tabligh (outreach) to people who continued to abuse and speak maliciously in opposition to the Jama’at.”

then you will work with the necessary spirit and passion. May Allah the Almighty enable you to do so.”

The next day on 23rd August, a group of Lajna students and new converts from Holland had the opportunity to follow with a virtual meeting with Huzoor Anwar.

During this Huzoor was asked if Ahmadis should continue to engage in Tabligh (outreach) to people who continued to abuse and speak maliciously in opposition to the Jama’at. Huzoor advised:

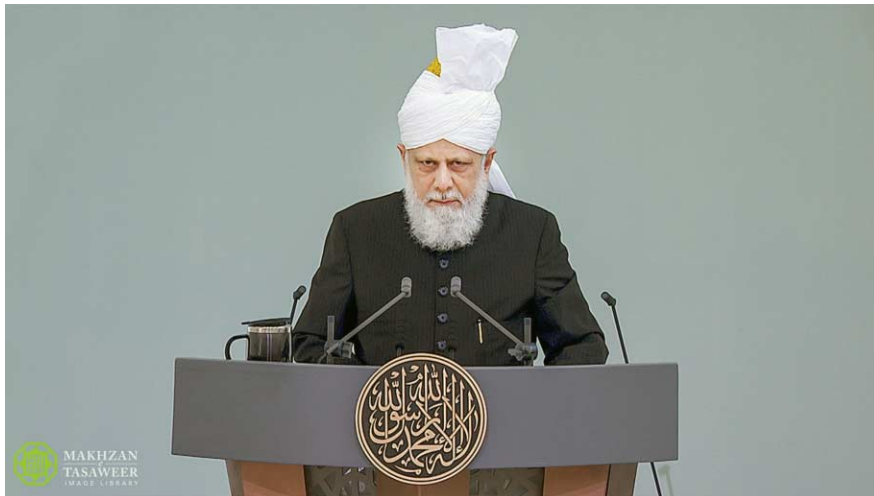
“There is no benefit to keep preaching to people who just continue debate and argue for the sake of it or who abuse our faith. To continually engage with such people is a waste of time. Rather, our Tabligh efforts should focus on those who wish to engage in a civilised and courteous way and who have genuine questions. There are many such decent people and so do not waste your time and efforts on

those who seek to abuse our beliefs or who are vindictive in nature.”

Regarding the issue of transgender rights, Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated:

“It can never be morally right for society to encourage young people to change their biological gender or sex. This is completely against the teachings of Islam. Nonetheless, there are some people who are born intersex and they should be supported and helped by society so that they can live their lives in the best way possible. They should be protected from discrimination or having their human rights usurped.”

EID CELEBRATIONS UK



EID-UL-FITR

This year's Eidul Fitr celebrations were somewhat muted due to the COVID19 crises this year. In compliance with Government restrictions, members of the UK Jama'at performed their religious obligations while remaining at home and practicing social distancing. They joined millions of Ahmadi Muslims around the world in listening live to Huzoor's Eid Sermon and join in with the silent prayer at the end through MTA International.

Huzoor's Eid sermon, delivered on 24th May from the *Mubarak Mosque* in Islamabad, Tilford was inspirational.

In this Huzoor spoke about the need for continued spiritual advancement and to maintain and build upon whatever spiritual progress had been attained during the month of Ramadan. He also offered prayers for the world's peace and wellbeing and offered greetings of Eid Mubarak to members across the world.

Huzoor said Muslims were often guilty of celebrating Eid's customs and traditions without giving thought to its true philosophy or purpose. Huzoor explained,

"Many of one's social interactions are carried out as a result of one's emotions or habits. With regards to Eid, many people celebrate this day out of custom without understanding its true objective. They have grown up seeing their parents and their society celebrating Eid and so they keep up the tradition. Others celebrate Eid because they know that, as Muslims, it is a commandment of God Almighty and His Messenger (peace and

blessings be upon him) to celebrate Eid but they fail to inquire into the purpose of Eid and its true meaning. They do not ponder over its benefits and do not assess whether they are celebrating Eid in the correct manner or not."

In light of this, Huzoor pointed out that Muslims had a responsibility to identify and understand the true objectives of Eid and stated,

"The Eid that does not have a lasting benefit cannot be a true Eid. True Eid is that which leads to a long lasting change for the better. It is the Eid which nourishes the soul and leaves a person better off. The greatest wealth for a Muslim is, and should always be, the attainment of the pleasure of Allah and that is what constitutes a true celebration of Eid as it is a recognition of real prosperity."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen further stated,

"Allah the Almighty has appointed this day of Eid after the month of fasting in order to give the glad tidings that one's fasts have been accepted. Thus, on the occasion of Eid, we should analyse to see if our fasts have indeed been accepted or not."

Huzoor Aqdas pointed out three types of celebrations of Eid, foremost of which is the Eid of such an individual who was able to truly fulfil the rights of the month of

Ramadhan by worshipping Allah the Almighty to the best of their ability and fulfilled the rights of the creation of Allah. Describing the Eid of such individuals, Huzoor Anwar said,

“Such a person attains God and God finds His lost servant and the time of separation ends and it is as if two long-lost friends finally meet each other. A person sits in the company of his Beloved Lord. Such a person celebrates an Eid today and tomorrow. In fact, he or she is forever in a state of Eid.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that amongst such fortunate people were those who may appear poor and destitute and so rich people, dressed in the newest of clothes, may look upon them and wonder if they are even celebrating Eid. Yet, those people who may be looked down upon are truly celebrating Eid, as they are content having attained the pleasure of Allah the Almighty.

Huzoor Anwar said it did not mean that individuals who were wealthy could not celebrate true Eid, rather, there were people who had been granted the wealth of this world who had also attained the nearness of Allah the Almighty by making sacrifices for His sake.

Shining a light on a common misconception about spirituality, Huzoor Aqdas explained,

“People in the world have assumed that the hallmark of people who have attained God is that they completely cut themselves off from the material world, whereas the actuality is that they should be completely content in the will of Allah. If Allah feeds them well and clothes them well then they should eat and dress well, but if they are forced to endure poverty and destitution then they should also pass this test with patience. So neither is eating good food a proof of God’s closeness, nor is hunger a sign of His nearness.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen described the second type of people who come to encounter the day of Eid and celebrate it in a superficial way without understanding its true essence explaining,

“Then there is the Eid of the second type of people who, according to their means, eat and dress well, apply fragrance, give and receive gifts. They are happy that they have apparently encountered Eid, but this Eid is as distant from them as the East is from the West. Nonetheless, for them ignorance is

bliss and they remain content in their superficial celebrations.”

Huzoor continued,

“Such people rejoice and perhaps in their naivety, celebrate even more than those who have attained God and His pleasure. However, the reality is that their hollow celebrations foretell a state of mourning and forewarn an incredibly grave state. Whoever forgets God and neglects the rights of God and His creation and merely rejoices in the shallow celebrations with his loved ones, warrants the displeasure and wrath of Allah, and is thereby destroying himself both in this life and the hereafter. They do not gain anything, rather they are only at loss. The Eid of such people cannot be deemed a true Eid.”

Huzoor Anwar then described the third and final type of people who encounter the blessed day of Eid.

“These are those people who know and realise that they are sinners. They know in their hearts that although they fasted, they did not fulfil the rights of those fasts. They have a sense of shame in their hearts. They offer their prayers but then also are ashamed in their hearts that they were unable to perform the prayers in accordance with the conditions laid out by Allah the Almighty. Each of them thinks that even today whilst I have come to this gathering for Eid whilst wearing beautiful clothes and eating good food, I do so only as a tradition and to show others, whereas inside, such a person’s heart is weeping and his mind is filled with worry.”

Huzoor said that this third type of person, who is remorseful and ashamed of his shortcomings, repents and begs for Allah’s protection and support, to which Allah the Almighty will always respond.

“Allah, who is most Gracious and ever Forgiving towards people, never leaves His follower crestfallen. When someone thinks that the true Eid is in meeting Allah, which he is not able to attain, and his soul repeatedly reproaches him with regards to his actions, he repents and ashamedly turns towards Allah, then when all of this causes him such distress, God hastens towards him... Allah says that ‘I will go to him for he expresses

deep regret and remorse and is engaged in repentance and seeking forgiveness. He is fallen, so let Me raise him up again and bring him to Myself.”

Towards the end of the sermon Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V expressed the need for Ahmadi Muslims to endeavour to become, at the very least, part of the third group of people.

“We should endeavour that if we are not yet of the first type of people, then at the very least we should be part of this third group. For this is no lowly state nor some menial thing, nor is it something through which a person’s standing is lowered...We should not be of the second type of people celebrating Eid, whose only job is to eat and drink and who concern themselves with worldly matters, rather become those who have attained Allah the Almighty. Or at the very least those, who have not yet reached Him, but have fallen at that very place, and whose hearts have

broken into pieces through shame and worry, and who have destroyed their own selves due to grief and pain to such an extent that even the Throne of the Divine is moved, and to whom the Master of the Throne Himself comes and seats them in a place of love and affection.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen concluded the Eid Sermon by reminding Ahmadi Muslims to pray for all those who were suffering and for the peace of the world.

“Pray for all those Ahmadi Muslims who are being persecuted on the basis of their religion and are being imprisoned unjustly. Pray for their quick release that they too may freely celebrate Eid. Pray for all Muslims and pray fervently for the peace of the world. The leaders of the world, as I have said before, are pushing the world towards a destructive abyss for the sake of their own fleeting vested interests. During the pandemic, as opposed to turning towards Allah the Almighty, such leaders and peoples are further fuelling God’s wrath by their actions.”

EID-UL-ADHA

With restrictions having been loosened, Eidul Adha was celebrated on 31st July in a more relaxed manner than Eidul Fitr a few weeks earlier. For this Eid families were able to get together up to a point and enjoy the day with their loved ones. Eid services were held in Mosques up and down the country with attendances limited keeping in line with social distancing guidelines. The highlight of the day was the Eid sermon delivered by Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V from the Mubarak Mosque in Islamabad. This was broadcast throughout the world through MTA and listened to by millions.

In this sermon Huzoor urged members to learn lessons from the example of Hazrat Ibrahim (peace be upon him) and his family, whose sacrifices are marked on the day of Eid-ul-Adha.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen recounted the immense sacrifice of Hazrat Ibrahim (peace be upon him) and his son Ismael, whereupon he lay ready to sacrifice his own son Ismael for the sake of God Almighty and it was one which his son willingly assented for. It was explained that this incident has been recorded in the Holy Qur’an and so would remain preserved for eternity as a timeless example of the very highest standard of sacrifice.

Huzoor said:

“There are countless number of people who mark this Eid and anticipate its arrival merely as a day of celebration and joy. They sacrifice an animal only to impress others and as an expression of joy. However a true believer recalls and learns from the sacrifice of Prophet Abraham and Ismael (peace be upon them) and its underlying spirit.”

And,

“Certainly when we hear or read of their sacrifice, we cannot help but feel emotional and become tearful. However, that alone is not enough, rather we must analyse whether we ourselves are living up to our pledge that ‘I will be willing to make every sacrifice for the sake of God.’”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated that Allah Almighty ultimately stopped Hazrat Ibrahim (peace be upon him) from sacrificing his son and instead gave the glad tiding, narrated in the Holy Qur’an, chapter 37 verse 106, that:

“‘Thou hast indeed fulfilled the dream.’ Thus indeed do

We reward those who do good."

Huzoor Anwar pointed out that the sacrifice of Hazrat Ibrahim's (peace be upon him) family did not end there, rather it heralded the dawn of a new era of true faith and sacrifice, in which the mother of the Hazrat Ismael (peace be upon him), Hazrat Hajra (Allah be pleased with her) manifested absolute faith and trust in Allah Almighty.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih narrated that on the instruction of Allah the Almighty, Hazrat Ibrahim (peace be upon him) left his wife and son in the wilderness of Makkah with a few dates and some water.

