

AHMADIYYA

Apr May 2022

BULLETIN

Shahadat Hijrat 1400





KHILAFAT DAY 2022

AT BAIT-UL-FATUH MOSQUE



In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious Ever Merciful



16. Promised Messiah
Day 2022

20. Eidul Fitr 2022

14. Virtual Meetings held with
Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

14: Waqfe Nau GirlsUK

18. Khilafat day 2022
22. Majlis-e-Shura 2022
26. IAAAE Symposium 2022

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CONTENTS

3

The Holy Qur'an, Hadith & writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

16

Promised Messiah Day 2022

18

Khilafat day 2022

20

Eidul Fitr 2022

22

Majlis-e-Shura 2022

26

IAAAE Symposium 2022

42

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

42. Message to Her Majesty The Queen on Her Platinum Jubilee

43. Thanks Giving Dinner At Baitul Futuh

46

CHILDREN'S PAGES

46. Wonderful Examples of Ahmadi Muslims Making Financial Sacrifice
47. Puzzles

4

SUMMARY OF FRIDAY SERMON:

From 04 Mar 2022 to 20 May 2022



29 UK NEWS

- 29. Eid with Dundonians
- 29. Big Iftars During Ramadhan
- 32. Participation of the Jama'at at the London Book Fair 2022
- 35. Virtual Peace Conference West Midlands
- 35. Virtual Eid Reception – Glasgow Scotland 'THE NEED FOR PEACE'
- 37. Senior Church Officials Visit The Baitur Rahman Mosque In Glasgow
- 38. Gillingham Tabligh
- 39. Tabligh Made Simple
- 40. Visit of Liverpool University to Baitul Atta Wolverhampton

48

Question & Answer

Similarities between Muslims of latter days and the Jews and Christians



40

FEATURE ARTICLE

- 50. Time
- 52. A Guide to Arranging a Funeral



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Holy Qur'an

And from wheresoever thou comest forth, turn thy face towards the Sacred Mosque; and wherever you be, turn your faces towards it that people may have no argument against you, except those who are unjust – so fear them not, but fear Me – and that I may perfect My favour upon you; and that you may be rightly guided. Even as We have sent to you a Messenger from yourselves who recites Our Signs to you, and purifies you, and teaches you the Book and Wisdom, and teaches you that which you did not know. (Al-Baqarah, 2:151-152)

وَمِنْ حَيْثُ خَرَجْتَ فَوَلِّ وَجْهَكَ شَطْرَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ
وَحَيْثُ مَا كُنْتُمْ فَوَلُّوْا وُجُوْهُكُمْ شَطْرَهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ
لِلنَّاسِ عَلَيكُمْ حُجَّةٌ اِلَّا الَّذِيْنَ ظَلَمُوْا مِنْهُمْ فَلَا
تَخْشَوْهُمْ وَاخْشَوْنِيْ وَلِيْمُ نَعْتِيْ عَلَيكُمْ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ
تَهْتَدُوْنَ ﴿١٥١﴾
كَمَا اَرْسَلْنَا فِيْكُمْ رَسُوْلًا مِنْكُمْ يَتْلُوْا عَلَيْكُمْ اٰیٰتِنَا
وَيُزَكِّيْكُمْ وَيُعَلِّمُكُمُ الْكِتٰبَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُعَلِّمُكُم مَّا لَمْ
تَكُوْنُوْا تَعْلَمُوْنَ ﴿١٥٢﴾

Hadith

Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said: "Charity is due from every limb of a person on every day on which the sun rises. Doing justice between two persons is charity, to help a person ride his mount or to place his baggage on it is charity, a good word is charity, every step taken to participate in the salat is charity, removing anything from a path which occasions inconvenience is charity."

Muslim has also reported on the authority of Hazrat Ayesha ؓ that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said: "Everyone has been created with 360 joints. Then whoever affirms Allah's greatness, praises Allah, affirms His Unity, proclaims His holiness, asks His forgiveness, removes a stone or thorn or bone from a path frequented by people, enjoins good or forbids evil to the number of 360, goes about having rescued himself from Fire."

Bokhari and Muslim, from Riyadh as-Salihin, p.33, no 122



Malfoozat

The essence of worship is that the worshipper should feel as if he is in the presence of God, or at least that God sees him. He should be free completely from every diverting and distracting tendency, and keep in view only His greatness and His Providence. He should continue addressing to God as prescribed as well as other prayers and have repeated recourse to *Tauba* (seeking refuge with God) and *Istighfar* (seeking forgiveness and obliteration of wrongs) and should repeatedly confess his own helplessness, so that his self may be purified and his communion with God may be strengthened, and he should be completely absorbed in His love.

Commentary on the Holy Qur'an, Surah Fatiha, p. 196





FRIDAY SERMON SUMMARIES

We present summaries 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.

04 MAR 2022	PAGE 4
11 MAR 2022	PAGE 5
18 MAR 2022	PAGE 6
25 MAR 2022	PAGE 7
08 APR 2022	PAGE 8
15 APR 2022	PAGE 9
22 APR 2022	PAGE 10
06 MAY 2022	PAGE 10
13 MAY 2022	PAGE 11
20 MAY 2022	PAGE 12

SERMON: 04 MAR 2022

Men of Excellence

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued with covering the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Khubab bin Munzir encouraged the Ansar not to differ amongst themselves and remain firm upon their stance that there should be a leader from among them and a leader from among the *Muhajireen*. Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) said that this would never be accepted by the Arabs as there cannot be two swords in one sheath.

Hazrat Abu Ubaidah said to the Ansar that they were the first to support the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and that now they should not be the first to raise a dispute. Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) then took hold of Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) hand and asked who it was that the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) told "*Grieve not, for Allah is with us*". It was his companion in the cave, who was none other than Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him). Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) then pledged allegiance to Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) and encouraged everyone to follow suit. Thus, one by one, people came forward and pledged their allegiance to the first Caliph of Islam. This was known as the Bai'at of Thaqifah Banu Sa'idah.

The next day, Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) delivered a speech in which he said that God Almighty had entrusted the people in the hands of a person who was the best among them, who was one of the two mentioned in the cave.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) also delivered a speech in which he said that he would strive to grant everyone their rights.

When Hazrat Ali^(Allah be pleased with him) was informed that Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was accepting the pledge of allegiance, he hurried out without even fully getting ready so as not to delay and pledged allegiance to him. Contrary to some records which say that Hazrat Ali^(Allah be pleased with him) delayed pledging allegiance, records which say that Hazrat Ali^(Allah be pleased with him) did so on the first or second day after the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) are the most accurate, as Hazrat Ali^(ra) never left the side of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

Once the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw a dream which indicated to Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) Caliphate. He saw that he was standing by a well, and then saw Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) come and draw out water from the well. Then Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) came, and the bucket had become larger, and he too drew out water from the well with great strength.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) also saw a dream in which he was wearing a Yemeni cloak which had two stains on it. When he narrated the dream to the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), he interpreted the Yemeni cloak to mean that Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) would have a vast progeny and the two stains to mean that he would be the ruler over people for two years.

Despite being the leader and having control over all funds, he did not take any of the wealth for himself. Instead, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) decided to sell some clothes in order to have enough wealth to eat. When Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) saw this, he said that Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) should take a stipend from the treasury. Although Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was hesitant, Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) said that the Holy Qur'an had permitted doing so and so he should not feel reluctant. Thus a stipend was set for him.

From the outset of his Caliphate, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him)



pleased with him) had to deal with five challenges:

1. The grief of the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) demise.
2. The fear of division amongst the Muslim people.
3. The departure of Hazrat Usama's army.
4. The issue of those Muslims who refused to pay Zakat.
5. Those who openly declared their reversion from Islam, including false claimants to prophethood.

However, God enabled him to overcome all of these challenges. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) likened Hazrat Abu Bakr to Yusha bin Nun (Allah be pleased with them both), the first successor to Moses (peace be upon him). Just as he upheld the dispensation of Moses (peace be upon him) after his demise, so too did Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) uphold the dispensation of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) after his demise.

SERMON: 11 MAR 2022

Dealing With the Grief On the Demise of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

The first difficulty faced by Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) was the grief resulting from the demise of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Yet despite this grief, he stood strong, and even when many were unwilling to accept the passing away, he gave them solace and helped them recognise the reality.

He quoted the Qur'anic verse:

'And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels shall not harm Allah at all. And Allah will certainly reward the grateful.' (The Holy Qur'an, 3:145)

In this way, Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) not only helped give solace to the Muslims, but he also reaffirmed the unity of God.

The second difficulty was uniting the Muslims with regards to the Caliphate. Initially, it seemed that the *Ansar* were unwilling to accept a Caliph from the *Muhajireen*, nor were the *Muhajireen* willing to accept a Caliph from the *Ansar*. However it was

through the eloquence of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) that the Muslims became united.

The third difficulty was regarding the departure of Hazrat Usama's army. The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had sent this army to Syria in preparation to battle the Romans. Thus, Hazrat Usama was sent along with his army two days before the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who despite his weak health, insisted for the army should proceed.

When the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) passed away, this army returned from just outside of Madinah. After Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) election, he said that the mission of this army should continue as planned. However people were becoming apostates. People said to Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) that this was due to the fact that they thought the army of Hazrat Usama was all that was left of the Muslims, who numbered around 3,000. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that his first act as Caliph could not be to call back the army which had been commissioned and sent by the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) himself.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) then advised the army of ten things; not to be dishonest, not to steal from the spoils, not to break their oaths, not to mutilate bodies, not to kill children, the elderly or women, not to cut or burn date or fruit trees, not to sacrifice animals except to eat them, and if they came across any priests or monks then they should leave them be. If they were offered food by others, they should take the name of God and eat it. Then he said that they would come across people who had shaved their heads from the middle and had hair on the sides of their heads – these were not priests but Christian leaders. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that they should be taken to task.

The army went forth and were eventually victorious.

The fourth challenge faced by Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was that of those who were opposed to *Zakat*. It is recorded that people from various tribes were reverting from Islam after the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

People were becoming apostates for different reasons and in various ways. Some completely abandoned the faith, some accepted false prophets, some rejected matters such as prayers and *Zakat* while others rejected either prayers or *Zakat* citing these things to have been limited to the time of the Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

With regards to those who opposed *Zakat*, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) conferred with some of the elder companions regarding whether action should be taken against them. Some advised to include them among the apostates, some advised to take strict action against them, while others advised to try and make them understand so that they begin giving *Zakat* again. Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) said that the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had been instructed to fight until people declared that there is no God but Allah, after which their lives and wealth would be safe, except that which is due. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that he would fight against those who withheld *Zakat* as that is rightful wealth which is due. Upon this explanation, Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) accepted and agreed with Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

SERMON: 18 MAR 2022

Reaction of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) to Those Who Refused to Give Zakat

Various tribes who opposed *Zakat* had gathered, and then sent envoys to Madinah. They were taken to Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) on the condition that they would continue offering prayer, but they said they would not offer *Zakat*. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that he would not tolerate the withholding of even a rope which was due in *Zakat*. When these envoys saw Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) resolve, they left Madinah realising that Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) would not change his stance on *Zakat*. They also considered attacking Madinah because they thought that they could cause the fall of Islam. Thus, when they returned to their tribes, they said that there were fewer people in Madinah and thus they should attack. However, when these envoys had left Madinah, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) ordered for there to be guards stationed at every part of Madinah and also advised Muslims to be prepared to defend themselves.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was correct in his anticipation and only three nights after the envoys had left, they attacked Madinah. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) prepared the Muslim army and set out and before dawn, the Muslims and opposers of *Zakat* came face to face. By the time the sun had come up, the opposers of *Zakat* had been defeated and fled. This was the first battle during the time of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him). This battle has been likened to the first battle in Islam, the Battle of Badr.

Upon seeing the defeat of those tribes which were considered to be strong, the weaker tribes who opposed *Zakat* began returning to Madinah and offered their due *Zakat*. It was also during this time that Hazrat Usama's army victoriously returned to Madinah.

The defeated tribes had realised the strength of Islam. These tribes had also accepted false claimants to prophethood, which is why it was necessary to combat them on account of their rebellion. Hazrat Umar^(Allah be pleased with him) had even suggested to show leniency but Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that he must follow the commandments of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and even if these people did not give a rope that they used to give in *Zakat* during the time of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), he would combat them until they began offering *Zakat*. Even if no one else stood by him, he would combat them on his own. Thus, one of the duties of a Caliphate is to uphold the *Shari'ah* (Islamic law).

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) displayed true faith. If we also adopt the same faith, then we will become successful in all facets of life.

Those who opposed *Zakat* were of the opinion that this commandment was limited to the time of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and that *Zakat* was only to be given to him. However, just as prayers and fasting were continuous commandments meant to continue even after the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), so too was the commandment of *Zakat*, and these commandments were to be upheld by the Holy Prophet's^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) successors.

Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) conviction proved fruitful. The Companions had advised him against

sending the army of Hazrat Usama but Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) still sent that army as it had been commanded by the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to be sent. After 40 days, the army returned victorious. Similarly, the companions had advised against fighting the false claimants of prophethood and those who opposed Zakat. However, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that he must uphold the Islamic teachings, and as a result, the Muslims were victorious and those who had rebelled returned to Islam.

SERMON: 25 MAR 2022

Purpose of the Promised Messiah's^(peace be upon him) Advent

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor said that two days ago was 23 March which is known in the Jama'at as Promised Messiah Day.

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) said that God commissioned him to defend Islam at a time when it was being attacked from all sides. In fact, there were about 60 million Muslims in India, and there were 60 million books written against the religion of Islam. Had God not procured the means for its protection, then Islam would have been erased from the face of the earth.

Once, during the time of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) a man from Rampur came to him saying that he wished to pledge allegiance. The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was surprised and asked how the man had come to know of him. The man said that he was given a book by Maulvi Sanauallah in which he had written against him and gathered various references of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him). The man wished to check the references from the original source, and upon opening the books of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) he was astonished at the manner in which he had praised and expressed love for the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the manner he had defended Islam. This changed his heart and he decided to pledge allegiance to the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him).

Once, while the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was walking in Lahore, a man came and pushed him, but the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) did not allow those with him to retaliate. Instead, he said that he must have done so thinking he was defending the truth.

Once Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi levelled false charges against the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) due to which a hearing was scheduled. When the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) arrived, Captain Douglas offered the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) a chair to sit on. Maulvi Batalvi also demanded to be given a chair. Upon this, Captain Douglas sternly told him that he would not be given one. Thus, he was humiliated by God.

Once the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) had a debate with some Christians. The Christians devised a plot whereby they brought some blind, deaf and disabled people and they demanded that if he claimed to be the second coming of Jesus^(peace be upon him), then he should cure these people, just as he had. The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) replied that according to Islam, Jesus^(peace be upon him) did not physically heal such people. If Christians believe that Jesus^(peace be upon him) physically healed such people, then the Bible also

says that if one possesses faith even as much as a mustard seed, then they too can cure such people. So according to their own teaching, if they held even as much faith as a mustard seed, then they should prove it by curing these people they had brought. This answer by the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) rendered the Christians speechless.

There was the sign of the solar and lunar eclipses which were fulfilled as signs of the Promised Messiah's^(peace be upon him) truthfulness. There were many signs that were fulfilled; however, Muslims would say that even though all the signs foretold to accompany the latter day Messiah were fulfilled, it was simply a matter of coincidence that there was a claimant to being the Messiah.

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was always supported by the help of God. There were numerous plots against the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) and various false charges levelled against him as well. Once, while plotting how to defeat the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) some people came up with various schemes. One person, Maulvi Umaruddin suggested that there was no reason to devise such intricate plots, he would simply go and kill the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him). He was told that such plots had already been attempted but to no avail. Maulvi Umaruddin thought that if so many attempts had been made, yet the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was still saved, then he must be truthful. As a result, he went to Qadian and pledged allegiance to the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him).

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) said that a seed planted by God is protected by his angels. Had this movement been initiated by man, then it would have been erased, however if it has been established by God, then it will remain strong and strive forth.

SERMON: 02 APR 2022

Men of Excellence Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued with covering the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

People from various tribes of Arabia began turning away from Islam and raising disorders. All the while, the Jews and Christians were rearing their heads as they perceived Islam to be weak.

After the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) many people abandoned the faith or moved away and opposed the offering of Zakat. Books of history have recorded them all as apostates, and it was against these people that Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) fought. Historians have deduced that since Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) carried out Jihad against these people, it means that the punishment for apostasy is death.

It is necessary to see whether the Holy Qur'an and the practice of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has established death as the punishment for apostasy, or any other punishment for that matter. In Islamic terminology, apostasy refers to those who detach themselves from the faith and completely remove themselves from it. Furthermore, apostasy is mentioned at various instances in the Holy Qur'an, however there is no mention of any worldly punishment.