As she faced this trial, Hazrat Hajra (Allah be pleased with her) enquired if her husband was leaving them on the command of Allah the Almighty. The Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) replied in the affirmative.

Commenting on her pious and noble response, Huzoor said:

"With complete conviction and trust in Allah the Almighty, Hazrat Hajra replied 'If you are leaving us upon the command of Allah the Almighty then He will not let us be ruined. You may go wherever you need.'"

Speaking of the incomparable reward that Allah the Almighty granted them in return for their sacrifices, Huzoor Aqdas stated:

"History testifies to how Allah the Almighty rewarded the faith of Hazrat Hajra and so He did not forsake her or her son, rather in return, an incredible nation was born to them and they had the ultimate honour that a great prophet, the Seal of the Prophets, Muhammad, the Chosen One (peace and blessings be upon him) was raised from amongst them who became a Prophet for all mankind."

Reflecting upon the immeasurable sacrifices of Hazrat Ibrahim (peace be upon him) and his family, Huzoor Aqdas said:

"Only when a man strives to tread upon the Abrahamic example and elevates his own level of loyalty towards Allah the Almighty will they become the recipients of the blessings of Allah the Almighty. Only when a woman seeks to emulate the standard set by Hazrat Hajra will she be showered with the blessings of Allah the Almighty. And surely if a young person strives to learn from

the example of Prophet Ismael (peace be upon him) will they be the inheritors of Allah's Beneficence. That is when true Eid will be attained."

Huzoor concluded by calling on the Jama'at to pray for all those who are facing struggles and hardship. Members were instructed to fervently pray for those who are facing religious persecution in parts of Africa, across Pakistan and elsewhere.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen mentioned how even the basic religious ritual of sacrificing an animal on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha was a right that extremists sought to deny to Ahmadi Muslims living in Pakistan.

"Although it is the case every year, this time those who persecute us in Pakistan are especially focused on pressuring the authorities to file cases against Ahmadi Muslims seeking to fulfil the Islamic practice of sacrificing an animal on the occasion of this Eid. They are asserting that Ahmadi Muslims should be punished all because we seek to fulfil this Islamic duty. May Allah the Almighty save Ahmadi Muslims from the evils of such mischievous people."

The sermon was brought to a close with a silent prayer. Later in the day Huzoor delivered the Friday sermon which he spoke about a new law in Pakistan that required people to write 'Seal of the Prophets' after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said:

"These people think they have accomplished a great feat by requiring people to write 'Seal of the Prophets' next to the name of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and they feel that they have created some hurdles in the path of Ahmadi Muslims by doing so. They are ignorant of the truth because they do not realise that we Ahmadi Muslims are the ones who truly understand the unparalleled status of the 'Seal of the Prophets' (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and that we have attained this understanding through the teachings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)."

(Adapted from a press release issued by the Press & Media Desk)

Guidance Regarding Pandemic and Situation in America and the World

Huzoor Anwar has continued to provide the Jama'at with valuable guidance throughout the current pandemic. In this respect at the end of his Friday Sermon on June 5th, 2020, Huzoor Aqdas (may Allah be his Helper), solicited we pray for the world to be saved from the coronavirus and that the world may be granted the understanding that their sustenance is solely in prostrating to the One God, upholding the rights of others and putting an end to disorder. He prayed that the governments may be given the wisdom to act with justice.

Huzoor Aqdas (may Allah be his Helper) then prayed that all Ahmadis especially, be protected from the disorder rampant in America. May the people be enabled to present their requirements and obtain their rights. He stated that if however the African-Americans burn down their own houses, they will only be harming themselves, and some African leaders have also urged them not to do so. They should of course try to obtain their rights, but in a lawful manner, not by burning down their own property. Hence, those protesting should be mindful of this.

Huzoor Aqdas (may Allah be his Helper) said that in any case, the governments should come to realise that all this chaos will not be solved through force, nor is it the answer to all problems. Rather, the sustenance of a government is in its just dealing of all its citizens. Only then can law and order be established in the land. If the people become restless, then no government can stand against them.

Concluding, Huzoor Aqdas (may Allah be his Helper) prayed that may Allah remove the disorder all around the world, may the governments uphold the rights of their citizens and may the people obtain their rights through lawful measures. Likewise, with the increasingly difficult situation for the Ahmadis in Pakistan, the Pakistani government should not allow this to happen out of fear of the religious clerics. They should rather act with justice and learn lessons from their history. By oppressing and acting unjustly, no previous government has lasted, nor can any do so now. Hence, they should not be under the impression that this issue will allow their government to remain intact. In fact, these injustices have allowed the Ahmadis to make further progress.

“He [Huzoor] stated that if however the AfricanAmericans burn down their own houses, they will only be harming themselves, and some African leaders have also urged them not to do so. They should of course try to obtain their rights, but in a lawful manner, not by burning down their own property. Hence, those protesting should be mindful of this.

Huzoor Aqdas (may Allah be his Helper) stated that this is the work of God, and no one has the power to halt it. May Allah Almighty remove all the injustice, disorder and turmoil in the world. May the world learn a lesson from the pandemic which we are currently facing and make changes within ourselves. May Ahmadis increase in their efforts towards upholding the rights of God and the rights of mankind, in order to attain greater love of God Almighty.

(Adapted from official Press Release by Press Ahmadiyya – 5 June 2020)

Prayers Recommended by Huzoor Aqdas

In a recent sermon Huzoor Anwar reminded us of certain prayers and instructed members to repeat them. They are as follows:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَجْعَلُكَ فِي نُحُورِهِمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شُرُورِهِمْ

‘We take You as a shield against whatever is in their (enemy’s) heart.
We seek protection against every evil of theirs and its dangerous effects.’

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ الْحَلِيمُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَرَبُّ الْأَرْضِ وَرَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْكَرِيمِ

‘There is none worthy of worship except Allah. He is the Most High and Forbearing. There is none worthy of worship except Allah. He is the Lord of the Magnificent Throne. There is none worthy of worship except Allah, the Lord of the Heavens and the Earth. There is none worthy of worship except Allah. He is the Lord of the Benevolent Throne.’ [Sahih Muslim Hadith No. 2730].’

يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ ثَبِّتْ قَلْبِي عَلَى دِينِكَ

‘O the Converter of Hearts, make my heart steadfast on Your faith.’
[Sunan Tirmidhi, Vol. 4, Book 6, Hadith 2140]

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ الْهُدَى وَالتَّقَى وَالعِفَافَ وَالعِغْنَى

‘O Allah. I seek from you true guidance, righteousness, chastity and self-sufficiency.’
[Sahih Muslim Hadith No. 2721]

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ زَوَالِ نِعْمَتِكَ, وَتَحَوُّلِ عَافِيَتِكَ, وَفُجَاءَةِ نِقْمَتِكَ, وَجَمِيعِ سُخْطِكَ

‘O Allah! I seek refuge in you from being deprived of Your favour, the decline of the good health You have granted, Your swift punishment and from all those deeds which may incur Your displeasure.’
[Sahih Muslim Book 16, Hadith 1601]

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنفُسَنَا ۖ وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ

‘Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves; and if Thou forgive us not and have not mercy on us, we shall surely be of the lost.’ (Holy Qur’an: Ch.7: V.24)

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً
إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ

‘Our Lord, let not our hearts become perverse after Thou hast guided us; and bestow on us mercy from Thyself; surely, Thou alone art the Bestower. (Holy Qur’an: Ch.3: V.9)

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

'Our Lord, let not our hearts become perverse after Thou hast guided us; and bestow on us mercy from Thyself; surely, Thou alone art the Bestower. (Holy Qur'an: Ch.3: V.9)

THE DAROOD

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

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ
إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ.

'O Allah! Send down Your Mercy on Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad, as You sent Your Mercy on Abraham and on the family of Abraham, for You are the Most Praise-worthy, the Most Glorious.'

'O Allah! Send down Your Blessings on Muhammad and the family of Muhammad, as You sent your Blessings on Abraham and on the family of Abraham, for You are the Most Praise-worthy, the Most Glorious.'

A prayer of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him):

'O Lord of all the Worlds! I cannot do justice in expressing my gratitude for your favours. You are Most Merciful and Benevolent. You have bestowed countless favours upon me. Forgive me of my sins, lest I perish. Instill pure love in my heart for You, so that I may be granted life and cover my shortcomings; enable me to carry out those deeds through which You will be pleased. I beseech Your Holy Countenance and seek refuge in You from incurring Your displeasure. Have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me. Save me from the calamities of this world and the Hereafter, for all grace and blessings are in Your hands.'

(Maktoobat-e-Ahmad, Vol.2, p.159)

Tarbiyat Activities During Lockdown

By Secretary Tarbiyat UK

The lockdown period presented a number of challenges, primarily the transition from a practical face to face environment to a virtual social media environment. The first real challenge was the month of Ramadhan. Such customary activities as Darse Hadith, Tilawate Qur'an and Darse Qur'an in our mosques had to be reflected on the newly created Tarbiyat UK Youtube platform. The technical and video editing skills of the tarbiyyat team were tested and, by the Grace of Allah, they delivered a full social media Ramadan programme; the transition was seamless without any delay or hindrance. The Ramadan programme was fully recorded allowing members to watch as a family unit reaching all Jama'ats UK wide and also capturing a worldwide audience.

With a newly acquired appetite of reaching out to our members via social media and, despite the easing of the lockdown with restrictions, allowed us to continue the healthy momentum to serve the members throughout the UK. With careful consideration and slight tweaking of our approach, to avoid clashing with other quality programmes provided by the departments of Talim and Tabligh, we introduced the Tarbiyyat RECONNECT programme to local Jama'ats. Prior to the lockdown the main consistent activity of The Department of Tarbiyyat was to be on the road and to give dedicated time to individual Jama'ats and even visit their members door to door.

Using Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Youtube, multiple daily Tarbiyyat sessions now take place for Jama'ats. Without having to hire halls, arrange food and to battle through traffic coupled with the ease of use that these technologies have to offer, resulted in large healthy family audiences. Covering many topics and supported by senior scholars allows for interactive educational and informative sessions accompanied by Question and Answers.

With this connectivity allows the Department of Tarbiyat a far reach to our members. We invite other Departments to join us and share a common platform to serve the members where they would find it

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel for Tarbiyat UK. The channel name is 'Tarbiyat UK' with 4.84K subscribers and 145 videos. The channel description reads: 'The National Tarbiyyat Department is here to serve and assist in any Tarbiyyat matters that you may have.' The channel is subscribed to. The latest videos are:

- Chapter 4 - Success through failure** (18:27) - Tarbiyyat UK • 136 views • 4 days ago. The Holy Quran, the Word of God Almighty, proclaims, as clearly as the sun shines in the sky, that the object of human existence is ...
- Importance of Namaz through Hadith** (1:39) - Tarbiyyat UK • 131 views • 6 days ago. In this video we talk about the importance of prayer through the Hadith of the Holy Prophet (saw) and especially in respect of ...
- Tilawat Part 21** (1:24:33) - Tarbiyyat UK • 615 views • 4 months ago. Hafiz Tayyab Sahib (Murabbi Silaila/Lecturer in Jamia Ahmadiyya UK) recites the 21st part of the Holy Qur'an along with the Urdu ...
- Day 2 (26.04.2020) URDU** (14:38) - Tarbiyyat UK • 9.9K views • 4 months ago. A faith-inspiring dars delivered by Imam Rashed Sahib.
- Tilawat - Part 14** (1:29:56) - Tarbiyyat UK • 441 views • 4 months ago. Hafiz Tayyab Sahib (Murabbi Silaila/Lecturer in Jamia Ahmadiyya UK) recites the 14th part of the Holy Qur'an along with the Urdu ...
- How men should be utilising their time at home** (8:40) - Tarbiyyat UK • 4.5K views • 4 months ago. During these unprecedented times it is everyone's duty to help out as much as they can. This isn't an opportunity for the menfolk to ...

difficult to do before. Departments of Rishta Nata and Sanato Tajarat are regular partners with Tarbiyat delivering their message through short and precise speeches supported by PowerPoint presentations.

We also promote fresh material, announcements and activities from other departments such as finance, Voice of Islam, Ansarullah and Khuddamul Ahmadiyya to name a few via the Tarbiyat Whatsapp distribution service.

The lockdown period did not signal a cessation of everything. It was business as usual in other aspects of life. For example:

Marriage:- The summer season represents the wedding season. This was hugely disrupted with wedding plans up in the air as Government guidelines initially suspended all civic registrations and wedding parties until its easing from the 4th July with restrictions to gatherings of 30 people. Unless the civic registration had been carried out before lockdown, the Islamic Nikah could be carried out in the UK

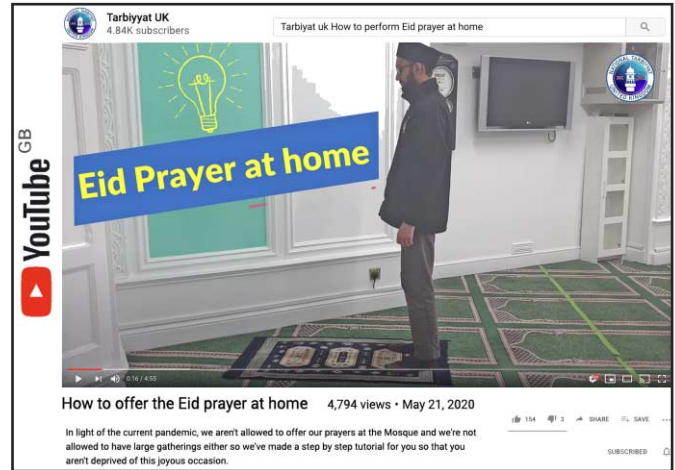
otherwise the Nikah had to be performed in Pakistan. Once the Nikah was performed, with pre marriage still a pre requisite) the couple could be ruksat (depart) from home rather than having a lavish reception or Walima party, saving hundreds and thousands of pounds, reflecting a simple Islamic lifestyle.

Reconciliation

Counselling sessions still had to be conducted for couples and families in need of family and matrimonial support. Despite the availability of holding such sessions on the social media platform we felt that such delicate sessions mainly had to be carried out face to face (with social distancing observed and recommended practices observed) to have a greater impact for the family.

Death:

This is one aspect of life that is not going to wait for the lockdown to end. Throughout a normal year we tend to oversee 50 funerals a year, representing one a week. During this period it peaked at 5 funerals a week. Preparation of washing the body, the funeral service and finally the burial had to be carried with



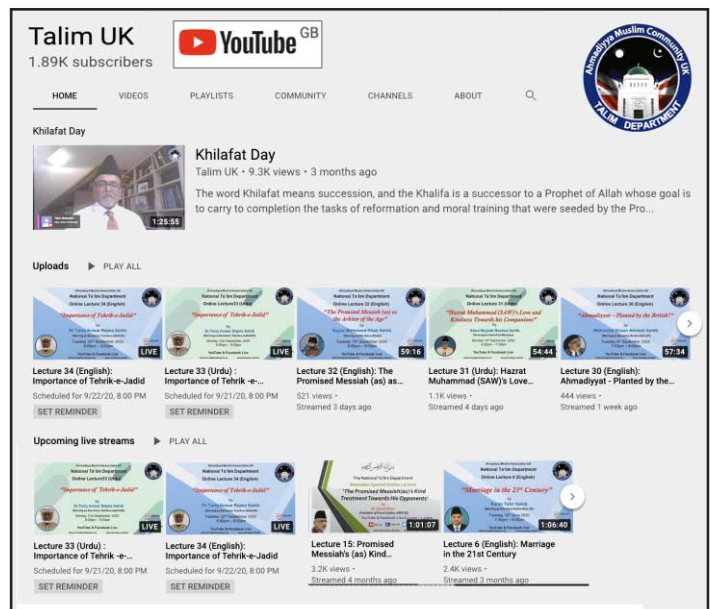
due care and attention using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and following Government and cemetery guidelines.

Home videos have been another way to reach our members. Videos reflecting and enhancing family values were created such as: *how to perform Eid Prayers; baking and how men should be utilising their time at home.*

Ta'lim Activities During Lockdown — By Secretary Talim UK

Since the start of the Covid 19 lockdown the Ta'lim department has hosted online lessons for students in National Curriculum subjects and Islamic topics. These have been taking place on Microsoft Teams. Between April and the summer holidays, 237 lessons took place with the large majority of these being taught by professional teachers. Over 25K bookings for classes were made with an average of 50 students participating in each class. The quality of lessons has been outstanding with exceptional positive feedback from parents, students and teachers.

Lessons in English, Maths, Religious Studies, Geography and many more including Cooking and Baking classes have been organised along with those of a a Tarbiyati nature like the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and many others. Children from abroad have also been joining. These lessons have continued during the summer holidays. So far approximately 2,500 unique students have registered for lessons. Weekly schedules and registration can be accessed at: <https://ahmadiyya.uk/talim/online-classes/>



Feedback can also be read at: <https://ahmadiyya.uk/talim/online-classes-reviews/>

Following the success of the online lessons, the department has been organising lectures for older

students and adults by prominent and learned members of the community. This started during the month of Ramadan when 20 lectures took place including on topics like the *Remembrance of Allah, Islamic History* and the *Pursuit of Knowledge*. The lectures are being broadcast on YouTube and Facebook and promoted through these and other social media forums, namely Twitter, Instagram and Whatsapp. Due to their popularity, lectures continued after Ramadan with Urdu lectures taking place on Monday evening, and English lectures on Tuesday evening. A schedule is already in place for the rest of 2020. As of 20th June, the lectures have collectively had 26, 650 views on YouTube and 3, 561 views on Facebook, totalling 30, 211 views. Updates regarding the lectures can be viewed on this site:

Ta'lim Lectures					
Raza Ahmed Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Family Life in Light of the Teachings of Islam	05/05/2020	Tue	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Naseem Ahmad Bajwa Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Blessings of Wasaiyat	06/05/2020	Wed	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Nisar Orchard Sahib	Secretary Tarbiyyat UK	Changing Adversity into Opportunity	07/05/2020	Thu	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Mansoor Ahmad Clarke Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Death of Jesus (as) and the Truth of The Promised Messiah (as)	08/05/2020	Fri	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Dr Mohammed Iqbal Sahib	Producer and Host of Living History Programmes on VOI	Islamic History	09/05/2020	Sat	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Mohamed Ahsan Ahmed Sahib	Secretary Rishta Nata UK	Islam in the West	10/05/2020	Sun	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Ataul Fatir Tahir Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Istighfar	11/05/2020	Mon	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Burhan Ahmad Raja Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Khilafat - The Need of the Time	12/05/2020	Tue	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Ahmad Salam Sahib	Secretary Sanat e Tijarat UK	Career Planning	13/05/2020	Wed	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Mohamed Arshad Ahmed Sahib	Secretary Ishaat UK	Pursuit of Knowledge	14/05/2020	Thu	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Dr Mohammed Iqbal Sahib	Producer and Host of Living History Programmes on VOI	Islamic Empire	15/05/2020	Fri	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Ayyaz Mahmood Khan Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	The Blessings of Khilafat	16/05/2020	Sat	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Waqar Ahmad Ahmed Sahib	Ta'lim UK Additional	The Holy Prophet's (saw) Treatment of Non-Muslims	17/05/2020	Sun	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Ibrahim Noonan Sahib	Missionary Incharge Ireland	The Promised Messiah (as)	18/05/2020	Mon	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Dr Zahid Khan Sahib	President Qadha Board	The Promised Messiah's (as) Kind Treatment Towards his Opponents	19/05/2020	Tue	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Syed Adeel Shah Sahib	Murrabi-e-Silsila	Is Apostasy Punishable in Islam?	20/05/2020	Wed	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Muhammad Ibrahim Ikhlaaf Sahib	Secretary Tabligh UK	Remembrance of Allah	21/05/2020	Thu	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Abid Khan Sahib	Press Secretary AMQ	Huzur's (saw) Visit to Europe	21/05/2020	Thu	1pm - 2pm
Amer Satir Sahib	Editor of Review of Religions	Cherished Moments with Khilafat	22/05/2020	Fri	6:45pm - 7:45pm
Ataul Mujeeb Rashed Sahib	Imam of the London Mosque	What can Ahmadi Muslims do for the cause of the Jama'at	23/05/2020	Sat	6:45pm - 7:45pm

Visit our website for lecture details, timetable & registration:

www.talim.org.uk

For more information please contact: sectaleem@ahmadiyyauk.org

The department also hosted National Khilafat Day on 27th May chaired by Respected Amir Sahib. This programme had 8, 900 views on YouTube and 1,200 views on Facebook, totally 10,100 views.

LIVE HUMBLE LIVES

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said:

“The greatest worry for my followers should be for the Fear of God, whether they have it or not.

“A condition for the Fear of God is that those who have it should live humble lives. This is one aspect of the fear of God through which we have to combat the undue anger. In fact, to avoid anger is the last step on the ladder of those who recognise God well and who are Siddique, The Truthful. It is the anger that produces pride and at times it is the pride that produces anger, for, the anger is displayed when one feels superior to others.

“I do not like that my followers should take one another as lower or higher, or that they should show pride by taking others to be inferior. Only God knows who is great or small. This kind of distinction (if made by the people) is a sort of insult which is based on hatred and it is feared that this hatred might germinate like a seed and then ruin the person. They are very courteous when they meet the big people but the fact is that big is he who attends to the poor in humility and consoles him, honours his word

and does not utter anything that might offend the man”

God says:

La tanabazoo bil-alqabi bi 'salismul-fosooqo ba 'dal-eemani Wa mallam yatub fo-olaika homuzzalimoon

“Do not call one another with bad names; it is an evil act. He who offends someone with a bad name, will not pass out of this world, till he finds himself involved in it.

“Do not take your brothers as inferior; all of you drink from the same fountain. Who knows as to who will be lucky enough to drink more than others. Nobody can be honourable and great by the worldly principles. Great in the sight of God is he who fears God more (Muttaqi):

Inna akramakum indallahi atqaakum innallaha Alimun Khabir”.

(Malfoozat Vol. 1, p. 34)

BAITUL FUTUH RECONSTRUCTION

The reconstruction of the complex is gathering pace now that lockdown measures are easing. Earlier Amir Sahib UK sent a message, informing members of the progress and urging them to continue to make their financial sacrifices so that they are not left behind in reaping the blessings when participating in such a noble cause. The progress can be viewed on video at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mIYWRL4B5E&feature=youtu.be

This shows how the new structure is taking shape and the beauty of the new complex is beginning to emerge. It will serve as a landmark building both at a national and international level and blessed are those who are able to contribute towards this noble scheme.

Those who have made a promise are reminded to fulfil their promise as soon as possible. or to local Finance Secretaries and/or Presidents.