وَمَنْ يَرْتَدِدْ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِينِهِ فَيَمُتْ وَهُوَ كَافِرٌ فَأُولَئِكَ حَبِطَتْ
أَعْمَالُهُمْ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَأُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا
خَالِدُونَ

“And whoso from among you turns back from his faith and dies while he is a disbeliever, it is they whose works shall be vain in this world and the next. These are the inmates of the Fire and therein shall they abide.” (2:218)

This verse clearly shows that the punishment for apostasy is not death. Then another verse makes the matter even clearer:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا ثُمَّ كَفَرُوا ثُمَّ آمَنُوا ثُمَّ كَفَرُوا ثُمَّ أَرَادُوا كُفْرًا لَمْ يَكُن
اللَّهُ لِيَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَلَا لِيَهْدِيَهُمْ سَبِيلًا

“Those who believe, then disbelieve, then again believe, then disbelieve, and then increase in disbelief, Allah will never forgive them nor will He guide them to the way.” (4:138)

It is clear that there is no death penalty for apostasy. Furthermore, the Holy Qur’an teaches that there is no compulsion in matters of religion:

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ
يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ
سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

“There should be no compulsion in religion. Surely, right has become distinct from wrong; so whosoever refuses to be led by those who transgress, and believes in Allah, has surely grasped a strong handle which knows no breaking. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.” (2:257)

The Qur’an clearly stipulates that there is no compulsion in religion, hence there can be no worldly punishment for apostasy. The Holy Qur’an also mentions the hypocrites on many occasions, and they have been described as wicked and their actions even worse than the apostates. Yet, there is no worldly punishment mentioned for people simply on the basis of their hypocrisy either.

Then when we look to the example of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) upon whom the Holy Qur’an was revealed we find that there was no punishment in Islam for apostasy. Once there was a person who came to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and asked for his pledge of allegiance to be rescinded three times. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) did not respond and the person eventually left Madinah. Had the punishment for apostasy been death, then this person would have never openly declared this to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and would have instead tried to secretly leave Madinah.

Another proof is that during the establishment of the Treaty of Hudaibiyah, one of the conditions was that if any of the Muslims became apostates, the Quraish would not return them to the Muslims. Had the punishment in Islam for apostasy been death, then the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would

never have agreed to this condition.

Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (Allah be pleased with him) states that upon studying the Holy Qur’an it becomes clear that the Qur’an intends for the faith to be spread by proofs and arguments. If it was permissible to kill those who did not conform to one’s beliefs, then why would Christians or people of other faiths not have the right to kill those who do not accept their beliefs?

It is proven that the punishment for apostasy is not death. But then why did Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) take up arms against them? Not only were the people during his time apostates, but they were also rebels, who took up arms against the Muslims and were causing great disorder. Those who opposed Zakat sought to end it with the sword, and it was thus that Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) had to fight against them.

SERMON: 08 APR 2022

Striving in the Way of God, During Ramadan and Beyond

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta’awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor recited the following verse of the Holy Qur’an:

وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ ۖ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ
فَلِيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلِيُؤْمِنُوا بِمَا لَعَلَّهُمْ يُرْشُدُونَ

“And when My servants ask thee about Me, say: “I am near. I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he prays to Me.” (2:187)

Ramadan is a month for the acceptance of prayer, as God has announced that with His mercy, prayers will be especially accepted during this month. As the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, God informed him that the gates of heaven are flung open and the gates of hell shut, and Satan is shackled during this month.

Certainly during this month, there are those who still commit vices. When it is stated that Satan is shackled during this month it is a manner of God admonishing us that if we abstain from even that which is permissible for us (i.e. food and drink etc.) for His sake, then God has shackled Satan for such people and has taken them under His protection.

Those being spoken of in this verse are those who are “servants of the Gracious God” who wish to be freed from the clutches of Satan and come under the protection of God.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that the true means for attaining success is prayer. He also said that before praying, one must utilise the faculties granted to them by God and strive their utmost, and then pray to God. This is what is meant by ‘Guide us on the right path’.

The Holy Qur’an says:

وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلَنَا ۗ وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَكَبِيرٌ الْمَحْسُوبِينَ

“And as for those who strive in Our path — We will surely guide them in Our ways. And verily Allah is with those who do good.” (The Holy Qur’an, 29:70)

This month of Ramadan is certainly an opportunity to undertake this *Jihad* and strive towards Allah and become those who are close to Allah the Almighty, those whose prayers He answers, who adhere to His commandments.

In a *Hadith* it is stated that if we walk towards God, He will run towards us. This is the grace and mercy of God, however we must truly strive in his cause. It should not be that we vow to offer prayers and do good deeds during the month of Ramadan, but then forget about all of these things for the rest of the year.

Certainly it is within human nature for there to be various stages in our lives. There are ups and downs. However, after the down times, a righteous person fervently turns to God in repentance and seeking forgiveness out of embarrassment and then becomes resolute in striving upon God's path.

When a person turns to God, God will turn to them. They must however strive their utmost. Then, when they have truly tried their best, they will certainly see the light of God.

In striving towards God, we must ensure that our belief is not tainted with associating partners with God in any way. Similarly, if we look to the examples of the Companions, did they attain their stature only through prayer? No; in fact they were ready to lay down their lives for God and present any sacrifice in His cause. Hence, we cannot expect to attain any sort of rank in the sight of God without first striving and struggling in His way. We must strive not only with our words, but in every way possible to attain the pleasure and nearness of God.

Upon reaching a certain level in connection with God, one does not even have to pointedly ask for his worldly needs to be fulfilled, as God takes that person into His protection and fulfils those needs Himself. Attaining this level however requires a great deal of effort.

SERMON: 15 APR 2022

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) Remains Resolute in the Face of Tremendous Challenges

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued covering the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

Huzoor said the *Hakam* (judge) and *Adl* (just arbiter) of this age, the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) also affirmed that the apostates during the time of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) had taken to rebellion. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was very saddened by what had become of these people and would weep in prayer.

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) said that when Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was bestowed the mantle of Caliphate, the Muslims were in an extremely fragile state, yet God pulled the Muslims out from the deep depths of darkness through Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him).

During this wave of rebellion, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) deployed various envoys. There were those who had turned apostate and refused to give Zakat, but then there were also those who became apostates, then also adopted rebellion and had started killing Muslims. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) decided to obtain intelligence regarding the movements of this

group, and so he gathered the Muslim army and set out from Madinah.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) divided the Muslim army into eleven battalions with appointed leaders each assigned their own flag. They were sent to various places where rebels including those under the leadership of false claimants to prophethood were rearing their rebellion. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was constantly informed and kept up to date with the movements of each of these battalions and would know whenever these battalions were victorious. The rebellion had only started three months prior, and because the rebels thought that they had the upper hand and would be able to erase the Muslims in no time, they were not at all prepared for the organised Muslim army which they were made to face and were thus defeated.

During this time, Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) penned a letter for all those residing in Arabia, stating that he believed in that which was brought by the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and all those who deny that message are disbelievers. Those who accepted him were bestowed the divine light of guidance. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) then explained through verses of the Qur'an that after fulfilling his responsibilities, the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was to pass away just as everyone must pass on, so too would he. For example, God Almighty states:

وَمَا جَعَلْنَا لِبَشَرٍ مِّن قَبْلِكَ الْخُلْدَ أَفَإِنَّ مَتَّ فِهِمُ الْخُلْدُونَ

'We granted not everlasting life to any human being before thee. If then thou shouldst die, shall they live here for ever?' (Qur'an, 21:35)

And also,

وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِن قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ أَفَإِنَّ مَاتَ أَوْ قُتِلَ انْقَلَبْتُمْ عَلَىٰ أَعْقَابِكُمْ وَمَنْ يَنْقَلِبْ عَلَىٰ عَقْبَيْهِ فَلَئِن يَضُرَّ اللَّهُ شَيْئًا وَسَيَجْزِي اللَّهُ الشَّاكِرِينَ

'And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels shall not harm Allah at all. And Allah will certainly reward the grateful.' (Qur'an, 3:145)

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that whoever worshipped the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) should know that he has passed away. Those who worshipped God should know that He is still alive and always will be. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) said that he enjoined everyone to believe in God and the message brought by the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He said that only those can attain guidance upon whom it is bestowed by God Himself.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) also wrote a letter addressed to each one of the leaders assigned to the eleven battalions. He enjoined them to adopt righteousness and that they should not fight upon reaching their assigned destination. First they should invite them to the faith and to fulfil their duties. However, if they saw that the people were bent on rebellion and fighting then they should not hesitate to take up arms in order to bring the injustices and

cruelties which they had been perpetrating to an end. These were not merely apostates but people who had been perpetrating heinous crimes and cruelties, and so they were dealt with according to the commandment of the Holy Qur'an, which states that the recompense of a crime should be the like thereof.

SERMON: 22 APR 2022

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor said that God has stated that the reason why fasting has been prescribed is so that we may become righteous. Fasting is a shield for us. Does this mean that it is enough for us to keep our fast in the morning and break it at night? No - instead we must reflect upon the true purpose of fasting, which is to establish righteousness.

The Promised Messiah (Allah be pleased with him) has explained to us the true essence of *Taqwa*, righteousness. The Promised Messiah (Allah be pleased with him) said that the first stage of belief is establishing *Taqwa*. In order to establish *Taqwa*, we must abstain from all forms of evil. We must analyse ourselves to see whether we fulfil the rights of God and His creation.

During the month of Ramadan we increase our focus on reciting the Holy Qur'an. Thus, we should read it while searching for those things which God has enjoined and the things which He has forbidden. Until a person adopts righteousness, their prayers cannot achieve acceptance, as God states:

قَالَ إِنَّمَا يَتَقَبَّلُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ

'Allah accepts only from the righteous.' (Qur'an, 5:28)

True *Taqwa* is when a person becomes purified to the degree that angels embrace them. A thief steals to fulfil his needs, but had he remained patient then it could have been that God fulfilled this need for him.

There is a verse in the Holy Qur'an which states,

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا تَتَنَزَّلُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ أَلَّا تَخَافُوا وَلَا تَحْزَنُوا وَأَبْشِرُوا بِالْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي كُنتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ

'As for those who say, "Our Lord is Allah," and then remain steadfast, the angels descend on them, saying: "Fear ye not, nor grieve; and rejoice in the Garden that you were promised."' (Qur'an, 41:31)

By remaining steadfast in faith, a person is given the glad tidings of Paradise and the help of God in this world and the hereafter.

There is a difference between the success of a believer and a disbeliever. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) explained that upon receiving any success or blessings, a believer is humbled, because they realise that whatever they have been granted or whatever they have achieved is not due to their own abilities or skills etc., but instead realise that whatever they have attained is solely due to God.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) explained that adopting *Taqwa* includes the proper use of that which we have been bestowed by God Almighty. We must use our eyes in the proper manner and abstain from seeing bad things. We must use our heart

in the right manner and root out evil thoughts by reciting *Istighfar*.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that *Taqwa* entails staying away from all kinds of innovations. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that true piety has left the earth. True fear of God can only be established when a person truly recognises God. It is then that *Taqwa* is achieved. Similarly, one cannot truly love God until they are ready to offer sacrifices for His sake.

Once a person went to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and asked how he could pledge allegiance to him when he was not from the Syed caste. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) replied that God is not merely pleased with one's status or the people he belongs to, rather God looks to a person's righteousness and bestows ranks accordingly. God is the one Who bestows rank, which He does by looking to a person's *Taqwa*. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that God Almighty states in the Holy Qur'an,

وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا
وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ

'And he who fears Allah — He will make for him a way out. And will provide for him from where he expects not.' (Qur'an, 65:3-4)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) asked whether this promise was made to those who are Syed or those who have adopted *Taqwa*?

Righteous people are not merely those who others consider to be righteous, rather they are those who are righteous in the sight of God; such who may lose everything but remain true to their faith and belief in God.

SERMON: 06 MAY 2022

Men of Excellence

Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him)

Huzoor continued to relate accounts from the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him).

Huzoor stated, Tulaihah bin Khuwailid was a false claimant to prophethood who in 9 AH was part of the group from Banu Asad and had travelled to meet the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and accepted him. Upon their return, Tulaihah succumbed to apostasy and made a false claim to prophethood. When he made this claim, people from his tribe began accepting him. Once, there was a shortage of water and he advised them to take his horse and travel a short distance where they would find water, which they did. This led simple people to accept him. He did things such as eliminating prostrations from *Salat* and claimed that he received revelation.

After his appointment as Khalifa, Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) sent Khalid bin Waleed (Allah be pleased with him) to combat Tulaihah.

Uyainah bin Hisn initially had fought against the Muslims but then accepted Islam before the Conquest of Makkah, and later took part in the battles of Hunain and Taif.

When sending the envoy headed by Hazrat Khalid bin

Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him), he said to Hazrat Adiy^(Allah be pleased with him) that he should go to Banu Tayy who had come under the influence of Tulaihah and were going to meet him, and said that he should invite them to Islam, advise them to see reason and abstain from meeting him. Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) was instructed to start his expedition from the Tayy tribe and then end up in Buta. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) then expressed that he would set out for Khaibar himself and then would meet with Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) upon Mount Salma.

After the Banu Tayy reverted to Islam, Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) set out towards Tulaihah. It is recorded that Hazrat Ukashah^(Allah be pleased with him) and Hazrat Thabit^(Allah be pleased with him) were sent ahead to gather information. When Tulaihah learned of this, he killed Ukashah^(Allah be pleased with him) and his brother Salamah killed Hazrat Thabit^(Allah be pleased with him). When Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) advanced, they learned of these martyrdoms and were very disturbed. Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) organised the ranks and then they returned to Tai where he prepared the army for battle with Tulaihah. During the battle, Tulaihah remained seated and said that he would convey revelations to them about the battle and what would happen. As Uyainah was fighting and suffering defeat, he asked whether Gabriel had yet come to him, to which he replied that he had not. Uyainah continued fighting and asked again whether he had received any revelation to which Tulaihah replied that he had not. As Uyainah continued suffering defeat, he asked a third time to which Tulaihah responded that he had been informed something would happen that could not be altered. Uyainah realised at that time that Tulaihah was false and left him along with Banu Fazarah. Tulaihah had already prepared a horse and camel to flee with his wife, and he advised anyone left with him to flee as well. As a result, his followers dispersed and suffered great defeat. Later, these people realised their mistake and declared their reversion to Islam.

Eventually Tulaihah also accepted Islam again. He set out to perform Umrah under the leadership of Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him). When Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) was informed of Tulaihah's presence, he replied that there was nothing he would do, as God had already guided him back to Islam. Tulaihah would go on to fight valiantly in Iraq for the Muslims and was martyred in 21 AH.

Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) had also gone towards Umm Qirfah, who was a chief of Banu Fazarah. She had once planned to attack Madinah and kill the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). After suffering defeat in Buzakhah some people fled to Umm Dhimi, daughter of Umm Qirfah, and said that they would join them to continue fighting against the Muslims. When Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) learned of this, he set out to combat Umm Dhimi which resulted in fierce battle. Though Umm Dhimi was heavily protected, the Muslim army reached her and she was killed and subsequently her army was defeated and dispersed. Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) then wrote to Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) informing him of this victory.

SERMON: 13 MAY 2022

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) Apostasy and Injustices of Malik bin Nuwairah

Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) also led his army towards Malik bin Nuwairah. He was from Banu Yarbu, a branch of Banu Tamim and accepted Islam in 9 AH along with his tribe, of which he was a leader. He had been appointed by the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as the collector of Zakat from his people.

After the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), he was among the people who became apostates. In fact, he rejoiced upon the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He also killed those Muslims from his tribe who remained firm upon offering Zakat and sending it to Madinah.

Sajah was an Arab soothsayer hailing from the Banu Tamim and the Banu Taghlib who were mostly Christians, and thus was also a Christian herself. She had travelled with an army from Iraq with plans to attack Madinah. Upon arriving in Arabia, she first went to Banu Tamim where there was one group of people which still wished to give Zakat and obey the Khalifah, whereas there was another group of people which opposed this. There was also a third group of people which was unsure of what stance to take. Thus these differences caused discord within the tribe itself. Sajah thought that upon her claim to prophethood, the Banu Tamim would unite and set aside their differences, after which they would set out for Madinah and fight with Hazrat Abu Bakr's^(Allah be pleased with him) army.

Malik bin Nuwairah and Sajah had been in contact and met. They agreed upon a treaty, but Malik bin Nuwairah advised her against attacking Madinah, and instead advised that she should resolve the disputes within the tribe to which she agreed. This however caused great bloodshed within the tribe, upon which they realised that they were mistaken in trusting Sajah, and so the chieftains of Banu Tamim joined together and made a pact, resulting in peace in Banu Tamim.

Upon realising that her plan had been unsuccessful, she set out towards Madinah, and she was met by Aus bin Khuzaimah and his army, who she fought and lost to. Aus bin Khuzaimah then took a pledge from her that she would leave and not return to Madinah.

When her army's leaders discussed how they would be able to go to Madinah, she said that they would go to Yamamah where they would join forces with Musailimah Kazzab, another false claimant to prophethood. The two met and were quite impressed with one another. Musailimah suggested that they should consolidate their prophethoods and get married, to which Sajah agreed.

She would then return to Banu Taghlib, where after some time, she reverted to Islam.

Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) had instructed Khalid bin Waleed^(Allah be pleased with him) to combat the disorder created by Malik bin Nuwairah. There are narrations that Nuwairah was subsequently killed. One night, when it was very cold, Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) said that the prisoners should be kept warm. However there were some who misunderstood what he said and thought he instructed for the prisoners to be

killed, as a result of which Nuwairah was also killed. There was an allegation made against Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) that he married Nuwairah's wife during the time of battle without waiting for the prescribed period. Hazrat Shah Abdul Aziz Dehlvi, explains that this is a fabrication against Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him). If he did marry her, then history shows Nuwairah had already divorced his wife but had kept her in his home. Thus Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) married her after she had been divorced and after the prescribed waiting period had already elapsed.

Later, Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) was sent to combat the disorder raised by the people of Banu Hanifah and Musailimah, the false claimant to prophethood. Thus, Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) gathered his forces and set out towards Banu Hanifah. Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) also sent a large army after Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) so that he could not be attacked from behind. Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) proceeded to Yamamah, where the Battle of Yamamah took place.