Opportunities for fresh pledges or improvement on existing pledges still remain and can also be sent over to the local Sadr or to the local Finance Secretaries. Payments can be made online at www.chanda.org.uk



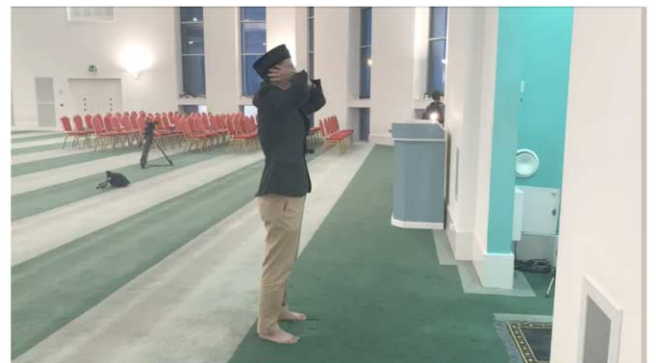
FIRST ADHAN FROM BAITUL FUTUH

The first ever Adhan from the Baitul Futuh Mosque after it was completed was performed on 3rd October 2003. Since then the call to prayer has taken place every day. In order to prevent any disturbance to the neighbours around the Mosque, any sound of the call has been confined to the complex and no further. However, during this Ramadan a special request was made to Merton Council to allow the Adhan to be transmitted throughout the surroundings. This was thankfully given for the last 4 days of Ramadan and for the Maghrib Adhan bringing the fast on each day to a close.

At the time the Mosque had been closed in line with the Government's guidelines for all places of worship but some local authorities across the capital had relented for Adhans to be transmitted more widely even though everyone was observing congregational prayers at home. The restrictions have been relaxed since then but the observances have still not gone back to normal.

Amir Sahib UK said to the press,

"The mosque has been landmark in Morden for 17 years and it has been unusual for it not to be packed during prayers in the holy month of Ramadan. We host many interfaith and charity events here and have also been helping neighbours, the vulnerable and frontline staff during the current crisis. Allowing the call to prayer is a wonderful gesture by the council and



Adhan (call to prayer) on Thursday, 21 May 2020

means a lot to us. We will certainly be praying for them and all others during these difficult times."

The following are the names of those who were fortunate enough to give the Adhan at the Baitul Futuh Mosque and who belonged to different nations:

- Imran Khalid Sahib Murabbi Silsilah (Pakistani German).
- Mehmood Wardi Sahib Murabbi Silsilah (Indonesian).
- Feroz Alim Sahib Murabbi Silsilah (Bengali British).
- Mueed Hamid Sahib (Pakistani British)
- Munir Odeh Sahib (Arab British)
- Ali Moaanda Sahib (African British)

VIRTUAL Fundraising

Saturday 5th Sept.
at 6:30pm

SPECIAL INVITATION



to the
'Virtual Programme'
for
The Reconstruction
of the Baitul Futuh
Mosque Complex on

Saturday 5th Sept.
at 6:30pm

YOUTUBE link
Click here: www.youtube.com/user/ahmadiyyauk/live

TO DONATE
Click here: chanda.org.uk (Select Mosque Appeal 'Baitul Futuh')



“Those people who did not have the opportunity to partake in the construction of Baitul Futuh Mosque previously, should endeavour to take part in this scheme. Since this is a UK Jama’at project, as I have already mentioned, it is primarily the duty of Ahmadiis residing in the UK. Therefore, they should contribute towards this project.” (Hazrat Khalifatul Maish V)



With the re-construction of the Baitul Futuh complex nearing completion a special fundraising event was held on 5th September 2020 to raise the shortfall that still needed to be expended. In his sermon of 3rd November 2017, Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V had already allocated the responsibility of funding the reconstruction to the UK Jama'at when he said:

“Those people who did not have the opportunity to partake in the construction of Baitul Futuh Mosque previously, should endeavour to take part in this scheme. Since this is a UK Jama'at project, as I have already mentioned, it is primarily the duty of Ahmadiis residing in the UK. Therefore, they should contribute towards this project.”

Several fund-raising initiatives had taken place before this virtual programme but it was felt that at least another £2m needed to be raised. Proceedings began as scheduled at 6.30 pm and included interviews with Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat, Amir UK, Mohammad Nasser Khan, Naib Amir, Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed, as well as Secretary Finance UK, and Secretary Jaidad UK who conducted a video tour of the construction completed so far. Budding architects Adeel and Danyal Hayat were on hand to show a model of the building to illustrate what the new structure will look like when it will inshallah be completed later next year. Messrs Mohammed Nasser Khan and Secretary Jaidad UK Irfan Qureshi answered any questions from the participants.

The telethon aimed to raise £2m. By 9.00 pm the landmark of £1m was reached, a figure that increased to £1,321,164 by 9.30 pm. The final figure for the evening was **£1,671,424** by the Grace of Allah. In addition to interviews with senior members of the Jama'at, video messages from children as well as adults were shared. Historical footage about laying of the foundation stones and the openings was also shown.

The interviews were conducted in both English and Urdu and hosted by Mr Fareed Ahmad and Mr Mubarak Sidiqqi respectively. Throughout the telethon, the blessings associated with spending in the way of Allah was emphasised and the significance of the opportunity to contribute in building a House of Allah was emphasised. In his interviews, Amir Sahib eloquently outlined the history of the Jama'at and how the UK has been

uniquely blessed with the visits of 4 Khulafa here that were crucial in enhancing the progress of the Jama'at in this country. Mr Mohammed Nasser Khan, Naib Amir UK, recalled the manner in which the site was bought, how various hurdles had to be traversed to complete the construction in the first place and the devastating feeling that engulfed us when the fire broke out in 2015. At that time, both Amir Sahib and Naib Amir Sahib recalled, how Huzoor had mentioned that some non Ahmadi Muslims were rejoicing with *Subhanallah*. Huzoor had predicted that when this site is completed anew, we will be rejoicing with such phrases. That prediction will become a reality inshallah when the re-opening takes place next year.

The entire event was conducted in the Library and Exhibition Hall of Baitul Futuh. Collection terminals operated by volunteers supplied by the Baitul Futuh Region were positioned in the Library and were giving up to date information as the telethon progressed. By the Grace of Allah, it proved to be an outstanding success.

The fire that brought about so much destruction was a heart rendering experience for all in the Jama'at. The mood was low and everyone was grief stricken at what had transpired. It was at that time, in the Friday sermon that followed immediately after that Hazrat Amirul Momineen lifted our spirits. He acknowledged the loss that had been suffered but told us not to despair. Huzoor gave us hope that Allah will enable us to build something better than that we have lost and he also responded to the few negative comments made by non-Ahmadi Muslims. Huzoor stated:

“As I mentioned before, a lot of damage was sustained during the fire. However, God willing, we will soon build an even better and more beautiful building and we will be the ones who sincerely say Subhan'Allah (Holy is Allah) and Masha'Allah (With the Will of Allah).”
(Friday Sermon, 2 October 2015)

May Allah draw that day near when we can indeed observe the fulfilment of Huzoor's sentiments in observing the opening of the reconstruction of Baitul Futuh with the words *Subhan' Allah* and *Masha'Allah*.

Activities in Scotland During The Pandemic

The Jama'at has always stepped up during national crises and its response during the pandemic has not been any different. This has been epitomised by the work conducted in Scotland by the Scottish branches. These include the Jama'ats of Glasgow, Edinburgh & Fife and Dundee. A brief description of some of its efforts is presented below.

To begin with very early on, letters were drafted and widely delivered through the post and social media to various communities of Scotland announcing the availability of volunteers of the Jama'at to offer any assistance that was required. An example of a typical letter is shown below:

This does not mean vulnerable members of the Jama'at were overlooked. In fact efforts were made to identify those that fell in this category and appropriate assistance was put in place.

Glasgow Jama'at

In Glasgow Jama'at officials have managed to remain in touch with members throughout seeking to attend to their welfare where necessary and reporting to the centre. Within this effort homeopathic medicines were distributed to all Jama'at households.

The local Jama'at and its auxiliaries have continued to provide food to Food Banks for the homeless with great regularity twice a week. Recent records reveal the following details:

- Over 3000 servings of hot food were given to homeless shelters.
- 1258 food items has been donated to food banks in the city.
- 2000 face masks were prepared by the Lajna of Glasgow.
- 416 face masks were delivered to Ahmadi households.
- 400 face masks were donated to the food bank charity and homeless shelters.
- A total of 200 man hours was expended by local Jama'at members to support the people of Glasgow.

All efforts were widely welcomed by the community at large and reported online and on social media:

1. www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18473575.young-muslims-praised-helping-glaswegians-eid-day/
2. www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18457681.muslim-community-continues-help-vulnerable-lockdown/
3. www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18385421.muslim-community-prays-hero-nhs-workers-ramadan/
4. www.thenational.scot/news/18455876.scotlands-ahmadi-muslims-food-scheme-aids-homeless/
5. https://twitter.com/h4th_thursday8/status/1252890130102321152?s=20

Edinburgh & Fife Jama'at

By Allah's Grace members of the Jama'at delivered several hot food parcels during this period, to various homeless shelters across Edinburgh (Crossreach homeless shelter) and Fife (Segal House & James Bank). In addition a number of food bank parcels were provided to the Dunfermline food bank, the Segal House homeless shelter, the Crossreach homeless shelter and the Kirkcaldy food bank



Many local neighbours took note of our letter offering help and contacted us. They were duly given regular assistance as appropriated. For example a number of elderly neighbours were assisted with their shopping and this went hand in hand with rendering similar assistance to the vulnerable members of the Jama'at. This kind of help extended to neighbouring areas too. The Jama'at was enabled to render help to Dunfermline residents who had come in with urgent food requests following our social media campaign. Members provided weeks' worth of groceries as well as providing the Council of Fife urgent supplies for their helpline in the future.

When it came to NHS workers, due support was provided to them in appreciating the effort that these staff were making during the crisis. Regular snack parcels to 5 hospitals across NHS Lothian and NHS Fife were delivered. The Jama'at also got enthusiastically in running the #PrayforHeroes campaign to coincide with the #ClapforHeroes campaign every Thursday. This effort was very warmly received by the kind NHS staff as shown in one of the tweets that will follow.

One of the Jama'at members also raised funds through a crowd funding web site to create PPE equipment for NHS Fife using his personal 3d Printer all while he himself was on furlough. This was greatly appreciated by NHS Fife as indicated in the link below:

www.gofundme.com/f/y4exd-support-for-nhs?utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&rcid=9f9c0a608cbf4725beb40da24da125ce

The Jama'at's efforts received good coverage in the social and general media. A couple of examples can be found through the following links:

https://twitter.com/AMA_Edinburgh/status/1261701938103681025?s=20

https://twitter.com/he_spreadbury/status/1249073219354624001?s=20

Dundee Jama'at

This is a relatively small Jama'at but has not remained behind in contributing to help others during the pandemic. Its efforts included the donation of food items to its local Food bank. The Jama'at also gave refreshments to NHS staff at the Kings Cross Hospital to its COVID 19 hub.

Glasgow Times

Muslim community continues to help vulnerable during lockdown

By Catherine Hunter | Local Democracy Reporter

19th May



A team of volunteers pack 1,500 hot meals ready to be delivered to people of all faiths across Glasgow

Members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Glasgow are continuing to help vulnerable members their local communities and support frontline workers.

So far, they have supplied over 500 hot meals to the homeless in Glasgow, supplied more than 50 households with food and medicine, delivered around 1500 food items to 10 foodbanks across Scotland and launched their pray for heroes campaign to express gratitude for frontline workers.

With Ramadan drawing to a close, a virtual Iftar (an evening meal to break the fast) has been organised twice a week to entertain, interact, engage and educate the public both Muslims who miss their normal Iftar parties during lockdown and non-Muslims who want to find out more about Ramadan.

VOLTES
SEGWAY NINEBOT
KICKSCOOTER MAX G30...

The Segway-Ninebot KickScooter MAX G30 is the newest electric scooter from Segway...

Learn more

READ MORE: [Muslim community prays for 'hero' NHS workers before Ramadan](#)

Though in Ramadan Muslims stay away from food and drink from dawn until sunset and may feel fatigue, the members of the Ahmadiyya community also understand that there are many out there who need a lot of help and assistance due to the

pandemic which have lead to the lockdown and many challenges people face.

Muhammad Ahsan Ahmad Regional President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Scotland said: "In these difficult times, many feel insecure and afraid, but our message to fellow Scots is one of solitary, unity and security.

READ MORE: [Central Mosque prepares for Ramadan in lockdown](#)

"We are here for you, so if you need help just pick up the phone or send email. As Muslims, love for our nation is part of our faith and we do also believe that being grateful is a duty upon all Muslims."

To access the help offered, without third parties, phone 0333 880 6619 or email @khuddam.co.uk

www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18457681.muslim-community-continues-help-vulnerable-lockdown/

Midlands Region Lockdown Activities

Following instructions from respected Amir Sahib UK, the Midlands Region undertook a number of activities while complying fully with the restrictions imposed due to COVID 19.

Initially office bearers took up the task of identifying the vulnerable and elderly in the Jama'at who were living alone and ensuring that they were fully catered for. If any assistance was required at any stage this was provided. The remaining members of the Jama'at were not neglected. Here again regular contact was maintained to assess their needs and then providing support, food, medicine, shopping and even financial help where required. Face masks made by Lajna and Leamington Spa jamaat provided to all families.

When it came to organisational meetings and the like, these were conducted via virtual platforms like Zoom and WhatsApp.

During this period a considerable amount of effort

was expended on helping with the needs of neighbours, NHS workers and others. In this respect 3987 were provided were given assistance by 289 of our volunteers and 1853 was expended. Several thousand of pounds of food was donated across the region.

A formidable neighbourhood campaign was launched offering support and help. Many took up the offer. Assistance was given with Foodbank donations and people were made aware of the Humanity First hotline. Where PPE was needed this was provided and facemasks were delivered to care homes. The Jama'ats worked closely with local Councils to ensure their efforts were properly co-ordinated.

These contributions were very much appreciated with a lot of positive feedback being received. A sample of this is re-produced below:

On behalf of our Trustees, Staff, Volunteers and residents at Burton upon Trent & District YMCA, I would like to say a huge thank you to you for your kind and generous donation to help support our foodbank.

Your donation comes at a time when the global pandemic has affected many people in our local Community. The demand for our foodbank service is the highest it has ever been in the 19 year history of providing this service. We are seeing many new people accessing this for the first time and it is a lifeline for everyone in need.

"I am emailing you to thank you and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association so much for your kind donation of PPE to Adelaide House Care Home. This is vru much appreciated."

"We just wanto to say a big thank you to yourself and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association for the extremely kind gesture of the face masks that you donated to us here at Cherry Tree Lodge. They have been of great use to us during this COVID-19 pandemic and we cannot thank you enough for your generosity and kindness shown to us. They have helped to keep both our staff and residents safe."

"I just want to send my personal gratitude and the thanks from the manager at the Albermarle Rest Home for thr kind donation of face masks. The maks will be especially useful for our staff that use public transport to arrive and go home for work."

A huge thank you the

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Nottingham


for the generosity and support shown throughout COVID-19

559.65 kg


49 Parcels


442 Meals

Your donations have been invaluable to those in our community who needed extra support especially during these times, thank you for all your hard work.



Sneinton Foodbank





Sneinton Salvation Army
19 hrs · 🌐

A big special thank you to The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Nottingham who have been supporting Sneinton Foodbank over the last few years and have blown us away with their generosity throughout these COVID times! Thank you for all your generosity and continuing support! 🌈

South Region Supports Emergency Services & The Homeless

The South region provided over 2000 meals to front line staff including hospital, police fire brigade and Croydon dialysis unit. Baitus Subhan Region's Khuddam also supplied hot meals to the homeless in the Croydon area. These efforts were very well received by the Grace of Allah.

The Region's Khuddam delivered groceries through Age UK Croydon. The Region's Lajna raised funds and donated to local charities.

All the Presidents of the Region remained in touch with each family throughout ensuring that people in need were provided help. The elderly living on their own were supplied with hot meals throughout the lock down. The Region sadly lost 5 members during this period -three Ansar and two Lajna.

Homeopathic medicines were prepared by the

Region and distributed to every household through the Presidents.

The Region prepared more than 3500 face-masks with the help of Lajna and some Ansar. Out of these 2500 were delivered to each household. Front line workers were contacted in the nursing and care homes and provided with free face masks.

The lockdown period was put to good use by some Khuddam and Ansar who utilised their spare time to decorate and renovate the Baitus Subhan Mosque making it more colourful.

Both the Tahir Mosque and Baitus Subhan were thoroughly cleaned and sanitised.

We by the grace of Allah permission was obtained and the Maghrib Azan was broadcast on loud speakers during the last two days of Ramadan.



CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

Helpline Service operated by Humanity First UK

As part of the UK Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's response to the national emergency, Humanity First (UK) has set up a telephone helpline to provide the public and members of the Jama'at, support during this Coronavirus Pandemic. The service includes:

- Reassurance and comfort.
- Latest government guidance.
- Referral to support services provided by the Jama'at and its auxiliaries.
- UK support networks and others etc.



Humanity First

National Coronavirus
Support Line

0333 880 6619

8am to 8pm

Need advice at this difficult time?

Give us a call and we'll do our best to help

and if we can't, we'll point you in the right direction

This is NOT a medical advice line

For medical advice please call 111. If you have an emergency please call 999

<https://hfuk.org/coronavirus/>

Face Masks Preparation

Many Jama'ats undertook the task of making face masks. The Slough Jama'at was among them. It managed to donate 250 especially made reusable/washable face masks to as part of its community welfare and support initiative. The masks were distributed to members of the Slough homeless community and volunteers at Slough Outreach.

When interviewed by the press local President Atiq-Ahmad Bhatti said:

“Our ongoing local community welfare and support initiative is still going strong and we hope that today’s donation of 250 face masks, especially stitched by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Women’s Association Slough, will help support the local homeless community who are most vulnerable in the difficult and testing times that we are all passing through.”

More masks were donated to two care homes in Slough. These were the Windsor Care Centre in Burlington Avenue and Windmill Care Home on Bath Road. The masks were made by the Lajna of Slough. It took them two weeks to make 800 masks.

The Jama'at remained active throughout the Coronavirus lockdown helping vulnerable members of the community. It has also donated 340 food items to



NHS staff at Wexham Park Hospital to help them keep going during a harrowing time. When speaking to the press, the local President said,

“Our ongoing local community welfare and support initiative started back in March and since this time we have been able to provide support to local organisations and communities in Slough through voluntary donations and through providing a pick and drop service for essential supplies. It continues to be a difficult time for so many, especially the vulnerable, but we are here to help them and support them so we may get through the lockdown together.”

VJ Remembrance Service in Nottingham

Dr Irfan Malik, member of the Nottingham Jama'at was invited to a VJ Day of Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church on 15th August. At the ceremony, he was requested to say a pray in Urdu and English before laying a wreath to remember the soldiers of undivided India who served in the Burma Campaign in the Second World War. The Lord Lieutenant, Lord Mayor, High Sheriff and leaders of the Council together with many other dignitaries were present.



Humanity First Opens Foodbank

On 17th July Humanity First UK managed to open its very first Foodbank in the country. Its location is in Mirfield, Yorkshire. Over the few weeks leading up to the opening day, HF volunteers had been working extremely hard in the town to renovate the premises acquired for the purpose. During this period various items needed for the set up were obtained. This included food, shelving, a computer, paint, carpet, seating and so much more – all of these things were generously donated to help the Foodbank. Volunteers gave up many hours of their time and expertise to collect, assemble and install all the donated items as well as decorating the premises.

The public were generous in making donations of food. Local residents streamed in loaded with bags of food while local supermarkets also stepped in to help with food donations. Currently the bank has built up a reserve of staple foods such as cereal, rice, pasta, canned goods, bread and milk; as well as snacks like crisps and biscuits. Non-food items like toilet paper and various other toiletries are also in stock.

The charity is hugely grateful to all those who contributed to the setting up of this Foodbank which will enable it to help alleviate the suffering of so many from the poorer sections of our society. Support is needed to keep the Foodbank going and it is hoped that readers will continue to render it their assistance in this regard.

For further information about the Foodbank please look up www.hfuk.org



MTA continuing to reach the corners of the earth

In recent months MTA International has launched 3 more TV Channels around the Globe and also rebranding the names for all its Channels. The Channels will be referred to as following:

1. MTA WORLD
2. MTA EUROPE HD
3. MTA AL-ARABIYYA

4. MTA AFRICA 1
5. MTA AFRICA 2

The New Channels are:

6. MTA ASIA 1
7. MTA ASIA 2 HD
8. MTA AMERICA HD

All channels are unique in their own

right and will telecast programmes for their respective regions and countries, with their own logos.

MTA used to serve 5 channels with 11 satellites around the globe. With the additions, the total number of channels have now become eight. This is one of the biggest milestones so far as MTA continues to reach reach the farthest corners of the globe.



SERVING HUMANITY



Adapted from a newsletter appearing for the Islam Correspondence Course by Maulana Tahir Selby

The Holy Qur'an, Chapter 4, verse 37 states,

Despite the difficulties of these days, it is very pleasing to observe so many coming forward to help one another. For Muslims this is an especially important teaching since it is expected of believers to be always striving to serve mankind. The Holy Qur'an states in chapter 4 verse 37,

"And worship Allah and associate naught with Him, and show kindness to parents, and to kindred, and orphans, and the needy, and to the neighbour who is a kinsman and the neighbour who is a stranger, and the companion by your side, and the wayfarer, and those whom your right hands possess. Surely, Allah loves not the arrogant and the boastful."

This indicates, that part of worship of Allah includes showing kindness to all mankind, whether it is your parents, relations, or those who are in need, like the orphans and needy. The Jama'at has been working hard all over the world to help serve humanity through a variety of different ways. Locally, members in Hartlepool for example, have been working hand in hand with a local church, cooking food to provide to the homeless and those in need with food and help. We are just a small part of this effort as they provide all sorts of food and supplies for the homeless which includes clothes, blankets, even dog food for their pets. The Lajna also help in many ways to provide for food banks and baby essentials; and members, young to old are constantly encouraged, to donate food, clothes, or money for those in need. This kind of effort is mirrored by Jama'ats all over the UK.

Whenever anyone helps others, they feel good within themselves, but for a believer the underlying motivation should always be striving to please Allah and seeking His blessings. In fact, one of the conditions of the Bai'at emphasises this. It reads,

"That he / she shall keep himself / herself occupied in the service of God's creatures for His sake only

and shall endeavour towards the beneficence of mankind to the best of his / her God-given abilities and powers"

The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was always concerned for the poor and needy and tried to help improve their quality of life. He once advised:

"Charity is incumbent upon every Muslim". He was asked: 'What if a person should have nothing?' He answered: 'He should work with his hands to his own benefit and also give alms.' He was then asked: 'If he is unable to work' and he replied: 'He should help a needy helpless one' He was then asked: 'If he cannot do even that?' and he responded: 'He should urge others to goodness'

Finally he was asked:

'If he lacks that also?' and he said: 'He should restrain himself from doing evil, that too is charity.'

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), desired that members of his community should always be ready to serve others. This is illustrated by the condition of Bait cited earlier but he also said,

"God desires to found a community of the faithful to manifest His Glory and Power. He will make the Community grow and prosper, to establish the Love of God, righteousness, purity, peace and goodwill among them. This shall be a group of persons devoted to God. He shall strengthen them with His own spirit, and bless them and purify them."

It is always important to keep serving others for Allah's sake and constantly remembering Allah. The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

“Faith is goodwill”. We (his companions) asked ‘towards whom?’ He answered “Towards Allah, His Book, His Messenger, leading Muslims and the general public.” (Muslim)

There are many ways which we can help serve others for Allah’s sake. This should be our constant goal in life. Our community gets involved in all sorts of activities which promote good health and service to humanity and we encourage the youth to make tremendous sacrifices for the service of mankind and we embark on many events to raise money for different charities which include charity walks, cycle rides and mountain climbing etc. Again, this is something which our faith instils in us.