SERMON: 20 MAY 2022

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him)

When the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent letters to various leaders inviting them to Islam, he also sent a letter to the King of Yamamah. In 9 AH when various tribes converged upon Madinah, there was also an envoy from Yamamah. When the Banu Hanifah met with the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) they left Musailimah behind to look after their belongings. After the Banu Hanifah had accepted Islam at the hands of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), they informed him that they had left Musailimah behind in order to look after their belongings. The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent gifts for him as well, saying he was doing a noble deed by looking after his friends' belongings.

In one narration, it is recorded that the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) went to meet Musailimah where he was staying. The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had a branch in his hand. Musailimah made some demands from the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), one of which was that he should at least appoint him to be the prophet after his demise. In response, the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that he would not give him so much as the branch in his hand.

The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that Musailimah was the same person about whom he had seen various dreams. In one dream, the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw that he was wearing two gold bangles and this worried him. In the dream, it was revealed to him that he should blow on them. When he blew on them, they vanished. The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) took this to mean that two false claimants would arise after him which turned out to be Aswad Ansi and Musailimah Kazzab.

Musailimah went on to falsely claim himself to be equal in prophethood of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and began making changes to the Islamic law. For example, he said that the early morning prayer and the late evening prayer were no longer compulsory and he deemed things such as fornication to be permissible. There was a person

named Rijal who was part of the Banu Hanifah and had accepted the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He later migrated to Madinah where he learned the Holy Qur'an. When Musailimah became an apostate, the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent Rijal so as to reason with Musailimah and help him desist from his ways. However, when Rijal went he became influenced and accepted Musailimah himself, and he even made a false statement, saying that Musailimah had been included in the prophethood of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Musailimah once wrote a letter to the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saying that half the land belonged to them and the other half to the Quraish, but the Quraish were not just. The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) responded with a letter saying that the land belonged to Allah and he would grant it to whoever He pleased, and that in the end the righteous meet a good end.

This letter was conveyed to Musailimah by Hazrat Habib^(Allah be pleased with him). Musailimah asked him whether he believed the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to be a true prophet, to which he replied that he did. Then, when Musailimah asked whether he also believed him to be a prophet, Hazrat Habib^(Allah be pleased with him) responded that he could not hear, so as to avoid answering this question. Musailimah kept asking this question and Hazrat Habib^(Allah be pleased with him) continued giving the same answer. Every time he gave this answer, Musailimah would torture him by cutting off one of his limbs. This continued until Hazrat Habib^(Allah be pleased with him) was martyred.

After the demise of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Hazrat Abu Bakr^(Allah be pleased with him) sent various battalions towards Musailimah. He also sent Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) and sent a battalion under the command of Hazrat Thaleed^(Allah be pleased with him) as reinforcements. He also sent battalions from the Ansar and Muhajireen to support Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him). When Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) advanced, Musailimah's army numbered 40,000 or according to other narrations 100,000 while the Muslims numbered just over 10,000.




The two sides met on the battlefield. Hazrat Khalid^(Allah be pleased with him) had divided the Muslim army into five parts and strategically arranged them. The battle was extremely fierce and initially the Muslims were facing difficulty. Hazrat Khalid's^(Allah be pleased with him) bravery did not waver and he instructed Muslims to fight together with their individual tribes so it could be determined which tribe was the bravest. Thus, the Muslims began encouraging one another as well.

Zakat Calculation



Zakat is Payable @ 2.5% on Gold, Silver, Cash & Stocks remained unused for whole Year

زکوٰۃ کی شرح 2.5 فیصد ہے اس سونے، چاندی، نقدی یا دیگر سٹاک پر جو کہ ایک سال استعمال نہ کیا گیا ہو

Gold		Nisab(نصاب): 7.50 Tola (تولہ) $7.50 \times 11.7 = 87.75$ grams (گرام)			
	Gold Remained Unused for Whole Year	22 carat Gold Rate (14/04/2022)	Value of Gold	Zakat Rate	Zakat Payable
	87.75 grams	£44/gram	£3,861	2.50%	£97
Silver		Nisab(نصاب): 52.50 Tola (تولہ) $52.50 \times 11.7 = 614.25$ grams (گرام)			
	Silver Remained Unused for Whole Year	Pure Silver Rate (14/04/2022)	Value of Silver	Zakat Rate	Zakat Payable
	614.25 grams	£0.57/gram	£350	2.50%	£9
Cash		Nisab(نصاب): Cash or Other Stocks amounting equal to the Gold Nisaab			
	Cash / Stock (Remained unused for whole year)	Cash / Stock Available	Zakat Rate	Zakat Payable	
	Add up all Bank Accounts' Minimum Balances for the year + Cash remained unused for whole Year + Cash Value of the Stock remained unused for whole year	£2,000+ £1,000+ <u>£861</u> =£3,861	2.50%	£97	

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شعبہ مال جماعت احمدیہ برطانیہ



Virtual Meetings held with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

All reports have been adapted from the press releases issued by the Press & Media Office of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

Virtual Meeting Of Waqfe Nau Girls With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 8th May 2022, Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V granted a virtual audience to all the UK female members of Waqfe Nau aged 12 to 15.

Huzoor presided over the meeting from the MTA Studios in Islamabad, Tilford, while the Waqf-e-Nau gathered at the Baitul Futuh Mosque in Morden.

Following a formal session starting with recitation of the Holy Qur'an, participants had the opportunity to ask Huzoor Anwar a series of questions regarding their faith and contemporary issues.

One of the girls asked how she should respond to those who mock the Hijab. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V answered,

"If you are determined, if you are strong and staunch in your faith, then you should not bother what the other people say. It is the commandment of Allah the Almighty that a (Muslim) woman should observe the Hijab... So, if people mock us then don't care [about them]. Tell them, this is my personal choice, my personal view and I have a right to do whatever I like. [Inform them that] this is my personal liking and I am doing it because of my religious teachings, because of the commandment of the Shariah and the Holy Quran which has been given by Allah the Almighty in the Holy Quran. So, if you are a determined and strong Ahmadi Muslim, then you will never worry whatever the people say. Further, you can tell them that they engage in behaviour which they consider to be moral, but according to your religious teachings are immoral. And, so if you don't object to their habits then who are they to question that why do you wear

the Hijab?"

Another question was on what will happen if Ahmadi Muslims fail to fulfil their responsibilities in bringing about the spiritual and moral revolution that the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) came to establish. Huzoor Aqdas replied,

"Of course, if we do not fulfil our responsibilities then the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has said that Allah the Almighty will bring other peoples as He is bound to fulfil the promises He has made with the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Those peoples will most certainly be Ahmadi Muslims too and they will believe in the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) so that they can carry his mission forward. So, if we do not play our role in fulfilling the mission of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then Allah will do so through others. There are many Ahmadi Muslims in Africa who are very sincere and pious. They understand their responsibilities. They preach to people and others are converting through them. Similarly, there are such people in Europe as well and in many island nations and in Indonesia and the Far East and in other countries. So, this is not a task simply for the Pakistani and Indian people."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen added,

"The Holy Prophet Muhammad^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) came for the entire world and so too has his Messiah^(peace be upon him) come for all people. We have to take the message of Islam to everyone around the world. We must strive to bring the whole of mankind under the banner of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and we must deliver the message of the Unity of God to all peoples and nations. So, this is our great task."

Huzoor mentioned that the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was sent by Allah the Almighty so people may fulfil their responsibilities they owe to Allah and His creation. If today's Ahmadi Muslims became immersed in worldliness and forgo their responsibilities to their



faith, then Allah the Almighty will raise others who shall achieve this objective.

Huzoor Anwar further explained,

“Allah the Almighty has stated (in a revelation to the Promised Messiah [peace be upon him]) that, ‘I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the earth’ and Allah is fulfilling His word. He is raising such people who come to the fore without our prior knowledge and they go on to take the message forward. Therefore, if we participate in this task of Allah the Almighty, of taking the message of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to other people, then we shall reap His blessings. If we fail to play our role then Allah will most certainly ensure that this task comes to fruition through other people.”

A question also related to how girls, in their teens, should convey the teachings of true Islam. In response, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V responded,

“You should manifest the most excellent morals. Discuss the beauties of your religion with your friends. It is not right to tell people that they should become Muslim – no one will become a Muslim that way. Instead, people will become provoked and agitated. So rather, you should exhibit the highest of morals and treat your friends well and behave well towards your teachers and excel in your studies. That way you will be well regarded in your school. The teachers and the students will then want to know about you and so you can tell them at that point. You may sometimes even have an opportunity to speak in your school assembly about Islam or have other opportunities to do so when you get asked to speak about yourself. In such circumstances, there are many children who go on to explain the teachings of Islam and they mention that they are Muslim and that they are Ahmadi Muslims and they explain what their objectives are as Ahmadi Muslims. So, this gradually opens up avenues for conveying our message to others. When Allah so wishes, the people whose hearts He wants to open [towards Islam], He shall do so. We cannot force anyone to become Muslim. However, what we can do is exhibit the teachings of Islam through our own lives and so when we show good morals, people themselves will become attracted to us.”

Another participant sought Huzoor’s advice for those children suffering from mental health issues such as depression. Huzoor Aqdas advised,

“First you need to find out the underlying cause [for their mental health problems]. Those suffering should be taken to a psychiatrist by their relatives and they should be treated properly and full efforts should be made to rid them of their pain.”

“Furthermore, see what time of the day their suffering is most acute. If it is in the morning at 10 or 11 then they should go out for a walk at that time to get some fresh air. Secondly, they should pray to Allah the Almighty and they should try to develop their will-power and determination. They should pray that Allah the Almighty brings them out of this phase. So, medical care should be adopted and they should also pray... Mental health issues such as depression are an illness like any other and so they should be diagnosed and treated properly. No one should make fun of those suffering or take it lightly. Seek repentance from Allah and do your five daily prayers. Then, Allah removes these difficulties.”

Another girl asked for guidance on how to save oneself from the negative usage of social media. Huzoor enquired if she was aware of the negative and positive aspects of social media, to which she replied that she was.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

“If you know the negative usage of social media, then you should avoid such usage. It is a matter of temptation. A person is easily tempted, whereby they open a link and they become interested and then they open up another link and then another and so forth. The user doesn’t think of the negative impact it is having upon them. So, the first time that you see something on social media that can potentially have a negative impact on you or others, immediately shut it down. Instead, visit those sites which increase your knowledge. For example, watch scientific or educational programmes and documentaries and read comments and articles by scientists and academics. Also, visit the sites and pages of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community rather than visiting harmful websites and content. It all depends on your will-power and determination and how much you wish to protect and save yourself.”

PROMISED MESSIAH DAY 2022



The UK Jama'at commemorated Promised Messiah Day on Wednesday 23rd March 2022. The event was chaired by Naib Amir, Syed Mansoor Shah and was held in the Baitul Futuh Mosque whilst being broadcast live on YouTube. Proceedings began with Tilawat-e-Qur'an by Mr Taofiq Idris and English translation by Mr Kaleem Mensah. A Nazm was performed by Murabbi Tahir Khalid.

The first speech was by Mr Usman Shahzad Butt on the topic of the *Promised Messiah's Love for Mankind*. The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) did not bring a new religion or new teaching. Rather, he came to enlighten non-Muslims about Islam. He also came to reform the Muslims themselves who had forgotten the original teachings of their faith and bring them back to the true teachings of our beloved Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) of Islam. In the Holy Qur'an it says:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَائِي ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ ۗ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

“Verily, Allah enjoins justice, and the doing of good to others; and giving like kindred; and forbids indecency, and manifest evil, and wrongful transgression. He admonished you that you may take heed.” (16:91)

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) has said:

In chapter 16, verse 91 of the Holy Quran, Allah the Almighty has instructed Muslims to act with justice and to do good to all others. Hence, you must treat even those people with love who have done no good to you. In fact, you should go beyond this and favour them and care for them as a mother cares for her child.

What a magnificent and noble teaching! We have all

seen and felt the pure love that a mother has for her child. A mother has no expectation of reward, nor does she seek any recognition. All the while, she loves her child more than she loves herself and never weakens in her resolve to nourish and protect her offspring. It is this mother-like spirit of selflessness that Islam requires Muslims to develop in their hearts for all of humanity and not just their own progeny. In practical terms, the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) wasted no opportunity to serve others.

The next speaker Tahir Odeh Sahib spoke about the Promised Messiah's love for Allah.

In a hadith in Sahih Bukhari, the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) tells us exactly what the benefit of loving Allah is. He states:

Allah said: I will declare war against him who shows hostility to a pious worshipper of Mine. And the most beloved things with which My servant comes nearer to Me, is what I have enjoined upon him; and My servant keeps on coming closer to Me through performing *nawafil* (praying or doing extra deeds besides the obligatory) till I love him, so I become his sense of hearing with which he hears, and his sense of sight with which he sees, and his hand with which he grips, and his leg with which he walks; and if he asks Me (for anything), I grant it to him, and if he asks for My protection, I grant him protection. And I do not hesitate to do anything, but I hesitate to take the soul of the believer, for he hates death, and I hate to disappoint him.

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) has written:

'How unfortunate is the man who does not know that he has a God Who has power to do all that He wills. Our paradise lies in our God. Our highest delight is in our God for we have seen Him and have found every beauty in Him. This wealth is worth procuring though

one might have to lay down one's life to procure it. This ruby is worth purchasing though one may have to lose oneself to acquire it. O ye, who are bereft! run to this fountain and it will satisfy you. It is the fountain of life that will save you. What shall I do, and how shall I impress the hearts with this good news, and by beating what drum shall I make the announcement that this is our God, so that people might hear? What remedy shall I apply to the ears of the people so that they should listen?' (Kashti Nuh, Ruhani Khaza'in, Vol. 19, pp. 21-22 Essence of Islam, Vol. I, pp. 98-99).

A short video about the first baits in 1889 was played. Mr Iqbal Ahmad Kusi then spoke about the Promised Messiah's^(peace be upon him) love for the Holy Prophet^(peace be upon him). The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) stated:

'I recall that one night I was so occupied with calling down blessings on the Holy Prophet(saw) that my heart and soul became fragrant therewith. The same night I saw in my dream that people were carrying into my house water-skins filled with divine light in the form of water and one of them said: These are the blessings which you had sent to Muhammad^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).' (Barahin-e-Ahmadiyyah, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol.1, p.576).

The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) would always encourage his followers to send salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Whenever someone would ask him for a spiritual exercise he would always say, seek forgiveness from Allah (Istighfar) and send salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) (Durud Sharif), abundantly. There is no greater spiritual exercise than this. At times he would say that the offering of the compulsory prayers or Salat and Durud Sharif is the greatest spiritual exercise. On one occasion someone inquired, how much Durud Sharif should one recite, and the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) responded, "One should recite it until one's tongue becomes fully satiated."

A new Ahmadi called Mr Zubair Zafar then narrated how he had converted to Ahmadiyyat. Mr Munir Odeh then recited selected verses from Al Qasedah in Arabic.

The key note address was given by Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed. He reminded the gathering that 23rd March is not the birthday or the death day of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him), in fact it is when the foundation for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was laid. It is the day when the first bai'at was taken by 40 people. After individually taking the bai'at of each man, the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) visited the ladies side and also took bai'at from the women. The oath of allegiance was taken at the house of a spiritual preceptor Hazrat Sufi Ahmad Jan. At a time when there was no defender of Islam, Allah Almighty



sent Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian to defend Islam with undeniable truths. Alhumdollah! 133 years later, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community is spread across the world in over 200 countries and territories.

On 1st December 1888, the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) published an advert with the name of Tabligh – he mentioned that Allah had told him to take bai'at. After this the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) published many adverts expressing God has given me an order to take bai'at. Imam Sahib repeated the words of the bai'at as a reminder for the listeners.

A concluding address was given by Syed Mansoor Shah. He mentioned how the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) would obey his wife and he would listen to his children with attention. The Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) brought back the true teachings of Islam. People used to say God had stopped talking to mankind, but the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) corrected this. He also gave the correct teachings on Angels, Prophets, Religious books and so many other things. These are the teachings of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) that we have to follow. The meeting ended with a silent prayer.



KHILAFAT DAY 2022



This event was held on Friday 27th May 2022 at 7.30pm and began with recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Monsur Abiola Osota. The English translation was read by Mr Jordan Parker. A Nazm was read by a trio of students from Jamia UK. The first speech was by Mr Hamza Ilyas on the blessings of Khilafat who began by reciting from the following verse of the Holy Qur'an:

قُلْ أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَلِرَسُولٍ فَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ لِكُفْرَائِينَ

"Say, 'If you love Allah, follow me: Then will Allah love you and forgive you your faults. And Allah is Most Forgiving, Merciful.'" (3:32)

He stated that on talking to two non-Ahmadis, they were saying that Muslims today are not carrying the flag of Islam and excelling in different fields. Rather they are only pursuing material gains. However, in Ahmadiyyat there are many Ahmadis who are pursuing excellence in so many different fields. Mr Ilyas spoke about his personal experiences in obtaining a visa to come to the UK. He had written to Huzoor for prayers, but before Huzoor had received his letter, his visa application was accepted. This was due to the blessings of Khilafat; as we have a relationship of love with Huzoor, Allah has a greater relationship of love with Huzoor. Ultimately it was Allah who had accepted his prayer before Huzoor even knew about this matter.

A video presentation was shown of Khilafat. The next speaker was Maulana Munir-ud din Shams, who spoke on the topic that a Khalifa is appointed by God.



He started off by explaining the meaning of the Arabic word 'Khalifa' which literally means successor, vicegerent, representative and one who comes after another. Allah Almighty has informed us of two definitive types of Khalifa; one who are called Khalifa tul Allah – these are the messengers and Prophets of Allah. Secondly who are called Khalifa tul Anbiya who are elected or designated as khulafa after the death of a messenger.

Through time it has been a definitive feature of God to send Messengers/Prophets to earth when the habitants of earth have regressed in morality. These call mankind towards God and help the people to build a relationship with God. When these Messengers/Prophets die, their message and teachings live on through the system of Khilafat.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ has stated:

“There had not been any Prophethood which was not succeeded by Khailafat”.

(Kanz al-Ummal, Hadith 32246)

Another Nazm was then performed by Mr Isam Ahmad. The main address was given by Amir UK, Rafiq Hayat. He said that this is a special day and we need to remind ourselves about the importance of this day. The Khalifa is a successor to a prophet, whose goal is to carry to completion, the task of moral training that has been seeded by the prophet. Amir Sahib quoted from the Holy Qur'an:

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَى لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُم مِّن بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ

Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them; and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them; and that He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear (24:56).

In this verse Allah has promised Khilafat to the Muslims with the condition of faith and good actions.

In a well-known hadith, the Holy Prophet(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have observed:



Prophethood shall remain among you as long as God wills. Then khilafat on the pattern of prophethood will commence and remain as long as He wills. A corrupt monarchy shall then follow and it shall remain as long as God wills. There shall then be a tyrannical despotism which shall remain as long as God wills. Then once again khilafat will emerge on the precept of prophethood. [Masnad Ahmad, Mishkat, Chapter Al-Anzar Wal Tahzir].

So it was predicted by the Holy Prophet ﷺ that some Muslims would not accept the Promised Messiah(peace be upon him) and the Khilafat that followed. The whole of the Muslim Ummah is currently looking for guidance and Khilafat, but they are caught in a trap as they cannot create a righteous Khilafat. At the same time they are not prepared to accept the Promised Messiah(peace be upon him). So now Muslims are saying there is no need for Khilafat anymore.

The Jamaat is blessed with this institution and we should not under-estimate this blessing.

The meeting finished with a silent prayer led by Amir UK.



EIDUL FITR 2022



Eidul Fitr was celebrated all over the UK on Monday 2nd May. As Covid restrictions had receded, it meant that this celebration could be held in mosques with appropriate social distancing and the wearing of masks. Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V delivered his Eid sermon from the Mubarak Mosque in Islamabad Tilford.

Across the world, millions of Ahmadi Muslims were able to listen to this live and to join in with the silent prayer led by Huzoor through MTA International.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen began the sermon with the recitation of chapter 4 verse 37 of the Holy Qur'an which states,

وَأَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَبِذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ
وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْجَارِ الْجُنْبِ وَالصَّاحِبِ
بِالْجُنُبِ وَالْبَنِ السَّبِيلِ ۗ وَمَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ مَنْ
كَانَ مُخْتَالًا فَخُورًا

“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 that is a kinsman and the neighbour that is a stranger, and the companion by your side, and the wayfarer, and those whom your right hands possess. Surely, Allah loves not the proud and the boastful.”

Thereafter throughout the sermon, Huzoor gave a detailed commentary of the verse and explained the importance of the various responsibilities outlined within it.

Regarding the true purpose and meaning of Eid,

Huzoor Anwar stated,

“Eid is not merely a day to come together in a celebratory spirit, rather, during the day of Eid it is incumbent upon us to fulfil the obligations laid upon us by God Almighty even more than we do on other days. It is essential to fulfil both the rights of worship of God Almighty and the rights of humanity that have been made compulsory upon the believers. Thus, one should make a pledge on this day to consistently fulfil the obligations of Allah the Almighty and of the people. Only then will we truly be celebrating Eid.”

Speaking of the importance of worship, Huzoor Aqdas explained,

“The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has stated, ‘Whoever worships during the nights of Eid, purely for gaining the pleasure of Allah, their heart will forever be given the true life.’ How magnificent is this glad tidings! We are gaining a lasting reward because of worshipping for the sake of Allah the Almighty. Therefore, Eid is not only a means of celebration, rather, it is an occasion to brighten the nights with worship which leads to a person attaining eternal spiritual life.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V mentioned that the verse goes on to explain the rights of the creation of God after it speaks of the importance of worship. Explaining the rights of parents, Huzoor Anwar stated,

“The verse commands the showing of kindness to parents. After the nurturing of Allah the Almighty, the greatest favours bestowed upon a person are those of their parents who raise their children with devotion and care. Their favours upon us are such that we can never repay them. Therefore, this verse mentions the importance of treating parents with kindness and to always speak to them lovingly with tenderness and to deal with them with respect and honour.”

Speaking of another responsibility mentioned in the verse cited at the beginning of his sermon, Huzoor Aqdas said,

"The verse goes onto mention the importance of showing kindness to one's relatives. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, 'Whoever wishes to have an abundance of provision or to have a blessed long life and have much good in it, they should adopt the moral quality of keeping and mending ties with their family.' We should look after our relatives, be they our own families or our in-laws. Those who are living well and have come to live in richer countries, and whose financial situations have been made better by Allah the Almighty, they should share and care for their less fortunate relatives in the joys of Eid too. For this, it is not a condition that their relatives should also be kind in response and so only then you will be generous towards them. Rather, even if they do not show a positive attitude, one should be kind towards them regardless."

Huzoor also strongly condemned the behaviour of those men who stopped their wives from visiting their own families and parents. Huzoor Anwar said that such behaviour was "the height of ignorance" and violated the commandments of the Holy Qur'an. Huzoor Aqdas stated that if a person wishes to attain the pleasure of Allah the Almighty then such 'vain and futile' ways must be forsaken.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen went on to cover certain other aspects of the rights of people as mentioned in the verse, including the rights of the orphans and the needy. Huzoor explained that on the occasion of Eid, the rights of the needy and orphans should be taken care of and that if someone cannot directly find a needy person or an orphan then they can donate to the charitable projects being run by the Jama'at such as the 'Orphan Fund' which looks after orphans.

Speaking of the importance of showing kindness towards one's neighbours, Huzoor Aqdas stated,

"If a person understands the true meaning of what constitutes as a 'neighbour' and then they try to fulfil the rights of their neighbours, you will see that disorder will disappear from society and for a believer, a true occasion of Eid is that in which all disorder is lifted away from the world. Who is one's 'neighbour'? The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has said that people living within a radius of a hundred 'kos' are your neighbours. So even those living within a hundred miles are in fact one's neighbours! Under this definition, no one is outside the scope of being one's neighbour."

Explaining the philosophy of fulfilling the rights of others, Huzoor said,

"The true goodness that Islam commands is to take care of the rights of others, rather than to create disorder on earth in pursuit of seeking one's own rights. This should be the hallmark of a true believer that he should strive to ensure that none of his obligations that he has towards the people is left unfulfilled. A believer should self-analyse to see if there is any obligation that he is yet to fulfil towards someone. One should search out what one's obligations and duties to others are. One's obligations are not simply to, for instance, repay a debt. Rather, one's obligations consist of utilising all capabilities, capacities and moral abilities to treat others well.

One should feel the pain of others and such are the efforts that can bring about a true celebration of Eid for us; an Eid that will not then remain restricted to a day, rather it will become a source of attaining the pleasure of Allah and thus become a lasting Eid.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V went onto emphasise the importance of establishing justice, another moral quality emphasised by Islam. Huzoor Anwar spoke about how governments also must play their part in fulfilling the rights of others with justice and that not doing so has led to much destruction of innocent lives.

"If people fulfilled their promises and there was justice at every level, and the rights of others were fulfilled then we would never have seen the destruction that we saw during the wars in Iraq, Syria, Libya, Yemen and Afghanistan in recent times. We will not have witnessed what has come about in these countries. Nor would the current Ukraine conflict have come to pass."

Further, Huzoor stated,

"The world seems bent upon seeing to its own destruction. It does not seem to have any care towards this. It is the belief of the worldly powers that the possession of material strength and exhibiting their power and force, and proving one's own superiority is the guarantor of survival and livelihood. They do not realise that rather than survival, it is in fact becoming the guarantor of their destruction. It seems that many continue to be consumed by their wishful thinking and believe that nuclear weapons will never be used. Allah the Almighty knows better if such weapons will be used or not, however regardless it seems certain that the world is rapidly moving towards destruction and eventual outcome will be much devastation."

Huzoor Aqdas said that the only solution is to recognise one's Creator and that only Ahmadi Muslims truly recognise this and so they must inform people of this within their circles. Huzoor also stated that social media should be utilised for this purpose rather than using it for vain pursuits and entertainment.

As the sermon concluded, Huzoor said that Ahmadi Muslims should pray for people who are in difficult circumstances such as those belonging to the Community who are imprisoned because they are Ahmadi.

Huzoor also asked members to pray for those who had dedicated their lives for the cause of Islam.

"Pray for those who have dedicated their lives for the service of Islam that they are able to maintain their spirit of life dedication and they serve with passion and zeal and that they only have one passion, that we must raise high the noble and peaceful flag of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) in the world so that people may flock under the flag of the Unity of God. May Allah place immense blessings in our humble efforts and may we soon see the victory of Islam and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)."

Following the conclusion of the sermon, Huzoor Anwar shared the greetings of 'Eid Mubarak' to all and concluded with a silent prayer.

MAJLIS-E-SHURA 2022



The 43rd UK Majlis-e-Shura was held on the 21st and 22nd of May 2022.

The opening session commenced at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Mr Maaz Ahmed and translation by Mr Kemo Kasama.

Following silent prayers, Amir Sahib addressed the delegates and thanked all the departments for their efforts, after which the General Secretary made a few announcements and then read out the proposals received from the local Jama'ats that were rejected with the reason for rejection. Implementation reports were then presented by the Tabligh, Tarbiyyat, Umur Kharijiyya and Finance Secretaries on the recommendations approved at the last Shura before the formation of sub committees to deal with the agenda of the current year. Three were formed including proposals under Umur Amma, Tarbiyyat and Finance. The session was brought to a close with silent prayers.

After prayers and lunch elections of office bearers took place. These were presided by Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed Naib Amir and Missionary in charge UK. A counting software application had been specifically developed for the election. This enabled the counters to enter the information directly into a tablet which was linked to a central computer. The counting was carried out using an application that ran on a tablet with the help of Jamia UK students and MKA. Despite the technology the entire procedure took 4 hours to complete.

Dinner was served to all the delegates and the invited guests, followed by Maghrib and Isha Prayers after which the Sub-Committees deliberated over their respective proposals.

Majlis Shura deliberations commenced on the second day at 11.30 am with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an and translation by Murabbi Tahir Khalid. After silent prayers each of the sub-Committees presented their recommendations in turn and these were discussed



and commented on by the delegates. The Amir UK then addressed the delegates and highlighted the challenges for the coming year thanking all the delegates and then leading everyone in a silent prayer, after which lunch was served.

The highlight of the event was the presence of Hazrat Amirul Momineen who graced the Shura with his presence at 5.15pm and led the Zohr and Asr prayers. Proceedings then began in the Tahir Hall with a recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Mr Hafiz Fazle Rabbi and translation by Maulana Tahir Selby.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V then addressed the audience. The address was telecast live through MTA and several other countries including Germany, Belgium, Canada, USA and Guinea Bissau who were also holding their respective Majlis-e-Shura on the same weekend and participated in the concluding session virtually. The address also marked the first time Huzoor Aqdas had graced a public event at the Baitul Futuh Mosque since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In his address Huzoor stated that the first Majlis Shura was held in 1922 and that this year marked the Centenary of this institution. Huzoor outlined the vast



responsibilities of the delegates of Majlis-e-Shura and how the institution differed from any political parliament. Huzoor Anwar said,

"Alhamdulillah, this year marks the Centenary of the institution of Majlis-e-Shura and so I hope all members will have reflected upon this milestone and appreciated how, ever since its foundation, the institution of Majlis-e-Shura has gone from strength to strength and its scope has greatly increased. Even a cursory glance through the history of our Community is enough to testify to the fact that the Help and Support of Allah the Almighty has always been by our side and has enabled the Community to progress and flourish in all respects and this is certainly true with regards the institution of Majlis-e-Shura. The blessed seed that was sown one hundred years ago has not only taken firm root but has flourished and its fruits are now spread all across the world."

Huzoor Aqdas pointed out that where the institution has significantly progressed administratively in many of the larger Jama'ats such as in the UK and in European, North American and African countries, there was yet much need for improvement in understanding the weight of the responsibilities of the delegates of Majlis-e-Shura. Speaking of these responsibilities, Huzoor instructed,

"Always remember that the Majlis-e-Shura is a body that is unlike any worldly parliament or assembly. If we cast an eye upon the proceedings of worldly parliaments, we often see how endless debates take place that lead to nowhere other than to fuel hostilities and bitter conflict amongst the parliamentarians. Ultimately, their proceedings often serve to sow division within their people and often ferment tensions between nations, as we are seeing at this time."

Contrasting the Majlis-e-Shura with the parliaments of the world, Huzoor Anwar highlighted that the political parliaments are inclined towards party politics and often the politicians "crave power and lust after public approval". Huzoor explained,

"Certainly, it is a hallmark of the worldly parliaments and assemblies that their members often prioritise loyalty to themselves and their party over and beyond loyalty to their nation and to the cause of truth and justice. By the Grace of Allah, the institution of Majlis-e-Shura is, as I have said, unlike any political or worldly assembly. Rather, it is a consultative body that has far greater value and stature than any Parliament or Congress but this can only remain the case so long as the members of Majlis-e-Shura are those who personify integrity and manifest the highest moral values and remain free from all forms of politics or deception."

Huzoor added,

"Always remember that the principal objective and goal of Majlis-e-Shura is to formulate proposals that serve to fulfil the divine mission of the Imam of the Age, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), who was sent to revive the noble and glorious teachings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and to spread the message of Islam to all corners of the world. Therefore, as members of the Majlis-e-Shura, it is your duty to present your sincere recommendations to the Khalifa of the Time, who serves as the spiritual father of the entire Community. Thereafter, he will consider your advice with the sole objective of ensuring that whatever plans or policies are devised are those that facilitate the spread of the message of Islam and draw mankind towards its Creator and towards fulfilling the rights of one another."



Reminding the delegates of the mind-set they must adopt, Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

“You should understand that the Majlis-e-Shura is a united body with one common purpose and so you must fulfil your duties with the utmost seriousness and with absolute integrity. If you participate with this spirit, you will never think that only you can be right or that your opinion has greater weight than others. You will not seek to establish groups like a worldly political party, rather you will recognise that, as members of the Jamaat and as members of Majlis-e-Shura, there is only one party that we desire to serve and be part of and that is the divine party of Allah the Almighty.”

Huzoor Anwar reflected on the past 100 years and mentioned the humble beginnings of the Majlis-e-Shura of 1922 when the entire international budget of the Jama'at was Rs55,000. Now, Huzoor pointed out, the national budget of several countries is worth millions of pounds.

“Unquestionably, the blessings and favours of Allah the Almighty bestowed upon our Community are without any measure. There was a time when the Jama'at did not even have the means to pay the basic allowances of the Waqifeen-e-Zindighis [life devotees]. During those times of hardship, the Waqifeen set a great example of patience and trust in Allah the Almighty. They never complained if they did not receive their allowance or stipend. Rather, they and their families tolerated hunger and lived lives of great simplicity, whilst continuing their service to the Jama'at with great devotion and zeal. We should never forget their sacrifices and, indeed, they are examples for all of today's Waqf-e-Zindighis, office bearers and Shura delegates. Every Ahmadi Muslim should offer thanks to Allah the Almighty that the financial circumstances of the Community have greatly improved since then.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V further stated,

“Accordingly, the question we must now ask ourselves is whether we still have the same spirit of sacrifice, tolerance and patience that those before us displayed? Are we ready to serve Islam with the same passion and dedication that our predecessors did and are we ready to make every possible sacrifice for the



sake of our faith or are the words we repeat in our pledges simply hollow and meaningless claims? This is something for every office bearer and every Shura delegate to reflect upon.”

During his address, Huzoor Aqdas also mentioned that books, including the Holy Qur'an were being printed in large numbers by the Ishaat department for the propagation of the peaceful message of Islam, yet there is a lack of uptake of these books and stocks are often remaining on the shelves.

Setting a challenge for the various Jama'ats around the world, Huzoor said,

“True justice with regards to Ishaat required that the books would fly off the shelves in both the Central



and national stores and that they would reside in the homes of every Ahmadi Muslim and in the hands of external contacts across the world. Accordingly, the UK Jama'at and other Jama'ats who are listening to my address, must make a firm effort to ensure that our literature is distributed much more than before. It should be disseminated far and wide amongst the general public so that a widespread introduction to Jama'at and its teachings and beliefs should occur across society. Further, you should encourage individual Ahmadi Muslims to acquire and read the books of the Jama'at and to distribute them to their contacts."

Similarly, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V mentioned the importance of utilising social media platforms in conveying the message of the Jama'at to the wider world. MTA International, Huzoor pointed out, was also a great means to convey Islam's true message to others and all Shura members and office bearers should "make a concerted effort and plan to introduce MTA to non-Ahmadis and non-Muslims."