The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has said:

‘There are two blessings which many people lose: they are health and free time for doing good.’

He has guided us that we should use our good health to engage in good deeds and not waste time. If we put off performing good deeds to when we get old, then our health could deteriorate considerably such that we would not be able to do so and the opportunity would be lost.

All these activities not only keep us healthy but also give us an opportunity to meet others and encourage them to engage in healthy activities and of course raise money to serve others. To further facilitate the Jama’at’s charity work, Humanity First was founded. This enables us to not only contribute for mankind, but also serve, and many members take up the opportunity to help in different countries of the world, to serve others. Doctors and other workers give their time and visit poorer countries to work for free in our free clinics while others go to help build hospitals, schools etc or help the victims of disasters etc.

It is that love for Allah that makes members want to be good to everyone and we should always keep in mind the saying of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him),

“A person is not a true believer unless he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself”

This saying beautifully sums up the essence charities like ‘Humanity First’ as this charity serves humanity for the sake of Allah. It does not matter what nationality, religion or colour the person is, if he/she is in need, then for Allah’s sake, we want to try to help him.

Again, there is another saying of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) which said:

‘Believers are like one body. If its eye is in trouble, the whole (body), feels pain; and if its head is in trouble, the whole (body) is in trouble.’

This further shows the importance of helping the community that we live in.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has said,

“It is proper for you to have sympathy for others and to purify yourselves so that thereby you may share to a degree the qualities of the Holy Spirit. Remember that without the Holy Spirit true righteousness cannot be attained. Discard altogether the base animal desires in you and follow the path to the pleasure of Allah, be it the narrowest and most difficult of all. Do not be enamoured of worldly pleasures, because they lead you away from God. That suffering which pleases God is better than that pleasure which displeases Him. That defeat which pleases God is better than the victory which earns His displeasure. Abandon that love which draws you nigh to the wrath of Allah. If you come to Him with a pure heart, He will help you in every way and no enemy will be able to hurt you.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V recently stated:

“It is important to observe all the precautions such as wearing masks and avoiding visiting people’s homes. Help people while taking all precautions and avoid unnecessary risks. Do not put yourself in harm’s way.... There are many people in the world who do not have all the provisions necessary to protect themselves. Some do not have access to medical care or even to food. May Allah have mercy on them and on all of us. We should try to provide help to everyone and do so selflessly and without any ulterior motives. We need to concentrate on prayers and more prayers. May Allah protect everyone.”

May Allah enable us to be constantly occupied in the service of humanity for His sake only.



Historical QUESTION & ANSWER Session

with
Hazrat
Khalifatul
Masih IV

*(May Allah have
mercy on him)*

Question and Answer Session - 18 November 1995, Mahmood Hall, London

ISLAM AND SCIENCE:

Does Islam encourage scientific experimentation and development?

Is there any mention of atomic energy in the Holy Qur'an?

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV:

No religion on earth which is true in its beginning can contradict the Act of God which is expressed in the way He has created. This contradiction in terms cannot be accepted. So, we believe that, and with the grace of Allah we can prove it, that all religions at their beginning were exactly in conformity with the nature created by God and we do not only defend the Holy Qur'an in this regard but also the Bible. We tell the Christians and the Jews:

'Please do not take these things literally, read them in the light of what the Holy Qur'an has spoken on the same subject then you will begin to understand the true import of those verses of the Bible which seem to be contradicting it.'

The Holy Qur'an repeatedly demands people to use their brains, their intellect. It says:

"Why don't these people use the wisdom which God has given them. Or, are there locks on their hearts?"

So, the one religion which emphasises the use of

wisdom and understanding is unfortunately treated by the so-called custodians of that religion as not permitting the use of wisdom with relation to the Holy Qur'an and with relation to Islam. This is their fault, not the fault of the Holy Qur'an.

Now the second question is of the same nature, but specifically you enquired about atomic energy. There is a definite mention of the atomic energy, atomic explosion and the consequences thereof and the extremely dangerous radiating cloud spreading over the world and destroying the life underneath. All these things are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an very clearly. To begin with, I quote a small chapter of the Holy Qur'an:

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful. Woe to every backbiter, slanderer, who amasses wealth and counts it time after time. He thinks that his wealth will make him immortal. Nay! he shall surely be cast into the crushing punishment. And what should make thee know what the crushing punishment is? It is Allah's kindled fire. Which rises over the heart. It will be closed in on them in the form

of extended columns.
(*Al-Humazah, 104:1-10*)

Leaving the first part for a while because of shortage of time, I come to the crux of the matter. Such and such people have been described. They will be thrown into the smallest particle: *Layoumba dhannan fil hotamate* (verse 5): That is, "he shall be cast into the crushing punishment". Consult all Arabic dictionaries about the meaning of hotama; it is like a particle which one cannot see with the unaided eye; or, when a beam of light is shone, then you begin to see very small minute particles. Apparently, there is nothing there, but when the beam shines, you can see small tiny particles floating in the air.

It is amazing but that is not all. The next question it raises is fantastic. *Wa maa adraaka mal hotoma* (verse 6): That is, "How can we make you understand what hotoma is?"

Because the time had not yet come for the people to understand. Time was yet to come for people to know what atom was and what it could do. It further says: *Na roolahil moo kada* (verse 7): "It is Allah's kindled fire." We are talking of the fire of God which will be built within this small particle. *Tattali'o 'alal'af'ida* (verse 8):

"Which rises over the heart" - a strange fire it will be before burning the bodies it will leap directly at the hearts and make them cease to beat. *Innaha 'alaihim moosadat* (verse 9):

"It will be closed in on them". This fire within the hotoma is closed or locked up for them, in what form? *Fi'amadimmu maddada* (verse 10):

"In the form of extended columns". It is like a pillar, but that which is made to look like a pillar after being stretched.

Now if you ever happen to see the picture of atoms or the radioactive substance about to explode, you will see without fail it is like something which is extended to the sides, beyond its original size, in the form of a pillar that has been extended, until it breaks or explodes.

So, what better description of atom and atomic bomb could you expect from any book at a time when the concept of the atom was not known. That is why I searched far and wide for an

explanation from earlier commentators (of the Holy Qur'an) regarding this and found none. They were completely perplexed. All that they could offer was that maybe this pillar is the name of a pillar in hell. Hell of course it would be, but not in the hereafter, but here, in this world.

Then the Holy Qur'an speaks of Al-Qaraiah, (The Great Calamity, Holy Qur'an, Ch. 101) a terrorising sound which would destroy everything by the immense intensity of the wave. But referring to this verse, have you seen the fire that does not burn first but reaches at the heart without the heatwave touching the body. If you have not, read the history of Hiroshima written by a scientist. They would tell you that the atomic explosion releases shockwaves as well as heatwaves, but the shockwaves travel faster than the heatwaves and all other forms of radiation are left behind. And it was the shockwave which killed people because immediately their hearts were arrested under the immense pressure.

The Holy Qur'an goes to the length of describing the nature of that fire locked within the heart of an unseen invisible small particle, in the form that when it explodes it leaps at the hearts and destroys them. But the consequences of this atomic explosion is further explained in Surah Al-Dukhan (Ch 44) which means the Smoke. [But watch thou for the day when the sky will bring forth a visible smoke, that will envelop the people. This will be a painful torment. 44:11-12]. And it is said that a day would come when a smoke would begin to travel move along the earth which will spell death and destruction and nobody under its shadow will be able to escape from its destruction.

You have to admit that before the discovery of atomic radiation spreading through clouds and smoke spelling destruction on whatever they cast their shadows was witnessed, it could not be understood.

So, the Holy Qur'an is not a book of the past, it is a living book. It specifically mentions all the important events and inventions by man and even speaks of the attempt to change the nature which God has created through the tampering of genes, DNA, etc.

HISTORIC PHOTO

Group of Ahmadis with respected retired Major Sharif Ahmad Bajwa
 who served as Imam of the London Mosque from February 4th 1971 to April 24th 1972
(In front of the London Fazl Mosque in 1971)



Included in the group are:

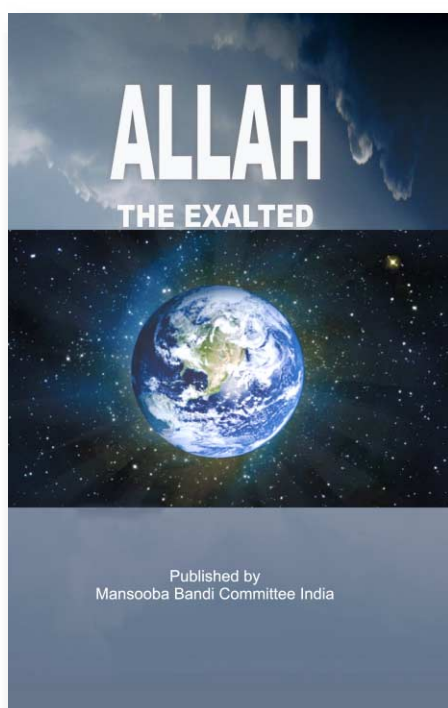
Ataul Mujeeb Rashed (who was Naib Imam of London Mosque at that time), some others clearly identified as (L to R): Nazir Ahmad Dar, Mujeebullah Sadiq, Dr. Sardar Nazir Ahmad, Abdul Latif Khan, Ghulam Ahmed Chugthai, Molvi Abdul Karim, Capt. Muhammad Hussain Cheema, Dr Abdul Hamid

Some others in the back: Babu Muhammed Aalam, Mansoor Shah, Abbas Khan, Malik Khalil, Bashir Shaida, Mohammed Asghar Lone, Ch. Sardar Ahmad, Nasir Ilyas Dehlavi, Abdul Latif Shakir, Nasir Safeer, Khalid Akhtar, Tahir Safeer, Ch. Abdul Rahman, Ch. Ijaz Ahmad, Nisar Butt, Mubashar Gulzar

Sitting (L to R): Khawaja Rashiddin Qamar, Mohammed Aslam Javaid, Rafiq Safeer, 2 children



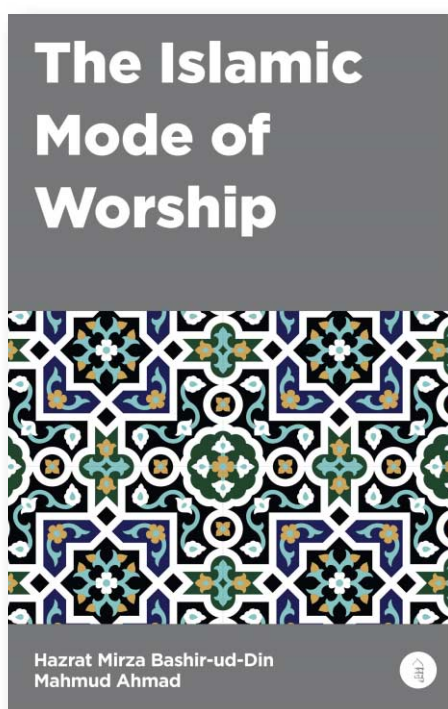
The following books have recently become available on Amazon, Apple, Google and other popular outlets. They are being publicised in the manner described.



By Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, The Promised Messiah and Mahdi (peace be upon him)

As the reviver of true Islamic teachings, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be upon him) portrayed to the world the God of Islam; a God Who speaks and exists. Allah is the name of the One, Supreme-Being also known as God in other faiths. Throughout this book, Hazrat Ahmad (peace be upon him) details the nature of Allah and how one can establish a living connection with him, leading toward the certainty of His existence. He describes Allah's attributes and what they mean for us, as humans and believers.

Hazrat Ahmad (peace be upon him), through divine signs and proof from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Hadith proved that Allah talks today as he spoke before. This book answers many questions about Allah – leading toward a better and enlightened understanding of the Creator, ultimately helping us toward better worship of Allah. This book also highlights the deep love Hazrat Ahmad (peace be upon him) had for Allah.



By Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II (ra)

In *The Islamic Mode of Worship*, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad (ra) provides a brief but comprehensive overview of the formal Islamic prayer and its primary purpose. Key concepts including the sequence of positions, ablution and prescribed timings are explained in lucid terms and through the use of integrated illustrations. Important verses of the Holy Qur'an pertaining to the prayer are also highlighted and presented in a simple manner for book is a valuable resource for those who wish to know more about one of Islam's most fundamental pillars.

Children's Stories

Hazrat Umar Farooq (ra), Second Khalifa of

Hazrat Umar bin Khattab was born in Makkah a few years after the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and belonged to the Quraish tribe, who were the rulers of Makkah at the time. He learnt to read and write when he was quite young, which was quite unusual in those days, and he loved poetry.

In the early days of Islam, Hazrat Umar was a bitter opponent of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and his followers and would persecute them. It is said that when one of his slaves accepted Islam, he beat her so much that he himself became exhausted; Hazrat Abu Bakr was passing by and seeing what was happening, he decided to buy the slave girl and set her free.

As Islam became more popular, it seemed that nothing the Makkans could do would stop its progress. Some Muslims were leaving Makkah to go to Abyssinia to escape the harsh treatment they were receiving in Makkah. The Quraish decided therefore that they must kill the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and Hazrat Umar offered to carry out this task.

He set off looking for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) with his sword at the ready. On the way, he met someone who asked him where he was going like this. Hazrat Umar replied: *"To kill Muhammad."*

The person then informed him:

"But did you know that your own sister and her husband have also accepted Islam?"

Hearing this, Hazrat Umar was shocked and decided to go to his sister's place first to find out for himself. Reaching there, he could hear them reciting from the Holy Qur'an. Once inside, he demanded to know if they had indeed become Muslims. The brother-in-law tried to explain but Hazrat Umar was not in the mood to listen. He drew his sword and advanced towards his brother-in-law, but his sister quickly stepped in between them and got injured as a result.

She looked at Hazrat Umar in the eye and said boldly:

"Do what you want, but we are Muslims and will remain Muslims", and then she recited the Kalima. By now some blood was coming from her face where she got hurt, and together with her firm reply, Hazrat Umar calmed down a bit and asked to see what they were reciting. He was told to go and wash first before he could handle the pages from the Holy Qur'an. When he did that, and had read some of these verses, he was deeply impressed and decided to become a Muslim there and then.

He continued on his journey to see the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and when he knocked at the door, he was still carrying his sword. Some Companions who were with the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) at the time saw him and were concerned for the safety of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). But the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) told them to let him in. He was asked why he had come, and he replied simply:

"To become a Muslims."

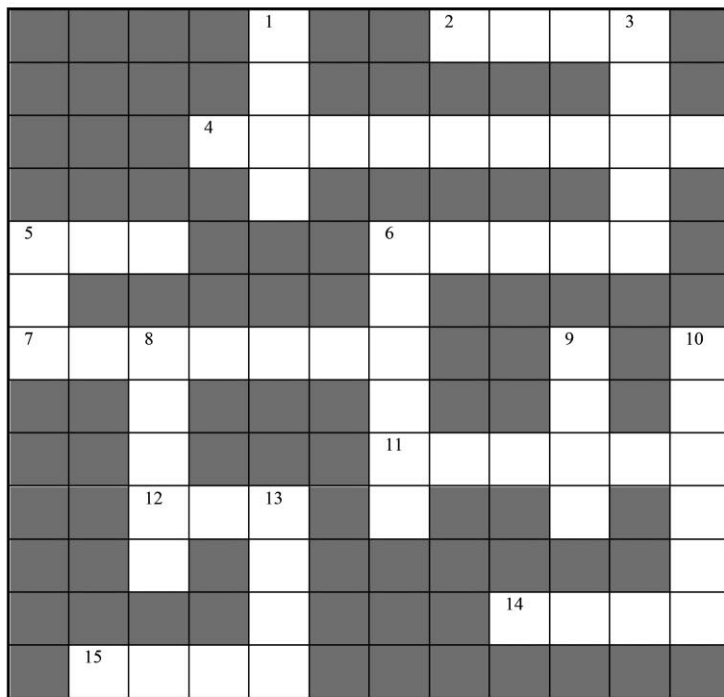
All the Companions were overjoyed when they heard this, and began to shout:

"Allaho Akbar", for Hazrat Umar was a very courageous person and strong, and was considered influential in Makkah.

Hazrat Umar became one of the most devoted Companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and defender of Islam, where once he was a bitter opponent, and wanted to put an end to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and Islam. He went on to give many examples of his devotion to Islam not only during the life of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and Hazrat Abu Bakr, the First Khalifa of Islam, but also during his own Khilafat. May Allah be pleased with him.

P U Z Z L E S

Baby Animals Crossword



Across	Down
2. Sheep	1. Horse
4. Crocodile	3. Rabbit
5. Fox	5. Goat
6. Dog	6. Pig
7. Duck	8. Chicken
11. Eagle	9. Cow
12. Bear	10. Cat
14. Deer	13. Human
15. Kangaroo	

Word Bank

Baby, Bunny, Calf, Chick, Cub, Duckling, Eaglet, Fawn, Foal, Hatching, Joey, Kid, Kit, Kitten, Lamb, Piglet, Puppy.

Use the Word Bank to work out the answers to the clues for the Crossword.

SILLY RIDDLES:

- Why do birds fly south in the winter?
Because it's too far to walk!
- What's an insect's favourite sport?
Cricket!
- If two's company and three a crowd, what are four and five? *Nine!*
- What is the quickest way to double your money?
Fold it in half!
- What happens when you throw a green stone in the red sea?
It gets wet!
- What is a volcano?
A mountain with hiccups!
- Why is Alabama the smartest state in the USA?
Because it has 4 A's and one B!

SILLY JOKES

- Why are fish so smart?
Because they live in schools!
- What do you call a cow on a trampoline?
A milk shake
- What do you call a sleeping dinosaur?
Dino-snore!
- What is a witch's favourite subject at school?
Spelling
- What kind of tree fits in your hand?
A plam tree.

Noor Region Seeratun Nabi Conference: Report by Qamar Syed, Naib Nazim - Noor region

The Noor Regional Seeratun Nabi Conference was held online using zoom on Sunday 19th July 2020 at 6pm. The session concluded at 7:15pm and 82 members attended with 13 guests. The main delegates heading the event were:

1. **Hayat Muhammad Mirza Sahib**- Nazim e Ala Noor region
2. **Mohammad Zahoor Ahmed Sahib** - Nazim Tabligh Noor Region
3. **Raza Ahmed Sahib** - Currently serving as a missionary Baitul Subhan Croydon
4. **Naseer Ahmed Abid Sahib** - Nazm
5. **Qamar Syed Sahib** – Nazm Translation.

Nazim e Ala, Hayat Mirza Sahib chaired the Conference which commenced with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by the Urdu and English translation by Zahoor Ahmed Sahib. This followed by Nazm which was delivered by Naseer Ahmed Sahib and English translation was delivered by Qamar Syed Sahib.

The keynote address was delivered by Raza Ahmed Sahib in English and Urdu translation (*see photo*). In light



of the current topic of slavery and *Black Lives Matter*, Raza Sahib beautifully explained the teachings and practice of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) on slavery and equality. This was followed by a brief question and answer session.

Raza Ahmed Sahib concluded the forum with silent prayers.

May Allah The Almighty enable us all to follow the examples of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Ameen.

Virtual Meetings in North West Region: (By Ahsan Ahmed Kahloon - Nazim Aala NorthWest)



Majlis Ansarullah North West held two virtual General Meetings recently when they they were joined by Sadr Ansarullah UK who also chaired the proceedings. The first took place on 20th August at 8.30 pm when the following Majalis were involved:

1. Manchester West; 2. Bolton; 3. Blackburn;
4. Liverpool; 5. North Wales

The second was held two days later on 22nd August at 7pm and the following Majlis participated:

1. Manchester North; 2. Manchester South;
3. Manchester East; 4. Stockport; 5. Preston

The meetings started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by its translation in English. In the first meeting this was performed by Dr Ijaz Ahmad and Malik Abdul Hakeem Khan undertook this task. The pledge led by Sadr Ansarullah UK followed.

At each meeting Sadr Ansarullah gave brief information and updates regarding the construction of Masroor Eye Hospital in Burkina Faso. He also proceeded to explain the virtues of sacrificing ones wealth and requested all Ansar brothers to donate generously for this noble cause. It was stated that, according to instructions issued by Huzoor Aqdas, the Eye Hospital would be constructed and then run by Ansarullah UK.

There was a short question and answer session after which each meeting was concluded with a silent prayer led by Sadr Sahib.

The total number of participants at the two virtual meetings was 143.

Tabligh Seminar: Bashir Region: Nazim Tabligh, Bashir Region

By the grace of Allah, Bashir region held their first regional Tabligh forum on 10th June 2020 via zoom which was promoted to members via WhatsApp.

The agenda of the forum was prepared according to the guidelines of the marqas. The programme started at 6.30pm with attendance of 53 Ansar across seven majalis.

The session commenced with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by the Ansar pledge and poem

The opening remarks were delivered by Nazim-Allah-Sahib from the writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) which portrayed the importance of Tabligh in Europe. The importance of Tabligh speech was delivered by Mashood butt Sahib - Naib Qaid Tabligh.

The next speaker was Mubarak Khan Sahib who spoke about how we build our relations in society with particular reference to the current pandemic situation. During his speech he chose to talk about the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) difficult life struggles and his attitude and behaviour towards these problems as a role model for our society today.

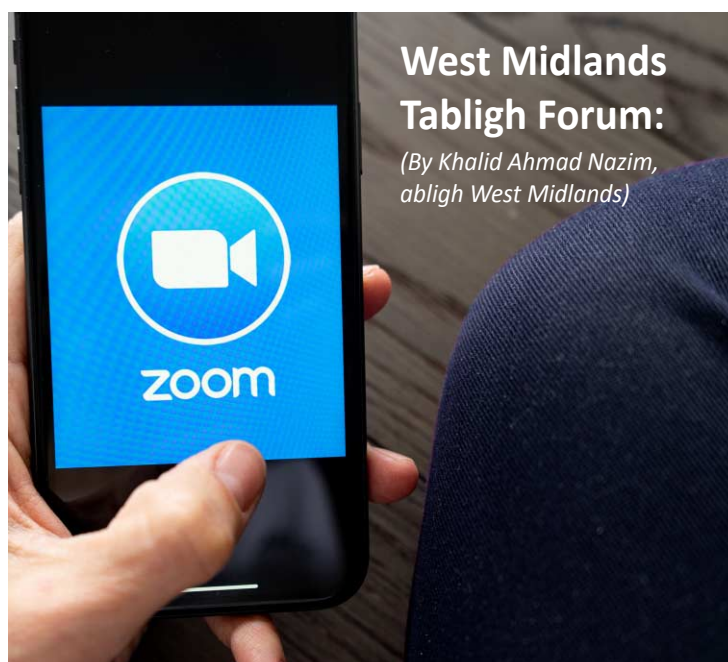
Mashood Sahib concluded the second part of his speech which was the contemporary way of Tabligh. He shared with us his personal experiences of Tabligh which were very motivating and interesting. All Ansar brothers really enjoyed this as it was so moving.

The final topic was given to Khurram maqsood Saab, on social media. He explained how to use social media as a form of Tabligh which again was very informative. This was followed by a Q/A session.

There was an interactive session which was an open discussion on personal experiences with Tabligh, in which the audience shared their thoughts and difficulties on their experiences which all proved extremely enlightening.