Concluding his address, Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

"We must strive with every fibre of our beings to ensure that as many people as possible come to hear the message of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and to understand the purpose for the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Only then can it be said that we are fulfilling the objectives of the institution of Majlis-e-Shura. Only then will you be truly serving as sincere helpers to the Khalifa of the Time, as he seeks to guide the Community in a way that enables the spread of Islam Ahmadiyyat to reach new heights. Only then will you be playing your role in ensuring that all members of the Community across the world are moving in one direction, as a



united community at the hand of Khalifatul Masih, towards the true and final spiritual victory of Islam and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), InshaAllah."

The event concluded with a silent prayer led by Huzoor.

Attendance on Saturday 21st May National

Amila:	38/39
Field Missionaries:	30/34
Special Invitees:	11/12
President and Delegates:	433/476
Lajna Delegates:	10/10
Special Invitees (Lajna):	3/3
Total	525/574 – 91%

IAAAE SYMPOSIUM 2022



The International Association of Ahmadi Architects and Engineers (IAAAE) held its International Symposium on 5th March 2022. The highlight of the event was the presence of Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V who joined the members in the Masroor Hall for the concluding session. Apart from those in Islamabad, UK, other IAAAE members viewed the proceedings through live streaming of MTA. These included members from the USA, Canada, Australia, Germany, India, Nigeria, Tanzania, Spain and Switzerland.

The final session proceedings commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Abdul Razzaq Shaikh followed by its English translation.

In the report of the symposium, presented by Mr Rafay Zafar, details were given about the live-streamed presentations given by IAAAE members during the day that included topics such as the history of IAAAE that started from the time of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III^(Allah have mercy on him), IAAAE construction projects around the world and innovations in architecture and engineering.

Mr Akram Ahmedi, Chairman IAAAE Europe, said the theme of the symposium was *"Empowering humanity during adversity through engineering"* – this theme was inspired by the pandemic.

He traced the humble beginnings of IAAAE and highlighted the impact of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya on the success of IAAAE since its inception through to the time of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V. The chairman reported that Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V had urged IAAAE to provide potable clean water and electricity to the people of Africa – this was from his own experience of living in Africa. He reported that under Huzoor's guidance, IAAAE had now brought clean potable water to over 2700 villages, serving 3.6 million people and electricity to over 500 villages, serving over 250,000 people. The chairman declared,

"People now can get potable water, not just at their doorsteps but literally in their houses",

He added that during the pandemic, IAAAE Nigeria and IAAAE Ghana were also established.

Mr Akram Ahmedi reported on some of the projects by IAAAE: *The Water for life* project completed 2,667 water pumps in Africa as of 2021. IAAAE worked in 9 African countries and helped over half a million people. IAAAE also worked intensely in developing and installing *alternative energy systems* to improve the efficiency and cost of systems, for example, solar battery systems. He showed, with pictures, how people from remote parts of Africa were seeing Hazrat Khalifatul Masih through these systems as they were able to watch MTA.

He then turned to the establishment of the *Model village* initiatives of IAAAE which provide electricity and ensure people in a village don't have to walk miles to collect water. Through the model villages, people can collect water within metres of their homes. The chairman noted how these model villages also ensured the protection of women and children who did not have to travel in the dark to collect water from far off places. He spoke about the great appreciation of the locals who saw their lives hugely improve through these model villages. These villages are constantly maintained and updated.

Mr Ahmedi finally reported that the Masroor International Technical College has been designed by IAAAE Lajna Germany to be built in Nigeria. He confirmed that funds for this project had been collected and promised entirely by IAAAE members.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen noted that after almost three years, IAAAE were able to gather together in person for their symposium. Huzoor commented,

"I hope and pray that the event has fulfilled its objectives and proved beneficial for all the participants."



Huzoor Aqdas gave a cautionary and far-sighted address. In this Huzoor spoke of his long-term vision for the IAAAE and guided its members about increasing the scope of their work. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V spoke of his fear that a devastating and debilitating global war could arise at any time and stated that the IAAAE, and the Jama'at at large, should be ready to play their role in rebuilding society in the aftermath of such a conflict.

Initially, Huzoor Anwar highlighted the humble beginnings of the IAAAE and how they first engaged in accomplishing only small tasks, such as distributing torches and providing lighting and assisting at the Jalsas of the Jama'at. Now though, their work had evolved and greatly expanded and the organisation was increasing its effort to serve the needs of the underprivileged. Huzoor praised the many initiatives of IAAAE including large-scale projects such as constructing *Model Villages* in remote parts of Africa to provide essential amenities, such as electricity, water and infrastructure.

Huzoor mentioned that IAAAE was installing communication infrastructure that enabled the local people to also watch MTA International.

Huzoor Aqdas stated,

"Through the installation of TVs and communications infrastructure, the local people are being exposed to the wider world and gaining knowledge of the latest developments and technologies. Therefore, the IAAAE's efforts are not only serving to alleviate hardship and deprivation but are also proving to be a source of education and information. Hopefully seeing such images and news will inspire the local children and youth to remain in education as long as possible and to learn more about new technologies so that they can better their personal situations and also play a positive role in the future development of their nations."

Turning to the conflict raging in Ukraine, Hazrat Amirul Momineen warned that the risk to the entire world was "extremely precarious and dangerous" and the IAAAE had a vital role to play in planning for its aftermath.

"A dark and ominous shadow has been cast upon much of the world and if, God forbid, the current situation escalates further, the consequences do not bear thinking about ... Therefore, now is the time for the IAAAE to intensify its efforts to serve humanity and to prepare for all possible eventualities."

Huzoor Anwar said that it was the source of speculation that some wealthy individuals had built elaborate underground bunkers with state of the art facilities to protect themselves from the effects of a global war. Highlighting the fallacy that such facilities will save the rich from the destructive consequences of the war, Huzoor Aqdas explained,

"Those who are able to shield underground should not be under the illusion that a fortified bunker will leave them immune to the devastating consequences of a world war. For one, living isolated lives underground will surely lead to a myriad of mental health issues, frustrations and anxieties. Furthermore, what will those rich people do when they emerge from their bunkers to find that life has changed beyond all recognition? What will they do when they see that those poor people upon whom they relied day and night now lay dead or maimed and a cloud of darkness had enveloped the world."

Speaking of the role Ahmadi Muslims and in particular IAAAE must play in supporting humanity and rebuilding the world after such a war, Huzoor advised,

"Where we must pray that the world's leaders see sense and de-escalate before it is too late, we must also stand ready to play a leading role in rebuilding



society if, God forbid, such horrific circumstances ever come to pass. Certainly, in the aftermath of such a war, humanity will face the monumental challenge of rebuilding the world piece by piece and it will be our duty, as Ahmadi Muslims, to be at the forefront of that effort.”

Huzoor Aqdas also pointed to the fact that the power dynamics of the world may drastically change after the war.

Expressing that some regions of the world may be spared from the resulting destruction, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said,

“It may be that African countries, certain islands and remote territories will not be directly affected. Accordingly, we should be ready for a future where it may no longer be possible to rely on the relative peace and security of the Western world and so we should assess how we can develop other parts of the world in order to fulfil the needs of humanity. We should consider and reflect upon how we can make those less-developed nations and regions stronger so that they can free themselves from the shackles of debt and stand with dignity and honour.”

Again speaking of the fundamental role the IAAAE should play, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad explained,

“Consequently, the IAAAE must work with a long-term vision in mind. We should explore and analyse how the developing nations can utilise their very limited resources in order to acquire the best possible infrastructure, technology and services. You should consider it your long-term objective to help those nations who have been mired in perpetual debt, poverty and destitution to one day take their place as equals alongside the developed and industrialised nations, Insha’Allah.”

Huzoor Aqdas further advised the African nations that if and when their situation improves, they should not “develop those selfish ways and greed that have been a hallmark of the major powers.”

Huzoor Anwar said,

“Most regrettably, it is this never-ending craving for power and wealth, whether on the part of Russia, the Western world or other major powers, that has led mankind down such a dangerous path that threatens to shatter the peace of the world. Thus, we must all fervently supplicate before Allah the Almighty praying for a peaceful resolution to this current conflict.”

Huzoor added,

“I also wish to say that if, God forbid, the world’s political powers remain bent on forcing the world into a blazing fire of warfare and destruction, it will be our task, as Ahmadi Muslims, to be there to pick up the pieces and to apply a cooling balm upon the scorching wounds of mankind and society. It will be our obligation and duty to strive to rebuild society and to save mankind from further turmoil and sorrow.”

As Huzoor Aqdas concluded, he mentioned that the task at hand may seem daunting for members of IAAAE, however it is certainly achievable.

“Perhaps, some of you will think that what I am saying is far beyond your scope. Yet, if we are sincere and fully committed, I firmly believe that, with the Help of Allah the Almighty, we can develop such proficient plans and large scale projects that governments and world leaders will seek our help and expertise, Insha’Allah.”

The event concluded with a silent prayer led by Hazrat Amirul Momineen.



EID WITH DUNDONIANS

By Arshad Mehmood Khan – Scotland Reporter



The Dundee Jama'at in Scotland celebrated Eid with a BBQ lunch with their neighbours and the wider community at its Baitul Mahmood Mosque on Saturday 14th May. Invitations were extended to local friends, community leaders, politicians, as well as neighbours to celebrate together in an effort to promote peace and harmony. The event was attended by around 100 members, including families and children, who had the opportunity to share food followed by a mosque tour and reception.

Among the attendees were Michael Marra MSP, Cllr. Fraser MacPherson, Cllr. Craig Duncan, Cllr. Michael Crichton, Cllr. Daniel Coleman and Mr Dave Lord Editor of the Evening Telegraph newspaper. They were received by Mr Shoaib Afzal President of Dundee, Mr

Naseh Ahmad Qaid Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Dundee, Maulana Daud Quraishi and Mr Muhammad Ahsan Ahmad Regional Amir Scotland.

There was an open question-answer session with the Imam of the Mosque. The event also included a fantastic exhibition on Islam Ahmadiyyat, where free books and literature were made available to all.

After a two year break, this was a refreshing event signalling getting back to normality. The sunshine, food, laughter, and great company was welcomed. The participants enjoyed this time and later used social media to thank the Dundee Jama'at for their efforts.

BIG IFTARS DURING RAMADHAN

Inviting non Ahmadi Muslim members of the public to iftar during the month of Ramadhan is a good way of introducing others to Islam and inform them of some of its teachings. In recent times, it was difficult to do so but during the latter half of the month of Ramadhan, this became possible and the Tabligh department were able to mobilise their efforts to organise several of them throughout the country.

Two of these were organised on 30th April at Baitul Futuh and Darul Aman Manchester respectively. Due to some Covid restrictions still current at the time, participation was limited to 175 guests. The events were promoted through local Jama'ats, social media

and Eventbrite. Meetings were held with Regional Amirs, Regional Missionaries, local Presidents and local Tabligh Secretaries. Arrangements were made for Lajna to attend. The theme of both events was Finding God- Finding Peace, which echoed the message of Huzoor Aqdas that the world must turn to their Creator to establish peace in the current day and age.

Guests took a keen interest in the exhibition of the Holy Qur'an translated into different languages, the Book stall and pull up banners on *Pathway to Peace*, the 11 points of True Islam and Scientific Prophecies contained in the Holy Quran. Guests took over 150



items of literature.

Earlier on during the day at Baitul Futuh, a Visit My Mosque event was held where guests were given a guided tour of the mosque. Refreshments were also served and guests had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss matters with the tour guide.

The meeting at Baitul Futuh started with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Maulana Naseem Bajwa. This was followed by the welcome address by Mr Usman Ahmad and a video introducing the Jama'at. After this, Murabbi Mansoor Clarke spoke on the subject of Ramadhan - A Month of Empathy and Gratitude. The Mayor of Merton, Mike Brunt addressed the gathering and spoke about people in many parts of the world going hungry each and every day.

A video was played showing various addresses of Hazrat Amirul Momineen in which he warned the world of a future catastrophic world war. This was followed by a speech by Maulana Abdul Ghani Jahangeer who spoke on *Pathway to Peace*.

The concluding remarks were delivered by Naib Amir, Mr Akram Ahmadi who spoke about the work carried out by IAAAE in the poorest parts of Africa. The Iftar dua was led by Maulana Naseem Bajwa. The Azan was given by Mr Imran Khalid. The formal part of the meeting was brought to an end with the breaking of the fast. After salat, dinner was served to all attendees. Over 100 guests attended the event. Based on the feedback form completed by guests, the overwhelming majority rated the event as Excellent.

This is not my first visit and I sincerely hope to visit many times in the future. You all are so warm and welcoming. God bless you all. Thank You.

Mrs Suzy P Webb.

The overall visit was exceptionally good. I felt welcomed which made me feel welcomed, which made me feel comfortable. The speeches were really good and informative and I would definitely be visiting again.

Andrew Falconer

Very good event, informative and useful for people from all communities. Thanks for organising and I

hope the blessings of Ramadhan be with you all.

A. Amel

Hospitality is wonderful. The warm welcome and Mosque tour along with guest talks are beautiful. Iftar and dinner are super delicious especially rice pudding. God bless you all.

Dr Ammad and Dr Qandeel.

In Manchester, over 100 external guests attended which is the highest number of non-Ahmadi guests attending in years in Darul Amaan. In attendance were senior members of the Armed Forces (Royal Navy & Royal Air Force) and Labour MP Katherine Anne Green OBE

As part of the event guests were given a tour of the Mosque and taken to an exhibition stand inside the Mosque with some literature.

The programme of the event was:

- 19:00 Welcome
Mr Sajid Aryan
- 19:05 Recitation from the Holy Qur'an
Mr Daud Ahmad
- 19:10 Translation of the Verses Recited
Dr. Qadoos Ahmad
- 19:15 Introduction to the Jama'at
Mr Qamar Sethi
- 19:25 Talk 1 - The True Essence of Ramadhan
Mr Firhaad Ahmad
- 19:40 Talk 2 - Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad,
A Champion of Peace
Mr Muhammad Ahmad Khurshid
- 19:55 Video of Huzoor's Addresses Warning the
World of WW3
- 20:00 Q&A Session
Mr Abdul Lodhi
- 20:30 Vote of Thanks
Katherine Anne Green MP



- 20:36 Adhan & Breaking Fast
Daud Ahmad
- 20:40 Closing Remarks & Silent Prayer
Mr Sajid Aryan
- 20:45 Jama'at Member excused for
Maghrib Prayer
- 20:50 Iftar Dinner Service

Feedback from various guests listed below:

Dear Ijaz, felt very fulfilled after attending the mosque last evening. Very insightful lectures. The food and the communal company were heart-warming. Would like to come back again- look forward to being re-invited. The main person on stage who was introducing the speakers and I spoke at the entrance for some time on various worldly matters –please pass on my contact details to him. He wished to invite me to the Liverpool Mosque as well, we will happily come along there as well. Again, many thanks for showing me the side of Muslim Britain that I was unaware of and of its intellectual richness and culture and intelligentsia.

Prof Partha Ray, Neurologist originally from India

We attended your Iftar last night and had a delightful evening. Your members were very welcoming and we had some nice chats . A lovely young man, Shmail gave us the tour and answered our questions. Imam

Ahmed from Blackburn had a long chat with us and was good company. We also sat with a young architect, whose name I forget unfortunately, but was lovely to speak to. The food was delicious. We would like to thank you all for your generous invitation and meal. Wishing you a very happy Eid.

Krystyna and David Rabin

It was a lovely event. So good to see people from many different communities coming together. Thank you for inviting me.

Katherine Anne Green MP

Another young Christian guest had numerous discussions with the organisers and other members of the Jamaat during the evening. By the grace of Allah, he mentioned that he has been considering to accept Islam for some time now and has been doing his research. He mentioned to a member of the Jama'at that he would like to join the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He followed up after the event and said he would like to join the Jama'at. A member of the Jama'at is in contact with the guest.

Participation of the Jama'at at the London Book Fair 2022

By Mohammed Arshad Ahmedi, Sec Isha'at UK



Introduction

Due to the LBF not having taken place for the last 2 years there were some changes by the organisers, one of the main ones being the reduction of the overall size of the venue, as there were fewer exhibitors from overseas.

This meant Islam International Publications (IIP), the marketing arm of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, was given a choice to have the original stand with restricted space, or a new location with a bigger area, next to Oxford University Press and the focus country Sharjah. IIP opted for the second choice and proved to be a right decision, by the Grace of Allah!

This was the first time that the dates of the LBF coincided with the blessed month of Ramadhan, and despite this most of the workers kept their fasts. It is hoped that this will bring many fruits and blessings from this year's event, inshallah.

Several meetings were held in preparation to the event led by Mr. Akram Ahmedi as the chair and Mr. Arshad Ahmedi as Sec. Ishaat UK and project lead.

The theme approved by Hazure-Anwer was "The Messiah Has Come" and three key books were to be highlighted for this year:

Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam

(by the Promised Messiah)

Golden Principles of Justice and Peace

(by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V)

Ahmad, The Guided One (by Ian Adamson)

Design work was done by Nadeem Mirza.

The Isha'at team, assisted by Tabligh and Press, helped the setting up of books, Sami Basri team set up the TV/video and the PA system.

Due to Mr. Arshad Ahmedi having contracted Covid on the opening day, Khalique Mirza deputised, ably assisted by Waleed Ahmad and Ahsan Ahmedi.