The Q/A session was very useful as one question asked was how we could address the questions of non-Ahmadiyyas with correct references. The reply given was to seek answers and references from the website *Al Islam*. Khurram Sahib also answered question on how best to use social media for tabligh purposes and emphasis was also placed on using the Q/A's session of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (may Allah have mercy on him) for guidance.

Naib Sadar sahib concluded the programme by a speech, appreciating the speakers and shared his personal experience with Tabligh, he advised us in a very informative way. He then showed us a video of the third khalifa on which, he is speaking about preaching in Europe and purpose of Tabligh, which was "to win the love of people hearts and not the countries", this was finished by dua lead by Naib Sadar sahib.



In recent weeks Majlis Ansarullah West Midlands organised its second Tabligh Forum through Zoom Conference Call and You Tube. Preparations for the event had begun several days earlier. An agenda was prepared, a meeting room was arranged and publicity of the event was promoted through tweets on social media. Multiple meetings of the media team were held to assign duties and to ensure that all aspects of the meeting were taken care of. All seven Majalis held their Tabligh Committee meetings before the event.

The Forum started with the recitation of Sura Al-Nasr and translation by Mr Zaffar Bhatti. The portion recited provided an affirmation to believers that Allah's help will surely come to those who strive for it. Mr Malik Usman Riaz read out a few Hadith from Sahee Muslim



relevant to Tabligh which was followed by a few couplets from the poetry of Hazrat Musleh Maood (Allah be pleased with him) rendered by Mr Mubashar Ahmad.

In his opening remarks, Nazim Tabligh explained the importance of Tabligh and the objective of the forum. Later selected excerpts from the writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (Allah be pleased with him) were read out by Chaudhary Imtiaz Ahmed and Mr Hakeem Bakarai.

During the proceedings, one very active Daillallah Mr Ghulam Abbas Baloch who, passed away recently, was remembered and an obituary was read out by Haji Tariq Mehmood.

In his presentations, Naib Nazim Tabligh Social Media Mr Khalid Ahmed, elucidated further on the purpose of the forum and the importance of social media. Reference was made to the guidance given by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and what he expected of us especially during lockdown. Members were informed about the revised Tabligh Plan provided by the Tabligh Department of Majlis Ansarullah UK. All were urged to participate fully in these activities.

Mr Ziaur Rehman Farooqui gave an account of his personal experiences in Tabligh. Mr Mashhood Butt also spoke during the Forum. He described in a very easy and understandable way of how to become an

effective Dai-illallah. His focus centred on the following points:

1. Cultivate a personal relationship with Allah and genuine love for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).
2. Observe patience during discussions and supplement your efforts with prayers. We need to win hearts not just arguments.
3. Acquire knowledge through reading the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)
4. Understand the importance of prayers and engage in them fervently.

The meeting concluded with final remarks and a silent prayer led by Mr Tariq Majeed Nazim-e-Alaa West Midlands. The total zoom participation was 13 while the You Tube viewers numbered at least 198 (*this represented the number of accounts that hit the You Tube Channel and therefore the minimum number since there would be normally more than one member viewing in one house*). Every majlis was represented in the Forum.

BAITUL FUTUH REGION ACTIVITIES

Tabligh Forum

The Baitul Futuh Region held its first Tabligh Forum this year via a Zoom Conference Call. Maulana Fazalur Rahman, Qaid Tarbiyyat Majlis Ansarullah UK was the main guest and chaired the proceedings. The programme began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Munir Ahmad Tahir which was followed by the pledge.

Nazime Aala Baitul Futuh Region, Dr Tayyab Ahmad Mansoor read quotes from Khulafa-e-Ahmadiyya about the importance of tabligh. A Question and Answer session followed where Maulana Fazalur Rahman responded to the queries posed. The entire session lasted for about an hour and a half. It came to a conclusion with a silent prayer led by the chair. The participation was 14.



Social Media Training

The Baitul Futuh Region organised its second Social Media Training via Zoom in recent months. The event started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an followed by pledge and silent prayer. Then Dr Tayyab Ahmad Mansoor, Nazim Ala Baitul Futuh Region, gave a presentation about using social media for Tabligh purposes. This was drawn from the teachings of the Holy Qur'an, writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and an audio clip from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V. The focus of the presentation was mainly on the use of Twitter, especially when utilised different occasions such as poppy appeal, charity fundraising and charity walk for peace dinners. The programme lasted for about one hour. Sixteen members participated in the social media training.



BAITUL FUTUH REGION ACTIVITIES

Majlis Ansraullah Bashir Region organised a major Waqar-e-Aml on Sunday 16th of August 2020. As many as 40 Ansar from 3 Majalis congregated at the Danbury Avenue grounds for the task at 9.30 in the morning. Following recitation from the Holy Qur'an, briefings were given by Nazim-e-Aal Ch Asmatullah, Naib Sadr UK Shakil Butt and Dr Imtiaz Ahmad. Naib Sadr Sahib led everyone in a silent prayer and the work began.



In view of restrictions due to COVID19 meticulous care had been taken to ensure that full compliance was observed. The local Wandsworth Council had advised that no single group should exceed 30 people. Therefore the volunteers were divided into two groups and social distancing was maintained throughout. Ansar proceeded to clean up the area using litter picking up sticks and bins. One group operated in the Danbury Avenue area while the second went over to Alton Road in Roehampton Vale.

A gazebo with tables was arranged near the area. A big poster of **Love for All Hatred for None** KEEP BRITAIN TIDY was put up. This attracted a lot of passers by.

The entire session was completed by noon that day. Ansar participating were from the Majalis of Roehampton, Roehampton Vale and Richmond Park.

KHUDDAM HELP OUT DURING PANDEMIC

During the pandemic the UK Jama'at has gone out of its way to help those in need. Volunteers from Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya UK were at the forefront at many of these activities being mobilised to serve people and institutions requiring help. These included NHS staff, vulnerable individuals and charitable organisations. Their work was picked up by the wider media some of whom reported on these efforts. In one interview Murabbi Adeel Shah said:



.....*“Just a brief insight of how we differentiate with other Muslims is that we believe that the Messiah who is being awaited for by all the mainstream religions, not only the denominations within Islam, not only mainstream Islamic denominations, but mainstream religions as a whole has already come. Ahmadiyya Muslims believe that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be upon him) was this Messiah who came in 1835 and established the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. After his demise, a system of Khilafat (Caliphate), or successors started and is very different to the Caliphate generally described in the media. Ahmadiyya Khilafat (or Caliphate) has nothing to do with Isis or terrorism. In essence, we have our fifth Caliphate at the moment, Mirza Masroor Ahmad who is the supreme leader of Ahmadi Muslim’s all around the world. To understand what he is – he’s like a Pope figure to us and held in extremely high esteem like a father figure.”*

Members of the Jama'at are accustomed to coming across young, highly capable young Murabbis qualifying from Jamia and under the close supervision of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (may Allah be his Helper) but this is deeply impressive to others especially the training they continue to receive afterwards. Serving the wider community is deeply ingrained in the members of the Jama'at. As Murabbi Adeel explained to reporters:

“I have spent a month in Ghana for charity work and have recently come back from Pakistan. I have pledged allegiance to a Caliphate leadership

that promotes love, harmony, brotherhood regardless of class, colour, creed, or race. Locally, regionally, nationally and internationally we regularly carry out blood drives, tree planting sessions, homeless feeding sessions, litter picking sessions, charity walks, Water-Well projects, build schools in Developing countries and much more.”

Since the initial pandemic began and up to the end of the first half of the year, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has, by the Grace of Allah, has among other things, delivered 205,228 PPE's on behalf of the government to NHS staff, distributed 4,390 meals to the NHS Staff, and supplied 13,390 households with food parcels and medicine. A video of appreciation for the NHS staff was also prepared and very well received.

HERTFORDSHIRE REGION

Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya have come to the fore during the pandemic rendering help and assistance in a wide variety of areas. The word 'Khuddam' literally means ones who serve and members of the Majlis did their best to live up to this name. Presented here is a brief outline of the work that one region – the Hertfordshire region – managed to accomplish, by the Grace of Allah, during this period.

1,966 Households Supported

These included 496 Internal (Jama'at) and 1470 External (general public).

Homeopathic Medicine for all

Each household in the Region was delivered the homeopathic medicine prescribed by Hazoor Anwar.

9 days support provided at NHS quarantine site

By the Grace of Allah Khuddam from the Region had the opportunity to help and serve the residents quarantined from Wuhan, China at Kent's Hill site in Milton Keynes over a nine-day period. Khuddam worked alongside NHS England, Public Health England, NHS Milton Keynes Trust and the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in supporting the residents to make their stay welcomed and comforting. Tasks included fulfilling any request being received by the residents, manning the reception area and helping to support the occupants in any way possible. Our support over the nine-day period entailed **150 volunteer hours** performed by our Khuddam, whereby our involvement was appreciated by all.

2,300 face masks and visors donated to key workers

Some members were able to procure and donate 2300 face masks and face visors to a variety of organisations that were desperately in need of support. The requests we received included local councils, NHS organisations and care/residential homes that were in dire need of PPE. Our donations were very much welcomed and highly appreciated.

673,000 PPE distributed to NHS and frontline key workers

Khuddam of the Region were involved in the distribution of PPE across critical sites in the county of Bedfordshire. Members worked alongside



Bedfordshire Police, Central Bedfordshire council and other local councils to help transport PPE such as face shields, facemasks, gloves, aprons and sanitizers. Over a 6 week period, **673,000 pieces of PPE** were transported to the most critical sites across Bedfordshire where it was urgently needed. Our support for this initiative still continues and may remain until September.

1200 meals distributed to school children

Work was conducted with other charitable organisations and a catering business in order to fund and deliver hot school meals to some of the most vulnerable pupils and their families living in the community. Over an 8-week period, **more than 1,200 hot school meals** had been funded and delivered. The feedback had been overwhelming from the families and the school were immensely appreciative for this. Our support has further continued as we look to continue providing school meals and health snacks for the school children. So far we have provided a health snack provision on a daily basis for over 400 children.

Central Bedfordshire Council Welfare House Visits

Over a 3 week period, Khuddam volunteers were

given the task of visiting **over 300 homes** on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council. The residents who were being visited were classified by the council as vulnerable and therefore Khuddam checked on their welfare on behalf of the council. Some of the residents were very emotional that someone had come to ask about their wellbeing as they had endured a very difficult past 12 weeks being in lockdown.

Other initiatives:

- **Over 2,000 soft drinks and refreshments** given to Luton Borough council at their warehouse as a gesture of appreciation to the all key workers helping with various responsibilities.
- Food parcels dropped off to vulnerable households in Milton Keynes and Watford on behalf of their respective local councils, totalling to **approximately 100 households**.
- **85 meals** provided to staff in hospitals across Cambridgeshire as a gesture of appreciation.

Face Masks

Lajna Imaillah from Hertfordshire were instrumental in making over 3300 cloth face masks. 1143 of these were distributed across the Region to each household.

Food banks

Members across the Region have been supporting local Food banks. 6 food banks supported with 1204 kg of food donated.

The 2 mission houses (Cambridge and Watford) have been cleaned in line with Covid-19 guidelines in preparation of opening instructions.

Local online meetings and classes continue

Sadly, 2 people have died due to Covid -19 (Akram Khan Sb from Watford & Khawaja Iqbal Butt Sb from Luton. Innalillahi wainnillahirajihoon.



CEMETERY GUIDELINES



Please refrain from placing and planting flowers on or next to graves. These will be respectfully removed and placed on the side.

- Please do not decorate the graves with ornaments or symbols.
- Please do not place temporary wooden or stone boundaries around the grave, especially in lawn cemeteries like Merton and Sutton as they may be removed by the groundsmen.
- We are trying to standardise the shape, size and text of Headstones. Before purchasing one please take advice on it as there are a set of guidelines to comply with.