Dr Tayab Ahmad attended from the press team and was later joined by Dr Basharat Nazir.

Day One: Tues 5th April 2022

The first day was a busy one with high flow of visitors and Exhibitors.

During the day several individuals called at the stall from various organisations and countries. Americans, Dutch, Latvian, Chinese were some of the visitors which included publishers, distributors and some just interested in Islam. Two American Christians from Nashville engaged in long conversation to learn about Islam and Ahmadiyyat and exchanged contact details for further discussions.

The highlight on the first day was the visit by the Turkish Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism, Ahmet Misbah Demircan with his entourage and press which included the President of the Istanbul Chambers of Commerce, Sekib Avedgi. They stopped at the IIP stand for several minutes spoke to Ahsan Ahmedi who informed them about the works and publications of the IIP who were also the leading translators of the Holy Qur'an with 78 languages completed so far including one in Turkish and how IIP were using Turkish companies also for printing some of their books including the Holy Qur'an.

Minister Demircan asked "What does The Messiah

has come mean?" So a brief introduction of the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) was given including reference to Hadith and how his mission had now been established in over 180 countries with the main task of promoting the message of Islam to the whole world.

Several printers and publishers visited the IIP stand, many intrigued by the Messiah has come poster which had the Promised Messiah's picture.

Day Two: Wed 6th April 2022

Sadly Khaliq Mirza, naib Sec Isha'at, also contracted Covid on the next day, and hence was also unable to attend the LBF. Arshad Ahmedi sahib appointed Ahsan Ahmedi to take overall responsibility for the remainder of the Bookfair.

Mr Muzafar Malik from Raqem Press attended the LBF with his team and held several meetings with various printers and visited many of the exhibitors. I-MAQ, a printer from Turkey presented Muzaffer sahib with a beautifully bound, embossed Quran as a gift for Hazur e Aqdas and hopefully future projects for the Jamaat. Another key meeting was held with a Chinese printer with future meetings to be convened later.

Maulana Naseer Qamar as well as Messrs Amer Safeer and Shezad Ahmad from RoR also visited the stand as did several other Jamaat visitors. The Bangladesh representative from the Ministry of Culture, Baba Mian also visited and was informed about IIP and the Jama'at.

Voice of Islam were also present with their first ever Live VoI broadcast on Youtube. Mr Reza Ahmad interviewed Ahsan Ahmedi who highlighted the importance of the LBF and our participation in it and its purpose to spread the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat through literature. The interview highlighted the three books being promoted under the "Messiah Has Come" theme approved by Hazure-Anwar.

In the afternoon Mr Waleed Ahmad gave a short presentation of the IIP and Jama'at to a live audience who gathered. Murabbi Mubasher Zaffari read a short recitation from the Qur'an and Waleed sahib then explained the works of the IIP and the message of Ahmadiyyat. A free draw was held to win an Alexa unit and the winner was delighted with her prize.

A Persian lady author also visited in the afternoon. She was seeking interesting subjects for her new project at the Book Fair. After hearing about the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) and the Jama'at, she was given a book Ahmad The Guided One for further study. She exchanged details and was hoping to get back for further info.

A fruitful day with visitors enquiring about certain books, some Tabligh and key contacts with printers.

Day Three: Thur 7th April 2022

There were less attendees at the Fair on the last day, but very early the IIP stand attracted people enquiring about services like printing and publishers.

One of the runners up from the Free draw returned to the Stand and wanted to enquire further. She pointed out that she had been very impressed of the





presentation given the day before to the live audience and particularly the way Islam and works of Jama'at were presented. She had been born into a Muslim family from Iran but did not learn much about Islam. As a grown up she felt she needed more spirituality in her life. She spoke for near an hour taking away several literatures including The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, Selected Writings of the Promised Messiah and some other literature. She exchanged details hoping to make further contact.

Maulana Munir udin Shams and Mr Ibrahim Ikhlaif also visited the stand and visited various exhibitors taking in ideas for our own Jama'at publications and designs for new literature.

A lady from Indonesia also visited the stand as she had written an article in Indonesia about Ahmadiyya persecution and wanted to know more. After a long chat and asking question, details of our Indonesian missionary, Maulana Mohamed Wardi were given, as she was flying back the next day.

Mr Mohamed Owais met with the representative of the Sharjah Stand, the focus country this year and he kindly visited our Stand where brother Owais was able to give him an introduction to the IIP, Jama'at Ahmadiyya and the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him). He presented their Senior Relations Officer (in charge of the exhibition) Mr Nasir Omar with a copy of the Holy Qur'an and Ahmad the Guided One.

Several printers visited the stand, including Urzula Madziuk from a Polish printing house, Oplagraph Printers. She showed great interest in the new Qur'an

and wanted her company to quote for printing these in future and other literature. Contact details with Muzaffar Malik sahib were made and forwarded for the two to make contact.

The three days had been extremely busy for the IIP, Alhamdulillah with several contacts made with printers and Publishers.

Also several Tabligh contacts were made with our literature based on "The Messiah Has Come". Gift bags containing some of the IPP literature were presented to nearly all visitors to the stall. The following were the key attendees who helped at the IIP Stand during the three days.

IIP Management:

Arshad Ahmedi, Khalique Mirza, Thiery Kpnou, Waleed Ahmad, Ahsan Ahmedi, Asad Malik, With added support from Fareed Ahmad and Nisar Orchard

Press and Social Media

Under the supervision of Dr Basharat Nazir sahib: Dr Tayab Ahmad, Mansoor Clarke, Atif Rashid, Zafar Bhatti

Tabligh

Under the supervision of Ibrahim Ikhlaif sahib: Saqib Mir, Shezad Ahmad, Asim Hashmi, Mohamed Owais, Kamal Beroudja, Abrar Ahmad

Review of Religion

Under the supervision of Amer Safeer sahib: Patrick Nirolwoski, Musa Sattar, Shezad Ahmad, Sabah Ahmedi, Mubasher Zafari

Setting up/Design

Nadeem Mirza, Qazi Rashid Ahmed

THE WAY TO READ THE HOLY QURAN

The Promised Messiah ^(peace be upon him) has said:

"When reciting the Holy Quran, when someone comes across a portion in which there is mention of the Mercy of God Almighty, then at that moment one ought to seek mercy from God Almighty. And when one recites a portion in which the Quran refers to punishment of a particular people, at that point one ought to seek protection from God Almighty through repentance and seeking His forgiveness. One should ponder and reflect over the Holy Quran and act according to its teachings."

Thus, this is the manner in which the Holy Quran ought to be read.

Hadhrrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba), Friday Sermon 10th May 2019

VIRTUAL PEACE CONFERENCE WEST MIDLANDS

On Saturday the 2nd of April 2022 Majlis Ansarullah West Midlands held a Regional Peace Conference on the theme of Stopping World War 3. The symposium commenced with recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Mr Fareed Mahmood Mubashir. This was followed by an address by Nazim- e-Ala Mr Tariq Majeed who explained the purpose of the meeting. He went on to say we should remember not to repeat the mistakes of the past, particularly that led to the first World War and then World War Two. He also explained the nine points that have been elucidated by Huzoor to reduce the risk of war stressing the importance of absolute justice. He further explained the work that West Midlands had done with the stop World War 3 campaign run in the city centre in Birmingham the previous week. This was followed up by a short welcome address by Dr Azher Siddiq who explained that Huzoor was a worldwide ambassador of peace and had a very prominent role in trying to promote World Peace. He provided multiple examples of quotes from the speeches of Huzoor, with respect to nuclear war, the importance of prayer, double standards and the lack of justice. He also went on to detail the information given in the press release with regards to the war in Russia and Ukraine.

Following this, the IT department played two videos, the first of which explained in detail the role of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V as a worldwide champion of peace as well as explaining the stop World War 3 campaigns which have been running around the country.

This was followed by a short address by the first of the external speakers. Mr Suresh Rajpura is a faith guide and prominent public speaker on Indian faiths. He gave a Hindu perspective and explained that any period in history is testament to the fact that there have been wars. He explained that the mindset has to change otherwise the status quo will continue. He explained the Hindu view of World Peace which was in essence one of nonviolence from the Sanskrit and explained how Mahatma Ghandi was the biggest proponent of this method of attaining peace. He explained that religion can play a role in securing peace but that also religion must make sure that there

is no infighting between different faiths. He explained the concept of peace or Shanti and the fact that when this is repeated three times it refers to peace within oneself, others and the outside universe. He also provided a deep insight into the concept of tolerance versus acceptance including the acceptance of nonbelievers. He further stressed the importance of peace and compassion for all including animals and the environment.

The next address was delivered by Dr Pandey a consultant eye surgeon. He provided a very different opinion from a humanist perspective as he regards himself as agnostic. He explained the importance of travelling to promote ones understanding of the world and how this can result in peace. He also explained how we must change people's perception of reality and the need to listen to other viewpoints. He talked about leading an ethical life and to maximise well-being. He went on to talk about his views with regards to the Russian war and spoke about the importance of morale. He concluded with congratulating the Jama'at for allowing different viewpoints to be aired in such forums.

The final address was given by Murrabi Shezad Ahmed Imam Baitul Muqet Mosque Walsall. He explained the Jama'at's position and once again stressed the viewpoint promoted by Huzoor, in that absolute justice is important and nations should not suppress one another as this results in disorder. He explained the importance of love, affection and a sense of community and the importance of recognising our Creator. He explained that the sense of justice must prevail under all circumstances and personal interests must be set aside. Policies should be promoted that result in World Peace and all leaders should focus on these issues.

The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr Tariq Majeed and Dr Azher Siddiq. Some of the guests also commended the Jama'at on a "wonderful symposium". The symposium concluded with silent prayers led by Murrabi Shezad Ahmed.

Virtual Eid Reception – Glasgow Scotland 'THE NEED FOR PEACE'

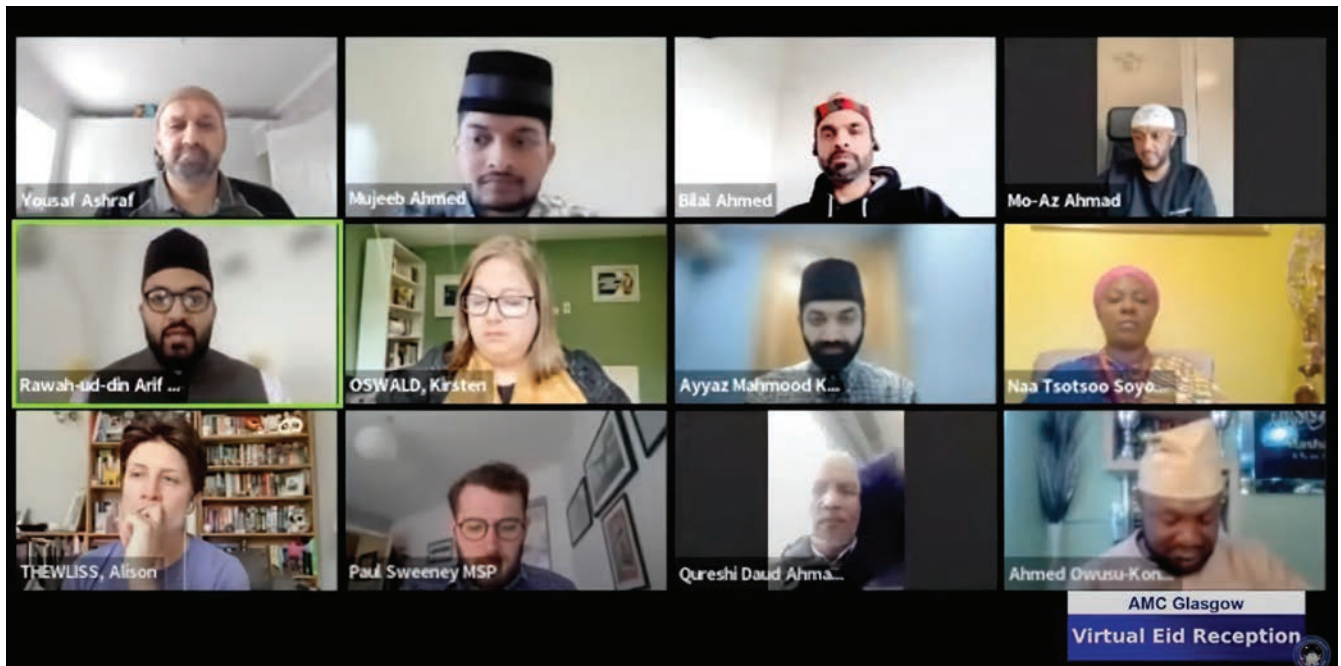
By Mr Arshad Mehmood Khan – Secretary Isha'at Glasgow

On the 7th of May 2022, at 6 pm, the Glasgow Jama'at held its virtual Eid reception. Like every year, local Scottish Muslim and non-Muslim guests, politicians, and community leaders were invited to this online program.

A committee was formed a month before. Different tasks were allocated to each member was tasked to start work on items like attendance, approach to other faith groups and African unions based in Scotland.

The Chairman of the Committee was Mr Ahmed Owusu-Konadu. The programme was broadcasted live via YouTube, Zoom and Facebook. The event had an audience of more than 500 participants online worldwide from all walks of life.

Proceedings started with the recitation from the Holy Qur'an with English translation. Mr Owusu-Konadu, Tabligh Secretary Glasgow, welcomed all guests. This was followed by a short introduction of



Eid celebrations and the holy month of Ramadan by Mr Rawahuddin Arif Khan, Imam of Glasgow Baitur Rahman Mosque. A video introduction of the Jam'at was played to the audience.

Mr Yousuf Ashraf, Assistant President Glasgow gave a presentation entitled, The Year in Focus (RAMADAN & CHARITY). He presented pictures and details of where our community in Scotland has been involved in charitable work like donating hot and tin food, face masks, snacks to NHS staff etc.

Rt. Hon. Kirsten Oswald, MP for East Renfrewshire, remarked in her speech,

'Your community is doing incredible work for the community by helping them donate so many essential items to local communities and homeless shelters for a long time. I haven't seen these examples anywhere in any community group, and I respect your caliph, whose leadership always positively drives you to serve the human race.'

Rt. Hon. Alison Thewliss, MP for Glasgow Central, is an old friend of the Community. She always supports the projects of the Jama'at especially those highlighting the importance of peace and was present during the event.

A video on some of the works of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V was shown where Huzoor visited other countries and presented guidance on how to establish peace around the world.

Hon Paul Sweeney, MSP For Glasgow, who attended our event for the first time, thanked the Jama'at for holding such an important event. He conveyed Eid greetings to all and showed great interest in the topic.

HRH Naa Tsotsoo Soyoo I, Queen Mother & President NCGU UK & Ireland, also conveyed Eid greetings to everyone, and echoed the exact sentiment of the need for all to follow the teachings of the Jama'at as

we promote peace always.

The keynote speaker was Maulana Ayyaz Mahmood Khan. He highlighted many important points on how the modern world can follow the peaceful teachings of Islam to usher harmony and freedom, especially in the context of the Ukraine Russian war. An interesting question and answer session followed where questions were answered by the keynote speaker.

A vote of thanks was delivered by Mr Mohammad Ahsan Ahmad, Regional President Scotland, where he thanked all guests for attending the session.

The programme lasted for about an hour and a half. Following the event, participants and speakers tweeted in favour of the programme so that the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat reached thousands in Scotland and internationally.



Senior Church Officials Visit The Baitur Rahman Mosque In Glasgow

Report Arshad Mehmood Khan

"I Learned So Much About The Ahmadiyya Community Efforts to Establish Peace"

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Last year members from the Scottish Jama'at visited the residence of the Moderator of the Church of Scotland. This was reciprocated when the Rt Hon Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and Rev Dr George Whyte, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly, paid a visit to the Baitur Rahman Mosque on 2nd March 2022. This meeting was an ongoing effort of the Moderator of working with other faith groups across Scotland in building a cohesive interfaith community. Moderator of the Church of Scotland is also a member of the British House of Lords and has served as the Deputy First Minister of Scotland between 1999-2005.

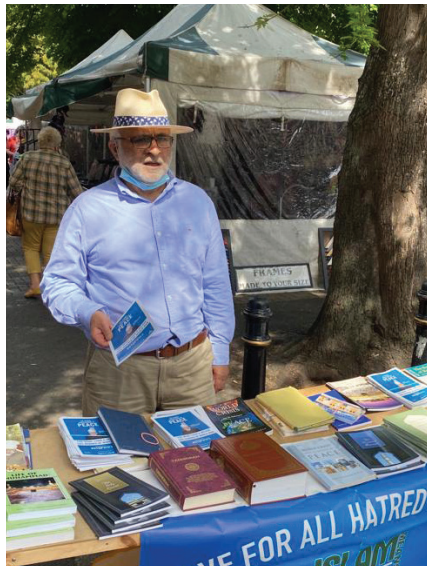
The guests were received by Regional Amir Muhammad Ahsan Ahmad. After a tour of the Mosque, an introduction to the charitable efforts undertaken by the Community was presented. The two were also appraised of the work of Hazrat Amirul Momineen in drawing the world towards peace. A copy of the Holy Qur'an with English translation was gifted to the Moderator which was gratefully received.

This visit followed an earlier visit by a delegation of the Scotland Jama'at to the Moderator's official residence last November.

Following this visit the Moderator General tweeted as below:



Gillingham Tabligh



The Gillingham Jama'at continues to set up stalls on a regular basis all over Kent, promoting the message of Islam. The stalls invariably draw attention to passers-by, some of whom stop to have a conversation and/or take a leaflet or two. Some of the exchanges are listed below for the benefit of our readers:

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Irish Lady: I saw your stall with its message of Love for All and Islam Means Peace. I must congratulate you for coming out today. I'm a Catholic. Many of my friends say there is no need of Religion; we can still do good works. I say to them yes, but then there is so much materialism and selfishness. If they do not want religion in their lives, then why is it they are leading such self-centred lives, and not giving much in Charity. All they think of is their cars, houses and holidays

Ahmadi Muslim: Yes, we support Christian values, family values because we believe in the truth of Jesus Christ, noble Prophet of God

AT CHATHAM

Tunisian Lady: I am so pleased with your stall and your message. You know, I have migrated from France with my children because there is so much Islamophobia there. My teenage girls would not be allowed to wear the Hijab to school. But here in England there is no such Islamophobia. My husband is still in France as he has a good job there, but I want to bring up my girls here where they can dress as Muslims. Also, I have seen how the Pakistani community is doing well here. Many professionals and doctors. I do not think the Arabs in France are that well integrated...and now this growing Islamophobia

AT ROCHESTER

Ahmadi Muslim: Come everyone! Come to food for the mind !! Food for the soul !!

English Lady: I have to rush to work, but Food for the SOUL ??

Ahmadi Muslim: Yes, the human soul is nourished by good works - Prayers, Fasting, Charity, looking after

the poor and hospitality to Relatives.

English Lady: Really ??

Ahmadi Muslim: Yes, all qualities I learnt from my mother. Also modesty of dress. We arrived in England in 1968, the swinging 60's, mini-skirts and women lib, but my mother and all my aunties, they were young in their early 30's, they dressed as God has shown us in the icons of Mother Mary, she dressed like Mother Mary. You must have seen how Muslim women dress. God loves modesty of dress in women. And relatives are very important, hospitality and overlooking their minor or many excesses. And now my mother is in Paradise..... I saw her there.

English lady: You saw your mother in Paradise?

Ahmadi Muslim: Yes, in a dream. You see when a woman gets old, she loses her physical beauty, and some illnesses creep in as well, but the inner beauty of her soul shines forth. So my mother was smiling radiantly and wearing white clothes, but her long thick Pakistani white shirt was covered in gold embroidery, swirling flowers, and the gold was radiating light everywhere. She was still old, I think, but that didn't matter- just the gold and the light and her smile. I knew it was Paradise because I was covered in ecstasy and bliss.

But this is a personal experience, so you do not have to believe it. Please feel free to ignore it

English lady: Oh I believe you!

TWO LADIES IN CANTERBURY

First Lady: I am a Christian

Second lady: I lost my husband last year, so have not fully recovered.

Ahmadi Muslim: Ok, let me read something from the Holy Qur'an. May be it'll be of interest. This is how the Holy Qur'an explains the Immaculate Conception, how Mother Mary was such a righteous person and how she gave birth to the Prophet Jesus^(peace be upon him) in miraculous circumstances. So let me read verses

17 to 35 of Chapter 19, which is named Surah Maryam.

First Lady: I never expected such beautiful words from the Qur'an regarding Jesus and Mary

Second Lady: That was so beautiful, and all this from a Muslim stall! I must shake your hand and thank you. It's so uplifting.

A JEWISH GENTLEMAN IN CANTERBURY

Gentleman: I suppose you want to curse me because I am a Jew, so this Love For All doesn't apply to me.

Ahmadi Muslim: Oh yes, applies to all faiths and all Jews

Gentleman: What about all these suicide bombers??

Ahmadi Muslim: That's not to do with religion, but with a political problem over land. Here I have not come to discuss politics. As far as religion is concerned, Jews are monotheists, so they are our brothers.

Also Jews have been unfairly treated in Europe over many centuries. And when they were thrown out of Spain, they found sanctuary in the Muslim lands of Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Turkey, Iran.

Gentleman: That is correct actually, We have vibrant Jewish communities in all these lands

KOSOVAN IN CANTERBURY

Lady from Kosova: I am a Muslim from Kosovo. This is a beautiful copy of the Holy Qur'an.. I have been living here for 17 years and have never had the Holy Qur'an in my house. Since this is the month of Ramadhan , I must buy it from you.

Ahmadi Muslim: The cost is £10, but this one is for display today as other people might be interested as well. If you return at 3.30 pm, you can buy it then.

Lady : Fine, I will return then (which she did with the £10)

Tabligh Made Simple

Former Secretary Tabligh UK, Dr Sirdar Hameed took benefit of the recent good weather walking the streets of his home and asking passers by who had designed this flower. About 25% said it was God. Many others said it was nature. It was an interesting, innovative and simple way of drawing people towards God. Shows that where there is a will, there is always a way. Also demonstrates how the very creation of the Almighty can lead to His existence...for those who understand. The Qur'an says,

Have they not looked at the earth, how many of every noble species have We created go grow therein. (Shura 26:8)



Hadith on Tabligh

Sahl bin Sa'd narrates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him),

'By Allah! If Allah helps you to guide a single person to the truth, it is better for you than (the most precious) red camels.' (Muslim)

Abu Hurairah narrates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said,

'A person who invites people to the truth gets a reward equal to the reward of all those who accept the truth (at his invitation), while nothing will be subtracted from their rewards. Likewise a person who entices others

to sin carries the burden of all the sins committed at his inducement, while nothing will be subtracted from the punishment of those who commit the sins.' (Muslim)

Anas relates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said,

'Make religion easy for others to follow; do not make it difficult. Similarly, present religion in a pleasing manner; do not make it repulsive to others. (Muslim)

Visit of Liverpool University to Baitul Atta Wolverhampton



On 28th April 2022 a group of students and lecturer from Liverpool Hope University visited Baitul Atta Mosque Wolverhampton. The students were welcomed by the local President Dr Maqsood Saeed and few other members.

There was a short formal programme which started with recitation of Holy Qur'an and English translation by Mr Amar Khan. This was followed by a brief presentation about Islam and the Jama'at and the benefits of fasting.

The presentation was very well received. Leading lecturer Dr Yazid later commented,

"Thank you to everyone and especially your generosity and your hospitality always its wonderful for us to come and visit this Mosque we always learn something new."

The programme concluded with refreshments and distribution of gift packs which included printed material like Promised Messiah Has Come, World Crisis and Pathway to Peace, Frequently asked questions leaflet, Islam's Response to Extremism, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad leaflet.

An exhibition of different books and leaflets was also set up which was inspected with interest by the visiting party.






THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ
There is no god but Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.

“Utter no falsehood, invent no lies, and cause no hurt to anyone”



Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
of Qadian, India (1835–1908)
The Promised Messiah

ELEGANCE & SPLENDOUR NATURALLY INFLUENCE MAN

The Promised Messiah (as) said:

"In short, human nature has been instilled with the characteristic that it desires to pursue every form of perfection. You may observe how in the case of modern British craftsmanship, for example, even things like the needle and knife, etc., are held in high regard. These items are preferred immensely over domestic products, even though not few, rather most of these foreign products, are artificially glossed. But even so, their apparent splendour and sheen is so alluring that they dazzle the eyes, and their glow is so captivating that they draw in one's attention. Do you not observe how quickly the sale of gilded artificial jewellery continues to increase? If this merchandise is placed next to genuine goods, the genuine appears to be artificial, while the artificial appears to be genuine. The lustre and glow of these items shines so brightly that our native craftsman are unable to produce a similar likeness. Therefore, even though people are perfectly aware that these goods are coated artificially, this fabrication does not bother them in the least. Observe any of the things they produce, whether domestic clothing or shoes, the educated gentleman expresses an aversion to these things. Why? Only because British goods possess a distinct, outward grace and elegance. These folk process a piece of leather to such an extent that they are able to achieve a softness and glow. Leaving this aside, even something as insignificant as a thread manufactured by these people is immensely attractive. In short, these items have reduced all domestically produced goods to nothing. In fact, I have even heard that certain local chiefs are so averse to domestic products that even their clothes are sent to Paris to be cleaned and they even have their drinking water sent to them from abroad.

What is the hidden cause that underpins such consumer decisions? The fact is that the British produce goods that possess an apparent beauty, lustre and charm. This is why people have turned to them. Although there are other honest people as well, yet people are inclined towards the disbelievers, due to their apparent elegance and splendour. This is the case with morals and deeds as well. Until their splendour and radiance is elevated to such a degree, humankind cannot be influenced. Those who are weak themselves cannot attract others who are weak".



PLATINUM JUBLIEE CELEBRATIONS

On the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, celebrations took place all over the country. Messages and tributes poured in. Among these was one by Hazrat Amirul Momineen, the wording of which is given below.



Message to Her Majesty The Queen on Her Platinum Jubilee

"Upon the joyous occasion of the Platinum Jubilee, I present my heartfelt and sincere congratulations to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. It is my sincere prayer that, may God Almighty, through His Grace and Blessings keep our honoured Queen forever safe and grant her continued good health, prosperity and happiness.

"May the noble Queen continue to reign with benevolence and may the attributes of justice and freedom forever remain the guiding principles of the British Monarchy and may God always guide and grant success to Her Majesty and her progeny. Ameen."

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad
Head of the Worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

THANKS GIVING DINNER AT BAITUL FUTUH

A special thanksgiving dinner in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee was held at Baitul Futuh on Thursday 26th May 2022. The event was organized by the Charity Walk For Peace team of Majlis Ansarullah UK. 500 guests from all walks of life were in attendance.

Among the many dignitaries present were,
Cllr Virendra Sharma MP for Southall, Middlesex

Cllr Joan Henry, Mayor of Merton

Cllr Agatha Mary Akyigyina OBE, Deputy Mayor of Merton
Cllr Helen Gordon, Lady Mayoress of Barnes

Cllr Allison Moore, Mayor of Barnet

Cllr Trish Fivey, Mayor of the London Borough of Sutton

Cllr Collin Stears, Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Sutton
Cllr Sarmila Varatharaj,

Deputy Mayor of Wandsworth

Cllr Bishnu Bahadur Gurung Mayor of the London Borough of Hounslow

Cllr Yogan Yoganathan

Mayor Royal Borough of Kingston upon

Rear Admiral Andy Kyte CB

Commodore Rob Bellfield

Captain Stephanie Pearmain

Honorary Captain Durdana Ansari

Representatives from 600 Sqn RAF

And RAF Air Cadets British Army

Proceedings commenced with a recitation

from the Holy Qur'an by Hafiz Tayyab Ahmad which translates,

It is not righteousness that you turn your faces to the East or the West, but truly righteous is he who believes in Allah and the Last Day and the Angels and the Book and the Prophets, and spends his money for love of Him, on the kindred and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer and those who ask for charity, and for ransoming the captives; and who observes Prayer and pays the Zakat; and those who fulfil their promise when they have made one, and the patient in poverty and afflictions and the steadfast in time of war; it is these who have proved truthful and it is these who are the God-fearing. 2:178

Sadr Ansarullah UK, Dr Ijazur Rahman welcomed the guests. He said,

'On behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association, it is my privilege and honour to welcome you all to today's function and I hope that you will enjoy being with us as we celebrate the Queen's Jubilee together. Thank you very much for joining us

Mrs Lynn Cooper DL representing the High Sheriff of Greater London opened the speaking for the guests. She stated,

'All members here represent so much of our diverse community and the service that is provided by the Armed Services, the Police Services, the community, the charities, the volunteers, joining together to celebrate what is undoubtedly, a unique and historic occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 70 years of long service.

The Chairman of the International Human Rights Committee was also present. Dr Sir Iftikhar Ayaz KBE had been the recipient of the Queen's Medal for humanitarian service.





In an absorbing speech, he said,

“The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association community in the United Kingdom and across the world has shown immense love and respect for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Holy founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may peace be upon him, wrote the book ‘A Gift for the Queen’ on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, which was published in June 1897 in which he wrote in the form of a prayer:

‘Oh, powerful and noble God through your grace and blessings keep our honoured Queen forever joyful in the same way that we are living joyfully under her benevolent and benign rule. Almighty God, be kind and loving to her in the same way that we are living in peace and prosperity under her generous and kind rule.’

The Jama’at has long established a good relationship with the Metropolitan Police and a good number of their officers attended the celebration. Their Deputy Assistant Commissioner Stuart Cundy QPM addressed the gathering commenting

“It’s a huge honour, a huge privilege to be here. It always strikes me when we come to events such as these. And this is a unique event because I doubt I will ever see another Platinum Jubilee in my lifetime. There are huge parallels with the work that so many of you do, as we’ve just seen on the video just played. The huge amount of support that is given to those that might not be as fortunate as ourselves. The work that many of you do to support hospitals, education, the poor, the homeless, those not just in the UK, but around the world....the goodness



that you show others. The motto of Love for All and Hatred for None is something that so many across all of our communities, wherever they are, is something so many people could aspire to

Andy Kyte CB, Rear Admiral of the Royal Navy said,

‘This is a unique moment for us all to be part of Her Majesty’s Jubilee celebrations. Your Charity Walk for Peace is just another wonderful example of how your community engages openly with the wider community in the United Kingdom and how you seek to bring people together under the principles of peace, love and respect. It is worth re-emphasising just how substantial a contribution that your charity make to some 600 UK registered charities.

‘You work very closely with the Royal British Legion with that really important linkage to our veterans and their families and raising something in the region of £700,000 at the last Poppy campaign. A Poppy campaign that was launched from this very mosque



is an enormous contribution to it for which we are hugely, hugely grateful. And of course the activity of the Charity Walk for Peace and its parent organisation is of course guided by the teaching and guidance of your spiritual leader - to serve and be loyal to one's nation in which you live and the message that you share and practice. Thank you.'

Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat, Amir UK stated,

"Today is indeed a very important day in the history of our country and we are holding this very special event to honour her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II for the 70 years of service that she has given to this country."

Finally Mr Zaheer Ahmed, Chairman Charity Walk for Peace came to the podium. He expressed his gratitude to all who were in attendance and said,

'I am not just saying thank you for the sake

of it, actually I mean this from the bottom of my heart. It is you beloved friends that help us help others to understand our message of peace and love for mankind. It you dear friends that motivate us to do even more.

'In the time of our founder, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may peace be upon him, a Prophet of God, demonstrated through his actions love and humility.

'We too try to continue to follow in the same footsteps and act upon these gestures of kindness. Ladies and gentlemen - I thank you once again.'

This was the first of many events organized by the Jama'at all over the country to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Others took place in the month of June and will be featured in the next edition of the Bulletin inshallah.

Wonderful Examples of Ahmadi Muslims Making Financial Sacrifice

Derived from Huzoor's Friday Sermon of 7 January 2022



Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

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

The similitude of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like the similitude of a grain of corn which grows seven ears, in each ear a hundred grains. Allah multiplies it further for whomsoever He pleases; and Allah is Bountiful, All-Knowing.

(Al-Baqarah, 2:262)

We are very blessed in the Ahmadiyya Jama'at that we are able to witness striking examples where Ahmadis have made extraordinary sacrifices which have found acceptance with Allah. In his Friday Sermon marking the start of the new Waqfe Jadid year, Huzoor mentioned some of these incidents from around the world. These are a few of them.

In a remote village of Sierra Leone, West Africa, the local missionary had made a plea for financial sacrifice. The Imam of the mosque said that they would not be able to reach their target. The local missionary then led them all in silent prayer and departed. Before he had reached the mission house, the local Imam phoned him and said that he was coming to meet him. When he arrived, he explained that after the silent prayer, one of his relatives came and gave him 100,000 Leones. He immediately glorified Allah and

said that they had been short of their pledge for Waqf-e-Jadid, and as soon as they had prayed, this person came and offered this large amount.

One lady in Chad in Central Africa had pledged 70,000 Francs for Waqf-e-Jadid but was not able to fulfil it. She decided to sell her camel for 170,000 Francs to fulfil her pledge; then, instead of keeping the rest of the money for herself, she gave that as financial contribution to the Jama'at as well.

Belize is a tiny country in Central America, and Huzoor has never been there. They are all new converts, yet their mentality of devotion is just as strong. One 14-year-old boy who had made donations for Tehrik-e-Jadid was mentioned by Huzoor in his Friday Sermon. Many people congratulated him, and someone gave him a reward of \$200. Many children would have kept such a big amount for themselves. But this young boy said that he needed \$30 to have his social security card made, and that he would give the remaining \$170 as financial contribution. His family is poor and everyone was telling him that he should keep the money for himself. But he was firm in his decision and made the donation.

Huzoor said that this was a good example of giving more importance to religion over the world. He prayed that Allah may maintain this mentality within the young boy and save him from the influences of worldliness.

May Allah help us all to make such sacrifices which will find acceptance with Allah. Ameen.

Word Search

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

Find the words in the box below in the Wordsearch grid.

Allah; Gabriel; Holy Quran;
 Muhammad; Abraham;
 Ramadhan; Sahoor; Iftar; Itekaf;
 Tahajud; Torah; Moses; Eid;
 Dates; Hajj; Charity; Salat; Noor;
 Paradise.

Jokes & Riddles

Can you read the following? Yy u r yy u b l c u r yy 4 me.

Too wise you are, too wise you be, I see you are too wise for me.
 The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?

If two's company, and three's a crowd, what are four and five?

Footsteps

Mr. Blue lives in the Blue house. Mrs. Yellow lives in the Yellow House. Mr. Orange lives in the orange house. Who lives in the White House?

The President of USA

What do you call a glass dinosaur?

Pyrex

Foot Anagrams

All these scrambled words have a connection with your hand and foot – see if you can solve them:

esho	otob	eto	ilan	kelna	kscos	eleh	nbose
pliressp	sitojn	crha	scluems	refgin	ovelg	grin	mutbh





Q1. 8 JANUARY 1995, PART 1, Q3

YOUTUBE LINK: [youtube.com/watch?v=TSn1iyIGeJU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSn1iyIGeJU)

Q2. 8 JANUARY 1995, PART 2, Q1

YOUTUBE LINK: [youtube.com/watch?v=KwKCkey6D7E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwKCkey6D7E)

Similarities between Muslims of latter days and the Jews and Christians

Questioner: *The Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had said that the Muslims of the latter days will resemble Jews and Christians. The Jews did not accept their Messiah, Jesus Christ, while some Christians have taken Jesus Christ to be God. In the case of the Promised Messiah, non-Ahmadis have rejected him, but does it also mean that some Ahmadis could, God-forbid, venerate him as God?*

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV^(Allah have mercy on him):

I doubt it very much because I can prove it from the history of the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the Holy Qur'an and Islam as such, and the history of Moses^(peace be upon him) and his people. The good things did get repeated in that case but not all the bad things. For instance, we find mentioned in the Bible as well as in the Qur'an that the people who believe in Moses^(peace be upon him) reverted to idolatry repeatedly until God became very angry with them. When Allah says in the Holy Qur'an about the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that I have raised you as a Prophet like the

Prophet unto Pharaoh, so the similarity is there but not complete similarity. So many other similarities with Moses did not occur to the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). For example, when he was a baby, he was not put in a basket and placed in the river, as happened with Moses^(peace be upon him).

There are many other instances where the similarity is not visible. The general similarity which is important, and which is essential, is of Moses^(peace be upon him) bringing a new powerful law, and his success before his death in establishing that law among his own people. This is the most important thing. Then he was made to migrate; that's another feature of the Prophets of God. If these fundamental similarities can be observed in relation to Moses^(peace be upon him) and the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) they are quite sufficient. I believe because God spared the Holy Prophet^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) from seeing his Ummah turning into idolatry, so also He would spare his Messiah who will be born in his Ummah to see the misery of his people turning him into a god. That is why so much stress has been laid by the Promised



Messiah about the Unity of God.

Questioner: *A parent has two children, one of whom is terminally ill on a life support machine and requires 24 hour care, so that the care of the healthy child is neglected. If the treatment of the ill child is stopped in order to give more attention to the healthy child, and the sick child dies, would that be a sin?*

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him):

This question is not rightly framed. The child is already dead, because when you declare that somebody is clinically dead, and you prolong the so-called life, this life is only a vegetative one. It has already crossed the barrier between life and death. It is a meaningless effort to try to fight Allah's decree. It will not change. Submit and therein lies your peace. Submit to the will of Allah and accept His decree.

Questioner: These issues have raised a lot of moral questions and people have been prosecuted for that.

Huzoor: In this case no one has ever been prosecuted. If the medical opinion has declared that in the case of a terminally ill person, and who is kept alive only with the help of a life-support machine, they cannot turn the machine off without the permission of the parents. That is the only issue involved. If they do it (with the parents' permission), then there will be no

violation of law at all.

Questioner: If I decide to take this action, I will have a clear conscience and I won't be guilty in the eyes of God that I have killed someone?

Huzoor: This is very clear to me; there is not the slightest shadow of doubt about it. I don't believe in fighting against the decrees of Allah. There is a point where the submission begins to takeover and that child has reached that stage now. You must admit the fact that he's gone beyond all human power and means to be brought back to normal life. Then submit and give in to the will of Allah, you will receive Allah's grace and not His wrath by doing so.

TIME

Adapted from a newsletter by Maulana Tahir Selby for his Free Islamic Course

One thing which everyone has, is time. Time is something which we should value, but we often neglect and allow ourselves to waste it. There is a lovely chapter of the Holy Qur'an *Sura Asr* (chapter 103) which explains how best to utilise our time.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 وَالْعَصْرِ
 إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِرَبِّهِ لَكْفُورٌ
 إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَّصُوا بِالحَقِّ
 وَتَوَّصُوا بِالصَّبْرِ

The translation is:

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Ever Merciful. By the Time. Surely, man is ever in a state of loss. Except those who believe and do righteous deeds, and exhort one another to preach Truth, and exhort one another to be steadfast.

In this chapter, it begins by referring to this blessing of time, but then says that we are wasting our time, misusing it and so man is ever in a state of loss. It then relates that only those people who use their time well, is time when you believe and do righteous deeds, when you exhort one another to preach truth and when you remain steadfast in Allah.

If we do not use our time to do these noble things, then we are wasting our time. As the verse tells us - *man is ever in a state of loss - why?*

Since most of our time is wasted in worldly pursuits, pursuits that ultimately are only of benefit for a short time; pursuits which will all remain behind, we cannot take these the next life.

Therefore, it is something which we should ponder over and reflect over how we have been spending our time during the past year. Has it been time spent for gain or loss?

Then after reflecting over the past year, we should think about the future, how are we intending to spend our time? Are we going to learn from the past or not?

For a person who does not believe in God or does not worry about the next life, then they feel it is best to use their time in this life. Run after things which will give you pleasure and happiness, while they still have the time. But for a believer in God, then they know that this physical world is only just the beginning of a long journey, one which will go on forever and that this life is just like an hour in your existence. It may seem important, but an hour compared to your whole life, is nothing. Still in that hour, you could do things which affect your life, therefore, it is not to be

dismissed, just used properly.

For a believer in God, they will feel that this time we have should be used to get closer to God, which will then continue forever. This is the main purpose of a religion, to build and develop you as a person and help you develop that close relationship with God. Through doing so, you will then help serve God's wonderful creation to try and improve life for all.

As Muslims, we are fortunate to have the Holy Qur'an as guidance and the example of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his companions, but to have guidance and to use it is two separate matters. Many Muslims have the Holy Qur'an with them and have been granted wisdom by Allah to use it but fail to do so. The ultimate teaching of religion is to develop your relationship with Allah. We all have the means, the time and the ability, but we still neglect this basic duty. We need to understand that the only thing that really matters in life is your relationship with your maker.

The best way to spend our time is in Prayer. Prayer is a one-to-one relationship that you have with God. We all express ourselves differently, we all have our own ways to show our love - for this reason we know that Allah has different kind of relationship with every one of His followers.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) relates:

Allah says "I treat My servant in accordance with his understanding of Me. I am with him whenever he remembers Me."

Allah is more pleased with the repentance of a servant of His than one of you would be if he were to lose his camel in a barren desert and then find it unexpectedly.

Allah says:

Whoever moves towards Me by the span of an open hand, I move towards him by half an arm's length. And whoever moves towards Me by half an arm's length, I move towards him by the length of an arm. When he comes walking towards Me, I run to meet him.

The most important thing to remember is that God is always there waiting for you and that real peace can only be obtained through our love and our worship of God. Knowing this, then the best way to spend your time is in your prayers. In our prayers, we should be totally lost in the love and presence of God. When they are finished, we should be at peace, at one with our Maker. The prayers are the essence of religion. We are asked to give up some of our precious time in a day for God. That time should be looked upon as God's

time. A time that is totally for God. A time to cut off all thoughts of the world and be totally focused on speaking to God.

But all too often we lose the moment, in our rush to fill out our busy day; we can't afford to spend enough quality time with our maker. To ponder over His greatness and His attributes. That is the starting place.

If we look at all the Prophets, they always had time for their Maker. And that is what rubbed off on their companions. The whole point of the religion is to have that close relationship with your Maker to develop that love of God. Once that is there then everything else falls into place.

One thing that is important is to build up the community. That is important as we all need to be part of a community. Islam centres on unity and brotherhood and we should not only develop our own relationship with Allah, but also work together and help each other.

Likewise, we should be concerned for others, others who have not found this path to God. They are lost, groping in the dark, searching for God. There is no doubt that they need to find God, for they will never be content with what they have, if they do not have God. But how are they going to find God unless you help them?

Naturally, it is very difficult to approach friends or strangers and talk about God? But if they see your shining example, that will draw them to you. If they see something which they do not have but want.

Another way of spending your time properly, is striving in the way of Allah. We should keep trying to win Allah's pleasure and serve mankind. One of the main ways is by your financial sacrifices. Times are very hard, and everyone is feeling it, but Allah is the best provider and what we get from Allah is far better than any material things.

The early companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) strove hard and spent dearly in the way of Allah and they received a great reward from Allah. We should also strive for those blessings.

It is related:

O Messenger of Allah, which act of charity has the greatest reward?

The Messenger of Allah answered, *“that you give charity when you are in good health, when you yourself stand in need, and when you are afraid of poverty and desire to become wealthy”*

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) further explained this:

By Allah, I am not afraid that you will become poor, but I am afraid that worldly wealth will be given to you in abundance as it was given to those (nations) before you, and you will start competing each other for it as the previous nations competed for it, and then it will

divert you (from good) as it diverted them

When you face poverty and difficulties, then due to your situation, it develops a strong attachment and reliance to Allah. But when you are in a good condition, you may become lost to worldly things and forget about your Maker.

Again, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

There are two blessings which many people lose: they are Health and free time for doing good

We should use our good health to keep doing good deeds and not waste our time. But if you expect to do good deeds when old, then your health may have gone, and it will be too late.

We should never take life for granted, instead make most of your time and don't miss any opportunity to do good. This is one of the beauties of Islam, that whatever we do, can be a form of worship, if done for Allah. This is why we begin every action with *Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem* – *In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Ever Merciful* and then that action becomes a form of worship as well.

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

Look at the Companions of the Holy Prophet. Is it because they were lovers of luxurious lives that they won a victory against their opponents? No, it was not so.

Even in the previous scriptures, it is mentioned that these people would be the worshippers of God during the night and they would be fasting during the day. They spent their nights in the remembrance of Allah

It is important that we use the time that God has given us to get close to Allah, whilst you have health and free time for doing good. Enjoy the blessings of Allah of wealth and the pleasures of the world, but never lose sight of your main goal in life – to strive after the pleasure of Allah

May Allah enable us to keep striving to win His abundant blessings, and help us to attain His Paradise, Amen.

A Guide to Arranging a Funeral

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tpubrKEsF4>



An online seminar was organised by the Isa'ar Department of Majlis Ansarullah UK. It was felt that this was an important subject which tended to be overlooked. Naib Qaid Isa'ar, Mr Adil Zafar presiding, remarked that this seminar had been organised to enable participants to ask questions about various aspects of the funeral arrangements.

This was accomplished using a Question & Answer format, with a panel of four members of the Jama'at answering questions live from the audience. This was an attempt to deal with such questions as what paperwork is needed; costs associated with the funeral; *Ghusl*; taking the body abroad for burial, etc.

The panel members included:

- Nisar Orchard, National Tarbiyyat Secretary UK
- Murabbi Mansoor Zia
- Murabbi Atta ul Momin Zahid, Qaid Tarbiyyat
- Khalid Hayat, Funeral Director, HFS

Who should be informed about the death?

The next of kin have to take over the responsibility to make sure that the burial arrangements of their loved ones have been fulfilled according to their wishes. Usually, Mr Nisar Orchard will contact the local Jama'at President to get details of where condolences will be taking place, arrangement for gazebo, if necessary, food, chairs, etc to accommodate the well-wishers. Mr Khalid Hayat will be contacted to make arrangements to collect the body, perform the *Ghusl*, and then take the *Janaza* to the Mosque or to the cemetery. The office of the Amir is also contacted to put in a request for Huzoor to lead the *Janaza* prayer. Then the Tarbiyyati team will be mobilised to receive the body at the cemetery for the burial.

What paperwork is required?

If the burial is taking place in UK, a Cause of Death Certificate will be sent to the relevant Registry Office from the hospital. The death can then be registered. They will need the details of the deceased, and those of the person registering the death; and also the details of the funeral director. Once death is registered, the burial order is sent to the funeral director by email. This will be forwarded to Mr Nisar Orchard who will then proceed to make the arrangements for the burial. For outside London, the local President is the one who will make the arrangements with the cemetery.

In the case of a sudden and unexpected death at home, paramedics will confirm that death has taken place. They will call the police who will make some enquiries. They will advise that the body be taken to the hospital for the coroner to make their investigation. A post-mortem may be necessary to ascertain the cause of death. Afterwards the release order will be issued which can be used to register the death.

If the body is to be taken abroad, eg to Pakistan, the hospital will need to know that the body is going out of the country and request the Free from Infection Form (FFI form). The Registry Office also will need to know that the body is going abroad. Along with the death certificate, a copy of the passport, and the details of the next of kin are needed while the funeral director will contact the Coroner's office to request the out of England certificate.

What are the considerations before giving Ghusl?

There are no Islamic rituals to be performed before *Ghusl*. It should be performed at the earliest

opportunity. It is performed by making the dead person lie down on a table or suitable surface where the bath can take place. Remove the clothes but cover the area between the navel and the knees. First wash the private parts, using a cloth wrapped in one's hand. Then do wudhu (ablution) for the deceased. Then water which had been boiled in lotus leaf should be poured over the body. If possible, camphor should be added to the water.

What pieces of cloth should be used to cover both male and female?

There is no mention about the number of cloths to be used in any hadith or sunnah of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), but this is mentioned in the books of Islamic jurisprudence. Five are mentioned for women and three for men. There is no particular rule about whether the face should be covered or not.

What is the cost of the funeral and how should the payment be made? Can insurance be taken out to cover these costs?

Within the M25 area, the cost is £1,400 (HFS cost). This includes collecting the body, providing the coffin or casket, *Ghusl*, and taking the body to the cemetery. Outside the M25 area, there is a charge of £1 per mile for the round trip. With regard to insurance, Huzoor has given permission for people to take out insurance to cover these costs. But there are a lot of rogue companies who will promise the world but fail to deliver. However, the Jama'at has a system for making regular contributions when paying Chanda, under the Miscellaneous heading. Enter "Funeral Expense" and pay whatever amount you wish. Your annual statement will show you how much you have paid.

In addition to the funeral director's costs, there are the cemetery costs, which will vary according to the cemetery. For example, Eashing cemetery has a fixed £2,000 charge. In Merton, it is approximately £3,700 if you live in the Borough, otherwise it could be over £6,500.

What if the family cannot afford the cost of the funeral costs?

First and foremost, it is the responsibility of the family to bear the cost of the funeral, whether they are *Moosi* or not. But if they cannot afford it, the Jama'at will assist to relieve them of any pressure or tension at the time. This will be provided as a loan to the family, but there is no deadline by which the money must be returned. But this could also mean that the family may be facing financial difficulties in general, and they will be guided to seek assistance from the appropriate Government department. They can then apply for a refund of the funeral costs and they may be able to get a full or partial refund, depending on their circumstances.

What are the typical costs for taking the body abroad?

There is more work involved when sending a body abroad – dealing with different organisations, e.g. coroner's office, getting all the correct documents; making the booking, arranging the flight; and providing a special zinc-lined casket. When sending the body to Pakistan, PIA is the cheapest airline to use

because they do not charge freight charges. And they do not require embalming.

The charge by HFS funeral service is £2,000 if the body is being flown from Heathrow to Pakistan. This will include the airport handling charges. If the body is going from a different location, e.g. Birmingham or Manchester, then there will be other charges by the mile. Airlines other than PIA require the body to be embalmed, and a freight forwarder has to be used to do all the paperwork and bookings, etc; plus the freight charges of the airline. For example, British Airways will charge £1,500 on top of the £2,000.

Who is allowed to give Ghusl? Is a husband allowed to give Ghusl to the wife and vice versa?

Men should give *Ghusl* to men only, and women to women only. But in extreme cases if there's no one to give *Ghusl* then a husband can do so for his deceased wife, and vice versa. Normally close relatives should be the ones to give *Ghusl*.

What is the role of the Wassaya board when the deceased is a Moosi?

The *Wassaya* department would be contacted at the earliest stage. If there is any deficit in the *Moosi*'s account, the relatives are expected to make up this shortfall, or they should make a promise that this will be paid up in due course. In Pakistan, they are very strict about this and would not bury the *Moosi* in the *Mossiyani* area until his account is completely clear. But in UK where sometimes the amount due may be in thousands of pounds and the relatives may not be able to raise this amount immediately, they are given time to do so.

What is the Islamic point of view with regard to wailing and lamenting for the deceased?

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), has strictly forbidden this practice. It is very natural that people feel sad about their loss and some tears can be expected but not wailing and lamenting, which the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), has condemned as being an act of the days of ignorance. Other hadith have also stressed on abstaining from this practice and Ahmadi should show patience and pray according to the Islamic custom of reciting "*Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioun*".

How many rows should there be for the Janaza prayer?

People often say that there should be an odd number of rows. There is a hadith in which the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), has said that if you can make 3 rows then that would be good, but there is no hadith which says that there should be an odd number of rows. But there is also a saying where it is mentioned that Allah loves odd numbers, so taking both into consideration, then an odd number of rows is preferable.

How can we request Huzoor to lead the Janaza prayer for a relative?

Relatives should write to office of the UK Amir with their request, which would be forwarded to the PS Office.